

St. Paul's Lutheran
Church ELCA

401 Mill Street
Wilton, Wisconsin 54670



July August 2020
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Christ's Calling Card

Pastor Cathleen Morris



"Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I was thinking about the month of July, thoughts of Vacation Bible School (V.B.S.) came to mind. Perhaps you too have fond memories of your V.B.S. days—learning Bible stories, singing songs, participating in craft projects and team-building games, making new friends, etc. Perhaps some of the Bible stories have stayed with you throughout your

life. Perhaps some of the stories have faded from your memory.

Last year at this time, several of us were preparing for our week-long Vacation Bible School for children. But this year, during the time of the Coronavirus pandemic, much has changed. Some things we can do safely with minor variations. Some things we can do with adjustments and creativity. Other things we need to postpone, so we can keep everyone safe. As such, this July, we will not be having an in-person V.B.S.

But even during this challenging time, during this unique summer, our children, grandchildren, other relatives, and all of us, can connect or reconnect with the Bible! Vacation Bible School is perhaps known first and foremost, as a time of sharing Bible Stories and learning about God. Reading Bible stories out loud, asking questions, sharing in discussions, praying and singing together are things that we can do even in the midst of a pandemic!

If you have a way to safely communicate with other people in your life—whether in-person within in your household, over the phone, or via the computer—persons of all ages can participate in this Vacation Bible School. Children and/or adults can begin by sharing with one another their favorite Bible story.



Church Council

**Justin Arndt, President
John Ornes,
President Elect
Larry Ballwahn,
Secretary
Lori Brueggen,
Treasurer
Steve Brandau
Joel Arndt
Tim Deichler
Angie Gruen
Bud Osteboe**

Looking Ahead

**Automobile Church
Service at St. Paul's
Sunday, July 12**

Pastor Cathy, Continued

If you don't have a favorite, here are a few that you might like to read in your own Bible and discuss:

- * God's Creation (Genesis 2:4b-22)
- * The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-21)
- * Joshua and the Battle of Jericho (Joshua 6:1-21)
- * The Widow of Zarephath (I Kings 17:8-24)
- * Jonah and the Large Fish (Jonah 1-2)
- * Jesus and the Little Children (Mark 10:13-16)
- * Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:39-52)
- * The Parable of the Sower (Luke 8:4-15)
- * The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)
- * Loaves and Fish (John 6:1-15)



Of course, there are many more stories to choose from in the Bible. You may want to read some in advance, and decide which stories may be most helpful to those participating. If you are interested in expanding the scope and creativity of your teaching, you can add arts and crafts activities or songs to go along with the Bible stories.

During this challenging time, as we are adjusting to new ways of doing things, let us continue to read the Bible and encourage one another to stay connected to God's word. Doing so will require some commitment in terms of time and energy, but the rewards will be worth the effort. When we read God's word and share it with others, we do the work that God calls us to do. We are God's children, no matter what our age. We are Jesus' followers. Therefore:

Share the Good News. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Peace,

Pastor Cathy



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**Calendars, Church
information &
cemetery reports/
pictures: Nalani Bever**

**Congregation pictures:
April Arndt**

****The Website & Face-
book page were
developed & are admin-
istered by April Arndt**



**Wilton Community
Blood Drive**

**Saturday, August
8, 2020**

**7:00 AM –
11:30 AM**

**Wilton Community
Center**

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council has been communicating via Justin Arndt's Conference phone system. Below is the latest summary.



Conference Call Summary

June 28, 2020



Discussion was opened by President Justin Arndt at 8:30 am.

The initial discussion was regarding the potential automobile-based service. Nalani and Lori are working with Steve Brueggen of Cashton. Galetta Brandau Memorial money will likely take care of equipment costs. There is a tentative Council trial on Tuesday, July 30. Nalani will inform of the time when it is established. The consensus was to begin services on the 12th of July. That should give time to have everything arranged and for the Pastor to become familiar. An article is to be placed in the County Line. People will likely be able to sit outside as well as inside their cars to listen to the service.

There is an additional problem with organ repair. The bellows on the side of the church opposite the organ requires removal either through the electronic pipe relay system or by creating a small hole in the wall directly in front of the bellows. The Council opted for the hole approach. Cost information is being sought. There is also a ceiling problem above the large pipes caused by an old leak. Residue is falling into the pipes. Information is also being sought regarding that problem.

A grilled chicken fund raising dinner is still pending. Lori is going to approach the Legion members in our congregation.

A letter will be sent to Sterling Schwartz to thank him for past work done for the church.

The conference call ended at 9:15 am.

Financial Report - Nalani

For the first six months of this year, expenses are projected to exceed offerings by \$5,170.47. Why do I use the term "projected" you ask? This article is being written on Friday, June 26 and although there are no additional bills to be paid before June 30, we may receive and deposit offerings between now and then. The following is a monthly breakdown of the aforementioned amount:

(\$1,459.99)	January
(727.30)	February
(2,128.36)	March
171.00	April
(94.92)	May
(930.90)	June
(\$5,170.47)	Total

We have 98 households with assigned envelopes. Of that number, 48 households do not have a recorded offering for 2020. Of the remaining 50 households who did have recorded offerings up until the pandemic shutdown, 35 of those have continued their financial support.

WORSHIP NOTES

The following are the Scripture readings we will be sharing in worship during the months of July and August, 2020

July 5 – 5th Sunday after Pentecost
Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14;
Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12- 6th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13;
Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19- 7th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 44:6-8; Psalm 86:11-17;
Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 26- 8th Sunday after Pentecost
1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119:129-136;
Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

August 2- 9th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 55:1-5; Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

August 9- 10th Sunday after Pentecost
1 Kings 19:9-18; Psalm 85:8-13;
Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

August 16- 11th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67;
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28

August 23- 12th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138
Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

August 30- 13th Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8
Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July

Sat., 4th Independence Day
 Sun., 12 Worship in your car
 At St. Paul's

August

Sat., 8th Blood Drive, 7:00 – 11:30 AM
 Wilton Community Center

Birthdays and Anniversaries

July

1st George Dougherty
 2nd Douglas Wildes
 3rd Buddy Speicher
 4th Bev Graunke,
 6th Collin Birkholz
 8th Travis Anderson, Doug Birkholz,
 Derek Erdman, Matt & Tiffany Bever
 11th Katie Garske, Barb Savall
 13th Gracie Brandau
 14th Frank Wendt
 17th Cory Dutton, Mathew Dutton
 18th Brian Buchholz
 19th Haley Jewell, Travis & Ann Anderson,
 Bob & Louise Buchholz
 21st Doreen Bayer
 24th Karl Radke, Mark & Sarah Gruen
 25th Bob Gruen
 26th Arlis Ballwahn
 27th Adam Brueggen
 29th Sophia Erdman
 31st Gordon O'Rourke, Leonard & Dixie Arndt



August

1st Natalie Stanek
 2nd Gene Dougherty
 3rd Avery Arndt, Larry & Lorrie Bever
 6th Ron Drews
 8th Kristi Tormoen
 12th Erica Steinke
 13th Ginger Arndt
 14th Greg Bever, Andy Brueggen
 16th Bud Osteboe
 18th Jaimie Zimmerman
 21st August Arndt, Marty Arndt,
 Jerry & Pat Von Haden
 23rd Carolyn Dougherty
 24th Kirstin Arndt, Larry & Arlis Ballwahn
 25th Lois O'Rourke
 27th Amber Brueggen, Ken Thorson, Jr.
 31st Barb Ornes

W-ELCA NEWSLETTER

JULY/AUGUST 2020



Information has not changed since the previous Newsletter. Resumption of activities in September will depend on when Worship and other activities resume. Watch future bulletins and e-mail releases for information. Hope everyone is doing well and spending quality time at home.

The collection of items for Personal Care Kits will continue. Hold your items until activities resume and we will assemble them for shipment at that time.

Needed items are: Bath-size soap; bath towels (lt. weight, between 20x40 to 52x27, dark color); toothbrushes (adult, in original package); Large tooth combs; metal nail clippers



Remember: All women of St. Paul's are members of W-ELCA and new faces are always welcome at any and all events.

ONLINE OFFERINGS

St. Paul's has partnered with Vanco Services (endorsed by ELCA) to receive offerings directly from your checking/savings account or credit card account to our bank account. You will have several options, as follows:

One time or recurring offering (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, etc.)
Designate a specific fund or split your offering between the following funds:

General Fund
Steps Fund
Organ Fund
Improvement Fund

For those of you with internet capabilities, you may initiate an offering by visiting the church website, <https://www.stpaulswilton.com/>, click on the GIVE+ icon, and complete the information.



For those of you with a smartphone, scan this barcode-like QR code image with your smartphone's QR decoder and it will instantly connect you to the mobile version of St. Paul's web page. To individuals who are familiar with QR codes, it will provide a quick and easy way to access our web page without having to type out a long web address and locate your link.

-You may also download the Give+ app to your cell phone.

Every Member

Conversation

Committee EMCC

Membership:

Bud Osteboe, Chair

608-435-6158

Justin Arndt,

608-435-6642

Larry Ballwahn,

608-435-6401

Steve Brandau,

608-797-7888

Louise Buchholz,

608-435-6435

Thadyn Conner,

Rachel Conner,

608-343-3565

Pastor Morris, "caption call"

608-435-0097



There will definitely be a follow-up report from this committee. Covid has precluded the meetings necessary to make a valid summary and resultant recommendations. Feel free to make any additional observations to any member of the committee.

St. Paul's Drive-In Church Announced

Provided everything goes as planned (equipment set-up, test run, etc.), members of the church council have set July 12 as our first ever drive-in church service. We will also offer communion at this service.

How does this work? Members will park their cars in front of the church. The service will then be transmitted through your radio using a low band FM frequency. Tentatively, the council has also approved folks bringing lawn chairs, placing them on the sidewalk, 6 feet apart. Of course, a family unit may place their chairs closer. Well, you ask, how are these folks to hear the service? The service will also be piped over a portable sound system. That is why we are saying tentatively. We want to make sure this will not disturb our neighbors.

What about communion? How do we do that with social distancing? The church has purchased communion cups which also include a wafer. These cups will be distributed, prior to the service, by a member who will be wearing a mask and gloves.

The portable sound system and transmitter are being donated by the family of Galetta Brandau. You will be amazed at the portable sound system. Not only should this unit be perfect for the drive-in church, but it will be a great addition for Bible School, service in the park, as well as the Children's Christmas program.

We hope to see you on July 12.

St. Paul's Chicken Dinner Fundraiser

Council member Lori Brueggen requested permission to organize and hold a take-out chicken dinner fundraiser with the proceeds to be used to help reduce the shortfall in offerings we have experienced during the pandemic shutdown. Grants from Thrivent will be used to reduce our costs. The council approved this request. There are a few details yet to be determined, but the tentative date for the event looks to be sometime in August. Please look to the weekly bulletin for additional information, as it becomes known.





This past Saturday (June 27) several members, as well as a former member, gathered to make preparations for a widening of the cemetery road-way, and leveling several stones which have “sunk” or “titled” over the years.



A huge ‘THANK YOU’ to those who helped; Travis Anderson, Vanessa “Nessa” Anderson, Rob Ross, Lana Ross, David Gruen, Jan Brandau, Dick Krause, Justin Arndt, Tom Larson. The cemetery committee members, Leonard Arndt, Steve Brandau, Sr., and Greg Bever were also on hand

We made progress but there are a significant number of stones to work on. The larger monuments will be taken care of by La Crosse Memorials later this summer or early fall. !!

Be prepared for additional workdays, preferably not in humid, no air movement, 82-degree weather!!



Inviting people to journey with Christ's family in spreading God's love and mercy.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
"A Welcoming Place for over 125 years"
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Name
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