

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

At this the beginning of another school year, I would like to use this letter to highlight some of the information in our September/October 2020 church newsletter. There are two items in particular that relate to our children, that I would like to bring to your attention.

1) We will not be having in-person Sunday school during the month of September. But, that does not mean that our children will be without opportunities to learn. Nalani has delivered, or will deliver, a Story Bible to each of the preschool and elementary school age Sunday school children at St. Paul's. These are their very own Story Bibles to keep and to use whenever they wish! Also included is a letter from me with some suggested readings for the month of September. Several of the readings coincide with, or augment, the Revised Common Lectionary readings for the Sundays this month.

The Story Bible is entitled, Growing in God's Love (Elizabeth Caldwell and Carol Wehrheim, ed's.). It includes stories from both the Old and New Testaments. It includes stories about women and men who did some amazing things! Like us, they too were learning how to be God's faithful people. With their own copy of this book, each of our children can hear and/or read the stories, see the pictures, and learn more about God and the people in the Bible.

2) We have included the W-ELCA prayer in the newsletter. The prayer has been updated to include the names of all of the children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren (g-g-grandchildren?) connected to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Please join our W-ELCA members as we lift up our children and all children, in prayer.

These are challenging times, especially for our children and other children returning to in-person classes. Let us pray for their well-being, for their safety, and for their diligence in wearing their masks, social distancing and washing their hands. We certainly do not want any children, teachers, other school employees, or family members to be infected with the Coronavirus. Therefore, let us also pray for the well-being of all persons who assist children.

May God bless all our children as they begin a new school year and Sunday school year. May they learn and grow in God's love. May they be faithful followers of God today, and in all the days to come.

Peace,

Pastor Cathy