

St. Paul's Lutheran
Church ELCA

401 Mill Street
Wilton, Wisconsin 54670



May June 2020
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Christ's Calling Card

Pastor Cathleen Morris



"Which commandment is the first of all?" 29 Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

(Mark 12:28-30)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I was thinking about the scripture passage (above), I was reminded of both God and humankind. We are to love God with our whole selves. We are to love God first and foremost above everything. We are to love God with all our heart (emotionally), soul (spiritually), mind (intellectually) and strength (physically). We are to love our neighbor as ourself (socially/interpersonally).

Have you heard these categories in other contexts? Perhaps you thought, as I did, of the Wholeness Wheel (Portico Benefit Services model). In the center of the wheel, is Baptism. The spokes of the wheel, create pie-shaped slices for the following categories: **Emotional** well-being, **Physical** well-being, **Financial** well-being, **Vocational** well-being, **Intellectual** well-being, and **Social/Interpersonal** well-being. Surrounding the entire wheel, intersecting with all of these areas, is **Spiritual** well-being.

During this time of the Coronavirus, so many things in our lives have changed. For some, it is that their emotional well-being that has been challenged due to not being able to visit loved ones at home or in care centers, feelings of sadness regarding all the things that are happening, etc.



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

???????

Pastor Cathy, Continued

For some, it is their physical well-being, due to food insecurity, substandard housing or lack of housing, or the inability to exercise on a daily basis. For some, it is financial and vocational well-being, because they have lost a job, had their hours cut, been furloughed, and don't have adequate savings to support them at this time. For some, it is their intellectual well-being that is being affected, because the stress of the virus makes it harder for them to think clearly. For some, the social/interpersonal well-being is the hardest, because they are unable to attend in-person church services, to be at school or work, to go out to dinner or a movie, or to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries with family members and friends. So much has changed that we wonder when we will be able to return to normalcy. So, how do we stay grounded?

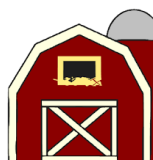
The Wholeness Wheel reminds us that our **Spiritual** well-being impacts all the other areas—**Emotional, Physical, Financial, Vocational, Intellectual and Social/Interpersonal**. **If we are grounded in God's word and prayer, it will strengthen us** for our journey during this challenging time. If we place God first and foremost in our lives, it will reach into all other aspects of our lives. By reading the Bible, meditating on God's word, reading daily devotionals and/or the daily walk through the Epistles, and reading Christian books, it will help. Also, praying for the church, the world and all that is within it; praying for God's help related to the Coronavirus, praying for all who are ill, hungry, homeless, jobless or who otherwise need God's healing touch; praying for the children and grandchildren of the members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church using the W-ELCA prayer, and praying for others who need to know of God's loving care.



God is with us during this challenging time, and God will continue to be with us in the time ahead. Let us always remember that God will not leave us or forsake us. God is with us in every time and place, no matter where we may be. There is no place where God is not. Thanks be to God!

Peace, Pastor Cathy

From Arlis Ballwahn, Hunger Coordinator: The Family Farm Project has been postponed until the 2021 Assembly. We do, however, need a volunteer or volunteers (a family?) to paint the small barn front that symbolizes the project. Contact Pastor Cathy or Arlis for information.



Thrivent Choice - Thank you

The Thrivent Choice charitable grant program is just one of a variety of outreach programs available to Thrivent members to support 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations—including churches, camps, schools, seminaries, campus ministries and more..

St. Paul's has used Choice Dollars donated to support our Sunday School, camper fees and, \$1,054.00 recently donated, to the fund established for the repair of the organ bellows. The church council does not use the funds for operating expenses.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Eligible members can recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice Dollars®. Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership.

Something, perhaps, for the next newsletter. - Nalani

From: Debbie Miller
Sent: Sunday, April 12, 2020 8:11 PM
Subject: "How the Virus Stole Easter"

Enter the title in Google and you can find the poem in its entirety. LB

How the Virus Stole Easter



By Kristi Bothur (With a nod to Dr. Seuss))

Twas late in '19 when the virus began
Bringing chaos and fear to all people, each land.
People were sick, hospitals full,
Doctors overwhelmed, no one in school.
As winter gave way to the promise of spring,
The virus raged on, touching peasant and king.
People hid in their homes from the enemy unseen.
They YouTubed and Zoomed, social-distanced, and cleaned.
April approached and churches were closed.
"There won't be an Easter," the world supposed.

...

The world woke Sunday and nothing had changed.
The virus still menaced, the people, estranged.

...

Every saint in every nation, the tall and the small,
Was celebrating Jesus in spite of it all!
It hadn't stopped Easter from coming! It came!

...

The churches are empty - but so is the tomb,
And Jesus is victor over death, doom, and gloom.
So this year at Easter, let this be our prayer,
As the virus still rages all around, everywhere.
May the world see hope when it looks at God's people.
May the world see the church is not a building or steeple.
May the world find Faith in Jesus' death and resurrection,
May the world find Joy in a time of dejection.
May 2020 be known as the year of survival,
But not only that -
Let it start a revival.



WORSHIP NOTES FOR MAY, JUNE

The following are the Scripture readings that we will be sharing in worship during the months of May and June, 2020.

May 3 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25;
John 10:1-10

May 10—Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16;
1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

May 17— Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20;
1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 24— Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35;
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

May 31— Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23

June 7 – The Holy Trinity

Genesis 1:1--2:4a; Psalm 8;
2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

June 14 – Second Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 19:2-8a; Psalm 100;
Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35--10:8

June 21 – Third Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

June 28 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18;
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

THOSE SERVING IN MAY

Greeters: Karen Arzt and Ed Ross

Ushers: Bob Buchholz, Brian Buchholz, Ed Ross, Justin Arndt

Altar: Nalani and Greg Bever

Reader: May 31st Karen Arzt

Communion server: Barb Ornes

THOSE SERVING IN JUNE

Greeters: Dixie and Leonard Arndt

Ushers: Lori Arndt, Joel Arndt,
Barb Ornes, John Ornes

Altar: Dixie and Leonard Arndt

Readers: 7th Arlis Ballwahn;
14th Lori Arndt; 21st Barb Ornes;
28th Kathy Cale

Communion Server: Leonard Arndt

Newsletter editors: Arlis & Larry Ballwahn

email: alballwahn@gmail.com

Calendars & Church information: Nalani Bever

Congregation pictures: April Arndt

****The Website & Facebook page were**

developed & are administered by April Arndt



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

May

Sun., 31st Worship Service 9:00 am

June

Sat., 6th Blood Drive, 7:00 – 11:30 am

Sun., 7th Worship Service 9:00 am*

Sun., 14th Worship Service 9:00 am*

Sun., 21st Worship Service 9:00 am*
Noisy Offering
Birthday & Anniversary Fellowship
Father's Day

Sun., 28th Worship Service 9:00 am*

***Services depends on the COVID-19 order in force.**

MEMORIAL DAY

At the time of publication, the current stay at home order does not expire until May 26 at 8:00 am, the day after Memorial Day. No doubt, there will have been modifications to the order before May 26. We will keep you posted with regard to ceremonies at the local cemeteries.



May

2nd Brodie Stanek, Amy Steinke
3rd Debra Paeth
8th Connor Garske
9th Ryan Conner
11th Tammy and Duane Roscovius
14th Robert Cale, Matt and Diana Ornes, Bud and Lila Speicher
16th Deacon Erdman
18th Fynlie Stanek
20th Kody Tormoen
22nd Brooklyn Gruen, Carol Nevin
27th Rachel Fleming
29th Gary and Barb Bever
31st Nalani Bever, John T. Dougherty

June

1st Jada Garske
2nd Brent Garske
3rd Bob Buchholz
4th Myles Garske
5th Eric Steinke
6th Dan Brandau
8th Leonard Arndt
10th Dan and Janelle Buchholz, Ryan and Rachel Conner
11th Emma Gruen
12th Larry Bever
13th Katie and Brent Garske, Rob and Lana Ross
15th Allen Roscovius
16th Larry Ballwahn
19th Alaina Holthaus
21st Jack Arndt
23rd Jim and Carol Brandau
27th Lori Brueggen
28th Collin Niedfeldt
29th Kim Creviston
30th Miranda Arndt, David Gruen



W-ELCA NEWSLETTER

May/June 2020



What a weird Spring this has been. Hope everyone is doing well and spending quality time at home. All March and April activities have been cancelled along with the May Rummage and Bake Sale. The General Meeting scheduled for May will depend on the resumption of Worship and other church activities. Watch future bulletins and e-mail releases for information.

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.

We can also do it the "old fashioned way"!! Drop a note or leave a message on the church voicemail and we'll get the necessary form to you.

Thank you for considering this option to provide the church with the necessary funds to continue operating.

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

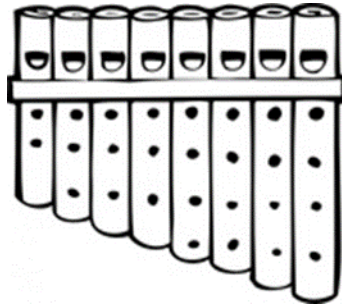
Mission Statement:

The purpose of Every Member Conversation Committee is to listen to you, both as an individual and collectively as a Congregation, to discover what needs to be done to make St. Paul's a Church where a majority of the congregation attends on a regular basis.

Report will follow shortly after services resume.

ORGAN BELLOWS REPAIR UPDATE

1K 2K 3K 4K 5K 6K 7K 8K



K=\$1,000.00

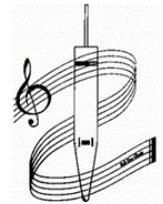
Repair of the organ bellows was approved at the annual meeting in January. Council was authorized to spend up to \$10,000.00, with the actual repair bid being \$8,000.00.

The additional \$2,000.00 represents a contingency fund if additional repairs are determined once the project begins.

(Pretend these are bellows) - Contingency Fund 2K

We have received donations toward this project in the amount of \$7,569.00. WOW!!! Thank you to one and all.

Our contractor, Fred Hermes, will be removing the bellows in the near future. We anticipate the work will take 3 to 4 months.



I found the original contract with Wangerin Organ Company of Milwaukee, dated March 19, 1950. The contract called for Wangerin to "build for and erect in St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, Wilton, Wisconsin, a Pipe Organ, in accordance with the Specifications, complete and ready for use within six months". The contract was in the amount of \$5,675.00. A down payment of \$1,765.00 was required to begin the work. The folks signing on behalf of St. Paul's were

Ellsworth A. Thurow, Karl Kruse, Charles G. Stark, Leonard Brandau, and Edward Heinz.

I was told the organ came out of a church in Milwaukee, so finding the contract totally threw me for a loop!! The contract is pretty clear that the Wangerin folks constructed the organ from the ground up, and did not remodel or remake an existing organ. Learn something everyday!!

AMAZING GRACE

John Newton, 1779

Nalani



More Covid 19

All have had to adjust regarding church attendance during the coronavirus pandemic. Since the Safer at Home order on March 25, we have had to find alternatives to our regular worship. Arlis and I have been among the regular Facebook congregation of Pastor Dawn Arndt Lindburg of Peace Lutheran. We have also joined Pastor Ryan Fletcher for his.

As you are aware, Pastor Morris has been emailing a sermon and letter weekly. They are currently on the St. Paul's Facebook page. Though we don't get the social fix church attendance affords, there are alternative ways to worship. That said, most of St. Paul's expenses continue. So far, we have no idea when the pandemic will end. Monthly bills continue whether we are in church or not. The fixed cost monthly bills follow.

	\$	
La Crosse Area Synod	600.00	Benevolence
Lutheran Social Services	125.00	Benevolence
Pastor Salary	1,926.00	Salary
Portico Benefits Service	1,410.00	Benefits
Continuing Education	67.00	Contract
Sabbatical Reserve	48.00	Contract
Office Manager	300.00	Salary
Organist	200.00	Salary
Janitor	300.00	(5 hours per week x 4 weeks)
Employer Payroll Tax	62.00	(Based on \$800.00 monthly wages)
Church Electric	148.00	(monthly average over last 12 months)
House Electric	75.00	Budget Billing
Church Gas	187.00	(monthly average over last 12 months)
House Gas	62.00	Budget Billing
Church water & sewer	43.00	(monthly average over last 12 months)
House water & sewer	44.00	(monthly average over last 12 months)
Telephone	255.00	Office Telephone & Internet
Tri-State Business	47.00	Copier Maintenance Agreement
Sundays Seasons	33.00	Worship Planner (\$395.00 Annual Cost)
CCLI	11.00	Music Copyright License (\$133.00 Annual Cost)
VANCO	15.00	EFT Service Fee
	5,958.00	Monthly Total Fixed Costs

Many people have kept up with their giving. Should you want to contribute, or add to your contribution, feel free to donate a fixed amount or sponsor a specific expense.

St. Paul's Scholarship

We are pleased to announce Kaylin Gruen as recipient of the \$500.00 St. Paul's scholarship. Kaylin, daughter of David and Jennifer Gruen of Kendall, is also the valedictorian of her Royall High School Class of 2020.

Among Kaylin's school activities during her high school career were volleyball, basketball, softball, student council, madrigal, jazz band, choir, band, chess club as well as roles in the RHS musicals. Kaylin is also a member of the National Honor Society of which she was elected President by her peers, and the school's math team. Kaylin was voted 1st team All Conference Softball, All Conference Sportsmanship volleyball and basketball, by the conference coaches.

Here at St. Paul's, Kaylin was active in teaching Sunday School, leader with Vacation Bible School, and never refused to accept a role in the Christmas Eve programs, even after she "graduated" from Sunday School.

Kaylin will attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the fall majoring in communications and disorders. Her plan is to then to continue in graduate school with a degree in Speech Pathology.



The St. Paul's scholarship of \$500.00 is available, one time, to any member who is enrolled in post-secondary education, and meets the criteria as stated in the application. Please contact the church office if you are interested in receiving information about the 2021 award.

As you are aware, St. Paul's has both a Website and a Facebook page; each managed by April Arndt. Those of you that use them, know they contain a wealth of Information. The website currently has a link to a video of the "Good Friday Worship 2020." This is the combined effort of several area pastors with the sermon offered by Assistant Bishop Libby. It is well worth your time to watch it.

Website: <https://www.stpaulswilton.com/>

FACEBOOK Home page:

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Wilton WI



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

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"A Welcoming Place for over 125 years"
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