



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
401 Mill Street
Wilton, Wisconsin 54670
A member of the LaCrosse
Area Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

July August
2018

Bi-monthly Newsletter

July August Christ's Calling Card



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Wilton, Wisconsin
ELCA

Interim Pastor Brad Lindberg



This year our La Crosse Area Synod Assembly met under the theme of Forward: Fearless and Faithful. In a world that is filled with fear and unfaithfulness, it's hard to imagine how the church can overcome this movement. What does it look like to move forward in this way? How can we be fearless and faithful?

In Bishop Arends' report he reminded us that we need to first and foremost claim our identity as followers of Jesus. He says, "Christ says love and so we love. Christ says forgive and so

we forgive. If we are called followers, we follow." If we are going to move forward, we need to know and claim what we are following. Jesus.

After we clarify who we are within our communities much of the rest comes down to being willing to try something new. Silent Night had never been sung in worship until Christmas Eve of 1818. Out of necessity they tried something new. Women had never been ordained in the Lutheran church until 1970 when Elizabeth A. Platz became the first. We

cannot allow "We've never done it that way before" to be the death of the church. God calls us to be fearless and faithful.

We saw this at work as we affirmed a resolution regarding the separation of immigrant children from parents. We are being fearless as we set world hunger goals beyond any amount we have ever raised. We are being faithful as we advocate for justice in our nation's farm bill. This is just some of the fearless and faithful work our synod is doing.

Pastor Brad Con't

Inside This Issue:

- * Pastor Brad Continued
- * W-ELCA
- * Vacation Bible School
- * Scripture Readings; Those Who Serve
- * St Paul's Schedule
- * Birthdays Anniversaries
- * Synod Assembly
- * St Paul's Support
- * Confirmation 2018

Website - <http://www.stpaulswilton.com>

Sat July 14 Church Work Day 8 am

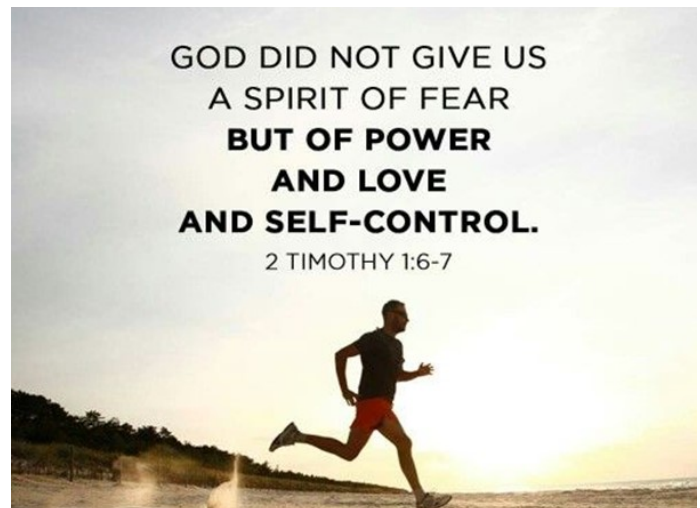
Sun July 15 - Thur July 18 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Vacation Bible School

Pastor Brad Con't

This last month I got to experience living out being fearless and faithful as I joined with Peace Lutheran in Tomah on their first ever Family Mission Trip. We had 6 families totaling 20 people ranging from 4 to 70 years old. We served a meal to people in Minneapolis, we packaged supplies that helped people in Nicaragua and Nigeria, and a community garden for immigrants from around the world.

This was a new experience for most of us and in just a few short days we literally made a difference all around the world. It was awesome to see this group of people come together and answer the call to be fearless and faithful.



So where are we being fearless and faithful in our congregation and in our community? How are we stretching ourselves to make a difference in this world? It starts with knowing we are loved so that we might love. And knowing we are forgiven so that we might forgive. When we know whose we are and who we follow, we can go and do more than we ever imagined possible. Let's live into this challenge. Let's move forward: fearless and faithful.

**W-ELCA NEWSLETTER
July August 2018**



The women recently served families at several large funerals. This is one of many ways in which we contribute to our church and community families. Thank you to all who contributed in any way at these events.

The formal W-ELCA organization is on hiatus until fall. There was agreement not to hold a Strawberry Social this year due to low interest and shortage of workers. If there are Congregation members interested in specific activities, please proceed with planning or bring your ideas to any of the W-ELCA officers. Officers are: President Carolyn Dougherty, VP Bev Graunke, Secretary Arlis Ballwahn and Treasurer Carol Osteboe.

All women of St. Paul's are members of W-ELCA and new faces are always welcome at all events. We need your help. More participation is needed.

The next General Meeting will be at 10:00 am on Thursday, September 20 in the church basement. Please consider attending.

Vacation Bible School

Sun., July 15 – Thurs., July 19

5:30 – 8:00 pm

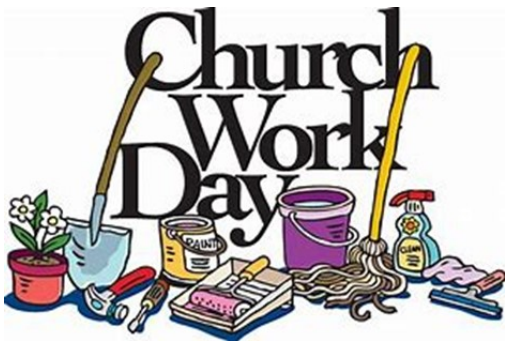


Children will explore the many gifts God has given our world – and the ways these gifts can help end hunger. Each day focuses on a different animal around the world, including chicks, goats and bees.

Children will learn how God has called them to use their gifts to help their neighbors.

Council Activity

Council Minutes are now posted on the web site after meetings. They may be clarified as they are reviewed and approved at the following meeting. www.stpaulswilton.com



Saturday, July 14, 2018

8:00 AM – Noon

We will be pulling weeds, trimming bushes, power-washing parsonage, just to name a few tasks.

Church: wiltonchurch@gmail.com

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

***Facebook Home Page: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Wilton WI**

***The Website & Facebook page were developed & are administered by April Arndt**

WORSHIP NOTES FOR July/August

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

July 1 – 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Lamentations 3:22-23; Psalm 30;
2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

July 8 – 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123;
2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

July 15 – 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 85:8-13;
Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

July 22 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 23;
Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 29 – 10th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 4:42-44; Psalm 145:10-18;
Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

August 5 – 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15; Psalm 78:23-29;
Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35

August 12 – 12th Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:4-8; Psalm 34:1-8;
Ephesians 4:25—5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

August 19 – 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 9:1-6; Psalm 39:9-14;
Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58

August 26 – 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18; Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69

THOSE SERVING IN JULY

Greeters: Lori and Joel Arndt

Ushers: Jerome Von Haden, Leonard Arndt Greg Bever, Steve Brandau

Altar: Anita Steinke, Julie Acker

Readers: 1st Dan Buchholz; 8th Carolyn Dougherty; 15th Justin Arndt; 22nd Kirstin Arndt; 29th Joel Arndt

Communion Server: Dan Buchholz

THOSE SERVING IN AUGUST

Greeters: Bev Graunke, Lila Speicher

Ushers: Tim Deichler, George Dougherty, Justin Arndt, Bart Arndt

Altar: Janelle Buchholz, Joanne Schachtely

Readers: 5th TBD, 12th Greg Bever, 19th Karen Arzt, 25th Larry Ballwahn

Communion Server: Karen Arzt

Looking Ahead

Quilting will begin September 27th at 9:00 am. New quilters are always welcome. Not sure how to quilt? The ladies are more than willing to pass along their knowledge.

We will again celebrate Mission Sunday with a pot-luck on October 7, 2018. The designation for the free-will offering will be determined prior to the event. Raffle tickets will be available in plenty of time prior to Turtle Days!!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July

Sun 1st Worship 9:00 am
 Wed 4th Independence Day
 Sun 8th **Church Council, 8:00 am**
 Worship 9:00 am
 Mon. 9th VBS Decorating 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
 Tues. 10th VBS Decorating 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
 Wed. 11th VBS Decorating 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
 Sun 15th Worship 9:00 am
 Sat 14 Church Work Day 8:00 am
 Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship
 Sun. 15-19th VBS, 5:30 – 8:00 pm
 Sun 23th Worship 9:00 am
 Sun 29th Worship 9:00 am

August

3rd – 5th Wood Turtle Days
 Sun 5th Worship 9:00 am
 Sat 18th Blood Drive
 7:00 am – 12:30 pm
 Sun 19th Worship 9:00 am
 Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship
 Sun 26th Worship 9:00 am



Our Church Family

Birthdays and Anniversaries



July

1st George Dougherty
 2nd Doug Wildes
 3rd Lorayne Denter, 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 Corry Dutton, Mathew Dutton
 18th Brian Buchholz
 19th Haley Birkholz, 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,
 Haley Dougherty, 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



For further information, see Synod webpage; link on St. Paul's Website



2018 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Resolutions

R1 - Resolution to Protect the Human Rights of Palestinian Children Living Under Israeli Military Occupation: No Way to Treat A Child PASSED

R2 - Resolution: Feed My Sheep PASSED

R3 - Resolution Regarding the Farm Bill PASSED

Supporting documentation: Food, Farms, Faith: The Impact of federal policy on our food system

R4 - Resolution Regarding the Separation of Immigrant Children from Parents PASSED



From Bishop Jim Arends, Bishop of the La Crosse Area Synod

Friday evening's worship gathering heard a gentle but powerful meditation on fear among the faithful, beginning with the disciples in Mark 16 who ran from the empty tomb, too afraid to tell or even acknowledge the Good News. Bishop Arends didn't just name those fears for us, he evoked them from us, and helped us name them. It was a moment of clarity, considering the response of the listeners, who wrote their fears and brought them to the cross at the front of the room. The evening closed with a braver church.

From Rev. Libby Howe, Director for Evangelical Mission Assistant to the Bishop

The church in Timothy's time was subject to a variety of harassment for its cultural deviation. The church has always found it convenient to 'spiritualize' its faith in order to minimize conflicts that often resulted when they lived out their faith. They feared being identified as too different. The culture we live in is also too interested in drawing the line between 'us and them.' Paul to Timothy: "God gave us a spirit of power and love and of self-discipline." Power for Christians is further defined by the rest of the statement, 'power because of love and self-discipline.' Thus our power is strategic in our conversation with the world. Can we dare be brave enough to think of our conversation as having that kind of power?

Tithing is a Matter of the Heart

Crosswalk.com

The main principle behind tithing and giving is the fact that what we do with our money shows where our heart is. [Matthew 6:21](#) says "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." When we are able to give 10% or more of our income instead of keeping that money for ourselves, it shows that our heart isn't tied to our money and that we love God more than our money.

The Bible mentions money over 800 times and of all of Jesus' parables, more than half of them talked about money. Why? Because that is where so many people get tripped up! When we are able to release at least 10% of our income back to God, our money doesn't have as tight of a hold on us because we realize that God is in control of our finances. We remember that everything we have has been given to us by Him. Even though most of us probably work for the money we make each month, even God has his hand there - He has given us the ability to do our jobs. Many who grasp what God has truly given them seem to agree that 10% doesn't even feel like enough!



Most of us are aware that we as Christians are to give, but many people get hung up on the 10% part of the tithe. The fact is that God knows we can not all give an equal amount because we all have different resources, so He gave a percentage ensuring it would equal out.

"Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, 'I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.'" [Mark 12:41-44](#)

Jesus understood that even though this widow gave a small amount compared to the others, her heart was more giving because she gave a larger percentage of what she had than all the others. This verse is also interesting because this widow gave *all she had to live on*. There are many people today who say they can't afford to tithe but this woman realized she couldn't afford not to. God knows we are naturally inclined to be selfish and will want to keep our money. So while, yes, we should give cheerfully, sometimes we need to take the step and actually give regardless of our internal feelings. The act of giving allows God to change our hearts so that ultimately we end up doing so cheerfully. Many of us, if we let our natural minds decide how much to give, would likely opt for a lot less than 10%. Having a standard keeps us accountable.

Church Finances



The preliminary financial figures for the first six months reflect our expenses have exceeded our offerings by \$3,999.00. Nalani

At the end of April it was negative \$2000 so we're dropping behind about a \$1000 a month.

Do you really think a Pastor will feel called to a church that has a part-time Pastor position & is \$4,000 in the red?

How likely are we to get new members to join our church when we have a half- time Pastor & are \$4,000 in the negative?

LB



May 20, 2018 Confirmation



“We welcome Gracie Keegan Brandau, Madelyn Jo Gruen, Natalie Susan Stanek, Bryce Robert Gruen, Thadyn Zachery Conner, and Brady Brad Zimmerman as confirmed members of St. Paul’s. We offer prayers that they continue to seek God’s guidance for their life journey. We want them to know his love, and the love of our congregation, for each of them.”





St. Paul's Lutheran Church

"A Welcoming Place for over 125 years"

PO Box 129
401 Mill Street
Wilton, WI 54670
608/435-6647
wiltonchurch@gmail.com



Name
Address
Wilton, Wisconsin
