

SOVER

PASTOR'S LOGOS (WORD)

There are three dates that are important to me in June; my parent's 67th anniversary, Father's Day and June 6th. The first two make sense but for those who might not know the significance of June 6th, it is the anniversary of D-Day, the invasion at Normandy during WW2.

I place those three together for the following reasons;

1. Love! My parents love for each other. My father's love for me, sharing that love with my children and grandchildren. The love of country by the men and some women who risked it all for the sake of something greater.
2. Commitment! Sixty seven years is a long time to be married and it was commitment in good times and in bad that keeps them together. My father being there when I needed him and even when it wasn't necessary. For those who signed up to serve their nation and those who kept the faith when all hell was breaking

lose around them.

3. Being human! Watching two human beings showing their sons, and any who watched, what it meant to be in relationship with others. Seeing a man who showed me how to be a man, a very human one. To those men on the beach who, despite the inhumanity around them, the death and violence, kept their humanity.
4. Compassion! Parents who welcomed the stranger and put those in need ahead of their own wants. A father that said "To help others is what God made us for!" To those medics and chaplains who held the dying, repaired the wounded, and risked their lives because of their love for their brothers in arms.
5. Honor! Mom and Dad honored one another, respected, and cherished one another. This is evident to all who know them. I have learned to honor my father and my mother not because of a com-

mandment, but because it is how they acted toward *their* parents. The honor shown to those who made it and, to those who didn't make it, off those beaches 73 years ago, by those who did or do not know them, is simply amazing to me.

They call my parent's generation the "Great Generation" . . . deservedly so. But it is for other generations to look at the attributes of those who have so powerfully lived them out. The love, commitment, humanity, compassion and honor that our parents, grandparents and others of the "Great Generation" modeled for us, these are gifts received with humility, gratitude and a promise to live our lives faithfully as well.

It is my hope for all of us this month of June that we take the time to remember, celebrate, and live as God has called us to. For some Biblical insight see: 1st Peter 2:9 & 10.

Pastor Paul

Expanding our Reach

We are now live streaming our services on YouTube and Facebook. Follow the link below to see our most recently recorded video. Follow us on Facebook for future live streaming notifications.

<http://bit.ly/SPLCOmaha-youtube>



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PASTOR SARAH'S CORNER	2	BAPTISMS & MEMORIALS	10
WORSHIP	2	MOVIE, MEDIA & BOOK REVIEWS	11
CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRY	3-4	ST. PAUL'S LIBRARY	11
WORSHIP	5	THIS & THAT	12
YOUTH MINISTRY	6	THE SECOND MILE	13
2017 GRADUATES	7-9	WOMEN OF THE ELCA	13
STEWARDSHIP	10	CALENDAR	14

PASTOR SARAH'S CORNER

Word: God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song!

Last month, I touched on the final two areas of the part of our worship service considered pieces of the “Word” segment: The Creed and our Prayers of Intercession. These are probably our two most fluid parts of worship—not because they are less important in helping us live out our lives of faith, but because there are so many ways to experience these parts of worship!

Many of you probably have the Apostles’ Creed memorized. We teach this to those in our community of faith who are as young as fifth grade in one of our milestone classes. By the time we reach Affirmation of Baptism, we’ve attended a retreat of some sort that explains these words and this tradition of our worship a bit more. For many of us, this is something as deeply engrained into our minds as the Lord’s Prayer or the first verse of “Amazing Grace.”

But how does professing our faith with the words of the Apostles’ Creed (as we introduce it almost weekly) deepen your faith? Does telling the story of God and the world—from Father and Creator, Jesus, God’s only Son our Lord, and the Holy Spirit—change the way you live your life? Do you ever find yourself speaking these

words as comfort during trials? Or as power when you’re feeling weak?

You see, we *profess* this creed as a community of Christians for a number of reasons. The first is exactly that—we are professing what people who believe that Jesus Christ is the way to salvation also believe. The details are rather short (all other historic Christian creeds seem to get longer as a way to “fill in the blanks”), but the story is clear: God created the world, Jesus saves the world, the Holy Spirit continues to work in the world through the people of God!

We also profess the Creed in worship to join our voices with the whole Christian church across time and space. Think about that the next time you’re in worship saying those words: Martin Luther said those words. Popes have said those words. Perhaps your ancestors said these words. Our descendants will say these words. The words of the Creed become such a part of *who we are*, while also reminding us *who’s we are*.

On Sundays, and other worship times when we don’t celebrate communion, we pray together “The Prayers of Intercession.” Sometimes, we write our own pray-

ers of the people, which is good! We are able to specifically name the things in our lives and world that have our attention and which need our prayers. Other times, we pray prayers that are from another resource, and that is good practice, too! These prayers are often being prayed in Lutheran churches across the country, and they draw our attention to people, places and things which we may not remember to pray for normally. But together, we pray, asking God to change our hearts, make God’s self known everywhere, and for those who cannot or do not pray for themselves.

Of course, prayer doesn’t only happen in worship, but interceding in prayer on behalf of another is a powerful experience we have together in worship as a community. These prayers may teach us to pray in our lives, as well. And, as a small plug, we are still in the beginning of our Summer Connection here (*see page 3*), where each week we pray, think about prayer, or learn a new way to pray together as a community. I hope you’re participating in that as well! Please be in touch if you need this wonderful resource!

See you in church!

Pastor Sarah

Small Groups This Summer

We are still looking for volunteers to help with heading up a few small groups this summer.

Sign-ups and information for these groups will be available in the Commons by mid-June. When we are able to gather together, God promises to be with us, even if our gathering is over a book discussion, a wine tasting, or a Bible Study! This will be a great opportunity to meet new people and develop deeper relationships here at St. Paul’s.

Watch Facebook and our weekly newsletter for more information!



St. Paul's
**SUMMER
 BLOCK
 PARTY**

Open to the public.
Food, libations, music & fun!

AUGUST 4
 6pm - 9pm | FREE Admission

KID FRIENDLY • GAMES • FELLOWSHIP
 St. Paul's Lutheran Church | 13271 Millard Avenue

CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Emily Dalen is the Director of Children's and Family Ministry at St. Paul's
Contact Emily at edalen@splcomaha.org or 402-895-3366



You could be a star! Would you be willing to "star" in a few VBS videos? We're looking for people who could answer the questions below. We don't need fancy, theological answers, but are looking for what comes to your mind when you hear the questions below.

- ◆ What is love and how do you show it?
- ◆ What does the word welcome mean to you and how do you do it?
- ◆ What is forgiveness and how do you forgive?
- ◆ What does it mean to serve one another and how do you do it?

We're looking for people of all ages to star in the videos. If you'd like to help, could you stay after church for a few minutes on June 4, June 25, or come to VBS training on June 27? Let Emily know if you'd like to help or have questions.

Summer Connection

Our thanks to the Vibrant Faith Team (Aaron Hansen, Cory Juma, Marcia Abendroth, Leah Zohner and Don Anderson) for their plans to keep us connected this summer.

Are you looking forward to warmer days? Counting the days until you're sitting on the dock at the cabin? How many trips will you take to the zoo? Are you planning cookouts with friends or what vegetables to plant in the garden?

Summer is an amazing time of new schedules, longer days, warm weather, and so many ways to "connect" with friends and family. In order to connect with our St. Paul's family, we'd like to invite you to pray with us. In this issue and issues to come, you'll find a weekly prayer focus. The focus for the week may be a topic to

VBS July 10 to July 13



Your 3-year-old through 5th grader will not want to miss this amazing week of learning about the gifts God has given each of us to share His love in this world. Join in the fun July 10-13 from 6-8:30 pm as we explore how God loves, welcomes, forgives, and serves us and calls us to do the same in the world. Each night we'll experience skits, music, Bible stories, story reminder projects, games, food, service projects, and build relationships with kids and adults. God can use everyone in this world to help others to know Him!

Due to the Mardi Gras fundraiser, VBS is offered free for everyone! Register at www.splcomaha.org/vbsregistration

pray about or a suggested prayer. In addition to publication in the Sower, these prayer ideas will be posted each Sunday in the bulletin, on our social media throughout the week including Facebook and Twitter, and may be used in weekend worship services. Use these prayers alone, with a friend, with family, or a small group you belong to. You can always pray for other things, but these prayers will help St. Paul's to "connect" with each other by having a common focus.

Another way we're planning to "connect" is with "Jesus On The Go!" We know that Jesus is always with us. He's with us at our dining table, in the car, at the lake, on the mountain top, at the pool, around the campfire . . . everywhere we go! Take

(continued on page 4)

A Night at Camp



You're invited to experience Family Bible Camp!

Join others from St. Paul's for a time of games, campfires, cookouts, learning, fellowship, boating, swimming, worship, and so much more!

6 pm July 14
until
2 pm July 15

If you're 8 months, 8 years, or 88 years old this time of Family Camp is for you! Carol Joy HOLLING is located in Ashland, NE. Spend the night in an air conditioned lodge with comfy beds and bathrooms down the hall.

\$65 payable to St. Paul's Lutheran will reserve your spot and includes your room, food, and activities!

Please sign up with Emily Dalen by June 25!

12 rooms are available!

Camping sites are also available!



CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY MINISTRY CONTINUED

Summer Connection (continued)

Jesus On the Go with you on your adventures and be sure to snap a picture with him. Post your picture on St. Paul's Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. Be sure to tag us. Use #jesusontheho. You can also send your picture to Nichole at nbaugh@splcomaha.org or Lynda at sower@splcomaha.org as we'll use some of your photos in publications. Jesus' travels will also be "pinned" on the map in the sanctuary.

At the end of the summer, we'll gather to talk about our adventures and how we saw God answer prayer.

Here are the June Prayer Connections:

June 4—Summer Decisions

Lord, please remind me that my prayers with you should never take a break even during the summer.

Lord, whatever we do and wherever we go this summer, help us remember that you go with us.

Lord, give parents and kids patience during the change in seasons and school year.

Lord, please let us make good decisions during summer free time.

June 11—New Prayer Ideas

Think about why you pray and how often you pray. Are you always praying for help? Are you giving thanks? Are you praying for others? Take time today to pray for things you don't normally pray for.

June 18—When You're Facing Challenging Times

We can use scripture to pray. Use these verses to pray for yourself or someone in your life experiencing fear or difficult times.

Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Isaiah-41:13 For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you,

Do not fear; I will help you.

Psalm 56:3-4 When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.

Psalm 115:11 You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord! He is their help and their shield.

June 25—A Prayer for the Start of Your Day

Now before I run to play, let me not forget to pray to the God who kept me through the night and woke me to the morning light. Help me, Lord, to love thee more than I have ever loved before. In my work and in my play, God, be with me through the day. Amen.

If you didn't pick up a Summer Connection bag yet (which contains Jesus On The Go, Flat Jesus and various other items), contact Emily at edalen@splcomaha.org



#jesusontheho

WORSHIP

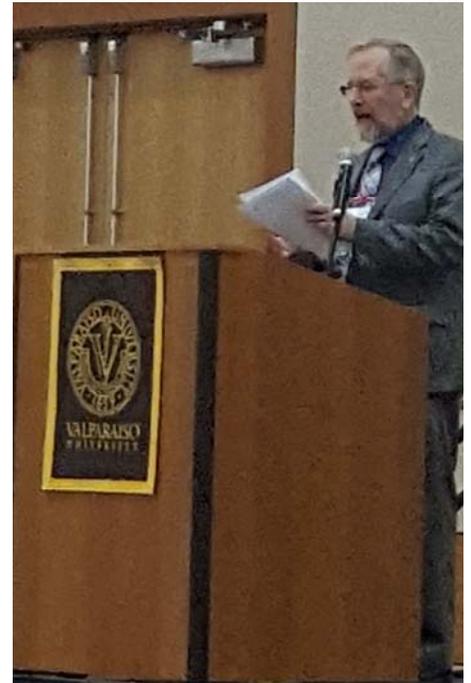
Erin Rodgers is the Director of Worship and Music at St. Paul's. Contact Erin at erodgers@splcomaha.org or 402-895-3366



Chapel of the Resurrection on the Valparaiso University Campus. The Chapel is the largest collegiate chapel in the United States and second largest in the world. The Chapel seats more than 2,000 people for worship and prayer services

April 24th through 26th, I attended the 2017 Institute of Liturgical Studies on the Valparaiso University campus. The focus of this ecumenical conference was Liturgy Serving the Life of the Church: How Worship Re-Forms Us. It became clear to me very early in the conference that, while we do utilize a fairly traditional liturgy at our 8:30 service, our worship practices at St. Paul's are not what one would consider "high church." The worship services held during this conference were all quite "high church," with more a cappella chant, incense, and blessing oneself with holy water than I have ever encountered in a Lutheran setting. However, I found it interesting that, for all the tradition honored in this setting, the contemporary Lord's Prayer was used, and both ELCA and LCMS worship books and hymns were utilized.

For all that seemed a bit over my head, I did find a couple of resources that could be useful for our organists regarding hymns. However, more than anything else, I think attending this conference made me appreciate even more the style of worship we embody here at St. Paul's. I feel we work hard to offer worship settings that are reverent, accessible to life-



Dr. Timothy Wengert spoke at the 2017 Institute of Liturgical Studies at the Valparaiso University Campus.

long members and visitors alike, reflective of the diverse preferences of our congregation, and relatable on a real level while still maintaining a high level of quality and integrity.



Purchase your St. Paul's mug in the office for **only \$5.00**. Proceeds received for the mugs go back to the church.



Would you like to learn how to serve communion? There will be training sessions for those who want to serve and who have never been officially trained:

June 3 at 6:35 pm or June 4 at 10:35am

All confirmed members of St. Paul's, as well as baptized adults 18 and over, are welcome and encouraged to attend.



St. Paul's Food Pantry Needs Replenishing

Can you help? Bring your non-perishable food items into the office any time. Thank you!

We are out of fruit and canned meat. Peas, beans, and carrots are almost gone.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Deacon Bogart Nomad is the Director of Youth Ministry at St. Paul's. Contact Bogart at bnomad@splcomaha.org or 402-895-3366

June Youth Events



Car Washes For National Youth Gathering

June 7, June 21 & July 5 from 3-6 pm behind the church.

We are hoping to entice Millard Avenue drivers to come in and support our fundraising for The National Youth Gathering in Houston in 2018.

St. Paul's members are always welcome to help us and get a clean car. These Car Washes are an effort to generate funds from outside our walls. Our Members TOTALLY SUPPORT the youth and we love you!

3:6Teen reboot!

Summer Schedule Hours have changed to 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm every Wednesday until Sept 6.

Note: car wash days we will work, then play.

June 7: Car wash 3-6, then to the Prairie Lane Pool until 9 pm.

June 21: Car wash 3-6 pm, then off to Pizza Machine to play until 9 pm.

July 5: Car wash 3-6 pm, then to the Prairie Lane pool until 9 pm.

We are glad to have 5 new adults helping with devotions and games for our middle schoolers.

2016-17 grades 6-8 are invited. Fifth graders become new sixth graders in August, after VBS.

Spirit Summer Hours

Every Wednesday from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm until Sept 6th.

Note: Car wash Wednesdays . . .

June 7, Car wash from 3-6 pm, then off to the Mark until close.

June 14: Mission Trip in Omaha

June 21: Car wash from 3-6 pm, then off to the Prairie Lane Pool until 9 pm.

July 5: Car wash from 3-6 pm, then off to Prairie Lane pool until 9 pm.

Camp!

Affirmation of Baptism Camp will be week 4 at Ranch . . . June 25-30. Code # 1742

Register here grades 6, 7, 8:

<http://caroljoyholling.org/registration>

The Hearts Journey Mission Trip to Omaha

Fourteen of our youth will be joining the St. Marks Valley kids for a week of local service work and fun June 11-16.

Senior Recognition

We recognized our seniors on May 20 & 21 at all three worship services.



They were presented with ELCA study Bibles to continue their Faith Journey.



The St. Paul's Endowment Board awarded scholarships to the following seniors for 2017

- Brianna Juma**
- Serena Nelson**
- Regan Oberdin**
- Nathan Stieren**

2017 Graduates

Robbie Chleborad



- Baptized & Confirmed at St Paul's.
- Graduated from Ralston High School on May 21.
- Participated in Baseball & Basketball.
- 3 year letter winner in Baseball.
- Plan to attend Metropolitan Community College.
- Family: Jill, Ron, Andy & Dana Chleborad.
- Extended family that also attend St Paul's includes: Grandmother, Fran Witt & the DeSordi family.



Ashlei Cooper

Ashlei Skyelar Cooper, daughter of Tim & Angi Tran, graduated from Millard South on May 27th.

Ashlei will attend UNO in the fall to pursue a degree in nursing.



Bethany Hossner

Bethany is looking forward to college in the fall. She is going to Concordia University to study Environmental Sciences. High School was full of choir and orchestra activities. She graduated with honors from Millard South.



Vincent Falcone

Brianna Juma

Brianna has graduated from Millard West High School where she was very involved with the music program, including: Wind Ensemble, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and Pit Orchestra. Throughout high school, she was selected three times as an All-State Musician with the trumpet and cello, selected into National Honor Society where she serves as a Senior Officer and is a member of Tri-M Music Honor Society. Outside of school, Brianna participates in the Omaha Area Youth Orchestra.

Brianna was baptized and confirmed at St. Paul's and is currently employed here as an Administrative Assistant. She has participated and volunteered in Kingdom Quest, Sunday School, VBS, AWANA, mission trips, and Make A Difference committee. She was honored to serve as the youth representative on the Call Committee that selected Pastor Sarah as well.

Brianna is honored to have accepted a Regents Scholarship to attend the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. She will participate in the honors program next year and plans to become a Registered Dietician and also minor in music.



2017 Graduates continued



Joel Kuehl

My name is Joel Kuehl and I graduated from Millard West High School. It was a very enjoyable four years. I participated in athletics all four years and most of my time was dedicated to studying and practicing for cross country and track. After I graduate, I plan on continuing my education. I hope to experience more during this time and try new things to help me decide what I would like to do for my future.

Camryn Larsen

My name is Camryn Larsen and I am graduated from Millard West High School. In my high school years I participated on the girls cross country team that was state runner-ups in 2014, and in 2015, and state champions in 2016. I was on the swim team, and the girls track team. I was involved in HOSA, DECA, Senior Class Board and I was a yearbook editor my junior and senior year. I plan to further my education at Nebraska Wesleyan University in the fall and I will run cross country and track with the university.



Emma Martin

Emma graduated from Millard South High school where she was involved in Student Council, National Honor Society, Cross Country, Tennis, Orchestra and the school newspaper. Emma has also volunteered her time at the Munroe Meyer Institute. At St. Paul's, she has helped with Vacation Bible school, served communion and helped with meals at First Baptist church. She will be attending the University of North Carolina Wilmington to study communications and journalism.

Julie Morrison

Julie is the daughter of Glen and Marcy Morrison. She is a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and the Millard West Spanish Honor Society. During high school, she participated in student council, volunteered at church and school, and worked at Millard Childcare and Preschool daycare. She has graduated from Millard West High School and plans to attend the University of Nebraska at Omaha to major in elementary



Marissa Morrison

Marissa is the daughter of Glen and Marcy Morrison. She is a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. During high school, she participated in student council and the Health Occupation Students of America organization. For the past 1½ years, she has worked for Millard Public Schools Kids Network. Marissa completed the Certified Nursing Assistant program last summer. She finished classes at Millard West High School in December, 2016 and has taken classes at Metro Community College to prepare for college. She plans to attend Doane University in Crete to major in elementary education.

2017 Graduates continued



Serena Nelson

During High School, Serena was involved in Girl Scouts, Orchestra, Track and was an athletic Trainer. Serena graduated from Millard South and will be continuing her education at Peru State College majoring in Wildlife Ecology.



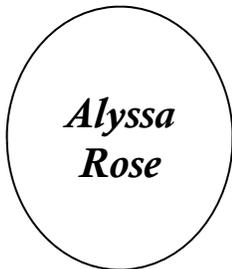
Skylar Obara

Skylar graduated from Millard South High School. Throughout High School she participated in Marching/ Concert Band, Jazz Band, track, Winter Guard and Taekwondo. She plans on attending UNL next year but is currently undecided on a major.

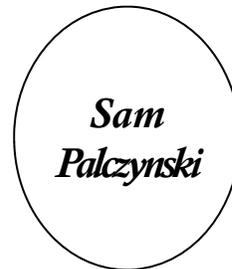


Regan Oberdin

Regan is a graduate of Millard North High School. She has been involved in running cross country, the Mustang Mentor program, Youngers Teen ambassadors, Student Council and Junior Class board. As a member of St. Paul's she has been active in the youth group, Make A Difference committee, volunteered with VBS, and mission trips. Regan will be attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in the fall.



***Alyssa
Rose***



***Sam
Palczynski***

Nathan Stieren

Nate graduated from Elkhorn South High School. He was a member of the two-time Class B State Champion Football Team, as well as the Track and Field Team. He has been involved in National Honor Society, DECA, and SADD. He is also an Eagle Scout, with the landscaping of St. Paul's parking lot being his Eagle Project in 2015. Nate is a National Merit Finalist, and he was recently named to the Omaha World Herald's All-State Academic Team as one of the top 9 scholars in the state of Nebraska. Nate will be attending the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and will major in Aeronautical Engineering.



Congratulations Graduates!

STEWARDSHIP IN OUR LIVES

Stewardship . . . A means to show we care

Would God see you as coming from Corinth or Macedonia? Wondering what that means?

In the New Testament Paul writes to the Corinthians to share thoughts on giving, i.e. financial stewardship and tithing. The following excerpt is from the ELCA web site. "In 2 Corinthians 8:2 & 3, Paul says directly "for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their [the Macedonians] abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means." Another translation says "Although they were going through hard times and were very poor, they were glad to give generously. They gave as much as they could afford and even more, simply because they

wanted to." But the enthusiasm for giving in Macedonia didn't stop there! Looking at verse 12, Paul instructs the Corinthians that they had something very important to learn from the Macedonians. It could be paraphrased like this: "It doesn't matter how much you have. What matters is how much you are willing to give from what you have." This is the point of being faithful and generous! Nowhere in the New Testament is the teaching or practice of tithing repudiated."

So the next question you ask may be "If I want to tithe, how do I determine my tithe?" This question is also addressed on the ELCA web site.

Q: When one tithes, is the tithe on gross or net income?

A: There is no definitive answer to this question. One must choose the method that most ade-

quately fulfills the intention of the person or household who tithes. It has been reported that many persons who file income tax returns use their Adjusted Gross Income as the base figure. This decision is clearly in the hands of the giver, and it is the faithful giver who responds generously."

As you, as a member of St. Paul's, consider your contribution to the church, we hope that you will remember our mission of sharing Christ's message across all generations. Every contribution is important. If you are not tithing, would you consider increasing your giving by a few dollars every week? If each member does this, it will amaze you when you see what our congregation can accomplish in Christ's name. Thank you for prayerfully considering this opportunity. Let's lead like Macedonians!



May 28, 2016

Cash Norman Chizek son of Nicole Chizek & Tyler Oviatt



Ellis Nolte Anderson

Ellis was born and baptized into Heaven on May 7, 2017. He is survived by parents, Marcus and Danielle (Plaine) Anderson; brothers, Easton and Esley; grandparents, Corey and Kim Plaine, Roger Anderson and Deb Anderson; uncles, Teal and Chasidi Plaine; Matt and Kim Anderson and Kevin Anderson; aunts, Caitlin and Grant Dierkhising, and Katie Anderson; five cousins; and many loving family and friends. His Memorial Service was held on Saturday, May 13th, at St Paul's Lutheran Church. The family requested anyone who attended the funeral wear bright colors for the celebration of Ellis' life in Jesus.

Semi-Annual Meeting Sunday, June 25th 10:30am



On Sunday June 25th we will come together for our Semi-annual meeting to vote on some very critical items. First, we will be voting on three new council members. Second, we will be voting on whether we should go back to a calendar year budget. Third, approval of a six month budget if we vote for the previous change. Fourth, we have to approve a new and revised constitution. Fifth, we will vote on changes to the Endowment Board constitution. All of these items are very important to the mission of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Your participation is essential to helping us move forward in ministry!

PASTOR PAUL'S MOVIE, MEDIA & BOOK REVIEWS



“The Promise” currently in the theaters in limited run and rated PG-13. This film is based on the true story of a family persecuted by the Ottoman Turkish Empire because they were Armenians. Over 1.5 million Armenians were killed in a pogrom of death and destruction of an entire people. The main characters in this film show courage, faith and their humanity in ways that are amazing. Christians and the church are portrayed in very positive and authentic ways. I was proud of how the church tried desperately to help the Armenian people escape persecution and death. This is a powerful movie and after you watch it, you should talk about it. ★★★



Currently in the theaters and rated PG-13. Well, Star Lord and his band of misfits is at it again with a few changes and additions since the first movie. The action is intense, the humor is great and, once again, I was more than entertained. I am not sure if there are really any spiritual messages here. But, I will say it is fun to see imperfect heroes take on evil and, well, not to give the plot away, hold their own and then some. So after you watch this film, we should talk. ★★★

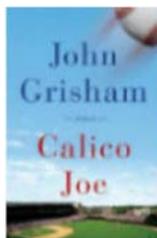


“King Arthur and the Legend of the Sword” currently in theaters and rated PG-13. Not the best version of King Arthur and not the worst, but clearly, they relied on special effects more than quality of the script. It is action filled and violent, but does not have any of the real power of the Arthurian legend in it. I was sadly disappointed, because I like the director Guy Ritchie, but this one has way too many alternative visions of this classic story. Hey, if it is raining out and you have seen everything else, go and let me know what you think. ★ 1/2

FROM ST. PAUL'S LIBRARY

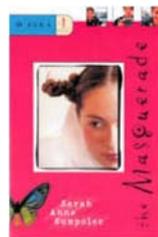
Summer—a time to relax, pick up a book and lose yourself in the story! The church library has some DVD's and some audio books that might make a road trip seem shorter. Check out our selection! If you have any you want to donate—we always look forward to including new selections in our collection. Just drop them off in the wooden box in the library.

Are you a baseball fan? Enjoy John Grisham novels? Calico Joe is a book you probably would enjoy. The novel explores topics about fathers and sons, their relationships, forgiveness and redemption in a story that moves at the speed of a “fast pitch”!



Books young people might enjoy are the “Becoming Beka Series”, “I Survived . . .” (the library has two in this se-

ries), and one of Carl Hiaasen's books titled Hoot.



Masquerade deals with issues teens face, scary dreams, secrets, a parent dating that could lead to a step-parent, popularity, friendship . . . how does Beka, a teenager, resolve these issues? Find out and then go on to read the other four books.

History in a very readable form for youth is a good way to describe the “I Survived” series. The library has both I Survived Hurricane, Katrina, 2005 and I Survived the Sinking of the Titanic. Short chapter books, they provide history lessons in a novel format that will entice children to ask questions.

Hoot, a Yearling Newberry Award winning book, is an enjoyable read for 5th grade

through adult. If you want to get young people to read, Hiaasen's books will engage them. Burrowing owls, pancakes, preservation of nature, potty-trained alligators, a fake-fart champion all wrapped up into a delicious story of youth and their voice for a cause dear to their hearts.

St. Paul's Second Wednesday Book Club
Upcoming selections are: June—My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry by Fredrik Backman; July—Book Shop on the Corner by Jenny Colgan.

Come join us for an hour at 10:00 the second Wednesday of every month for some tea, coffee, a treat and delightful sharing even if you have not read the book selection for the month! Everyone is welcome and invited.

If you have any questions please contact Ginger Hansen, Judy Petersen or Sally Runge.



Baseball and Lutherans June 5th Werner Park

Come and be a part of a very fun night in which we can enjoy a good baseball game watching the “Storm” hang out with friends and family enjoying a summer night in Nebraska. Let us know ASAP if you are interested. The cost is \$11 per person group infield or box seating of \$7 in the outfield. Specials on food are available to all who come, you don’t even have to be Lutheran, but it helps, (just kidding). Monday Night, June 5th, Werner Park game time is 7:05 pm. Hope to see you there!!!



Serving Opportunities

Six times each year, on a Saturday morning, our church reaches out to the poor and needy by preparing and serving a meal at First Baptist Church, 421 Park Ave., Omaha. Twice a year, on a Sunday evening, we reach out to prisoners and their families and prepare a meal at Trinity Lutheran Church, 6340 N 30th St., Omaha. We need coordinators, cooks, servers, clean-up crew, and donations of desserts!

Please come help us. Contact Maia Young maiayoung@icloud.com for more information and to sign up for any of the following dates. Or use the Signup Genius web site. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090445a9ac28a6f49-meals>

First Baptist: Saturday mornings:
7/22; 9/23; 11/25; 12/09

Trinity Lutheran: Sunday evening:
10/29

Refugee Sunday and Soccer Sunday June 25th

Nebraska is number one in the nation in taking in refugees. I attribute this to our faith and compassion. The ELCA, the Nebraska Synod and Lutheran Family Services are our partners in helping families, especially children, find a safe sanctuary in their war-torn world. We are going to be looking at why we consider helping those who are fleeing the violence in their homeland—a priority ministry of this church.

Not all of us can speak other languages, but there is an international language that many children and young people get—and that is the sport of soccer. So, as part of our worship, we are asking everyone to bring a new or slightly used soccer ball as part of the children’s sermon on June 25th. It is our hope that between Soccer Sunday and Refugee Sunday, we are able to engage in this important mission of the church.



St. Paul’s is a member of the Faithful Builders Coalition for Habitat for Humanity. We will be participating for our 24th year, along with a group of Omaha churches, that will donate money, materials, and the labor necessary to build “a simple, decent, house.”

Mohamed Mohamed and Insaf Khatir are the homeowners for the 2017 Faithful Builders Habitat house.

Mohamed Mohamed and Insaf Khatir met and married in their native Sudan, where they began to build their family. Mohamed worked as a mechanical engineer and Insaf as a nurse, but the warfare and instability in Sudan forced them to leave their jobs and homeland to move to the United

States. Here they have found the stability and opportunity they most wanted for their four children.

Education is of the utmost importance for Mohamed and Insaf. Their eldest daughter, Nazik Adam (22) is enrolled at Metro Community College in the pre-pharmacy program. Sons Mohamed Adam (20) and Almoatasim Billah Mohamed (15) along with daughter Malaz Mohamed (16) are at Central High School where they are excelling academically. Insaf is back in school as well, learning English at Iowa Western.

Mohamed and Insaf are looking forward to being homeowners and Mohamed has already begun looking at the floorplans for the house and inspects the lot regularly. Insaf is very particular about all the things she wants for her new home and is excited to have Habitat Omaha’s Faithful Builders Coalition, who are known for their attention to detail, building her home. Both are excited for building to begin and for the opportunity to roll up their sleeves and begin working on their home.

Work begins July 29th so look for more information and sign-up instructions in the July issue of the Sower on in June in the Commons.

Thoughts on Names for our current Publications?

The name for this publication is the Sower, which means one who spreads seed. I was asked one time why we name our newsletter after a seamstress or tailor? Yes, different spelling and, of course, we have the statue over the capitol building and on our license plates with a sower. However, I would ask folks to think about what might be a better name for our newsletter and make suggestions.

Also, the “Chat” is not a very engaging term for conveying really important information. So if you all might have some thoughts, please let us know. Of course, if you see no need for changing the names please share that as well. Let’s see how creative and thoughtful we can be in these important communication vehicles. Email your suggestions/comments to sower@splcomaha.org.

THE SECOND MILE

On the weekends of June 4 and June 18 the Second Mile offering will be collected at each worship service. God has provided us with many blessings. Financially, we have the opportunity to share our abundance by placing money in the bucket following worship services on some Sundays each month.

June 3/4th we will be able to contribute to offset the cost of the **St. Paul's Block Party**. It will be held in the church parking lot

on Friday, August 4, from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. The church's grill needs to be replaced so that we can host this and other events such as Amen Grill. Please be generous with your offering so that we can host this event for the church family and surrounding community residents and businesses. Then come on August 4 and join in the festivities! Food, Fun and Fellowship!!!

June 17/18th the money you share will support **St. Paul's Hospitality Ministry**.

This ministry provides a welcome atmosphere in our church commons each weekend. Coffee and donuts are provided to welcome visitors and members following services while people visit and chat.

LOOKING FORWARD:

Early in July we will be supporting the **Lutherans Read Program** that benefits children at Millard Rockwell Elementary School and OPS Miller Park Elementary School.



But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1 Peter 2:9-10

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Karen Hansen is the President of St. Paul's Women of the ELCA. Contact Karen at karen_hansen409@hotmail.com or 402-616-1178



"All God's Creatures Got a Place in the Choir, a favorite Bible School song sings such truth. I watched a TV show recently featuring famous people: actors, inventors, first responder heroes. I was left a little bummed thinking about all they had contributed, and what have I done? Well, God "whispered" to me. *Someone taught them how to read.* That helped me put it in perspective. Some teacher like me taught them how to read. Think about it. We all have *Our Place in the Choir*. Our world is a community, and we are all a part of it. The gifted surgeon doing heart transplants drove to work in a car he trusts to his mechanic to keep running. The mechanic uses tools packed in a box by someone in a distant city, and they are delivered by a truck driver whose name is unknown. This is the chain we are all a part of. We all depend on others every day for goods and services we take for granted. Give these chains of community some thought. Each one of us is a link. "Little drops of water, little grains of sand make a mighty ocean and the wondrous land." *Don't sell yourself short. God put you in His choir. Sing big !!!*

KITCHEN NOTES: a notebook has been placed in the kitchen. Please take a minute when you are serving from the St. Paul's kitchen to record the date, the event, what was served, and the number served. These entries will assist those planning future events. Thanks for your help!!! There is also a page for kitchen needs you may have noticed while working in the SPLC kitchen.

Dates to Remember:

June 1,8,15,22,29 . . . Bingo at the Good Samaritan Center, Millard

July 13-16 . . . Triennial Convention, Minneapolis



13271 Millard Avenue
Omaha, NE 68137
402-895-3366
www.splcomaha.org



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Calendar of Events

June, 2017

*Sharing Christ's message to
transform all generations*

ST. PAUL'S EVENTS

Book Club/Bible Study	7:00 p.m.	Wed. 7, 14, 21, 28
Church Council	6:30 p.m.	Mon. 12
Church Staff Meetings	9:30 a.m.	Tue. 6, 13, 20, 27
Faith Bible Study	6:30 p.m.	Thur. 15
Facility Team Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Tue. 6
Finance Team Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Thur. 1
Grace Circle	6:30 p.m.	Mon. 26
Library in the Commons	8:00 a.m.	Sun. 18
Hope Circle	1:00 p.m.	Thur. 15
Library Team	9:00 a.m.	Tue. 6, 13, 20, 27
Love Circle	11:30 a.m.	Wed. 21
Lutheran Night/Werner Park	7:05 p.m.	Mon. 5
Memorial Committee Meeting	2:00 p.m.	Wed. 21
Mission Quilter's	9:00 a.m.	Mon. 5, 12, 19, 26
Monday Night Quilter's	6:30 p.m.	Mon. 5, 12, 19, 26
Tech Committee Meeting	5:30 p.m.	Wed. 21
VBS Training	6:00 p.m.	Tue. 27
Vibrant Faith Team Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Tue. 27
Wednesday Morning Book Club	10:00 a.m.	Wed. 14
Youth Car Wash	3:00 p.m.	Wed. 7, 21

MEMBER CARE

Cards in the Family Life Center	12:30 p.m.	Tue. 13, 27
Exercise Class	8:15 a.m.	Mon. 5, 12, 19, 26
	8:15 a.m.	Fri. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Health Ministry Team Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Mon. 5
Home Communion at Millard Manor	11:00 a.m.	Thur. 1
Tai Chi	9:00 a.m.	Tue. 6, 13, 20, 27
	9:00 a.m.	Thur. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

EDUCATION SCHEDULE

3:6Teen	5:30 p.m.	Wed. 7, 14, 21, 28
Spirit	6:30 p.m.	Wed. 7, 14, 21, 28
Tuesday Morning Bible Study	11:00 a.m.	Tue. 6, 13, 20, 27
Thursday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.	Thur. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Thursday Morning Bible Study	6:30 a.m.	Thur. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Worship Team Rehearsal	4:30 p.m.	Sat. 7, 14, 26, 28
Worship Team Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.	Wed. 7, 14, 21, 28

SPECIAL EVENTS & MEETINGS

Father's Day		Sun. 18
Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting	10:30 a.m.	Sun. 25

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

"Church Chat" Deadline	9:00 a.m.	Mon. 5, 12, 19, 26
Sower Deadline	12:00 p.m.	Wed. 21

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday Evening Worship Service	5:30 p.m.	Sat. 3, 10, 17, 24
Sunday Worship Service	9:30 a.m.	Sun. 4, 11, 18, 25
Nursery	9:15 a.m.	Sun. 4, 11, 18, 25

For more information, see the reverse side

Worship Servants for June, 2017

June 3—5:30 p.m.

Acolytes-Meg Williams,
Aden Williams
Communion-Carolyn Badtke
Doug & Bev Renken
Greeter-Keith Simmons
Reader-Kristi McKamy
Sound-Bill Koile
Ushers-Gary Norenberg,
Todd Whitham
Video-As Assigned

June 4—9:30 a.m.

Acolytes-Talik Runge,
Trenel Runge
Communion-Caleb Kruen,
Judy Gray, Donna Snowdon,
Julie Hilger, Stephanie Martin,
Pat Zimmerman, Ted Luedke
Greeters-Jim & Mary Jo Larson,
Steve & Amy Oberdin
Hospitality-
Ted & Donna Luedke
Reader-Donna Luedke
Sound-John Snowdon
Ushers-Norm Bensinger,
John Keim, Jeff Hohenstein,
Scott Custard
Video-Jayda Hammer

June 10—5:30 p.m.

Acolytes-As Assigned
Greeter-Karla Neemann
Reader-Bev Steinbaugh
Sound-Randy Mayer-Flatt
Ushers-Denny Verdick,
Dave Smith
Video-Piper Oberdin

June 11—9:30 a.m.

Acolytes-Will Woehler
Greeters-Doug & Bev Renken
Alex & Tami Williams
Hospitality-Nancy Steil
Reader-Talik Runge
Sound-Jim Kuehl
Ushers-Norm Bensinger,
Dustin Cox, Jay Schroeder,
Gary McDonald
Video-Scott Custard

June 17—5:30 p.m.

Acolytes-As Assigned
Communion-Bev Steinbaugh,
Gudrun Fleshner,
Vicky Marquardt
Greeters-
Mike & Wanda Johnson
Reader-Judy Bergman
Sound-Jayson Swope
Ushers-Doug Wallace,
Bill Jaquith
Video-Jeanette Swope

June 18—9:30 a.m.

Acolytes-As Assigned
Communion-Jane Coen,
Sue Kuehl, Dody McGinnis,
Sergio Smith, Barb Saighman,
Melany Smith
Greeters-Fran Witt,
Donna Lewis, Cathy Bourne,
Sharla Fitzgerald
Hospitality-Phil & Barb Hough
Reader-Allen Darell
Sound-Arno Neben
Ushers-Norm Bensinger,

Ted Luedke, John Bourne,
Gary McDonald
Video-Tyler Vokoun

June 24—5:30 p.m.

Acolytes-As Assigned
Greeter-
Dale & Donna Pickering
Reader-Sid Rames
Sound-Jim Rames
Ushers-Denny Verdick,
Doug Wallace
Video-Sid Rames

June 25—9:30 a.m.

Acolytes-As Assigned
Greeters-Ardis McDonald,
Donna Lesley, Leslie Nelson
Phyllis Matthews
Hospitality-Mary Holland
Reader-John von Dohren
Sound-Randy Mayer-Flatt
Ushers-Norm Bensinger,
Cory Juma, Scott Custard,
Alex Williams
Video-Tami Williams