

# The Messenger

*St. Paul's family welcomes those wanting peace, comfort, and friendship by connecting them with God's Word.*

September 2018

## Pastor's Page

### Church Staff

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## Discussing the Bible Together

Who are my friends? My friends include those with whom I can have a lively conversation on just about any topic. I have lively conversations with quite a lot of you on a weekly basis. Multiple times per week you and I talk about the Bible. I know these sessions are often referred to as Bible studies, but I would rather we call them Bible discussions because that's how I hope they turn out. I like to preach, to share God's Word from the pulpit. There is something that can make a sermon better, though, and that is discussion afterwards. I feel a person is being very friendly to me when he/she pursues a discussion with me of a sermon, recent or from months ago.

Friends have discussions. Discussions lead to friendships. Whether you are interested in enjoying a present friendship or interested in making new friends, a Bible discussion at St. Paul's is one very good way to make that happen. This is more than wishful thinking. This is a proven reality. To discuss the Bible is to share the loving presence of Jesus with someone else. Such Biblical discussion, as Paul so succinctly shares, leads to "unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God" as well as to "matur(ity), attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

Here's what you can expect, then, should you participate in a Bible 'study' on a Sunday morning between services. Expect plenty of time to have discussions with your friends before and after the study. Expect to have a leader who is very open to questions, comments, and extended conversations on the text under discussion. Expect the freedom and the time to be able to discuss openly with each other how that particular portion of Scripture impacts your thinking and your day to day life. Expect time to fly because you will be engaged on really, truly good news.

If you have hesitated to give Bible 'study' a try or have been away from it for a while, please, please, please, consider giving it another try. Come to Bible discussions of the lessons your children will be looking at in Sunday school so you can discuss things with them. That will be the Adult Christ Light Bible Study that occurs starting at 9:25 AM in the Heritage Room downstairs starting September 16<sup>th</sup>. Come to Bible discussions of "good works and prayer" from This We Believe that will be at 9:25 AM in the Fireside Room starting September 9<sup>th</sup>. Take a close look at the church calendar because there are plenty of other Bible discussions to enjoy with friends and to make friends throughout the week. There's a very close knit group that would love your company that meets at Happy Chef on Wednesdays starting at 6:30 AM, just for one example.

Let's discuss God's Word. It's likely a friendship waiting to happen!

### *Special points of interest:*

- Anniversaries & Birthdays
- September Dates
- Sunday School
- Jesus Cares
- Monthly Recipe from Mary Ruth
- Jesus Loves Me

## September Dates to REMEMBER

Sometimes a title on a calendar doesn't do a thorough enough job of explaining what an event entails or who should even be aware of it. Rather than having to look into different articles for dates and times we're going to see how well it works to put them all into one article from soonest to latest.

August 30<sup>th</sup> will be our final Thursday night service for the summer. Goodbye summer!

SEPTEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> AT 4:00 PM PASTOR MARQUES NELSON WILL BE INSTALLED AS OUR NEW PASTOR.

September 4<sup>th</sup> Mary Ruth Circle, a women's group, will kick off another year of meetings.

September 5<sup>th</sup> will be the restart for rehearsals of Orchestra and Senior Choirs.

September 5<sup>th</sup> BEACON—Campus and Community Fair (10 – 2)

September 6<sup>th</sup> our Treble Choir will begin practicing anew.

September 6<sup>th</sup> BEACON—BLOCK PARTY STUDENT KICK OFF

September 8<sup>th</sup> we will get started again sharing God's Word with special folks at our Jesus Cares Bible Study.

September 9<sup>th</sup> we will hold our parent day for Sunday school starting at 9:15 in the sanctuary. BRAND NEW! There will be NAME TAGS for all worshippers. A new Bible Study focused on Good Works and Prayer will be launched in the Fireside Room. Sunday school teachers will be installed at the 10:30 service. THIS IS A BIG DAY, ONE TO ATTEND FOR SURE!

September 9<sup>th</sup> is also our final Scrap for Cash. Let's help you clean up.

September 11<sup>th</sup> is a BIG DAY with our restart of FULL STAFF at 6 PM, our first FRIENDSHIP Verse Of The Month Bible Discussion, and our Boards' Night.

September 12<sup>th</sup>! Calling all CATECHISM STUDENTS! Come for FOOD AT FIVE and be ready to start class upstairs in the commons by 5:30 PM.

Jesus Cares meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday.

September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> will be Pastor Nelson's first of many trips into our pulpit. Don't miss it!

September 25 is the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, the regular meeting time of our Church Council.

September 27<sup>th</sup> Cards and the Word will become one mixed Bible Study in the Fireside Room.

### **Hello! My name is...**

How many members of St. Paul's do you know by name? Lots? A few? In support of this year's theme of 'friendship,' the Worship Planning Team is crafting name tags. Beginning September 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, permanent name tags will be available for all communicant members of St. Paul's to wear if they would like to. Visitors will also be invited to wear a name tag if they wish. There will be a display with all of the name tags; after wearing yours, just return it to its place. It will be available there the next time you want to wear it. Feel free to contact any member of the Worship Planning Team with questions or comments!

### **Sunday School**

We are excited to start another year of God's grace in Sunday School. Tim Horvat is the Sunday School coordinator. Mrs. Angela Timmerman and Mrs. Ashley Larson are the co-directors of the Cherubs Choir while Miranda Miller will lead the Youth Choir.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 9. All Sunday School children and parents will meet in the sanctuary at

# From the Desk of the Church Administrator

How often does the slightest thing trigger a memory of years gone by? Walk in a Bakers Square and see pies topped with two or three inches of meringue and it reminds you of when your mom or grandmother made pies just like that. You can almost taste that pie right now. You hear popcorn popping on the stove, and it takes you back to a Saturday night when you were a kid and dad was making fresh popcorn on the stove. Or you see a dad and a child playing a game together and it takes you back to when you were that age.

Last week while I was cleaning out the shed, I came across a bushel basket. It was a wooden woven bushel basket, and one of those memories flashed into my mind just like it was yesterday. A bushel basket around our place could be used to transport leaves or twigs, produce from the garden or items out to the burning barrel. But this bushel basket stirred my mind to think about baseball. Now you may wonder what a bushel basket and baseball have in common. Those two items would provide entertainment, exercise, laughter and good conversation. That bushel basket held a whole bunch of baseballs and my dad and I would go out into our backyard and play baseball.

I grew up in the small, rural farming community of Helenville, Wisconsin. Most of the people who lived there had retired from farming and moved into town. Thus, I did not have a lot of kids with whom to play. Oh, yes, there were a few but they often were put to work out on the farm with an older sibling. So what would a kid do? I would find ways to entertain myself. Typically on a lazy Sunday afternoon, Dad would pick up his old worn out glove, toss me my newer glove and say "Let's play some ball." Each one of us would grab the handles of the bushel basket and make our way out into the backyard. Our next-door neighbors would come out and sit under their old shady maple tree as soon as they heard our voices. My mom would come out with some fresh lemonade and our fans would watch us play some ball.

My dad, being an old guy (probably around 63 at that time), could still pitch pretty well. He had a wicked curveball. He would pitch and I would hit until all of the balls were gone from the basket. Then we would go out into the field behind our house and gather up all of those baseballs along with our adoring fans. Zeke would occasionally find an errant golf ball. Hmmm, initials of AK on it. "Surely can't be mine," he would say, even though we knew his given first name was Alvin and his last name was Koser. When we found most of the baseballs, everyone would return to their positions. Then it would be my turn to pitch. I threw very hard but could not always control where it was going. My dad loved to hit curve balls, and he knew I didn't have much luck in throwing those. When I tried, sometimes we wouldn't find that ball because it traveled a long way.

Soon we would begin to tire, or at least that is what dad said. We would sit down under that shady tree, visit with Zeke and Kate and enjoy the afternoon. There are times I wish we could live those days all over again.

Baseball is a lot like our daily lives. Sometimes we walk and sometimes we strike out. There are times we can hit it a mile and sometimes we don't. Sometimes someone throws us a curve ball that we did not expect and soon find ourselves struggling to make it to first base. Years ago, I read a poem titled "God's baseball team". Of course, I have no idea what ever happened to that poem, but it spoke of God and the players that made up his baseball team. Each position player was a figure from the Bible. I sure wish I could remember that poem because it so fittingly described each individual. One of the players I still can identify is the Lord himself. He was the manager and Jesus was the pitcher. Yes, there were and still are times that God the Father and God the Son throw us curve balls that we can't hit. Sometimes they blow us away with a blazing fastball and then there are times they just let us hit away.

So, the next time you go to a Moondogs, Twins or your favorite baseball team's game, think about this poem. Maybe you can fill in the names for all of those position players.

## Facility update

The sound system is fully in place, and Benny Schroeder has been walking around during the church services with the iPad making adjustments as needed. If there is something you don't like, please talk to Benny. He is working hard to make everyone as pleased as he possibly can. Benny and Jon Schwichtenberg put in many, many hours running wire and doing a lot of the infrastructure to make this all happen. If you get the See next page . . .

# From the Desk of the Church Administrator

The camera and recording systems are installed and will soon be put to the test. We had been recording with only one camera. Now there are four cameras recording our services. Microphones have been added to the Sanctuary to pick up congregational singing and speaking during the church services. Marty Rost, Arnie Schroeder and Bill Lehne are training to learn all that this new system can do.

Art Zuhlsdorf, Chris Selvey and Kevin Zimmerman have been experiencing a lot of curve balls thrown at them this summer with the Ladies' restroom remodel. As when we remodeled the Sanctuary, building codes have thrown all the best laid plans out the window. The Ladies room is nearly finished except for the building inspector to give us the final ok. Then the guys will be starting on the Men's room. Hopefully it will not take as long because now they know what to look out for with the new codes.

Of course the projector has been in use a majority of the summer and people seem to enjoy the sharper images and colors of the projector.

### Matching Gifts

Thank you to all who have generously contributed to the matching fund for the summer projects. Over \$15,000 has been received. We still need to raise an additional \$20,000 to utilize the funds from the Matching Gifts fund. If we fail to raise these funds, the only way to pay off the expenses of the sound system, camera recording system, projector and remodel of the restrooms is to borrow the money from LACE. Yes, we can do that but prefer not to do so. If it is in your heart to share some of your precious gifts with which the Lord has so richly blessed you, please place your gift in one of the envelopes provided in the Narthex or in the office. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### Time is a ticking

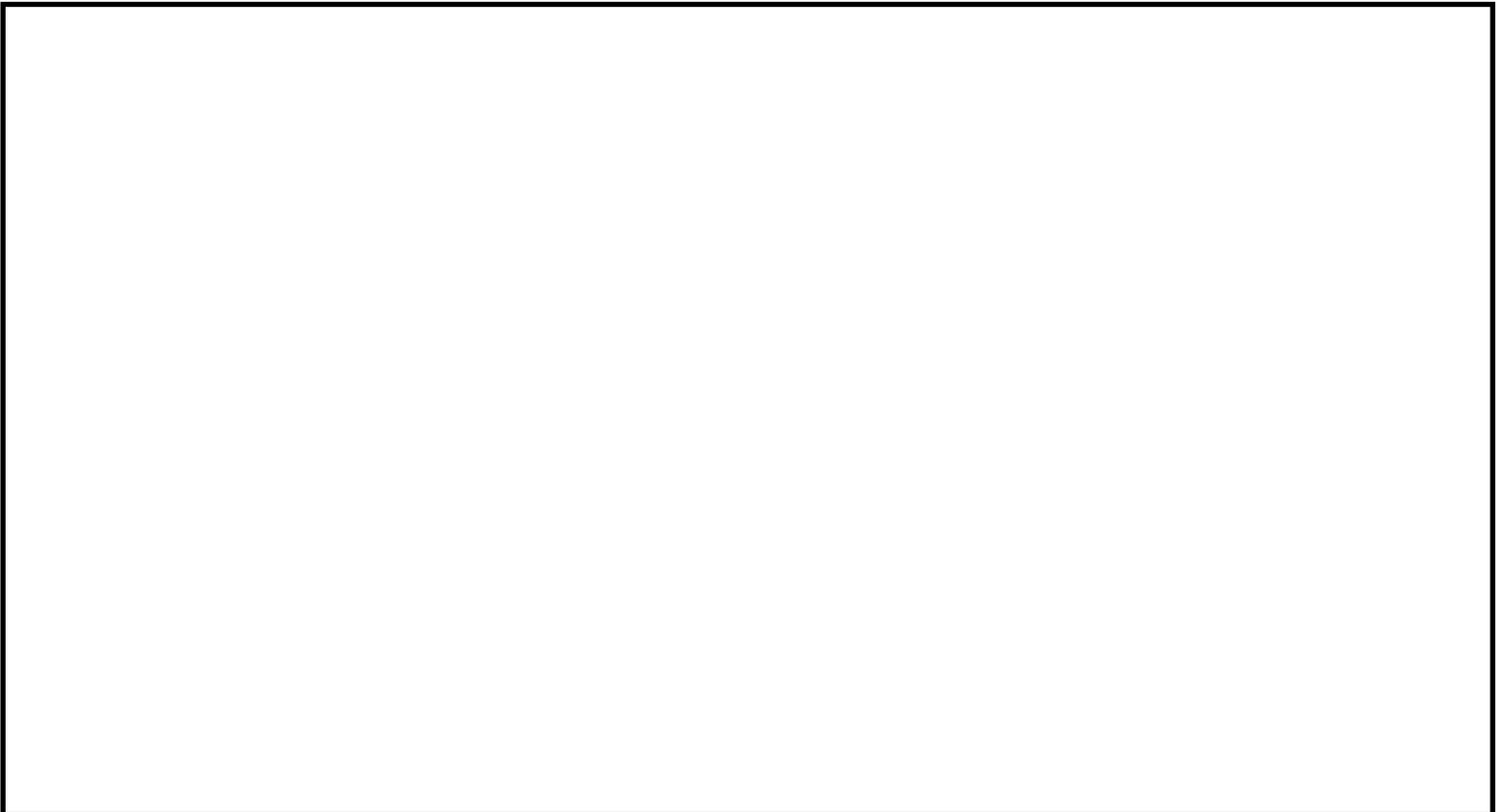
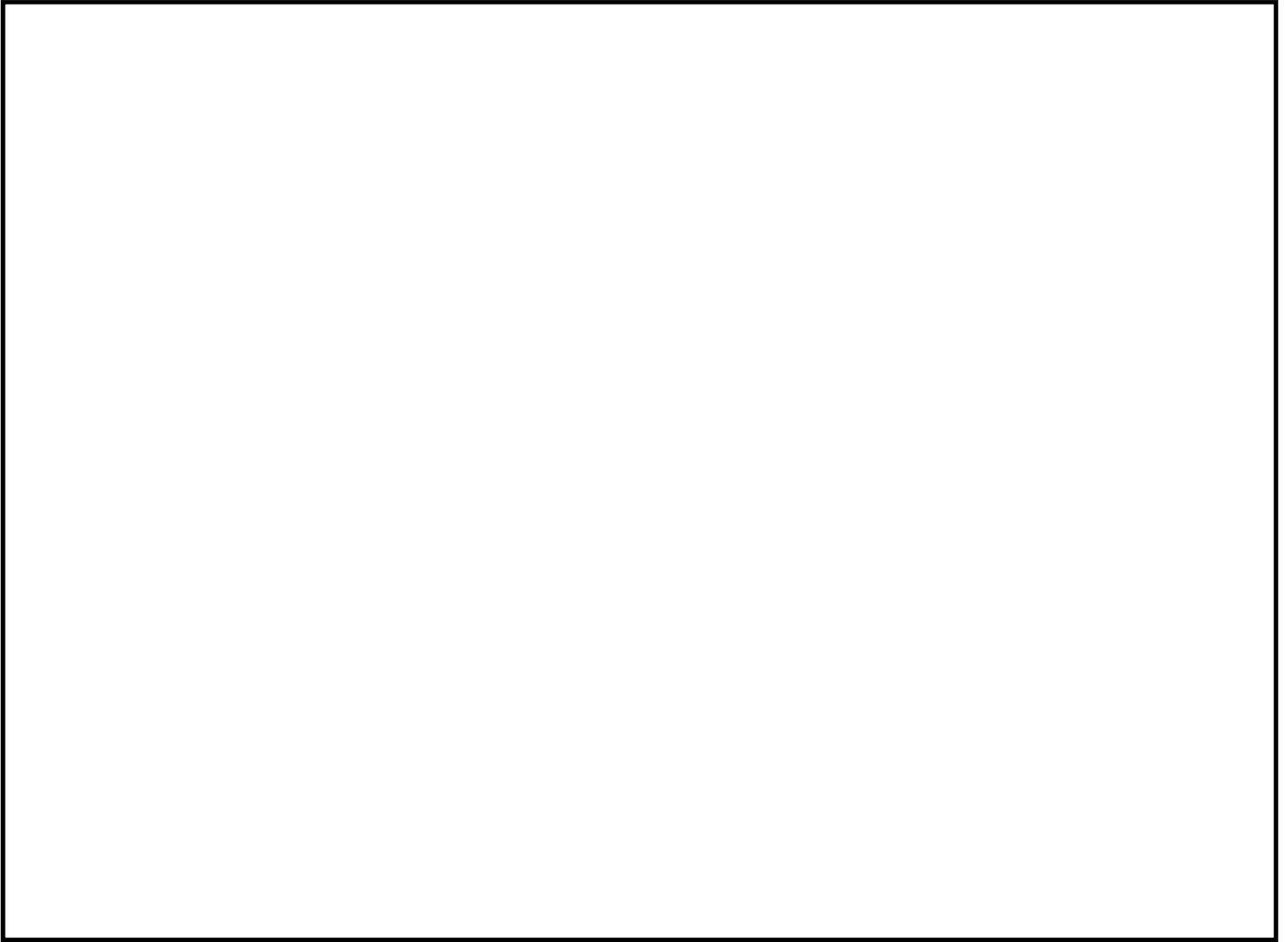
Some how during a given week, the days of Tuesday and Wednesday just disappear. Suddenly it is Thursday, soon to be Friday, and another week is in the books. Someone mentioned to me last week that my monthly Messenger article will be missed. It seems that my lead off to the article is enjoyable reading for some people. Well, I have good news for you. With the help of those who know how to put a blog together, I plan to continue with my writings. This is a whole new area for me, but I did intend to do some writing after I retired. So this is one of the ways I maybe be able to share it with others. Stay tuned for further news about the blog.

## St. Paul's Jesus Cares Ministries

Jesus Cares Ministries (JCM) assists our congregation in reaching out to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Specific Bible study materials have been developed for the JCM program. The schedule includes **Worship at the Cross** services which follows a simplified format appropriate for people with a cognitive disability, including people with forms of dementia. JCM will begin on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11:00 a.m. The topics this year will be "Baptism" and "The Lord's Prayer". The JCM classes meet the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month (Sept. – June). On Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> the Three Trees Theater will present "Rescue in the Night" the story of Daniel in the Lion's Den at our Jesus Cares class. All are welcome to

### 2018 Men of His Word Event

Men, with all of the pressures of this world in your family life/work life/social life, and with all of the temptations of Satan around every corner, do you find it difficult to be the Christian man you desire to be and God expects you to be? A one-day event is being planned in Rochester, MN to help men **Get Out of the Boat** and walk with Jesus. Set aside Saturday, October 27th, on your calender. Pastor Jared Oldenburg from Eternal Rock Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO will be our keynote speaker. Koine, a well-known WELS worship band, will lead us in worship. There are 12 fantastic breakout sessions to choose from! Whether you are just entering the realm of being a man as a teen or you have years of experience in this department, these sessions are designed to better connect us to Christ and help us be the men Christ expects us to be. If you want more details, go to [www.menofhisword.org](http://www.menofhisword.org) for more details and for registration information.



## MEMORIALS

**In Memory of Herb Lokken (Paul's father):**

Family and friends  
Sertoma of Greater Mankato  
Mark and Bonnie Shult  
Dave Urness

**In Memory of Gordon Johnson (Denise Luehmann's Father):**

Family and friends  
Bruce and Arlawayne Boerner  
Mark and Bonnie Shult

## MEMBER CHANGES

## Jesus Loves Me Learning Center

The mission of St. Paul's Learning Center is to provide opportunities for young children (ages 6 weeks through school age) and their families to learn more of Jesus' love and His plan of salvation, and to guide the child's educational and social development through exploration and discovery in this Christian setting.

Our Bible lessons this month will focus on the Creation, The Fall, Noah and the Flood and Abraham's Prayer Answered.

In September, Science Time will look at What's Wild?, Wildlife is Everywhere and Lunch for a Bear. Literature will include books and activities about apples, Bears and the Circus.

MN Early Childhood Indicators of Progress (ECIPS) is a very important part of our planning to get children ready for kindergarten eventually or next year. Recently the ECIPS has been updated to identify eight domains and here at JLMLC we plan to provide an environment where these domain goals are met. We are working to be re-rated in Parent Aware also.

We pray for God's guidance this month! May HE give us all a rich measure of his love and help to welcome new

### Praise & Proclaim

**-Friday night & Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>** @ St. Peter Lutheran Church & School. Everyone is invited to hear and learn how Christians can comfortably and confidently proclaim the gospel. If interested, see Pastor Knepprath or a member of the Outreach Board.



## Let's Cook with Ruth Circle

Recently the Mary Ruth Circle received a treasure from the past, "Let's Cook with the Ruth Circle" cookbook, and we would like to share it with the congregation. The cookbook was compiled by the Ruth Circle in 1957. We will be printing some recipes from the cookbook in the monthly Messenger. You can also see the cookbook in the St. Paul's church library.

### Mom's Basic Sweet Roll

In a small bowl put:                    ¼ cup tepid water  
Sprinkle over it:                        1 or 2 packages yeast

Let stand 10 minutes  
Sift and measure:                    6 ½ to 7 cups flour  
In a mixing bowl put:                2 cups liquid (part milk, scalded)

Heat or cool liquid to tepid, then add: 1/3 cup sugar  
    ½ of the flour  
    2 eggs  
    Yeast mixture

Beat until smooth and elastic then add:  
    ½ cup soft fat  
    3 ½ tsp salt  
    remaining flour or enough to form a rough ball which comes away from  
the side of the bowl

Let rest 10 minutes. Grease bowl and put dough in. Let rise until double in bulk. Remove from pan, and knead and use in your favorite sweet roll recipe or make dinner rolls.

# Vicar's Corner

*From the  
Vicar*



## September Anniversaries

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 - Joel and Pat Baumann                             | 15 - Clem and Carol Gilbertson                                    |
| 2 - Chuck and Kait Klammer<br>John and Lucille Stolt | 16 - Adam and Kailah Eversman                                     |
| 5 - Jim and Barb Dressen                             | 17 - Aaron and Brittany Persons<br>Christopher and Brittany Stolt |
| 8 - Tom and Lori Warrant                             | Heather and Matt Tyree  |
| 9 - Denis and Barb Becker                            | 22 - Paul and Karen Seykora                                       |
| 10 - Emily and Thomas Frank                          | Dave and Linda Kimble   |
| 12 - Glenn and Joni Thiem                            | Ryan and Tracy Altmann  |
| 14 - Tim and Renee Oakland                           | 26 - Jim and Bobbi Wilbur   |



## September Birthdays

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1 - Lindsey Radel<br>Jamis Stewart<br>Paige Altmann  | 12 - Pat Cray<br>Marie Butler<br>Steve Persons<br>Chelsey Mawby<br>Cali Gibbs                                   | 20 - Tami Braam<br>Yvette Burk<br>Kevin Miller<br>Emma Meister   |
| 2 - Alex Thompson<br>Jacob Ambrose<br>Kyra Franzmann<br>Reed Selvey<br>Kendra Schmidt          | 13 - Owen Crabtree<br>14 - Linda Knudsen<br>Kristi Ellwein<br>Tabitha Stewart                                   | 21 - Brianna Sullivan<br>Alex Harnitz<br>22 - Steve Lueck<br>Erica Flatin<br>Rylie Rosenfeld                       |
| 3 - Rick Saggau<br>Koen Paulsen<br>Logan Stolt   | 15 - Scott Stafford<br>Cory Harnitz<br>Ava Stading<br>Sophia Stading  | 23 - Elle Ribbe<br>24 - Tom Zellmer<br>Judy Ehmke<br>Bonnie Shult<br>Tom Stewart<br>Kailah Eversman<br>Carl Ziemer |
| 4 - Arlean Exner<br>Deb Filter   | 16 - Bill Schimmel, Sr.<br>Elda Dubke<br>Ben Allen<br>Parker Weber  | 25 - Iva Nere<br>Amanda Poch<br>Angela Poch  |
| 5 - Millie Woller<br>Vicki Gauker<br>Karen Stevens   | Emma Flatin   | 26 - Maddox Langworthy   |
| 8 - Virginia Damewood<br>Maribeth Wong<br>Vicki Abraham<br>Nick Horvat<br>Wohali Oosahwee-Voss | 17 - Judith Metzler<br>Tiffany Ausdemore<br>Nyamal Yak<br>18 - Carrie Lien<br>Amanda Mueller<br>Eliezer Steinke | 27 - Carter Sullivan<br>28 - Harold Linde<br>Dave Urness<br>Lindsay Oakland<br>Wendell Vlieger<br>29 - Connie Buhr |



# Jesus Loves Me Learning Center

**Jesus Loves Me Learning Center**  
Full Day Child Care 6 am- 6 pm  
Toddler, Preschool, and School Aged Programs  
**345-7707** 304 Monroe Ave.  
North Mankato

An illustration of Jesus with a long white beard and hair, wearing a white robe, standing in the center. He is holding the hands of four children: a girl on the left with blonde hair and a red bow, a boy in a red shirt, a girl in a red shirt and blue skirt, and a boy in a blue shirt and red overalls on the right.

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church  
304 Monroe Avenue  
North Mankato, MN 56003

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
304 Monroe Avenue  
North Mankato, Minnesota 56003

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FAX: 345-5756, Campus: 420-0105  
Web Page Address: [www.stpaulsnorthmankato.com](http://www.stpaulsnorthmankato.com)  
Rev. Roger Knepprath, Lead Pastor: 995-8002  
Mr. Mark Probst, Church Administrator: 380-5994

THURSDAY SERVICE: 6:30 P.M.

SATURDAY SERVICE: 5:30 P.M.

SUNDAY SERVICES: 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

COMMUNION SERVICES: First and Second Sunday of the month and preceding Saturday

Sunday Educational Opportunities:

Adult Bible Class (All Adults) 9:25 – 10:15 A.M.

Dial-A-Devotion: 507-345-7049, press 5

Weekday Educational Opportunities:

Coffee with Pastor: Wednesday mornings at 6:30 a.m. at Happy Chef on Hwy 169

"Jesus Loves Me" Learning Center

Monday – Friday: 6:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.