

June, 2011

The St. Paul Epistle

A Newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bellville, Ohio

Special Interest Articles:

- Retreat for Adults, p. 2.
- You Never Know Whom You Will Touch, p. 3.
- VBS Registration, p.

Regular Features:

Gift of the Month	3
Sermon Titles	5
Pastor's Letter	8
Celebrations	7
Minutes	8

Attack on Mosquitoes!

Would you give \$25.00 to save a life? That is the cost of spraying a home in Sub Saharan Africa for one year to protect a family from malaria. Eighty-nine percent of malaria deaths worldwide occur in Africa, especially among young children and pregnant women. Every 45 seconds a child dies from malaria.

Our synod has committed to raise \$250,000 to give to our companion churches in Southern Africa to help fight this disease. A disease that can be treated. A disease that can be prevented. You can help! To date our synod has raised a little over \$106,000 toward this worthwhile cause. Our goal at St. Paul is \$5,000

by the end of July, or \$25 per member who attends church regularly.

Join hundreds of others as we strive to reach this goal and save a life. For more information visit www.ELCA.org/malaria. Please mark "malaria" on your check or giving envelope. Thank you for making a difference in many lives.

Supplies Needed

The VBS Crew at St Paul Lutheran Church is preparing for VBS 2011 – Pandamania. We are looking for people to help with donations for our week of PANDAMONIUM! There is a "Christmas" tree outside of the Community Room filled with cards asking for different items for VBS. If you could please look and see what you might be able to donate, it would be

very much appreciated. We need the items to be back at the church by Sunday, June 26th. Thanks, in advance, for all you support. If you have any questions please let Kurt Beal know.

The Community Dinner continues to serve approximately 200 people each month and we have wonderful volunteers who

help make it happen! We area gain low on supplies and can use your help to re-stock the cupboard. Needed at this time are: Salad dressings (especially Ranch), Applesauce, Spaghetti Sauce and noodles. Thank you very much

A Retreat Possibility

Jesus took time out from his work to rest and to pray. Vacations can do that for us, but so can retreats. I have found these eight day retreats to be personally very renewing. I invite you to experience a shorter retreat at the Loyola House in Guelph, Ontario, this fall.

We will leave on Friday morning October 21, and we will arrive sometime in the late afternoon in time for supper at the retreat house. We will participate in the retreat from Friday supper through worship on Monday. It ends about 12:30, and then we will go to a restaurant for lunch together. After that I will stay on for a week of personal retreat while

you will travel home. At that point you might want to go to Niagara Falls for an afternoon and night, and return home on Tuesday. Or you might want to go straight home and arrive in the late evening. So far I have three person interested in going.

Prior to going, I will meet with everyone who is interested and explain what happens on a retreat. In addition I will guide you through the experience of Ignatian Prayer so that you might have an idea of how to pray while you are there. There is no right or wrong way to pray and to spend your day. Different people choose different ways to encounter God.

The cost is \$95 a day Canadian, which is almost the same amount American. You will need to register with them and can do so online easily at www.ignatiusguelph.ca. Applying early rather than later could make a difference between acceptance and rejection. The house fills up quickly in the fall. There will be 20-30 people already there making the 40 day retreat that I did in 2000. Because there has been room for extra people, the staff offers the opportunity for individuals to come in and out during that time.

If you are interested and would like further information please contact Pastor Doug.

You Never Know Whom You Will Touch

Our spaghetti dinner has touched more lives than just the ones in our community. Did you know that the Bellville Presbyterian Church started a monthly dinner after observing our dinner? Pastor Jerry Rhea, a member of our congregation who is currently serving as the interim at Trinity Lutheran Church in Jeromesville, has also encouraged the establishment of a monthly dinner at that congregation. And the local Methodist Church in Jeromesville has followed suit.

Recently Pastor Doug was talking with Pastor Jerry and his wife Mel. Mel told this story to Pastor Doug.

"I work on the oncology floor at MedCentral during the night shift. I love my work for it gives me the opportunity to talk to the patients.

After everyone was gone home and the patients are finished putting on a brave face for their families, they are often ready to talk about their deepest fears and the realities of their situation.

"We had a man come to our floor and I recognized him from the monthly dinners at Trinity Lutheran Church. His wife came with him and never left his side the whole time he was there. They were poor, desperately poor. She was wearing a sweatshirt that looked nice and I commented on it. He said, 'I went to the clothing place when she wasn't around and I searched through everything until I found her a nice sweatshirt and blouse. I gave it to her for her birthday.'

"He was so proud of his gift and she was pleased to have it. These

people have nothing. They do not have a car and walk everywhere.

"While they were there it was the day of the dinner at Trinity Lutheran Church, and she was debating whether she should go or not. She did not want to leave his side, but I told her that he would be fine until she came back. She wavered for a long time, but finally decided to go, because 'this was their one night out in the month.'

"Every month they go to the dinner and sit together with their whole family, the couple, their son and his wife, and their grandchildren. It is important to them that they eat together. It is a special time.

"You never know whom you are going to touch."

June Gifts of the Month – Four Needs

Thank You

St. Paul Lutheran Church,

Thank you for my scholarship this past year. I rally appreciate it. It helped me tremendously towards my education at Otterbein. I hope everything is well.

Sincerely,
Sarah

First, Raemelon Therapeutic Riding Center.

The Volunteers and riders need **head bands, ear muffs, and gloves**. The riders need **safety helmets**.

Second, Cranks Creek, Ly. An area of Appalachia in Harlan County.

This summer Lutherans of Rural Area Congregations (LORAC) will be taking a leap of Faith into an area of Appalachia called Cranks Creek, KY. This is in Harlan County which is one of the poorest areas of the nation. They continue to be hard hit by unemployment due to the closing of coal mines. Where there is poverty, there is often an increase in the use of drugs and alcohol and we all know that children suffer the

most in this kind of environment.

Our goal is to serve 150 children, ages 3 – 12, by providing a five day Pandamania Vacation Bible School. We will serve the children breakfast and lunch. We have 30 teens and adults willing to serve and the list is growing. We leave on July 29th and return August 6th. If you are willing to help you could choose one of the following.

One pair of new shoes per family in your congregation. Fill the box with small toys, socks, etc. Wrap it, label is Girl, Size ___ or Boy, Size ____.

Third, "Help Me Grow" – **Diapers** for Mansfield areas family service.

Fourth, Work Camp Needs.

Needed are Safety goggles; Work gloves; N-95 disposable mask; Putty knives 2"-6"; Paint brushes: small, medium and large; Paint roller; Paint roller covers; Paint trays; Drop clothes; Paint scraper; Wire brush; Spray bottle; Box of rags. These are just a few of the tool items we take to workcamp. Often we don't return with these items because they get used or broken, which requires the kids to buy these supplies each year. We also take hammers, screwdrivers, saws, ladders, drywall supplies, shovels, brooms, etc. These items carry over from year to year.

The 2011 Clear Fork High School Graduates and members of St. Paul Lutheran Church:

From left to right.
Luke Jolin, Trey Boyd, Emily Fry, & Daniel Wood.

Not pictured, Cammy Barr and Bob Sharp, who had to work.

They were honored on Sunday May 29, 2011.





July 10th – July 14th, 5:15 – 8:30pm, St Paul Lutheran Church

Child's Name: _____

Child's Age: ____ Last Grade Completed: _____

Birth Date: _____

Parent(s) Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

In Case of Emergency Contact:

Allergies: _____

Home Church: _____

May we take pictures of your child? YES NO



Worship Services for June

June 5 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Children's Choir

Acts 1:6–14 Ps. 68:1–10, 32–35 1 Pet. 4:12–14; 5:6–11 John 17:1–11

The Advocate, Part Two

Jesus ascended into heaven after being with his disciples for forty days. Our congregation passes over this festival which happens on a Thursday. For other churches this is one of the major festivals of the church year, comparable to Easter or Christmas. The final words of Jesus before he ascends remind us of the importance of praying to receive the Holy Spirit and the power that comes from the Spirit.

June 12 Day of Pentecost

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

The Advocate, Part Three: Jesus is Lord

Today is Pentecost Sunday, the day on which the Holy Spirit descended upon the first disciples. With the sound of a mighty wind, with the ability to speak in a multitude of languages, and with flames of fire on their heads, the disciples discovered that the Holy Spirit was now within them. Up until now the Holy Spirit had merely been **with** a few people chosen by God. Now the Holy Spirit is **in** all who have been made holy by Jesus.



June 19 Holy Trinity

Father's Day

Genesis 1:1–2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 3:11–13 Matthew 28:16–20

Three Persons, One God

Today is Holy Trinity Sunday, and we celebrate that God comes to us as three persons. We hold to the mystery of faith that there is one God whom we experience three persons. We do not worship three gods but one God. This is more than an understanding of the nature of God, for all three persons desire to communicate with us and we can learn the distinct voice of all three.

June 26 Second Sunday of Pentecost

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

Choose Your Slavery

You can either choose to be a slave, or slavery can be chosen for you. There is no other choice.

Children's Ministry Coordinator Position Being Filled

A new Children's Ministry Coordinator has been selected by the Guardians, and they will meet with her to sign a contract the first week in June. Once everything is official we will let you know who she is and when she starts. We are looking forward to a new chapter in our ministry.

Pastor Doug's Letter: June 1, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace in abundance and perfect peace be with you, from Father, Jesus, and Spirit.

As I have been contemplating what to write you in this pastor's letter I have been reflecting on a conversation our home share group had this month. Somehow we got on the subject of righteousness, and I was questioning the group as to what they understood righteousness to mean. We quickly decided that it means "to do right." Then one of our members told a story about how her husband and she made an extremely unpopular decision that affected a lot of people. The reason they did it, however, was because it was the right thing to do.

I recalled that it also meant "to be right" and this is a quality of God. Upon checking with a colleague we remembered seminary teachings on the "imputed righteousness of God." In English that means, because Jesus was perfect both in who he was and in what he did and because on the cross he took our sin and death upon himself, God looks upon us as being righteous. However, a quick check of resources revealed it was even more complicated than that, but I will leave that scholarly discussion for another time. Maybe I will inflict it upon my home share group. Or maybe not.

Righteousness.

- To be right and to do right.
- A quality of God.
- A gift of God.
- Received through faith.

What does it mean "to do right?"

Who decides what is right and what is not?

Society?

God?

Our conscience?

One of the statements that I made to our home share group was an insight to me. I said, "Righteousness is a quality of God because God cannot do wrong. There is no separation between his being and doing. He does what is right because he is right. He cannot will to wrong or choose to do evil. He can only do what is good, and right, and perfect."

(In truth I did not say it as well as all that but – like many a later reflection - it is what I wished I would have said.)

I find that one of the struggles of being human is that we often have to figure out what is the right choice and we have to do it. Sometimes we get the choice wrong. Other times we know it but we choose the wrong. What a gift it must be to not have to struggle to choose!

And yet, is that not true for us as well?

Can we not at least in some aspects of our life choose the right nearly all the time?

Usually there is some aspect of our life that is a trial for us and we find it hard to do what is right, but there are other choices that are not nearly so difficult. For example, some people have learned not to steal and it has become ingrained in them.

For me, it is not "knowing the right" that makes the difference. It is being connected with Jesus that makes the difference. For me, praying, reading the Word of God, walking, worship, singing, and fellowship with Christians are all aspects of being connected. When these are happening the right is easier than the wrong.

How is it with you?

Peace,

Pastor Doug

June Celebrations

Happy Birthday

1 Judy Coppersmith
 4 Connie Barr
 5 Carol Cornell
 6 Mary Ann Garn
 6 Joe Albert
 6 Mackenzie Klenk
 10 Rick Millard
 10 Erica Garn
 13 Nathan Gerhart

13 Seth Jolin
 13 Samantha Laux
 13 Brian Wade
 14 David Timberlake
 15 Jim Woodward
 15 Madelyn Seibel
 20 Loren Peters
 21 Michael Murray
 22 Sydney Boyd

22 Jared Schaefer
 23 Irene Ammons
 24 Jane Boyce
 24 Dan White
 26 Jessica Brokaw
 28 Jonah Albert
 28 Mike Helinski
 30 Joshua Garn

Happy Anniversary

June 7, 1958 Duane & Geraldine Maxwell
 June 8, 1968 Larry & Sharon Smith
 June 8, 1974 Randy & Joyce Dudley
 June 9, 1951 Carroll & Jean Reed
 June 10, 1978 Cliff & Lana Worner
 June 10, 1978 Daniel & Laurie Boone
 June 13, 1992 Dan & Angela Shaffer
 June 13, 1959 Don & Judy Snavely
 June 23, 1979 Doug & Carol Pretorius
 June 24, 1978 John & Kathy Frank
 June 26, 1982 Jim & Jamie Woodward
 June 27, 1998 Mike & Amy Helinski
 June 28, 1997 Luke & Stacey Beal

Please Pray for and Remember Our Shut-Ins

Please remember people in our congregation who have not been able to worship with us. Your cards, letters, and visits give them much joy. It is important that we help them remember they are part of our church family.

If you know of someone who needs added to the list, please contact the church office.

Country Meadow Care Center
 4910 Algire Rd., Bellville, OH 44813
 Ruth McKinnon, Ed Mazur

Homebound Church Family:
 Rubert Hill
 Dr. Betty Reed

Lexington Court Care Center
 250 Delaware Ave., Lexington, OH 44904
 Marsades Mast

Guardian's Minutes: May 19, 2011

Present for the meeting were: Lisa Brooks, Mike Murray, Stacy Wright, Mindy Wood and Pastor Doug.
Chris Laux was absent.

Mike Murray opened the meeting with devotions. After reflection and discussion, the devotional time was ended with prayer.

REPORTS:

- The minutes from the April 14th Guardian's meeting were reviewed. Pastor Doug moved to accept the minutes, Lisa Brooks seconded, and the motion was approved.
- Mike Murray reviewed the Treasurer's report for the period ending April 30, 2011. Lisa Brooks moved to accept all, Stacy Wright seconded and the motion was approved. Note: the guardians expressed concern regarding the financial picture for April and will monitor the situation through the Finance Committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Nancy Martin has accepted the appointment of Lay Ministry Coordinator and has begun orienting to the position with Chris Laux and Pastor Doug.
- The report from the Finance Committee regarding Thrivent money was tabled until the next meeting.
- Mike Murray reported that Cheryl Lantz will be putting a sound system policy in place in the near future.
- The Guardians have begun the interview process for a Children's Ministry Coordinator. They currently have 2 candidates that will be interviewed the week following this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- There will be no Sunday School in the summer. Sunday School curriculums have been ordered for next year.
- Mike Murray made a motion to set a goal of \$5,000 for the Malaria Campaign by the end of July. Lisa Brooks seconded and the motion was approved. The congregation will be receiving more details in June.
- The planning and organizing of Vacation Bible School is moving ahead. The offering for VBS will go toward the Malaria Campaign.
- Barb Hoover had a request by a church member for approval to have a garage sale in the social room. A discussion was held and by consensus the Guardians agreed to allow the sale to be held in the parking lot instead.
- Diane Hammett has resigned as youth leader as of the end of the work camp mission trip in July. Her service and dedication were thankfully noted. The Guardians are working to find a replacement.

No date was set for the next Guardian's meeting as we will be meeting more frequently to interview candidates for the Children's Ministry Coordinator.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mindy Wood

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>June 2011</h1>						
			1	2 4:00 Painter's Alive 4:30 Sr. Screening 5:00 Community Dinner	3 Catechism Year End Event	4 6:30 Men's Breakfast - V&M Cr In Use
5 8:15 Arise! Worship 9:30 Generations Alive! 10:30 Rejoice! Worship	6 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Bible Study 7:00 D. View Bingo 8:00 AA	7 10:00 CR In Use 2:00 Reunion Group 7:00 Reunion Group	8 10:00 Elderberries	9 4:00 Painter's Alive	10	11
12 Pentecost 8:15 Arise! Worship 9:30 Generations Alive! 10:30 Rejoice! Worship 6:00 Ultreya	13 5:30 Weight Watchers 8:00 AA	14 12:00 Blood Drive 2:00 Reunion Group 7:00 Reunion Group 7:00 Finance Team	15 7:00 Guardians	16 4:00 Painter's Alive CR In Use	17	18 6:30 Men's Breakfast - V&M
19 8:15 Arise! Worship 9:30 Generations Alive! 10:30 Rejoice! Worship	20 5:30 Weight Watchers 8:00 AA	21 2:00 Reunion Group 7:00 Reunion Group 7:00 Worship Planning	22	23 4:00 Painter's Alive	24	25 CR In Use
26 8:15 Arise! Worship 9:30 Generations Alive! 10:30 Rejoice! Worship	27 5:30 Weight Watchers 8:00 AA	28 2:00 Reunion Group 7:00 Reunion Group	29	30 4:00 Painter's Alive		

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

48 Church Street
Bellville, OH 44813

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
Bellville, Ohio
Permit No. 4

Mailed: **June 2, 2011**
Address Service Requested



St. Paul Lutheran Church

48 Church Street
Bellville, Ohio 44813

Pastor Doug Pretorius

CHURCH PHONE:
419-886-3521

FAX:
419-886-2584

E-MAIL:
StPaulBell@aol.com

PRAYER REQUEST:
.....

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.splc-bellville.org

Pray Always

Women's Retreat in the Stone Garden at Faith Lutheran Church, Mt. Vernon, OH 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. All women are invited, so tell your friends and save the date. A fee of \$10.00 will be charged to cover all expenses, including meals and snacks.

Stone Garden Guides will be available in the morning and at all breaks to tour the Stone Garden. Please, wear comfortable shoes.

checks to Faith Lutheran Church C/O FWELCA, 170 Mansfield Rd, Mt. Vernon, OH 43050.

For more information call 740-427-3753. Register by June 15th by calling 740-393-3666 or mail

Sunday Worship Services ...

8:15 AM
Arise! Worship Service
Acoustical Guitar Music

9:30 AM
Adult & Kids Learning

10:30 AM
Rejoice! Worship Service
Organ Music
Nursery Available

Holy Communion
Weekly
Handicapped Accessible

OUR MISSION:
Living & Sharing God's Love

OUR VISION:
We live & share our faith in Jesus Christ by:

Trusting God with all our heart.
Learning God's desire for us.
Telling others about God's love,
Caring for others using the gifts God gives us.