Saint Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church and School – Bremen, IN

The Epistle October 2021

 From Pastor Wonnacott’s keyboard:

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**Church Office Hours**:

M,W,Th, F 8:30 – 11:30 am

**Sunday Schedule**:

Sunday School: 8:30 am

Worship: 9:30 am

**Pastor**:

Rev. Neil Wonnacott

Office Hours:

M, W, TH & F

8:30 – 11:30 am

574-301-9291

October: The Great German Month

Have you ever exclaimed, “What a month of activities is coming in October 2021!” Not me, even though October always has Reformation Sunday and the Indiana Pastors’ Conference, but that is about it. For the Wonnacotts it feels like a month with no end and a long list of things to do. A wedding, a moving out, and lots of traveling - just to name a few things. Plus, the final special 175th Anniversary Celebration of our congregation.

So, what do we do when life seems so busy and we wonder how we can get all this done?

Luther advises to start with prayer; he believed that the more he had to do the longer he was in prayer. Why? What would prayer do to help us get through the busy month of October?

 *First*, prayer reminds us that with God’s guidance and strength nothing is impossible. Thy Will be done.

 *Second*, prayer brings us into a deeper relationship with our God, who created us, redeemed us, and sanctified us. The One who created us commands us to pray to Him, Abba Father. We can bring anything and everything to Him in prayer.

 *Third*, prayer brings us a peace that only God can give. Remember after Jesus’ death on the cross how the disciples were locked up in a room for fear of the Jews? And what did Jesus first say to them in their hour of need? “Peace be with you!” We need peace in our souls so that we grow in our faith and believe that during the storms of life we are safe in the loving arms of Jesus.

 Yes, we can be busy, but let us never forget to stop and pray!

*Let us pray*…Dear Father in heaven, we come before you with hearts filled with thanksgiving for all that you provide for our daily bread. We also come with our questions and doubts and ask for wisdom and peace from the Holy Spirit so that our faith would grow. Jesus, help us to see what truly needs to be done in our daily lives so that we bring honor and glory to your name, and bring blessings to our neighbors. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen

***THE DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER EPISTLE IS OCTOBER 2OTH!!!*** Epistle articles, comments, ideas may be deposited in the epistle box in the Narthex mail slots or e-mailed to Eric Thornton at firemanet@yahoo.com. I appreciate all of your articles, ideas and comments!

**Membership Changes:**

None

**Board Briefs:**

**YOUTH BOARD NEWS and NOTES**

**Recent Events**

September has seen the return of “Youth Evenings” each Wednesday, as Youth in Grades 4 through High School have joined in fellowship and an opportunity to participate in some out of the norm games and activities, such as Wrong Way Kickball, SPUD, Fruit Salad, and Protect the President. Each evening has had a general theme and finishes with a devotion based on that theme. Fun times as these young people grow in their faith.

**Upcoming Events**

**October 3rd:** Our Youth will be participating in various ways during the church service on this Sunday, whether through song, help as ushers, and Scripture readings.

**October 9th”** Youth in Grades 4-8 are invited to our annual Campfire Night at the school. We will have food, activities, devotion…and of course, a campfire. Please plan to join and bring a friend.

**National Youth Gathering (July 2022)**

Thank you to all those who made it to the Car Wash on August 28th in support of our Youth. What a tremendous blessing this was and we appreciate the congregation’s involvement. We will plan another Car Wash in the Spring / early Summer before the Youth Gathering.

As of now, we have 7 Youth committed to attending the Youth Gathering next Summer. Look for information in the bulletins and at Church for more information about these Youth and opportunities to support them in their faith walk. We will continue to provide updates about the National Youth Gathering throughout the months ahead.

If there are any questions related to the Youth Group, please contact Andy Wildauer at (801) 707-3399.

**Board of Parish Fellowship**

**Euchre Parties** is on October 22nd. Join us in the Bethany Room and bring a friend and a snack to share! Be prepared to have FUN!!!!

**Hope Ministries Dinner** takes place on Friday, October 29th. We need cookie, bars, cakes, or desserts in disposable containers at church by noon on the 29th. Please help us serve our neighbors by providing this part of the meal – Parrish Fellowship will be providing the main meal which is supported by Thrivent. Thank you for your help!

**Men’s Group** – Basketball is on October 3rd and 17th from 3 to 5pm

**Board of Public Relations**

Greeters are needed! There is a sign-up list on the check-it-out board. We ask the greeters to meet the people outside at the overhang, weather permitting.

**SGO Funds Needed!**

Our school year is off to a good start and eight families have received a SGO scholarship to assist with tuition costs. Another three families are anticipated to participate. That means that we are in need of donations in our SGO fund!

Donating to the SGO does not just benefit our school families! It benefits you, the donor! You may claim a 50% tax credit for your donation, and your donation is also tax-deductible, as the Lutheran SGO is a 501C- 3 charity. Our school account in the Lutheran SGO depends entirely on donations; it is not government subsidized.

Additional information can be found at LutheranSGO.org and from the school office.

Thank you for your donation!

**Postings from Preschool**

Our Preschool continues to grow and we now have 18 students, with a few spots left in the Beginner class. In September we enjoyed the church/school picnic, learned about Noah and Abraham, and did a couple science experiments (apple volcano!). The students also learned about the letter people W, P, and H while focusing on the weather and healthy foods. This month we're looking forward to Fire Safety topics and puppet shows, and having chapel at the Whitlock. You can check out our activities on the church's Facebook page!

**Amazon Smile Reminder**

**Attention Amazon shoppers:**  Choose Amazon Smile and designate St. Paul's as the charitable recipient on your account.  Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchases to our church and school.  With Christmas shopping on the horizon, now is a good time to set this up if you haven't already.  Please note this doesn't cost you anything, but is a charitable donation made by Amazon. Thanks for supporting St. Paul's through this program.

**Choir Announcement**

IT'S THAT TIME -- AGAIN!! I'm not sure where the summer went, but it's time to begin thinking about bell and adult choir commitments. Rehearsals will begin Sunday, September 12th. Bells will meet from 5:00-6:00; adult choir from 6:00-7:00 - both in the balcony. If you are returning to or are interested in bell choir, please let Ellen Augustine know as music needs to be marked for specific numbers of people. If you are interested in adult choir, just show up. No experience is needed for either choir and you do not need to read music. Questions? Contact Ellen Augustine at 574-536-4648 (you may call or text) or see her at church.

**Mission of the Month**

In 2021 our Sunday school continues to send $75.00 each month to a mission.

**October Mission of the Month: Worship Anew**

1) Worship Anew is available to watch via television, DVD subscription and the internet.

Each service includes music, Scripture readings, prayers and a Lutheran pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel 1-on-1 to the viewer. Each program is closed captioned.

2) Moments of Comfort is a weekly video devotion that ministers to the hurting and suffering with the comforting message of God's Word. Explore the most recent videos at [www.WorshipAnew.org](http://www.WorshipAnew.org)

3) Hope-Full Living is a quarterly publication with uplifting, Christ-centered daily devotions written for seniors by seniors.

**OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US**

One of the changes brought about due to the Covid-19 virus outbreak was using an "offering box" in the narthex of the church in front of the water fountains instead of passing an offering plate during the worship service. Please remember to give back to the Lord from the many blessings He gives us by placing your offering in the offering box or "e-tithing" by having a weekly deposit to St Paul's from your bank account. If you have questions on e-tithing, please contact the Church Office.

**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod**

**LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter article – October 2021**

Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the Word and instruction of God in the Bible says we should give, and this is sufficient to encourage us to give (Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:7; Gal. 6:6).

But there’s more to it than just obligation. We’re not just trying to fulfill a work of the law. We are bearing fruits of the Spirit given to us by our Father in heaven through His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we’re not just doing what our Father said, we’re also doing what He did.

Children emulate their parents. When they grow up, they often carry many of the same mannerisms and characteristics as their parents. But there is more to it than that. Children copy their parents even on a more mundane level. They watch how their parents cross their legs, how they fold their hands, how they stand and sit and walk, and how they do and say most everything. Then children try to copy it.

This can be quite humorous when caught in the act. They do this even when parents don’t want them to. Everyone has been in the uncomfortable – and embarrassing situation – where a child does or says something one of their parents have done or said that is less than polite. Sitcoms thrive on these. It only works because of the truth that children emulate their parents, and they do it because they want to be like them.

We are the children of God – by grace through faith. In Holy Baptism, God the Father declares of us what He declared of Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan, “You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” God the Father claims us as His own. He takes away all our sins. In exchange, He gives us His righteousness, His purity, His holiness, and His Spirit – by which we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

We are born again – born from above, born of water and the Spirit – to a new life in Christ as His children. We are sons of God in Christ through Baptism. Since we are sons, we are heirs who share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father’s grace, mercy, and generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

This is why we give generously of our income to the work of the church. We want to be like our heavenly Father. We want to emulate His generosity by being generous ourselves. We give to the work of the church because we have witnessed the generous giving of our Father in heaven.

More than that, we are recipients of it. It is because we have received our Father’s gifts that we desire to give ourselves. His gifts are not just spiritual. They are temporal and earthly as well. As *Luther’s Small Catechism* teaches in the Fourth Petition of the Lord’s Prayer:

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

*What does this mean?* God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

*What is meant by daily bread?* Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

In other words, He gives us everything that we need for the care of both body and soul. His generosity knows no bounds.

Therefore, we sit down at the beginning of the year, the beginning of the month, or the beginning of the week and set aside a generous portion of God’s daily bread for His work in the church. This is not done because He has commanded us so to do but rather because we, as His children by grace, want to emulate His generosity in our own lives. He is our Father; we are His children. And children want to be like their parents.

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St. Paul’s PTL in conjunction with

***Bourbon Street Pizza*** and ***Subway*** in Downtown Bourbon

And ***Bourbon Street Pizza of Nappanee*** at 1411 East Market St. in Nappanee

Will host a fundraiser on

Monday, October 11, 2021 - all day.

Present this coupon at the restaurant of your choice and St. Paul’s PTL will receive the percentage listed on the coupon for the sales from your patronage that day!

**You must present a coupon when you pay your bill**

**for St. Paul’s PTL to receive credit!**

This coupon may be copied. Give copies to all your friends and relatives and encourage them to support our school, too!!

**Questions??? Call the school office at 546-2790**

 

 **20% Donation 15% Donation**

 **(574) 342-3032 Bourbon Subway Only**

Bring this coupon into either Bourbon restaurant on Oct. 11, 2021 and St. Paul’s School will receive the above amount.



 **(574) 342-3032 (574) 773-9600** **Downtown Bourbon Nappanee**

Bring this Coupon into Either Pizzeria on

Oct. 11, 2021 and St. Paul’s School

 will receive a:

 20% Donation

**October’s Devotion – “What God Doesn’t Need”**

*Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their craftiness." 1 Corinthians 3:18-19*

In recent years the Word of God has been the focus of a great many attacks.

Atheist and agnostic, doubter and denier, skeptic and cynic have all gleefully thrown their barbs and darts at Holy Scripture. If it weren't so sad, it would be almost laughable to see how they pounce on an imagined and what they believe to be newly discovered inconsistency of Scripture.

Holding their breaths and stomping their feet, they demand the church explain these errors. Unfortunately, they seldom listen to anything that is said in response.

Their actions all remind me of the time when churchman John Wesley received a critical note, which, in part, read: "The Lord has told me to tell you that He doesn't need your book-learning, your Greek, and your Hebrew."

Humbly, Wesley answered, "Thank you, sir. Your letter was superfluous; however, as I already know the Lord has no need for my 'book-learning,' as you put it. However, although the Lord has not directed me to say so, on my own responsibility, I would like to say to you that the Lord does not need your ignorance either."

Wesley was right.

God neither needs our book-learning, nor does He need the ignorance of His self-appointed detractors. What the Lord needs is people who see themselves as sinners and Him as a God who saves. What He wants is people who say, "Lord, be merciful to me a sinner" and, who believe, because of His Son's sacrifice that He is.

What He needs is people who know they need the Savior and people who are willing to share Him.

This is what Lutheran Hour Ministries tries to do. It is what your congregation tries to do. It is what God's people continue to do. Prepared to make a defense of the Gospel, we share the Savior with those who need to hear it the most.

It is for such people that we pray today.

**THE PRAYER:** Dear Lord, Your Word and plan of salvation will always have its critics. Now I ask that those who delight in challenging Your Word, may be equally open to hearing what that Word says. May they be humbled and realize that if they are ever to be forgiven and saved, it will only be through the blood of Jesus. Lord, I pray for myself. May I be prepared to make a defense of the Gospel to those who need to hear it. Guide and guard my words, so they are effective in touching the lost. This I pray in the Savior's Name. Amen.

Taken from Lutheran Hour Ministries - this Daily Devotion was written by Pastor Ken Klaus

Birthdays & Anniversaries

October 2021

ANNIVERSARIES

2 Virgil & Janet Anglemyer 13 Joe & Angie Hughes

3 Joe & Ashley Potoczky Steve & Michelle Pittman

5 Jon & Jeanette Rettinger 14 Rick & DeAnn Napper

 Kyle & Samantha Hinds Dennis & Peggy Swanson

 21Wayne & Robin Spicher

8 Eric & Kali Foster 30 John & Laura Stayton

BIRTHDAYS

2 John Pulliam II 22 Joe Potoczky James Salyer

3 Tom Coxey 23 Martha Heuberger

 Bo Weldy

5 Nick Logan Steve Wirgau

 Steve Potoczky William Sarber

 Sophia Sahlhoff

 25 Curt Nielsen

6 Michael Ernsperger Bill Rogers

 Ron Kramer

 Michelle Potoczky 26 Kay Miller

 Cameron Owens

8 Jessica Wildauer

 Andrew Yoder 27 Wyatt Beasley

10 Ellia Foster 28 Dave Burcham

 Ashley Potoczky

 30 Amy Shepherd

12 Kelly Schroeder Diane Sherk

14 Piper Napper 31 Ben Andrews

 Melonee Schutz

16 Pat Cherry



 Liam Spencer

17 Lewis Leeper

 Melonia Russell

18 Jim Russell

 Terry Ahlemeyer

19 Betty Sahlhoff

***Pilgrim’s Progress***

Our journey with Christian has taught us valuable lessons. There have been challenges along the way with the biggest challenges yet to come. When he was given advice by Worldly Wiseman to see Legality to have his burden of sin removed, he learned the hard way that keeping the Ten Commandments and being good would not remove his burden but it only became heavier. He was reminded by Evangelist the words from the book(Bible) that he must stay on the narrow road to the gate to have life (Matthew 7:14-15) and assured Christian that his sin was forgiven. After coming to the Wicket Gate, he was directed by Goodwill to go the Interpreter’s house. He was shown lessons by Interpreter(Holy Spirit) in seven rooms which would warn him of dangers and show important things that would help him on his journey. When Christian came to the Cross at the Place of Deliverance, his burden fell from his back and rolled into a grave where it disappeared forever! At House Beautiful (the church) he was encouraged and strengthened for the difficulties which lay ahead and he was armed with protective equipment the Lord provided(Ephesians 6:10-18). As Christians we are strengthened and encouraged by our fellow believers and His Word as part of the body of Christ at church.

During the month of October, Christian’s journey continues as he must face Apollyon(Satan) in the Valley of Humiliation and continue on the path through the Valley of the Shadow of Death. Faithful joins him and they are instructed by Evangelist about the danger that lies ahead on the path they must follow into Vanity Fair which is a place of worldly pleasures, where Satan tempts and persecutes God’s people. Faithful is martyred and then Christian is joined by Hopeful. They unwisely left the rough path and headed down a smoother path which led to Doubting Castle. We realize the adult class has a lot of material to cover. An important goal of keeping on schedule is so children through adults can discuss what they covered in class and by sharing what they have read in the book. Theologian, Charles Spurgeon, was quoted saying, “Next to the Bible, the book I value most is John Bunyan’s Pilgrim’s Progress. I believe I have read it through at least a hundred times. It is a volume of which I never seem to tire; and the secret of its freshness is that it is so largely compiled from the Scriptures.” Even though there isn’t time to cover everything in the book and study guide, you can learn a lot outside of class through personal study.

**St. Paul’s Lutheran Women’s Missionary League**

*The mission of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League is to assist each woman of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and the Lutheran Church-Canada in affirming her relationship with the triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.*

!!! COMING UP !!!

**October 3rd, 2021 LWML SUNDAY**

Morning worship/Installation of Officers

**2:00 P.M. – SOUTH BEND ZONE FALL RALLY at TRINITY ELKHART**

Speaker: Laura Hedstrom, a Trinity member, who is beginning a new journey with TMS Global and those living in India.

We will pool rides & leave the parking lot by 1:05 P.M.

**October 4th, 2021 MONDAY 7:00 P.M.**

**“Shadows Among Sheaves” Book Club: led by Joanna Fox**

Hostess: Peggy Swanson, Linda Tinkey

**November 1 – Thanksgiving**

INGATHERING FOR FT. WAYNE SEMINARY FOOD BANK

**Eyeglass Ministry** – MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term)

Adult & Children’s Glasses; Non-prescrption Sunglasses; Reading glasses; Bifocals

(Any style frame, but in good condition)

Wherever MOST teams distribute used eyeglasses, the Gospel is also shared.

The collection box – *for glasses you no longer need* – is located beneath the ‘Bulletin Table.’

**LWML IS NO LONGER COLLECTING POSTAGE STAMPS. THANK YOU!**

*Booklets for 2021-2022 programs will be passed out Sunday October 3rd, before worship.*

*Psalm 100:2a “Serve the Lord with Gladness” LWML motto*

**St. Paul’s 175th LITURGICAL YEAR October 1st, 2021 – October 31st, 2021**

Worship Opportunites To Bless our Lives **9:30 a.m.** - \* COMMUNION

October 3rd 19th Subday after Pentecost

October 10th \* 20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 17th 21st Sunday after Pentecost ANNIVERSAY SUNDAY SERVICE/MEAL

October 24th \* 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

October 31st 23rd Sunday after Pentecost REFORMATION DAY/SUNDAY

**October Minor Festivals: 18th** St. Luke, Evanglest ● **23rd** St. James of Jerusalem, Brother of Jesus & Martyr ● **28th** St. Simon & St. Jude, Apostles ● **31st** Reformation Day ● *Commemorations:* **7th** Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, Pastor 1711-1787 ● **9th** Abraham ● **11th** Philip The Deacon ● **17th** Ignatius Of Antioch, Pastor & Martyr ● **25th** Dorcas, Lydia & Phoebe, Faithful Women ● **26th** Phillip Nicola, Johann Heerman & Paul Gerhardt, Hymnwriters

**ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SUNDAY**

Bible study & Sunday school 8:30 – 9:15 a.m.

**Morning Worship Service 9:30 a.m.**

**Guest Speaker: Pastor David Mueller,**

Currently serving Trinity, Goodland & St. John, Rensselaer

**SAVE THE DATE**

175th Anniversary Celebration Sunday

**October 17, 2021**

**MORNING SERVICE, 9:30 A.M.**

Pastor David Mueller, son of former Pastor Raymond Mueller, will be preaching the sermon for this special event. The afternoon will include a period of fellowship in the Bethany room, a meal, planned by the LWML, and some history trivia hosted by Pastor Roger Rhode.

ALL ARE INVITED AND WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS SPECIAL EVENT!

**R.S.V.P.** (for adequate food preparation) by October 10th. The phone number is 574-546-2332

**# \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**“For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.”**

 Anniversary Verse Psalm 100:5, ESV

**God’s Faithfulness to All Generations: Yesterday, Today, Forever**

 Anniversary Theme

**“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”**

 Anniversary Hymn LSB 773

LOOK FOR SAVE THE DATE CARDS NEAR THE OFFERING BOX;

FILL OUT AND PLACE IN THE PURPLE BASKET. (or use this sheet)

DEADLINE FOR MEAL R.S.V.P. IS SUNDAY OCTOBER 10TH. THANK YOU.

**The committee requests your assistance with:**

#1. If you have contact information for any former members of the congregation, please reach out and make a special invitation for them to join the celebration. If they say yes, please fill out a slip for them. Thank you.

#2 IF the gym is used, tanles/chairs need to be sat up before/broken down afterward. If you would like to serve in this way, please contact a committee member.

#3 LWML will be providing the main luncheon items with much appreciated help from Parish Fellowship.

The committee request Member Families Attending to PPLEASE BRING THEIR FAVORITE DESSERT, on October 17th. Thank you.

175th Anniversary Committee:

Hank & Gloria Kiefer; Jim Russell; Elaine Young; Pastor Wonnacott

**COME! CELEBRATE 175 YEARS OF THE LORD’S GRACE & GOODNESS! 1846-2021**

*Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name;*

*Make known His deeds among the peoples! Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him;*

*Talk of all His wondrous works! Glory in His holy name;*

*Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord!*

*Seek the Lord and His strength; Seek His face evermore!*

*Remember His marvelous works which He hath done.*

*Psalm 105: 1-5a*

**JOIN THE CELEBRATION!**

**SHARE THE BLESSINGS!**

**GIVE GOD THE GLORY!**