September 2019

"We are people created, chosen by God. Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love. Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more."

"Baptized and Set Free" Hymn 453 in Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Friends in Christ,

I promise not to include a hymn in every newsletter, but I couldn't resist sharing this one! You might recognize it from the video on the on the St. Paul Facebook page or from the August 25th Installation Service.

I love this hymn and every time I hear it, it reminds me of my baptism.

Let me be clear, I don't have specific memories of the day I was baptized; I was 2 years old. And yet I do "remember my baptism".

To remember my baptism is to remember who I am: a child of God. In my baptism, through water and the Holy Spirit, I was brought into God's family, freed from sin, given new life, and sent out to bear witness to God's love in the world. What a gift!

Perhaps now is a good time for me to invite you into baptism. Maybe you have questions or concerns. Maybe you'd be excited to be baptized, but no one has asked you yet. If you have not been baptized and you desire to be, come and speak with me anytime. Send me an email, call me, text me, drop by my office. Baptism is an incredible gift and it is worth celebrating.

Maybe you have been baptized. If that's the case, today I want to invite you to remember your baptism. Remember that God accepts you, that God calls you beloved. Remember that in baptism God gifts you new life. And finally, remember that God is calling you here and now into the mission we share, to be ambassadors of God's love in your neighborhood and wherever you go.

Pastor Mathew

pastormathewberger@gmail.com

Cell phone number: 815-200-9256

Opportunities to Serve

Boys and Girls Club Ministry!

Fourth Fridays of Each month
3:15-4:15 @Boys & Girls Club
Play Games and Enjoy Treats!
See Julie Mehlberg for more information!

Come Join Us!!

Due to your genererous donations, we will not be collecting items until further notice. Thanks again for your generosity!

Sandra Erickson is the flower chairperson for the months of September and October. If you would like to donate flowers on a particular Sunday in memory of or in honor of someone, please sign your name on the Flower Chart located on the kiosk, and write a check, payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church, for $25.00, noting on the check that it is for altar flowers, and County Market will deliver the flowers to the church. If you have questions, contact Sandra.

September Birthdays

September 2 – Carrie Delheimer
September 2 – Kathy Rygh
September 7 – Marian Brown
September 12 – Melissa Rapp
September 16 – Meghan Heller
September 17 – Dylan Delheimer
September 17 – Mary Highland
September 18 – Addison Bibo
September 18 – Jake Heller
September 22 – Mason Walsberg
September 25 – John Mehlberg
September 26 – Wendy Boch
September 28 – Megan Schott

September Anniversaries

September 6 – Larry & Tracy Leach (1980)
September 15 – Lonny & Tonya Wilcox (2001)

HERE'S THE NEWS

Our Mission Statement:

The People of St. Paul
Gather to worship,
Reach out,
and serve the Lord.

Reminder:

Health and Wellness Sunday is the third Sunday of each month.

Mary Leach or one of our many parish nurses will be on hand before and after worship on these Sundays to check blood pressures, blood sugars, and help you form questions for your health professional should you have need.

Spirit Body Mind Health & Wellness

The Bibles & Bagels group will meet on Thursday, September 12th at 9:30 am. at Edinger's Filling Station. Any woman who would like to attend an informal bible study is welcome to come to this meeting.

Women of the ELCA

The Women of the ELCA of our congregation will meet on Monday, September 9, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Devotions will be given by Anita Klein. The offering meditation will be given by Jeanne Rapp, and the hostesses will be Carol Thorson and Donna Buckler. Watch the Sunday bulletins to see what the program will be.

Rebecca Circle

The Rebecca Circle will meet on Thursday, September 19th, at 1:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Jeanne Rapp will be the hostess. Maurine Gentes will give the devotions. Mil Girard will be giving the lesson, "No Hard Feelings? The Angst of Anger." The Psalms give voice to anger – of God toward humanity, humanity toward God, and people toward each other. Ginger Bauknecht will be giving the offering meditation. If you would like to join us for this time of fellowship and Bible study, we would invite you to join us at this meeting.

We will be collecting school and health kits this fall to be given to Lutheran World Relief. There is a great need for hand soap, so we will be collecting bars of soap also for Lutheran World Relief.

Prayer Chain and Prayer Requests…..

Just a reminder that if you would like to have someone added to our prayer chain, please contact Pastor Wayne and Julie Mehlberg. If your prayers are answered, we would appreciate knowing that as well, so names can be removed when it is appropriate. Thank you in advance!

Council 2019

President – Sara Solberg
Vice President – Julie Mehlberg
Secretary – Lori Bristow
Building/Grounds – Janice Schmidt
Building Community – Mary Leach
Finance and Stewardship – Jake Dixon
Lifelong Learning – Tonya Wilcox
Worship and Music – Shelly Heller

Reminder…

If you are using the church facility for a church-related meeting, please remember to add it on the calendar in the office or let the Administrative Assistant know. All other functions or community-service organizations please fill out a Facility Use Sheet. Thank you!

LEO (Let's Eat Out!) will begin in January. The 3rd Wednesday of each month anyone **not** wanting to cook supper is welcome to join other church members in eating out. Each month we will pick a different place. All are welcome! The more the merrier. The next outing will be on September 18th ab Bernardis II.

Helping Hands Ministry!
As a part of our Lay Caring Team, we have volunteers who can make meals for you in time of need. Please let Pastor or Julie Mehlberg know if you would like help in some way!

Hands At Work - Prayer Shawl Ministry will begin meeting on the first Thursday of each month beginning April 4th at 6:00 pm.

Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry and spiritual practice which reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as in celebration and joy. Many blessings are prayed into every stitch.

Prayer shawls/covers are available in the gathering space to anyone and for anyone in need of comfort, prayer and hope. We have recently added prayer blankets to allow greater gifting for all genders and needs. There is no cost for the shawls. They are donated freely with love and prayer for all of God's people. Questions may be directed to Kathy Rygh at kathyrygh@gmail.com.

"Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace,
mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..." ~ Janet Severi Bristow

God's work. Our hands.

September 8, 2019!	Mark your calendars!
10:00 Worship	Service Projects following

Since 2013, thousands of ELCA congregations have participated in this opportunity and dedicated one day to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all people. This is St. Paul's seventh year to participate in this special day of service. Many service opportunities are described below. Led by the Spirit, we hope all of you will volunteer and contribute on this very special day! Here are your opportunities to serve!

- Donate items and assemble Lutheran World Relief school kits
- Work on outdoor cleanup of landscaping at the Boys and Girls Club
- Assemble and deliver cookies and lap blankets to Evenglow Lodge
- Assemble and deliver goody bags for our community first responders

Look for donation boxes in the narthex! Come share your gifts and talents on September 8 and bring a friend!!! Signup sheets for the projects will be in the narthex!

LWR School kits	**Goody Bag Donations**
Four 70 sheet wide or college-ruled notebooks	Granola bars
One 30" cm/in ruler	Individually wrapped candy
One pencil sharpener	Puzzle books
One pair blunt scissors	Individually wrapped nuts
Five unsharpened #2 pencils secured with rubber band	Small hand sanitizer/lotion
Five black or blue pens (no gel ink) secured with rubber band	Individually wrapped snacks
One box 16 or 24 crayons	Individually wrapped candy
One 2 1/2" eraser	Chapstick
(One 14"x17" drawstring back-pack cloth bag- **This bag will be provided!)**	

Narthex Furniture Replacement Project

As you may have noticed, our narthex furniture is looking a bit worn. Since it is 13 years old, the council has researched and received a local bid of $1900 to replace the sofa, love seat, and two chairs. Please prayerfully consider donating toward this project above and beyond your regular offerings. If you choose to donate toward this project, please place your check in an envelope marked "furniture" and place it in the offering plate during offering. Thank you in advance for helping to create a welcoming gathering space at St. Paul!

September 2019

Sun	Mon	*Tue*	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **9a.m.** Adult Sunday School **10a.m.** Worship ***"Outdoor Worship at the Mehlberg's"***	2	3 God's Work, Our Hands Planning Meeting at 9:00 a.m. Adm. Team meeting at **noon**	4	5 Prayer Shawl Ministry **6-8 p.m.**	6	7
8 **9a.m.** Adult Sunday School **10a.m.** Worship-God's Work Our Hands *"Red bag" offering*	9 Council Meeting at **6:00 p.m.**	10	11	12 Bibles & Bagels **9:30 a.m**. .	13	14
15 **9a.m.** Adult Sunday School **10a.m.** Worship- ***Baptism of David John Miller*** *Health & Wellness*	16 .	17	18 LEO at Bernardis II At **5:30 p.m**.	19 Rebecca Circle **1:30 p.m.** .	20	21
22 **9a.m.** Adult Sunday School **10a.m.** Worship	3	24	25	26 .	27 Boys & Girls Club **3:15 p.m**.	28
29 **9a.m.** Adult Sunday School **10a.m.** Worship	30					

WORSHIP SERVERS

September 1, 2019

Minister— Pastor Mathew Berger
Steward- Mary Leach
Musician— Sandy Erickson
Lector— Rosemary Sutton
Psalms— Kaylee Delheimer
Acolyte— Kaylee Delheimer
Ushers— Marvin Miller & Mark Mackinson
Greeters—Darlene Miller & Rosemary Sutton
Prayers— Pat Lund
Comm. Prep— Shelly & Marty Heller
Comm. Asst— Shelly & Marty Heller
Hospitality—Jessica Mills & Dawn Boitnott
Counters –Pending

September 8, 2019

Minister— Pastor Mathew Berger
Steward— Pat Lund
Musician— Sandy Erickson
Lector— Susan Curtiss
Psalms—Maverick Wilcox
Acolyte— Maverick Wilcox
Ushers— Jeanne Rapp & Steve Rapp
Greeters—Becky & Jimm Edinger
Prayers— Jeanne Rapp
Comm. Prep— Carol Thorson
Comm. Asst—Shelly & Marty Heller
Hospitality—Anita Klein & Danita Lewis
Counters- Pending

September 15, 2019

Minister—Pastor Mathew Berger
Steward— John Mehlberg
Musician— Julie Mehlberg
Lector— Gerald Buckler
Psalms— Gerald Buckler
Acolyte—Anna Schmidt
Ushers—Sara & Dan Gschwendtner
Greeters—Shelly & Jake Heller
Prayers—Kathy Rygh
Comm. Prep— Sandy Erickson
Comm. Asst.- Sandy Erickson & Carol Thorson
Hospitality—Darlene Miller & Jan Cahill
Counters – Pending

September 22, 2019

Minister—Pastor Mathew Berger
Steward—Brad Solberg
Musician—Sara Solberg
Lector– Nathan Joerndt
Psalms—Ethan Schumm
Acolyte—Ethan Schumm
Ushers—Sara & Dan Gschwendtner
Greeters—Jeanne Rapp & Steve Rapp
Prayers –Julie Mehlberg
Comm. Prep—Kris Lambert
Comm. Asst—Marvin Miller & Mark Mackinson
Hospitality—Blayne Dixon & Sara Solberg
Counters -Pending

September 29, 2019

Minister—Pastor Mathew Berger
Steward—Brad Solberg
Musician—Sara Solberg
Lector– Carol Thorson
Psalms—Brooklyn Delheimer
Acolyte—Brooklyn Delheimer
Ushers—Jake & Marty Heller
Greeters—Delheimer family
Prayers –Lucy Kehinde
Comm. Prep—Becky Edinger
Comm. Asst—Mary & Denny Leach
Hospitality—Ginger Bauknecht & Gail Thorson
Counters - Pending

- **PLEASE NOTE THAT IT IS NOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND YOUR OWN SUBSTITUTE IF FOR ANY REASON YOU ARE UNABLE TO SERVE ON THE DATE ASSIGNED. IF YOU ARE FILLING IN FOR SOMEEONE, PLEASE BE SURE THAT YOU LET THE WORSHIP STEWARD KNOW WHO YOU ARE FILLING IN FOR AND WHAT POSITION YOU ARE FILLING. THANK YOU.**