

# EPIS<sup>+</sup>LE



*St. Paul's Lutheran  
The Church On The Hill*

Volume 64 No. 7

July - 2020

## Pastor's Message

*"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God.  
I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."  
<Isaiah 41:10>*

Many people are afraid these days and I understand some of the reasons why. I'm especially empathetic to those who are near my age or older and/or have other medical issues that put them at high risk of contracting the coronavirus which can be disastrous for them or even fatal.

St. Paul's opened the doors to in person worship service on June 14<sup>th</sup> and we had 53 members come and join together in the sanctuary with social distancing practices and other restrictions. But even with the restrictions it was great to see people sitting in the pews again after a three-month absence. The following Sunday on June 21<sup>st</sup> we confirmed JD and Christopher in church with a total of 40 members attending. This past Sunday we had 37 attend church in person.

During the past three weeks we had an additional 557 views on the internet (185 weekly average). Should we be afraid? The scriptures reveal two things about fear.

One is from several instances of the verse from above. We do not fear the world or what the world can do to us because the world is not our future. With the help of God our future lies in the Kingdom to come, the one Jesus brought near. Regardless of what the virus or the torments of the world do to our body, God's righteous right hand will lift us from this world and bring us through the gates of heaven where true life begins and never ends. We heard from Matthew 10:28 on June 21, "do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Which brings us to number two, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." Proverbs 9:10

Here we understand that listening to God brings us wisdom, such as that given to Solomon. God has instructed Doctors, Researchers, Scientists and others with the wisdom and knowledge to defeat the virus' of the world with his help.

If we listen to the wisdom God has provided us through his servants he has instructed, then we have nothing to fear. Be safe, wear a mask, wash your hands, and in this way you take care of your neighbor by fearing the Lord only and keeping your ears open to the wisdom he gives us.

Thank you for your faithfulness in continuing to gather together. I look forward to the day this virus is defeated and we can shake hands and hug and be united in person, but until then, the peace of Christ be with you always.

Blessings to you in Christ Jesus,  
Pastor David



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

*Happy Birthday to you!*

- 1 Angela Tierney
- 2 Kaylin Bubach
- 2 Christopher Murphy
- 5 Amber Gardner
- 5 Vanessa Soell
- 6 Dylan Gardner
- 8 Gus Fischer
- 9 Kara Freiner
- 10 Sherry Williams
- 11 Joshua Ferrell
- 12 Carol Driemeier
- 15 Sherman Koestner
- 16 Wayne Linsenbardt
- 17 Jonathan Kalaf
- 17 Shawn Williams
- 19 Vera Stubinger
- 21 Laney Hager
- 21 Jessica Stoermer
- 24 Debbie Boyce
- 24 Colin Woehrer
- 31 Tyler Hager
- 31 Lyndli Thompson



## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 18 Craig and Angie Stubinger 1998
- 19 Elroy and Vera Stubinger 1980 **40 Years**
- 23 Rich and Gina Prosch 1988
- 27 Harry & Jana Thompson 1974
- 29 John and Dee Dee Loesch 1978

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Month/Day	Attendance Phys./Virtual	Offering
<b>June 7</b>	<b>0 / 184</b>	<b>\$4,170.00</b>
<b>June 14</b>	<b>53 / 193</b>	<b>\$5,735.80</b>
<b>June 21</b>	<b>40 / 198</b>	<b>\$1,309.36</b>
<b>June 28</b>	<b>37 / 166</b>	<b>1,605.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>130 / 741</b>	<b>\$12,820.16</b>

### In Addition:

Calvin Lowell Flessa Memorial \$75.00: Total = \$445.00

Sympathy and condolences to the family of Richard Heidbreder and Carol Heidbreder for the death of their sister Martha Schenewerk.



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, LOHMAN

Monday - July 6, 2020

10:00 a.m. Brunch

11:30 a.m. Funeral Service

Burial at St. Martins Catholic Church

3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Celebration of Life at Apple Creek Farm

Martha A. Schenewerk, age 74 of Fordland, MO found peace on June 18, 2020 at Heisinger Bluffs Nursing Home, Jefferson City, MO. She was born December 17, 1945 in Lohman MO, the daughter of Frederick and Alvina (Strobel) Heidbreder, both of whom preceded her in death. She was a 1963 graduate of Russellville High School, where she was an honor student, and participated in track, basketball, softball, drama and choir. She went on to attend Central Missouri State College in Warrensburg, MO. Martha was united in marriage to Eugene L. Schenewerk, whom has preceded her in death. She is survived by six daughters; Carla Baum of Kirkwood, MO, Karen (Donnie) Miller of Jefferson City, MO, Janice Schenewerk of Florissant, MO, Lynne Schenewerk of Imperial MO, Patricia Wilson of Fordland, MO and Heidi (James) Stringer of Winfield MO. Two sons Keith (Kim) Schenewerk of Holts Summit MO, and Eric Schenewerk of Bear Lake, OH, numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren also three brothers; Marvin (Peggy) Heidbreder, Richard (Rosemary) Heidbreder, and John (Candy) Heidbreder, one sister; Carol Heidbreder and Godmother Esther Heidbreder. In addition to Martha's parents and husband she is preceded in death by one granddaughter; Amie M. Schenewerk, three grandsons; Austin and Tyler Stringer and Barry Hanson Jr. Service will be July 6th at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Lohman at 11:30 officiated by Pastor David Viles. Burial will follow at St. Martins Catholic Church. A celebration of life will be observed from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Apple Creek Farm in Centertown MO the evening of July 6, 2020.

**Continued prayers for healing.**

**Marie Scheperle, Julie Carel, Gert Strobel, Jade Cary, Vanessa Pyatt, Amy Buechler, Donna Viles, Chris Russell, Pat Collins and Jim Burkemper.**

## Ask the Pastor

**Question:** I hear Pastor talking about God's mission when we give our offering or the mission of the church when we leave at the end of the worship service. What is this 'Mission' and what does it mean?

**Answer:** *"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."* <Micah 6:8> NIV

Perhaps the best way to get to this answer is to ask another: Why do we go to church? The answer to this question seems simple enough, we go to church to worship our God who created us and sent his Son to bless us with forgiveness and eternal life. While that is true, it is only one facet of worship. We could just come by and throw a steak on the grill and call it a morning like they did in the good old days. But we stay and listen to readings and teachings and sing songs in regular times and rejoice with each other in God's name. We go to church to worship God for what we are given, but we also come to hear God's holy word and learn what God has done for us and what we can do in response to the gifts of his loving grace.

When we listen to God's word we hear many promises to care for us, save us, heal us, love us and be with us. For Martin Luther the word promise was a favorite synonym for gospel (good news). The word promise comes from the old latin: *prōmissum* which is *pro* ("forth") and *missum* ("sent"). The promise, the gospel, is to be sent forth into the world. This is what God does, he sends his Son to redeem and save us.

While Jesus is on the earth, fully God and fully human, he teaches us about the kingdom of heaven which he brings near. This kingdom is the righteous way in how we are treated by God with love and justice and mercy. As Christians, we learn these things so that we can be emissaries of God on earth.

Two weeks ago we heard Jesus tell us in the gospel of Matthew, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master."

God's promise and mission is to make sure his beloved creation is cared for through his love, justice and mercy.

The mission of the church, that is all of us who follow the teachings of Jesus the Christ is be sent forth into the world being like the teacher, the master and caring for our brothers and sisters who have been created in God's image just as we have been. Our mission is to use what God has given us to show his love, justice and mercy to everyone with our hands and feet doing God's will for his creation.

Receiving is part of the mission, and then giving what we have received to others in the name of our Lord and Savior completes the mission. In this way we are truly followers of Jesus' commands to go forth and make disciples of all nations and to do this with the knowledge that Jesus is with us until the end of the age.

Blessings to you,  
Pastor David

**Congregational Council Meeting, June 8, 2020**  
Respectfully submitted by Becky Weber, Church Council Secretary

A Congregational Council meeting called to order by President Zola Finch at 6:30pm on Monday June 8 2020 in the church basement. Present were council members Zola Finch, Laurie Koestner, Kathy Meller, Paula Linsenbardt, Dan Tschirgi, Delores Vlach, and Becky Weber. Absent was Scott Soell and Mitch Plochberger. Also present was Pastor David Viles. Council Treasurer Kay Pascoe was absent and emailed her report to all prior to the meeting. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Viles, followed by a devotion from Proverbs 9:11, "For by me your days will be multiplied, and years will be added to your life." Pastor David provided a very insightful devotion regarding the Covid 19 crisis. Pastor shared with us that he continues to keep us in prayer to make decisions tonight and in the coming months based not on your own desires and understanding, but on God's wisdom given to us through the Spirit.

President Finch called for approval of the previous council meeting minutes. A motion to approve was made by Paula Linsenbardt, seconded by Laurie Koestner, and passed via voice vote.

President Finch directed the council members to council treasurer Kay Pascoe's report previously emailed to all. President Finch provided copies of the financial report to each council member, and following discussion, no issues were noted.

Pastor David provided his activity report for May. He reports there was no mileage for May. He reported the following activities for May, 2020: One email exchange for Worship and Music committee, two Church Council meetings via electronic online meeting, one electronic online meeting for Ministerial Alliance National Prayers, one electronic online meeting for Ministerial Alliance Baccalaureate and one City Council meeting in Church Friendship Hall. Pastor also reported he picked up mail at Post Office while Marie Schepeler has been unable to do so, helped Alan Schepeler with offerings as needed at Marie's home, sent thank you notes for memorial donations, opened church Friendship Hall for voting and made coffee for the workers, participated in National Day of Prayer online Ministerial Alliance, and created, emailed and postal mailed the May Epistle. There were five online Facebook live worship services including one communion. Pastor David reports multiple phone conversations.

**President Finch called for the Standing Committee Reports which are included below.**

**Old Business:** Church re-opening and discussion of guidelines and requirements of St. Paul's members. This was the main discussion of the council meeting in order to come up with as inclusive guidelines as possible to keep members healthy and safe. A separate document of guidelines was developed for distribution to the church membership prior to the church building re-opening on Sunday, June 14 at 9am.

**New Business:** There was preliminary discussion of the need to have cross-training performed in order to have a back up person to handle certain church chores. This topic will be discussed at the next council meeting.

**President Finch** commended and complimented Pastor David on the outstanding job of keeping the congregation present and informed as much as possible during this COVID-19 quarantine. She conveyed to him the appreciation of the church council for his ministry, guidance, leadership and ability to keep bringing God's word to the family of St. Paul's through whatever means possible.

**President Finch called for a motion to adjourn.**

**Pastor closed the meeting leading the council with the Lord's Prayer.**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10pm Respectfully submitted by Becky Weber, council secretary.



**Evangelism:** Delores Vlach

Delores was thanked by council members sending cards to our graduates. Pastor David reports there has been good virtual attendance on FaceBook live worship services. Delores reports she will help with letter mailings for guidelines that will be used for reopening church for worship services.

**Technology:** Dan Tschirgi

Dan Tschirgi. Dan presented council with bids from two local vendors regarding camera and sound options to use for future FaceBook live streaming of worship services. Following discussion, item was tabled until the next council meeting.

**Worship & Music:** Kathy Meller

No Report

**Parish Education:** Laurie Koestner

No Report

**Church Improvement:** Mitchell Plochberger

Mitch Plochberger, absent. There is an insurance claim pending for hail damage to the church parsonage.

**Stewardship:** Paula Linsenbardt

No report

**Mutual Ministry:** Scott Soell

Scott Soell, absent. No Report

**Mobile Food Pantry:** Audrey Bunch

Due to the Coronavirus lockdown, the Food Pantry was not held at Trinity Church in June and our St. Paul's Church members chose to follow Governor Parson's mandate to remain at home. The Food Pantry will again distribute food from the St. Michaels Catholic Church on May 12 from 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

**Worship Service online is looking much better.**

We have been broadcasting our worship services live on Facebook for three and a half months now. The results have been mostly good but at times the internet connection at church caused some choppy and lost words which made watching difficult. But as of June 28, 2020 we have come up with a solution to make attending worship online a much better option. We will continue to look for improvements.

**June 21, 2020**

**June 28, 2020**



## What happens after two years of catechism and scripture study? CONFIRMATION

During the past two years we have had a huge class of dedicated students meeting most Sundays during the regular school year to study Luther's Catechism and the Holy Scriptures. Our original plan was to confirm all the students on Pentecost Sunday which came on May 31st this year. But then something unexpected happened to change everything. The dreaded Covid-19 Virus..! After our worship on March 15th and the pancake breakfast we had to shut down all in-person worship and activities.

June 10, 2020 I confirmed six students at Wasserlauf Valley followed by a wonderful meal and drinks supplied by Misty Schroeder. Left to right front row: Davin Pistel, Kambry Pistel, Peyton Stubinger, Abby Gonzalez, Marshal Schroeder and Lauren Stubinger. Pastor David in the back.



CONGRATULATIONS

Then on Sunday, June 21, 2020 we had another confirmation in St. Paul's Church with proper social distancing. Pictured below Christopher & JD Murphy were confirmed surrounded by family and friends.



At the end of month on July 26, 2020, we plan to confirm Lexie Plochberger and Kylee Scheperle during our worship service at St. Paul's church.

Jordan Russell will be the final student to be confirmed this year.

It has been an odd year but God keeps us going with direction from the Holy Spirit.

Hang in there...

CONGRATULATIONS



**WE ARE OPEN** for in-person worship if you are comfortable attending. You are encouraged to go to our Website: <http://www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org> and fill out the easy attendance form letting us know you will be there and how many will be in your group.



To help us prepare enough seating, please register using the form below. Choose the Sunday you plan to attend. Please do this each week.

First Name\*  Last Name\*

Mobile Number: Not Required But Helpful  
 (201) 555-0123

Email Address

Sunday: Choose A Date\*  Service Time  
 9:00AM

Number of adults\*  Number of children\*

Submit

This way we can prepare in advance with bulletins and seating arrangements.

St. Paul's will have our annual Patriotic Service on July 5<sup>th</sup> during the morning service. The Finch family has purchased small U.S. flags for people use and keep for themselves.

With the current rise of the virus, we will continue with

social distance and will not be able to have our military service personnel process in as we have in past years. We will however ask them to stand and be recognized for their service.

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, this year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities have been canceled for Lohman. The Lohman Lions Club decided to not have their annual BBQ at the Community Center. The annual Fireworks display put on by the Lohman Lions Club and supported by Lohman city and Xtreme Body and Paint has also been canceled so we will not gather at St. Paul's on the hill as in the past for this celebration.



**ANNUAL FIREWORKS SHOW**  
**Saturday July 11** hosted by the **Russellville Lions Club**

Featuring fireworks by **Bax Fireworks**  
 Music by **Helen Russell and Whiskey Throttle**  
 Food service starting at noon.  
 We will have pork steaks, pulled pork, burgers, **beer garden** and much more!  
 Fireworks will start at dusk!

Proudly sponsored by

Schedule of Events	
- Car Show @ 11am	
- Helen Russell @ 11am	
- Cornhole Tournament @12pm	
- Bounce house	
- Vendors	
Whiskey Throttle starts at 8:00 then continues after fireworks	
Fireworks at dusk	

There is a post on FaceBook showing an annual fireworks show will be held at Russellville at the Lions Club field.

If you feel comfortable getting out to see this and other events, you can see the events and times listed to the left.

**Food Pantry is back at Trinity**

The monthly food pantry truck will return to the parking lot of Trinity Lutheran church in Russellville this month on Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 pm. until 3:30 p.m.

The method of delivery is changing again to conform to the safe practices of covid-19 social distancing.

The expected plan is for vehicles to enter the parking lot from South Smith St. in two rows and remain in their vehicles while volunteers place the food in their trunks or pickup beds. They will then exit the parking lot by way of the side drive on the east side of the church onto Highway C.

Members of the National Guard will assist but volunteer cart pushers will be needed.

Blessings in Christ to you all, hang in there. Be safe, wash your hands and take care of your neighbor.

As we come together to celebrate July 4th "Independence Day" it is a fun time to spend with family and friends. It gives us a day off work for cookouts, swimming, relaxing, and watching fireworks.

**It is also a time to consider the cost of this freedom we enjoy and how it was achieved. Since the beginning of our nation, men and women have sacrificed their homes, wealth and lives to begin and continue the freedoms we enjoy today and often take for granted.**

**Below are the statistics as best as they can be accounted for by the Department of Veterans Affairs.**



**GOD  
BLESS  
OUR  
VETERANS**



### **American Revolution (1775-1783)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers <sup>1</sup>	217,000
Battle Deaths	4,435
Non-mortal Woundings	6,188

### **War of 1812 (1812-1815)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers	286,730
Battle Deaths	2,260
Non-mortal Woundings	4,505

### **Indian Wars (approx. 1817-1898)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers (VA estimate)	106,000
Battle Deaths (VA estimate)	1,000

### **Mexican War (1846-1848)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers	78,718
Battle Deaths	1,733
Other Deaths (In Theater)	11,550
Non-mortal Woundings	4,152

### **Civil War (1861-1865)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Union)	2,213,363
Battle Deaths (Union)	140,414
Other Deaths (In Theater) (Union)	224,097
Non-mortal Woundings (Union)	281,881
Total Servicemembers (Conf.) <sup>2</sup>	1,050,000
Battle Deaths (Confederate) <sup>3</sup>	74,524
Other Deaths (In Theater) (Confederate) <sup>3,4</sup>	59,297
Non-mortal Woundings (Confederate)	Unknown

### **Spanish-American War (1898-1902)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	306,760
Battle Deaths	385
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	2,061
Non-mortal Woundings	1,662

### **World War I (1917-1918)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	4,734,991
Battle Deaths	53,402
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	63,114
Non-mortal Woundings	204,002

### **World War II (1941 -1945)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	16,112,566
Battle Deaths	291,557
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	113,842
Non-mortal Woundings	670,846
Living Veterans <sup>5</sup>	389,000

### **Korean War (1950-1953)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	5,720,000
Total Serving (In Theater)	1,789,000
Battle Deaths	33,739
Other Deaths (In Theater)	2,835
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	17,672
Non-mortal Woundings	103,284
Living Veterans	1,165,000

### **Vietnam War (1964-1975)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide) <sup>6</sup>	8,744,000
Deployed to Southeast Asia <sup>7</sup>	3,403,000
Battle Deaths <sup>8</sup>	47,434
Other Deaths (In Theater) <sup>8</sup>	10,786
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater) <sup>8</sup>	32,000
Non-mortal Woundings <sup>9</sup>	153,303
Living Veterans <sup>5,10</sup>	6,262,000

### **Desert Shield/Desert Storm (1990-1991)**

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	2,225,000
Deployed to Gulf	694,550
Battle Deaths	148
Other Deaths (In Theater)	235
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	1,565
Non-mortal Woundings	467
Living Veterans <sup>5,10</sup>	1,680,000

### **America's Wars Total (1775 -1991)**

U.S. Military Service during Wartime	41,892,128
Battle Deaths	651,031
Other Deaths (In Theater)	308,800
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	230,254
Non-mortal Woundings	1,430,290
Living War Veterans <sup>11</sup>	14,918,000
Living Veterans (Periods of War & Peace)	19,210,000

### **Global War on Terror (Oct 2001 - )**

The Global War on Terror (GWOT), including Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), are ongoing conflicts. For the most current GWOT statistics visit the following Department of Defense Website:  
<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dcas/pages/casualties.xhtml>