

The Spirit of St. Paul's

www.stpaulslutheran.ca

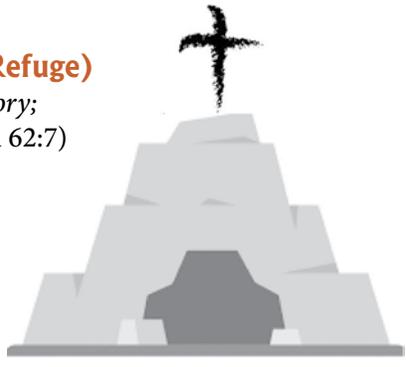
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN



LORD BE OUR R & R (Rock & Refuge)

*On God rests my salvation and my glory;
my mighty Rock, my Refuge is God (Psalm 62:7)*

Dear Sisters in Christ at St. Paul's
You are invited to a **day of renewal**
on **Saturday, October 27, 2018**
9:30 am to 3:00 pm
hosted by St. Paul's LWMLC



Please see the poster in the church entry for more details. Questions? Contact Verla Schmirler

Ideas welcome

The Memorial Committee recently met to review possible ways funds given in memory of members who have passed away might be used. One idea discussed was assembling a list of items or projects to have ready when memorial funds are received. We believe this would be helpful for future reference by families when considering use of memorial funds given to honour a loved one. It would also be to Pastor Keith when he meets with families and to the Memorial Committee itself.

If you have any suggestions based on the needs of the congregation, "large or small," please contact me or send them to me.

*Ron Walter, Chair,
Memorial Committee*



Art and Gerry Timm celebrated their 60th anniversary with their St. Paul's family on Sunday, September 16.



from a Peanuts daily calendar

Groaners: World's Best Bad Jokes and Puns

A kid who loves surfing the web kept track of passwords by writing them on Post-it notes. One day his mom noticed the Disney password was MickeyMinnieGoofyPluto," and she asked her son why it was so long.

"Because," he explained, "it has to have at least four characters."

Reminders

• Please remember that, because we have a number of members with allergies to nuts, any foods brought to church events should be nut-free.

• Also, several have allergies to fragrances. Please consider them when choosing toiletries and whether or not to wear perfumes.

• LWMLC mites and offerings are collected the first Sunday of each month.

Caring Ministry Coordinator
for October - Natalie Keith

Remember to check out
the great resources in our
library—books, videos and
more for all ages.



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We are Lutheran Women's Missionary League–Canada ...

On Sunday, October 14, 2018, we invite you to learn more about us that day as you

- Take a look at our insert in your worship folder
- Visit our display in the church narthex
- Chat with one of us from St. Paul's LWMLC

Our LOGO is new

The intertwined hearts of LWML-Canada's new logo illustrate:

- Women woven together with Christ like a tapestry
- Christ's heart interlaced with our hearts
- The love we have for Jesus, each other and those we serve with our time, talents and mites
- The diversity of the women in Lutheran Church–Canada



Our MISSION remains the same

To EQUIP, MOTIVATE AND ENCOURAGE WOMEN to

- GROW in God's Word,
- SHARE God's Son and
- SERVE God's people

JESUS

*Father, God of love and comfort,
Our strength in times of loss,
When grief draws nigh
And loved ones leave us,
Grant us peace and hope through Jesus.*

*Like seeds that grow in fertile soil,
May faith be nourished by Thy Word
And through Your Spirit daily grow
As it reveals our Father sees us,
Cleansed with the precious blood of Jesus.*

*Though our dark world tempts, deceives us
From all harm and evil keep us.
As we sojourn here on earth
Like a loving Shepherd lead us
'Til we at last are home with Jesus.*

*Give us the courage to proclaim
That God loved us and sent His Son
To pay the debt of sin we owe
And thus, from sin's firm grip has freed us
Through the priceless blood of Jesus.*

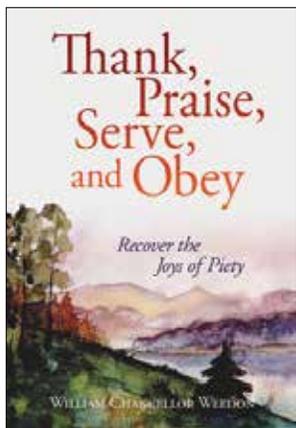
Dorothy Schuler

Pastor's Corner

The godly habit of watching for good works

The seventh godly habit in Pastor Weedon's book, *Thank, Praise, Serve, and Obey: Recover the Joys of Piety*, is watching for the good works God has prepared for us to do. Rev. Weedon begins by inviting us to think back to our childhoods to remember the excitement of the hunt for Easter eggs on Easter morning. The thrill and joy of finding a coloured egg peeking out from its hiding spot, running to grab it, and then eager-eyed searching again for more eggs. Rev. Weedon suggests that good works can be thought of in a similar way, "They are wonderful little surprises that God has strewn all around us to delight us and give us Easter joy as we do them." This is how St. Paul describes good works in his letter to the Ephesians, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Your good works don't save you. God saves you, by grace, through faith—and even your faith is a gift from God. God does everything. Through Baptism, he makes you a new creation through resurrection with Christ to a new life. He makes you a new creation for good works and He even prepares



those good works for you beforehand. Long before you are presented with an opportunity for a good work, it was in God's heart as a gift for you. Rev. Weedon says that means that all around you every single day, in your different callings, there are a variety of "Easter eggs" waiting to be discovered and

enjoyed. Sometimes we think of good works as something we do for God, but good works are actually gifts from God. God's love for us stirs us to love and care for our neighbour through all kinds of good works.

Rev. Weedon suggests that we turn to the Small Catechism to help train us to recognize the "Easter eggs" God has planted around us. In particular, he recommends the sections on the Ten Commandments

and the Table of Duties. In the Ten Commandments we learn of God's will for our lives which provides the framework for loving and serving God and our neighbour. In the Table of Duties we discover our different vocations through which the good works God sets before us happen.

Rev. Weedon concludes by saying that the most wonderful thing about learning to live this "Easter egg hunt" sort of life is that it leads to other people praising the heavenly Father. This is what Jesus was getting at when He told the disciples, "You are the light of the world...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:14-16). What an amazing privilege it is that God has prepared good works for us to do so others can experience and receive His love, forgiveness, and gift of everlasting life.

*God's blessings,
Pastor Keith*

Website stats

Check out these interesting statistics on use of our website to date in 2018:

Page views:	5,117
Users:	1,330
Top 3 pages visited:	1) Sermons; 2) About Us; 3) Newsletter
Top 5 locations of users:	1) Canada; 2) France; 3) United States; 4) Peru; 5) Philippines
Age of users:	18-24 (27.5%) 25-34 (33.5%) 35-44 (15.5%) 45-54 (12.5%) 55-64 (5.5%) 65+ (5.5%)

St. Paul's website is a helpful tool for our members to access sermons, keep up to speed on events around the church, and keep in touch with fellow members. As we can see from this data, our website is also an effective means for proclaiming the Gospel beyond our walls.

Thank you to all who have been involved in setting up, maintaining, and making use of our website.

Please visit us at
www.stpaulslutheran.ca

Researching family history provides a window into the past

Marion asked me to do a write-up on genealogy, because she heard I had done some work with it. I never thought of it as genealogy but more family history. I didn't start to do it on purpose; it just sort of happened.

In the early 1970s an aunt came across a photo of my great-great grandparents (Andrew and Eliza Mitchell) and their family, taken around 1870. There was also a letter from 1937 written by one of their daughters (the young girl in



the photo) relating some family history and Andrew's arrival from Scotland. Also, in the early 1970s, on my mother's side of the family, we received a copy of a history from her grandfather that he wrote in 1939 when he was 90 years old. He told the story of how his ancestor travelled from Germany to Russia in 1765 and his travel from Russia to the US in 1892. These stories set me off and somehow, I ended up doing family trees for both my dad's and mother's side of the family. There are

now over 90 pages of births, deaths and marriages and up to eight generations.

I also ended up with pages out of my great-great grandfather Andrew's family Bible from 1840 where he recorded all the births and deaths of family members (he came to Canada in 1832). He also recorded the land location of his homestead in 1850 in Ontario. A number of years ago Gail and I were in Ontario and drove to the village of Molesworth and found

Mitchells living in the house he built in 1852. We also visited St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church which he helped found on his land. They have a silver trowel commemorating his part in it.

His son, James A., moved to Winnipeg in 1871 and he kept a daily diary of his time there and recorded starting a homestead. The diaries are fascinating, a story of

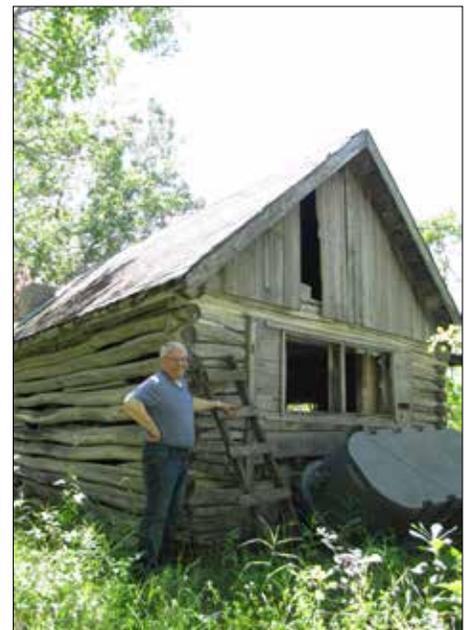
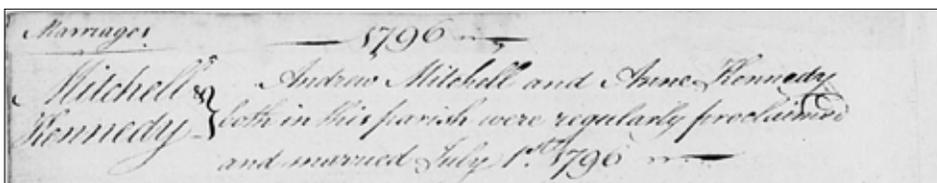
their own. Anyway, he noted the land location in the back of one. This past summer Gail attended the LWML-Canada convention in Winnipeg and then we went looking just to see where it was. It turned out the log cabin he built in 1874 still stands in the bush, not pretty but still standing. The picture is with me standing by it.

There is a wealth of information available on the internet now that just wasn't around years ago. I found this Scottish record of my great-

great-great grandparent's marriage in 1796. There are Canadian census records starting in 1840 with lots of useful information. Another neat thing now on line are ships' lists. Our daughter, Laura, found information on a few of our ancestors' arrivals in the 1800s as well as pictures of the ships they sailed on. She also found the little towns of Rudston and Mapleton in York, England, where both Gail's and my ancestors left to come to Canada in the 1840s. The towns are only 16 miles apart and we toured them while on a trip to England a few years ago. Is it possible that some of our ancestors may have known each other? We also stopped in the town of Ochiltree in Ayrshire where Andrew Mitchell lived and saw the house where his father Andrew lived.

I could go on with more of these stories. Its things like this that I find the most interesting about doing family history research.

Owen Mitchell



from a Peanuts daily calendar

Groaners: World's Best Bad Jokes and Puns

“Well, here is your problem,” the doctor said to the first-time father. “It seems that this child needs a diaper change.” The new father replied, “But I swear that the package said it was good for 8 to 10 pounds.”

St. Paul's FaithLife chapter matches mission support

THANK YOU to everyone who has responded to our September 2018 invitation to give a special offering designated to support Lutheran Church–Canada missions. I am pleased to report that the amount of these offerings received on September 9 has earned us the



full \$300 matching grant from FaithLife Financial and, combined with those offerings received on other Sundays, will most certainly bless the Lord's work through our Synod. Praise be to God the Giver of all things!

- Verla Schmirler, on behalf of St. Paul's FaithLife Chapter 2195

Stewardship

Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the instruction and Word 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, how they do and say most everything.

And children try to copy it, which can be quite humorous when parents wish they wouldn't. It can be uncomfortable and embarrassing if a child copies or repeats something less

than polite that they learned from a parent. Sitcoms thrive on these situations. It only happens because children emulate their parents 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, and 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. And since we are sons, we are heirs—heirs who share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father's grace and mercy, His generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

And 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 God our Father's gifts that we desire to give ourselves. And His gifts are not just spiritual. They are temporal and earthly as well. As the 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 neighbours, and the like.”

continued next page

Stewardship, continued

In other words, God gives us everything 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 to set aside a generous portion of God's daily bread for His work in the Church.

We don't do this simply because He has commanded us so to do; it is 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.

Last month the Board of Stewardship received the treasurer's report to the end of August and we have some good news to share. We have a surplus of just over \$11,000 at the end of August. Normally we are looking at a deficit going into the final four months of the year so this is very welcome news and we thank you for your response to our messages and for your generous gifts to the work of the church. Our offerings are up about \$6,000 over the same period from last year and our expenses are down, largely due to the reduction in our Missions commitment in 2018 compared to

the year before. When the voters approved the 2018 budget including the reduction in Missions giving, it was done with some regret and reluctance but also with the commitment that our Missions gifts would be reviewed through 2018 and if possible, we could add to our commitment later in the year depending on our financial situation. The board will be making a recommendation to the voters in that regard later in the fall.

With thanks to God for His continuing blessings.

Board of Stewardship

from a Peanuts daily calendar

Anagram

Rearrange the letters in this word to discover related words or phrases
silent

from a Peanuts daily calendar

Groaners: World's Best Bad Jokes and Puns

Two elderly ladies had been friends for decades. Over the years, they had shared many experiences, but lately their activities had been limited to playing cards a couple of times a week. One day, while playing cards, one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me. I know we've been friends for a long

time, but I just can't think of your name! I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her for at least three minutes. Finally she asked, "How soon do you need to know?"

Classifieds

Something to sell or give away? Need something? Services to offer to fellow members? Try The Spirit Classifieds first. No cost. Leave your ads at the church office or give them to the editor.



Hand-knitted items

Rhoda McCallen
306-384-7545
rhodamccallen@gmail.com

COMING UP

October 6, 1-4: The family of **Jim Gash** invites you to a come and go tea in honour of his **80th birthday**.

The **voters** will meet **September 30** for receiving the auditor's report and naming an auditor for 2019 as well as

hearing board plans for the fall and winter.

The **voters** will also meet on **November 18** to approve the budget for 2019. Copies of the proposed budget should be available in early November.

Will we hold Octoberfest this year? When is the congregation's Christmas social? What's the date for the children's Christmas program? Even if you don't have anything but a date at this point, it would be great to share it in this space for these and other coming activities so everyone can plan ahead.