

The Spirit of St. Paul's

www.stpaulslutheran.ca

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN



Calling all high school students!

This year St. Paul's youth group will consist of only of high school-age youth. The group will be kicking off on September 16 in the youth room. Our focus will be on Christian youth fellowship, growing together in Christ through Bible studies and purposeful out-of-church adventures.

See you soon!
Megan Bracewell :)



Congratulations to Corianne Bracewell for receiving High Honours in her Bachelor of Arts Honours Degree from the University of Saskatchewan's English Department. Corianne is continuing her education through the department's Master of Arts program this fall. God's blessings Corianne.

Putting one of God's greatest gifts to work

Prayer is a precious gift given us by God. And to pray for others is an honour given to every one of us—men, women and children alike. Consider being part of a chain of prayer at St. Paul's.

What is the prayer chain all about? It is a list of people who are willing to pray for the concerns of fellow congregation members and their families and friends. While the prayer chain is organized by St. Paul's LWML society, anyone may take part and receive requests for prayer.

The coordinator receives prayer requests from members of the congregation and passes them on to the members of the prayer chain. Each prayer chain member then prays for the member and his or her concern. We pray God's will. Requests are kept confidential and are not discussed as the request is passed from one pray-er to another.

Requests can come from prayer chain members, the pastor or anyone in the congregation in need of prayer. Requests can vary from requesting healing after surgery or during medical treatment, comfort after the death of a loved one or support during unemployment to a sharing of thanksgiving for a particular blessing.

Prayer requests can be given to our coordinator, Mildred Vickaryous at 306-343-8605. If you wish to participate in the prayer chain or have questions, contact Gail Mitchell at 306-373-4781.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:6

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 September - Verla Schmirler



from a Peanuts daily calendar

103 years ago on September 7, 1915

John B. Gruelle, a children's book author and illustrator, is granted a patent for his Raggedy Ann doll.

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Next deadline: Sept. 23, 2018
Publication: Sept. 30, 2018

Discover the plans He has for you

The Board of Christian Education had their first meeting of the year on August 16. Welcome to our new members and welcome back to our returning members! Dorothy Erickson, Gail Mitchell, Richard Schwier and Jade Steiger have joined us this year. Tricia Schwark and Delia Stevenson have agreed to continue on. I am grateful for each person and am looking forward to working with this group!

Does His plan for you include teaching SUNDAY SCHOOL?

The board is currently looking for Sunday school teachers and would like to ask anyone interested to prayerfully consider becoming one this year. Presently, we have about 20 children who are likely to attend, and a possible 8-10 more if we reach out to our members. However, we have no teachers. We are hoping to start in October. If you feel called to be part of this ministry, please let Denise know at 306-497-2285 or heavenlyhills@sasktel.net. Thank you.

Megan Bracewell has agreed to lead the children in their annual Christmas program and in a song during Easter Divine Service. Practices for the concert will start sometime in November.

Jade Steiger volunteered to work on Cradle Roll and maintain the children's worship bags. Many thanks to these ladies for donating their time and talents in these areas.

BIBLE STUDIES will be starting soon so mark these dates on your calendar!

- **Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m.** – September 9 – led by Keith Wallace with support from Gail Mitchell and Marion Hollinger. A look at the life of Peter continues

with Donna Pyle's video of session 7.

- **Ladies Tuesday morning at 10 a.m. – September 11**, led by Pastor Keith. The Sunday lectionary readings are reviewed each week.
- **Tuesday afternoon at 1 p.m. – September 18**
- **Men's Network Breakfast Thursday morning at 7 a.m. – ongoing** (at Grainfield's Restaurant on 8th St)
- **Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. – October 4**, led by Pastor Keith, examining the six parts of the Apostles' Creed. Part of the Foundations in Faith series, it is designed to help participants discover how the catechism presents God's Word in a clear, understandable way to bring God's people to faith in Christ and to a daily life shaped and empowered by Word and Sacraments.

CONFIRMATION CLASS - start date and time will be announced in the near future.

YOUTH PLANS

Megan Bracewell has volunteered to be our youth leader, and she brings with her many great ideas and lots of enthusiasm! She hopes to keep the age to high school students only (14 to 17/18-year-olds).

The first challenge will be to tackle the youth room. Megan is looking forward to toning down the purple by finding something a little more neutral! If you're high-school-age and have certain decorating tastes, be sure to join and have input into making this room your own.

Check out future bulletins and newsletters for upcoming activities, studies and events!

continued top of next page

CONNECT WITH PROJECT CONNECT

A big thank you to Delia Stevenson who has given her time for many years to order Project Connect booklets from Lutheran Hour Ministries in Kitchener. Here is an excerpt from their website...

- *How can you offer help to those in your church who are struggling, but who may not be ready to discuss the issue with others?*
- *How can you reach out to people in your community with a Christian message of love and hope?*

The answer is Project Connect.

Project Connect is a booklet ministry of Lutheran Hour Ministries. It gives congregations a tangible, take-home resource of Christ-centred value they can offer to

Why those fans aren't run when it's hot

On a hot summer Sunday many of us look up and wonder why those fans in the peak are still. Wouldn't a breeze, even if it is warm, be better?

Science, it seems, doesn't support that logical thought. Fans at floor level move the air about without changing the temperature so the breeze makes us feel cooler. But, because warm air rises, the air up in the peak is much hotter than that at floor level. And when those fans move they push that hotter air down to where we're all sitting, making us even warmer.

The Board of Church Properties brought in a professional to check it out a couple of years ago. The result: we are better off letting the fans remain idle.

If you think about it, we probably ought to run the fans in the winter when we'd like the warmer air pushed down.

visitors, members, or others in their community.

Project Connect addresses a wide variety of topics, offering booklets that connect God's Word to real-life issues.

These are free for the taking for anyone who has a need. Suggestions for booklet topics may be directed to Delia as she has agreed to continue choosing and ordering these booklets for the near future.

AND IN OUR LIBRARY

We're blessed to have Angela Neufeld continue as our librarian this year. Our library contains a well-organized (thanks Angie!)

and decent variety of topics and materials, both non-fiction and fiction; print and video.

Possibly borrowing a book/video from the library might work better for you than joining a Bible study at this time. Materials are free to borrow for three to four weeks.

We hope you're planning to attend one or two of the education opportunities at St. Paul's. However, if you're unable to, we ask that you keep those who teach and those who learn in your prayers.

*In His Service,
Denise Timm, Chair
Board of Christian Education*

How about taking a little road trip this September?

IN GOOD FAITH

Dianne Gilbert will show her paintings September 5 - 28, 2018, at Biggar Museum & Art Gallery, Biggar, Sask., in conjunction with the community's "culture days."

Closing reception and story telling date and time to be announced.

Contact: 306-948-3451

Dianne has noted that this is a fine art show, not a commercial venture. There is no sale involved.

Just come, see and enjoy.



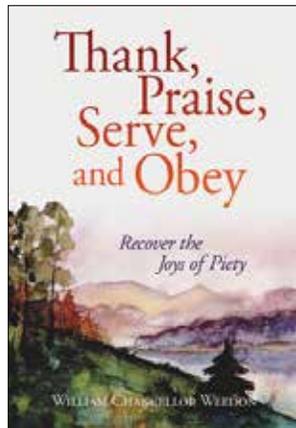
Edge of Spring 2012, 24" x 36" oil on canvas, Dianne Gilbert

Pastor's Corner

The godly habit of confessing Christ

The sixth godly habit in Pastor Weedon's book, *Thank, Praise, Serve, and Obey: Recover the Joys of Piety*, is confessing Christ. Rev. Weedon begins by acknowledging there has been a sad tendency to beat Christians over the head for not sharing Christ with non-Christians as they ought. He recalls some of the methods for outreach that have been promoted over the years and notes that there are problems with them because they can come across as a "canned data dump" without any meaningful interaction and they can make sharing the precious Gospel like peddling a commodity.

Rev. Weedon shares that he recently finished reading a very good book and he can't help but tell others about his enjoyment and excitement. He says that part of finding delight in something, the finishing touch



of delighting in something, in fact, is praising it to others. We share what we enjoy with our family and friends because we love them and want them to enjoy something that we think is good. We do it with books, music, recipes, restaurants, you name it! This is the same mindset we

should have in sharing Jesus. "Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together!... Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him" (Psalm 34:3, 8)! The psalmist urges us to taste the goodness of the Lord and then invites us to join him in speaking and singing God's praise. The one who has tasted the joys of having faith in the Lord, like when one has tasted good food, simply can't help but urging others to enjoy tasting the Lord's goodness, too!

"Come and see!" This is the

heart of the Church's witness. An invitation for people to check out Jesus for themselves. When we encounter Jesus' love, forgiveness, healing, hope—we want everyone we know to also have this experience. Rev. Weedon warns that our witness falters when we ourselves have not received and enjoyed the gift of our Lord Jesus in His community, the Church. In the Divine Service, Jesus serves us through His Word and Sacraments to give us the gifts of forgiveness, peace, and eternal life. When we reflect on what astounding gifts these are, we can't help but exclaim how amazing they are to others.

Pastor Weedon concludes, "So the Christian witness is enjoying the Saviour and His gifts, being awed by the way He so deeply exposes the wounds of our hearts and yet so gently pours His forgiveness, mercy, and healing on us. Then we cannot help but praise this Saviour to others and invite them to meet Him: 'Come and see!'"

*God's blessings,
Pastor Keith*

St. Paul's FaithLife chapter initiates extra support for missions

You may have already discovered, in your church mailbox, the informational letter and labelled envelope offering you the opportunity to make a Special Offering to St. Paul's that will be designated to support Lutheran Church-Canada Missions. **The first \$300 of these offerings received on Sunday, September 9, 2018, will be matched with a \$300 Matching Grant from FaithLife Financial.**

Any offerings received after that date will continue to bless the work of Lutheran Church-Canada in its service to our Lord and His people within Canada, and support its involvement in outreach opportunities both within our borders and internationally. For further details about their endeavours, you are invited to visit the LCC website: <http://www.lutheranchurch-canada.ca>

If I inadvertently missed your mailbox, you will find extra copies of the letter/envelope on the ushers' table in the narthex. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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



Stewardship

It's September, and everything is in full swing again: back to school and back to church attendance after vacations and weekends away. And since everything is back into full swing, it's a perfect time to get back to basics, back to the foundation.

At the end of the first of his chapters on the virtue of faith in *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis provides a helpful reminder, by way of analogy, for the foundation of stewardship. He wrote:

Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already. So then, when we talk of a man doing anything for God or giving anything to God, I will tell you what it is really like. It is like a small child going to its father and saying, "Daddy, give me six pence to buy you a birthday present." Of course, the father does, and he is pleased with the child's present. It is all very nice and proper, but only an idiot would think that the father is six-pence to the good on the transaction. When a man has made these two discoveries

God can really get to work. It is after this that real life begins. (128–129).

This is the first thing we are given to confess about stewardship, and it has to do with ownership. God owns everything, and we are simply managers — stewards — acting on His behalf. This is true not only of all that we have in this life (Deuteronomy 8:17–18), but also all that we are in this life (1 Corinthians 6:20).

*Every faculty you have,
your power of thinking or
of moving your limbs from
moment to moment, is
given you by God.*

The rest flows from here. Since we are stewards, or managers, of what belongs to God, entrusted to make use of it according to His will, there is an expectation of responsibility and accountability.

For the Lord said, "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more" (Luke 12:48b).

And from this comes blessing and reward: "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been

faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master" (Matthew 25:21).

We have everything we need to support this body and life from our God's fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. We have everything we need for our spiritual life also from His merciful hands.

On account of the sacrifice of His Son, our Lord Jesus, through the preaching of the gospel and the administration of the sacraments, we have the forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and everlasting salvation delivered to us with absolute certainty that it is ours—not as stewards but as sons (Galatians 4:1–7).

Let us then, as His own sons, press all that He gives to us into the service of His church and to His glory.

As we continue to think about getting back to routines and taking care of business in the church, the Board of Stewardship will be starting **the annual budgeting cycle for 2019** later this month. Boards and the PPC will be receiving the usual budget worksheets by the end of September so they can plan their programs and funding requirements for the next year. God's Blessings on your planning discussions!

Board of Stewardship

COMING UP

Our monthly calendar works well, except when it doesn't. If something is planned for early in the month and we depend on the calendar, we may not know about it until the last minute. If you have something coming up in the next two or three

months and would like to provide a little advance notice, please let the editor of *The Spirit* know.

October 27 - St. Paul's LWML will be hosting women from the zone (circuit). The program is still under discussion but it will include a

service of prayer titled "Lord, be our R & R (Rock and Refuge)." The ladies are looking for ideas for an activity involving rocks/stones/pebbles. If you have an idea to share, contact Gail Mitchell or Verla Schmirler.

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

Megan's Music Studio

Lessons will begin again this month for returning and new students in piano and voice from beginner to intermediate.

If you are interested, please call, email, or text Megan. Rates are \$17 per 30-minute lesson.

Megan Bracewell

306-381-9899

megan.bracewell@icloud.com

TO GIVE AWAY: Kathy Hollinger loved "MAD" and "Cracked" magazines. We have a large stack of them for someone to enjoy. It would be nice to find a new home for them instead of tossing them into the recycle bin. If you are interested, contact Marion or Les at 306-343-7396 before the end of September.

TO SELL: A lift chair, purchased 18 months ago, excellent condition, smallest size available, half price. Contact Marion at 306-343-7396.

A passion for knitting



Anyone who has gone through the agony and ecstasy of learning to knit or crochet can relate to Rhoda McCallen's description of her first attempt to crochet a doily. The finished product, according to Rhoda, looked more like a sombrero than a doily.

Being able to knit or crochet was an important skill when ready-made mittens and socks and such weren't easily purchased because of the cost, so mothers did their best to pass on this skill. It didn't always come easily as quite a few of us can attest. As time went by, many who learned to knit or crochet as children gradually replaced hand-knit with store-bought. Rhoda was no exception. However, about ten years ago she decided to pick up her knitting needles again and knitting soon became her passion, filling many little corners of her life.

Rhoda joined a knitting group and, with tips from other knitters

and help from a knitting store, tackled the challenge of knitting socks complete with "turning the heel." Many, many pairs of socks, along with mittens and other items, have rolled off her knitting needles.

Last winter she taught a class in knitting mittens at the Warman library. This coming winter she will be mentoring novice knitters and hopes to grow the knitting class.

Rhoda says, "I enjoy doing cabled toques, mittens (including thin ones for driving), triangle scarves, shawls and most especially socks. If you ever wear hand-knitted socks they will soon become your favourites."

Rhoda has her family well-supplied with knitted items and is looking for more projects to take on. Good quality yarn that allows for washing (and air drying) and wears well is not inexpensive. Having that cost covered plus a minimal charge for her time would allow her to continue knitting up a storm.

FAMILY MATTERS

At St. Paul's we're a family. While some are related by the blood of common ancestors, all of us are related by the blood of Jesus Christ. We're hoping to meet more members of our congregation in future issues.