



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

MINISTRIES

CHURCH • SCHOOL • CHILDCARE

302 N. Morrison St. Appleton, WI 54911

July 2020

Travelling Season

(Adapted from an article by Rev. Travis Sherman, a former student of mine many years ago in Iowa)

It's getting to be travelling season for many of you, off to see new places, to catch up with the grandkids, to go to weddings, and all the other things that get us into the car and down the road. With that in mind, I thought it would be worthwhile to talk about how church fits into all that.

The first thing to remember is the Third Commandment, "Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy." The explanation to this commandment that you memorized from the Catechism is this: "We should fear and love God that we do not despise preaching and his Word, but regard it as holy and gladly hear and learn it."

So, unless you are physically unable to attend, or there are no faithful churches within travelling distance, there's no reason not to be there. And there is every reason to be at church. If someone were in town handing out gold bars or medicine that would make us live forever, we'd all be there, lined up to get our share. Every week, at churches across the country, where Christ is preached and his body and blood are given to repentant sinners to eat and to drink, treasures more valuable and more lasting than silver and gold are distributed, and medicine for immortality is administered.

It can be nice to be fed by God's Word in a different setting on vacation. You get to hear a different preacher than the ones you normally do. You get to notice the differences in the building and how the sanctuary is laid out. You get to join your voice in prayer and praise with brothers and sisters in Christ you may never have known you had.

So, when you're travelling, make sure you plan to be fed by Christ just as much as you plan your other meals along the way. If you think about it before you go, I may be able to recommend a church for you where you are headed. You can also go to wels.net and click on "Find a church/school" at the top of the page. There, you will see that some churches might offer Saturday services or even mid-week options. You should also look at the church's website to see what "social distancing" measures are in place.

And make sure you call or visit the pastor to let him know you'll be attending worship, especially if it will be a Communion service. He will want to speak with you beforehand, so that he can confidently feed you with Christ's body (the same goes for your pastor if you have guests coming here!). This is because pastors are called to be stewards of the mysteries of God. Church is a place where God himself is present with his Word. God is good, but he is not tame, as someone once said. So pastors are to make sure that those who approach the Lord's Table approach in faith, knowing what they receive in the Lord's Supper. If a church you are visiting has a communion policy of "Come one, come all," without any pastoral care, that is a sign that the church is not WELS; its communion practice is not in line with Scripture.

I pray that just as God guided the people of Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, that just as he led the wise men to the infant Jesus by a star, so would he lead you on your summer travels, and bring you safely home. And may he bring us all to our heavenly home by preserving us in faith in Jesus, our Savior.

• *Pastor Kenneth Frey*

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Worship Schedule

Sunday services: 8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

Monday evenings: 6:00 p.m.

Our 8am Sunday services are on facebook live and can also be heard on WNAM 1280 AM.

7/5	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – Nation
7/12	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - The Christian loves God above all things
7/19	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - The Christian finds rest in Jesus
7/26	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost - The Christian is planted by the Word

Official Acts

Transfer In:

Elizabeth Pribbernow and daughters

Forever with the Lord:

Mary Ellen Fast departed this life on May 23rd, 2020 at the age of 87 years, 1 month, and 20 days.

Jim Brown departed this life on June 7th, 2020 at the age of 85 years, 7 months, and 5 days.

Financials through May 31st, 2020

	May	July – May
Income	\$ 189,099	\$ 1,855,704
Expense	\$ 155,991	\$ 1,848,323
Behind / Ahead	\$ +33,108	\$ +7,381
PPP Loan Transfer	118,165	184,035
	+151,273	+191,416

All bills are paid, all obligations are met.

***Yearly income includes a transfer of \$24,920 from MLF to GE Fund for deficit months.**

****PPP Loan Transfer includes payroll expenses and utilities.**

Report Date 6/17/2020

UPDATE ECC MORTGAGE-INVESTORS BANK

Original Note Date	4/10/2015	Next Maturity Date	10/20/2021
5 year locked interest (4.40%)			
Regular Payment for June 2020	\$9,170	P-\$8,488.80	I-\$681.51
Extra Payment on Principal For June 2020	-----	P- \$750.00	

Starting Mortgage Value	11/20/2015	\$ 2,000,000.00
Amount paid off of Principal as of	6/17/2020	\$ 1,829,039.49
Mortgage value as of	6/17/2020	\$ 170,960.51

ECC Debt Retirement Effort directly to debt	\$ 1,576,727.16
Money applied from normal monthly payment to debt	\$ 252,312.33
Total Payments on Principal	6/17/2020 \$ 1,829,039.49

Total interest saved over 20 years at 4.4% by ECC Debt Retirement Program

ECC Debt Ret.	Int %	Interest Saved
\$ 1,576,727.16	4.4%	\$ 1,387,519.90

To make an offering for ECC Debt retirement use any envelope in your packet or a normal envelope. Your envelope number must be on the envelope so your contribution can be recorded. **TO HAVE IT APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE OUTSTANDING BALANCE OF THE LOAN, WRITE "ECC DEBT RETIREMENT" ON THE ENVELOPE. To God be the Glory.**

School News

Mission Statement:

Using God's Word as our guide, St. Paul Lutheran School will raise up future generations of Christians in our community by assisting parents in the Christian teaching of their children and by striving for excellence in all areas of instruction.

Summer Mailing: If you are a school family, please look for the summer mailing to come out sometime in mid to late July. This mailing will include registration, tuition, and home visit information as well as other items that will be important for you to know.

Scrip Unavailable 6/28 – 7/4: Due to an audit of our scrip program, the office will be unable to sell scrip during the week of 6/28 – 7/4. Please plan accordingly.

St. Paul Lutheran School 2020-2021: St. Paul Lutheran School has every intention to return to face-to-face classroom instruction in 2020-2021 while making practical and feasible alterations with the goal of maintaining the health of our students, staff, and families. The leaders, staff, and faculty are reviewing local, state, and federal guidelines as they prepare and plan for students to return to school in the fall. These plans will be communicated to families mid to late July once expected up-to-date guidelines are received. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Principal Jason Kelley.

Substitute Teachers Needed: St. Paul Lutheran School is compiling a list of additional substitute, short and long term, teachers needed for the 2020-2021 school year. If you are a WELS member, have a bachelor's degree, a love for Jesus and His children, and would like additional information about subbing at St. Paul Lutheran School, please contact Principal Jason Kelley @ (920)733-9061 or jkelly@stpaulappletonwi.com.

International Program: St. Paul School has been recently notified of our acceptance into the International Program. This program allows for students living abroad to come to St. Paul for their education. What a blessing to be able to share the gospel with these children! Although we do not have any applicants as of yet, we are looking for housing for any potential students. There is a \$6,500 yearly stipend for those that house international students. If this might be of interest to you, please contact Mr. Kelley directly for more information (jkelly@stpaulappletonwi.com or 733-9061).

LWMS

Remember our Befriend a Missionary (BAM) summer birthdays and anniversaries by emailing or sending a card:

- **July 19** – Stephanie Wolfram, see contact information above
- **August 10** – Pastor Scott & Stephanie Wolfram wedding anniversary
- **July 27** - World Missionary John C. Hartmann with WELS Friends of Africa in Zambia - hartmannjohn5@gmail.com, PO Box 310195, 15301 Chelston, Lusaka, Zambia, Africa
- **August 19** - Home Missionary Staff Minister Jerry & Jeannie Worden wedding anniversary smjworden@divine-word.com, The Word - Steven's Point Campus Ministry, 2501 Plover Springs Dr, Plover, WI 54467

A message from Rev, Mike Hartman, Latin America Mission Field Coordinator:

One summer during high school, I traveled with my dad to Mexico City. He was a missionary living in El Paso, Texas, and serving Mexico at the time. Together we visited some of the people receiving the Spanish language newsletter my dad helped produce. It was called El Mensajero Luterano (The Lutheran Messenger). For two afternoons, a Mexican pastor escorted us through traffic in his Volkswagen Bug to meet with newsletter recipients. People were glad to see my dad. However, I remember pulling up to one apartment structure only to learn that the person on my dad's mailing list had died months before. Staying connected can be hard.

God teaches us the importance of staying connected with Christians. 'Don't give up meeting together' is an important truth that does not just apply to Sunday mornings. Luke highlights in Acts 2:46 how the earliest Christians continued to meet every day. Gathering together with other Christians for fellowship and around God's Word is good for the soul. It can also be hard to carry out. Those difficulties are enhanced in Latin America, where few Christians are scattered throughout a large region.

Today God has blessed us with means of staying connected that didn't exist 30 years ago. The deployed soldier can Skype with his wife holding their new son. Midwestern grandparents can see and interact with grandkids in Texas via their iPad. Academia Cristo seeks to use this same technology to enable Christians to gather around God's Word no matter where they are.

I'm teaching an Academia Cristo class with 22 students from eight Latin American countries. We meet and study twice a week online. We also stay connected every day through WhatsApp, a group messaging service.

'Let's not give up meeting together' is an encouragement that never changes. What a blessing that God has made it possible for us to carry this out with more people that we previously would have imagined, in ways we could not have predicted.

*Rev. Mike Hartman –
Latin America Mission Field Coordinator*

ECC Loan Update

In the June Parish Herald, you may have read the financial statement showing the continued blessings we have received towards paying off our ECC Loan debt. If you missed it, as of May 20th we have only \$180,199 remaining on our ECC mortgage!!! Many generous personal gifts along with the funds from the sale of our office building have made it possible for a huge reduction towards our loan principal over these past months. Here is a quick comparison... just prior to Christmas, there was a loan balance of \$621,890 remaining. Just six short months later as of May 20th, we are looking at only \$180,199 remaining!

Looking forward, our ECC loan is scheduled to mature on 10/20/2021. This leaves us 17 months of payments remaining from this point forward. Our normal monthly loan payments over that period would contribute to \$144,058 of the \$180,199. That leaves just \$36,141 in additional principal payments remaining for us to complete our loan obligations. If we divide this remaining amount evenly over the next 17 months, we need only \$2,126 per month in additional principal payments to complete our loan. If we can receive even more per month, our debt will be retired even sooner!

Because we are so close to retiring our ECC loan, the Council has suggested we make our ECC loan payoff our #1 financial goal until complete. The ECC loan costs us \$110,040 per year in payments and each budget cycle, we set aside that full amount to meet our debt obligations. If we are blessed to be able to complete our ECC loan obligation early, the \$110,040 amount will move to our positive budget column and be available for supporting our St. Paul Lutheran Ministries future plans and goals. This is a very sizable dollar amount each year

and putting that in our positive column will be a true blessing to all areas of our ministries.

As we move forward over the next fiscal year, if you do have the means to provide any additional amount of financial support towards our ECC Debt Retirement efforts, please consider doing so. You can use an envelope either from your packet or a normal envelope. Please remember to write "ECC Debt Retirement" on the front of the envelope as well as your envelope number so your contribution can be recorded. Thank you to everyone for your continued support of our St. Paul Lutheran Ministries as we get closer to completing our ECC goal! To God be the Glory!

John Volhard, Treasurer

ECC Update

The ECC has now been open for a full month with our newly enhanced safety measures in place. Daily health screenings at the door for our children and staff, hand washing at the entrance, wearing masks, and lots of extra cleaning are now part of our daily routine. The children have adapted to seeing adults in masks and they are hand washing pros now! We are not able to go on any summer field trips, so we have been brainstorming what fun events can we create to make this summer just as fun and memorable as any other summer. One planned event is having a snow cone truck come to the parking lot for the children to get snow cones once a month. The children (and the staff) are excited for a fun treat!

Summer usually means things slow down, but in one area where we are busier than ever is when it comes to phone calls and tours for those interested in enrollment. We continue to maintain having the infant room booked out a full year in advance. We have also seen increased interest for the two-year-old age level. We would like to see more interest in our 3K and 4K program for the 2020-2021 school year. We believe this area will be the most affected from all of the uncertainty of what schools will "look like" in the fall. Hopefully as we near the start of the school year we see more interest.

God has been good to us and blessed us tremendously: our families have returned, we are seeing interest in our center from new families, our families have remained healthy, our staff have remained healthy, and God has given us all of the hard to find supplies so we can operate safely! Your support and prayers continue to mean so much to us! We may not be able to predict what the coming months will bring, but we know that God continues to keep us close. We are truly blessed indeed!

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church and School Project Wish List

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. | ECC Loan | \$180,000 |
| 2. | Push Bars for Door | \$2000 |
| 3. | Classroom in Basement | ?? |
| 4. | ECC Basement | ?? |
| 5. | Security cameras | \$5000 |

Any donations (large or small) given toward these items is greatly appreciated. Some of these items/projects have been purchased/completed and we are looking for members to help in covering any part of the costs involved.

For a closer look at these items as well as giving options, including 'Easy Tithe', please follow this link: [Wish List Giving](#). As always, THANK YOU for your support.

FVL NEWS

Offerings to support FVL's Let the Children Come mortgage payment are currently about halfway to our goal of \$475K with five months left till the end of October. Any [gifts](#) for this need are greatly appreciated.

FVL's Annual Golf Outing is planned for Friday, July 10 at High Cliff Golf Course in Sherwood. Golfers can register at www.fvlhs.org/golf. Event details are online. Shotgun start at 8:30 AM with event wrapping up by 3 PM.

Summer Football Contact Days: (Note: Coach Jaeger has shared the following announcement with families who expressed an interest in football. If you know of any incoming 9th graders who may yet be interested, feel free share with them!) All incoming freshmen-seniors are encouraged to attend summer football contact days, held Friday, 7/17-Sunday, 7/19! Athletes should arrive at FVL at noon on 7/17, and they will stay overnight at the Cambria Hotel in Appleton on Friday and Saturday. Pickup is at 3:30 PM at FVL on 7/19. The cost is \$120, which covers the hotel stay, meals, and some snacks. Registration is due by Sunday, 6/28 at 7 PM. Visit [League Apps](#) for more information and to register. Contact Coach Jaeger (sjaeger@fvlhs.org) with questions.