



# Monthly Messenger

## St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

July 2021

*"We are God's servants, saved by grace, through faith, commissioned to share the Word of Christ to all."*

### A Message from Pastor

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,  
**What I am about to say applies to everyone unless due to illness, health status, weather, or some other factor you are physically prevented from attending a worship service. Please read the following with this in mind.**

It's Sunday morning. Before long, you and your family will have a choice to make. Get ready to go to worship? Livestream the service at home? Watch it later? Or skip it altogether?

These options have emerged in the last 15+ months, thanks to the global pandemic. After months of worship at home with worship on YouTube, rhythms that used to be automatic are no longer a given.

The writer of Hebrews says, "let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near" (Hebrews 10:24-25). Martin Luther, in his explanation to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment, "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy", said, we should not "despise preaching and [God's] Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it." Our habitual acts shape our loves. Our loves shape who we become. If not shaped around God and His Word, we are soon out of shape.

Of course there is much more to being the Church (and following Jesus) than attending a weekly service. But gathered worship is a significant aspect of being part of the Church. When we choose not to attend, something is missing.

Your absence diminishes what Christ can accomplish in and through the Church; while your presence is a tangible means of participation in the kingdom. Ultimately, worship is not about "what you get out of it", but what God through Christ delivers to you and how you respond with acts of love and service. You see, the Church cannot fully accomplish her purposes in the world when you withhold your presence. Physical participation matters.

With this in mind, here are 3 reasons to attend worship in person again:

*Weekly fellowship in a church body reminds us that following Jesus means joining God's family.*

Being a Christian means being part of God's family. Spending week after week with the same people, sharing this experience, eventually adds up to a network of caring relationships. It doesn't happen overnight, but as we walk through life together ("Synod" means "walking together"), we lend support to each other, and we gather together around our Lord's Word as well as His Body and Blood. Simply watch-

ing from home positions us as a solitary consumer rather than an active participant. While digital worship has been a gift to keep us connected during this strange season, it is not a sustainable way to cultivate the community of faith, or live as a family.

*Weekly fellowship in a church body enables us to participate in God's work of grace in others.*

Your presence affirms the value of corporate worship for all those in attendance. Your smile and your voice lifted in praise manifest the Spirit's presence to others who have come. Our identity as God's children is expressed physically—an embodied reminder of the presence and rule of God. We are reminded that we are members of something bigger than ourselves—Christ's body on earth. For those who have been isolated at home and traumatized by the incessant trials of these difficult 15+ months, your physical presence may be a lifeline. Caring eye contact or a kind word may lend strength for another week to someone in need.

*Weekly fellowship in a church body is a means of declaring allegiance to the kingdom of God.*

The Church is a visible witness to the unseen reality of God's kingdom. Being present each week testifies to this. It acknowledges that God's invisible kingdom is more substantial and more lasting than the other concrete institutions in our community. The Church will outlast the postal service, local businesses, schools, and politicians and their offices. She will outlast the pandemic and the hurricanes and the wildfires and the ugly inequalities in our world. Your participation ensures this, and it testifies to that greater and lasting kingdom, a kingdom that has no end.

So, for these and other reasons, we go. I hope that as soon as you are able, you will return. Our circumstances may still be less than ideal, but the long-term benefits of embodied worship far outweigh the hassles. The Church is a family, and we cannot be the embodiment of Christ without it.

In Christ,  
 Pastor Tim Martinal

#### **Acknowledgments**

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*Some ideas adapted from "Church after COVID – Why Both-er Going Back?", by Carmen Joy Imes, Christianity Today, September 28, 2020. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*

#### St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

4941 W. Center St.  
 Millington, MI 48746  
 989-871-4581

www.stpaul-millington.org  
 Email:  
 church.office@spsmill.org

Rev. James Bruner  
 Administrative Pastor

Rev. Tim Martinal  
 Associate Pastor

**Worship Services**  
 Sunday 10 A.M.  
 (Also live-streamed)  
 Saturday 7 P.M.

**Bible Study**  
 Sunday 8:45 A.M.

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**In this Issue:**  
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*The July Messenger is sponsored in celebration of the birthdays of Kristie White on July 12th and Sherry Sebert on July 30th, from your Mom, Eunice.*

## Worship News / Scripture

### Worship Service Times

Saturdays at 7PM

Sundays at 10AM (Also live streamed)

Bible Study at 8:45AM in the Church  
(Also live streamed)

Traditional service with Communion

2nd and 4th weekends

**\*\*July 4th will be a traditional service\*\***

Contemporary service

1st, 3rd, and 5th weekends

To be added to our email list, please go to [www.stpaul-millington.org/subscribe.html](http://www.stpaul-millington.org/subscribe.html).

### Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays at 7PM in the Library.

### The Gathering

Thursdays at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Join us for singing, prayer, fellowship, learning God's Word, and growing in faith.

### Men's Bible Study

Join us on Sat., July 10th at 8AM in the Library.

### Ordination/Installation

The Ordination/Installation of Tim Kern is July 11th at 4PM at Our Savior, Marlette. Our Savior would like to know how many are coming in order to plan a meal. If you are planning on attending, please let Steve or Mary Kern know and they will pass it on. Call 989-448-1069.



### Lutheran Ministries "Worship for Shut-Ins"

Sundays at 11:30AM on  
TCT Net. (DirecTV 377)

Sundays at 11:30AM on WAQP 49

### The Lutheran Hour Radio

1400 AM Sunday at 8:30AM



### Contact Information / Office Hours

If you need to speak to one of the pastors or someone in the church office, call 871-4581 #3 and leave a message or email [church.office@spsmill.org](mailto:church.office@spsmill.org). We will reply as soon as we can. In case of emergency, call one of the pastors on their cell phone - Pastor Bruner 989-233-1994 or Pastor Martinal 402-672-9817.

### Church Office Hours

Monday through Wednesday from 11-3PM  
or by appointment.

**The Church Office will be closed  
June 28th through July 6th.**

### Scripture Readings

#### July 4th

Ezekiel 2:1-5

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Mark 6:1-13

#### July 11th

Amos 7:7-15

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

#### July 18th

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-44

#### July 25th

Genesis 9:8-17

Ephesians 3:14-21

Mark 6:45-56

### **Support St. Paul and Help Keep the Earth Clean!**

Please keep bringing in your inkjet  
cartridges and turn them to cash!



**We received another check in the amount  
of \$55.00 just for returning cartridges!**

**Drop Off** in the box on the wooden cabinet  
outside of the Church Office or in the  
cabinet in the narthex.

## Upcoming Events / Meetings / Misc.

### Upcoming Events

St. Paul groups are able to have events in the building (at this time the school area is still off limits) after filling out a Building Use Registration Form. Return completed form to the Church Office one week prior to your event for door locks, calendars, etc. to be updated. Forms can be found online or in the Church Office. Call the office if questions.

### Zumba

Join us on Wednesdays at 6PM and Saturdays at 10AM in the Activity Center. \$1 at the door!

### Lunches for Saginaw Rescue Mission

Anyone wishing to **help prepare sack lunches** to take to the mission are asked to come to the St. Paul kitchen on **Fri., July 9th** at 1:30PM. Monetary donations are welcomed and needed for the lunches. Contact Paul Schoenknecht 871-2280 if you are willing to help.

### First Day of School

**Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> - First day of 2021-2022 School Year.**

We will be off Sept. 3-6 to observe Labor Day.

We will try to stay as close as we can to the Millington Public School calendar.

### Grantparent Program

**Would you consider opening your hearts** to families who want their children to receive a St. Paul Christian education, but perhaps cannot afford the rising costs? The **"Grantparent" Program** is designed to ease the financial burden for struggling parents, but it is in need of ongoing funds. If you are able to help financially to continue St. Paul's long-standing heritage of supporting this important mission to our families, please prayerfully follow God's "nudging" by contacting the school office. You may donate for general tuition funding or to a specific student. Thank-you in advance for blessing our children with your prayers and support.

### Shop Online - Support St. Paul

Remember to support St. Paul while shopping online. **Go to [www.schoolstore.net/sid.t?61880](http://www.schoolstore.net/sid.t?61880)** to show our valued teachers your support. You can go online to the stores on the website and the school will receive a percentage of your order. There are many stores to choose from, but you must go through the link in order for the school to get a percentage back.

### St. Paul Yard Signs

Double Blessing: Yard signs promoting St. Paul Lutheran School are available in the school office for a donation of \$15 or more. Your donation will be a double blessing for the students and potential students of St. Paul. All profits will be given to our Grantparent Student Assistance Program, providing financial aid to families for tuition and fees to students attending St. Paul Lutheran School. By your placement of a sign in your yard, you are helping others know of our school which is able to share and show the awesome love of Jesus.

### Meetings

#### **Social Concerns**

Tues., July 6th at 5:30PM

#### **Council**

Wed., July 7th at 6:30PM

#### **Stephen Ministry**

Mon., July 12th at 7PM in the Gathering Room

#### **Elders**

Wed., July 28th at 6:30PM in the Gathering Room

### Music Festival Results

This year's Music Festival was virtual.

Congratulations on a job well done!

Advanced Band I

Jubilee Handbells I-

Abby Skouson & Lexi Bruner Vocal Duet I

Abby Skouson Vocal Solo I

Lexi Bruner Vocal Solo I

Grace Erlenbeck Vocal Solo I

Destiny Blakely Clarinet Solo I-

Blake Erlenbeck Alto Sax Solo I

Grace Erlenbeck Piano Solo I

### LEAP News Nugget

**Splendid New Physical Facilities are Open, Busy, and Very Much-Appreciated at our Valley Lutheran High School**

Have you been to "our" Valley Lutheran High School in recent days? Particularly, have you had the opportunity to see the four brand-new, very large and well-equipped science classrooms/labs, the beautiful new choir-band room, an additional new instructional room, the physical education/athletic department expanded facilities, the renovated office area, and more? They are all wonderful features of the already excellent and beautiful Valley Lutheran High School complex at 3560 McCarty Road in Saginaw, and they are blessings of God, flowing from the generosity of many persons. If you have not already done so, be sure to soon come and see!

What a marvelous, additional treasure was "added" to our many area God-blessed Lutheran schools when Valley Lutheran High School first opened its doors in 1977! And what a distinctively wonderful blessing that school continues to be to its present students, graduates, and their families, and, potentially to its future students and their families! (A quote from an anonymous VLHS graduate appearing on the VLHS website reads, "I will always be grateful and thank God every day that my parents sent me to VLHS.")

Preceding or following a visit to VLHS, be sure to check out the website at vlhs.com where you will find many informative words and pictures presenting faculty and staff, calendars, tuition and financial aid information, athletics information, and much more. (Be encouraged to call VLHS at 790-1676.) At the website you might note that 53 Christian churches are represented by present VLHS students, and that 35 area Lutheran churches and 22 area Lutheran schools are within the Valley Lutheran High School umbrella area. You will certainly be greatly pleased to read the VLHS mission statement . . . "Preparing students for life with Christ as our Foundation" . . . Wow! Glory be to God!

# Finance Summary / Memorials / Daily Lectionary

## CEF Building Fund Summary

Mortgage Balance as of 5/31/2021:	\$199,165.96
Debt free date if nothing changes: December, 2022	
Balance as of 5/31/21 in contingency fund:	\$25,835.68
May offerings to pay mortgage sent to CEF in June	\$13,018.01

## May 2021 Income & Expense Summary

May General Fund Income:	\$101,418.48
May General Fund Expenses:	\$86,801.46
May surplus	\$14,617.02
Overall surplus (deficit) to date	\$(44,855.12)
Gen Fund Checking Balance	\$120,317.29

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Contributions to Grantparent Fund May	\$882.01
Contributions to School Assistance Fund May	\$1,179.40
House fire door offering	\$1,914.00

## Memorials & Special Gifts

In Memory of Ireva Wolverton	
General Fund	\$745.00
Building Fund	\$50.00
School Fund	\$40.00
Memorials Undesignated	\$95.00
In Memory of Larry Keinath	
General Fund	\$245.00

**We are all different.  
 Don't judge,  
 understand instead.**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>July Daily Lectionary</b>				<u>1</u> Joshua 6:6-27 Acts 10:18-33	<u>2</u> Joshua 7:1-26 Acts 10:34-48	<u>3</u> Joshua 8:1-28 Acts 11:1-18
<u>4</u> Joshua 10:1-25 Acts 11:19-30	<u>5</u> Joshua 23:1-16 Acts 12:1-25	<u>6</u> Joshua 24:1-31 Acts 13:1-12	<u>7</u> Judg. 2:6-23 Acts 13:13-41	<u>8</u> Judg. 3:7-31 Acts 13:42-52	<u>9</u> Judg. 4:1-24 Acts 14:1-18	<u>10</u> Judg. 6:1-24 Acts 14:19-15:5
<u>11</u> Judg. 6:25-40 Acts 15:6-21	<u>12</u> Judg. 7:1-23 Gal. 1:1-24	<u>13</u> Judg. 13:1-25 Gal. 2:1-21	<u>14</u> Judg. 14:1-20 Gal. 3:1-22	<u>15</u> Judg. 15:1-16:3 Gal. 3:23-4:11	<u>16</u> Judg. 16:4-30 Gal. 4:12-31	<u>17</u> 1 Sam. 1:1-20 Gal. 5:1-26
<u>18</u> 1 Sam. 1:21-2:17 Gal. 6:1-18	<u>19</u> 1 Sam. 2:18-36 Acts 15:22-41	<u>20</u> 1 Sam. 3:1-21 Acts 16:1-22	<u>21</u> 1 Sam. 4:1-22 Acts 16:23-40	<u>22</u> 1 Sam. 5:1-6:3, 10-16 Acts 18:1-11, 23-28	<u>23</u> 1 Sam. 6:19-7:17 Acts 19:1-22	<u>24</u> 1 Sam. 8:1-22 Acts 21:15-36
<u>25</u> 1 Sam. 9:1-27 Acts 21:37-22:16	<u>26</u> 1 Sam. 10:1-27 Acts 22:17-29	<u>27</u> 1 Sam. 12:1-25 Acts 22:30-23:11	<u>28</u> 1 Sam. 13:1-18 Acts 23:12-35	<u>29</u> 1 Sam. 14:47-15:9 Acts 24:1-23	<u>30</u> 1 Sam. 15:10-35 Acts 24:24-25:12	<u>31</u> 1 Sam. 16:1-23 Acts 25:13-27



## July Birthdays



Sherry ILL	1	Logan Adamic	12	Tammy Simmons	24
Dwight Keinath	1	Margaret Higgins	12	Michele Alberts	24
Grace Hibner	1	Gabrielle Sherman	13	Degrick Koch	24
Maureen Sowden	1	Lydia Bruner	13	Justin Steepe	24
Sandy Weber	2	Brittney Cartner	13	Eileen Ziegler	25
Qwill Schmandt	2	Madalynn Paquette	13	Larry Stevens	25
Suzanne Bleuer	2	Kathryn Snyder	13	Cheyene Pashby	25
Robert Ames	2	Keith Woolwine	14	Coy Thomason	25
David Edler	2	Patricia Petzold	14	Mellonie Dues	25
Wendy Edler	2	Andrew Jaruzel	14	Fred Erlenbeck	26
Ashley Wolverton	2	Aurianna Rogers	14	Ronald Johnson	26
Lynnzee Burns	3	Daryl Benish	15	Frederick List	26
Dianne Scarborough	3	Megan Butterfield	15	Jeffrey Platt	26
Kent Singer	4	Erin Thompson	15	Lola Wendt	26
Barbara Smith	4	Connie Titsworth	15	Seth Holmes	26
Erica Cunningham	4	Erik Torrey	15	Cindy Kralik	26
Jayson Mays	4	Dwight Rodammer	16	Nicholas Maschke	26
Madison Hoard	5	Pat Saeger	16	Dusty Higgins	27
Dani Ayotte	6	Brooke Shaffer	16	Isabel Ketels	27
Paige Ayotte	6	Mark Romain	17	Dean Rohn	27
Dick Kolaja	6	Scott Heike	17	Diane Sebert	27
Les Maxson	6	Dennis Shaffer	17	Blake Ferrier	27
Aaron Singer	6	Ben Daenzer	18	Michael Hibbard	27
Tim Singer	6	Deklan Hager	18	Aaron Knoll	27
Richard Myers	7	Neil Hecht	18	Donna Osborn	27
Virginia Osborn	7	Renae Roth	18	Kolton Woolwine	27
Heather Sergent	7	Owen Schultz	18	Paula Kukulski	28
Morgan Aulbert	7	Kasen Ewing	19	Christy Ostrander	28
Jeffrey Boerneke	7	Alexis Alberts	19	David Russell	28
Mark Paquette	8	Brian Bentley	19	Rebecca Dalton	29
Karen B. Petzold	8	Matthias Grulke	19	Mike Kern	29
Amy France	8	Bret Holmes	19	Larry Petzold	29
Kirk Piar	8	Morgan Rader	19	Philip Petzold	29
Renee Hecht	9	Nathan Staple	19	Amy Yorke	29
Erna Reinert	9	Decima Sebastian	19	Anthony DeOrnellas	29
Bud Zeck	9	Kevin Clouse	20	Katelinn Koeltzow	29
Ethan Casto	9	Abraham Higgins	20	Glenn Reinert	29
Jenelle Keinath	9	Brianna Burns	20	Elizabeth Zeck	29
Ashley O'Dell	9	Velva Cobanovich	20	Tucker Woolwine	29
Bradley Wilson	9	Laura Sherman	21	Hans Schmandt	30
Aaron Keinath	10	Nathaniel Okorowski	21	Bethany Daenzer	30
Dennis Rodammer	10	Isaac Koch	21	Sherry Sebert	30
Nancy Wilson	10	Linda Henderson	22	Bonnie Wittum	30
Kaden List	10	Hunter Wirsing	22	Randy Wolverton	30
Dale Higgins	11	Jessica Allen	22	Sierra Goodhue	30
Muriel Mohr	11	Addison Ley	22	Shane Reinig	31
Makenna Stratton	11	Shirley Ann Petzold	22	Russell, Jr. Hayden	31
Karen Petzold	11	Brianna Weber	23	Braxton Long	31
Shirley A. Petzold	12	Ryan Woodward	23	Constance Wells	31
Scott Reinig	12				
Kristie White	12				



St. Paul Lutheran Church & School  
4941 W. Center St.  
Millington, MI 48746

July  
2021



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**2020**  **ONE**  
St. Paul Lutheran Church & School — IN THE —  
Millington, MI **SON**



You are the artist of your own life.  
Don't hand the paintbrush to anyone else.