

From the Pastor's Desk

As I write my article for this month's newsletter, we are still under stay at home orders from the Governor. It has been a long time since March 15th when we last gathered for worship in our sanctuary together. I miss being together, singing, giving hugs and so much more.

When you receive this newsletter some of the restrictions the Governor has placed may have been lifted if we have followed her orders to stay home. I wish that I could give you a date when everything will be back to "normal". As we begin to imagine what this new "normal" is going to look like, I want you to know that I am in conversation with the Synod, my colleagues in the area, and our Congregational Council. Honestly, right now I have many more questions than I have answers. As these questions are answered and a level of confidence in the safety of all of you is reached, we will share our plans for reopening the building.

We have "tried" many new things during this time of isolation. One of the exciting ways of staying connected we have begun is through Constant Contact – an email service that allows us to email folks the latest news. We have used it several times to share information about Holy Week, a new format for worship on Sunday mornings and more. If you have not received this email and would like to be included, please email Diane in the office at stpaulww@comcast.net and ask to be added to the list.

I long for the day when we can gather again in our sanctuary. Please know that each of you are in my prayers as we wait for this opportunity. I ask you to hold me in prayer, too.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bonnie



SAVE THE DATE!!!

June 7th, 2020, will be the 5th anniversary of **Pastor Bonnie's ordination**. What a special day for her...and for us. We have been so blessed

ever since Pastor Bonnie joined us here at St. Paul. We are hoping to have a celebration in her honor on June 7th, but it will totally depend on the restrictions of COVID 19. Watch for more information in the June newsletter or future Sunday bulletins. In the meantime, please continue to keep Pastor Bonnie and her ministry in your prayers.

Mutual Ministry Team

A note from your Treasurer:

I cannot thank you enough for continuing to remember your St. Paul Lutheran home during these truly difficult days. Many of you have stepped up and made your regular weekly contributions, some even increasing your giving, to help cover our expenses during these trying times. Contributions are only being counted every two weeks, so if you don't notice it clearing your account immediately, that is the reason.

I can't wait until we can all be together once again. In the meantime I encourage you to continue to mail your contributions to the church so that we can remain current with our financial obligations.

Thank you, and may God keep us all healthy and safe until we can be together once again.

Julie Lusk

GARDEN PLOT APPLICATIONS are available. Please contact Don Strauss at 810-434-2380 if you are interested in an application or have questions about the garden.

Synod Assembly has been postponed. The Synod is considering a one-day meeting in October at one of our congregations for the purpose of holding elections of Synod Council members and approving the budget. Watch for further information. Synod Assembly 2021, will be in Port Huron May 13-15, 2021.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

April 13, 2020

Council met via Zoom this month. It was great to be together and see how everyone is doing, while still maintaining social distance.

Rich Cochrill led our Chapter 2 discussion of "The Church of Us vs them".

Council voted to keep the food truck scheduled for May 13 rather than postpone for a later date. Distribution will be administered using social distancing and with protective masks and gloves provided for volunteers. Families will drive their vehicle through the food line and volunteers will put pre-packed food boxes into their vehicle.

Relay for Life has been postponed until October 2020.

Council members are reaching out to the congregation members via phone, text and mail, just to keep in touch.

In the coming months, Tom Wilson and Jim Sanderson will be updating our sound equipment by installing a new tablet and sound mixer. The money for these is from the technology portion of the 2019 Stewardship Campaign.

As an additional option, we are in the process of looking at setting up an account to accept online contributions to St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Kroger Community Rewards Program. St. Paul will receive rewards from your purchases at Kroger. To use the rewards program you can register online at krogercommunityrewards.com. All **current participants** in the Kroger Community Rewards Program **do not** need to re-enroll this year in order to earn funds for St. Paul. The rewards program runs from May 2020 to May 2021. Our NPO number is RK460. **Registration is online only.** Last quarter 32 households earned \$101.23 in rewards for St. Paul.

Newsletter: The newsletter deadline for the June Ray is Sunday, May 17, 2020. Articles may be submitted via e-mail (stpaulww@comcast.net), on a disk (IBM Format) or in writing.

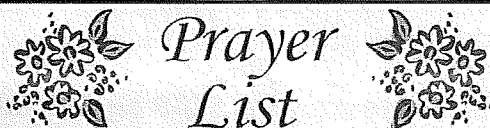


Remember Our Members In The Military

COL. THAD MIDDLETON
2205 TANKER WAY
WICHITA, KS 67210



Melba Bartley
Connie Ganger
Lavina Kodet
Addie Rehberg



Prayer List

If you would like to add someone to our church prayer list, please email Pastor Bonnie at pastorbonniek@gmail.com. Request received by 9 a.m. on Fridays will be included in worship that Sunday. Those received after that time will be added to Pastor Bonnie's personal list and offered the following Sunday.



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for the food truck on May 13, 2020. Our Church Council feels that this food truck is very important because of the huge need for food at this time. Please be there by 10:00, the distribution starts at 11:00. Masks and gloves will be provided for the volunteers. If you have a mask, please bring it.

The food distribution will be different this time and we will need more volunteers than normal. The food and the volunteers will be in the middle of the paved parking lot. The food recipients will drive around the outside of the parking lot and stay in their cars. Volunteers will box and bag the food and put it in the recipient's cars. If you have extra plastic grocery bags or boxes, please bring them. Also bring any wagons or carts you may have for hauling the food. If you can help, please call or text Laurie Morris at 810-441-3345.

On-line worship opportunities

While we are not able to be face to face in worship in our sanctuary there are still opportunities to gather to hear God's word, to pray, to sing and to be encouraged. Each Sunday at 9:30am on our Facebook page worship is posted for us to gather in our homes at the same time to view worship. You are invited to bring your breakfast, a candle to light and a "worry stone" that you have decorated. The service is then posted on our website stpaul.lutheranph.com under the "Worship services" tab. We also gather on Zoom each Sunday at 10:30 for a virtual social hour. Here is the link to join us on Zoom – <https://zoom.us/j/8109829853>