

# The Messenger



## Family Sunday School

Beginning August 21<sup>st</sup>

9:15 a.m.

Ages 8 & up

“The Pilgrim’s Progress” details the spiritual journey upon which one embarks when they begin asking questions about God, the Bible, and Christianity. It’s unique in that it doesn’t end when the main character decides to become a Christian, but continues detailing the life until he dies and goes to heaven. The journey has a gallery of memorable characters and visits to colorful places. What is so wonderful about this story is that it’s our story -- the story of every Christian from their first experience with the gospel to their final entry into heaven. The characters that the traveler meets are easily identifiable. “The Pilgrim’s Progress” quotes and alludes to the Bible throughout. No doubt this infusion with Scripture is the reason the Pilgrims progress has so much staying power and has impacted millions of believers in the past 400 years.

Please plan to bring your Bible. Handout materials will be available.

### Be Like Noah: Do What’s Right!

*“But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God.”* Genesis 6:8-9

Isn’t it easy to focus on what is going wrong in our world today? When I turn on the news or open my computer, I can feel like I’m drowning in bad news. No one is sheltered from bad news – in fact, you can see it all over social media and in lunchrooms, buses, and more. We can all probably make a list some of the things others have done wrong. Maybe they’ve even hurt you. Noah’s life was the same. Things in the world had been turned upside down by sin (people choosing to do what separated them from God). God was sad about this mess and needed to find some hope. He looked all over, and one person stood out: Noah. Noah made God smile. In fact, God would use Noah to turn the world around. In our homes, relationships with others, and families – we can be like Noah – choosing to do what’s right and lead with faith.

Prayer: *Good and gracious God, help me to follow you and be like Noah especially when it feels easy to blend in. Help me stand out by doing what is right. Thank you for our highs and help us with our lows. Thanks for giving us bright spots in our lives when we can feel your presence. Amen.*

### Beginning August 21<sup>st</sup>

8:00 a.m. Worship, 9:15 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Worship

### Special Voter’s Meeting

Sunday, August 21 after 10:30 Worship  
Subject: Heating and Airconditioning Units



The picnic will take place after the 10:30 Worship service. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

#### REALITY AND TRUTH OUTREACH

Thank you to all who prepared and served box meals to Montgomery's homeless.

On Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, sixty boxes were prepared. The menu was BBQ, pulled chicken, greens, vegetable casserole and cornbread plus desserts and drinks.

Save the date...Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> for our next opportunity to serve at Reality and Truth.



#### MONTHLY SERVICE DAYS CONTINUE - WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

St. Paul's one year anniversary serving at the Montgomery Area Food Bank was last week. We have committed to have six people volunteer on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. WE NEED YOUR HELP. A few relocations and new medical issues have reduced our "pool" of workers. The working conditions are fine -- both winter and summer. The work involves standing, bending over (but not if you are limited), some lifting (but not if you are limited) and overall is not hard -- but VERY REWARDING!! Breaks can be taken if needed. Bottled water and restrooms are adjacent to the work area. The work involves sorting and packing boxes of cereal, cookies, crackers, and snacks that come to the food bank from various sources. The time always flies by.

Applicants must be approved in advance -- coordinated thru Pastor Elam or Mike Nisbet. Paper applications are available on the tables in the Welcome Center and Narthex. Applications can also be downloaded from our website. The Food Bank is conveniently located near the south entrance of Maxwell Air Force Base.



## LCMS Immigration Services

Immigrant Neighbors Past and Present: How Should Scripture Inform Attitudes Towards Immigrants Today? When dealing with the narrow topic of illegal immigration, we must come to terms with a basic problem of interpretation, namely, that Scripture does not deal specifically with



the narrow question of the church's attitude towards "illegal" or "undocumented" immigrants. Scripture deals with the church's basic attitude towards immigrants (aliens, sojourners, strangers) who live in the midst of God's people without qualifying its teachings on the basis of the legal or illegal status of these immigrants. While this problem might puzzle us at first, its recognition allows us, on the one hand, to avoid giving absolute biblical answers to an issue Scripture does not address directly, and, on the other, to appreciate fully the foundational biblical values that, as a starting point, must inform the church's actions among immigrants regardless of their status in society.

Immigrants are, quite simply, neighbors. As neighbors, immigrants fall under the law of God, which calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves. While the Hebrew word *עֵרֵב* (in God's mandate to love the "neighbor" applies first and most immediately to the people of Israel, the term also includes those outside of the covenant community—including the *גר* (or stranger. "When a stranger sojourns with you in the land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God" (Lev. 19:33-34, cf. Lev. 19:18

We must all acknowledge that we do fail to help some neighbor and we do not fulfill all that the law demands of us. We all sin in various ways as we seek to fulfill our vocations in the left- and right-hand realms and kingdoms.<sup>93</sup> Therefore, in what is one of the most complex and debated issues of our time, the Gospel, by means of confession and absolution, must be brought to bear continually as Christians engage in conversations about what is best for various neighbors and attempt to better carry out their vocations responsibly and in good conscience for the sake of these neighbors—including immigrants among us. Excerpt from *Immigrants Among Us*, LCMS CTCR

## SHUT-INS AND THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Ideas for remembering our folks who are home bound:

- Send a greeting card
- Call, text, or email
- Schedule a visit
- Bring a meal or sweet treat
- Make a grocery store run
- Make a "goody box" (note cards with stamps, pen, crossword puzzle pad, candy bar, etc.



AND of course, PRAY for and with our precious sisters and brothers.

### Health:

Mike Ahrendt	Doris Schreiber
Audrey and Bob Cordes	Marge Elam
Sue Gill	Janice Mather
Janice Mather	John Mikulka
Doris and Jim Nieme	Debbie Mikulka

### Shut-ins:

Becky Culver	Betsy Milton
Carolyn Culver	Ann Ohme
Milton Kennedy	Jack and Mary Smiley
Daniel Killion	Berna Wittkop

"The Lord is the strength of my life." Psalm 118:14

"Fear not for I am with you; be not dismayed for I am your God..." Isaiah 41:10

\*\*\*\*\* Contact information can be obtained through the Church Office (334) 272-6214.\*\*\*\*\*



## Women of St. Paul,

Every female member of St. Paul is automatically a welcomed and cherished member of Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) and we encourage you to join us in our various activities.

Some activities planned for the remainder of 2022:

- We celebrate LWML Sunday on October 2nd
- On October 22nd, St. Paul will host a Fall Rally. We will be joined by eight other churches from Central Alabama. We will worship, share Bible study and join in fun fellowship.
- We will also be celebrating a Fall Festival with German food and games.
- We also have fund raising events to support homeless veterans, First Choice, missionaries, and varies other organizations.
- We meet monthly from fall through May. It’s is a time for sharing our faith and love for the Lord and developing friendships.

Watch for our announcements!

We look forward to having you join us! Karalyn Maevers, LWML President

## MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

We had two full tables at August’s second Saturday event. Lots of laughs and yummy snacks too.

Mark Saturday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

It’s an easy game to play. In fact, a first timer won the night! Congrats Mary!

If you’re interested in playing cards (Hearts, Spades, Five Crowns, etc.) we’d love to have you too and bring your cards.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We are getting ready to fill shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child and “Shoebox Collection Week” in November will be here sooner than we think!

As you are out and about, pick up items ON SALE: Summer toys like jump ropes and sidewalk chalk are fun “Wow” gifts for children around the world. Check out “Back to School” sales now while the selections are plentiful.

Our goal this year is to share the Good News of Jesus with at least 75 children around the world.

**FUN FACT:** You don’t have to use the Operation Christmas Child boxes – any shoebox will do!

- August 16..... Circuit Meeting
- August 18..... Bible Study at 9:30 a.m.
- August 21 ..... Rally Day (Sunday School Start Date)
- August 21** ..... **Special Voter's Meeting**, after 10:30 Worship, Air Conditioning Repair
- August 28..... LCMS Southern District President Johnson Preaching
- ..... **Single Service** – (10:30), Normal Sunday School (9:30)
- ..... Pot Luck, Q&A with President Johnson
- September 10 ..... Mexican Train, in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m.
- September 20 ..... Church Chicks, Chappys on Vaughn Rd at 8:30 a.m.
- September 25 ..... Church Picnic after the 10:30 Worship Service
- September 30 ..... Reality & Truth
- October 2..... LWML Sunday

Upcoming  
Activities

JUNE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions .....\$20,180 (**\$3,153 below Budget for the month**)

Monthly Budget .....\$23,333



August..... Terry Elam  
September ..... Carrie Newman

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|-----------------|------|----------------|------|
| Cynthia Bennett | 8/20 | Ryan Burley    | 9/04 |
| Addy Bradshaw   | 8/21 | Janice Mather  | 9/06 |
| Dax Segrest     | 8/21 | Charles Howard | 9/07 |
| Madison Paxton  | 8/25 | Daniel Paxton  | 9/09 |
| Mignon Frazier  | 8/26 | Tessa Antoon   | 9/13 |
| EJ Antoon       | 8/29 | Becky Pierce   | 9/16 |
| Hannah Holman   | 9/02 |                |      |



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|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Chris &amp; Martha Bradshaw</i>  | <i>September 4</i>  |
| <i>Jon &amp; Jill Garnto</i>        | <i>September 20</i> |
| <i>Frank &amp; Linda Richardson</i> | <i>September 23</i> |

Please submit pictures/information for the newsletter by the 12<sup>th</sup> of each month to [dhoward@knology.net](mailto:dhoward@knology.net).

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

To activate the prayer chain, contact the church office at 272-6214.