

The Messenger



Peace be With You

What do you remember about the first day of school? New clothes, new school supplies, possibly a new classroom, a new seating arrangement. A new school year brings a fresh start. Even if you dreaded school, you must admit that you felt that certain spark the very first day. Now compare that with what you remember about the one-hundredth day. The feelings just aren't the same. It's not long until the excitement wears off, new clothes, supplies become old, and frustration/boredom can build up.

Do you think the disciples shared similar feelings the week after Easter? After Jesus died, confusion and dismay filled the disciples' hearts. Fear was also present, as we know they had locked themselves in a room, afraid of the Jews. But all those feelings evaporated in an instant when their Lord appeared to them behind locked doors and announced, *"Peace be with you."* (John 20:19) What peace! What joy! Their teacher who was dead is now alive! Their lives, which appeared to be ending, had been restored! They were given a fresh start.

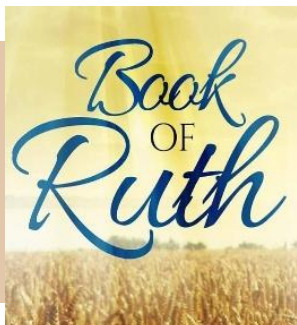
How quickly did this excitement turn to dreariness as the days moved on and their troubles continued! We can only guess, but it does appear likely that the disciples were still motivated by fear and confusion when, only one week later, they were once more gathered in a room with the doors locked tight. Then Jesus appeared to them again with those same comforting words, *"Peace be with you."* (John 20:26) What can we do to prevent monotony, fear, confusion from setting in? Jesus' solution for us is the same as the one He gave to the disciples: His comforting Word. Let us consider our Savior's promises to us.

Do you get excited about wearing brand-new clothes? Consider the even better clothes your Savior bought for you! *"My soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness."* (Isaiah 61:10 ESV) These are clothes that won't fade in the wash, that you won't outgrow in a year. Christ's perfection is always in style, and He's made it yours to wear.

God has answers for you! *"When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him."* (Psalm 91:15 ESV) The God of creation is waiting with a listening ear to hear your concerns.

Do you wonder how you can continue through the daily grind? *"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."* (Psalm 23:6) God promises He will remain with you always. In His mercy, He will continue to pass over your sins. By His grace, He will continue to forgive your failures. In His goodness, He will continue to provide what you need to survive.

May the Lord bless each of us with patient reminders from His comforting Word. In Christ Jesus, the first-day-of-school joy need never fade away.



Brown Bag Bible Study at St. Paul

Bring your lunch and dig into the Book of Ruth at the monthly Bible study. The next study will be Tuesday, July 22 at 11:00 a.m.



Sunday, August 10

Sunday School and Bible Study Begins at 8:45

Worship at 10:00

Come enjoy lunch, games, and ice cream following the church service.



Celebrating with the Sinewe's and Myers

May the Lord give you countless blessings as you embark on a new chapter in your journey.

We'll miss you!



Vacation Bible School 2025



Our next meeting will be **Thursday, August 28 (4th Thursday of the month) at 11 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**. It's time to start planning Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 5 at 5 p.m. After our meeting, those able will go out to lunch. We need your help with the many activities and outreach we are doing at St. Paul. If you're not able to make meeting, contact our President Scheri Morris or other LWML members to find out how you can help. Many thanks!



St. Paul Endowment Fund

The St Paul Endowment fund is planning a lunch & learn on **Sunday October 12** immediately after worship. Mr. Brian Hamilton from Legacy Deo (Austin, TX) will discuss financial legacies, generational wealth transfer, and the planning related to these topics. This session is for both older families and empty nesters as well as young married and young families. More information is forthcoming. Save the date!!!

Endowment Fund balance (6/30/25) \$75,366.30. A position on the Fund Committee is open -- see Mike Nisbet for details.

Find the LCMS channel on YouTube

Watch missionary interviews,
the daily chapel livestream,
mercy work videos and more

@TheLCMS

View channel

Or - <https://www.youtube.com/TheLCMS>

A collage of video thumbnails from the LCMS YouTube channel, showing various missionaries, church services, and community events.

You know when you're a Lutheran when:

- It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.
- You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can!
- The communion cabinet is open to all, but the coffee cabinet is locked up tight.
- All your relatives graduated from a school named Concordia.
- When you watch a "Star Wars" movie and they say, "May the Force be with you", you respond, "and also with you".
- You actually understand those folks from Lake Wobegon, MN.
- It takes ten minutes to say good-bye.

LWML: Convention Recap - June 26–29, 2025

Omaha, Nebraska

Some of the Servant Connections at the convention.

A grand total of 1,206 women and men joined hearts and hands to work on various projects that will serve many in the Nebraska community and world.



Convention BY THE NUMBERS

81

UNITS OF BLOOD DONATED

48,605

FOOD PACKS ASSEMBLED

56

QUILTS TIED

339

ONESIES DECORATED

2,544

WITNESS BRACELETS ASSEMBLED

300

FIRST RESPONDER TOOLKITS

265

CARDS OF HOPE CREATED

256

MILITARY THANK YOU CARDS CREATED

9,600

FEMININE PRODUCTS SEWN

106

BRAILLE BOOKS & CALENDARS
CREATED



Kathy Schwartz and Carolyn Culbertson (left) joyfully serving with Joan Schild and Ruth Bauer (right).



Shonna Rice creating Braille pages.



Lutheran Women in Mission tracing out patterns for feminine hygiene needs.



From left: Joyce Malmgren and Katherine Rubbert pack nutritional meals with Paul Dunbar and Ken Mall.



From left: Jane Kramer and Kathleen Krass coloring Military Thank You Cards.

Upcoming EVENTS

July 19 Church Chix, 8:30 a.m. at Chappy's on Vaughn Rd
 July 22 Bible Study at 11:00 a.m.
 August 9 Mexican Train Dominoes at 6:30 p.m.
 August 10 Back to School Bash/Rally Day
 August 14 Food Bank Service Day at 8:30 a.m.
 August 16 Church Chix, 8:30 a.m. at Chappy's on Vaughn Rd
 August 26 Bible Study at 11:00 a.m.
 August 28 LWML at 10:30 a.m.
 August 29 Reality & Truth at 4:20 p.m.

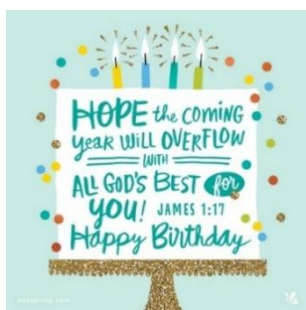
Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver 2 Corinthians 9:7

JUNE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions.....\$27,412.25 (\$6,528.25 Above Budget for the month)
 Monthly Budget.....\$20,884.00
 Year to Date.....\$147,220.75 (\$21,916.75 Above Budget)
 \$125,304.00 Budget Year to /date



July.....Jessica Smith
 August.....Joan Nightengale



Martin Welch-Behringer	7/16	Jon Oswald	7/26
Wesley Holman	7/18	Jessica Smith	7/29
Donna Dradzynski	7/22	Amber Arnold	7/30
Jillian Dradzynski	7/23	Ron Mitchell	8/7
Raven Escaravage	7/26		

Charlie & Diane King July 24
 Steve & Joan Nightengale August 4
 Mike and Cindy Ahrendt August 16



PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

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

Please submit pictures/information for the newsletter by the 12th of each month to dhoward@knology.net.