

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

7960 State Route 38 – Milford Center, Ohio
43045

Church Office: (937) 349-2405

September 2018



Dear Members of St Paul,

St Paul wrote to young Pastor Timothy, “The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith.” (1 Tim 1:5) He was exhorting the youthful pastor, telling him how to conduct his pastoral service to his congregation. The goal of his teaching and preaching was to impart a good conscience to his congregation.

We all are in need of a good conscience. That is to say, the whole purpose of our involvement in church is so that we can be confident of God’s action and intervention on our behalf to rescue us from sin and death. Thanks be to God, He has done this in Jesus! This set us free to live with one another in love and if faith. With our conscience made pure by the blood of Jesus we are free to give of ourselves. We are confident of God’s provision and care for us. It’s all because of what God has done for us in Jesus.

Beginning this month you are going to notice an emphasis from your Board of Stewardship. The Board has been studying what the Bible says to each of us about our money, the way we use it, and the extent to which we give it to God. You will hear talk about tithing.

Tithing is giving 10%. When I was growing up I was taught that this was an expectation for Christians -that they give 10% of everything they earn to God and to the Church. Over the years, that teaching seems to have fallen by the wayside. We are going to examine that again.

I think that most of the time, when we think about tithing or Christian Stewardship we think about it in practical terms – we give so we can keep the lights on at church. But that’s not quite right.

“The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith.” Our consideration of God’s Word on stewardship has to do with delivering a good

conscience and a sincere faith and a pure heart. Because God has called us to be disciples, we desire what God desires. It is what it means to be a Christian. We love God and we care about what he says about us.

So we will look at Stewardship through the lens of God’s Law and God’s gospel. God’s law says some things about us that are uncomfortable. It tells us things that we don’t want to hear, but that we probably need to hear. It might point out sins of greed or idolatry. Our first impulse is to shy away from these teachings because they make us feel badly about ourselves or perhaps even angry. But faith, a good conscience, and a pure heart enable us to face this with confidence and even joy. We know that Jesus has bled and died for our sins, no matter what they are. We know that God provides for us and cares for us. We know that the God who clothes the grass with flowers and feeds the birds during the winter will also clothe and feed us. We know that the God who dropped bread on the ground with the dew every morning for his people in the wilderness is not limited in his ability to provide for us. We can put ourselves into his care and be confident and even joyful because he has his hand upon us.

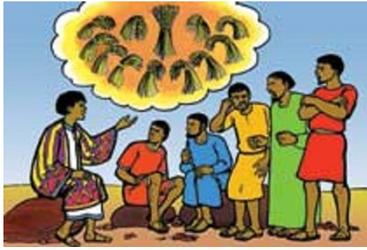
This month and the next there will be bible studies on Sunday morning. Please attend. There will be a booklet in

your mailbox. Please read it, perhaps devotionally, a section at a time, maybe one a week. Pray about it. We are also excited to inform you that we will have a guest preacher for the culmination of our stewardship emphasis – Rev. Ken Schurb will share with us the good news of God’s generous gifts on November 18. Please use this as a time to consider God’s gracious and generous giving to you and evaluate your own giving to Him. And do

so with love that issues from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith.

Pastor Schlueter





Old Testament Lessons

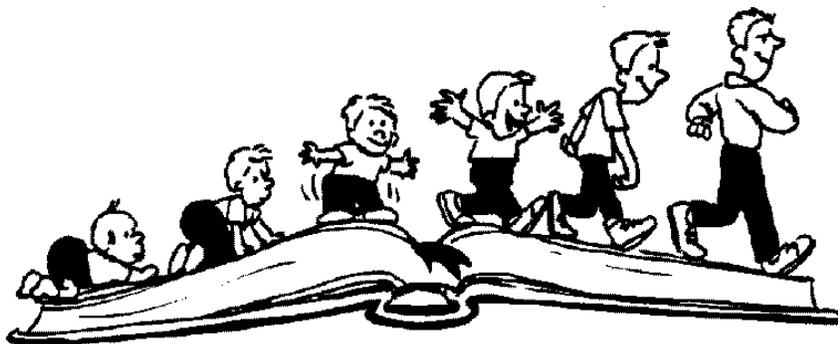
By Dcs. Janet Nicol



Sunday School starts up this month after a summer hiatus. The teachers are preparing to teach a series of lessons in the Old Testament this quarter. All thirteen lessons are about those old standbys-Joseph and Moses; four lessons on Joseph and nine lessons on Moses. Why, you may ask? These two iconic figures in the Bible begin in Chapter 37 of Genesis and go through the book of Deuteronomy. Let's just say that a considerable amount of ink has been used on these guys and there is good reason to spend a considerable amount of time learning about them.

Our curriculum takes the children through a series of Old and New Testament lessons that actually rotate so as the students age, they will hear these lessons more than once. This is a good thing because so much can be gleaned from these historic figures at each stage of development. Things that can be discussed with the 8th-12th grades cannot be discussed as easily with the preschool or even 3rd and 4th grades. This is obvious of course, but it's a reminder that even us adults need constant reminders of the lessons to be learned from the Old Testament. **We teach that ALL characters and their actions in the Bible are true, historic, and accurate depictions and they ultimately point to Jesus.** There are so many facets to each lesson, it is much like the old cliche about peeling onions.

This year we will continue to have Praisemaker time with the students for a few minutes every Sunday after our opening. New this season: we will be keeping track of attendance and celebrating at the end of each quarter with a treat and something special for the ones who have the most faithful attendance.



Kitchen Progressing Nicely!

We are so pleased that the workers have used quality materials and workmanship. It is looking gorgeous! The backsplashes are installed, the stainless countertops are installed.

The contractor anticipates being finished by the first week of September.

Ladies—once it is finished we will need help washing the items we took out of the kitchen before putting them in their new home.



Adult Bible Class

We will be studying the same Old Testament stories as the children part of the time.

From September to November, we will have some special Stewardship discussions twice a month.

September 9—God's Word on How We use His Gifts!

September 23—Do I Have to Tithe?



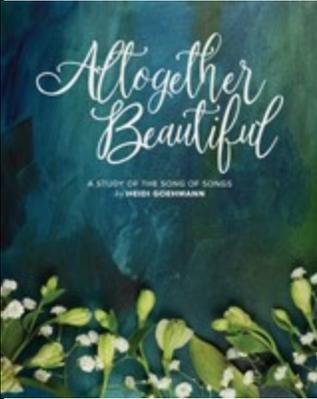
Fall Grief Share Program Begins!

The 13-week GriefShare recovery & support program has begun on **Thursday evenings from 6:00 – 8:00 pm**, in the former Plain City Elementary School building, located at 340 W. Main Street in Plain City. Anyone who is grieving the death of a loved one is welcome to attend any of the fall GriefShare sessions. Each GriefShare session is "self-contained," so you do not have to attend in sequence.

Each GriefShare session includes a video seminar, small group discussion, and workbook study. There is a \$15 suggested donation, which covers the cost of the workbook. To register, please call Janet at **614-561-7411**. Parking is located near the rear entrance of the building. Feel free to invite your family and/or friends, who are also grieving, to attend with you. Everyone is welcome!

This fall series will conclude November 15, 2018.

Ladies Bible Study Returns...



The time is nearing for Ladies Bible Study to start up again. This coming season I am going to try having two times for study so that more ladies (young, middle aged, or old) can join us at one of the two times. **Starting September 4**, one will continue to be Tuesday mornings at **8:15 AM** twice a month (2nd and 4th) We will start a devotion promptly on time. The other will be on the alternating Tuesday evenings (1st and 3rd). For months with a 5th Tuesday there will be one Tuesday without a study. (October and January for starters)

For the evening one I am open to traveling to anyone's house (or houses) if there is a group who would not mind rotating around or even meeting at one specific house. This can help alleviate the babysitting problem. There is no need for anyone to stress out about clean houses or fancy snacks, or any snacks. I'm fairly flexible, have Bible, will travel. However, we can also meet at the church as well. I hope this will encourage more of you to participate. Let me know if you are interested.

The study I am presenting is written by fellow Deaconess Heidi Goehmann called **Altogether Beautiful**. It is a study on the Song of Songs. Watch social media for a posting of an intro video. It is a video based study. Deaconess Heidi is very personable and the subject is extremely captivating and personal. I think *every women*, young, old, married, single, widowed, with big families, with small families is going to love this study. Workbooks are available but not necessary. They are available for purchase on Amazon and cph.org.

So let's get excited about studying God's Word this coming Fall! --Deaconess Janet Nicol

Thank You!



- Thank you to Rita Rinehart for making sure Sunday School snacks are out for people to enjoy!
- Thank you to Marilyn Greenbaum for the lovely flowers on the altar each Sunday—a true blessing!



***All Ladies Please
Join Us September 17th at 6:30 pm
For our LWML Tea***

*We will enjoy appetizers and fellowship as we prepare for the
2018-2019 program year*

Sunday School Juice Box Collection



The Golden Eagles will be visiting Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne early in October. They are again collecting items for the clothing and food bank at the seminary. We thought it would be fun for the children to help out by donating a collection of juice boxes to the food bank. These items can be brought to Sunday School the entire month of September. They will be delivered in October.



St. Paul Early Childhood Center
Affiliate of St. John's Lutheran School

September Preschool News!

St. Paul Early Childhood Center is now in full swing! On Aug 30 & 31, we had a Preview Day, which is when the parents stay in the building, but the children come to the classroom with a typical schedule compacted into one hour. This allows them to transition more easily to their new full-time September schedule.

Every year our staff marvels at the endless and wonderful opportunities we have to witness to these children! We have been blessed to tell them about the endless love of their best friend Jesus! The 3-day and Enrichment classes are full. But we still have available openings in the 2-day class, in case you know of someone continuing to search for a preschool.



Which is your False Christ?

By Deaconess Janet Nicol

You might be surprised to find out that your notion of who the real Jesus is has been a presupposed special edition that you have crafted in your own mind. Or you may have discovered that friends and family have discussed with you their idea of who Jesus is and it is different from yours, or even... (gasp)... different from the biblical Jesus. This is not new. It's called idolatry and it's the reason we have been given the first commandment: you shall have no other gods before you.

Pastor and author Matthew Richard has written an excellent book describing what may be your false christ or one of someone you know and love. "**Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?: 12 False Christs**" is Pastor Richard's title and reading it can open your eyes to the idolatry that pervades Christianity today. In this book, he presents twelve different types of a crafted Jesus using profiles of real people he has encountered in his life. You will recognize some traits of all of them. Each chapter presents an idolatrous version of Jesus along with suggestions on how to appropriately respond to the people who worship them. Also, along the way, are interesting and helpful sidebars which explain theology in everyday layman's terms. The author also reminds us in each chapter, who the real Jesus is.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading the book mainly because it is presented in nice, everyday language, not too heavy on the theology language that can often frustrate and turn off the reader. A real intellect has the ability to put his thoughts in language everyone can understand. I believe Pastor Richard has done this in addition to making his readers be more thoughtful about their own forms of idolatry and be better educated on the ways to confront false christs in their encounters while serving in their vocations in this life. It provides a great education on the true doctrine of Christianity. Well done, Pastor Matthew Richards. I highly recommend the book for all who are serious about the REAL JESUS.

Greeter Responsibilities for St. Paul Chuckery



Serving as a Greeter is a privilege.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my GOD than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

Psalm 84:10b

Greeters play a vital role in welcoming **every** person who comes into the church. As a greeter, you help our guests form their first impression of St. Paul.

Greeter Responsibilities

- ◆ Arrive 20 minutes prior to the start of worship
 - ◆ Greet each person with a warm hello!
 - ◆ Introduce yourself to guests.

(Provide basic information such as location of bathrooms, water fountains, etc.)

- ◆ Invite guests to sign a registration card—located in the pews.
- Ask questions...find out who they are and get to know them.
- Thank them for attending St. Paul and invite them back.
- If you are unable to fulfill your duty as a Greeter, please find a substitute, or call the Church Office by Wednesday.



Move Beyond the Why

At some point in time, if you are to continue toward healing, you must let go of the questions. Your questions may be answered later or they may not, but it is in the process of moving toward healing that you are more likely to get the answers you want.

Margi, who lost her husband, says, "I eventually came to a point in my life where I just said to the Lord, 'I'm going to stop asking You why, and I will begin asking You how. How can I use this in my life so that it will glorify You? I want to be able to use this to witness to others and encourage them through whatever it is You are trying to teach me.'"

Change your whys to hows and seek to grow toward healing by helping other people.

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. . . Live in peace with each other. . .warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else. Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil.

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it." (1 Thessalonians 5:11, 13-24)

God, it seems so hard, too hard. Help me to understand that I cannot do anything without Your enabling. You only expect me to love You and learn about You, and Your Spirit will do the rest within me and through me. Amen.

By Bill Dunn & Kathy Leonard, from the book "Through a Season of Grief"



September Birthdays

- Sept. 2** Tiffany Blair 1984
Amanda Dellinger 1996
- Sept. 3** Rick Agner 1951
- Sept. 4** Karly Low 1991
Connor Burns 2015
- Sept. 5** Karen Cremeans 1965
Laura Marshall 1967
- Sept. 7** Lilly Dellinger 2003
- Sept. 8** Susan Rausch 1955
Bob Kleiber 1957
Matthew Bouic 2000
Kristin Dellinger 2004
- Sept. 9** Cheryl Alexander 1947
Colin Robinson 1991
- Sept. 12** Tammy Hunt 1965
- Sept. 13** Kay Peterman 1952
- Sept. 14** Linda Kile 1951
Micah Heiss 2009
- Sept. 15** Calvin Low 1955
Mason Winkle 2001
- Sept. 17** Jerrod Ploof 1971
Austin Kleiber 1994
- Sept. 18** Paul Rausch 1959
- Sept. 21** Nicole Ploof 1969
- Sept. 22** Brandy Eickhoff 1983
- Sept. 23** John Bouic 1996
Jay Schmidt 1955
- Sept. 25** Scott Thrush 1980
Grant Dellinger 2006
- Sept. 27** D.J. Dellinger 1989
- Sept. 28** Robert Scheiderer 1966
Clara Andrews 2008
- Sept. 29** Dawn Ferryman 1973
- Sept. 30** Keli Hemphill 1981
- Oct. 1** Megan Marshall 1993



Wedding Anniversaries

- Sept. 1** Bill & Dawn Burger 1967 (51)
- Sept. 2** Josh & Kellie Burns 2000
- Sept. 4** Raymond & Linda Scheiderer 1962
(56)
- Sept. 5** Mike & Pam Boerger 1981
- Sept. 6** Gary & Mary Burns 1969
- Sept. 9** Ryan & Vanessa Picklesimer 2011
- Sept. 11** Dennis & Rebekah Headings 2003
- Sept. 14** Scott & Sharon Berry 1994
- Sept. 16** Rick & Lyndy Agner 1972
Jacob & Julia Eickhoff 2015
- Sept. 23** Kip & Teresa Oakley 1995
- Sept. 24** Jordan & Jackie Dillahunt 2016
- Sept. 25** John & Susan Eickhoff 1976
- Sept. 28** Arthur & Christine Rausch 1991
- Oct. 1** Marvin & Karen Boerger 1966 (52)
Nathan & Jessica Boerger 2004

September Duties

Elder Duties

Elder of the Month—Jay Schmidt
Recording—John Eickhoff
Communion—Tim Underhill

Ushers

Darrell Breneman, Tim Bosley, Brian Badenhop &
Ronnie Boerger

Acolytes

Sept. 2 & 9 Emma Agner & Abby Underhill
Sept. 16, 23 & 30 Madeline Headings & Anna
Schlueter

Greeters

Sept. 2 Ted & Susan Dellinger and Mark & Sue Ann
Dillahunt

Sept. 9 Bill & Mandi Dellinger and Mark & Sue Ann
Dillahunt

Sept. 16 John & Susan Eickhoff and Dan & Lois
Ferryman

Sept. 23 Debra Fite and Tony & Kim Fraley

Sept. 30 Sharon Gale and Tony & Sue George

September 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	3	4 8:30 a Preschool Begins 6:30p Ladies Bible Study 7:00p Elders	5 8:30a Preschool Begins 11a Enrichment Begins 7p Choir	6 6p Grief Share	7 6p Preschool Family Cookout	8
9 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 12p Darby Clovers 4-H	10	11 8:15a Ladies Bible Study 6:00 p BOPE	12 7p Choir	13 6p Grief Share	14	15
16 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship w/Preschool singing 11:30 Shelter house reserved	17 6:30p Ladies Aide Tea	18 6:30p Ladies Bible Study 7p Outreach 7p Church Council	19 7p Choir	20 6p Grief Share	21	22
23 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	24 6:30p Stewardship	25 8:15a Ladies Bible Study	26 7p Choir	27 6p Grief Share	28	29
30 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship						