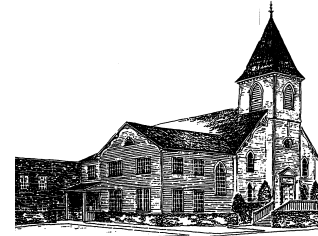


MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
68 Eagle Street
Williamsville, NY 14221

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St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

THE

VOICE

September 2010

JESUS IS OUR FOUNDATION – HIS SPIRIT, OUR WINGS.



Rally Day
Sunday,
Sept. 12th

Regular Classes
Start Sunday,
Sept. 19th,
9:00am



Fall Worship Schedule returns!
9:00 & 10:30 every Sunday
starting Sept. 19th



September 2010

Take a moment to ponder this question: What is the opposite of faith? Your answer may depend on how you define faith. The New Testament Book of Hebrews defines faith this way:

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”—Heb. 11: 1

Many people might say that the opposite of faith is **doubt**. This works if you consider faith to be a set of propositions. God is love. Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the world. There is eternal life for believers after we die. Jesus is the Son of God. Doubt has the opportunity to enter in to any one of these propositions. If God is love, why do so many bad things happen to good people? If Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the world, why is it so easy to keep on sinning? Trouble is, though, we all have doubts from time to time. Does the presence of doubt mean we have a weak faith?

Peter Marty, writing in the August issue of the Lutheran magazine, stirred up some controversy when he wrote: *The opposite of faith is **certainty***. We are so sure we know how God thinks about things that we find it easy to speak for God. Marty continues:

Devout believers start becoming obsessed with being right. They know the precise purposes of God. They are absolutely sure that God dislikes the exact same people and things they do. There is little question of who wins the approval of God and who does not.

In this understanding, faith is seen more as an attitude toward the Bible as the bridge between us and God. The Bible contains God’s revelation. Sometimes you see it put this way on a bumper sticker: “The bible says it. I believe it. That settles it.” Trouble is, according to Peter Marty, the Bible becomes a god, when we fail to distinguish carefully between its words and our interpretations.

Have you ever thought that the opposite of faith is **despair**? This view treats faith more as a relationship between the individual and God. Faith is trusting, hoping, following. A relationship has by nature

(continued on page 3)

St. Paul’s Staff & Volunteer Leadership

Pastor Timothy Madsen 632-5048
 Pastor Wendy Buckley Email – buckleymadsen1@prodigy.net

Church Secretary – Mrs. Sharon Gorczyca 634-2330
 Email – stpaulwilliamsville@roadrunner.com Fax 634-9252

Director of Music Mrs. Marilyn Pfisterer 634-5288
 Handbells Director Mrs. Marilyn Pfisterer 634-5288
 Endowment Comm. Chair Mr. Karl Kristoff 634-4980
 Ladies Aid Mrs. Donna Welton 689-0150
 Scholarship Comm. Chair Mr. David Johnston 874-9382
 Custodian Mr. Robert Germain 833-4783
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 St. Paul’s Webmaster Email – kgkeip@mac.com

Lutheran Church of WNY Web address – www.wnylutheran.org
 WELCA Web address – www.elca.org/wo/
 Email – womnelca @ elca.org

Samaritan Pastoral Counseling Center 743-9117
 Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center 1-386-4125
 North Park Lutheran Church, Starin and Wingate Ave. 836-2785

2009 Church Council

President Mr. David Johnston 874-9382
 Vice-President Mr. Timothy Kuzon 204-8118
 Secretary Mrs. Emily Dufrene 217- 377-6200
 Treasurer Mr. Wayne Pachioli 636-9786
 Financial Secretary Mrs. Kimberly Brown 636-0480

Church Council Committee Assignments

Building & Grounds Mr. Al Weisser 632-8966
 Christian Education Mrs. Shawndra Langlotz 472-9700
 Annette Schlosser 632-4236
 Finance Mr. Wayne Pachioli 636-9786
 Music & Worship Ms. Patricia Walker 908-2335
 Social Ministry Mrs. Arlene Bossert 634-8325
 Congregational Care Mrs. Deborah Waldrop 568-1474
 Stewardship Mr. Timothy Kuzon 204-8118
 Youth Mrs. Kim Retallack 631-5929
 Mrs. Cathy Lambert

“The Voice” is the monthly newsletter of
 St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church
 68 Eagle Street, Williamsville, NY 14221-5551
 Volume 41 – Issue No. 5 September 2010

STUDY THE WORD

Daily Lectionary - continued

	Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13	18 th Sunday after Pentecost Su Amos 6:1, 4-7 Psalm 146
M	Psalm 12 Proverbs 14:12-31 Acts 4: 1-12	M 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31
T	Psalm 12 Proverbs 17:1-5 1 Corinthians 9:19-23	M Psalm 62 Amos 6:8-14 Revelation 3:14-22
W	Psalm 12 Proverbs 21:10-16 Luke 20:45-21:4	T Psalm 62 Hosea 10:9-15 JAMES 5:1-6
Th	Psalm 146 Proverbs 22:2-16 2 Corinthians 8:8-15	W Psalm 6d2 Hosea 12:2-14 Matthew 19:16-22
F	Psalm 146 Proverbs 28:3-10 Ephesians 2:1-10	Th Psalm 37:1-9 2 Kings 18:1-8, 28-36 Revelation 2:8-11
Sa	Psalm 146 Proverbs 28:11-28 Luke 9:43-48	



Visit & recommend to friends St. Paul's Website
www.stpaulswilliamsville.org

(Pastor's Letter continued from page 2)

some resiliency built into it. Faith is give and take. We think of Jacob, in the Old Testament wrestling with the angel. We note that the very word "Israel" means "wrestling with God."

There is much to challenge faith in our world. There always is. Every age and generation must face the challenge. We invite you, as we return to the Fall schedules to re-commit yourself to daily prayer, bible reading, church attendance, participation in adult education. These do not **create** faith, but they do **strengthen** faith. Thanks for your faithfulness.

Pastors Wendy and Tim



SOCIAL MINISTRY

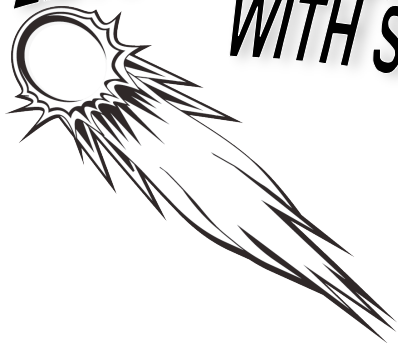
Let your light shine!

As September begins, it's time to think about our Autumn events:

- The annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held Sat. Nov. 6th. Mark your calendars and watch for more information.
- Viva la Casa is in need of school supplies. See the flier in the Sunday Bulletin and in the Voice. There is a box in the Social Hall for these supplies.
- The North Park Food Pantry is always in need of donations.
- We also need paper boxes again this year for our "Angel Tree" Christmas Project. For new folks, we supply the children of School 37 with books and Christmas gifts each year. Last year every child from pre-k through 3rd grade received gifts. We need the paper boxes to carry the gifts. Boxes can be left in the Youth room.
- Friends of Night people are always in need of clothing and hygiene products. Clothing can be left in the "upper room" near the Friendship Room.

Questions??? – Call Arlene Bossert (634-8325)

**LETS BLAST OFF SUNDAY SCHOOL
WITH SOME FUN!!!**



**POP, HOT DOGS
SNO CONES, TATOOS,
BOUNCE HOUSE**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th after 9:00 Worship

Regular Sunday School classes will begin on Sept. 19th at 9AM. We welcome Tom Hutchinson aboard. He will be working with the 3rd and 4th grade children. Miss Erin will be starting the choirs on the 19th. Our Fall theme is **"Men of the Old Testament,"** starting with the story of Moses. We still have plenty of spaces for adults to sign up for a 3-week teaching position! We also welcome our high school students to sign on as helpers. Sunday School enrollment is expected to top 45 children, so we can use a lot of help. The 4th Sunday of each month will be our Family Worship Service at 9am. This month at our Family Service on the 26th, several of our students will receive their Bibles. The third graders are especially looking forward to that.

Our Sunday School "wish list" includes a CD player. If you have one sitting unused around your home, let Nancy or Shawndra know. We also need small baby food jars, toilet paper rolls, Styrofoam egg cartons, tin pie plates and we can always use glue sticks. (We go through those monthly!) We used a lot up most of our supplies during VBS.

**Please....Please....Please
Help make Rally day, Sunday, Sept. 12th
a BIG success!**

30 Pray for Milaku Tizazu, developer, and the Kansas City Oromo Mission in the growth of their ministry and the worldwide span of their Internet ministry.

**STUDY THE WORD
Daily Lectionary**

W	Psalm 119:65-72 Isaiah 57:14-21 Luke 14:15-24	F	Psalm 51:1-10 Genesis 7:6-10; 8:1-5 2 Peter 2:10-10
Th	Psalm 1 Genesis 39:1-23 Philippians 2:25-30	Sa	Psalm 51:1-10 Genesis 8:20-9:7 John 10:11-21
F	Psalm 1 Deuteronomy 7:12-26 Colossians 4:7-17	16 th Sunday after Pentecost	
Sa	Psalm 1 Deuteronomy 29:2-20 Matthew 10:34-42	Su	Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 51:1-10 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10
15 th Sunday after Pentecost		M	Psalm 73 Amos 7:1-6 1 Timothy 1:18-20
Su	Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 1 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14:25-33	T	Psalm 73 Jonah 3:1-10 2 Peter 3:8-13
M	Psalm 101 2 Kings 17:24-41 1 Timothy 3:14-4:5	W	Psalm 73 Job 40:6-14; 42:1-6 Luke 22:31-33, 54-62
T	Psalm 101 2 Kings 18:9-18 1 Timothy 4:6-16	Th	Psalm 113 Exodus 23:1-9 Romans 3:1-8
W	Psalm 101 2 Kings 18:19-25; 19:1-7 Luke 18:18-30	F	Psalm 113 Ezekiel 22:17-31 Romans 8:31-39
Th	Psalm 51:1-10 Genesis 6:1-6 1 Timothy 1:1-11	Sa	Psalm 113 Isaiah 5:8-23 Mark 12:41-44
		17 th Sunday after Pentecost	
		Su	Amos 8:4-7

20 International Day of Peace - 21

Please pray for people living in the midst of violence, suffering and fear in Iraq, Palestine, and the entire Middle East. Ask God to bless, too, the members of our ELCA Arabic ministries in the U.S. -- Brooklyn, N.Y., Dearborn, Mich., Chicago and the San Francisco Bay Area.

21 Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Thank God for the energy and enthusiasm of the Rev. Kevin Jacobson, as he serves the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Suriname, mastering the Dutch language and developing lay leadership training for the church.

22 Ask the guidance of the Holy Spirit for Springdale Lutheran Church, a 135-year-old congregation in Sioux Falls, S.D., as it implements its plan for renewal.

23 Pray for the hundreds of hunger leaders in ELCA synods, congregations, campuses and networks across the country and in the Caribbean who create awareness about hunger and poverty and raise money for the work of ELCA World Hunger.

24 Rejoice in the ministry of the Rev. Kwanza Yu as she serves as pastor of St Paul International Lutheran Church in Tokyo. Having lived in Japan previously, Pastor Yu brings unique experience and gifts to this parish setting.

25 Pray for the Fellowship of Recovering Lutheran Clergy, that they may help leaders who suffer from alcoholism and other addictions.

26 18th Sunday after Pentecost

God of all kindness, we pray that you will gather the people of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia into your protective arms, especially as they face numerous challenges in their lives.

27 World Maritime Day

Give thanks for the ministry of Seafarers & International House, supported by synods in Region 7, as it serves people who generally come from countries where average wages are low and employment opportunities scarce.

28 Praise God for Aaron Schutte as he teaches at Kibeta English Medium Primary School in Bukoba, Tanzania.

29 Michael and All Angels

Lift up St. Michael Lutheran Church in Blacksburg, Va., and its ministry of Micah's Backpack, a free service helping families eat more healthy meals and snacks through their local elementary schools.



St. Paul's Financial Ledger

FROM THE JULY 2010
TREASURER'S REPORT

Current Fund expenditures through July: \$127,800
Current Fund receipts through July: \$111,400

2010 Current Fund expenditures through July are \$1,800 higher than 2009 expenditures during the same period.

Current Fund deficit through July: \$16,400

Synod Mission gifts through July were \$11,000. This sum is \$800 behind the funds necessary to meet the annual pledged giving from our members 2010 pledge cards and \$1,200 behind Synod giving during the same period in 2009.

Vive la Casa Homeless Shelter

Needs your help.....

VIVE INC is the largest refugee shelter in the United States. Since our founding in 1984 VIVE has served more than 68,000 asylum seekers from 106 countries. More information is available at www.vivelacasa.org.

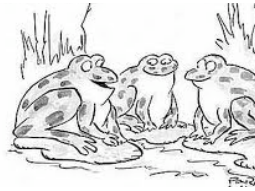
Sister Beth called to ask for immediate assistance due to the very high volume of refugees this summer. Financial help is needed – you can adopt a family for \$100 per week – but any financial donation will help tremendously! Checks can be made out to Vive la Casa and left in the offering plate or in the church office.

School supplies are desperately needed now: Small backpacks, large backpacks, spiral notebooks, pens, pencils, ruler, crayons, glue sticks all are needed. Place donations in the "Vive School Supplies" labeled box in the Social Hall.

Your help and generosity is greatly appreciated!

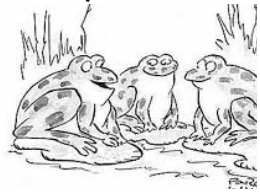
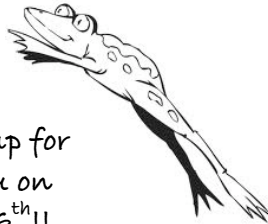
DON'T BE SHY!

**Jump in and
Join the choir!**



Chancel Choir rehearses
on Thursdays
between 7:00pm and
8:30pm

Please join us at our first
rehearsal, September 16 at
7:00pm.



We would jump for
joy to see you on
September 16th!!

If you are interested in joining the **Bell Choir**,
please call Music Director Marilyn Pfisterer at
634-5288.



BOOK CLUB



The Book Club will meet on September 24 at 7:30pm in the Friendship Room with hostess Faith White to discuss ***The Zookeeper's Wife: a war story by Diane Ackerman***. All are welcome. Questions? Call Ellen Pachioli at 636-9786.

10 Ask God to be with Hammonasset, the annual gathering of youth throughout the [New England Synod](#) of the [ELCA](#) as the youth meet September 10-12.

11 Praise God for the Rev. Joshua Magyar as he serves as pastor and leader for evangelism in the Morogoro Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

12 16th Sunday after Pentecost

We pray, gracious God that the churches of Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania may be your instruments of reconciliation, both locally and in the wider world.

13 Give thanks for John and Robin McCullough-Bade, authors of "Daily Discipleship," materials for congregational small groups who meet weekly for study and prayer.

14 Holy Cross Day

Thank God for Pastor Violet Little, who has offered hospitality and respect to Philadelphia's homeless through The Welcome Mission since 2007 and is now developing a worshipping community among them.

15 Ask God to bless the ministry of Rebecca Lee as she serves as English teacher at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hong Kong. Many of her students are from other Asian countries, such as Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and China.

16 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

Pray for the scientists, teachers, clergy and interested lay people in the ELCA Alliance for Faith, Science and Technology as they expand awareness and promote conversation about the implications of science and technology for Christian faith and life.

17 Please ask for the blessing of the Holy Spirit on Spirit of Truth ministry, St. Paul, Minn., as they begin regular worship gatherings of this justice-centered, relationship-based community.

18 Pray for Kristen and the Rev. Brian Konkol as they coordinate the Young Adults in Global Mission program in South Africa and facilitate the well-being, support and guidance of volunteers.

19 17th Sunday after Pentecost

We give you thanks, God of the ages, for the long history of the church in Moldova, Russia, Ukraine and Belarus. Please continue to guide the companion relationships among the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States and the ELCA Central States and Northwest Washington Synods.



September 2010

1 Thank God for the witness of the 44 participants in Young Adults in Global Mission who just completed orientation and are now moving into one-year positions in Argentina, Uruguay, Jerusalem/West Bank, Mexico, Slovakia/Hungary, South Africa and United Kingdom.

2 Thank God for the progress made by Pastor Youa Kao Vang, Ascension Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, Wis., after a bone marrow transplant. May he continue on his road to recovery and continue his faithful service.

3 God bless Ingrid and Dr. Ronald Eggert in Arusha, Tanzania. where Ronald serves as a doctor at the Selin Lutheran Hospital and the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center.

4 Pray for the psychological assessment training pilot project and the clinical psychologists responsible for training synod leaders in helping candidates in the discernment process, that God will guide them in this unique ministry.

5 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Gracious God, look with favor upon the people of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia, and Serbia and Montenegro, that, in the midst of great change, they may find hope and peace.

6 Pray for the ELCA Domestic Hunger Grants-supported Campbell Farm in Washington State, that provides an outreach and feeding program for Spanish-speaking and American Indian/Alaska Native children.

7 Pray for the ministry of Nathan and Sharonette Bowman as they share God's love and grace in Kumamoto, Japan, where they work with social services for the elderly and children and serve a local congregation in the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church.

8 International Literacy Day

Give thanks for Pam Westby and other members of Trinity Lutheran Church, Pelican Rapids, Minn., who support community-wide displays and programs like ESL for Older Adults.

9 Give thanks for Pastors Michael and Terri Church, who work with an English-language ministry in Romania in cooperation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania and the ELCA Metropolitan New York Synod.

Lutheran Campus Ministries of Western New York

This year Lutheran Campus Ministry has the wonderful privilege of partnering with Rev. Tom Lutz and the heavy metal band "Bone Deep" in bringing the Gospel to the University community. On ***Tuesday, September 21st, at 7:30pm in the University at Buffalo Student Union Theater*** we will present the theatrical production "***Waiting for the Ground to Move,***" written and directed by Rev. Tom Lutz, Pastor at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Eden.

We are very excited about this event and hope to fill the theater! This event is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC and it would be absolutely remarkable if there was a large showing from local congregations. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please consider attending and encourage others to attend.... You won't be disappointed!!

If you are interested in learning more please don't hesitate to contact our office at 833-6950. We have also posted a promotional trailer on our website at www.lcm-buffalo.org.

We look forward to seeing you on the 21st of September.

Rev. Galen M. Pupura Jr. , Campus Pastor

LADIES AID STARTS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th

Join us as we begin another quilting season. No experience is necessary (we train!). Come at 9:30am and bring a lunch. Dessert is always provided.... We look forward to new quilters!

2011 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE

See Pastor Wendy for your book. Profit from the sale of books supports St. Paul's Youth projects.

A CHURCH LIBRARY SPECIAL "THANK YOU"

A "thank you" is extended to Sharon Hehr for her recent contributions to our Church Library.