



St. Paul's

"Epistles"

November 2020

Volume 37 No.1

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him... Philippians 3:7-9.

The apostle Paul confesses that absolutely nothing is even close to comparing to the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus. And what he speaks of here is not just a knowing like you know some facts of history or your mathematical times tables. Paul speaks of an all-encompassing worth of knowing who Christ is for him - which is why he calls Jesus *my Lord* - and how he can say that he desires to be found *in Christ*. Our Lord incorporates us into Himself as Paul confesses elsewhere saying we have been baptized *into Christ* (Romans 6:3). This is worth more than anything else, the apostle says, because it delivers all of the riches of heaven which are found in Christ and nothing can really compare with that. Everything else is like rubbish when put next to what our Lord has done and continues to do for us because it is the highest and best thing – Ever.

Here, Paul lovingly reminds the Philippians and all Christians of the surpassing worth of what they have as ones incorporated into Jesus who was crucified and raised from the dead for them: forgiveness of sins and our own resurrection from the dead. What could be better than that? What could be better than to bask in our Lord's love for you in a world that is often so unloving? What could be better than to be embraced by the One through whom all things are made?

We say, "Nothing is better than that." And yet we struggle to count other things not as important. We want to count everything else as rubbish as compared to the surpassing worth of knowing Christ, but are lured constantly in so many directions. We know this because we can check our schedules and see where reading the Bible and prayer fit in. It is revealed when we reflect on how we receive Sunday morning when it rolls around and Christ stands ready at His altar to deliver to you life and salvation. What about the Midweek Services when they are offered for more abiding in the true Word of God and prayer?

Knowing Christ our Lord and being found in Him is a surpassing worth which Paul reminds us of in order to call us back and invite us into the rejoicing Christ has in store for us. Yes, it is a battle because so many things call for our attention which is why Paul then says he *strains forward to what lies ahead* and that he *presses on toward the goal of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus* (Philippians 3:13-14). Faith is active in seeking the good gifts of God in Christ Jesus. Faith needs to be exercised in order to be strengthened in the battle.

As Paul, by faith, puts the Word of God and His gifts in the forefront to keep from looking back to all the other things that called for his admiration, he displays the life of the Christian which sees the surpassing worth of knowing and being found in Christ. It is the highest and best thing to know that Jesus was actually treated as rubbish on the cross for you and that you are of surpassing worth to Him.

So this Thanksgiving go ahead and give thanks for your earthly blessings. That's good to do. But of all things, give thanks that beyond that and even better than all of them, you have a Savior who comes to you and blesses you with an unfailing, cruciform love.

That's worth knowing.

In Christ,

Pastor Suggitt

HIGHER THINGS CONFERENCE 2021

FORGIVEN

**“IF YOU FORGIVE ANYONE HIS SINS, THEY ARE FORGIVEN.”
(JOHN 20:23)**

**“I forgive you.” Powerful words. Jesus words. His words for you
“The minister whom Christ has sent.” (LSB 614:5) Also His
words for others through you. These words won’t just
change your summer or transform your daily life as a
baptized child of God. With these three words, Jesus
changes your eternity.**

**This conference is aimed at Jr. High through High School
students. Through break-out sessions, fun activities, and
worship, our children will hear great theology and meet other
Lutherans their age at this distinctly Lutheran gathering. Many
youth from other churches in the Thumb Area have been attending
conference yearly and see it as a highlight of their summer.**



**CALVIN UNIVERSITY, GRAND RAPIDS, MI
JULY 20-23**

**Registration opens November 1.
See Pastor Suggitt to sign-up or for more information.**

**HIGHER THINGS - *DARE TO BE LUTHERAN*
*higherthings.org***



Lots of youth group information... make sure to mark your calendars for each of these dates!

Soup and Sweets pickup is Sunday, November 8th from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Sunday School doesn't finish until 10:15 a.m. so please drive up to the kitchen door to get your order. Youth group help needed during pickup please! Youth group member are also asked to come help package and organize orders on Saturday, November 7th at 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Anyone wishing to pick up their order that night, please come between 7:30 – 8:00 p.m.

The sale was a tremendous success – we sold almost 300 quarts of soup and a little over 200 turnovers! Thank you to Lola and Katie Stein for prepping all the celery and carrots.

Pumpkin sales were also phenomenal! We raised about \$1100!!! Youth group donated \$100 to Orphan Grain Train to help purchase packaging supplies and \$200 to Sunday School for field trips and supplies. Additional profits will be used to purchase Christmas gifts for the Adopt-A-Family program. We are adopting one family from each of the following schools at Christmas – Bad Axe, Cass City, Lakers, and USA. I'd like to plan a shopping day for youth group to help me pick out some of the gifts. Looking at Sunday, December 6th right after Sunday School.

For Thanksgiving we are adopting families from the area schools. Thanks to Janet Truemner's Thrivent Grant, we will be purchasing turkeys and groceries for each of the families to prepare their own Thanksgiving Feast. Care packages will be assembled and delivered on Sunday, November 22nd right after Sunday School.

Youth Group is for all students in 5th grade through college. We encourage all young people to check us out.

Susan Schember, Youth Leader

586 246-4567 bssandsks@yahoo.com

Soups and Sweets Pick-Up

Don't forget to pick up your soup and turnovers. You can do so at the following times:



- Saturday night, November 7th from 7:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Sunday morning, November 8th between 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- Please drive up to the kitchen doors to pick up your orders.
- If you did not prepay, please bring payment in CASH (exact change would be nice) or Check made out to: St. Paul Lutheran Church: Memo Line – Youth Group.



Relief for Human Need Worldwide

Orphan Grain Train of Sebewaing

A container is located in the narthex to collect goods. Please refer to the list of appropriate items.



Sunday School News

So far, so good! We've been having Sunday School for over six weeks now with no real problems. It's wonderful to see the kids sitting with their families to hear God's word each week. Pastor has been teaching lessons from the book of Genesis. Parents are encouraged to discuss the Bible story and lesson and review the Bible verse during the week to reinforce what the kids are learning.

The Alpaca Farm field trip was fun. We had about 40 kids, parents, and grandparents explore the farm. The weather was good – sunny but a little chilly. God has made so many wonderful different animals, and we enjoyed seeing a number of them that day.



Kristin and Grace Suggitt have been leading the music – teaching the students some fun worship songs and hymns. Families are encouraged to sing and practice those songs in the car and in your homes. We are hoping to play bells too – maybe sometime soon?!

We are having a hayride and bonfire on Sunday, November 1st. Pastor will be teaching his lesson in the sanctuary immediately following church service. When he finishes (about 10:05 a.m.), we will change into our outdoor clothes and get ready for the hayride at 10:30 a.m. The bonfire will be ready when the hayride returns. Families are invited to stay for hotdogs, s'mores, hot chocolate and hot cider.



Elmer the Good News Puppet will be visiting on Sunday, November 8th, so be sure to come see what he has to say! Then we will be doing some Thanksgiving activities on November 15th and 22nd. There will be no class on Sunday, November 29th as many people will be travelling for the holiday weekend.

Susan Schember, Sunday School Superintendent
586 246-4567



Don't forget to turn your clocks back when you go to bed on Halloween night! Daylight savings time ends on Nov 1st. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep and then come see us at church and Sunday School!



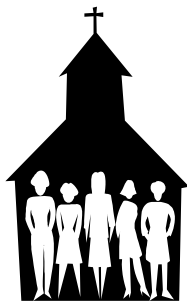
THANKSGIVING SERVICE

**Wednesday, November 25, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

The Cornucopia or Horn of Plenty is a favorite Thanksgiving symbol and serves to remind us of God's abundant blessings to our nation, our church, and our families.

Please join us on Wednesday evening, November 25th at 6:00 p.m. as we give thanks to our Gracious God for the cornucopia of spiritual fruit that we share with one another – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

We will be collecting canned goods and other non-perishable items to donate to our local food pantry on Thanksgiving Eve. Please share what you can.



Women OF THE Church

The regular monthly meeting of St. Paul Ladies Aid was called to order by President Ruth Fluegge on Sunday, October 4, 2020 immediately following our worship service.

The meeting began with a devotional based on I Corinthians chapter 12 – ‘When something takes our heart away from the Lord it is an idol....In the same way, unfaithful stewardship is a matter of idolatry. When we hoard our resources for fear that we might be left with nothing, we fail to confess that Jesus is Lord of our life and will provide for us.’

Sixteen members answered roll call. The secretary’s report from the September 8, 2020 meeting was read. Ruth Kumaus gave the treasurer’s report. The bank statement at the end of September showed a balance of \$18,709.83 in the checking account. However, Ruth noted that many checks had not been cashed.

Old Business:

1. We talked about the ‘bazaar’. Volunteers will be needed on Friday, November 16th to assemble the orders, and again on Saturday, November 17th to distribute the orders. Volunteers were secured for both days.
2. Discussion was held on Christmas families from area schools. Ruth Fluegge will gather the information needed for the Christmas families. We will do a family from Lakers, Cass City, Owen-Gage, and USA schools. A motion was made by Joyce Metzger to designate \$500 per school district; supported by Wanda Dubs; carried.
3. Discussion was held concerning our cheeseball fundraiser. We decided to table it and bring it up again before Easter.

New Business:

1. Discussion was held on a request from a retired pastor. Ruth Kumaus proposed that we make a one-time donation of \$500. The motion was supported by Joyce Metzger; carried.
2. The possibility of another small fundraiser was suggested – maybe chocolates, peanut brittle, fudge. We will discuss it at the November meeting.

Joyce Metzger made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Jyl Shope. Carried.

The meeting was closed by singing the Doxology and praying the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

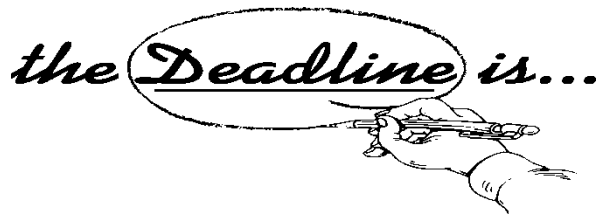
Sandy Salcido, Secretary



The Ladies Aid would like to thank everyone who canned, baked, volunteered and purchased items from our pre-order, pickup Bazaar. We were blessed with good support and raised \$4,358.



LutheranPublicRadio.org



The deadline for the December issue of St. Paul's "Epistle" will be Sunday, November 22, 2020. Please place your articles in the Epistle mailbox or email them to salcido.sandy8@gmail.com.



If you would like to join the email recipients of the newsletter please give your email address to Sandy Salcido in the church office. As always, please keep the church office updated with current addresses and phone numbers. Thank

LIFE QUOTES

"The Church has confessed from the beginning that each life is created by God, that human life is the supreme gift of the Creator. Human life is not given unconditionally but is given under the condition that we will be responsible for preserving it. The testimony that God respects life above all else is contained in the words of the Gospel: 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life' (John 3:16)." *Abbot Tryphon, Vashon Island, Washington – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*



<p>Fern Dubs 2423 Smith Road Bay Port, MI 48720 (989) 453-2959</p>	<p>Don Fibranz Satchell's Christian Foster Care Home 2662 E. Caro Road Caro, MI 48723</p>
<p>Mabel Kain Country Gardens 203 N. Caseville Rd. Room 401 Pigeon, MI 48755 (989) 453-3374</p>	<p>Beverly Liedke 160 Country Bay Drive Room 308 Pigeon, MI 48755 (989) 453-3637</p>
<p>Barbara Main 7717 Berne Road Bay Port, MI 48720 (989) 553-3620</p>	<p>Bonnie Nowaczyk 7305 Main Street Owendale, MI 48754 (989) 553-4286 or (989) 678-4286</p>
<p>Dorothy Prich Courtney Manor Room 214 167 E. Hopson Bad Axe, MI 48413 (989) 269-6534</p>	



Keep them in your prayers and maybe give them a call and let them know they're not forgotten as visitors are not allowed.



Nov. 2 – Eric Wissner

3 – Dean Deering

3 – Tiffany O'Hare

4 – Tiffany Murphy

4 – Cody Howard

7 – Travis Deering

8 – Kevin Truemner

8 – Matthew Ricker

12 – Tracy Schaper

12 – Connor Timmons

13 – Myrna Born

15 – Melissa Gilbert

16 – Tristan Deming

16 – Melissa Witkovsky

16 – Jylan Shope

18 – Margaret Sauer

20 – Clinton Shope

20 – Megan Schaper

20 – Riley Richmond

21 – Emily Dubs

23 – Connor Ewald

24 – Brianna Fritz

24 – Kendal Truemner

25 – Walter Haag

27 – Amanda Gettel

27 – Jeffrey Dubs

30 – Ashley Rockefeller

30 – Dianna Dubs



Nov. 3 – Richard & Beverly Wise

4 – Lee & Janet Truemner

6 – Pastor & Kristen Suggitt

21 – Kendal & Rose Truemner

22 – Gerald & Angela Dubs

24 – Gerald & Bonnie Nowaczyk

IN HIS SERVICE

Elders

Nov. 8 – Joe Salcido & Ken Haley

Nov. 15 – Warren Stoeckle & Ron Tabar

Nov. 22 – Marc Reinhardt & Josh Sprague

Nov. 25 (Thanksgiving Eve) – Joe Salcido & Ken Haley

Tithe Counters

Nov. 8 – Jyl Shope & Kris Gilbert

Nov. 29 – Brandy Gunsell & Jen Timmons

November Altar Guild

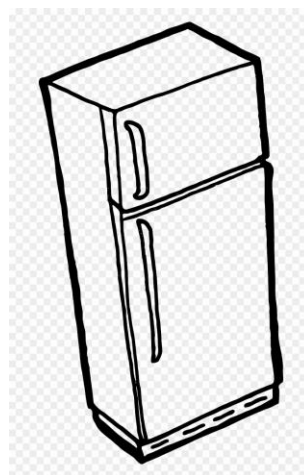
Lucille Welchner

Faye Errer

November Altar Flowers

Linda Roe

Melissa Deming



Does anybody have a good, working refrigerator that you don't use anymore?

We would like to have an extra frig for use at special events so if you do, please contact a Ladies Aid member.

November

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM Sunday School Ladies Aid Meeting 10:30 AM Hayride & Bonfire 1:30 AM Catechism	2 6:30 PM Bible Study @ St. Paul	3 6:15 PM Elders 7:00 PM Council	4 9:00 AM Bible Class @ St. Paul	5	6 All Saints' Day	7 9:00 AM Divine Service @ GS 6:00 – 8:00 PM Packaging Soup & Sweets 7:30 – 8:00 PM Pick Up Soup & Sweets
8 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10 – 11:00 AM Pick Up Soup & Sweets 1:30 PM Catechism	9 6:30 PM Bible Study @ St. Paul	10	11 9:00 AM Bible Class @ St. Paul	12	13	14
15 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 1:30 PM Catechism	16 6:30 PM Bible Study @ St. Paul	17	18 9:00 AM Bible Class @ St. Paul	19	20	21
22 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 1:30 PM Catechism	23 6:30 PM Bible Study @ St. Paul	24	25 9:00 AM Bible Class @ St. Paul 6:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Service Food Pantry Donations	26 Pastor Away	27 Pastor Away	28 Pastor Away
29 8:30 AM Service No SS or Catechism	30					

2020

St. Paul's "Epistles"



*St. Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

7292 Kilmanagh Rd.

Pigeon, MI 48755



**Wednesday, November 25, 2020
6:00 p.m.**