



St. Paul's

"Epistles"

June 2023

Volume 39 No. 8



If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples... John 8:31.

Jesus wants us to abide in His Word in order that we would always be His disciples, ones who learn from Him. The word *abide*, however, may be a little uncommon to us which may cause us to gloss over it. Perhaps a better way to translate it is *remain*. *If you remain in my word...* gets the point across clearer. Even the KJV translation of *continue in my word...* can be a little more helpful with the result being that we understand that the disciples of Jesus (which includes us) remain and continue in His Word.

This means that even though summer is rightfully seen as vacation time it never means that we take a vacation from the Word of God. In fact, since we find time to pack so much more into summer days, let this summer be a time to include more of God's Word for you. Remain and continue in it by making time to read it and ponder it. Read through the Psalms. Work through the Gospels or some of Paul's letters. Write down questions you have about something you've read or share with your family a beautiful promise of our Lord which is new to you from His Word. Remain and continue in the Word of our Lord and see how He has wonderfully set you apart from the insanity that the world has to offer - which so very often runs contrary to what our Lord puts forth in His Word (for example, "pride" month in June).

As I watch many yards and fields being sprayed in this early time of summer, perhaps we can think of it like this: remaining in the Word of the Lord helps to eliminate the weeds that keep popping up. Without that drenching, the weeds will begin to take deep root and be more difficult to get rid of. Yet the spraying must continue to happen. There's no one-time treatment and then the yard is good to go forever. Rather, it's something that must be done again and again and again. No real vacation. And so it goes for the disciples of Jesus.

Drenching ourselves, remaining and continuing in His Word, learning and hearing from Him so that nurtured by Christ the weed may not take root. Repentance brought about by our Lord's clear teaching acknowledges and identifies the weeds and a firm faith holds to the work of Christ crucified on the cross which lets the new life in Him grow. This is what our Lord wants for us.



Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide [remain, continue] in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides [remains, continues] in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. 2 John 9.

Jesus wants us to remain in Him. He is found in His Word and in the gifts of His church handed out according to His Word. Why would we ever take a vacation from that? Remaining and continuing to be drenched in the revealed will of God will stave off the weeds and will bear fruit of the Spirit.

Enjoy summer but enjoy even more abiding in the Word.

In Christ,
Pastor Suggitt

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter Article – June 2023

What Do You Want?

One of the best-known and most-beloved psalms is Psalm 23, the “Shepherd Psalm.” There we learn that the Lord is our Shepherd. And since He is our Shepherd, we will not want. We will not suffer want because the Lord, our Shepherd, will lead us to green pastures and beside still waters. In other words, the Lord, our Shepherd, will provide for all that we need in both body and soul.

Yet, we live as though this is not the case. We live as though we *actually* suffer from want, that the Lord, our Shepherd, will not provide for all that we need. And thus, we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd. And that means that we live as though we are not the Lord’s sheep.

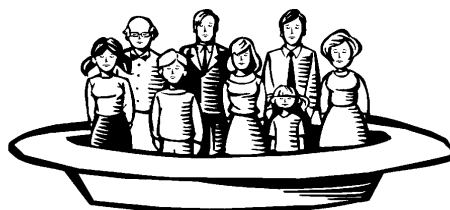
When do we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd? When we put anything else before Him and His provision for us. When we think that going to work is more important than receiving His gifts in church on Sunday (in violation of the First and Third Commandments). When we fail to give generously of the first fruits of what the Lord has provided for us because we don’t know what the future will bring (even though He has promised that He will lead us to green pastures and still waters).

We live as though we are not the Lord’s sheep when we think that the Lord is only in the business of helping those who will help themselves. We act this way because our minds are set on earthly, temporal things and not on heavenly, eternal things. We act this way because we have stopped hearing the call of our Shepherd, which comes through His Word.

Through the Word of God, the Shepherd calls us to Himself. Through the Word, the Holy Spirit gathers and enlightens us with His gifts. Through the Word, we are kept holy and nourished in the one true faith, the faith that follows our Shepherd wherever He leads us. He promises to lead us to our true home, to the land flowing with milk and honey, to a better country, not of this world, but a heavenly one.

And so, here’s the Good News: the Lord is your Shepherd, even and especially for wayward sheep. For Jesus seeks and saves those who are lost. He finds the lost sheep and carries them back to the fold. He is the Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. The Lord is your Shepherd. Let us live as His sheep.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship



STEWARDSHIP



Baby Bottle Boomerang

It's simple & fun!

The **Baby Bottle Boomerang** began on Mother's Day and ends on Father's Day, June 20th. There are still bottles left so why not grab one today?

Here's what you need to do:

- Please take home a bottle for your family.
- Fill it with spare change, bills or checks payable to: Positive Alternatives.
- Pray for Positive Alternatives this month.
- Return the bottle to church by Father's Day.



Positive Alternatives has locations in Bad Axe and Caro. Thank you for supporting this cause.

NewsLetter DEADLine

The deadline for articles for the July/August issue of St. Paul's "Epistle" is Sunday, June 18, 2023. Email them to Sandy at salcido.sandy8@gmail.com or place them in the newsletter mailbox at the top of the stairs.

Thanks for keeping the congregation informed about what's going at St. Paul.

SPREAD THE NEWS



Vacation Bible School

GONE FISHING is coming June 26-29 from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. COME GET HOOKED ON JESUS! Children age 3 through 7th grade are invited to come hear God's Word, make some fun crafts, sing some great songs, play outside, and even have dinner!

- **Every child and volunteer needs to bring a plain white t-shirt for tie-dye!**
- Dinner will be served every night for all kids, teachers, and helpers.
- Registration forms are available now.

Let me know if you can help! I need 8th grade and up to help if available.

Susan Schember
586 246-4567

LIFE QUOTE

We need campfires and cookouts and picnic lunches filled with laughter. Yet, as members of the household of God, we also need conversation and consolation and prayer. We need to gather, in person, at the Communion rail. Surrounded by our eternal family, we need to hear God's promises and rejoice in His forgiveness.

*A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •
lutheransforlife.or*



The Cinco De Mayo Party at Main Events was so much fun!

We had 53 kids and parents attend from St Paul, Christ the King, and Cass City Good Shepherd. There were lots of tacos, nachos, and churros!



We played all the games and activities AND enjoyed lots of karaoke. I even learned (ish) how to do the “church clap” dance, thanks to the girls from CTK.

FATHER/SON BBQ AND YARD GAMES

Trying to find a night to have another Boys Night Out at the church. All men and boys will be invited to come for a barbecue and play some yard games (bocce, horse shoes, corn hole, ladder ball, etc). It will be on a weeknight sometime in July. Hoping that will work with ball schedules and farming. Stay tuned for date and time!



My Hero

My hero is the quiet type,
No marching bands, no media hype,
But through my eyes it's plain to see,
A hero, God has sent to me.
With gentle strength and quiet pride,
All self-concern is set aside,
To reach out to his fellow man,
And be there with a helping hand.
Heroes are a rarity,
A blessing to humanity.
With all they give and all they do,
I'll bet the thing you never knew,
My hero has always been you.

~Author Unknown

Father's Day Sunday, June 18, 2023


PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

From the Small Catechism: Confession
What is confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

Private, or individual, confession and absolution is available by appointment with Pastor Suggitt. You may call him at 989.551.3976 to set up a time.



Fern Dubs 2423 Smith Road Bay Port, MI 48720 (989) 453-2959	Don Fibranz Satchell's Christian Foster Care Home 2662 E. Caro Road Caro, MI 48723
Jean Gransden Medilodge Room D3 4782 Hospital Drive Cass City, MI 48726	Peggy Kelly 6282 Pine Street Cass City, MI 48726 (989) 872-5086
Beverly Liedke 160 Country Bay Drive Room 308 Pigeon, MI 48755 (989) 453-3637	Bonnie Nowaczyk 7305 Main Street Owendale, MI 48754 (989) 553-4286 or (989) 678-4286
Dennis & Linda Schweitzer 2875 Shebeon Road Sebewaing, MI 48759 (989) 883-9197	Jeannine Ziehm c/o Jennifer Scott 5318 Indian Trail Ypsilanti, MI 48197
	<i>Why not brighten their day with a phone call or a card? Let them know they have not been forgotten.</i>

St. Paul's "Epistles" is published monthly by St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 7292 Kilmanagh Road, Pigeon, MI, 48755.

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Pastor Suggitt's Cell Phone: (989) 551-3976

Church Email: lvlpaul40@gmail.com
Secretary's Email: salcido.sandy8@gmail.com

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Youth Catechism: 1:30 p.m.

Confirmation

+ Owen Matthew Reibling +
Son of Matt & Michelle Reibling

I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 3:14

+ Molly Rose Sprague +
Daughter of Josh & Lisa Sprague

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
Psalms 36:7

+ Claire Olivia Suggitt +
Daughter of Pastor & Kristen Suggitt
I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

John 8:12

+ Chase Michael Swartzendruber +
Son of Shawn & Laura Swartzendruber
Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.
Isaiah 43:1

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP SUMMER STUFF

The Sunday School calendar year ended on Sunday, May 14th with the kids playing bells in church and then Recognition Day with donuts and sweets for everyone. The children received a certificate and a gift for another successful year.

Mark your calendars for 2023/2024 Sunday School Rally Day on Sunday, September 10th. We will start a new SS year on that day with new lessons and lots of fun. All children 3 years through 7th grade are invited and encouraged to attend.



Summer stuff: The plan is to have every Youth/SS family help out with keeping the pumpkin patch clean and tidy this summer. We will be planting on Wednesday, May 31st at 4:00 p.m. for everyone who can come help. It won't take long, and I'll have frozen treats for the helpers! I've provided a copy of the weeding calendar to each family (in-person or in your church mailbox). I will also email a copy, just to be sure you're all on the same page! This is a huge fundraiser for our kids. The profits helped pay for bowling and putt-putt last year.

I'm going to plan a family putt-putt day in July/August. Stay tuned for date and time. I'd also like to have another youth campout at

Harsens Island. It will be a Sunday afternoon until Monday afternoon event. I'm thinking possibly July 23/24 or August 6/7. Parents need to check schedules and let me know which is better.

Youth group kids are needed to volunteer at VBS. We will need help with the little kids, help with crafts, help with dinner cleanup, help with sorting canning jars, and help with recess. If you can help, don't forget to bring a white t-shirt for tie-dye!

Susan Schember 586 246-4567
bssandsks@yahoo.com



Mother Daughter Sips and Sweets Apron Party

This year's Mother / Daughter banquet was a big success – 97 attendees! Everyone enjoyed lots of sweets, the ladies decorated aprons to take home, prizes were won, and some of the ladies shared stories about the aprons they wore/brought.

Thanks to everyone who brought donations for Orphan Grain Train; we over-filled the bin.

THANK YOU

Thanks to all of you for your prayers, cards, and condolences on the death of my mother. We rejoice that she is now in the Church Triumphant and awaits the resurrection of all flesh on the Last Day.

Pastor Wenskay and Family

2023

High School Graduate



Lance David Deming

Son of Jeramy & Melissa Deming

Graduate of Bad Axe High School

Future plans: Welding career at DHD in Harbor
Beach

2023

College Graduate



Meleah Rose Timmons

School: Saginaw Valley State University

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation
Medicine

Future plans: Continuing to pursue education
at Saginaw Valley State University for Master of
Science in Occupational Therapy Degree

For I know the plans
I have for you,
declares the *Lord*,
plans to *prosper* you,
and not to harm you,
plans to give you
hope and a *future*.

Jeremiah 29:11

To Our Graduates:

Congratulations on your graduation and
best wishes for your next adventure! We
are so happy to share in the excitement of
your graduation, and so immensely proud
of you, too!"

God's Blessings,

St. Paul Congregation

See You in September



I certainly hope so AND hope not!!! Last summer after one of my 'Elder, Elder' columns I heard an old song on the radio. I realized I had missed a golden opportunity to address a long-standing problem within our beloved church. The song was from 1966 and it was sung by a group called The Happenings. The title was 'See You in September'.

The song is about a guy whose girlfriend is leaving for the summer and he won't see her again til school resumes in the fall. He laments how 'I'll be alone each and every night' and 'while you're away don't forget to write'. The group then sings 'Bye, Bye, so long, farewell; Bye, Bye, so long'; then the title of the song "See You in September", *see you when the summer's through*. Later in the song he sings "have a good time but remember there is danger in the summer moon above". Then he painfully pleads "Will I see you in September or lose you to a summer love?" It's a very sad love song. I hope you Google it and listen to the sadness in the singer's voice.

So, what is the message of this month's article? What if the singer was GOD, and what if He was the one worried about losing His blessed sheep for the summer, or worse yet – to another love? When we are not attending services on a regular basis it becomes easier to stray from the flock or be lost to another love (satan).

So let's all enjoy the summer, but let's not keep God waiting to see if He will 'See you in September'.

Sincerely Joe Salcido,

The Elder Elder

CANNING JAR DRIVE!!!



We sell hundreds of jars of canned goods at the bazaar each year. To help offset the cost of purchasing dozens and dozens of jars, we are having a canning jar drive the week of Bible School. If you have clean Ball, Kerr, or Mason jars (half pint, pint, quart, small and wide mouth) please bring them to the church on Sunday, June 25th or during VBS June 26-29. The youth will make sure they get sorted and placed in the canning room in the basement. If you come across a sale and want to purchase new jars or lids and rings, we will gladly take those too! When you clean out those cupboards and basement shelves why not donate them to our canners for bazaar canned goods?



When you plant your garden this year don't forget to plant some extra produce items for the bazaar.

Canned goods are a real draw for our bazaar. You plant them, we'll can them. Thanks in advance.



June 2 - Tristan Metzger

3 - Susan Albrecht

6 - Izabella Collon

6 - Wilma Kovach

7 - Carson Toner

10 - Levi Adams

11 - Tina Sears

14 - James Dubs

14 - Patty Seibel

16 - Bryan Parrish

20 - Brock Verbeek

21 - Shyann Kady

21 - Mary Jamieson

22 - Peggy Parrish

22 - Sandy Salcido

23 - Scott Weisenbach

25 - Travis Albrecht

27 - Zachary Britt

28 - Kloe Kady

Jett Tucker



6 - Erwin Burkle & Kathleen Kovach

11 - Jim & Brandy Gunsell

Charles & Judy Wright

12 - Perry & Karen Britt

14 - Cody & Kristi Howard

14 - Rich & Ruth Fluegge

14 - Tony & Jaime Harmer

19 - Doug & Valerie Fritz

19 - David & Mary Jamieson

In His Service

ELDERS

June 4 – Ron Tabar & Robert Haag

June 11 – Ken Haley & Joe Salcido

June 18 – Josh Sprague & Matt Reibling

June 25 – Ron Tabar & Robert Haag

GREETERS

June 4 – Rob & Amy Haag and Family

June 11 – Marc & Jodi Reinhardt

June 18 – Brandy Gunsell

June 25 – Joyce Metzger

TITHE COUNTERS

June 25 – Jen Timmons & Brandy Gunsell

Liz Reehl & Kim Krohn

ALTAR GUILD & ALTAR FLOWERS

Marge Weisenbach 989-326-2545

Lisa Sprague 989-529-9643



LutheranPublicRadio.org

June

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2	3
4 8:30 AM Service	5	6 6:15 PM Elders 7:00 PM Council	7 6:30 PM Bible Study	8	9	10
11 8:30 AM Service	12	13	14 6:30 PM Bible Study	15	16	17
18 8:30 AM Service Father's Day Baby Bottles Due	19	20	21 6:30 PM Bible Study	22	23	24
25 8:30 AM Service	26 5:30 – 8:00 PM VBS	27 5:30 – 8:00 PM VBS	28 No Bible Study 5:30 – 8:00 PM VBS	29 5:30 – 8:00 PM VBS	30	

2023

PLAN AHEAD

If you are planting a garden or have fruit trees/plants – don't forget about the church! The Annual Congregational Bazaar will be held on October 14, 2023 this year. Feel free to grow and/or can some extra to donate to our bazaar.

St. Paul's "Epistles"



*St. Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

*7292 Kilmanagh Rd.
Pigeon, MI 48755*



SPREAD THE NEWS



Vacation Bible School

June 26 – 29, 2023

5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

