

St. Paul Lutheran

July 2023 NEWSLETTER



From the Pastor:

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

"Hope for the best, plan for the worst." We never know what the future may hold for us. We should *hope* that it will be filled with good things, though *plan* in case it isn't. In a personal sense, this is good advice to take to heart. We *hope* to have a successful career, a healthy financial life, and good health overall. However, we also know that there are bumps in the road that can't be avoided to which planning will help mitigate.

It's really no different in the church. There is a lot about our future that gives me *hope*. We have made great progress in paying down our debt and one day will be done with it completely. We have had greater attendance for all of our worship services (on average) than in previous years. We see more people taking an interest in coming to church who have not come in some time. Financially, though we still struggle, we have improved a great deal. This should give us all *hope* for our future together.

I have great hope also in our new partnership in Madison. Working together with our sister LCMS churches in Madison offers us much room to grow and thrive in our community. We are looking forward to our combined efforts to reach out to more people in Madison with the Gospel. That's really our mission, to share the Gospel with as many as we can.

Of course, amongst all these good things, there is still need for planning. We know that struggles will befall the church in the coming years, for which we must be ready to face. Financial struggles have plagued the church for a good while and won't disappear anytime soon. So too, our struggles against our culture will only intensify over the coming years and as well as the need for more pastors. These are no small struggles that we face, which brings us back to the partnership. As we work together, we realize that we need not suffer alone. In closer relation with one another, our churches have a much greater capacity to work through these challenges together.

As we hope for the future of our church and the Church universal, we are to find our hope not just in these material things, but in our faith. As St. Paul writes, **"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer," Romans 12:12.** The hope we have for our future is rooted in the very promises of Christ, that *he* will not abandon us nor forsake us. Christ still comes among us in his Word and Sacrament that we may be blessed with eternal life. By his cross, we have hope beyond any hope, one that will not put us to shame. For in this hope, we can weather the storms that are to come, as Paul says, "be patient in tribulation." Let us rejoice for the hope we have in Christ and be patient as we navigate the tough roads ahead together, evermore praying for the Lord to bless our work. Amen!

Pastor Sorenson



Happy Birthday!

Chris Krueger- 7/8
Donna Grace- 7/9
Mary Germann- 7/10
Tom Niemczyk- 7/10
LuAnne Rommel- 7/10
Pastor Sorenson- 7/13
Connie Dierks- 7/14
Leah Lakpa- 7/14
Rick Nelson- 7/14
Marcia Otto- 7/18
Emily Currier- 7/19

Uttar Flowers

July 2- (None)
July 9- LuAnne Rommel
for her birthday
July 16- Kay Daubenspeck for
birthdays of the week
July 23- (None)
July 30- (None)



St Paul Online:

Visit our website: www.stpaulmadison.org



Facebook- @StPaulMadisonLCMS

YouTube- St Paul Lutheran Church
(services and sermons online)



Note: You do NOT have to have an account in order to view these pages.

Contact us

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Serving in July

Altar Guild

Luanne Rommel & Mary Butler

Tellers

Julianne McGill

Ushers

July 2-

Richard Beal, Randy Buss, Tom Niemczyk

July 9-

Rick Van Dusen, Ray Hellmer, Leo Lakpa

July 16-

Jerry Meise, Jamie Meise, Dan Dierks

July 23-

Richard Beal, Randy Buss, Tom Niemczyk

July 30-

Rick Van Dusen, Ray Hellmer, Leo Lakpa

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 9– Installation of New Leadership

July 23– Leadership Meeting

July 25– Vets Connect

LCMS News



Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison was re-elected to his fifth term as Synod President in an online vote of LCMS congregations taken on June 17-18. Rev. Harrison has held this position since 2010. Four other names were present on the ballot. Out of 6,053 congregational voters, a total of 5,000 votes were cast. The votes tallied were:

Rev. Matthew C. Harrison– 2,616 (52.32%)

Rev. Patrick T. Ferry– 1,593 (31.86%)

Rev. Benjamin T. Ball– 341 (6.82%)

Rev. Richard Snow– 318 (6.36%)

Rev. Peter K. Lange– 132 (2.64%)

President Harrison will preside over the upcoming Synod Convention to take place in Milwaukee, WI from July 29- August 3. Pastor Sorenson will be representing our Madison North Circuit churches as the pastoral delegate.

The theme of the Convention is “*We Preach Christ Crucified*” (1 Corinthians 2:2). Please pray for all the delegates and our Synod as we seek to build up a greater unity and answer the difficult challenges to the Church.

You know you are a Lutheran when ...

you only serve Jell-O
in the proper
liturgical color
for the season.



St Paul Financial Update

GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENSES

May 2023 Actual Income	\$17,249.69
May 2023 Actual Expenses	\$19,913.88
May 2023 Net	-\$2,664.19

DEBT

Unpaid Balance on Mortgage Loan (5/31/2023)	\$174,163.62
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Take Note

Please send any items you'd like mentioned in our monthly newsletter to the office at office@stpaulmadison.org, or please call the office at 608-244-8077.

ALL NEWSLETTER ITEMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE LAST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Thank you for your help!