

St. Paul's Lutheran Family

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From Pastor Mary Lou

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As we work on the call process, we must recognize that in calling a pastor, we must consider our own calling.

What is a calling? It is a call to hope, peace and eternal life. Paul tells us that all of us are called children of God. Clearly, this is on account of God's power and wisdom, not our own.

This powerful call is the one that comes to all believers through God's Word in Holy Baptism. That is why Martin Luther was bold to insist that "the ministry of the Word belongs to all." And again, "There is no other Word of God than that which is given all Christians to proclaim." (from Luther's *Concerning the Ministry*, 1523) Just as all Christians share the promise, so too do we share the task of proclamation. Most of us take up the task in the ministry of daily life. Others, such as our pastors, we ask to do so publicly for the community, so faith can be created and sustained in us. So we see that, in the economy of God's grace, the ministry of those, called and ordained, follows from the call which has come to all who believe.

How do we sense God's call most clearly? In which aspect of life do we find God's Word (the promise, the hope, the peace) being "proclaimed" in the strongest way? The Bible even speaks of us as "holy partners in a heavenly calling." (Hebrews 3:1) What do you think that might mean for daily living?

As I write this, we have just had our meeting to discuss the future of education and youth at St. Paul's. At that meeting we discussed "Why are Young Adults Walking Away from the Church" and "What Cultural Trends Are We Missing" based on videos and a book titled *Lasting Impact* by Carey Nieuwhof, lead pastor of Connexus Church north of Toronto. We learned that there are no easy answers to the present cultural reality that churches aren't growing, that young adults are walking away, that volunteers are hard to recruit, that leaders are burning out and that the culture is changing faster

than ever before. But Nieuwhof says, "What if having the right conversations could change your trajectory? What if there was more hope than you realized? What if the potential to grow was greater than the potential to decline? What if your community was waiting for a church to offer the hope they're looking for? What if your best days as a church were ahead of you? Maybe the future belongs to the churches that are willing to have the most honest conversations at a critical time."

We have been called to be church in a culture that is not the culture of the 20th century. Many of us older church members may not like that the church has to change to be able to minister in this time and place. But God has called all of us to this church to be in mission here and now, and we can't just bury our heads in the sand, wring our hands and say, "Woe is us" and pretend we can go on as we have for the last thirty-forty years.

I think all of us at the meeting last night realize we have to work to try to figure this out. We had great discussion and want to move forward in trying to put into place an education and youth ministry that will be effective now and in the future. It was decided the next step would be to have a workshop to determine our mission and vision of these two vital areas in the church and to develop some goals that will help us to accomplish the mission of each of these programs and that will help us work toward our future vision for education and youth.

Stay tuned for dates, and we welcome anyone to that workshop who is willing to help us put a plan in place that will have practical steps to reach our community for Jesus. Pray for clarity as we seek to work in today's culture, with today's processes while staying focused on Jesus' purpose for the church. We are on a journey where the health and effectiveness of our church becomes the destination.

Pastor Mary Lou

President's Corner

The May meeting of the congregation council certainly one of the busiest we have had recently. First, the council accepted, with regret, the resignation of Darlene Lacugna as Bell Choir Director effective May 31, 2016. In keeping with established practice, the council will be looking first from within our church membership when filling the position. If we are unable to fill the position from within, we will broaden the search to the wider community. So if you are at all interested in becoming the next director of the Heavenly Hand Bells, please let Renee in the office know. Hopefully we will be able to fill the position before the next church year begins in September.

Also, the 50th anniversary of St. Paul's Lutheran Family will occur next year in 2017 and it is not too early to start thinking about how we want to celebrate this important occasion. To get the ball rolling the council agreed to ask Judy Lowther to serve as chairperson of the yet to be named committee. Fortunately, she accepted. So if you have any ideas concerning how we should celebrate the anniversary, or are interested in helping plan events, please contact Judy.

In addition, the council discussed a recent unsolicited offer from a representative for a commercial real estate developer in Reno to purchase our church property. The offer came in a letter we received in early April asking for a meeting to discuss possible acquisition. This offer came entirely out of the blue, but after discussion the council decided that we should at least listen to what the representative had to say. This is, of course, all very preliminary. The matter will come before the council at its June 14 meeting. It may prove a very interesting meeting to attend.

In other matters, the council discussed resuming the former CD ministry program in which our services were recorded on to CDs and then sent to members overseas or elsewhere. This was one of the recommendations of the Transition Team. But after hearing at our April meeting from Wayne Opperman, one of the Transition Team members, concerning its cost, the council decided **not** to resume the program. It was the conclusion of the council that the program relied on outdated technology and was not a good use of our funds.

We also discussed a proposal from the Wellness and Outreach Committee to start a flower and herb garden on our property. After a short discussion, it was decided to refer the matter to the Coordinating Design Committee for further consideration.

Finally, this will be my last message to you as president of the congregation council as I have submitted my resignation from the council effective May 31, 2016. Kay and I have been selected to be volunteer national park rangers in Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado for the summer. We will be giving tours of a former dude ranch located within the park and be provided free housing in a historic log cabin located on site. In addition, we have agreed to return to Guadalupe Mountains National Park in Texas this fall. Given these developments, I will not be able to give St. Paul's the time and energy need to meet the challenges ahead. The church is entering a critical phase in the process of calling a new pastor and deserves a council member who can give his/her full attention to the position. We have a reached a point in our lives, **however, where we would like to** do something different while we still can, as well as devote more attention to visiting our children and grandchildren who are scattered from Texas to Montana.

Thank you for all your prayers and kind words these past few years. It has been an honor and privilege to serve St. Paul's and to work with you all on the important issues facing our church.

With deep affection,

Ken Elverum, President

LEE GROUP

The **Lee Group** (Life Enrichment for Everyone aka **Lutheran Eager Eaters**) will hold its monthly luncheon on Thursday, June 2, 2016, starting at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend this social gathering. There will be a brief meeting to consider the election of leadership for the 2016-2017 year. Please bring a dish to share and join us for fun, food and fellowship! Hosting will be Marla Johnson, Charlotte LaCombe, and Ann Dallas.



PROPERTY - HELP NEEDED!!

Since our Property committee has retired we are in need of volunteers. If you are interested please contact a member of council or the church secretary.



ANNOUNCEMENT From Flo Bilderback!!

On June 25, 2016, I will be moving to my home town of Hayward, Wisconsin, where I was born and raised on a small dairy farm. My family consisted of my wonderful 100% Norwegian-American parents, three brothers (2 deceased), one sister and me. I have 15 nephews and nieces (2 nephews deceased) so 13 remain. Last year, I lost three family members (a sister-in-law, a brother-in-law and one nephew). Three years ago, I lost my husband of 44 years, Jim, of cancer.

I will be living with my brother, Arvid, age 91 in his home. He recently learned that he has cancer. We pray that his treatment will slow or stop the cancer. His doctor says "he will die of old age before he dies of cancer." My sister, Bertha, age 85, lives 30 miles away, on a farm. Five of my nephews and nieces live in the area. On the 4th of July weekend, we are having a family reunion. Fifty to sixty people are expected to attend.

I will be transferring my membership back to First Lutheran Church in Hayward. I will miss all of my friends here, but I am happy to be going home.



NOTE FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE:
By Louise Griffith, Chairman

At this time the call committee is still waiting for a slate of candidates from the Bishop's office.

We are asking all to stop, from what ever you are doing, and join us in prayer, nightly at 9:00 p.m.



STITCHERS GROUP

Where: St Paul's Lutheran Family
Time : 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.
Come and enjoy the fun and fellowship



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our Sunday school program ended in May and I just want to thank everyone involved. Even though our attendance was low, we still were able to have some successful times and the children benefited. Our teachers are also in need of a "BIG HUG" They are: Shelley Stevens and Sandy Tucker, for grades kindergarten through 3rd grade and Linda Wilson who taught the 4th and 5th grade. Snack people were Penny Cotsonis and Doris Howell.

Please look in our August newsletter for fall start-up information for Sunday school.



*******ANNOUNCEMENT*******

Our summer VBS program has been cancelled for this summer due to conflicting schedules between the volunteers, and the youth retreat happening in August.

Renee Woslum, Superintendent



WELCA
 WOMEN OF THE ELCA
 St. Paul's Lutheran Family

WELCA invites you to attend the end of the fiscal year salad supper on June 6th @ 5:30 p.m. We will vote on where to distribute our benevolence. The majority of our funds (\$4,000) were raised from our very successful Chili Cook-Off and the Rummage sale.

WELCA thanks the Youth group for the Mother's Day Mys tea ry. What a clever group! (the butler didn't do it!) The food was delectable, the talent delightful and the afternoon, just dandy!!!!

GUESS WHO IS CELEBRATING A BIG 50 THIS TIME NEXT YEAR????

Answer: St Paul's Lutheran Family

Look forward to future newsletters and bulletins regarding plans for our St Paul's Lutheran Family's birthday celebration.

Contact the Parish Secretary if you are interested in helping with plans for the celebration.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS



- 4 Marilyn Brandvold
- 4 John Gould
- 4 Jennifer Fitzpatrick
- 10 Mackade Chambers
- 10 Karin Randle
- 11 Tom Maruca
- 14 Syrena Chowanski
- 15 Gerald Brandvold
- 15 Jay Olshen
- 15 Carr Sandell
- 17 June Bennett-Hansen
- 17 Feryl Fitzgerald
- 17 Michael Goetz
- 21 Sue VanKoningsveld
- 21 Ellie Week
- 23 Travis Brooks
- 23 Louise Griffith
- 24 Isabella Anderson
- 24 Wayne Kinder
- 25 Alexander Anderson
- 26 Michael Gould
- 26 Ronald Johns
- 26 Bill Sandell
- 27 Tom Gesick
- 27 Charlotte LaCombe
- 27 Pat Weigel
- 28 Vicki Hamilton
- 28 Paula House
- 28 Shirley O'Neill
- 29 Markus Adams
- 29 Ann Kauf
- 30 Sharon Olshen

WORSHIP LEADERS

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

June 5-No communion at either service-
Linda Wilson officiating-Both svcs.

June 12-9 a.m. Gloria Randle & Louise
Griffith (Congregatioal meeting)

June 19-8 am-Bob Larson &
Jere Schultz

June 26-9:30 am-Judy McPhail &
Syrena Chowanski

GREETERS (10:30 a.m.)

June 5-Judy McPhail

June 12-Mary Neuman

June 19-Judy Webster

June 26-Syrena Chowanski

READERS – 8:00 a.m.

June 5-Don Kovisto

June 12-Vera Logie (9:00 am service)

Annual Congregation meeting

June 19-Bob Larson

June 26-Louise Griffith

READERS – 9:30 a.m.

June 5-Lindsay Chowanski

June 12-9:00 am service only

June 19-Holly McPhail

June 26-Gloria Randle



SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:

Jerry, Brandon (Luterick), Ike (Moellendorf), Heather Joyner (Johnson), Samuel (Weirton and Osterhold), Peter (Elverum), Tim (Gridley), Sarah (McGee), Olivia (Lesperance), Jason (Coleman), Tom, Michael, Justin, Carlos Armando (Cortes)

FIREFIGHTERS/PEACE OFFICERS:

Andy (Steyn), Brian (Hillenbrand), Tina (Sherman), Mark (Dickens), John (Gould)

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR: Our Call Committee, Jennifer, John, Harry, Roy T., Michael, Julie, Eileen, James, Helen, George, Caroll, Harold, Jane, Betty Ray, Diane L., Kennedy, Bill, Betty, Frank, Sandy T., Susan M.

THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

Debbie; **Earl** (Bev Gutzman's brother recovering from serious stroke); **Stan Bernette** (Joan Yeskie's brother-in-law, with leukemia); **Angelo DeFelice**; **Oscar & Susie Anderson's daughter Kathlina** (prayers for recovery); **Peggy S.** (having more treatments); **Nellie R.;** **Carr S.** (medical testing); **Tom M.;** **Brian M.** (in hospital, recovering); Prayers for the family of **Evelyn Luterick** for the loss of her brother, Luther and for her gravely ill brother, Melvin; **Russ Bowton** (recovering from a stroke); Prayers for the family of **June McIntyre** who passed away in May.

THANK YOU TO ALL!

Chuck and I would like to thank everyone who has been so supportive of St Paul's Heavenly Hand bell Choir for the past eight years; and a special thank you to my generous husband, Chuck, who has been any "Roadie" my driver and my friend! On May 1, we played "Get On Board Little Children" as our last song of the 2015-2016 season using the bronze bells, chimes, mallets, and yes, a train whistle.

Chuck and I were so surprised and, frankly, delighted to have the Fellowship Hour in our honor. The cake was de-licious! We want to thank the Bell Choir for all of their thoughtful gifts and cards; but the greatest gift you gave to me over the years was JOY, yes joy in my heart plus friendship and the laughter that we shared. What a fantastic group of talented people (ages 13-92) We will miss our times together more than you know. (and yes, I am crying as I write this).

Since I am retiring as Bell Director, I am hoping and praying, and making phone calls that someone will step forward as the new director. I will gladly train anyone who might be interested. No bell experience is necessary. I have "How-to" books, papers, paper records and music inventory lists to pass on to you. Pleeeeease pray on it and call: 265-0247 if interested.

We ring to the Glory of God, Chuck and Darlene Lacugna



P.S. One of the ringers, who also likes butterflies, wrote and illustrated the following story which we put in a frame.

"Dreams are like a butterfly. The caterpillar represents the inception of the dream-nourishing enthusiasm and developing plans. The chrysalis stage represents the period of time that may seem dormant but in fact the real transformation is taking place. The butterfly is the result—a creature of beauty that the world pauses to admire and appreciate...

Darlene, you had the dream— a Bell Choir! You developed the idea, inspired enthusiasm and created plans to make it happen. You raised the funds to acquire the instruments and patiently trained individuals to play those instruments. The result is the beautiful music provided to the church family to be admired and appreciated.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DREAM!"

YOUTH GROUP "SELFIE"



YOUTH RETREAT

Pastor Marylou will be hosting a Youth retreat at the Christ The King Church in Tahoe City this summer, from August 5th through the 7th. This event is in the planning stages so look for more information in the coming weeks.

Offering Counters



Volunteers are needed to be counters after each worship service. This is a super way you can help out and it doesn't usually take more than about fifteen minutes. Won't you please sign-up on the sheet in the hallway?

Training is provided.

Have an Idea on a project or an improvement within our church and/or property??????

Following the few simple instructions below and you will be well on your way.

- 1. Contact the appropriate church committee to discuss and formulate your idea to include approximate costs of your project.*
- 2. Once your plan is formulated you should meet with the Treasurer to assure the proper account is chosen to fund your project.*
- 3. Finally, after all information is in place then your project request is ready to be submitted to the council for action. As an additional note, whoever is bringing the request to council should be someone who is able to answer questions regarding the project.*

Heavenly thoughts

What is heaven going to be like? Just as there is a mystery to hell, so there is a mystery to heaven. Yet I believe the Bible teaches that heaven is a literal place. Is it one of the stars? I don't know. I can't even speculate. The Bible doesn't inform us.

I believe that out there in space where there are one thousand million galaxies, each a hundred thousand light years or more in diameter, God can find some place to put us in heaven. I'm not worried about where it is. I know it is going to be where Jesus is.

—Billy Graham

So good

At the communion rail, a man held out his hand to receive the bread. His curious toddler by his side loudly asked, "Is it good, Daddy?" He smiled and nodded yes.

Indeed, communion is a good gift from Jesus, who wants us to remember his sacrifice for us. The next time you receive communion, remember to "taste and see that the LORD is good!" (Psalm 34:8, emphasis added).



President pro tem VP Linda Wilson

Vice President – Linda Wilson – 246-1543

Secretary – Roger Moellendorf – 315-5295

Treasurer – Gloria Randle – 884-3253

Financial Secretary –

Holly McPhail –443-6639

Stewardship Committee –

Judy Lowther, Chair – 882-5683

Nathan Miller, Council Liaison – 883-3194;

Christian Education Committee – Chair (vacant)

Renee Woslum, Council Liaison – 883-7748

Structural Property Committee –

Chair (vacant)

Bill Sandell, Council Liaison – 246-5439;

Coordinating Design Committee –

Jean Russell, Chair – 882-6710

Tom Gesick, Council Liaison – 443-8744;

Fellowship Committee –

Kay Elverum, Chair – 882-3021

Bill Sandell, Council Liaison – 246-5439

Wellness/Outreach Committee –

Betty Razor, Chair – 841-2208

Jean Opperman, Council Liaison – 885-0899

Worship Life Committee –

Judy McPhail, Co-Chair – 841-7620 –

Joan Schultz, Co-Chair – 883-6833

Gloria Randle, Council Liaison – 884-3253

Youth Ministry Committee –

Youth Group News



The Youth Group would like to wish all of our FAMILY at St.Paul's a fun and safe SUMMER! The youth group is going to be very busy with actives throughout the summer! The youth group is open to all 7th graders through 12th graders. Youth going into 7th grade this coming school year are welcome to join us this summer!



The 4th of JULY BBQ

The 4th of July BBQ will start at 6:30pm! The youth group will provide the food and games! Please join us for a great night of food and the best seats for the fireworks in CARSON CITY! If you have any questions please call Traci at 721-5495.



Graduations

Congratulations to our high school graduates- Fritz Steinle and Jourdan Snyder!! They are both part of Carson High School's Class of 2016!!!! YOU TWO ARE AMAZING!! We are all so very proud of the two of you and wish you all the best with your new adventures!!

Congratulations to our middle school graduates- Lindsay Chowanski, Cody Lopez, Justin Stevens, and Edgar Rojas!! We are so proud of you guys and know you will all do great in High School!