



Good News

Connecting People to Jesus

Please pray:

- and rejoice that Jesus is true God, that our Savior is King of Kings and Lord of Lords
- and confess your sins before God. Trust that God forgives your sins through Christ Jesus.
- for Christian parents, that they would model forgiveness and raise their children in the Christian faith.

Inside this issue:

Self-Made Man	2
Council News	3
New from LHM	3
Librarian Reviews	4
Life Chain	5
Youth News	6
Calendar	7

Good News

October 2018

Intentional Interim Ministry Three Month Report *by Pastor Riggs*

Last Monday marked three months since I was installed as the Intentional Interim Pastor at St. Paul on June 17th. The contract between an Intentional Interim and a congregation has the anticipation that they will serve together for about a year. As we are at the quarter mark of our anticipated time together, it seemed appropriate to give a progress report.

The **purposes** of that anticipated year of Intentional Interim Ministry are:

- (1) To supply full-time pastoral ministry to a congregation that is in transition
- (2) To give the congregation an opportunity to reflect on its past, present, and future
- (3) To lessen the anxiety as the congregation seeks God's will in calling their next settled pastor

As far as what has happened in the first three months:

- (1) Month one included forming the 3-T team. As you may know 3-T=Transition Thinking Team. It was a joy to get to meet the congregation during that month and to get volunteers for this work.
- (2) Months two and three included some planning by the 3-T team. As we worked around vacation schedules,

we had faithful attendance at our meetings. There were four meetings between July and August. Their fifth meeting was September 22. During this time members of that group have (a) had some Bible study on the nature of the church based on 1 Corinthians (b) gathered statistical information about the history of St. Paul which included working with the District archivist (c) looked through the files at the church (d) considered options for celebrating our history (e) looked at some demographics supplied by the District about the area in a 5 mile radius of the church (f) had a survey of the congregation asking us all what blessings we have experienced and what do we picture the future could be (g) yesterday we experimented with a possible event to consider our current gifts. You may hear more about that later. (h) several people are working very hard in anticipation of the congregational events on October 7 & 14.

- (3) As we look forward to month number four, it is time for some congregational events. You should have received a letter about a time to celebrate our history



between worship services on Sunday October 7. Extra copies of that letter are in the back of the church. Thanks to all who have brought in items. We hope you will be part of the event two weeks from today.

After 11 a.m. worship on October 14 we will have a pot-luck dinner. As a part of that dinner we will have some time to consider our current ministry.

After first three months, we are making progress and are on schedule with the goals of Intentional Interim Ministry.

When will the call committee be formed for the next settled pastor? I can't give a precise answer. It will likely be sometime between late fall and early winter. I am not part of the call committee. That also is part of the design of Intentional Interim Ministry. The circuit visitor, who is Rev. Don Neuendorf of St. Paul in Ann Arbor, will work with the call committee.

Appreciation for the reception that my wife and I have re-

Continued on page 4

The Self Made Man *by Tim Hurst*

“The self-made man is an old-fashioned term which describes a person who is proud of his individual ability . . . ”

The young mother is standing quietly in the empty parish hall, waiting for the end of the service in the sanctuary. Her three-year-old daughter is not standing quietly. In the manner of all young children in large open rooms, she runs from one end of the room to another, trying and failing, with her limited strength, to open every door. But when a stranger comes through the door, fearing danger, she quickly retreats to safety. She hugs her mother's knees, believing that no harm can come to her if she just holds on. What a metaphor for our relationship to God! We concentrate our thinking and our actions on our human experience, oblivious to everything but our attractions of the moment until the dangers of the world become apparent to us. Quickly we retreat, and cling to the Rock of our salvation, hoping to be sheltered or rescued from danger.

The self-made man is an old-fashioned term which describes a person who is proud of his individual ability, strength, and accomplishments. He acknowledges no limits to his actions, no authority to hold him accountable, no debt to his mentors. Everything he has done, every prize he has won, every dollar in his bank account, all are consequences of his ability and effort. All of us tend to envy and yet admire these people. But, deep in our hearts, we know that we cannot be that self-made person.

If we are honest with ourselves, we remember with gratitude the time and effort that has been expended to shape us into the people whom we are today. We remember the anxious parents who guided us, who

molded and scolded and despaired at times. Can these young savages be transformed into useful respectable adults? We recall teachers and pastors and supervisors who were patient when we were not, who forced us to behave better even when we resented it, who guided and supported us through adverse circumstances, who comforted us when we failed or were unfairly treated. We remember the policeman who gave us a ticket which we deserved, and, perhaps, turned us away from a path of destructive behavior. Some of these people literally gave large shares of their time and effort here on earth to people like us, to make us into people of good character.

We also remember a special group of people who saw a spark within us of which we were not aware and spent the effort to fan that spark. Think of the things that we can do, the heights we have scaled, the skills we have mastered because someone took the time to help us develop in ways that we had never imagined - the music teacher, the swimming coach, the physics professor.

We chafe against restraints - leave me alone! We thirst for power - acting out our desires. Our forefathers believed in freedom but were wise enough to see that humans with absolute freedom tend toward anarchy and/or corruption. In our Constitution they wisely provided three branches of government, each of which can check the actions of the other two. It is not a perfect system, but it defers the passions of the mob, even with a majority, to buy time for more careful reflection.

Life has its seasons - from birth through childhood, education, accomplishment, declining powers and health, and inevitable end. Each season has its obstacles and catastrophes.

As we come upon these roadblocks, often we are forced to face adversity alone. Nobody can live our life for us, even if sometimes they lend us a helping hand. As we stare into the darkness, we cry out for a guide to take us through. The Lord Jesus Christ has told us that He will be with us always, even into the valley of the shadow of death. Perhaps we are one of the fortunate ones, those who have put their hand into the hand of Jesus Christ and asked Him to be their guide. Those who have let the Lord guide their life in the sunshine will find it easier to hold on during the travel in the darkness. "There are no atheists in foxholes." God is always there waiting to comfort and support, but the trip is always better when God is the Guide every day.

There is no such thing as a self-made man. We can pretend our independence and follow our own direction. But ultimately, our Creator has been there all along, watching, waiting, loving, hoping that we will choose to travel with Him on the road to receive salvation.



From the Council by Chris Mowers

Greetings in Christ:

As we approach the end of 2018, it is time that we consider how we at St. Paul will budget for 2019.

For the past several years we have been blessed with healthy finances. This financial situation has enabled the hiring of additional staff and the upkeep and improvement of our facilities. It has also enabled a reduction in the amount of additional fundraising required for our ministries to function.

The council, staff, and committee chairs will be working on the provisional 2019 budget this October. We are in a position where we can expand existing ministries as well as fund new ones, and we want your ideas. We at St. Paul have the ability to do even more in our church and community.

If you have ideas for the next year, please contact the following people:

Spiritual Care: Pastor Riggs

Christian Education: Mike Hausch

Family Life: Miriam Yakimow

Worship and Music: Bob Vedder

Facilities: Keith Burns

Fellowship, Outreach, Compassionate Care: Any council member, or the leaders of particular efforts whom you know.

Sincerely,

Church Council



New Online Courses from LHM

Lutheran Hour Ministries is offering new online equipping resources to help you reach out with the love and Good News of Jesus Christ in your everyday lives.

About the Barna Partnership

Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) has partnered with Barna Group—an industry leader for research-based insights about faith and culture, leadership and vocation, and generational groups—on a critical three-year study of faith in America. This bold new collaboration will allow LHM to create resources and online courses that address the needs of both the church and non-church.

Year one (2018) focuses on spiritual conversations in the digital age, year two (2019) will delve into households of faith, and year three (2020) will ex-

plore the development of local communities of action. In addition to conducting and providing groundbreaking research, Barna Group will create a yearly monograph for church leaders containing data, analysis, and relevant insights. LHM will create products and programs designed to take what is learned directly to congregations and individuals to apply the new insights in their outreach efforts. Over these three years, LHM and Barna hope to equip the Church to share the Gospel, deepen faith at home, and impact communities with the good news of Jesus Christ

WEBINARS:

Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age

This is a three-session webinar that presents findings from joint research done by LHM and Barna Group about the state of

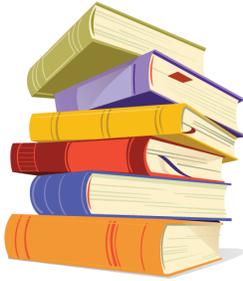
spiritual conversations today. It explores changes in how and why people share the unchanging Good News in the digital age. This webinar digs deeper into our findings about the changes to faith sharing over the past 25 years, how people are sharing their faith today, the profile of those who are eager to share their faith, and how you can apply those insights to spiritual conversations in your everyday life

Eager to Share: The DNA of Eager Conversationalists

In conjunction with research gathered through our partnership with Barna Group, this course explores the common habits and postures of the Eager Conversationalist (a person who has conversations about faith more than ten times a year). It will equip you to develop these same key characteristics in your own life.



Librarian's Reviews



Preparing Your Daughter for Every Woman's Battle by Shannon Ethridge

Recognizing how awkward it can be to confront the topic of sex, author Shannon Ethridge guides you and your daughter through enjoyable yet memorable discussions about sexuality, purity, and dating - leading to a deeper understanding of and appreciation for God's standards. *Preparing Your Daughter for Every Woman's Battle* provides creative tools that will give you the confidence to talk openly and honestly with your daughter, encouraging her to live a lifetime of sexual and emotional integrity. Paperback.

When Strawberries Bloom by Linda Byler #2

New love and even more questions enter Lizzie Glick's life in *When Strawberries Bloom*, the second novel in this series written by an Amish writer and based on true life experiences. Lizzie's dream of teaching school has finally come true. She loves the brand-new school building, the sound of the children singing, and the independence she has in the classroom. Even the occa-

sionally unruly boys can't ruin the excitement she feels each morning when she starts the school day.

But at home things are in turmoil again. What do Dad's sudden health problems mean for the future of their farm? And what about Lizzie's future? Emma and Mandy are so certain that Joshua and John are their perfect matches, but Lizzie doesn't know what to think about Stephen and how he might fit into her life. What will Lizzie decide? Will she continue to teach school? Or will she give up that dream so that her wish for marriage and a family can come true?

The Incredible Creatures that Defy Evolution Series II (DVD)

"The Incredible Creatures That Defy Evolution Series" enters the fascinating world of animals to reveal sophisticated and complex designs that shake the traditional foundations of evolutionary theory. This series features Dr. Jobe Martin, who for the past 20 years, has been exploring evolution vs. crea-

tion. His findings have been fascinating students around the world as he lectures on these remarkable animal designs that cannot be explained by traditional evolution. Dr. Martin himself was a traditional evolutionist, but his medical and scientific training would go through rather a revolution when he began to study animals that challenged the scientific assumptions of his education. This was the beginning of the evolution of a creationist. What kind of bird can kill a lion with a single kick? How can some dogs know that a storm is coming before it appears, or can sense when their masters are about to experience a seizure? Which creature perplexes scientists because of its amazing ability to heal itself, even when it sustains horrendous injuries? How do Emperor Penguins go two and a half months without eating or drinking?

This program answers these questions and examines the Lampsylis Mussel, horses, ostriches, hummingbirds, vestigial organs, dogs, manatees, elephants, and butterflies to name just a few examples.

Intentional Interim Ministry *Continued*

ceived from the congregation should also be a part of a three month report. As you may know, we have 35 years of experience serving in congregations but this is our first Intentional Interim assignment. I was

thankful when in training to be an Intentional Interim, it was stressed that the primary role is to be a pastor to God's people where you have been called today.

I am thankful to serve Him with

you and would welcome any questions or comments you may have as we anticipate the coming months.

Worship Volunteers Needed *by Lynda Minger*

When we look for our church home we ask ourselves certain things. "Will I fit in?" "Do my kids like it?" "Do they have the type of music my family likes?" "Is there a good Bible study, Sunday School, ladies group that we would like to join?"

Very seldom do we think to ask ourselves "What can I do for my church?" Maybe planning the funeral luncheons or the Fall Festival is too big a task, and you are more of a tell-me-what-to-do type.

Maybe, just maybe, serving during the worship service is your thing.

Do you like to talk to people? Are you the person who would like to help people find their seat or give a guest a brief explanation of what to expect during the service and where to look for the order of worship? Do you pay attention carefully to the service?

Sometimes some of the biggest concerns are in reality the smallest. You may think to yourself, "What if I make a mistake?" "What if someone comes in and I can't remember their name?"

Actually it's a whole lot easier than you think. When serving in any position in church it's a

learning process. Mistakes can and do get made, but remember, this is God's house. Who is more forgiving than God and the congregation you serve? You can relax and enjoy serving the Lord and getting to know your church family a bit better. And you can have satisfaction that you are giving something back.

There is always a need for backup people. There are one or two positions that really need to be filled right now.

Please, prayerfully consider being an Usher, Greeter, Reader, Projectionist, or Communion Assistant.

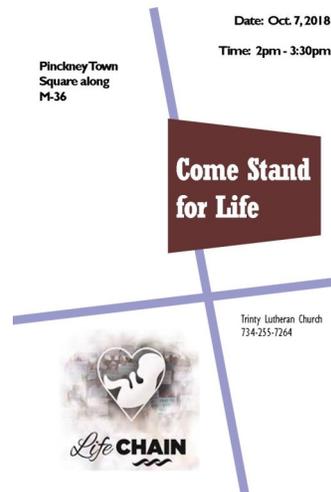
Life Chain Event

The first Sunday in October is designated as Life Chain Sunday every year.

People throughout the nation gather along the streets of their communities on that day to witness to the sanctity of life from conception to natural death by holding various signs speaking to the importance of valuing human life. Members of Pinckney and surrounding areas will meet at the Pinckney Town

Square and will be provided with signs to participate in the national peaceful, prayerful witness for life along the streets of M-36 from 2:00 to 3:30pm.

Please join us this year as we silently state God's desire that we value life.



Nursery Volunteers Needed:

The Nursery is currently looking for volunteers to supervise our little ones during both worship services and Education Hour on Sunday mornings.

Your commitment would be for one hour per month for the coming year. Please contact Barb Nettleton (810-355-4350 / maxbarb@chartermi.net) if this

opportunity is the way that God is calling you to serve Him and His people at St. Paul.

Youth News

by Mike Hausch

LAC

LAC (Living Active Christians) is for 7th and 8th graders – those in Confirmation instruction.

On October 28, we will have a Spooktacular lunch together and then rip out the pumpkin guts and carve away. Bring your scary face carving ideas and your smiling faces to this fun activity. Pumpkins provided. We will meet right after the 11:00 am worship service. Friends welcome! Get your name on the sign-up sheet so that we can plan food and get the right number of pumpkins

for carving.

Here are the results of the planning event for our group that took place on September 16:

- October 28: Pumpkin Carving 12:30 pm
 - November 18: Escape Room 12:30 pm
 - December 1: Angel Tree Shopping 10 am
- Also possible partnering for Christmas caroling later in the month.
- January 20: Laser Tag &

Arcade

- February 16: Sledding etc. (weather permitting) 12:30 pm
- March 16: Iron Grip 4:30 – 6:30 pm
- March 29-30: Tool Time at Concordia University
- April 28: Sky Zone 12:30 pm
- May 19: Crepes and Games
- June: Amusement Park: Location to be determined

2019 Youth Gathering

LCMS National Youth Gathering Update

Are you ready? Deadline approaching!

We had an effective informational meeting with 16 potential student participants present along with 13 parents and other adults. An additional four students expressed an interest in attending the gathering but

were not able to attend on Sunday. This meeting was in preparation for an October 14 deadline for registration. The event will be in Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 11-15, 2019. This event is for young people age 14-19, are 14 by the time of the gathering or who are entering 9th grade at the time of the gathering. If you fit the requirements

mentioned above and are interested in more information, contact Mike Hausch for printed, web, and video materials. Once registration is submitted, we will be planning our next steps of preparation.

Reminder: Registration and registration fee **MUST** be submitted by October 14, 2018.

Hurricane Harvey Relief Service Project

Would you like to make a real difference? Would you be willing to give a few days of service to your neighbor in need? We are looking toward putting together a group of relief workers to assist those affected by Hurricane Harvey. This natural disaster occurred over a year ago, and still, the area is reeling from its damage and subsequent challenges. Neces-

sary work includes hanging drywall, finishing drywall, painting, installing trim wood, putting together furniture, and probably more.

We would partner with Trinity Klein Lutheran Church, Klein, Texas for work supervision and Salem Lutheran Church, Tomball, Texas for room and board. We will pay the room and board expenses and transpor-

tation while in Houston. Several people have expressed interest. Most likely participation dates are November 6-13, 2018 and January 3-10, 2019. Contact Mike Hausch for more information. We may also explore relief efforts for victims of Hurricane Florence.

October 2018

St. Paul Special Events

Daily Readings

Oct. 7	9:45am 12:15pm	History of St. Paul Choir Rehearsal
Oct. 14	12:15pm	Choir Rehearsal Deadline for Gathering Registration
Oct. 16	7:00 pm	Church Council meeting
Oct. 19	5pm	Confirmation Retreat
Oct. 20	all day	Confirmation Retreat
Oct. 21	12:00pm	Confirmation Retreat Choir Rehearsal
Oct 28	12:30pm	Pumpkin Carving

10/1	Deuteronomy 2:16-37,	Matthew 6:16-34
10/2	Deuteronomy 3:1-29,	Matthew 7:1-12
10/3	Deuteronomy 4:1-20,	Matthew 7:13-29
10/4	Deuteronomy 4:21-40,	Matthew 8:1-17
10/5	Deuteronomy 5:1-21,	Matthew 8:18-34
10/6	Deuteronomy 5:22-6:9,	Matthew 9:1-17
10/7	Deuteronomy 6:10-25,	Matthew 9:18-38
10/8	Deuteronomy 7:1-19,	Matthew 10:1-23
10/9	Deuteronomy 8:1-20,	Matthew 10:24-42
10/10	Deuteronomy 9:1-22,	Matthew 11:1-19
10/11	Deuteronomy 9:23-10:22,	Matthew 11:20-30
10/12	Deuteronomy 11:1-25,	Matthew 12:1-21
10/13	Deuteronomy 11:26-12:12,	Matthew 12:22-37
10/14,	Deuteronomy 12:13-32,	Matthew 12:38-50
10/15	Deuteronomy 13:1-18,	Matthew 13:1-23
10/16	Deuteronomy 14:1-2, 22-23, 14:28-15:15,	Matthew 13:24-43
10/17	Deuteronomy 15:19-16:22,	Matthew 13:44-58
10/18	Deuteronomy 17:1-20,	Matthew 14:1-21
10/19	Deuteronomy 18:1-22,	Matthew 14:22-36
10/20	Deuteronomy 19:1-20,	Matthew 15:1-20
10/21	Deuteronomy 20:1-20,	Matthew 15:21-39
10/22	Deuteronomy 21:1-23,	Matthew 16:1-12
10/23	Deuteronomy 24:10-25:10,	Matthew 16:13-28
10/24	Deuteronomy 25:17-26:19,	Matthew 17:1-13
10/25	Deuteronomy 27:1-26,	Matthew 17:14-27
10/26	Deuteronomy 28:1-22,	Matthew 18:1-20
10/27	Deuteronomy 29:1-29,	Matthew 18:21-35
10/28	Deuteronomy 30:1-20,	Matthew 19:1-15
10/29	Deuteronomy 31:1-29,	Matthew 19:16-30
10/30	Deuteronomy 31:30-32:27,	Matthew 20:1-16
10/31	Deuteronomy 32:28-52, 33:1-29	Matthew 20:17-34

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

- 7:30am Fresh Brew Bible Study
- 8:30am Divine Service
- 9:45am Education Hour
- 11:00am Divine Service and Kids' Connection
- 6:30pm Confirmation

Monday

- 9:00am Quilters
- 11:00am Women's Bible Study
- 6:30pm Cub Scouts

Tuesday

- 9:00am Old Timers
- 1:30pm Knitting Group
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday

- 6:30pm Wickedly Awesome Wednesdays
- 7:00pm Small Catechism

Saturday

- 8:30am Men's Bible Study
- 9:00am Altar Preparation
- 10:30am AA/Alanon





St. Paul Lutheran Church
 P.O. Box 490
 Hamburg, MI 48139
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship Times

Sunday

8:30 am Traditional Divine Service

9:45 am Christian Education Hour for all ages

10:45 am Fellowship Time

11:00 am Blended Divine Service

11:00 am Kids Connection for preschool-2nd grade after the Children's Message

Monday (During the Summer)

7:00 pm Traditional Divine Service

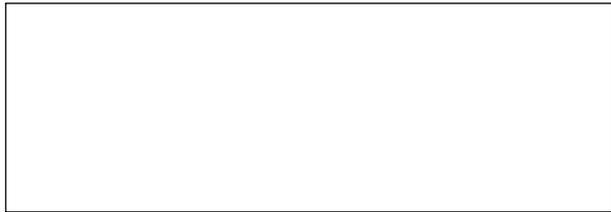
Pastor Robert Riggs
 RoberVRiggs@gmail.com

Michael Hausch, DCE
 mike@stpaulhamburg.com

Miriam Yakimow
 Director of Family Ministry
 miriam@stpaulhamburg.com

Phone: 810-231-1033
 Fax: 810-231-1016
 stpaul@stpaulhamburg.com
 www.stpaulhamburg.com
 Facebook.com/stpaulhamburg

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 Hamburg, MI
 Permit No. 53



Heart &
History

On October 7 from 9:45—10:45 am there will be a Celebration that will include:

Various pictures and timelines will be on display—and some refreshments to enjoy

10:00 am will be a time for sharing stories and information

Brief commentary about the different Milestones of St. Paul

10:30 more time for viewing displays, sharing snacks and visiting with friends



After 11 a.m. worship on October 14 we will have a pot-luck dinner. As a part of that dinner we will have some time to consider our current ministry.

