

March 2010



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The Messenger

Is God Punishing Me?

Problems don't come into your life because God is angry with you. Rather, he is training you to put your life into his hands

"The doctor says it's cancer." "They've eliminated my job." "My spouse is having an affair."

When storms like these come into our lives, even the most stoic person may wonder, "Why is this happening to me? Is God angry with me? Is he somehow punishing me?"

God isn't punishing you

Actually such a reaction is not illogical. If we assume that God is all powerful (i.e., he controls everything in the universe) and that God is just (i.e., he hates sin), then it is only natural to assume that when troubles and hardships enter our lives, it happens because God is sending them to punish us for our past sins.

Unfortunately, that line of logic ignores one important component in God's judicial system: Jesus. Even though God Almighty has every right to punish us for our sins, he chose to send a substitute in our place. God laid all our sins on his sinless son. When Jesus cried out from the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?", he testified that he was enduring the most excruciating punishment possible, namely absolute separation from God—hell!

So what does Jesus' death mean for our lives? It means that God cannot and will not punish us for our sins—because he has already punished Jesus in our place. The apostle Paul says it, "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1).

As long as we cling to Jesus as our Savior, we can be sure that God will continue to pour out his love on us. Again, Paul makes that point: "[God] who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give all things? (Romans 8:32).

God is training you

Yet, maybe that still raises a question. "If God is not punishing me, then why am I experiencing all these troubles in my life?" The short answer to that question is simply "because I'm not in heaven yet." God never promised that the believer's life on earth would be a bed of roses. Quite the contrary. Scripture says, "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God" (Acts 14:22).

Yet, no matter what hardship Christians face, we have the assurance that our loving Father in heaven will use all of them for our eternal good. The Bible promises, "In all things God works for the good of those who love him" (Romans 8:28).

Sometimes God uses hardships as a way to get our attention, readjust our priorities, or steer us away from a path of self-destruction. Other times, God simply wants to give us an opportunity to lean on him as our source of strength in times of trouble. In either case, God's purpose is to "discipline" us, that is, "train" us as his disciple.

Remember that the next time you are faced with a physical or emotional storm in your life, God isn't punishing you for sin. But, in love, he is training you. He is training you to put your life into his hands, in good times and bad, in life and in death.

Rest assured there is no better place to be than in the hands of your loving Heavenly Father.

From Forward in Christ
Pastor Robert Raasch
Mt. Olive, Appleton

To Subscribe: Northwestern Publishing House
1250 N 113 St., Milwaukee, WI 53226-3284
800-662-6093 Milwaukee Area 414-615-5785

Bible Reading Plan for 2010 ...

Ladies Aid

"Read the Bible in Three Years" Every 2 months, you will find a set of readings for the next 2 months.

The next meeting is on Wednesday, March 3 at 12:30 p.m. We will have a brief meeting in the Outreach Center before the Lenten Service.

All women are welcome to join us for any of our Ladies Aid meetings.



Stewardship Thought

Read Deuteronomy 26: 5-10

During this season of Lent, we are reminded of the “mighty hand” and “outstretched arm” of God in our lives. We may have been among those who have lost our job because of downsizing, or who have struggled with the inability to live a “normal” life because of injury or disease, or have experienced neglect or abuse in our personal relationships.

It is difficult for us, just as it was difficult for those who were led by Moses out of Egypt, to focus on the “miraculous signs and wonders” that come our way every day, keeping us filled with spiritual food. God weaves his love, healing hope, and care into our lives. All that we are and have and will be comes to us from God.

During Lent we concentrate upon the Crucified and Risen Christ, the firstfruit of God given for us with unconditional love. Just as God has given us this precious gift, we are privileged to bring our firstfruit gifts to Him in the forms of our time, talent, and treasure.

March

1. Hebrews 10:1-18
2. Hebrews 10:19-39
3. Hebrews 11:1-22
4. Hebrews 11:23-40
5. Hebrews 12: 1-17
6. Hebrews 12:18-29
7. Hebrews 12:1-8
8. Hebrews 13:9-25
9. Numbers 1, 2
10. Numbers 3, 4
11. Numbers 5:1-6:21
12. Numbers 6:22-7:89
13. Numbers 8:1-9:14
14. Numbers 9:15-10:36
15. Numbers 11, 12
16. Numbers 13:1-14:10a
17. Numbers 14:10b-45
18. Numbers 15
19. Numbers 16:1-35
20. Numbers 16:36-18:7
21. Numbers 18:8-19:22
22. Numbers 20
23. Numbers 21
24. Numbers 22
25. Numbers 23, 24
26. Numbers 25, 26
27. Numbers 27, 36
28. Numbers 28, 29
29. Numbers 30
30. Numbers 31
31. Numbers 32

April

1. Numbers 33-35
2. Mark 1:1-15
3. Mark 1:16-34
4. Mark 1:35-2:12
5. Mark 2:13-3:6
6. Mark 3:7-19a
7. Mark 3:19b-35
8. Mark 4:1-20
9. Mark 4:21-34
10. Mark 4:35-5:20
11. Mark 5:21-6:6a
12. Mark 6:6b-30
13. Mark 6:31-56
14. Mark 7:1-23
15. Mark 7:24-37
16. Mark 8:1-26
17. Mark 8:27-38
18. Mark 9:1-29
19. Mark 9:30-50
20. Deuteronomy 1
21. Deuteronomy 2
22. Deuteronomy 3
23. Deuteronomy 4:1-40
24. Deuteronomy 4:41-5:33
25. Deuteronomy 6
26. Deuteronomy 7
27. Deuteronomy 8
28. Deuteronomy 9:1-10:11
29. Deuteronomy 10:12-11:32
30. Deuteronomy 12, 13

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS)

The **National Convention** is June 24-27 at St. Louis, Missouri with a bus planned from the Appleton Area. More information will be published when available.

Another bus trip is leaving from Escanaba, MI and has pickups along the way. This trip is returning on Monday, June 28th. A \$50 deposit will hold your reservation. The cost of the bus trip will be around \$100 if 40 reservations are made. This does not include registration and hotel room.

Our Paperland Spring Rally is Sat., April 24 at St. Paul, Winneconne. We do ride share so please join us by signing up at the bulletin board closer to the date. Our speaker is Pastor Paul Ziemer a WELS military chaplain from North Carolina, who will be visiting at the synod headquarters

Bible Studies

Sunday mornings:

Adults & Teens—We're continuing our two adult studies between services. In the first floor meeting room, the study is:

FAITH'S FIRM FOUNDATION – E ... meeting at 9:15 a.m. Just out the back of church, first classroom to your left. These lessons are the fifth and final part of our Adult Bible Instruction Class.

"WORSHIP IN THE WELS: THEN AND NOW" ... is the study topic until mid March. This Bible class meets between services downstairs in the Outreach Center. Everyone is welcome to join us each Sunday. Mid March the new topic is "Paul's Missionary Journeys."

The Teens [8th—12th grade] are meeting in the Youth Center and are looking at Social Media.

Kids [age 4—7th grade]

The Lord's Prayer
Meet in church

in Milwaukee. The circuit asks we wear red, white, and blue clothing to make a patriotic statement.

We are still collecting Cancelled stamps—No "forever" stamps. Since our Fall Rally, \$282 was raised from selling stamps in our circuit. The ten year total for entire LWMS selling stamps is \$92,113.30. You are asked to keep a quarter inch border around the stamps. If the stamp is a post card, please keep the entire card.

Mission Offering for the Spring Rally will be on March 7th at church. Since the IRS has become very strict about documentation, checks can be made out to the Ladies Aid or LWMS. The Mission Offering is for Pakistan Missions or Outreach to Muslims. Mite boxes are available in the narthex.

Vi Petersen, St. Paul Reporter

*MAKE SUNDAY A TWO HOUR EVENT—
WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY!*

Women's Wednesday Bible Hour—We continue to meet on Wednesdays in the first floor meeting room at 3:45 p.m. for the school year. We are studying "Prophecy in the Bible." All women are welcome to join us and learn more from God's Word.

Thursday morning Bible Hour

Held in the meeting room at 9 a.m. We're looking at *the book of Romans*.

Come and learn with us!



**Make
Sunday a
Two-Hour
Event**



New Secretary

WELCOME TO OUR NEW SECRETARY:

Mrs. Joni Kasten has been hired by the church council as our new church/school secretary and has been working in the office since February 11th. She replaces Mrs. Carla Hoffmann, who took another job

after 11 years of faithful service. We are grateful that Mrs. Julie Dallmann could fill in for us during the application / interviewing process. May God bless Joni as she serves Him through her work in our office.



OUR WELS "CAMP BIRD FOR LUTHERANS"

Information is in this edition of the Messenger. Not only is the camp open for 3 separate weeks, July 11 – 30, to any member children who are currently in grades 5 – 8 in their schools, but there is always a need for junior counselors of high school or college age. This year, there is a special need for CERTIFIED LIFE-

GUARDS for the third week. Adults who might like to be on the senior staff can also contact the camp supervisor. Pastor Rose has information on these positions in the church office.

Mission Partners

Our mission partner remains Zambia at this time. Please note the mission partner banner hanging in our narthex, and the display in the main school hallway with recent letters and pictures from Missionary Dan Sargent.

National WELS Women's Leadership conference—

July 16–18, 2010. Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis.

Theme: "Leading with a Christ-like attitude."

414-256-3278,

caroyn.sachs@wels.net.

Web site, www.wels.net/women.

This is the second such conference to be held at our Seminary. All women of the WELS are invited to attend.

WELS Job Opportunity

Martin Luther College is seeking to hire a director of information technology. The director of information technology provides vision, leadership, planning and management for the development, acquisition, implementation and support of information technology and related systems and services in support of the strategic vision of Martin Luther College. For a detailed posi-

tion description visit the college website at

www.mlc-wels.edu/go/dit

Nominations and applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please email your nomination or resume to Diane Brutlag, MLC Human Resources Officer, at brutladl@mlc-wels.edu. Nominations should include the name of individual, contact information, and qualifications.

Eagle Resale Shop

(inside First Lutheran Church,
743 S. Monroe Ave.)
Open Wednesday 9:00 - 2:00

We are now accepting donations of home décor and household items. If you would like to donate other item, please call first:

Linda Waldschmidt	338-9897
Brenda Sauer	469-9730
Lisa Mitchell	469-0660
Lori Lynch	468-1666

Pioneer Car Derby

Work Session: Wednesday,
March 3rd 3:15—5:00 p.m. for all
participants

Saturday, March 6th
Registration 12:00 Noon
Races begin at 1:00 p.m.

Racers bring a snack to share.



Easter for Kids

Mark your calendars.. Easter for Kids, Saturday, March 27 from 1-4. If you have kids ages 3-10 years consider having them participate in the program. If you have the time, we would love to have your help. Call Lori Lynch, 468-1666 to volunteer.

We will put up a donation poster closer to the event, but the one thing we could really use is...CANDY! It does not have to be small enough to fit in a plastic egg. This year we are putting together treat bags instead. We are planning for 100 kids so any help with the candy is greatly appreciated.

Know Someone With

With Hearing Loss?

In Wisconsin the state government gives \$100 vouchers to any citizen with hearing loss so that they can buy equipment for their hearing loss. If interested please check out the following website to get a voucher. <http://psc.wi.gov/consumerinfo/assistanceprograms/tepp/tepp-ind.htm>

FVL News

Congratulations to faculty members **Pastor Erich Schaser**, who received the YMCA Coach of the Year Award, and **Mr. Dave Voss**, who received the Fans of the Foxes award, at the annual Red Smith Banquet.

Freshman Registration: 115 freshmen are registered for next year. Any current 8th grade student can register any time by calling **Mr. Guenterberg** in the FVL Guidance Department. Toll free number is: 884-0239.

Present enrollment is 606.

Congratulations to senior Alek Brandenburg for receiving the Red Smith FVL student/athlete

Congregational commitments for the month of January totaled \$70,390. The half year mark for the Federation total is at \$469,400 of the \$850,000 commitment goal for the fiscal year.

Growing in Grace gifts for the month of January were \$7,600, lowest monthly total since the inception of the program. The fiscal year total is \$191,400 of the \$400,000 needed by June 30. We are grateful for the many churches and individual donors who continue to support the *Growing in Grace* effort.

March 4 - Discover FVL! All 7th grade students get a taste of high school life at FVL. 12:30 - 4:00 p.m.

April 1 - Grandparents Day at FVL - p.m. (Grandparents can sign up at FVL or with their grandchildren for lunch and an afternoon of presentations and activities) RSVP to FVL



Friendship Registers

It's not easy being a first-time visitor at church. You want to fit in, but where do you start? One way we're trying to make things easier for guests is by using *friendship registers*. There's one in every row. We're not just asking guests to leave their names with us. We, the members, are sharing *our* names with our guests. When we all participate in this little friendly gesture, then it becomes easier for our guests to do it, too. Thank you to our members for faithfully passing the friendship registers at offering time each week. Please keep at it. It's one more way we can communicate to our visitors, "We're glad you're here!"

The Nominating Committee

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE has been meeting to consider men who according to our church by-laws could be elected to church council positions.

Three positions to be elected in the April Voters Meeting are: Congregation President, Board of Education Chairman, and Treasurer.

We need at least two candidates for each office.

We pray that those receiving nomination to office will give it much prayerful thought. Our congregation is in need of men who will say, "Lord, here am I, send me!" [Isaiah 6]

Chapel of the Christ Dedication at MLC

ON THE WEEKEND AFTER EASTER

Saturday, April 10, 2010

11:15-11:45 a.m., children's choir mini-concert

1-3 p.m., organ open console

1-3 p.m., seminars: Worship, Christian Art, Architecture, and Ministerial Education

4:30-6 p.m., art exhibit opening, campus tours

7 p.m., chapel dedication service

8:30 p.m., presentations in chapel: Art and Furnishings, Building of the organ

Sunday, April 11, 2010

2:30 p.m., chapel dedication service

4 p.m., presentations in chapel (repeated from Apr. 10) for more info: Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn. 877-652-1995; mlcinfo@mlc-wels.edu. Web site, www.mlc-wels.edu.

"For specific questions about schedule details, and lodging arrangements you can contact Michelle Gartner, MLC Event Coordinator at 507-217-6157 or gartnemi@mlc-wels.edu."

- Pastor Dave Waege

Remember Those in the Service of our Country!

We have some St. Paul members serving in the armed forces at this time. We are thankful to our Lord that Scott Bartels has returned home safely from his deployment in Iraq.

We are listing the home addresses of others who are still away from Green Bay if you would like to send a note to be forwarded to them:

Kenneth Wipperfurth

2084 Spring Creek Circle

Green Bay, WI 54311

[U. S. Army]

Matthew Fager

836 Neufeld St.

Green Bay, WI 54304

[U. S. Navy]

Amy [Klein] Kielisch

4009 N. River Rd.

Oconto, WI 54153

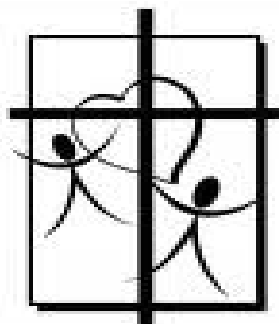
[U.S. Air Force]

Carl Piper

1614 Colony Dr.

DePere, WI 54115

[U. S. Marine Corps]



Outreach Center

Childcare needed: Our Hispanic Outreach Center is really growing with students. Many of them have to bring their children along. We need volunteers to entertain those children so their parents can study. And we are very grateful for those who have been volunteering to help!

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 4-7. Contact Rod Haskins 606-8880, if you can help too.

School News... from Mr. Kasten

Have you heard the term “March Madness”? This term refers to the time when college basketball teams hope for a berth in the NCAA tournament and then begin play in that tournament. Everyone not only hopes that their favorite team will receive a berth in the tournament, but that their team will win the tournament. At St. Paul School we have our own “March Madness” as there are many activities and events taking place this month.

During the month of March Grades K-2 and 7-8 will be attending different performances at the Weidner Center. Grade 7 will travel to FVL for “Discover FVL” Day. Selected students in Grades 5&6 and Grades 7&8 will be participating in the Math Bowls at FVL on March 18th and 23rd. Two students, Erin Royce and Eric Zabell, will travel to St. Peter in Fond du Lac to participate in the WELS Spelling Bee. On that same day the students of Grades 1-4 will present the play “Compose Yourself”. A spaghetti supper will be served prior to the play by St. Paul’s Youth Group starting at 6:00 P.M. Please join us for an evening of fine food and a great performance by the students of Grades 1-4. In the area of music Grades 5-6 for the monthly devotion at the Santa Maria Home, Grades 7-8 sing on March 7th and 10th at St. Paul while on March 14th they sing at First Lutheran. On Thursday, March 11th, counselors from Camp Phillip will be at St. Paul to present programs to the students that promote Christian respect and love for one another. Yes, March is a busy month indeed.

FACE (Friends And Christian Education) is sponsoring a Movie Matinee on Saturday, March 13th, at 3:00 P.M. in the Activity Center. Everyone is welcome!!!! There will be free popcorn for everyone!!!! The movie for that afternoon is “Alvin and the Chipmunks”.

Last month we wrote to update you on the Children Feeding Thousands” Program. Since that time God has graciously blessed this program with wonderful support not only from families, parents, students, and congregational members from St. Paul, but also with support throughout all of the FVL Schools. As of February 20th, St. Paul School has met and exceeded their goal of 10,284 meals by receiving offerings and donations covering 10,730 meals. The total number of meals donated through offerings stands at 199,186 with a goal of 285,000. Offerings and gifts will still be accepted through March 26th for this project as St. Paul School will add meals towards the larger goal so with the Lord’s help that goal can be achieved. Thank you again for your support of this unique project. Our students are looking forward to traveling to FVL in April to help in packaging the meals.

As you are aware, Mrs. Hoffmann has accepted a job offer with the Green Bay Police Department working in their records department. One cannot say enough about Mrs. Hoffmann’s dedicated service as secretary. Her efforts, dedication, and concern were so much appreciated by all of us. We wish her God’s blessings in her new job position.

As you are also aware, Mrs. Carlovsky has announced her resignation effective at the end of this school year as the Carlovsky family is expecting another child at that time. We thank her for her dedicated service and enthusiasm and wish her God’s blessings.

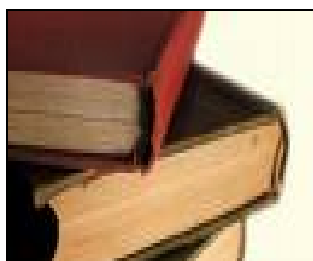
The Ministry Committee of St. Paul has recommended to the Church Council that Mrs. Carlovsky’s position not be filled. A Parent Forum Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 15th, at 6:30 P.M. in the fellowship hall to review for all interested individuals the education of the students of St. Paul School for the 2010-2011 school year.

Kenneth Kasten/Principal

Church Library

The church library is located in the first floor meeting room across from Pastor Rose's office. The library is self-service. There are no set hours; stop into the first floor meeting room anytime to browse. To check something out, just fill out a slip telling us what you took. Instructions are posted.

Contact info: church librarian
Cindy Ramos, 434-1047 or
stpaul.library@gmail.com



Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair assists the families of St. Paul in providing quality, low cost books for the home as well as assisting the school library in purchasing books that will be checked out to the students of our school.

The theme of the book fair is:

Book Fair Diner

Book Fair Times:

Sunday, March 14 9:00 am—12:00 noon

Wed., March 17 3:00—6:30 pm

Friday, March 19 3:00—8:30 pm



SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT NIGHT ...

On Friday evening, March 19, grades 1 - 4 will present "Compose Yourself" after the Spaghetti Supper which begins at 6 p.m. Watch for a sign-up poster.

2 Corinthians 13:4

For to be sure, he was crucified in weakness, yet he lives by God's power.

We hope everyone can find a time to come to the book fair which will be located in the gymnasium.

Lois Reineck, Head Librarian



Soup For The Soul...

We need individuals, couples, or groups to help in hosting these no-cost soup and sandwich and more suppers during Lent.

They begin at 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Thanks to the Ladies Aid for hosting on March 3rd. [Contact person: Suzy Wieting at 499-6639] and Karma Hardy on March 10 [465-9084], and the Schultz families on March 17 [866-1134]. Please call them if you would like to donate any of the food for those nights.

Could you or your group host for any of the remaining Lenten dates: Mar. 17,

Then please sign the poster on the church bulletin board. Thank you!

LENT HAS BEGUN ... Our series this year: **We Preach Christ Crucified.**

Once again we are sharing pulpits with First, Mt. Olive, and Messiah. Please set extra time aside in this Passion Season called Lent to grow in appreciation of all our crucified Savior has done for us!

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
514 S CLAY ST
GREEN BAY WI 54301
435-8468



Church Council Officers

President	Randy Sonnabend	336-7426
Vice-President	Bruce Reineck	336-8264
Secretary	Greg Bakeberg	338-9039
Treasurer	Andrew Holley	498-0339
Board of Trustees	Jim Edmondson	468-9303
Board of Elders	Roland Schultz	866-1134
Board of Education	Scott VanCalster	494-7088
Board of Stewardship	Scott Kohls	469-0869
Board of Outreach	Del Tills	434-6568

Our Congregation's Mission Statement

St. Paul Lutheran Church exists to celebrate our freedom from sin, death, and hell through Christ; to nurture our church family with God's Word for lives of service to Him; and to joyfully share this good news of our salvation with the world around us.

- Matthew 28:18-20



Faculty & Support Staff

Pastors

Roy Rose
645 Brookridge
Green Bay 54301
435-1791

Principal

Ken Kasten
443 S Clay St.
Green Bay 54301

Business Manager

Steve Liebert—469-8277

Planned Giving Counselor

Pastor Dennis Kleist—920-740-5899

Staff Minister

Ben Carlovsky
1950 Ziese Ave
Green Bay 54302

School Faculty

Ken Kasten—grades 7 & 8
Clair Jammer—grades 5 & 6
Betsy Carlovsky—grades 3 & 4
Gretchen Plitzuweit—grades 3 & 4
Jean Bakeberg—grade 2
Tina Sauer—grade 1
Jean Jammer—kindergarten
Julie Zabell—4-year-old kindergarten
Pastor Tim & Terri Flunker—Spanish
Gail Holdt—Computer, Student Aide

Support Staff

Squirrel Beyer—Custodian
Joni Kasten—Secretary
Julie Dallmann—Hot Lunch
Coordinator
Denise Seyler—Childcare Coordinator