



The Messenger

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL (WELS), GREEN BAY

August, 2022

Let Go of Guilt

Acts 3:13-15,19-20

The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this...Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

—Acts 3:13-15,19-20

It can be very hard for us to let go of things sometimes. Maybe it's an heirloom that is broken beyond repair. Maybe it's a sentimental memento that just needs to be tossed. But those things are rather insignificant when you think of the things that are the hardest for us to let go of. It's hard for us to let go of our anger when someone has hurt us. It's just as hard to let go of the hurt we feel when we have hurt someone else. It's so hard because the devil is always there, poking and prodding at the wound because he doesn't want it to heal. He only wants it to fester.

Now imagine the people of Israel Peter was addressing that day on the temple mount! Just think for a moment if those words were spoken to you! Terror! I think we'd stand there wide-eyed with our blood running from our faces! They disowned God's Son! They wanted nothing to do with him. Even after Pilate was going to let Jesus go, their hate was so great that they were on the verge of

— Pastor Ben Enstad

creating a riot to get him crucified! Here was the Holy One, the Righteous One spoken of by the prophets and their fathers and they asked for a murderer instead. They thought Pilate was doing them a favor releasing Barabbas, a convicted murderer instead of releasing Jesus! They gave life to the one who took it, and took it away from the one who gives all life, the Author of Life! What greater guilt than that could there be?

While we all have our own unique burdens of guilt, at the same time those burdens are exactly the same. They are the same because they each bring the same sentence—death.

But there is another way in which our burden of guilt is exactly the same. Even though we deserve to have our guilt weigh us down straight to hell, God doesn't want that for us at all! Through Peter we hear God cry out to us, *Let go of guilt!* He cries this out to us because he has placed all our guilt on Christ our Savior! He calls us to repentance and to see that Christ has not just wiped out our sin, he has completely destroyed it!

God pleads with us, "Return to me!" And why? "Because I have redeemed you! Stop running away from my love! Everything you need, I have. Why let your guilt consume you? Why let it weigh you down? I gave you my Son. I put all your guilt on him already. Let him carry your guilt because he is the only one who can carry it. Turn from your sin and behold all the blessings I long to give to you!"

Friends, *let go of guilt*, and receive that which you've been longing for—RELIEF! So often we're so afraid to acknowledge our guilt, even to those who know about it. But how true it is that as soon as we confess our guilt



Let Go of Guilt

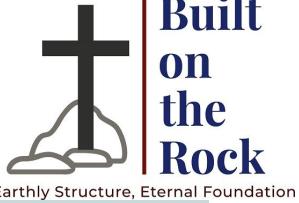
a wave of relief floods our hearts because we don't have to carry that guilt anymore! When we confess our guilt we give Jesus our sin and let him carry it and he gives us his forgiveness!

Again, let go of guilt! And if you ever think your guilt is too great, consider the Israelites' sin. They killed the Author of Life, and yet God still forgave them in Christ. Friends, let go of your guilt and live in the refreshing relief of forgiveness and peace because your Savior is alive!

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The Messenger



Built on the Rock Groundbreaking

The groundbreaking ceremony for our new Ministry Center took place on Sunday, July 17, between services. God blessed us with a beautiful morning, and many St. Paul members were present for the event.

Congregational President Scott Kohls first addressed those in attendance with these reminders:

In the fall of 1951, our St. Paul forefathers started to build our church and the first four classrooms of our school on this site. Thirteen years later, in 1963, they put the next shovel in the ground to build four more classrooms... and in 1994, our members broke ground for the Activity Center. Four years ago, we started to plan for this, our Built on the Rock expansion. In each case, our mission was the same: To reach out to others and tell them about Jesus Christ, our Savior. For seventy years these structures have provided a place for God's saving Word to be spoken in its truth and purity.



In each case, the St. Paul members of their time were challenged by the size and scope of the project in front of them. In each case, God provided. It was true then and it is true today. When complete, the Built on the Rock project will provide additional space so that generations of children can hear and learn God's Word in our school. It will provide dedicated space for us to reach out to others in our community with ESL classes and provide food to those in need. It will provide needed space so that our staff can plan and carry out our mission here at St. Paul.

St. Paul members: WE THANK GOD; FOR ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE THROUGH HIM. Thank you for your prayers and financial stewardship throughout the planning phase of this project. We will need them going forward.



The shovel from the 1951 groundbreaking for the church was used again in our 2022 ceremony.

Chairman of the Built on the Rock Steering Committee, Jim Gamble, spoke next:

This is the day the Lord has made, let us be rejoice and be glad in it!

Welcome and thank you to everyone for joining us this morning as we gather to praise and thank God for the blessings He gives every day and specifically for the His blessings on our congregation and our Built on the Rock project.

The project actually began ten years ago with TTF: Today, Tomorrow Future. The congregation planned two phases of TTF. Phase 1-4 projects, The Sanctuary, the Sanctuary Roof, Miscellaneous Repairs and the Lower Level. Phase 2 was a planned addition to our building. Now, today we call it "Built on the Rock". This phase will be done in two projects. Project "A", the classrooms, the administration area and the lower-level programing space. Project "B" will be the Narthex.

God willing, in thirteen months from now, we will be standing here in this very spot, at the front doors to dedicate the new ministry center addition to our Lord and Savior. More importantly we will be using our new tool, our new building to share the good news of salvation with so many people for generations to come.

August, 2022

Thank you to our congregation for the financial support and your prayers as we continue to move ahead, working together to serve our Savior.

A brief worship service concluded the ceremony and included Scripture lessons and hymns, the official “groundbreaking,” and the following prayer:

Almighty and eternal God, your Son Jesus, ascended on high to rule all creation that it may serve your saving purposes and Christ’s holy people. You have given us the desire and opportunity to build this Ministry Center. What you have started, we boldly ask you to bless. Bring it to completion so that it may serve to glorify your name and benefit your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Groundbreaking was captured on video. Check your latest E-News for a YouTube link.



Several of our young members took their turn with the shovels after the official ceremony.

Food Pantry Update

St Paul's Food Pantry Committee continues to hold a monthly food pantry on the Second Friday of each month. We are very thankful for all of the food and monetary donations that have come from our members. Some of our members have applied for Thrivent grants and used those dollars to purchase food items.

In the last 3 months we have gone from 20 families as our guests to 60 in July. We will be preparing 60 sets of bags for our August 12, 2022 food pantry. We make up one bag of breakfast items and another bag of lunch or dinner food

products. Our objective is to help feed the body and also their soul. We have special invites that we distribute with the food bags that share our church services, school activities and other special events. Your Outreach committee is looking at ways to follow up with the families that come.

We have a very dedicated group of church members that work on shopping, preparing the bags and then distributing food, registering guests and inviting people to our church services and school. We are always in need of more volunteers

and would welcome anyone who wants to serve 2 to 3 hours a month to become new team members.

With the large increase in numbers, food products are needed and appreciated. If any of our members can save paper bags they are needed also. Bags with handles really work well.

If you have any questions or ideas for our St Paul's Food Pantry please share.

Thank you again for your prayers and gifts.

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Fruits of Faith
FOOD PANTRY
A MINISTRY OF ST. PAUL / SAN PABLO

The Messenger

School News

— Principal Stephen Miller



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Romans 15:13

Hope is one of those interesting words that can be used as both a noun and a verb. If you are anything like me, you probably use the word to represent something that may or may not be possible. I hope that I will have my office ready before registration on August 3. I hope it doesn't rain during our Church Picnic/Block Party on August 14. I hope that all of our textbooks and desks arrive before the first day of school on August 24. I hope we will be able to hire enough workers to run our after school program. I hope that God will use my strengths and talents to further His kingdom this school year. Yes, I do hope for a lot of things.

Whenever I find myself using hope as a verb over and over again, I start to wonder if I am truly trusting in the God of hope. Our FVL theme this year reminds us that we will be filled with peace and joy as we trust in Him. He is truly our hope and strength in all situations and we have confidence in knowing that even when the earthly things we hope for do not come to fruition, whatever does happen will support and further His eternal kingdom. I pray that whenever life's troubles cause you distress or anxiety you will find comfort as I do in the words hymn 563, "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness." He is our solid foundation and it is our great joy to serve His good work and kingdom.

In preparation for this newsletter, I had the opportunity to look back at previous newsletters, two years ago most of this part of the newsletter was focused on going over the mitigation strategies for a return to in person instruction. What a

relief that while COVID-19 has not completely gone away and it is still a part of our ongoing national conversations, it is no longer taking the focus away from learning together this year. We will still continue to monitor the situation and should circumstances change, we will communicate and respond appropriately.

I would like to extend a personal thank you to everyone who has helped to get our school ready for the school year. All of the summer deep cleaning and most of the maintenance is being completed by volunteers who are working very hard to ensure that your building is in the best possible shape for the new school year. If you would like to help us with a little bit of cleaning, please reach out to Becky Conard at beckyconard@gmail.com. There is still a little bit of work to do. If you are a little handier and can help with some of the maintenance projects, we have opportunities for you as well, please reach out to Art Schmidt at trustees@stpaulgreenbay.com.

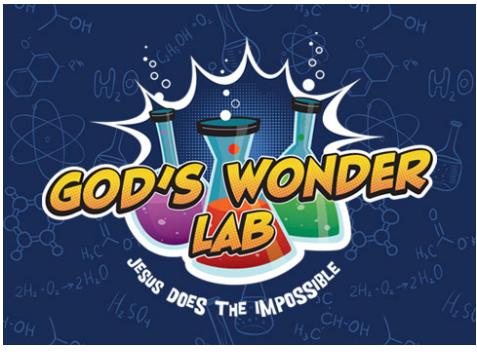
Most of our staff had the

opportunity to attend training at Fox Valley Lutheran this past week. The training focused on our new science and math adoptions and for some of us a new assessment tool called iReady. What a blessing to be a part of such a motivated and committed team both a St. Paul and FVL Schools partners. While the most important work we do every day is to share God's plan for salvation with our students, it is great to know that we have access to such wonderful academic tools to ensure that our students are receiving a high quality and rigorous education.

I feel so blessed to be entering my first year as your principal and look forward to working with the ministry team, our school staff and the entire congregation to support the work of our school. Please keep our students, staff and families in your prayers as we approach the first day of school.

August, 2022

VBS Was Wonder-full!



Clockwise from bottom left: attentively listening to the Bible Lesson, trying not to spill at the water relay, examining the slime they made, and the Friday group photo

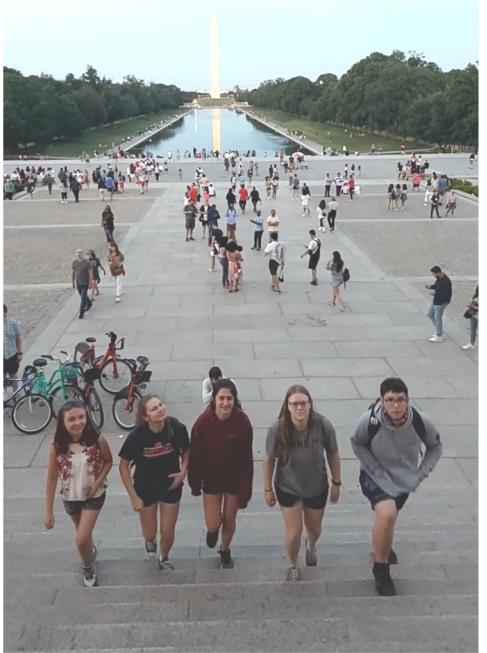
Youth Mission Trip 2022

Last summer's Mission Trip to help with Summer Bible Camp at Grace Lutheran Church in Falls Church, Virginia, was COVID-affected and different. This year, things were back to normal with closer to 200 mask-free kids in attendance, a group from Luther Prep joining us, and fun experiences with no limitations for the five youth connected to St. Paul who traveled and worked to share the good news of Jesus. Below are reflections from two members of the group.

Sydney Plitzuweit tells us:

I got to have the amazing experience of helping out with Summer Bible Camp at Grace Lutheran Church in Falls Church, Virginia. It was a great faith-building experience not just for the kids that came to the camp, but also for me and all the other volunteers. I got the privilege of leading the 1st and 2nd graders. Each day the kids came into the room with excitement, ready to learn more about Jesus and the amazing things God has done for us. They loved dancing, playing games with each other, and telling Cody the puppet all about the awesome things they learned each day. I especially enjoyed the parade at the end of the week where all of them got to dance, sing, and just have fun spreading God's Word to their parents and family members. I remember after the closing service one of the kids I was helping came up to me with his mom and handed me a gift. His mom said that he had a great time here and couldn't wait until next year. It was amazing to see that even though it was just a week and I was just a teenager, it still had a huge impact on him and his family.

—Continued on p. 7



The St. Paul group walking up the steps of the Lincoln Memorial

The Messenger



LWMS News

The 2022 59th Annual LWMS Convention was held, June 23-26 in Rochester, NY. Below are some Convention Statistics. To see more details and view presentations, visit LWMS.org and click the "Convention 2022" button.

Sixty-eight mission flags were presented, including new flags from Honduras and United Kingdom.

Attendance

Registered attendees: 508

Number of circuits represented: 49 of 60

Current membership: 787 congregations ~ 13 individual members

Mission Projects Selected

Ballot

Project #HM-2020-13 ~ WELS Campus Ministry Support- \$55,115.58

Project #WM-2020-29 ~ Native American Special Projects- \$55,115.57

Worship Service Offerings

Project #HM-2020-05 ~ Musical Assistance- \$17,510.69*

Project #WM-2020-28 ~

Latin America Special Projects - \$17,510.69*

Offering Totals

Mission Projects Offering - \$132,346.38

Worship Services Offering - \$35,021.38*

2021–2022 World Mission Project: Outreach to Roma ~ \$50,405.03

Post-Convention Service Offering - *Service offerings will be collected until July 15, 2022.

Present Officers - 2022-2023

- President Patsy Kramer, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
- President-elect Jacky Stoll, Oconto Falls, Wisconsin
- Vice President Pat Miragliuolo, Amherst, New Hampshire
- Secretary Mary Jo Barnes, Torrance, California
- Treasurer Rebecca Jungwirth, Appleton, Wisconsin
- Spiritual Growth-Mission Awareness Coordinator Carol Gibson, Franklin, Indiana

• Communications Coordinator Wendy Wright, Joplin, Missouri

• Pastoral Advisor Rev. Andrew Schroer, Edna, Texas

• Pastoral Advisor Rev. Paul Meier, Neenah, Wisconsin

Kids C.A.R.E.2022-2023 Project - "Mi Amigo Jesús". Family Ministry Outreach Fund-Hispanic Ministries

SAVE THE DATES:

- LWMS Paperland Circuit 2022 Fall Rally on October 15 at Living Water, Oshkosh.
- 2023 ~ 60th Annual LWMS Convention, June 22-25, 2023 ~ Hosted by the Crow River and Rock River Circuits at the La Crosse Convention Center in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

May GOD continue to bless the efforts of our Missionaries and LWMS.

Lisa Koenig
LWMS Reporter
CookieBaker@1791.com

Fellowship Breakfast: Everyone is invited to the monthly Fellowship Breakfast, held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Village Grille on Hoffman Road in Allouez (801 Hoffman Rd.). Please join us on August 9, 8:30 a.m., for good food and chitchat. If you have questions, please email Dennis or Liz Oberer at doberer@new.rr.com.

Brat Fry at Bay Area Life Center The Bay Area Life Center is hosting a Brat Fry on Saturday August 6, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to tour the center, learn more about their mission, and enjoy brats and fellowship. The center will also be providing their normal resources during this time for those who need it. If you would like to learn more about the event or sign up to volunteer, (grilling, greeting, serving food, etc.), please visit their website at bayarealifecenter.com. You can sign up to volunteer under the "upcoming events" tab. We hope to see you there!



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

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL (WELS)

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Youth Mission Trip 2022 — continued from page 5

Another part of Summer Bible Camp I really enjoyed was seeing how much fun the volunteers were having with the kids. You could tell by their smiles and hard work just how much they loved helping out each day. No matter what station you were at, you could always count on being greeted with big smiles and lots of enthusiasm from the helpers. When it was time to leave for the day, it always brought the biggest smile to my face when a kid ran up to their parents just bursting with excitement as they told them what they learned that day.



The kayakers pose for a group shot before exploring the Potomac River.

We also got to walk around D.C. in the afternoon which was always a ton of fun. We got to see amazing sights and make new friendships along the way. We went kayaking, did a scavenger hunt, and got to see some of our nation's greatest monuments. It was great to see some of our country's greatest pieces of history and learn more about them. It got a little exhausting at times with helping out with SBC in the mornings and touring D.C. in the afternoons but seeing how excited the kids were each day to learn about God made it all worthwhile. This trip was a great opportunity to share God's Word with people who maybe don't get to hear it that often and I'm so glad I was able to take part in it.

Anna Nelson writes:

In June I had the privilege of being a part of the mission trip to Grace Lutheran Church in Falls Church, Virginia. We were there for a week to help with their VBS. I was a leader for the 3 and 4 year olds. It was a great opportunity to experience ministry and think about how we/I can best serve our/my Savior in the future. I really enjoy working with this age group because you can make such an impact on these kids and you might not even realize it. At the closing program, the older sister of one of the kids in my group told me all about how much her little brother was talking about me to his family. That was really eye-opening and amazing. It is also awesome to see how quickly the kids can catch on to things like the songs that we learn and how much they love to praise their Savior.

This was my second year on the mission trip, so it was great to be able to reconnect with friends from last year and meet new Christian friends. We stayed with members of the congregation for the week. All of these hosts were very welcoming and kind. The helpers and volunteers love working with the kids and it is evident in their interactions with the kids. We had a lot of fun volunteering and doing activities with the teens from Grace and Luther Prep. In the afternoons after VBS, we got to see monuments in the D.C. area. Even though I have been to D.C. before, it is still cool to see all the different historical sites and places. We also kayaked one day and relaxed at the pool another day.

This was an awesome experience and definitely one of the highlights of my summer. It was great for me to be able to experience ministry especially since I am considering being a teacher. It was amazing to be able to spend time with kids and teach them all about Jesus. It was cool to be able to do a lot of fun and unique activities that we can't do here. It was fun to be able to spend time with other Christian teens. This trip is a great opportunity that most people don't have a chance to experience and I am so thankful that I have been able to be a part of it.

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

August 2022

July 2022							August 2022							September 2022							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
						1	2					5	6						1	2	3
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30		
31																					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jul 31	Aug 1	2	3	4	5	6
8:00am Communion Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Communion Service	6:30pm Communion Service	6:30pm Evangelism Committee Meeting	6:00am Bible Study 9:00am School Registration 9:00am Women's Bible Study 4:00pm School Registration 7:30pm Prayer at the Close of Day	9:00am Bible Study		11am-1pm Bay Area Life Center Brat Fry
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:00am Communion Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Communion Service	6:30pm Communion Service	8:30am Fellowship Breakfast 6:00pm Board of Stewardship 6:30pm Board of Ed. 7:00pm Board of Elders	6:00am Bible Study 9:00am Women's Bible Study	9:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Built on the Rock Steering Committee	4:00pm Drive Thru Food Pantry	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:00am Service 10:30am Outdoor Service / Church Picnic	6:30pm Service	6:30pm Church Council	6:00am Bible Study 9:00am Women's Bible Study	9:00am Bible Study 6:30pm ESL "Committee" & Teachers/Tutors Mtg		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:00am Communion Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Communion Service	6:30pm Communion Service		First Day of School 6:00am Bible Study 8:20am Opening Chapel 9:00am Women's Bible Study	9:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Built on the Rock Steering Committee		
28	29	30	31	Sep 1	2	3
8:00am Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Service	6:30pm Service		6:00am Bible Study 9:00am Women's Bible Study 3:30pm Volleyball A/B Practice	9:00am Bible Study		