



The Messenger

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

June, 2022

Wise Christians Can Follow the Lord's Will — Pastor Jon Zabell

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

— Ephesians 5:15-17

Paul says, "The days are evil."

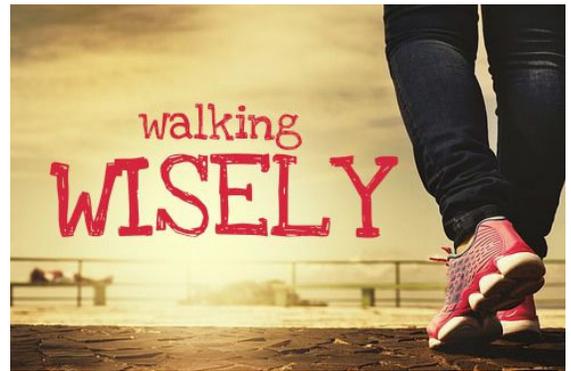
He is writing to the people of Ephesus, a major city in the Roman province of Asia Minor, or present day Turkey. When Paul mentions "evil," maybe he is thinking of the sexual immorality that was so prevalent and so widely accepted throughout the Roman Empire. Or, since Paul is writing from prison (see 3:1, 4:1, and 6:20), it's possible that he is remembering the evil injustice that led to his arrest.

The days are still evil. Stories of hatred, murder, and violence fill our newspapers. When it comes to sexual immorality, our society could give the Roman Empire a run for its money. And this is all just the tip of the iceberg. The greater evil in our world is the evil you can't see. It's the rebellion in sinner's hearts. Sinners take what God calls good and call it sin. Sinners take what God calls sin and

call it good. Such are the desires of your flesh and mine.

Paul says, "Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is." Miracle of miracles: you can! By a miracle of his Holy Spirit, God has opened your eyes to see. Working through his saving word and sacraments, God has made you wise in Christ. You can appreciate the danger of the world around you. You have a healthy respect for how easily you can get sucked in. You can hate your pet sin and every other sin as much as he does. You can fight your sin with the strength he gives. You know Jesus, and so you know what God wants to do with your sin. You can drag your sin out of the hole where it wants to hide, out into the light, to be banished by the forgiveness of Christ. You can listen to God tell you he has buried it in the depths of the sea.

Apart from Christ, you could do none of these things. But God has made you wise in Christ, so that you can understand his will. He has called you to be his own through faith in Jesus,



your Savior. In him you can do more than understand what the Lord's will is. You can follow it.

Father, help me to remember that I am yours, and help me to follow your will. Amen.

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Call Letters

Dear Members of St. Paul,

The Lord has given me peace in a decision about the call to serve at Martin Luther College, and I have returned that call.

Serving the Lord at our synod's College of Ministry would have been a great privilege, and developing a new position as Campus Worship Coordinator promised exciting challenges. My conversations with people at the college surely helped me see the need for someone to fill this role, and I felt compelled to help. I was not feeling right, though, about being a Professor of Music (I'm really more of an Art person) and about other aspects of the call.

I am excited to see what is in store for the St. Paul family as we welcome a new pastor and principal and, God willing, move forward with a building program that will enhance our ministries. The Lord has good plans for us in this place.

Thank you again for all of the encouragement I received as I considered the call and for your generous support of the ministry I do among you.

May the Lord continue to bless the work of us all!
Peter

June 5, 2022

Dear Members of St. Paul,

With a thankful heart, I would like to announce my formal acceptance of the call you extended to me to serve as a third grade teacher at your school. I am grateful for all of the time many of you took to discuss your ministry with me. It is an exciting time for St. Paul! I look forward to joining your ministry, and I pray for the Lord's blessings on our work together!

In Christ,
Hope Loescher

Celebrate Our Freedom: We reaching out to the community on July 4 to talk about real freedom in Jesus. The Outreach Board is planning a cookout, and our Monday evening service will be earlier and outdoors. Plan to stop by on your way to downtown events, or volunteer to help hand out flyers, prepare food, or greet people. Watch for more details in upcoming announcements.

Welcome, Pastor Enstad!

After a period of joyful expectation, it is time to officially welcome Pastor Ben Enstad, his wife, Amber, and children Asher and Celia to St. Paul.

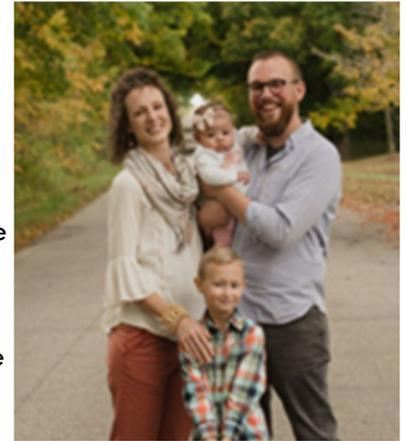
The family hopes to move from Door County to Green Bay during the third week of June. They will live in the church-owned teacherage on the corner of Clay and Chicago until the current hectic housing market allows them to find a home to purchase.

Pastor Enstad's installation is on June 26 (Mark your calendars now, if you haven't already.). Installation worship begins at 4:00 p.m., and a welcome dinner will follow. All members of St. Paul are asked to come and give encouragement to our new pastor and his family.

A special choir is coming together for that day. If you can participate, please come to one or both of the rehearsals scheduled for Wednesday, June 8, 6:30

p.m., and Wednesday, June 15, 6:30 p.m. — or contact Peter for copies of the music to practice on your own.

Help with food for the meal is also needed. We're looking for salads, fruit, veggie trays, desserts... A sign-up sheet with specifics is on the bulletin board, or you can contact Karen Kohls at ka-renk75@att.net / 920-246-2008.



School News

How do we know the Way? In the same way children learn in school how to read words or how to multiply numbers, our students have learned about the Way of salvation, taught by God himself in his Word, throughout the 2021-2022 school year. Jesus is the Way!

We are blessed to have a full staff in place for next school year. At the beginning of May, Mr. Stephen Miller announced that he has accepted the call to be principal at St. Paul. Not even installed yet, he has already spent time at school and is taking on responsibilities.

This past Sunday we heard that Mrs. Hope Loescher has accepted the call to be our third grade teacher. We thank the Lord for his gracious provision and look forward to meeting Mrs. Loescher.

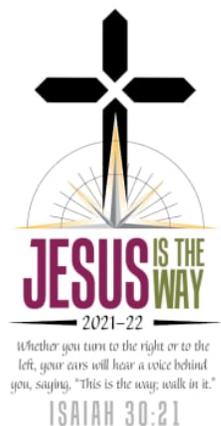
A flurry of activity accompanies the last weeks of school. A highlight this year was the *Mary Poppins* musical performed by many of our students in grades 4-8.

— But now, school's out for summer! May 26 was the final day. We started with a closing chapel service, spent time playing games (indoor, though, because,

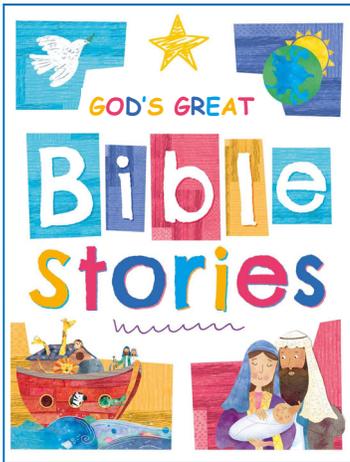
sadly, it was a rainy day), and got together in the evening for a wonderful celebration of Jesus' Ascension and for the graduation of our ten 8th grade students. It was a special day!

Report cards are available to pick up when families come for worship. You can also stop in during office hours or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to school, and we'll mail it to you.

We praise God for another wonderful year at St. Paul Lutheran School!



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Summer Bible Hour

God's Great Bible Stories - Starting June 12, Sunday morning Bible Hour for the summer will be a study of Bible history. For some, these accounts will be new, for some a review — for all, they provide an opportunity to be strengthened in our reliance on our Savior, who rules history to accomplish his saving plan. Watch for titles such as:

I can't understand what you are saying (Gen. 9-11)...

He built the gallows for himself (Esther 4-10)...

This is excellent wine (John 2)...

and *By now he stinks (John 11)...*

...among others. Join the group in the fellowship hall on Sunday mornings starting around 9:15 a.m.

Summer Kids Bible Hour is also back on Sunday, June 12. Children ages 3 and up are invited to come for Bible lessons that highlight sections of the Lord's Prayer. Come first to the fellowship hall for treats and opening prayer.

Built on the Rock Update:

On Thursday, May 19, the voters of St. Paul decided to send the Built on the Rock project back to the Steering Committee and Church Council, asking them to present additional options to the congregation. There was widespread agreement on the need to build, but the spirit of the motion is that we seek to build at a lower initial cost than what was recommended, whether that means scaling back the project or making use of a phased approach.

The steering committee met on Thursday, June 2 to discuss options and is preparing a proposal. **A meeting to present information and seek approval from the congregation is scheduled for Sunday, June 12, 6:30 p.m.**

We trust the Lord of the church to bless our plans going forward for our good and the good of his people everywhere, as he promises: "We know that in all things God works for the good of those he love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

Please continue to pray for our congregation's gospel ministry today, tomorrow, and into the future (a.k.a. TTF: our overarching building theme), and come to hear a new recommendation from your building committee.





Vacation Bible School takes place at St. Paul from July 25-29, 2022, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Our task is to tell about God's Impossible Work for Us.

At *God's Wonder Lab* VBS, the children will learn about how our God can make the impossible possible. He does marvelous things! A science lab conducts experiments that explain how things are possible. In Jesus' ministry, he did things that are impossible. His greatest miracle of all was dying on the cross and rising from the dead for our salvation! Tied to a science lab theme, the Bible accounts of Jesus' miracles for us are about how he turned water into wine, walked on water, raised people from the dead, rose from the dead himself, and brings people to faith in him. The Gospel message of God's gracious gift of Jesus as the Savior from sin, death, and the devil, is the center of every lesson. Reinforcing each lesson will be crafts, games, music, and snacks. There will be a lot of fun, but after the craft glue dries, the decorations come down, and the snacks are all eaten, the only thing that matters is that the children in our

VBS know their need for a Savior and that Jesus Christ alone is that Savior. That's our mission.

How can you help with this experiment?

Get the word out:

- Register your children and invite a friend or two to join them...
- Talk to your neighbors, relatives, co-workers and everyone about our exciting VBS... (Watch for registration forms or postcards to come soon, so you can share them right away.)
- Help distribute postcards to our St. Paul neighborhood families...

Volunteer:

- Be here to help greet children, supervise, play, and move them from station to station...
- Come before or after VBS to help decorate, set up for the day, clean up afterwards...

Donate:

- Monetary gifts to our VBS program help us purchase supplies for the week...
- Snacks (homemade cookies, fruits and veggies, lemonade, water bottles...) help us provide great treats more easily...

Pray:

- That a number of children who do not know what Jesus has done for them will come to St. Paul Vacation Bible School 2022...
- For all of our volunteers...
- For good weather during VBS week...
- That the Holy Spirit will work in the hearts of many children as they hear about how Jesus saves the world!

Talk to Peter if you'd like to help in any way.

Thanks for your support!

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LWMS News

LWMS 2022 Convention, June 23-26: If you are a spontaneous vacation planner, you still have time to attend. The fun begins on June 23rd. For those unable to attend in person, there are ways to connect. Watch our website www.lwms.org and our Facebook page for details on live-streaming options and other ways to join in convention fun. If you'd like to make a donation, which will be used for mission projects, it can be sent to: LWMS Central Office, 11200 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis, WI 53214. Designate your donation to "Convention Offering" and the monies will be used to support the missions not selected on the ballot voting. Donations are also accepted online on www.lwms.org.

Reminders:

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 June 14, 8:30 a.m., for good food and chitchat. If you have questions, please email Dennis or Liz Oberer at doberer@new.rr.com.

English as a Second Language Classes: As we continue to transition to more in-person activities, we are looking to get our ESL classes started again. If you would like to be a part of the planning or are interested in volunteering, please contact Stephen Miller at outreach@stpaulgreenbay.com or (920) 328-5054.

Taste of Missions, June 11: Do you love learning about mission work? Be sure to take part in Taste of Missions, which is happening Saturday, June 11, at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary starting at 11 a.m. (CT). If you can't attend in person, you can attend virtually. Check out the website www.tasteofmissions.com for details.

SAVE THE DATES:

- 2022 ~ 59th Annual LWMS Convention, June 23-26, 2022 ~ Hosted by Freedom Circuit, in Rochester, New York at the Joseph A. Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center. The theme is "Set Free in Christ".

- 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 the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS).

Lisa Koenig
LWMS Reporter
CookieBaker@1791.com
920-469-1758





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)

514 S. Clay St., Green Bay, WI 54301, www.stpaulgreenbay.com, (920) 435-8468, Facebook

Sharing light...and s'mores

by Rev. Scott Schwertfeger, home missionary at Zion Lutheran Church, Lodi, WI

Zion had been thinking about starting a new site for gospel ministry for about a decade. Lord willing, in the summer of 2022, we will be starting worship in the city of Lodi, about 13 minutes away from our country church in the Arlington/Leeds, Wis. area. It has been quite a journey! Jesus says, "Let your light shine in people's presence, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). In 2021, an opportunity came along to do just that.



In 2021, we started a Lodi Ministry Team focusing on ways to be involved in the community. For the last few years, we had a float in their Christmas Lights Parade on the second Saturday in December. The idea came up to have a community s'mores party after the Christmas Lights Parade. There was a park nearby and if we could get a few fire pits and a crew of people to help, we might be able to pull it off. We asked the city officials if we would be able to do this and a problem arose. There was no one to organize and lead the Christmas Lights Parade this year. If a group didn't get a permit within 24 hours, then it wouldn't be happening. The chairman of our committee sent out an email, and we decided to do it. We put \$25 toward the permit, and our Lodi Ministry Team of about 20 went to work. Our congregation helped out in so many ways. We blanketed the community with fliers about the event and asked people in the community to sign up and build a float to have it in the parade. Information about the event made it into the local paper a couple of times talking about "Zion Lutheran Church of Lodi," and we didn't even have a worship site there yet! The Facebook event reached 31,115 people. There were 1,226 responses. Twelve floats were in the parade, including ours. Over 500 people from Lodi lined the streets for the parade. Over 200 people stayed afterwards to hear the Lodi High School Chamber Choir sing carols and gather around one of our three fire pits to make s'mores with us. It was a great honor to not only be a part of it, but to plan it and make sure this community event continued for Lodi.

During the parade we handed out small bags to the spectators. Inside were two marshmallows, a fun-sized Hershey's bar, and two graham crackers to make s'mores at the park after the parade. Also included in each bag was a sticker that said, "Need S'more Jesus?" and had our website listed. At the park we had a few hundred sticks for making s'mores on hand and a table with Zion members handing out wipes for people who wanted clean hands or another s'more.

This community need for a parade organizer was a gift from God. It allowed us to share not just pretty Christmas lights but Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. We thank God for the opportunity.

On Christmas Eve of 2021, we signed the lease to hold worship in Lodi in 2022.

Lodi was recently approved as an unsubsidized home mission at the spring Board for Home Missions meeting. Learn more at wels.net/newstarts.

June Brings a Mission Trip and the WELS Youth Rally: Please keep representatives of our St. Paul youth in your prayers as they travel to help with Summer Bible Camp at Grace Lutheran in Falls Church, Virginia, from June 18-25. A couple are also attending the WELS Youth Rally in Knoxville, TN, from June 28-July 1. We'll share stories from both adventures soon.

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

June 2022

May 2022							June 2022							July 2022							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
														31							

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 29 8:00am Communion Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Communion Service 11:30am Private Gathering - Fellowship Hall 1:00pm Private Memorial Service in Church	30 Memorial Day 6:30pm Communion Service	31 6:30pm Special Voters Mtg - Ministry Financial Plan	Jun 1 6:00am Bible Study 9:00am Women's Bible Study 11:30am Ladies Aid Luncheon 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm Prayer at the Close of Day	2 9:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Built on the Rock Steering Committee	3	4 Wedding Madison VanStraten; Algoma, WI
5 8:00am Communion Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Communion Service 11:30am Farewell to Mr. Fischer & Mrs. Walkley	6 6:30pm Communion Service	7 6:30pm Evangelism Committee Meeting	8 6:00am Bible Study 9:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Installation Choir Rehearsal	9 9:00am Bible Study	10 2:00pm Erin Royce wedding 4:00pm Drive Thru Food Pantry	11 6:00am Bellin Run Hospitality Tents
12 8:00am Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Service 6:30 pm Special Voters Meeting: Built on the Rock Project	13 6:30pm Service	14 8:30am Fellowship Breakfast 6:00pm Board of Stewardship 6:30pm Board of Ed. 7:00pm Board of Elders	15 6:00am Bible Study 9:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Installation Choir Rehearsal	16 9:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Built on the Rock Steering Committee	17	18 Mission Trip
19 Mission Trip	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 8:00am Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Service & Installation of Officers 4:00pm Installation of Pastor Enstad 5:00pm Pot Luck Reception	27 6:30pm Service	28	29 6:00am Bible Study 9:00am Women's Bible Study	30 9:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Built on the Rock Steering Committee	Jul 1	2