



September 2022



# The Disciple's Connection

## Education Opportunities (i.e. BIBLE STUDY)

Just about everyone is back in school as I type this [all parents can shout Halleluiah! If you want]. In my mind, it's always a time to highlight the education [i.e. BIBLE STUDY!] opportunities we have. Here at St. Paul's, we are planning for our Preschool year to begin on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Sunday School for the young children didn't take the summer off, so it continues Sunday morning @ 10:45. Erin Cardina and Eric West will be our primary Sunday School teachers, leading children & teens through the truths of the Bible. The 2 Adult Bible Study times remain @ 8:30 & 10:45 Sunday morning. We are still working through the Book of Acts. Education [i.e. BIBLE STUDY!] is not found on Sunday only. Our Women will continue their look at Bible Studies out of the Lutheran Women's Quarterly on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. And our Thursday night Virtual Bible Study has recently resumed.

When things around us seem to be changing daily, it is good to have an anchor like God's Word. There is only good that comes out of opening God's Word and opening our heart & mind to a deeper understanding. Maybe I'm a bit naïve, but can anyone tell me something more important than teaching our children the love and will of God? Is there another class more valuable than a good Bible Study so adults, too, are taught the Word of God? Solomon had these wise words on Proverbs, "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." Paul writes in 2 Timothy, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." Parents, I hope you realize the importance of teaching your children God's Word. Adults of all ages, I hope you see the importance of regular study of God's Word. There's no more sure anchor for life than God's Word.

Again, if you are ready & eager to engage with others in studying God's Word, then I invite you to come and study together. You will learn about Jesus, the value of a strong relationship with him. You will see how your faith is used in all situations of life. You will be strengthened by talking about these biblical truths with other believers of all walks of life. It's never too late to start. Let the beginning of this new school year be a new beginning for you as well. Come early, stay for a while after worship service, the choice is yours. Create a little time during the week. You might just find Sunday School and Bible Study become an important part of life. You won't know for sure until you give it a try

In Christ

*Pastor Sundbom*

*"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." 2 Tim 3:16-17*



## Our Ascended Christ

By Roy S. Askins

When I served as a missionary, I traveled frequently and often missed my children's birthdays. When I did, I brought home a gift for them from my travels. This left my children in a dilemma: They wanted me home for their birthdays, but they also appreciated the unique gifts.

My eldest daughter preferred the gifts. It only took a dress from India for me to find myself in the unique position of being encouraged by her to travel over her birthday. She had decided she benefited more from my absence than my physical presence.

The disciples faced a different dilemma. Jesus said to them, "Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you" (John 16:7). The disciples became sorrowful over Jesus' impending departure, and yet, His departure was necessary. The gift of the Holy Spirit, which the disciples did not yet fully understand, would not be given so long as Jesus remained with them.

There are many differences between your father traveling for work and Jesus' ascension. One of the major differences is that Jesus' ascension does not mark His absence. He promised the disciples in Matthew 28:20, "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." His ascension (Luke 24:50–53 and Acts 1:6–11) does not mark His absence, therefore, but His presence among the disciples and the church in a different way. He would now be present with them through the Means of Grace, that is, the Word and Sacraments.

Christ's ascension marks the transition from His earthly presence to His session at the right hand of God. "Session" refers to Jesus' sitting at the right hand of the throne of God. Your child might wait for his session in the principal's office, or you might have attended a session at a conference during which you sat and listened to someone speak. In a much greater way, our Lord Jesus Christ sits at the right hand of the throne of God, and from this position of power directs all things for the good of His Bride, the church.

The church fittingly celebrates this event with all joy. Our Lord Jesus Christ, who retains our flesh and blood, sits at the right hand of the throne of God and directs all things for our good. Therefore, not only will you find instruction in this issue on the ascension and what it means for you as Christians, but also how to recover and celebrate this great feast in your own congregation. As many people have often missed this great feast, we also included a sermon so that you might find comfort in Christ's session at the right hand of God.



## Life Quotes for September

**September 4** “We all belong, first and foremost, to God. His creative and redemptive acts bring value and meaning to our lives. Because we belong to Him, He provides all we need. Our lives also belong to each other, and because we are connected through the body of Christ, we are not alone. We are necessary to each other as we serve through our vocations.” *Michelle Bauman, director of Y4Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

**September 11** “A Christian funeral isn’t the end. Yes, we don’t deny death. That would be foolish and insensitive. But in Christ, we defy death. That’s Christian. Because the dead don’t stay down when Jesus is involved. They are saints triumphant! Encourage one another with these words.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota Illinois – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

**September 18** “To be authentic is to be vulnerable with others—and that may make us fearful. It might be messy, and that makes us uncomfortable. It takes time. Our reminder as we [the Church] seek to become a place of belonging is 1 Corinthians 12:18: ‘But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.’” *Mona Fuerstenau– A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

**September 25** “Every time we speak up for the sanctity of life, whether for the unborn, the disabled, the elderly, or the marginalized, we speak for hope. Every time we drop some coins or a check into a baby bottle, we stand for hope and healing and life. Every time we personally care for someone or hug someone or talk to someone who is in a crisis pregnancy or is disabled or is elderly or is marginalized, we show them Christ. We show them the common ground that transcends all our differences. We show them that all our lives matter because God made us. He chose each of us to be His child, and He will never leave us or forsake us. Let us never give up on baby bottle drives and hugs and smiles. The world needs us!” *Barbara A. Geistfeld, D.V.M., Lutherans For Life regional director of Texas – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

# Announcements

## “To Gather...Together”

This is the theme of the 29<sup>th</sup> LWML Northeast Zone Retreat. The retreat theme is based on Acts 14:27 (*On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles*). All ladies are invited to join us at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Madison on September 24 from 9:00-3:15. Check the Friendship Circle board for the retreat poster, further information and registration sheets for this fun-filled, Christ-centered event. Cost is \$25.00/person. Registration deadline is **September 10**. Questions? Please contact Billie Lelle (440-867-2747).



## LWML Weekend 2022

LWML Weekend will be held on October 1&2. The theme is “For Us and With Us” based on Romans 8:31-39. We will also have a traditional (LET’S GET NOISY) mite gathering to support the 13 grants of the LWML Ohio District and the 28 grants of the national LWML. To learn more about these grants please check <http://lwmlohio.org> under the “Our Mites at Work” tab.

## Have you feeding your mite box?

Our mite giving for the month of July was \$43.40 and \$358.81 in August.

**To God be the Glory!**

Did you know the LWML Ohio District will be funding 13 grants this biennium (2022-2024)? Read about them at <http://lwmlohio.org> and then prayerfully consider feeding your hungry mite box. Ohio District Convention.



## Backpack Campaign Status

Many thanks to Jeff Troutman, Star Graziadei; Ken Chaffee, Dennis Concoby and Vicki Ulmman for helping to stuff the school supplies and toys into the backpacks. We have 48 backpacks ready to go for the coming preschool year. They will be distributed on Orientation night.

## Outreach Hotdog Lunch Update



Many thanks to Jeff Troutman, Craig McConnell, Star Graziadei; Ken, Matt and Jacob Chaffee; Amy Marizek and Pastor Paul for helping to flag down neighborhood customers for the neighborhood hot dog lunch.

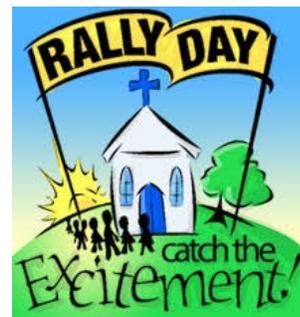
Special thanks to Jenn Drake for serving most of the customers and giving preschool families tours of the school. We also would like to thank Brian Herder who showed up unannounced and helped to drag folks in off the road for hotdogs.

It was a great success. All 50 hotdogs were served, which made for an almost 50% increase over last year's attendance. Thank-you Amy and Karen Krueger for making and distributing the flyer to the preschool families. As a result, we had four preschool families come at 11:30 a.m. and stay all the way to closing time, socializing at the picnic tables. A great time was had by all.

## Sunday School Rally Day!!

Rally Day will be on Sunday, September 11th. The session will run from 10:30am-11:30am.

Our theme this year is "We are the church" with Colossians 3:17 in mind: "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."



Classes available:

- The High School Class lead by Eric West meets in the classroom by the church office.
- The Middle and Early Childhood Class lead by Erin Cardina meets in the classroom next to the kitchen.
- The Adult classes meet in the kitchen. Note that this class is also available from 8:15-9:15am.

If you have any questions, please see Erin Cardina or call/text (440)231-5613.

## Altar Flowers



A great way to remember any occasion is with Altar Flowers. The Altar Flower Chart is located in between the two sets of double doors leading to the kitchen. Just sign up next to the appropriate weekend. Clearly print the occasion being remembered, who the flowers are for and who they're from.



Altar flowers are \$40.00. Place the monies in an envelope labeled "Altar Flowers" with the weekend date and put the envelope in the collection plate.

## Prayer Quilts

Don’t forget to let JoEllen Graziadei or Kristi McConnell know when you have a friend, neighbor or family member that is in need of encouragement and prayers. We can send a prayer quilt to them with a card and an invitation to church. In these troubled times, it's more important than ever to tell people God loves them and we are here for them.



## Updated Congregation Members Directory

The next time you attend worship service check your mailbox for the updated Congregation Members Directory.



A form will be placed in your mailbox by September 4th containing the information we currently have for you with space to make corrections. In mid-October St. Paul’s will be publishing a new congregation members directory. Please make any changes necessary and place the form in the Church Office mailbox located on top of the mailboxes in the sanctuary by September 30.

## Local Farmers Markets

It’s that time again for fresh fruits and vegetables. Check out these local farmers markets.

### Madison

**Date:** Thursdays, May 17 - September 27  
**Time:** 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
**Location:** 126 W. Main Street, Madison, OH

### Mentor

**Date:** Fridays, June 17 - September 23  
**Time:** 3 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
**Location:** Eleanor B. Garfield Park

### Painesville

**Date:** Thursdays, June 2 – September 22  
**Time:** 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.  
**Location:** Downtown Painesville—Painesville Square near Main Street



### Willoughby

**Date:** Saturdays, May 7 - October 29  
**Time:** 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
**Location:** Parking lot of Willoughby City Hall  
1 E. Spaulding, Willoughby, OH



## August Meeting Notes

- 1) **Pastor's Report:** Pastor reported making 45 calls, 3 shut-in visits, 2 hospital visits, officiated 1 wedding, and 1 funeral. Pastor will attend Pastor's Conference in Columbus Oct. 11-13, as well as Preschool workshop with staff at District Office Aug. 12 and a workshop at Faith in Mentor Aug. 13-17.
- 2) **President's Report:** Eric reported Preschool staff's contracts have been signed, hoping for a good turnout for the Picnic, and that he will address the congregation about our finances.
- 3) **Vice-President's Report:** Brian announced the carpet will be cleaned throughout the church and classrooms Aug. 11.
- 4) **Treasurer's Report:** Russ reported that our cash situation is down \$12,000 last fiscal year, total loss for the year was \$15,000; Income was down \$10,000 while expenses were up \$8,000. Our current cash balance is about \$22,000-- we are falling behind our budget needs every month. He also said our utilities costs will go up sharply this coming year. It was mentioned a fundraiser dinner might be considered.
- 5) **Education Report:** Erin reported Sunday school and Bible study attendance has been averaging 15 per Sunday this summer, and that plans and theme for the fall to be announced.
- 6) **Preschool report:** Star reported enrollment still slow, 36 now enrolled, contracts have been signed, all tuition for last year has been collected, and that staff will attend a workshop Aug. 12. Final cleaning will be Aug. 29 and fire inspection will be Aug. 31, and that Outreach Committee will hand out backpacks to students during orientation. Also a few students/families attended Hot Dog Luncheon, Popcorn Fundraiser will be late Sept/early Oct, and possible Trunk-or-Treat in late October--will communicate with Outreach Comm. on these events.
- 7) **Elders Report:** Dale reported membership is 149 with 80 households, Elders' board has been updated with current assignments posted; will meet Aug. 10.
- 8) **Stewardship Report:** Ken Chaffe has prepared Time/Talent survey to be handed out soon, and kicked around a few thoughts on how to better approach visitors and Preschool families at services and events.
- 9) **Financial Secretary:** Jenn reported a few months still need help with collection counters.
- 10) **Outreach Report:** Kristi reported backpacks will be ready to be handed out to Preschool kids (including toy cars), Hot Dog Lunch went well including 4 families from Preschool (48 dogs in total), movie matinee will resume in the fall, and plans for a meal for Fire Department and ideas for community outreach will be discussed.
- 11) **Building & Grounds Report:** Craig reported replacing several light bulbs throughout the building, repairing mailbox lid, the Cub Cadet mower has found a new home, the kid's drinking fountain still needs additional work, and AT&T has been called to correct their line to the FAX machine. Outside trim for the front stained-glass windows will be replaced in Sept. and sections of the parsonage fence need to be repaired/replaced.
- 12) **Contribution Secretary Report:** Dennis reported that contributions for the first 31 weeks are down \$11,098(9.3%) from last year with nearly every month we are short of our budget needs. The average number of contributors in July was 23 down from 28 last July.

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES continued**

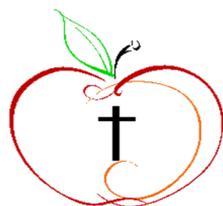
**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1) Need to check if the Defibrillator machine needs to be updated.

**NEW BUSINES:**

- 1) Church Picnic: Sunday Aug. 14 @ Townline Park, 12-4pm.
- 2) Sunday school Rally Day, Sept. 11.
- 3) Organist situation back to normal with the return of Marlyss Sekki. Plans are choir to resume in the fall.

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, September 7, @ 6:30pm.**



# From the Preschool

## “We are WILD about Preschool!”

As we have in the past a donation board will be available for congregation members to select items from the board. You can make donations either monetarily or with the direct purchase of the items and bringing them to the church. This year we would like to add some fun curriculum materials to our list. There are wood Bible story pieces available that would allow us to bring wood pieces into the classrooms so that the children are able to retell or act out Bible stories. Each



story set is approximately \$30.00



If you would like to help with these items or the other items on our donation board please select a zoo animal from the board. The board will be displayed by August 21st. We thank you for your continued support of our pre-

# September Birthdays

Kelly Tuttle	1st
Leigh Wojkowski III	1st
Kelly Hines	3rd
Judy Ladany	10th
Eric Davis	10th
Ryan Tuttle	13th
Kirsten Salminen	13th
Connor Greig	14th
Jeff Troutman	17th
Karen Johnson	17th
Peggy McDonnell	17th
JoAnn Lefelhoc	18th
Kristi McConnell	21st
Elizabeth West	26th



# September Anniversaries

Jerry & Judy Ladany	66 years on Sep 04
Rich & Michelle Szoradi	28 years on Sep 10
Don & Diane Wayner	39 years on Sep 17



# September Word Search

## Genesis - Isaac and Rebekah

C	N	O	S	E	R	I	N	G	E	N	E	E	O
U	M	L	C	D	A	A	B	R	A	H	A	M	K
E	D	I	M	A	N	P	R	O	M	I	S	E	D
R	W	E	L	L	M	A	R	W	R	E	R	S	R
S	G	K	S	C	A	E	A	S	T	R	A	W	L
E	S	H	R	S	A	T	L	N	S	W	L	H	P
V	R	R	A	Y	E	H	M	S	E	R	H	I	H
I	S	K	J	R	U	L	C	N	R	E	F	R	A
T	A	N	L	T	R	F	B	A	V	O	R	A	K
A	R	I	A	N	H	O	C	H	A	L	I	D	E
L	A	R	B	U	I	D	N	O	N	S	M	A	B
E	H	D	A	O	S	D	N	R	T	W	I	F	E
R	N	L	N	C	B	E	T	H	U	E	L	D	R
E	S	O	G	N	I	R	P	S	F	F	O	S	A

NAHOR  
 MILCAH  
 WATER  
 PROMISED  
 REBEKAH  
 FODDER  
 ISAAC  
 ABRAHAM  
 DRINK  
 JAR  
 NOSE RING  
 RELATIVES  
 SARAH  
 STRAW  
 SERVANT  
 WIFE  
 OFFSPRING  
 BLESSED  
 BETHUEL  
 CAMELS  
 COUNTRY  
 LABAN

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3910514/>

## Those Who Serve: September 2022

### ELDERS:

6:00 P Saturday Dale Kerver  
9:30 A Sunday Craig McConnell

### LECTORS:

9/3/22 6:00 P Saturday Pastor Sundbom  
9/4/22 9:30 A Sunday Eric West  
9/10/22 6:00 P Saturday Pastor Sundbom  
9/11/22 9:30 A Sunday Terry Wakelee  
9/17/22 6:00 P Saturday Dave Murphy  
9/18/22 9:30 A Sunday Jenn Drake  
2/24/22 6:00 P Saturday Dave Murphy  
9/25/22 9:30 A Sunday Jack Lelle

### COUNTERS:

Terry Wakelee, Connie Concoby,  
Dennis Concoby

### GREETERS:

6:00 P Saturday  
9:30 A Sunday

**SIGN UP IN SEPTEMBER TO  
GREET YOUR FELLOW  
DISCIPLES.**

**Sign-up sheet located on the  
double doors at the back of the  
Sanctuary.**

### St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Preschool

250 Bowhall Road Painesville, OH 44077

(440)354-3000 | [www.splcpainesville.org](http://www.splcpainesville.org) | [office@splcpainesville.org](mailto:office@splcpainesville.org)

#### Staff

Paul D. Sundbom, Pastor  
Marlyss Sekki, Director of Music/Organist  
Matthew Chafee, Organist  
Peggy McDonnell, Admin Assistant

#### Worship Services

Saturday 6:00pm  
Sunday 9:30am

#### Sunday Bible Study

Adult 8:30am & 10:45am  
Children 10:45am

#### St. Paul's Preschool

Amy Marizek, Director  
[preschool@splcpainesville.org](mailto:preschool@splcpainesville.org)  
[www.stpaulspainesville.com](http://www.stpaulspainesville.com)

## Also Supporting



250 Bowhall Road  
Painesville, OH 44077  
440-354-3000



508 Mentor Avenue  
Painesville, OH 44077  
440-357-7778

# September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
 <p><b>COMMUNION SERVICE</b></p>		<p><b>WORSHIP SCHEDULE</b></p> <p>Saturdays - 6:00pm Sundays - 9:30am Sunday School - 10:45am Adult Bible Study—8:30am &amp; 10:45am</p>		<p>Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-2:00pm</p> <p>Birth Flower: Aster &amp; Forget-me-Not</p>	<p>7 pm Virtual Bible Study</p> <p>7 pm Preschool Parent Orientation</p>	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	 <p><b>LABOR DAY</b></p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>Read a Book Day</p> <p>7 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>6:30 pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>7 pm Virtual Bible Study</p>	<p>Star Trek Day</p>	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
 <p>Grandparents Day</p>		<p>Preschool Student Orientation All Classes</p> <p>Circuit Meeting 9:30 am</p> <p>7 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>First Day of Preschool for 4s T/W/TH &amp; Pre-K</p> <p>6:30 pm Elder's Meeting</p> <p>6:30 pm Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>First Day of Preschool for 3s T/TH</p> <p>6 pm Outreach Meeting</p> <p>7 pm Virtual Bible Study</p>		<p>Circuit Bike Tally 50K 7:30 am</p> <p>Batman Day</p>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<p>Circuit Forum 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Talk Like a Pirate Day</p>	<p>7 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>International Day of Peace</p>	 <p>7 pm Virtual Bible Study</p>		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
		<p>National Chocolate Milk Day</p> <p>7 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>6:30 pm Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>7 pm Virtual Bible Study</p>		<p>Bulletin Announcements Due Wednesdays</p> <p>Birthstone: Sapphire</p>