

Christ's Calling Card



St. Paul's Lutheran Church ELCA
401 Mill Street Wilton, WI 54670

September October 2021
Bi-Monthly Newsletter



Message from Pastor Cathy Morris

From Jesus' Sermon on the Mount--

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"You are the light of the world." Have you ever thought of yourself as "the light of the world?" Jesus is telling us in this scripture passage, that each one of us, all of his disciples, have a light within us that we are to shine before others. It is a light given to us to use for the sake of God's world.

The photos surrounding this letter, are scenes from creation that I hope will help you to "let your light shine." In photo 1, we see a bunny (yes, it is there, can you find it) trying to blend in with his/her surroundings. This bunny is trying to hide its light "under the bushel basket," even though the bunny remains in plain view! This can happen with you, too, when you try to blend in, or don't believe that you are capable of doing more, or of being a leader. This is what happens when you hide your talents, skills, and spiritual gifts "under the bushel basket."

In photo 2, we see another bunny in the midst of a field of green. This bunny is using his/her senses to help determine what to do. It is listening, it is looking at what is around him/her with eyes wide open, it is taking things in to determine how to begin its journey. You can do this too. You can use your senses, and your other God given gifts to survey the needs around you in the church and world, and in so doing, "let your light shine." Con't



Pastor Cathy Con't

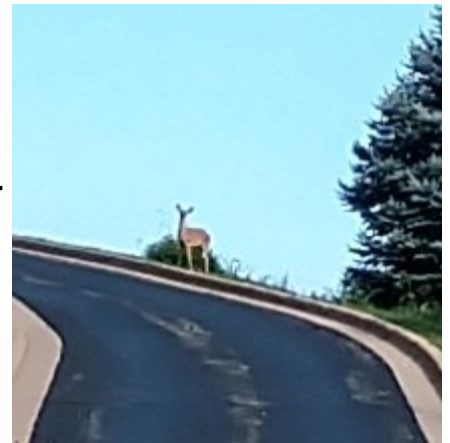


In photo 3, we see two birds. They are surveying the situation, but they are also poised to take off! They are going to take on whatever lies ahead, to use their whole selves to accomplish the task, and to do it together. Seeing these birds can encourage you to begin your journey, and to do it with someone else. In this way, you can "let your light shine," and encourage others to join you too!

In photo 4, we see a deer. It has begun its journey and is halfway to its goal. It has set out, and it is already making good progress. Now it has stopped to look back to see how far it has come! This is what all of us can do from time to time. To see what we have accomplished thus far for God's glory, and to set out again to complete the rest of our journey.

The scripture passage above, speaks to all of us, but specifically to each one of us by using the word, "you." You are not to hide "your light under a bushel." Rather, you are to do God's work in the world, and in so doing, bring attention not to yourself, but to God.

This passage made me think about ways in which each of you can use your spiritual gifts. For children, this could be through Sunday school or Confirmation class. For youth, this could be in taking on a special project at church with friends. For youth and adults, this could mean helping in multiple ways—participating on a church committee, seeing something that needs to be done, and offering to do it; organizing or helping with a special event, joining W-ELCA or quilting, being a reader or cantor during worship, organizing a "God's Work, Our Hands" activity, etc... There are many possibilities, but each requires taking the first steps.



You can begin your journey by talking with a council member, a committee chair, our W-ELCA president, Carolyn, or me. In this way, you can take your first step to "let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

Peace,
Pastor Cathy



From the Council President



As we move into fall, we will be transitioning back to our “normal” schedule – Sunday school at 9:00 am and worship service at 10:15am will start on September 12th.

Even though we are going back to our normal times, the world is still not yet back to normal. The last 2 months have shown us that this pandemic is far from over. At the beginning of July, we were all hopeful that the pandemic was almost over as average infection rates in Wisconsin dropped to 60 cases a day. Since then however, cases have increased 25 times to over 1500 a day, including 150 cases this past week in Monroe County. These are infection rates not seen since January.

So what will that mean for us? We will continue to have indoor services. We will also continue to follow CDC recommendations. We highly recommend masking for everyone, regardless of vaccination status.

This is especially true for our youth as we will require them to wear masks as we resume Sunday school for the first time in 18 months.

We will continue to practice physical distancing in the sanctuary and in the basement classrooms. And finally, we encourage all that are able to get vaccinated.

I hope that all of you continue to stay healthy and I look forward to seeing you all this fall.

Justin

Information from the August Council Minutes: The front stair repair has been tabled for the time being. Because of the complexity of the situation, many questions still remain including finding someone to do the project. LB

Church Council

Justin Arndt
President

John Ornes
President Elect

Arlis Ballwahn
Secretary

Lori Brueggen
Treasurer

Steve Brandau

Joel Arndt

April Arndt

Angie Gruen

Jerry Von Haden

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

READERS

5th Kirstin Arndt
 12th Barb Bever
 19th Lori Arndt
 26th Leonard Arndt



COMMUNION

Barb and John Ornes

Sun.	5 th	Worship	9:00 AM
Sun.	12th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
Sun.	19th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
		Church Council	11:30 AM
Sun.	26 th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM

OCTOBER

READERS

3rd Carolyn Dougherty
 10th Karen Arzt
 17th Joel Arndt
 24th Justin Arndt
 31st Bud Osteboe

COMMUNION

Larry and Arlis Ballwahn

Sat.	2nd	Blood Drive	7:00 AM
		Fire Station	TO 11:30 AM
Sun.	3 rd	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
Sat.	9 th	LWR Boxcar	7:00 AM
Sun.	10 th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
		Chicken Dinner	11:30 AM
Sun.	17 th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
Sun.	24 th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
Sun.	31 st	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER

2nd Bart Arndt
 3rd Janelle Buchholz
 4th Kay and Gene Dougherty
 7th Rhonda Cook
 13th Bryce Gruen
 15th Lois and Gordie O'Rourke
 16th Darcy Buchholz, Gloria Meltesen
 20th Julitta and Marty Arndt
 24th Barb Bever
 28th Joanne Schachtely, Kari and Kurt Radke
 29th Ava Gruen
 30th Kathy Cale

OCTOBER

1st Judi Arndt, Mary Ann Arndt,
 Brady Zimmerman
 2nd Angie and Jared Gruen
 4th Jan Brandau, Ed Ross, Jr.,
 Duane Roscovius
 7th Sierra Cook, Mark Gruen
 9th Kirstin and Justin Arndt
 10th Kaden Brandau, Marcus Buchholz
 11th Donovan Riedesel
 13th Don Buchholz, Darcy and Don Buchholz
 14th Marah Gruen, Brek Anderson,
 Joanne and Jim Schachtely
 15th Kristy and Scott Tormoen
 16th Tim Deichler
 17th Ann Anderson
 19th Barb and Ron Savall
 20th Deb and Morry Paeth,
 Wanda and KenThorsen
 22nd Randy Schwerin, Nalani and Greg Bever
 24th Richard Cale, Rhonda and Todd Cook
 25th Linus Arndt
 27th Sarah Gruen
 28th Madelyn Gruen



WORSHIP NOTES - September & October 2021

The following are the Scripture readings we will be sharing in worship during the months of September and October, 2021.

Sept. 5th – 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalm 146

James 2:1-10,14-17

Mark 7:24-37

Sept. 12th – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 116:1-9

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

Sept. 19th – 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 54

James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

Sept. 26th – 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalm 19:7-14

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

October 3rd – 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm 8

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

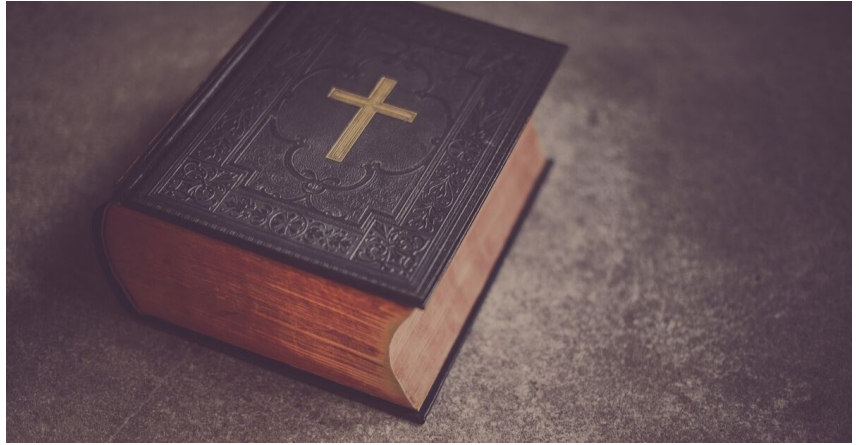
October 10th – 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Psalm 90:12-17

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31



October 17th – 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 53:4-12

Psalm 91:9-16

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

October 24th – 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Psalm 126

Hebrews 7:23-28

Mark 10:46-52

October 31st – Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 46

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36

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Nalani Bever

Congregation pictures:
Contributed - Facebook

****The Website & Facebook pages were developed & are administered by April Arndt**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Many of us have been hearing about the Afghan refugees who have been arriving at Fort McCoy. On Friday, the La Crosse Area Synod provided information about efforts to help them as they adjust to life in the United States.

There are several regional agencies that are helping to coordinate assistance. The **mosques in Winona and La Crosse** are providing spiritual care. The **Red Cross** is at Fort McCoy, providing for their healthcare needs. **Catholic Charities** is at Fort McCoy, and they are also maintaining a list of needed items, which can be found at www.cclse.org

The La Crosse Area Synod Church in Society Committee is coordinating efforts for the synod congregations. They are encouraging us to support the efforts of those listed above (in bold type). **For more information as to how you can help, go to their websites, or contact Nalani or me for addresses where you can send monetary donations.** On the national level, you are encouraged to support Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, www.lirs.org
The Bible tells us that we are to attend to the needs of refugees. In Deuteronomy 10:18, we hear the words, "He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing."

As we look to ways in which we can help, our prayers are encouraged. Let us pray that the Afghan refugees will feel the embrace of many persons in the United States, as we provide prayers for their well-being, monetary donations and material support for our neighbors in need.

Peace,

Pastor Cathy

Afghanistan Refugee Assistance

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse are the lead agency in providing information with regard to the needs of the refugees at Ft. McCoy. We will collect items each Sunday and deliver them to Ft. McCoy during the following week.

"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked" (Luke 12:48)

- Underwear (women & children)
- Socks (women & children)
- Sweatpants (men, women, & children)
- Prayer mats (can be yoga mats)
- Ponchos
- Clothespins
- Diapers
- Backpacks for Children
- Flashlights
- Baby onesies and sleepers

SEE THE PASTOR'S LETTER REGARDING MONETARY DONATIONS LB



Refugees
Welcome

W-ELCA - Church Information



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021

A General Meeting is scheduled for September 16 at 10:00 am in the church basement. All are welcome. Quilting dates for September and October will be determined at that meeting. Look for dates of quilting and other activities in the Sunday bulletins.

All women of St. Paul's are members of W-ELCA and new faces are always welcome at any and all events.



Financial Report

The expenses of the church, through July, have exceeded our offerings by \$8,270.60. Summer is generally a time when we find ourselves further behind. As our lives return to a more structured schedule, perhaps we can put a dent in this amount, or at least not add to it. If not, we will continue to eat away at our reserve funds. The choice is ours.

ELECTRONIC OFFERINGS

Have you considered electronic offerings? St. Paul's vendor for this service is VANCO Payment Solutions (endorsed by ELCA). We currently have a small number of members using this service. The expression "out of sight, out of mind" can apply to church offerings. Attend the service; the offering is usually dropped in the plate. Unable to attend the service; the offering is often not made or made-up.

For most members, electronic payments to public utilities or other businesses are common. With electronic offerings, you may choose the amount as well as the timing, i.e. weekly, bi-weekly, and monthly, etc. You may also determine your funding source, checking, savings, credit card. You may establish electronic offerings either directly with VANCO or through the church office. Nalani will provide you with additional information, if you so desire.

CHICKEN DINNER FUNDRAISER

We have chosen Sunday, October 10, for our next drive through chicken dinner. The same menu as the past two fundraisers: 1/2-grilled chicken, potato salad, dinner roll, beans, cranberry sauce, and small water. We will keep the same per plate price of \$10.00 as well. If you would like to make a donation toward the cost of supplies, please do. Lori Brueggen will be happy to accept your donation!

Tickets are available. See Nalani or Lori Brueggen



ADAGIO CARILLON

Lyle and Betsy Schindler have graciously donated a new Adagio Carillon to St. Paul's and we anticipate the installation will take place by the end of October. Just as our outdated and beyond repair carillon provided in years past, this new carillon will be provide members of St. Paul's, as well as the Wilton community, the opportunity to enjoy the music of church bells for many years to come.

THANK YOU NOTES

Please take time to read the thank you notes from Emma Gruen, Krista Cook, and Deacon Erdman, three of our recent high school graduates. You will find them posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Church Information - Nalani

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are looking forward to seeing the children in Sunday School, beginning on September 12th at 9:00. We are returning to organized classes this year with Lori Arndt, Justin Arndt, and Greg Bever serving as teachers. If you are willing to serve as a substitute teacher please let Greg or Justin know



PIPE ORGAN UPDATE

“While we’re at it” is a haunting phrase, especially when remodeling or renovating a house or organ. We repaired the bellows so it seemed a good time to upgrade the electrical panel in the organ chamber, replace a few damaged pipes, and tidy a few other things up. To quote a nursery rhyme “Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall, Humpty Dumpty had a great fall. All the king’s horses and all the king’s men, Couldn’t put Humpty together again.”

The problem we are now facing involves following the wiring deep in the chamber and would literally mean we would, again, have to remove everything from the chamber, a time and money-consuming endeavor. Unless we can figure a way around this dilemma, it is simply not practical to spend more at this time. If we are unable to complete this project, our contractor has offered to find a replacement organ and install the same at no cost to the church (other than electrical modifications, if necessary). Trust me, this is a generous offer and one he does not have to make. I anticipate enough information will be available for the Council to make a determination within the next 2-3 weeks.



SCHOOL KITS

We will be sending School Kits to Lutheran World Relief again this year. These kits are distributed throughout the world as well as here in the United States. The following is a list of items included in a kit:

- FOUR 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose leaf paper
- ONE 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ONE pencil sharpener
- ONE pair of **blunt tipped** scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- FIVE unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- FIVE black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- ONE box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ONE 2 ½" eraser

We generally transport the school kits in the LWR boxcar which will be in La Crosse this year on October 9. Please have items to the church by Sunday, October 3. Thank you for helping to make school a possibility, especially for those who would otherwise be refused without supplies.

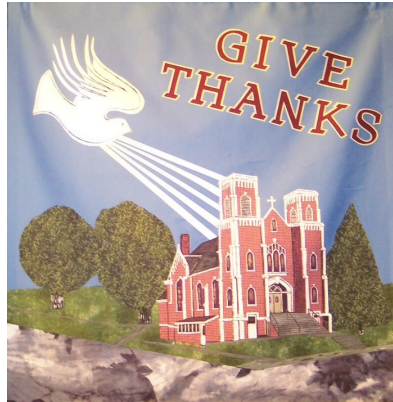


"River of Life"
July 25 – July 28
5:30 PM – 8:00 PM



Inviting people to journey with Christ's family in spreading God's love and mercy.

Christ's Calling Card
St. Paul's Lutheran
Church



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

"A Welcoming Place for over 125 years"

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Name

Address

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