

St. Paul's Free Lutheran Church



October Newsletter



From the Intern's Desk

I am 36 and am finally going through confirmation! Having grown up in a Baptist/non-denomination church, I had never gone through the confirmation program. Who would have thought I would be going through confirmation with my oldest son! It is a joy and privilege to see the basic doctrines of the church being taught to our young teens within the church. This past week, I had the opportunity to teach the first petition of the Lord's Prayer which states "hallowed be thy name".

The word "hallow" isn't commonly used within our vocabulary, but it simply means "holy". October is the primary time in the year we see the term hallow. Halloween is derived from two words, hallow and eve. It is the eve of All Hallow's Day, more commonly referred to as All Saint's Day. A day where the saints of all Church history, known or unknown to us, are celebrated.

Luther states in the *Small Catechism* that as we pray "hallowed be thy name", we agree that God's name is indeed holy in itself, but we pray that it may also be hallowed among us. There are two great truths to ponder as we think about the first petition. The first truth is that our God is hallowed and, therefore, His name is hallowed. The second is that we are able to keep His name holy among us.

Concerning the first truth, our God is holy in His essence. Nothing can alter that since our God is unchanging and unchangeable. He reveals His holiness through His Word. God reveals Himself to us as the Creator God, the Savior God, the God of life, the omnipotent, omnipresent, good and just God (and more). God is truly set apart. There is no other name by which we are saved. In summary, there is no one like our God.

God is our Savior God as best seen through Christ, the image of the invisible God (Col. 1:15). It is through Christ that we become a holy nation (1 Peter 2:9). Christ saves us and makes us hallowed through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is through His shed blood that we are purified/cleansed (1 John 1:7). He is the holy God that came as a holy human and becomes a holy sacrifice and in doing so, makes us holy. Our sins are white as snow. God's work is set apart. It is only through His work that we can become holy. This God-given holiness enables us to live holy lives.

Concerning the second truth, Luther states that we can keep God's name holy among us "when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and as we as God's children lead holy lives in accordance with it."

Teaching God's Word is certainly a part of congregation life as it gathers on Sundays and throughout the week, but it's also a part of the family structure. When we teach our children God's truth we are keeping God's name hallowed at home. When we obey the commandments and live according to God's Word, we hallow God's name – whether at our jobs, our home, or in our neighborhood.

Christ's work of salvation has freed us from trying to use the law for our salvation (praise the Lord) and allows us to simply worship Him by doing what He has commanded. This is our spiritual act of worship (Rom. 12:1). We fulfill the "Greatest Commandment" by loving God and loving our neighbors because God first loved us.

What a wonderful miracle that we are able to hallow God's name by teaching His Word and living our lives in accordance with His Word! As we come to October and think of the darkness that Halloween can represent, let us not forget the reminder that awaits the next day, All Hallows' Day. Let us rejoice that our name is written in the Book of life because Christ died for us, that we await the same glorious fate as the saints because we are indeed saints ourselves. We, through Christ's work, are called holy before God.

In Him,
Patrick VandenBos



COVID-19 FAQs

Should I attend a church event in person?

- Please do not attend if you or anyone in your household is not feeling well, particularly with the following symptoms: fever, chills, cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing, recent loss of taste or smell.
- Please do not attend if you have been in contact with any person diagnosed with COVID-19.
- If you or someone in your household is in a high-risk category we encourage you to consider staying home and joining us online. The 11:00 Worship Service streams on YouTube, and Wednesday Night Bible Study and Women's Sunday School classes are available to attend via Zoom.

What do I need to know if attending in person?

- Please use the east doors, then stop at the sanitizing station and disinfect your hands.
- Masks are strongly encouraged, and are mandatory for the 8:30 Sunday Worship Service.
- Please attempt to maintain a 6 feet distance between households, and refrain from shaking hands or making other direct contact with pastors or people from other households.
- If using the restroom, please use the provided wipes to disinfect all surfaces that you touched.
- If you have attended in person and are diagnosed with COVID-19, please notify the church immediately.

Upcoming Events

Bible 102 Classes

Are you interested in learning more about the foundations of the Christian faith and why we believe what we do? You are invited to "Bible 102," a class taught by Jeremy Larson on Wednesday evenings, at 6:30PM, starting on October 7. The class will cover a number of topics, including the Ten Commandments, Baptism, The Lord's Supper, prayer, and the foundational doctrines included in the Apostles' Creed. Talk to Jeremy or Pastor Micah for more information.

New Life Center

The New Life Center is hosting an event being held in-person and virtually. Tickets to attend virtually are still available.

From the New Life Center:

Throughout the 80s and 90s, Darryl Strawberry was heralded as one of the top sluggers in Major League Baseball. However, life after baseball wasn't glorious. Drug abuse, arrest, cancer and divorce left him with a deep sense of hopelessness. Join us as Darryl shares his compelling story of recovery and life transformation.

The event will take place at 7:00 on October 13, 2020. Registration can be found at [this link](#), or on the New Life Center's [website](#).

Operation Christmas Child

Margaret Loken will again be collecting shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child this year. Shoeboxes are available in the entry along with the pamphlet describing what to fill them with. Please check this as it changes from year to year. All completed boxes need to be at church by Sunday, November 15th. There will be a green Rubbermaid tub in the entry for collection. Please contact Margaret with any questions.



Women's Missionary Society Update

The WMS met on Tuesday, September 22nd. Liz Babolian led our Bible Study entitled "Becoming a Slave to Fear". Liz was also our hostess for the evening.

A baby shower for Rachel and baby boy Archer Arneson will be held at St Paul's at 7:00 pm on Thursday, October 1st.

A baby shower for Anna and baby girl VandenBos will be held at St Paul's on Thursday, October 22nd. Watch for further information regarding this event.

A New Life Center prayer walk was held at 5:30 pm on Thursday, September 24th.

More discussion was held on expanding Women's Ministry here at St Paul's. This is for women of all ages. As more information is released concerning this matter please consider your options, and also your input toward getting this great ministry started.

Our next WMS meeting will be held at 6:30 on Tuesday, October 27th. See you there!

Committee reminders for October:

Flowers: Eunice Berge

Sunshine: Linda Fugleberg.

Calendar of Events

October 2020

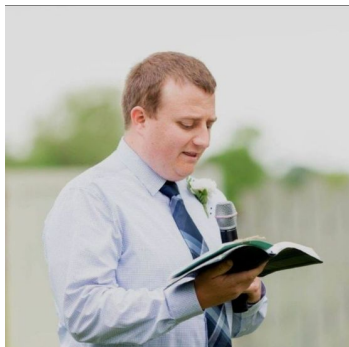
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				7:00 Baby Shower for Rachel Ameson		4:45 Youth Group Frisbee, Pizza, & Bonfire
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:30 First Worship Service (Masks Required) 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Second Worship Service & Live Stream 5:00 Young Adult Supper & Bonfire			2:00 After School Program 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Bible Study at church and on Zoom; Bible 102; Youth Group; Kids' Club			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
New Member Sunday 8:30 First Worship Service (Masks Required) 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Second Worship Service & Live Stream		10:00 District Pastors' Meeting	2:00 After School Program 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Bible Study at church and on Zoom; Bible 102; Youth Group; Kids' Club			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30 First Worship Service (Masks Required) 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Second Worship Service & Live Stream	2:00 Coffee and Conversation		2:00 After School Program 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Bible Study at church and on Zoom; Bible 102; Youth Group; Kids' Club 7:45 Church Council Meeting	7:00 Baby Shower for Anna VandenBos		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:30 First Worship Service (Masks Required) 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Second Worship Service & Live Stream		9:00-3:00 Mission Quilting 6:30 Women's Missionary Society	5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Bible Study at church and on Zoom; Bible 102; Youth Group; Kids' Club			Reformation Day

Note: Church is sometimes in use for non-congregation events or activities.

For specific information on church availability, please see the online calendar.

view our online calendar

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