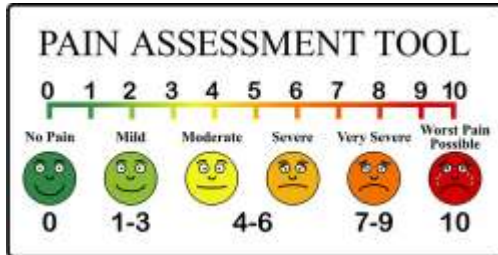


St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church – Oconomowoc
Pentecost 6 – June 26, 2016

“Living as a Minority – What Does It Mean to be a Martyr?”

Rev. John Kelling, Emeritus



Use this insert for home study of the text for today and for personal assessment of your Profession of Faith.

- † Why do we find ourselves recalling and relishing the past, when as Christians God has promised us a more glorious future in Jesus Christ?
- † Think of a time in your life when God was with you to bring you through this hard time of your life. How has the outcome prepared you for the future?
- † God defines Himself by what He does, not only in our world, but also in our lives. How is God visible to others in your life?
- † From the beginning of creation, God had made promises to us. What promises has He made to you that become reality through your faith?

- † Our destiny is in the hands of Jesus. How is Jesus the final ruler and deliverer for all people?
- † While the world waits for Jesus to return, it has the opportunity for repentance. God waited also before sending the flood. Why was He willing to wait?
- † All creation will face death. The text does not use the word death, but says that Stephen “fell asleep”. This phrase gives the Christian promise. What is that promise God offers to you?
- † Stoning was a punishment reserved for religious sins of prostitution and blasphemy. What was Stephen’s “crime” that led to his stoning?
- † Stephen mirrors Jesus in his act of forgiveness toward his stoners, and commending his body (life) into God’s hands. Why do we struggle to forgive others as they hurt or persecute us?
- † In our Confirmation vows, we pledge to be faithful unto death, even if the proclamation of our faith leads to and causes our death. Are you willing to be a martyr and face that suffering and “punishment” at the hands of persecuting unbelievers?
- † Stephen uses Abraham, Joseph and Moses as examples of faithfulness to God. How does his example help you live out a life of faithfulness to God?
- † As Christians, today and every day that remains is an opportunity to proclaim the work of Jesus Christ to deliver a sinful world to salvation. What comfort do we have, knowing that when our life ends here, we will “fall asleep” in Jesus?

Please join us for an enriching experience at the
2016 St. Paul's Marriage Retreat

November 11 – 13, 2016

Love, Respect & Forgiveness



Cost per couple:

- † \$325 (**Early Bird Special**- If booked and paid **prior to 7/1/16**.
The first 25 to register are also guaranteed Lake View Rooms)
- † \$350 (If booked **after 7/1/16**)
- † This low cost includes 2 nights stay and a Dinner Buffet for two
on Saturday night!

Where: Blue Harbor Resort

725 Blue Harbor Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081

<http://www.blueharborresort.com>

www.visitsheboygan.com

The **Registration Form** can be found on www.splco.org.

Questions?

Email: stpaulmarriage@gmail.com

Call or Text: Linda Hertneky 651-206-8497
Angie Scharnell 920-285-1264



Fighting for Family

The Ethan Meyer Family Benefit

Ethan Meyer, a lifelong member of St. Paul's, has been recently diagnosed with Glioblastoma (GBM), an aggressive brain cancer. This sort of diagnosis requires brain surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation which will lead to large medical bills.

Ethan has a long road ahead but is prepared to fight for what is most important to him, family. Join us and the Ethan Meyer Family, for a benefit to **Fight for Family**. These individuals are strong, loving, and humble and deserve our help. This will be a day of fun, entertainment, and, most of all, **FAMILY!**

Saturday, July 16th, 2016

Okauchee Lions Community Park

N48 W34350 E Wisconsin Ave, Okauchee, WI

Bags Tournament – Registration @ 10:30am

Kickball Tournament (\$10/Team)-Registration @ 10:30am

Live Auction – 3:00pm

Raffles and Live Music Throughout the Day

For details regarding the benefit

visit the Facebook Event Page:

Fight for Family: The Ethan Meyer Family Benefit

or email

Ethanmeyerfamilybenefit@gmail.com

Can't Attend But Want to Donate?

Donations can be made at

First Bank Financial Centre

155 W Wisconsin Avenue

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Make Checks Payable to "Ethan's Journey"