

LWML Pledge

In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption

we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have;
and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields,
we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us.

We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands,

our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love,
our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will,
and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him.

Amen.

Blessing of the LWML Quilts & Pillowcase Dresses

Address

P Beloved in the Lord, in His great love for us the eternal God has taken on human flesh and joined Himself to His own creation. Heaven and earth are now filled with His glory as He uses the things of this world to bring us His blessing. "He has made everything beautiful in its time" so that we may behold the beauty of the Lord and inquire in His holy temple.

It is fitting, then, that these quilts and dresses be sanctified by Word and prayer for use by others for comfort.

Versicles

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
G **who made heaven and earth.**

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.
G **And also with you.**

Collect

P Let us pray.
Heavenly Father, Your Son is the express image of Your glory so that when we behold Him we contemplate Your unending mercy. Bless and sanctify these quilts and dresses, which are offered in honor of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant that all who behold them may, by Your grace, be strengthened in the true faith and worship You with a steadfast heart; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

Blessing of the LWML Quilts and Pillowcase Dresses

P The Lord Almighty, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless these quilts and dresses and those who behold them.

G **Amen.**

Christian Citizenship Forum

**Oct
22nd**

Male and Female in the 21st Century: Christian Responses

Dr. Peter Scaer, Presenter



Dr. Peter Scaer is deeply involved in life issues and serves as president of Allen County Right to Life. He is a founding member of Shepherds United, an ecumenical Christian group formed to defend life, natural marriage and religious liberty. He speaks out on the issues that affect both our Church and society, always placing the focus on Christ, who gives us life and defines for us what it means to be truly human.

Sunday, October 22, 2017

Presentation, Responses, and Audience Questions, **3-4:30pm**
4:30-5:30pm

**All are welcome. Admittance is free.
Free will donation for dinner.**

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church. 210 E. Pleasant St.
Oconomowoc, WI
262-567-5001 ✕ www.splco.org**

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church – Oconomowoc
Pentecost 17 – October 1, 2017
“The Right Pair of Shoes”
Psalm 25:1-10
Rev. John Kelling, Emeritus

*Use this insert for home study of the text for today,
and for personal assessment of your faith*

For most of my adult life, I have struggled to find the right pair of shoes – dress or casual, that fit properly, and give me the comfort I need. They seem to feel so good at the store, but after a month of wear, they feel just like all the other pairs in the closet. Adding cushioning insoles doesn't work either. I've even tried cowboy boots (at the recommendation of farmers who wear nothing else, but found no lasting relief). My favorite remains summer sandals or even going barefoot, though ice and snow are hard on my toes!

So often our Sunday sermons focus on the Gospel and Epistle texts. I find it refreshing to look at the Psalm of the Day to “read, mark, learn and inwardly digest” what God says to us there. This text mirrors my daily spiritual motto of Proverbs 3:5-6; “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding Acknowledge Him in all your ways and He will guide your path.”

All of us are walking different paths. We may start out believing everything is fine, until we hit rough and uncomfortable surfaces. Our Psalm's central focus is TRUST. So often we trust in our own abilities – physical, intellectual and vocal. We think we have the answers and know exactly what to do. We think we can handle the paths before us by ourselves. In Psalm 46, God says, “Be still and know that I am God.”

- 1) Why is turning over our total trust and dependence on God so hard?
- 2) Failure in our lives is a byproduct of sin. Yet for God, “failure is not an option.” How does God overcome and redirect our sin for a positive outcome?

David, like us, asks God for guidance in our lives, unfortunately far less than we should. Part of our nature is to do it on our own until we no longer can. Many times we are at the “end of our rope” before we go back to God for help.

- 1) How can you change that pattern of desperation and seek God's guidance and help from the beginning?
- 2) Jesus says, "Call upon Me in the day of trouble, and I will deliver you." Can you remember a time when in the midst of trouble, He did deliver you and changed the path you were on? How did you feel when the trauma was over?

David says that "no one who puts their hope in You will ever be put to shame". That statement re-focuses the direction of our hope. As we get older, we realize the sinful world is unable to provide for our present and eternal satisfaction. Everything in this world is temporary and will fail. One of our beloved hymns says, "My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness". Those words take the pressure off us because we are totally incapable of lasting hope, and places the true hope of our redemption and righteousness on Jesus – on Him alone!

- 1) For the Child of God, the core of that hope is God's forgiveness of our sins. How does that act of God clear our vision for true hope?
- 2) But for full effect of that forgiveness to be valid, we have to have "contrite hearts". As another hymn says, "I lay my sins on Jesus." How does God make Jesus "the perfect fit" for our life and walk in faith?
- 3) David ends our Psalm by saying, "all the ways of the LORD are loving and faithful." What lasting peace does that provide? The Apostle Paul reminds us that "*we all fall short of the glory of God*". How then does His love and faithfulness to us become far more meaningful?

As each of us continues our journey along the path of earthly life leading to our spiritual home, we will wear out countless pairs of shoes. We replace them to keep walking, to protect the tenderness of our feet (and tender lives), always trying for the perfect fit. How blessed we are to know that God already sees the perfect fit in us as His redeemed children. He looks beyond the blisters and sore spots sin rubs into our life, and see only a perfect child through His Son, Jesus. I look forward to perfect shoes and a perfect life yet to come in eternity. Maybe we'll all be barefoot in our robes of white!

-To God Be the Glory -

5 - 12 GRADE
YOUTH
FALL FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 14th, 2017

5:45 pm—9:00 pm

At Schuett Farms

State Highway 83 & Road X

Mukwonago, WI 53149

We will leave the church parking lot at 6:00 pm, so please arrive by 5:45 pm. We will enjoy a nighttime hike through a corn maze at Schuett Farms. The paths of the maze are dirt, so please come prepared. You will need a flashlight and a cell phone (if you have one) for use at the farm. At 8:00 pm, we will make our way back to St. Paul's where we will enjoy a devotion and hot cider around a bonfire.



TICKETS ARE \$7



Drivers will be needed for this event. Please sign-up using *Sign-Up Genius* or by contacting Nicole Tanney (nicole@splco.org)

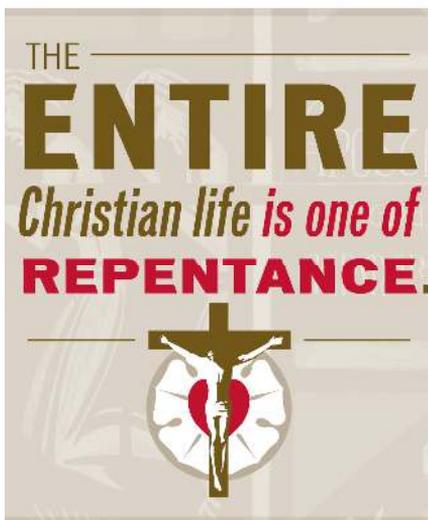
This will replace High School SNA on Sunday, October 15th. There will still be Middle School & High School SNA on Sunday, October 8th.

**New adult Sunday
School class, Oct 1st**

Reformation LIFE

Why is the Lord's Supper so important? *What's the difference between Roman Catholics, Lutherans, and Baptists?* Does it matter? Why baptize infants?

What is the church? What is the central teaching of the Christian faith? **How shall I live?**
What is the cause of sin?



REFORMATION LIFE will look at key Reformation era events and writings. Using the Scriptures, original sources, art, and historical context, we will explore the riches of Christ's Word and discover the very contemporary relevance of the Reformation and Lutheran teaching.