

# St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, School and ECC

(The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod)

## ROCK SOLID



**Matthew 21:33-46**



210 East Pleasant Street  
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin 53066  
Church Office: 262-567-5001 Website: [www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org)

Worship Schedule: \*Saturday 5:00 pm \* Sunday 8:00 am Traditional \*  
\* Sunday 10:30 am Contemporary \* Wednesday 6:30 pm Lakeside \*

**St. Paul's Mission Statement: "Reaching, Serving and Growing Disciples"**

October 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Steven Scharnell, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Paul Borgman, Pastor Emeritus  
Jill George, Interim Principal  
Volume 23

Adam Tanney, Youth Director  
Diane Bleke, Organist/Choir Director  
Christine Flores, Early Childhood Center (ECC) Director

Office Hours - 7:00 am - 4:00 pm

Number 38

WELCOME to everyone, especially our guests.  
Your presence is important to us.

St. Paul's is an evangelical Christian congregation, embracing historic Christian teaching on all doctrines, centered on Jesus Christ. Our desire is to bring the Gospel both to those who are searching for answers to the meaning of life and to those who desire a closer relationship with God. We here at St. Paul's have chosen to align ourselves with the teachings of the Lutheran Reformation, due to the clarity with which these help us to see the true meaning of God's Word. Specifically, St. Paul's is a ministry of the Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod, one of America's truly biblical churches!

- **Members and guests:** please fill out an attendance card and place it in the offering plate to indicate your presence today. For Holy Communion, please read our confession and indicate your agreement with our beliefs by checking the box next to the names of those communing.
- Those sharing our beliefs, especially from parishes in fellowship with us, are welcome to receive.
- If you desire Holy Communion but hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, please speak with a Pastor or an Elder.
- Non-communing, baptized children are welcome to come to the table for a blessing.

**Please note:** Half the inner circle of individual glasses in each tray contains water with **one drop** of communion wine for those hesitant to drink larger amounts of wine. Those glasses with wine are rose in color.

## THE 18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Come to worship.** As the prelude begins, worshippers are encouraged to conclude conversation and quietly prepare to enter into the experience of worship.

**Pastor:** Steve Scharnell

**Theme:** *Rock Solid*

Traditional Worship

**Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service 2, pg. 167**

Contemporary Worship

**Special Order**

## **BIBLE STUDIES**

**Reformation Bible Study**

**567-5001 Sun. - 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Hall**

**Salvation**

**567-8195 Tues. - 7:00 p.m. Muecke's Home**

**Women's Bible Study**

**490-2879 Sat. (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>) - 7:30 a.m. Whelan's**

The **radio broadcast** is sponsored by George & Carolyn Nagel in praise to God for their 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. St. Paul's 8:00 am church service can be heard Sunday over WTKM (104.9 FM) and worldwide at wtkm.com. The **altar flowers** are sponsored by Bob & Dawn Lower in praise to God for their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

## BAPTISMS

We welcome into St. Paul's church family during the 10:30 am Worship Service, **Makenzie Lauren** and **Klaire Marie**. Makenzie is the daughter of Tyler & Gina (Gnewuch) **James**. Klaire is the daughter of Brett & Jenna (Schwind) **Ewald**. Makenzie's sponsors are Lauren Gnewuch, Ashley Kurkiewicz & Alise James. Klaire's sponsors are Tyler Check & Angie Check. We will keep Makenzie and Klaire in our prayers.

**Flash photography is not allowed during a baptism which takes place during the worship service. The pastor may reenact the baptism after the service for picture-taking opportunities.**

## REACHING DISCIPLES

### LWML

**LWML Zone 17 Fall Rally** will be hosted at St. John's, Sullivan on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Registration and refreshments beginning at 6:00 pm with program following. The guest speaker will be Rita Whittlow from Bethany Lutheran Church, Milwaukee. She will speak about this once German church, which is now ministering to inner city members and community. Everyone is invited to join us for this interesting evening. An ingathering of 8.5 oz. Styrofoam cups, 5 oz. juice cups, square napkins, apple juice from ALDI, quart size Ziploc bags, dish detergent, ½ gal. size bleach will be collected for Bible Studies and Soup Kitchen.

### MEYER CHILDREN SUPPORT

Our hearts are filled with mixed emotions of joy and sadness as we mourn the death of Dr. Ethan Meyer. His celebration of eternal life in heaven brings hope and joy to our family of believers. Yet we realize his passing has also left much sadness as we mourn. We especially remember his youngest children, Gabby - 6<sup>th</sup> grade and Eli - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, who are at St. Paul's. Accounts have been established at First Bank Financial Centre for those who wish to give a memorial on Dr. Meyer's behalf for their educational expenses.

## SERVING DISCIPLES

### LOOKING FOR NEW ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS

We are looking for new members to join the Altar Guild. The more volunteers we have, the less frequent each person will be scheduled. At this time, members are scheduled once very five weeks. Please consider this opportunity to serve your Lord. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Fisher at 262.567.5998 or any Altar Guild member. Thank you!

### LORD'S CUPBOARD HAPPENINGS

Last year we handed out over 200 bags and anticipate more being needed this year. For those bags we are looking for 200 boxes of stuffing, 200 cans of cranberry sauce, 400 cans of green beans, 200 cans of cream of mushroom soup, 200 cans of fruit, 200 gravy packets. We are looking for donations to be dropped off by November 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have any questions, please call Jamie Stache at 608-444-3556.

## LORD'S CUPBOARD NEEDS A COOK!

Chuck Wenthur has been making the Lord's Cupboard meal for the past few years and now is unable to continue. A huge **THANK YOU** to him for his wonderful and delicious service to this outreach ministry! If you can help make the meal once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, please contact Mary Hickenbottom for more details. Serving approximately 100-125 meals each month. 414.333.3421 or mary@splco.org.

## LADIES AID NEEDS HELP WITH SERVING FOR FUNERALS

Our Ladies Aid is looking for people to help when they are asked to serve the meal following a funeral. Please contact (call or text) Sharon Peterson, if you are interested in helping at 262-490-8671. Thank you!

# GROWING DISCIPLES

## 500<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Heather Scheuer for promotional materials, Pat Borgman for reaching out to area congregations, Amy Hackbarth for media promotions and EVERYONE who purchased tickets to make the "Luther Movie Event" happen.

## SAVE THE DATES!

### ST. PAUL'S WOMEN'S RETREAT

#### *Are You Living the Hidden Life of the Heart?*

1 Peter 3:4 (ESV) "...let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."

The Women's Retreat is a time to experience God's gift of Jesus and His presence with us. Come learn how women, throughout history, have had remarkable opportunities – just with the gift of their presence – to share God's love and influence with those around them. Learn how to embrace your spiritual gifts along with the gift of your presence to be a light in this world.

**March 9 – 11, 2018**

**Osthoff Resort**

**Elkhart Lake, WI**

	Register By Dec 17th	Register By Jan 31st
4 women in 2 bedroom suite	\$185	\$210
3 women in 2 bedroom suite	\$215	\$240
2 women in 2 bedroom suite	\$275	\$300

Each suite has one king-size bed. Package include 2 night deluxe accommodations, Saturday breakfast buffet and dinner, Sunday breakfast buffet

**WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION TO COME!**

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
The 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost: Rock Solid  
October 8-15, 2017*

## **Rock Solid (Pastor Scharnell)**

"The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel" (Is. 5:7), which He planted "on a very fertile hill" (Is. 5:1). He did everything for His vineyard, not only clearing it of stones and planting it with "choice vines," but also building the "watchtower" of His prophets and hewing out the "wine vat" of His priesthood in its midst (Is. 5:2). But when "he looked for it to yield grapes," there were only "wild grapes" of bloodshed and unrighteousness (Is. 5:2, 7). The Lord Jesus likewise described the unfaithfulness of those who were called to care for His vineyard (Matt. 21:33-35). But in this He also describes His cross and Passion (Matt. 21:38-39), by which He has redeemed the vineyard for Himself. He is the true Vine, planted by death into the ground, and in His resurrection He brings forth "the fruits in their seasons" (Matt. 21:41). Among those good grapes of the true Vine is the apostle Paul. Once a zealous persecutor of the Church, he "suffered the loss of all things" in order to "gain Christ and be found in him," to "know him and the power of his resurrection" (Phil. 3:8-10).

## **The Order of Meditation and Prayer**

*Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

### **Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Apostles' Creed**

**Verse:** Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.

**Psalm:** Psalm 27 and/or the appointed daily psalms for General Psalms in Psalm Schedule **LSB, p. 304**

	<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Tue.</b>	<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Thur.</b>	<b>Fri.</b>	<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Sun.</b>
<b>Daily Psalms</b>								
<b>Morning</b>	67	51	54	65	143	86	122	110
<b>Evening</b>	46, 93	85, 47	28, 99	125, 91	81, 116	6, 19	141, 90	66, 23

### Catechism: The Creed: The First Article

<p><i>The First Article</i>  <b>I believe in God the Father Almighty,          Maker of heaven and earth.</b></p>	Preschool +
<p><i>What does this mean?</i>          I believe that God has made me and all creatures;          that He has given me my body and soul,          eyes, ears, and all my members,          my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.</p>	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade +
<p><i>What does this mean? (continued)</i>          He also give me clothing and shoes,          food and drink, house and home, wife and children,          land, animals, and all I have.</p>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade +

### The 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost: Rock Solid

Day	Bible Stories for the Family & School	Daily prayer readings from LSB, p. 299	
<b>Sun.</b>	The Parable of the Wedding Feast— Matthew 22:1-14	Deut. 7:1-19	Matt. 10:1-23
<b>Mon.</b>	The Lord Confirms That Moses Is His Prophet—Numbers 16:19b-40	Deut. 8:1-20	Matt. 10:24-42
<b>Tue.</b>	The Budding of Aaron’s Rod— Numbers 16:41—17:13	Deut. 9:1-22	Matt. 11:1-19
<b>Wed.</b>	Moses Strikes the Rock— Numbers 20:1-13 (14-29)	Deut. 9:23-10:22	Matt. 11:20-30
<b>Thur.</b>	The Bronze Serpent— Numbers 21:(1-3) 4-9	Deut. 11:1-25	Matt. 12:1-21
<b>Fri.</b>	Balaam’s Donkey—Numbers 22:1 (2-4a) 4b-5, 12-38 (survey chapters 23 and 24) 24:10-13 (14-19) 25	Deut. 11:26-12:12	Matt. 12:22-37

### **Prayers: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at St. Paul’s**

Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### **Daily Themes for Prayer**

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

### **In Our Prayers this Week**

**Those sick or hospitalized: MEMBERS** – Bernice Brown; Timothy John Bratz—cancer; My Ubl—healing for multiple health issues; Duane Olson—kidney cancer; Duane Peterson; Carol Fellin—cancer; Larry Hansen; Bill & Margaret Voss; Ken Groenke; Laura Gruen—brain tumor; Esther Hart—hospice; Louise Lang; Marguerite Schneider; Mabel Fredrick; Linda Hansen (Steve's wife); Marian Faltersack; Rick Ware—recovering from shoulder surgery; Ed Krelwitz; Harry & Dorothy Peterson (Shorehaven); Barb Krug; Crystal Parker

**FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS – Those with cancer:** Tom—stage 3 bladder cancer; Liz (Barb Allwardt's sister)—colon cancer; the sister of a member with breast cancer; Dylan Coughlin—3 year-old with brain tumor; Kevin Kloss (John Tesch's nephew)—Leukemia; Judy (Amy Hackbarth's friend)—lung cancer; Beth Etzel—stage-four pancreatic cancer; co-worker of Michelle Pagenkopf; Mike—cancer in bones; Roy Hyatt—cancer returned; Quinn—breast cancer; Julie; Joanne Montanegro-Greinke; Kayla (7 years-old)—brain cancer; Cheri (Tina Gartzke's friend); Linda F—breast cancer; Jack Anderson; Kim B.—breast cancer; Jeanie; Karen Peskie (Mike & Cheryl Reiner's sister-in-law)—Lymphoma; Lea Acord (Pat Borgman's friend); Dan (stage -four prostate cancer); Crystal Schultz; Joann Romain—kidney cancer; Ron Rafalski—throat cancer; Nancy—breast cancer

**Other:** Luann (Ella Pakenham's grandma); Rebecca Mills; Gail Albright—IBS; David Lenske (Tammy Horton's dad)—stroke; Bryan True—coma from motorcycle accident; Chelsea Bunker—severe brain injury; Marlene Wille (wife of Jim, former St. Paul's members) - stage 3 colon cancer; Naomi Morris (Lynn Kirkstein's friend); Sue Lentini (Dina Tanner's cousin)—heart surgery needed; Dan George (Jamie's brother)—liver disease; Sue Wolter (Pat Gartzke's sister); Karen Nicholson; Armin Tessmann—strength in walking; Michael Hamton; Karen Christenson—dementia & stroke; Regina Mills; Dory Schultz; Phyllis Ecklor (Shirley Dibble's sister); Shawn—vascular problems; Kristal—lung surgery; Jonathan (Marilyn Marohn's nephew)—in need of a kidney; Doug—CCL; Megan Bertram; Ashlin—stage 4 renal failure; Clem—high calcium heart; Bob—prostate problems; Linda—diabetic dementia; Barb (Dave Schlomer's mom)—severe headaches;

Sharon—probiotic/kidney problems; Pat—afib; Fred (Lynda Rades’s brother); Joel (Tina Gartzke’s nephew); Clarence; Pam; Scott Kleist (Jim & Ann Duggan’s son)—MS; Paul Fellin

**Those serving in the military-deployed:** PFC Nicholas Lang; Zach Howard, Theresa; Phil Preston; Captain Chad Kelling; Casey, Phil, Andy & Steve Koth; Luke, Jacob, Brian, Randy, Kyle, Jake, Jeff, Matt, Tom, Brad, Ben, Mike & Rob

**Those serving God as missionaries:** Christie Nelson (China), Ray Wigdal (China), Dennis Denow (Thailand), Bob & Chris Prouty (Australia), Pastor Reinke (Deaf Ministry), Rev. Bud Palmer

**Those in need:** Our Shut-Ins; for a family in crisis; David; those struggling with addiction—Bob, Andy, George, Dan, Dee; Sarah, Keri.

**Anniversaries:** George & Carolyn Nagel—58<sup>th</sup>—October 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Bill & Bobbie Scheuer—56<sup>th</sup>—October 7<sup>th</sup>  
Bob & Dawn Lower—30<sup>th</sup>—October 10<sup>th</sup>

**Baptisms:** Makenzie Lauren James—October 8<sup>th</sup>  
Klaire Marie Ewald—October 8<sup>th</sup>

**Thanksgiving:** For successful knee surgery for Kimberly Stoner  
Judy (Amy Hackbarth’s friend) - tumor free

**Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism**  
**Hymn of the Week: “O Love, How Deep”**

**LSB 544**

**Looking forward to The 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost      **October 14/15, 2017****

**Hymns: 467 (v. 1-3), 510 (633, 973, 680) 467 (v. 4-7)**

***An Invitation to Revere (Pastor O’Donnell)***

By His cross and resurrection, the Lord has swallowed up death forever, and by His Gospel He “will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth” (Is. 25:8). Therefore, “let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation” (Is. 25:9). On the mountain of the Lord of hosts — in His Church on earth, as in the kingdom of heaven — He has made “for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine” (Is. 25:6). It is the royal “wedding feast” of the Son of God, “and everything is ready” (Matt. 22:1, 4). Thus, His servants are sent into the highways and byways to invite and gather as many as they find, “both good and bad,” to fill the wedding hall with guests (Matt. 22:8–10). In Holy Baptism, He clothes them all in the “wedding garment” of His own perfect righteousness (Matt. 22:11). Therefore, “do not be anxious about anything,” do not take this invitation for granted; rather, “in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God,” and “rejoice in the Lord always” (Phil. 4:4–6).



# St. Paul's Lutheran School ~ Celebrating 140 Years

*Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 1 Corinthians 9:24*

**Students at St. Paul's learn about living a life of faith that they may receive the prize at the end of the race – the gift of eternal life.**



Building on the theme of racing, teachers and coaches apply some aspects of training for a race such as effort, determination, attitude, endurance, etc. Students prepare not only for an upcoming athletic competition, but are strengthened in their faith, serve others with love and joy, and prepare for success in daily living. These lessons truly support our mission statement that is shown below.

**They also enjoy the race theme with some special events. . .**

Recently, we hosted the Warrior Cross Country Meet at Lake Country Lutheran High School. Over 500 students 5K to eighth grade from St. Paul's and area Lutheran schools participated in this annual event. We run for HIM!



Later this month St. Paul's PTO will host our annual Race for Education, our school's main FUNdraiser to cover costs of assemblies, field trips, technology advancements, and other curriculum needs. This non-competitive event is held at Fowler Park, and students walk, jog, and/or run for our school! We run for HIM!

**2017-2018 School Year Theme Verse: This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." John 15:12**

Mission Statement: *Helping God's children grow to be energetic servant leaders for HIM through love, respect, and a commitment to excellence.*

Scan the QR code with your smartphone to be directed to St. Paul's online giving webpage.



For the most current information on St. Paul's happenings, please visit our website at [splco.org](http://splco.org).

UPCOMING EVENTS: October 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>  
ADVANCE THE MISSION

REACHING, SERVING & GROWING DISCIPLES

TUESDAY October 10 <sup>th</sup>	LWML Zone 17 Fall Rally Operations Committee Meeting Praise Team Practice Board of Elders Meeting	St. John's-Sullivan Library Church Room 219	6:00 pm 6:15 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm
WEDNESDAY October 11 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Choir Life Together Adult Choir	Balcony Maxim's Balcony	5:20 pm 6:15 pm 7:30 pm
THURSDAY October 12 <sup>th</sup>	Praise Team Practice	Church	7:00 pm
SATURDAY October 14 <sup>th</sup>	Journeyman Traditional Worship AA Meeting	Maxim's Church Fellowship Hall	7:30 am 5:00 pm 8:30 pm
SUNDAY October 15 <sup>th</sup>	Traditional Worship Service Coffee Fellowship Hour Public School Confirmation 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Bible History <i>Time to Grow</i> (Sunday School) Reformation Adult Bible Study Contemporary Worship Service	Church School Lobby Room 219 Room 204 Meet in Gym Fellowship Hall Church	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:30 am 10:30 am

# ATTENDANCE

September 30/October 1

**Church Attendance:**

5:00 pm—76

8:00 am—140

10:30 am—139

355 Total; 22 visitors; 333 members

**ST. PAUL'S OCTOBER EPISTLE IS NOW  
AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE AT  
SPLCO.ORG.**

**FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN**  
We rejoice to have families with small children participating in our worship services. There are baskets available with items that might be helpful for your children behind the back pews.

**THIS SUNDAY**

**5:00 PM**

**8:00 AM**

**10:30 AM**

<b>Music Leaders</b>	Diane Bleke	Diane Bleke	Look2Him
<b>Special Music</b>	Dave Schlomer	Dave Schlomer	
<b>Acolytes</b>	TBD	Alyssa Dinnauer	TBD
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Martha Blanck	Leslyn Mueller	Cheryl Oelsner
<b>Elders</b>	Bruce Bain	Bryan Polinske	Jon Schmeling & Josh Oddsen
<b>Greeters</b>	John Melvin	Jim & Judy Braatz (church) Gary Pribnow (school)	Anne Fait
<b>Lectors</b>	Chad Eberhardt	Don Meyer	
<b>Power Point</b>	N/A	N/A	Gary Pribnow
<b>Radio</b>	N/A	Chuck Muecke	N/A
<b>Ushers</b>	Bob Bratz	Dan Friedrich	Truman Seifert

**NEXT WEEK**

**5:00 PM**

**8:00 AM**

**10:30 AM**

<b>Readings</b>	Isaiah 25.6-9	Philippians 4.4-13	Matthew 22.1-14
<b>Acolytes</b>	TBD	Caden Moldenhauer	TBD
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Margie Hertneky	Donna Andrus	Sarah Neff
<b>Elders</b>	Bruce Bain	Rick Zastrow & Chad Eberhardt	Erik Benes
<b>Greeters</b>	Michelle & Brigitte Schlomer	Don & Harriet Groose (church) Jim & Marlene Steinberg (school)	Jamie Stache
<b>Lectors</b>	Erik Benes	Dorothy Duchow	
<b>Power Point</b>	N/A	N/A	Erik Benes
<b>Radio</b>	N/A	Cheryl Tesch	N/A
<b>Ushers</b>	Gary Flanagan	Rick Zastrow	Scott Kalien

# THE 18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## Isaiah 5:1-7

*Pew Bible pg. 724*

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

## Philippians 3:4b-14

*Pew Bible pg. 1249*

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

## St. Matthew 21:33-46

*Pew Bible pg. 1050*

[Jesus said:] "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.