

JUNE/JULY EPISTLE

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, SCHOOL AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC)

JUNE/JULY 2018



From the Pastor

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell

Receiving and Giving the Love and Hope of Christ

Re-imagining our mission

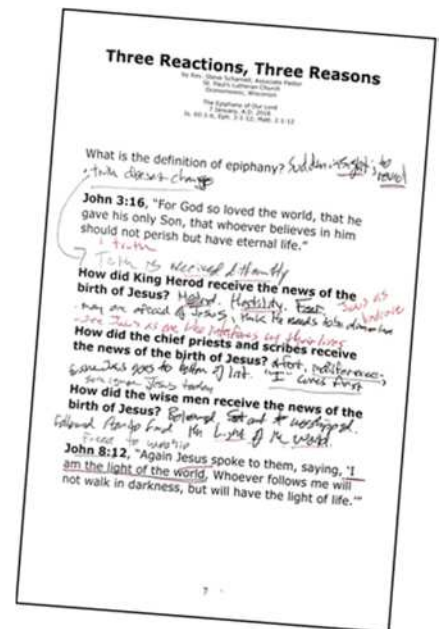
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

For some time the pastoral staff and others have been wrestling with our existing mission statement, "reaching, serving, and growing disciples." It's a good statement, but our sense is that it's missing something. We believe it needs to be more theocentric (prioritizing *God* at work among us), and do a better job of calling all to the center of Christian life (worship) and a life of service and mission.

For many months we were talking about this, wrestling with ideas... and then, in his Epiphany sermon of 7 January 2018, Pastor Scharnell asked the question of us, in terms of worship and the Christian life, "Which comes first, giving or receiving?" He made the point that in the Christian life the first thing is that *GOD* gives. We *receive*.

And it hit me: THAT'S IT! Mission begins with *receiving*. It's *GOD's mission*. We first *receive* Christ's forgiveness, and then we *give* it to others. That's what St. John so wonderfully teaches us in 1 John 4:19: "We love because He first loved us." I penned a note atop my sermon notes with a couple ideas that began with the wonderful phrase "receiving and giving."

I find "receiving and giving" a very clever beginning because it's a bit different than we're used to hearing. For example, in the funeral prayers we give thanks for all the good the deceased was able to "give and receive." We use "give and receive" quite frequently in conversation and correspondence. "Receiving and giving" flips that. It makes us think. A Good mission statement should do that.

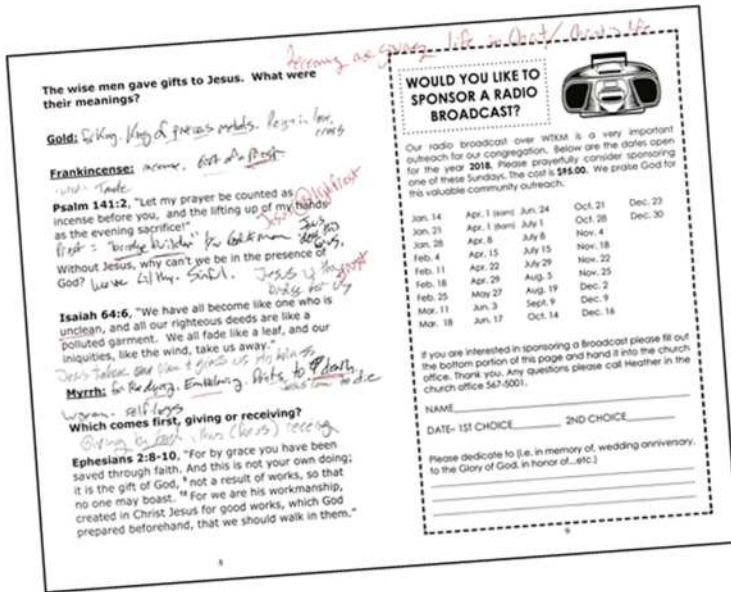


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So, the pastors have decided that **"Receiving and Giving the Love and Hope of Christ"** will be our summer theme, and—over the course of the summer—we want you to think about this as a possible new comprehensive mission statement for our parish: church, school, and early childhood center.

Over the past few months I have mulled over many other possibilities following "receiving and giving..." Pastor Scharnell felt strongly about *hope*. Indeed, *hope* is an important Biblical theme and speaks to a core human reality. Solomon alludes to this

when he writes that God ". . . has put eternity into man's heart . . ." (Ecclesiastes 3:11, ESV) We are made and redeemed in the image and likeness of God. We have *souls* with an eternal destiny. *Hope* is built into us... but is difficult to grasp in our broken world. Part of Christ's ongoing work through the Church—our mission—is to bring hope to the world. As Peter writes: "...In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect." (1 Peter 3:15, ESV)



Love is an absolutely central Biblical theme and human need. Christ, through the worship and service of His Church, teaches the world what *love* really is. The Biblical word that is the root of God's love—*agape*—is comprehensive because it's not an emotional feeling but an act of service on behalf of the beloved. Christ's forgiving work on the cross—that cross that is at the very heart of St. Paul's logo—is the supreme act of love, for Jesus himself says, "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13, ESV)

Follow the Holy Spirit's lead. Make worship a priority this summer. And join the conversation about **"receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ."**

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Lance O'Donnell
Wednesday of Easter 7
16 May, A.D. 2018



St. Paul's Ladies Aid

Our Mother ~ Daughter ~ Friend Banquet was held on Tuesday, May 15th at the Oconomowoc Golf Club. We had about 100 people in attendance. Fun, fellowship and good food was shared by all. A special "thank you" to Ebert's Greenhouse Village for the beautiful flowers, Adele Lund for our entertainment and to the Oconomowoc Golf Club.

The last meeting of this season will be on Thursday, June 7th, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited—come and hear about our group. Please bring a dish to pass as we will have a potluck meal.

A special "thank you" to all ladies who have helped our group in any way this year. You are all so greatly appreciated. Thank you again! God's blessings. Have a great summer and please join us again in September.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Baptism

Nora Julia Bain, daughter of David & Ashley (Levandowski) Bain

Deaths

My Ubl

Waldemar Gebel

Dorothy Mitchell

James Campbell

Baptized 1882 Confirmed 1087

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Our summer office hours will be 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, effective June 4th - August 24th.

Please make a note of this.



**Lutheran Women's
Missionary League
Lutheran Women in Mission**

LWML will meet for our last meeting of the season on **MONDAY, June 4th**, at **6:00 pm** at Rosati's. Elections and convention business will be discussed. Remember your mites and grant selections for voting.

Remember to have your ingathering items for the District Convention to church by June 17th.

JUNE/JULY BIRTHDAYS

June 5th Barb Krug	July 3rd Linda Uttech
June 4th Lucy Fredrick	July 7th Fred Boldt Pat Borgman
June 5th Ronna Pagenkopf	Patricia Gartzke Vernon Schilling
June 15th James Thiel	July 9th Harriet Groose
June 18th Judith Falstad	July 10th Ken Dinnauer Gary Ketchum
June 22nd Mabel Fredrick Gwen Nicholson Barbara Wildes	July 11th Barb Melvin Wilbur Pieper Johanna Walter
June 23rd Linda Meyer Karen Schultz	July 15th John Melvin
June 24th Richard Buss William Voss	July 17th Alice Tetzlaff
June 25th Belle Romback	July 22nd Gemma Kitzman
June 28 LouAnn Wolter Sandy Zillmer	July 25th Arline Ruhs
July 1st Marilyn Marohn	July 26th Florence Zastrow
	July 30th Florence Kroll

For our members 70+ years



MEMORIALS

My Ubl	\$2755.00
Jill Davy	\$25.00
Dorothy Mitchell	\$50.00

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH AND SCHOOL
(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)
210 E. Pleasant Street
Oconomowoc, WI 53066-3050
262-567-5001

WORSHIP & STUDY

Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday (Traditional)	8:00 am
Sunday (Contemporary)	10:30 am
Bible Class	9:15 am

Pastor Lance Armstrong O'Donnell 567.5001 x217
Pastor Steve Scharnell 567.5001 x216
Pastor Emeritus Dr. Paul Borgman 567.5001
Organist/Choir Director- Diane Bleke 567.5001
Principal - Jill George 567.5001 x213
FAX 567.1207
Website: www.splco.org

RADIO BROADCASTS:

8:00 am Sunday Worship
Live on WTKM 104.9 FM/1540 AM
& www.wtkm.com

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC)
Christian Pre-School & Day Care
Director Christine Flores 567-4881

Epistle Editor-Heather Scheuer

Newsletter deadline for articles,
announcements and features is the
2nd Wednesday of the month

PLEASE ADVISE THE CHURCH OFFICE OF
ANY ADDRESS CHANGES

JUNE 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 8:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Blood Pressure Screening 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Contemporary Worship	4 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Open Pantry 6:00 pm LWML @ Rosati's	5 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	6 6:30 pm Lakeside Worship	7 6:00 pm Ladies Aid 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	8	9 7:30 am Journeyman 5:00 pm Traditional Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
10 8:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Contemporary Worship	11	12 6:30 pm Operations Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Board of Elders' Meeting 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	13 6:30 pm Lakeside Worship	14 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	15	16 8:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm Traditional Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
17 8:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Coffee Hour 9:30 am Bible Study 10:30 am Contemporary Worship	18 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Meal	19 8:00 am VBS 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	20 8:00 am VBS 6:30 pm Lakeside Worship	21 8:00 am VBS 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	22	23 7:30 am Journeyman 5:00 pm Traditional Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
24 8:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Contemporary Worship	25 8:30 am VBS 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Leaders 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision	26 8:30 am VBS 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	27 8:30 am VBS 6:30 pm Lakeside Worship	28 8:30 am VBS 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	29	30

JULY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Blood Pressure Screening 9:30 am Bible Study 10:30 am Contemporary Worship	2 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry	3 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	4 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 pm Lakeside Worship	5	6	7 8:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm Traditional Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
8 8:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Contemporary Worship	9	10 6:30 pm Operations Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Board of Elders Meeting 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	11 6:30 pm Lakeside Worship	12 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice	13	14 7:30 am Journeymen 5:00 pm Traditional Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
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29 8:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Contemporary Worship	30	31 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice				

STEWARDSHIP



Time ♣ Talent ♣ Treasure

By Rev. Jason Braaten

Immanuel Lutheran Church – Tuscola, IL

“There are three conversions necessary to every man: the head, the heart, and the purse.” Attributed to Luther, though yet to be located in his vast writings, this statement echoes what Jesus taught about hearts and treasures. He said, “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:21; Luke 12:34).

But which conversion comes first? I submit that the order is this: first the head, then the purse, then the heart. Let me explain.

Our Lord Jesus Christ dwelt among us to save us. He took on our flesh, fulfilled the demands of the law in our place, became sin for us, and suffered torture and death on our behalf, in order that we would be free from sin, death, and hell. He gives us what He accomplished through Baptism, Absolution, and the Lord’s Supper.

And so, He doesn’t just do it for us but gives it to us, makes what He did ours by making us His. Thus, we are called by His name: Christians. We have a new life in Him.

Through the preaching of Law and Gospel, God grants us repentance, a changing of our minds. It is a conversion of the mind. We are called to turn away from our sins and turn toward Him for forgiveness, life, and salvation. For when God calls us away from something, He is, at the same time, calling us to something.

And thus, He calls us to a new life, with new deeds. This is the conversion of the purse. Jesus said that “it is easier for a camel to enter through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God” (Matthew 19:24). “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Notice that our hearts follow our treasures, not the other way around. As Christians, God calls us to invest our treasures in His Kingdom to ensure that the gospel is preached and the sacraments are administered. He calls us to share all good things with the one who teaches us the doctrines of Christ. He calls us to be generous in giving to the church, for it is more blessed to give than to receive.

So where is your treasure? If it is not invested in the kingdom of God, then the only response is repentance—a conversion of the heart—and to begin doing just that. And as our Lord promised, where your treasure is there your heart will be also.

This is not to say that you earn your way into heaven. It is simply to say that as Christians, those who have been made to be temples of the Holy Spirit, who have been given a new life in Christ, who are dead to sin and now alive in Him, we are, actually, to live — think (conversion of the mind), do (conversion of the purse), and be (conversion of the heart) — a new life in Him.

And when you fail, know that God in Christ loves and forgives you and still calls you away from that and to Himself.

Hero Crusade

On Saturday, April 21, guests of St. Paul's Hero Crusade gathered at the Oconomowoc Lake Club and raised funds for the school's technology program and the Fred Boldt Fund-A-Family Scholarship program. The event was a lot fun and **we raised \$40,500, including \$15,725 for Fund-A-Family!** I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who helped make this happen! This event would not be possible without the support of our sponsors, donors, volunteers, and guests. Your generosity with your time, talent, and financial support was very much appreciated! I would also like to thank Chris Hesse, Heather Scheuer, and Cindy Peartree for all of their help throughout the entire planning process.

Photos of the event are on our website at www.splco.org/hero-crusade.

Serving Christ,
Amy Hackbarth

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St. Paul's Ladies Aid

Other: Bob Bratz, Sr.

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Gemma Kitzman
Jim & Marlene Steinberg

In-Kind: Harry C. Glinberg Jewelers

Tom Oberhaus
Erik Truchan
Tom Truebenbach

HERO COMMITTEE & VOLUNTEERS:

Amy Blair, Nicole Duchow, Sarah Esveldt, Sheri Fleischfresser, Jill George, Roxie Gerlach,
John Kelling, Stephanie Kelling, Lorena Luke, John Melvin, Jodi Schwefel, Pam Tanner,
Erik Truchan, Addie Thurow

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Bock Acupuncture	MJS Landscape
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Carol Prange	Paganica Golf Course
Cornerstone Pub & Eatery	Papa Murphy's
Dina Tanner	Pick 'n Save
Don & RoseAnn Dentice	Planet Fitness
Domino's	Pastor & Mrs. Lance O'Donnell
Door County Trolley	Pastor & Mrs. Steven Scharnell
Ebert's Greenhouse	Rockbend Farms
Erin Timm	Rocky Rococo
Ewald Automotive	Rosati's
Family Tae Kwon Do	Snips & Giggles
Fiesta Cancun	Skyzone
Fox Bros. Piggly Wiggly	St. Paul's Lutheran School
Fox Lake Country Antiques	St. Paul's Lurchroom Staff
Fred & Barb Boldt	St. Paul's Kindergarten
Golosi's Gelato Café	St. Paul's 4K/1st grade
Grandpa's Custom Coolers	St. Paul's 2nd grade
Great Harvest Bread Co	St. Paul's 3rd grade
Green Bay Packers	St. Paul's 4th grade
Harley-Davidson Museum	St. Paul's 5th grade
Ironwood Golf Course	St. Paul's Board of Elders
Jill George	St. Paul's Operations Committee
Jim Healy	St. Paul's Stewardship Committee
Jim O'Connor Select Auto	St. Paul's Education Committee
Jimmy Johns	T&D Lawn Service
Knollward Farms	The Hippy Farmer
Lake Country Conservatory	VisionShare Consulting
Lake Country Dentistry	YMCA at Pabst Farm
Linda Hertneky	Zilli's Hospitality
Linda Meyer- Thunder Mountain Gallery	

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Wednesday Summer Worship Services

Lakeside Summer Worship (in our backyard) will return on Wednesday, June 6th at 6:30 pm. Bring your lawn chairs! Sermons will be from the prior Sunday. (If there is inclement weather, services will be moved into the sanctuary.)

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR A RADIO BROADCAST?

Our radio broadcast over WTKM is a very important outreach for our congregation. Below are the dates open for **2018**. Please prayerfully consider sponsoring one of these Sundays. The cost is **\$95.00**. We praise God for this valuable community outreach.

July 29	Aug. 19	Nov. 18	Dec. 2
Aug. 5	Oct. 21	Nov. 22	Dec. 9

If you are interested in sponsoring a Broadcast please fill out the bottom portion of this page and hand it into the church office. Thank you. Any questions please call Heather in the church office 567-5001.

NAME _____

DATE- 1ST CHOICE _____ 2ND CHOICE _____

Please dedicate to (i.e. in memory of, wedding anniversary, to the Glory of God, in honor of...etc.)
