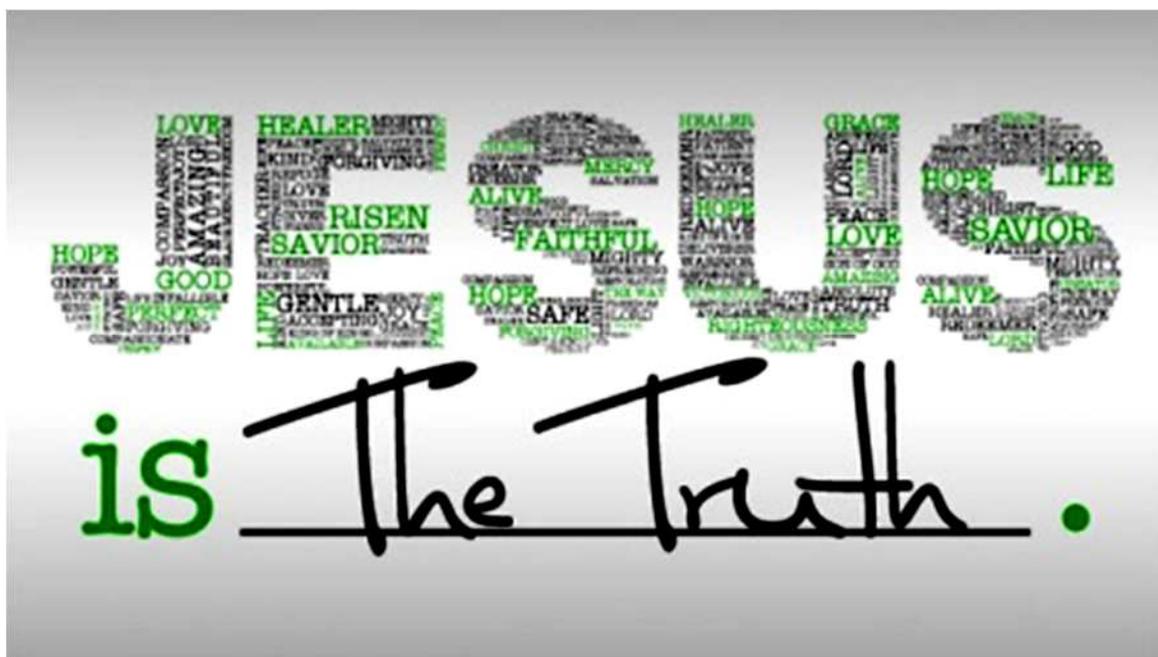




# St. Paul's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Reaching, Serving, and Growing Disciples*



## Church, School and Early Childhood Center

210 E. Pleasant St.  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066  
[www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org)  
262-567-5001

## Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5pm traditional  
Sunday: 8am traditional  
Sunday: 10:30am contemporary

Advent, Lent, Summer special services

July 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Steven Scharnell, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Paul Borgman, Pastor Emeritus  
Jill George, Principal  
Volume 24

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

Office Hours - 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Number 28

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 EIGHTH 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:** *Jesus IS the Truth*

Traditional Worship

**Lutheran Service Book, Divine Setting 4, pg. 203**

Contemporary Worship

**Special Order**

## BIBLE STUDIES

**Summer Bible Study**

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

**Connected in Christ**

**567-5001 Wed.—6:15 p.m. Room 219**

**Women of Joy Bible Study**

**490-2879 Sat. (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>) – 8:00 a.m. Whelan's**

**Journeymen (Men's Bible Study)**

**567-5001 Sat. (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>) – 7:30 a.m. Maxim's**

The **radio broadcast** is sponsored by Jim & Marlene Steinberg in praise to God for blessings received. 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 Barb Krug in praise to God for blessings received.

## REACHING DISCIPLES

### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**St. Paul's is looking to add to our family!**

We will be at the Oconomowoc Farmer's Market on July 21<sup>st</sup> & August 4<sup>th</sup> this summer. We would like to give away cups of lemonade to the children & bottled water to adults, at the market, and need your help.



#### **Donations of store bought, pre-mixed lemonade**

are very appreciated. Donations can be brought to the school & church office.

*THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED WATER & LEMONADE!*

*WE HAVE ENOUGH BOTTLED WATER FOR ALL OF THE UPCOMING EVENTS!*

All donations are tax deductible.

*Thank you for your generosity and help!*

St. Paul's Church, School & ECC

## **LWML**

### **Mission Minute Update SWD LWML CONVENTION \$204,500 MITE GOAL**

Delegates voted on 9 new Mission Grants at the 2018 District Convention in June totaling \$153,375 and \$51,125 which will fund national grants for the remaining year. A total of 285 attended the two day event. The list of 2018-2019 grants will be listed in the August Epistle. Please remember your Mite Box as we begin a new biennium of funding these grants.

## SERVING DISCIPLES

### **SHORT (like me) and SWEET? (like me)**

Books, books and more books for children ages 2 to 6 at Barb Star's garage and other fun kid items too! Call 262-443-7366 evening/weekends (after 8am) to come and find treasures. Free-will offering to help St. Paul's Fund-a-Family Scholarship Fund. And no, I am not retiring 😊.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Help is needed one Monday a month to count the weekend offerings. No experience necessary. If you are interested, please call Cindy Peartree at 262-567-5001 for details.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Church Leadership Team (CLT) is looking for six volunteers from the congregation to serve on a committee to review St Paul's Constitution and Bylaws.

This committee would be responsible to:

- review the existing constitution and bylaws
- make recommended changes
- changes would need to be published and reviewed with the congregation
- changes would need to be voted by the congregation for adoption
- changes would need to be approved by the South Wisconsin District Office

Please contact Heather in the church office if you are interested at 262.567.5001 or [heather@splco.org](mailto:heather@splco.org).

## GROWING DISCIPLES

### 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL - ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN ATHLETIC GOLF OUTING

The Warrior Golf Outing will once again be held at Iron Wood Golf Course in Sussex. This year's outing will help pay for new volleyball and basketball equipment. Please stop by one of the two booths for more information. The first booth is found in the lobby to our school, the second is found in the narthex of the church. Any questions or concerns, please call or text Ben Mueller at 262-370-6575. The date for this year's outing is Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. We are looking forward to another great outing.

### Youth Gathering Brat Fry and Car Wash

Please come and support the youth at Piggly Wiggly on July 22nd from 10:00 AM to 3 PM. We will be serving brats and washing cars to raise funds for the 2019 LCMS National Youth Gathering in Minnesota.

If your child will be ages 14 to 19 or entering ninth grade at the time of the gathering (July 11-15, 2019), please join us at the fundraiser!

Email Nicole Tanney ([nicole@splco.org](mailto:nicole@splco.org)) for more information or to sign up.



# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: Jesus IS the Truth  
July 15-22, 2018*

## **Jesus IS the Truth (Pastor Scharnell)**

St. John the Baptist suffered and was put to death for his faithful preaching of the Truth. King Herod imprisoned John even though he knew that John was a righteous and holy man. Out of pride and fear, Herod sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head on a platter. Yet in Christ, John has been raised from the dead and received the very salvation that he taught. Like John, we are to remain faithful to the Truth of salvation through Jesus Christ and proclaim it to the world.

## **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**

**Christ-Centered Theme:** The Truth of our salvation is through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Verse:** Ephesians 2:19-20 You are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*.

**Psalm:** Psalm 33 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>	110	62	13	96	116	85	61	103
<b>Evening</b>	66, 23	73, 8	36, 5	132, 134	26, 130	25, 40	138, 98	117, 139

***The Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar—What is the Sacrament of the Altar? Where is this written?***

<p><i>What is the Sacrament of the Altar?</i> It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.</p>	1 <sup>st</sup> grade+
<p><i>Where is this written?</i> The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark Luke and St. Paul’s write: <b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, “Take, eat, this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you; this is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”</b></p>	2 <sup>nd</sup> grade+ Kindergarten+

**The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: Jesus IS the Truth**

Day	Bible Stories for the Family & School	Daily prayer readings from LSB, p. 299	
<b>Sun.</b>	The Feeding of the 4,000—Mark 8:1-9	Judges 15:1-16:3	Gal. 3:23-4:11
<b>Mon.</b>	Jesus Teaches on Marriage and Divorce—Mark 10:1-12	Judges 16:4-30	Gal. 4:12-31
<b>Tue.</b>	Jesus Blesses the Children—Mark 10:13-16	1 Sam. 1:1-20	Gal. 5:1-26
<b>Wed.</b>	The Rich Young Ruler—Mark 10:17-31	1 Sam. 1:21-2:17	Gal. 6:1-18
<b>Thur.</b>	Jesus Predicts His Death a Third Time—Mark 10:32-45	1 Sam. 2:18-36	Acts 15:22-41
<b>Fri.</b>	Lutheran Service Book Readings	1 Sam. 3:1-21	Acts 16:1-22

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

O Lord, You granted Your prophets strength to resist the temptations of the devil and courage to proclaim repentance. Give us pure hearts and minds to follow Your Son faithfully even into suffering and death; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

### **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** – Amy Brockway—healing from kidney issues; Sue Lindeman—recovering from knee surgery; Pastor Paul Borgman; Jackie Meyer; Don Groose; Shirley Dibble; Darlene Adams—knee replacement; Linda Uttech—shoulder reconstruction; Laura Gruen—brain tumor; Lucille Campbell—cancer treatment; Mary Buss—cancer; Ann Duggan; Marilyn Marohn; Katie Waldorf; Rob Bratz Jr—throat cancer; Glenn Gartzke—Melanoma; Frieda Antoniak—breast cancer; Larry Hansen; Timothy John Bratz—cancer; Bill & Margaret Voss; Ken Groenke; Louise Lang; Mabel Fredrick; Linda Hansen (Steve's wife); Marian Faltersack; Rick Ware—liver biopsy; Harry & Dorothy Peterson (Shorehaven); Barb Krug; Crystal Parker

**FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS – Those with cancer:** Peg—breast cancer; Mary Sprague—breast cancer; John Witmar (friend Pastor & Angie Scharnell)—prostate cancer; Daina Boppre—bone cancer; Sandy—kidney cancer; Jimi Duer—pancreatic cancer; Debra Thurow (Dona's daughter); Kathy Berkbigler (Pat Borgman's cousin)—breast cancer; Beth—Lymphoma; Naomi Morris; Janice (Diane Bleke's sister); Tom—stage 3 bladder cancer; Liz (Barb Allwardt's sister)—colon cancer; Dylan Coughlin—3 year-old with brain tumor; Mike—bone cancer; Roy Hyatt—cancer returned; Quinn—breast cancer; Julie; Kayla (7 years-old)—brain cancer; Linda F—breast cancer; Jack Anderson; Kim B.—breast cancer; Jeanie; Karen Peskie (Mike & Cheryl Reiner's sister -in-law)—Lymphoma; Dan (stage-four prostate cancer); Crystal Schultz; Joann Romain—kidney cancer; Ron Rafalski—throat cancer; Nancy—breast cancer

**Other:** John Bahr—serious accident; Matt Schroeder—serious leg injury; Kerry—relapse and leg infection; Dan (Joann West-Spransy's brother) - COPD; Robert Morgan—recovering from a bad fall; Marilyn Hastert (Angie Scharnell's stepmom); Ray Kugler (Cris Parker's friend)—aneurysm surgery; Lynn Kysely—spine/back issues; Pauline Nagobads (Nicole Duchow's mom)—hospice; Karen Beardsley (Sharon Peterson's sister)—heart issues; Karey—healing from stomach issues; Susan—memory issues; Sharon—circulation problems; Carol (Mark Prange's mom); Rev. William Meyer; Sicily (3 year-old)—Guillain-Barre syndrome; Shirley Katusich; Merita Dinnauer; Sue Janzen (Shirley Dibble's niece); Rebecca Mills; Gail Albright; Chelsea Bunker—severe brain injury; Marlene Wille (wife of Jim, former St. Paul's members)—stage 3 colon cancer; Dan; George

(Jamie's brother)—liver disease; Karen Nicholson; Armin Tessmann—strength in walking; Michael Hamton; Karen Christenson—dementia & stroke; Regina Mills; Dory Schultz; Phyllis Ecklor (Shirley Dibble's sister)—hospice; Shawn—vascular problems; Kristal—lung surgery; Jonathan (Marilyn Marohn's nephew)—in need of a kidney; Doug—CCL; Megan Bertram; 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:** Justin Michener; PFC Nicholas Lang; Zach Howard, Theresa; Phil Preston; Captain Chad Kelling—Spain; 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; Alayna DeWitz on a mission trip in Belize; an Okauchee resident to know God's love; those struggling with addiction—Bob, Andy, George, Dan, Dee; Sarah, Keri

**Birthday:** Skye Tesch—July 12<sup>th</sup>

**Public Reception of New Members:** Brett Helwig & Kerri Foster  
Ryan & Megan Miller, Collins

**Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism**  
**Hymn of the Week: "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"**

**LSB 743**

**Looking forward to The 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**\_\_\_\_\_ July 21/22, 2018**

**Hymns: 518, 465 (855, 740, 392) 466**

***The Great Shepherd (Pastor Scharnell)***

The Lord rebukes and removes the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep. He gathers the sheep and brings them back and then sets shepherds over them who will care for them. He sends Jesus, the good Great Shepherd. He has compassion on us because we are too like sheep without a shepherd. He abundantly provides for His Church on earth, so that everyone is fully fed and satisfied in body and soul. He brings you near. Even though you were separated from God by your sins, you have been reconciled through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



**Amos 7:8** *"And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "Behold, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass by them." One of the sins for which the Lord condemned the people through Amos was a disregard for the call of kindness, charity, and generosity toward the weak and lowly. We can see here how seriously the Lord sees this! And that's no surprise when we consider how God's activity toward us is built on kindness, charity, and generosity. To act otherwise is to act against the Lord's own nature.*

**Witness:** When God plants a seed, He will bring it to life.

# St. Paul's Marriage Retreat

**November 9-11, 2018**

The Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake, WI

*Marriage is where God joins a man and a woman into one living flesh.  
What a great and mysterious blessing!*

**The 2018 Biblical marriage retreat is about rejoicing in the truth and finding strength through our Lord who brought us together.**

Couples will:

- † worship together
- † enjoy the company of others on the journey
- † receive teaching and resources to strengthen their marriage
- † spend structured and free time exploring what they're learning
- † have an onsite counselor available to assist.

**Participants must be married according to St. Paul's Marriage Policy.**

**To find out more, please contact**

**Angie Scharnell 920-285-1264 or Linda Hertneky 651-206-8497**

## **Free-to-Serve Capital Campaign\***

as of July 12, 2018

Campaign Pledges \$1,119,970

Pledges Received \$655,991

Distributions \$594,115

*Mortgage Payments* \$500,000

*Lutheran High School Assoc.* \$17,597

*Dominican Republic* \$15,528

*Family Promise* \$12,905

*Miscellaneous Expenses\*\** \$48,085

Account Balance \$61,877

We encourage all members to prayerfully consider contributing to this worthwhile campaign, on a continuing basis, a one-time basis, or whatever amount a member would feel comfortable contributing.

\*Campaign runs 9/1/15 thru 8/31/18

\*\*Consulting Fees, brochures, etc.

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: July 16<sup>th</sup>—22<sup>nd</sup>**

**ADVANCE THE MISSION**

**REACHING, SERVING & GROWING DISCIPLES**

MONDAY July 16 <sup>th</sup>	Lord's Cupboard Meal Stephen Ministry Leaders Stephen Ministry Supervision	Fellowship Hall Room 201 Room 201	5:30 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm
TUESDAY July 17 <sup>th</sup>	Praise Team Practice	Church	7:00 pm
WEDNESDAY July 18 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Lakeside Worship	Backyard	6:30 pm
THURSDAY July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Praise Team Practice	Church	7:00 pm
SATURDAY July 21 <sup>st</sup>	Women of Joy Bible Study Traditional Worship AA Meeting	Whelan's Church Fellowship Hall	8:00 am 5:00 pm 8:30 pm
SUNDAY July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Traditional Worship Adult Bible Study Brat Fry and Car Wash Contemporary Worship	Church Fellowship Hall Piggly Wiggly Church	8:00 am 9:30 am 10:00 am 10:30 am

**Wednesday Summer Worship Services**

Lakeside Summer Worship (in our backyard) will run through August 29<sup>th</sup> 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.)

# ATTENDANCE

July 7/8/11

## Church Attendance:

5:00 pm—102

8:00 am—109

10:30 am—140

Wed.— 21

372 Total; 42 visitors; 330 members;

ST. PAUL'S JUNE/JULY EPISTLE IS  
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 WEEKEND

### 5:00 PM

### 8:00 AM

### 10:30 AM

<b>Music Leaders</b>	Diane Bleke	Diane Bleke	Look2Him
<b>Special Music</b>	Sara Benes	Sara Benes	
<b>Acolytes</b>	Peyton Mueller	Bobby Edwards	Sami Jo Abel
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Wendy Tesch	Dorothy Duchow	Cheryl Oelsner
<b>Elders</b>	Mike Tesch	Bryan Polinske	John Melvin
<b>Greeters</b>	Michelle & Brigitte Schlomer	Shirley Smart (church) Gary Pribnow (school)	Kim Tuff
<b>Lectors</b>	Amy Hackbarth	Jim Steinberg	
<b>Power Point</b>	N/A	N/A	Cheryl Oelsner
<b>Radio</b>	N/A	Steve Hansen	N/A
<b>Ushers</b>	Todd Leonhardt	Mike Papa	John Melvin

## NEXT WEEKEND

### 5:00 PM

### 8:00 AM

### 10:30 AM

<b>Readings</b>	Jeremiah 23:1-6	Ephesians 2:11-22	Mark 6:30-44
<b>Acolytes</b>	TBD	TBD	Freddy Hertneky
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Mary Ann Ashworth	Barb Hentz	Sarah Neff
<b>Elders</b>	Bruce Bain	Rick Zastrow	Josh Oddsen
<b>Greeters</b>	John & Margie Hertneky	Jim & Marlene Steinberg (school)	Brenda Nagel
<b>Lectors</b>	Russ Meyer	Rick Zastrow	
<b>Power Point</b>	N/A	N/A	Leah Johnson
<b>Radio</b>	N/A	Jim Juneau	N/A
<b>Ushers</b>	Gary Flanagan	Rick Zastrow	Truman Seifert

# THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## **Amos 7:7-15 ~ ESV**

*Pew Bible pg. 976*

This is what [the Lord God] showed me: behold, the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "Behold, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass by them; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword." Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, "'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'" And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there, but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, "I was no prophet, nor a prophet's son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. But the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

## **Ephesians 1:3-14 ~ ESV**

*Pew Bible pg. 1241*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

## **Mark 6:14-29 ~ ESV**

*Pew Bible pg. 1070*

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him." But others said, "He is Elijah." And others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." And she went out and said to her mother, "For what should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

July 14/15, 2018