



SEPTEMBER EPISTLE

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

SEPTEMBER 2025



Do You Read the Preface?

Jason A. Schockman, Associate Pastor

When we come to the beginning of things, a new school year, a marriage, the birth of children, we often look ahead with wonder at what may unfold. If we are honest, we preface the unfolding of the new with expectations based on what has come before. But how often do you take the time to examine that preface?

Authors tend to include a preface for us as we come into their writing, are you someone who reads the preface, or skips to the first chapter? One of most impactful books I encountered at the Seminary was titled *How to Read a Book*. And one of the key lessons learned was how important the author's preface can be! The preface is where the author explains what they hope to accomplish with what they wrote and where they articulate the reasoning behind their writing task in the first place.

This year under the theme "Lead Me to Christ, The Rock", and honoring the 1700th Anniversary of the Nicene Creed, we are planning to dig deep into the Small and Large Catechisms. Did you know Luther wrote a preface to the Small Catechism? What a great place to start as we examine it's texts this year. If you haven't read it before, I've included it here.... Please enjoy the preface, as Luther lays out for pastors his concerns and instructions regarding how the faith is taught. While it may not be addressed specifically to you, it is nonetheless worth hearing from Luther himself why he wrote these catechisms.

Martin Luther to all faithful and godly pastors and preachers: grace, mercy, and peace in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

¹ The deplorable, miserable condition that I discovered recently when I, too, was a visitor, has forced and urged me to prepare this catechism, or Christian doctrine, in this small, plain, simple form. ² Mercy! Dear God, what great misery I beheld! The common person, especially in the villages, has no knowledge whatever of Christian doctrine. And unfortunately, many pastors are completely unable and unqualified to teach. ³ <This is so much so, that one is ashamed to speak of it.> Yet, everyone says that they are Christians, have been baptized, and receive the holy Sacraments, even though they cannot even recite the Lord's Prayer or the Creed or the Ten Commandments. They live like dumb brutes and irrational hogs. Now that the Gospel has come, they have nicely learned to abuse all freedom like experts.

⁴ O bishops! What answer will you ever give to Christ for having so shamefully neglected the people and never for a moment fulfilled your office [James 3:1]? May all misfortune run from you! ⁵ <I do not wish at this place to call down evil on your heads.> You command the Sacrament in one form and insist on your human laws, and yet at the same time you do not care at all whether the people know the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the Ten Commandments, or any part of God's Word. Woe, woe to you forever! [See Matthew 23.]

⁶ Therefore, I beg you all for God's sake, my dear sirs and brethren, who are pastors or preachers, to devote yourselves heartily to your office [1 Timothy 4:13]. Have pity on the people who are entrusted to you [Acts 20:28] and help us teach the catechism to the people, and especially to the young. And let those of you who cannot do better take these tables and forms and impress them, word for word, on the people [Deuteronomy 6:7], as follows:

⁷ In the first place, let the preacher above all be careful to avoid many versions or various texts and forms of the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the Sacraments, and such. He should choose one form to which he holds and teaches all the time, year after year. For young and simple people must be taught by uniform, settled texts and forms. Otherwise they become confused easily when the teacher today teaches them one way, and in a year some other way, as if he wished to make improvements. For then all effort and labor <that has been spent in teaching> is lost.

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⁸ Our blessed fathers understood this well also. They all used the same form of the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. Therefore, we, too, should *be at pains to* teach the young and simple people these parts in such a way that we do not change a syllable or set them forth and repeat them one year differently than in another.

⁹ Therefore, choose whatever form you please, and hold to it forever. But when you preach in the presence of learned and intelligent people, you may show your skill. You may present these parts in varied and intricate ways and give them as masterly turns as you are able. But with the young people stick to one fixed, permanent form and manner. ¹⁰ Teach them, first of all, these parts: the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and so on, according to the text, word for word, so that they, too, can repeat it in the same way after you and commit it to memory.

¹¹ But those who are unwilling to learn the catechism should be told that they deny Christ and are not Christians. They should not be admitted to the Sacrament, accepted as sponsors at Baptism, or practice any part of Christian freedom. They should simply be turned back to the pope and his officials, indeed, to the devil himself [1 Corinthians 5:5]. ¹² Furthermore, their parents and employers should refuse them food and drink, and notify them that the prince will drive such rude people from the country.

¹³ Although we cannot and should not force anyone to believe, we should insist and encourage the people. That way they will know what is right and wrong for those among whom they dwell and wish to make their living. For whoever desires to live in a town must know and observe the town laws, because he wishes to enjoy the protection offered by the laws whether he is a believer or at heart and in private a rascal or rogue.

¹⁴ In the second place, after they have learned the text well, teach them the meaning also, so that they know what it means. Again, choose the form of these tables or some other brief uniform method, whichever you like, and hold to it. ¹⁵ Do not change a single syllable, as was just said about the text. ¹⁶ Take your time in doing this. For it is not necessary for you to explain all the parts at once, but one after the other. After they understand the First Commandment well, then explain the Second, and so on. Otherwise they will be overwhelmed, so that they will not be able to remember anything well.

¹⁷ In the third place, after you have taught them this short catechism, then take up the Large Catechism and give them also a richer and fuller knowledge. Here enlarge upon every commandment, *article*, petition, and part with its various works, uses, benefits, dangers, and injuries, as you find these abundantly stated in many books written about these matters. ¹⁸ In particular, urge the commandment or part that most suffers the greatest neglect among your people. For example, the Seventh Commandment, about stealing, must be strongly urged among mechanics and merchants, and even farmers and servants. For among these people many kinds of dishonesty and stealing prevail. So, too, you must drive home the Fourth Commandment among the children and the common people, so that they may be quiet and faithful, obedient and peaceable. You must always offer many examples from the Scriptures to show how God has punished or blessed such persons [Deuteronomy 28].

¹⁹ In this matter you should especially urge magistrates and parents to rule well and to send their children to school. Show them why it is their duty to do this and what a damnable sin they are committing if they do not do it. For by such neglect they overthrow and destroy both God's kingdom and that of the world. They act as the worst enemies both of God and of people. ²⁰ Make it very plain to them what an awful harm they are doing if they will not help to train children to be pastors, preachers, clerks, and to fill other offices that we cannot do without in this life. God will punish them terribly for this failure. There is great need to preach this. In this matter parents and rulers are now sinning in unspeakable ways. The devil, too, hopes to accomplish something cruel because of these things.

²¹ Last, since the tyranny of the pope has been abolished, people are no longer willing to go to the Sacrament, and thus they despise it. Here again encouragement is necessary, yet with this understanding: We are to force no one to believe or to receive the Sacrament. ²² Nor should we set up any law, time, or place for it. Instead, preach in such a way that by their own will, without our law, they will urge themselves and, as it were, compel us pastors to administer the Sacrament. This is done by telling them, "When someone does not seek or desire the Sacrament at least four times a year, it is to be feared that he despises the Sacrament and is not a Christian, just as a person is not a Christian who does not believe or hear the Gospel." For Christ did not say, "Leave this out, or, despise this," but, "Do this, as often as you drink it" [1 Corinthians 11:25], and other such words. Truly, He wants it done, and not entirely neglected and despised. "Do this," He says.

²³ Now, whoever does not highly value the Sacrament shows that he has no sin, no flesh, no devil, no world, no death, no danger, no hell. In other words, he does not believe any such things, although he is in them up over his head and his ears and is doubly the devil's own. On the other hand, he needs no grace, no life, no paradise, no heaven, no

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Christ, no God, nor anything good. For if he believed that he had so much evil around him, and needed so much that is good, he would not neglect the Sacrament, by which such evil is remedied and so much good is bestowed. Nor would it be necessary to force him to go to the Sacrament by any law. He would come running and racing of his own will, would force himself, and beg that you must give him the Sacrament.

²⁴ Therefore, you must not make any law about this, as the pope does. Only set forth clearly the benefit and harm, the need and use, the danger and the blessing, connected with this Sacrament. Then the people will come on their own without you forcing them. But if they do not come, let them go their way and tell them that such people belong to the devil who do not regard nor feel their great need and God's gracious help. ²⁵ But if you do not urge this, or make a law or make it bitter, it is your fault if they despise the Sacrament. What else could they be than lazy if you sleep and are silent? ²⁶ Therefore, look to it, pastors and preachers. Our office has now become a different thing from what it was under the pope. It has now become a serious and saving office. So it now involves much more trouble and labor, danger and trials. ²⁷ In addition, it gains little reward and thanks in the world. But Christ Himself will be our reward if we labor faithfully [see Genesis 15:1]. To this end may the Father of all grace help us, to whom be praise and thanks forever through Christ, our Lord! Amen.

Paul Timothy McCain, ed., [*Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*](#) (St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2005), 313–315.



To commemorate our 160th anniversary, we will be creating a new pictorial directory that will also include a history of the congregation, making this a wonderful keepsake. The dates have been set for photo sessions with Mortensen Photography as follows:

Sunday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Monday, September 15th from 4:00 – 8:00 pm

Tuesday, September from 4:00 – 8:00 pm

These will all be held at St. Paul's in Room 202.

To get your preferred time slot, book now by registering through this link: <http://mortensenphotocart.com/booking-calendar/st-pauls-church-directory-2664/>

If you cannot register online, please contact Cheryl Tesch at 920-285-3628 to assist with scheduling.

The directory will be a full-color 8x10 (roughly), and we will also have the directory available to view on St. Paul's website. Packages of your family pictures will be available for purchase, but you are under no obligation to buy, and there will not be any pressure to do so during your photo session.

Get ready to have some fun at the Kid's Zone **Saturday, September 6th**, in our parking lot.

Volunteer shifts are about two hours long (but you're welcome to sign up for more than one).

Set up Shifts start at 9:30 am. The Kid's Zone closes at 4 (cleaned up by 4:30).

In this fun event we get to interact with our community, where we can give what we have first received, the love and hope of Christ.

Thank you for participating as we engage our community right where we are.



Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CACA72EA6FEC16-50826352-fall#/>

Ladies Aid DATE CHANGE

Can you feel it? Something is happening! Something tremendous is happening to Ladies Aid! It's so exciting that we have to move our September meeting to a week later than normal. So please join us on Thursday, **September 11th**, at 5:30 pm to find out just what we have in store for you this coming year. And it would be great if you brought a friend to join in on all the excitement we have planned for you. Hope to see you on **September 11th**!

JULY MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Baptism

Cleopatra Elisa, daughter of Kyle & Hannah Christiansen

Received by profession of faith

Mark & Jessica Pokorny, Evan & Lana
Lawrence & Bonnie Vasatko

Transferred from another LCMS church

Logan Moody – Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa, WI
Krystal Moody – St. Paul's Lutheran Church, West Allis, WI

Transferred to another LCMS church

Dan Balvanz – Bethany Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids, IA

Released at own request

Mackenzie Nagel

Peacefully released

Lori Ford
David Lange

Deaths

Ralph Andrus
Vernon Schilling

Baptized 2009 Confirmed 1232

September's Hymn of the Month: *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*



Our hymn of the month for September (and our theme hymn for the entire school year) is "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (575 in *Lutheran Service Book*).

Edward Mote wrote this hymn in 1825 after hearing of a deadly shipwreck on the Goodwin Sands, a large sandbank in the English Channel. Mote was determined to write a hymn based on the "gracious experience of a Christian." Shortly after writing the hymn, he visited a sick parishioner and offered to sing a new hymn. She appreciated the hymn so much that Mote submitted it to a magazine for publication.

Our theme for this school year is "Lead me to Christ the Rock." Throughout this hymn, we hear how the love of God in Christ Jesus is the one thing that stands unchanging and immovable in our fallen world. When the dark storms and trials of life surround us and everything we lean on is taken away, Jesus' promises to us are sure. He has clothed us with his righteousness through baptism, and because of this we will one day stand before God's throne, redeemed and unashamed.



Dispatches from The Office

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor

CHRIST IN ALL THINGS is back for Season 3

"He [Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross." (Colossians 1:15–20, ESV)

I am very pleased to announce that our podcast, *Christ in All Things*, is back for Season 3, beginning this month. As we say in the introduction, "Christ in All Things is a listening ear into conversations about receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ." From its inception, *Christ In All Things* (CIAT) was envisioned as primarily a local podcast. It is an opportunity for the pastors to teach the Christian faith in a way that St. Paul's members can have better understanding, and in a way that inquiring souls can receive as an invitation. It is also a way for us to help our community see how "Christ holds all things together" by means of the everyday faithfulness of St. Paul's members. CIAT is both catechetical and evangelistic.



In Season 3 of *Christ In All Things* we will have more interviews of wonderful Christian people. Given that 2025 is the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed, we'll do some teaching on key issues confessed therein. Rev. Dr. Nathan Meador, the new President of the LCMS' South Wisconsin District, recorded three episodes on the basics of Christian stewardship that we expect to publish in September, October and November. You may find your understanding of "Christian stewardship" to be radically deeper and more important than you ever knew. We'll also get back to some teaching about the Lutheran "why" and "way" of worship that will help members and inquirers better understand why we do what we do. God-willing, we'll also begin publishing the weekly sermons.

The pastors pray that *Christ In All Things* is a blessing to you and our neighbors.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Lance O'Donnell

Commemoration of Bernard of Clairvaux, Hymnwriter and Theologian

19 August, A.D. 2025

Reflecting Christ as God's Stewards + Financial Peace University

The LORD tells us that “every good gift and every perfect gift is from above.” (James 1:17) Everything we have comes from God. One of the great challenges of the Christian life is learning how to faithfully manage that which God has entrusted to us. We call this “stewardship.” As a member of God’s family, every Christian has partial stewardship of the proclamation of God’s Word, and of our relationships, money, and property.

This year, St. Paul’s is offering *three* classes on Biblical stewardship in fall, winter, and spring. The first of these begins on Wednesday, September 17th, at 6:30 pm in Room 202. Running at the same time as Lutheran Basics, this 11-week study begins with two weeks of Biblical foundations, “Reflecting Christ as God’s Stewards,” followed by a nine-week Dave Ramsey “Financial Peace University” (FPU) course.

For those not familiar, FPU is designed to help people get out of debt and manage their resources faithfully: giving, spending, and saving.

The \$99.99 cost for Financial Peace University covers an individual or couple’s FPU Workbook, grants access to all nine video lessons, and provides a three-month subscription of EveryDollar, the budgeting app. You can elect to upgrade to the \$129.99 package which gives you EveryDollar for 12 months, plus access to livestream events and additional video content. For more information about FPU, use the following QR code or link.



<https://www.ramseysolutions.com/money/financial-peace>

If you are interested in attending the *Reflecting Christ as God’s Stewards* class, please register at heather@splco.org or call the church’s Administrative Assistant, Heather Scheuer, at 262-567-5001. For more information about the class, contact course instructor, Dale Stratil, at ReflectingChrist@splco.org.

A WORD ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

Dale Stratil attended Marquette University where he studied Computer Science, specializing in Management Information Systems, and graduated debt free with a major in Business Administration. He worked as a computer programmer for JCPenney and did computer network support for QuadGraphics. Dale left the corporate work force to pursue an entrepreneurial career that he started in college. He is President of Stratil Enterprises, Inc. which was founded in 1992, a company that provides computer networking services, support, and solutions for small businesses. Dale and his wife, Kim, have been members of St. Paul’s since 2023.



SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED	2 6:00 pm LWMIL 6:30 pm Small Group Bible Study 7:00 pm Sunday School Meeting	3	4 6:30 pm Praise Team Practice	5	6 8:00 am Women of Joy Bible Study 9:00 am Kid's Zone 5:00 pm Divine Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
7 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Blood Pressure Screening 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Confirmation Class 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship	8 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Drive-Thru 6:00 pm Lord's Lambs Giveaway	9 5:30 pm Board of Operations Mtg. 6:00 pm Board of Elders Mtg.	10 11:00 am Caring Through Sharing Group 6:30 pm Lutheran Basics	11 5:30 pm Ladies Aid 6:30 pm Praise Team Practice	12 1:00 pm New Member Sponsor Committee Mtg.	13 7:30 am Journeyman 5:00 pm Divine Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
14 8:00 am Divine Worship 8:00 am Pictorial Directory Pictures 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Confirmation Class 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship	15 4:00 pm Pictorial Directory Pictures 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Drive-Thru & Meal	16 4:00 pm Pictorial Directory Pictures 5:30 pm CLT Meeting 6:30 pm Small Group Bible Study	17 6:30 pm Lutheran Basics 6:30 pm Reflecting Christ as God's Stewards Bible Study	18 6:30 pm Church Choir Practice 7:30 pm Praise Team Practice	19	20 8:00 am Women of Joy Bible Study 9:15 am LWMIL Quilt Tying 5:00 pm Divine Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
21 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Coffee Fellowship Hour 9:15 am Confirmation Class 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship 5:00 pm Reformation Tap Society	22 6:00 pm Lord's Lambs Giveaway	23 6:30 pm Small Group Bible Study	24 6:30 pm Lutheran Basics 6:30 pm Reflecting Christ as God's Stewards Bible Study	25 6:30 pm Church Choir Practice 7:30 pm Praise Team Practice	26	27 7:30 am Journeyman 5:00 pm Divine Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
28 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Confirmation Class 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship	29	30				



LWML SWD Fall Retreat
September 26-27, 2025
Embassy Suites by Hilton MKE/Brookfield
1200 S. Moorland Rd
Brookfield, WI 53005

Put on the Whole Armor of God...Ephesians 6:10-18

Everyone is welcome to attend this annual event. Our Presenter for the weekend will be **Donna Snow, *Armor of God- Your Strong Suit***. Even though we do not like discussing spiritual warfare, it is necessary because it is real. Spiritual warfare has the potential to rob us of peace and security only to leave behind doubt and unrest. BUT God offers protection to us-HIS protection. You will leave this retreat knowing the rock-solid truth that God has provided everything needed for you to proclaim ultimate victory!

Registration form and hotel info can be found online at www.lwmlswd.org or in the Fellowship Hall by the LWML bulletin board. Deadline for registration is September 15th.

Gifts from the Heart Ingathering items will go to FREE AT LAST Prison Ministry

- ★ Toothpaste
- ★ Toothbrush
- ★ Deodorant
- ★ Shavers
- ★ Lotion
- ★ Soap
- ★ Hand towel
- ★ Wash Cloth

Place items in marked bin by the LWML bulletin board.

Main Servant Events:

Stuffing Backpacks with Hygiene Items
Marking Bibles to be used in Prison Ministry

Offering Recipient:

75% Grief Share at Hope Lutheran MKE
25% Female Church Work Scholarships

SWD LWML is currently working towards funding Grant #5 for Journeys Lutheran School -\$50,000.
Remember to fill your Mite box!

DATES to Remember:

September 16th-MISSION POSSIBLE Day (formerly September to Remember)
This is the annual special Mite donation day for national LWML grants.

Saturday, September 20th- Quilt tying in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15am in the Fellowship Hall.
Bring a scissors and lend a hand!

NEXT MEETING- Tuesday, September 2nd, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

September 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 LABOR DAY 50¢	2 LWML Meets Bring your mites!	3 GREGORY the GREAT* Pastor 25¢	4 MOSES* 30¢	5 Will you wear white after Labor Day? Yes-40¢ No-15¢	6 National Hummingbird Day 30¢
7 Thank God for faithful grandparents \$1	8 Rain today? Yes-15¢ No- 25¢	9 Wore sandals today? 30¢	10 Count your blessings today 10¢for each	11 PATRIOT DAY 50¢	12 National Hug Day 15¢ for each one you give today	13 Pray for Missionary Trump and his family \$1
14 HOLY CROSS DAY 50¢	15 25¢ for eachchild you babysit forthis week	16 MISSION POSSIBLE DAY Feed your Mite box Generously!	17 10¢ for each missionary you know	18 Temp today Over 70- 15¢ Under-10¢	19 National POW/MIA Recognition Day 50¢	20 20¢ if you have a garden
21 ST. MATTHEW Apostle & Evangelist 40¢	22 JONAH*	23 Read devotions today? Yes-30¢ No-40¢	24 50¢ for each hamburger you ate this week	25 15¢ for each cup of coffee this morning	26 National Pancake Day Have one today? Yes-20¢ No-30¢	27 30¢ if youattended the SWD FallRetreat 50¢ifnot
28 National Good NeighborDay 60¢	29 ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELSDAY \$1	30 JEROME* Translator of Scripture 30¢				
		*Commemoration Days				

MITEs MAY BE RETURNED in the Large Mite Box in Narthex. Additional Mite Boxes for personal use are also available.

*Commemoration Days are examples of those in whom the saving work of Jesus Christ has been made manifest to the glory of His holy name and to the praise of His grace and mercy

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Jayne Roberts
 September 2nd
Harlan Uttech
 September 4th
Dorcas McMillan
 September 5th
Carole Schmeda
 September 6th
Richard Schultz
 September 9th
Judy Mueller
 September 10th
Mimi Gebel
 September 11th
Bill Scheuer
 September 12th
Bob Bratz Sr.
 September 13th
Kathryn Wickersham
 September 17th
Diana Radtke
 September 18th
Audrey Martens
Joyce Simaras
 September 22nd
Don Meyer
 September 25th
Keith Pagenkopf
 September 26th
Richard Engel
 September 28th

For our members 70+ years



MEMORIALS

Marcus Pankow	\$1155.00
Ralph Andrus	\$1570.00
Paul Partin	\$25.00
Al Eighmy	\$25.00

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 Worship	5:00 pm
Sunday Worship	8:00 am & 10:30 am
Bible Class	9:15 am

Pastor Lance Armstrong O'Donnell 262.567.5001 x217

Pastor Jason Schockman 262.567.5001 x216

Director of Parish Music, Allison Mackie 262.567.5001 x214

Principal - Jill George 262.567.5001 x213

Website: www.splco.org

LIVE BROADCASTS:

8:00 am Sunday Worship
 Live on WTKM 104.9 FM/1540 AM
 & www.wtkm.com
 Live-streamed at www.splco.org

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC)

Christian Pre-School & Day Care
 Director Christine Flores 262.567.4881
 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

ATTENDANCE COST

Costs include room fees, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and dinner on Saturday. Register by September 30th for early bird pricing!

Standard Room: \$440/ couple

Early Bird: \$415/couple

Suite: \$480/couple

Early Bird: \$455/couple

REGISTRATION

To register, please notify Heather Scheuer at heather@spico.org or by stopping in the office. Payment can be made online through the donation portal (use the "Marriage Retreat" line to submit your payment) or by paying in the office. Registration is not finalized without both notifying Heather or registering online AND submitting payment.

SCAN TO REGISTER ONLINE



COME TO THE DANCE:

FOLLOWING CHRIST'S
LEAD IN MARRIAGE
AND IN LIFE

"... a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance."
Ecclesiastes 3:4 ESV



THE OSTHOFF RESORT



St. Paul's Marriage Retreat has been held at the Osthoff Resort for the last decade, and we are happy to be returning again this November for fellowship, enrichment, and fun!

101 Osthoff Ave.,
Elkhart Lake, WI
(855) 876-3399

www.osthoff.com



ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

Todd and Kathryn Peperkorn have been married for thirty years, and have four (mostly) adult children. Todd serves as a professor at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he teaches classes in preaching, pastoral counseling, and pastoral theology. He has also served as a pastor in northern California and in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Kathryn has been a teacher for thirty-two years, ranging from preschool up through college and adult students. She currently teaches music at Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran School in Fort Wayne. She also plays the title role in the one-woman opera, Katie Luther.

MARRIAGE RETREAT

2025

November 14-16, 2025



WHAT'S IT ABOUT?

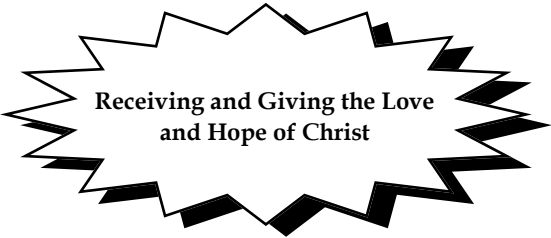
Back and forth, giving and receiving, helping and being helped. In many ways, married life is one long dance. What are the steps? How do I learn to trust my partner? When are the slow parts and the fast parts? How can I get ready for what comes next? In this retreat, Dr. Todd and Kathryn Peperkorn will take us through the Scriptures, through the lives of some famous couples, and will use the story of dance to teach us about what it means to be husband and wife on the dance floor.



St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, School & ECC
210 E. Pleasant St.
Oconomowoc, WI 53066-3050

Phone: 262-567-5001
Website: www.splco.org

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Oconomowoc, WI
Permit No. 45



Receiving and Giving the Love
and Hope of Christ

Reformation Tap Society talks are casual and thoughtful adult conversations about important things. *Under the theme, "Lead Me to Christ, the Rock," the 2025-2026 Reformation Tap Society season explores the various ways in which Christ is the foundation of a holy and purposeful life.* Though we welcome adults of any age, topics and language are aimed at those 18-35. Our speakers understand that RTS is a public event, so the conversation won't be raw, but our speakers are encouraged to practice candor geared towards younger adults. Parents of children under high school age should collaborate on a babysitter, then come and enjoy the beverages, food, and conversation. RTS is an opportunity to hear perspectives not regularly heard in popular culture. All are welcome.

RTS is held on the 3rd Sundays, September through May. We gather at 5pm, have a "beer talk" from the brewmaster at about 5:25, and at about 5:30 our speaker takes the mic. The speaker will present on a topic of interest, then take questions until 6:15 or so. (BTW, you're welcome even if you're not a beer fan. Other beverages are available.)

September 21, 2025
The Great Flood: A Struggling Adulterer Leans on Christ
(Live radio drama)

By Lance Armstrong O'Donnell (with voice actors)

5-7p.m.
BrewFinity Brewery
N58W38900 Industrial Rd.
Suite D
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