

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church
800 South Division Street
Chenoa, IL 61726

October 31, 2018

Before the presidential election in 2016 I gave some advice and reminders for Christians to keep in mind before heading to the polls. I noted then that there had been much frustration, anger, and heated rhetoric coming from both sides of the aisle. I don't imagine that you need me to tell you that over the last 2 years, things haven't gotten any more gentle. So for that reason, and recognizing that it is not my place to tell you who to vote for, or to vote at all, I'd like to reiterate now what I said two years ago. Not because I'm lazy, but because I think it's something we could all stand to remember and consider.

1. Jesus was not a Republican. Nor was he a Democrat. Jesus is not and will not be subjugated to the whims and views of American political ideology. He's bigger than that, and his concerns are far larger and more important.

3. Psalm 146:3-4 tell us, "*Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.*" What does that mean? It means we need to remember that whoever wins, it is neither the end of the world or the solution to all the world's ills.

4. At the same time, Jesus and the apostles gave commands to both submit to and pray for government leaders. In Paul's case this would have meant Caesar, and Nero specifically. That would be the same Nero who (among other things) is rumored to have dipped Christians in oil and set them on fire to use as torches in his garden. So, not exactly someone who was diligently fighting to uphold Christian values.

5. I have never witnessed someone in a disagreement respond to the other person's yelling and name calling by saying " I didn't agree with you before, but now that you've called me an idiot, I can see how I was misguided. Thank you." Keep in mind the words of James 1:19-20: "*Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness that God requires.*"

6. If you have friends and family that support a different candidate than you, they probably aren't the devil incarnate. Rather, chances are that they simply view the best approach toward the economy or national security from a different angle than you. Assume their intentions are positive, even if you disagree on their conclusions.

8. If God could use unfaithful pagan rulers like Nebuchadnezzar and Caesar to accomplish his will, even going so far as calling the former "My servant," do you *really* believe that he's going to be stopped by whichever party has a majority in the Senate?

And finally....

9. Take a deep breath and remember: God is in control. As Jesus said while standing before Pilate (who would have him crucified), "My kingdom is not of this world." While we are called to live as good citizens of this nation, the kingdoms of this earth are temporary and ultimately subject to the will and power of God. We must never forget that we've been given a promise and a hope that goes far, far beyond the concerns of these United States of America. This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.



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St. Paul's Discipleship

Date	Attendance	Offering	Missions
10-07	109	3136.00	38.00
10-14	96	2264.00	33.00
10-21	96	2288.00	25.00
10-28	94		
Debt Retirement		6339.69	
Ladies Restroom		36.00	
Youth Convention		50.00	



Thanksgiving Eve Services will be held this year at St. Paul Lutheran, Lexington at 7 PM.

From Our Parish Nurse

Pam Norris

During this time of year we often wonder if the upper respiratory infection we have is a cold or the flu. The following may be helpful in determine which it is.

Cold: rarely has fever, slight body aches & pains, uncommon to have chills, fairly mild fatigue. Symptoms develop over a few days. Hacking & productive cough, usually has sneezing and stuffy nose, mild to moderate sore throat and chest discomfort, headaches is fairly uncommon

Flu (influenza-respiratory NOT stomach “flu”): usually has a fever, severe aches & pains, fairly common to have chills, moderate to severe fatigue, sudden onset of symptoms, usually within 3-6 hours, dry and nonproductive cough, often severe chest discomfort and headache. Uncommon to have sneezing, stuffy nose, or sore throat.

Unlike colds, flu can lead to complications like pneumonia, especially in the old, the young and those with serious health issues. Viruses are transmitted by contact with objects that the infected person has touched after coughing or sneezing. Germs can be transmitted day up to 5 days after getting sick.

Stay healthy by eating well, exercising regularly, getting plenty of rest, and practicing good hand washing. If you have a cold or the flu, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or elbow when coughing/sneezing, avoid people while ill, wash your hands after coughing/sneezing, and avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

If you are ill stay home; don't share your germs. Treat your symptoms by hydrating yourself, getting plenty of rest, gargling to moisten a sore throat, drinking hot liquids to relieve nasal congestion, taking a steamy shower to clear nasal passages, applying hot or cold packs to congested sinuses, using an extra pillow when sleeping to relieve congestion, and avoiding travel by air. If you are healthy, share Jesus' love by taking the sick one the standard children soup or fluids and caring for the children.

Welcome Back

Welcome back teachers and students! Sunday School resumed on Sunday, September 9 with breakfast provided for all in attendance. PreK-High School students spent some time putting puzzles together. It's great to have the picture to see how the puzzle is put together. When we don't have the picture, or pieces are missing, putting a puzzle together can be very difficult. As puzzle pieces we may not know the big picture, or see how we fit in. However, God is the Maker and he knows the big picture and where we fit in His plan. This year's teachers are Mrs. Danielle Gooding (PreK-K), Mrs. Cherlyn McBride (1st-3rd), Mrs. Krista Verdun (4th-5th), Mr. Leon Beitz (6th-7th), and Mr. Norman Beitz (8th-12th).

Growing in Christ for Preschool – Kindergarten

In the month of September, Preschool-Kindergarten students learned about God's creation. Their lessons focused on Genesis 2 and how God made their eyes, ears and nose. *Something to consider, "How do you use your eyes and ears to see and give glory to God's creation?"*

Growing in Christ for First – Seventh Grade

9/16: This week the Sunday School lesson was "The Birth of John Foretold." The children learned that God in His mercy promised to send John to prepare sinful people for the coming of the Lord. God in His Word calls us to repentance, declaring us righteous because of His Son, Jesus. *Something to consider, "When have you doubted God's Word? How does God forgive and relieve our doubts?"*

9/23: The children heard the message "The Birth of Jesus Foretold." God favored Mary, choosing her to be the mother of Jesus. God favors us because of Jesus Christ, choosing us to be His children! *Something to consider, "How did God show Mary, and you, His unmerited grace and favor?"*

9/30: The children learned the account "Mary Visits Elizabeth." In the presence of the Son of God growing within Mary's womb, John the Baptist leapt inside Elizabeth's womb. God fills us with Himself in Word and Sacrament and we, like Mary, offer our praise and worship. *Something to consider, "How or when does God fill you with His presence today?"*

Growing in Christ for Eighth Grade – High School

This month the students learned about God's Word and how it is still applicable to our lives today when friends or society say it is not. *Something to consider, "How does God's Word apply in my life?"*

Offering

This year, Preschool – High School will send our Sunday School offerings to LCMS World Relief and Human Care, Disaster Response. The LCMS Disaster Response responds to immediate and long-term needs following natural and man-made disasters. Working through LCMS districts and congregations as well as with international Lutheran churches and other partners, LCMS Disaster Response builds capacity of the church's partners to respond to needs with Christian care. The ministry reaches out to LCMS congregations and their communities with services that include on-site assessment, emergency relief and development grants, pastoral care for LCMS church workers and members, and other resources. The goal is to raise \$300 for the year. For the month of September, we reached 9% of our goal. To learn more about LCMS Disaster Response go to: <https://www.lcms.org/disaster-response>

Baptismal Birthdays

The following students celebrated baptismal birthdays in August and September: Aaron Verdun (8/6); Cade Freed (8/15); Peter Schuler (9/10); and Jacsen Gooding (9/23). The following students will celebrate baptismal birthdays in October: Elijah Beitz (10/4); Hannah Norris (10/8); and Danielle Vogel (10/11).

In Prayer

Please keep the Preschool – Kindergarten teacher and students in your prayers during the month of October. For our teachers: Mrs. Danielle Gooding, pray that God may grant her wisdom, strength and knowledge to share His Word with the children and to help them grow spiritually. For our students: Joshua & Jarrett Gooding, Ethan Latzke, Adeline Potter, Brock Freed, Reese Meyer, and Elaine Schmidgall, that they may understand the depth of God's love for them as they grow to become strong men and women who live for God's Glory.

October Perfect Attendance

Fourth-Fifth Grade

Isaac Latzke

Dylan Verdun

Sixth-Seventh Grade

Aaron Verdun

Cole Weber

Eighth Grade-High School

Chase Beitz

Elijah Beitz

Hannah Norris

Nathan Reed

Ben Rhoda

Nolan Verdun

Paige Weber

