



The Lord Provides for Generosity

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Howards Grove, WI
August 1 & 2, 2021



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**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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**St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a
Congregation in the Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this worship service! Especially to you who are guests and visitors, WELCOME!

We at St. Paul's Lutheran share a common belief in **Jesus** as **our Savior** from sin and as the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, revealed in the Bible. We want to share God's Word with as many people as possible because we know that Jesus lived, died and rose from death to save us and all people. We're happy to have the opportunity to share the saving truths of the Bible with you!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Worship during these times: All pews in the sanctuary are open for seating. Face coverings are optional -- up to the individual. Bibles and hymnals have been put back in the racks for use as desired. Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex. All responses and songs are printed in your bulletin, which may be taken with you or discarded after worship. Offerings may be placed in the designated boxes in the narthex.

Communion is offered in worship each month on the 2nd and 4th weekends. Members who are not yet comfortable returning to worship during the pandemic may schedule a communion appointment with a pastor.

DVDs: DVDs of our worship services can be made per request. Please contact the office to make arrangements. In order to ensure cleanliness, you do not need to return a DVD. Please consider a small monetary donation (\$2) to cover the cost of the DVD if you request one.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (pre K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.



SERVICE OF THE WORD

Today's Worship Focus: *At some point in life, most people have one of those months where they wonder, "How can I possibly get through this?" It doesn't seem as though there will be enough money to pay the bills, or enough energy to do everything on the schedule, or enough food to go around. Yet the Lord has a way of taking care of us. Either he realigns our expectations with our needs or he reminds us that he will take care of all our needs. With him we have nothing to worry about! And his grace keeps on going: he gives us plenty to share with others. May we always trust that the Lord provides for generosity.*

PASTOR'S WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Praise to God, Immortal Praise | 612

- 1 Praise to God, immortal praise, For the love that crowns our days.
Bounteous Source of ev'ry joy, Let your praise our tongues employ.
All to you, our God, we owe, Source whence all our blessings flow.**
- 2 All the plenty summer pours, Autumn's rich, o'erflowing stores,
Flocks that whiten all the plain, Yellow sheaves of ripened grain -
Lord, for these our souls shall raise Grateful vows and solemn praise.**
- 3 Peace, prosperity, and health, Private bliss and public wealth,
Knowledge with its gladd'ning streams, True religion's holier beams-
Lord, for these our souls shall raise Grateful vows and solemn praise.**
- 4 As your prosp'ring hand has blest, May we give you of our best
And by deeds of kindly love For your mercies grateful prove,
Singing thus through all our days: "Praise to God, immortal praise."**

Please stand.

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

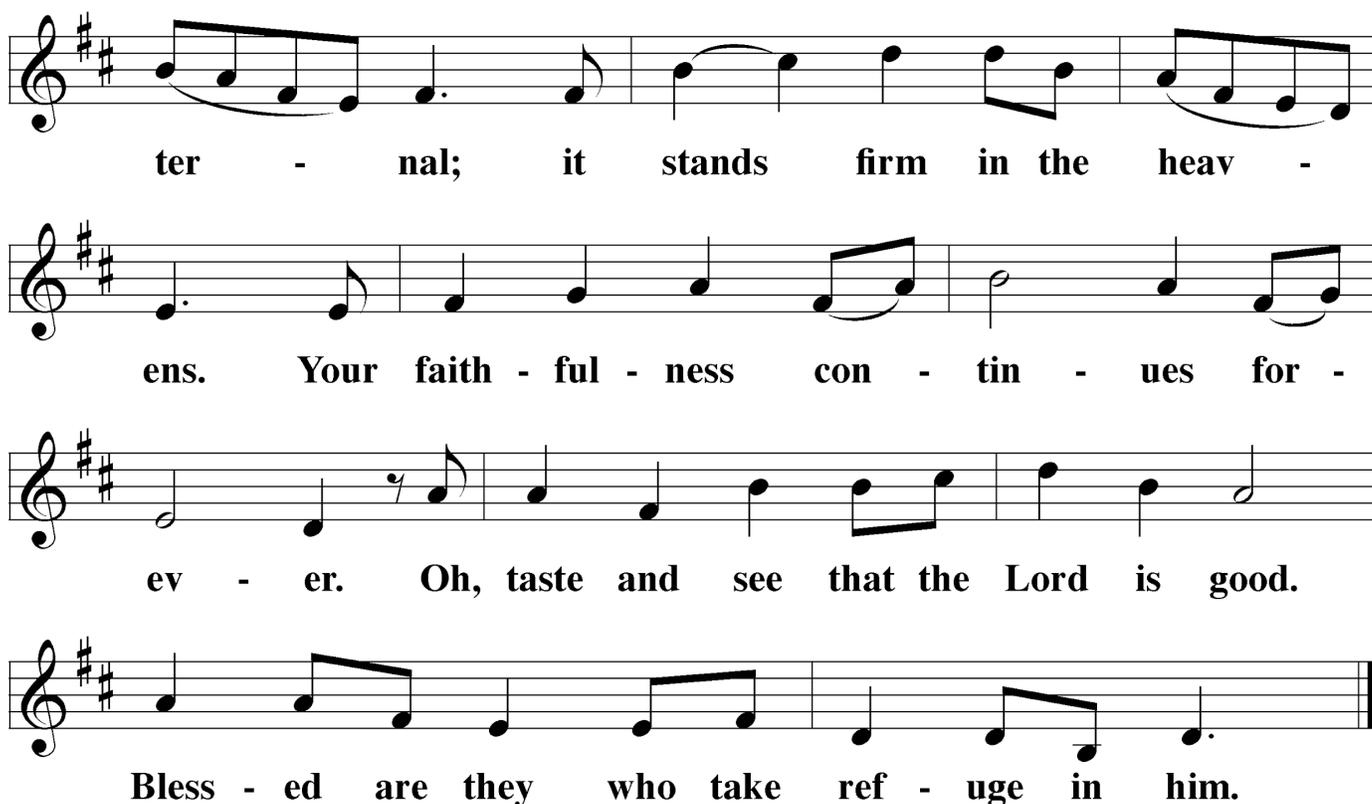
M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



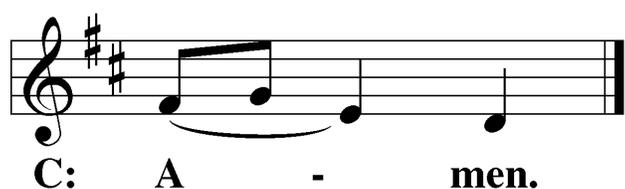
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
 ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Gracious God, you provide for our needs in miraculous ways. help us to trust in your provision for us and for all to whom you send us, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Be seated.

FIRST LESSON

2 Kings 4:42-44

The LORD used someone's offering to provide plenty for a hundred men, just as he promised.

⁴² A man came from Baal Shalishah, bringing the man of God twenty loaves of barley bread baked from the first ripe grain, along with some heads of new grain. "Give it to the people to eat," Elisha said.

⁴³ "How can I set this before a hundred men?" his servant asked.

But Elisha answered, "Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the Lord says: 'They will eat and have some left over.'" ⁴⁴ Then he set it before them, and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 84

We long to be in the LORD's house to praise Him who provides generously for all our needs.

The congregation will meditate on the words of the psalm during the instrumental duet.

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD. Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

O LORD Almighty, blessed are they who trust in you.

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 9:8-11

God supplies all we need so that we can abound in every good work and be generous on every occasion.

⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written:

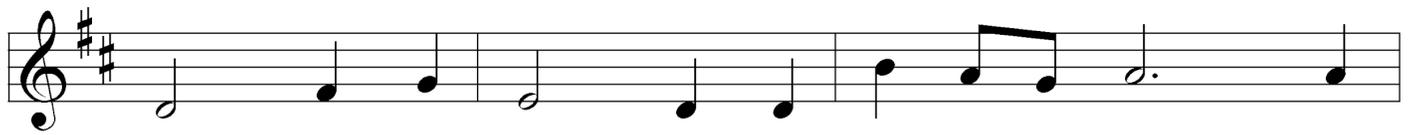
"They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever."

¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

VERSE OF THE DAY



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Please stand.

GOSPEL

John 6:1-15

Jesus fed over 5,000 men with one boy's loaves of bread and fish, so there was plenty left over.

¹Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ²and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. ³Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁴The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

⁵When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

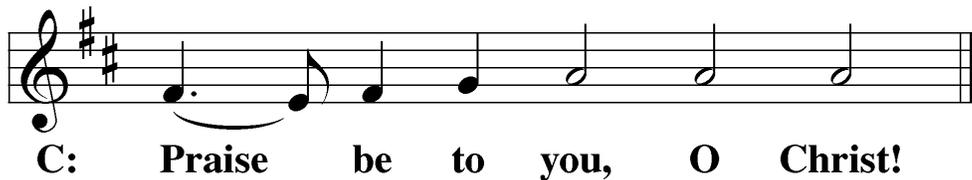
⁸Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁹"Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

¹⁰Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). ¹¹Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

¹⁴ After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." ¹⁵ Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord of Glory, You Have Brought Us | 486

- 1 Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice,
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand
To th' unthankful and the evil With your own unsparing hand.
- 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Gladly, freely, of your own.
With the sunshine of your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by you, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.
- 3 Wondrous honor you have given To our humblest charity
In your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it unto me."
Can it be, O gracious Master, That you need what we can do,
Saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?
- 4 Yes, the sorrow and the suff'rings Which on ev'ry hand we view
Channels are for gifts and off'rings Due by solemn right to you,
Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we may not choose but pay
Lest that face of love and pity Turn from us another day.

5 Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust you boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on you;
But, oh, best of all your graces, With your love our love renew.

SERMON

John 6:1-15

*Jesus Provides the Impossible
For our faith - For our neighbor - For ourselves*

Please stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

OFFERINGS BROUGHT FORWARD

Online giving options available

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated



boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Be seated.

HYMN

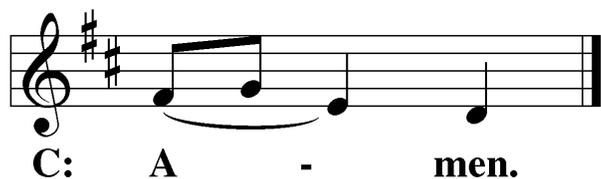
Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness | 353

- 1 Praise the one who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the one who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel,
Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands
With the Father's word of peace.**
- 2 Praise the one who blessed the children
With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the one who drove out demons
With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water
To the desert's burning sand;
From this well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.**
- 3 Let us praise the Word incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,**

**Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the one who makes us one.**

Please stand.

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



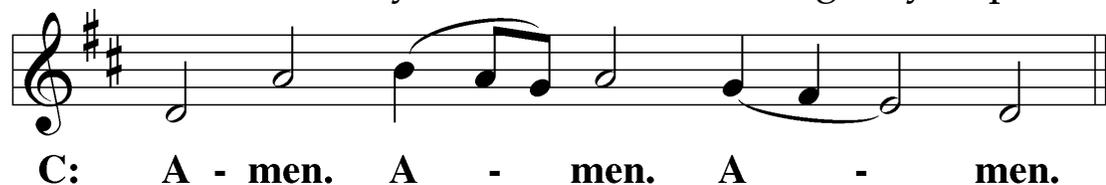
BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

Feed Your Children, God Most Holy | 616

**Feed your children, God most holy;
Comfort sinners poor and lowly.
Jesus, bread of life from heaven,
Bless the food you here have given.
As these gifts the body nourish,
May our souls in graces flourish
Till with saints in heav'nly splendor**

At your feast due thanks we render.

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PSALM 84 FROM “MINIATURES FOR SOLO INSTRUMENT AND PIANO”:

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SERVICE OF THE WORD:

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PREACHER: Rev. Adam Bode

PRESIDING MINISTER: Rev. Aaron Mueller

PIANIST: Sarah Mueller

MUSICIANS: Rev. Adam Bode, Thomas Cameron, and Nick & Tanya Schmidt

ALTAR GUILD: Ione Prange, Lori Wehrmann, Linda Verfuert.

USHERS: 8:00 a.m.- Tim Doro, Tom Damrow, Derrick Hermann, Scott Schomberg.

10:30 a.m.- Kevin Mueller, Nathan Ledvina, Larry Schomberg.

Monday Night 6:30 p.m. - Dennis Sprenger.

OFFERING: 7/25 & 7/26: \$15,837 (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$16,300).

ADDITIONAL \$55,980 WAS RECEIVED FOR GROWING FORWARD.

\$300 FOR DEBT REDUCTION.

ATTENDANCE: 7/25: 8:00-122, 10:30-137; 7/26-31

In our prayers this week...

1. Briar Lynn Bull, born to Tim and Brittany.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Office hours:** Erin will be on vacation from August 4-8. She will monitor her email while she is gone. There will be office hours on Tuesday, August 3 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
2. **Our summer Sunday Bible Study** is a series on *2 Corinthians*. The series will be taught by all the church staff on a rotating basis. We will grow in so many ways through it. There still were dicey issues in the church to deal with, as well as Paul's changing plans. There were financial obstacles to overcome and Paul had a personal obstacle with his thorn in the flesh. There were earthly fellowship ties to build and there was eternal heavenly confidence to give. It's a rich book that will richly bless. Join us weekly in the sanctuary. Child care will be available.
3. **Men's Crafts-Men Bible Study.** Our next study is on August 19th at 6:30 pm.
4. **Women in the Word** - It's not too late to start the Berean Bible Challenge! Year long reading plans are available in the member room. Contact Alycia Cameron at alycia.cameron@gmail.com to get connected with the Google Chat and get encouragement and answers to questions along the way.
5. **Summer Bonfire:** Come and enjoy some socializing around a nice fire! The last stewardship bonfire is 8/9 @ 7:00 p.m. on the parking lot near the playground.
 - *Family Friendly
 - *Simple Snacks Provided (chips, pretzels, s'mores - Feel free to bring something else along!)
 - *Bring Your Own Chair
 - *Bring Your Own Beverage
6. **Mindful Moms** - Join us on August 4 at the Ostermann family Petting Zoo, N7889 County Road Y, for a playdate starting at 10am. Then on August 11 at St. Paul's at 10:00 am we'll continue our summer Bible Study Book Club, *Waiting: A Bible Study on Patience, Hope, and Trust*. For more information, join our Facebook page (St. Paul's Mindful Moms) or contact Alycia Cameron (alycia.cameron@gmail.com or 414-736-8966).
7. **Adult Basketball** Want to get some exercise? Want to see if you've still "got it"? Join us for adult basketball starting Tuesday, August 3rd beginning at 7:00pm. Join us any Tuesday that you are able. It is some good exercise and great camaraderie. Contact Brandon Lis (920-226-0483) with any questions or to be added to the adult basketball communication list. Hope to see you on the court!
8. **Softball and Lunch!** Come out and join us for a game of softball on August 15th and 22nd starting around noon. All skill levels welcome! Make sure to work up an appetite, because we will also be serving classic, ballgame lunch of brats and hotdogs. Please sign up via email or a hard copy will be in the member room. Can't wait to see you on the field!

9. **Growing Forward Giving Envelopes** are available in the member room by the cabinets or in the office on the top part of the office desk. They can be placed in the offerings boxes in the narthex or in the wooden box on Erin Radue's desk. *We plan to have updates for the congregation coming soon.*
10. **The St. Paul's Car Show** is coming up fast! Thank you to those who have signed up already! We are still looking for volunteers and/or items for the Youth Group bake sale. Please consider helping us out with this fun event! The signup links were sent via CCB. In case you missed the email, here are the links for signing up: [Click here for volunteer signup.](#) [Click here for bake sale signup.](#) The Show is on August 14 and will run from 9-1 with food trucks serving from 11-2. We are still looking at having various classes for cars and trucks and one for motorcycles. *The registration link is now live on our website.*
11. **Do you have board games**, card games, or decks of cards collecting dust and taking up precious closet space? If so, one of the FLEX periods this next school year is teaching strategy board and card games to our St. Paul's students grades 1st-8th, and we would be most grateful to receive donations for this. Games such as: Risk, Monopoly, Blokus, Sequence, Rook, Pit, Bananagrams, Scrabble, Settlers of Catan, Uno, Skip-Bo, Clue, Battleship, chess, decks of cards, etc. Please put any donations on desks in the 3-4th grade classroom, and if you have any questions please contact Sarah Mueller. Thank you very much!
12. **Our Quarterly Voter's Meeting** was held on July 25th. The voters approved the concept of the Long Range Planning Committee building project which includes the entry area, play area, and classrooms. Also approved was retiring the mortgage at the bank. Further details to follow. For more information please speak with Todd Martin or Tim Doro.
13. **Book Order:** We will submit our book order for the 5-minute Bible Studies for Families on Tuesday, August 10. Many have already signed up in the member room. We can also include a blue catechism for your family for \$21. This is a very helpful resource for families to learn and review what God has to say about law and gospel, prayer, baptism, communion, forgiveness, and more. Talk to Pastor Bode if you would like a blue catechism.
14. **New Christian Worship Hymnal:** Our church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, has been developing a new hymnal, set to be released later this year. We have already pre-ordered copies for our sanctuary. If you would like to order copies for home use, you may sign up in the member room to be included in our congregation's larger order.
15. **The MLHS "Sweet Corn Fest" is coming soon.** The corn will be picked and ready for our congregation sometime on August 8th. Please sign up in the member room so we know how many ears of corn to pick. To date, the MLHS Academic Voucher Committee has awarded 1535 vouchers to students in grades 5-8 that participate in the MLHS Academic Fair. Each voucher is worth \$100 of tuition to Manitowoc Lutheran High School. This program has been around for 13 years and much of the money raised has been through the "Sweet Corn

Fest” each summer. Thanks for your support in the past and we hope you make plans to participate in this great program.

16. **Synod Convention** took place this past week. There will be an update included in next week's bulletin.

17. **Eugene Rabe** - “I want to thank the concerned members of St. Paul’s who came to my side when I needed attention last Sunday. I am not aware of the people that were present, but would like to thank everyone who came forward. Your concern and prayer were much appreciated.”

18. **Vacation Bible School at St. John-St. Peter Lutheran Church in Cleveland** will be holding their annual VBS on August 9-13, each morning from 9:00-11:30. Please register your children in advance at www.VBSmate.com/SJSP or call for more information at 920-693-8612.