



The Monthly Star

November 2011

A Word From Pastor

October 31st is a very important day on the protestant church calendar. October 31st is the day we celebrate the protestant reformation. October 31st is the day when we remember Martin Luther and what God set in motion through Luther after he nailed his 95 theses of protest on the front door of the church in Wittenberg Germany.

The story of the protestant reformation started twelve years before Luther made his protest against the Roman Catholic Church. In July of 1505 Martin Luther found himself caught in an extremely dangerous thunderstorm. After a bolt of lightning struck so close that it knocked him off his feet he cried out, "Help me St. Anne! I will become a Monk!" It wasn't long after this near death experience that Luther found himself on the inside of a monastery. Luther's time as a monk became a very dark and depressing time of spiritual despair. Reflecting on his time as a monk Luther said, "I lost touch with Christ the Savior and Comforter, and made of him the jailor and hangman of my poor soul." The reason that Luther had lost sight of Christ as his Savior and comforter is because of the fact that the whole Roman Church had made Christ the jailor and hangman of every poor soul. People didn't find Christ as Savior and comforter of the soul because the Gospel was no longer proclaimed by the church in the purity that is found in the Word of God.

Luther didn't find Christ to be his Savior and comforter until he read the Bible as a monk. Believe it or not the Bible was not widely read even among the clergy of that time. The Bible had

Mark Your Calendar

- November 3– Confirmation
- November 4– MOPS Mom's Night Out
- November 6– SS Meeting
- November 8– Church Council Meeting
- November 9– Blood Mobile
- November 10– MOPS
- November 10– Confirmation
- November 10– High School Bible Study
- November 10– The League
- November 10– Adult Bible Study
- November 12– Men's Breakfast
- November 13– Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party
- November 17– MOPS
- November 17– Confirmation
- November 17– Adult Bible Study
- November 19– The League Food Collection and Feast
- November 21– Women's Meeting
- November 23– Thanksgiving Eve Svc.
- November 25– Bowling Tournament
- November 26– Saturday Folk Service





been replaced by the church's traditions which demanded a heavy load of rules and rituals. Spiritual life in Luther's day could be summarized by, lists of dos and don'ts. Christianity at that time was almost totally and completely void of the comfort that comes from knowing Christ as savior. But Luther found Christ to be his Savior and comforter after he opened the scriptures and studied texts like the one we read from St. Paul's letter to the Romans on reformation Sunday. (Romans 3:19-28)

Through reading the Bible Luther discovered that our salvation has absolutely nothing to do with our good works. You see Luther tried to earn God's love through his good works. He would relentlessly fast, which he believed permanently ruined his health. He went on a pilgrimage to Rome to get closer to God, and it didn't work. He would go to the confessional booth and confessed until he had thought of every last sin, this process proved to be most torturous. Luther never found true peace in these efforts of his own will. Luther understood that no matter how hard he tried to be a good and faithful monk, before God he was still a sinner deserving nothing but the righteous judgment of God.

It wasn't until Luther uncovered the Biblical teaching of salvation as a free gift apart from the works of the law that he found Christ to be his savior and comforter. During his entire life of exposure to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church he never heard the good news of the Gospel.

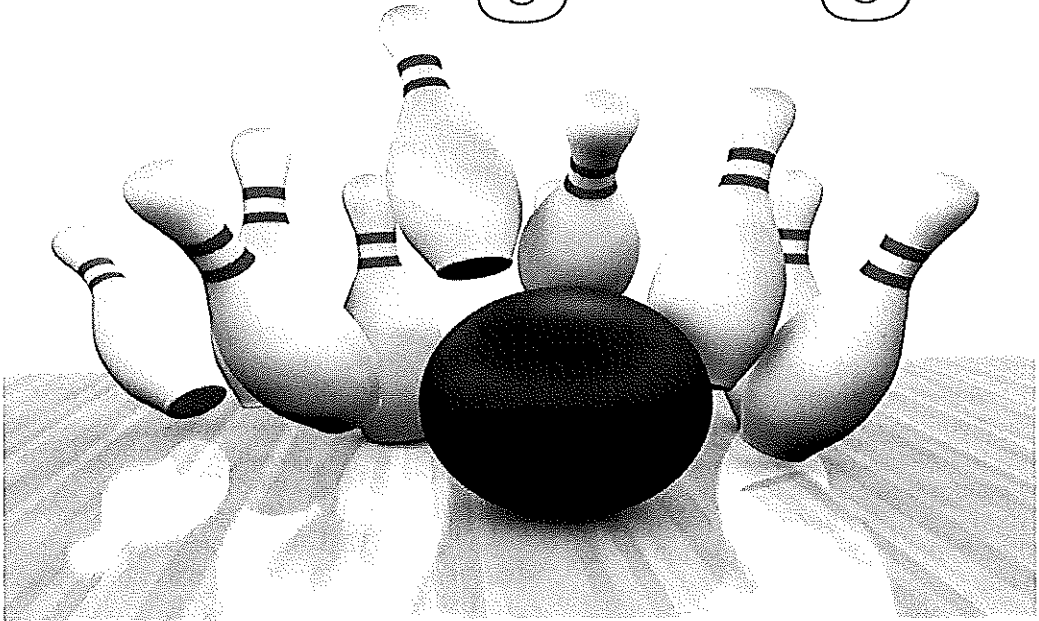
The second reading of Reformation Sunday solidified this revolutionary idea of salvation apart from the works of the Law within Luther's heart and mind, "*Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.*"

Luther's view of the word righteousness completely changed once he studied the Bible. Before Luther studied the Bible the Word righteousness would strike terror in his heart. Luther understood that God is righteous, and he is not. Luther understood that because God is righteous and he is not, then he must be judged by this righteous and holy God. So for Luther this word righteousness was always associated with God's judgment, he never associated God's righteousness with salvation and comfort. It wasn't until after reading Paul's use of this word that he understood the righteousness of God, not only associated with God's judgment but also in the revolutionary context of the righteousness of God as a free gift that is given to us by grace through faith, apart from our good works.

After this revelation of God's righteousness being given based on the merits of Christ's works and his atoning sacrifice upon the cross, Luther finally found in Jesus Christ a savior and a comforter. The old chains of the law were loosed and now Luther was free to serve Christ without any fear of God's righteous judgment. All of the old systems of torturous confession, pilgrimages, celibacy, masses and feasts were lifted from Luther's shoulders. Now Luther could go to the confessional booth and walk away actually knowing that he was forgiven. He could leave the altar and know that the body and blood of Christ present in the bread and wine had totally and completely covered every single sin. Now he could marry without fear. His pilgrimages would now be used to spread the pure message of the Gospel, not as a means of meriting God's favor. And the feasts of the Saint's would now be an opportunity to learn about God's grace at work in the lives of past believers.

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Bowling Night!



Friday November 25 - 5:00 PM

We will be playing in East Aurora

Fun for the whole family!

Prizes!

Pizza & Wings!

**What an opportunity for Mission! So make sure
you invite a friend.**

Contact the church office if you have questions, 652-9197.

MOPS (Mother's of Preschoolers)

Kim Christensen & Katie Jensen

We had fun at our meetings last month making our mugs and plates and getting into our discussion groups and learning about our Momsense. Note the second meeting is on the 3rd Thursday this month. This month's meetings are:

**Thursday November 10th & 17th from
9:15-11:15am**

This month we will be participating in the Samaritans Purse shoe box collection. We will be putting these together at our November 10th meeting so remember to be saving any shoeboxes you may have and also collecting items to put into the shoeboxes. If you need any ideas or suggestions you can talk to Katie or Kim. We will also be making puzzle picture frames and learning about patience. If you have never been to a meeting and have children infant through kindergarten please come join us!



FISH of East Aurora

Sue Cox



The food for the month of November is **PUDDING OR JELLO**. We give this out when we have enough but we like to give it out especially during the holidays. At this time our storage area is in need of food to restock. With Thanksgiving and Christmas coming, we are accepting turkeys (10-12 lb) and whole chickens. They can be brought to FISH Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-12 noon or you can make arrangements with Sue Cox (652-6835). With upcoming food collections we will be able supply food to our clients until the Postal Food Drive in May. Any food item is truly appreciated and can be placed in the box in the narthex of the church. Thank you so much.

Women of the Word

Claudia Strickland

We met last month on October 17th. Our Bible study was from Chapter 9 and led by Kim Christensen.

We bought 50 chairs from BJ's and the fish dinner served 404 people with a small profit of \$400.00. Yeah!

Old business: Every year we donate monies to charitable organizations. Several were brought up and we will decide later. Christmas party from Bravo— the menu has been set along with prices and a sign-up will be passed around shortly. We want to do white elephant gift and secret pal again. What fun we had last year.

New business: Saturday, November 5th the West Falls Bible Church is having a luncheon. We are invited. So far 8 people from St. Paul's are going. Please see Claudia for more info.

We also need more large containers in the kitchen. Please save your old cool whip containers for us!

Camp Duffield is in need of a chafing dish, mugs, potholders, dish cloths and towels. We will be collecting these items and sending them. We want to support them as much as possible.

**Our Next Meeting is Monday, November 21st
at 7:00pm**

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Marsha Welshans

Do you knit or crochet?

Come and join us on Saturday mornings from 10:00-12:00. If you don't knit or crochet and want to learn, come and join us. This is a great opportunity for mission and fellowship. Hope to see all of the St. Paul's women there.

Camp Duffield News

Dan Stahl

The Duffield "Bowling Bash" benefit was such a big success that they have decided to hold another one next year on a Sunday in March of 2012.

Saturday November 5th is scheduled as a work and clean up day at camp to prepare for the coming winter months. All are welcome to join in the fellowship and fun! All you need to do is contact Dan as he needs a head count for the lunch that will be provided.

Duffield is searching for an Events Committee Chairman and it is not a requirement to be a Board Member. If you believe that this is your gift and you are interested or have questions, please contact Dan Stahl.

Once again, I urge all of you to visit the website at www.campduffield.org or possibly schedule a visit to the camp itself. This ministry can only survive with support of the churches such as us, not only financially but spiritually and through the help and assistance of a volunteer work force. The Lord has given all of us a gift; please consider sharing some of yours along with keeping Camp Duffield in your prayers.

The ministry of Camp Duffield is always in need of your prayers. At this time some of the specific things that we would like to ask you to pray for are.... that we will find continued support from churches and that God will continue to touch and change hundreds of lives through the camping ministry at Camp Duffield.

Men's Retreat: Godly Men 3

"Directions"

Dan Stahl

Attendance for the 2nd Annual LCMC NE-District Men's Retreat was similar to last years as we ended up with 25 attendees. We have already established dates for next year's events. Men and Meat is scheduled to take place Saturday May 12th 2012 and the Retreat will take place Friday afternoon September 21st – Sunday morning the 23rd. Please consider joining us next year at both events for fellowship, food and fun as once again we join together to find some DIRECTION to become better Christian Men, you will not regret it. In an effort to try and simplify the date process (and give everyone as much time as possible to schedule the events in) we have decided that Men and Meat will always take place the second Saturday in May and the Retreat will always take place the second to the last weekend in September so as to not interfere with the LCMC Annual Gathering. At this time we have not yet confirmed a speaker for next years retreat but we are attempting to try and get the LCMC National Service Coordinator, Mark Vander Tuig.

Men of St. Paul's

The men of Saint Paul's will meet on the second Saturday of this month at 7AM, at the Iron Kettle of East Aurora. Good fellowship and great discussions are at the top of the menu. Bring your Bible and join us in a relaxed atmosphere as breakfast is shared along with God's Word.

Sunday School

Lori Ignatowski



What an exciting year thus far! The new curriculum is wonderful-it is exciting to see the kids sooo excited about Sunday school. We would still love to have some new faces amongst us as teachers and teacher assistants as well as substitute teachers! If you are interested, please see me or call me (652-0781). You will never regret it! We thank Amy Francis for stepping up to be our Sunday school Secretary-Thank you so much Amy. We are in need of someone to step up to lead our Christmas Pageant this year. Again, if interested, please see me. Please remember, that our Sunday school children can't drive so you Moms and Dads out there, please bring them each Sunday and stick around yourself for some coffee, fellowship and be fed in Pastor Adam's adult class or better yet, step in as a teacher assistant! Thanks so much and God bless.

The League

St. Paul's Youth Ministry

Calling all 7th -12th graders. You are invited to come to the League. This month we will be meeting on..

November 10 @ 6:45pm

We had a great time last month meeting at the Belz house and making apple cider. A big thanks to the Belz for letting us use their house and apples.

This month we will only meet once because of Thanksgiving.

However we will be going to a grocery store on November 19th and collecting food for Fish of East Aurora. We will meet at the church at 8:30 and head over the grocery store until 12:00. We will then bring the food to Fish and then head back to the church where we will have a Thanksgiving feast. There will be a sign-up sheet at youth group for you to sign-up to bring a part of the meal. If there are any parents out there who would be willing to keep the food warm while we are at the grocery store that would be really helpful. You can contact Katie if you are interested. We should wrap the whole day up at about 3:30. Please come for this fun day and a chance to serve our community.

As always friends are welcome. Please invite them.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD RETURNS...

It is that time of year where we collect shoe boxes and items to fill them with for children all over the world. We will be collecting items from now until Sunday November 13th when we have our packing party. The items you may bring in can range from hygiene items to toys and trinkets. For a full list, please look for pamphlets in the narthex and on the table in the library. They do not accept toys with weapons of any type or liquids. We can always use more shoe boxes also. There will be a box in the back of the church for donations from those in church and we collect them each Sunday during our Sunday school opening as our Love Gifts. Thank you so much in advance for thinking of those who are in need.



LCMC News

Dan Stahl

There are 18 Churches in the state of New York who belong to the LCMC. The latest being St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Blossom, in Elma New York.

Presently (as of 9/22/11):
Total Congregations: 724
U.S. Congregations: 656
States Represented: 42
U.S. Territories Represented: 2
Countries Represented: 10



*For this and more, check out the
LCMC-NE District website at
www.lcmc-ne.org*

National Events Spotlight:

Leadership Conference

April 16-18, 2012

Each year, the LCMC Ministry Board sponsors a conference for pastors and congregational leaders that encourages, informs, and raises issues that help leaders move forward as God's servants.

This year's Leadership Conference will take place from April 16-18, 2012 at Atonement Lutheran Church in Fargo, North Dakota.



Join Youth Encounter for IMPACT National Youth Event

July 5-8, 2012

Youth Encounter is a Christian non-profit youth ministry organization, announces their four day national youth event called Impact from July 5-8, 2012, in Nashville, Tennessee. The event is for high school students that have completed grades 8-12 in the United States and Canada.

For this and more, check out the LCMC-NE District website at <http://www.lcmc-ne.org/>



Blood Mobile

Sue Cox

Our next Blood Drive is Wednesday, November 9 from 2-7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in donating must be at least 17 years of age, 110 lbs. and bring identification. For an appointment, please call Sue Cox at 652-6835. Walk-ins are always welcome.

We truly appreciate our donors at St. Paul's and that is why we go out of our way to make them feel that way. As always, homemade chicken noodle soup and pies will be served.



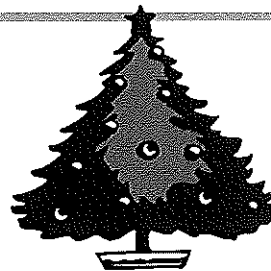
Building Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Fentzke	\$20.00
Tristan Vargo	\$8.00
Mr. & Mrs. James Brooks, Jr.	\$20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Stynes	\$200.00
Mrs. Jean Baker	\$10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Koske	\$10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Milton Ketterer— Happy 1st birthday Daniel, God Bless	\$25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Milton Ketterer— In memory of our dear friend Donald Crook	\$25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Vargo	\$20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stoddart— We're happy to have Bonnie, Doug, Tegan & Nathan back at St. Paul's.	\$25.00
Mrs. Ronald Schenne	\$125.00
Gary Benson— Everything is possible for him who believes. Mark 9:23	\$40.00
Anonymous	\$1.00
Anonymous	\$4.00
Anonymous	\$1.00
October Total	\$534.00

Donations to the Building Fund are published in the Monthly Star in the format you see. If you would like your gift to be listed anonymously, please indicate so on your envelope and we will be happy to comply.

Christmas Tree Story @ The Chapel

On Saturday December 10th we plan to go see the Christmas Story at the Chapel. We plan to go out to dinner prior to the performance, time and location yet to be determined. There will be a sign up sheet passed during service. All seats are \$8.00 each. Prepaid tickets by Sun. Nov. 20th to Paula Shank. No reduction in price for either children or seniors. Questions please call Paula at 649-9770.



A Word From Pastor Contd.

The world we live in is not a whole lot different from the world Luther lived in. People are still trying to find "God" through their own efforts and imaginations and just like Luther they don't find the Savior and Comforter in their efforts to find "God". Through their efforts they only find a jailor and hangman of the soul. So how can we as a congregation bring this real Savior and Comforter to our community? In the same way the first evangelicals did! The same message that Martin Luther proclaimed 500 years ago is the message that our congregation must strive to tell. It is my prayer that when people walk into St. Paul's the essence of the message they hear from our pulpit is no different from the message that was proclaimed by the very first evangelical Christians. The preaching of the first evangelicals was the preaching of the Word of God and it was through the preaching of the Word of God that lost people found in Jesus a Savior and comforter. Nothing has changed, it is still the preaching of the Word of God that will bring people in our community to Jesus Christ where they will find salvation. Amen.

Fish Dinner

Many, many thanks to all who helped with the Fish Dinner. It really is a great way to fellowship and work with people of the church that you may not really know. There's plenty of time to talk and get to know each other. Whether you baked a pie, helped prepare salads, donated needed goods, put up signs or bought a fish dinner, it is truly appreciated. We could not provide the quality meal that we do without lots of help. It is also an opportunity to show the community how much fun we have working together.

We served 404 dinners this year (about 50 dinners less than last year). Since attendance was low for the past 2 years we will be adjusting our fish order and salad amounts next year. Although our numbers were low, we had many blessings with a lot of new workers. It really isn't about the money, it's about the fellowship. We are blessed.

Thank you again and God bless. Sue Cox,
Barb Rotino and the women's group.

LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD SOLUTION

C	O	B	R	A		A	P	I	N		A	B	I	B
A	B	O	I	L		I	O	T	A		R	A	R	E
B	E	A	S	T		L	O	S	T		A	S	O	N
	D	R	E	A	M	E	R		U	R	G	E	N	T
P					R	I	D	E		R	E	E	D	S
A	G	H	A	S	T		S	H	E	M				M
L	I	E	N		R	A	T	E		I	T	A	L	Y
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	L	A	D	E	N		A	P	E	N		No.151	F	
S	E	C	O	N	D		L	E	A	D	E	R	S	
T	A	R	E			S	T	E	A	L		L	O	T
E	V	E	R			H	E	N	C	E		S	E	E
M	E	S	S			E	N	T	E	R		E	S	P

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A Note From Our Trustees

There are a few upkeep tasks to be done around the church and we are asking for your help. If you are able to help with any of these projects please let any of the trustees know. The tasks are as follows.:

- Paint & Caulk windows in both the fellowship hall and in the church.
- Organize all the items in the boat house (pole barn), discard or recycle non needed items.
- Discard old clay tiles by compost pile.
- Replace the choir room window. (rock hole)
- Provide smoke detectors and/or carbon monoxide detectors.

Love, from your appreciative trustees: Judy Wieserner, Tim Francis, Bob Riehle and Ken Cox.

Monthly Stats

CHURCH SUNDAY	ATTENDANCE			OFFERING			SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING		
	2010	2011	NEEDED	2010	2011	MAIL-IN	2010	2011	OFFERING
9/25	134	181	\$3,300.00	\$1,737.00	\$1,517.00	\$310.00	75	58	\$24.00
10/2	126	139	\$3,300.00	\$2,973.00	\$2,894.30	\$40.00	74	69	\$129.00
10/9	137	97	\$3,300.00	\$1,553.00	\$1,628.00	\$70.00	67	42	\$14.00
10/16	129	134	\$3,300.00	\$1,573.00	\$2,933.39	\$150.00	40	81	\$24.30
10/23	142	128	\$3,300.00	\$1,725.00	\$1,346.00	\$635.00	58	61	\$26.75

Church Contacts

Pastor: Adam C. Jensen 716.652.9197
716.860.1775 (Cell)
Church Secretary & Keeper of the Calendar: Katie Jensen
716.652.9197
Choir Director: Bob Posenjak 716.698.5363
President: Ron Hager 716.652.5977
Sunday School Superintendent: Lori Ignatowski
Librarian: Sue Cox
Mission Team: Maria Vergien 716.655.3609
Church e-mail: stpaulcmwestfallsny@yahoo.com

*STAR ARTICLES are due by the 3rd Sunday of the month.
Please e-mail articles, corrections, updates or address changes to Katie Jensen at stpaulcmwestfallsny@yahoo.com or call the parsonage at 652-9197.

SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

OPEN FOR PRAYER



Visit us on the Web!
www.saintpaulschurch.com

Worship Services:
Sunday at 8:15am & 11am
& last Saturday of the
month at 5pm
VBS 9:30am

Next Council Meeting:
Tues. November 8, 2011
@ 7pm

Saint Paul's Lutheran Church
53 West Falls Road
West Falls, NY 14170-9716
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November 2011

In God We Trust