

# ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

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Rev. Robert E. Schmidt, Pastor

Patti Riesland, Dir. of Youth & Family Ministry

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## From the Pastor

There was a man who lost every job he had, but one day he got a very simple job in an orange factory. He was told, "Just put the big oranges in this box, the medium- sized oranges in this box, and the smallest oranges in this box." Not long afterwards he came up to his new boss and said, "I quit." "But why?" asked the boss in amazement. "I cannot take it," he replied. "Decisions, decisions, decisions."

Decisions are part of life. Some decisions are difficult while others are very easy and need to be made quickly. What to have for dinner? What type of car to buy? What to wear today? What college to attend? Joshua decided "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!" The disciples were daily faced with the question, "Whom will you follow?" The question to us is "Whom will you trust? Whom will you serve?"

Life is difficult, isn't it? Life is difficult because it challenges us with choices, especially the choice of whether Jesus is going to have any control of our lives, partial control of our lives, or whole control of our lives. We are called on to make difficult decisions every day, but the most important one has to do with our relationship with God, our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Joshua asked his people whom they would follow, and Jesus asked the disciples whom they would follow; and we are asked the same, Who are we going to follow? What are our lives really going to be about? What is life for us?"

As we kick off our activities for the Fall, make the decision to go deeper with Christ. Commit to pray daily. Commit to worship weekly. Commit to join a Bible Study. Commit to serve others. Commit to give. Commit yourself to God. God is committed to you.

Walking with you in God's Amazing Grace-  
Pastor Schmidt

## Mark your calendar now

**September 26 New Member Sunday**—If you would like to join the family of God at St. Paul's, please contact Pastor Schmidt.

**October 3, 2010 @1:00pm**

Blessing of The Pets. Let your neighbors know of the date so they can have their pets blessed too.

## Remember your pledge:

**Give often.**

**Give proportionately.**

**Give generously.**

**God does.**

**Why wouldn't you?**

## September Worship Services

Sept 5 Holy Communion (9:30) ELW 2

## Fall Schedule Begins with worship at 8:30 & 11:00, Sunday School 9:45

Sept 12 Worship Service of the Word  
8:30 CWT and VBS Students

Sept 19 Holy Communion ELW 6

Sept 26 Worship Service of the Word

## COMMUNITY CORNER

### MACARONI & CHEESE

We are the Macaroni and Cheese Church! NEEDS Inc. has begun a new program called the "I Can." Area churches are being asked to pick one food item to donate to stock the shelves at NEEDS. You can bring your Macaroni and Cheese anytime and leave them in the NEEDS box near the coat rack.

NOTE: We have been filling the containers every two weeks. NEEDS has told us that amount of mac & cheese is gone in a day. Thanks for your continued support!

### NEEDS Operation Back to School

The Wyoming Tribune Eagle recently featured an article about Operation Back to School through NEEDS, Inc. It stated: "From elementary to college-level students, the program has provided school supplies to thousands of low-income young people who may not have been able to afford it otherwise." St. Paul's will once again gather donations of school supplies until Rally Day, September 12.. What are some items you could donate? **crayons (24-count), glue sticks, Elmer's white glue, No. 2 pencils, washable markers (8-count), fiskars type scissors, pocket folders, large erasers, composition notebooks, 3 ring binders, colored pencils, loose leaf wide ruled notebook paper, pencil pouch, spiral notebooks, highlighters.** Bring your supplies to church and place in the box marked school supplies.

### ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Picture yourself enjoying a beautiful day...a blue sky with some puffy white clouds is hovering over you, the sun is shining on you with its golden rays, and the smell of the Wyoming prairie fills the air. Put on a spiffy orange vest and you too can have this experience while making the scene even more beautiful. Marilyn Repshire, Jerry Carlson, and Brian Rentner experienced the summer version, hopefully many more of us can experience the autumn version. Our fall highway clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday, October 2nd. We'll meet at the church at 9:00am for a brief safety meeting and than carpool out to our relatively flat and level section of Highway 85. We'll clean-up the roadside and return to the church by 12:30pm. Trash bags, "stylish" orange safety vests, and gloves will be

provided as well as some snacks and water. Be sure to wear sturdy footwear and dress for walking through low road-side brush. If you have any questions, please ask Brian Rentner (Phone 514-2526). Thank you for your help in this important ministry!

### Three outreach projects from VBS:

**Operation Kid to Kid:** Twelve soft, warm blankets along with a coloring book signed by those who made the blankets will be sent to Africa.

**Pyramid of canned goods:** Thanks to those who brought canned goods to build the pyramid in front of the Welcome Center. The pyramid has been taken to NEEDS, Inc.

**Malaria Initiative** of the Rocky Mountain Synod: \$95.24 will be sent for this project.

### Women's Ministry Team

Maren Felde	214-2474
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Janis Fiechtner	635-1210
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Molly Nelson	635-0955
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Anna Thompson	221-3218
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Gail Young	634-2428
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### QUILT AND BIBLE STUDY

We are excited to offer another Quilt and Bible Study. You can contact Beth Sims at 635-5478 or bsims@millec.com for more information.

## Lock The Doors !!!

There have been several instances recently where the church doors have been found unlocked in the morning. Anyone using the building is asked to make sure all doors are locked and secure when you are leaving. Note: When the front door is locked, please remember to shut off the automatic door opener.

## Soren Kierkegaard Study

St. Paul's will be hosting a study on October 3, 10 and 17 at 2:00 p.m. that will last approx 2hrs. This series of Bible studies examines the aesthetic and philosophical works of the great Christian Danish Philosopher, Soren Kierkegaard, from his first book, Either/Or to his "Attack Upon Christendom." (NOT upon Christianity, but rather the State sponsored religion in Denmark during the 19th Century.)

The study will bring us, stage by stage, through three Existential Spheres of Existence: The Aesthetic, the Ethical and the Religious. It is a rich and complex journey which Kierkegaard illustrates to us in a series of pseudonyms and fictional characters.

At the same time, it will be a serious study which examines epistemology, actuality, reality, transcendence, immutability, dialectics, logic and many other philosophical concepts which formed the basis of the philosophical school of thought called Existentialism. Please join us! If you are interested in attending the study, please contact either the study leader Ross Bagne or Pastor Schmidt. The study is limited to 12 people.

## DISCUSSION EVENING

In response to a suggestion from the Parish Relations Committee, the Congregation Council has scheduled a venue to allow interested St. Paul's members to exchange information and options concerning the ELCA Churchwide Assembly vote on sexuality. This opportunity will be on Wednesday, October 13, beginning at 6:30pm. Members are encouraged to read the article in the *Lutheran*, April 2010, titled "Sexuality Issue Causes Division, Sadness and Hope". This is certainly an issue where the mutual ministry and love of each of us for one another as Christians is of prime concern and needs to be very readily apparent. Agreeing to disagree and to respect, love, and support each other is exceedingly important.

## T - SHIRT

Middle Schoolers are invited to design the t-shirt for the Middle School Youth Gathering that will take place January 2011. Just think, 1000 people wearing a shirt YOU designed!

What are the guidelines? Your design must include the following:

The theme: "Heroes by Faith" – Bible heroes and current day heroes.

The verses "Hebrews 11" & "Philippians 2:4-11" are to inspire your design AND actually be included somewhere in your design.

The front "pocket" design needs to have January 14-16, 2011 RMS Middle School Youth Gathering (or MSYG) and the ELCA logo.

Send computer generated design to [pblovinlutheran@yahoo.com](mailto:pblovinlutheran@yahoo.com) or mail hard copy to Kayla Aspeslagh at 506 Via Appia Way, Louisville, CO 80027.

Please include your name and contact info. Deadline: October 1, 2010.

If you have any questions contact Kayla at [pblovinlutheran@yahoo.com](mailto:pblovinlutheran@yahoo.com) or 303-726-7944.

## Choir Opportunities

Calling all Cantate Choir members and prospective members! Cantate Choir has resumed rehearsals on Thursday, August 26, at 7:00pm. Our standard practice time is about one hour, and we sing two Sundays a month at both 8:30 and 11:00 services. Please join us to help lead the congregation in music for our worship services!

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. PAUL'S

### SEPTEMBER

- September 10 Jesus' Little Sprouts resumes
- September 12 Rally Day/Blessing of Back Packs  
Joyful Noize Chorale begins
- September 15 Confirmation Class begins
- September 19 Hayride at Repshire Ranch
- September 24-26 RMSWO Convention—Denver
- September 25 Thrivent Picnic & UW football game
- September 26 New Member Sunday

### OCTOBER

- October 3 Blessing of the Animals, 1:00pm
- October 3, 10, 17 Soren Kierkegaard study, 2pm
- October 8 Jesus' Little Sprouts at Children's  
Village, 6-8:30pm
- October 10 WMT ThankOffering worship
- October 13 Discussion Evening 6:00pm
- October 16 Gifts of the World Bazaar
- October 17-23 CIHN hosting
- October 23 Fall Festival/Trick or Trunk  
/Chili Cook Off  
Fall Work Day (morning)
- October 30 Photo judging in Fellowship Hall
- October 31 Reformation Sunday  
Affirmation of Baptism

### NOVEMBER

- November 5 Church Women United World  
Community Day—location tba
- November 6 Photography mini-convention
- November 19-21 Sr. High Gathering
- November 20 WMT evening vespers, dinner,  
Advent wreath making
- November 24 Thanksgiving Eve Pie Social  
sponsored by Youth for Nat'l Youth  
Gathering

### DECEMBER

- December 12-18 CIHN hosting
- December tba Confirmation class caroling to Home  
Care Ministry—open to all youth and  
congregational members

As you can see, St. Paul's is a busy place. Please contact Judy in the office if your group or committee would like to schedule an event.

## Thank You !

Friends at St. Paul's: Yesterday (8/16) was a good day. Our new intern, Cole Benteley, arrived a couple of UW students arrived, and I turned 63! Life is good Thanks so much for your August donation. We are gearing up for a great fall semester and we so appreciate your partnership. Next week two big kickoff events will be happening and you will be there with us. You can't imagine how you help through your regular gifts. Thanks!

Pastor Ralph Rohr, Trinity Laramie

Thank you so much for your continuing prayers, cards, and flowers. They mean a lot. Virginia Sellner

### Joseph from Prison to Palace

We caravanned to Egypt this summer for VBS. Learning about Joseph and how God used him in His plan. It was quite an exciting VBS for all. There are so many people to thank for all the work they did! As I write this thank you, Levi is behind me singing a song from VBS... "You are the One true God, never will there be another." How true is it that we have only one God. St. Paul 's is fortunate to have so many wonderful volunteers who step up time and time again to serve our children. Thank you to the committees who continue to prepare and provide dinner. Thank you for your time and financial contribution to VBS through the dinner! Some of you serve on more than one committee and help with dinner more than one night—THANK YOU! Music is such an important part of every VBS. The youth learn a special message through the words of the songs. I would like to extend a special thank you to Anna Thompson, Regina Pacheco, Molly Nelson and Maren Felde for leading the Gathering and Closing Celebrations. Another special thank you to Drew Kenton who became "Joseph." Walking through the fellowship hall with Drew one night, he was Joseph to the kids. Thank you for becoming the part and even going as far as shaving your head! I recently posted on facebook as my status: "VBS is over... I love the way people at St. Paul 's --- work together! People helped moving tables and chairs, sweeping, putting stuff in the attic, etc. I am truly blessed to be a member of this congregation! Thank you all..."

Laura Schmidt

## ***FAMILY MINISTRY***

### **Third Grade Bibles**

This is a time for third graders to learn more about the Bible and how to use it to strengthen their faith. Bibles will be presented to the youth during our worship services. on Rally Day, September 12.

### **CONFIRMATION**

Confirmation lies at the center of the Middle School experience . . . it is the piece that brings it all together. On Wednesdays we gather for class, faith sharing and good times. Class runs from 6:30-8:00 pm.

St. Paul's confirmation program begins in the fall of 7th grade and concludes in the fall of students' 9th grade year. Confirmation is designed to establish, encourage, and strengthen a lifestyle of discipleship and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ among young people, and to assist parents and sponsors in fulfilling the promises made at the child's baptism. Throughout the school year, students and adult mentors meet on Wednesday nights for class. We are currently using the "Here We Stand" curriculum published by Augsburg Fortress.

In addition to Wednesday night classes, students also participate in service projects, sermon notes and worship experiences throughout the year and one confirmation camp at Sky Ranch during their three-year confirmation experience. The past years Nancy Heller, Audrey Brunner and Rocky Edmonds have taught these classes. We thank them for their years of dedication. This fall we welcome Mary Jacobsen who will join Rocky Edmonds in leading the classes, with Pastor Schmidt. An orientation class will take place on Wednesday, September 15 for the incoming 7th graders and the returning 8th graders. The confirmation class of 2010 will begin meeting with Pastor Schmidt, in preparation for their confirmation, on September 22.

### **Rally Day, September 12**

As we look forward to another season, we are planning events that will make this fall even more memorable. Sunday, September 12th, will herald in the season with the Annual Rally Day Celebration. Beginning at the 8:30 service, we will have the Blessing of the Backpacks and the children and youth from Vacation Bible School will lead worship. They need to be at the Church by 8:15. The first day back to Sunday School begins at 9:45. During the 11:00 service, Joyful Noize will have their first rehearsal.

The Rally Day Picnic begins at noon in Lion's Park at the gazebo near the Community House. There will be food, fellowship, and fun for everyone! No matter what your age, the games will provide entertainment and opportunities to participate. Some of the games include blind volleyball, inflatable basketball, ring toss, tug-a-war, blindfolded ice cream social, temporary tattoos, noodle wars, and more! Please bring a salad or dessert. And of course, volunteers are always appreciated!

### **Jesus' Little Sprouts**

We will meet in the upstairs Sunday School rooms on Friday, September 10, at 6:00 p.m. This month's theme is, "We are the Church." We will be singing songs from VBS and making a fun craft. Snacks will be provided by Susan Delicath and Kirsten Rigg. Remember, Jesus' Little Sprouts is for preschool- 6th graders. (Mark your calendar now for Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, when we return to the Children's Garden.)

### **Hayride Fun!**

It is once again time for a HAYRIDE at the Repshire Ranch in Hillsdale. Plan to join in the fun, take a relaxing hayride, and join in the company your friends on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Preschoolers through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will meet from 1-3:00pm. Plan to bring a snack to share. Junior High youth will meet at 4:00pm. There will be a chili supper. Water will be provided.

### **DIRECTORY OF YOUTH & FAMILY**

Wow! Vacation Bible School was a fabulous way to become more familiar with the children, youth and adults of St. Paul's! The energy and love for our Lord was exhilarating! Please let me know if there is a particular area or event for which you'd like to volunteer. We want to give everyone an opportunity to be involved as our Youth and Family Ministry grows. Thank you again for being such a warm and inviting Church. I have felt very welcomed.

In our gracious and loving God,  
Patti Riesland

