



October 2021

Pastor's Corner

In what some might call St. Paul's advice column to the Thessalonian church, Paul includes these short words of advice:

"Do not quench the (Holy) Spirit"
- 1 Thessalonians 5:19

Several years ago I was asked to write a daily devotional about this one particular verse. How indeed can so few words say to us so much.

The Holy Spirit is our encourager in our faith and guides us in our daily walk of faith. The Spirit is bringing us closer to God and helping us to discern and know God's will for our lives. To welcome the work of the Spirit is to be empowered at times and yet perhaps also discouraged in others - all for the right reasons.

But what would it mean to quench the Spirit? Have you ever been in a situation where two people were talking at the same time - such that neither could really be heard? This is much the same situation as when we pay too much attention to the leadings of the world while also trying to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Where we lose our focus, we limit the faithful influence of the Holy Spirit.

Or what about when we stubbornly try to enforce our will? If we find ourselves having a "My way or the highway" moment, are we in that moment open to considering God's will or are we instead intent on trying to inform God that our will should be his?

Thus, to quench the Spirit is to minimize the work and influence of the Spirit. Paul's invitation is into a life that is Spirit-led in an always discerning faith. Only when we are welcoming of the Spirit's leading are we truly open to the inspiration of our Heavenly Father. What more could we really ever want than the fullness of God's love, peace and guidance in our lives?

Old St. Paul's Lutheran, be Spirit-filled and always open to know the power of our God in every way, every day!

In Christ,
Pastor Andrew

November newsletter deadline is October 28th

Financial Secretary Report

Bank Account	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	YEAR TO DATE
General Fund Account									
General	\$ 12,496.00	\$ 10,704.00	\$ 31,856.71	\$ 15,989.15	\$ 13,750.50	\$ 11,037.00	\$ 12,588.00	\$ 14,422.15	\$ 122,843.51
ECCCM	\$ 120.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 190.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 130.00	\$ 1,220.00
Radio	\$ 45.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 960.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 2,385.00
Initial Offering	\$ 139.00								\$ 139.00
Endowment Income	\$ 3,047.14		\$ 150.00				\$ 3,309.98		\$ 6,507.12
To be Sent to ELCA for Settlementy Endowment		\$ 110.00	\$ 185.00					\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,295.00
Online Giving Processing Fees (NOTE: We do not pay processing fees. This is for tracking purposes only.)					(\$5.90)	(\$1.46)	(\$3.65)	(\$7.98)	(\$18.99)
Renovation Account	\$ 80.00		\$ 160.00	\$ 80.00			\$ 240.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 640.00
Rental Account (NOTE: Being transferred to General Fund each month.)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Building Account	\$ 210.00	\$ 205.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 100.00			\$ 25.00	\$ 990.00
Cemetery Account	\$ 10.00		\$ 100.00		\$ 610.00				\$ 720.00
Cemetery Plots	\$ 2,500.00				\$ 1,500.00				\$ 4,000.00
Sunday School Account				\$ 90.00	\$ 141.75	\$ 161.00	\$ 141.08	\$ 129.50	\$ 663.33
Memorial Account	\$ 120.00	\$ 430.00		\$ 50.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 477.00	\$ 795.00	\$ 16,992.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 19,767.14	\$ 12,659.00	\$ 33,896.71	\$ 17,754.15	\$ 18,366.35	\$ 27,401.54	\$ 18,697.41	\$ 21,833.67	\$ 170,375.97

OLD ST. PAUL'S (OSP) LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - 08/08/2021

In attendance were: Mark Sigmon, Pastor Andrew Miller, Ken Kiser, Lisa Black, Lanny Hartsoe, Jody Laffon, Tony Setzer, Joni Bentley, Amy Sigmon and Beth Wilson

Absent: Robin Sigmon, Josh Winchester, Christy Stowe and Terrell Setzer

Mark Sigmon called the meeting to order and Tony Setzer led the devotion.

The June, July and Congregation meeting minutes on 07/18/2021 were approved as written.

Mark made the following comments:

Vacation Bible School had 20 adults along with about 25 kids and plenty of volunteers. He said that it was a positive event and big thank you to Christy Stowe and everyone involved.

The church had a visitor during one of our services and he wasn't feeling good. SST assessed and addressed the situation. They called EMS and they came along with the police. Joni Bentley and Christy Stowe help with him and treated him with respect.

He has been very pleased with the worship services and Pastor Miller. OSP's motto is Preach, Teach and Share God's Grace. We as a church have been doing a good job following it even during COVID-19.

Pastor Miller made positive comments about OSP and what a wonder staff (Erin, Angela and Carolyn) we have. He is going on the Mission Trip with his daughter, Emmy and looking forward to the time he will have with them. He discussed the Synod guidelines regarding masks during any indoor service or function. Also still have individual communion. He highly encourages that we as a congregation follow the guidelines. Phone message will be sent out and newsletter will have information about the guidelines we will be following. Mark will have Erin put something in the bulletin. Lisa Black and Beth Wilson will setup Sanctuary to follow the guidelines. Mark stated that he will highly encourage congregation to wear masks while they are indoors for service and singing. Also follow the recommendation for individual communion. When the Young at Heart use the bus they are to wear masks. Mark said that the Pastor has been making calls and visiting people that are homebound. Pastor spoke with a couple that possible will join the church.

Lisa Black discussed monies for 2021 Benevolence. It is 10% of the Budget and some goes to NCELCA Synod and the remaining amount is given to local originations. Benevolence talk has been tabled until we find out the % we send to the NC Synod.

Trustee Report:

Lanny Hartsoe said that roof have been completed on the Sanctuary and Sunday School Building. The Fellowship Hall HVAC unit has stopped working correctly. Lanny will check about getting it fixed.

Financial Secretary Report:

Jodi Bentley stated that the online giving's has been being used by members. There is a small processing fee that goes with the online giving, but OSP does not pay for them. The member can pay the fee or it is deducted from the amount the member gives at that time.

Joni makes a motion to have an informal outside financial review for the last five years before congregational meeting. Joni said she would cover any cost for the review. She also stated that she would like to ask Debbie Wentz, if her company would be able to do the review. Mark said that once we ask Debbie and get more information for the meeting in September we can finalize

Treasurer's Report:

Mark went over the Treasurer's report and stated that \$67,000 is in the General Fund.

Pastor Andrew asked about the Friends of Old St Paul's Church. Mark told him that Fund was started in 1993 and 100% of the money raised is for the upkeep and any major renovations for the Historic Church.

Lanny spoke with Spanky, the cleaning vendor, regarding extra cleaning due to the roof being worked on and the debris that has fallen from the ceiling.

Jody Laffon received notes from the Synod regarding constitution.

One change was that in the Constitution we have ballot and they recommend written ballot. Also they thought our voting members was high. We have 30% and Pastor Andrew recommendation for OSP to lower 20%.

There was a by law that was not added to the updated Constitution. It was on how to remove someone from Roster. We currently have that if you have not received communion and contributed in the preceding 1 year you will be removed from roster, but will still receive pastoral care. The Synod recommends the preceding 2 years.

Jody said he received a recommendation from two members to change the amount that Council brings to the congregation to vote on. It was \$2,500 and Council discussed for it to be changed to \$7,500.

The current Constitution has that the Pastor is an officer on the executive committee. The Synod made a recommendation that the Pastor is not an officer on the executive committee.

Another recommendation is to add Deacon to the role of Minister, but they are not able to bless communion like the Pastor can.

Jody Laffon made a motion to change the updated Constitution with the recommendations that the Synod made. Joni Bentley 2nd the motion and Council passed motion. Tony Setzer asked a question about the time frame for transition of the updated Constitution. Mark said that he spoke with Jody about having small groups put together to go over it.

The Altar Guild sent a message to Jody Laffon to discuss with Council regarding that they would like to use Lisa Testerman's memorial to purchase an urn pall. The urn pall cost \$160 to \$200. Altar Guild reached out to Lisa's family regarding the urn pall and the family said that would be a good idea, since Lisa was a part of the Altar Guild.

Closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer
Next meeting will be September 12th at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Sigmon, Recording Secretary

Action Items:

1. Lanny Hartsoe to check about getting the Fellowship Hall HVAC unit fixed.
2. Joni Bentley to ask Debbie Wentz if her company would complete an informal financial review before the congregational meeting.

Special Council Meeting - 08/29/2021

In attendance were: Mark Sigmon, Beth Wilson, Terrell Setzer, Lisa Black, Joni Bentley, Jody Laffon, Lanny Hartsoe, Tony Setzer, Ken Kiser and Amy Sigmon

Absent: Robin Sigmon, Josh Winchester and Christy Stowe

Mark called the meeting to order.

1. It was discussed to install carpet in the parsonage in the living and dining room for \$2,400 to \$2,500. Terrell Setzer made a motion to proceed with installation of carpet in those areas. Lanny 2nd the motion. The money used will be taken from the Rental Fund. Council passed the motion.
2. Terrell Setzer made a motion to postpone the covered dish meal for Homecoming until further notice and have service in the Sanctuary instead of the Historic Church. Beth Wilson 2nd the motion. Council passed the motion.
3. Joni Bentley made a motion to extend Pastor Miller one more month as the interim pastor and to call him as a pastor. \$1,000.00 per week plus benefits. Jody Laffon 2nd the motion. Council passed motion. Terrell Setzer to have Angela Biggerstaff to get the call committee together to interview Pastor Miller.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Sigmon, Recording Secretary

Some ideas to put in a care package for deployed military members and college students

Military

What to Include in your Care Package (**REMEMBER ALL OF THIS IS GOING THROUGH THE MAIL**)
Some of the best care packages I received were the ones that had practical items in it. We don't have a whole lot of room for clutter, so sometimes the things that are most important to us are the most useful things that help us do our job.

Don't forget to seal everything in plastic zip-lock bags. This protects your care package from the elements and the soldier from receiving snacks that taste like soap.

Personal and Practical Items

We're on our feet a lot when we're deployed, so some of the best items were those that helped keep us dry, clean, and comfortable. Items like:

High-quality socks (I must put this first, because some high-quality socks will make the toughest soldier smile with delight)

Soap (shampoo, body wash, face wash, etc.)

Toothpaste, toothbrush, and floss

Deodorant (travel size/non-aerosol)

Lip balm

Foot powder

Baby wipes

Sunscreen

Hand sanitizer

Pain-relieving topical cream (not a necessity, but can be a real luxury)

Vicks VapoRub

Hand Warmers

Sewing kits

Lens cleaning cloths

Downtime Activities

For as many moments of action service members face, there's plenty of downtime as well. If you're twiddling your thumbs and waiting while in the US, you have the luxury of pulling out your smartphone and killing a little bit of time. Overseas, we don't always have that luxury, so we must have our own fun.

Some items to consider include:

Reading material (magazines, books, or an e-reader like a Kindle)

Handheld video games

Board games

Decks of cards

iPod or thumb drives with movies, music, and pictures

Puzzles

Plastic model kits

Baseball gloves/baseballs

Batteries (AAs and AAAs)

Pencils

3M wall hooks

Really anything that could help decompress from a stressful day and focus on something else.

Food and Snacks

The best way to most anyone's heart is through their stomach, and deployed service members are no different. While there's enough food to go around on base, much of it can be a little bland, and the variety is lacking. Try including some of the following:

Hot sauce (a great commodity to have around)

Water flavoring packets (many places we are deployed are very hot, and we need to constantly remain hydrated)

Beef jerky

Slim Jims

Protein bars

Gum

Sunflower seeds

Hard candy

As with anything you send, it needs to be non-perishable. Sending homemade cookies or soft candies halfway around the world just won't cut it. And please don't send food in the same package as you do shampoo or other toiletries — there's nothing worse than getting some treats from home covered in soap.

Sentimental Things

While all the above are great, sometimes we just need an extra boost of confidence from home. While emails are convenient, they don't have the same poignancy and convey the same emotion as a hand-written letter. While we're away, remember to take videos of everything: baby's first steps, parties, family get-togethers, and even just lounging around the house. Put some of those on a USB drive and send it, too.

What not to Send

Not everything is suitable for a care package. Here's a few things to avoid:

DON'T send adult entertainment, alcohol or drugs (these items are illegal and can get the soldier in trouble)

DON'T send aerosols or pressurized products

DON'T send firearms or ammunition (we're already armed and this is illegal)

DON'T send perishable foods

DON'T send an entire box of the same thing unless requested (variety is a good thing)

Overall, keep in mind that whatever you send may not make it in the condition you expect. Along the way, things might get wet, break, freeze or be in shipping containers for a period of time.

Several of us are getting the deployed military members mailing addresses. Don't forget to also send a letter, phone call, or even a visit to those they left behind, they need a little of help too. This is also a way to find out if there is something the deployed person would like to have that no one thought of.

For the college bound people, these items also help. Please remember that storage space

The first small talk on the proposed updated constitution will be tomorrow, 29 Sep 2021, at 6:00 pm in the FLC.

Circle #4 will meet on Tuesday, October 5th at 6:30 p.m. Bible Study leader for October is Gloria Lentz. Please bring all items for the School Kits for L.W.R. to this meeting. We will assemble the kits at the end of our meeting. We encourage other ladies in the congregation to join us.

Circle #2 will meet on Sunday, October 3rd at 4:00p.m.

I would like to thank everyone for your cards, phone calls and texts during my recovery from Open Heart surgery. Especially, thanks to all of you for your caring and thoughtful prayers.

Thanks so much, Dianna Mantak

There will be two small group meeting to discuss the updated constitution. They will be on 10 Oct 2021 at 9:00 am and 19 Oct 2021 at 6:00pm. Both will take place in the Family Life Center.

The congregations vote on this will be on 7 November at a congregational special meeting and then ratifying will take place at the Congregation Annual Meeting on 12 December.

Don't forget, you can now give your tithes and offerings online at our webpage <https://www.oldstpaulslutheran.org>. If you have any questions about doing so, please contact the church office or Jody Laffon.

YOUNG AT HEART – Fall Events

We continue to be concerned about the spread of the COVID virus and Delta variant, so your participation in these events will be at your own discretion. For your information, COVID protocols, currently, at *NarroWay are as follows: extra disinfecting between shows; no social distancing; masks are not required, but optional; food is delivered straight from the kitchen in a covered container; and, the servers will be masked.

Tuesday, October 19 - “Senior’s Cookout and Gossip Session” - Tuesday, October 19, 10:30 a.m. at the Old St. Paul’s picnic shelter. We will provide hamburgers and hot dogs, and Tony Setzer will be our Grill Master. We can enjoy fresh air, cooler temperatures, fellowship, and stay safe. As in the past, we will have sign-up sheets, and participants are asked to bring a side dish. In order to purchase the proper quantity of hamburgers and hot dogs, we will need a headcount by October 10.

Saturday, November 13, 2021 – “The Real Christmas Story”, *NarroWay Productions Dinner Theater, Fort Mill, SC. Lunch at 12 Noon, and show at 1pm. Tickets are \$36 each, and are non-refundable. Deadline for sign up and payment is October 10. Please note that this trip is contingent on the status of the spread of the virus. We will have a bus driver, but since we cannot socially distance on the bus, all passengers, vaccinated and non-vaccinated, must wear their mask while on the bus. If we have to cancel, NarroWay has advised that we can extend our deposit into the 2022 season. Please contact Sharon Marlowe or Judy Leatherman to sign-up, and, if you have any questions.

Payment change: If paying by check, please make payable to *Old St. Paul’s Lutheran Church* and write *NarroWay* on the memo line.

Reminder: October 10 is the deadline for sign-up and payment for both events.

Trip Coordinators, Sharon and Judy

Altar Flowers

1 Vase \$16.50, 2 Vases \$33.00 Please pay Patsy Black

October 2021		#	November 2021		
October 3	Rebecca Ferrell	2	November 7	Christy Stowe Mary Cansler	1 1
October 10	Lisa Black Susan Lunsford	1 1	November 14	Sharon Marlowe	2
October 17	Gwen Crosby		November 21	Libby Deal Patsy Black	1 1
October 24	Eugene and Gloria Lentz	2	November 28	Margaret Setzer	2
October 31	Denise Scronce	2			

Radio Broadcast

Co-Sponsor \$40.00, Full Sponsor \$80.00 Please pay Old St. Paul’s Church

October 2021			November 2021		
October 3	Bob and Barbara Hamby	F	November 7		
October 10	Phyllis Bollinger		November 14		
October 17	Phyllis Bollinger		November 21		
October 24			November 28		
October 31	Robin Sigmon	F			



Serving in October:

Patsy Black
 Kathy Kiser
 Sharon Marlowe
 Judith Pope
 Nellie Pope

1	Tim Rhodes Evelyn Wentz
5	Dusty Wentz
6	Libby Deal Maggie Sigmon
7	Robyn Overton
9	Connie Rhodes
10	Rebecca Jones
12	Josh Winchester
13	Susan Leonard Sydney Jones
16	Kim Jones
17	Randy Sigmon Paxton Haynes
21	Beth Wilson
23	Terry Scronce
26	Rev. Robert Sain
28	Todd Setzer

September Attendance	
5th	70
12th	71
19th	86
26th	102

UPCOMING WORSHIP LECTIONARY TEXTS

**19th Sunday after Pentecost
 Sunday, October 3rd**
 Genesis 2:18-24
 Psalm 8
 Hebrews 1:1-4;2:5-12
 Mark 10:2-16

**20th Sunday after Pentecost
 Sunday, October 10th**
 Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
 Psalm 90:12-17
 Hebrews 4:12-16
 Mark 10:17-31

**21st Sunday after Pentecost
 Sunday, October 17th**
 Isaiah 53:4-12
 Psalm 91:9-16
 Hebrews 5:1-10
 Mark 10:35-45

**22nd Sunday after Pentecost
 Sunday, October 24th**
 Jeremiah 31:7-9
 Psalm 126
 Hebrews 7:23-28
 Mark 10:46-52

**Reformation
 Sunday, October 31st**
 Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Psalm 46
 Romans 3:19-28
 John 8:31-36