

**The Lamp Lighter**  
**October 2017**  
**The Newsletter of Living Lord Lutheran Church**  
**Real God. Real Faith. Real Life.**  
**www.LLLC.org**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sundays at 8:00 am & 10:30 am at Living Lord Lutheran Church  
Sundays at 9:00 am at Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
Sundays at 10:30 am at St. Paul Lutheran Church

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

Living Lord Lutheran Church 9:15 am  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church 10:00 am  
St. Paul Lutheran Church 9:30 am

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**From Pastor William D. Leitch...** The gospel texts during the month of October speak about preparation, being ready, and having no excuses. OK, the “no excuses” part is how I interpret the results in the text when we come up short. Still, “come up short” we will. Yet, Jesus tells us not to worry about coming up short, but rather work hard, stay focused, look ahead, learn from your mistakes, make corrections, care for those around you, bring them along with you, train them up, work together, get better, never quit, and love your neighbor as yourself.

OK, after that long “to do list”, my head is spinning! But doesn’t our work in the church seem busy and chaotic at times? Yet, I find it exciting and a blessing.

As I write this today, I also promised to consolidate information collected by our three congregational property committees about our buildings. I owe that to the ad hoc Building Committee represented by the three congregations by 4:00 pm today. Next, I have already sent out information to our families with students in the 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades concerning the National Youth Gathering in Houston June 27 through July 1, 2018. We need to commit right now to that endeavor so we can get travel deals and reduced early fees. Next, I have two Board of Directors meetings this week, along with Shared Ministry and ad hoc committee meetings. Oh yes, it is my turn to teach catechism this Sunday night. Oh, did I mention that Camp Frederick is having the Fall Festival on Sunday from 2:00 to 5:00 pm before catechism class at 5:30 pm? I am in charge of parking. This will be my quiet time as I simply point, direct, smile, and greet people.

Jesus says take on my yoke and I will make your burdens light. I believe that! And with Jesus and the entire Body of Christ, we can move mountains as we pull together in the same direction and with the same purpose.

I pray that there will be a record number of youth and adults, 40,000, show up in Houston to work, worship, change people’s lives, and celebrate Christ together. The theme for the NYG is “This Changes Everything”. It will!

I pray that as we learn more about each of our congregations that we also will see opportunities to “Focus on God” that will excite us and bless us.

I pray that as we move forward that we give thanks for what God has given us and grieve gracefully those things that we will miss and give God the glory for what God is giving us renewed.

**October 7 Retreat...**It's a time for all of us to go deeper into our faith. Our Council, along with our Shared Ministry Team, have also decided to take our congregations into a conversation that will focus on our future. Our desire is that we intentionally and collectively look at who we are and how God is calling us now.

We will have a one-day retreat on **Saturday, October 7**, at St. Paul beginning at 9:30 am. **Everyone is encouraged to attend.** There are three different five minute informative DVD presentations followed by discussions. This retreat will prepare us for six Sundays of discussions during sermon time. We pray that you can share with others pertinent things that we need to consider in future decisions that others have not witnessed.

If you cannot attend the retreat, I strongly encourage you to attend the Adult Forum which began on September 10. Pat Was will be leading a six session class on how to listen to God that later moves us to how then to speak.

We have collected real data about our congregation, our building, the building plans that were considered over ten years ago, and we hope to learn more from each of you that may open our eyes to the opportunities to which God would lead us.

Living Lord has shrunk from 465 members in 2010 to 250 members by the end of 2017. It "seems" that we are relatively strong in spite of this shrinkage, but the reality is we will not be able to sustain our congregation in 5-10 years at this rate.

Although consolidation can extend our life, we also need to have a focus on God that will spread the Gospel and grow the church. During our August Council Meeting, we had a practice discussion about what consolidation might look like. We realized that there will be loss and grieving. We will need to be sensitive to this. We also realized that there are God Focuses that we can work toward even now. Kara Busefink and Stacey Stredney led us on a discussion that brought us great encouragement. We plan to have a youth lock-in to hear the voice of our youth and their parents.

**Joint Reformation Service...**We will have a Joint Reformation Service at St. Paul on **October 29** at 10:30 am. **THERE WILL BE NO SERVICES AT LIVING LORD OR EMMANUEL ON THIS DATE.**

**Sign Language Classes...**American Sign Language Classes will be held at Living Lord for adults and children (great for hard of hearing folks, too). Classes will be held on Oct. 11 & 25, Nov. 8, 15, & 29, and Dec. 13. Classes run from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and the cost is \$75.00. Please contact Pam Beish at pamelabeish302@gmail.com or at 330-646-1637 if you are interested in taking these classes.

**From Pastor Ann Marie Winters... This is an exciting time to be the church!** We have the challenge before us to "Fan the Flame" of the spark that God has planted in us. The groundwork for this will be done in a morning retreat on **October 7**. Any member who would like to look at their discipleship (following Jesus in the world) will want to attend. Also, at the retreat we will sample the discussion process that we will all experience together on Sunday mornings in the "Fanning the Flame" series at St. Paul and Living Lord. You will find the scriptures and questions for each week later in this newsletter, if you want to pray and study and prepare at home. The series begins October 8.

Our three congregations in the Shared Ministry are in the process of sharing information in three ad hoc committees about our buildings, finances, and envisioning mission. We are exploring what it **might** be like if we joined together into a brand new consolidated church. There will be a packet of information given to each member in early November that will share whatever information we have collected so far. Then on December 3 we will have individual town hall meetings for Q & A. On January 7 we will have a joint town hall at St. Paul at 1:00 pm for more Q & A for all members. Letters were sent to your homes with this information. In late January, each congregation will have a yes/no vote on gathering more information. **REMEMBER THAT THIS IS GETTING YOUR PERMISSION FOR DEVELOPING A CONSOLIDATION PLAN – NOT YET A VOTE ON DOING A CONSOLIDATION.**

In the midst of our renewal and planning for a future, we are celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation on **October 29**. It is St. Paul's turn to host a Joint Festival Worship at 10:30 am. I think Dr. Luther is smiling to see us "renewing" and "re-forming", whatever that will mean for us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

May blessings abound on you and yours,  
Pastor Ann Marie Winters



**RETREAT – OCTOBER 7, 2017**  
**9:30 – 11:30 am**  
**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Why are we “Fanning the Flame”?** God gives us a spark of life as Christians, and to grow we need to fan the flame of our calling.

**Who should participate?** As many members as possible! Everyone’s voice is important as we look at the future mission of our church.

**Group leaders:** Council members and others will serve as discussion leaders for the series in October/November, and this Retreat will give you the preparation you need to lead others.

**Please sign up in the narthex so we know how many materials to prepare.**

**This morning Retreat will be in three parts:**

*Part One* provides three brief (5 minute) DVD presentations followed by small group discussions.

**WHY DO WE FOLLOW JESUS?**

1. The purpose of discipleship – Being transformed
2. Taking God’s love into the world
3. Lutherans are church for the sake of the world

*Part Two* prepares us for the October/November Sunday church series, Fanning the Flame, “WHAT IS GOD’S DREAM FOR THE CHURCH?” The renewal series of October/November prepares us to discern God’s dream for the church.

How will our small groups function?

What is the leader’s role?

One-on-ones

*Part Three* is a practice session from the “Fanning the Flame” series.

Hear the Scripture: Exodus 3:1-12 LISTEN

One-on-one discussion and group feedback

How does your church need God’s help?

How do you need God’s help?

## **“Preparing for the Renewal of our Church”**

We are planning a renewal series to begin in October. You can prepare by reading the following scriptures and asking these sorts of questions...

**October 8**, The Burning Bush (Exodus 3:1-12) LISTEN

How does your church need God’s help? How do you need God’s help?

**October 15**, The Valley of Dry Bones (Ezekiel 37:1-14) LOOK

What looks “dry” in your congregation? What new life do you seek from God?

**October 22**, Jesus Sends out 70 Disciples (Luke 10:1-24) RESPOND

Where is God sending your congregation? How is your congregation responding to Jesus’ call?

**(October 29**, 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation – Joint Festival Worship at St. Paul at 10:30 am)

**November 5**, Finding the Lost (Luke 15) FORGIVE

Who is “lost” in your community? To whom is God calling your congregation to announce God’s gracious forgiveness?

**November 12**, The Great Commandment (Matthew 22:34-40) LOVE

How does your congregation love God? How do the disciples in your neighborhood love their neighbors?

**November 19**, The Great Commission (Matthew 28) GO

What is the risen Lord Jesus commanding your congregation to do?

Praying with you and for you,

Pastor Ann Marie Winters

### **REFORMATION 500<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:**

**DVD Course discussion “Lunch with Luther”** Sunday noontime

**8 weeks, Sept. 3 to Oct. 22**

Seminary teachers make topics accessible to laity; hosted at St. Paul for Trumbull Area Lutherans; bring a brown bag lunch; drinks provided

DVD Course Description – Luther’s Legacy for Laity: Martin Luther’s legacy is a rich treasure for all Christians, but particularly for lay people. Luther, through the doctrines of justification, freedom of the Christian, bondage of the will, and vocation, provides Christians with an understanding of what God has done for us and what God wants to do through us for the sake of the neighbor. All the big questions of faith and life are found in the abundance of Reformation theology. These theologians shape how Christians view their place in the world. These presentations were filmed live at the Lay School of Ministry in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA. This 8-week course will have a DVD presentation and discussion totaling 90 minutes each Sunday. Come to one or all sessions. Please reserve a place by calling Lynn Golen at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 330-394-5741. All are welcome!

**Movie: “Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World”**

**Tuesday, October 24, 7:30 pm**

Special showing for area Lutherans at Tinseltown, Southern Park Mall (Youngstown)

**Shared Ministry Joint Worship**

**Sunday, October 29, 10:30 am**

At St. Paul Lutheran Church; finger food reception in Cassel Hall following worship

**Anniversary of the Reformation**

**Sunday, October 29, 6:00 pm**

At St. Columba Cathedral, Youngstown, Catholic-Lutheran Ecumenical Evening Prayer

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**From the Fellowship Committee Chairperson, Kara Busefink...**  
**October Fellowship...**Due to vacation schedules, we will not have a Fellowship in October.

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**From the Finance Committee, Treasurer Dave Henderson...** The books are closed for August 2017. Receipts for August totaled \$6,672.70 and expenses were \$13,220.43, resulting in a loss of \$6,547.73 for the month. Year-to-date through August, giving is at \$96,212.72 and expenses are at \$98,178.83, resulting in a year-to-date loss of \$1,966.11. August was a terrible month for us as we went from a year-to-date gain at the end of July of \$4,581.62 to a loss of \$1,966.11 year-to-date at August 31. It is not uncommon for the summer months to be lean months, but August was a particularly bad one. As we head into the last third of the year, let's see if we can get back on track with our giving and finish this year on budget as we have for the past several years. I am confident that we will meet that goal!

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**From the Later Life Committee Chairperson, Karen Bandy...**  
**Card Class...**Join us for a card-making class on **Thursday, October 5**, in the Activity Room. We will be making 4 cards. Our theme will be "Textures of Fall". Classes will be at 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm. The cost is \$12.00. Please bring adhesives like double-stick tape and liquid glue. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. The deadline for signing up is Sunday, October 1. Emmanuel and St. Paul members are welcome to join us – call Lynne Walters at 330-856-9689 to get signed up!

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**From the Mission Endowment Fund Committee Chairperson, Michael Taiclet...**Greetings and blessings to everyone from MEF! I am proud to announce our MEF 2017 Award winner is Camp Frederick. After much deliberation, we thought Camp Frederick was the most deserving and would be the most beneficial of this Award. There is a change of date for the Award presentation from what was previously announced. Due to conflicting schedules with Camp Frederick, the Award presentation will now be on **Sunday, October 8**, at both services. We will also be celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! We hope you will be there! I would also like to thank everyone who continues to support the Mission Endowment Fund. For those who have ordered a plaque spot on the MEF board, I apologize for the delay and promise they will be added to the board soon. I have had a busy and long summer and conflicting schedules with the calligrapher who does our plaques on our board. I hope everyone had a great summer and I look forward to seeing you on MEF Award Day!

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**From the Outreach Committee Chairperson, Donna Tompkins...**  
**Community Meal Update...**The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who assisted with the Community Meal at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on Friday, September 22. We served approximately 125 people in our community.

**Bingo at NSOV...**The Outreach Committee will be hosting Bingo at Niles Shepherd of the Valley on **Wednesday, October 25**, at 2:00 pm. We will meet at 1:30 pm to set up. Men and women both are invited to assist. Please see the sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board if you are able to help or bake cookies. We are in need of medium size gift bags in plain colors (red, green, blue, yellow, purple, etc.). If you have any questions, please contact Donna Tompkins at 330-984-0684. Emmanuel and St. Paul members are welcome to join us – call Donna Tompkins for information.

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**From the Property Committee Chairperson, Rolland Walters...**The Property Committee would like to do a better job in communicating the upcoming projects of the committee. We will try and keep this updated as often as we can. Future and current projects include:

\* Landscaping in front of the sanctuary: Numerous safety items were corrected (removal of buried extension cord for the spotlight and installation of GFI plugs on the sign out front and one on the side as you come out the front door); installed canned lights beneath overhang for cross illumination; removed all timers for sign and steeple; installed sensors that turn lights on at dusk and off at dawn; the existing cross was removed and will be placed in the courtyard with additional landscaping; the new cross was installed with new landscaping planned and to be completed by next spring (plans include bricking from the cross to the sidewalk, adding benches, and planting flowers and bushes); this project was funded by an anonymous donor.

\* The beautiful courtyard landscaping has been completely donated and completed by Bob and Karin McKinney. The cross will be incorporated into this landscaping. Thanks Bob and Karin!

The Fuchs Committee voted to fund the next two projects:

\* The alarm system was installed in August after the third break-in of the shed. Two tractors were stolen and gas was taken in the three break-ins. Howland Alarm was chosen over ADT. The ADT quote was \$8,000 for installation and over \$55 a month for monitoring. Howland Alarm was \$1,650 for installation and \$35 a month for monitoring, with a price break for paying on a yearly basis (one month free).

\* Parking lot lights cost \$3,253 with a \$400 rebate from the electric company after installation. The lights have been received and will be installed in the very near future. The cost for installation is \$700.

Projects for upcoming winter months will include:

\* Waxing floors in Fellowship Hall, kitchen, bathrooms, and narthex

\* Cleaning of carpets beginning in the Education Wing and proceeding to complete the sanctuary. I have a professional carpet cleaning machine and the only cost to the congregation will be the soap, for a savings of hundreds of dollars.

\* Replace the rubber floor trim in the narthex with a ceramic tile baseboard.

\* Repaint women's restroom to correct the overflow of spray from the Education Wing insulation.

Projects I would like to complete before my term as Property Chairperson is done (yet to be quoted):

\* The two furnaces that supply heat for the sanctuary are about 18 years old. Heating specialists that have been in for other services have informed me that they are running on borrowed time and need replaced.

\* Two furnaces for the Education Wing are over 15 years old and I would also like to see those replaced before the end of my term.

Our Property Committee meeting times are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. We are always looking for new members, especially the younger, able-bodied ones that can help, but will take suggestions and donations anytime.

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**From the Parish Nurse, Dora Muller...***"Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise."*  
Benjamin Franklin

We have all gone through the situation of trying to figure out the reason when and why to take our medications: after meals, before meals, with meals, or at bedtime. It can be confusing, especially at bedtime. For many people, bedtime means to change into pajamas, turn the lights off, and tucking into bed. Husband often does not go to bed until the game is over and it could be well after midnight (for me bedtime is 9:00 pm when I am done for the day). Let's examine our bodily functions that do not stop working because it is night time. Metabolism slows down, but does not stop, which is why we need to pay special attention to when we take our medications before calling it a day. By taking medications at bedtime, that means that there is about an eight hour interval until the next dose is taken. Also, our bodies work at somewhat different schedules. For example, the level of cholesterol produced by the liver is highest during the night and lowest during the day. Therefore, cholesterol medication, such as statins, perform best when taken before bedtime which allows for a better interaction between the medication and the production of cholesterol. For those with blood pressure issues, the doctor usually prescribes medication to be taken twice a day. Blood pressure is usually elevated during the day and lower during sleep. However, as we age, our blood pressure usually does not drop at night and results in the condition

known as “non-dipping blood pressure” which can cause an increase in the risk factor for heart attacks, stroke, and kidney diseases. In these cases, it is necessary to take blood pressure medication as ordered. Normalizing daily blood pressure levels and maintaining a regular spacing between doses of medication decreases the risk for heart attack and stroke. So, when your physician prescribes a medication dose at bedtime, we now will understand the reason why.

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**Thank you...**

Dear Pastor and members of the congregation,  
Thank you for joining us for Evelyn’s baptism. It was great being back home with everyone again. I enjoyed being able to play bells again. We hope to be able to visit again soon. God bless, Matt, McCala, & Evie Walters

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**EVENTS IN OCTOBER**

Wednesday, October 4, 6:00 pm – Shared Ministry Meeting in Activity Room

Thursday, October 5, 2:00 & 6:00 pm – Later Life Card Class in Activity Room

Saturday, October 7, 9:30 am – Joint Retreat at St. Paul

Sunday, October 8 – MEF Award at both services

Monday, October 9, 6:00 pm – Council in Activity Room

Wednesday, October 11, 6:00 pm – Sign Language Class in Activity Room

Sunday, October 15 – Blood Pressure Screening/**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Friday, October 20 – New Allen Organ to be installed

Saturday, October 21, 8:00 am – Congregation Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, October 25, 1:30 pm – Bingo at Niles Shepherd of the Valley;  
6:00 pm Sign Language Class in Activity Room

Sunday, October 29, 10:30 am – Joint Reformation Service at St. Paul – NO SERVICES AT LIVING LORD OR EMMANUEL; 6:00 pm Anniversary of the Reformation Service at St. Columba Cathedral, Youngstown

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**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

**Birthdays**

- 2 = Jill Gifford
- 3 = Jean Christopher-Difford
- 6 = Heather McCrimmon
- 8 = Jack Stauffer
- 9 = Earl Butts, Dick Michaels, & Rachael Sheets
- 11 = Darlene Altieri, Rose Baringer, & Jeremiah Drotleff
- 12 = Xahria Easton
- 17 = Kay Fisher
- 19 = Terry King
- 21 = Lee Offerdahl

- 26 = Brycen Prasky
- 27 = Corinne McCrimmon
- 28 = Fran Ginter, Lee Sheets, & Matt Walters
- 29 = Michael Prindle

**Anniversaries**

- 12 = Miller, Brandon & Meghan
- 20 = King, Carl & Louise
- 21 = Drotleff, Mike & Darcy
- 22 = Griffin, Robert & Cynthia
- 26 = Maloney, Chuck & Pegg

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## NEWS FROM THE SHARED MINISTRY

**Emmanuel Clothes Closet...**The Clothes Closet is open every Tuesday at 9:00 am. In need of: summer clothes (children & adults), bathing suits, deodorant, lotion, dish soap, paper towels, toilet tissue, anything for babies, plastic bags, curtains, doilies, sheets.

**Emmanuel Shopping Cart Needs for October...**Instant potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, stuffing mix, gravy (jar or mix), Vienna sausages, canned fruit, cracker snacks, cans of food with pop top lids for easy opening.

**St. Paul Coffee Cup Greetings...**Held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month.

**OKTOBERFEST – 2017...**St. Paul Lutheran Church will host its annual Oktoberfest on **Saturday, October 21, 2017**, from 4:00-7:00 pm at 2860 East Market Street, Warren. The event will feature:

- A “Taste of Germany” menu
  - Sauerkraut & Bratwurst
  - Cabbage Rolls
  - Red Potatoes
  - Escalloped Apples
  - Desserts
  - Bread & Butter
  - Coffee & Cider
- German Beer Tasting
- Six Gift Basket Raffles
- 50/50 Cash Raffle

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 10. Volunteers are needed. Please sign up in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Diana Bauman at 330-856-6034.

**St. Paul AAUW Craft & Vendor Show...**The American Association of University Women is sponsoring a Craft and Vendor Show on **Saturday, October 28, 2017**, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Free Admission, Bake Sale, and Lunch Available! A fee of \$25.00 will reserve an 8’ table and 2 chairs. Please contact Diana Bauman at 330-856-6034 if you are interested in a table.

**St. Paul Grief Ministry...**Part of the Social Committee is Grief Ministry. Joyce Osborn (330-372-2136) is spearheading this ministry with Pr. Winters’ and God’s guidance and help. When a loved one dies, Joyce sends a set of four books called “Journeying Through Grief” throughout the first year. Each book describes the issues and feelings that a person tends to encounter at various points of grief and the books offer suggestions on handling them. If Pr. Winters or Joyce can be of any help or if you have any questions during a time of grief, please contact either of them.

**St. Paul SPLASH TODAY...**Donations are always warmly welcomed, and with your continued support, we will be able to sustain this valuable ministry to young families.