

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

P. O. Box 267, 201 Veterans Dr., Columbus, TX 78934

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E-mail: [admin@splctx.org](mailto:admin@splctx.org) [www.splctx.com](http://www.splctx.com) **Pastor:** [pastor.akethan@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.akethan@gmail.com)

June 5, 2022 Contemporary 11:05 AM

Day of Pentecost

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Senior Pastor	Alan Kethan	<i>On Sabbatical</i>
Deacon of Word and Service	<u>Phone:</u> (979)-530-8368	Sandye Fletcher
Youth & Family Specialist		Stephanie Polasek
Music Minister		Robert Eaton
Congregational Chair		Donna Maas
St. Paul Christian Learning Academy Director		Briana Bedford
Secretary		Elena Holub
Custodian		O. C. S.
Parish Nurse Program Coordinator		DyAnn Lauzon

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**MISSION STATEMENT:** Love God, Love Neighbor (*Luke 10:27*)

**VISION STATEMENT:** We will work to strengthen and grow closer in relationship to God and to one another.

- *As we enter into a sacred time and space, a friendly reminder to please set your cell phone to vibrate.*
- ***We want to welcome all of our guests today and thank you for worshiping with us. If you have any questions or would like more information regarding our services, programs, day care, or preschool programs at St. Paul, please visit our Welcome Center in the narthex immediately following our service, and an attendant will be more than happy to assist you. If this is your first time at St. Paul, we hope you will take a gift along with you. We also have a gift bag for children.***

\* **This symbol indicates that the congregation is invited to stand physically or in spirit.**

**INTRODUCTION**

*On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world.*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SIGNING OF ATTENDANCE PADS**

***(Ushers will be handing out Attendance Pads during the announcements. Please be sure to sign your name and contact information.)***

\* **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

D We believe that the Bible contains instruction for us as followers of Jesus Christ to do what he asked of us. He taught the first disciples to help others to confess their sins and to proclaim to them the promise of forgiveness afterwards. So let us take a few brief moments in silence to open our hearts and minds to Jesus, to confess the things that weigh heavy on our hearts and the things we need help with so we might be more in line with what Jesus commands.

*(Silence for private confession.)*

D If you are truly sorry and asking God for help, here is the promise he commanded the leaders in his church to proclaim, "You are forgiven." May this forgiveness free you and help you to live; to live in Jesus' name.

**C Amen.**

*(You may be seated.)*

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Acts 2:1-21

D Our scripture reading is from Acts, chapter 2, verses 1-21. *Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told his disciples they would be filled with the Holy Spirit. Now, amid signs of fire, wind, and a variety of languages, the people were amazed and astonished at Jesus' promise coming true.*

The reading begins:

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. <sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs — in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." <sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose,

for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: <sup>17</sup>In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. <sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. <sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. <sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. <sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

#### **GOSPEL SONG: HOLY SPIRIT**

**There's nothing worth more, that will ever come close  
Nothing can compare, You're our living hope.  
Your presence, Lord.**

**I've tasted and seen, of the sweetest of love  
When my heart becomes free, and my shame is undone.  
Your presence, Lord.**

#### **CHORUS**

***Holy Spirit, You are welcome here!  
Come flood this space and fill the atmosphere.  
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,  
To be overcome by Your presence, Lord.  
Your presence, Lord.***

#### **GOSPEL: John 14:8-17 [25-27]**

*Though the disciples struggle with Jesus' nature and identity, they receive the promise that they too will be identified with God and God's mission. Though he must leave them now, Jesus promises the coming of the Advocate whom God will send to comfort and enlighten them.*

A The holy gospel according to St. John, chapter 14, verses 8-17 and 25-27.

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to [Jesus,] "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it. <sup>15</sup>If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with

you, and he will be in you. [<sup>25</sup>"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."]

#### **GOSPEL SONG: HOLY SPIRIT**

**There's nothing worth more, that will ever come close  
Nothing can compare, You're our living hope.  
Your presence, Lord.**

**I've tasted and seen, of the sweetest of love  
When my heart becomes free, and my shame is undone.  
Your presence, Lord.**

#### **CHORUS**

***Holy Spirit, You are welcome here!  
Come flood this space and fill the atmosphere.  
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,  
To be overcome by Your presence, Lord.  
Your presence, Lord.***

#### **BRIDGE: (x3)**

**Let us become more aware of Your presence.  
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness.**

#### **CHORUS**

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#### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

#### **SERMON**

#### **\* SERMON SONG: CHRIST IN ME**

**In this obsession with the things this world says make us happy,  
Can't see the slaves we are in all this searching all this grasping.  
Like we deserve much more than all the blessings we're holding,  
So now I'm running free into an ocean of mercy unending!**

#### **CHORUS 1:**

***So come and empty me so that it's You I breathe, I want my life to be only Christ in me!  
So I will fix my eyes 'cause You're my source of life, I need the world to see  
That it's Christ in me, yeah! That it's Christ in me, yeah!***

**I'm done with what holds me down, the things I once was chasing after,  
Throw off these heavy chains that I have let become my master.  
Oh, so now I'm running free into an ocean of mercy unending! CHORUS 1**

**In this obsession with the things this world says makes us happy, yeah. . .  
Can't see the slaves we are in all this searching, all the grasping, yeah. . .**

**CHORUS 2:**

**So come and empty me so that it's You I breathe, I want my life to be only Christ in me!  
So I will fix my eyes 'cause You're my source of life, I need the world to see  
That it's Christ in me, yeah! Only Christ in me, yeah! Only Christ in me. . . Christ in Me.**

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**\* APOSTLES' CREED**

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*(The congregation may be seated during the prayers.)*

**PRAYERS**

A United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

A One God, giver of life, you established peace through your Son and gave your church the hope of sharing in your glory. Enliven us by your Spirit to speak and act in love for the sake of the world.

*A brief silence.*

A Loving Redeemer, you delight in the human race. Move the hearts of world leaders to seek wisdom, speak truth, and care for all endangered by poverty, prejudice, or violence. Further the work of international collaboration and peacemaking.

*A brief silence.*

A Abiding Comforter, you call out to all who live. Restore severed relationships and protect children who lack trustworthy caregivers. Grant hope to those who are experiencing fear, pain, or grief.

*A brief silence.*

A Holy Three, you are community and you create community. Build up ministries that support those who are isolated or lonely. Give endurance as we nurture vital relationships in our congregation and beyond.

*A brief silence.*

A We pray for peace in Ukraine. Help to end this war and the destruction of lives and your creation. Change hearts, bring peace and show the world your existence.

*A brief silence.*

A We pray for those in need of healing and whose needs are diverse and known to you including:  
Yvonne Lowe; Sonny Lauzon; Becky Collins; Tiffany Lauzon; Marian Frank; Michelle Kollman; Skip North; Emily Rooks; Dessie Steinauser; those on our Prayer Team's list; and those we name in our hearts before you.

*A brief silence.*

A We pray for all those battling cancer that they may know strength and comfort. *(Pause for those we are praying for.)*  
George Wright; Elrose Kollatschny; Sarah Stancik; Irving Schneider; Shelly Bowden; Larry Poenitzsch; Sandy Mosley; Charlene Tesch; Cynthia Coufal; Jeffrey McDaniel; Karen Bailiff; Julian Divin; Nancy Biers; Angie Beggs; Pam Potter; Charlie Hammock; Brad Bryson; Lynette Frnka; Riana Jamison; Jenna Escamilla; Margaret Ortiz; Kenny Neuendorff; Keith Korth; Jodi Sebesta; Cathy Siglow; Paul Casinger; Fran Gillett; Tiffany Murley; DeQuincy Lister; Angela Mazoch; Lily Presswood; Denise Lange; Doug Mason; Dr. Tom Hancher; Joe Berry; Joyce Templeton; Gracie Brune; Margaret Rogers; Leonard Kahlden; Curtis Wallin; Megan Burch; Jennifer Aleman; Lisa Grazier; Phyllis Behrend; Jessica Mauchlen; Larry Guthrie; Donna Tiner; Libby Divin; Anthony Baumbach; Diane Brooks; Bob Loy; Stanley King; Monty Gillett; Dawn Foster; Edward Halcolm; Amber Smith Kutach; Louis Camacho; Melvin Schobel; Janet Greene; Sabrina Galindo; Debbie Grimes; Horst Traub; Margie Fisk; Preston Carter; Penny Miller; Carl Hahn; Megan Cain; Amanda Fuchs; Cyndi Wallace; Karen Broussard; Donna Young; Sharon Heimann; and Brenda Baker.

A We pray for all expectant mothers that they have healthy terms and deliveries, and if not, may they find comfort and peace. *(Pause for those we are praying for.)*  
Stephanie Miles; Katie Page; Brooke Dungen Pawlak; Mallory Dungen Cook; and Madisyn Horndt Neumann.

A We pray for all those who reside in care facilities and the homebound that they receive your caring and compassion. *(Pause for those we are praying for.)*

Adrian Fritsch; Don Morrison; Verna Coufal; Doug Hill; John Zwiengel; Robert Saunders; Coy Dell Schindler; Deanna Lee; Dolores Wessels; Doris Poppe; Barbara McMath; Linda Munos Rodgers; Madeline Menke; Doris Horndt; Helen Perrard; Delores Purcell; Jane Booker; Curtis Berger; Dolores Hoelscher; Jesse Grabow; Beatrice Zikuhr; Robert Eaton; Ronnie Rogers; Fritz Willms; Joyce Dehmer; and Donna Dehmer.

A We pray for all law enforcement officers, fire fighters, first responders, healthcare workers, 9-1-1 dispatchers, and active duty military personnel that they are protected and kept safe. *(Pause for those we are praying for.)*

Law enforcement officers: Todd Jacobs; Troy Neisner; Jacob Gorman; Nancy Gorman; Johnny Kovar; Abbigail Weido; Dustin Lattimore; Luke Kanz; Bruno Flores; Zane Weido; Josh Jones; as well as Donnie Templeton and Jason Templeton who are also fire fighters. For all fire fighters, first responders, healthcare workers and 9-1-1 dispatchers, especially Brent Gorman, Sr.; Brent Gorman, Jr.; Reid Brasher; Dusty Dittmar; John Maertz; Ron Luedke; Pastor Alan Kethan; Kristi Weyand; Eric Weyand; Bradley Berger; Jon Berger; James Chollett; Edward Thraen, Jr.; Garrett Flores; Kyle Burriss; Dylan Walcik; Randy Wendt; Travis Neuendorff; Brenda Henkes; and Jan Willette, as well as those active duty military members including Brian Anderson; Michael Graham; Bryan Kubena; Brad Bergfeld; Cody Jowers; Kyle Appelt; Montana Appelt; Douglas Neuendorff; Scott Cherniss; Kameron Page; Ryan Neisner; Anthony D'Angelo; Dalton Kapel; Kindra Dawson; William Phillips; and Kevin Gonzalez.

A We pray for the church throughout the world. May we all proclaim the good news of your love effectively. We ask, especially, that you would bless the ministry of our sister congregations Cristo Rey and Iglesia Cristiana Camino de Santidad in Peru, all Missionaries, especially St. Paul's supported missionary, Dina Anton de Espinoza, and our companion synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic.

*A brief silence.*

A Gather your people across regions, nations, and lands. Root our common life in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, and by your Spirit bind us together with all the saints who have gone before us.

*A brief silence.*

A In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C Amen.**

\* **PEACE**

D As Jesus shared peace, let us also share His peace with one another. *(Share the "Peace of the Lord" with your neighbors.)*

***(We will be collecting offerings before and after worship each week. This includes Power of One dollars.)***

**OFFERING and POWER OF ONE**

*"Power of One" is a ministry sponsored by your Stewardship Team. We are asking each and every one of our members to give \$1.00 above what your normal giving would be. We are asking each member to place this \$1.00 bill or change in the offering plate each week. The team is also inviting all children to participate to develop the habit of giving as part of their worship experience. Parents, a penny, nickel, dime, quarter, or dollar bill, any of these will do to help your children develop a habit of giving. These "Power of One" dollars will be used to support local ministries and ministries abroad. The purpose of this ministry is to demonstrate that something as small as one dollar can be used to make a difference in the lives of others.*

\* **OFFERING PRAYER**

D Living God, bless these offerings we place before you today; they are a thank you for all you have given us. Welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

\* **REMEMBERING JESUS' WORDS, PROMISES, AND COMMANDS**

\* **LORD'S PRAYER**

D Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to sing.

**C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

\* **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

D The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, are welcome.

**C Amen.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION** (Continuous with Individual Cups)

*{Distribution will be continuous. All are welcome for communion. Please come down the center aisle starting from the front. Follow directions of the ushers, coming up one side at a time. Please keep 6 feet between those who are not your family members. Pastor will hand you the bread. If you wish to have a gluten-free wafer, please tell Pastor "Gluten-free, please."}*

*Afterward, you will choose either wine or white grape juice from the individual cups in the tray – white grape juice in the center with wine surrounding. Place the empty cups in the baskets located off to the side. Although communion is continuous, you are welcome to kneel at the rail in prayer after receiving communion. Please return to your seat by the side aisles.}*

\* **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

D We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C **Amen.**

\* **BLESSING**

D God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

\* **CLOSING SONG: THRIVE**

**Here in this worn and weary land, where many a dream has died,  
Like a tree planted by the water, we never will run dry.  
So living water flowing through, God, we thirst for more of You.  
Fill our hearts - and flood our souls - with one desire:**

**CHORUS:**

***Just to know You and to make You known, we lift Your name on high!  
Shine like the sun, make darkness run and hide.  
We know we were made for so much more than ordinary lives.  
It's time for us to more than just survive... we were made to THRIVE!***

**Into Your Word we're diggin' deep to know our Father's heart.  
Into the world we're reachin' out, to show them who You are.  
So living water flowing through, God, we thirst for more of You.  
Fill our hearts - and flood our souls - with one desire **CHORUS****

**BRIDGE: [x4]**

**Joy unspeakable... faith unsinkable...  
Love unstoppable... anything is possible!**

**CHORUS**

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\* **DISMISSAL**

D Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C **Thanks be to God, and we will.**

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**USHERS:** Kevin & Wendy Page; Sarah Thomas

**LAY READER:** Tina Robinson

**STREAMING:** Kay Wesson

**ACOLYTE:** Madison McRee

**ALTAR GUILD:** Loraine Gast

**WELCOME:** At Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit! Welcome to worship as we pray to be aware of the Spirit's movement around us here, as well.

**ALTAR WALL FLOWERS** are placed by David & Sharon Johnson in thanks for God's many blessings and in celebration of their 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary on June 6.

**Congratulations** to Eric and Eileen Yearwood on the birth of their daughter Elizabeth Hope Yearwood. Elizabeth Hope was born at 6:00 AM on Sunday, May 30, 2022. She weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and was 20 inches long. Proud grandparents are Marilyn and James Yearwood.

♥ **THANK YOU** to the Women of JOY Bible Study group for the latest cook session for Meals to Heal. A special "Thank You" to Ruth Poncik for making cookies and Terry May for making cakes for desserts for our meals. Our freezer is full again! Please let Terri Brasher know if anyone in our congregation or community is in need of a meal (979-732-1127). – *Terri Brasher*

**Thank You!!** We want to thank the St. Paul congregation members for their prayers and for the Meals to Heal that were given to us. Thank you to Pastor Alan for visiting Eugene in the hospital and also to our daughters for their visits in the hospital and their care. – *Chris and Eugene Schobel*

\*\* **REMINDER!!** *Pastor Alan will be on sabbatical during the months of June and July, 2022. In case of an emergency, please contact Deacon Sandye Fletcher at 979-530-8368. \*\**

**COLLECTION OF OFFERING:** Offering for the worship services is collected before and after worship. Offering bowls are placed in the back entrance and inside the side sanctuary door for you to place your offering in. This includes "Power of One" dollars.

**Amount needed for average weekly budgeted expenses:** \$8,405.00

**Attendance:** May 28 & 29, 2022 – 155

**Contributions:** May 28 & 29 – \$5,801.18

**Power of One:** May 28 & 29, 2022 – \$52.15

**Building Fund:** May 28 & 29 – \$795.02

*Thank you to those who contributed to last week's offerings. Loving God/Loving Neighbor.*

**ATTENTION:** Names on the prayer list in the bulletin will be printed for 2 weeks. After 2 weeks, the names will be removed from the bulletin unless the church office has been notified to keep them.

**\*\* NOTICE REGARDING BULLETINS:** Please take your bulletin home after worship. We will **not** be reusing them. Thank you! \*\*

► **Children's Activity Bags** are available once again for use by our young members and guests! You can find them on the coat hooks in the coat area of the narthex. After worship, **please place the used activity bags and their contents in the receptacle in the narthex.** Thank you! ☺

**Attendance Pads Reminders:** Thank you to everyone for doing such a good job signing the attendance pads each week when you attend worship! Our records are more accurate when you sign the attendance pads. Here are a couple of things that will help get our records even more accurate and up-to-date: **1) When signing in, please write everyone in your family who is attending worship.** When you write "John Doe Family", we do not know how many people that is and we don't know who exactly attended worship. Was it John, Sue and Sally Doe, or the whole family of John, Sue, Jim, Tom and Sally Doe? **2) Please include your address and phone number.** This is helpful especially when we have guests signing in. When they see the members writing addresses and phone numbers, guests are more likely to do the same. We like to welcome our guests by sending them a card after their visit. That is hard to do when we do not have contact information. It is also a way for us to keep up with our members when they have a change of address or phone number. Thank you for taking the time to do these items. Our staff and volunteers who take care of the personal records and oversee attendance records greatly appreciate your help.

**St. Paul Lutheran Church Youth Sewing Camp is meeting every Wednesday from now until July 6, 2022 from 10:30 AM-12:00 PM in The Lighthouse.** Debbie Eaton and her helpers are teaching the students a variety of different stitching techniques. The students will then have the opportunity to show off those techniques through different projects each week. For more information, please contact Stephanie at 979-732-1858.



**Bus Driver Training:** There will be two bus driver training sessions of our *new* wheelchair lift and handicap bus **today, June 5, 2022 – one at 12:30 PM and the other at 2:30 PM** at the church. Please sign up in the narthex (foyer) or call Kevin Page at 979-732-0845. Include your phone number when signing up. If you have any questions, please contact Kevin.



**Senior Explorers are ready for the Harvest!!** Let's go berry, fruit, vegetable and flower picking! We will load onto our new bus at **9:00 AM on Thursday, June 9, 2022** at St. Paul and head to Neal's Berry Farm near Waller. It is an active working farm, and we hope to get a brief tour. Then on to picking huge, thornless blackberries, fruits, veggies and flowers. There is also an indoor farmer's market on site to shop for pre-picked produce and jar items. The picked produce is priced per pound. The flowers are priced by the stem or cup full. We will provide clippers and pay your gate admission. You are responsible to pay for any produce/flowers you want to pick and take home. Then on to lunch on your own at Gaby's Grill near Waller. A Trip Advisor rated 5 of 5! Known for their Tex-Mex and Seafood. Enchiladas to fried seafood and grilled red fish, with Gumbos and Po-Boys! We plan to return to St. Paul by 2:00 PM. **Please sign up in the narthex (foyer) by TODAY,** and call Kevin Page at 979-732-0845 with any questions.



**Beach Retreat!!** High School students are invited to our **Summer High School Beach Retreat** in Matagaorda, Texas **July 28-31, 2022.** Join us for some time at the beach, kayaking, fishing, devotion and enjoying some downtime at the coast. **Cost is \$65 per student.** Contact Stephanie for registration. **Deadline to register is TODAY!**

♥ Neighbor-to-Neighbor Team will meet for their regular **quarterly meeting** on **Wednesday, June 8 at 1:30 PM** in the Church Library. ALL ARE WELCOME. This ministry is a gift of presence, special connections, building and growing relationships and, for some who live alone, a real bright spot in a long day. If you have a few hours a month and enjoy meeting and visiting with others, this may be a great way to use your 'gifts' and share God's love with others. Meetings are held only quarterly, and if you have any questions, please contact Deacon Sandye (979) 530-8368 or DyAnn Lauzon (979) 732-2147. Hope to see you there!!! – *Deacon Sandye*

**We are here to help!** We, as the **Men-In-Mission of St. Paul,** realize that there might be things that we can help assist you with in and around your home. If you need a lightbulb or battery in a smoke detector changed, or need assistance with things you or someone else used to do but can't because it is not safe, physically possible, or they are not around, please let us know. As Jesus taught us, we are called to help and serve one another. Please call Danny Kautz at 979-732-7897.



**Register for Vacation Bible School – July 18-22, 2022!!** Mark your calendars for this year's Vacation Bible School! Join us as we "Go off-road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the Southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead!" **VBS dates are July 18-22, 2022 from 6:00-8:30 PM each evening** and is open up to children who have completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Registration is free, however, t-shirts will be available for \$7 each. Parents may register their students online by visiting [vbspro.events/p/events/stpaul2022](https://vbspro.events/p/events/stpaul2022).

**BE A VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEER!** Volunteers are Needed . . . VBS is a wonderful way to connect with the youth and to share how God has worked in your life. Sharing your love for Christ with the younger generation can be a humbling and rewarding experience and can impact the youth in so many ways. We all have gifts to give no matter what age, and we invite you to join our team. You may register on line by visiting [vbspro.events/p/stpaul2022](https://vbspro.events/p/stpaul2022). Questions? Contact Stephanie Polasek at 979-732-1858 or [stephaniepolasek@yahoo.com](mailto:stephaniepolasek@yahoo.com).

*\* Whenever you have a question about our church, whether it be the facilities, worship services, or just want to know who to talk to about a certain Ministry Team, our **Church Council members** are always there to help, answer questions, and guide us. Posted on the bulletin board across from the church office is a list of all of our hard-working council members and the Ministry Teams they work with and represent. Please use that as a guide to help you contact the appropriate council member with your questions. \**

● **THE GATHERING:** The Gathering, a young adult group, meets twice a month for food, fellowship and devotions led by Stephanie and Bradley Polasek. **They meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8:00 PM** at the Polasek Residence and different venues in town. For more information, contact Stephanie at 979-732-1858.

♥ **Grief Support Group:** Are you experiencing grief from the loss of a loved one, loss of a job, loss of friend who has moved? The Grief Support Group is a place to share and discuss these issues with other individuals. The group meets the **third Thursday of each month from 5:30-6:30 PM in the church library**. For questions or more information, contact Peggy Geisler at 979-732-0350.

#### **SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:**

<b>Today (June 5) –</b>	<b>Deadline to Register for HS Matagorda Trip!!</b> 12:30 PM – Bus Driver Training 2:30 PM – Bus Driver Training
<b>Mon., June 6 –</b>	9:30 AM – Staff Meeting 6:00 PM – Evangelism Team (library)
<b>Tues., June 7 –</b>	12:00 PM – Noon Bible Study (library) 5:30 PM – Prayer Team (library) 6:30-8:00 PM – The Gathering
<b>Wed., June 8 –</b>	9:30 AM – CLA Chapel 10:30 AM-12:00 PM – Sewing Camp (Lighthouse) 1:30 PM – Neighbor-to-Neighbor Quarterly Meeting (library)
<b>Thurs., June 9 –</b>	5:00 PM – Worship Team (library)
<b>Fri., June 10 –</b>	10:30 AM – Adult Bible Study (library)
<b>Sat., June 11 –</b>	7:00 PM – Holy Communion Worship
<b>June 12-17 –</b>	Confirmation Students & Sponsors to Sky Ranch Camp, Colorado

**Next Sun., June 12 –** 9:00 AM – Holy Communion Worship  
10:00 AM – Adult Sunday School  
11:05 AM – Holy Communion Contemporary Worship

#### **UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS**

**Sunday, June 5, 2022 Boniface, Bishop of Mainz, missionary to Germany, martyr, died 754**

Boniface was a native of England who became a Benedictine monk and was called to missionary work among the Vandal tribes of Germany. With fellow workers, he established churches and schools, and he also worked to reform the church.

**Tuesday, June 7, 2022 Seattle, chief of the Duwamish Confederacy, died 1866**

Noah Seattle led a coalition of tribes, and convinced them to live peacefully with encroaching white settlers. When he became a Roman Catholic, he held morning and evening prayer with his tribe. The city of Seattle is named for him.

**Thursday, June 9, 2022 Columba, died 597; Aidan, died 651; Bede, died 735; renewers of the church**

These three monks from the British Isles helped keep the light of learning alive during the Middle Ages. Columba founded three monasteries off the coast of Scotland. Aidan was a pastor who led people to works of charity. The Venerable Bede was a Bible translator, historian, and hymnwriter.

**Saturday, June 11, 2022 Barnabas, Apostle**

Barnabas was not numbered among the twelve apostles, but the book of Acts gives him that title. After Paul was converted to Christianity, Barnabas welcomed him to Jerusalem, and later the two traveled together on missionary journeys.

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**PSALM:** Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

<sup>24</sup>How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. <sup>25</sup>Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great. <sup>26</sup>There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it. <sup>27</sup>All of them look to you to give them their food in due season. <sup>28</sup>You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things. <sup>29</sup>When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. <sup>30</sup>You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth. <sup>31</sup>May the glory of the LORD endure forever; O LORD, rejoice in all your works. <sup>32</sup>You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke. <sup>33</sup>I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being. <sup>34</sup>May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the LORD. <sup>35b</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!

**OTHER READINGS:** Romans 8:14-17

*Here Paul speaks about the mystery of baptism: through the Holy Spirit we are claimed, gathered, and welcomed into Christ's body, the church. And we receive a new name in our adoption: child of God.*

The reading begins:

<sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

**SERVICE OVERVIEW: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?**

*"What does this mean?"* the devout ask. For those gathered in that house, the event meant the birth of sudden, surprising, unmerited new life. Filled with the Holy Spirit, they burst from the house with a story to share about God's wonders. *But what does this event of Pentecost mean for us, today, many centuries later?* God is at work here, now, in the world. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, God is walking alongside as friend, truth-teller, comforter, and guide.

The writer of John's gospel speaks of it in this way: the Advocate, the one whom the Father will send, will teach the disciples everything they need to know. God is not yet finished revealing who God is, and the disciples (just like us) are not yet finished learning. Through the Spirit of truth, the disciples will do the work of Jesus, and his life will continue through them.

In holy baptism, the Spirit rests on the heads of young and old alike. Filled with the Holy Spirit, the baptized have an old, old story to tell of Jesus and his love - and a new, new story of how God is birthing sudden, surprising, and unmerited new life all around us, every day. God is at work, here, now in the world through the lives of everyday Christians. Jesus' work continues through the lives of all the baptized. We discover meaning from this Pentecost story today, not only for our own sake but for the sake of the world that so hungers for this life.

**THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION:**

It is Pentecost! The fiftieth day of Easter. We keep the resurrection of Christ by celebrating the Spirit of the risen Christ in our midst. Jesus Christ has not gone away but is here with us. Welcome to worship! Stand to greet him. Hear his words in the gospel reading. Share in his body in the meal with everyone in every land, every culture, and every language.

We are shaped by culture with lenses of language and understanding that are constantly shifting. We can become frustrated with "political correctness" or confused about how we might refer to people who are different from us. We throw our hands up in the air because some language isn't accepted, received, or perceived in the same way it used to be. The Pentecost story finds the Holy Spirit speaking through the Galileans to a whole collection of other languages and cultures. How might this text be used as an opportunity to explore God's presence in the shifting language in our world? Specifically, how can you see the Holy Spirit at work in language that you perceive

negatively? Can you see through the lens of your personal perceptions to see the Holy Spirit at work?

We may live in the same community, a few door down from each other, but not speak the same physical or cultural language. This keeps us separated and divided from each other. The good news, though, is that the Holy Spirit breaks down those barriers. When God sends forth God's Spirit, all living things are created and the earth itself is renewed. The Day of Pentecost invites us to consider what it means to be filled with the Spirit, the very breath of God, and how we can renew the face of the earth together as God's people. People from all religious, racial, ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds are called to do this work. Let the Holy Spirit work through you to speak in a united voice for all people. We, with our gifts, are put here at this time for this purpose.

God sends the Spirit into the gathered community so that it can know the truth of Christ's resurrection. We embrace John's description of the Advocate into our understanding of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is given as the link between the community and God.

**KID STUDY:**

We see road construction signs all over the place. They are colored bright orange on purpose to draw our attention to them. Sometimes, we see a sign that says, "Road Work Ahead" or "Workers Ahead" but there is no evidence of construction. Other times, we don't need an orange sign to know road work is happening if there are piles of dirt, freshly laid asphalt, heavy equipment, construction cones, sand bags, or workers present on the roadway.

Think about God's kingdom like a construction zone. We are working for God like the workers constructing the roadway. The work we do is like the orange signs that point to a construction zone, except we are drawing attention to God's grace. Our works act as the construction of God's grace in the world, building connections with people. We share love, care, and God's grace as we do this work.

**INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION:**

*It is the divine way to be seen, or to be described, under the appearance of fire. Moses had seen fire in the bush. The bush was on fire, yet it was not burnt. So the Lord might show us by this mystery that Christ would come to cast light on the thorns of our body, that he would baptize in the Holy Spirit and in fire, and that he would give us grace and destroy our sins. And Gideon, when he was about to defeat the Midianites, commanded his three hundred men to carry burning torches in their pitchers. Our bodies are pitchers, formed from the clay of the earth, that burn with the fire of spiritual grace and bear witness with the voice of confession to the passion of the Lord Jesus. Also in the Acts of the Apostles the Holy Spirit descended upon the faithful in the image of fire. This is a fire which, as with gold, makes what is good better and devours sin as stubble. As the Spirit is the light of the divine countenance, so also is the Spirit the fire that burns before the face of God. - Ambrose [Ambrose, in Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers, II, p. 13.]*

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**Next Week's Theme (June 11 & 12):** Holy Trinity

**Next Week's Scriptures (June 11 & 12):**

**First Reading:** Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

*"Wisdom rejoices in the creation."*

**Psalm:** Psalm 8

*"Your glory is chanted above the heavens." (Ps. 8:2)*

**Second Reading:** Romans 5:1-5

*"God's love poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit."*

**Gospel:** John 16:12-15

*"The Spirit will guide you into the truth."*