



St. Paul's Monthly Messenger

June, 2026

Pastor's Notes:

Singing with Gusto

Since our organ should (prayerfully) be returning this month, I thought I would reprint my article encouraging singing in the church.

What is the point of singing in the church? We know that some of us like to sing, some tolerate it, and some would rather do without. Yet singing is not something that God has left us as only a decoration or preference, but a gift of great benefit in our spiritual lives.

St. Paul writes in Colossians 3:16, "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." This verse should clarify our motives for singing in church. St. Paul is speaking about singing alongside many other actions and attributes which are found among Christians. Here in this verse, "teaching and admonishing each other in all wisdom" is found in the same category. Both teaching and singing are ways in which the "Word of Christ" dwells in us "richly."

To have the "Word of Christ dwell in you richly" is the center of the Christian life. We live "not by bread alone, but by every Word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). We know as Lutherans that we "cannot by our own reason or strength" come to Jesus, but we are saved by faith (Small Catechism, Creed, Third Article). Faith is a trust in the promises of God, which we can only know by hearing His Word. Our very salvation comes by the Word of God, in preaching and in the sacraments, given for us. So too, our life in Christ proceeds from this salvation, as we bear fruit in good works. Therefore, if "singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs" is a way in which the Word of Christ dwells in us, it is a gift we should embrace.

Compare it with "teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom." We understand more readily that teaching is essential to our faith. We need to be taught the Word regularly. We need to teach the Word to our children. For "how can they believe who have not heard?" (Romans 10:14). St. Paul applies singing in the same way. Just as teaching is essential to the Word of Christ dwelling in us, so is singing those psalms and hymns. Why else would God give us an entire large book of songs (the Psalms!) in the middle of our Bible? Like teaching, singing is an essential part of the life of the Church, likewise done for our spiritual fulfillment and strengthening of faith.

One reason many people do not like singing is because they never do it outside of church. The radio and all its children have taken over our ears. It seems like only those who are professionals and perfectly mixed in studios have the right to sing. Compare this to teaching - do we teach our children the faith because we want to be known as teacher of the year? Do we admonish one another to godliness for recognition? In the same way, our singing is not done as a performance, or because we sound great. It is a sacrifice of praise to God and a way for the Word of God to dwell in us. God is much more pleased when the tone-deaf person sings "A mighty fortress is our God" and trusts in God to be his fortress than when the Mormon Tabernacle Choir gives a stunning world-class rendition as only a performance.

So, this Sunday, sing out with gusto! Whether you love to sing or not, Christ has many more gifts to give than you realize. He wishes for his Word to dwell in you richly through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs which boldly profess his saving work.

NEWS AND NOTES

Manna: Order forms are available on Sunday, June 7, orders with payment are due on June 17, and orders can be picked up on June 24.

June Mission Offering: Issues, Etc.

Reminder - Doors will be locked for safety after the opening hymn for our Sunday services. The elder on duty will be monitoring the doors for anyone who might show up after they are locked. You can also ring the doorbell if you can't get in. Thanks for your understanding.

Joliet Slammers Game – Do you enjoy baseball? Our Savior in Joliet is hosting a Joliet Slammers night on Sunday, August 2, at 1:05 pm, and has invited other churches in the circuit to attend as well. Cost is \$10 per person and \$5 for kids 12 and under. If you would like to attend please give payment to Laura Wetherbee. Payment needs to be made by Sunday, July 19.

June EVENTS

Lunch with Pastor: There will be no lunch with Pastor in June.

Long Range Planning – Next long range planning meeting will be Saturday, June 20 at 9 am.

Culver's Giveback Day June 18th 4-7 PM



Dine in or Drive thru at Culver's 15940 S.Farrell rd Lockport on Thursday
June 18th anytime between 4-7 PM.

**You must mention St Paul's Lutheran Church when ordering
and 10 to 15% of proceeds will be donated to St Paul's**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Rummage Sale



Two Day Sale!

**Friday, June 5
(9 am – 3 pm)**

**Saturday, June 6
(9 am – Noon)**

**Saturday is fill a
bag deals and ½
price large items.**

It's time for some spring cleaning! Clean out your closets, basements, spare rooms, garages, and storage units. Bring unwanted treasures to St. Paul's for our rummage sale! Sales will go toward paying for the organ renovation.

Drop-off dates for donations:
Monday, June 1 (9 am to 3 pm)
Tuesday, June 2 (9 am to 3 pm)
Wednesday, June 3 (Noon to 6 pm)

Sign ups will be available soon to help with set up and running of the sale. Contact Laura Wetherbee for more information

T-shirts are available for all volunteers on the table in the hallway by Bezold Hall



Happy Baptismal Birthday

Lucille Colegrove	June 2
Brian Popadowski	June 7
Courtney Richmond	June 8
Richard Anderson	June 9
John Barmann	June 10
Ashley Kantelberg	June 11
Milton Lillie	June 13
Rachel Saxon	June 14
Lois Velemir	June 15
Dana Stasiak	June 17
Skylar Rahn	June 26
Deangelo Jimenez	June 27
Kristina Wojciechowski	June 27
Jerry Hinkelman	June 29
Finnick Mueller	June 30

Waylon Murray	June 2
Carolea Majack	June 6
Richard Anderson	June 9
Kyle Rada	June 9
Penny McSherry	June 10
Jill Briese	June 14
Gavin Popadowski	June 16
Beth Miller	June 19
Rita Saxon	June 21
Teresa Martin	June 22
Zachary Chaney	June 25
Barbara Ferrentino	June 26
Melanie Antonetti	June 30



June 1, 1997	Ken & Olivia Gerk
June 15, 1984	Paul & Paula Thomas
June 16, 1990	Bill & Teresa Martin
June 16, 1956	Don & Charlyne Milligan
June 18, 1994	Mike & Lisa Polinski
June 21, 2008	Joe & Yesenia Land
June 21, 2024	Shawn & Kaysha Murray
June 26, 1988	Vern & Jean Lemke



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

1500 S. Briggs Street, Lockport, Illinois

Office phone: 815-838-1832 - Email:

spchoff@gmail.com

Pastor's phone: 847-971-0848

Email: pastor.antonetti@gmail.com

Website: www.stpaulslockport.org

Like us on Facebook