

St. Pauli News in Detail



Greeting and Ushering

Sept. 4 Ken and Cindy Cedergren
Sept. 11 Meribeth Dicken
Sept. 18 Craig Folkedahl
Sept. 25 Bryan Grove

Sunday Service:

- Light altar candles before service and put out flames after church.
- Act as Greeters and hand out bulletins.
- Usher for offering and communion.
- Tidy up pews after church to make it ready for the next Sunday's services.

September Milestones



Birthdays

Sept. 15 Cindy Cedergren
Sept. 16 Sally Torkelson
Sept. 17 Bruce Mathson
Sept. 19 Wally Torkelson
Sept. 28 Marie Iverson

Anniversaries

Sept. 12 Jim and Evie Johnson

Needed: Birthdays of our children and men, plus anniversaries of our couples.

Wally Torkelson's 80th Birthday!

Open House
St. Pauli Church
Saturday, Sept. 3rd
2:00-5:00 pm



VOLUNTEER!! Our Sunday School Needs YOU!

In order for our Sunday School to succeed, it will require the efforts of *every* member of our congregation. Our Sunday School is essential to the future of St. Pauli church.



Look at the list below, ask for God's guidance and blessing, and let the Board of Education know how you can help.

- Teachers: For a variety of age groups
- Activity Leaders: For leading the students in learning songs and skits that can be performed during worship services.

Board of Education

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Lefse Baking for Fall Supper

"Get ready to turn and roll!"

Thursday-Friday, Sept. 23-24

The Next Step

by Pastor Terri Cuppett

Dear Brothers and Sisters In Christ,

I promise you this letter won't be as complicated as some of the Apostle Paul's letters were; neither will it contain mile-long sentences. We get lost reading them in English, and I certainly got lost reading and translating them from Greek.

First, I simply want to thank you for your shared ministry, your willingness to grow together spiritually, and your eagerness to serve God and God's people. I've enjoyed being in your presence, and having you in mine. Together we have been Jesus' instruments for one another, for people in our communities, our state, our nation, and the world, through our prayers, our gifts and compassion for those in need. We gathered our quarters in the energy bank—it was shaped like a battery—as we stood with Africa. We collected supplies for Minnesotans living in poverty and for those in third world countries who had none. We gave monetary gifts for flood relief in our own country, for food to stock our area food shelf, and for God's Barn Yard, that gives animals to villages to share for daily sustenance.

I want to say a special "thanks" to drivers, including those who drove for hospital and nursing home visits and those who drove for continuing education events, and certainly to all of you who drove for worship services and meetings. We did engage in some wonderful conversations as we traveled, didn't we? Thank you to all readers, including those who read resource materials and those who read sermon notes and other student work, and to those who read aloud at meetings so that I would be included in the discussions. Thanks also to helpers, including those who assisted with record keeping for each congregation, those who helped with worship, with food and fellowship events, with cleaning and repairing the church buildings, with teaching and preparing materials, with coordinating special services and events, and to our homebound, who prayed for us every day.

As I prepare to leave my post, serving as your pastor, I want to thank you for your prayers, your cards, your gifts, and your concern for my future. As you embark on a new part of your faith adventure, I'll be embarking on one of my own. I know our paths will cross often, since I will remain in the area, serving wherever I can.

I encourage you always to remain Jesus-focused in your own shared ministries. Now that you are individual congregations, doing ministry in your own communities, keep your mission of reaching out to others always before you. Ministry is about being servants and not about being served. You are both determined to do ministry, and I commend you for being two persistent congregations. My thoughts and prayers will be with you in the coming months as you make discoveries about your new niche in ministry because of the preparations you've already made through your brainstorming and through your task forces' work. Each congregation is now its own team. Remember, you are God's team. Read the Word, share God's wonderful love story, pray constantly, and live Jesus' way. In other words, "Go teams, Calvary and St. Pauli!"

The next step on our faith journey will not be easy. We are weary from the climb we've just finished—it was quite rocky, wasn't it? But God's Spirit continues to breathe God's refreshing breath into each one of us so that we may serve well on the next part of our journey, too. Yes, we will miss each other. Yes, we will still be searching for a more permanent direction for ourselves. Yes, we will need some time to grieve the physical separations we have made. On this part of our journey, just as we have done in the past, we will carry on in God's strength.

I promise I'll pray for you often. I'd like to ask you to pray for me, too. I must admit my future is still full of searching for my own new niche in ministry. I haven't done as much exploring as you have – maybe I need a task force, too. Whitney will retire as a dog guide within the year. I'm beginning the process of applying for "New Dog." I may return to further education in chaplaincy work. I may find some tutoring work in the local school system. I hope to have pulpit supply, too, though I plan to take some rest time during September. I will send you letters to update you whenever I can, including a picture of New Dog.

Whitney says, "The most exciting part of going to worship or meetings was seeing my friends. I will miss all of you. I enjoyed helping with Sunday School and Confirmation. Take good care of all the kids, and make sure they always know Jesus loves them. Come to my house and visit. Thank you for helping to make the house and yard so beautiful. Maybe I will retire here and live with Mama Terri, Auntie Chris, Corrie, Ruthi, and New Dog. I will always remember the good times of being your church dog. Keep working together as teams, adding your children, youth, and new folks to continue kingdom work. Since a golden retriever often thinks about food, eat God's Word of love eagerly, and don't forget to have food and fellowship time together."

God's richest blessings be yours. Love one another, be compassionate to your neighbors of near and far, and always live in the hope of Jesus, because nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Thanks for being our friends!

Love, peace, and prayers from Pastor Terri, Sister Chris, Whitney, Corrie, and Ruthie.

Minutes of the Church Council

JULY 7, 2011

The St. Pauli Church Council met Thursday, July 7, 2011 at Calvary Church following a special joint parish council meeting in which the joint parish council accepted Pastor Cuppett's resignation. Members present: Faye Auchenpaugh, Arlo Rude, Wahna Smith, Pat Swanson and Jodie Torkelson. The meeting was called to order by Council President Smith at 8:00 p.m.

Secretary's Report

Minutes from the St. Pauli Church Council meeting of June 9, 2011 were read. Corrections were made to include the updated Treasurer's report for June. Rude made a motion to approve the minutes. Auchenpaugh seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Reports for May and June were distributed. A memorial fund CD maturing on August 3rd will be rolled over. June expenditures were \$2,346.95 with income of \$1,951.00 (additional Sunday and Wednesday deposits will be included in the July bank statement). The checking account balance is \$9,185.46 and the total assets are \$77,666.71.

It was noted that through the end of the first six months of the fiscal year, expenses were slightly under budget.

The council was also given a copy of an account summary from our financial advisor, Todd Mack with Edward Jones which showed a 19.79% return since January 1, 2009.

Motion by Rude to approve the report. Torkelson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Old Business

Rude will email the draft mission statement as written by the task force to the rest of the council members and it will be discussed at the July 17th special congregational meeting. A PowerPoint presentation will be given on the 17th. Pastor Cuppett will receive a copy of the agenda prior to the meeting so she can decide which parts of the discussion she feels she should attend before heading to Calvary for their church service.

New Business

There are no landscaping plans developed yet but David Lee, Faye Auchenpaugh and Pat Swanson will meet in the near future to discuss. In the meantime, the weeds will be removed and flowers planted around the church sign.

The columns for the new sign have settled and the sign is falling out of the track. Rude reported that he and Gary Iverson discussed this and Iverson volunteered to make the repairs.

The bylaws for the congregation were distributed. Torkelson will place a copy in the permanent church files.

At the joint parish council meeting Pastor Cuppett resigned. Discussion was held on what paperwork should be completed on her resignation such as the Board of Pension contributions the churches make toward Pastor Cuppett's retirement. Torkelson will send a copy of the Pastor's resignation letter to Bishop Wohlrabe and request that he have someone from the synod's human resources department follow up with us and/or Pastor Cuppett on any termination issues.

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Pastor's Report

Pastor Cuppett will arrange for someone from Calvary to pick her up at St. Pauli on July 17th so that everyone at St. Pauli can stay for the special congregational meeting. She will also plan for a condensed church service on that date.

The pastor's transportation expenses will be submitted to the treasurer before her last day. The copy machine at her home was paid for by St. Pauli and will be returned for its use.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Rude to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jodie Torkelson, Church Council Secretary

St. Pauli Church Council

Wahna Smith, President
681-2796

Jodie Torkelson, Secretary
681-7550

Faye Auchenpaugh, Treasurer
681-3410

Arlo Rude, Council Member
681-3653

Pat Swanson, Council Member
681-5648

Notice

Please contact Faye Auchenpaugh with any suggestions or news items, articles or announcements that should be published in the weekly church bulletin or monthly newsletter. Please give her a **hand written note or send an email to auchenpaugh@gmail.com**

If you would like to be added to our newsletter mailing list, please email your name and address to Faye (as above) or mail your request to her attention at:
St Pauli Church, PO Box 944, Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Rally Sunday

September 11, 2011

Get ready to begin a new year!

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Church Services

All children ages 3-13 are invited to join. There will be activities, songs, gifts and balloons.

Don't forget to join us for church services following Sunday School and for fellowship and food following church services.



Board of Education

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OLD Testament

GOD & HIS PEOPLE

The Beginning of All Things

When God created the universe...

...did he have to sit down and plan it all out first? (And if he did, where did he sit down? He hadn't thought up chairs yet!)

Or did He just think it all up at once?

Did God get out a piece of paper and start drawing out ideas - and then scribbling them out when he didn't like them? Did he try different ideas for things? Like, did God think people might be good with six legs instead of two?

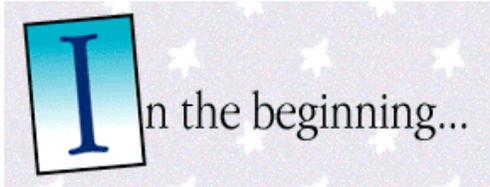
Or, because He is perfect, were all God's ideas right from the very start?

And how long would it take to think up EVERYTHING in the universe?! Did it take a day? Or a week? Or maybe it took forever. But since forever has no beginning and no end, when he finally said, "That looks good!!" and then created everything, there still was forever left.

Or maybe He thought it all up in an instant!

Something to think about!

One thing is for sure, if it weren't for God, we wouldn't be here!



God created the heavens and the earth.

Before there was anything, there was GOD.

Before there was ice cream and chocolate sauce; or popcorn and pop; or computers, VCRs and TVs; or the sun, the moon and the stars - or even space itself - God was there. There wouldn't be anything at all if God hadn't thought it all up.

But God DID think it all up.

But in the very beginning there was no shape to God's creation at all, and everywhere it was black as night.

So God said, "Let there be light!" And there was light.

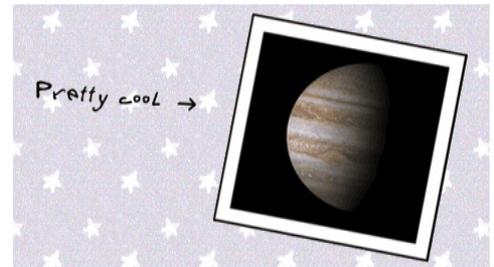
God saw that the light was good, and so he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "Day," and the darkness he called, "Night." And then for the first time ever, there was evening and there was morning. The first day in all of creation had come to an end and a new day was ready to begin.

On the morning of the second day God put the blue sky between the deep waters that covered the earth and the blackness of space. At first, the earth was completely covered with water. There wasn't any dry ground anywhere.

And there was evening and there was morning. The second day was over, and a new day was ready to begin.

Morning came on the third day, and God gathered the waters together and made the dry land appear. God called the dry land "Earth" and the water he called "Sea."

God looked at all that he had made, and he saw that it was good. It was all very good.



Then God said, "Let there be plants on the earth, and all the things that grow!" And all the different kinds of plants and trees began to grow; apple trees and banana trees, grass and dandelions and roses, wheat to make bread, and corn so kids would have a vegetable they would like; but God made spinach and broccoli too.

And God looked at all that he had made, and he saw that it was good, even the broccoli and the spinach.

There was evening and there was morning, the third day. A new day was waiting to begin.

On the fourth day God said, "Let the great lights appear in the sky!" (so we would know when to go to bed and when to get up for school). And just by his word, God made the sun and the moon and the stars. He made them out of nothing at all!

And God looked at all that he had made, and he saw that it was good. (continued on next page)

There was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

On the morning of the fifth day God said, "Let there be swimming things in the oceans and lakes, and birds in the air!" And the oceans were filled with hammerhead sharks and dolphins and whales. And in the sky there were robins and eagles, blue jays, cardinals and yellow bellied sapsuckers. Until then the earth must have been a very quiet place. But not any more!

And God looked at all that he had made, and it was wonderfully good.

There was evening and there was morning, now the fifth day had come and gone.

Then God said, "Let there be animals upon the earth!" God made giraffes, and zebras, and lions and tigers and bears. He made moose with great big antlers, and little gophers and chipmunks and squirrels. He made monkeys swinging through the trees and giant gorillas sitting in the forests eating bananas. He made huge elephants, and he made hippopotamuses rolling around in the mud. How did God think of all those things?!

What a great imagination God has!

Then God said, "Let us make people in our own image" (God said, "us" because God the Father was there, and so was Jesus, and so was the Holy Spirit - but still he was just one God). So God made people in his own image.



When you look at yourself in a mirror, you see an image of yourself. You see a reflection of what you are like. God made us in his image. We are a reflection of what God is like. When God sees us, he sees a reflection of himself.

You are the image of God. Always remember that.

So God looked at all that he had made, and he saw that it was good.

And there was evening, and there was morning, and that was the sixth day.

On the morning of the seventh day God saw that the whole universe and everything in it was finished. Nothing else needed to be made. And it was all very good.

And so God rested on the seventh day. He celebrated all the good work he had done. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy.

What does that mean?

When something is "holy," that means that it is special. It belongs to God. When God made the seventh day holy, he made it his day. It belongs to him. He made the seventh day a special day, different from all the rest.

God rested from his work on the seventh day and enjoyed all that he had made. That is what God wants us to do too. On the seventh day of every week, God wants us to rest and enjoy all that he has made. That way we will always remember that all good things come from God.

God made everything there is, and he made it to be good. Always remember that.

Next time...
"GOD'S GREEN THUMB"

Items Needed for Missions

While WELCA is the **vehicle** for donating to missions, everyone in the congregation is encouraged to participate. Keep this list tucked somewhere in your mind, your wallet, your pocket or your purse and the next time you see some of these items, pick them up. You don't need to bring everything that goes in a kit, if you want to focus on certain pieces instead. If you can't find your list, you can always pick up a new one at the back of the church.

You can even be a part of the kit assembly process. It is fun and very satisfying to see how much we are able to accomplish by the time the boxes are ready for shipment. **Items should be brought to the church before the October 26th WELCA meeting** when we will assemble the kits for shipment in early November.

School Kits

- 4 – 70-sheet notebooks
wide or college-ruled
paper (no loose-leaf paper)
- 1 – ruler with centimeters on
one side and inches on other
- 1 – pencil sharpener
- 1 – blunt scissors
- 5 – unsharpened #2 pencils with
erasers
- 5 – ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- 1 – box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 1 – backpack (no standard
backpacks; WELCA ladies
sew these)

Sewing Kits

- 2 – pieces of cotton or cotton-blend
fabric (no knits or polyester).
Fabric should have no holes
or stains.
 - 2-1/4 yds of 60" fabric
 - 3 yds of 44" fabric
 - 4 yds of 36" fabric
- 2 – spools of matching or neutral-
colored general purpose thread,
240-300 yards each.

Additional Items to Save

- ✓ “Boxtops for Education” from hundreds
of products found in your grocery store.
Each Box Tops coupon is worth 10 cents
to our local schools.
- ✓ Postage stamps. Be sure to leave at
least one-fourth inch around all sides.

Personal Care Kits

- 1 – light- or medium-weight
bath-sized towel, dark color
 - 2 – bath-sized soap bars
(4 to 5 oz.), any brand, in
original wrapping
 - 1 – adult-sized toothbrush in
its original packaging*
 - 1 – sturdy comb
 - 1 – metal nail clippers
- * Toothbrush multi-packs may
be used. WELCA will open and
seal these individually in a
#10 envelope

Soap

Lutheran World Relief
accepts new bars of any
brand soap, in their original
wrapping. All bar sizes are
accepted; however, bath
sizes are highly preferred.

Baby Care Kits

- 2 – lightweight cotton t-shirts
- 2 – long or short-sleeved gowns
or sleepers (without feet)
- 2 – receiving blankets, cotton
or flannel*
- 4 – cloth diapers
- 1 – jacket, sweater or sweatshirt
with a hood (or baby cap)
- 2 – pairs of socks
- 1 – hand towel, dark color
- 2 – bath-sized bars of Ivory
soap in original wrapping
- 2 – diaper pins or large safety pins

* You may also donate lightweight
flannel yard goods or used t-shirts
with no stains or lettering. WELCA
ladies use these to sew diapers.

Sizes may be up to 24 months.
Gently used, clean items (no stains
or tears) can be substituted for new.

Violence Intervention Project

(If you wish, you can get a tax-deductible receipt)

- Curling irons/hair dryers
- Towels/wash cloths/toilet paper/Kleenex
- Waste baskets
- New hair brushes
- New women's deodorant
- New pillows
- Bed sheets (especially queen)/bed frames
- Wall clock/alarm clock
- Radios/lamps
- End tables/night stands
- Bakeware/mixing bowls/pots/pans/casserole dishes
- Silverware/kitchen utensils/small appliances
- Vacuum cleaners/new cleaning supplies

The Back Page

Mischievous Brothers

Two little boys, ages 8 and 10, were excessively mischievous. They were always getting into trouble and their parents knew all about it. If any mischief occurred in their town, the two boys were probably involved.

The boys' mother heard that a clergyman in town had been successful in disciplining children, so she asked if he would speak with her boys. The clergyman agreed, but he asked to see them individually. So the mother sent the 8 year old first, in the morning, with the older boy scheduled to see the clergyman in the afternoon.

The clergyman, a huge man with a booming voice, sat the younger boy down and asked him sternly, "Do you know where God is, son?" The boy's mouth dropped open, but he made no response, sitting there wide-eyed with his mouth hanging open. So the clergyman repeated the question in an even sterner tone, "Where is God?!" Again, the boy made no attempt to answer. The preacher raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face and bellowed, "Where is God?!" The boy screamed and bolted from the room, ran directly home and dove into his closet, slamming the door behind him. When his older brother found

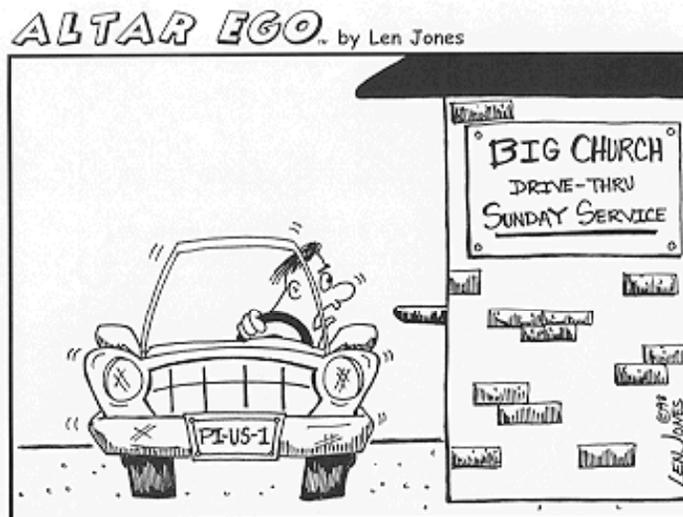
him in the closet, he asked, "What happened?" The younger brother, gasping for breath, replied, "We are in BIG trouble this time dude. GOD is missing, and they think we did it!"

Bible Brain Teaser

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books are not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of the 17, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are the names of 17 books of the Bible in these sentences. (One preacher found 16 books in 20 minutes. It took him three weeks to find the seventeenth one.)

Submitted online by Scott Quinn.

(Answers next month)



"I'll take two choruses, three hymns, one prayer... and one sermon hold the conviction please."