

Voice of the Saints
St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & Lighthouse Preschool
Aberdeen, SD *August 2021*

Refuge and Vows

Psalm 61:5, "For you, O God, have heard my vows; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name."

The authors of the Bible use many different words to characterize God's relationship to us and then our relationship to Him. In Psalm 61, King David will begin by writing of God as a "refuge, a strong tower against the enemy" (61:3). A refuge is a place of safety amid turmoil, war, and destruction. The reason David can confess God as a His refuge is because he knew of God's faithfulness in delivering His people. God had been a refuge to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He had been a refuge to Joseph and his brothers. He had been a refuge to Moses and the people of Israel during their years in Egypt and their sin laden time wandering in the wilderness. In addition, God had been a constant source of deliverance for David himself. The Lord showed Himself to be a reliable refuge, a Lord who kept His promises and kept His people safe.

So, how does David respond to His Lord's faithfulness? By making vows. At first glance, making vows may seem alien to us, but such a response is not as odd as it might first seem. Many remember the "Pledge of Allegiance." What is this but a vow. In marriage, husband and wife make vows of faithfulness and fidelity. Though it is hard for us to believe, you and I are in a better position to make vows to the Lord than King David because you and I have God's revelation of His full deliverance in Jesus.

We call the inside of our church the sanctuary because in church we receive forgiveness, life, and salvation in Word and Sacrament. Through Christ, God reconciles us to Himself and grants us new life in the haven of His grace. In response to these wonderful gifts provided to the Church through Christ, we respond by making vows—baptismal vows and confirmation vows. We do so in deep reverence and recognition that God is God, and we are not; in deep reverence and recognition that God's mercy to us in Jesus is undeserved and yet infinitely valuable. These vows are not to be taken lightly and should reflect gratitude and loyalty to a God who persistently upholds us. Because we are redeemed, forgiven, and secure in the refuge of Christ's love, we should respond the way King David does in the last stanza of Psalm 61, "So will I ever sing praises to your name, as I perform my vows day after day" (Psalm 61:8).

David reminds us that no one or nothing deserves as much loyalty as our Heavenly Father because no one or nothing has done so much to provide us with refuge. Take time to evaluate the loyalties in the life God has given you. Do they reflect the vows you've taken or is there room for repentance and a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to increase your sense of loyalty in response to what Christ has done for you?

In Jesus' name,

Pastor Bobby

Are You Struggling with Grief or Know Someone Who Is? On behalf of the Circuit 1 of the South Dakota District, Rev. Brett Biermann will leading grief share counseling sessions on Wednesdays in the Board room here St. Paul's. Each Wednesday session will begin at 6:30 pm and can be expected to end at 8:30 pm.



Five Loaves Supper for August has been canceled. Help is needed (talent and experience not necessary) — for set-up, serve and clean-up. Call Sally at 225-3731 or the church office to sign up.



A Prayer Service is scheduled for Sunday, August 8 at 12:30pm.
Prayers will be offered for the inactive members.

**Teachers Meeting for
Confirmation
&**

Sunday School

Wed., August 11th @ 6:30pm

**Confirmation meeting
for**

Parents & Students

Wed., August 25th @ 6:30 pm

September 2021



September 1: 5:15pm—Five Loaves Supper
6:30pm—Confirmation begins

September 2: 9:00am—Good Cheer Circle
10:00am—Quilting begins

September 9 11:00am—LWML

September 12: Rally Day—Sunday School begins
Installation of Teachers

September 15 Women's Bible Study—*Divine Makeover*

September 25 Rural Mission Field Seminar

AUGUST USHERS:

EARLY:

, Head Usher
Cora Burrer
Paul Swanston

LATE:

Jason Oberfoell, Head Usher
(Need ushers)

Church Council Meeting
St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
July 19, 2021

The opening devotion was led by Larry Jung.

The rural Gospel Initiative (RGI) was invited in to give a presentation. The main goals of the RGI is to support ministry staffing efforts, ministries to college students, support workshops and training as well as facilitate ideas that will preserve Gods Kingdom. More information can be made available upon request.

The minutes of the June 21' 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion by Steve Jacobson and a second by Tom Agnitsch.

The treasurers report was reviewed and approved with a motion from Nate Bode and a second by Jason Oberfoell.

The Board minutes were reviewed and it was noted by Nate Bode that there was a long list of members that need to be reviewed because of moving. The elders will be making calls from the list and either updating information or removing the names from membership. The Board minutes were approved with a motion by Deb Pederson and a second by Paul Swanson.

Pastor reported that the church is going to move forward with the calling of Ray Anderson and presented a handout about the calling process. He requested that the council read through the handout and come up with questions for a later date. Pastor also reported that on the first Sunday of every month the church will be holding a Matins service.

The church received a request for synodical nominations and Nate Bode made a motion not to submit any nominations based on not having enough knowledge of potential nominees. The motion was approved with a second by Steve Jacobson.

The council agreed to schedule the Retreat/Planning for the new Structure and Governance on August 21, 2021 starting at 4PM.

The church was notified that a renewal was coming due for the copy machine in the office. Nate Bode made a motion to not renew the lease, but rather to get multiple bids to ensure that the church is getting the best deal. The motion was approved with a second from Jason Oberfoell.

At a previous meeting it was voted to order a camera security system from Simplisafe. The cameras arrived and were not what was expected so they were returned. A bid was received from Pauer Sound but was a lot higher in cost and more extensive of a system that was needed. It was a recommendation to look into a Blink Camera system as they are affordable and completely wireless. This information will be passed on to Nate Collins. A final bid of approximately \$2700 was also received for new gutters on the preschool. Based on other projects and expenses a motion was made by Nate Bode to table for a later date.

A motion was made by Deb Pederson to approve a memorial from Sharron Schaffer for \$1100.00 to go to the Parament Fund with a second from Paul Swanson.

Next meeting is scheduled for Aug 16th, 2021

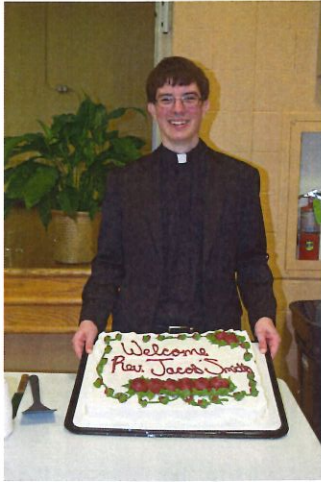
Motion to adjourn made by Paul Swanson with a second from Tom Agnitsch

Present for meeting: Larry Jung, Paul Swanson, Jon Mesmer, Deb Pederson, Jason Oberfoell, Steve Jacobson, Pastor Jacob Smith, Tom Agnitsch, Nate Bode, Pastor Samuel Bobby, Dustin Klapperich

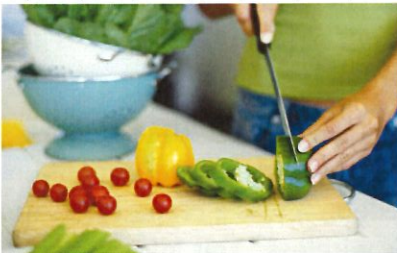
Ordination and Installation

Rev. Jacob Smith

July 11, 2021



Preschool Snack Drive



Help us feed our preschoolers healthy, filling snacks! We will be collecting non-perishable snacks and Kessler's gift cards to help us purchase snacks throughout the year! Please drop off in designated boxes in the South narthex of the church during the month of August. Thank you!

Some Ideas

Vanilla Wafers

Oyster Crackers

Popcorn

Gold fish crackers

Graham crackers

Raisins

Saltine Crackers

Veggie Straws/Chips

Mini Rice Cakes

Cheeze it crackers Applesauce

Canned fruit

Dried cranberries

Cereal

Granola bars

Pretzels

Pudding cups

Ritz

Check It Out!

Take a look at a few of the many activities our youth participated in this summer! (OAFS Trip- bottom left; Youth Pool Day- bottom right)



Upcoming Events

- Higher Things Retreat in Spearfish, SD (August 6-7)
 - A retreat for youth in confirmation. \$40 per person. Return registration forms to church office.
- Jesus Door 2 Door in Rugby, ND (August 20-22)
 - An opportunity for youth to share their faith with the community!
- Youth Service Event in Mina, SD (August 28)
 - From 7:15-10:00 AM; meet at St. Paul's.
- Callings for Life – Tuesday Night Bible Study
 - At 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall for 4 sessions (July 27; August 3, 10, & 17).

Help Wanted!

The Lighthouse Preschool needs your help during the month of August. Please consider helping us in one of the following ways:

- ❖ Pray for our students and their families as well as our teachers, drivers, and aides
- ❖ Consider donating snacks (see the back for ideas)
- ❖ Buy something from our Amazon Wishlist
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/BL15FKXJH2M3?ref=wl_share
- ❖ Donate online via the church's website or to our tuition assistance fund via Cindy Jung.
- ❖ Spread the word that we have a few openings left

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel to share the good news with families in our community!

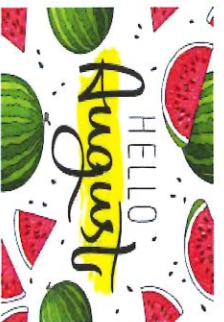


**Lighthouse
Preschool**

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church (LCMS)

& Lighthouse Preschool

Rev. Samuel Bobby (605) 415-5578
Rev. Jacob Smith (586) 556-6077



Every Sunday
Divine Service @ 8am
Bible Study @ 9:15 am
Divine Service @ 10:45 am

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 Neh 12:1-43 Rev 6:1-17 Coin Banks	2 Neh 12:44-13:30 Rev 7:1-8 6:15 pm Worship 7:00 pm Elder Mtg	3 Hag 1; Rev 7:9-17 7pm Calling for Life	4 Hag 2; Rev 8:1-13 6am Men's Bible Study 7am Personnel Meeting 5-7pm Youth Group 6:30pm Grief Share	5 Zech 1; Rev 9:1-21 6pm Board of Ed Mtg	6 Zech 2 Rev 10:1-11 Higher Things - Spearfish	7 Zech 3 Rev 11:1-19 Higher Things
8 Zech 4; Rev 12 12:30 Prayer Service 1:00 Elder Bible St. 2-5pm Dan Wold Foundation Walk	9 Zech 5; Rev 13:1-10 6:15 pm Worship	10 Zech 6 Rev 13:11-18 7pm Calling for Life	11 Zech 7; Rev 14:1-20 6am Men's Bible Study 5-6:30 m Youth Group 6:30pm Grief Share 6:30pm Teacher Mtg— Confirmation/Sun Sch.	12 Zech 8; Rev 15:1-8 Preschool orientation	13 Zech 9 Rev 16:1-21 	14 Zech 10 Rev 17:1-18
15 Zech 11 Rev 18:1-24	16 Zech 12 Rev 19:1-21 6:15 pm Worship 7:00 Church Council	17 Zech 13 Rev 20:1-6 7pm Calling for Life	18 Zach 14; Rev 20:7-15 6am Men's Bible Study 5-7pm Youth Group 6:30pm Grief Share	19 Mal. 1 Rev 21:1-8 	20 Mal 2 Rev 21:9-27 	21 Mal. 3 Rev 22:1-5
22 Mal 4 Rev 22:6-21 12:00pm Youth/ Parent mtg. Food for The Journey	23 Congratulations! You have read the Bible. 6:15 pm Worship	24 7pm Devotional Challenges Bible Study	25 6am Men's Bible Study 5-7pm Youth Group 6:30pm Grief Share 6:30pm Confirmation Parent/Student Mtg.	26 Preschool Begins	27	28
29 5-7pm Youth Mtg.	30 6:15 pm Worship	31				