

Called by Christ to Serve

*St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & Lighthouse Preschool
Aberdeen, SD*

June 2022

Called to Fight

Ephesians 6:10-13

"¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm."

As we begin our deep dive into Ephesians this summer, we come across one of the most famous passages in the New Testament. The armor of God. Yet, despite being a famous passage it is one we need to be constantly reminded of, especially as we live in a world that is becoming more openly hostile to God's Word. So, let us dive in!

First, notice that we are fighting. The life of a Christian is one that is a constant battle. In fact, when Luther talks about baptism he makes the point that when a person is being baptized, they are putting a bullseye on their back for the devil. The devil knows now that the baptized person is his enemy and will do everything in his power to make sure that person comes over to his side. What this means for us then is that we should expect our lives not to be easy. For the devil wants you and your soul and will not stop trying to get it. That is the reality, and this battle does not end until God calls us to be with him or until he returns.

Yet, that does not mean when should be scared or feel hopeless amid this fight. For our God does not leave us helpless but has given us the equipment necessary to go into the battle. He gives us the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the gospel of peace for shoes, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit. He equips us with everything we need to fight the devil and all that he assails us with. However, notice all of this is found in God and what he has done for us. So, in amidst the battles that each one of you are going through lean on Christ and what he has given to you, namely his Word and Sacraments. If we try to lean on our own power to withstand the assaults of the devil, we will most certainly fail. Yet, with the power and help of Christ we with stand firm against everything. So, lean on Christ during your trials!

The second thing Paul reminds us of is who we are fighting in the battle. Obviously, we are fighting the devil but so often we forget that or in other words we forget we are fighting the spiritual forces of evil. As we struggle in this life and with people who are opposed to God's Word, we forget that there is a spiritual aspect to all of this. We get caught up trying to deal with them that we forget Paul's words, "we do not wrestle against flesh and blood". Paul is reminding the Ephesians and us that as we fight against the devil and against people who against God and His Word that we not truly fighting them but the forces of evil that are at work behind the scenes. May we never forget that the devil and all his minions are hard at work when dealing with people or institutions that are against God's Word!

So, stand firm against all the assaults of the devil wearing the armor of God. For our God is with you. He is with in the waters of baptism, in the bread and wine, and in His Word. Do not lose heart despite all the world is throwing at you for God is with you! "But take heart; I have overcome the world." May God continue to bless you and give you the strength as you fight against the forces of evil, Amen.

In Christ, Pastor Smith

Five Loaves Supper



June 1st at 5:15 pm. Menu: Fried Chicken and salad . You may bring a salad or a dessert.

Prayer Service



A **Prayer Service** is scheduled for Sunday, June 12th at 12:30pm. Prayers will be offered for Sunday School student, confirmation students, and connecting with families.

Church Rummage Sale



In support of the youth group's trip to the National Youth Gathering this summer in Houston, TX we are hosting a rummage sale on Saturday, June 4th, 2022. The rummage sale is from 8am to Noon. Thank you and God bless!

Camp Minneboji



Camp Minneboji: June 19—25: 2022's camp theme is "Masterpiece" & comes to us from Ephesians 2:10, which reads "For we are God's MASTERPIECE, created in Christ Jesus to do good works."



Lighthouse Preschool Lighthouse Preschool is accepting registrations for the 2022-2023 school year. Forms are available at the church office.

RGI Representative Needed: The Rural Gospel Initiative (RGI) is a nonprofit organization composed of congregationally elected representatives of Circuit 1 churches within South Dakota District 1 (NE South Dakota) of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod. The foundation's sole purpose and vision is to support Word and Sacrament ministry in LCMS Circuit One congregations and rural communities through gospel outreach. St. Paul's is looking for a congregation member interested in representing our church on this committee. If interested or for more information, you can access the website at www.ruralgospel.org or call Deb Pederson, directly at 605-380-3550.

VBS- June 5-9, 2022

6:00-8:30pm at

Our Savior Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Lutheran will join Our Savior for

Vacation Bible School.

Registrations are due now!

Teachers and Helpers are needed.

JUNE USHERS:

EARLY:

Paul Zinter Head Usher
Bill Menzel
Landal Leonhardt

LATE:

Howard Anderson, Head Usher
Paige Anderson
Nate Collins
MaKayla Collins

Preschool Spring Program May 10, 2022



Great job Preschoolers!
Thanks to Jenelle and
Glenda for a wonderful
school year.



**Lighthouse
Preschool**



Lighthouse Preschool News

Teaching God's children about their Creator, Savior, and Friend while preparing them for a lifetime of wonder, learning, and service.

June 2022

Summertime Announcements:

STILL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS AND GIVING TOURS:

We are still taking enrollments for the 2022/2023 school year! We are transitioning our preschool program to a Junior Kindergarten atmosphere in both our morning and afternoon programs. If you know of anyone with children 3-5 who would be interested in joining our preschool, please let them know we still have openings! (3 year olds must turn 4 by Jan. 1)

JOB OPENINGS AT THE LIGHTHOUSE PRESCHOOL:

We are in need of one or two bus drivers to drop off students in the afternoon. We are also looking for a part time bus aid during our noon hour. Please see the information below if you or someone you know might be interested.

Bus Driver:

Hours: 3:15-4:15 M,T,TH,F afternoons. This position can be filled by one person, or two people can split the days. Must be 25 years old or older. Valid Driver's License, patient and kind with children and their caregivers. Knowledge of Aberdeen community roads is helpful. Background check will be conducted prior to extending a contract.

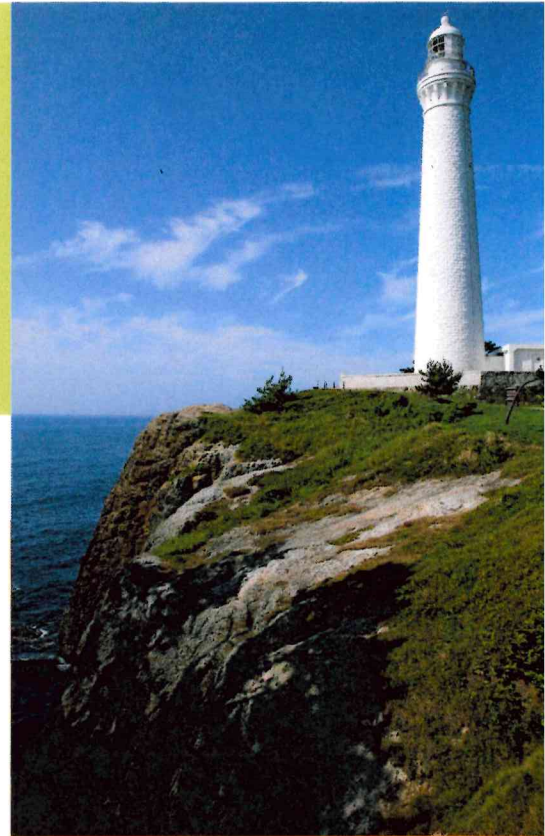
Bus Aid:

This position is for the morning/lunch hour drop off timeframe 11:00-12:00. Applicant will be responsible for overseeing bus safety protocols and walking students to and from their daycare/house. Must be able to lift/assist children in loading and unloading bus. Must be able to pass a background check.

Applications for these jobs are located in the church office or on our website- www.stpaulsaberdeen.org under the Preschool Tab.

“Behold, Children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the Lord a reward.”

-Psalm 127:3



Upcoming Dates:

The activity at the preschool has slowed down quite a bit, but we are gearing up for the next year by:

-Making small improvements to the facility and playground.

-Making plans for next year's school year and considering a unique idea of providing education across the community.

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 @ 9:30 am
 Sunday School @ 9:30 am
 Divine Service @ 10:45 am

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|--|---|-----------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|---|
| 5 4pm Installation @ St. John's Groton Coin Banks V B S | 6 6:15 Worship Service 7:00 pm Elder Mtg AT OUR | 7 SAVIOR | 8 6:00 am Men's Bible St | 9 11:30 am LWML meeting & lunch | 10 | 11 8am—Noon Church Rummage Sale |
| 12 12:30 pm Prayer Service 5-7pm Youth Group | 13 6:15 Worship Service | 14 | 15 6:00 am Men's Bible St 10 am 1 Samuel Bible St | 16 7pm Rural Gospel Initiative meeting | 17 | 18 |
| 19 Camp Minneboji | 20 6:15 Worship Service Camp Minneboji | 21 Camp Minneboji | 22 10 am 1 Samuel Bible St. Camp Minneboji | 23 Camp Minneboji | 24 Camp Minneboji | 25 |
| 26 5-7pm Youth Group Food Cart | 27 6:15 Worship Service | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

Check It Out!

The Jesus Door-2-Door trip to St. Louis was fantastic! We knocked on 1391 homes, 600 people answered the door, 390 of them took our survey. 120 people we talked to (or 31%) were unchurched. Overall, we identified 19 people (5%) who desired a follow-up visit from their local Lutheran church. Praise be to God!



Events and Information

- Church Rummage Sale – Saturday, June 4 from 8:00 am – noon
- Youth Group from 5-7 pm on June 12 and 26
- Camp Minneboji will be held June 19-25
- The National Youth Gathering is July 9-13

FROM YOUR DCE

- Please keep the youth in your prayers as we travel and grow in the faith given to us by Jesus Christ!