

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church September, 2009 'Newsletter'

## The Little Things

Years ago, there was an explanation of why telegraph and cable companies spelled out punctuation instead of using a code symbol for each.

A lady touring Europe cabled her husband, "Have found a wonderful bracelet. Price: seventy-five thousand dollars. May I buy it?"

The man promptly cabled back, "No, price to high." The telegraph operator missed the signal for the comma. The message then read, "No price too high."

She bought the bracelet. The husband sued the company and won.

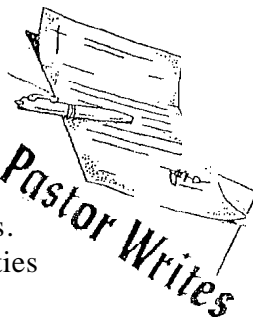
A comma is a little thing. In many cases its presence or absence is unimportant. But there are cases the little comma can change the meaning of a sentence.

A group of men were carrying on a friendly conversation. One remarked he had learned to be especially careful about little things. "Would you believe," he said, "that a little thing like a pair of socks changed the entire course of my life?" "I can hardly believe that," replied another.

"Well, it's true! Once I planned to take a trip with some of my friends on a canal boat, but two days before we intended to leave, I injured my foot while chopping wood. It was only a small cut, but the blue dye in the socks I wore poisoned the wound, and I was compelled to stay at home.

"While my friends were on the trip, a preacher came to our town to hold revival meetings. Since I didn't have anything else to do, I decided to attend. The message touched me and as a result, I surrendered my heart to the Lord. "Afterward I saw that I needed to change my life in many ways. New desires and purposes took hold of me. I determined also to seek an education, for I trusted that this would enable me to live more usefully for my Lord."

The man who made those comments was a former President of the US---James A. Garfield. It's dramatic proof that the little things like a sock often produce important consequences.



## The Importance of Youth and Sunday School

On Sunday, September 13, we will hold Rally Day and a Sunday School Reunion at St. Paul's. It will be a great day with a very special service, with fellowship, refreshments and fun activities to follow. Don't miss it!

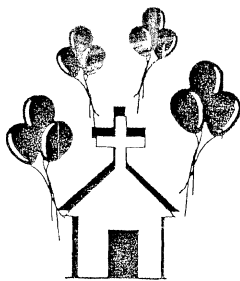
We are holding this special event primarily to honor and thank all of our members and former members who have served as Sunday School teachers over the years. And we also want to emphasize the critical importance of Sunday School and youth programs for the future of our congregation. High quality, active Sunday School and youth programs are vital in attracting more young families with children to our congregation. For too long we have said to ourselves that we have fewer young families in the congregation, therefore we will give less attention to Sunday School and our junior and senior high youth. The opposite must be the case. We must have an active Sunday School program and an active Lutheran Youth Organization to attract younger families. We need more people to volunteer to help with Sunday School teaching and youth advising. Doing so is in the interest of us all, at all ages.

In our Missional Planning we are seeking to give new priority to our youth and Sunday School programs. In the weeks ahead everyone will learn more about our visions and strategies as we bring forth the Missional Plan for the Council and the entire congregation to consider. Stay tuned. In the meantime, come on September 13 to celebrate the training in the Christian faith you received in Sunday School and say thanks to all our dedicated teachers over the years.

*Pastor Bill*

### Worship Attendance

Aug. 2	<u>48</u>	Aug. 3	<u>32</u>
9	<u>31</u>	10	<u>30</u>
16	<u>30</u>	17	<u>24</u>
23	<u>38</u>	24	<u>23</u>
30	<u>37</u>	31	<u>32</u>



To God's Beloved: Paul's Letter to the Romans is the new nine month Bible Study which begins this month. It is written by the Rev. Dr. Sarah Henrich who serves as professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary. This epistle is one of the foundations of Christian theology. Martin Luther called it the most important piece in the New Testament. He even said it would be worth memorizing. If you would like to subscribe to the Lutheran Woman Today, call 1-800-328-4648. Only \$12.00.

The WELCA Minnesota Valley Conference will be holding their Fall Gathering and Workshop on Sat., October 17 at Trinity Lutheran Church, rural Gaylord. Guest Speaker will be Elvera and Orville Trettin who were in Honduras last March as part of the gift of better vision program. Cost: \$7:00 Register by Oct. 12.

- 8:30 am Registration and Coffee
- 9:00 am Opening of Gathering
- 12 noon Lunch



### Youth in the News

Nearly 80 boys and girls participated in the seventh annual Eggstravaganza Pedal Pull contest on August 8. One of the winners in his age division was Beauen Harbarth.

Sibley County 4-H'er exhibited in a wide variety of project areas at the County Fair in Arlington. In the performing arts project Sonja Sprandel was reserve champion and in the indoor gardening she was champion.

Timothy Franke received the Master of Arts in Addiction Counseling from the Hazelden Graduate School of Addiction Studies in Center City, Aug. 20. He is a graduate of the UN. of MN, Twin Cities

### Let Them Know!

If your wife has made you happy, let her know!  
If the meal she cooked was scrumptuous, don't be slow....  
Tell her now while she can hear it,  
It will cheer her wearied spirit. Let her know!

If your hubby did it special, let him know!  
If he expressed his love in action, don't be slow...  
Tell him now, and don't forget it.  
It will cheer his heart-I'll bet it. Let him know!

37,000 youth gathered in New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering to "Change the World." In an attempt to raise \$1 million dollars to end world hunger and poverty, the youth donated their own change totaling \$154,488 at the gathering alone.

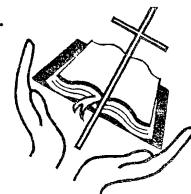
Pastor Kristen Jacobson (pastor Karl) and the youth from Central Lutheran, Mpls attended the Youth Gathering.

### Enter the Bible

Luther Seminary latfched a new Web site---

<http://www.enterthebible.org/>

This site is a free online resource of information about the 66 books of the Bible and their 16 time periods. Since the Naomi Circle is going to be studying the book of Romans, I checked this out. Good back-ground information on the book and the writer and summary of several verses.



### Dates to remember

- Sept. 20 Harvest Blessing Sunday
  - Sept. 20 Tractor Roll-In at Trinity
  - October 3 Hayride Party
  - October 4 Joint "Jesus Justice Jazz" service at St. Paul's at 10:00 am.
- Youth Organization Fund-Raiser

It has been said that at least one half of the people of the world have never worn shoes.

# September

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2	3 1:30 pm Oak Terrace Communion	4	5
6 8:30 am Worship H. Communion	7 <i>Labor Day</i>	8	9	10 12 noon Gaylord Ministerium at St. Michael's	11	12 Ambassadors in Mission at Zion's, Arlington
13 8:30 am Worship Rally Day and SS and Teachers Reunion 10:00 am <i>Picnic</i> 6:30 Church Council	14 9:00 am Naomi Circle Bible Study	15 9:00 am Pastor's conference at Augustana, Gibbon	16 5:00 pm Thrivent's Highway Ditch Clean Up  Confirmation Class	17	18	19
20 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sun School  <i>Harvest Sunday</i>	21	22 Fall Begins	23  Confirmation	24	25	26
27 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sun School	28	29	30  Confirmation			

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