



St. Paul Lutheran Church

“Your Refuge from the Storm”

St. Paul Weekly Newsletter for June 16th 2024 Family Portrait: Family Dynamics

MATTHEW 20:1-16

In our scripture lesson for Sunday we have a similar kind of seeming unfairness. The owner of the vineyard pays his workers the same wage regardless of how long they worked, and, of course, those who worked a long, hard day are envious of those who only worked part of the day. Envy is one of the seven deadly sins. Envy can twist us into something other than what we were created to be. As we worship Sunday, we'll explore “Family Dynamics.”

Last Sunday

Worship Attendance: #39

Thank you for your faithfulness! Working towards our goal of 50 in worship weekly!

This Week at St. Paul

Friday, June 14th

5:30pm – **LifeGroup adult Bible study** in the “Lounge Room” in Springhill Hall. All are welcome members and friends of St. Paul.

6:30pm – **AA meeting** in the Fireside Room.

Saturday, June 15th

Pray for our Sunday worship services.

Pray for those who have fallen away from worshipping in our community.

Sunday, June 16th - Happy Father's Day

10:00am – **Worship**. Please note that we will be worshipping in Springhill Hall; use the side door that faces the church building.

11:00am – Fellowship meal for Father's Day and Godspeed for the Scott family.

11:15am -- **LifeGroup adult Bible study** in the Fireside Room.

Wednesday, June 19th

7:00am – **Prayer breakfast** in Springhill Hall. Gather to pray for our church, for our community, and for lifting up the needs of others. Anyone is welcome to cook! Setup for breakfast begins at 6:00.

For more information contact Bill Barker at whbarker40@gmail.com.

Friday, June 21st

5:30pm – **LifeGroup adult Bible study** in the “Lounge Room” in Springhill Hall. All are welcome members and friends of St. Paul.

6:30pm – **AA meeting** in the Fireside Room.

Saturday, June 15th

Pray for our Sunday worship services; Pray for revival for St. Paul.

Special Fellowship Events

- ❖ June 16: Father's Day; we will be serving beef brisket! Godspeed to the Scott family.
- ❖ June 23: National Chocolate Éclair Day (*observed*); a perfect pairing with coffee and good conversation.
- ❖ July 14: Mac and Cheese Day.
- ❖ July 28: National Chicken Wing Day.

Ongoing Fellowship Opportunities

- ❖ Start your Sunday rest with fellowship time after Sunday worship.
- ❖ LifeGroup, our adult Bible study class, meets after worship. There is also a LifeGroup meeting on Fridays at 5:30; contact Pastor Dave for more information. LifeGroup study sheets are available.
- ❖ Early birds are welcome at our Wednesday prayer breakfasts in Springhill Hall. Breakfast is served at 7:00. Anybody is welcome to cook! For details, contact Bill Barker at whbarker40@gmail.com.
- ❖ If you want to join our book club, contact Lynn Devlin at jldevlin@gci.net. All are welcome.
- ❖ Volunteers are welcome to assist with worship services! Let Pastor Dave know or email the church office at stpaulkodiak@gmail.com.
- ❖ If you would like to provide flowers for the altar in celebration of a special time in your own or someone else's life or to mark a memorial, add your name to the flower chart on the wall or let Debbi Canavan know at dcanavan@gci.net.

Community Service

- ❖ St. Paul volunteers cook for the Kodiak Area Mentorship Program and the Brother Francis Shelter. To sign up or for more information, contact Karen Winkler at 907-942-1315 or karenwinkler2014@gmail.com.
- ❖ St. Paul's Kim Miller Fund provides fuel oil to households in need in partnership with Petro Marine Services. To make a tax-deductible donation to the Fund, make a contribution to St. Paul and include a note that it is for the Kim Miller Fund.

Spiritual Growth

- ❖ **LifeGroup**, our adult **Bible study** class, meets after worship and Fridays at 5:30pm.
- ❖ **Prayer Breakfast** meets Wednesday's at 7:00am (come at 6am to help cook).
- ❖ Christian faith is strengthened when we make it an "every day" practice that involves daily moments of reflection and listening for God. If you would like a suggested course of personal study and prayer during the week, see the handout "Daily Walk on the Rock" on the same table as the LifeGroup study sheets and bulletins.
- ❖ **Worshipping** weekly is something we get to do. We worship every Sunday at 10:00am and other special times.

Going Deeper - MATTHEW 20:1-16

At first blush, it is easy to identify with the servants who have worked all day long, and their hard feelings toward the owner of the vineyard. It does not seem fair that they are paid the same wage as those who only worked part of the day.

Notice the vineyard owner's motivation in this text. The owner, out of generosity, wants to help others earn the daily wage necessary to meet their needs. God wants all people to be able to earn what they need, and seeks throughout the day to help that happen for people.

The landowner's second motivation is revealed in his comments to people he finds in the marketplace. His question is telling: "Why are you standing here idle all day?" He wants everyone to be productive at work, not standing idle. No matter when they begin their work, the landowner is pleased that they are contributing rather than unproductive.

Once again, God's motivation for all people is revealed. God wants for us to invest ourselves in work, and not remain dormant. Dormancy creates many different problems: low self-esteem, destructive behaviors, hopelessness, etc. God wants people to thrive and live. Putting us to work is an important agenda for God.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Please Pray for Health and Healing for...

Bill and Ann Barker and their son Erin	Those with addictions to alcohol and drugs
Kim Smead	The Hansen family
Amanda Barta	Rose and Mike Dolph
Emer Bajuclos	Jim Devlin
Joe and Mart Beth Symonoski	Bill Vogt and Karen Winkler
Linda Covert-Mosier	Baby Evie
Ross Omlid	The family and friends of Larry Ellsworth
Lena	Sharon
Denise York	The Vogel family
Ava	The Cuello family
The family of Sawyer Cipolla	Karin Stahlhut
Matthew	Chastity
Liane Dierich-Erwin	Amy & Eric
The family and friends of Lynn Bash	The family and friends of Charlotte Ferris
Jerry	Peace in the Middle East
Tim	Judy Starrett
George and Dria Holloway	George Lare and his family
Greg Culver	All fishermen and other seafarers and the Coast Guard
Sue Devers	
The family of Darlene Wilson	

If you would like to add or remove any name for prayer concerns, please contact the Church at the number and email given below or fill out a prayer request form in the church office.

Front Office Hours

The church office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Tuesday through Friday. If you have questions, ideas, or additions for this newsletter, please contact the office by telephone at 907-486-3632, or by email at stpaulkodiak@gmail.com. May God bless you all.

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Daily Walk on the Rock

Week of June 16, 2024

Matthew 20:1-16

Monday

MATTHEW 24:1-28

These verses combine events that would happen at the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. with events that would happen at Jesus' final coming. Compare Mark 13:1-37 and Luke 21:5-36. What events lead the disciples into thinking the end has come (4-7)? What keeps us from being deceived by the false prophets (11, 14)? How does this passage affect your lifestyle? Has your love for God and others grown cold (12)? What does Jesus promise for those who remain firm (13)?

Tuesday

MATTHEW 24:29-51

Verses 36-51 tell us that the day and hour of Christ's return is unknown. In what way was the flood like the second coming of Christ (37-39)? What does it mean to be ready for Jesus' return if we do not know when he will come? What does the story of the wise and faithful servant teach you about readiness (45-47)? About stewardship? Judgment? Responsibility for serving and witnessing to others? How does the knowledge that Jesus will return one day affect your decisions and behavior now?

Wednesday

MATTHEW 25

In this passage, Jesus tells three parables to clarify what it means to be ready for his return, and how we are to live until he returns. In the story of the ten virgins (1-13) we learn that of each of us is responsible for our own spiritual condition. What is the "oil" that keeps your "lamp" lit? In the parable of the three talents (14-30), God reminds us of the necessity of using well all that God has entrusted to us. If Jesus returned today, how much of your talents would he say you are using for him right now? In the parable of the sheep and the goats (31-46), God defines our role in serving others. What do these verses teach us about Christian responsibility?

Thursday

MATTHEW 26:1-35

Verses 6-13 relate to us Jesus' anointing at Bethany. The woman is Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus, who lives in Bethany (John 12:1-3). Verse 8 tells that the disciples are indignant, and John 12:4 singles out Judas Iscariot as being especially indignant. What justifies this woman's act (12)? Why are the disciples, especially Judas, so upset? How does this relate to what happens in 14-16? The woman gives lavishly for Jesus, and Judas wants to see what he can get from him (7). In what ways are you like Judas? Like the woman? What beautiful thing could you do this week for Jesus, or the least of these? Spend some time in prayer.

Friday

MATTHEW 26:36-75

Verses 36-46 tell us about Jesus in Gethsemane. What emotions must Jesus be feeling in Gethsemane? What does he ask of his disciples? Of God? What is God's will (39,42)? What prayer does Jesus model for us here? How are you at praying "not my will, but thy will, be done?" What has been the Gethsemane in your life, a place where you wrestled with God? Who would you want to watch and pray with you the next time you face a Gethsemane? What do you appreciate the most about Jesus' emotions and prayers in this story?

Saturday

MATTHEW 27:1-31

Verses 11-26 describe Jesus' trial before Pilate. (Read also Mark 15:2-5, Luke 23:1-5 and John 18:28-38.) The religious leaders have accused Jesus of blasphemy (claiming to be God), but they need to find a different crime, because that one is meaningless to the Romans. The new charges are: encouraging others to not pay taxes, claiming to be a king, and causing riots. What was Pilate's real concern in this trial? Identifying the Messiah? Hearing Jesus out? Doing justice? Appeasement? Is Pilate more concerned about his wife? His conscience? How does he know envy is a motive (18)? How concerned is Pilate about Jesus' innocence? Who do you identify with in this story: Jesus, Pilate, Pilate's wife, the crowd, the chief priests, or Barabbas? Why? If Jesus came today, who would crucify him? What would be the charge against him? Where would you be? Does reading this passage deepen your appreciation of what Christ did for you? Spend some time in prayer, expressing your feelings to him.

Sunday

PSALM 22

This psalm, written by David, carries us from great suffering into great joy. Despite apparent rejection from both his friends and God, David believes that God will lead him out of despair, and that one day God will rule the entire earth. The suffering in this psalm is an amazing description of the suffering the Messiah will endure hundreds of years later. How do you express yourself when you are stricken with grief, feeling even abandoned by God? Tears? Anger? "Woe is me?" Bargaining with God? Faith in spite of a bleak outlook? This psalm reminds us that others have suffered and felt despair, even Jesus! How does that help you? Spend some time in prayer turning all of your grief, fear, anxiety and pain over to God. "Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you" (1 Peter 5:7).

