



St. Paul Weekly Newsletter for July 28th , 2024

Revelation: “Bitter and Sweet.”

In the universe of our taste buds there are five major groups: salty, sweet, bitter, sour, and savory. When we think of bitter, we might think of a lemon. It has a somewhat sharp and disagreeable taste. When we think of sweet, we might think of honey. We usually associate sweet flavors with a pleasurable taste that might come from sugar and some proteins. Bitter and sweet. Lemon and honey. There is a saying that you have to “take the bitter with the sweet,” the good with the bad. As we continue in our four-week series on the Book of Revelation we find ourselves in the 10th chapter of Revelation, and we find a word from heaven that is both bitter and sweet. To live as God’s people is to experience both the bitter and the sweet. As we worship Sunday, we’ll consider how we can live as those who expect the bitter and sweet in life and live into the transforming mission of God in the world.

Last Sunday

Worship Attendance: 39

We need your help! Working towards our goal of 50 in worship weekly!

Updates for our faith family:

Please be aware that Pastor Dave has been called to serve for **jury duty** for the months of July and August. His ability to answer phone calls and to be available depends on if he is actively serving at the time. Please leave a message and he will return your call as soon as possible. This will also affect church office hours for July and August.

This Sunday, July 28 is **National Chicken Wing Day**. Please stay after worship to enjoy conversations and chicken wings. Please bring your favorite chicken wings to share.

BABY SHOWER- Payzley Jane Yelton - Sunday, August 4th 2024, after worship.

For: Baby Payzley Jan Yelton, newborn daughter of Ashley and Gunner Yelton

Menu: Summer Salads (please bring to share) Coffee, tea, punch and a chocolate chip cookie cake! Please bring all your specialness...

Gift ideas: Diapers, wipes, gift cards, babysitting, meal plans and other items to WELCOME the specialness of Baby Payzley, along with her mom and dad into our St.Paul family!

Questions: contact Mary Ann Kondro 907-518-1704

Roof Appeal update: We have received \$49,300 from L.C.M.C. congregations in support of our roof repair project! Please thank God for the wonderful response we have received. Phase one Construction of the roof repair should begin the end of August.

Nadene Ellsworth's daughter Tania has let us know that her mom is now ready for visitors if anyone from the church would like to visit. Please make sure you are in good health (no colds) and keep the visit to about 30 minutes. Please contact Tania to set up a time at 907-654-4904.

Looking for active or retired Coast Guard members to work the **Welcome Aboard Fair** on the Coast Guard Base, August 24, 2024, 2:00pm-5:00pm. Need you to sit at our table where we will provide brochures and answer any questions Coast Guard members may have. Please contact Pastor Dave to serve in this welcoming ministry.

Please make a note that we are no longer receiving **email** from our GCI address. Please bookmark stpaulkodiak@gmail.com as our correct address.

Moments for Mission July

St. Paul Lutheran Church recently received a Thank you from **Kodiak Christian Retreat Center** for our Mission fund donation of \$1599.42. Kodiak Christian Retreat Center board supports the carrying out of **Camp Woody events**. This time of year, this might include organizing and carrying out day camps and overnight camps for K – high school children at Camp Woody. Their letter stated, “We are encouraged by your support and donation.” The funds, “ will be used in our scholarships so camp can be accessible to all who desire to attend.” We are a blessed people to be able to support others as we continue to serve a faithful Lord and Savior.

Bressman International also called Pastor Dave to thank our congregation for Mission Support funds of \$817.67 This organization received international Mission funds. Blessman International works in South Africa with “Children and young adults, sharing God’s love and eternal hope through faith formation and programs to feed hungry children, foster food-secure communities, and offer dignity through basic water and sanitation.” Their work began in 2001 and continues with school, farms, churches in areas near Limpopo province of South Africa. More information on Blessman International can be found on their web site blessmaninternational.org.

St. Paul Lutheran Church continues their Mission funds distribution into the 2nd Quarter of our program year. If you have mission partners you would like to see supported or are interested in being part of this quarters fund distribution please contact – Mary Ann Kondro 907-518-1704 or Pastor Dave, 907-486-3632

This Week at St. Paul

Friday, July 26th

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, July 27th

Pray for our Sunday worship services.

Pray for who you will invite to attend church with you.

Sunday, July 28th

10:00am – **Worship**. We worship in Springhill Hall; use the side door that faces the church building.

11:00am – Fellowship time after worship. **National Chicken Wing Day!**

11:15am -- **LifeGroup adult Bible study**.

Wednesday, July 31st

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, August 2nd

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.

Special Fellowship Events

- ❖ July 28: National Chicken Wing Day.
- ❖ August 4: National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day
- ❖ August 25: National Banana Split 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.
- ❖ **Worshiping** weekly is something we get to do. We worship every Sunday at 10:00am and other special times.

Going Deeper- Revelation 10

The letter of Revelation confronts a society that was steeped in the hubris of Rome and the imperial cult that grew out of this hubris. This included emperor worship and massive building projects to further that worship. The letter implies only sporadic and local persecution. Jews and Christians had a relatively peaceful relationship with their neighbors in Asia Minor. Many of them were wealthy (Laodicea, Pergamum) and living compromised lives with the dominant social order. However, if the visions in Revelation were true, the situation would have to change. Christians would have to be spiritually awakened and confront Rome's divine claims. This would certainly bring persecution.

Our text from Revelation leans heavily into Daniel 12, Ezekiel 3, and Jeremiah 15:16. One feature of Revelation is the presence of two interludes, one coming before the seventh seal is broken and the other before the seventh trumpet is sounded. These interludes give us some idea about how John understands God. The interludes interrupt the relentless pace of God's wrath. God is able to show restraint and complete control. God is not going berserk. God is not "seeing red." John's visions reveal to us a God that is certainly passionate but able to self-reflect.

John was familiar with the Pauline letters and their use in worship. Revelation was a public letter intended to be read as a whole by the community in worship. If we were a part of this community listening to the first nine chapters of Revelation, we would be on the edge of our seats. Plagues have rained down, and still the people do not repent. Now this angel comes. Is there more judgment? This angel must be terrible indeed; the seven thunders are more frightening than ever. But a voice comes from heaven, creating space for God's Word, a Word that is both bitter and sweet.

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 Mary 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
Laurie Johnson	Kyle Hannah
Greg Culver	All fishermen and other seafarers and the Coast Guard
Sue Devers	Irelynn
The family of Darlene Wilson	Sherry Ball
Pat Scheider	Judy Main
Tony	

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.

UNSUBSCRIBE: Send an email by [clicking here](#) and put "Unsubscribe from Newsletter" in the subject line.

MESSAGE NOTES: Revelation: Bitter and Sweet

Revelation is a specific kind of literature called _____..

This letter would have been read aloud, from beginning to end, in _____ at the time.

How could the Word of God that was so sweet on the lips ever get _____?

So why would God's _____ do this to us? John, the writer of Revelation, is describing what the prophet Jeremiah experienced.

Whenever and wherever we come to the _____ of living conformed, compromised and comfortable lives, the Word of God will upset us, stir within us, and seem quite bitter.

Daniel 12:9; 2 Corinthians 12:2-4; Jeremiah 15:15-21

NOTES:

