



St. Paul's  
Lutheran Church

# roclamation

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## Summer Reading

June 2014

By Tim McNutt

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Summer is almost here, even though the temperatures and humidity have visited with us a couple times already. As the seasons go, summer time is perceived as the time to relax. It's the time of year for vacations, sunshine and an opportunity to catch up on your reading. Let me share two reading suggestions that will help you grow in your faith this summer.

**Acts of the Apostles** – For the rest of this summer I'll be preaching through this second work by Luke. (His first book is the Gospel of Luke.) Why not take the opportunity read the entire book and gain the big picture perspective? This will help you to see beyond the Sunday morning preaching portions into the entire stream of what was taking place in the early Church.

**Acts** follows the expansion of the Kingdom of God in the fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit. All of God's faithful promises to bless the entire world are being reimagined as the picture turns beyond Israel/Judea to the ends of the earth. I love the core message of **Acts** – Jesus has been resurrected from the dead! This one physical, historical event is the greatest game changer that ever happened.

As background, the Jews did believe in the general resurrection of all people for final judgment. If you read John 11:24 and the raising of Lazarus from the dead you can see this line of thinking. What the Jews never expected was for anyone to be resurrected now. This was totally confusing to them and they couldn't comprehend the Messiah being raised from the dead and what that meant.

As for the Greeks, they had sort of a dualistic worldview. The spirit world is holy and good. The physical world is evil. Why would anyone be resurrected back into their material body? This made no sense to them as the divine spark in all of us is



spirit, not flesh. Fleshly bodies only lead to temptation, desire and suffering. Who would want to be resurrected back into a physical body? That makes no sense.

But Peter and Paul and all the apostles constantly preach the resurrection in the ***Book of Acts*** because through raising Jesus from the dead, He was declared to be the Son of God! He has come back for His people and calls all of us to be witnesses of His glorious message of God's faithfulness. God keeps His promises.

***Mere Christianity*** by CS Lewis is the other book I would encourage you to check out this summer. Basically, it's a collection of small radio addresses that Lewis gave so each chapter is short and yet powerful. They are guaranteed to help you think better about your faith.

Lots of readers think about this book as a resource to share with those who want to know more about Christianity. Therefore it is a book of apologetics – giving a reason for the hope within us. However, the real power of the book is its ability to help anyone understand their faith better. Its subtitle might even be 'why Christianity makes sense.' It talks about how we know God exists, the question of evil, and more stimulating questions of what it means to know God.

I generally reference CS Lewis at least once a month in my sermons. He's great at taking the complex and turning it into understandable bite sized pieces. I highly encourage you to read through this book at your leisure. The chapters certainly don't have to be read in order and by looking through the table of contents you can easily find what interests you most.

The good thing about Lewis too is that he was Anglican, which means very similar to our Lutheran tradition. Lewis never pushes denominations but is very comfortable reading for people like Lutherans.

"Tim, where do I find these books?"

***Acts of the Apostles*** is located in the New Testament following the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. You can easily read it over this summer.

***Mere Christianity*** can be found in most local bookstores or new or used at an online resource such as Amazon. It's another great summer read.

Blessings on you this summer!

Stay safe in your travels and walk with Christ when you are on the road and away from home! Otherwise we hope to see you each week as we continue to gather around Word and Sacrament here at St. Paul's.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ ,

This past month has been busy month at St. Paul's. Thanks to Diane Nichols, Bob Maxey and the youth group for sponsoring a successful yard sale and to Jimmie Swain for working with the youth the past couple of months teaching them how to build their rockets and then helping them to make a *very* successful and fun "Rockets to Heaven" launch down on our farm. I was amazed to see how high they could go!

We will start the new month of June off with a Sunday School sponsored fellowship potluck picnic on the 1<sup>st</sup>! Having lots of good food and a chance to spend time together is always a good thing! With that in mind, our Building and Grounds chairman, Jason Reithmeyer, has been working many hours keeping the grass around our church cut, especially for these special events. He could really use some help with the grass cutting over the summer, so if you have some hours to spare, please let him know. A signup sheet has been posted in the hallway as well. Everything needed (gas, lawn mower, etc.) will be provided if he knows when you are coming to help, he just needs some people power!

There was more discussion at our last month's Voter's meeting about the possibility of maybe 10 additional cemetery plots becoming available to purchase. Right now we would like to get an idea of how many of our members would be interested in obtaining a plot. If you are interested, please contact me or call the office and give your name to our secretary.

With additional activities, growth in many areas and moving forward on our expansion plans it is very important that everyone take a moment to ask themselves where they can help. There are many areas in the church that need volunteers... the Sunday School, Youth group, landscaping, choir, the nursery on Sunday mornings, helping with the Building and Grounds, the Altar Guild and helping to reorganize the LWML/Ladies Guild to name just a few. Please let me, one of our board chairmen, or Pastor know if you can help and where your interest and skills could be best used.

John Bowling



### Mission Building Committee Report

18 May 2014 from Paul Mehrkam

We are making progress to the design concept of our mission building extension. Originally, we were going to have the building separate from the existing church only connected by covered walkway. One of the potential architect candidates for the job gave us the idea of joining the two together to allow for a common entry and a welcoming lobby. There might be a cost savings when both the main church and ground floor of the new building share costly such as restrooms.

Our mission building team has been canvassing various contractors and vendors for cost proposals. Such cost proposals include the pour foundation and basement, trusses, framing sidewall, roofing, heating and air conditioning, commercial kitchen appliances, and the list goes on. These cost estimates will give us a ballpark figure of how much money we need to raise and finance. We still plan to utilize the borrowing incentives through the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF). As you may had heard in the presentation on LCEF, the cost of the building loan will go down as more congregation members that invest with LCEF.

*Dear Lord, as we continue to work on Your mission building, let Your divine presence bless us with the riches of Your wisdom and grace. Grant that we may keep out of this building project all selfishness, pride, and thoughtlessness. Let Your Word abide among all those that worship and serve here. May we bring honor and glory to You as the head of Your church and source of our salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.* (Adapted from the Lutheran Book of Prayer).

### Thoughts on....Stewardship by Dianne Nichols

"Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a trip. He called together his servants and gave them money (talents) to invest for him while he was gone...." Matt. 25: 14

***"Investing" is considered a long-term endeavor....we invest in our future, our kid's education, our retirement. "Investing" involves a plan. It involves commitment. And it involves faith that what we have envisioned will come to pass based on our investment and God's plan for our lives.***

***What is important to you? What do you invest yourself in? What part of YOU are you investing in the Kingdom of Heaven that is faith-based, long-term and committed?***

"Since then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things....When Christ, who is your life, appears (comes back from His trip!), then you will also appear with him in glory." Colossians 3: 1,2,4

"If not us then Who?

If not me and you?

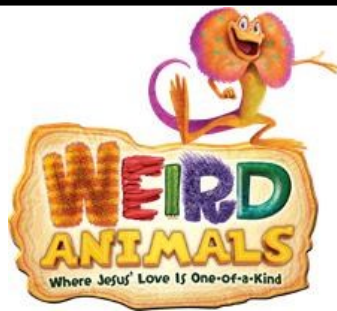
RIGHT NOW—it's time for us to do something." Matthew West.



## Vacation Bible School's "Weird Animals"

We are coming down to the final weeks before St. Paul's Vacation Bible School summer program; "Weird Animals" begins.

Our VBS day will begin on Monday, July 7th at 9 AM and run through Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. The day will end at 11:45AM each day, except for Friday, when we will extend the day and invite all parents and friends to come in and join us at "The Tail End", a celebration at the end of each day that gets everyone involved in living what they have learned, to hear some of the great songs your children have been learning during the week and join in for our closing picnic.



"Weird Animals" is for kids from ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grades. Registration forms are available in the church office or on the bulletin board in the church hallway. If you would like your child/children to attend our "Weird Animals; Where Jesus Love is One-of-a-Kind" vacation bible school program please fill out a registration form and return it to St. Paul's as soon as possible, either by mail or in person to the church office, from 9AM to 1 PM. Forms may also be or placed in Brenda Bowling's mailbox in the church hallway across from the kitchen.

Thank you to everyone who took an "Iggy" donation form off the bulletin board and donated so many much needed items for our program. Your response was overwhelming!!! New items may be posted as teachers hand in their lists so please keep checking the bulletin board.

**FINAL STAFF MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM!!!!**

See you at "Weird Animals"!  
Brenda Bowling and Melissa Chew



VBS July 2014

## MATERIAL NEEDS FOR IMAGINATION STATION

Baking powder

Rubber chicken

Newsprint

Glue Dots

Green washable ink pad

Purple washable ink pad

Wet wipes

Paper towels

Fine tipped permanent markers

Sandwich bags

Balloons

String

Toy tops

Thank you so much,  
Gayle





# Proclamation



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <b>Sunday School 9 am</b> <b>Adult Bible Class 9:15 am</b>  <b>Divine Service 10:30 am</b>  <b>Potluck Dinner 11:30 am</b>  <b>Acolyte: Christie Norton</b>	2	3	4	5 World Enviro- ment Day	6	7 <b>All Youth            Group Relay            for Life—            Leonardtown            High School            4 pm—11 pm</b>  BD: Owen Chew
8 <b>Day of Pentecost and            Confirmation Sunday</b>  <b>Sunday School 9 am</b> <b>Adult Bible Class 9:15 am</b>  <b>Divine Service 10:30 am</b>  <b>Acolyte: Michael Pippo</b>	9	10	11	12   BD: Cathy Moeller	13 Choir practice 6:30 pm	14  <b>FLAG DAY</b>
15  <b>Sunday School 9 am</b> <b>Adult Bible Class 9:15 am</b>  <b>Divine Service 10:30 am</b>  <b>Acolyte: Melissa Werth</b>	16	17  VBS Staff Mtg. 6:30 pm	18  ANN: Gumtow, Jack & Patty	19	20	21 Summer begins   BD: Eric Vogt
22 <b>Sunday School 9 am</b> <b>Adult Bible Class 9:15 am</b>  <b>Divine Service 10:30 am</b>  <b>Acolyte: Nicole Williams</b>  BD: Amy McNutt	23	24   BD: Courtney Beall	25	26	27   BD: Tom Youngson	28
29 <b>Sunday School 9 am</b> <b>Adult Bible Class 9:15 am</b>  <b>Divine Service 10:30 am</b>   <b>Acolyte: Dylan Vogt</b>	30	<div>  <div> <p><i>June is National Candy Month,  as well as National Dairy Month!</i></p> <p><i>On June 14, 1777 the American Flag was adopted by the  Continental Congress</i></p> </div>  </div>				





# Proclamation

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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Email: [stpaulslcmsmd@netzero.net](mailto:stpaulslcmsmd@netzero.net)

**Behold, now is the favorable time;  
behold, now is the day of salvation.**

2 Corinthians 6:2



**THANK YOU!!**

To everyone who helped make the Spring Yard Sale a success. We made almost \$700 to be divided between the Youth Group and the Building Fund.

Thanks be to God who showed His Favor on all of our efforts!! Without Him, we can do nothing.

## Recycling Program for Building Fund

**Aluminum Cans** – Save your aluminum cans during the warm summer months. Please bring only cans; no foil or pie pans.

**Empties4Cash** – Save your used Inkjet printer or toner cartridges. Bring them with you to church on Sunday and place in the box in the Narthex. Only originals that are undamaged and have print heads are applicable. No re-manufactured inkjets or toner cartridges. **Old Cell Phones also!**