



proclamation

And Don't Forget the Worship and Praise

By Pastor Tim McNutt

APRIL 2016

Volume 3, Issue 22

There's an old joke about a visitor at a Lutheran service getting overly enthusiastic during the service and shouting out phrases like "Hallelujah" and "Praise the Lord!" This made the woman behind the visitor respond, "Hey buddy, this is a Lutheran church, we don't 'Praise the Lord!'"

As Lutherans we put a great amount of emphasis on Word and Sacrament and rightfully so. We put focus on the fact that God has called us to His Divine Service that we might hear the Word properly preached and have the Sacraments properly administered.

However, that leaves a gap in our thinking. The Scriptures from beginning to end are full of directives that as we think about how great and awesome the Lord is, we would be a people of worship and praise. As the disciple Peter puts it, ***But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.*** (1 Peter 2:9)

And in reading the Psalms who can ignore the call to worship and praise in those texts?

Psalm 105 - ***Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples! Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wondrous works! Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!***

Two quick thoughts – One is just as we get all excited about the accomplishments of family members or even celebrities at athletics or in the media – we are supposed to be even more exuberant about the Lord! He has created us to give Him thoughtful worship and praise.

It's not enough to come and sing about the Lord, He expects us to come and sing to Him.

The other thought is this – worship and praise is not something to be left up to other denominations or traditions. Singing directly to the Lord is the call and vocation of every Christian of every age and background – Psalm 146 - ***Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.***

One common factor about all of us is that somehow we want the Sunday morning service to be just about our needs and wishes. But the service is bigger than that – it's never meant to be about us or to just feed us or to just keep us happy. **It's about HIM** – we come as He brings us by the Holy Spirit that we might praise Him as He feeds us with His Word and Supper. AMEN.



CHOIR

WHAT ELSE IS THERE?

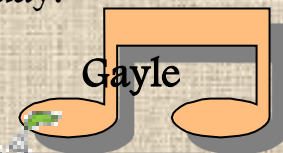
“Christian song is the overflow of the Christian heart.

If our hearts are full, our singing will be full.”

My thanks go out to the very dedicated and talented choir at St. Paul’s.

Our hours and hours of dedicated practices were well worth the effort.

The music that you provided at Holy Week helped to set the tone for the highs and lows of Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday.



“Thank You”
to the Choir

Lois
Bobby S.
Jason
Bobby B.
Janet
Cindy
Meredith
Stephanie
Mark



This was a sign of the times in the US from 1925 to 1963.

In 1925, young Allan Odell pitched this great sales idea to his father, Clinton in which he proposed the use of small, wooden roadside signs to pitch their product, Burma-Shave, a brushless shaving cream. Dad was not wild about the idea, but eventually gave Allan \$200 to try it and it did not take long for sales to soar. Soon Allan and his brother Leonard were putting up signs all over the country. At first, the signs were pure sales pitch, but as the years passed, they found their sense of humor extending to safety tips, pure fun and some good old-fashioned down home wisdom.

Riot In Drug Store Calling All Cars 100 Customers 99 Jars Burma Shave

There eventually were 7,000 Burma-Shave signs stretching across America. The familiar white on red signs, grouped by four, fives and sixes, were always enjoyable for family trips. You'd read first one, then another, anticipating the punch line on number five and the familiar Burma-Shave on the sixth. The signs cheered us during the Depression and the dark days of World War II. However, things began to change in the late Fifties. Cars were faster, superhighways were built for a new faster pace of life, and sadly, the Burma Shave signs began to decay along the secondary roads. By now, all of the highway signs are gone and they remain as a memory for seniors. They had their moments in time. *(A portion of the text is from Internet Research)*

What signs do WE follow today? There are many complete with lurid and tempting displays, sounds and smells challenging our purpose each day. Some may seem OK, but a close examination reveals that most are purely secular messages to tempt us with "You need it now" and "You deserve it." Sadly, their theme is "It's all about me." Considering the above declarations, we may deduce that these are thoughts and desires for those who may not really know Christ.

Jesus on occasions prompted the crowd to "**follow me**". Few did in the early beginnings and even today we are still contending with that challenge to reach the unsaved. We who are in Christ Salvation are also in His life and even His death on the Cross-- quite remarkable as we think of the sacrifice. What sign should we follow today? I say it is the sign of the Cross, an obstacle to the unsaved, but a declaration of salvation for believers. How about a campaign to start a new Burma Shave sign type program to declare to the world beginning with your family and neighbors:

I once was lost

but now am saved

Thanks be to God

Jesus Christ be praised

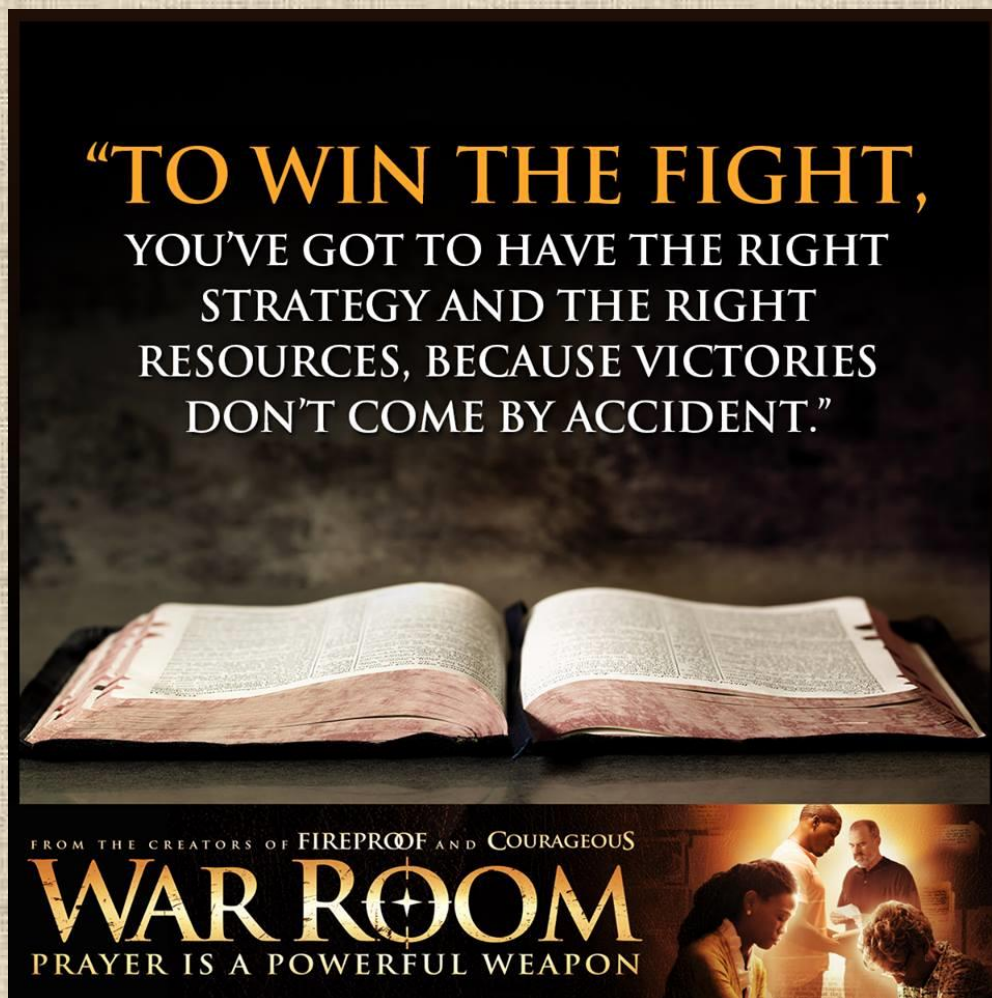
Salvation!

Mission and Ministry

Movie Night – SATURDAY, April 9 @ 7 pm

Join us for

“War Room” – Prayer is a Powerful Weapon



Baby Care Kits



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Page 5

A Baby Care Kit from LWR is like a promise. It says to that baby, Your needs will not be neglected by this world. You matter to us. When you send Baby Care Kits, you provide encouragement by welcoming these little ones into an international community that cares.

Baby Care Kits are distributed as part of emergency and relief efforts, to be sure, but they are also given out as part of LWR health initiatives to encourage women to seek prenatal care. One such initiative in Mali provided training for local prenatal health care workers, who were given Baby Care Kits to distribute when they assisted with births. These kinds of programs help more babies in rural, poor areas receive a healthy start in life. We hope you will join us in this effort!

What to Include

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. Gently used, clean items (no stains or tears) can be substituted for new ones. Wrap items in one of the receiving blankets and secure with diaper pins. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

Include the following items in each Baby Care Kit:



×2 Two lightweight cotton t-shirts



×2 Two pairs of socks



×2 Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)



×1 One hand towel, dark color recommended



×2 Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square



×2 Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling up to 8-9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping



×4 Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred (see the [Diaper Tip Sheet](#) for alternatives)



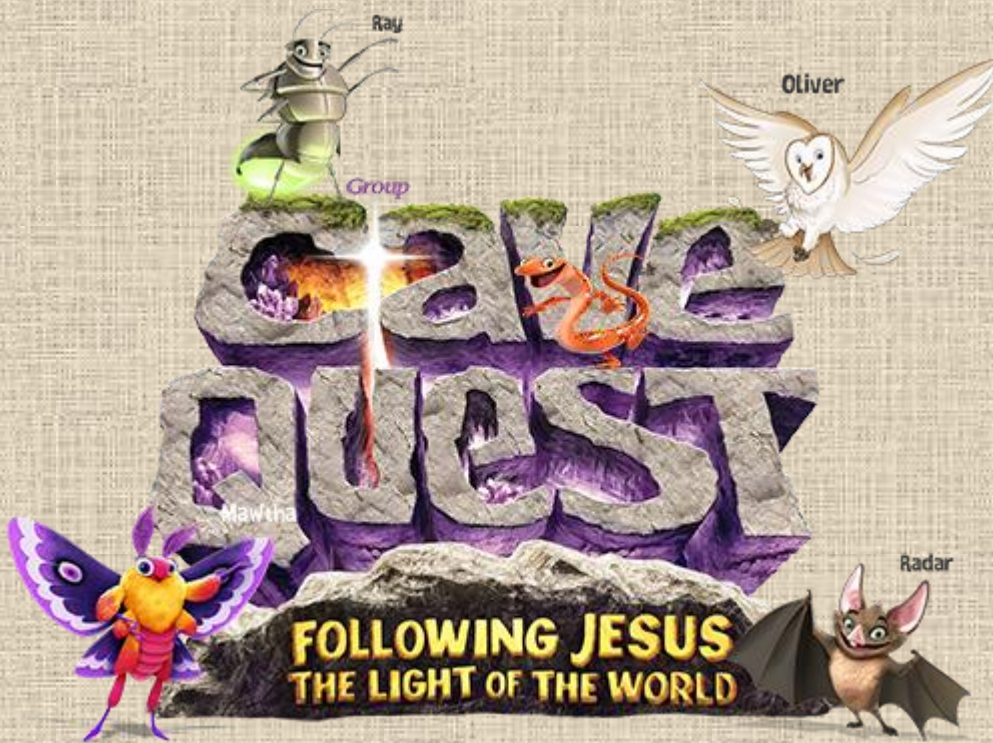
×2 Two diaper pins or large safety pins



×1 One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, *or include a baby cap*

Please include sizes between 6 and 24 months. Varying the sizes of the clothing items included will make the Baby Care Kit useful as the baby grows.

- Sweaters may be knitted or crocheted from leftover yarn, or made from heavy double knits or fleece. Select a pattern that suits your skill level. Preferred styles have buttons or ties down the front.
- Diapers can be made from flannel or even by recycling t-shirts.
- If knitting or crocheting receiving blankets, including one knitted/crocheted blanket and one flannel blanket will provide maximum versatility.
- Onesies can be cut and hemmed or serged to make a simple t-shirt.
- Gowns, rompers or top/pants sets can be substituted for sleepers.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MEETING

Tuesday, April 5 – @ 6 pm

for anyone who is interested in participating this year.

VBS Cave Quest is

June 27 – July 1 -

Please visit St. Paul's **VBS website** to register:

<https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/stpaulslutheran/gpgs/home.aspx>

April 2016

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<u>Birthdays</u> 1 – Nick Drury 1 – Stephen Stowers 9 – Jessalyn Mehrkam 10 – Kathe Vachalek 11 – Betty Ann Wathen 15 – Sally Gheen 21 – Melissa Chew 25 – James Short 27 – Matthew Mehrkam 29 – Gayle Gepert 		<u>Anniversaries</u> 14 – Gene & Cathy Bostwick 			1	2
3 Service Times: 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School – 9:10 am Acolytes 8:00 Dylan Otte 10:30 Mary McNutt	4	5  VBS Meeting @ 6:00 pm	6 Confirmation 6:30 – 7:45 pm	7	8	9 Movie Night 7:00 pm “War Room” 
10 Service Times: 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School – 9:10 am Acolytes 8:00 Danielle Hoffman 10:30 Jacob Gray	11	12  Meeting @ 6:30 pm	13 Confirmation 6:30 – 7:45 pm	14	15	16
17 Service Times: 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School – 9:10 am Acolytes 8:00 Russell Watson 10:30 Nicole Williams	18	19	20 Confirmation 6:30 – 7:45 pm	21	22	23
24 Service Times: 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School – 9:10 am Acolytes 8:00 Emily Maack 10:30 Justin Vogt	25	26	27 Confirmation 6:30 – 7:45 pm	28	29	30 Administrative Professional's Day



Proclamation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

37707 New Market Turner Road

Mechanicsville, MD 20659-3075

Sunday Services 8:00 and 10:30 am

Adult Classes 9:10 am

Office Hours Mon.-Fri. 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Phone: 301.884.5184

Fax: 301-884-2063

Website: www.stpaulssomd.org

Email: stpaulslcmsmd@netzero.net

Facebook: [St. Paul's Lutheran](#)

*Behold, now is the favorable time;
Behold, now is the day of salvation.
2 Corinthians 6:2*

Dates to remember:

Tuesday, April 5 @ 6:00 pm VBS meeting

Saturday, April 9 @ 7:00 pm MOVIE NIGHT "WAR ROOM"

Tuesday, April 12 @ 6:30 pm Church Council meeting