

You Otto Know

*We are a family of believers living, sharing and celebrating the love of Jesus
in our community and throughout the world.*

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Weary and Worn

Proverbs 30:1 states, The man declares, I am weary, O God; I am weary, O God, and worn out. I am weary and worn, have those words ever described you? Well, maybe that was a stupid question as almost all of us have felt that way at some point in our lives. Those words aptly describe how I feel as I write this article. I think it started way back in July when I spent 4 plus day with some of our youth at the Higher Things Conference. My body just doesn't bounce back from sixteen hour days like it used to and then to have four of those days in a row really stressed this aging body.

This past month seemed just as busy. Added to the "normal" work was the continued planning for the Mission and Ministry Plan, changes to our confirmation program, planning a CARE Process meeting with some of our leaders, the remodeling of the altar, Rally Day and so on. So yesterday it seemed as if I had hit that proverbial "wall." It seemed as if my energy level was on empty and my ability to focus was greatly diminished. And it showed in the handout that I used for Wednesday Bible study, there were more typing errors in that one document than I think I had in the last fifty.

I'm not sharing this to make you feel sorry for me but rather to share the power of God's Word with you. You see when I arrived this morning I was still rather sluggish and lacked energy. I started my work day by talking with Janet about the tasks that needed to be done today. (This article was high on the list) Our discussion was short and I had a little time before Bible Study. I decided that since I had skipped my devotion time the day before that I would take a few minutes and spend some time in the Word. My Old Testament reading was from 1st Kings; Solomon's prayer of Dedication for the newly built temple. The New Testament reading was from 2nd Corinthians; Paul's description of the treasures that we have in Christ that are contained in our bodies, bodies that are like jars of clay. He writes,

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed... So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.

Once again God's Word had re-energized my life. Paul's words reminded me that this mortal body that I live in is just that, mortal. It is wasting away. It grows weary. It is worn. Yet inside this fragile shell lives the Spirit of our God renewing and strengthening my spirit. The Spirit is preparing me for glory beyond all comparison when Christ comes again. Being reminded of the vast spiritual gifts that we receive renewed my soul. It gave me the motivation to carry on. It filled me with energy to accomplish the tasks set before me. I pray that when you are weary and worn that you too will seek to be energized by God's most powerful word.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28 (ESV)

Blessed to be a Blessing,

Pastor Schultz



Te Deum Higher Things 2015

Five youth and five adult leaders attended the 2015 Higher Things Conference — Te Deum — at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan this July 21-24 for four days of Worship, Plenaries, Catechesis, and Fellowship.

The youth (Eva and Gabe Aiello, Joey Frank, Jacob and Jessica Vogel) and three of our leaders (Chris Aiello, Rachel Frank, and Amy Held) started our trip on Monday morning, leaving church by 8:00 a.m. for the seven hour drive. In Grand Rapids, we met Pastor and Colleen Schultz who joined us for dinner and swimming back at the hotel. Tuesday morning we spent some fun time at a local amusement center where we played mini-golf, raced go karts, played laser tag, and played arcade games.

Tuesday afternoon the Higher Things conference started with a Worship Service with Holy Communion. It was a beautiful chapel. (Several photos have been loaded to the church Facebook page.)

Each day we attended a Plenary session where we looked at the Te Deum and what it means as well as some parables. Gabe enjoyed the Plenary speakers and the topics covered.

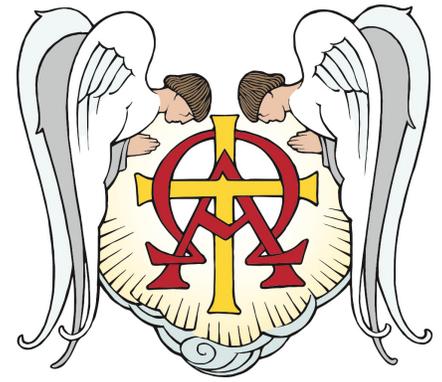
We also had the opportunity to attend several Catechesis each day. Some of the topics included The Joyful Exorcist, Ordination of Women, The Art of the Te Deum, Science and Faith, True Love: What Is It?, Religious Liberty, and Youth Ministry. Jacob really enjoyed the Catechesis breakaway sessions he attended including The Quest for Cool, Suffering: Does God Have It Out for Me?, Jesus in a Gay World, MARVELing the Messiah's Message, and You Call Yourself a Christian.

We worshipped several times each day. Services included Matins each morning, Vespers each afternoon, and Evening Prayer each evening. Evening Prayer was Jessica's favorite part of the conference as each night we sang her "jam" — The Magnificat. Eva enjoyed participating in all the different worship services and even convinced us to try the Compline service one night. We enjoyed it enough that we also did Compline in the car on the way home Friday evening.

There was also several opportunities for fellowship and fun during the Higher Things conference. Joey had a lot of fun with Tron Ball and Bumper Ball. Rachel enjoyed all the time and company spent with the youth during the conference and Amy enjoyed all the late night gab-fests in the girls rooms. We also issued a challenge to the youth to take as many pictures as they could of Flat Jesus with pastors at the conference. Jacob easily won the challenge and will be receiving a prize.

Our trip came to a close on Friday. Once again we got into the cars after a closing Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion. This time for a nine hour trip home. Unfortunately we ran into several construction and accidents along the way home. We want to thank Chris for the pizzas he ordered and we picked up on the way home. They were really good!

For more information about the Higher Things Conference speak to any of the youth or leaders who attended. We would love to share more about the trip with you.



Board of Education Report

Thank You to everybody who helped with Vacation Bible School!

We had nearly 20 children and 20 adults attend the various sessions offered during Sunday School in August.

Thank You to everybody who helped with Rally Day! It was a great day of fellowship, food and fun.

The Board of Education is working with the Leadership Team to revise the tuition assistance program offered by the church. More information will be given as the details are finalized.



FROM THE SECRETARY

June, 2015 Statistics

Attendance

<i>Worship</i>	<i>5:00</i>	<i>10:00</i>
June 6 & 7	10	64
June 12 & 13	29	63
June 19 & 20	15	57
June 26 & 27	10	83

Monthly Average: 83 Yearly Average: 94

Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

June 7	17	12
June 14	18	11
June 21	12	11
June 27	18	11

Sunday School Perfect Attendance

Samuel Aiello, Eva Aiello, Benjamin Warren,
Alexandra Warren

Wednesday Bible Class

June 3	9
June 24	8

Offerings

Offerings (non-special)	\$8218.00
E-Giving	<u>856.03</u>
Total for June	0074.03
Budget needs	<u>11,594.84</u>
Behind for June	-2520.81
Year to Date	-10,500.09

A NEW DIRECTORY IS COMING

We need everyone at St. Paul's to make our pictorial directory complete! To celebrate our 160th anniversary, a new directory will be made this fall. What a wonderful way to see the families that God blesses here at our church.

Lifetouch photographers will be at our church on Friday, October 2 from 12:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and again on Saturday, October 3 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Plan now to mark off one hour on one of those days to come to our gym to be photographed.

For your convenience, all photography and portrait viewing will take place at our gym with NO sitting fee. You will have a variety of poses taken. One pose will be selected for the directory. In addition to your complimentary 8 X 10, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits on the day of your portrait session. A price list will be available when appointments are made.

Appointments times will be able to be made after August 26th on our church website. I need volunteers to be in the narthex on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings to help make appointments for those who do not wish to make them online. I will also need volunteers to be at the gym to help fill out forms for those who are being photographed. Please call the office if you can help.

Thanks to all who have already volunteered, I could still use a few more.

Please remember, there is no cost for anyone, but the only way you will receive a directory is to come and have your picture taken. It will only take a few minutes of your time, but the memories of our church family will last a lifetime.

SAY CHEESE!



STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Check out our selection of gift cards in the FYI or order your favorite. Our next order will be placed on August 2. If you have any questions about the program or would like to place an order call Melanie at 636-578-6788.

Thank you to everyone that is supporting the Scrip Program.

Thank you to all that are participating in e-giving. For more information on either of these programs contact your Stewardship Board- Bryan Goforth, Kathleen Kassel or Melanie Weibrecht.

LWML NEWS

We are collecting school supplies for needy students. Please bring your crayons, markers, pencils, glue, colored pencils, paper, etc. and put them in the purple tub in the narthex.

Our next meeting is August 9 after church. We will be collecting mites and talking about our LWML 70th Anniversary celebration. Look forward to seeing you there.

LWML COVENTION REPORT

Over 4600 people attended the convention in Des Moines, Iowa on June 25-28, 2015. The convention theme "Bountiful Sow Nourish Reap" was based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. Thank you to everyone that donated items for Gifts From the Heart. Delegates to the 36th Biennial Convention adopted a \$2 million mission goal for 2015-2017.

This goal will fund the following 19 mission grants.

1. Clean Water and Evangelism Ministry
2. Disaster Response Trailers
3. Cancer Care Packages- Phil's Friends
4. Renovation of JEM Seminary Buildings

5. Redeeming life Maternity Home
6. Hope and Healing to the Navajo People
7. Outreach in Refugee Camps- Lebanon
8. Healthy Families
9. LCMS Global Seminary Initiative
10. Training Teachers and Leaders
11. Opportunities in Uganda
12. "In Their Hands and Upon Their Hearts"
13. "We Are God's Workmanship"
14. Bringing the Gospel to the Lost Sheep of Israel
15. Helping Hands Initiative
16. Deaconess Training
17. Lutheran Youth Corps
18. Providing Hope for Detroit
19. Ross Young Academies

We elected a new President Patti Ross from Tulsa, Oklahoma. President Ross shares her personal vision for the LWML, "As LWML women we are serving God, our church, and our communities with heartfelt Christian joy while carrying out the LWML mission statement.

Inspired by God's Word and recalling His promises we promote mission awareness, mission support, and mission work to reach out with the saving Word of Jesus Christ to all God's people, wherever and whenever He calls us, all the while serving with love and gladness."

This information was taken from a News Release from the LWML.

THANKS TO ALL

Who donated for the Lutherans for Life collection. It was quite a gathering of baby items. Watch the bulletin and next month's newsletter to see how many items were gathered from St. Paul's and in our state.



A little boy had just got home from Sunday School and mom was cooking lunch. "Mommy, is it true that before you're born you're just dust and after you die you go back to being dust?"

"That's right son, why?"

"Well that's just what they said at church today."

"Run up stairs and wash your hands son, lunch will be ready in a few minutes."

About 10 minutes went by and she called out for him to come down. "I'll be there in a minute." As they were about to sit down at the table, the little boy asked again about being dust before being born and after you die. Once again mother said yes son.

The little boy looked at her and said, then you better get up to my room pretty quick, because something under my bed is either coming or going!!

Tuesday, September 1

Elders Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 2

Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Women's Fitness Class 7:45 p.m.

Saturday, September 5

Adult Confirmation Class 3:00 p.m.

Worship 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 6

Education Hour 8:45 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Gateway Grizzly Game 6:05

Monday, September 7

Women's Fitness Class 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 8

Worship Committee 6:00 p.m.

Leadership Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 9

Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

Silver Seniors 11:30 a.m.

Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Women's Fitness Class 7:45 p.m.

Saturday, September 12

Adult Confirmation Class 3:00 p.m.

Worship 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 13

Education Hour 8:45 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, September 15

Strategic Planning Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 16

Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Women's Fitness Class 7:45 p.m.

Saturday, September 19

Adult Confirmation Class 3:00 p.m.

Worship 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 20

Education Hour 8:45 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, September 22

Men's Club 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 23

Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Women's Fitness Class 7:45 p.m.

Saturday, September 26

Adult Confirmation Class 3:00 p.m.

Worship 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 27

Education Hour 8:45 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Monday, September 29

Women's Fitness Class 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 30

Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Women's Fitness Class 7:45 p.m.