

THE EPISTLE

MARCH - 2019

We, as members of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church have come to faith by God's grace and have seen that Jesus came to earth to save us from our sins. We are compelled to grow spiritually and to share this good news with each other, through the Word and Sacraments. We, as our loving response, will present Christ crucified to the world. We apply these truths in our daily lives all to the glory of God!

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School (WELS) -- Norfolk, Nebraska

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Day by Day

"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money." -- Matthew 6:24

Many people pray that the Lord would allow them to win the lottery. It seems like such a good solution to life's problems! People imagine that if they had all of that money, their needs would be met and their cares would disappear.

Lottery winners generally tell a different story. Their needs seem never-ending, and their cares multiply. How can that be?

In today's Bible verse, Jesus explains that money is really a master. If you serve it, you depend on it as the answer to everything, and you spend all of your time trying to accumulate more of it. You trust it to give you everything you need, and when you realize that you still are not happy, you figure that you just need more. When that does not work, you are tempted to despair, to hate and despise God, because he has not blessed you with everything you desire.

By contrast, when you serve God, you realize that money is a gift to be used to his glory. You take care of your obligations and your family. You figure out how to use your money to promote the gospel, which promises you forgiveness of sins and peace through Jesus Christ. You come to hate and despise the love of money as "a root of all kinds of evil" (1 Timothy 6:10). You gain a perspective on life that can only come through service to God.

Christians pray, "Give us this day our daily bread," and they trust that God will take care of their monetary and other physical needs, day by day.

Prayer: (Christian Worship Supplement: 765)

Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me, bringing me comfort to my anxious soul. Savior, lead me to the home I treasure, where at last I'll find eternal rest. Amen.

This devotion brought to you by WELS and www.WhatAboutJesus.com.

Board of Elder's Report

The Board of Elders met on February 5, 2019. Items of business included election of John Kouba as Chairman, and Gary Bretschneider as Secretary.

There were no membership request to be acted upon at this meeting.

Items of old business included review of the sound system and lighting updates, and ongoing consideration of radio and video broadcasts. As individuals currently working with the broadcast systems become familiar with the updated equipment, additional members will be encouraged to consider training to be able to serve in this aspect of our Ministry.

The Elders will be updating the Elders Handbook and Job Description in the next few meetings. There was also consideration of recent discussions from the Annual Meeting regarding Stewardship of time, talents and treasure.

The Elders will be meet with Elders of Beautiful Savior of O'Neill, to discuss the partnership that has existed for nearly three years, and Ministry plans for the future.

In Christ,
John Kouba, Chairman

Board of Trustees

Dear Friends,

Another month has come and gone and spring is just around the corner. February was a busy month with repairs, the mens bathroom flooded and leaked to the basement, the elevator is currently down and a new water softener was put into the Sunnydell property (last month). Just goes to show you it is always something. That all being said, say thanks to Dan Hofmann for his timely and reasonable help with the plumbing projects, it is nice to have him available when we need him and his schedule works out. And by the time you read this the new Pall Clothe storage will be in place thanks to Jamie Jamison who took on the project, thanks to him also. There are so many in our congregation who contribute unnoticed so if you see someone helping out take a minute and tell them thanks, they may not be looking for it but I am sure they will appreciate it, and I say thanks to all of you who contribute to our congregation unseen.

ALL TO HIS GLORY

Gary Jackson
Trustee Chairman

Executive Council Meeting
Board of Trustees
Feb 19th, 2019

1. Get the northeast corner of the church tuck pointed.

Action: Contact local contractors and get bids.

2. Seal around the west windows that were bricked in on the gym, and east windows that still leak.

Action: Buy Materials for Leon to fix the leaks

3. Gutters and down spout heaters? Loose wires on several down spouts are not connected.

4. Have a contractor determine where the leak in the roof around the west entryway and have it repaired, as well as the water damage around the entry way door.

5. Extend the vents on the school.

Action: Get material list from Leon and he will fix it.

6. Complete the change of the cleaning service.

Action: Leroy Renner has been advised that his companies last day will be Mar 1st, and Brent Jantz has been notified that his first day will be Mar 4th.

7. Replace damaged tiles in the womens bathroom in the basement and in the hall again.

8. Look into replacing the emergency lights.

Action: Jon Helbush will replace them when he installs the mini split in the sound room.

9. Have the plumbing under the basement sink redone so that it will not catch the sink hose.

Completed actions:

- a. Replumb the teacherage (Jan)
 - b. Put a retractable goose neck faucet on sink in church kitchen (Jan)
 - c. Replace water softener in the Sunnydell Property (Jan)
 - d. Pall Clothe container (Feb)
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OBITUARY

LEONARD RENNER

Leonard was called home to his Savior's side in heaven on Wednesday, January 30th, 2019 at the Countryside Home in Madison.

Leonard Richard Renner, the son of Charles and Marie (Hoos) Renner, was born to life in this world on June 13th, 1923, on the family farm in rural Madison. He was reborn to spiritual life through Holy Baptism on May 26th, 1925 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Tilden, and he was confirmed in the true Christian faith on May 18th, 1941 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Battle Creek.

He married Shirley Lafrenz on June 13th, 1959 in Bettendorf, Iowa. After marriage, Shirley joined Leonard on the farm in rural Madison. Leonard farmed for many years and also worked as a mechanic at Irwin's and K & F International from 1973 to 1995. He enjoyed working on IH tractors and many people would seek him out for his knowledge and advice. He retired at the age of 72 but continued to care for everything on the farm until health interfered in 2017. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Norfolk.

Survivors include his spouse, Shirley Renner of Madison; his daughters, Judie (Terry) Martinson of Cedar Rapids, Iowa and Becki (Tom) Seidl of Elizabeth, Colo.; a son, Mark (Sharon) Renner of Rochester, Minn.; 10 grandchildren, Jesse and Tracie Martinson; Benjamin, Elizabeth, and Matthew Seidl; Emily (Aaron) Kristopeit and Steven, Katie, Kevin and Samuel Renner; two brothers, Kenneth Renner and Martin Renner; three sisters, Marjorie Renner, Ruth (Don) Patterson, and Marlene (Alfred) Schmidt; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Marie; his brothers, Paul Sr. (Leona) and Charles (Lydia) Renner; a sister, Marie (Herman) Mohr; and sisters-in-law Donna Renner and Betty Renner.

"The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised." - Job 1:21

February RADIO BROADCASTS (94.7 FM -- Sunday at 9:00 AM)

February 3 - St. Paul's Radio Broadcast Fund
February 10 - St. Paul's Radio Broadcast Fund
February 17 - St. Paul's Radio Broadcast Fund
February 24 - St. Paul's Radio Broadcast Fund

MEMORIALS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

ST. PAUL'S RADIO BROADCAST:

- In memory of Leonard Renner (\$10)

ST. PAUL'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

- In memory of Leonard Renner (\$20)

ST. PAUL'S TV & RADIO FUND:

- In memory of Leonard Renner (\$25)(\$340)

OTHER DONATIONS TO THE GLORY OF GOD

- For St. Paul's Radio Broadcast Fund (\$50)
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Church Attendance:

Jan. 23 (9), Jan. 26 (52), Jan. 27 (241) = 302 (67%)

Feb. 2 (71), Feb. 3 (152) = 223 (49%)

Feb. 6 (12), Feb. 9 (84), Feb. 10 (192) = 288 (64%)

Feb. 13 (9), Feb. 16 (61), Feb. 17 (149) = 219 (49%)

Communion Attendance:

Feb. 2 & 3 = 140 (37%)

Weddings: None

Baptisms:

02/02/19 Lonnie Scott Lyons *son of Scott & Whitney (Broders) Lyons*

Funerals:

02/09/19 Leonard Renner

Received into Membership (01/22/19):

-Erik & Dawn Bruflat, Mariah, Noah, & Jaxon

-Terry & Rachelle Hansen Jr., Jackson & Layken

Transfer of Membership:

01/22/19 Garth Spreeman to Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Lincoln, NE

Released from Membership:

01/22/18 Kay Bettin

Monthly Calendars may be picked up in your mailslots at church.