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come to (

A special welcome to our guests and visitors and thank you for joining us!

We at St. Paul's share a common belief that Jesus is our Savior from sin and is the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, which is revealed in the Bible. We want to share this great news with as many people as possible, because we know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from death to save all people!

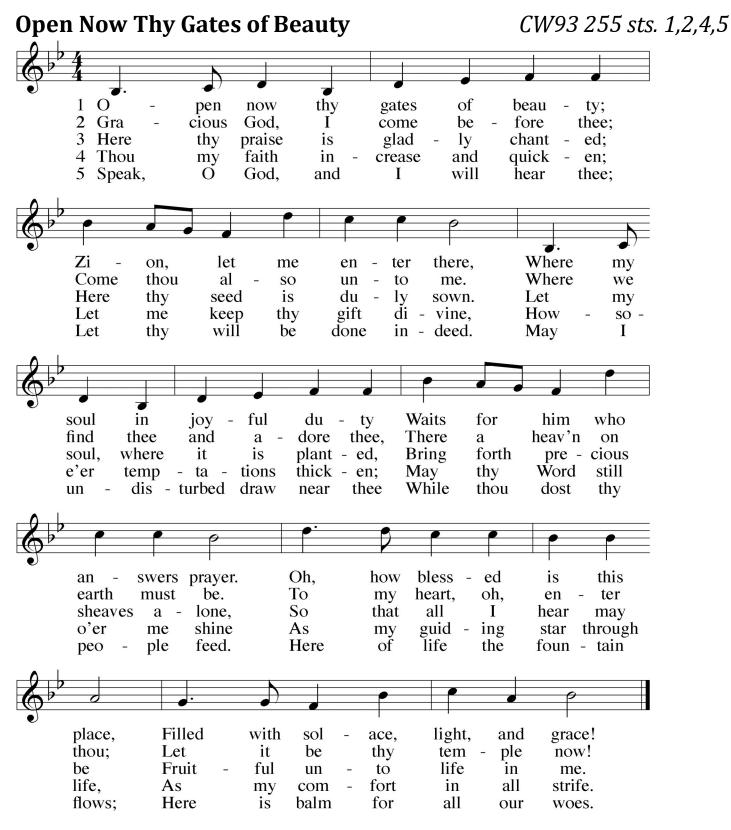
We offer Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays/Mondays of each month. God says that Communion is an expression of unity (1 Cor.10:16-17), so we practice close communion. Those who have explored and established unity with us on the basis of God's Word are invited up to the Lord's Table. Please speak to a pastor if you have questions about our practice.

## FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

There are changing tables located in BOTH the women's and men's school bathrooms near the school. There are children's quiet bags in the narthex. If you use one, please make sure to put it back. Please reserve the back few pews for families with small children. We have a nursery room located just off the narthex. There is a speaker in there so you can still hear and take part in the worship service. Please feel free to use this room for your child(ren), including a place to nurse.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (4K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

**Worship Focus:** Jesus called the Pharisees blind. He called the disciples people of little faith and spiritually dull. But to a gentile woman whose daughter was suffering and who called to him for mercy, Jesus said, "Woman, you have great faith!" To a hurting world Jesus came and listens to all who call on him in faith, no matter where they come from. What we don't deserve and surely could never demand, Jesus offers freely. He has "Mercy for the Foreigner".



Stand

The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

#### **CONFESSION SONG OF PRAISE**

Lord, I Need You

Let us bend our hearts before our holy and loving God, confessing our sins with honesty and faith.

Soloist: Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here I find my rest. Without you, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

Soloist: *Refrain:* Lord, I need you, oh, I need you. Ev'ry hour I need you: my one defense, my righteousness. Oh God, how I need you.

Holy God, you see past our pretenses straight into our hearts. The fault lines of our sin are so clear to you. With trembling we do not hide our sins from you, but confess them. Lord forgive the evil that lurks so deep within us. For Jesus' sake also forgive the sinful choices and habits that have come from us. Do not let us be strangers and foreigners to you.

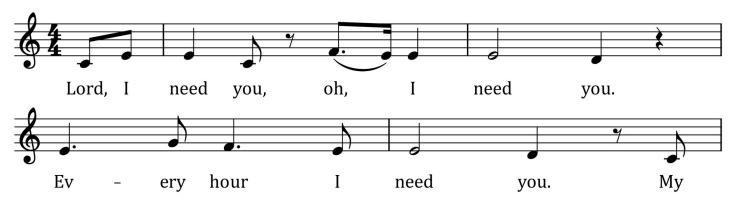
God hasn't been a stranger to you. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, for you. He is the Holy One who lived obediently to God. He also took to himself all sin by his cross. Through faith he gives you his full work and covers you in his righteousness. Because of Jesus all your sins have been removed. You are not a stranger, but family, a royal priesthood of believers made of all tribes and nations.

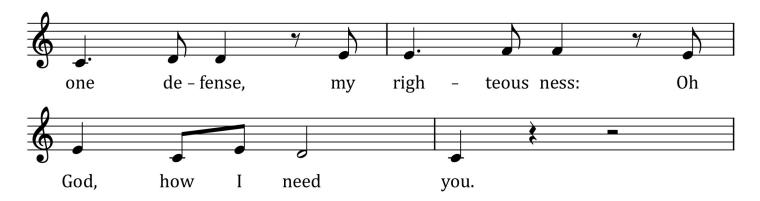
Soloist: Where sin runs deep your grace is more. Where grace is found is where you are. Where you are, Lord, I am free: holiness is Christ in me. *Refrain* 

Now, guard the good deposit of saving faith that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

Soloist: So teach my song to rise to you when temptation comes my way. When I cannot stand I'll fall on you. Jesus, you're my hope and stay.

## ALL: Refrain sung twice





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, in Christ you bring people from near and far into the fellowship of your church. Open our eyes to your saving plan, and move us to embrace all who seek your salvation so that we may rejoice together at the banquet of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be Seated

#### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 56:1,6–8

The LORD will bring believing foreigners to his holy mountain and accept their prayers and offerings.

<sup>1</sup>This is what the LORD says:

"Maintain justice

and do what is right,

for my salvation is close at hand

and my righteousness will soon be revealed.

<sup>6</sup>And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD

to minister to him,

to love the name of the LORD,

and to be his servants,

all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it

and who hold fast to my covenant—

<sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain

and give them joy in my house of prayer.

Their burnt offerings and sacrifices

will be accepted on my altar;

for my house will be called

a house of prayer for all nations."

<sup>8</sup>The Sovereign LORD declares he who gathers the exiles of Israel:

"I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered."

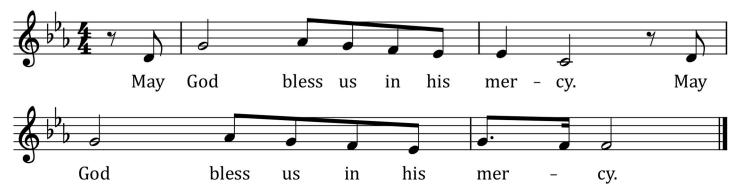
#### **PSALM OF THE DAY**

Psalm 67C

May your salvation be known among all nations and all the peoples praise you!

Soloist: May God bless us in his mercy. May God bless us in his mercy.

ALL: Refrain



Soloist: May God have pity on us and bless us; may he let his face shine upon us. So may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation.

ALL: Refrain

Soloist: May the nations be glad and exult because you rule the peoples in equity; the nations on earth you guide.

ALL: Refrain

Soloist: May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you! May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear him!

ALL: Refrain

#### **SECOND LESSON**

*Ephesians 2:13–22* 

The blood of Jesus has brought near those who were far off, so that through him any have access to the Father by one Spirit.

<sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

<sup>14</sup>For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, <sup>15</sup>by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup>and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. <sup>17</sup>He came and preached peace to you who were far away

and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup>For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

<sup>19</sup>Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, <sup>20</sup>built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup>And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

#### **VERSE OF THE DAY**



Stand

GOSPEL Matthew 15:21–28

Jesus commended the faith of a Canaanite woman and healed her suffering daughter.

<sup>21</sup>Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly."

<sup>23</sup>Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."

<sup>24</sup>He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

<sup>25</sup>The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said.

<sup>26</sup>He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

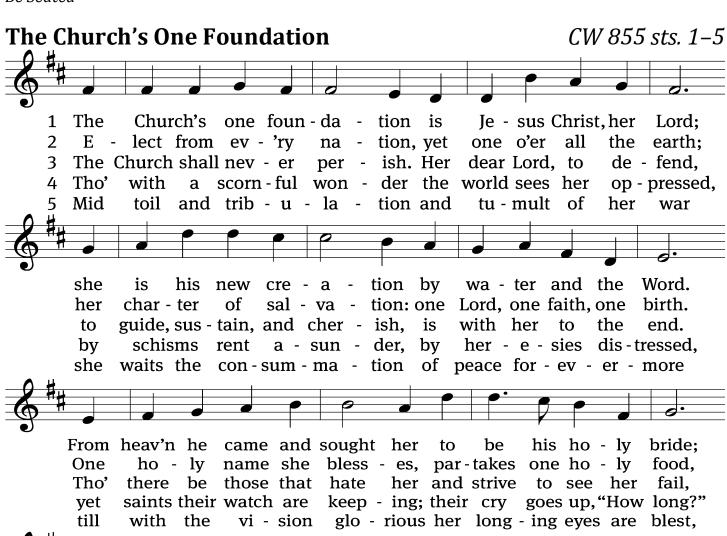
<sup>27</sup>"Yes it is, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table."

<sup>28</sup>Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Be Seated



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died. and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued. a - gainst both foe and trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail. and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song. and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.

# **SERMON** Isaiah

#### **Foreign Concepts**

Whole justice \* Full House \* True practice

Stand

#### **APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.

You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.

Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who

travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.

Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.

Special intercessions.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

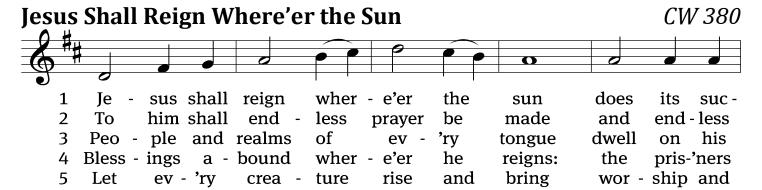
Silent prayer.

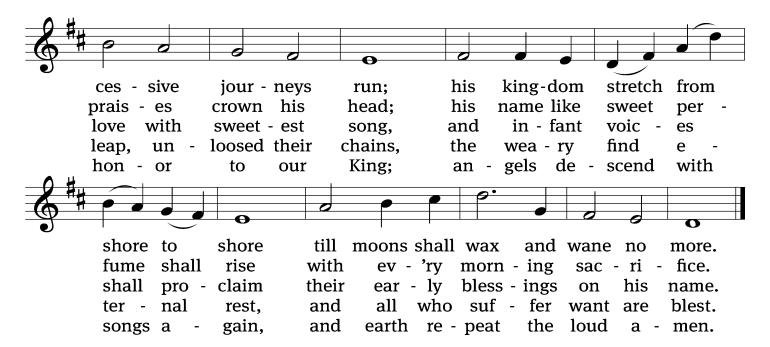
We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.





Stand

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



Be Seated



CW 642



2 The Church from you, dear Mas - ter, re-ceived the gift di - vine,

O make your Church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of pur - est gold



O Truth un-changed, un-chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky, and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine. to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old.



we praise you for the ra-diance that from the hal-lowed page, It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through, O teach your wan-d'ring pil - grims by this their path to trace



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age. mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you. till, clouds and dark-ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

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#### SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PASTOR: Rev. Aaron Mueller ORGANIST: Dawn Johnson MUSICIAN: Nathan Meitner

**ALTAR GUILD:** Ione Prange, Mary Ann Hahn, Lori Wehrmann.

**USHERS**: 8:00a.m.- Tim Doro, Tom Damrow, Derrick Hermann, Scott Schomberg.

10:30a.m. - Kevin Mueller, Larry Schomber, Nathan Ledvina. 6:30 p.m. - Dennis Sprenger,

Trevor Meyer.

Online giving options available

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.

OFFERINGS: 8/13 & 8/14 - \$17,990 (NEEDED EACH WEEK \$19,200). \$15,400 GROWING FORWARD. \$350 FAITH FOR THE FUTURE.

ATTENDANCE: 8/13 & 8/14: 8:00 A.M. - 131. 10:30 A.M. - 265. 6:00 P.M. - 50.





#### In our prayers this week...

- 1. Students and staff St. Paul's Grade School beginning a new school year.
- 2. Students and staff of Luther Prep, Martin Luther College, and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary beginning a new school year.

This Week at a Glance:	
Date	Service, Bible Study, and Class Times
Sunday, August 20	8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship
	9:15 - 10:15 a.m Family Bible Hour
Monday, August 21	6:00 p.m. Monday Night Worship
Wednesday, Aug. 23	First Day of School (Grades 1-8)
Thursday, August 24	6:30 p.m. Sunday School Staff Meeting
Sunday, August 27	8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship
	9:15 a.m. Family Bible Hour

#### **Grow with Christ**

#### Bible Studies, Worship, and more!

- 1. **Family Bible Study -** We gear summer Sunday morning studies for everyone from adults down to children in about 3rd grade. There is child care available for younger children while parents and older children are in Bible study. Today, we continue our life of David study by looking at... Bible study will take place in the sanctuary.
- 2. **Interested in our Bible Information Class**? If you or someone you know would like to research our teachings and whether to partner in membership with us, please reach out to the pastors or staff minister. The new course begins on September 12th at 6:00 pm.
- 3. **Sunday School** begins on September 10 under the theme "The LORD is Our Strength"! Registration is live now on our website, stpaulshowardsgrove.org. If you would like to invite a friend, there are fliers in the member room.

#### In Other News

1. **Worship Greeters** We are seeking members willing to smile and welcome people before worship services. This is a great opportunity to get to know more of our growing congregation. If interested in more details, please see the sign-up sheet in the member room or speak with Katie Schuenemann.

- 2. **Our St. Paul's Grade school begins** this week Wednesday for grades 1-8. PreK 3,4 and K classes start Aug. 28.
- 3. **An Open House is planned** in September. The Building Committee and Church Council decided to move it to make sure we have ample time for all equipment to arrive and be installed and all finishing touches to be completed.

The **Open House** event is intended for our neighbors, community, and area WELS churches. We are planning on **September 17** from **3:00 - 5:00 pm**. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony and guided tours.

- 4. **Church Picnic**: Mark September 10 on your calendar as we will be holding our annual church picnic that day after the late service. It will be a fun, themed meal with delicious food and beverages, decor, and music. There will be many activities and a salsa competition with prizes! Look for more information to come soon. Let Luther Curia know if you have any questions: <a href="https://linear.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org">https://linear.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org</a>.
- 5. **Now Hiring!** St. Paul's is looking to fill the following positions:
  - a. **Preschool Aide(s):** By God's grace the classroom doors of St. Paul's will welcome students on August 23! During this very exciting time we are looking to hire aides to work with our youngest lambs: 3K, 4K and Kindergarten students. Shifts are available between 6:30 AM-5:30 PM, Monday-Friday when school is in session. Positions include: providing before/after school care, assisting with classroom routines, lunch prep and recess and nap time supervision. Please contact the office to request an application and to schedule an interview.
  - b. **Janitorial**: We are looking to hire a custodian for the addition. Please speak to Trevor Wehrmann or the office for further information.
- 6. **Worship Service Ushers:** Thank you to those who regularly volunteer to serve as ushers for our worship services. As we prepare the usher schedule for July and beyond, please consider serving for at least one month each year. A request for additional July ushers will soon be sent via Church Community Builder (CCB). Please sign up via a response to this request or by placing your name next to a vacant position on the "Usher List" in the Member Room. Please contact Will Belitz (920-693-8837 or Cellular 920-946-6617) as questions arise. Thank you for serving your congregation.
- 7. **Care Committee for Called Workers (CCCW)** put out boxes in the narthex to help our four new teaching staff members. One box is for Scrip cards, gift cards, or money. The other box is for pantry type items: paper towels, cleaning supplies, canned foods, etc... If you have any questions, please contact Steve Schueler, 920-693-8666.

- 8. **2023 WELS Convention:** From July 31-August 3, the WELS Biennial Convention was held in Saginaw, MI. Pastor Mueller was a delegate. Each week, we are sharing some highlights of the convention and updates on our church body's work:
  - a. "The Word For all, to all, by all." This is a theme in our World Mission work. The Lutheran Women's Mission Society kicked off the convention with a presentation of flags representing mission partners from 45 countries and prospective mission fields in 18 countries. The WELS helps, supports, and trains 500-plus national pastors who serve more than 1,000 churches and preaching stations around the world. With growing opportunities in Kenya, Vietnam, and Tanzania as well as the Academia Cristo / TELL online ministry, by 2035 WELS' worldwide fellowship could number more than 750,000 people.
  - b. Missionary Matthew Birner reported on the work being done in Latin America through Academia Cristo, a program which shares the message of God's grace with as many people as possible, identifies and trains potential leaders, and encourages these leaders to make more disciples who plant churches. Currently 25 church planter groups and 50 student-leaders are working through the program.
  - c. Missionary Luke Wolfgramm, the WELS Europe Team leader, highlighted ministry in Europe. Immigrants are pouring into London, one of the newest WELS mission fields where two missionaries work with a dedicated core group.
  - d. Missionary Guy Marquardt related the amazing opportunities to share the love of Jesus in a continent that contains 4.6 billion people, 60 percent of the world's population. Work is concentrated on exploring new outreach opportunities, training future workers, and supporting partner churches.
  - e. The WELS declared fellowship with Obadiah Lutheran Synod of Uganda. Obadiah Lutheran Synod first came into contact with the WELS in late 2017. It currently has 28 congregations, 9 preaching stations, and more than 5,000 baptized members.
- 9. **Church Photo Directory:** Please watch your emails for upcoming opportunities to have your Family's photo taken on one of the following dates:

#### **August**

Sunday, Aug. 20th Noon - 4:00 pm

Wed., Aug. 23rd 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Thurs., Aug. 24th 5:30 - 7:30 pm

We encourage all members to participate in this important congregational effort. Please sign up through the Church Needs Request (or call the Church Office at

- 920-565-3780) at your earliest convenience. Photo sessions will take approximately 15-20 minutes. Photos will not be for sale. They will only be used for Church Photo Directory purposes.
- 10. **New Pastor Installation:** We rejoice with our WELS brothers and sisters at Trinity in Kiel, that the Lord has sent them a second pastor to serve their growing ministry. Pastor Isaiah Horn will be installed at Trinity (387 Cemetery Rd.) on September 10 at 1:00 p.m. Following the service, there will be a light reception.
- 11. **The MLHS "Sweet Corn Fest"** is coming soon. The corn will be picked and ready for our congregation sometime August 27<sup>th</sup>. So we know how much corn to pick, there is a sign-up sheet in the member room to place your order. To date, the MLHS Academic Voucher Committee has awarded 1867 vouchers to students in grades 5-8 that participate in the MLHS Academic Fair. Each voucher is worth \$200 of tuition to Manitowoc Lutheran High School. This program has been around for 15 years and much of the money raised has been through the "Sweet Corn Fest" each summer. Thanks for your support in the past and we hope you make plans to participate in this great program. We will need 4 to 6 of our St. Paul's members to help with the picking the day before on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup>. If you can help, please contact Jim Van Alstine at 920-889-1225.
- 12. **Some have been asking** if we are making the Garden Gym or other [non classroom] rooms in the addition available for member use. We hope to down the road, but for the time being we want to grow to understand the rooms ourselves, figure out care and cleaning of them, and then to create policies and procedures for proper use.