

LOVE ^{THE} LORD

your God

WITH ALL YOUR

HEART



SOUL

& MIND

Commanded to

LOVE

October 25 & 26, 2020
St. Paul's, Howards Grove



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**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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**St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a
Congregation in the Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this worship service! Especially to you who are guests and visitors, WELCOME!

We at St. Paul's Lutheran share a common belief in **Jesus** as **our Savior** from sin and as the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, revealed in the Bible. We want to share God's Word with as many people as possible because we know that Jesus lived, died and rose from death to save us and all people. We're happy to have the opportunity to share the saving truths of the Bible with you!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Worship during these times: We offer distanced seating on one side of the sanctuary. We also encourage compliance for all who are able to wear a face covering to honor God's representatives in our state government. Door handles and pew backs are cleaned between Sunday services. Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex. All responses and songs are printed in your bulletin, which should be taken with you or discarded after worship. Offerings may be placed in the designated boxes in the narthex.

Communion is offered in worship each month on the 2nd and 4th weekends. Members who are not yet comfortable returning to worship during the pandemic may schedule a communion appointment with a pastor.

DVDs: DVDs of our worship services can be made per request. Please contact the office to make arrangements. In order to ensure cleanliness, you do not need to return a DVD. Please consider a small monetary donation (\$2) to cover the cost of the DVD if you request one.

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 (pre K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.



SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

The "Service of Word and Sacrament" is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church. This order may be used as an alternative to "The Common Service" when Holy Communion is celebrated.

This Week's Focus: *The sum and substance of life is simplified today into a single term: love. To love God is man's highest responsibility. Close behind is love for neighbor. If only people could get this one thing correct - what a world it would be! Instead, our first lesson shows how far people have fallen from love. In the gospel lesson, while Jesus describes love, not one person left him to go and love perfectly. Thank God that's why Jesus is here. In him, we see what love looks like! In Jesus, we even see God's love is genuine for people! And when he goes to a cross to save, love doesn't go any higher than that! That good news love incredibly makes a mark...*

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Son of God, Eternal Savior | 492 v. 1, 2, 4

- 1 Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us, Honors all our human race,
You our head, who, throned in glory, For your own will ever plead:
Fill us with your love and pity; Heal our wrongs and help our need.**
- 2 Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion; Bid its cruel discords cease.
By your patient years of toiling, By your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst for pleasure; Stem our selfish greed for
gain.**
- 4 As you, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.
Freely have your gifts been granted; Freely may your servants give.
Yours the gold and yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.**

Please stand.

INVOCATION

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

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. O God, you teach us that loving you and our neighbor fulfills all your commandments. Give us wholehearted devotion to you, and unite us to one another with true charity; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 4:1-16

Although Abel loved the LORD, Cain hated the LORD and his brother.

¹ Adam made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, “With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man.” ² Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. ³ In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. ⁴ And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, ⁵ but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

⁶ Then the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? ⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”

⁸ Now Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?”

“I don’t know,” he replied. “Am I my brother’s keeper?”

¹⁰ The LORD said, “What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground. ¹¹ Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. ¹² When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth.”

¹³ Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is more than I can bear. ¹⁴ Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.”

¹⁵ But the LORD said to him, “Not so; anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over.” Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. ¹⁶ So Cain went out from the LORD’s presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 1

Blessed is the one who delights in the law of the LORD.

Refrain



Bless-ed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

Psalm tone



Blessed is the man
who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked*
or stand in the way of sinners.
But his delight is in the law of the LORD,*
and on his law he meditates day and night.
He is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season*
and whose leaf does not wither.
Whatever he does prospers.

Refrain

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,*
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:34-46

Jesus taught that the greatest commandment was to love the LORD and also to love your neighbor.

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question:

³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

⁴¹ While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ⁴² "What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?"

"The son of David," they replied.

⁴³ He said to them, "How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him 'Lord'? For he says,

⁴⁴ "'The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet.'"

⁴⁵ If then David calls him 'Lord,' how can he be his son?" ⁴⁶ No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Love Divine, All Love Excelling | 365

**1 Love divine, all love excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
Fix in us your humble dwelling, All your faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, you are all compassion, Boundless mercy from above.
Visit us with benediction; Comfort us with heav'nly love.**

- 2 Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.
We would ever seek your blessing, Serve you as your hosts above,
Pray and praise you without ceasing, Glory in your perfect love.
- 3 Sanctify your new creation; Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us trust your great salvation, Won for us on Calvary,
Till we lay our crowns before you, Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till in glory we adore you, Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

SERMON

Genesis 4:1-16

Love Leaves a Mark

*By her name * With his gift * On his life*

Please stand.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

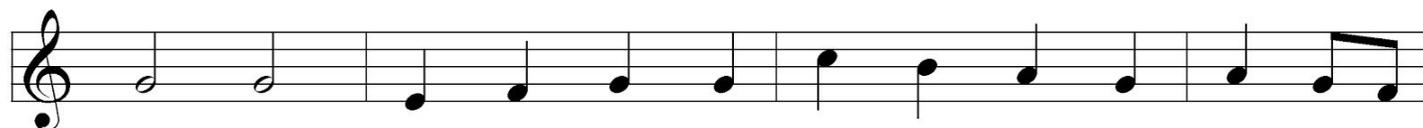
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

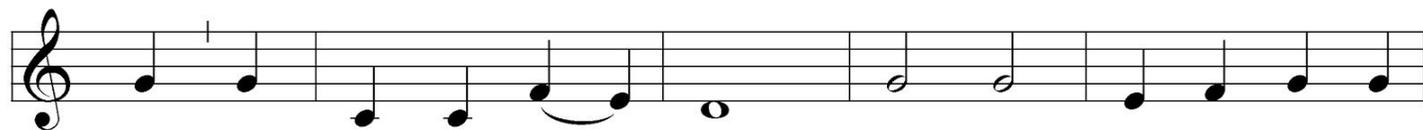
M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

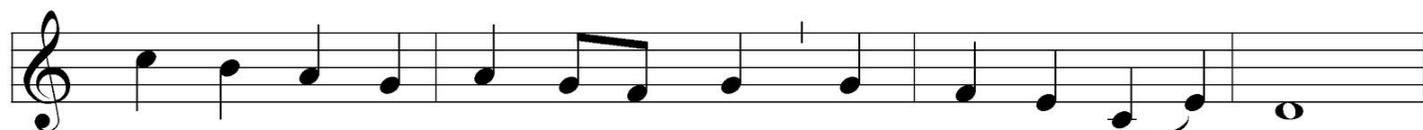
O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



Be seated.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: *St. Paul's invites up to Communion instructed and confirmed members of this congregation and the Wisconsin Synod (WELS). If you are visiting us and are not a member of either, we would love to have you join us - just after we have established a shared faith in Jesus with you on the basis of God's Word. Please speak with one of our pastors after the service so we can make this happen.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing | 318

- 1 Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from his dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended; Oh, be now extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of his teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us; His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer his call.
- 2 With praise and thanksgiving, To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,
Embracing his children of each tribe and race.
With your feast you feed us;
With your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

Please stand.

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

M: 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.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

Blest Be the Tie that Binds | 494 v. 1, 2, 5

- 1** Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.
- 2** Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts and our cares.
- 5** From sorrow, toil, and pain
And sin we shall be free
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity.

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PASTOR: Rev. Aaron Mueller

PIANIST: Kayla Sprenger

ALTAR GUILD: Bonnie Baumann, Jean Porter, Karen Kuhn, Joan Wehrmann

USHERS: 8:00 a.m.- Randy Wehrmann, Craig Thiel, Jordan Bramstoft, Neil Pahl, Jim Eick;
10:00 a.m. - Brian Grimm, Travis Krell, Nick Schmidt

**OFFERING:10/18 & 10/19 - \$12,743. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) \$350 - DEBT
REDUCTION; \$1,500 - AUDIO VISUAL FUND**

In our prayers this week...

1. Brendan Czer and Alexia Heyn, married this weekend and growing in the love of their heavenly Bridegroom.
2. All God's people, that we remain faithful to his word and treasure our brother Jesus' love.

Weekly Announcements:

1. **Sunday morning Bible Study** - Our final lesson, lesson 4 on *Politics*. We are going to study, various Political/Spiritual Questions, such as, “ How does a Christian approach...” Bible study will be livestreamed as well.
2. **New Bible Study Series: Relationships** Are you disappointed in the way relationships in your life have gone? Have you been hurt as you watched an important relationship fall apart? Do you long to be more deeply connected to those around you: family, friends, coworkers? If so, join us in the sanctuary Sunday mornings beginning November 1 as we explore what Jesus and his Word teach us about relationships. Bible study begins at 9:20 and will continue to be live-streamed.
3. **The office will be open** Monday- Wednesday from 7:15 am - 4 pm. You can contact Erin at: secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
4. **Voters' Meeting** - Our fall voters' meeting will take place on November 1st, after the second service, at approximately 11:45am. This meeting will take place in the church sanctuary. Reports will be sent out and available before the meeting.
5. **Crafts-Men's Bible Study** Being a man of God in the modern world is difficult: never quite finding the right balance between work/family/friends/personal time in the Word, feeling pressure in the workplace, facing our own inadequacies. Join your brothers in Christ as we strive to become Craftsmen of God: skilled at navigating the challenges of this world, equipped with God's perfect, unchanging Word. **Bible Study Focus:** Building Godly Character; **When:** Tuesdays, Nov. 24-Dec. 15 @ 6:30 p.m.; **Where:** St. Paul's Commons; **What to Bring:** your Bible & 2 bottles/cans of your favorite craft beer (or bottle of wine) to share during the study (optional)
6. **Youth Group Zoom Bible Study Sunday! When?** 7 pm **What?** Back to School: Tonight's theme is "Getting to Know You". **Can't come every time?** No worries. Join us when you can. **Don't want to talk?** No worries. Listen. Chime in only if you want to. **Who should join?** All incoming 9th graders on up. **Where?** Via Zoom
7. **Sunday School** continues this weekend from 9:15 to 10:00 am.Procedures and registration available online.
8. **Wednesday 9:00 am Bible Study** looks at a book called Prepared to Answer. Join if you like, we meet in the commons and spread out.
9. **Thursday evening Bible study** continues on the topic of Law and Gospel. We spread out for our meeting in the commons.
10. **Parenting Bible Study: Tuesdays @ 6:30** If you aren't able to attend the Bible study in person but would like to access it online, the Bible studies will be live streamed. They can also be viewed later at these same live-stream links.
September 29 October 6 October 13 October 20 October 27 November 3
Participation workbook also available online. Contact Luther with any questions. 920.287.8575; luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

11. **Zoom Women's Bible study - Slinging Stones** Join us online Thursdays, Oct 8-Nov 5 from 8-8:45pm for this 5 week Bible study. Navigate King David's battles and some of our own (Insecurity, Fear, Anger, Shame, Control) found in God's Word! So, what is your "Goliath"? What has been taunting you, mocking and belittling your faith, attacking your very being? Let's throw some stones at it, shall we? See the online church calendar for the Zoom link and password or reach out to Alycia Cameron for more info. Downloadable materials available at holymhenhouse.com, but not necessary for participation.
12. **Muffins and Meditation Mindful Moms Bible Study** is at an ALL NEW TIME! Start your Wednesday off with a fresh dose of God's Word, friendship, and food. October 28 we will meet at **8:00am** in the gathering area in front of church to dive into God's Word together. This semester we are studying Psalms for Moms. Contact Pastor Bode or Alycia Cameron for more information. All moms are invited! Busy activities for little ones provided.
13. **Women Writing the Word** This week we studied Isaiah 40:29-31. How does this passage bring you comfort when you begin to feel weary? When we face hardships, how is God's grace sufficient for us? Col. 1:28-29 and 2 Thes. 3:7-10 tell where Paul found his strength on his missionary journeys. Join our journaling plan and Slack discussion at any time! Contact Alycia Cameron (alycia.cameron@gmail.com, 414-736-8966) for information on how to get connected.
14. **Fanning the Flames - Women's Workshop** On Saturday, November 14 from 8:30am-12:30pm all women of our congregation have the opportunity to dig deep into God's Word together and encourage one another in their personal Bible Study journeys. 2 Timothy 1 invites us to Fan into Flame the gift of our faith, and we will investigate the importance of fanning the flame of faith, discuss methods for how to fan the flame, and receive encouragement from other women who have found fanning the flame of their faith joyful and trying throughout their lives. Light breakfast and lunch will be included in registration cost. Mark your calendars and plan to bring your Bible and a friend. More information coming soon!
15. **Forward in Christ Subscription:** There are forms in the Member Room to renew or sign up for Forward in Christ. Forms and payment can be deposited in the marked payment slot in the Member Room. Due date is November 23rd. Please contact the office if you have any questions. (920) 565-3780 or secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
16. **Lutheran Pioneer Update** - Discussions are taking place to resume Pioneer meetings and events in 2021. We are looking for two ladies to lead / help with Girl Pioneers. Mike Heilman will work closely with you on planning activities and other items associated with the group. We are also looking for one or more gentlemen to help with Boy Pioneers. Meetings are generally once a month with some additional planning meetings. If interested, please speak with Mike or call him at 698-1654.
17. **Lutheran Boy Pioneers:** It may seem early but...the Boy Pioneers are taking orders during October for Christmas wreaths. Although we may not be having as many in person meetings, we do support the Pioneer national organization which provides us materials for working with the boys and girls. The wreaths are 24" natural pine, decorated with pine cones and a red velvet bow. The price again is \$19.00 and helps support the Pioneer activities. The order sheet is located in the library/member room. Wreaths will be available for pickup at church on Sunday December 29th.

18. A new **Hot Lunch Helpers Signup** went out this week. Hot lunch help runs from 10:30am-1:00pm and includes prepping, serving, and cleanup. Please consider helping out Mrs. Wall! Please signup via CCB or you can contact the office at 920-565-3780 or secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
19. **St. Paul's Christmas Service:** Children (ages 4K-8th grade) from our church/school/Sunday school have a longstanding tradition of presenting the birth of Jesus in a special children's Christmas service. Due to COVID, plans for this year's children's Christmas service are unique, but we are excited to try something new! We will have three services in the sanctuary to accommodate plenty of seating. Videos of all children's recitations/narrations will be recorded PRIOR to the date and will be incorporated into the service. Your children will NOT need to present anything during the service but can enjoy Worship with their families. Please fill out the participation form by Monday, November 2. Planning for the service is underway, and we truly hope that your child(ren) will be able to participate in our St. Paul's Christmas service this year! More information, including what your child will need to record and also recording dates/times will come in November. Forward any questions regarding the service to Luther Curia: luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
20. **Living Nativity** - The sign-up sheets for this year's Living Nativity have been sent via needs email. Please sign up for your spot via ccb or contact Marilyn at 920-782-0208 or marilyn347@yahoo.com for sign-up. We are still looking for a Mary and Joseph on Saturday night and Shepherds, Roman Guards, and Greeters for BOTH Saturday and Sunday. If you don't want to be part of the cast, we are also looking for some helpers for the different committees! If you have any questions or need assistance in signing up, please contact Marilyn Eirich.
21. **Protecting our Kids** - The world is a scary sinful place. We recognize that we can't shield our kids from all harm, but we actively pray that we are able to use the resources available to us to help prevent spiritually and physically dangerous interactions. All parents are invited Thursday, November 12 from 6:30-8pm for a discussion on topics including sexting, internet crimes and safety, and trafficking, presented by Beth Heilman, CPS Intake Social Worker at Sheboygan County Health and Sheboygan District Attorney Joel Urmanski. Contact Beth Heilman at bethels_2000@yahoo.com with any questions. (Kids 7th grade and older welcome to attend.)
22. **Take a Trip to Israel!** Pastor Mueller is leading a trip to Israel/Jerusalem in January of 2022 (with three other pastors). Official dates are January 11-20, 2022. There are only 55 seats available (on the bus). With four pastors coming and promoting the trip means securing a seat sooner than later is optimal. I have nine registered and a number still very interested! Paperwork is available in hardcopy or email from Pastor Mueller: pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org, 920-207-2316.
23. **Did You Know?** Howards Grove was once two communities: Howards Grove and Millersville? Read up on our community's history in the church library!