

**St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church  
3901 W Adams Blvd**

**Los Angeles, CA**  
**Rev. Dr. S T Williams, Jr., Senior Pastor**  
**Dr. Raphael Johnson, President**  
[www.StPaulLutheranLA.org](http://www.StPaulLutheranLA.org)  
**Office: 323-731-8384**  
**Cell: 402-525-3395**

**Covid-19 and political unrest have not stopped the Light of  
Christ from shining from 3901!**

July 24, 2020

Dear St. Paul Light House Family and Friends,

Greetings from your home here on West Adams. Peace, Blessings and God's most abundant blessings be with you!

Here we are heading towards 6 months of being impacted by Covid-19. Many are asking will we survive this pandemic? We, as Believers already know that God is in full charge of all things in His Creation. Our ability to keep our eyes on Him and seek His Divine plans and wisdom remains the key to our earthly journey. We continue to walk by Faith and not by sight and we rejoice each day that God the Father blesses us to enjoy!

**Psal m19 says:**

<sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of His hands.

<sup>2</sup> Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they reveal knowledge.

<sup>3</sup> They have no speech, they use no words;  
no sound is heard from them.

<sup>4</sup> Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,  
their words to the ends of the world.  
In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

<sup>5</sup> It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,  
like a champion rejoicing to run his

course.

<sup>6</sup> It rises at one end of the heavens  
and makes its circuit to the other;  
nothing is deprived of its warmth.

<sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect,  
refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,  
making wise the simple.

<sup>8</sup> The precepts of the LORD are right,  
giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are radiant,  
giving light to the eyes.

<sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD is pure,

enduring forever.  
The decrees of the LORD are firm,  
and all of them are righteous.  
10 They are more precious than gold,  
than much pure gold;  
they are sweeter than honey,  
than honey from the honeycomb.  
11 By them your servant is warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.  
12 But who can discern their own errors?

Forgive my hidden faults.  
13 Keep your servant safe from willful sins;  
may they not rule over me.  
Then I will be blameless,  
innocent of great transgression.  
14 May these words of my mouth and this  
meditation of my heart  
be pleasing in your sight,  
LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Saints, we remain focused on our mission in the midst of this Pandemic. I want to share just a few of the wonderful things God is doing in our midst as result of your faithfulness in sharing your time, talents and treasures:

1. Social media has been our saving grace during this pandemic. Our technology team remains committed to the production of our YouTube Worship, Instagram, Facebook and Web Site. Go to [www.stpaulutheranla.org](http://www.stpaulutheranla.org) and see all the wonderful work that they are doing. You are able to make your tithes and offering donation from the site and send messages to me at any time.
2. **We returned to regular worship on Father's Day, June 21st. We are only having 1 Holy Divine Worship at 11:00am with Holy Communion.** Many of you are enjoying your worship via our YouTube Site. That is wonderful as well. Your spiritual growth and development are key. Sick, shut-in and those sheltering in place are welcome to contact me for one-on-one (with social distancing in mind) prayer, devotion, counseling and Holy Communion. Our prayer team has continued to lift up the needs of our members and community. Our Church Council has remained dedicated and deeply committed to managing the operations of the church. Thank you, Church Council Members!
3. Weekly, we have 10-15 members and community volunteers come to assist us in various capacities to be sure we have a safe (Covid-19), welcoming and spiritually centered campus. Thank you all of them. **You are welcome to volunteer 7 days a week in various ways. Just let me know your availability. We are a family.**
4. **Vicar Jean-Enoch Berus has completed his first year in the Seminary Program at Concordia University, Irvine.** He finished once again with high academic honors. Most recently he organized the Covid-19 Community Care Packet Distribution. We were able to pass out over 200 free packs in the community to show the love of Christ in a tangible way to our Greater Los Angeles Community. Several partners were involved in this project. Another date is being considered for early September.
5. **St. Paul and the Historical Eggleston Foster Care and Youth Center have forged a partnership.** This partnership allows us to be a counseling center for foster care youth, at-risk youth from the community and Veterans needing substance abuse therapy and counseling. This partnership commenced on July 1, 2020. A lease agreement has been agreed upon. Marian Fifi Locke has accepted the position as our Administrative Liaison in order to assist us with the facilitation of this community collaboration.
6. **Ma Harden and Milba Cannon have established a Food Pantry.** Every Friday from 12 Noon to 4:00pm the doors of the Fellowship Hall are open with food donations from Trader Joe's and other vendors in our Greater Los Angeles Community. Volunteers are

welcome to come assist and shop for themselves and others in their homes and community.

7. **St. Paul and World City Center's (WCC-Preschool) partnership remains intact.**  
The funding is not available as contracted, but Church Counsel has a plan in place for a long-term repayment plan.
8. **St. Paul welcomes Mirky "Howard" Kessa to the St. Paul family. Howard will be a Freshman at Concordia University, Irvine.** He will be in the pre-seminary program studying Theology, Sociology and Business. Howard is from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti. 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran Church of Jacmel, Haiti. Howard's father is the President of the ELCH and Mayor of the City of Jacmel.
9. **We acknowledged our 2020 Graduates in June with Cards, Gifts and Special prayers.** Congratulations Jaya Afflalo, Mya Afflalo, and Mirky Howard Kessa. Please keep these graduates in your prayers as they take the next steps in their journey.
10. **I am in the process of developing a collaboration with Veterans Social Services, Inc. (VSS)** This organization provides training, resume development, certifications in various occupations and job placement. This will be available to members, youth, veterans and any member of the community for FREE! It is my vision to have this up and running at Grace Lutheran Church, 936 W Vernon Blvd by September 2020.
11. **Sidney Hunt was called home to be with the Lord in February.** He is our only member whom the Lord has called home in 2020. The Hunt family has been a part of the St. Paul family since the 50's. He will be missed. Sidney was a United States Naval Veteran.

**I have enclosed the following for your edification and information:**

1. **Tithe and Offering Envelopes**
2. **LCMS Back Ministry Newsletter**
3. **Worship Folder**

**Psal m23 says:**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.  
<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,  
<sup>3</sup> he refreshes my soul.  
He guides me along the right paths  
for his name's sake.  
<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk  
through the darkest valley,<sup>1a</sup>  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;

your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD  
forever.

**Ro mans 8 says:**

<sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who<sup>1</sup> have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup> And those he predestined, he also called, he also justified, those he justified, he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup> What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not do so along with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;  
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Finally, the Apostle Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:

### **Awaiting the New Body**

<sup>1</sup> For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. <sup>2</sup> Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup> because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. <sup>4</sup> For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be undressed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

<sup>6</sup> Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. <sup>7</sup> For we live by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Each of you remain in my thoughts and prayers each day. I remain available to you, your family and members of our community. This is our time “to be Christ” to a world that is facing fear, worry, doubt, grief, unemployment, political unrest and spiritual warfare. We have the answers to all of this and more. God’s Holy Divine and Inerrant Word and a relationship with our Lord, Savior and King, Jesus Christ. Let’s go Saints!

Please stay in touch! Keep the Faith! Remain in the Word! Be Christ in the Flesh!

Your Shepherd and Fellow Servant,

Rev. Dr. S T Williams, Jr.

Cell: 402-525-3395

Email: [pastorwilliamsjr@aol.com](mailto:pastorwilliamsjr@aol.com)