

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
321 NORTH 10TH STREET  
BEATRICE, NE 68310**

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**PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Beatrice, Nebraska  
APRIL 2016**

[Stpaulbeatrice.org](http://Stpaulbeatrice.org)

# April 2016

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30am Divine Service	<b>4</b> 7:00pm Weekday Holy Communion Service	<b>5</b> 12:00pm Ladies Quilting 1:30pm Ladies Aid 5:00pm LVMAL Ex. Board 6:15pm Topical Leaders 6:30pm Board for Parish Ed 7:00pm Elders	<b>6</b> 1:00pm Dorcas Society 2:30-4pm Catechism (8th grade only)	<b>7</b> 12:00pm Ladies Quilting 1:30pm Ruth Circle	<b>8</b> 1:30pm Eunice Circle	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30am Divine Service 3:00pm Lincoln Lutheran Choir	<b>11</b> 7:00pm Weekday Holy Communion Service	<b>12</b> 12:00pm Ladies Quilting 12:00pm Quilt Tying 7:00pm Church Council	<b>13</b> 1:30pm Naomi Circle	<b>14</b> 12:00pm Ladies Quilting 2:00pm Lydia/Mary Circle	<b>15</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study Breakfast at Aunt Mary's Circle	<b>16</b> 10:00am Altar Guild
<b>17</b> 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30am Divine Service 1:30pm Voter's Meeting	<b>18</b> 7:00pm Weekday Holy Communion Service	<b>19</b> 12:00pm Ladies Quilting	<b>20</b> 2:30-4pm Catechism (8th grade only)	<b>21</b> 12:00pm Ladies Quilting	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Reception for Confirmands 10:30am Divine Service Confirmation	<b>25</b> 7:00pm Weekday Holy Communion Service	<b>26</b> 12:00pm Ladies Quilting 12:00pm Quilt Tying 6:30pm Social Club	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 12:00pm Ladies Quilting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

## APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER

### SCHOOL NEWS

*“These things are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.” John 20:31*

Thank you to everyone who attended our Grandparent’s Day program on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. This program is always a special part of our Lutheran Schools Week celebration. The students did a wonderful job and we enjoyed having so many church members attend!

The third quarter of the school year ended on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Parent-Teacher Conferences for Pre-Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students were held on March 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

Our annual St. Paul School Spelling Bee has been scheduled for Thursday evening, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. St. Paul students in Grades 1-5 will participate in spell downs in their grade.

The teachers and students have begun work on this year’s school Musicals which are scheduled for Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. each evening. On the 22<sup>nd</sup>, the first through fifth grade students will present the musical “L.O.S.T. But Now I’m Found”. On the 29<sup>th</sup>, the Pre-school, Pre-Kindergarten, and Kindergarten students will present musical numbers and recitations. We hope you join us for these evenings of entertainment and fellowship.

Information about summer camps at Camp Lutheran and registration forms can be found at [www.campluther.org](http://www.campluther.org). Applications and camp information are also available at the school office. If you are interested in enrolling, it is good to do so early as some camps fill up quickly. The St. Paul Dorcas Society is offering scholarships to Camp Luther. The scholarships are given on a first come first serve basis. If you are interested in a scholarship or Camp Luther information, contact the school office.

MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) tests will be given to students in grades K-5 beginning the week of April 4<sup>th</sup>.

The students and teachers are looking forward to learning through many educational field trips this month, including the 1<sup>st</sup> grade visit to the Hospital, Prekindergarten to the Children’s Museum in Lincoln, Kindergarten to Prairieland Dairy and the Children’s Museum, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade to the Earth Fest at Camp Jefferson.

We are in the process of accepting applications for students in Pre-School, (age 3), Pre-Kindergarten (age 4), and Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade for the next school year (2016-2017). If you know of anyone interested in enrolling, please contact the school office soon!

Thank you for your continued support of our school mission and ministry with your time, talents, and treasures.

In Christ,

Amy Duever, Principal

**Our St. Paul’s students will be singing** in church on the following Sundays:  
April 10 & May 15. Dates are subject to change.

*Visit our website for the latest updates at  
[stpaulbeatrice.org](http://stpaulbeatrice.org)*

## APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER

### Notes and Reminders...



#### Every Sunday

8:00am & 10:30am - Divine Services

9:00am - Coffee & Snacks served in the basement

9:15am - Adult & Youth Bible Class and Sunday School

#### Every Monday

7:00pm - Divine Service

**Church Office:** Office hours are 8:30am to 1:30pm, Monday through Friday. The office may be closed on occasion, so please call ahead.

**Church Council Meeting** is Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. All board reports are due to the church office by Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Voter's Meeting** is Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in the church basement.

**Confirmation Sunday** is April 24<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 service. A reception will be held at 9:15am in the church basement. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**SAVE THE DATE: LWML Mother / Daughter Banquet** is Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the church basement. Bring a friend! Watch the weekly bulletin for more information.

**Thank You to the gracious people at the BSDC** for preparing our monthly newsletters for mailing this month. We sincerely appreciate their volunteer work and a job well done.



#### April at St. Paul's Lutheran School:

7 – St. Paul's School Spelling Bee

16 – Outdoor Classroom Workday

22 – Grade 1-5 Spring Musical

29 – Pre-School, Pre-Kdg, and Kindergarten Performances

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Outdoor Classroom Workdays at St. Paul's Lutheran School are scheduled for Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 am. The 16<sup>th</sup>, we will dig up, compost and prepare the beds for the butterfly garden, and put sand in the long jump pit and the digging area. On the 7<sup>th</sup>, we will plant the butterfly gardens, and some new trees. We received a \$3,700 grant from the Sustainable School Playground Project through UNL, and these funds will cover the costs of all our plantings and mulch. We are very blessed and excited to see this wonderful addition taking shape at our school.

## APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER

**LINCOLN LUTHERAN CHOIR:** The Lincoln Lutheran Choir will present a concert at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on April 10 at 3pm. Brett Epperson continues as their Artistic Director and Conductor and has selected the concert theme: "For the Beauty of the Earth". Plan now to join us as they take us on a meaningful exploration of the beautiful gift through which God communicates His love and grace.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



Each week the children have been making a quilt block about the theme for that day. Each child's quilt blocks are going to be made into a quilt for them to take home or to donate to someone in need. In order to complete the quilts, we are looking for people to help sew them together. If you like to sew and have some extra time and would be willing to help, please contact the church office or Toree Lang.

We are currently looking for someone to teach grades 1-3 on Sunday mornings. If you are interested contact the church office or Toree Lang.

Toree Lang, Sunday School Chairperson

### BULLETINS RECEIVED

February 17  
March 6

Doretta Wiegand  
Arvid & Althea Wiest

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Grand Island, NE  
Hope Lutheran Church, Shawnee, KS

### Easter Lilies:

**Thank You to all who contributed an Easter Lily for our chancel!**



Bud Johnson

Carlyn Koenig

Ladies Aid (2 lilies)

In memory of Trigg Lang by his family

Kelly Mees

Floice Meyer

In memory of Herman Neumann by Joyce Neumann

In memory of Dale & Ross Riekenberg by Elda Riekenberg

Wayne & Chris Schultz

Social Club

In memory of Michael & Michelle Thomas and Rowena Thomas by Virginia, Mark, Amy and Brandon Thomas

In honor of Carolina VanLaningham 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and Lucile Weise birthday by their family

Arvid & Althea Wiest

## APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER

### **Stewardship Article**

The greatest surprise about Easter is not that Jesus is alive, risen from the dead, out of the grave, that He conquered death and hell, and comes to meet you as He promised. The greatest surprise is that He did all that and is not angry. There is no fear for us in His return because He is not angry. He bears no grudge. He seeks no vengeance. He comes to give peace, with mercy and forgiveness and salvation.

Jesus lives and is not angry. Imagine that. He is not angry. He doesn't blame those who killed Him. He doesn't blame you. For no one takes His life from Him. He lays it down of His own accord. He gives Himself into death to win us back from sin, death, and hell. He does it willingly without coercion. He does it sacrificially, Him for us. He gave what was His to give. Thus His petition to the Father from the cross, "Forgive them" is granted to you in His resurrection. He comes alive out of death to forgive and to give His life to you.

There is nothing to be afraid of because Jesus is raised from the dead and is not angry. Thus we are free—free from worrying about how to make it up to Him, and free to give as He has given to us. He gave Himself as a gift, His life in exchange for our death, willingly and sacrificially. And so it is that we are now free to give in like manner: willingly, sacrificially, with what we have been given.

We give to the church because it is in the church where our eyes have seen and our ears have heard that Jesus lives and is not angry. It is here where we learn of God's mercy and forgiveness in Christ. It is here where we continually receive that message of life, where He visits us to give peace, with mercy and forgiveness and salvation.

So do not be afraid. Jesus lives, and He is not angry. The sacrifice has been made. The debt is canceled and forgotten. Righteousness is declared. Jesus lives. He lives, and He is not angry. You are restored. You are reconciled to the Father in the Son. Your future is assured: Jesus lives. It is not just death and Hell, the devil and his demons, that are undone. Your sins, your fear are undone. They are gone, forgotten, destroyed. Jesus lives. Hallelujah! Jesus lives. And because He lives, you are just. You are right with God, pleasing and delightful to Him. You are forgiven, clean, pure, holy, and filled with His good works and with His Name. He is not angry. He is glad to have you. He wants you. He loves you. He gave everything that is His to and for you, willingly and sacrificially. In faith and trust in Him, let us do likewise.

**APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER**

**Doing All In Prayer**

**Rev. Dr. Scott Murray**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Vice-president of the LC-MS**

**Psalm 118:19-29**

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Prayer does everything; not because of the one praying, but because of the One who hears prayer and answers. However, we become so busy about our own doing that we lose sight of the power of prayer and the God who hears it. We have the mad delusion that, if we work hard enough, we can fix everything. We are deluded because we fix nothing and the focus of our work is false. God alone is the one who saves, fixing His way, by grace, a world broken by sin.

Our work should not be focused on what we can do, because this is ultimately idolatry. If God is the doer, then to claim that we are doing is to place ourselves ahead of God. This delusion is all the worse because what we accomplish is actually worse than nothing. It is positively harmful. Instead, our work should be focused on prayer to the One who can do vastly more than we can ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). We ask. He does.

If prayer is that powerful, and it is, then it is not a matter of the masses of prayer going up from multiple pray-ers. God is not like a member of Congress listening to noisy constituents; the more who squawk the more likely they are to be heard. Instead, the prayer of a righteous man accomplishes much (James 5:16), only because the righteous God hears and answers. So just one man praying can hold back an ocean of trouble, like the little Dutch boy who held back the North Sea by sticking his finger in the dike. Who knows what evils have been averted because a little child prayed for rescue for a nation or a city? God knows. He has done. The rescue is His to give, ours to pray for. If you have prayed you have done all.

APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER

*Notes from Pastor Irmer*

Christ is arisen! Sin, death and Satan have all been defeated by Jesus horrible suffering and death. Your sins are forgiven. Jesus' death did it and His resurrection from the grave proves it. You are forgiven. Jesus has pulled you through death at the font of Holy Baptism. You have walked with Him through the valley of the shadow of death and He brought you into a new life in His resurrection (Romans 6:4).

What will you do with that? Will you use the forgiveness of sins as an excuse to sin more? Will you use Jesus death on the cross as your excuse to hurt or harm your neighbor in His body or reputation?

St. Paul says, "By no means!" How can we who are freed from sins choose to live in them? Jesus died and was buried, but He didn't stay dead and He didn't stay in the tomb. Jesus is alive and by His resurrection you are alive: alive to God in Jesus Christ.

Christ is arisen! What a glorious and wonderful gift God has given us in the forgiveness of our sins through Jesus' death on the cross and the new life we live in the water of Holy Baptism.

This month (April) we rejoice as ten youth are confirmed and admitted to the Altar to receive Christ's life-giving body and blood in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar. Those young people are: **Olivia Aden**, daughter of Rod and Melody Aden; **Shelbi Ankersen**, daughter of Kevin and Brooke Ankersen; **Noah Hagemeyer**, son of Dale and Jonetta Hagemeyer; **Faith Kelley**, daughter of Bill and Ann Kelley and Dale and Rhonda Rickers (guardians); **Billy Kelley**, son of Bill and Ann Kelley and Dale and Rhonda Rickers (guardians); **Natalie Klaus**, daughter of Eric and Robin Klaus; **Aaron Meyer**, son of Shawn and Rhonda Meyer; **Dillon Siebe**, son of Angie Hooks and Michael Hooks; **Sydney Southwick**, daughter of Mike and Amy Southwick; **David Wright**, son of Helen Wright and Robert Wright. We wish them God's greatest blessings.

A special thanks to those who helped move furniture, clean and wax the chancel floor and move furniture, again. It is beautiful.

God's peace be with you all,

Pr. Irmer