

**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
OCTOBER 2016**

Stpaulbeatrice.org

October 2016

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>2</p> <p>8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30am Divine Service LWML Sunday</p> | <p>3</p> <p>7:00pm Weekday Holy Communion Service</p> | <p>4</p> <p>12:00pm Ladies Quilting 1:30pm Ladies Aid 5:00pm LWML Ex. Board 6:15pm Topic Leaders 6:30pm Board for Parish Ed 7:00pm Elders</p> | <p>5</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 1:00pm Dorcas Society 2:30-4pm Catechism</p> | <p>6</p> <p>12:00pm Ladies Quilting 1:30pm Ruth Circle</p> | | <p>1</p> <p>5:00-7:30pm Turkey Supper at the School</p> |
| <p>9</p> <p>8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30am Divine Service</p> | <p>10</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Weekday Holy Communion Service</p> | <p>11</p> <p>12:00pm Ladies Quilting 12:00pm Quilt Tying 7:00pm Church Council</p> | <p>12</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 1:30pm Naomi Circle 2:30-4pm Catechism</p> | <p>13</p> <p>12:00pm Ladies Quilting 2:00pm Lydia/Mary Circle</p> | <p>14</p> <p>1:30pm Eunice Circle</p> | <p>15</p> <p>10:00am Altar Guild</p> |
| <p>16</p> <p>8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30am Divine Service 1:30pm Voter's Meeting</p> | <p>17</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Weekday Holy Communion Service</p> | <p>18</p> <p>12:00pm Ladies Quilting</p> | <p>19</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 2:30-4pm Catechism</p> | <p>20</p> <p>12:00pm Ladies Quilting</p> | <p>21</p> | <p>22</p> <p>9:00am LWML Fall Rally at Immanuel, Davkin</p> |
| <p>23</p> <p>8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30am Divine Service</p> | <p>24</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Weekday Holy Communion Service</p> | <p>25</p> <p>12:00pm Ladies Quilting 12:00pm Quilt Tying 6:30pm Social Club</p> | <p>26</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p> | <p>27</p> <p>12:00pm Ladies Quilting</p> | <p>28</p> | <p>29</p> |
| <p>30</p> <p>8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30am Divine Service</p> | <p>31</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Weekday Holy Communion Service</p> | | | | | |

SCHOOL NEWS

*Psalm 61:1-3: Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer; from the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint. Lead me to the **rock** that is higher than I, for you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.*

As October begins, we are continuing our work on the Nature Explore Classroom at school. The instruments for our music area have arrived, the table and painting panel for our art area are here, and we just received a shipment with our water table. With the help of our wonderful trustees, and assistance from Bob Frerking, Ron Buss, and Dennis Dodge, more areas of our outdoor classroom are taking shape. On October 28th, we will be hosting a special workshop, "Using Your Outdoor Classroom" on an in-service day here at St. Paul's. The teachers are excited to learn about implementing this wonderful resource to enhance our students' learning.

On October 12th, the teachers will be heading to Grand Rapids, Michigan, to attend the Lutheran Education Association Convocation on October 13-15. This excellent conference is held every three years, and only one of our staff has ever had the opportunity to attend. We are excited to spend time learning and growing with other Lutheran educators from around the country.

Once again this year, we have the "Caring Grandparents" program. These volunteers provide a wonderful service for our school. Mrs. Myrna Spilker has organized the program for us. Through this program, adults volunteer their time one morning a week to work with our students. Our Caring Grandparents for this year are: Mrs. Lorelie Ankersen, Mrs. Brenda Carnes, Mrs. Bev Duensing, Mrs. Vickie Frerking, Mrs. LeeAnn Genrich, Mrs. Dorothy Jurgens, Miss Thelma Loemker, Mrs. Darlene Scheideler, Mrs. Myrna Spilker, Mrs. Diane Springer, and Mrs. Marlene Wallman. We thank each of them for giving their time and talents for our students. Anyone interested in being a part of this program, please contact Myrna Spilker, or the school office.

This year we are again a part of the Pioneer Foster Grandparent Program. We have three Foster Grandparents in our building every week working with students who need extra help. Mrs. Adaline Cornelius, Mrs. Delores Rahe and Mrs. Carol Wilson are our Foster Grandparents. We thank them for giving their time to help our students.

The second grade students started their monthly visits to Mosaic on September 23rd. This is a wonderful partnership between our school and the Mosaic community. The students spend time interacting with the residents through play activities, like swimming, as well as working alongside the residents in the Mosaic shop.

On Wednesday, September 14th we had the privilege to host Stuart and Debra Fraise, at our weekly chapel. They are career missionaries preparing to travel to Ghana, Africa in January. The students were excited to hear about their plans for spreading the good news of Jesus. We have also begun our special class chapels. The third grade presented their class chapel on Sept. 28th and fourth grade class Chapel is scheduled for October 26th.

Our 4th Annual All School Field Trip was held on Monday, September 19th. All staff and students from Pre-Kindergarten through 5th Grade traveled to Vala's Pumpkin Patch and enjoyed a day of school community fun and fellowship.

We continue to save: General Mills-Box Tops for Education, SunMart Register Receipts, Our Family Labels, and Tyson Project A+ Labels. Thank you for helping with these collections.

We thank you for remembering our staff, students, and school in your prayers.

In Christ,

Mrs. Duever, Principal



October at St. Paul's Lutheran School:

- 1 – Turkey Supper
- 12 – End of First Quarter/Early Dismissal
- 13-14 – No School (LEA Convocation)
- 28 – No School
- 31 – No School

Our St. Paul's students will be singing in church

on the following Sundays:

Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 18,

Jan. 22, Feb. 26, Mar. 26, Apr. 23, May 14

Dates are subject to change.





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, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Kelly will be out of the office on Mondays and Wednesdays. While Pastor will be around, the office may be closed on occasion, so please call ahead. For pastoral emergencies contact Pastor Irmer on his cell phone at 402-239-0283.

Church Council Meeting is Tuesday, October 11th at 7:00pm. All board reports and ballot information are due to the church office by Tuesday, October 3rd.

Voter's Meeting is Wednesday, October 19th at 7:00pm in the church basement.

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.

Radio broadcasts are available for 2017. **Bulletin sponsorships** are available for October 16, October 30, and December 4. Radio sponsorship cost \$100 and bulletin sponsorship cost \$20. Please call Kelly in the church office if you are interested in sponsoring a date.

Upcoming LWML Events

Beatrice Zone LWML Fall Rally

Saturday, October 22, 2016 at Immanuel, Daykin

Opening at 9am. A Light lunch will be served.

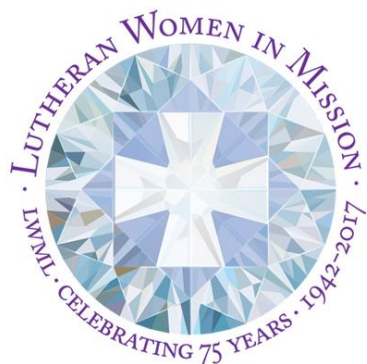
Theme: "Declare God's Glory" Psalm 96:3

LWML Christmas Tea

Sunday, December 4, 2016

1:30-3:30pm in the church basement
Installation of 2017 officers will be held.

Watch the bulletin for more updates!





SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School resumed on September 11th. Teachers this year include Dixie Johnson (Pre-S -K), Lacey Jurgens (1-3) and Robin Klaus (4-6). We are looking for substitute teachers, if you would like to be one or know of someone who may, contact Toree Lang.

Toree Lang, Sunday School Chairperson

BULLETINS RECEIVED

| | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| July 31 | Merle & Lora Kuhlmann | Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Auburn, NE |
| July 31 | Tamra Kuhlmann, Logan Glynn, & Xander Glynn | Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Auburn, NE |
| August 28 | Lora Kuhlmann | First Congregational Church of Weeping Water, NE |
| September 4 | Virginia Thomas | Trinity Lutheran Church, Atchison, KS |
| September 11 | Dorothy Nickels | Holy Savior Lutheran Church, Lincoln, NE |
| September 18 | Floice Meyer | Our Savior Lutheran Church, Odell, NE |
| September 25 | Althea Wiest | Hope Lutheran Church, Shawnee, KS |

Do You Have Some Free Time?

St. Paul's is always looking for volunteers to serve on the various Boards, to help out with the Turkey Supper in the fall, to help the Trustees with various cleanup activities throughout the year, to volunteer at Vacation Bible School in the summer, to help with funeral dinners, to teach Sunday School, or to help out in some other way. Volunteers are such an important part of St. Paul's! Contact the church office or a board member if you can help!



October Birthdays & Anniversaries - 2016

Happy Birthday to...

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Ronald McConnell | Dillon Rudder | 22 Mitchell Amundson |
| Paxton Teeter-Sewell | 11 Matthew Stover | Harlan Hintz |
| Vivian Zimmerman | 12 Janice McAllister | Kirk Spilker |
| 2 Cynthia Boyer | 13 Dustin Spilker | 23 Kathy Koenig |
| Diane Lux | 14 Stacey Benash | Ronald Meyer |
| Susan Yates | Terry Brethouwer | 24 Irene Daubendiek |
| 3 Larry Kinzie | 15 Dennis Hartig | Wilma Moon |
| 4 Myron Munn | Debora Lantz | 25 Della Knabe |
| 6 Carolyn Pacha | 16 Robert Denton | David Morris |
| Berniece Pffingsten | Brian Fossler | David Weise |
| 7 Shirley Hoyle | Michael Hahn | 26 Felicia Blythe |
| Tamitha Styers | Rhonda Zarybnicky | Lisa Roberts |
| 8 Constance Hartig | 17 Cathy Becker | Charles Rose Jr. |
| Toree Lang | Brady Bledsaw | 27 Mary Ann Stohs |
| Samantha Loseman | Zannie Smith | 28 Daylon Eckhoff |
| Darla Ramsey | 18 Michael Lueders | Ty Young |
| Mary Scheve | 19 Kristopher Johnson | 29 Sonia Grupe |
| Cody Walters | Pamela Rogge | Karla Hopkins |
| Spencer Weishahn | Judy Weakland | Tamra Little |
| 9 Tuff Lang | 20 Dolores Eggert | 30 Shirley Duensing |
| Elizabeth Wright | Samuel Reedy | Brooke Hartig |
| 10 Duane Daubendiek | Jessica Wehrbein | 31 Julie Sandman |
| Debra Hoadley | 21 Kathleen Buss | Mark Thomas |
| Trevor Polson | Leonard Esch | Kevin Weakland |
| Wanda Rains | Julie Fehn | |

Happy Anniversary to...

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Dale & Elizabeth DeBuhr, 34 yrs. | 16 Robert & Darlene Scheideler, 56 yrs. |
| 4 Robert & Connie Janssen, 52 yrs. | 20 Jeffrey & Kathleen Bishop, 16 yrs. |
| 5 David & Janet Trout, 32 yrs. | Michael & Deneta Hahn, 37 yrs. |
| 6 Glen & Verda Riekenberg, 59 yrs. | Kevin & Nicole Weishahn, 26 yrs. |
| 7 Lynn & Kristine Riekenberg, 21 yrs. | 24 Berri & Rhonda Easley, 24 yrs. |
| 9 Kevin & Brooke Ankersen, 23 yrs. | 29 Brian & Carissa Hoops, 11 yrs. |
| Zachary & Holly Carpenter, 6 yrs. | Kirk & Denise Spilker, 39 yrs. |
| 11 Brian & Patricia Clausen, 31 yrs. | |

If your information is missing or incorrect, please contact Kelly in the church office as work continues in order to keep our records up to date. We apologize for any errors.

*Visit our website for the latest updates at
stpaulbeatrice.org*

Stewardship Article

Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again. If you believe this gospel, if you stand upon it, and cling to it, you are saved. Trust in this is the dividing line. It defines, either positively or negatively, all men. It separates and divides Cain from Abel, Job from his so-called friends, Abraham from Abimelech, Isaac from Ishmael, Jacob from Esau, David from Saul, Daniel from Belshazzar, Joseph from Herod, Lazarus from the rich man, and the tax collector from the Pharisee. What defines men is not whether they are good or bad, but whether or not they believe in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

The problem with man is his heart. Our hearts are fallen and predisposed to think that we can impress God. We think that if we do all the right things God will reward us, and we will escape evil. We think that God will be impressed with our gifts, that our prosperity and goodness is evidence that God loves us or that it should motivate God to love us.

But we know better because God has blessed us with the faith of Abel, Job, and Abraham. We know that God's grace in Christ saves us, not our works.

We know that God is not impressed with our giving. He is not impressed when we give him that which is already his. God doesn't benefit from our giving and He doesn't need it. But our neighbor does need it. And God delights in us growing more and more like Him. He blesses us, and He invites us to bless one another with our giving: so that the Gospel may be proclaimed, so that the poor may be fed, so that all God's work through the Church may be done.

So consider God's priorities in comparison to your own. And be honest. Reevaluate where you are and where God has called you to be. Look into your own bank statement. Would any accountant think that the Church was your priority? He would see a spreadsheet filled with where your money actually goes: into house and clothing and cars, into eating out and beauty supplies and entertainment. Indeed, much of it wasted on frivolous things. But would he find great percentages going to the church? Figure up the percentage. Put it in relation to the proportion of your income. What percentage of your income do you give for the mission of the church: the preaching and teaching, the baptizing and communing, the help for the weak and poor brothers of Christ? Is it even enough for a deduction when you file your income taxes? The widow gave all she had and thought nothing of it. She was glad to do it. The rich man gave what to him was meaningless, trifle amount and desired a plaque in his honor. Why is it that the less we give the prouder we are and the more credit we expect?

All your works, even your monetary gifts, done in faith please God now for Christ's sake. No matter how great or small, frequent or infrequent. They are all washed and cleansed by grace through faith on account of Christ. Whatever you do from faith in God pleases him for the sake of the Son. So reevaluate your generosity in the light of the grace of Christ. Freely you have received, freely give.

How Do I Know that I'm a Christian? By Chad Bird

There are questions about ourselves that are easily answered, and there are other questions that present more of a challenge. If someone asks me, "Are you a husband?" I can show them my ring, present my wedding certificate, point to the woman standing next to me who shares my life and my last name. Yes, I am 100% sure that I'm married.

If someone asks me, "Are you an employee?" I can show them where I work, present my pay stubs, point to the truck with which I make deliveries. Yes, I am 100% sure that I'm an employee.

Other questions are not so easily answered. If I'm asked, "Are you a good husband?" what immediately comes to mind are the times I've failed my wife, acted selfishly, and been anything but a good husband. I have no real external, tangible, objective way to answer that question. I must rely on feelings and speculations. Similarly, if someone asks, "What kind of employee are you?" my mind goes to the labor I've put in, but also to the times I've slacked off yet expected a full paycheck for a half-hearted performance. What if I think I'm doing an okay job but my boss thinks differently and fires me?

There are questions about ourselves that are easily answered, and there are other questions about ourselves where we have to explore our hearts to test their sincerity, take account of the good and bad things we've done, focus inwardly to find the answer.

What about the question, "Are you a Christian?" Does this one belong to that second category, where we must explore our hearts, test our actions, focus inside ourselves to get to the right answer?

That's certainly what some people think. So they urge folks to ask themselves if they really believe, if they really love their neighbor, if they really live a moral life. But no matter how well intentioned such an urging might be, rather than helping, it pours the poison of doubt into the souls of those for whom Christ died.

Look inside yourself to answer, "Are you a Christian?" and what will you find? You'll find a heart that is deceitful above all things (Jeremiah 17:9); a heart from which flow evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander (Matthew 15:19); a conscience that testifies that nothing good dwells in you, that the evil you do not want to do, you nevertheless keep right on doing (Romans 7:18-19).

Look at your deeds to answer, "Are you a Christian?" and what will you find? You'll find that all your righteousness is as filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). And if such be your righteousness, how dirty and defiled must be your unrighteousness. Look at your deeds and you will find that even when you have the desire to do what is right, you don't have the ability to carry it out (Romans 7:18). Even if you did all that you were commanded, you must still say, "I am an unworthy servant; I have only done what was my duty," (cf. Luke 17:10). If such be the response of a person whose has kept all God's commands, then we who have broken those commands are worthy of nothing but punishment, now and forever.

Thus, to answer, “Are you a Christian?” by looking inside ourselves, or by looking to our deeds or love of the neighbor, is to drink the poison of doubt. *The more Christians look at themselves to see whether they are Christians, the more they will become convinced that they are not Christians.*

We don't look within ourselves to find out if we are Christians, but within Christ. Our assurance is in his objective, external work of salvation on our behalf. Not in our hearts but in the heart and life and death and resurrection of Jesus Christ do we receive assurance that we are the children of God.

In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself (2 Corinthians 5:19)—the world of which you are a part. In Christ you are reconciled to God, at peace with the Lord, adopted as a child of the heavenly Father. God loved the world in this way: by sending his only begotten Son to die as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. And if the world's sin is taken away, then your sins are taken away. God made him who knew no sin to be sin for us in order that in him we might become the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21). His worthiness covers our unworthiness.

Your name is written in the wounds of Jesus. He has dipped his pen in the crimson ink of his veins and written your name, indelibly, in the Lamb's Book of Life. He has engraved your name on the palms of his hands. He has tattooed his name onto your soul and heart and mind and body—you are completely and everlastingly his and his alone. In baptism you did not commit yourself to Christ; he committed himself to you. More than that, in those waters he crucified you with himself, laid your body with his in the tomb, and he carried you forth into the light of life again. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. That believing, that faith, is not a conviction you created but a gift you received. By the Holy Spirit you confess, “Jesus is Lord.”

Do we still struggle to believe? Of course we do, for we are far from perfect in this life. As a father once prayed to Jesus, so we also pray, “Lord, I believe; help Thou my unbelief,” (Mark 9:24). And he does. He enlivens and strengthens our faith by continuing to forgive us, to love us, to heal us, to give us himself. It is not our faithfulness that saves us, but the faithfulness of Jesus. For even if we are faithless he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself (2 Timothy 2:13).

How do you know you're a Christian? Not because your heart is good and pure but because the heart of Christ pulses with a love for you that will never end. Not because your deeds are righteous but because he has been righteous on your behalf and clothes you with that righteousness. Not because you have lived for him but because he has lived and died and risen again for you. Not because you asked him to be your Savior but because while you were yet a sinner, Christ died for you, chose you, called you, and washed you clean in his own divine blood.

If someone asks you, “How do you know you're a Christian?” the answer is as simple as it is beautiful: you know you're a Christian ...because Christ has made you his own; ...because Christ will hold you fast; ...because nothing can separate you from the love of God; ...because Christ knows you, forgives you, washes you, and will never let you go. That's how you know you're a Christian.