

**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 2018  
[Stpaulbeatrice.org](http://Stpaulbeatrice.org)**

## SCHOOL NEWS

*“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”*  
*Romans 6:3-4*

Thank you to everyone who attended our Grandparent’s Day program on Friday, March 9<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!

Our annual St. Paul’s School Spelling Bee has been scheduled for Monday evening, April 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. Students in Grades 1-5 will participate in spell downs in their grade.

In April, our students will be taking the Northwest Evaluation Association Map Growth tests, our standardized assessment which we take each fall and spring. It measures how much our students have grown in their skills throughout the year in the areas of Math, Reading, and Language Arts.

The teachers and students have begun work on this year’s school Musicals which are scheduled for Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. each evening. On the 20<sup>th</sup>, the first through fifth grade students will present the musical “A Not so Terrible Parable.” On the 27<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 Luther and registration forms can be found at [www.camluther.org](http://www.camluther.org). If you are interested in enrolling it is good to do so early as some camps fill up quickly.

The students and teachers are looking forward to learning through many educational field trips this month, including Pre-Kindergarten to the Children’s Museum in Lincoln, Kindergarten to Sheldon Art Museum and the Children’s Museum, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade to the Nebraska Capitol, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade to Earth Fest at Camp Jefferson.

Outdoor classroom and playground work days have been scheduled for Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00 p.m. On these evening we will be spreading mulch, planting flowers and perennial plants, tilling up the long jump pit, and re-spreading rubber mulch over our playground. With the track meet on May 4<sup>th</sup>, we would like our grounds to be in excellent shape for our many visitors! Please mark your calendars now and plan to help us. We will need wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels, garden hand tools, and many willing hands. A light supper will be served after the work nights.

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 (2018-2019). 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



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

- 10 – 2018-2019 Kindergarten Open House
- 20 – Grades 1-5 Musical
- 27 – Pre-School, Pre-Kindergarten, & Kindergarten Performances

**Our St. Paul's students will be singing** in church  
 on the following Sunday:  
 April 22, and May 13  
Dates are subject to change.



**SCHOOL PRAYER FAMILIES:** The staff of our St. Paul's Lutheran School will continue their Prayer Family ministry this year. Each week at faculty devotions and at Chapel they will be praying for some of the school families. As Christian mentors, we want to model for our students the importance of lifting up community members in prayer. Those families will also be included in the weekly prayers each Sunday.

**We need your radio voice!** The evangelism committee has recently started doing a voiceover during the 8:00 service on KWBE. The voiceover invites the community members to church and gives our phone number if anyone would like to call. We are asking for others to be the voice of St. Paul's. The spots are short (about 40 seconds). We can have a script available or you can make up your own. Please contact Carissa Hoops or Eric Klaus for more information or to make your recording. Thank you!

**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 and Bulletin Sponsorships** are available for 2018. Radio sponsorship cost \$100 and bulletin sponsorship cost \$20. Please call Kelly in the church office if you are interested in sponsoring a date.

**BULLETINS RECEIVED**

Date	Name	Church, City, State
March 4	Helen Burger	First Trinity Lutheran Church, Beatrice, NE
March 4	Vicki Frerking	Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Palmyra, NE
March 11	Arvid & Althea Wiest	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lincoln, Ne

9:00am-12:00pm and  
1:00pm-4:00pm,  
Monday thru Friday

The office may be closed on  
occasion, so please call  
ahead.



Pastor Reek will be in the church office  
on Monday's from 2:30pm until after  
service and Wednesday's from 9:30-  
1:00pm. Anyone needing/wishing to  
visit personally with pastor, please  
contact the church office. Pastor Reek  
can also be reached at 402-476-2828  
or at [Dirk.Reek@cune.edu](mailto:Dirk.Reek@cune.edu).



**Every Sunday**

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

**Every Monday**

7:00pm - Divine Service



**ADULT BIBLE CLASS on Sunday Mornings at 9:15am:**

Join us during April as we continue spending time  
in God's Word together as a congregation.

Everyone is encouraged to attend.



CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

**Second Quarter Voter's Meeting  
Sunday, April 15, 2018**

Voter's Meeting at 1:30pm in the church basement

In the event the meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup> is cancelled,  
it will be rescheduled for Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm  
in the church basement.

## April Birthdays & Anniversaries - 2018

### Happy Birthday to...

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 1 Colby Huls   | Kevin Rahe   | Joyce Oltman  |
| 2 Alysia Brethouwer<br>Erik Weakland   | 13 Peggy Doering<br>Olga Franzen                         | Travis Snyder<br>Mike Southwick   |
| 3 John Hill<br>Amy Southwick   | Lacey Jurgens<br>Savannah Scheideler                     | 24 Rhonda Easley<br>Rodney Lueders  |
| 4 Shelbi Ankersen  | 14 Aaron Leach   | 25 Marlene Gakle  |
| 5 Robert Ankersen<br>Virginia Thomas   | Lawrence Sohl<br>Carolina VanLaningham                   | Jeffrey Junker<br>Natasha Leach   |
| 6 Terri Brejcha<br>Sue Fisher<br>Chris Schulz  | 15 Vernon Minge<br>Tatum Robinson<br>Janet Trout         | Karlee Rademacher<br>Bonnie Riekenberg  |
| 7 Marilyn Jones  | 16 Eric Bledsaw  | 26 Steven Norton<br>Michael Snyder  |
| 9 Keifer Crosier<br>Crystal Henshaw<br>Lawrence Johnsen<br>Tanna Kimmerling<br>Max Rix<br>Chelsey Walters<br>William Wehling | 18 Marjorie Itzen<br>19 Virgil Anderson<br>Trevor Garton | 27 Joanna Gellermann-Long<br>Jami Thavenet<br>Jessica Wilkinson<br>Jacob Wright |
| 10 Floice Meyer<br>Dustin Rose   | 20 Braedon Rademacher                                    | 29 Brock Ankersen   |
| 11 Vernon Kadlec   | 21 Thelma Loemker  | 30 Samuel Busboom<br>Lee Hahn<br>Jeremiah Klaus<br>Cassandra Knoop              |
|  | 22 Willis Crouse<br>Kaylin Hagemeyer<br>Quintin Hartig   |   |
|  | 23 Amber Engler<br>Mark Engler                           |   |

### Happy Anniversary to...

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 3 Bryan & Renee McAllister, 30 yrs.    | 24 Lawrence & Bonnie Workman, 69 yrs. |
| 4 Ronald & Crystal Meyer, 31 yrs.      | 28 Charles & Winifred Ellis, 56 yrs.  |
| 5 Martin & Marlene Seckel Jr., 55 yrs. | Brian & Megan Rix, 6 yrs.             |
| 16 Neal & Julie Niedfeldt, 35 yrs.     | 30 James & Rose Pittman, 24 yrs.      |
| 17 Craig & Tiffany Wallman, 19 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](http://stpaulbeatrice.org)*



## Upcoming LWML Events

### **LWML Executive Board Meetings**

First Tuesday of each month at 2pm in the church basement.

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### **Zone Spring Workshop**

April 28, 2018

Host Site:

St. Peter's Lutheran Church,  
Wymore, NE

Theme: "A Balancing Act"  
Hebrews 12:2

8:30am Registration with a 9am start.  
Lunch will be served  
8am meet to carpool & ready to leave parking lot

Watch the bulletin for more updates!

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Zone Fall Workshop**

October 2018

Host Site:

Trinity Lutheran Church,  
Jansen, NE

Watch the bulletin for more updates!

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### **38<sup>th</sup> Biennial National Convention**

June 20-23, 2019

Host Site:

Mobile, Alabama

Theme: "In Praise to the Lord"  
1 Chronicles 16:23-24a

Watch the bulletin for more updates!

### **Seek & Serve Day NE North & South Districts**

Saturday, April 21, 2018

Host Site:

Peace Lutheran Church, Columbus, NE

8:30am-4:00pm

Cost: \$15.00 includes lunch

There is a possibility those who want to attend could carpool in a 15-passenger van with Pastor Stuckwisch. Registration deadline is April 6.

Watch the bulletin for more updates!

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### **Mother/Daughter Banquet**

Entertainers: The "Seniorettes"

Wednesday, May 2, 2018

6:30pm to 8:30pm

Host Site:

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Beatrice, NE  
in the Fellowship Hall

Theme:

"Your Purse-onal Journey"

Bring a friend!

Watch the bulletin for more updates!

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### **District Convention**

September 14-15, 2018

Host Site:

Younes Conference Center,  
Kearney, NE

Theme: "Daughters of the King-Sisters in Christ"

Watch the bulletin for more updates!

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**New Nebraska South LWML Website**

[www.lwmlnesouth.org](http://www.lwmlnesouth.org)

# St. Paul's Lutheran Child Care Center



*Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.  
Colossians 2:6-7*

The Child Care Committee work continues, and the group has been meeting weekly and their work is ongoing.

**WONDERFUL NEWS....** In December a grant was submitted to DHHS on behalf of the Child Care center for \$8,202.43. The committee is please to announce that in early February we were award \$7,891.26 to be used for the Child Care Center. In the coming month, we plan to make the purchases associated with the grant.

Currently, we are working on:

- 1) Licensing Paperwork -We be sent in in early April.
- 2) Personnel Handbook
- 3) Fulfilling the requirements of the grant received
- 4) Pursuing candidates to call as a Director/Staff

Thank you to everyone who helped install the chain link fence at the school. Once all of the final touches are done the paperwork for our license will be submitted.

If anyone would like to help offset the cost of opening the center or for a new building in the future, you may place your contribution in the offering plate or drop it by the church office. Please mark your contributions by writing Child Care Fund or Child Care New Building in the memo line.

The Child Care Committee has been meeting weekly and their work is ongoing. Continue to watch the newsletter each month as updates as to the Board's progress will be communicated.

## SCHOOL PLAYGROUND WORK NIGHTS

Outdoor classroom and playground work days have been scheduled for Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

On these evening we will be spreading mulch, planting flowers and perennial plants, tilling up the long jump pit, and re-spreading rubber mulch over our playground. With the track meet on May 4<sup>th</sup>, we would like our grounds to be in excellent shape for our many visitors! Please mark your calendars now and plan to help us. We will need wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels, garden hand tools, and many willing hands. A light supper will be served after the work nights.



## **Stewardship Article**

Our Father in heaven sent His Son, Jesus, to be our savior. His atoning sacrifice is the first fruits of all the dead, a pleasing aroma to His Father – and ours – so that His perfect life and death count for all who believe in Him.

He claimed us as His own children in Holy Baptism. He sustains and strengthens our faith with His Holy Word and His Body and Blood. As new creatures, who have put on Christ, we bear good fruit. We do the good works prepared for us, which He makes known to us in His Word.

By faith then, trusting in the Word of God, we do what he says because He does not lie and always keeps His promises. For “without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (Heb. 11:6).

And so the Lord promises: “Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine” (Prov. 3:9-10).

How do we honor the Lord with the wealth that God has given us in His generosity? By giving it generously to those whom the Lord has called us to love and support: your family, your society, and your church. And His promise is that in so doing, you will never lack.

I can almost hear it now: “But that’s from the Old Testament!” But our Lord Jesus Himself gives us similar promises in the New Testament. He says, at the conclusion of the parable of the talents, “For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance” (Matt. 25:29).

And then at the end of the parable of the dishonest manager, he says: “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money” (Luke 16:10–13).

And in His sermon on the mount, he says: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:19–21).

We have become conditioned against these promises because of their misuse by the peddlers of the prosperity gospel – the guys on TV who say you get rich by putting God in your debt. And thus, we miss out on the fact that God does reward temporal faithfulness in temporal matters with temporal blessings.

It’s no quid pro quo. It’s all from God’s grace, His fatherly divine goodness and mercy. But those Bible passages just quoted do in fact say what they say! It’s not the Old Testament’s problem. It’s ours. It is almost as if we have become so jaded against this that we think it a virtue to be stingy with our offerings.

But our Father in heaven still loves to bless those who bless others. He loves to give to those who give freely and generously. In fact, he challenges us to challenge Him: “Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need” (Mal. 3:10).

And so, while we don’t give so that we would get, we do receive from the Lord in order to give, and He will bless your giving with more receiving. For “He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things” (Rom. 8:32)?





The LYF are also selling Super Wash car wash tokens – 5 for \$20!! They are available in the church office.



### Sonic Community First Cards

Youth planning to attend the National Youth Gathering have Sonic Community First cards for sale for only \$5.00. It includes the following tickets: 2 for a regular breakfast burrito for 99 cents; 1 for kids meal for \$1.99; 2 for buy a cheeseburger, get one free; 1 for buy 6" beef hot dog, get one free; 1 for buy a single-topping sundae, get one free; 2 for large soft drink for 99 cents; 1 for buy a chicken sandwich, get one free. Thank you for your continued support of our youth!!

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School is Sunday mornings at 9:15am in the church basement. We are looking for more Sunday school teachers for youth through high school. Some of our teachers would like to teach for a month, then have a month off to attend Pastor's Bible Class. If you would be willing to teach for a month or every other month, please contact Kelly at the church office. Your help would be deeply appreciated. Thank you.





### **BEATRICE CIRCUIT SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Students seeking church worker training at any Synod University or Seminary may be eligible for a Scholarship from the Scholarship Fund of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Beatrice. Applications are to be submitted by April 15, 2018. Please request application forms via e-mail: [stpaulbeatrice@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulbeatrice@gmail.com) or via phone: Kelly Mees, Office Manager, 402-228-1540.

### **LWML SCHOLARSHIP**

The Nebraska South District Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) hopes to encourage students preparing to serve the church through full-time church work with our gift of love in the form of a scholarship. Information and applications may be obtained from the student's local LWML society or at [www.lwmlnesouth.org](http://www.lwmlnesouth.org). Completed applications are due **June 1, 2018**. For direct questions, contact Heidi Crawford at [hcrawford777@gmail.com](mailto:hcrawford777@gmail.com).

### **LLL SCHOLARSHIP**

Are you interested in full-time church work? Now is the time to apply for an LLL Scholarship Grant! Request applications from Virginia Von Seggern at email [virginia.vonseggern251@gmail.com](mailto:virginia.vonseggern251@gmail.com) or phone 402-655-2254. They are also available on the website of the Nebraska District LC-MS ([www.ndlcms.org](http://www.ndlcms.org)). Applications are due in mid-May of 2018, apply early. We are grateful for those students interested in full-time church work. Have you had an LLL Scholarship Grant previously? You **MUST RE-APPLY** to extend your grant each year.

## **Recognition of an Individual**



**Thank You For  
Your Efforts!**

Our church and school have numerous volunteers and leaders that contribute to our organizations. The Stewardship Committee is offering an opportunity to recognize these individuals. This recognition will come from each of you as you have the opportunity to nominate someone to be recognized. This recognition will be listed in the monthly newsletter. How do you nominate? There is a colorful box in the narthex with nomination forms beside it. Simply fill out the form and drop it in the box. This will be an ongoing project, and you are welcome to nominate numerous times. Thank you!!

Congratulations to the following members who were nominated:

**Leonard & Evelyn Workman** – For continued support of the LYF with the Superwash Fundraiser opportunity all these years. They are so kind and helpful when we need to replenish our supply. You are much appreciated!

**Ivan Stohs** – For his involvement in many areas of the church. He was the go to guy for the trustee's questions on repairs at the church and school.

**Robert & Vicki Frerking** – For all they both do for our church. It is much appreciated.

Thank you to all our volunteers, but especially to Leonard, Evelyn, Ivan, Robert, and Vicki for this newsletter period. We encourage congregational members to nominate someone.



Friends in the Savior,

By the time our newsletter is in your mailboxes, we will have basked in the great comfort and strength of Easter Sunday. There is a great tendency to see that great news of Jesus' resurrection as a focus only on reassurance at the time of death. It is so much more. Easter is really the anchor for all Christian hope and living.

His resurrection is the absolute assurance of our forgiven relationship with the Father. His resurrection means that we live a resurrected life with him already that will culminate in our own resurrections from the grave. His resurrection means that we are never alone, even in our darkest hour. His resurrection is the basis of all that we Christians hold dear. Our confidence, an old hymn says, rests upon the hope it gives us.

Because of Easter we have sure answers to the three questions of life: Who am I? Where am I going? Why am I here? You are a child of God by his sheer claim of love upon you. You are going to spend eternity in the presence of your Father. You are here as his liberated servant for the sake of his entire world.

Happy Easter! And happy Easter season...It goes on for seven weeks!

Calendars and days change; our hope doesn't.

Our lives and settings change also even though our hope doesn't.

You have given me the honor of serving among you as intentional interim pastor for a year. I have been sharing with the board of elders and district president that I think you are ready for and need to start making your transition to your next pastor; and I think they are in accord with this. Much of what we together thought you could and should start considering for the next chapter of your history is well underway. In your April voters meeting, your mission focus/by-laws committee will bring to you consideration for a new focus and new by-laws for accomplishing that focus. You have begun to undertake some experimenting with liturgy and more is planned and will be proposed. You have begun training for congregational witness to your faith in the Lord Jesus with "Everyone His Witness." You are working more directly to bring your worship ministry and your school ministry into a common focus. You have moved in the direction of attuning your congregation's work into the hurts and hopes of your community.

Part of my personal concern is the awareness that my recent twelve years in the classroom has put me out of touch with some of the approaches and tools that our congregations are using to put legs on the changes you're working toward. The elders, district president, and I have been thinking that even before your next called pastor comes, working with a vacancy pastor might be a most helpful step.

It has been our thought that at the end of April I could and should put your call back into your hands. I do that with personal sadness, for you are a wonderful people to have served among. I do it also with a great sense of excitement for you all as you move into the Lord's future. Happy Easter.

Rev. Dr. J. Dirk Reek