

**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  
JUNE & JULY 2018**

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



## Giving Comes from God

God's character is giving. *"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?"* (Romans 8:32). God never stops giving to us. First God loved, then He gave, and He keeps on giving. The God Who lives in us is loving and giving by nature. The very center of the Gospel is giving by God. *"For God so loved the world that He gave..."* (John 3:16). Salvation, eternal life, and, in fact, everything that we have or ever will have are gifts from God.

Filled with God's love and receivers of His redemptive grace, we become givers ourselves. Giving is a picture of the character of God in the lives of faithful and fruitful stewards. By God's grace, we grow in our giving. As God changes our hearts, we become generous people. The following Bible verses will help us understand some Biblical truths regarding giving:

*"...they gave themselves first to the Lord"* (2 Corinthians 8:5). The apostle Paul wrote that the people in the Macedonian Church gave more than they were capable because they gave a complete gift of self in body and soul to the Lord. With a committed heart, giving is made easy.

*"...a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God"* (Philippians 4:18). Paul wrote that the gifts to Him from the Philippian Church provided all the things he needed. The sacrificial giving of the people in Philippi and our sacrificial giving represent giving that is pleasing to the Lord.

*"...ministry for the saints"* (2 Corinthians 9:1 NIV). Paul stated that the gift from the Corinthian people to the Jerusalem Church, which was experiencing a great hardship and famine, was *"...ministry for the saints."* Our giving is a service of love to Christians who are in need.

*"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7). God loves cheerful givers, and cheerful givers love God. Our giving should be done willingly, from voluntary spirits.

John said, *"But if anyone has world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."* (1 John 3:17-18). We share God's love by sharing what we have with others who are in need.

Knowing that God loves us so much that He sent His only Son to save us from sin, death, and the devil, how can we not express our love, worship, and gratitude through our giving? May God grant us all generous and cheerful giving hearts.

Have Blessed and enjoyable summer with your Lord and Savior who gave His all for you.

*In the Master's Service,  
Pastor Robert Wiest*

## SCHOOL NEWS

Exodus 15:2 The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation;  
this is my God, and I will praise him,  
my father's God, and I will exalt him.

The final day for the 2017-2018 school year was Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. The school year ended with a Chapel service led by Pastor Wiest. We also enjoyed a wonderful school carnival that evening with a petting zoo, pony rides, games and fun for the whole school community. As we look back over this past school year, we are thankful for the many blessings which we have received from God and we praise Him for all He has done for us. We are thankful especially for all the work that has been done to add a child care ministry to our school this fall.

We say thank you to parents, students, teachers, pastors, secretary, teachers' assistants, custodian, "Caring Grandparents", and St. Paul's members for all their work and prayers throughout the school year. We are truly blessed with a dedicated group of people at St. Paul's and we say Thank You for using your talents and resources for the Lord and our school.

Congratulations to the 2018 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduates. Fifth grade graduation was held on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 AM worship service. Our 2018 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduates were: Isaias Achtemeier, Makenna Crook, Ethan Jobman, Jeremiah Klaus, Morgan Maschmann, Kendall Oates, Owen Reis, Tobin Robinson, Brooklyn Schafer, Taylor Schuster.

Information concerning Registration Day for the 2018-2019 school year will be mailed in July. Registration Days will be held on August 1st from 5:00-8:00 PM and August 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00-5:00 PM for students in Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> Grade. On August 9<sup>th</sup>, a Registration/Open House will be held for the Pre-School (age 3) from 4:00-7:30 PM. On August 13<sup>th</sup>, a Registration/Open House will be held for Pre-Kindergarten (age 4) from 4:00-7:30 PM. The first day of school for the 2018-2019 school year will be on Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-11:45 AM for Kindergarten- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. The first Pre-Kindergarten classes will be on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at their regular times and the first Pre-School classes will be on Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at their regular times. Parents watch your mail in mid-July for more information.

If any church members are interested in sending their children to the child care center at St. Paul's, please contact Mrs. Duever at the school office (402) 223-3414 or [aduever@stpaulbeatrice.org](mailto:aduever@stpaulbeatrice.org) for more information.

The school office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Monday through Thursday for the months of June and July.

In Christ,  
Amy Duever, Principal

## Brief Background of Reverend Robert Wiest

Reverend Robert Wiest was born and raised in Rapid City, SD, the third of four sons to Calvin and Darline Wiest. He was baptized and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in Rapid City, SD. HE graduated high school from Rapid City Central High. IN December of 1979 he married Kathy Schardt of Carleton, NE and they were blessed with three children: Their Oldest son and his wife, Jeremy & Melissa Wiest and their three children Kalvin, Lila and Naomi live Sedalia, MO; their daughter and husband, Kristina and Drew Urban and their two children Alexis and Ryan live in Houston, TX; and their youngest son, Nathan Wiest lives in Lincoln, NE. Pastor Wiest farmed for about 8 ½ years around Hebron, Carleton and Deshler, NE area on his wife's family farm. IN the summer of 1990 Pastor Wiest went back to school at Concordia University, Seward, NE to finish his degree and graduated with a B.A. in Human Psychology and Director of Christian Education (DCE) certification in 1994. Pastor Wiest obtained a M.S. in Family Life Science from Concordia University, Seward, NE in 2000. He was a DCE for eight years in three congregational settings when he heeded God's call to go to seminary and become a pastor. He attended Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO and did his delayed convertible vicarage at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Staplehurst, NE beginning July 2003 and ending June 2004. Pastor Wiest graduate from seminary with an Alternate Route Certification leading to Ordination (Master of Divinity degree) and was ordained in August of 2004 and was Called to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and School, Staplehurst, NE and was installed as their pastor. Pastor Wiest then accepted a Call to serve as Senior Pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and School, North Platte, NE in November of 2009 and was installed on January 24, 2010. Pastor Wiest has been serving the Lord in professional ministry, both as a DCE and Pastor, for 22 plus years. Currently Pastor Wiest and his wife Kathy are living in Lincoln, NE. He looks forward to serving God and members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church as Vacancy Pastor.

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**Radio Broadcasts** are available for July 22, October 14, October 21, October 28, November 11, November 18, November 25, December 2, and December 30. **Bulletin Sponsorships** are available for July 1, Jul 22, July 29, September 2, September 9, September 16, September 30, October 14, and every Sunday the rest of the year. 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
April 29	Helen Burger	Zion Lutheran Church, Kearney, NE
April 29	Lora Kuhlmann	First Congregational Church of Weeping Water, NE
April 29	Bob & Vicki Frerking	Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, NE
April 22	Geri Heist	Trinity Lutheran Church, DeWitt, NE
May 6	Arvid & Althea Wiest	Hope Lutheran Church, Shawnee, KS

**CHURCH USAGE POLICY:** All requests to use the church for a meeting or activity (i.e. – the fellowship hall for a baby shower or meeting, etc.) must be approved by the church office. If you would like to reserve the church, contact the church office. If your request is approved, Kelly will confirm with you the date is available. If your request is not received by the church office prior to scheduling your event you may not be able to hold your event.

**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.

**AMAZON SMILE:** Doing any online shopping? Log on to smile.amazon.com and set St. Paul's Lutheran Church as your organization, and a portion of the sales will be donated to St. Paul's. This is a free, easy way to support our school. When searching for our organization it needs to read SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH in order to find it. SAINT does need to be spelled out.

**SERMONS:** Did you know that many of our sermons from the past year are available on our website? Visit <http://stpaulbeatrice.org/sermon/> to browse the archive. More sermons as well as full services and other special event recordings are coming soon!

**A CHALLENGE:** There are a number of members of St. Paul's that we have not seen in church for some time. St. Paul's challenges each one of you to take a look through our church directory and find at least one brother or sister in Christ to reach out to them and let them know you care about them and to encourage them to come and receive the gifts of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**DORCAS BOUTIQUE:** Just a reminder: The Card Boutique has a large variety of lovely greeting cards. It is in the fellowship hall. Stop by on Sunday's between services or during the week days the church office will assist you. Single cards can be purchased for \$0.60 and a box of cards sells for \$6.00.

**OUTREACH PROGRAMS:** Have ideas for a church outreach program? There is a tan colored box on the table in the narthex with a short form, so you can give the Evangelism Board some details and information on your great idea. Thank you for your input!

**COFFEE CREW:** Share your smile and great cooking by being part of the Coffee Crew! Evangelism is looking for people to serve coffee hour between services. Evangelism will provide the coffee and supplies; you provide the treats and a smile. If you have questions, please see a member of the board. There is a sign-up sheet next to the window in the basement. Thank you for your help!

**Do you need a prayer?** If you would like a prayer for you at church, please call the church office by Thursday to be included in the bulletin. Please do this once you know that you need prayers, especially if you will be having medical procedures and will be in the hospital. The hospitals do not contact the church if you are having surgery or are hospitalized. Please leave your name and number when contacting the church office, so we can return your call.

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

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



Pastor Wiest will be in the church office  
on Wednesday's from 10:00am-  
12:00pm and 1:30-2:30pm. Anyone  
needing / wishing to visit personally  
with pastor, please contact the church  
office. Pastor Wiest can also be reached  
at [revmeisterorlcs@gmail.com](mailto:revmeisterorlcs@gmail.com).



**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 June & July as we continue spending time  
in God's Word together as a congregation.

We will begin a new study on the LORD'S PRAYER  
on June 3 and it will run for 10 weeks.

Everyone is encouraged to attend. We Look forward to seeing you.



CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

**Third Quarter Voter's Meeting  
Sunday, July 15, 2018**

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

In the event the meeting on July 15<sup>th</sup> is cancelled,  
it will be rescheduled for Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30pm in  
the church basement.

## June Birthdays & Anniversaries - 2018

### Happy Birthday to...

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p>1 Todd Lineweber<br/>June Martin</p> <p>2 Hunter Hopkins<br/>Jackson Huls<br/>Leah Malchow<br/>Alan Mentgen</p> <p>3 Alexander Brown<br/>Suzanne Munn<br/>Heath Wester</p> <p>4 Lodeen Clausen<br/>Michael Johnson Sr.<br/>Amanda Luehring<br/>Seth Malchow<br/>Wynn Reiman</p> <p>5 Jessica Leseberg<br/>Julie Niedfeldt</p> <p>6 Madison Brown<br/>Brayton Rogge</p> <p>7 Judith Braun<br/>Joseph Condon<br/>Madeline Heard<br/>Janet Hiner<br/>Iris Hintz<br/>Shane Stark<br/>Lorraine Tilton</p> <p>8 Brooke Ankersen</p> | <p>Gavin Hahn<br/>Adam Hopkins<br/>Peggy Wallman</p> <p>9 Lynette Reinke<br/>Marjorie Rogge<br/>Joyce Swanson<br/>Gina Yoder</p> <p>10 Kevin Petersen<br/>Sarah Riekenberg<br/>Claudine Schmidt</p> <p>12 Beverly Duensing<br/>Brian Hagemeyer<br/>Audrey Lauterbach<br/>Liberty Oltmans</p> <p>13 Lisa VanWesten</p> <p>14 Robert Henrichs<br/>David Trout</p> <p>15 Winifred Ellis<br/>Monte Lofing<br/>Lois Podendorf</p> <p>16 Eyan Loseman</p> <p>17 Duane Johnsen</p> <p>18 Amanda Brand<br/>Ashley Murray</p> <p>19 Kimberly Rademacher</p> <p>20 Robert Janssen</p> | <p>21 Larry Eckhoff<br/>Rochelle Hirschler<br/>Sherry Rogge<br/>Abigail Stark<br/>Amy Thomas</p> <p>22 Elaine Connelly<br/>Austin Hinz<br/>Lynn Riekenberg<br/>Larry Weishahn</p> <p>23 Teresa Hatzenbuehler<br/>Caroline Heard<br/>Amy Rademacher</p> <p>24 Mary Ann Ludders<br/>Jeffrey Riekenberg</p> <p>25 Chloe Jurgens<br/>Nicole Weishahn</p> <p>26 Carlyn Koenig</p> <p>28 Cecelia Grosse<br/>Eric Jobman</p> <p>29 Sarah Doyle<br/>Andrew Zimmerman</p> <p>30 Jason Duff<br/>Benjamin Noojin<br/>Carla Scott</p> |
|--|---|---|

### Happy Anniversary to...

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Michael &amp; Amy Duever, 16 yrs.</p> <p>3 Alan &amp; Candice Mentgen, 41 yrs.</p> <p>4 David &amp; Shelia Meyer, 35 yrs.</p> <p>6 Jarrod &amp; Amanda Brand, 9 yrs.</p> <p>7 Alexander &amp; Samantha Aldag, 4 yrs.<br/>Tommy &amp; Nancy Rudder, 32 yrs.</p> <p>8 Brain &amp; Angie Fossler, 22 yrs.<br/>Dennis &amp; Constance Hartig, 56 yrs.<br/>David &amp; Rhonda Weise, 34 yrs.</p> <p>9 Brian &amp; Carla Walters, 34 yrs.</p> | <p>10 Dale &amp; Marilyn Adam, 40 yrs.</p> <p>11 Lawrence &amp; Melody Johnsen, 40 yrs.</p> <p>13 Dale &amp; Rhonda Rickers, 37 yrs.</p> <p>15 Ron &amp; Brandy Scheer, 22 yrs.</p> <p>19 Kevin &amp; Annette Kimmerling, 36 yrs.</p> <p>21 Jeff &amp; Danielle Berry, 10 yrs.</p> <p>22 Steven &amp; Julie Sandman, 27 yrs.</p> <p>24 Lonnie &amp; Beverly Duensing, 46 yrs.</p> <p>26 Larry &amp; Teresa Workman, 36 yrs.</p> |
|--|---|

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

## July Birthdays & Anniversaries – 2018

### Happy Birthday to...

- |                         |                      |                       |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Tara Dunker           | Miles Norris         | Brian Rix             |
| Alexa Eckhoff           | 12 Victoria Frerking | 23 Deneta Hahn        |
| James Grupe             | Clayton Schwisow     | Larry Huls            |
| 2 Kelsie (Melia) Blythe | 13 Lila Brollhorst   | Timothy Johnsen       |
| Mason Blythe            | Andrea Engler        | Carol Lohse           |
| Brooklyn Mentgen-Duff   | Keith Krecklow       | Mitchell Trout        |
| Melissa Rickers         | Bonnie Oestreich     | Douglas Wergin        |
| Larry Workman           | 14 Donna Huls        | Lawrence Workman      |
| 3 Darin Smith           | Lucas Noojin         | 24 Clair Duensing     |
| 4 Patricia Clausen      | 15 Norma Orth        | Carla Walters         |
| Andrew Hammond          | Keysha Wolf          | 25 Randy Norris       |
| Rhonda Minzel           | 17 Bently Poling     | Robert Pfingsten      |
| 5 Ronald Buss           | Eric Fricke          | 26 Lloyd VanLaningham |
| Michelle Junker         | 18 Anthony May       | 27 Nicholas Koenig    |
| Patricia Sunderland     | Dillon Siebe         | Steven Scheideler     |
| 6 Brian May             | 19 Sophia Eisele     | Naomi Schroeder       |
| Verda Riekenberg        | Tracie Fossler       | 28 Doris Lueders      |
| Brandon Thomas          | William Heard        | 29 Tammy Brown        |
| 7 Dale Adam             | Rebecca Jobman       | 30 Cody Brown         |
| 8 Shiloh Wallman        | Angel Stewart        | Ashley Mentgen-Duff   |
| 9 Marilyn Hammond       | 20 Kayla Murray      | 31 Reginald Kumm      |
| 10 Cassidy Thavenet     | 21 Kathy Smith       | Verjean Noojin        |
| 11 Angie Fossler        | 22 Natasha Martin    |                       |
| Monica Meyer            |                      |                       |

### Happy Anniversary to...

- |                                       |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Ryan & Peggy Loseman, 30 yrs.       | 14 Ronald & Rebecca Jobman, 44 yrs.   |
| Norbert & Tena Meyer, 58 yrs.         | Donald & Carolyn Junker, 50 yrs.      |
| 2 George & Felicia Blythe, 28 yrs.    | 22 Dale & Jonetta Hagemeyer, 23 yrs.  |
| 5 Richard & Lynette Hartman, 21 yrs.  | 26 LaVerne & Tanya Malchow, 43 yrs.   |
| 8 Todd & Elizabeth Lineweber, 18 yrs. | Randy & Laura-Leigh Norris, 10 yrs.   |
|                                       | 27 Keith & Patricia Krecklow, 69 yrs. |

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## Upcoming LWML Events

### **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!

### **LWML Executive Board Meetings**

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

Next meeting will be August 7<sup>th</sup>.

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### **Zone Fall Workshop**

October 2018

Host Site:

Trinity Lutheran Church,  
Jansen, NE

Watch the bulletin for more updates!

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### **Nebraska South LWML Website**

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

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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!

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**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 kid's 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!

**Salt Dog Tickets:** The youth attending the National Youth Gathering are selling tickets to a Salt Dogs game that will be on Wednesday, June 20, at 6:45 pm. The opponents will be the St. Paul Saints. The tickets are at the club level and will cost \$18 each. This event is open to anyone, not just St. Paul's members. So, get a group of friends together, enjoy an evening at a Salt Dogs game and support the youth. You may purchase tickets from the following: Olivia Aden, Ashton, Sandman, Sydney Southwick, Logan Glynn, Natalie Klaus, Sarah Scheer, Alex Holle, Olivia Hatzenbuehler, Faith Kelley, Billy Kelley, Connor Kelley, Shelbi Ankersen, or Carla Loemker. Also, a warning, the pink flamingoes will be making visits again beginning mid-July! And you can have your cars washed in August. Thank you for your support.

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

# 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 has been meeting weekly and their work is ongoing. Continue to watch the bulletin for updates as to the Board's progress will be communicated.

Currently, we are working on:

- 1) Licensing paperwork was mailed, and our licensing visit happened in early May.
- 2) A walk through by the Fire Marshall and a Sanitation Inspection have been completed. The school passed both inspections.
- 3) Personnel and Parent Handbooks have been finished and Board for Parish Education has adopted them.
- 4) Job descriptions for the director, teacher, and staff have been written and adopted by the Board for Parish Education.
- 5) In February we were award \$7,891.26 from the DHHS grant we submitted in December. We are currently working on fulfilling the requirements of the grant by purchasing items for the new classroom. Examples of items being purchased are: desks, chairs, sand and water table, classroom activities, cots, and sheets.
- 6) Pursuing and interviewing candidates to call as a Director/Staff.
- 7) Cupboards have been ordered for the current computer lab, which will be the new Early Childhood Room.

Anticipated opening day of the Child Care Center is August 1<sup>st</sup>. Watch the bulletins this summer for when volunteers will be needed to help get the school ready for opening day.

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.



## **Special Voter's Meeting** **Sunday, June 10, 2018** at 1:30pm in the church basement

Items on the agenda are:

1. Hiring a Child Care Director
2. Hiring a Child Care Lead Teacher
3. Voting on two new members to the Board for Parish Education
4. Project Lead the Way
5. Salaries for Child Care Staff

## Stewardship Article

“There are three conversions necessary to every man: the head, the heart, and the purse.” Attributed to Luther, though yet to be located in his vast writings, this statement echoes what Jesus taught about hearts and treasures. He said, “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:21; Luke 12:34).

But which conversion comes first? I submit that the order is this: first the head, then the purse, then the heart. Let me explain.

Our Lord Jesus Christ dwelt among us to save us. He took on our flesh, fulfilled the demands of the law in our place, became sin for us, and suffered torture and death on our behalf, in order that we would be free from sin, death, and hell. He gives us what He accomplished through Baptism, Absolution, and the Lord’s Supper.

And so, He doesn’t just do it for us but gives it to us, makes what He did ours by making us His. Thus, we are called by His name: Christians. We have a new life in Him.

Through the preaching of Law and Gospel, God grants us repentance, a changing of our minds. It is a conversion of the mind. We are called to turn away from our sins and turn toward Him for forgiveness, life, and salvation. For when God calls us away from something, He is, at the same time, calling us to something.

And thus, He calls us to a new life, with new deeds. This is the conversion of the purse. Jesus said that “it is easier for a camel to enter through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God” (Matthew 19:24). “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Notice that our hearts follow our treasures, not the other way around. As Christians, God calls us to invest our treasures in His Kingdom to ensure that the gospel is preached, and the sacraments are administered. He calls us to share all good things with the one who teaches us the doctrines of Christ. He calls us to be generous in giving to the church, for it is more blessed to give than to receive.

So where is your treasure? If it is not invested in the kingdom of God, then the only response is repentance—a conversion of the heart—and to begin doing just that. And as our Lord promised, where your treasure is there your heart will be also.

This is not to say that you earn your way into heaven. It is simply to say that as Christians, those who have been made to be temples of the Holy Spirit, who have been given a new life in Christ, who are dead to sin and now alive in Him, we are, actually, to live — think (conversion of the mind), do (conversion of the purse), and be (conversion of the heart) — a new life in Him.

And when you fail, know that God in Christ loves and forgives you and still calls you away from that and to Himself.

*By Rev. Jason Braaten  
Immanuel Lutheran Church – Tuscola, Ill.*

**DOOR OFFERING:** We have an opportunity to share our Christian love and gifts. Dan Leseberg, Jessica Leseberg's father, is on a waiting list for a liver transplant. Jessica is one of our St. Paul's teachers. The Stewardship Committee will be hosting a freewill door offering on Sunday, June 10. Thank you for supporting our teacher and her family. The money will go to Dan for medical expenses.