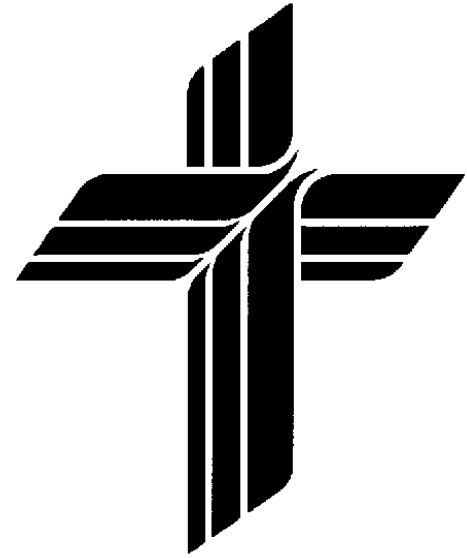


ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
321 NORTH 10TH STREET  
BEATRICE, NE 68310

ADDRESS SERVICE  
REQUEST



2024

**PARISH NEWSLETTER**  
**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
**Beatrice, Nebraska**

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



Download St. Paul's Church App!

## Catalogue Day!

Yesterday, I had a total of five (5!) catalogues that came to my mailbox! My first thought was to sympathize with the poor postal delivery person. If she had to carry that many catalogues for all the places on her route, she must have had quite a day! Then, I put the catalogues on the dining room table and texted a picture of them to Karen, because... of course! Such is the world we live in. Surely it is driven by economics. If people didn't order the goods and wares in these catalogues, they wouldn't send them.

However, there is something very countercultural about the local congregation, such as St. Paul's is. We're driven by a different economy—an economy where our *members* do the serving. For our members, life in the congregation is not about *getting* or *accumulating*. It's about *giving*. Look at what St. Paul writes in Romans:

### **Romans 12:3–8 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. <sup>6</sup> Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; <sup>7</sup> if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; <sup>8</sup> the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Paul's point is that all our natural abilities and spiritual gifts are from God. Therefore, every Christian should have a sense of proper humility and of his or her need to be involved with other members of Christ's body. As in a physical human body, so also in the body of Christ, each member functions to serve the body. Not the body to serve the members! This is how we are to think about the church and about ourselves.

It's easy to fall into the trap of thinking that the church is a business, and we are its customers. Such a mindset is one that is culturally driven rather than one that is spiritually prescribed in Scripture. So, the church is unique, and your place in the church is unique, too. Think about it! God gives you gifts of his grace. Maybe it is a gift of serving... or teaching... or encouraging... or contributing... or leadership... or showing mercy. Whatever your gifts may be, contributing to people's needs is to be done with generosity, not skimpily! It is to be done diligently, not lazily or half-heartedly. And it is to be done cheerfully, not with sad drudgery. Such is *our* faithful service to God.

As a pastor, it I have been honored to help the body, to equip it for service with all the strength God gives me! I do so through the ministry God has given me of preaching and teaching, that is, proclaiming God's Word and administering the sacraments. I care and serve Christ's body as if it were my own, but I must always remember. It is not *my* church. It belongs to Christ who gave his very life for *his* church. I love the members here because you are Christ's own. You are both gifted, and you are God's gifts, too!

In Christ's love,  
Rev. Daryn Bahn

P. S. Here are our readings for reading through the Bible in a year from the One Year Bible!

- May 1: Judges 13:1-14:20; John 1:29-51; Psalm 102:1-28; and Proverbs 14:15-16.
- May 2: Judges 15:1-16:31; John 2:1-25; Psalm 103:1-22; and Proverbs 14:17-19.
- May 3: Judges 17:1-18:31; John 3:1-21; Psalm 104:1-23; and Proverbs 14:20-21.
- May 4: Judges 19:1-20:48; John 3:22-4:3; Psalm 104:24-35; and Proverbs 14:22-24.
- May 5: Judges 21:1-Ruth 1:22; John 4:4-42; Psalm 105:1-15; and Proverbs 14:25.
- May 6: Ruth 2:1-4:22; John 4:43-54; Psalm 105:16-36; and Proverbs 14:26-27.
- May 7: 1 Samuel 1:1-2:21; John 5:1-23; Psalm 105:37-45; and Proverbs 14:28-29.
- May 8: 1 Samuel 2:22-4:22; John 5:24-47; Psalm 106:1-12; and Proverbs 14:30-31.
- May 9: 1 Samuel 5:1-7:17; John 6:1-21; Psalm 106:13-31; and Proverbs 14:32-33.
- May 10: 1 Samuel 8:1-9:27; John 6:22-42; Psalm 106:32-48; and Proverbs 14:34-35.
- May 11: 1 Samuel 10:1-11:15; John 6:43-71; Psalm 107:1-43; and Proverbs 15:1-3.
- May 12: 1 Samuel 12:1-13:23; John 7:1-30; Psalm 108:1-13; and Proverbs 15:4.
- May 13: 1 Samuel 14:1-52; John 7:31-53; Psalm 109:1-31; and Proverbs 15:5-7.
- May 14: 1 Samuel 15:1-16:23; John 8:1-20; Psalm 110:1-7; and Proverbs 15:8-10.
- May 15: 1 Samuel 17:1-18:4; John 8:21-30; Psalm 111:1-10; and Proverbs 15:11.
- May 16: 1 Samuel 18:5-19:24; John 8:31-59; Psalm 112:1-10; and Proverbs 15:12-14.
- May 17: 1 Samuel 20:1-21:15; John 9:1-41; Psalm 113:1-114:8; and Proverbs 15:15-17.
- May 18: 1 Samuel 22:1-23:29; John 10:1-21; Psalm 115:1-18; and Proverbs 15:18-19.
- May 19: 1 Samuel 24:1-25:44; John 10:22-42; Psalm 116:1-19; and Proverbs 15:20-21.
- May 20: 1 Samuel 26:1-28:25; John 11:1-54; Psalm 117:1-2; and Proverbs 15:22-23.
- May 21: 1 Samuel 29:1-31:13; John 11:55-12:19; Psalm 118:1-18; and Proverbs 15:24-26.
- May 22: 2 Samuel 1:1-2:11; John 12:20-50; Psalm 118:19-29; and Proverbs 15:27-28.
- May 23: 2 Samuel 2:12-3:39; John 13:1-30; Psalm 119:1-16; and Proverbs 15:29-30.
- May 24: 2 Samuel 4:1-6:23; John 13:31-14:14; Psalm 119:17-32; and Proverbs 15:31-32.
- May 25: 2 Samuel 7:1-8:18; John 14:15-31; Psalm 119:33-48; and Proverbs 15:33.
- May 26: 2 Samuel 9:1-11:27; John 15:1-27; Psalm 119:49-64; and Proverbs 16:1-3.
- May 27: 2 Samuel 12:1-31; John 16:1-33; Psalm 119:65-80; and Proverbs and 16:4-5.
- May 28: 2 Samuel 13:1-39; John 17:1-26; Psalm 119:81-96; and Proverbs 16:6-7.
- May 29: 2 Samuel 14:1-15:22; John 18:1-24; Psalm 119:97-112; and Proverbs 16:8-9.
- May 30: 2 Samuel 15:23-16:23; John 18:25-19:22; Psalm 119:113-128; and Proverbs 16:10-11.
- May 31: 2 Samuel 17:1-29; John 19:23-42; Psalm 119:129-152; and Proverbs 16:12-13.

8:00am-5:00pm,  
Monday thru Thursday, and  
Saturday.

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



Pastor Bahn's office hours will typically include but are not limited to from 10am to 12pm Tues.-Fri. Whether working in his church office, at the study in the parsonage, or out in the community, Pastor Bahn is always available and looks forward to the blessing of your company! Please call or text him at 715-305-8667 any time to get together or just to talk!  
Thanks!



**Every Sunday**  
8:00am - on KWBE 1450AM  
9:00am - Divine Service



**ADULT BIBLE CLASS**



**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**

Plan now to join us as we take an in-depth look at  
God's Word together as a congregation.

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

**Third Quarter Voters' Meeting**  
**Sunday, July 21, 2024**

*Voters' Meeting at 10:15am in the church sanctuary.*

Plan now to attend.



CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

**May Birthdays & Anniversaries - 2024**

**Happy Birthday to...**

- |                   |                       |                         |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 James Boyer     | 9 Ruth Brisbois       | Jessica Schmidt         |
| Dale Hagemeyer    | Joseph Wright         | Helen Wright            |
| Shari Pack        | 10 Alexander Glynn    | 21 Duston Meyer         |
| Andrew Venneman   | Brian Hoops           | 22 Bernice L. Pfingsten |
| Larry Vetrovsky   | Kamree Weishahn       | 23 Willard Workman      |
| 2 Kylie Beville   | 12 Dorothy Daubendiek | 24 Alberta Rahe         |
| Randy Roberts     | Nicole Landon         | 25 Donald Henshaw       |
| 3 Chuck Baker     | Claris Stevens        | Michael Holthus         |
| Carley Jones      | 14 Noah Hagemeyer     | Leola Wollenburg        |
| Ava Rix           | Laura-Leigh Norris    | 26 Holly Norris         |
| 4 Carline Mencl   | Bob Tiemann           | 27 Natalie Doering      |
| Marissa Sandman   | 15 James Hartig       | Michelle Poling         |
| 5 Azlyn Carpenter | Lyndon Wiegand        | Kodey Smith             |
| Kody Crosier      | Chelsea Zutavern      | 29 Jan Busboom          |
| Dolores Kadlec    | 16 Katy Weakland      | 30 Karl Boerger         |
| 6 Dale Brase      | 17 Louise Braun       | Cassandra Mohling       |
| Gordon Theis      | 18 Kody Wolf          | Marlene Seckel          |
| 7 Steven Leishman | 19 Harold Baumfalk    | 31 Colton (Cole) Blythe |
| 8 Carter Holthus  | 20 Logan Glynn        |                         |
| Peggy Young       | Kanon Oden            |                         |

**Happy Anniversary to...**

- |                                       |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 5 Harlan & Iris Hintz, 51 yrs.        | 21 Lawrence & Norma Sohl, 63 yrs.     |
| Gary & Joyce Swanson, 50 yrs.         | 23 Justin & Deann Paulson, 15 yrs.    |
| 6 Vaughn & Valentina Wright, 29 yrs.  | 25 Jeffrey & Teresa Hatzenbuehler, 22 |
| 11 Robert & Lorelie Ankersen, 66 yrs. | yrs.                                  |
| Dennis & Peggy Wallman, 40 yrs.       | 27 Mark & Sherri Thomas, 7 yrs.       |
| 14 Robert & Myra Denton, 58 yrs.      | 30 Wynn & Betty Reiman, 49 yrs.       |
| 15 William & Diane Lux, 31 yrs.       | 31 Kenneth & Carla Loemker, 44 yrs.   |
| 18 Arvid & Althea Wiest, 50 yrs.      | Robert & Naomi Schroeder, 21 yrs.     |
| 19 Jeffrey & Michelle Junker, 34 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  
[www.stpaulbeatrice.org](http://www.stpaulbeatrice.org)*

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## ***More Than a Negative***

Even if you've never had to testify in court, a thousand TV shows have made you familiar with the question, "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?" Why not just make people swear to tell the truth? Or make them promise not to lie?

Any parent who has ever had to interrogate a child about a broken cookie jar or a scuffle over a toy knows the answer. There are plenty of ways to try to get out of trouble without *technically* lying. You tell *just enough* of the truth to skate on by.

We often play the game of seeing *how close* we can get to sinning without *technically* going over the line.

But in our heart of hearts we know that this is not what God intended when He gave us the commandments. He's not giving us a merely negative rule and challenging us to just barely stay away from this or that. There is much more to each commandment than a prohibition. We shouldn't just avoid murdering people — we should be of service to our neighbor.

For each negative prohibition in the commandments there is a positive good that we are to cherish and protect. In the Eighth Commandment, that gift is the reputation of our neighbor and our relationship with him:

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

Your relationship with your family members (who are your nearest neighbors), the other members of your congregation, your coworkers and your friends is one of the most precious gifts you have been given. You need to exercise good stewardship with this gift just as much as you need to exercise good stewardship with your life, resources, time and income. This is an especially fragile gift because it's easy to ruin a relationship with slander and talking behind someone's back.

But speaking well of your neighbor in Christian love is absolutely free; it costs you nothing, yet it pays you great dividends. If you find this challenging at times, if you are tempted to speak ill of others, just remember that this other person is also a beloved child of God for whom your Lord Jesus suffered and died. Your Lord Jesus loves you both.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](http://lcms.org/stewardship)

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## May School News

*"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5*

The end of the school year is quickly approaching. Our days include field trips, track meets, final learning activities, and fun celebrations. We are so thankful that God has blessed us by keeping us Connected to Christ throughout the school year.

In May, we are looking forward to our school Field Day on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>! We will be joined by students from Good Shepherd Marysville, St. Paul's Plymouth, and St. Joseph's Beatrice. The students will have a fun day of running, jumping, throwing, and playing with their brothers and sisters in Christ. The field day begins at 10:00 a.m., and we would love to see congregation members there cheering on our participants. If any church members would be willing to help, we also need assistance running field events. The 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will also participate in Rotary Field Day on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

On Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the graduation of our St. Paul's fifth-grade students with a special worship service in the school gymnasium, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Our students will sing, and we will recognize the accomplishments of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders. There will be a cake reception immediately following at 11:30 a.m. This year, we have 10 students graduating from St. Paul's: Ravenna Brand, Kinlee Brunner, Braedyn Carpenter, Maddox Dunn, Nevaeh Houseman, Micah Jochum, Parker Johnson, Asher Landon, Jace Langley, and Sawyer Penner.

The last school day for the 2023-2024 school year will be Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. We will close out our year with a special chapel service at 11:00 a.m. led by Pastor Bahn, give out perfect attendance and character awards, and watch the 5<sup>th</sup>-grade video.

We are currently accepting applications for new students in Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and would ask that if you know anyone seeking a quality Christian education, you would pass our school's name on to them. They can contact the school for more enrollment information.

You can continue to save Our Family labels, Box-tops for Education through the online app, Tyson A+ labels, and Best Choice labels to support our school. We also ask that you continue to lift up our students, school families, teachers, and staff in your prayers during this busy end of the school year!

In Christ, Amy Duever, St. Paul's Principal



1<sup>st</sup> Grade Hospital Trip



3<sup>rd</sup> grade chick hatching



5<sup>th</sup> grade Spelling Bee





## **May at St. Paul's Lutheran School:**

- 3 - Field Day 10:00am - 3:00pm
- 16 - Last Day of Pre-School
- 17 - No Child Care – In Service
- 19 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation 10:30am (Reception 11:30am)
- 20 - Last Day of Pre-Kindergarten
- 21 - Last Day of School (Dismiss at 11:45am)
- 27 - No Child Care

**Our St. Paul's students will be singing** at the school at 10:30am on the following Sundays:

Dates are subject to change.

May 19



**SCHOOL COLLECTIONS:** Items you can collect to support our school: Box Tops for Education (must be submitted electronically); Best Choice, Our Family Labels and Tyson A+ Labels. All these collections can be submitted to the school office or the box in the narthex, and we thank you for helping to support our school!

**SCRIP CARDS:** Giving gift cards anytime this year? Order your gift cards through our St. Paul's Lutheran School "Scrip Card" program and our school automatically gets money in return at no extra cost to you! Order forms are in the school office and on the school's website. Order forms with payment can be turned into the church or school office.

**RUSS'S MARKET RECEIPTS UPDATE:** Thank you to everyone who saved and turned in Russ's Market receipts to support our school. A special thanks to Kay Buss for totaling and submitting receipts and Lois Podendorf for gathering receipts from the cashiers at Russ's. We received almost 426,000 in receipts, which are translated to points that I can use to purchase catalog items for the school. I just placed a large order, and some of the items we will receive for free include: volleyballs, soccer balls, dodgeballs, footballs, a parachute, a large carpet for the library, headphones, rhythm sticks for music class, and numerous office supplies like tape, staples, paper, and markers. We are so thankful to receive all of these items at no cost, as it will help to stretch our supply budget at school and provide us with many needed items!

\*\*\*\*\*



### **Radio Broadcasts, Bulletin, & Quarterly Children's Bulletin Sponsorships**

are currently being scheduled for 2024.

There are currently many dates available to choose from for 2024.

You can sponsor them in honor, memory, or recognition of someone.

Radio sponsorship cost \$100, bulletin sponsorship cost \$25 and children's bulletin sponsorship costs \$25.

Due to the increase cost of paper, the cost of the bulletin sponsorships for 2024 has increased \$5.

Please call Kelly in the church office if you are interested in sponsoring a date or quarter.





**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 Youth Group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month. Meetings are held at the school from 5-7pm. Youth plan now to join us at our next meeting for an activity, food, and a Bible Study. Watch the bulletin for more information.

Questions you may contact Amy Duever 785-614-3393 or Joanna Gellermann-Long 425-591-5318.

\*\*\*\*\*



Get St. Paul's, very own church app for your electronic device. Simply point your phone camera to the QR code on the left or go to...

<https://subsplash.com/st-pauls-lutheran-chur/app>



On the app you'll have access to Scripture, Events, Messaging for various church groups, Media, Live Streams, other content, sermon notes, important notifications, etc. Special note: now, for online giving, you can simply do that through the app, once you get your account set up. If you have any questions, please contact pastor or Kelly. (Powered by Subsplash)



\*\*\*\*\*

*Upcoming Services at St. Paul's*

- May 19: Graduation of our 5<sup>th</sup> Graders. Service will be held at 10:30am in the gymnasium at the school. A cake reception will be held in the gymnasium after the service.
- May 9: Ascension Day. Divine Service will be held at 7:00pm.
- May 27: Happy Memorial Day. No Monday Night Service will be held. Enjoy time with your family and remember to give thanks to God.

# *Congratulations!*

*on your Milestone Anniversaries*



Brad Long  
5-years as a  
Minister of Religion -  
Commissioned



Joanna Gellermann-Long  
20-years as a  
Minister of Religion -  
Commissioned



Shelley Eisele  
20-years as a  
Minister of Religion -  
Commissioned

Kelsy Wollenburg  
5-years as a  
School Para



*God has truly blessed you not only for reaching such an achievement, but also for giving you the ability to reach the lives of many, many children and also many adults. You have touched many lives and still do each day. Thank you for being part of our church and school family. May God continue to bless you, as you continue to serve others with the gospel message of Jesus to young and old alike.*

# Thank You

*To the various board and members  
of the congregation for serving our  
Lenten Meals and Easter Breakfast.  
All the meals were excellent and  
enjoyed by those who attended.*

Chris Morris

Kelly Mees



## **Board of Elders**

Matt Helmke  
Vaughn Wright  
Greg Penner  
David Doering  
Jared Himmelberg  
Ken Loemker  
Rod Aden  
Chuck Baker  
Steve Sandman  
Pastor Bahn

## **Board of Trustees**

Ron Fehn  
Lucas Noojin  
Cliff Kumm  
Greg Holle  
Bob Tiemann  
Wayne Oestreich



## **Board of Evangelism**

Carla Walters  
Peggy Doering  
Melody Philippi-Aden  
Rhonda Easley  
Rowien Kumm  
Julie Fisher

## **Board of Christian Education**

Julie Fehn  
Stefanie Norton-Lloyd  
Lisa Oltmans  
Lacey Jurgens  
Holly Norris  
Connie Hartig  
Amy Duever  
Cassie Rhoden  
Pastor Bahn

## **Board of Stewardship**

Linda Himmelberg  
Marilyn Adam  
Holli Penner  
Tracie Fossler  
Sharon Rupprecht  
Pam Norton





**Class of  
2024**

The 2024 graduates of St. Paul's Lutheran Church are:

**Andrew Duever**

**Travis Ruskamp**

**Trevin Lang**

**Jordan Vanschoiack**

**Jordan Loomis**

**Alexander Venneman**

**Hannah Mayer**

**Sean Wright**

**Chase Meyer**

\*\*\*\*\*

**CONFIRMANDS....**

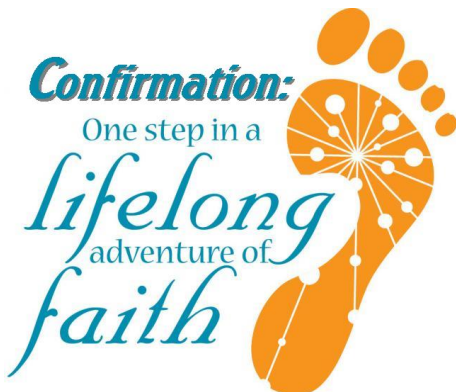
Congratulations to those who were confirmed on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>:

**Mia Paige Holthus**, daughter of Michael & Dawn Holthus

**Sloan Lynn Penner**, daughter of Greg & Holli Penner

**Anthony James Long**, son of Brad Long & Joanna Gellermann-Long

**Parker Dean Fossler**, son of Bruce & Tracie Fossler



# Congratulations!



Ravenna Brand



Kinlee Brunner



Braedyn Carpenter



Maddox Dunn



Nevaeh Houseman



Micah Jochum



Parker Johnson



Asher Landon



Jace Langley



Sawyer Penner

The 2024 fifth-grade class of St. Paul's Lutheran School will be recognized for their accomplishments and received their diplomas on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30am Service at the school gymnasium.

### **Fifth Grade Graduates:**

We have been blessed to have you and your families be a part of St. Paul's Lutheran School. As you step into the wider world, we send the love of St. Paul's with you. Remember the lessons you learned, the friends you made and that the Lord is with you always, no matter where you go next. Congratulations on your graduation and best wishes for your next adventure.

From the Board of Christian Education

# SPRING FLING

Save  
the  
Date



You are  
invited

## May Day Celebration Salad Supper Wednesday May 1, 2024 6:30-8:30pm in the fellowship hall Theme: *Patterns for Living*

A pattern is an original or model of something created for the purpose of imitation. It is something designed to be copied or imitated. For example, in the western world clothing is created from patterns. A dress pattern is placed on material and the material cut according to the pattern. Many dresses can be created from the same pattern and they will all be identical because they came from the same pattern. A Biblical pattern is a spiritual model or example given in Scripture for purposes of imitation. For example, the life of Jesus Christ is given as a pattern or model which believers are to follow. Join us as we look at our daily patterns for life verses the patterns Jesus would want us to follow.

Everyone is invited to bring a salad to share and a small gift to be included in a May Day Basket to one of our shut-ins. Example of gifts: package of Kleenex, note pads, pens, candy, crackers, religious items, etc.



# **RUMMAGE SALE!**

## **We Want Your Stuff!**

### **Spread the Word!**

**St. Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 7:30am to 4:00pm at St. Paul's Lutheran School Gymnasium.**

Preview Sale - Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> 5-7pm  
(\$10 entrance fee for preview sale)

Drop off days & times:

Wednesday, May 29 9am-12pm & 5-8pm  
Thursday, May 30 9am-12pm & 5-8pm  
Friday, May 31 9am-12pm

Spread the word! Please drop off all donations in the school gymnasium.

In addition to the actual drop off and sale days/times, volunteers are needed before & after as well! Can you help?

Clean up – Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 5-8pm.

If you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact the church office.



#### Items not accepted as donations:

TVs of any kind, mattresses, car seats, entertainment centers, encyclopedias, or any broken items.

Please make sure items are clean when you drop them off.

## **AFFORDABLE PRICES**

While we will be advertising around town and online, the absolute best form of advertising is word of mouth, so please tell your family & friends about our Rummage Sale! Also, be on the lookout for Facebook posts that can be shared as well!

All proceeds from this year's sale will benefit the start-up costs of the Fall Festival and the St. Paul's Foundation. St. Paul's ministry provides so much love & support to our church and school families and is an important way for us to show and share God's love with others.

Do you have a pick-up truck or enclosed trailer we could use on June 1<sup>st</sup> during clean up? If so, please contact the church office 402-228-1540.







## **St. Paul's Youth Group Trip**

### **Ark Encounter and Creation Museum**

**June 10-13, 2024**

Our youth are excited to embark on this faith-building adventure! ARK ENCOUNTER features a full-size Noah's Ark built according to the dimensions given in the Bible. Spanning 510 feet long, 85 feet wide, and 51 feet high, this modern engineering marvel amazes visitors young and old. From the moment you turn the corner and the towering Ark comes into view, to the friendly animals in the zoo, or the jaw-dropping exhibits inside the Ark, our youth will experience the pages of the Bible like never before.

THE CREATION MUSEUM includes 75,000 square feet of state-of-the-art exhibits, a full-size Allosaurus skeleton, stunning botanical gardens, a petting zoo, and more. The Creation Museum will allow our youth to venture through biblical history.

If you would like to help our youth to attend this faith-building trip, please stop at our envelope fundraiser in the back of the church and make your donation to help out!



## "GIVE KIDS HOPE. TAKE THE CREDIT."

Nebraska taxpayers can now claim a **1:1 state income tax credit** for contributions to fund scholarships for Nebraska kids, especially those from lower-income families, to attend a private school of their parent's choice.

### Who can participate?

Individuals, businesses, estates and trusts with state income tax liability.

### Why should I participate?

You can help provide tuition assistance for Nebraska families in need and receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit, up to \$100k (\$1m for estates and trusts) or 50% of your state income tax liability.

### How do I contribute?

Email [givehope@nebraskaopportunity.org](mailto:givehope@nebraskaopportunity.org) or visit [nebraskaopportunity.org/giving](https://nebraskaopportunity.org/giving) to apply for a tax credit contribution.



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

## Tax Credit Scholarships through the Opportunity Scholarship Act (LB753)

In 2023, the Nebraska State Legislature passed The Opportunity Scholarships Act (LB753), which is a scholarship tax credit program.

Taxpayers in Nebraska, whether individuals, businesses, estates, and trusts with state income tax liability, can claim a 1:1 tax credit for contributions to fund scholarships. The official Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) for Nebraska District Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod schools is called Opportunity Scholarships of Nebraska. This state-approved scholarship granting organization will use those dollars to provide scholarships to eligible students.

The Opportunity Scholarships Act gives priority to children from the lowest-income families first, along with the qualifiers above, giving final priority to families making less than 300% of the federal Free and Reduced Lunch rate.

Bob Ziegler, Nebraska District executive for education and youth, explains, "We believe this is a matter of wise stewardship (Mark 12:17) since 'Caesar' (the Nebraska government) is saying that 50% of what you owe in taxes can be given to help children attend a faith-based school on needs-based scholarships instead of paying the government." Details about giving to or applying for these scholarships, and information for congregations and schools to share can be found [ON OUR WEBSITE](#).

We encourage you to begin participating by utilizing these tax credits as soon as possible through [Opportunity Scholarships of Nebraska](#).

This act is currently being challenged. Learn more about the challenge at [THIS LINK](#).