

St. Paul Newscaster



Published monthly in the interest of
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Diller, Nebraska

Our Mission

*To open our hearts and doors to share God's promise by transforming lives
through our commitment and discipleship to Jesus Christ.*

March 2023

Pastor Mark Liscom

Staying Hungry

“Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights and afterward he was famished. The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread”. (Matthew 4:1-2)

Back in my college days, I played soccer for the small college that I attended. There was one thing that our coach always preached. It was a short sermon: Stay hungry!

You can be malnourished of course and that doesn't work. But that's not the positive sense of hunger that our coach was speaking about. It was a hunger that awakens ones senses, brings a greater care for the game. It's a hunger to play and be involved, make things work.

I don't know about you, but I always feel a little better physically when I'm a little hungry. If I eat too much I get sleepy and dull. But if I'm hungry food tastes better, and I feel a little lighter on my feet and more energetic. Plus, it's great not to have to be in bondage to the whims of my stomach.

Jesus said, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled”. (Matthew 5:6). Here again, hunger is a gift. The sense is that God has a gift and a blessing waiting for us.....but in order to get it we have to be hungry for it.

I think we all have that hunger at some level yes? It's already there. Let's learn to receive it as a gift. Stay with it, stay with that hunger for God and right relationship to others. You'll be more alive, more in the game, and not so bound to the whims of your desire. And you will begin to know that fullness that is God.

Pastor Mark



PAPERLESS NEWSCASTER OPTION AVAILABLE!!

The Newscaster is now available electronically for those that would like to receive it in this form rather than through the mail. If you would like to NOT receive a physical copy of the Newscaster, please email Jane Pretzer at dpretz@diodecom.net and let her know you want to be removed from the physical mailing list. You can always access the online version of the Newscaster at the Church website, www.stpauldiller.com, and click on the Newscaster tab for whatever publication you need. Another option is to be put on the email list that will include a link. If you would like the Newscaster emailed to you, email Sheri Schultis at jschultis@diodecom.net to be put on the list.

Editor: Kendra K. Weers

Typist: Kendra K. Weers Calendar: Kendra K. Weers

Assembly: Kendra K. Weers

Newscaster Reporters

Church Council – Brian Weers Treasurer’s Report – Allen Roelfs

WELCA – Peggy Hemphill Eunice Circle – Irene Gibson

Work Day – Carolyn Schultis

Christian Education and VBS – Elizabeth Roelfs, Sheri Schultis,
Kristen Hennerberg and Kristen Heidemann,

Youth News – Joely Weers, Myleigh Weers and Brennan Schultis

Worship Committee – Council Mutual Ministry Committee - Council

Birthdays & Anniversaries – Jane Pretzer Personals – Elizabeth Roelfs

WELCA Coffee List – Elizabeth Roelfs Acolyte List – Pastor Mark Liscom

Worship Assistants & Greeters Lists – Sherry Henrichs



Sponsors for the March Newscaster are

*Bob and Diane Wellsandt
in Honor of their
47th Wedding Anniversary
on March 27th*

Happy Anniversary! We thank you for your sponsorship and support.

Please note that the sign-up sheet for 2023 sponsorships is up and a couple sponsorships are still available.

There is one each available for August and September.

Please consider sponsoring a Newscaster to continue providing this communication tool to the members of the congregation.

**March 3
2023**

World Day



Of Prayer

World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday, March 3, 2023 at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Odell beginning at 7 p.m. All women of our church are invited to attend. The focus this year is the country of Taiwan and the theme is “I Have Heard About Your Faith.”

This is always an enlightening event and wonderful fellowship with women from other local churches.

**HAPPY 101st BIRTHDAY,
FRANKLIN!!**

Let’s shower him with Birthday Greetings!

Cards can be sent to him at:

Franklin Damrow
Samaritan Springs
600 S 22nd St., Rm 207
Beatrice, NE 68310



**Happy Birthday
March 12**

St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Minutes for February 15, 2023

Council members present were Pastor Mark, Brian Weers, Diane Wellsandt, Peg Hemphill, Dave Henrichs and Gary Bergmeier. Jeanette Bures was absent. Pastor Mark presented a video about the state of society and the culture. Pastor Mark then opened the meeting with a prayer. Minutes from the January meeting were read by Brian. Dave moved to approve the minutes and was seconded by Gary. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A balance of \$35,893.14 in the General Fund was reported. Portico bill has not been received yet, all other bills have been paid. Tax forms have been submitted and Pastor's salary has been updated. Peg moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and it was seconded by Diane. Motion passed.

MEMORIAL TREASURER'S REPORT

No Report given.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Four worship services, 1 annual meeting, 3 Confirmation classes, 3 text studies, 1 Cluster meeting, 1 baptism and pre-baptism, 1 tables delivery, 2-day class on addiction and recovery, 3 communions, 2 other calls, Lenten preparation.

VICE CHAIRMAN REPORT

Pastor Mark and Dave delivered the Sunday School tables and chairs and toured the Sudanese Church and had a good visit and interesting time. The Sudanese Church was very appreciative of the donation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education – will need 2 new members, as there are a couple members who would like to step down from the committee. Pastor Mark would like to add an adult dimension to Christian Education.

Memorial – Discussed front door replacement again and door closers for bathrooms.

Property – Discussed furnace issue. Wrightsman Plumbing has come and looked at the unit and will give an estimate on repair of old and replacement with a smaller, more efficient unit. The Cherry tree in front of the church will be removed as it is partially dead.

Communication & Outreach – N/A

Music & Worship – N/A

Food Stand – N/A

New officers were elected. Vice-Chair, Gary Bergmeier; Secretary, Brian Weers; Treasurer, Allen Roelfs; Memorial Treasurer, Jeanette Bures; Financial Secretary, Peg Hemphill; Financial Reporter, Diane Wellsandt.

New Committee Council Representatives were chosen. Christian Education, Peg Hemphill; Memorial, Jeanette Bures; Property, Gary Bergmeier and Brian Weers; Communication and Outreach, Diane Wellsandt; Music and Worship, Peg Hemphill; Food Stand, Allen Roelfs.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Diane will be gone February 17th through March 8, 9, or 10th.

Ash Wednesday will be next Wednesday, March 22nd at 7pm.

Lenten meal on March 1 will be provided by the Council, March 8 will be by WELCA. There will be a sign-up sheet for the meals on March 15th, 22nd and 29th. Meals will take place at 6pm with Lenten services to start at 7pm.

The next council meeting was set for Thursday, March 16th at 7:00pm and committees to meet at 6:30pm. Allen moved to adjourn the meeting and Brian seconded. The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

~ Brian Weers, Council Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 2/12/2022

Current Balances

General Fund	\$15,298.59
Benevolence	\$ 568.45
<u>Designations</u>	<u>\$20,026.10</u>
Total	\$35,893.14

Operating Expenses

Available Cash	\$15,298.59
Remaining Bills	
<u>Portico</u>	<u>\$ 1,784.61</u>
Remaining Bal	\$13,513.98



Waiting for bill

Offering Summary

	December	January	February
Current	\$ 10,374.00	\$ 16,863.47	\$ 4,592.37
Benevolence	\$ 1,608.50	\$ 405.40	\$ 163.05
Designated Funds	<u>\$ 601.00</u>	<u>\$ 188.00</u>	<u>\$ 96.00</u>
Totals	\$ 12,583.50	\$ 17,456.87	\$ 4,851.42

(partial month)

We need to receive \$9,754 in CURRENT each month in order to meet our budget for 2023.

Eunice Circle

Eunice Circle met on February 13, 2023 at 1:30pm. The Bible Study was led by Irene Gibson.

The Ten Commandments: Reviving the soul - Rhythms and respect. (Commandments 3 and 4)

Our study texts from Exodus 20:1-17; Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Ecclesiastes 3:1-4; Matthew 7:1-5; Matthew 15:1-7; Matthew 18:21-22; Matthew 19:16-19; Matthew 22:34-40; Mark 2:23-3:6; Mark 3:19b-21; Mark 3:31-35; Luke 2:33-35 and 41-51; Luke 4:16 and 1 Timothy 5:8. Our focus verses - "Remember the Sabbath day and Keep it holy." (Exodus 20:8) "Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you." (Exodus 20:12)

We opened with prayer and Hymn, "Morning Has Broken." We closed with prayer and Hymn, "Now Thank We All Our God" verses 1 and 3 and The Lord's Prayer.

Norma called our meeting to order. Minutes were read and approved. Four (4) members and two (2) guests answered roll call. Our offering was \$42.00.

Old Business: Norma Banahan will continue as leader and Irene Gibson will continue as recorder. The other ladies will decide as to who will be hostess each month. Workdays will be January 24th and 31st.

New Business: World Day of Prayer on March 3, 2023 at 7pm. Workdays will be February 28th, quilting 9 to noon. Spring Gathering in Pickrell, NE on March 26th, 2023.

After Grace, Ardith Barber served refreshments.

Next Eunice Circle Meeting will be March 13th, 2023 at 1:30pm, March/April book. Norma Banahan will lead Bible Study.

~ Irene Gibson, Recorder



Joyce Lahodny and Betty Hennerberg celebrated significant birthdays this month. We wish them both many more happy years and memories.



Thinking of You



- ❖ We are thinking of Norm Balderson as he transitions into his residence at Heritage Care Center in Fairbury. He and Darlene will be making their home in room #212. With every change there comes ups and downs. We pray things go well.
- ❖ Tyler Wolken and Toni Landenberger continue treatments and we hold them in fervent prayer.

❖ John Denner's father passed away on February 9 at Good Samaritan Society in Beatrice. His funeral service was held on February 18 in Wymore. We remember John and his family in our prayers.

Please remember in your prayers all of our members and extended church family who are not able to be with us, those that are in assisted living and care centers and those who may be in need of God's comfort, healing and peace:

*Franklin Damrow, Eldean Banahan, Robert Weers, Allison Lottman, Rebecca Chavez,
Darlene Balderson and Toni Landenberger*



Women of the ELCA



St. Paul Women of the ELCA Unit Meeting February 5, 2023

A Unit Meeting of the Women of the ELCA was held following the church service on Sunday, February 5, 2023 with a nice group of women attending.

The informal meeting was led by President, Ardith Barber. An outline of the Officers, Unit Meeting dates, Work Group Leaders, and Projects and Activities was handed out. The officers for 2023 are President, Ardith Barber; Vice President, Linda Behrends; Secretary, Peggy Hemphill; and Treasurer, Diane Wellsandt. Ardith explained the change of having short Unit Meetings after church in hopes of engaging more women. ALL women of the church are members of WELCA and encouraged to attend and help in decision making of the group.

Jeanette Bures gave a short inspiration on Valentines Day and how it originated.

The Unit Meetings will be held following church services with a short devotional or inspiration given. The dates of those meeting will be February 5 (Jeanette Bures); April 30 (Beth Roelfs); August 13 (Peggy Hemphill); and November 5 (Jane Pretzer).

Work Group Leaders for 2023 are Linda Beran, Radene Beran, Jane Pretzer, and Kendra K. Weers. Callers are Linda Behrends, Jan Gold, and Judy Landenberger. If anyone would like to be added to either of those groups, feel free to contact a member of that group.

A list of Projects and Activities was passed around with individuals signing up to help with those. The list is on the table in back of the fellowship area. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with any of those projects or activities, please sign your name next to the activity.

World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday, March 3, 2023 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Odell beginning at 7 p.m. All women of our church are invited to attend. The focus this year is the country of Taiwan and the theme is "I Have Heard About Your Faith." This is always an enlightening event and wonderful fellowship with women from other local churches.

We will again be serving a light meal prior to Lenten services this year. WELCA will be in charge of the meal on Wednesday, March 8. Beth Roelfs has volunteered to lead in planning of the meal.

The meeting was closed with the reading of Our Purpose Statement: "As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world."

The next meeting will be Sunday, April 30, 2023, following the church service.

*Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Hemphill, Secretary*



February 22, 2023

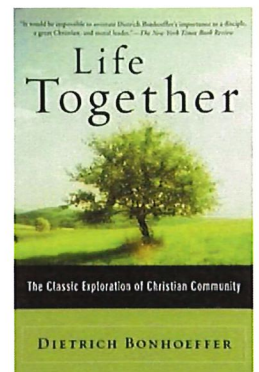


Ash Wednesday services took place on February 22. At right, the imposition of ashes. At bottom, the Communion



LENTEN SERIES 2023

The five Lenten Services at St. Paul will be a study of the five chapters from the Dietrich Bonhoeffer book, "Life Together", which explores the meaning of Christian community. Pastor Mark will provide the message featuring each chapter from the book. Most services are available on our Facebook page, and the printed sermons are available upon request. Each week during Lent, a meal will be served before the worship service and provided by the council, WELCA, and several generous volunteers from our congregation. They will be assisted by our Confirmation students who then have a class following the service.



ST. PAUL AND NILE LUTHERAN MAKE CONNECTION



One man's excess is another's treasure. That proved true when members of St. Paul changed the youth education program from an individual classroom to a large group instruction model. Walls were removed, classes on Wednesday not Sunday and lots of extra tables and chairs. Some local contacts were made with area churches and child-based programs and no one takers were found. Then, through a conversation at the 2022 Synod Convention a connection was made that holds the opportunity for mutual growth in God's love.

The Nile Lutheran Church in Omaha is a growing congregation in Omaha with worshipers whose roots are in South Sudan. Pastor John, who himself is a refugee, came to the United States with his wife to flee the war, leaving family and the graves of 2 children behind. Several of his siblings were relocated in Australia at this time as well.

Pastor John and his family of worshippers hold services each week in English and Nueer. Their mission provides Bible study for all ages in 2 languages, a Nueer community youth and young adults programs, women's programming and a community elderly life together program.

This past month a group of volunteers that included Diane and Bob Wellsandt, Dean, Adam and Beth Roelfs, Dave Henrichs and Pastor Mark loaded 5 VERY heavy tables and lots of youth chairs of varying sizes. Dave, Pastor and Beth headed to Omaha to share our excess with new friends. Pastor John and Elder John greeted the trio and the trailer was soon empty. These resources will serve folks at Nile and may also be shared with a child care center and other churches nearby.

Our friends from Nile treated us to a great lunch and lots of stories. From the time we arrived to the time we left, Pastor John was seeking ideas of how to continue the relationship between our 2 faith families. A wonderful door has been opened by a few tables and many chairs, how can you imagine it opening wider to God's work?

~ Submitted by Beth Roelfs

CrossWalk Takes Everyone to the Mountain



CrossWalk

February lessons have focused on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. We've considered how God shines his light through us and helps us calm our anger. We've learned that God always keeps his promises to love, be with us and forgive us and that we are called to keep our promises. These points are reinforced through song, video, activities and games.

We took one week to celebrate God's Love and Valentine's Day. Students created a candy and card treat for friends at Heritage in Fairbury.

The Pop Tab Challenge continues. A new goal has been set. We will work to gather 3 jars of tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Omaha and in reward we will have a day to play in the park with Shirley Temples as our tasty prize. The jar has been filled once and more comes in every week.

The students had the opportunity to learn about Lent and the meaning of the ashes. Many were happy to wear the cross of ashes.

The group prays the Lord's Prayer in unison each week. What a glorious sound. We regularly review the 10 Commandments, known to us as God's Good Rules and we are just beginning to learn and understand the Apostles Creed.

A huge Thank You goes out to Jamie Schultis who has been helping with CrossWalk during Tyler's absence. We are blessed by so many who teach regularly and those who step in to sub.

Please join us any Wednesday for this joyful time of learning.

~ Submitted by Beth Roelfs



Some of the residents from Heritage Care Center who were very appreciative of the Valentines from the CrossWalk kids

Confirmation Class



Confirmation students attended the Ash Wednesday service on February 22nd and will have shortened classes following Lenten services on March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29th. Classes for Holy Week, April 2nd through 9th, will be attending Maundy-Thursday (6th) and Good Friday (7th) services. Other April classes will be in the April Newscaster and on the Church website on the Confirmation page. Confirmation Sunday will be on Sunday, May 7th during worship.



The Youth will have a meeting at the church on Sunday, March 12th at 6:30pm.



Sweetheart Supper February 19, 2023



Four of our Youth provided a lovely evening at the Sweetheart Supper.

Thank you, Brennan, Joely, Kellan and Myleigh, for taking care of everyone and making all of us feel special.

Big Thank You's to Dave and Sherry Henrichs for preparing the delicious food and to Kendra and Darin Weers along with Xavier and Griffin Zabokrtsky for helping out in the kitchen..





Easter Lilies

If you would like to bring an Easter Lily to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter Worship and want to be included on the bulletin insert, please bring your plant labeled as to who it's from and sign the sheet in the Narthex by **noon on Saturday, April 8**. Please include your name and the designation. The information will be included in the insert for the bulletin. *Thank you* to those who sponsor plants.

ATTENTION GRADUATES!!!!

Are You, your Child, or Grandchild
graduating in May or June?



We want them on our Graduation Board!

Pictures and information for the board are being accepted until **May 21** (if you want your picture and info in the *Newscaster*), and the information needed is the name (*First, Middle, Last*) of the graduate, parents' or grandparents' names, name of school, school colors, degree earned and future plans. Please submit wallet-sized pictures or email to kweers10@gmail.com. Thanks!!



It was wonderful to hear our choir sing during worship on February 11th. Special music will be shared during worship on the second Sunday of the month.

Christian Symbol of the Shamrock

St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach people about the Godhead. Holding up a shamrock, he challenged them, "Is this one leaf, or three?" Inevitably, people replied that it was both, prompting St. Patrick to draw the analogy that so, too, is God: one God in three Persons — the Holy Trinity.

~ The NewsletterNewsletter, March 2023



March Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Karli Heidemann | 13 Brian Weers |
| 3 Jamie Hennerberg | 15 Brian Hennerberg |
| 4 Sherry Henrichs | 17 Beckam Hemphill |
| 4 Joshua Germer | 19 Marlene Wolken |
| 4 Isaiah Weers | 19 Peyton Denner |
| 5 Nathan Beran | 20 Ronda Duis |
| 6 Peggy Hemphill | 21 Karter Sasse |
| 6 Daniel Fallier | 21 Piper Hemphill |
| 12 Franklin Damrow | 22 Norma Banahan |
| 12 Linda Holtmeier | 22 Vivian Nish |
| 12 Jim Bures | 23 Brett Landenberger |
| 12 Doyle Wolken | 27 Aybrie Nippert |
| 12 Sonia Sasse | |

March Wedding Anniversaries

- March 2, 1974
 ⚭ Mr. & Mrs. Douglas & Cindy Lottman
- March 6, 1976
 ⚭ Mr. & Mrs. Charles & Janet Whitehead
- March 27, 1976
 ⚭ Mr. & Mrs. Bob & Diane Wellsandt

VOLUNTEERS: If you are unable to serve on the Sunday(s) you are assigned, PLEASE arrange with someone else to fill in and notify others in the assigned Sunday of the change. Thank You!

MARCH

**March 5 Sunday Worship Service
With Holy Communion**

*Worship Assistant – Jamie Schultis
Greeter – Gary Bergmeier
Acolyte – Xavier Zabokrtsky
Coffee – Robbyn Roelfs, Jean Schmidt*

March 12 Sunday Worship Service

*Worship Assistant – David Henrichs
Greeter – Jim Bures
Acolyte – Cale Clifford
Coffee – Jane Pretzer, Jill Zabokrtsky*

March 19 Sunday Worship Service

*Worship Assistant – Brian Weers
Greeter – Dennis Nippert
Acolyte – Ryan Hicok
Coffee Service – Stacy Roelfs, Beth Roelfs*

March 26 Sunday Worship Service

*Worship Assistant – Kendra K Weers
Greeter – Dean Pretzer
Acolyte – Mason Schlichtman
Coffee Service – Radene Beran, Sue Meyer*



**April 2 Sunday Worship Service
With Holy Communion
Palm Sunday**

*Worship Assistant – Brian Weers
Greeter – Charles Barber
Acolyte – Josie Hennerberg
Coffee Service – Marcy Barber, Sondra Germer*



March 2023



www.stpauldiller.com

* Facebook Page – St. Paul’s Lutheran Church Diller Nebraska

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 <p>Palm Sunday April 2 Holy Week Begins</p>			1	2	3	4
			<p>CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm</p> <p>Lenten Meal 6pm Lenten Service 7pm CONFIRMATION AFTER SERVICE</p>		 <p>St. Mary's Catholic Church Odell</p>	
<p>Red Hymnal Worship Service 5 Holy Communion 9:30 AM</p>	6	7	8	9	10	11
			<p>CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm</p> <p>Lenten Meal 6pm Lenten Service 7pm CONFIRMATION AFTER SERVICE</p>			
<p>Blue Hymnal Worship Service 12 9:30 AM</p> <hr/> <p>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS</p> <p>YOUTH MEETING 630</p>	13	14	15	16	17	18
	<p>Eunice Circle 1:30pm</p>		<p>CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm</p> <p>Lenten Meal 6pm Lenten Service 7pm CONFIRMATION AFTER SERVICE</p>	<p>Committees and Council Meetings 6:30/7:00pm</p>		
<p>Red Hymnal Worship Service 19 9:30</p>	20	21	22	23	24	25
	 <p>The First Day of Spring</p> <p><i>Newscaster items DUE</i></p>		<p>CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm</p> <p>Lenten Meal 6pm Lenten Service 7pm CONFIRMATION AFTER SERVICE</p>			<p>WELCA Spring Gathering</p> <p>Pickrell</p>
<p>Blue Hymnal Worship Service 26 9:30 AM</p>	27	28	29	30	31	
		<p>Work Day All Day</p>	<p>CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm</p> <p>Lenten Meal 6pm Lenten Service 7pm CONFIRMATION AFTER SERVICE</p>			



St. Paul Lutheran Church
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