

St. Paul's Newscaster



Published monthly in the interest of
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Diller, Nebraska
November 2017
Pastor Mark Liscom

Christians aren't perfect, just forgiven

Have you seen the bumper sticker? I have too. It's meant to be a summary of the Christian faith. And on the surface it's true enough. Christians aren't perfect, that's pretty obvious. And they are forgiven as well.

But there is a problem with this bumper sticker I think and a fairly substantial one. The problem is one can use it as an explanation as to why Christians are little different from others who have no faith at all. The reality of forgiveness, meant to completely transform oneself into a follower of Jesus, becomes a way of not having to take seriously the teachings of Jesus at all.

For example, Jesus said: *"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you"* (Luke 6:27-31)

Teachings like these are often looked at as somehow secondary. The real issue is that we're forgiven and if we can't really follow Jesus teaching.....well, we're forgiven.

I don't think forgiveness was meant to be used in this way. It's true that Christians aren't perfect, just forgiven. But Jesus came to teach us as well. About a way of life that was radically different from the world around us. A way that pointed to a new heart and whole new way of being.

Pastor Mark

NEWS LETTER

starts

Editor: Kendra K. Weers

Typists: Kendra K. Weers and Jane Pretzer Calendar: Kendra K. Weers
Assembly: Kendra K. Weers and Cleo Perkins

Newscaster Reporters

Church Council – Jean Schmidt Treasurer – Marcy Barber
WELCA – Robbyn Roelfs Eunice Circle – Irene Gibson Work Day – Norma Banahan
Sunday School and VBS – Kristen Hennerberg and Kristin Heidemann
Youth News – Jady Schultis, Skylar Pretzer and Brianna Weers

Worship Committee – Council Mutual Ministry Committee - Council
Birthdays & Anniversaries – Judy DeBoer
WELCA Coffee List – Jan Gold Acolyte List – Pastor Mark Liscom
Usher List – Sherry Henrichs



Sponsors

Our November Newscaster sponsors are:

**Jim and Jeanette Bures
for Epilepsy Awareness Month
and
Dennis and Deborah Nippert
for their November 1 Anniversary**

We thank you all for your sponsorship and support.

*Please note that the sign-up sheet for 2018 sponsorships is up and many sponsorships are available.
Please consider sponsoring a Newscaster to continue providing this communication tool
to the members of the congregation.*

Please take note of the dates of things that are happening with the Church this month:

- **Wednesday, Nov 1** - All Saints Day; 500th Anniv. of the Reformation; Confirmation Parents Night
- **Sunday, Nov 5** - Daylight Savings Time Begins; Communion; All Saints and Dedication Sunday; Youth Meeting at Parsonage
- **Wednesday, Nov 8** - Women of the ELCA Unit Meeting; Confirmation; Check Schedule
- **Saturday, Nov 11** - Veteran's Day
- **Monday, Nov 13** - Eunice Circle
- **Wednesday, Nov 15** - Council Meeting
- **Sunday, Nov 19** - WELCA ThankOffering Service
- **Wednesday, Nov 22** - Thanksgiving Service 730pm
- **Thursday, Nov 23** - Thanksgiving - Office Closed
- **Sunday, Nov 26** - Christ the King Sunday; Youth-Led Worship; Youth Service Project (evening)
- **Sunday, Nov 26** - Newscaster Items DUE
- **Tuesday, Nov 28** - Work Day
- **Wednesday, Nov 29** - Confirmation; Check Schedule
- **Sunday, Dec 3** - First Sunday in Advent; Hanging of the Greens Service; Potluck Meal; Caroling



St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Minutes for October 18, 2017

Pastor Mark opened the meeting with prayer. Members present were Charles Barber, Marcy Barber, David Henrichs, Cindy Lottman, Allen Roelfs, and Jean Schmidt. Minutes from the September meeting were reviewed. Marcy moved to accept the minutes, and Allen seconded. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Marcy reported that the current balance is \$512.76. The October Portico as well as a few miscellaneous bills for around \$300 need to be paid. The hot water heater bill and a bill for the TV/screen have not been received and will also need to be paid upon receipt. David moved to accept and Jean seconded. Motion passed.

MEMORIAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Allen reported that the current balance is \$13,370.73 with new interest. No installation bills for the church sign have been received, but will be paid upon receipt. A quarterly report was received from the Thrivent Mutual Fund. It has been a positive investment. David moved to accept, and Marcy seconded. Motion passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT

4 worship services, 2 youth group meetings, 2 confirmation classes, 1 confirmation service project, 1 baptism meeting, 5 hospital calls, 4 communion visitations, 1 prison visit, 1 Synod Justice Committee Meeting, 1 Transformational Ministry/Mutual Ministry meeting, visit from Bob Bryan of Followers of Christ Prison, visit from Rich Sheridan of Nebraska Synod, and 1 meeting about TV/screen. No mileage.

- There was positive feedback on the recent speakers to our church.
- There will be a 2nd Transformational Meeting in November.
- The confirmation students helped put together the diaper kits for their service project. There were around 64 kits completed.
- Pastor Mark will be attending a theological conference for three days in October.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Christian Education--a Sunday School teacher scheduled is complete; need to begin looking at Christmas program and getting practice scheduled.
- Property--a new 10 gallon hot water heater has been installed.

OLD BUSINESS

- The stolen church offering checks were found. Council discussed how to handle the situation. Cindy will contact individuals that had checks found to return the checks to them.
- There will be a workday scheduled as soon as harvest is finished. All volunteers welcome to help!

NEW BUSINESS

- Pastor Mark has a concern about the confirmation class. The class needs to be split because of conflicts with the size of the group. Council discussed the situation. Pastor Mark will decide how to reschedule the classes and split the group into smaller sections.
- The music from the iPad gets interference. It is being worked on to avoid this problem.
- Council discussed Pastor Mark's insurance. Council looked at options that might be available. Discussion was held on options, but Council felt time was too short to make a decision to go with a different plan. David moved to continue with the Gold + Plan, but to continue researching other plans as a possibility for next year. Jean seconded. Motion passed.

The next council meeting will be on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Jean Schmidt, Council Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT			
General Fund Balance as of 10/18/2017		\$ 512.76	
Bills Due by end of October:	October Portico	\$ 3,893.20	<u>\$ 3,893.20</u>
	Total		
September/October			
<i>Last Month: September</i>		<i>Current Month: October</i>	
Current	\$ 5,082.38	Current	\$ 10,615.17
Benevolence	745.59	Benevolence	335.10
World Hunger	0.00	World Hunger	25.00
Specials	<u>35.00</u>	Specials	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 5,862.97	TOTAL	\$ 10,975.27
We need \$11,984.57 in CURRENT per month to meet the 2017 budget.			



Eunice Circle



Eunice Circle met on October 9, 2017 at 1:30pm. Norma Banahan was our Bible Study leader. The Apostles' Creed – We believe in Jesus Christ...Suffered. Crucified. Died. Rose again. What can we learn about Jesus from the words of The Apostle's Creed? The Apostle's Creed is more than just words. It carries us through doubt, sorrow and joy.

The focus verse from John 20:31. The text was from John 20:24 through 31. Also, The Apostle's Creed from the ELCA worship book and the small catechism.

We opened with prayer and Hymn, "Give Me Jesus." We closed with a prayer and The Lord's Prayer.

Norma called the meeting to order. Minutes were read and approved. Four (4) members answered roll call. Our offering was \$8.00.

Old Business: Discussed program for WELCA Unit Meeting. Work Day will be October 26th. Warren's Community Table is September 12 in Beatrice. Work Days on October 24th and 31st.

New Business: Finalized program for WELCA Unit meeting on November 8, 2017 at 7pm. October 24th is Work Day and October 31st is packing of LWR boxes. Nov. 19th – ThankOffering during Church Service. Hanging of the Greens on Nov. 26th during Church Services. Pot Luck meal following.

After Grace, Marla Weichel served refreshments.

Next Eunice Circle will be Nov. 13, 2017 at 1:30pm, November book. Kay Taylor will be study leader.

Irene Gibson, Recorder

MISSION WORK DAY

Lutheran World Relief Projects Dedicated

Lutheran World Relief Projects completed at St. Paul this past year were dedicated during the morning worship service October 29. LWR Projects included 67 Baby Care Kits, 12 Personal Care Kits, 6 Fabric Kits, 65 School Kits and 118 Hand Tied Quilts.

These projects are a reflection of the unity of St. Paul in Missions. Together they strengthen the fellowship within our congregation. They also serve as a faith witness to our community as we join our hearts and hands together blessing people in need around the world.

So many individuals have made these blessings possible -- in monetary donations, tangible donations and time and talent donations. We THANK EVERYONE for their generous contributions and witness of faith.

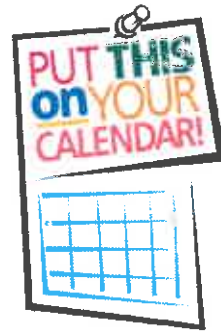
All projects have been boxed and will be taken to a Lincoln Church for distribution.



November – December WELCA Activities



**November 8, 2017 (Wednesday)
7:00 p.m. Unit WELCA Meeting
Program by Eunice Circle Members**



**November 19, 2017 (Sunday)
Thankoffering Service during our
Morning Worship Hour**



**December 3, 2017 (Sunday)
Hanging of the Greens during
Morning Worship Hour
Followed by Carry-in Dinner
Hosted by WELCA**



There were two Baptisms during the month of October.

Audrey Lea Nish, Daughter of Brian and Jennifer Nish, was baptized during worship services on October 15 with Sponsors John Germer and Julie Walker.

Livia Lynn Stein, Daughter of BJ and Shannon Stein, was also baptized into faith on October 29 during worship services with Sponsors Megan Langenberg, Danielle Reeson and Nikki Bentzinger

We welcome them into our Church Family and the Family of God.



Holy Baptism

Several of our congregational members have been in or currently are in the hospital recently.

Jeanette Banahan is at home recovering from her medical episode.

Betty Damrow is currently hospitalized at Beatrice Community Hospital, recuperating from a fall.

Steve Hemphill had total shoulder replacement and is at home recovering.

Please remember them in your prayers as they recover and heal.

Please also 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:

*Toby Fritzen, Richard Schnuelle, Kay Taylor, Dylan Nippert,
Eden Lottman, Mallory Helton and Skylar Folkers.*





Our Youth again led the worship service on October 22. The Worship Assistant was Bryston Warren and the Greeter was Brianna Weers. The Children's Sermon was led by Spencer Schmidt, where the upcoming Halloween holiday was used to play a "trick" on the kids - he gave out candy to some kids, but less to others. The Pharisees tried to trick Jesus by talking about taxes, asking him whether they should pay taxes to the emperor or not. Jesus pointed out Caesar's image on one side of the coin stating that they should give to Caesar what is Caesar's. Since we are in God's image, we should give to God what is God's, which is us.

The first scripture was read by Jadya Schultis and the second was read by Jesse Scheele. The Gospel was also read by Jesse Scheele. Ushers were Hayley Denner, Caleb Schultis and Jesse Scheele. The refreshments were served by Hayley Denner and Neleigh Weers.

The Confirmation class met at the Church on October 25 and went to MOSAIC in costume to play BINGO and have a Halloween party with the residents. All had a great time in fellowship and fun.



Due to the size of the classes this year, Pastor Mark has "split" the classes into three groups and times. They are: 6th Grade - 4pm; 7th and 8th Grade GIRLS - 6pm; 7th and 8th Grade BOYS - 7:30pm. These new times are posted on the Church Calendar.



On Sunday, October 1, First Communion was held during worship services.

Six new Confirmation students and their families came forward to participate in the sacrament of Holy Communion. They are Cole Ebeling, Hunter Harness, Keira Hennerberg, David Parde, Kellan Schlichtman and Zachary Warren.

Congratulations to these new students as they begin their Confirmation journey.



St. Paul's Youth Group will be meeting in the evening of November 26 for their service project. Their project will be to help pack 6,000 Mercy Meals at 12 cents each for a total of \$720. The Youth are asking for donations from the congregation to offset the costs. There is a plate available on Sundays and donations are accepted at any time by Jill Scheele. Thank you for supporting our Youth in this endeavor!



**Transformational
Ministry
Rev. Rich Sheridan
October 1, 2017**



Guest speaker Rev. Rich Sheridan is our Nebraska Synod Evangelist/Director of Evangelical Mission ELCA and pastor of Bethel Lutheran Church in Omaha. He spoke to our congregation on October 1 about Transformational Ministry.

Main points were that as a church, we need to go to people where they are, not expect them to come to us on our terms. "We' are the ones who need to change. How welcoming are we, really?" asked Rev. Sheridan. "We are to be transformed and redeemed each and every day in Christ's Authority."

'Nothing is more practical than finding God, that is, than FALLING IN LOVE in a quite absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything. It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning, what you will do with your evenings, how you spend your weekends, what you read, who you know. What breaks your heart and what amazes you with joy and gratitude. Fall in Love, stay in Love, and it will decide EVERYTHING.'

~ Fr. Pedro Arrupe

**Mission
Festival**

**Prison Ministry
Rev. Robert Bryon
October 8, 2017**



When I was lonely, you offered me hope.

Pastor Robert Bryon started as a regular Parish Pastor. A mother at that church asked him to go and minister to her son in prison. The son said he didn't deserve to be ministered to, and Rev. Bryon said he was right, but God loves and forgives you of all your sins - this is God's GRACE. This is the message that Followers of Christ Church gives to the prisoners.

As Christians, we are to do the same - no matter what. In our second scripture lesson for today, Philippians 3:4b-14, we learn in this lesson from Paul that awards are crap compared to the forgiveness he has received - undeserved at that.

Pr. Bryon shared that he is an alcoholic, and that at AA meetings, the people know they receive God's grace, even though they don't deserve it. Church should be like AA - confess your sins, and you are forgiven by the others for their sins and receive Grace. Find a way to get involved in Prison Ministry at any level, and your life will be changed.

In our bulletins, we received an information sheet about the Followers of Christ Prison Ministry with a lot of information about the ministry and how people can become involved or help this critical mission.



**500
REFORMATION
1517 ✠ 2017**

We celebrated the 500th Anniversary of the reformation on Sunday, October 29th. A special song, "The Reformation Polka" was sung during worship.

Official Day of Reformation is on October 31.



A special stole was purchased for the Milestone Anniversary





St. Paul Lutheran will once again host its annual Community Thanksgiving Worship Service on Wednesday evening, November 23, 7:30pm.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend this special service.



CAROLING

Christmas Caroling will be December 3. PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!! More details will be in the upcoming bulletins and December Newscaster.

Christmas Poinsettias

will be available through the Church if ordered by December 10.

When prices are available, a sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex.



Quiz Bowl Medalists

Congratulations to the Diller-Odell 5th Grade as they are the Elementary Quiz Bowl Bronze Medalists.

The competition was held at Thayer Central Elementary School on Monday, October 16th.

The students lost a tie-breaker to earn 3rd place.

Team members are (l to r); Joely Weers, Myleigh Weers, Brennan Schultis, Mikayla Krieger and Jaedyn Hayek.



YOUTH PHILANTHROPY CONTEST

Proudly Sponsored by the *Diller Community Foundation Fund*

Diller community youth, we invite you to use your creativity, energy, passion and talent to serve our community! We are happy to announce a NEW contest for youth ages K-22 years old, to apply for grants up to \$500 that will help our community change and grow! Use your gifts, talents and ideas to help create the best community to live!

You must apply by **December 1, 2017** and the project must be complete by **March 31, 2019**.

Please see Beth Roelfs or look on the bulletin board in the back of the church for more information.



November Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Judy Landenberger | 13 Donna Damrow |
| 1 Jordan Langenberg | 13 Katelin White |
| 2 Myleigh Weers | 18 Michael Wellsandt |
| 5 Danielle Reeson | 22 Leana Lottman |
| 6 Neil Meyer | 23 Brenda Engelman |
| 6 Brianna Weers | 25 Dennis Schmidt |
| 8 Linda Garcia | 25 Colby Bartlett |
| 8 Rhonda Balderson | 26 Russell Schultis |
| 9 Howard Behrends | 26 Diane Wellsandt |
| 9 Leatha Christ | 28 Deborah Nippert |
| 9 Brady Helton | 28 Jacob Langenberg |
| 10 Sharon Lottman | 30 Kelsey Engelman |
| 11 Susan Lawton | 30 Spencer Weers |
| 12 Phyllis Schierkolk | |

November Wedding Anniversaries

November 1, 1980

☞ Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Deborah Nippert

November 16, 1988

☞ Mr. & Mrs. Gary & Jill Bergmeier

November 28, 2015

☞ Mr. & Mrs. Joseph & McKenzie Henrichs



November 5 Sunday Worship Service

With Holy Communion

Worship Assistant, Sherry Henrichs

Greeter, Dean Pretzer

November 12 Worship in the Park

Worship Assistant, Dennis Hennerberg

Greeter, Charles Barber

November 19 Sunday Worship Service

Worship Assistant, Brian Weers

Greeter, Jim Damrow

November 26 Sunday Worship Service

Worship Assistant, Youth Group

Greeter, Youth Group



December 3 Sunday Worship Service

With Holy Communion

Hanging of the Greens

Worship Assistant, Jamie Schultis

Greeter, Don Meyer



Kevin Sasse Russell Schultis

Jamie Schultis Caleb Schultis

Doug Schmidt Spencer Schmidt

Jonathan Schmidt Christopher Schmidt

Tim Scheele Cody Scheele

Jesse Scheele B.J. Stein

Youth Group

Brian Weers Darin Weers

Melvin Weers Robert Weers



Reminder: If you are scheduled you are expected to arrive. Arrange for someone else to cover if you will not be there for your scheduled Sunday.

Mallory Denner

Cole Ebeling

Ezekiel Jones

Mallory Helton

Esdon Weers

Xavier Jones

Karli Heidemann

David Parde

Mykah Folkers

Keira Hennerberg



Children's Sermon

Pastor Mark

Beth Roelofs

Kristen

Heidemann

Youth Group

Pastor Mark



Please furnish your own Styrofoam cups or use the cups in the kitchen cupboard

Jean Schmidt

Julie Schmidt

Radene Beran

Carolyn Schultis

BethLee Beran

Linda Beran

Judy Landenberger

Toni Landenberger

Peggy Hemphill

Jan Gold

November 2017



www.stpauldiller.com

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>✻ Please check the weekly bulletin ✻ or website for schedule changes or additions. Some information may not have been available at press time.</p>			<p>ALL SAINTS DAY 1 500 REFORMATION 1517-2017 Confirmation Parents' Night 7:00pm</p>	2	3	4
<p> FALL BACK DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS 5 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY DEDICATION SUNDAY Red Hymnal Worship Service 9:30 AM Holy Communion SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM Youth Meeting 6:30 at Parsonage</p>	6	7	<p>8 Women of the ELCA Unit Meeting 7pm CONFIRMATION 6th Grade 4pm 7th-8th Girls 6pm 7th-8th Boys 730pm</p>	9	10	<p>11  VETERAN'S DAY</p>
<p>Blue Hymnal 12 Worship Service 9:30 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM</p>	13 <i>Eunice Circle</i> 1:30pm	14	<p>15 Council Meeting 6:30pm</p>	16	17	18
<p>Red Hymnal 19 Worship Service 9:30 AM ThankOffering Service SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM Youth Games Night at Parsonage</p>	20	21	<p>22 Thanksgiving Service 7:30pm</p>	<p>23  Thanksgiving</p>	24	25
<p>Blue Hymnal 26  Youth-Led Worship Service 9:30 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM <i>Newscaster items due</i></p>	27	<p>28 <i>Work Day</i> All Day</p>	<p>29 CONFIRMATION 6th Grade 4pm 7th-8th Girls 6pm 7th-8th Boys 730pm</p>	30		



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 37
DILLER, NE 68342