

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.*

September 2025
Pastor Mark Liscom

Wisdom

The following is an excerpt written by Eugene Peterson in his bible translation, "The Message".

Many people think that what's written in the Bible has mostly to do with getting people into heaven—getting right with God, saving their eternal souls. It does have to do with that of course, but not mostly. It is equally concerned with living on this earth—living well, living in robust sanity. In our Scriptures, heaven is not the primary concern, to which earth is a tag-along-after thought. "On earth as it is in heaven" is Jesus' prayer.

"Wisdom" is the biblical term for this on-earth-as-it-is-in-heaven everyday living. Wisdom has to do with becoming skillful in honoring our parents and raising our children, handling our money and conducting our sexual lives, going to work and exercising leadership, using words well and treating friends kindly, eating and drinking healthily, cultivating emotions within ourselves and attitudes toward others that make for peace. Threaded through these items is the insistence that the way we think of and respond to God is the most practical thing we do.

Interesting way of bringing heaven to earth. Wisdom has to do with becoming skillful. At woodworking or singing or managing your calendar. At running a meeting or being a leader. Thinking things through. Taking care of the earth. I like it.....and it's a great way to think about what heaven might be like.

Pastor Mark

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
and Kristen Hennerberg

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



Those sponsoring the September Newscaster are

**Dean and Beth Roelfs
In Celebration of God's Blessings
and
Mike and Dorothy Harlan**

Thank You all for sponsoring this Newscaster!

There is one remaining sponsorship for December 2025 available.

The 2026 sponsorship sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the back of the Narthex in September.

Please note that each sponsorship is now \$40 due to postage cost increases.

WELCOME TO THE UNITED STATES!

Caroline Asmussen, 16, from Denmark, is a new Foreign Exchange Student attending Diller-Odell High School this fall.

Florian and Briana Mahrt and daughters, members of St. Paul Lutheran, are her host family.

She is playing volleyball and plans to go out for basketball as well. In her free time, she enjoys riding horses, hanging out with friends and exploring new places.



We hope you enjoy your time in Nebraska and the United States, and have wonderful experiences and interactions with new friends, family and your church family.

We are excited to learn about you and your home country! We welcome you!

St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Minutes for August 20, 2025

Council members present were Gary Bergmeier, Allen Roelfs, Pastor Mark, Scott Pretzer, Brian Weers and Doug Schmidt. God Sightings were shared, and Pastor Mark offered an opening prayer. Gary called the meeting to order. Minutes for the June and July meetings were read and Gary moved to approve the minutes and seconded by Allen. Minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bills have been paid. Giving receipts is going ok, August is on track. We are currently halfway to Mission Share obligation. It was moved by Gary and seconded by Scott to approve the report. Motion passed.

MEMORIAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Currently a balance of \$13,307.12 is in the account. We are still waiting for the estimate for the shadow box from Ratigan.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pretty quiet month, 4 worship services, 2 text studies, 2 hospital calls, 2 rest home visits and one other call.

VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Things are going ok.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Food Stand – Did not meet.

Property – Second week of September or first week of October scheduled for Parsonage HVAC unit replacement by Wrightsman Plumbing/Heating/Air.

Christian Education – Had a good meeting where they did the VBS recap with some Ellis people. It was decided to do VBS at Camp Jefferson again next year. Talked about Confirmation engagement by the students a little more, especially at the end before being Confirmed. Some options for Adult Ed will be discussed at next meeting. Also may want to put a hanging screen & projector in Confirmation/CrossWalk room.

Communication & Outreach – Met tonight (Aug. 20), Welcome Packet finalized and is available at CrossWalk kickoff and Confirmation kickoff. Will help September 10 at CrossWalk and Trunk-or-Treat at the end of October. Ardie mentioned sponsor for STRIV broadcast livestream for winter sports? Allen moved to sponsor STRIV up to \$350, seconded by Gary. Motion passed.

Music & Worship – Did not meet.

OLD BUSINESS

~ Parking lot concrete a no-go. Dave offered rock from wind towers, we might do rock screenings and try to pack in at a taper. Gary moved to get a load of ¼ inch screenings, seconded by Charlie. Motion passed. We will see if we can use packers from the Picnic Tractor Pull.

~ Food Stand disbursements – Scott moved to grant WELCA one-third of 80% that is left from the Food Stand after 20% goes to BVCA. Gary seconded, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

~ Scott had a handout for a Winter Meeting proposal, sort of like a physical or yearly check-up to discuss what's working or not. Can help us know what direction things are going. Proposal tabled until the next meeting.

~ The 2026 Portico benefit review – choose plan for a replacement pastor should that event happen, was tabled until the next meeting.

~ Diane Wellsandt (Custodian) will be gone from August 27th to September 3rd.

The next council meeting was set for Wednesday, September 17th at 7pm and committees to meet at 6:30pm. Allen moved to adjourn the meeting and Gary seconded. The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

~ Brian Weers, Council Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 8/19/2025

Current Balances

General Fund	\$ 8,945.60
Benevolence	\$ 316.10
Designations	\$ 3,803.92
Total	\$13,065.62

Operating Expenses

Available Cash	\$ 8,945.60
Remaining Bills	
None	
Remaining Bal	\$ 8,945.60



Offering Summary

	June	July	August
Current	\$11,374.20	\$ 8,728.80	\$ 6,759.60
Benevolence	\$ 677.55	\$ 136.20	\$ 179.90
Designated Funds	\$ 50.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 65.00
Totals	\$12,101.75	\$ 9,065.00	\$ 7,004.50
			(partial month)

We need to receive **\$10,920.36** in CURRENT each month in order to meet our budget for 2025.

Study the Bible with us



August Eunice Circle

Eunice Circle met on August 11, 2025 at 1:30pm. Norma Banahan led Bible Study. Where two or more are gathered: Flourishing in relationships. Relationships that sustain us. Naomi and Ruth held fast to their relationship in the face of grief, suffering and loss.

The Bible texts were from Ruth:1 and Ruth:4.

We opened with prayer and Hymn, "All Are Welcome", verse 4. We closed with prayer and Hymn, "Lord Jesus, You Will Be My Song" and The Lord's Prayer.

Norma called our meeting to order. Five (5) members answered Roll Call. Minutes were read and approved. Our Offering was \$20.00.

Old Business: WELCA Unit Meeting August 10th after church service, but date may be changed. Workdays July 22nd, 9 to Noon and July 29th, 9 to Noon.

New Business: Work Day August 26th.

After Grace, Linda Behrends served refreshments. September hostess – Jane Pretzer.

Next Eunice Circle meeting will be September 8, 2025 at 1:30pm, June/July/August book. Irene Gibson will lead the Bible study, August lesson.

~ Irene Gibson, Recorder

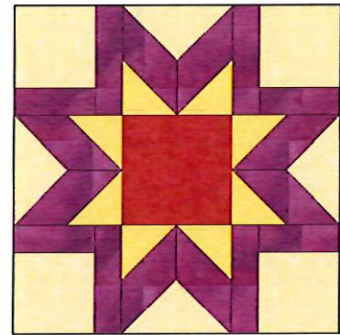
Mission Work Day

The quilters continue to meet every 4th and 5th Tuesdays of each month, except December.

We start at 9:00am and quilt as long as prepared fabrics are available or until Noon.

Please come and join us. We will meet September 23rd and 30th.

WRAP THE WORLD IN LOVE



In Loving Sympathy

Our love and caring goes out to the families of Brian and Darin Weers as they say goodbye to their dad Robert Weers. We also hold Norma Banahan in our prayers as she mourns the loss of her brother. Bob was a lifelong member of St. Paul and filled numerous roles in the life of the congregation. He brought leadership and laughter to his family of faith and we celebrate his life.



Mary Sasse has moved into Gardenside Care Center in Fairbury, and would love to hear from you!

Her new address is:
Gardenside Care Center
2200 H St. #107
Fairbury, NE 68352

Cards and visits are welcome and appreciated.



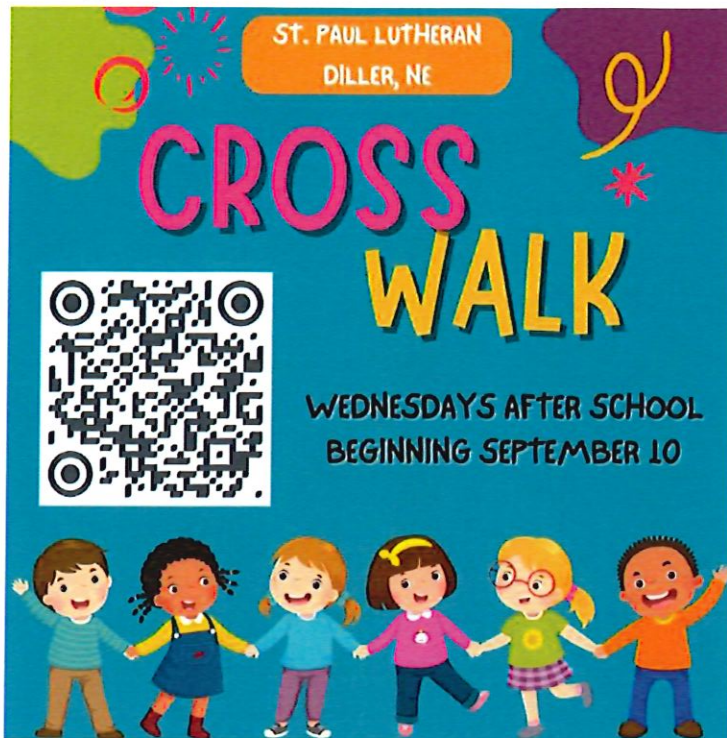
The Impromptu Choir sang, "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" during our August 10th Worship service.

Thank you to those that come and share their music gifts. It truly makes our worship special.



CROSSWALK to Hold Fall Kick Off

The halls of St. Paul will be alive with energy and laughter on September 10 with the first CrossWalk for the 2025/26 school year. The kickoff day will include a Pop Tab update and packing the school kits with our friend Irene Gibson. The fall lessons will be from the book of Acts. Kids will continue their prayer development, practice and review the Lord's Prayer and 10 Commandments, and build their understanding of using the Bible as a tool. New this year is the introduction to the Triune God and the Apostles Creed. We look forward to an amazing year of joyful learning. The church has received a \$250 Action Team grant from Thrivent and funds from the Diller Community Foundation Fund to support the program.



CrossWalk will include Bible stories, snack time, game time, sharing highs and lows in prayer, and music.

Who is invited:

Preschool - 5th grade students.
Older students are encouraged to attend as helpers.

When:

Wednesdays after school from 3:30-5:00 p.m.
September 10, 2025 to April 29, 2026.
Canceled if school is closed due to weather.

Where:

St. Paul Lutheran Church in Diller. Those coming from the elementary school will be escorted by an adult.

Stay Connected with CrossWalk:

CrossWalk uses **Remind** to share important announcements and schedule updates. Multiple caregivers are welcome to sign up so everyone stays informed.

***Please note: **Remind** no longer delivers text messages for programs like CrossWalk.
Families will now receive updates by **email** or through the **free Remind app**.***

Join our group in 3 easy steps:

1. Download the Remind app from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Create an account (or log in).
3. Tap "Join a class" and enter our code: stpaulw25

Turn on notifications in the app for the quickest updates and never miss CrossWalk news!

Confirmation Class



Confirmation begins on **September 3** with a Kickoff party at Gary Bergmeier's pond, weather permitting, starting at 6:30pm with food and games.

October activities include Bingo Night at Gardenside Care Center in Fairbury on October 1st. On October 15, we will join the people at MOSAIC in Beatrice for a fun Halloween Party. All details and information will be given to the students at classes or can be found on the Church website, Confirmation Tab, at www.stpauldiller.com.

Confirmation Sunday is planned for **May 3, 2026**, and we have a great group.
First communion will be scheduled at a later time. Please see the website for more information.



ST. PAUL AND ELLIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES HOST COMMUNITY "WEIRD ANIMALS" VBS AT CAMP JEFFERSON

WEIRD ANIMALS – WHERE JESUS' LOVE IS ONE-OF-A-KIND

VBS 2025 was a blast! We continued the one full day event this year at Camp Jefferson. It was filled with breakout sessions, games, crafts, snacks, music, outside adventures, and so much more! Through the Bible stories of the 10 Lepers and The Woman at the Well we learned that when You Feel Left Out or When You Feel Different, JESUS Always Loves You.

Dr. Paws (aka Pastor Mark) and Rick Souerdyke of the Nebraska Games and Parks Commission were special guests for the day and helped us learn a lot about the theme.

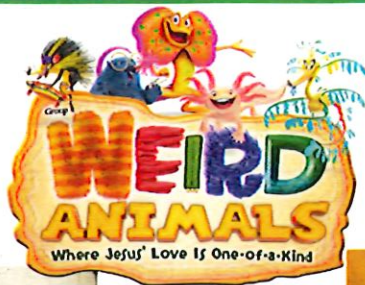
At 3pm, everyone enjoyed a dip in the pool. Families and friends enjoyed a program at 6pm where students shared songs and experiences from the day. A crowd of about 150 shared laughter, fellowship and a hamburger/hotdog meal to top off a wonderful day.

The 2025 VBS event was a collaborative effort of the Ellis United Methodist Church and St. Paul faith families. There were lots of volunteers, donors, and committees that made this day happen. We want to THANK YOU ALL!!!

Service project, pictures and individuals are on the next page.

Photos contributed by Tyler Wolken, Stacy Roelfs, Joely Weers and Kendra K Weers





On this page are pictures from the program, meal and features. Thanks again to everyone involved with VBS and the photo contributors!



VBS CARING PROJECT

For the service project this year, the campers made banners for our local first responders. They were in thanks for all their hard work and efforts throughout the year, they do so selflessly. The agencies that were acknowledged are: the Diller Fire Department, the Diller EMTs, Norris Public Power Linemen of Fairbury and the Fairbury Power and Light team. The banners (pictured at right) and a treat will be awarded in September.

Financial sponsors were the Diller Community Foundation Fund, Thrivent, Remi and Reagan Carpenter and both congregations.

What a joyful testimony to the love of Jesus among us!

Many volunteers made this possible, the organizational team from both churches, the adult and youth helpers, and those who fixed all the food. Our sincere thanks to you all!!

This was truly a discipleship where God was present in the hearts of many.





Caring Thoughts

Prayers go out to Ardie Barber as she recovers from a recent surgery and anticipates a hip replacement in the near future. We hope all goes well and the healing brings an improved quality of life.

Mary Sasse suffered a stroke in early August and has been in Bryan LGH West where she is working hard during therapy. She was being assessed on August 29th to determine where she will continue her recovery. Her family is going to let us know her new address and welcomes friends to stop by for a visit or send greetings. God be with you Mary as you travel the journey to improved health. Stay strong in spirit.

Prayers of support are with Josie Hennerberg who had surgery on Aug. 6 to repair a leg injury. The recovery and therapy have started. Please support her and lift her up as she does the long hard work of healing. Life sends us in unexpected and challenging directions and the loving prayer and care of others is powerful medicine.

Jeanette Bures had knee replacement surgery 8 weeks ago and has fully recovered. We are so thrilled her surgery went well, is behind her and that life is returning to normal. We are thankful for the skilled hands that brought our dear friend a lighter and pain free step.

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:

*Norris Gold, Ervin Hennerberg,
Mike Balderson, Norman Balderson and Tyler Wolken*



September Wedding Anniversaries

September 1, 1967

☞ Mr. & Mrs. Jim & Jeanette Bures

September 5, 2010

☞ Mr. & Mrs. Scott & Linda Beran

September 23, 1962

☞ Mr. & Mrs. Ervin & Betty Hennerberg

September 25, 2004

☞ Mr. & Mrs. Shawn & Jill Zabokrtsky

September 28, 2013

☞ Mr. & Mrs. Florian & Briana Mahrt



September Birthdays



1 Gail Engelman
1 Cassandra Lottman
5 Riley Sasse
6 Cathy Lyons
7 Jamie Schultis
8 Tim Scheele
10 Guilford Wiemers
10 Andrew Graves
11 Shawn Lottman
11 Aubrey Roelfs
12 Shawn Zabokrtsky

12 Clayton Spilker
12 Draedyn Sasse
14 Norman Balderson
14 Ryan Nippert
14 Reid Rallis
15 Kate Stein
16 Charles Barber
16 Cheryl Denner
17 B.J. Stein
17 Shannon Stein

18 Robbyn Roelfs
19 Kelsay Schlichtman
20 Irene Gibson
20 Hollie Crawford
21 Angie Clifford
23 Christopher Schmidt
24 Skylar Pretzer
26 Kevin Sasse
26 Matthew Nippert
27 Eliza Mahrt
30 Kristen Hennerberg

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!



**September 7 Sunday Worship Service
With Holy Communion**

*Worship Assistant, Kendra K Weers
Acolyte, Aubrey Roelfs
Greeter, Dennis Nippert*

Coffee Service – Toni Landenberger, Stacy Schlichtman



September 14 Sunday Worship Service

*Worship Assistant, Sherry Henrichs
Greeter, Dean Pretzer*

Coffee Service – Linda Beran, Susan Lawton

September 21 Sunday Worship Service

*Worship Assistant – Jamie Schultis
Greeter – Charles Barber*

Coffee Service – Kendra S Weers, Kalli Roelfs

September 28 Sunday Worship Service

*Worship Assistant – Gary Bergmeier
Greeter – Jim Bures*

Coffee Service – Kendra K Weers, Deb Nippert



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

*Worship Assistant – Diane Wellsandt
Acolyte – Aubrey Roelfs
Greeter – Gary Bergmeier*

Coffee Service – Ardith Barber, Kristen Heidemann

September 2025



www.stpauldiller.com * Facebook – St. Paul’s Lutheran Church Diller Nebraska * YouTube – St. Paul Lutheran Church Diller

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
*** CHECK THE WEEKLY BULLETIN *** or Website for Calendar updates. Some events were not available at press time.	1 	2	3 Confirmation Kick Off 6:30pm	4	5	6
Red Hymnal Worship Service Holy Communion 9:30 AM 	8 Eunice Circle 1:30pm	9	10 CROSS WALK Kick Off 4:00pm Confirmation 7:00pm	11 	12	13
Blue Hymnal Worship Service 9:30 AM 14	15	16	17 CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm NO Confirmation Committees and Council Meetings 6:30/7pm	18	19	20
Red Hymnal Worship Service 9:30 AM 21	22 	23 Work Day All Day	24 CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm Confirmation 7:00pm	25 <i>Newscaster items due</i>	26	27
Blue Hymnal Worship Service 9:30 AM 28	29	30 Work Day All Day	 Confirmation Bingo at Gardenside			



St. Paul Lutheran Church
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