

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.*

February 2022

Pastor Mark Liscom

Luther's Donkey Theology

This year I'm going to make some effort this year to bring some of Martin Luther's theology for your consideration during the 2022 Lenten Season. So, to wet our appetite, here is a quote of from Luther on what it means to be a Christian using our friend the donkey as a metaphor.

One of the great gifts of the spiritual life is the ability to poke fun at yourself. Here is a great example of Luther poking fun at himself.

"If however, you feel and are inclined to think that you have made it, flattering yourself with your own little books, teaching, or writing, because you have done it beautifully and preached excellently; if you are highly pleased when someone praises you, if you perhaps look for praise, and would sulk or quit what you are doing if you did not get it—if you are of that stripe, dear friend, then take yourself by the ears, and if you do this in the right way you will find a beautiful pair of big, long, shaggy donkey ears. Then do not spare any expense! Decorate them with golden bells, so that people will be able to hear you wherever you go, point their fingers at you, and say, "See, See! There goes that clever beast, who can write such exquisite books and preach so remarkably well". That very moment you will be blessed and blessed beyond measure in the kingdom of heaven. Yes, in that heaven where hellfire is ready for the devil and his angels.

To sum up: Let us be proud and seek honor in the places where we can. But here the honor is God's alone, as it is said, "God opposes the proud, but give grace to the humble"; to whom be glory, world without end, Amen

You've got to love donkey theology.

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

Worship Assistants & Ushers Lists – Sherry Henrichs



Sponsors for the February Newscaster are

*The Damrow Family
in Honor of Franklin's 100th Birthday
on March 12th*

Happy Birthday, Franklin! We thank you for your sponsorship and support. Please note that the sign-up sheet for 2022 sponsorships is up and some sponsorships are still available. There is one each available for April, June/July, August, October and December. Both sponsorships are available for the months of September and November.

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

Sweetheart Supper

Take your sweetheart out for a lovely evening
Brought to you by our Youth
on Sunday, February 6

\$30 per couple

Seating times are 5:30 and 6:30pm

Contact a member of our Youth or
Darin & Kendra Weers for a reservation



St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Minutes for January 19, 2022

Council members present were Pastor Mark, David Henrichs, Gary Bergmeier, Darin Weers, Diane Wellsandt and Peggy Hemphill. Tyler Wolken was absent. God sightings were shared by council members and then Pastor Mark started the meeting with an opening prayer.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Gary presented the Treasurer's Report. Gary reported that there was a total available cash of \$9,408.87 in the account. Still needing to be paid are Norris Public Power and Portico leaving an ending balance of \$6,613.30. Darin moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and Diane seconded. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

MEMORIAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Darin reported that there was an interest payment on the account of \$.91. The balance in the account is now \$14,152.80. Peggy moved to accept the report and Gary seconded. The report was approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor reported that he had 4 worship services, 1 Christmas Eve service, 1 funeral, 1 youth group meeting, 1 confirmation meeting, 1 text study, 1 cluster meeting, 4 shut-in communions, tons of video equipment research, Lenten Round Robin meeting, Lenten series preparation and 1 Worship Committee meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education – N/A

Property – N/A

Communication & Outreach – N/A

Music & Worship – Plans are being made for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Pastor reported that they will be having the Round Robin preaching for the Lenten services and that he will be doing a series on the Lutheran doctrine during the Sunday morning worship services during Lent. Discussion was held on getting special music for Sunday morning worship.

Food Stand – N/A

Vice Chairman's Report – David has researched the availability and pricing of vigil candles. There appears to be a shortage of candles. Candles will be ordered and hopefully here for use at the Christmas Eve service.

OLD BUSINESS

Pastor Mark has ordered the new equipment for video and audio live streaming which should be arriving shortly. The acolytes have been lined up and will begin serving again. The revised preliminary budget was presented and discussed. Darin moved to present the budget to the congregation for voting and Gary seconded the motion. The budget will be presented to the congregation as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held on trying to start a Women's Bible Study again. It was suggested that a sign-up sheet be placed in the fellowship area to find out who is interested and then having a meeting with those individuals to set up a schedule of when they want to meet. Pastor reported that the Youth Group will again be holding their Sweetheart Supper on Sunday, February 6.

The next council meeting was set for February 16 at 7 p.m. and committees to meet at 6:30 p.m. Gary moved to adjourn the meeting and Diane seconded. The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

~ Peggy Hemphill, Council Member for Tyler Wolken

TREASURER'S REPORT			
As of 1/19/2022			
<u>Current Balances</u>		<u>Operating Expenses</u>	
General Fund	\$ 9,408.87	Available Cash	\$ 9,408.87
Benevolence	\$ 103.20	Remaining Bills	
<u>Designations</u>	<u>\$ 4,517.22</u>	Norris (est.)	\$ 250.00
Total	\$14,029.29	Portico	<u>\$ 2,545.57</u>
		Remaining Bal	\$ 6,613.30
<i>Due mid-February</i>			
<u>Offering Summary</u>			
	November	December	January
Current	\$ 8,831.46	\$ 12,882.00	\$ 9,552.80
Benevolence	\$ 158.00	\$ 665.00	\$ 103.20
Designated Funds	<u>\$ 72.00</u>	<u>\$ 51.00</u>	<u>\$ 111.00</u>
Totals	\$ 9,061.46	\$ 13,708.00	\$ 9,767.00
			(partial month)
We need to receive \$10,002.96 in CURRENT each month in order to meet our budget for 2022.			



Minutes for the Annual Meeting of St. Paul Lutheran Church, ELCA, January 31, 2021

**** Please note these are the annual meeting minutes from the previous year, NOT from 2022 meeting ****

The 2021 Annual Meeting was called to order by president Jamie Schultis. There were 28 congregational members present. Pastor Mark Liscom opened the meeting with a prayer. The minutes from the 2020 annual meeting were reviewed. David Henrichs moved to approve the minutes and Darin Weers seconded. The minutes were approved.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND BALLOT REPORT

- Jamie presented the church council ballot. On the nominating committee were Jamie Schultis, Melvin Beran, Beth Roelfs, Alan Roelfs, and Charlie Barber. Nominated for council were Peggy Hemphill and Diane Wellsandt. Nominations were opened for other names. No other names were mentioned. Beth Roelfs moved to cease nominations and Marcie Barber seconded. Nominations were ceased.
- Jamie explained the Diller Picnic Foodstand ballot and how funds would be divided accordingly.
- Gary explained the annual budget. Projections were very close last year and council will work toward keeping it close to the same for 2021. Angie Clifford made the suggestion that there be something added in the newsletter about how envelope donations and cash donations were distributed. Chris Clifford asked about Pastor's salary increase. Marcie Barber inquired about why benefits went down. Pastor Mark explained that they go up and down each year depending on circumstances, which is why it would reflect the lower benefits package. Charlie Barber moved to accept the budget and Beth Roelfs seconded. The budget was approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Pastor opened up with a letter from the bishop regarding Covid and changes in the church
- Re-enforced our church's mission statement and vision plan.
- Gave a message for all of those we lost in 2020.
- Highlighted some goals for 2021.
- Shared some progress that was made from the Envision Committee' Report

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Marci Barber, Chris Clifford and Stacy Roelfs were the 2020 auditors. The auditors found the books to be in order. The committee made a suggestion to hire someone full time to handle the treasurer's books and correct errors.

VOTING RESULTS

- Elected to church council: Peggy Hemphill – 28; Diane Wellsandt – 28
- Elected to nominating committee: Darin Weers – 28; Tyler Wolken – 28; Allen Roelfs – 28; Dennis Nippert – 28; Scott Pretzer – 28
- If asked to operate the Diller Picnic Food Stand: yes – 26; no – 2
- Funds from the Diller Picnic Food Stand would go to:

19 – 80% General Fund	13 – 20% Benevolence	3 – 20% World Hunger
3 – Blue Valley	7 – 60% General	
- Approve the recommended budget – 28 votes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Memorial – Darrin Weers gave a report that there were several projects that have been done in the past year. Lighting project, remodel of back Sunday school space, and the current wall tear down to eliminate the nursery and table/chair storage room. Darrin wanted to extend a thank you to all who contributed to those projects.
- Christian Education – Received a \$500 grant from the Diller Foundation. Working building the Crosswalk program and getting some different curriculum for next year.
- Communication Outreach – Jamie Schultis talked about the Crosswalk program and the impact it has made on the church.

COMMENTS AND THANK YOU'S

- Ardith Barber wanted to thank the Crosswalk volunteers for all their hard work they've done to keep it going.
- Sheri Schultis asked for food donations for Crosswalk and any volunteers to help with the program.
- Kendra K Weers asked for newscaster sponsors. Either ½ sponsorship or full. One available for February. IF you have an article you would like to share, send it to Kendra.
- Beth Roelfs wanted to give a thank you to Jamie Schultis and his family for his time served on the council and their work in the church.

OLD BUSINESS

- Brian Weers asked about last years issues and what has been done since. Darin gave an update about the development of the new committees, working toward moving forward and working toward reaching out more.
- Beth Roelfs talked about Covid as a time to heal and seek reflection.
- Gary wanted to make sure that everyone is welcome to come to church and that we ALL need to extend the offer to our neighbors.
- Beth echoed similar feelings about "God's Church" not our church.

NEW BUSINESS

- David Henrichs proposed the idea of having a paid accountant/treasurer.
- David said there was interest in the position. This person would be paid \$2400 which would be about \$200 per month. If anyone is interested then they should contact a council member. The financial secretary will communicate with the council treasurer and give a monthly report at the council meeting.
- Gary Bergmeier made the motion to have a financial secretary to be paid \$2400/year and Darin seconded. The motion passed 27 – Yes 0 – NO
- Gary talked about getting a new roof and that Schoens was in the process of moving forward with that.

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- Pastor Mark offered a prayer for those who we lost in 2020. Pastor also gave a thank you to Jamie and the congregation for all their help this past year.
- Darin Weers moved to adjourn the meeting and Diane Wellsandt seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

~ Tyler Wolken, Council Secretary



Eunice Circle

Eunice Circle met on January 10, 2022 at 1:30pm. Norma Banahan led the Bible Study.

The Kingdom of God: Beautiful Fact. Announcing the Reign of God.

Our study texts from Matthew 4:23, 9:35 and 24:14 – Luke 4:43, 8:1 and 16:16 – Mark 1:14–15 and other gospels.

We opened with prayer and Hymn, "Jesus Shall Reign." We closed with prayer and The Lord's Prayer.

Norma called our meeting to order. Minutes were read and approved. Four (4) members answered roll call.

Pastor – short time.

Old Business: We will continue with Norma Banahan as chairperson and Irene Gibson as recorder. No Work Day in December.

New Business: Work Day – January 25th.

After Grace, Marla Weichel served refreshments.

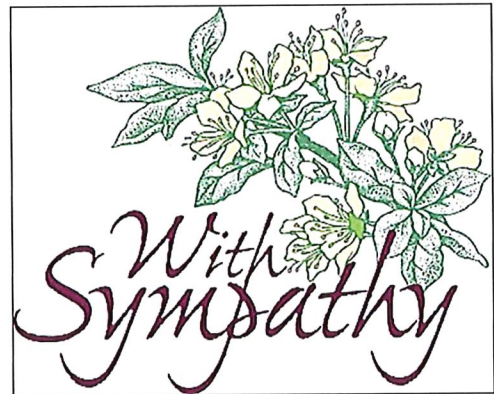
Next Eunice Circle Meeting will be February 14th, 2022 at 1:30pm. Irene Gibson will lead Bible Study.

~ Irene Gibson, Recorder

We remember the family of Cleo Perkins who passed away on January 5th at Homestead House in Beatrice. Her funeral services were held at St. Paul Lutheran on January 12th with Pastor Mark Liscom officiating. Burial took place at Prairie Home Cemetery at Diller.

We remember her family of David and Sherry Henrichs, Dean and Beth Roelfs, John and Becky Snyder, Allen Roelfs, Adam Roelfs, Sarah Crabtree, Joseph Henrichs and Cleo's great-grandchildren.

*Our deepest sympathies are with her entire family.
May God's Healing Peace be with all of you.*



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 and Rick Whitemire



St. Paul Women^{of the} ELCA Unit Meeting

February Unit Meeting of the St. Paul WELCA
Tuesday, February 1, 2022
1:30pm

Discussion will include our 2022 Activities
All women of the church welcome to come.

CrossWalk Starts New Calendar Year with Celebration



CrossWalk

On January 12, the CrossWalk program resumed its sessions with the Christmas celebration that was postponed due to the Dec. 15 bad weather. The kids were reminded that although the decorations of the holidays have been packed away, the message of Christmas is to be carried by us into the world all year long.

During stations, the students frosted cookies (Thanks Kristen for braving that station), made cocoa mix as a gift for their families, sang Christmas Carols and prepared a Sound Story version of the Christmas Story to share with their parents.

At 5, the families were entertained with Away In A Manger and heard the story of Jesus' birth with the added fun of angel voices, animal sounds, ringing bells and baby cries. The event concluded with a pizza party and the Christmas cookies that the children prepared. Over 50 attended and enjoyed the warm fellowship at St. Paul's.

On Jan. 19, the students started a new study on the Ten Commandments. The kids will learn a paraphrased version of God's Good Rules through the lessons, activities and the 10 Commandments Boogie. A road will serve as the visual for this focus. Showing the kids that we need rules for a good and safe life just like we need road signs/laws to keep us safe on the road.

~ Submitted by Beth Roelfs



VBS Plans for 2022 are Taking Shape

The Christian Education Committee is considering a different format for the annual summer learning experience. The group is considering a one-day experience at Camp Jefferson in early August.

The curriculum would be Hay Day with a farm theme. The program would feature two 2½-hour long learning sessions with a lunch break. The balance of the afternoon would offer time to enjoy the activities that the camp offers.

The families and congregation would be invited to come in the evening for supper and fun. Transportation will be provided so that this opportunity is available to as many children as possible. More details will be shared as they become available.

~ Submitted by Beth Roelfs

With Thanks

Dear Friends and Faith Family at St. Paul's,

Your acts and words of kindness and caring have meant so much as we have dealt with Mom's death. Her belief in God's great love and this faith community were always a foundation for her and a purpose she was committed to sustaining. She and Dad instilled this in their family and their legacy of commitment to St. Paul will not end.

As her family we have found healing in the support and want to thank everyone for all you have so lovingly done.

~ Family of Cleo Perkins



BAPTIZED INTO OUR CHURCH

On Sunday, January 16, we welcomed Halle Jeanne Henrichs, daughter of Joe and McKenzie Henrichs, into our church family through baptism.

Her sponsors were Sarah Crabtree, Kayla Busboom and Mitchell Randel.

Halle is the Granddaughter of David and Sherry Henrichs and

Great-granddaughter of the late Cleo Perkins.

We give thanks to God for the unconditional love that is the foundation of life!

Welcome to our church family!

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY FRANKLIN!!

Come join the family of Franklin Damrow in honoring his 100th Birthday at an

Open House

Sunday, March 6, 2022

at the Diller Community Building

2pm to 4pm

The congregation and community is invited to attend and celebrate with the birthday boy!

(His actual birthday is March 12th)

If you are unable to attend, we know he would appreciate hearing from you.

Cards may be sent to:

**Franklin Damrow
The Kensington
105 N 6th St., Apt 510
Beatrice, NE 68310**

Please pray for good health, good weather and good fellowship. Please join us!



I was informed that I incorrectly credited Beth Roelfs and the Community Club for the beautiful Christmas decorations in Veterans' Park in the December Newscaster.

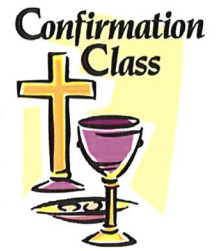
THANK YOU, JEFF BARNTS AND HIS EXTENDED FAMILY

for bringing this wonderful gift to our community. You are greatly appreciated!



Youth will resume the Sweetheart Supper on Sunday, January 6th with seating times at 5:30 and 6:30. Please see a youth member or Darin and/or Kendra Weers for reservations and tickets. The youth will also have a meeting on Sunday, February 20, 6:30pm at the Church.

Confirmation Family Night will be February 2nd and classes will be February 9th and 23rd. Please check the church calendar for Acolyte schedule and please also note Ash Wednesday is March 2. The confirmation class schedule will change during Lent, please check the church website for more information.



Congratulations, Pioneer Conference Honor Band!!

Photo by Peggy Hemphill



On Monday, January 24, nine members of the Diller-Odell Band were selected for and participated in the Pioneer Conference Honor Band at Sterling High School. The entire Honor Band performed four selections under the direction of John Kosch, director of music at Pius X High School in Lincoln. The four selections performed were "The Star-Spangled Banner", "Normal March", "Machine Age" and a unique selection with mouth sound effects, "The Great Locomotive Chase" to close the concert.

Youth from our church that were selected were David Parde and Joely Weers.

Schools that were represented were Diller-Odell, Friend, Lewiston, Sterling, Wymore Southern and Tri-County with a total of 68 students. Practicing only that day together, it was a wonderful concert, and a welcome return to concert music after so much was canceled over the last couple years because of the pandemic.



happy anniversary

February 14, 1965

☞ Mr. & Mrs. Dean & Sharon Lottman

February 18, 1984

☞ Mr. & Mrs. Kevin & Barb Sasse

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|
| 4 | Leyton Speth | 16 | Matt Wiegand |
| 4 | Addison Stein | 17 | Charles Whitehead |
| 5 | Rick Garton | 17 | Chris Schlichtman |
| 5 | Kristin Heidemann | 18 | Shawn Weers |
| 6 | Keira Hennerberg | 18 | Elliot Sasse |
| 8 | Tara Sasse | 19 | Ardith Barber |
| 9 | Creyton Heidemann | 20 | Toni Landenberger |
| 10 | Joel Holtmeier | 23 | Shyla Goldsberry |
| 11 | Joyce Lahodny | 24 | Blair Whitehead |
| 11 | Tanner Parde | 25 | Jerry Holtmeier |
| 12 | Jill Bergmeier | 27 | Chris Clifford |
| 14 | Steve Hemphill | | |

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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!



**February 6 Sunday Worship Service
With Holy Communion**

Worship Assistant – Jamie Schultis

Greeter – Jim Bures

Acolyte – Josie Hennerberg

Ushers – Christopher Schmidt, Doug Schmidt

Coffee – Jeanette Bures, Jill Scheele

February 13 Sunday Worship Service

Worship Assistant – Brian Weers

Greeter – Dennis Nippert

Acolyte – Ryan Hicok

Ushers – B.J. Stein, Jamie Schultis

Coffee – Robbyn Roelfs, Jean Schmidt

February 20 Sunday Worship Service

Worship Assistant – Kendra K Weers

Greeter – Jim Bures

Acolyte – Peyton Hansen

Ushers – Brian Weers, Darin Weers

Coffee Service – Stacy Roelfs, Beth Roelfs

**February 27 Sunday Worship Service
Transfiguration**

Worship Assistant – Diane Wellsandt

Greeter – Charles Barber

Acolyte – Mason Schlichtman

Ushers – Bob Wellsandt, Tyler Wolken

Coffee Service – Jane Pretzer, Jill Zabokrtsky



**March 6 Sunday Worship Service
With Holy Communion**

Worship Assistant – Brian Weers

Greeter – Gary Bergmeier

Acolyte – Makenzie Pietzmeyer

Ushers – Dale Beran, Melvin Beran

Coffee Service – Radene Beran, Norma Banahan

February 2022



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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 WELCA Unit Meeting 1:30pm	2 CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm Confirmation Parents' Night 7:00-8:30pm	3	4	5
Red Hymnal Worship Service 6 Holy Communion 9:30 AM Sweetheart Supper 5:30 - 7:30pm	7	8	9 CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm Confirmation 7pm	10	11	12
Blue Hymnal 13 Worship Service 9:30 AM	 Valentine's Day Eunice Circle 1:30pm	15	16 CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm Committees and Council Meetings 6:30/7:30pm	17	18	19
Red Hymnal 20 Worship Service 9:30 AM Youth Meeting 6:30 at Church Newscaster items due	21 PRESIDENTS DAY 	22 Work Day All Day	23 CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm Confirmation 7pm	24	25	26
Blue Hymnal 27 Worship Service 9:30 AM  TRANSGURATION of the Lord	28	1  MARCH	2 Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm 			



St. Paul Lutheran Church
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