

# 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 2021**

*Pastor Mark Liscom*

## The Struggle Is Worth It

The other day on my day off, I took a couple of hours and rode my fat bike down to the Steele City cemetery to take a few pictures. I decided to come in from behind the cemetery on 577<sup>th</sup>, but when I arrived just north of the cemetery where there are a couple of short but steep hills, the road had turned into a huge mud hole at the bottom. No way I could ride through that, so I got off my bike and walked it through the woods. Well, dragged it really. Breaking sticks and small trees, feet getting wet, slowly, noisily, and very ungracefully I made it through.

I suppose some would say I just should have taken my car down there, snapped a few pictures and called it good. It's a lot easier that way. Maybe so. That sure seems to be the thinking behind much of what we do. Make things easier and faster.....therefore better.

But I wonder sometimes if we are really made for that kind of life. It seems to me, that life is often better when we are up against something. It might not be a physical challenge, but something as basic as a different point of view. And whether its parenting, or marriage, or politics, or basketball, there are many mud holes that challenge us and the only way through seems slow, ungraceful, and lacking in a clear outcome.

All I can say, is that in some strange way, I'm glad I didn't take the car. I had a story to tell and a strange smile on my face. And it seemed to me for a while that we aren't built for ease and comfort. We're built to take something on, to have an adversary to struggle against. And without that, life.....well isn't really living.

Jesus didn't take the easy road. He offered the way of the cross. And he didn't win in the end, or have great success. But what he did get was this.....life. Yes.

*Pastor Mark*

**Editor: Kendra K. Weers**

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

**Assembly: Kendra K. Weers**

**Newscaster Reporters**

Church Council – Tyler Wolken    Financial Secretary – David Henrichs

WELCA – Peggy Hemphill    Eunice Circle – Irene Gibson

Work Day – Carolyn Schultis

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

Youth News – Jadyn Schultis, Skylar Pretzer and Brianna Weers

Worship Committee – Council    Mutual Ministry Committee - Council  
Birthdays & Anniversaries – Jane Pretzer



*Sponsors for the March Newscaster are*

*Robert and Diane Wellsndt  
In Honor of their 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*Thank you for your sponsorship, and  
Congratulations on your milestone anniversary!*

*Please note that the sign-up sheet for 2021 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.*

## *Holy Week Schedule*



*Maundy Thursday*

Thursday, April 1  
7:30pm



**Good  
Friday**

Friday, April 2  
7:30pm



*Easter*

NO Easter Sunrise Service  
or Breakfast

Easter Worship Service 9:30 am  
Sunday, April 4



## St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Minutes for February 10, 2021

Members present were Darin Weers, Gary Bergmeier, Diane Wellsandt, Peggy Hemphill, Pastor Mark Liscom, David Henrichs, Jamie Schultis, and Tyler Wolken. Not present was Melvin Beran. We started off the meeting by sharing God sightings with the group. The minutes were reviewed. David amended the minutes from January to have Dennis Nippert and Scott Pretzer be changed to the Nominating committee, not being nominated for church council. Gary seconded the amended motion. The minutes from January were approved.

### Election of Officers

Vice Chair- Peggy nominated Darin. Darin nominated David. Jamie moved to cease nomination and Tyler seconded. A vote was taken. 5- David 3- Darin. David Henrichs was elected as Vice Chairman.

Treasurer- Gary nominated himself. Darin moved to cease nomination. Diane seconded. Gary was elected as treasurer.

Secretary- David nominated Tyler. Gary moved to cease nominations. Diane seconded. Tyler was elected as secretary.

Memorial Treasurer- Gary nominated Darin. David moved to cease nominations. Peggy seconded. Darin was elected as memorial treasurer.

Financial Secretary- Darin nominated Peggy. Gary seconded. Darin move to cease nominations. Jamie seconded. Peggy was elected as financial secretary.

Financial Reporter- Jamie nominated Diane. Tyler seconded. David moved to cease nominations. Darin seconded. Diane was elected as financial reporter.

### Vice Chairman Report

Jamie wanted extend a thank you to everyone on council and appreciated his time spent on council. Jamie also wanted to thank Diane and Peggy for stepping up and offering to serve on council.

### Treasurer's Report

Gary reported that the balance in the account after the additions from the January givings had a balance of \$17,589.12. Still needing to be paid are Pastor's salary, Norris, Portico, World Hunger, and Benevolence. This would give us an approximate balance of \$11,126.71. Darin moved to accept the treasurer's report and Peggy seconded. The report was approved. Since we came short of our Benevolence giving for 2020, the council discussed pulling funds from the Thrivent account to put towards the Benevolence line item. Tyler made the motion to use \$2500.00 from the Thrivent account to put towards the 2020 Benevolence and the rest would come from the general account. Peggy seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

### Memorial Treasurer's Report

Darin reported that the account had an interest of 0.39 and with a recent memorial donation brought the account balance to \$9,105.84. Diane moved to approve the report. Tyler seconded. The memorial treasurer's report was passed.

### Pastor's Report

3 worship services, 1 annual meeting/report, 3 confirmation classes, 3 confirmation make up classes, 1 first communion class, 3 hospital calls, 2 text studies, 1 Lenton series preparation. Pastor is working with 3 – 6<sup>th</sup> graders on first communion and acolyte preparation. Lenton services will begin Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM.

### Committee Reports---*See below who are the new council representatives.*

Christian Education- (Tyler) The team has been working hard with CROSSWALK and will be meeting shortly to discuss setting dates for Vacation Bible School.

Memorial- (Darin)      Property- (Gary and David)      Communication and Outreach- (Darin and Diane)

Music and Worship- (Peggy)      Nominating- (Darin and Tyler)      Food Stand- (David)

Old Business- N/A

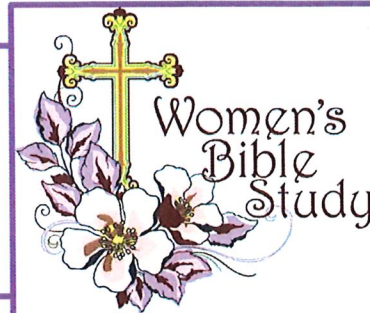
### New Business

- Darin suggested we look into (PPP) Paycheck Protection Program. This program helps provide loans to help businesses keep their workforce employed during the Covid-19 crisis. Borrowers may be eligible for PPP loan forgiveness. Tyler agree to check with State Bank of Odell to see if they offered a program like this.
- As approved by the congregation at the annual meeting, the council will be seeking candidates to fulfill the paid treasurer position. Diane made the motion that a subcommittee of Gary/Daivd/Pastor Mark work together to meet with potential candidates and they will set up the job description criteria. Darin seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Gary made a second motion to authorize the subcommittee to determine terms of compensation. Peggy seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- Mike Pralle of Pennsylvania, a friend of the church and former Diller resident made a contribution to the CROSSWALK program in the amount of \$4000. We are eternally humbled and grateful for this gift! Thank you!

The next church council meeting is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Committees are encouraged to meet if they can prior to church council at 6:30PM. Gary moved to adjourn the meeting. Darin seconded. The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

## Eunice Circle

Eunice Circle did not meet in February due to the record cold that closed everything else down for a time. Bible Study will resume in March.



## ST. PAUL WOMEN OF THE ELCA Unit Meeting February 3, 2021



A Unit Meeting of the Women of the ELCA was held Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

The business meeting followed. Minutes of the November 4, 2020, meeting were read and approved. It was reported that the balance in our treasury is \$387.53.

Officers re-elected for 2021 were: President-Ardith Barber, Vice President-Linda Behrends, Secretary-Peggy Hemphill, and Treasurer-Jeanette Bures.

Scheduled Unit Meetings will be:

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. – Eunice Circle will have program

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Other events, pending Covid-19 restrictions, to remember for 2021 are:

World Day of Prayer at Odell United Methodist Church – March 5, 2021

Spring Gathering – TBD

Spring Salad Luncheon/Supper – TBD

Diller Picnic Food Stand – June 17, 18, 19, 2021

Thank Offering Service – November 21, 2021

Hanging of the Greens – November 28, 2021

A thank-you was read from Ruby Hardin on behalf of the Wymore (Southern Gage) Food Pantry for our generous food and money donation that we delivered to them in December. A thank-you was also read from Lutheran World Relief for the quilts, baby care kits, school kits and personal care kits which were donated from our ladies group.

It was voted to send 50 percent of our unit meeting offerings to Synod again this year. Our funeral luncheon policy was discussed and it was decided that due to the Covid pandemic, we will still not be serving any luncheons until further notice.

We will continue with the card project of sending greeting cards to members and extended church family unable to attend worship. If anyone would like to volunteer to send cards, please let Peggy know.

It was decided that we will hold off on sending any monetary donations to the local food pantries at this time due to little or no funds available.

Offering for the evening was \$60. Refreshments were served by Peggy Hemphill.

Next meeting will be held May 5, 2021 with Jeanette Bures as hostess.

~ Submitted by Peggy Hemphill



Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 17 and services will be held at 7:30pm on Wednesdays from February 24 through March 24. Pastor Mark will be leading the series, "God and Human Suffering: Hope for a Hurting World."

We will not be having meals served this year before Lent worship due to the lingering pandemic, and "Round Robin" guest Pastors will not take place as well to keep everyone as safe as possible.

*We would love for you to be a part of this fellowship. Please join us!*

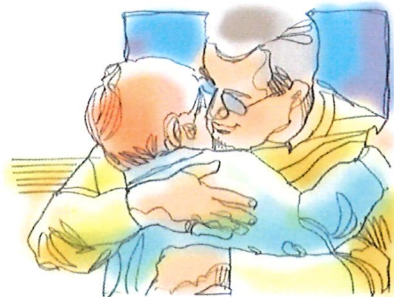
# Lent



## THE COMFORT CONNECTION

Amid suffering, we might feel alone and wonder what good can come of it. But later we may discover ourselves equipped to serve precisely because of what we experienced.

Writer and civil rights activist James Baldwin stated: "You think your pain and heartbreak are unprecedented ... but then you read. [Books] taught me that the things that tormented me the most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive or who had ever been alive." Whether through books or direct human interaction, we often learn that our suffering connects us to other people and that our pain gains meaning by moving us to support someone else who's hurting.



Paul writes of such connection: "Praise be to ... the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4, NIV). May you share the comfort you have received from God with others in pain. As a bonus, along the way you'll realize you're not – and never have been – alone.

~ Newsletter Newsletter, March 2021

*Noah Gold, son of Kelly and Lisa Gold and Grandson of Norris and Jan Gold passed away on February 25, 2020 at his home. Cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.*

*Our deepest sympathies go to the Gold Family.  
May you always feel God's presence and love as you mourn.*



*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:*

*Glenda Spilker had an aneurysm and stroke, but it was caught quickly and is recovering very well.*

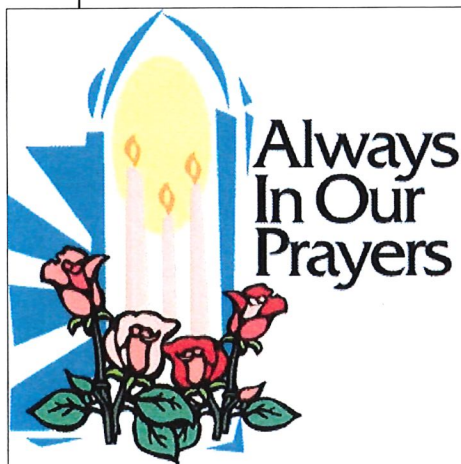
*Franklin Damrow is in the hospital and recovering.*

*Linda Behrends for a continued recovery following her accident.*

*Rev. Dr. Delmar Wiemers is home and continues to recover.*

*Please remember our Homebound and Shut-ins and all who are in need of God's healing Grace:*

*Betty and Franklin Damrow, Margery Keefover,  
Cindy Bartlett, Linda Behrends, Sondra Germer and Eden  
Lottman*







## Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday services at St. Paul took place on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Some familiarity has returned with imposition of ashes and communion, with adjustments for COVID protocols. An article about the Lenten series is included in this Newscaster on page 5.



Members receive the imposition of ashes.



Members receive communion at the Ash Wednesday service in family units to adjust for COVID safety

*On Sunday, February 7, First Communion was held during the worship service.*



*One new Confirmation student and his family came forward to participate in their first sacrament of Holy Communion. Congratulations to Cale Clifford as he begins his Confirmation journey and give thanks to God who sent his son to bring us into a relationship of love with one another.*



## Confirmation Class



Confirmation classes during Lent will be on Sunday evenings (see calendar) and also at worship services on Wednesdays.

***If you have pictures and/or information about Confirmation students/activities, PLEASE email them to Kendra K Weers.***

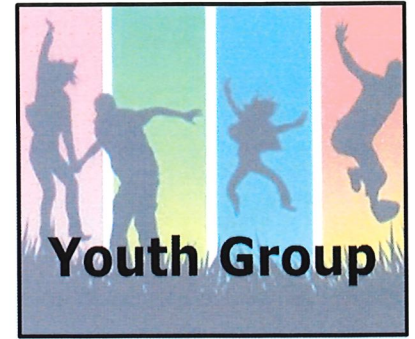
To keep up with changes in the schedule and what may be coming up, please see the church website, [www.stpauldiller.com](http://www.stpauldiller.com). You can also find updated acolyte and class schedules and “homework”.



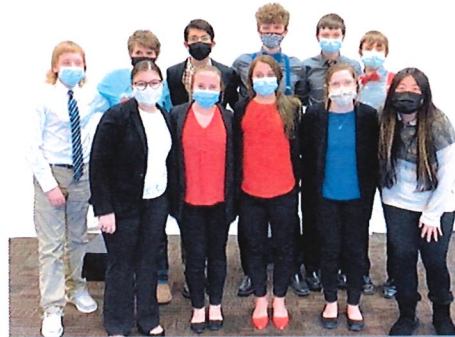
## Youth and School News

The Youth will have a meeting and on March 7 at 6:30 at the Church and an outing of bowling on March 21. Please join us for some fun and fellowship!

Below, Youth members and their families enjoyed a Mexican Potluck meal that took the place of the progressive supper. After the meal, they held an in-person Youth meeting and enjoyed some time of fellowship.



Congratulations to the Speech Team for a fantastic competitive season where they were MUDECAS Champions and Golden Roosters were awarded. Church members on the team were Jady Schultis and David Parde. Good luck at Districts and State!



Elks Students of the Month were awarded to Jady Schultis and Skylar Pretzer, pictured with Bob Kluge of the B.P.O.E. Chapter in Fairbury. Congratulations on this fantastic award and the scholarships received!



*FFA Week was in full swing with the "Drive Your Equipment to School" Day at the High School. It is fun to see our youth be involved in this important program that is so vital to our state's economy and the and the continuation of a secure food supply to our country and the entire world.*





**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 20** (*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](mailto:kweers10@gmail.com). Thanks!!

**HOW TO DIRECT YOUR GIVING**

There are yellow giving envelopes available in the pews, on the table inside the entrance and on the table outside the sanctuary.

Please help us make sure your giving is directed where you want it to go.

Please put your name on the envelope with your "member" number, located on a sheet on a bulletin board near the kitchen in the Narthex. All confirmed members of the church are on this list. On the designation lines, please write down what amounts you want to go to Current expenses, Benevolent giving (to the Synod for Nebraska Synod projects) or any special gift you would like to give, like Crosswalk, Newscaster Sponsor, or any other special designation. If it is not specifically noted, loose/undesigned funds will be distributed as specified by our bylaws.

Thank you for your donations, make sure it is distributed as you want.

**GOD LOVES A  
CHEERFUL  
GIVER**



2 Corinthians 9:7



**March Birthdays**



**March Wedding  
Anniversaries**

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








# March 2021



[www.stpauldiller.com](http://www.stpauldiller.com)

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Facebook – St. Paul’s Lutheran Church Diller Nebraska

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm  Lenten Service 7:30PM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> World Day of Prayer  Odell Lutheran Church 6:30pm	<b>6</b>
Red Hymnal Worship Service <b>7</b> Holy Communion 9:30 AM  Girl Scouts Sunday Confirmation Parents' Night 7:00pm	<b>8</b> Eunice Circle 1:30pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm  Lenten Service 7:30PM	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 
Red Hymnal Worship Service <b>14</b> 9:30 AM  DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS  CONFIRMATION 7:00pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  Committees and Council Meetings 6:30/7:30pm	 <b>17</b> CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm  Lenten Service 7:30PM	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  WELCA Spring Gathering Registration TBD
Red Hymnal Worship Service <b>21</b> 9:30  CONFIRMATION 7:00pm  Newscaster items DUE	<b>22</b> 	<b>23</b> <b>Work Day</b> All Day	<b>24</b> CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm  Lenten Service 7:30PM	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  WELCA Spring Gathering TBD
Red Hymnal Worship Service <b>28</b> 9:30 AM  Palm Sunday	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>Work Day</b> All Day	<b>31</b> CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm  Youth Bowling	APRIL <b>1</b>  Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 pm	<b>2</b>  GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 7:30 pm	Easter Worship Sunday, April 4

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
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Website  
[www.stpauldiller.com](http://www.stpauldiller.com)

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