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.

August 2020
Pastor Mark Liscom

You're not going to find it out there.

It's remarkable how much of our life revolves around the externals. Christians for example often perceive the Christian life as about how one behaves. But behavior is all external. We often make the Christian life about what we believe. But our creeds too, are external to us. Our possessions are external. What things look like is external. Our bank account......all external.

Think about it. How much is what you want or desire right now outside of you? A trip, something for your house, an award? A person? A friend? Right now as I'm writing this, what I want to do, is get the yard mowed. But that too is on the outside.

Jesus of course took a different approach to finding the kind of life that we are looking for. He put it this way, "First clean the inside of the cup, so that the outside may also become clean". What he meant it seems is simple. That what we need isn't out there. It's a change within.

The move from a life focused on "out there" to a life that's found in your own heart is not an easy transition. But sometimes we just need the reminder. The path as old as history is learning to say no to all that external stuff that seeks to control your life. Stopping, resting, doing nothing. And welcoming a person that all too often you don't know very well. You.

That welcome of course is what we're looking for. That's the Good News

1

Pastor Mark



PAPERLESS NEWSCASTER OPTION AVAILABLE!!

There has been interest in people receiving the Newscaster electronically 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 ischultis@diodecom.net to be put on the list.



Typists: Kendra K. Weers Calendar: Kendra K. Weers
Assembly: Kendra K. Weers

Newscaster Reporters

Church Council – Tyler Wolken Treasurer – Gary Bergmeier WELCA – Peggy Hemphill Eunice Circle – Irene Gibson Work Day – Carolyn Schultis

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

Youth News - Jadyn Schultis, Skylar Pretzer, Brianna Weers and Neleigh Weers

Worship Committee - Council Mutual Ministry Committee - Council Birthdays & Anniversaries - Judy DeBoer & Jane Pretzer WELCA Coffee List - Elizabeth Roelfs





Sponsors for the August Newscaster are

Eldean and Norma Banahan in Honor of Our Anniversary and Dean and Jane Pretzer

in Honor of Our Anniversary

Congratulations on your anniversaries and Thank You for sponsoring this Newscaster!

As of press time, one sponsor is still needed for October and one for November.

There is a pink sign-up sheet on the announcements bulletin board in the back of the Narthex.

Please consider sponsoring this important communication tool for our congregation.



DILLER PICNIC

The Diller Picnic for 2020 was canceled due to COVID-19.

See you next year!

MOVED TO 2021!

Rocky Railway VBS has been rescheduled for Summer 2021. Check out this issue of the Newscaster to see our "Back To The Bible"



Virtual VBS that will take place through the first week of August. Week 1 is featured in this issue.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Minutes for June 17, 2020

Members present were: Jamie Schultis, Gary Bergmeier, Darin Weers, David Henrichs, Tyler Wolken, and Pastor Mark Liscom. Not present was Melvin Beran. Beth Roelfs was a guest speaker at the meeting. Beth wanted to get the council's permission to have Vacation Bible School. IF Covid conditions were to get worse, then VBS would held virtually. The council agree this would be fine as long as protective health measures were taken. An amendment was made to the minutes. The balance in the memorial account was \$3,745.91 not as previously reported. David moved to accept the amendment and Jamie seconded. Motion carried. David moved to accept the minutes from the previous meeting and Gary seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The balance in the account was \$3234.81. Bills still needing to be paid are Norris, Solution One, and Portico. After paying these bills, it would give us an estimated ending balance of \$444.98. David moved to accept the treasurer's report and Darin seconded. Motion carried.

Memorial Treasurer's Report

Darin reported that the balance in the account was \$3745.91 plus a little interest. Jamie moved to accept the memorial treasurer's report and Gary seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

4 worship services, 2 cluster meetings, hospital and assistant living calls, 4 text studies, 2 cluster meetings. Pastor is still working on developing the faith formation materials and hopes to roll it out this fall.

Vice Chairman's Report

Jamie wanted to give a thank you to all of those individuals who have helped with the construction project of the newly remodeled Sunday school room space.

Committee Reports

Christian Education- The committee met and discussed VBS and how that would work with all that is going on with Covid. The team decided to have an in-person VBS as long as Covid conditions got better. If conditions did not, they decided to have a virtual option and have the layout be similar to Crosswalk. This option would include recorded videos and mail home packets. Beth will speak with the Council to get their permission to have VBS at St. Paul Church.

Property- Committee will work together to strip off wall paper and repaint the Sunday school room space. They will order additional carpet tile to finish the room. Jamie is going to contact Fairbury Glass to fix one of the cracked windows.

Community/Outreach- N/A Music/Worship- N/A Nominating- N/A Food Stand- N/A Old Business

- Pastor Mark has been looking for a new computer and was going to go through Computer Plus in Fairbury but have now gone out of business. He's going to check with Blackburn Technology in Beatrice to see what they might have.
- Pastor Mark is working to finalize the copier contract with CBS Inc.

New Business

- A work date has been set for Wednesday, June 27th at 7:30PM to organize the Sunday school rooms. Council will also meet to discuss putting together a letter/survey to send out to the congregation on how to proceed with church services in the future.
- Gary suggested that we continue to have drive-in services until July 22nd. Council agreed this would be a good idea.

The next church council meeting was set for July 22, 2020 at 7:30PM. Gary moved to adjourn the meeting and Darin seconded. The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

~ Tyler Wolken, Council Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

No Treasurer's Report submitted for June or July.



Look in the September Newscaster for Summer Treasurer's Reports.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Minutes for July 22, 2020

Members present were: Jamie Schultis, Pastor Mark Liscom, Darin Weers, Gary Bergmeier, Daivd Henrichs, and Tyler Wolken. Not present was Melvin Beran. The meeting was opened with sharing life and faith stories with each other. The council reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Jamie moved to accept the minutes and Darin seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The balance in the account is \$3,700.81. Bills still needing to be paid are Norris and Solution One. David moved to accept the report and Darin seconded. Motion carried.

Memorial Treasurer's Report

Darin reported that a donation was recently given, which brought the balance to \$9,747.43 plus \$1.25 interest. The endowment fund for the quarter had a beginning balance of \$18,212.01 and ending balance of \$20,579.21. (a gain of \$2,367.20) David moved to accept the report and Jamie seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

4 worship services, 2 funerals, 5 hospital calls, 3 assisted living calls, 1 other call, 3 text studies, 1 cluster meeting, 1 VBS meeting, 1 council survey meeting, and a meeting to workout details about confirmation Sunday.

Vice Chairman's Report

Jamie wanted to give a big thank you to the congregation for sticking with us during these strange times. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Committee Reports

Christian Education- The committee met prior to the church council meeting and decided to have Vacation Bible School virtually this year. With the rise in Covid cases in the state, the committee thought the safest option would be to go online. The committee work on creating interactive videos (posted on Facebook) and Beth will mail out packets of information to all the youth. This was a hard decision to make and looks forward to seeing the kids again one day. VBS will end with a "Parking Lot Party" where the kids and families will be invited to back to the church for games, fun, and treats! Look for updates on Facebook and date for the party.

Memorial- Memorial will go ahead and pay all of the contractors for their work on the new Sunday school room. David moved to go ahead and pay the contractors and Jamie seconded. Motion carried.

Property- Jamie called Burt's Carpet to order some more carpet tile for the Sunday school room and to replace a few tile that are damage around the church. Estimated cost will be \$1027.00. Jamie, Sheri, and Jadyn Schultis have been painting the newly constructed room.

Communication/Outreach- N/A Music/Worship- N/A Nominating- N/A Food Stand- N/A

Old Business

- Pastor Mark is finalizing the copier contract with CBS Inc.
- Pastor Mark purchased a new computer from Blackburn Technologies for \$875.00. Old one was outdated and needed to be updated.

New Business

- The church council sent out a survey to the congregation last month in regards to the continuation of church services. The survey offered three options. After carefully looking at the ballots and survey data, the council decided to have continue with option 2. Option 2 allows for everyone to continue to use the drive in services with the option of coming inside and viewing the service on the big screen. The screen will have the Facebook Live feed projected onto it. Pastor will remain by the front doors giving the service. Members who choose to sit in the church will have to practice social distancing and wear a face mask. There will be no congregating/coffee time inside the church at this time. Everyone is still welcome to bring lawn chairs and sit outside the church underneath the trees. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a church council board member. The proposed implementation date is August 9th. This is if technology allows us to make this change.
- David is going to talk with Stanton Propane to check propane prices and potentially lock in a price for this fall. Jamie
 made the motion to give David authorization to look into contracting prices for St. Paul church. Darin seconded.
 Motion carried.
- August 2nd will be Confirmation Sunday. Only confirmands and their families are allowed to be inside for the service, but the sound will be projected outside just as we did for the past funeral. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Mark. Everyone is welcome to come! Cake will be served outside afterwards.
- Pastor Mark is taking vacation from August 3-16. If you have questions or assistance with anything, please contact
 a church council member. Church services will still continue during this time and will be coordinated amongst the
 church council members.

The next church council meeting will be August 19, 2020 at 7:30PM. For the latest up to date information about news and happens with the church, please check out our Facebook page. (St. Paul's Lutheran Church Diller, Nebraska). The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.



June Eunice Circle

Eunice Circle met on June 8, 2020 at 1:30pm. Due to the Coronavirus, we did not meet in April or May, 2020. Norma Banahan led our Bible Study – "Just Love" – In the family: What's Love Got To Do With It? How are we held accountable for loving in just ways within family systems? Just love in our closest relationships often demands an extra dose of courage.

Our study text was from John 11:1-38.

We opened with prayer. We closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Norma called our meeting to order. Minutes were read and approved. Five (5) members answered roll call. Our Offering was \$18.00.

Old Business: World Day of Prayer was at St. Paul's, Diller, NE on March 6, 2020 at 6:30pm. Spring Salad Supper (which was canceled) on April 19, 2020. We will give a program for WELCA meeting in August, 2020. Work Day is Tuesday, February 25th.

Reminder – WELCA Spring Gathering will be on March 21, 2020 at 8:30am, DeWitt, NE. Bring your own coffee cup. There will be an \$18.00 charge (also canceled). Work Days will be on Tuesdays, March 24th and 31st.

New Business: We will purchase school kit supplies for 50 kits. Work Days will be June 23rd and 30th.

After Grace, Cleo Perkins served refreshments.

Next Eunice Circle meeting will be July13, 2020 at 1:30pm, July/August book. Linda Behrends will lead the Bible study.

— Irene Gibson, Recorder

July Eunice Circle

Eunice Circle met on July 13, 2020 at 1:30pm. Linda Behrends led the Bible Study. Just Love – In the community: from tree to we. With repentance comes restoration and healing.

Our Study text was from Luke 19:1 - 10. We opened with prayer and Hymn, "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling." We closed with prayer and Hymn, "Just As I Am Without One Plea" and The Lord's Prayer.

Norma called our meeting to order. The minutes were read and approved. Four (4) members answered Roll Call. Our offering was \$12.00.

Old Business: We will purchase School Kit supplies for 50 kits. Workdays will be June 23rd and 30th. (We did not meet.)

New Business: Preparing for WELCA Unit Meeting in August 2020, if still meeting. Work Day is July 21st. After Grace, Marla Weichel served refreshments.

Next Eunice Circle Meeting will be August 10th, 2020 at 1:30pm, July/August book. Norma Banahan will lead the bible study.

~ Irene Gibson, Recorder

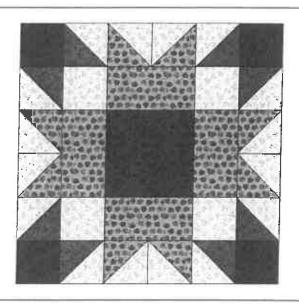
Mission Work Day

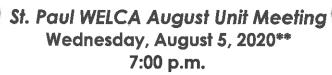
On July 21, three women enjoyed working together again after distancing several months because of Covid-19.

Eight quilts were assembled, tied and taken home to be hemmed.

August 25 will be our next work day. Come and join us, help us wrap God's love around the shoulders of a struggling neighbor across the globe.

"Faith in Action"





We will be reviewing our summer activities and discuss our upcoming fall events

** Please check the website or Facebook page**

All Women of the church are encouraged to attend



Congratulations to Jean Weers on the birth of her Great-Granddaughter, Lyndi Joy Weers. She was born June 25 and is the daughter of Ethan and Lexi Weers.

Congratulations also go to Kyle and Krista Bergmeier on the birth of their daughter, Lillian Mae on July 27 in Lincoln. She is welcomed home by proud Grandparents Gary and Jill Bergmeier and Aunt Katelin White.

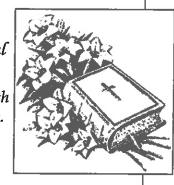
God's blessings to all of you and your families with your newest additions!

We extend our Deepest Sympathy to the families of long-time church members Melvin Weers and Kay Taylor.

Melvin passed away suddenly on June 20 and his funeral services were held at St. Paul Lutheran on June 24 with Pastor Mark Liscom officiating.

Kay Taylor passed away on July 8 in Lincoln after a long and courageous fight with health issues. Her funeral was held in Fairbury on July 13 with Pastor Mark Liscom officiating.

They will be greatly missed by their church family and our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. May God's healing Grace comfort all of you during this difficult time.





There are some St. Paul members who have been in the hospital recently and are recovering or continuing treatment.

Please pray for:

Betty Damrow, who has now been placed at Beatrice Rehab Hospital Franklin Damrow, who was hospitalized recently

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:

Betty and Franklin Damrow, Cindy Bartlett, Margery Keefover, Skylar Folkers and Eden Lottman



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

For more information or would like to foin us, send as a or contact 5 th Boelfal

Packets will be mailed home each week. We will end VBS with a "Parking Lot Party" Party will be announced later. Videos will be recorded and posted on St. Paul 's Lutheran Church Diller Nebraska Facebook on these dates:

Monday, July 27 Thursday, July 30 Thursday Aug. 6

Monday, Aug. 3

55 Back To The Bible"

VBS was very different this year. Packets with VBS materials were mailed out to the children of the community and the lessons were posted on the Facebook page, just like the Cross Walk at home to finish the year. The day started with Bible facts, and then a Bible story was acted out in a skit. Here is what went on in Week 1:

Day 1 – Started with a couple Bible Facts and then went in to the story. Don't Miss The Boat – about the story of Noah and the Ark. They finished the day with a Sing-Along, "Rise and Shine" so we can "Give God the Glory, Glory!"



ARTS & CRAFT

Day 2 - Started with "The B-I-B-L-E Song", did a review of Day 1, shared new Bible facts and then the story of 1 Gigantic Problem the story of David and Goliath, David defeated Goliath because God protected David, and God protects us. God is on OUR side! The day finished with a kind of sharing of peace - sharing our "Highs and Lows", something we do during CrossWalk and Confirmation to engage in fellowship with each other and sharing our burdens and our iovs together.

Days 3 and 4 will be in the September Newscaster along with the "Parking Lot Party" that the Bible School kids will enjoy on August 7 to celebrate VBS.



Our Youth Achievements

Spencer Schmidt of Diller named to spring Deans' List/honor roll at Nebraska

Spencer Douglas Schmidt of Diller has been named to the Deans' List/Explore Center List of Distinguished Students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the spring semester of the 2019-20 academic year.

Schmidt, a junior chemistry and geology major, was named to the Dean's List for the College of Arts and Sciences for his coursework in sciences, geology and mathematics. More than 7,500 students at Nebraska have been named to the Deans' List for the spring semester.

Qualifications for the Deans' List varies among the eight undergraduate colleges. All qualifying grade-point averages are based on a four-point scale and a minimum of 12 graded semester hours. Students can be on the Deans' List for more than one college.





Reese Brian Hennerberg received spring Alf-Academic honors for student athletes at Nebraska Wesleyan University.

To qualify for USTFCCCA All-Academic individual honors, a student-athlete must have compiled a cumulative GPA of 3.30 and must have at least one of the following athletic standards competed in an NCAA Indoor Championship; finished the regular season ranked in the national top 50 in an individual event or ranked in the national top 35 in a relay event on the official NCAA Descending Order List.

Students earning at least a 3.75 grade point average (on a 4.00 scale) while completing a full-time course load of at least 12 credit hours of graded work are eligible.

Reid Pretzer is completing an internship with the Dorchester Farmer's CoOperative in Odell before his senior year at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, and Internships are somewhat hard to come by this year due to COVID. He was recently featured in a podcast from the CoOperative about their alternative agriculture product, raising shrimp, here in Nebraska. He gave a very informative interview about how this alternative agriculture was set up and run, and some of the challenges they have faced in making this product successful. He will be completing his degree at the University of Nebraska.





High Achievers at the Jefferson County Fair

Congratulations!



Many of the Youth in our Church participated in the Jefferson County fair July 15-20.

The pictures are a very small sampling of The many projects they spend a lot of time on throughout the year, and we all were VERY happy to be able to participate in the County Fair.

Congratulations and WELL DONE to all of our talented exhibitors!

At Left, some of the Champions for Clothing Exhibitors At right, since the static exhibits were not displayed this year, a "photo booth" was set up for exhibitors to show their projects



Diller-Odell graduation took place on Saturday, June 6, 2020.

The students had a late graduation due to COVID-19, and they all were very happy to have the graduation ceremony, since some restrictions were in place, but our counties were able to hold this very important event for our youth.

A little late with a little distance, but still the same lovely ceremony.

Special recognition from the church took place in May for our college and high school graduates and pictures can be found in the June-July Newscaster. Congratulations to all of you!! It has been such a crazy year where everything was Jurned upside-down and inside-out, but you all adapted and were able to celebrate your achievements. We are all so proud of you, how you made it through to the other side!













Our High school graduates, bearing with pride, are (L to R); Samantha Clifford, Hannah Ebeling, Nicolaus Engelman, Haley Jones (unable to attend the ceremony) and Neleigh Weers. Congratulations to you all!



It's a PARKING LOT PARTY!!

VBS KIDS!!! Come help us celebrate Vacation Bible School 2020

on

Friday, August 7 from 5:30 to 6:30pm at the St. Paul Lutheran's Church Parking Lot

There will be games, crafts, root beer floats and A LOT OF FUN!!

Hope to see you there!



God Amid Pandemic

Last spring, life changed as we became familiar with terms such as social distancing, flattening the curve and self-quarantining. We could hardly believe the closed schools, businesses and especially churches - just as Holy Week and Easter drew near! The coronavirus ran rampant in the world. Where was God?

But as the spread continued, many civic leaders stepped up, calmly informing us of the facts, of actions being taken to mitigate the crisis and of how we could help. Healthcare professionals risked their lives and endured separation from families; teachers drew on astounding stores of creativity to teach online; pastors delivered sermons and lessons to empty sanctuaries as members listened and prayed while living in lockdown. Surely God was present - through them!

Then I remembered how God assures us through Isaiah, "Fear not! When you pass through the waters, the fires, yes, even the pandemics of this world, I will be with you" (43:1-2, paraphrased). As Jesus echoes, "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20).

- Sandy Hyland, The Newsletter Newsletter, August 2020



The WELCA organization would like to thank everyone who donated to the school kit project last Sunday. We had an amazing response and plan to make 50 kits. If anyone would still like to donate, you can give it to Ardith Barber.

Thank You!



Thank you to all the individuals with the construction and remodeling of the Sunday School gathering room.

Also, a BIG THANK YOU to the congregation for sticking with us through these strange times.

Your support is greatly

appreciated!
~ Jamie Schultis, Council Chair

Dear St. Pauls,

As my church here does not have the resources to do online services, I have been following St. Pauls Facebook services.

Thank you for your words of hope and faith. Praying you all stay safe and have a safe Memorial Day Holiday.

~ Michael Pralle



August Wedding Anniversaries

August 6, 1994

Mr. & Mrs. Brett & Toni Landenberger

August 10, 1969

Mr. & Mrs. Dean & Jane Pretzer

August 15, 1998

Mr. & Mrs. Chris & Angie Clifford

August 24, 1958

Mr. & Mrs. Guilford & Ardyce Wiemers

August 27, 1983

Mr. & Mrs. Mike & Rhonda Balderson

August 29, 2014

Mr. & Mrs. Tom & Danielle Reeson

August 8, 1954

Mr. & Mrs. Pastor Dr. Delmar & Phyllis Wiemers

August 11, 1957

& Mr. & Mrs. Eldean & Norma Banahan

August 21, 1999

Mr. & Mrs. Darin & Kendra Weers

August 27, 1976

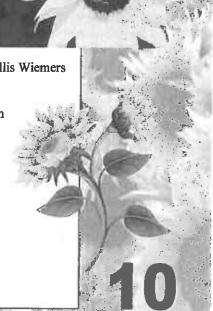
Mr. & Mrs. Joel & Linda Holtmeier

August 28, 2010

Mr. & Mrs. Josh & Kalli Roelfs

August 31, 2013

& Mr. & Mrs. Riley & Sonia Sasse





Drive-In, Facebook, or Inside Seating* August 2 Sunday Worship Service *Confirmation Families ONLY Confirmation Sunday

to be seated inside

August 9 Sunday Worship Service Drive-In, Facebook, or Inside Seating August 16 Sunday Worship Service Drive-In, Facebook, or Inside Seating August 23 Sunday Worship Service Drive-In, Facebook, or Inside Seating Sunday Worship Service Drive-In, Facebook, or Inside Seating August 30



Sunday Worship Service With Holy Communion* Worship Assistant Greeter September 6



foreseeable future due to COVID-19. Ushers are NOT scheduled for the When In-Person worship resumes, Worship Assistants, Greeters and all will be rescheduled.



Sermon

Joely Weers

Peyton Denner*

Beth Roelfs

Morgan Kapke*

Beth Roelfs

Madeline Parde*

Beth Roelfs

Brennan Schultis*

Beth Roelfs

Pastor Mark

Myleigh Weers*



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

mandates allow and resumes, the coffee In-Person worship foreseeable future Coffee will not be due to COVID-19. When the state served for the rescheduled. list will be

August 2020



www.stpauldiller.com

Facebook Page - St. Paul's Lutheran Church Diller Nebraska

www.stpauldiller.com * Facebook Page – St. Paul's Lutheran Church Diller Nebraska							
SUN		MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
*** PLEASE CHECK THE CHURCH WEBSITE *** OR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR ALL UPDATES AND INFORMATION. These uncertain times make it very difficult to plan, please check the website or Facebook page for the most current information.							
Drive-In or Indoor So Red Hymna Worship Ser 9:30			Vacation	Women 5 of the ELCA Unit Meeting 7pm	6	VBS 7 Parking Lot Party 530pm	8
Drive-In or Indoor So Blue Hymna Worship Ser 9:30 AM	, 3	10 Eunice Circle 1:30pm	11	12	13	14	15
Drive-In or Indoor Se Red Hymna Worship Ser 9:30 AM Pastor return from Vacati	16 vice	17	18	Council Meeting 7:30pm	20 Newscaster items due	21	22
Drive-In or Indoor So Blue Hymna Worship Ser 9:30 AM	23	24	25 Work Day All Day	26	27	28	29 Odell Community Day*
Drive-In or Indoor Se Red Hymna Worship Serv 9:30 AM	30	31		P	t. Paul Lutheran Church O Box 37 biller, NE 68342	4056	7791