

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 2026

Pastor Mark Liscom

Dolly Parton and Faith

Everyone is writing about this, and I can't help it either. It's really remarkable. How did this woman become such a shining example of how to live well? It doesn't make sense. Dressing like "a lady of the evening", all the plastic surgeries and make up, wanting to be rich and famous. Endlessly keeping up appearances. On paper it looked exactly like how NOT to live.

So how did she do it? What power did she have to pull this off? It was more than good singing; much more. She literally took the image, (in her own words) of a tramp and turned it into an image of love and goodwill. It's remarkable. How did she do it?

I'm no authority, but I think it's this. She knew exactly who she was. That's a cliché' but there is more. She knew who she was enough to be able to laugh at herself. Her looks, her clothes, her money and fame, her sexuality. She used it to get us all laughing. Rendering the painful put downs much less damaging.

Jesus said, "My load is easy and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:30). Surely as you gain confidence (faith) a sure sign of it, is a developing sense of humor about yourself. In a day and age where people are so easily offended and upset, it was nice to see in Dolly Parton an alternative. Thank you!

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 – Briana Mahrt

WELCA – Peggy Hemphill Eunice Circle – Irene Gibson

Work Day – Carolyn Schultis

**Christian Education and VBS – Elizabeth Roelfs, Sheri Schultis
and Kristen Hennerberg**

Youth News – Aubrey Roelfs, Xavier Zabokrtsky, Kendra K Weers

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



The sponsor for the September Newscaster is

Shawn and Jill Zabokrtsky

In Honor of

**Shawn's September 12 Birthday and
Our September 25th Anniversary**

and

Alice and Ken Burnett

**In Memory of Alice's Parents
Delbert and Rosa Ackman**

Congratulations on your family milestone events, and in memory of your loved ones.

*The 2027 sponsorship sign-up sheet is now on the bulletin board in the back of the Narthex.
Please note that each sponsorship is now \$45 (starting in 2027) due to postage cost increases.*

Prayer of Remembrance for Patriot Day

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter through every storm, and our eternal home:

We come before You remembering the lives lost on September 11, 2001. Though many years have passed, the sorrow of that day still lingers in the hearts of families, friends and a grieving nation.

Lord, comfort those who continue to carry loss. Grant peace to the brokenhearted, strength to the weary and light to those walking through seasons of grief. Let Your presence bring hope where memories still ache.

Teach us to care for one another with compassion and courage. Help us to be a people who offer kindness to the hurting, encouragement to the discouraged and justice to those who suffer. Stir our hearts to live with mercy, humility and love for our neighbors.

Forgive us when our words are greater than our actions. May we strive each day to reflect the values of faith, unity and grace that honor You and strengthen our communities.

*Thank You, Lord, for Your constant care and unfailing mercy. Even in tragedy, You remain our refuge and our hope.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Minutes for August 19, 2026

Council members present were Brian Weers, Charlie Barber, Doug Schmidt, Jamie Schultis, Briana Mahrt, Scott Pretzer and Pastor Mark Liscom. God Sightings were shared, and Pastor Mark offered an opening prayer. Scott called the meeting to order. Minutes for the July meeting was read. Briana moved to approve the minutes and were seconded by Jamie. Minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Briana presented the report. Giving has been good this past month. 20% of the Food Stand proceeds went to BVCA. Presentation was made about different Griffin News Network Sponsorship options, and was discussed by the Council. Charlie moved to provide the \$300 silver option out of the general fund and was seconded by Brian. Motion passed. It was moved by Jamie and seconded by Charlie to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

MEMORIAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Currently a balance of \$8,067.12 is in the account. The committee has not formally met lately.

PASTOR'S REPORT

4 Worship services, 1 funeral, 1 family meeting, 4 communions, 3 other care center calls, 1 jail visit, 1 VBS, 1 pre-marital session, 2 text studies and 1 Cluster meeting.

VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Agenda mostly follow-ups tonight.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Food Stand – Did not meet.

Property – Looked at Parsonage beam in basement – Doug Schmidt and Florian Mahrt replaced some metal plates with thicker ones. AC for church offices has been giving trouble – Doug found bad capacitor tonight and will replace it tomorrow.

Christian Education – VBS went well – good family turnout. Had a lot of good help, and Jamie said a big Thank You! Discussed CrossWalk at meeting tonight, lost 1 teacher – will exclude new preschoolers this year, at least to start with, and will see how it goes. CrossWalk starts on September 16th.

Communication & Outreach – Visited with the park campers – they had been here multiple times for shelter – had some good community feedback. Gave Randy Peitzmeier the sheet about church as shelter. Confirmation Kickoff on September 9th.

Music & Worship – Briana approached Peg and Jeanette about thoughts on Service at the Park, and they would be willing to do this. Dates were discussed, looks like September 20th will work.

OLD BUSINESS

~ Lay Leadership concerning visitations – Pastor is feeling this out, has a few names.

~ Brotherhood Mutual guidelines – Jamie has some notes from Beth Roelfs about training.

NEW BUSINESS

~ CrossWalk participant averages about 30 per night, we only have 3 teachers now. Discussed some changes and evolution.

~ Scott brought up Sermon emphasis per his discussion with Pastor Mark. Pastor talked about what are people thinking about, he feels people aren't connecting in healthy ways and how to address those things.

~ Scott brought up unrestricted savings – possibly a fund to use for unforeseen uses like a revolving CD, etc. – just discussion, no action taken at this time.

~ Discussed Phyllis Wiemers – there will be a service here at St. Paul at some time, Pastor has been in contact. Service will likely be in September.

The next council meeting was set for Wednesday, September 16th at 7pm, Committees meet at 6:30pm. Charlie moved to adjourn the meeting and Jamie seconded. The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

~ Brian Weers, Council Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 8/17/2026

Current Balances

General Fund	\$ 7,250.54
Benevolence	\$ 857.90
Designations	\$ 4,093.11
Total	\$12,201.55

Operating Expenses

Available Cash	\$ 7,250.54
Remaining Bills	
None	
Remaining Bal	\$ 7,250.54

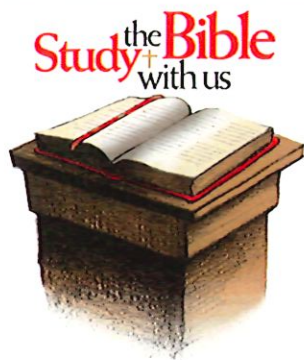


Offering Summary

	June	July	August
Current	\$ 7,790.48	\$ 15,408.17	\$ 6,110.20
Benevolence	\$ 232.62	\$ 660.35	\$ 197.55
Designated Funds	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 135.00
Totals	\$ 8,073.10	\$ 16,093.52	\$ 6,442.75

(partial month)

We need to receive **\$11,243.11** in CURRENT each month in order to meet our budget for 2026.



August Eunice Circle

Eunice Circle met on August 10, 2026 at 1:30pm. Linda Behrends led our Bible study. "I am worthy. I am more than one thing. Just like us, the women in Scripture have multiple identities, roles and responsibilities that shape their faithful living. Scripture reminds us that we all are worthy – and all made in the image of God.

The Bible texts were from Ruth 2:1-13; Esther 4:9-17; Matthew 27:55,56 and 61; Mark 15:40, 41 and 47; Luke 8:1-3; John 20:1-2 and 11-18.

We opened with prayer and Hymn, "For All the Faithful Women", verses 1,5,6 and 9. We closed with prayer and The Lord's Prayer.

Jane called our meeting to order. Eight (8) members answered Roll Call and one (1) guest. Minutes were read and approved. Our Offering was \$67.00.

Old Business: WELCA Unit Meeting November 1st after church service. Beth Roelfs will lead ThankOffering service. Workday July 28th, 9 to Noon.

New Business: CrossWalk starting on September 16th, 2026. Work Day August 25th, all are welcome.

After Grace, Carolyn Schultis served refreshments. September hostess, Jane Pretzer.

Next Eunice Circle meeting will be September 14, 2026 at 1:30pm, Marla Weichel will lead the Bible Study, Summer 2026 – June/July/August book. August lesson – Session three, page 48.

~ Irene Gibson, Recorder

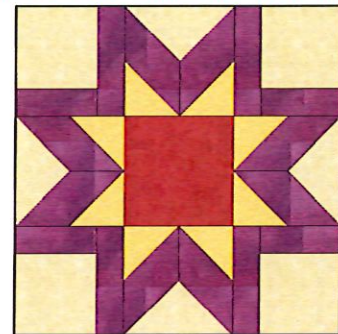
Mission Work Day

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 22nd and 29th.

WRAP THE WORLD IN LOVE



Prayers of Sympathy

We sadly share that Phyllis Wiemers passed away on August 10. Our hearts hold Pastor Delmar and their children as they face this loss. We pray that they feel the love and support surrounding them. Funeral services are planned for September 5 at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Our dear sister in faith, Mary Sasse, passed away on August 7. Her celebration of life was held at St. Paul on August 12. We remember Mary and her family in our prayers.



The Impromptu Choir sang, "God Will Take Care of You" during our August 9th Worship service.

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



APPEAL FOR CrossWalk STAFF

The CrossWalk program is by far one of the most positive and impactful programs at St. Paul's, but we are facing staffing challenges and are concerned that the church may not be able to sustain the program if we don't get more help. As we kick off our new year, we are down to 2 full-time teachers from 3. We have eliminated participation by preschoolers and will serve Kindergarten through 5th grade. We are also dropping from four rotations to three. It is a fun, busy and high energy program and we desperately need volunteers to teach in the video room on a full or part-time basis AND equally as important, we need volunteers to attend regularly to assist with student management. We need you from 3:45 til 5. We plan to have volunteer training to answer questions and explain the program. Prayerfully consider joining this meaningful work. Contact Allen Roelfs, Jamie Schultis, Beth Roelfs and Sheri Schultis.

CrossWalk

**WEDNESDAYS AFTER SCHOOL
STARTING SEPTEMBER 16
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN - DILLER**



**ICE CREAM OPEN HOUSE
5:00 P.M.
SEPTEMBER 16.**



Families are invited to tour the CrossWalk space, meet our volunteers, learn about the program, and enjoy a sweet treat before heading home.



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

Who is invited:

Kindergarten - 5th grade students.

Older students are encouraged to attend as helpers.

When:

Wednesdays after school from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

September 16, 2026 to April 28, 2027.

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

Please note: Families will now receive updates by email or through the free **GroupMe** app.

Join our group in 3 easy steps:

1. Download the Group Me app from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Create an account.
3. Register here: <https://forms.gle/6XDW76NxXkBJJS6h6>
4. GroupMe announcements: https://groupme.com/join_group/115886008/PYx3uRJD

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

CONFIRMATION KICKOFF

**SEPTEMBER 9
START AT 7 PM**

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
DILLER, NE**



Confirmation begins on September 9 with a Kickoff starting at 7pm. We'll gather for a casual evening of grilling, hanging out and learning more about Confirmation. It's a great opportunity for returning, new and interested families to connect, learn about the Confirmation Program and kick off the year together. Students and their families are invited! Confirmation is open to students in 6th through 8th grade.

Join our GroupMe to receive program announcements throughout the year:

https://groupme.com/join_group/115886139/BACtHdny.

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 2, 2027, and we have a great group.

First communion is tentatively scheduled for Ash Wednesday, February 10th, 2027. Please see the website for more information.



ST. PAUL AND ELLIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES HOST COMMUNITY VBS THAT TAKES CAMPERS UNDER THE SEA AT CAMP JEFFERSON

"We are Oh-FISH-Ally a Child of God", followed by an enthusiastic Hooray!! filled Camp Jefferson on August 12th as over 48 children and 27 adults gathered to experience an under the sea adventure.

Everyone entered the belly of the whale to learn about Jonah and that we can never hide from God. Pastor Mark and his fish school friends played a game of Opposite Simon Says because Jonah did the opposite of what God asked.

After lunch we had to set Pastor Mark straight because he thought our afternoon was to be filled with a Party at the Red C instead of the Parting of the Red Sea. We acted out the miracle that divided the Red Sea and allowed God's people to cross safely but that wasn't the story for the Egyptians who drowned. Everybody had the chance to march with Moses and drown with Pharaoh which caused a lot of giggles. The message was God helps us do impossible things.

Music, crafts, jokes, skits, games and decorations were all built around the under sea theme. An amazing water experience was the chance to learn about fishing from seasoned fisherman Gary Bergmeier. Sheri Schultis obtained the equipment for the activity from Nebraska Games and Parks and coordinated the lessons and fishing adventure which was made possible with many adult volunteers. The afternoon netted a catch of 9 fish and one turtle. No one was caught by a hook and no one fell in, although there was an ongoing fight to untangle lines.

The day's caring activity was the creation of tray cards for our friends living in area Nursing Homes. Our goal was to share a cheerful message and bright colors and bring a smile.

The afternoon was capped off with swimming and play. A huge crowd of around 150 gathered to end the day with a short program and cookout for the kids, volunteers, families and friends. Delicious food was provided by the church families of the Ellis United Methodist and St. Paul Lutheran churches. This day of Christian fellowship is a joint project of both congregations and also receives financial support from the Diller Community Foundation Fund and Thrivent.

This day brings together children and families from many communities and faiths. It is only made possible by MANY dedicated volunteers. We wish to thank everyone who helped to make the day a success.

More pictures are on the next page.





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

Baptized into the Faith



It was with joy that Cal Henry Petersen was baptized on August 2. Cal was presented for baptism by his parents Dalton and Neleigh Petersen. His sponsors were Esdon Weers and Ava Krahulik. Many family and friends were present to celebrate this milestone in Cal's life. May God bless Cal and his family, and may he always know how much he is loved.

Congratulations to Esdon Weers and Ava Krahulik! Esdon and Ava were united in marriage at St. Paul Lutheran on August 22. We pray that their life together will be blessed with many joys and that God will walk with them each day.





The family of Mary Sasse would like to express their appreciation for the calls, visits, flowers and memorial money given in her honor. We would like to also thank the women of the church and anyone involved in the luncheon after the funeral.

Your kindness, generosity, and willingness to serve meant so much to us during a difficult time.

~ The Family of Mary Sasse

Caring Thoughts

Jonathan Schmidt had surgery and is recovering well. We remember Jonathan in our prayers.

Jim Damrow recently had back surgery. We pray he is finding relief and is healing well.

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:

BethLee Beran, Norris Gold, Ervin Hennerberg, Pastor Delmar Wiemers, Dorothy Harlan, Shana Rickstrew 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 Andrew Graves
11 Shawn Lottman
11 Aubrey Roelfs
12 Shawn Zabokrtsky

12 Clayton Spilker
12 Draedyn Sasse
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 Jurgens
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 6 Sunday Worship Service
With Holy Communion**

Worship Assistant, Sherry Henrichs

Greeter, Gary Bergmeier

Coffee Service – Jadyn Schultis, Kalli Roelfs

September 13 Sunday Worship Service

Worship Assistant, Jamie Schultis

Greeter, Jim Bures

Coffee Service – Kendra K Weers, Deb Nippert



September 20 Sunday Worship Service

Worship Assistant – Brian Weers

Greeter – Dennis Nippert

Coffee Service – Ardith Barber, Kristen Heidemann



**Worship
in
the
Park**

September 27 Sunday Worship Service

Worship Assistant – Kendra K Weers

Greeter – Dean Pretzer

*Coffee Service – Jeanette Bures, Jill Scheele,
Kaitlyn Scheele*



**October 4 Sunday Worship Service
With Holy Communion**

Worship Assistant – Diane Wellsandt

Greeter – Charlie Barber

Coffee Service – Robbyn Roelfs, Stacy Roelfs

September 2026



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	4	5
Red Hymnal Worship Service 6 Holy Communion 9:30 AM	7  LABOR Day	8	9 Confirmation Kick Off 7pm	10	11  Patriot Day	12
Blue Hymnal Worship Service 13 9:30 AM  HAPPY Grandparents DAY	14 Eunice Circle 1:30pm	15	16 CROSS WALK Kick Off 4:00pm NO Confirmation Committees/ Council Meetings 6:30/7pm	17	18	19
Worship Service 20 9:30 AM  Worship in the Park	21	22  HAPPY FALL Quilters Work Day 9am - Noon	23 CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm Confirmation 7:00pm	24	25 Newscaster items due	26
Blue Hymnal Worship Service 27 9:30 AM	28	29 Quilters Work Day 9am - Noon	30 CROSS WALK Christian Ed 4:00pm Confirmation 7:00pm			



St. Paul Lutheran Church
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