

Address:

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Bremen, IN 46506

Telephone:

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E-Mail:

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schools@stpaulsbremen.org

Website:

stpaulsbremen.church
facebook.com/stpaulsbremen

Church Office Hours:

M,W,Th, F 8:30 – 11:30 am

Sunday Schedule:

Worship: 9:30 am
Sunday School & Adult
Bible Class: 8:30 am

Pastors:

Rev. Roger Rohde
Office Hours:
M & Th 8:30 – 11:30
1-574-209-0306 (H)

Rev. Neil Wonnacott
Office Hours:
W & F 8:30 – 11:30
1-574-301-9291 (H)

On Wednesday, January 8th, news broke that Prince Henry and his wife, Meghan, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, planned to step back as “senior” members of the Royal Family and split time between the United Kingdom and North America. Since that time news has kept coming out with regard to the why and how the Royal Family will respond.

While I don't claim to understand the ramifications of all this, the news of this struck me with regard to our relationship to the royal family known as God's church. God speaks of His royal family in Deuteronomy 14, where we read: “You are a people holy to the Lord your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the Lord has chosen you to be His treasured possession” (verse 2). In the New Testament, we hear a similar message from God: “You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light” (I Peter 2:9). These words of Scripture tell us a few things about being a part of God's royal family, “the holy Christian church, the communion of saints.”

First, these words tell us that we are a part of God's royal family not by our choosing, but by God's graciousness. John tells us early in his Gospel that those “who received Jesus, to those who believed in His name, **He gave** the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor a human decision or a husband's will, but born of God” (John 1:12-13). Jesus reiterates this truth later in the Gospel: “You did not choose Me, but **I chose you and appointed you** to go and bear fruit” (John 15:16). As the passages in the previous paragraph indicate, the Lord has chosen us to be a part of His royal family.

As part of His royal family, we are called to represent Him wherever He takes us in our journey through life. He has called us as His people to “declare His praises” (I Peter 2:9). We are called ambassadors for Christ with the task of proclaiming God's truth in word and deed to all people (II Corinthians 5:20).

How are we doing as people of God's royal family, the church? Have we forsaken our God-given responsibilities in God's household to worship Him faithfully, serve Him constantly, and bring positive credit to His name in all aspects of our living?

In repentance, we pray with our brother in the faith, David: “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your

salvation, and uphold me with Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will be converted to You” (Psalm 51:10-13). Amen.

Lessons in Stewardship Which Comes First?

What is to come first for people in the church – investment or involvement?

Jesus answers this question very clearly in His Sermon on the Mount: “Where your treasure is there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21). He goes on to say: “No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money” (Matthew 5:24). The point is that where we invest our heart, our head, our feet, our soul and our energy will follow. Investment precedes involvement in the church.

The investment we make and the involvement we take on can only be as great as our faith is in what Christ has done for us. As Paul speaks of the involvement he and other people undertook within the church, he declared: “Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that One died for all, and therefore all died. He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again” (II Corinthians 5:14-15).

Check out where the investments of your heart are taking you these days, and realize that your investment will determine your involvement. May Christ’s love move us to make wise investments that have eternal benefits.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH EPISTLE IS FEBRUARY 21ST!!! Epistle articles, comments, ideas may be deposited in the epistle box in the Narthex mail slots or better yet e-mailed to Deb Burcham at dburcham@stpaulsbremen.org. I appreciate all of your articles, ideas and comments!

Mark your calendar!

Want to know about The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO)?

Curt Nielsen will be available on Sunday February 2nd & 9th to discuss the SGO. If necessary we can set appointments then!

Next Scrip Order is Sunday, Feb 2nd!

We also have many gift cards available for quick purchase from the school or church office during the week, and at the Scrip table monthly (visit www.ShopWithScrip.com for the complete list of almost 800 retailers that participate in the Scrip program for many more that are available to order).

You don’t have to wait to place your orders. Enroll in our organization at ShopWithScrip.com (**Enrollment Code: BA9E468A59681**), place orders online, and submit your cash or check payment to: [St Paul’s PTL Scrip](#), or use Presto Pay to submit payment if you enroll in this added benefit. Enrollment is free and makes ordering from Scrip fast and easy, or reload previously purchased cards through Reload, and ReloadNow. Contact your Scrip Coordinator, Heidi Wildauer or Angie Hughes, if you need assistance!

Every purchase from Scrip earns money for our St Paul’s Scrip program. Plan ahead and shop for groceries, hotels, gas, clothing, and restaurants you may like to visit, and help our youth ministry efforts here at our church and school...St. Paul’s Scrip appreciates your support!

Lenten Midweek Series: “Living Among the Bible’s Trees”

Worship at 7pm with Dinner at 6pm

Ash Wednesday- Feb. 26th: Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, Psalm 1; Genesis 2:8-9, 15-17; 3:1-24; Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Lenten Midweek 2 - Mar. 4th: Great Trees of Mamre near the Machpelah, Psalm 96; Genesis 18:1-33; 23:1-20

Lenten Midweek 3 - Mar. 11th: Oak at Ophrah, Psalm 78; Judges 6:1-40; Matthew 12:38-42

Lenten Midweek 4 - Mar. 18th: Jesse’s Tree, Psalm 80:8-19; Isaiah 6:1-13; 10:33-11:16

Lenten Midweek 5 - Mar. 25th: Tree of the Lord’s Planting, Psalm 104:10-18; Ezekiel 17:1-24; Mark 4:30-32

Lenten Midweek 6 - Apr. 1st: Good Trees Bearing Good Fruit, Bad Trees Bearing Bad Fruit, Psalm 148; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Matthew 7:15-20

Maundy Thursday - Apr. 9th: Fig Trees, Psalm 105:23-45; Luke 13:1-9; Mark 11:12-25

Good Friday - Apr. 10th: Tree of the Cross, Psalm 74; Deuteronomy 21:22-23; Galatians 3:1-14

Sonrise Easter Sunday - Apr. 12th: Tree of Life, Psalm 52; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Revelation 22:1-20, Matthew 28:1-10

Everyone is welcome and this is a great opportunity to invite a friend to church!

Board Briefs:

Christian Education:

In 2020 our Sunday School will continue to send \$75.00 each month to a mission.

February Mission of the Month: Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)

LHM Mission: Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church

More than **100 million** people hear or read the Gospel each week through LHM programs, services, or materials.

For nearly 100 years, God has used Lutheran Hour Ministries to bring the changeless Christ to a changing world. The communication methods have shifted, but the message has remained the same.

Lutheran Hour Ministries began at the grassroots level as the Lutheran Laymen’s League, a group of 12 laypeople who came together to support the church in word and deed. What began with 12 has become a movement of tens of thousands of volunteers and supporters around the globe. In 1930, “There is a God” were the first words spoken on The Lutheran Hour® radio program broadcast over the airwaves to thousands of listeners. Today the Gospel message reaches over 51 million people on a weekly basis through ministry efforts such as Bible Correspondence Courses, Outreach Training, Bible Studies, Daily Devotions and, of course, The Lutheran Hour. For more information go to: www.lhm.org

Church Office:

Baptism: Bella-Mae Marie Jensen

Deaths: Ella Nurenberg

Parish Fellowship:

WE NEED YOU! Our Euchre parties in 2020! New Day of the Week – Thursday – Next opportunity is February 13th at 7pm!

The Euchre parties are sponsored by the Parish Fellowship Board and are designed as a night of fun, fellowship and cards. We ask that you bring a snack to share, and drinks will be provided by the board. The parties begin at 7pm and run until 9pm for people 20 years old and older. It's a great night to invite a friend!!!

Men's Group takes place on Sundays, February 2nd & 16th from 3-5pm for all men ages 15 and above. We will meet in the gym for basketball and fellowship and will close with a prayer.

Parish Fellowship Meeting after church on February 16th, 2020

Hope Ministries Meal is February 16th! We will meet at church at 4pm. If you want to help with the meal, please sign up on the check it out board or call Pastor Wonnacott.

Cookies or Cakes are needed for the Hope Ministries Meal on February 16th. There is a sign-up list on the check it out board. Any questions please call Pastor Wonnacott 574-301-9291.

Lenten Cookie Sign-up list is on the "Check It Out" Board by the school secretary's office. Show off your baking skills or just buy some cookies! We need you to bring 3 dozen if you sign up.

Stewardship:

One of the charitable options of the blue offering envelope is the Tuition Aid Fund. This fund functions to help school families who are in need of assistance to meet the tuition costs at the school. This fund is administered by the School Board. Your gifts to this fund would be greatly appreciated.

The function of Christian stewardship cannot have even a grain of sand in it that is formed from the Law. To include any facet of the Law within this foundation would be to dilute the Gospel. One is bound to God, not by obeying the Law, but by faith in Jesus Christ, which is a gift from God.

We are heart-motivated givers, for Christ and His love are at the center of our lives. Love does not have mathematical standards or rates or limits. The Law does not and cannot bind it. With unbounded love, by the power of the Gospel, we accept a higher challenge in giving, for we are imitators of Christ. By this power of the Gospel, in Christ's love, we agree that tithing is good. In response to God's love for us, though, we cheerfully give, letting love set the percentage.

A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord (Lev. 27:30).

... know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified. (Gal. 2:16).

PR & Evangelism:

The Public Relations Board is excited to announce the launching of our new church website, stpaulsbremen.church on February 1st.

We would like to encourage all the Boards, church groups and school to give information on events to Bruce Schmidt or put it in the Public Relations mailbox or preachmin@stpaulsbreme.org, so it can be put on the website. It won't get on there if you don't tell us!

Please note that the site is still under construction and more will be added. Also, all of the existing email addresses will be staying the same.

Altar Guild: Attendant for February is Kay Miller.

Altar Flowers in February:

2 Wayne & Robin Spicher
9
16
23
26

The Altar Flower Chart for the 2020 Liturgical Year is hanging in the Narthex (North side), just outside the altar guild room door. Please look it over and sign up for flowers.



Come Join the "Feast" !!!

Then Jesus declared, "*I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.*" John 6:35



Every two weeks, a group of men from St. Paul's meet for breakfast and Bible study at Bremen Community Hospital in the cafeteria conference room. The discussion and fellowship make this a great way to start a day by feeding our physical and spiritual needs.....it's been rumored that laughter and friendship have been carried from the breakfasts!

Come, join us and bring a friend along. We start at 6:30 AM and finish at 7:30 AM.

The schedule for 2020 is as follows;

2/12, 2/26, 3/11, 3/25, 4/8, 4/22,
5/6, 5/20, 6/3, 6/17, 7/1, 7/15, 7/29, 8/12, 8/26,
9/9, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2, 12/16

If you have questions, feel free to contact Dave Burcham (574-520-9118).

Thursday Morning Bible Study meets from 9:30 to 11:00am in the Jerusalem Room. We are studying 'James, How Faith Works'. Everyone is welcome!

LEG Ladies will meet February 2nd and 16th in the Jerusalem Room at 3 pm. Please join us!

SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

e-mail: schools@stpaulsbremen.org

The SCHOOL THEME for the 2019-2020 school year is JOY:FULLY LUTHERAN. It is based on I Thess. 5:16-24: “Be joyful always; pray continually...”

Box Top Blitz



It is time to bring in all the box tops that you have saved up. Don't forget to ask your family and friends, too.

When: Now until Friday, February 21st

Where: Your classroom. Each classroom will be collecting the box tops

Who: All students of St. Paul's Lutheran School (Preschool – 8) and St. Paul's Church members

Don't forget – Box tops with expired dates can't be redeemed!

Important – Box tops is digital. Simply download the app to your smart phone and scan in your receipts. No smart phone? No problem! Send your receipts in and they will be scanned for you. Receipts must be scanned within 14 days of your purchase so don't wait to send them in. Box tops you clip will also be honored until they all expire! **If a box has “No Need To Clip” on it you will need to scan (or have it scanned) the receipt! Thank You!**

Want to know about The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO)?

Curt Nielsen will be available on Sunday February 2nd & 9th to discuss the SGO. If necessary we can set appointments then!

Postings from Preschool:

Even though we didn't get much real snow in January, we did make plenty of winter crafts and read books about snowmen and snow days. We also enjoyed playing chicken limbo and hopscotch, running obstacle courses, making our own pizzas, and learning about Jesus' miracles. This month we can't wait to make Valentines and learn more about Jesus' love!

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GO EAGLES!

The following students at St. Paul's Lutheran School have earned Honor Roll status for the Second Quarter of the 2019-2020 school year.

Eighth Grade: Thomas Harman, Ellison Miller, Kaia Podlin, Avery Wildauer

Seventh Grade: Wyatt Beasley, Kila Foster, Kristin Guse, Tyler Raasch, Ian Russell, Noah Wildauer

Sixth Grade: Keegan Guse, Sara Sahlhoff, Jack Wildauer

Fifth Grade: Izzy Wildauer, Kaylee Moser, Molly Harman

Fourth Grade: Alexis Andrews, Kamden Guse, Gavin Hundt, Sophia Sahlhoff

The following students have had perfect attendance for the Second Quarter of the 2019-2020 school year.

Eighth Grade: Kaia Podlin, Avery Wildauer

Seventh Grade: Wyatt Beasley, Kila Foster, Kristin Guse, Ian Russesll, Noah Wildauer

Sixth Grade: Cody Bryan, Keegan Guse, Autumn Napper, Sara Sahlhoff, Jack Wildauer

Fifth Grade: Kaylee Moser

Fourth Grade: Sophia Sahlhoff, Kamden Guse, Reuben Napper

Third Grade: Brantley Thornton

Second Grade: Kellan Guse, Callan Russell

First Grade: None

Kindergarten: Zane McGowen

Valentine's Day Card List of Our Shut -Ins 2020

1. Rita Stanifer 353 Woodies Lane Apt A, Bremen, IN 46506
2. Patsy Schlemmer 303 East Maple St., Bremen, IN 46506
3. Diana Rodgers 103 N. Center St., Apt. 203, Bremen, IN 46506
4. Lester & Mildred Bollenbacher 1633 W. Grant St., Bremen, IN 46506
5. Bo Weldy 903 N. Center St., Bremen, IN 46506
6. Linda Allen 500 S. Montgomery St., Apt. 114, Bremen, IN 465067
7. Phyllis Brown Miller's Merry Manor, 303 .N Washington, Room 145 Wakarusa, IN 46573
8. Marie Southard Miller's Merry Manor, 303 North Washington, Peach Pod 115 Wakarusa, IN 46573
9. Carol Seegers Golden Living Center, 1001 W. Hively Ave., Room 519 Elkhart, IN 46517
10. Shirley Cremeens St. Paul's Nursing Home, 3602 Ironwood, Room 211C South Bend, IN 46614
11. Jerry & Linda Smith 934 West Andrews Court, South Bend, IN 46614
12. Dan Miller Hamilton Grove, 31869 Chicago St., Room 130 New Carlisle, IN 46552
13. Troy & Bob Yoder 2824 Michigan Rd., Plymouth, IN 46563
14. Helen Olsen 2018 Lilac Road, Plymouth, IN 46563
15. Leo Sahlhoff Miller's Merry Manor, 1630 S. County Farm Road, Room 49, Warsaw, IN 46580



HELP SUPPORT

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

WHERE 1290 East Ireland Road, South Bend, IN 46614

WHEN Wed, Feb 5th

FROM 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Bring this flyer or show an electronic version to the cashier when you place your order and we'll donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchase.*

Ordering Online for Rapid Pick-Up or Delivery?*

Enter **"PRFUND"** as your Promo Code to have a portion of your proceeds donated to your organization.

Learn more at Fundraising.PaneraBread.com

*Gift card purchases, catering, kiosk and third party delivery orders are excluded and will not count toward the event. Rapid Pick-Up and Delivery only where available.

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BARNES & NOBLE BOOKFAIRS

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Feb
22nd



FROM 2:00 PM—5:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCES!


SPECIAL GAMES & ACTIVITIES

RAFFLE PRIZES!

BARNES & NOBLE
BOOKFAIRS
supporting

St. Paul's Lutheran
Church & School

Saturday, February 22, 2020
University Park Mall
6501 North Grape Road




12586855

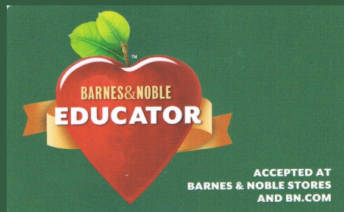
Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be contributed to your school/organization.*

*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, textbooks, video games, digital devices including NOOK, purchases made at Cafés owned and operated by Starbucks, and other items Barnes & Noble may exclude from time to time in its sole discretion are not included in Bookfair totals. Institutional discounts may not be applied. See BN.COM/Bookfairs for more details and to shop online.

#BNBOOKFAIRS



Use this voucher
when you shop in
store and online
to support us!



Drinks and snacks are a great way to support your Bookfair!
Educators save 20% when you use your discount card!

The book fair at Barnes and Noble is on 2/22 from 2 – 5 pm, and it runs on line through 2/27 with the flier code at the time of checkout with online orders. (Code number -12586855)

February Devotion: "Stones or Bread?"

And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." (Matthew 4:3) Read Matt. 4:1-4

I suppose the stones by Jesus' feet looked a little like loaves of bread. To someone who had gone hungry for over a month, they probably really looked like bread. But they weren't. Nobody wants a mouthful of rocks.

And so the devil proposed a plan to Jesus. "Turn these stones into bread." Easy, right? Never mind the fact that God doesn't do that sort of thing -- that bread comes from a living grain which grows in earth which was only rock hundreds or thousands of years ago, before it eroded. Skip that process. Never mind all the hard work that goes into farming and baking. Skip that too. Never mind that it would be for Jesus' own personal convenience! Just do it. It's fast and easy. Meet your own needs first. But Jesus said no -- and continued to suffer hunger. The bread He ate later, He got the hard way.

Sometimes I wonder if God was ever tempted to just wave a hand and immediately change our stony hearts into living, warm ones. How easy it would be! No trouble, no waiting, no suffering-no cross.

And that's the problem. Jesus doesn't take the easy way out. If He's going to transform our stony hearts, He's going to do it God's way, in God's time -- through His own suffering, death, and resurrection. He's going to do it even if it means He has to be worn down like rocks slowly becoming earth. He's going to do it even if He must make Himself the single grain of wheat He described to His disciples, the one that "falls into the earth and dies... (and) bears much fruit" (see John 12:24).

And that's exactly what He did. Jesus followed "every word that comes from the mouth of God" (see Matthew 4:4). Today He lives -- never to die again -- and we live, too.

THE PRAYER: Dear Lord, thank You for Your patience and willingness to do what's right. Give me a heart that is like Yours. Amen.