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**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: 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)

We live in some very challenging times in our nation. The political scene is heating up as candidates try to vie for our vote. Promises are made by the candidates, and derogatory remarks are leveled at their opponents. The battle is heated and the supposed facts made by both candidates are called into question. Who is to be believed?

In the midst of this we find great differences amongst people in our society concerning human life – when it starts and how to take care of it. There are intense debates about race relationships and the decisions that center around COVID – 19. The list can go on and on, but the real question is how we as God's redeemed children are to handle all this stuff.

In Romans 12:2, Paul tells God's people: "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will.

Two concepts come forth from this passage. One, if we are to know what avenue God wants us to take in the matter of life, we need to have our minds transformed into His way of thinking. That means we need to take time and sit at Jesus' feet, delving into His Word and learning God's principles with regard to human life.

Two, we need to do what God reveals to us. It is not enough to be able to quote God. God calls us to do His will and glorify him in every aspect of our living.

The days ahead will not be easy for the children of God. Satan would have us lose sight of God's will. People will pressure us to take on their way of thinking. Yet, we can be faithful to God and His Truth, as we commit ourselves to learning God's will from the Bible, and being led by the Holy Spirit to walk in the ways of the Lord.



Lessons In Stewardship: Be a Pot Pie Christian

Do you know the major difference between a pot pie and a TV dinner? In a pot pie all the ingredients are lumped together, while with a TV dinner everything is compartmentalized. I can eat the meat and potatoes in a TV dinner and avoid the vegetables. In a pot pie avoidance is not so easy because all the ingredients are lumped together.

In our lives, God does not want TV dinner Christians. He did not pay the debt of our sins and make us His children, so that we can attach Christianity to certain aspects of our lives while leaving other parts of our lives disconnected from Christian principles.

The term “wholeheartedly” is used 16 times in the Bible. It emphasizes that God calls us to be pot pie Christians who live and love the Lord in every aspect of our lives. In the book of Numbers, God emphasized that those who do not wholeheartedly live for the Lord would not enter the Promised Land of Canaan, while those who in faith walked with Christ wholeheartedly would enter the land of milk and honey (Numbers 32:11-12).

God help us by the Holy Spirit to dedicate each aspect of our lives to the Lord Jesus Christ. For this He has redeemed us and by this we bring Him our thanks and praise.

***THE DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER EPISTLE IS OCTOBER 20TH!!!*** 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!

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Operating budget fund balance as of September 17th, 2020- \$87,900  
**This amount represents just over 7 weeks of normal day-to-day expenses of the Church and School ministries.**  
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**Box Tops For Education!**

Since we no longer need to clip Box Tops we will have one last collection for any Box Tops you may have been saving! Bring in your clipped Box Tops and put them in the collection basket in the Narthex or hand them to a staff member to be bundled and redeemed.

Box Tops has gone to an app that requires scanning your store receipts to pull off Box Top items. If you don't have the app you can still turn your receipts in to school and we will scan them for you. Drop your receipts off in the Box Top basket located in the Narthex or give them to a staff member for redeeming. THANK YOU!

**Thank you for a successful “Sunday Sundaes” Fundraiser!**

St. Paul’s PTL would like to thank the school and church families for their participation at our first “Sunday Sundaes” event last month. We thank you all for the generous donations to PTL and look forward to planning more fellowship opportunities together in the future. We are grateful for your support of our PTL Board and events, and the ministry provided to students here at our school. Thank You!!

**NEXT SCRIP SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>!**

## **Board Briefs:**

### **Christian Education:**

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

#### **October Mission of the Month: Worship Anew**

1) Worship Anew is available to watch via television, DVD subscription and the internet. Each service includes music, Scripture readings, prayers and a Lutheran pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel 1-on-1 to the viewer. Each program is closed captioned.

2) Moments of Comfort is a weekly video devotion that ministers to the hurting and suffering with the comforting message of God's Word. Explore the most recent videos at [www.WorshipAnew.org](http://www.WorshipAnew.org)

3) Worship Anew is excited to continue the ministry of the quarterly devotion book Hope-Full Living. The fourth quarter issue of 2020 and those going forward will be produced by Worship Anew. Worship Anew will continue to maintain the mission and purpose of this publication: to be an uplifting daily devotion written for seniors by seniors.

**Church Properties:** After many years of faithful service Alice Shepherd is retiring as the church custodian. Thank you for your service and dedication to St. Paul's.

Church Properties is currently looking for someone to fill Alice's custodian position starting in October if possible. This position will take approximately 15 hours a week. Anyone interested contact Todd Haug at 209-1215.

*Church Properties is asking each group that meets at church to please clean their own area after they are finished with their meeting. This will help the custodian keep up with cleaning.*

### **School Board:**

Tuition expenses for school families are on going! In an effort to help our school families with school related expenses St. Paul's has **2 opportunities** for families to apply for scholarships. First, families with students in K-8 grades may apply for an **SGO (The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana) Tuition Scholarship**. During the 2020-2021 school year, \$11,468 in Scholarships to St. Paul's School have been awarded from this source. Secondly, St. Paul's has a **Church Scholarship fund** for preschool students who qualify and also for any K-8 student who does not qualify for an SGO scholarship but needs assistance. In the 2019-2020 school year approximately \$6,745 in Scholarship money came from this fund.

As a congregation we have 2 opportunities to help St. Paul's students! You may use your church envelope to donate to the Church Scholarship (Tuition Aid) fund and/or you may also check out and donate to St. Paul's SGO fund by going on line to [Lutheransgo.org](http://Lutheransgo.org). If you have any questions regarding SGO, give Curt Nielsen a call at 248-1529.

### **YOUTH NEWS and NOTES**

September has been an enjoyable month for our Youth as we have taken part in various activities on Wednesday evenings when we have gathered for "Game Nights." These games, all centered around a theme for the evening, have ranged from Who is your Neighbor? to Cardio-Kickball to Scatterball to Speedball. Simply new opportunities to **Engage** our Youth in Christian Fellowship with one another ....

Coming up in the months ahead ....

- **October 10<sup>th</sup>**: Service project for Jr. High / High School Youth at the old St. Paul's Church building
- **October 24<sup>th</sup>**: Campfire Night for Grades 4 through 8
- **November 15<sup>th</sup>**: Bowling outing for High School Youth
- **Christmas Eve Service**
- **2021**: Lock-in for Jr. High Youth

Stay tuned for more information on all of the above. If you have any questions, please contact Andy Wildauer at (801) 707-3399.

**St. Paul's Youth**  
**~Engage and Serve ~**

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**Altar Guild:** Attendant for October is Heather Middaugh.

Altar Flowers in October:

4      Jon & Jeanette Rettinger  
11  
18     Wayne & Tara Andrews  
25



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.



# SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

e-mail: [schools@stpaulsbremen.org](mailto:schools@stpaulsbremen.org)

## **St. Paul's Lutheran Church Mission Statement**

By faithfully proclaiming God's saving grace through God's Holy Word, Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation will enable its members to grow stronger in their relationship with Jesus Christ and share with others the Good News of salvation.

## **School Mission Statement:**

By faithfully proclaiming God's saving grace, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran School will help children grow in their relationship with Jesus as we prepare them academically, socially, and emotionally for life in this world.

## **School Purpose:**

The purpose of St. Paul's Lutheran School is "to provide a nurturing environment for education that develops the full potential of its students for life-skills and service to the Triune God."

The SCHOOL THEME for the 2020-2021 school year is SENT TO SERVE. It is based on Matthew 20:28. "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve..."



## End-of-the-Year Rummage Sale

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PTL is hosting an end-of-the-season rummage sale on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am- 4:00pm, in the gym. We are currently accepting donations of gently used clothing, shoes, books, toys, décor, small furniture, and the like. All donations can be placed on the gym stage until October 9<sup>th</sup>, 3:30. We will also need volunteers on October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, to set up and supervise the sale. If you are interested in helping or need help with donating items, please contact Jennifer Harman or Heidi Wildauer. All money collected will be taken as donations to assist the PTL.

## **Postings from Preschool**

Last month the preschool experienced continued blessings as we grew to 26 students! Our families are involved and generous, and we are grateful for the opportunity to teach their children.

We participated in College colors/ Class colors Day, went to the gym several times, and enjoyed the playground. The preK class learned about letter people P, H and M while the beginner class reviewed shapes and colors. We studied the Bible accounts of Noah, Abraham, and the tower of Babel.

Thank you for your prayers and support!



## October Devotion: "Tears of Laughter"

*(Jesus said) "I am the Resurrection and the Life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. ...." John 11:25-26a*

Let's talk about tears. Do you cry? Are you a weeper? Most of us are. Oh, we manly men may not want to admit it, but most of us have been known to shed a tear or two. Do you need proof?

If so, rent the Disney film *Old Yeller*. Years ago our family saw the movie. We loved the film, until the last ten minutes. For those of you who don't remember, the boy is attacked by wild animals, pigs, I think it was, and the dog saved him. Sadly, because of his fight with the pigs, the dog came down with rabies, and the boy had to shoot his pet. I didn't look around at my wife or the children, but I could hear some sobbing going on. Me, I was a bit misty. If *Old Yeller* doesn't do it for you, then watch Bambi's mother get shot or see Dumbo separated from his mom.

Most of us cry. Most of us weep. In this world where catastrophe seems to be a constant, where tragedy and terror, sin, sadness and sorrow are almost customary and commonplace, the sorrowful shedding of tears is familiar and frequent. Almost everybody weeps over a personal sadness. Think back upon the last time you cried.

Even Jesus shed tears. Centuries before His Bethlehem birth, the Old Testament prophet, Isaiah, had, by the Holy Spirit's direction, in detail, described the Savior. He said Jesus would be "despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering." (See Isaiah 53:3.)

Look at Jesus and you will not see a general who sits far removed in a command center while His troops march off to engage the enemy in battle. He is not a chairman in a walnut-paneled boardroom who dictates commands to His company while the men on the assembly line sweat to take those commands to completion.

No, Jesus became one of us so He might -- in our place -- fulfill the laws we disobey. He became true Man so that the damnable

price that our sins demanded might be paid in full. Because of His sacrifice and resurrection victory, He is able to promise that He is the Resurrection and the Life and those who live and believe in Him will never die. The comfort those words have given to mourners over the centuries cannot be calculated.

Jesus' Words mean that when a soldier's body is brought home from a war, taps will not be the final note to be heard. Judgment Day will begin with another trumpet call. Because of Jesus' Words, believing parents who have stood helplessly beside the freshly turned earth of a child's grave are given the resurrection assurance that while death has ripped their little one from them, it could not do the same to Jesus.

Christ's nail-pierced hands are stronger than death and, because this is so, in heaven every tear will be replaced by laughter and joy in Jesus.

**THE PRAYER:** Dear Lord and Savior, in this world we cannot escape tears. Accept our thankful hearts which know that the time is coming that, because of Jesus, those tears will be wiped away. In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen.