

From Pastor Wonnacott's keyboard:

Address:

605 S. Center St.
Bremen, IN 46506

Telephone:

1-574-546-2332

E-Mail:

church@stpaulsbremen.org

schools@stpaulsbremen.org

Website:

stpaulsbremen.church
facebook.com/stpaulsbremen
vimeo.com/stpaulsbremen

Church Office Hours:

M,W,Th, F 8:30 – 11:30 am

Sunday Schedule:

Sunday School: 8:30 am

Worship: 9:30 am

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We are blessed this year to have the entire month of February before we start our Lenten pilgrimage. So, what are we going to do? Sit back and wait for Lent - or prepare to grow spiritually during the Epiphany season?

Here is the plan for Sundays in February 2022

February 6th

EPIPHANY 5

Sermon Text: Isaiah 6:1–8 (9–13)

Our Theme: Our holiness comes from the work of the Most Holy One. We trust our sins are atoned for by the Most Holy Trinity in the Son, Jesus Christ, and now forgiven by His ministers in Absolution and the preaching of the Gospel.

February 13th

EPIPHANY 6

Sermon Text: Jeremiah 17:5–8

Our Theme: To trust in the Lord is better than to trust in human strength. We pray that we would see the foolishness of trusting in human strength and see the wisdom of trusting in the Lord.

February 20th

EPIPHANY 7

Sermon Text: Genesis 45:3–15

Our Theme: Through the agony of it all, like Joseph, in Christ, you'll be living God's real plan for you. We find new meaning in God's plan for our lives as followers of Jesus—though that means suffering—remembering that Jesus suffered in our place.

February 27th

Transfiguration Sunday

Sermon Text: Hebrews 3:1–6

Our Theme: Jesus is greater than Moses, who was pretty great himself. We pray that we, in understanding how much greater the Suffering Servant Jesus is than Moses, would be strengthened for our journey.

May the Epiphany season end with us preparing to see the witness of Jesus during the Lenten season!

THE DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH EPISTLE IS FEBRUARY 20TH!!! Epistle articles, comments, ideas may be deposited in the epistle box in the Narthex mail slots or e-mailed to Eric Thornton at firemanet@yahoo.com. I appreciate all of your articles, ideas and comments!

Board Briefs:



YOUTH BOARD NEWS

On Jan. 16th fourteen youth braved the cold and headed to Pokagon State Park for tobogganing. Sliding down the hill on sheets of ice at a high rate of speed may sound intimidating, but not for



these youth. It was a fun afternoon filled with fellowship, some screams (of joy), and hot chocolate!



National Youth Gathering (July 2022)

Two opportunities to support the Youth attending the National Youth Gathering are just around the corner... On February 5th, we will be hosting a “Non-Sale” Bake Sale (free will offerings accepted) at the St. Paul’s 4th-6th Grades Basketball Tournament. Join us to support our young Eagles for their games and enjoy a snack while doing it.

Also, something SUPER is coming on Sunday, February 13th ... As part of your meal plans for Super Bowl Sunday, consider ordering a sub sandwich prepared by our Youth attending the National Youth Gathering. More information about how to place your order is available at the

Youth bulletin board at Church. Pick up for the subs will be after the church service on February 13th.

If there are any questions related to the Youth Group, please contact Andy Wildauer at (801) 707-3399.

Board of Parish Fellowship

Euchre Party is on February 18th from 7 to 9ish pm. Join us in the Bethany Room and bring a friend and a snack to share! Be prepared to have FUN!!!!

Men's Group – Basketball is on February 6th & 13th from 3 to 5pm.

Board of Public Relations

Greeters are needed! There is a sign-up list on the check-it-out board. We ask the greeters to meet the people outside at the overhang, weather permitting.

SGO Funds Needed!

Our school year is off to a good start and eight families have received a SGO scholarship to assist with tuition costs. Another three families are anticipated to participate. That means that we are in need of donations in our SGO fund!

Donating to the SGO does not just benefit our school families! It benefits you, the donor! You may claim a 50% tax credit for your donation, and your donation is also tax-deductible, as the Lutheran SGO is a 501C-3 charity. Our school account in the Lutheran SGO depends entirely on donations; it is not government subsidized.

Additional information can be found at LutheranSGO.org and from the school office.

Thank you for your donation!

Postings from Preschool

We started off the New Year learning about Jesus's childhood and then about His first miracles. The letters E, G, and T were introduced to the PreK class while the Beginners met

N and B and reviewed numbers. All the students are learning their addresses, and we decorated our long hallway with snow hats and mittens!

Amazon Smile Reminder

Attention Amazon shoppers: Choose Amazon Smile and designate St. Paul's as the charitable recipient on your account. Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchases to our church and school. Please note this doesn't cost you anything, but is a charitable donation made by Amazon. Thanks for supporting St. Paul's through this program.

Mission of the Month

In 2022 our Sunday school continues to send \$75.00 each month to a mission.

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

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

Through ministry programs such as **The Lutheran Hour, International Ministries, Men's NetWork, LHM Learn**, and others, Lutheran Hour Ministries is bringing a message of rescue, restoration and renewal in Jesus Christ to millions of people who desperately need to hear it.

For more information go to: www.lhm.org

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US

One of the changes brought about due to the Covid-19 virus outbreak was using an "offering box" in the narthex of the church in front of the water fountains instead of passing an offering plate during the worship service. Please remember to give back to the Lord from the many blessings He gives us by placing your offering in the offering box or "e-tithing" by having a weekly deposit to St Paul's from your bank account. If you have questions on e-tithing, please contact the Church Office.

Ushers: It is very important that you find your own replacement if you are not going to be able to usher during your assigned time. Please take the time to do this so that we always have ushers available to assist our members and visitors. Thank you.

Planning for Giving

"Please Save the Date of Sunday, April 3, 2022 and join us for a Luncheon and Presentation at Noon that day. Come and learn about the free services of the LCMS Foundation and how they can potentially help you and your family plan for a lifetime of giving and planning for giving after our deaths. Watch for more details in the upcoming weeks or speak with a Stewardship Board member if you have questions. "Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him" (Colossians 3:17). Thank you from the Stewardship Board."

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

God in Man Made Manifest

The season of Epiphany focuses on how God was made manifest in the flesh of Jesus. The church spends time hearing of the miracles, signs, and wonders of Jesus in the world. And this made plain to all that Jesus really is who He said He was. He is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the only begotten Son of the Father, in the flesh. For "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).

It is revealed for all the world to see that Jesus is God in the flesh. It is made manifest by His words and His work, by what He said and by what He did. And these belong together, for "the

Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” Jesus is the Word and will of God in the flesh, that is, He is the walking, talking enactment of God’s Word.

It is no different for us. We are called not just to believe in God in hearts but also to trust in God in word and deed. As James wrote: “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves” (James 1:22), and again, “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? ... So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ... Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ... For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead” (James 2:14, 17–18, 26).

Our faith is lived out in works for our neighbor. Our trust in the Word and will of God is lived out not in word only but also in deed and in truth. In other words, the Epiphany of the Lord creates in us an epiphany of our faith in our works of obedience to God who commanded them. By this, our faith is made manifest to the world. It is, as Luther wrote of faith:

Faith is a divine work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God (John 1). It kills the old Adam and makes altogether different people, in heart and spirit and mind and powers, and it brings with it the Holy Spirit.

Oh, it is a living, busy, active, mighty thing, this faith. And so it is impossible for it not to do good works incessantly. It does not ask whether there are good works to do, but before the question rises, it has already done them, and is always at the doing of them.

He who does not these works is a faithless man. He gropes and looks about after faith and good works and knows neither what faith is nor what good works are, though he talks and talks, with many words about faith and good works.

Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that a man would stake his life on it a thousand times. This confidence in God’s grace and knowledge of it makes men glad and bold and happy in dealing with God and all His creatures. And this is the work of the Holy Spirit in faith. Hence a man is ready and glad, without compulsion, to do good to everyone, to serve everyone, to suffer everything, in love and praise to God, who has shown him this grace.

And thus it is impossible to separate works from faith, quite as impossible as to separate burning and shining from fire. Beware, therefore, of your own false notions and of the idle talkers, who would be wise enough to make decisions about faith and good works, and yet are the greatest fools. (*Preface to the Book of Romans*)

So, then, let our faith be active by God's power in the Word through the Holy Spirit. And let then our faith be made manifest to the world by what this faith does: serving our neighbor – in church, in the family, and society – with the works of faith in time, talents, and treasures. – LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

February's Devotion – "Fulfilled Promises"

And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, this He has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus Acts 13:32-33a

How would you feel if you bought a dozen eggs and there were only 11 in the carton? How would you react if you purchased a dozen doughnuts and the bag held only 11?

Would you feel gyped? Hornswoggled? Duped and Deceived?

If so, you can understand why people in New Jersey and Chicago have begun a class-action suit against Subway® sandwiches. One of the men went to 17 different restaurants and found that not a single one of the foot-long sandwiches he bought measured a full foot long. Most of the meals came in somewhere around 11 inches.

The argument is this: a sandwich which is an inch short may not be a big deal, but when you multiply that inch by millions of sandwiches sold, it is a nasty bit of false advertising.

Maybe those fellows have a point.

Maybe we shouldn't be so accepting of manufacturers' untrue claims. Maybe Subway ought to state, "A foot-long sandwich may fall somewhat short of being a foot long." Yes, I know it loses its ring, but the advertising and the sandwich would match up, and the company would be keeping their promise.

Truth in advertising.

Have you ever given thanks to the Lord that the things He has said, the claims He has made, the promises He has offered are true? It is a quality which makes the Triune God -- and Christianity -- unique.

Consider how many other deities have said, "I will send my Son into this world to become a human being. He will live for you; He will suffer for you; He will carry your sins, and He will die your death. All this will happen, so all who believe on Jesus will be forgiven of their sins and be reconciled with Me"?

Only Christianity can make such a claim. Only Christianity can say, "We have good news. The

promises our divine Lord made to Adam, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob have come to pass in the life, death and victorious resurrection of God's Son, Jesus. Only our faith can say God has kept His promises because Jesus, having lived a perfect life, was condemned and crucified on Calvary's cross. Only our faith can say, "A risen Christ is proof that God has not advertised falsely."

Yes, our faith *can* say those things, and each of us *ought* to be saying those things. We need to tell a lost and condemned world that the Lord, His Word, His Son's sacrifice and victory are true and can be believed. Period.

THE PRAYER: Dear Lord, I give thanks Your Word is true and can be believed. I rejoice that Holy Scripture contains no false advertising. Now may I point the unbelieving world toward the Savior who alone is God's fulfilled promise, who offers salvation. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Taken from Lutheran Hour Ministries - this Daily Devotion was written by Pastor Ken Klaus

Thank you to everyone that supported the PTL in our last two fundraisers. We appreciate your support!

Sunday School Classes for the Winter Quarter

December 5- February 20, 2022

Pre-K -Grade 1 Nazareth Room

This class will be using material from the Faith Weavers Curriculum. Wendy Coxey will be teaching

Grade 2-5 Grade 2-3 Classroom This class will be using material from Christ Light Curriculum. Jeannette Rettinger will be teaching

Grades 6-8 6-8 Grades Classroom

Our curriculum for this class will be the Study of 1st and 2nd Peter and taught by Barb Middaugh

High School Principal's Office

Topic to be determined.

Adult Class I Bethany Room

“What Does God Expect of His People” will be a Bible study led by Pastor Rohde. It is a most treasured gift that we are forgiven of all our sins and given the gift of eternal life in heaven through the death and resurrection of Christ. But now what? As we are saved through faith in Christ, what is it that God expects of us? Through this Bible study we will search out God’s will for our lives.

Adult Class II Jerusalem Room

Dave Burcham will continue with the Study of Hebrews.

The Board of Christian Education thanks all of the teachers that have given of themselves to teach this last quarter.

Children's Bulletins are now available to youth ages 2-8. These special bulletins will follow the lectionary and keep children engaged during the worship service. Ask the ushers for the children's bulletin.

Special Event

On February 13th during the Bible Study Time (8:30 – 9:15am) Jamielynn (Tinkey) Flores will present to the congregation about the adventures experienced by her and her husband Rafael as missionaries. This will be a great opportunity for St. Paul’s members and visitors to hear about how God is working around the world.

The Board of Christian Education would like every member to read the Bible in one year. Every month in the Epistle we will publish a daily reading. This reading schedule is in accordance with Martin Luther’s suggestion: “But let the entire Psalter, divided in parts, remain in use and the entire Scriptures, divided into lections, let this be preserved in the ears of the church.” We hope that you find this daily lectionary reading inspirational to you.

Read the Bible in a Year – Readings for February

February

1	Luke 2:29-32 Exodus 1-3	2	Psalm 59 Exodus 4-6
3	Psalm 60 Exodus 7-9	4	Psalm 61 Exodus 10-12
5	Psalm 62 Exodus 13-15	6	Psalm 63 Exodus 16-18
7	Psalm 64 Exodus 19-21	8	Psalm 65 Exodus 22-24
9	Psalm 66 Exodus 25-27	10	Psalm 67 Exodus 28-30
11	Psalm 68 Exodus 31-33	12	Psalm 69 Exodus 34-36
13	Psalm 70 Exodus 37-38	14	Psalm 71 Exodus 39-40
15	Psalm 72 Leviticus 1-3	16	Psalm 73 Leviticus 4-6
17	Psalm 74 Leviticus 7-9	18	Psalm 75 Leviticus 10-12
19	Psalm 76 Leviticus 13-15	20	Psalm 77 Leviticus 16-18
21	Psalm 78 Leviticus 19-21	22	Psalm 79 Leviticus 22-24
23	Psalm 80 Leviticus 25-27	24	Psalm 81 Numbers 1-3
25	Psalm 82 Numbers 4-6	26	Psalm 83 Numbers 7-9
27	Psalm 84 Numbers 10-12	28	Luke 2:29-32 Numbers 13-15



Birthdays & Anniversaries

ANNIVERSARIES

3	Arick & Noelle Cannon	18	Justin & Priscilla Quenan
6	Bill & Sharon Latzke	19	Rev. Rodney & Rene' Schmeltz
14	Tim & Jennifer Harman Josh & Lacey Shumaker		

BIRTHDAYS

1	Matthew Harman Julia Miller	17	Heaven Hicks Matthew Podlin Wayne Spicher
2	Kurt Guse	18	Bentley Levendoski Gavin Stanifer
3	Garrett Fox Ellen Haug	19	Shirley Lakins
7	Anders Brurok Beck Brurok Hannah Goze Dakota Schmeltz	20	Daniel Knepper
		22	Kila Foster Jamie (Hicks) Reed
8	Brandon Cope Madison Lee Rick Napper	23	Lois Schoning
		24	Janet Anglemyer Jason Heuberger Violet Levendoski
9	Tammy Venable		
10	Robert Fox Diana Rodgers Barbara Stillson	26	Virginia Lynch Terry Miller
11	Elizabeth Bowen Lori Cope	27	Claire Bickel Carol Lynch Larry Miller
12	Kellan Guse Cathy Chrisman Maddison Sherk	28	
		29	Bruce Schmidt
14	Hunter Cannon Joseph Hughes Bradin Schmitt		
15	Marilyn Gumz		

St. Paul's Lutheran Women's Missionary League

*As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions,
and equip women to honor God by serving others. Adopted 2021*

!!! **ON THE CALENDER** !!!

FEBRUARY 7, 2022 MONDAY 7:00 P.M.

Program: Bible Study - "When I am Weak, He is Strong"

Fill "Goodie Boxes for College Students"

Hostesses: Shirley Lakins, Elaine Young

Eyeglass

Ministry -

MOST

Ministries

(Mission

Opportunities

Short Term).

Adult &

Children's

Glasses; Non-

prescription

Sunglasses;

Reading

Glasses;

Bifocals

APRIL 11, 2022 - MONDAY 7:00 P.M.

Program: Foods of the Passover Seder

There will be samples of traditional foods used to recall the Passover in Egypt, of the Angel of the Lord, and His deliverance of Israel from the bondage of sin. Their meaning will be contrasted with the fulfillment of those events in the atoning works of Jesus, and the institution of The Lord's Supper. SEDER PROGRAM WILL BE OPEN TO ALL CONGREGATION MEMBERS 8TH GRADE AND UP, and lasts approximately one hour. Other guests also welcome. Be watching for a sign-up sheet in the March Epistle / March bulletins, so adequate food and seating can be prepared. PS: this is NOT a full meal, but a "taste" of Passover foods.

(ANY STYLE FRAME, BUT IN GOOD CONDITION).

Wherever MOST teams distribute used eyeglasses, the Gospel is also shared.

The collection box – *for glasses you no longer need* – is located beneath the 'Bulletin Table.'

Psalm 100:2a "Serve the Lord with Gladness" LWML motto

St. Paul's 176th LITURGICAL YEAR † January 1, 2022 – January 31, 2022

Worship Opportunities To Bless Our Lives

9:30 a.m. - *COMMUNION

February	6	5 th Sunday after the Epiphany
February	13*	6 th Sunday after the Epiphany
February	20	7 th Sunday after the Epiphany
February	27*	8 th Sunday after the Epiphany / Transfiguration Sunday

The Flower Chart for the 2022 Calender Year is Outside the Altar Guild Room

You may sign up on any OPEN LINE. If you cite the occasion, that is what will appear in the bulletin. If you prefer a special note for the bulletin, you must turn that in to the church office. Thank you.

February Festivals: **2** Presentation Of Our Lord/Purification Of Mary • **24** St. Matthias, Apostle • Commemorations: **5** Jacob (Israel), Patriarch • **10** Silas, a.k.a. Silvanus • **13** Aquila, Priscilla, Apollos • **14** Valentine, Martyr • **15** Philemon & Onesimus • **16** Philipp Melanchthon (birth), Confessor • **18** Martin Luther 1483-1546, Doctor and Confessor • **23** Polycarp Of Smyrna, Pastor & Martyr c. AD 69-155

The Season of Epiphany is “book-ended” by two festivals: The Epiphany of Our Lord; an immovable feast, the date is always January 6; celebrated the Sunday on or after. A festival day of rejoicing, as “*the light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel*” is revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. Originating in the East (Greek Orthodox Catholic), its focus was, and is, the Lord’s baptism. Introduced in the Western Church (Roman Catholic) in the 4th century, its main focus is the visit of the wise men, which represents the manifestation of the Christ to the Gentiles (anyone not a Jew). *Luke 2:32* † We Three Kings, a carol composed by Rev. John Henry Hopkins, Jr., c. 1857; originally for an elaborate Nativity drama the Rev. was staging, its title says it is seemingly about the magi’s visit. In truth, it tells the story of Jesus birth, death and resurrection. † Why “Three?” The number of gifts: vs. 2, gold; vs. 3, frankincense; vs. 4, myrrh. † “Orient” means *from the East*. † Wise men: translated from the Greek *magoi*, magi refers to *the Persian priestly caste*. Likely from Babylonia/Persia, where Judeans were captive for seventy years. This gave the magi access to the Hebrew Scriptures. They knew the prophecy of a new King was connected to a star. How? During the Captivity, Daniel was “*chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon.*” *Matthew 2:1-2; Numbers 24:17; Daniel 2:48* † When did magi become kings? During the 4th century, in an attempt to move Christians to celebrate the Nativity instead of Saturnalia, St. Augustine elevated the magi to kings, possibly using Isaiah 61:3: “*The Gentiles shall come to Your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.*”

† And where did we get their names? In England, many homes, as an Epiphany custom, had the letters C B M carved above their doorways to welcome Magi. Originally, those initials likely stood for *Christus benedictat man sionem* (*Christ bless this home*). When the Latin understanding was lost, some came to say they stood for the Magi’s names. As a matter of pure

invention, those names traditionally are: Caspar, Balthasar, and Melchior. † Epiphany Day is the last day of Christmas in many places, a day when families gather, sing carols, remove decorations, and recall the gifts presented to Jesus, and what they represented: gold (kingship); frankincense (prayer); and myrrh (death and burial); exactly as used in the carol. † We'll never know with certainty who the 'wise men', were, or how many; but that they sought the True and Perfect Light, the only King worthy of worship, is recorded in God's Word. Matthew 2:1-11 † Wise Men Still Seek Him †

The Season of Epiphany comes to an end the last week of February, with The Sunday of the Transfiguration; a festival of God the Son. Originating on the Eastern Church, it is celebrated August 6. The Western Church places it in Epiphany: recalling the manifestation of Christ's Divine glory to Peter, James and John, as Jesus began His final trip to Jerusalem. This event occurred about one week after Peter's confession: "*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" Matthew 16:16b † *Transfiguration means to be visibly altered in appearance.* Recorded in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke; and with a reference to it in Peter's second epistle: "*...Jesus took Peter, James, and John..., brought them up on a high mountain by themselves, ...was transfigured before them. His face shone like sun, ... His clothes became as white as the light.*" Matthew 17:1-2 † "*His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow*" Mark 9:3a † "*...as He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered...His robe became white and glistening., two men talked with him, ...Moses and Elijah,appeared in glory....Spoke of His decease.... He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.*" Luke 9:29-31 † "*For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, ...were eyewitnesses of His majesty, He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My eloved Son, in whom I am pleased."* II Peter 1:16-18a

March 2 is Ash Wednesday; the first day of Lentenide. Let us walk with Jesus to Calvary.

"Glorious now, behold Him arise; King and God and sacrifice: Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies." We Three Kings vs.5

