

From Pastor Wonnacott's keyboard:

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**Website:**

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facebook.com/stpaulsbremen  
vimeo.com/stpaulsbremen

**Church Office Hours:**

Monday – Friday  
8:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Sunday Schedule:**

Sunday School: 8:30 am  
Worship: 9:30 am

**Pastor** Neil Wonnacott

Office Hours: M, W, TH & F  
8:30 – 11:30 am



*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.<sup>3</sup> Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.”*  
*Hebrews 12:1-3 “*

Our Synod's theme for the 2024-2025 school year is Endure! Each Wednesday for chapel we will focus on different Bible passages to help us grow in endurance. Many of us no longer run (me included), but we are called to run the race of faith. How can we do this in a dark and dying world? We turn to the Lord, seeing the cloud of witnesses that surround us in the Scriptures. Then, led

by the Holy Spirit, we will draw strength to rid our hearts of every sinful thing that weighs us down. Repent and believe the Gospel!

Stand on Jesus, the author and perfecter of the faith; follow Jesus! Remember what He did and is doing to encourage, lead, and guide us so that we endure and not grow weary. As we begin another school year may we pray for our teachers, students, staff, and pastor. May we as members of God's family endure with each other as we grow in our relationships in the body of believers.

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**THE DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER EPISTLE IS AUGUST 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!

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**OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US**

Offerings remind us of the blessings God has given us and are an opportunity to thank Him for what He has done in our lives. Please place your offerings in our Offering Box located in front of the water fountains in the narthex of the church. You may also choose "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.

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**Euchre Party** is Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7-9:00 pm in the Bethany Room. Anyone 16 and older can join us for fun and fellowship, and please bring a snack to share. Beverages will be provided. Come and bring a friend!

## YOUTH BOARD NEWS and NOTES

### Upcoming Events

Due to various circumstances, we have had to reschedule events previously planned in July to the following dates:

**YOUTH OUTING:** We plan to go to Hackers (gokarts, mini-golf, batting cages, and more) in Niles, MI on Sunday, August 11th. This is for Youth in Grades 6-HS. We will meet at church at noon and plan to return late afternoon. Cost is \$10/attendee with the Youth Board offsetting additional costs.

**SERVICE EVENT:** Youth in Grades 6-HS are encouraged to join us as we head to Unity Gardens in South Bend on Saturday, August 17th. We will meet at church at 2 pm and return by approximately 5 pm. Prior to returning, we will stop for ice cream courtesy of the Youth Board.

**FALL YOUTH NIGHTS:** Similar to years past, Youth in Grades 4-HS are invited to our weekly Youth Nights in September. This year we will hold at least the first 2 Youth Nights on Sundays from 6-7 pm, with our first coming on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Each evening will include an activity, devotion, and snack. Please join us and bring a friend for these evenings of fellowship.

### 2025 NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

We held our kickoff for the 2025 LCMS National Youth Gathering on Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> as our Youth and Adult Leaders now begin the 1 year journey toward New Orleans. Opportunities for the congregation to support this group will be communicated in the weeks and months ahead. As always, we ask that you pray for those listed below as they look forward to what God has in store from them in 2025:

**Youth Attendees (by grade):** Noah Wildauer (12th), Autumn Napper (11th), Jack Wildauer (11th), Izzy Wildauer (10th), Lexi Andrews (9th), Gavin Hundt (9th), Gabi Mejia (9th), Reuben Napper (9th), Colton Napper (8th), Brantley Thornton (8th), and Abby Wildauer (8th)

**Adult Leaders:** Tonya Hundt, Rebecca Mejia, Rick Napper, Eric Thornton, Heidi Wildauer

Information is available through our GroupMe “St. Paul’s Youth” chat as well as various church communication channels. If there are any questions related to the Youth Group, please contact Andy Wildauer at (801) 707-3399.

## Epistle- School Corner

**Welcome back to school!** The rooms are being prepared, lessons are being planned, and we are ready to receive students starting August 12<sup>th</sup>. We also welcome Heidi Wildauer as a full time Reading, Literature, and Choir teacher. Please pray for our students, families, and teachers as we start the 2024-25 school year.

**Remember to give to the Lutheran SGO, and you will receive a tax credit and deduction for your donations! (We can now use these funds to offer assistance to Pre-K students, age 4 by August 1<sup>st</sup>.)** You can find several (easy) ways to donate at [www.lutheranSGO.org/Donate](http://www.lutheranSGO.org/Donate), or we also have a link on the church website, [stpaulsbremen.church](http://stpaulsbremen.church), under the school drop-down menu. Donations can be given through a check, IRA, stocks, Donor Advised Funds, PayPal, credit card, and **NOW electronic giving!** Benefits to you are a 50% state tax credit for your donation and eligibility for a tax deduction. These scholarships make a big difference for our families. If you desire to mail a check to the LSGO, pamphlets with mailing information are available in the tract rack. **(Checks needs to be written to the Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization.)**

**We also continue to take donations to St. Paul's tuition assistance fund. Checks for tuition assistance can be made out to the church.**

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### Mission of the Month

#### **August Mission of the Month: Lutherans for Life**

Lutherans For Life exists to equip Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.

For more information on Lutherans for Life, go to [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

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### **NOTICE REGARDING VOTERS MEETINGS IN 2024**

In the November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 congregational voters meeting, a motion was made and approved to change the schedule for congregational voters meetings in 2024. The change in schedule was made to give members a better opportunity to attend the voters meetings where there

may have been schedule conflicts with other activities outside of St. Paul's or where the normal congregational voters meeting time of 7PM was a problem for members who cannot drive at night.

The schedule for 2024 congregational voters meetings is as follows:

Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> after worship service, in the Bethany room/Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> after worship service, in the Bethany room /Fellowship Hall

Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup> – 7PM in the Bethany room/Fellowship Hall

Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> after worship service, in the Bethany room/Fellowship Hall

Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> – 7PM in the Bethany room/Fellowship Hall

There will be a babysitting service available for families with young children who want to attend the Sunday voters meetings that will be held after worship service. Heidi Wildauer has agreed to organize this. If you have interest in using this service or in assisting in providing this service, please contact Heidi.

If you have questions regarding the congregational voters meetings or schedules for them, please contact Dave Burcham.

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## Join Us for Summer Sunday School! Be refreshed in God's Word!

8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

We are excited to introduce a brand new curriculum from “Answers in Genesis” for children of all ages! Through Scripture, videos, and activities students will discover the true history of the world and the Gospel message. Along the way, they'll learn that science confirms the Bible, God's Word is true, Jesus offers salvation to sinners, and so much more!

All children are to meet in the Jerusalem Room. Following Bible story presentation, they will disperse into age appropriate classrooms.

**Grades Pre-K through Grade 1** . . . . . “Mrs. C & Me: Journey Through the 7 C's of History” . . .  
. . . led by Wendy Coxey in the Nazareth Room

**Grades 2-7** . . . . . “Bible Investigators: The 7 C’s of History”  
. . . . . led by Jeanette Rettinger in Mrs. Roger’s Room

**New Confirmands and High School** . . . . . Join the Adult Bible Class in the Bethany Room.

**Adult Bible Class** . . . . . Topics: 3 mini video series (as time permits) – “Noah,” “The Unanswered Questions in Revelations,” “The Lost Books” . . . . . led by Pastor Wonnacott and Tom Coxey in the Bethany Room

**More Opportunity for Bible Study** . . . .

**Men’s Wednesday Morning Bible Study** . . . . . Join in on lively discussions every other Wednesday morning at the Bremen Hospital cafeteria! . . . . . 6:30-7:30 a.m.



The Lord blessed our week of VBS! Jesus gives us joy by giving us so much, even His life, which is a big reason to Celebrate. There were 54 kids who attended at least one day with an average daily attendance of 47. The breakdown of church affiliation was 21 St. Paul’s, 4 from other Lutheran churches, 18 from other community churches(majority are or have been students at our preschool/day school, and 11 children did not list a church on their registration form.

It was such a blessing to have a total of 38 church members, 22 adults and 16 youth, who volunteered for Vacation Bible School! The Bible Stories focused on the reasons we should celebrate our Savior. The children learned that Jesus came for them through the lesson of the Wise men who traveled to worship Jesus. They learned about the healing power of Jesus when Jesus healed the man lowered through the roof by his friends. They heard how Jesus cares for us as he fed the five thousand. Most importantly, they heard how Jesus died and rose again so he could save all believers. Then through the lesson of Jesus talking with followers on the Road to Emmaus, they learned how Jesus’ love truly fills us with joy! The

Bible lesson was acted out each day by leaders and the children. The children also learned a daily Bible verse, participated in science demonstrations, and made a craft to reinforce the day's lesson. They had fun with games/playtime and enjoyed delicious cookies made by Kevin Furman.

A big thank you to all who attended the LWML work night to help prepare crafts. There has been \$270 and items collected for Phil's Friends from members and during VBS. Vacation Bible School was a wonderful opportunity to come together to help the children of our congregation and community grow in their faith while having a great time!

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## “Consider the Difference!”

*You were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. (1 Corinthians 6:11)*

People visiting other lands are usually impressed by the differences in life style.

As different as a foreign culture may be from our own, the difference between Christians and non-Christians is even greater. Saint Paul tells the Corinthians about a depraved lifestyle that includes immorality, idolatry, greed, theft, drunkenness, and the like. He adds, “And that is what some of you were” (1 Corinthians 6:11). But no longer! How did the change come about? The Holy Spirit had through the Gospel and the sacrament of Baptism brought them to faith in Jesus Christ.

Christ changes lives. “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” (2 Corinthians 5:15). We too were washed, sanctified, and justified. The lifestyle of the world is no longer for us, for we have become God's children in Christ.

Whether we are at home or whether we travel abroad, it becomes us to be good examples of the Christian faith we profess.

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## August 2024

### ANNIVERSARIES

<p>2 Mark &amp; Heidi Wildauer          3 James &amp; Janet Kaiser          6 David &amp; Debra Burcham          8 Pastor Neil &amp; Christie Wonnacott          14 Dan &amp; Annette Knepper</p>	<p>17 Ron &amp; Carol Kramer          Don &amp; Lois Schoning          19 Larry &amp; Grace Winterboer          20 Al &amp; Martha (Heuberger) Schroeder          21 Kevin &amp; Susan Furman          22 Brian &amp; Kathleen Denk</p>
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### BIRTHDAYS

<p>3 Remington Shumaker          4 Ken Eichinger          Braxton Leed          Wiley Napper          5 Keegan Guse          6 Reuben Napper          7 Brynlee Bailey          9 Sandie Schooler          10 Gloria Kiefer          Sara Knepper          Joann Wonnacott          11 Bayly Dobbins          Matt Fox          Susan Furman          13 Cathy Dietl          Jim Kaiser          Kathleen Nielsen          15 James Hughes          17 Amy Clark          18 Martha Miller          Marilyn Reed</p>	<p>14 Kristin Guse          20 Tim Clark Sr.          21 Josie Wildauer          22 Tyler Schmeltz          23 Julie Fox          24 Christin Lizzi          Jim Tinkey          26 Troy Yoder          29 April Miller          Garrett Stanifer          30 Lewis Haug          Henry Sarber          31 John Kiefer</p>
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# 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

**Monday, August 5, 7:00 pm.** Program: Walking in Prayer. All ladies of St. Paul's are invited; guests always welcome. Light refreshments will be served afterward.

August 14, Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Exec. Bd. Planning meeting at Elaine's.

The Eyeglasses & Eyedroppers ministry for M.O.S.T. is ongoing. Any type, in good condition is needed. Please place in the box beneath the "Bulletin Table." Thank you.

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

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**St. Paul's 178th LITURGICAL YEAR † August 1, 2024 – August 31, 2024**

Worship Opportunities To Bless Our Lives       Celebration Of Holy Communion

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**Sunday 9:30 a.m.**

**Aug 4** 11th Sunday after Pentecost      **Aug 18** 13th Sunday aft. Pentecost

**Aug 11**  12th Sunday after Pentecost      **Aug 25**  14th Sunday aft. Pentecost

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*August Minor Festivals: 24 St. Bartholomew / Nathanael, Apostle • 29 Martyrdom of John The Baptist • Commemorations: 3 Joanna, Mary, & Salome Myrrhbearers • 10 St. Laurence, Martyr • 15 Mary, Mother of Our Lord • 16 Isaac • 17 Johann Gerhard, Theologian • 18 Bernard of Clairvaux, Hymnwriter & Theologian d. 1153 • 20 Samuel, Last judge of Israel • 27 Monica, Mother of Augustine • 28 Augustine of Hippo, Pastor & Theologian d. 430 •*

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THE APOSTLES CREED {Latin *credo* = **I believe**}. • Hippolytus, a bishop of Rome, wrote an account of an early 3rd century baptism: "*When a person being baptized goes down into the water, he who baptizes him, putting his hand on him, shall say: 'Do you believe in God the Father Almighty?' And the person being baptized shall say: I believe.'* Then holding his hand on his head, he shall baptize him once. And then he shall say: '*Do you believe in Christ Jesus, the Son of God, who was born by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was crucified under Pontius Pilate, and was dead and buried, and rose again the third day, alive from the dead, and ascended into heaven, and sat at the right hand of the Father, and will come to judge the living and the dead?*' And when he says: '*I believe,*' he is baptized again. And again he shall say: '*Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, in the holy church, and the resurrection of the body?*' The person being baptized shall say: '*I believe,*' and then he is baptized the third time."<sup>1</sup> • If this sounds familiar, it is. With only a few changes, we hear one of the

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<sup>1</sup> Introduction to The History of Christianity; Edited by Tim Dowley; First Fortress Press edition, 1995; pp. 116,117.

universal statements of Christian belief: The Apostles' Creed, which is still at the heart of the baptism liturgy. • FYI: Bishop Hippolytus (170-236) died a martyr, worked and starved to death in the mines of Sardinia, a fate suffered by many church leaders under the persecution of Decius. • The *apostolic age* is the time in which the apostles lived and preached the gospel after Jesus' Ascension; St. John is believed to be the last of The Twelve to die, of natural causes, c. 100 AD. Though named for them, it is *not written* by any of the apostles; but is a summary of their teaching which the Church acknowledged from earliest times, late 1st, early 2nd century, as a 'Rule of Faith.' • The oldest confession of faith of the church, a letter of St. Ambrose, 390 AD, first used this title; written texts appeared soon after 400 AD. The current wording is c. 750 AD. •

The question is: Where in Scripture do we find The Apostles Creed?

***I believe in God the Father Almighty*** “When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, 'I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless.’” Genesis 17:1 “And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am.’” Exodus 3:14 • I AM in Hebrew, *Yahweh*; almost always translated LORD (the self-existent One). The word for *God* is the plural of the word for false, man-made gods when used with the article, THE,

as in “THE God of Abraham...”, signifying the one Supreme God: He is Three-In-One. †

***Creator of heaven and earth*** “For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: 'I am the LORD, and there is no other.’” Isaiah 45:18 “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness..” Genesis 1:26a “Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us?” Malachi 2:10 • Though all Three Persons of the Trinity were active at Creation, the work is in general ascribed to the Father. † ***And in Jesus***

***Christ, His only Son, our Lord*** “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

John 3:16 “... the Gospel of God which He promised through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, concerning His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord...” Romans 1:1b-3a † ***Who was***

***conceived by the Holy Spirit*** “...behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.’” Matthew 1:20 † ***Born of the Virgin Mary*** “Then

Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I do not know a man?’” Luke 1:34 “So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: 'Behold, the

virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,' which is translated, 'God with us.'" Matthew 1:21-22 † **Suffered under Pontius Pilate** "... Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. ... soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head." "... he delivered Him to them to be crucified." John 19:1-2a, 16a † **Was crucified, died, and was buried** "... when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him." John 19:30 "He said, 'It is finished!' And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit," Luke 23:33a "... they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury. Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So there they laid Jesus." John 40-42a † **He descended into hell** "Now this, 'He ascended' - what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things." Ephesians 4:9-10 "... being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah...." I Peter 3:18b-19 • The word *prison*: means fasten, a hold, cage. Since these are those who died in the Great Flood, it symbolizes hell, where the disobedient face judgment. Word *preached*: to herald (like a public crier) especially divine truth (Gospel). Thus, Jesus proclaimed His victory over sin and death to those in hell. † **And the third day He rose again from the dead** "And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things...and be killed, and after three days rise again." Mark 8:31a,c "He is not here; for He is risen, as He said." Matthew 28:6a † **He ascended into heaven** "...while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight...they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up..." Acts 1:9b-10 † **And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty** "...through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him." I Peter 3:21c-22 † **From thence, He will come to judge the living and the dead** "I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word!" II Timothy 4:1,2a † **And I believe in the Holy Spirit** "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever - the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you." John 14:16,17 "... Ananias, why has Satan filled your

heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? ... You have not lied to men but to God.” Acts 5:3,4d † **The holy Christian Church** “... that He might sanctify her and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.” Ephesians 5:26-27 “... we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” Hebrews 10:10 • *Holy*: sanctified (set apart to God, made holy); unspotted, blameless. Only through faith in Christ, by His righteousness, does His Church meet these requirements. *Church*: all true believers in Jesus {*Christian*}, wherever they are found. † **The communion of the saints** “God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of saints, And to be held in reverence by all those around Him.” Psalm 89:7 “For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.” I Corinthians 14:33 “...giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.” Colossians 1:12 • *Saint*: one sanctified; morally blameless. *Communion*: partnership, literally participation. Includes living believers and those who died in Christ. This is a work of God in us! † **The forgiveness of sins** “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.” Ephesians 1:7 † **The resurrection of the body** “And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame and everlasting contempt.” Daniel 12:2 “and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised...” Matthew 27:52 “For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.” I Thessalonians 4:16 † **And the life everlasting** “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life.” John 6:47 • The Apostles' Creed is of the Spirit-inspired Scriptures! This is most certainly true!

“And let all the people say, 'Amen!' Praise the Lord!” Psalm 106:48b

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<sup>8b</sup> **“The Word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart”**

**(that is, the word of faith which we preach):**

<sup>9</sup> **that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.**

<sup>10</sup> **For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”**

Romans 10:8b-10