The EPISTLE

May 2026

From Pastor Wonnacott's Keyboard:

Address:

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Bremen, IN 46506

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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

During the month of May, we will have a three-part sermon series on our responsibility to God and each other. Why, may you ask? Well, let's be honest, we are all sinners and Satan is hard at work at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are so blessed by God to have these facilities and no debt. But we do not always remember to worship and attend Bible classes and Sunday school. We miss many opportunities to worship the Lord, for whatever reason. I know the core of our congregation is here almost every Sunday, praise God!

Listen to Mattew 22, beginning with verse 36, ***"Teacher (Jesus), which is the great commandment in the Law?" [37] And Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. [38] This is the great and first commandment."***

Easter Sunday has passed, but every Sunday is Easter! How can we grow, serve, and praise God together if we are not in worship and fellowship? So that's the reason for the sermon series: God first in everything, prioritizing Jesus, His teachings, and our congregation.

We are not always working together as the body of Christ. We'll do better when we treat our brothers and sisters with love and respect. Listen again to Matthew 22: ***39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."***

We need to work together as Paul tells us in Romans 12:3-5 ***3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members] and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.***

We also need everyone in our congregation to serve - no bench warmers!

How are we going to do this? Jesus knows we are sinners and we know He died and rose again to pay the price for our sins. So let's use Jesus' formula to fix our relationships with our brothers and sisters.

Jesus says in Matthew 18: ***15 "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. 16 But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 17 If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. 18 Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 19 Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."***

I pray that we would take time to look in the mirror and remember who we are, children of God. Then we should pray for forgiveness for our sins against God and seek forgiveness

from our brothers and sisters. Finally, we should strive to worship regularly and enjoy fellowship with one another. Then we will truly be a family united in Christ!

THE DEADLINE FOR JUNE EPISTLE IS MAY 2OTH!!! 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!

Church Office Hours

The new hours for the church office are Monday through Friday from

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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.

Worship Anew can be viewed on Sunday mornings at 11:30 am on: Dish Channel 266 or Direct TV channel 377. For you travelers, you can view anytime at <worshipanew.org>

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.

Preschool Postings

Our tomatoes have sprouted, ready to leave our mini greenhouse, and we are officially in the home stretch of this school year! We're assessing the progress of each student from last August until now, finishing the New Testament Bible stories, and practicing our songs for our closing program. We're making plans for next year's classes and praying that we will give a sincere witness of Jesus' love to the children and their families. Thank you for your prayers and support!

ST. PAUL'S TREASURER RESPONSIBILITIES

As part of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee's efforts to develop a simpler church administration organization, the treasurer position is being redefined. The proposed revised duties of the treasurer would be as listed below, in addition, the position would no longer be a church executive board position, so it could be carried out by male or female members of the congregation.

1. Maintain income and expenses ledgers (offerings, gifts, donations, choice scholarship funds from state, expenses against budgets, expenses / reimbursements for individual members where appropriate)

2. Banking : Maintain day to day transactions within the General Fund bank account and account for all transactions between specific other bank accounts overseen by Treasurer (with Lori Haug's assistance)

- Youth account
- Reserve Funds account
- Facilities Expansion account (minimal transactions in recent years)
- Missions account

3. Payroll : Maintain all employee employment/pay records in the computer file system. Interface with external firm that handles payroll function, including related W-2 and payroll tax filings

4. Periodic summary financial reporting for voters meetings, parish planning meetings, and weekly cash position reporting to parish planning council

5. Payments: issue checks against expenses as appropriate and record in ledger

6. Communication: answer questions from boards and staff regarding ledgers/funds/procedures.

7. Prepare any year-end tax/financial compliance reporting such as corporation reports; personal property tax return; assist where needed with IRS required information on donations > $250 reporting.

We are asking that any member of the congregation willing to serve in any or all of these duties please advise a member of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee (Nathan Miller, Kevin Furman, Ken Eichinger, Dave Burcham). Mark Matejka, who has served as treasurer for St. Paul's congregation for several years, desires to be relieved of his position. The transition of duties from Mark to whomever replaces him would be a gradual one and dependent on the experience and schedules of the individual(s) willing to fulfill the above duties. A specific timeline for transition would be established after volunteers to serve are determined.

If there are no congregation members willing to serve in fulfilling these duties of a treasurer, we will need to use an external accounting firm. This would result in additional budget expense.

Please prayerfully consider serving to fulfill the treasurer's duties outlined above and contact one of the committee members to advise your willingness.

Evangelism Board

The Evangelism Board is sharing excerpts from the tract "What Lutherans Teach". Refresh your Biblical knowledge to better share your faith with others! This month we will look at 'Conversion' and 'Sanctification'.

Lutherans teach that conversion is not a mere changing of habits, but a change of heart, a spiritual rebirth of man; that it is brought about by the power of God working through the Word; and that it takes place in and through the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. References - Joel 2:13, Ezekiel 11:19; Jeremiah 31:18; John 1:12, 13; Romans 10:17; 1 John 5:1.

Lutherans also teach that holiness of life and conduct follows conversion and that it is the fruit and outcome of faith; that all true Christians must be, and are, active in good works; and that, though such sanctification is progressive, perfection therein will not be attained until man enters eternal life. References - John 3:3; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Galatians 5:6, 25; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Ephesians 2:10; 1 Peter 1:15; Romans 7:15-25; Philippians 3:12-14.
We would also like to put a 'thank you' is for help with the Welcome Bag deliveries on May 3rd.
Evangelism Board would like to thank all who assisted in packing and delivering Welcome Bags to our newest neighbors in Bremen! You are a blessing! Please keep our new neighbors in your prayers as they settle into their new community.

Euchre Party is Friday, May 15th 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!

School Corner

The spring musical is coming! **Our musical this year is "iAM"-** Join the crew at the App Factory as they design games and learn the different names of God! **Mark your calendars for May 1st, 7:00 pm, and please plan to attend.**

This year's Art Showcase will be at Roxy's Ice Cream, Downtown Bremen on May 7th, 3:00-9:00pm! Peruse the art from St. Paul's students and enjoy a tasty treat! A portion of the sales will benefit PTL.

The last band concerts for the school year are: 5th and 6th Grade- May 12th, 7:00pm, and 7th and 8th Grade, May 16th, 7:00pm, at BHS Auditorium.

Field Day will be at Jane's Park on May 15th- If you can volunteer, let the school office know!

We rejoice with our Confirmands on May 17th, during the worship service (9:30am).

Preschool's closing program is May 19th, 6:00pm; and Kindergarten and 8th Grade Graduation is May 20th, 7:00pm.

Enrollment is open for 2026-27! *Please encourage family and friends to learn more about St. Paul's!* We offer a Christian alternative to education for Preschool through 8th Grade, not only focusing on core curriculum, but also providing a Biblical, Christ-centered focus. **With our comprehensive scholarship program, a Christian education can cost little or nothing**. *Scholarships are even available for Pre-K!* Word of mouth is the best form of advertisement, so please encourage your family/friends to check us out! Families can contact the school office, 574-546-2790, for registration information and a tour. Information can also be found at www.stpaulsbremen.church/school.

If you are interested in the Playground Committee, please contact Beth Miller, 260-519-2884.

Every month Star Students are displayed on the narthex bulletin board! These students, nominated by the staff, have exemplified one or all of the three "Rs"- Respect, Responsibility, and Righteousness. Please check them out and encourage them in their hard work and behavior!

SGO Announcement

Please continue giving to the SGO! We awarded over $51,000 in scholarships this school year and need to replenish our account. Please see the benefits below and encourage others to donate.

A new federal tax credit is coming!

- **Taxpayers can begin making donations on January 1, 2027.**
- **This is a 100% Federal Tax Credit, up to $1,700 per taxpayer.**

Taxpayers would receive the Federal Tax Credit when completing taxes in the **spring of 2028 (individuals, not businesses)**. **Further details are available on the bulletin board.**

Other benefits to donors-

- **LSGO is MATCHING donations from new donors up to $1000 per donor ($5000 per school)!**
- **Universal Charitable Deduction has been restored! Taxpayers can receive a $1000 Federal Charitable Donation, even if they can't itemize, beginning January 1, 2026.**
- **Taxpayers still receive a 50% state tax credit!**

We use the SGO both for elementary school scholarships and Pre-K scholarships, and it has been a great benefit to our families. **(The Choice Scholarship for Kindergarten through 8th Grade only provides 75% of tuition; SGO funds the remainder.)** Please continue to give, and receive the tax credit and deduction for your donations! **Now, there is a link to donate to the LSGO on the church's website under the School drop-down menu.**

You can also find several (easy) ways to donate at www.lutheranSGO.org/Donate. 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, and a 100% federal tax credit for individuals up to $1700 (starting in 2027). These scholarships make a big difference for our families. Please contact Jennifer Harman, in the school office, if you have questions.

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

Our Sunday School continues to send $75.00 each month to a mission.

May Mission of the Month: Camp Lutherhaven

From the Camp Lutherhaven website:

Each summer, Lutherhaven picks a theme that guides our spiritual growth times. For summer 2026 our theme is “RUN.”

The theme verse is 1 Timothy 6:11: But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

Our 2026 summer theme, **“Run,”** carries a powerful double meaning rooted in 1 Timothy 6:11. In this verse, Paul urges us to flee from the things that can harm our spiritual lives—temptation, sin, and anything that pulls us away from God. In that sense, we are truly *running for our lives*, because Scripture reminds us that the wages of sin is death.

But Paul doesn’t stop there. He also calls us to *pursue* the things that lead to life in Christ—righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, and gentleness. This is the heart of our theme: not just fleeing from sin, but **running toward the life** God has called us to in Christ. Through faith in Him, we are promised eternal life—so we run not out of fear, but with purpose, joy, and hope.

This summer, campers will be encouraged to run the race of faith with endurance, setting their sights on Jesus and growing in the virtues that bring us closer to Him.



Parenting Corner

The content of this article uses information found in the April/May addition of Focus on the Family magazine. You can take an online assessment of “7 Traits of Effective Parenting” found at FocusOnTheFamily.com/7TraitsAssessment. The assessment is built on seven researched and biblically based traits-adaptability, respect, intentionality, love, boundaries, gratitude/grace and forgiveness. **Adaptability** is being able to adjust to unexpected changes, different personalities, and endless demands in parenting. **Respect**-Parents who are strong in this trait are self-controlled, self-aware, and life-giving (in words and actions). **Intentionality** means to be present as a guide in the day-to-day and big moments of a child’s life. Steadfast **love** is the foundation for any strong parent-child relationship. **Boundaries**-Parents who are strong in this trait have an innate desire for balance and self-control. **Grace & forgiveness** are intrinsically

connected, because when a child makes a mistake, it's not enough to be gracious, but to wipe the slate clean. **Gratitude**-Parents who are strong in this trait can cut through negative thoughts and find a thankful attitude and outlook centered on Christ.

You can sign up to get free weekly emails tailored to you child's stage of development and tips for building your relationship with them. Go to FocusOnTheFamily.com/Age-and-Stage. For each age and stage, there are articles and videos in the categories parents need: Spiritual Growth, Mental Health, Technology & Entertainment, Biblical Sexuality and Everyday Parenting. The parenting advice is biblically rooted, research-based content. There are three ways to find what you need on you parenting journey. 1. Sign up to get weekly emails with information that fits your child's age and stage, and answer relevant questions. 2. Provide you child's birth month and they will send a rich, clinical cache of downloadable content designed to inform you for the year ahead. 3. On-demand, biblical, practical, and personal tips to build your relationship with your child and model a thriving life with God. The age categories are 0-3, 4-8, 9-12,13-18 and 19+.

Major Capital Improvement Project coming in 2026

As many of you are already aware, our Church parking lot is deteriorating rapidly and is in need of a total rebuild. The Board of Church Properties is planning this project for 2026. This project is estimated to cost between $ 150,000 and $ 200,000, although final bids have not yet been obtained. We have already received several special donations for this project, but we will need additional dollars in order to avoid borrowing money for this project. Please prayerfully consider if you are in a position to contribute "above and beyond" your regular tithe to St. Paul's. If you are doing your charitable gift planning for 2025 and 2026, those checks may be placed in the offering plate and marked to be designated for the "Parking Lot Project". May God bless this project as we look to improve God's house and property for His Glory!

Boards of Stewardship and Church Properties

LCMS Foundation
TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

April 2026 Newsletter Article

Bart asked his friend Dave this question: “Have you let your children know the details of your estate plan?”

That question unleashed a much more dramatic response from Dave than Bart was expecting. “No way. I want it to be a surprise. My kids have no business knowing what we have, or how we plan to disperse it after we are gone. I don’t want them to feel entitled to my stuff, hoping I will die soon so they get it all.”
While harsh, elements of this response may be present in many, even among Christians, let’s break it down a bit. First, we begin by reminding ourselves that the things in our lives are really not “our” things, but God’s things, which He has asked us to manage faithfully on His behalf, to share Jesus with our families and the world around us. Second, not having discussions with children about inheritance robs them of hearing from you your understanding of blessing, and your intentions to respond from a life of faith in managing those blessings. Third, if you are asking family members to carry out estate roles (personal representative/trustee) someday, you need to be giving them clear guidance so they can make sure your God-directed desires are carried out.

Family dynamics can be challenging, especially where sin has left its mark. However, it is crucial, if possible, to communicate your faith and your intentions to family, in an effort to celebrate Jesus together, especially His grace shown on the cross. We don’t want to leave these matters dangling. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can assist you to know your plan well, to express your faith clearly and to prepare for family conversations. For help, contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or mark.muehl@lfnd.org.

Uncomfortable

Acts 11:1-2, 4, 16-18 – Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the Word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him … But Peter began and explained it to them in order … “And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ If then God gave

the same gift to them as He gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

Dear Peter;—what a mess he is in! Peter has just allowed a bunch of Gentiles into the baby Christian church, and the people back home are upset. He didn't even make those people get circumcised! They don't have to keep the Jewish law! What is Peter doing?! Is he trying to turn the church upside down?

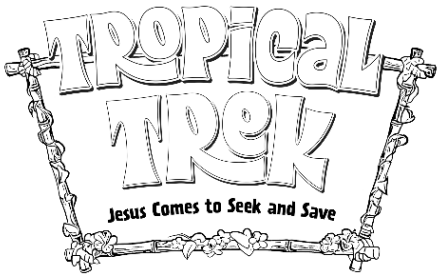
But it was actually God Himself who was turning the church upside down. Jesus had already told His disciples that God's salvation was for the entire world; and of course, that was going to include people who were not Jewish. But somehow, a lot of the first Christians never really thought it through. They expected the newcomers would act and think exactly the way they themselves did.

We still have this problem today, don't we? We get used to doing things a certain way in our churches. We have music and customs and procedures. "We've always done it that way" is the battle cry of many congregations.

And then God comes, and with a single gust of His Holy Spirit turns our world upside down. He sends refugees to us, people from another country. Or maybe He sends people who are poorer than us, or richer than us. Maybe He sends university students, or people of a different race. And we are uncomfortable. Is this really the work of the Holy Spirit?

But Peter points out the one thing that unites the newcomers and older Christians. He says, "If then God gave the same gift to them as He gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" There is one thing that all Christians share, no matter how different we are. Through the Holy Spirit's work, we all trust in the same Lord Jesus Christ. We all believe in the Son of God who loved us and gave Himself for us, even to the point of dying on the cross. And then He rose from the dead, never to die again, and He offers the same life to all of us who trust Him.

This is why the Christian church is one;—no matter how different we may look or sound or dress or behave. Our unity is Jesus. May the Holy Spirit make this clear through our actions so that the world looks at us and says, "See how they love one another!"





VBS 2026

VBS will be held this year June 22-26. We will be trying something new this year with a Family night on Wednesday rather than a morning program that day. On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, VBS will be from 9-11:30am with the same schedule we have had in the past. The Preschool aged children and the Elementary aged children will be separated except for a joint Opening and Closing each day which will be held in the Bethany Room.

On Wednesday, families and the congregation are invited to join the children in celebrating 250 years for our country with the theme, "In God We Trust." We will begin with a meal at 5:30 pm in the Bethany Room. Then VBS will begin at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary with Patriotic/Christian songs followed by the Bible Story. There will be a family craft and recreation activity based on our theme. Then we will return to the sanctuary for more singing and conclude at 7:30 pm.

Children can come every day or just come in the morning or come only Wednesday evening with your family. Wednesday evening will be an opportunity to bring children, families, and our congregation together to celebrate and thank God for our country.

Registration forms will soon be available online, at church and the school. There will be an LWML sponsored VBS preparation night on June 15th at 6:30.

Sunday School – Spring Quarter Offerings

Make me to know your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation, for you I wait all the day long. (Psalm 25:4-5)

Pre-K – Grade 2 (Nazareth Room)

In May, we will learn about the work and ministry of apostles Peter and Paul. Children will learn ways to witness their faith through words and actions, knowing Jesus changes our lives, and He is always with us. "Theo" the puppet
will be here to greet the children! This class is taught by Wendy Coxey. . . . . 8:30-9:15 a.m.

Grades 3-5 (Mrs. Roger's Classroom)

Jeanette Rettinger will continue the study of **The Pilgrim's Progress**, a famous 17th-century Christian allegory by John Bunyan. The book chronicles a man named Christian's journey from the "City of Destruction" to the "Celestial City" (Heaven). It symbolizes the struggles, temptations, and ultimate victory of the Christian life through adventures, encounters with allegorical characters, and spiritual trial . . . . 8:30-9:15 a.m.

Middle School Grades 6-8 (Mr. Miller's Classroom)

. . . . . will continue their study and discussion of the book of **Ephesians**. This class is taught by Barb Middaugh.. . . . . 8:30-9:15 a.m.

High School (Emmaus Room)

Mark Wildauer is leading a study of "digital citizenship", using the book **Faithfully Connected – Integrating Biblical Principles in a Digital World.** (Adults are also welcome!) . . . . . 8:30-9:15 a.m.

Adult Bible Class (Bethany Room)

. . . . . will continue its study of the book of **James**. This class is taught by Dave Burcham and Terry Miller. . . . . 8:30-9:15 a.m.

Other Opportunities for Bible Study:

Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Enjoy breakfast and lively discussion at the Bremen Hospital Cafeteria! This class meets alternating Wednesdays (May 13, May 27), 6:30-7:30 a.m.

Thursday Morning Ladies' Bible Study (Emmaus Room)

All ladies are welcome to join Barb Middaugh in the study entitled, **Wherever Love May Lead**. See how God guides and leads us throughout our lives . . . . . 9:30-10:45 a.m.

ALTAR GUILD

The Flower Chart for 2026 is hanging outside the Altar Guild room in the Narthex. To donate altar flowers just sign up on any open date (please give the occasion). If you wish any help in finding a florist, ordering or pick up please contact the attendant whose name is listed on the Epistle calendar. They can give you the name of a florist, the vase sleeves and carrier if you want them and also explain how to get your flowers after services have concluded.

Any member of communicant age, who is willing to learn the work of the Altar Guild may express that desire to any attendant. Director Mel Schutz will see that you are paired with a "veteran" attendant for training to see if this may be a gift you have and would like to use!

Thank you to all who donated toward the purchase of lilies for the Easter service and also to those who have purchased flowers for the altar in 2026.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

May 2026

ANNIVERSARIES

1	Matt & Jennifer Podlin
9	Bruce & Deb Schmidt
13	Efrain & Rebecca Mejia
16	Cliff and Sandie Schooler Bob & Troy Yoder
25	Kurt & Shirley Guse
27	Jim & Melonia Russell

BIRTHDAYS

1	Roberta Meiring
5	Alexis Andrews Katherine Barts
7	Victoria Pearey
9	Heidi Wildauer Grace Winterboer
10	Alejandra Slavey Eric Thornton Michele Wolff
11	Jace Bailey
13	Wanda Felton
14	Ellen Tjernagel
15	Emily Diaz John Matthew
18	Mary Urban
19	Jamielynn Flores Ava Mejia
21	Larry Enders
22	Laura Stayton
24	Tori Ernsberger Parker Holt
26	Owen Bickel Kenneth Knigga
28	Heath Hickes Jack Stanifer
30	Linda Coffel



St. Paul's 180th LITURGICAL YEAR † May 1 – May 31, 2026

Worship Opportunities To Bless Our Lives ⁎ Celebration Of Holy Communion

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

May 3 5th Easter Sunday

May 7 (Thursday) **National Day of Prayer 9:00 a.m.**

May 10 ⁎ 6th Easter Sunday / Feast of THE ASCENSION Service

May 17 7th Easter Sunday / Jr Confirmation Sunday

May 24 ⁎ Pentecost / Feast of THE HOLY SPIRIT

May 31 1st Sunday after Pentecost / Feast of THE BLESSED HOLY TRINITY

May Minor Festivals: **1** St Philip & St James the Less, Apostles ● **31** The Visitation ● *Commemorations*: 2 Athanasius of Alexandria, Pastor & Confessor ● **4** Friedrich *Conrad Dietrich "Fritz"* Wyneken, Pastor & Missionary ● **5** Frederick The Wise, Christian Ruler ● **7** C*arl* F*erdinand* W*ilhelm* Walther, Pastor & Confessor ● **9** Job ● **11** Cyril & Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs ● **21** Emperor Constantine, Christian Ruler; Helena, Mother of Constantine ● **24** Esther, in Hebrew, *Hadassah* ● **25** Bede The Venerable ●



THE WINDOWS OF ST. PAUL'S

THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT (Spiritus Gladius) **1958**

This symbol is also called "The Apostolic Shield of St. Paul."

In memory of Mr. Wm. Helmlinger by Mrs. Wm. (Emma) Helmlinger

The **OPEN BIBLE** is a symbol of God's Word, especially the saving Gospel of Christ. The **SWORD** is the power of the Holy Spirit given to us *through* the Word of God, Who instructs His children: "*Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."*

"Stand, therefore, having girded your waist with truth; having put on the breastplate of righteousness; having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." + Ephesians 6:11,14-17 +

St Paul's Building Fund **2005** **<u>THE</u> <u>HOLY</u> <u>TRINITY</u>** Two geometric figures are used as a way to explain the 'mystery' of the nature of our Triune God. A **CIRCLE** is an ancient symbol for God & eternity: **THREE CIRCLES** symbolize that the Three Persons of the Godhead are eternal & equal (circles intertwined show unity). The **EQUILATERAL TRIANGLE** with 3 distinct angles forms 1 figure. Thus we confess Father, Son, and Spirit are Three Persons, yet One God. **Three-In-One**: eternal, united, and equally God.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

+ Matthew 28:19 +

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

+ John 14:26 +

