

## Pastor's Ponderings

# Who's Listening Out There?

When we worship together here at St. Paul, the number of worshippers varies from week to week but what we can't see is all the people who listen over the radio.

Broadcasting at 11:30 each Sunday morning over KWPN 107.9 FM and KTIC AM a condensed version of our service reaches into people's homes, cars and businesses over a wide listening area. At only \$40 per broadcast this is a quite a cost-effective way to reach a large number of people with the Gospel. The local cable company also airs the full service on Monday morning.

So, who's listening? Some of our members do, and I've had a number of folks from other churches tell me that they listen regularly, as well. In the past four years, listeners have called me from such places as Grand Island, Fairbury, the Omaha and Council Bluffs area, Schuyler, and Columbus, just to name a few.

Recently, we contacted KTIC here in West Point, asking for an estimate of how many people might be listening to our broadcast. They gave population figures for just the closest 17 counties. Those numbers came to over 354,000 people. A certain percentage of those folks are listening. But what was interesting to me was that the letters we receive have been mostly from listeners outside of those closest 17 counties! Grand Island isn't on their map, yet we have regular listeners there, who help support the cost of our broadcast.

In April of this year I received a long handwritten letter from a faithful listener from the David City area. She shared how much our broadcast meant to her and her ailing husband (now deceased) these past several years. Although their pastor visited them regularly and brought Holy Communion to them, she said, "We both missed going to church, but with our radio on 840 AM we had church from West Point!" Then she closed her letter by saying, "Well, Pastor, see you Sunday morning, via 840!"

Let's remember that by joining our voices each week in worship we are helping to fill a need in the lives of many people who want to hear the Gospel.

May the Lord our God be praised,  
Pastor Bringewatt

P.S. Special thanks go out to all our volunteer audio and video technicians here at St. Paul, who prepare our services for broadcast. Running the video camera are Gus Wesche, Ron Roland, Linda Kreikemeier, Tristan Bettenhausen, and Garret Reimers. Recording for the radio broadcast are Bob Beck and Mark Johnson. We could use a few more volunteer to record the services. If you would like to learn how you can help with this ministry, just call the church office or speak with one of our audio/video techs.

## Missionary

Robin McCoy, missionary in Bangkok, Thailand, will be here at St. Paul Lutheran Church Sunday, May 27. Robin will give a presentation during Adult Bible Study following our 9 am worship service. Robin worked with Pastor and Diana Hedtke and Deb Schademann while they did mission work in Thailand. Please plan to join us at Adult Bible Study and hear what is being accomplished in the mission field in Thailand.

## Graduates Honored

Sunday, May 6, we honor our Senior graduates. Graduating from West Point-Beemer High school is: Katlyn Ahrens, daughter of Ron & Cindy Ahrens; Garret Reimers, son of Brian and Lou Reimers, Aubrey Schultz, daughter of Lonnie and Twila Schultz and Gina Wagner, daughter of Hal and Carol Wagner. Graduating from Central Catholic High School is Gabriel Fraher, son of George and Carmen Fraher. Cailey Huisman graduates from Chesapeake Ohio High School and Collins Career Center. God's blessings to all our graduates.

# Vacation Bible School!

## June 11 – 15th 5:30-7:30pm

We're going on an Amazing Desert Journey this summer in VBS! Each day the children will learn about God's love and how He provides for their lives now and in eternity through Jesus, His Son, our Savior! Registration is open for ages Pre-school through 4th grade. Any older kids who would like to attend or help are absolutely welcome to come along and join the fun! Supper is served each evening, 5:30-6 pm with classes following. Each day we will explore Bible stories, take Bible challenges, make crafts, eat supper, play games, sing songs, and more! Registration forms are available at the school or at church.

We also need a few things to make this VBS a truly amazing journey! We are looking to borrow lots of tents, any and all palm tree decorations, wicker baskets, throw pillows. Of course we will return



everything at the end of the VBS. If you have anything that might work, we would appreciate it.

We do need you! We would love to have more volunteers. If you can help all week or just few days, we would really appreciate the help. Call Dana Meiergerd @ 402.380.2342 or Nila Hasenkamp @ 402.372.3606 to join the fun!



# Ladies Aid

Ladies Aid meets the first Thursday of the month, 2 pm, in the church social room, with about 20-22 members. We sure would like to have more of you dear ladies visit or join us. Roll call response is now the answer to a different question each month. In April, we responded with a favorite Lenten hymn. In May, our response will be our favorite spring flower.

Ladies aid furnished cookies for the bloodmobile in February, and in March we served Sunday morning coffee and fellowship.

We are making plans to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Ladies Aid in September.

Our president Carol Fraher, is moving to Fort Madison, IA. We will elect a new president in May.

Remember, we have a very nice selection of greeting cards for sale in the showcase in the social room. Graduation cards are now available also.

# Youth For Christ

Thank you to everyone who supported the Youth for Christ Lenten suppers and Easter breakfast. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. We served 143 for Easter breakfast.

May 6, we will honor our congregation's senior graduates. The graduates are invited to wear their caps and gowns for the 9 am church service. Following the service, Youth for Christ will host breakfast for the graduates and their families at JD's.

Youth for Christ also did highway cleanup Sunday, April 22. Ten youth helped clean the highway and enjoyed lunch at Pizza Ranch afterwards. Our next big project will be the St. Paul Fair Stand.

# Fair Stand

Plans are underway for this year's St. Paul Fair Stand. The Cuming County Fair is August 9-12 and the committee will be busy in the next few months preparing for the four days of fair. More help is always welcome on the committee. Please contact Linda Kreikemeier, Joyce Suhr, or Carrie Swanson to use your time and talents to once again make this year's fair stand a success.

# Library

New additions to the church library: Eight new VeggieTales DVD's and one VeggieTale book have been added to the library. Check it out! The church library is located on the stage in the social room.

# LWML

LWML will meet June 12, 7 pm, in the church social room. Speaker for the evening is Sheryl Tietz, talking about the Winnebago school mission where she teaches. Following a brief meeting, we will enjoy fellowship and a light lunch. Please join us.



## Membership Changes

Adult Confirmations: Chris and Carrie Hickey

Deaths: Thomas Radecker, Patricia Miserez

Eighth Grade Confirmations: Jade Duhsman, Carolyn Fraher, Nathan Groth, Braxton Klitz, Tate Toelle, Cody Watson, Taylor Weddle, Anna VanderGriend

Courtesy Confirmations: Benjamin Jahnke, Madison Zobel.

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## *Easter Lilies were given in loving memory of:*

Larry Lund by Mae, Jody, Paul & Jean & families;

Bill and Alice Reeson by Marlin, Sheryl, Revel and Daun and their families;

Loren Pagels by Norma Pagels; Dad and Grandpa (Loren Pagels) by Susan, Greg and Connor;

Vernon & Ruth Meyer, Albert & Frieda Meyer, and Harly Rozendal by Larry Wegner;

Allan Wittrig by Beulah, Ann and family;

Duane & Janice Krueger by Lori, Nicole and Cody Allen;

Loved ones by Bernice Miller;

Loved ones by Wayne & Marcia Beck.

An Easter lily was given in honor of Carolyn Fraher for her confirmation and her 14th birthday, from her family.

# Principal's Corner

Each year we applaud the efforts of our schools' athletes with trophies, ribbons, newspaper articles, sports banquets, etc. In this article I would like to recognize the efforts of our St. Paul's students in another area, the arts.

If you were able to attend our annual Spring musical, you saw first-hand how gifted our students are. The soloists did an excellent job and the actors put on an exceptional performance. In addition, the choir made this year's musical another huge success.

Just one week prior to our musical performance, over 40 of our students took part in the annual Gathering of the Talents at Concordia University in Seward. There they competed with other students from Lutheran churches and schools around Concordia in the areas of visual art, creative writing, vocal and instrumental music, drama and dance. Three of the entries from St. Paul received Purple Ribbons; Rachel Groth in art, Lacie Fox in vocal solo, and the Eagle cheerleaders (Brooke Haase, Carolyn Fraher, Heidi Marksmeier,

Leigh Jahnke, Brooklyn Krause, and Megan Groth) for their dance routine. Following are the results for the rest of our entries:

ART: Blue Ribbons – Ben VanderGriend, Brooke Haase, Owen Fox, Gage Vance, Riley Penrose, Landon Hasenkamp, Brynn Baumert, Grace Meiergerd, Aden Hughes, Heidi Marksmeier, Thomas Eckmann, Reece Snodgrass, Rachel Groth, Lacie Fox, Bailey Hickey, and Sidney Swanson. Red Ribbons – Landon Stalp, Carolyn Fraher, Leigh Jahnke, Megan Groth, Aislin McClarnon, Tayler Hoffman, Jordan Hoffman, Ashton Conant, Taron Hasenkamp, Nathan Groth, Garret Meyer, Cole Hughes, Andrew Brockmann, Anna VanderGriend, Brooklyn Krause, Tyson Snodgrass, Jacob Reimers, Brittany Hinkel, Kayla Conant, Cooper Colson, and Alexis Wuestewald. Yellow Ribbons – Nicole Allen and Ben Jahnke.

MUSIC: Blue Ribbons – Tyson Snodgrass and Gage Vance, vocal duet; Brooke Haase, piano solo; St.

Paul's Choir. Red Ribbons – Piano solos; Grace Meiergerd, Reece Snodgrass, and Tyson Snodgrass; Vocal solo, Anna VanderGriend.

DRAMA: Blue Ribbon – Riley Penrose and George Fraher.

DANCE: Blue Ribbons – Reece Snodgrass and Alexis Wuestewald.

Congratulations students on a job well done!

During the May 13 worship service, St. Paul's will graduate four eighth graders: Carolyn Fraher, Nathan Groth, Benjamin Jahnke, and Anna VanderGriend. We pray that God will continue to bless their efforts in their future education. During this service we will also recognize our Kindergarten students: Caden Ammon, Chad Fox, Landon Hasenkamp, Tayler Hoffman and Josephine Moyer.

We pray that God will bless everyone with a safe and enjoyable summer break.

Dennis Rosenthal

## Staff Changes

After serving the last three years as Principal of St. Paul Lutheran School, Dennis Rosenthal has submitted his resignation, effective July 1, 2012. Also resigning is Sarah Scherer. Sarah has been with St. Paul Lutheran School for five years. Sarah is exploring different options and looking forward to seeing what God has in store for her future. We wish God's Blessing's on Dennis's retirement and Sarah's future.

A reception and card shower for Dennis and Sarah is Sunday, May 13, in the church social room, following our 9 am worship service.

The Board of Parochial Education is currently working to fill the staffing needs for the 2012-2013 school year.

## District Convention

Nebraska District Convention: June 8 and 9 at Concordia, Seward. Members of the NE District who wish to attend can obtain a registration form on the District website, [www.ndlcms.org](http://www.ndlcms.org) or contact their church office. Completed forms and registration fee must be returned to the District Office no later than May 11.

## “Go Go Jonah”

The weekend of April 21, the students of St. Paul Lutheran School presented the musical “Go Go Jonah” at the West Point Community Theatre. The students of Guardian Angel attended the Friday matinee, which was fun for both schools. Parents and friends filled the theatre on Sunday afternoon. The aroma of popcorn added to the excitement of performing in a theatre.

Drama and music are two great vessels for carrying the ‘Christian message of the story to both performer and audience. Jonah, the students discovered, was not much different than we are. He was not sure “God” was making a good choice in trying to save the wicked city of Ninevah. Are there people who don’t deserve God’s love and forgiveness? Oh yes...none of us deserve His love or forgiveness, but thankfully He continually gives us one chance after another, pouring His love on us unconditionally.

The final song of the play...”Go Ye Therefore” told us all the command given to all of God’s children...Go and make disciples of all nations...” A big “thank you” to all who helped us get ready to do our part in “telling all nations.”

## Confirmation

Confirmed at St. Paul Lutheran Church, April 1, were:

Jade Duhsman, daughter of Jeffrey Duhsman and Jody Frye; Carolyn Fraher, daughter of George and Carmen Fraher; Nathan Groth, son of John and Julie Groth; \*Benjamin Jahnke, son of Terry and Kristi Jahnke; Braxton Klitz, son of Kevin Klitz and Jackie Jordan; Tate Toelle, son of Bruce and Deanna Toelle; Cody Watson, son of Kevin and Jackie Watson; Taylor Weddle, daughter of D.J. and Melissa Weddle; \*Madison Zobel, daughter of Larry and Tami Zobel.

Due to a scheduling conflict, Anna VanderGriend, daughter of Harlyn and Terri VanderGriend was confirmed Saturday, April 14.

(\*member of Zion Lutheran Church, Bancroft)

## Old Walther Leaguers (OWL) Reunion Planned

The OWLs are to meet this year. Just in case you didn’t know, the OWL is an Old Walther Leaguer. Ten years ago they had several reunions which drew many former Walther Leaguers (the youth organization of the LCMS in yesteryear prior to the formation of the LYF), who had an enjoyable time reminiscing. A committee of volunteers is now arranging a one-day gathering which will be at St. John’s Lutheran Church, near Waco, on Sunday, July 29. It will begin with worship, probably at 9 a.m., and conclude by 4:30 p.m. Any OWL interested in attending or wanting additional information is asked to send their name and email address to [leejan@plvwtelco.net](mailto:leejan@plvwtelco.net), or name and postal address to The OWL Convention, PO Box 223, Plainview, NE 68769. Further information will then be sent as it develops.

## Thrivent Choice

By directing designated Choice Dollars through Thrivent Choice, eligible members recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars. Thrivent members who have designated their Choice Dollars to St. Paul Lutheran Church have contributed a total of \$3,861 to St. Paul Lutheran Church since January 6, 2012. If you are a Thrivent member and would like to designate your Choice Dollars to St. Paul Lutheran Church or St. Paul Lutheran School, go to [www.Thrivent.com](http://www.Thrivent.com) or contact the church office for assistance.

## Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity

Take a trip. Change a life. You can make a difference for an El Salvador community. Help lay a foundation, build a wall, paint a home, and play with children in the community as you help a family achieve their dream of a simple, decent, affordable home. If you are ready for a life changing experience, sign up now for a one week volunteer work trip. Participate in Thrivent Builds Worldwide. No previous experience or construction skills necessary.

May 2012

# ST. PAUL CHURCH REPORTER

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"Reaching Others  
For Christ  
Through Love."



## WORSHIP

Saturday • 6 p.m.

Sunday • 9 a.m.

Sunday School • 10:15 a.m.

Bible Study • 10:15 a.m.

web site: [www.stpaulwp.org](http://www.stpaulwp.org)

**Sr. Pastor**

Rev. Richard Bringewatt

**Dated Material -  
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