

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEST POINT, NE

January 12, 2025

Rev. John P. Gierke, Pastor

FROM THE ELDERS:

January 10, 2025

Regular Worship services are Saturday evening at 6 pm and Sunday morning at 9 am. Holy Communion is the weekend of the First and Third Sundays of the month. Services are on the projection screens. Hymnals are in the pews for those who choose to use them. We ask that you sign the fellowship pad, available in the pews, and pass it to others in your pew as you greet them. Anyone wishing to be contacted by the pastor, or join our congregation is asked to supply their contact information. **We welcome you to view our services on our website, Facebook, and the West Point cable channel 11 (Monday mornings at 10 am).**

A Beacon Message is sent out in case of changes to our worship services. If you do not receive the Beacon messages, please call the church office to have your cell phone number and/or email added to the list.

An e-mail bulletin is available. If you have not received this, please call the church office to update your email address.

**Your name, O LORD, endures forever,
Your renown, O LORD, through all generations.
Psalm 135:13 (NIV)**

St. Paul Board of Elders
Larry Abrahams, David Hughes,
Mark Johnson, Dennis Mueller, Justin Miller
Phone numbers for the Elders are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

A new year offers a new start for many of us. Like Paul, we “[*forget*] what is behind and [*strain*] toward what is ahead” (Philippians 3:13). Through Christ, Who has paid the penalty for our sins, the slate is clean; we **can** forget about the past. We are new creations in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17), ready to go forward in His strength to serve Him with the gifts He has given us.

Please call ahead before coming to the Church office. Please use the number for St. Paul Lutheran Church for any church business calls. 402-372-2111.

Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church:

Saturday, 6 pm, and Sunday, 9 am.

Holy Communion is the First and Third Sunday weekends of the month.

Our service is shown online on our website:

www.stpaulwp.org

Our Sunday Service,

airs each week on Monday morning, 10 am, on cable channel 11.

Christmas Eve Service will air Thursday, December 26, at 10 am.

Due to time restrictions, the broadcast Sunday mornings at 11:30 am on KTIC FM 107.9 and AM840 is the service from the previous week.

BROADCASTS ON AM 840 and FM 107.9

The Lutheran Hour, Sundays at 11 am.

St. Paul Broadcast, Sundays at 11:30 am.

This week's

Lutheran Hour Broadcast

and

St Paul Broadcast

are sponsored by the members of St Paul Lutheran Church.

To sponsor a Lutheran Hour Broadcast or our St. Paul Broadcast, please contact the church office at 402-372-2111. Cost is \$40.00 per broadcast.

Daily Chapel

each morning at approximately 9:45 am on AM 840 and 11:50 am on FM 107.9.

Donations of any amount are welcome for this program. Cost is \$81 a week. Please make checks to "West Point circuit", marked "Daily Chapel," in the memo line, and send to Cleo Toelle at 127 E. Walnut St., West Point, 68788.

The Lutheran Hour

January 12

"What's This Neighborhood Coming To?"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

When you're not limited by the size of your table,
you can invite everyone.

(John 1:14)

The Lutheran Hour

January 19

"He Made Me a Believer"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God makes us believers and the more we believe,
the more we become involved in the institutions God made—
church, marriage, family, and work.

(John 2:11)

The Lutheran Hour

January 26

"An Overture to the Greatest Story Ever Told"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Leopoldo Sanchez

Like an overture that introduces a great musical work,
John the Baptizer is the living voice sent by God
to bear witness to Jesus' lordship and salvation.

(John 3:26-36)

This week at St. Paul Lutheran Church:

Sunday, Jan 12

9 am – Worship followed by Fellowship in the narthex,
Bible Study “Living Water” in church basement after worship
10:30 am – “Growing in God’s Grace” for kids
in the church basement conference room

Monday, Jan 13

10 am – Sunday Service on cable channel 11

Tuesday, Jan 14:

12:00 pm - Trip to Mission Central
Church office closed in the afternoon

Wednesday, Jan 15:

8:15 am – Chapel
6:00 pm Confirmation class

Thursday, Jan 16:

6:00 pm Women’s Bible study
7:00 pm – Church Council mtg

Friday, Jan 17:

Saturday, Jan 18

6 pm – Worship & Communion followed by fellowship
in the church basement

Sunday, Jan 19:

9 am – Worship & Communion followed by Fellowship in the narthex
Bible Study “Living Water” in church basement after worship
10:30 am – “Growing in God’s Grace” for kids
in the church basement conference room



Growing in God's Grace: Sundays, 10:30 am – 11:30 am.

All Kids Welcome to learn about Jesus, through Singing, Bible Stories, Prayer and Fun!

Join us in the church basement conference room.

All parents are invited to Adult Bible Class in the church basement during this time.

High School Guys: Devotions and Fellowship, Wednesday Evenings, 7 pm, at the McAllisters, 103 Kaup St. Bring a friend!

High School Gals: Devotions and Fellowship, 1st and 3rd Sunday evenings, 7 pm, at the McAllisters, 103 Kaup St. Bring a Friend!

Church renovation project: Donations received as of January 10, 2025 are \$122,258.77.

Congratulations to Aaron and Summer Maas on the birth of a healthy son, Oliver Carl Maas on Tuesday, December 31, 2024. Grandparents are Larry and Korri Maas and Adam and Sarah Beery.

We remember in our prayers: The family of Al and Cindy Stigge on the death of Cindy's mother, Donna Benne, who passed away January 3;

The family of Dann and Cheri Leffler on the death of Dann's mother Doreen Leffler, Sunday, Jan 5;

The family of Larry Wegner on the death of his sister Shirley Roberts on Wednesday, Jan. 8.

Family of Pastor John, Tonya, Nicholas on the death of Tonya's aunt, Doris Haake.

Fair Stand Luncheon Fundraiser: Wednesday, Jan. 15, 11 am-1 pm at St. Paul Lutheran School Gym. Dine-in or curbside take out available. Call or Text Kelly @402-590-6525 for take-out. Serving, sloppy joe-\$4, chili-\$4, hot dog-\$3, sloppy dog-\$4, sloppy cheese dog-\$4.50, nachos-\$3, sloppy nachos-\$4, pie-\$4, pie ala mode-\$4.50. Don't wait to enjoy the fair food you love!

Bulletin Announcements

To have an announcement included in our **weekly bulletin and/or the loop**, information must be received in the church office by Thursday morning.

To have a **Beacon (text) announcement** sent, please note the guidelines:

All messages must be sent from the church office during office hours. Please plan ahead.

Messages are limited to 143 characters. Announcements longer than 143 characters need to be sent in two messages.

Emergency only messages will be authorized by the Elders to be sent outside of office hours.

School Chapel donations collected for Grace Lutheran School, St. Petersburg, Florida, were \$362.20. Donations collected at church for Grace Lutheran School are \$1,787.27 for total donations of \$2149.47. Thank you to everyone who donated.

Third Quarter Chapel donations for 3rd quarter will go to Calvary Academy in Luska, Zambia. Each year, the Nebraska District chooses a project to support with prayers & offerings throughout the year. All contributions to Hearts for Jesus during the 24-25 school year will be used to help support Calvary Academy in Lusaka, Zambia, a ministry started by Emmanuel Mutale and his family with the Mission Statement: *To provide free education in their community for children whose parents have died from HIV/AIDS and cancer related issues.* Specifically, they provide meals, uniform and school fees for children.

The new goal is to build a school of their own that would waive fees for vulnerable children, making education possible for those that otherwise would not have that opportunity.

The schools mission statement is: *Calvary Academy lives by faith, more like a setting where less privileged learners are being taken care of and they depend on God for feeding, accommodation and all other needs. Teachers and other members of staff live by faith, employment of staff and admission procedure is strictly based on faith belief. Calvary Academy faculty and staff focus on providing a safe, nurturing environment with a quality, Christ-Centered education for students from pre-school through Grade 7.*

We believe that God the Father created the world. We also believe that Jesus Christ is the true Son of God, and true man, is the world's Saviour from sin, death, and the power of the evil one. He alone won Life for us by His perfect life, death, and resurrection from the dead.

Hurricane Helene Disaster Response

The flooding from Hurricane Helene has cause devastation across several districts of the LCMS. Instead of sending any funds to the Nebraska District office, we ask that you give directly to one of the districts that are on the ground and offering assistance through Lutheran Early Response Team projects, local congregations, and Recognized Service Organizations.

***Southeastern District LCMS**

They are coordinating with local and state officials as well as their partners at Lutheran Servants for Christ, LERT, and LCMS Disaster Response. The most important need is an immediate need for **18,000 personal hygiene kits and 15,000 flood clean-up kits for the Asheville area.** You can find the supplies list to make these kits [in the link here](#). If you can help with this, please ship the prepared kits to Emmanuel Lutheran Church (51 Wilburn Pa, Asheville NC 28806.) Visit their [disaster relief information and donation page here](#).

***Florida-Georgia District LCMS**

They are collecting funds and coordinating volunteers for LERT projects, and also collecting gift cards for the needs of local congregation staff and families. [Learn more and make donations here](#).

***Mid-South District LCMS**

They are currently collecting funds for LERT projects while waiting for flooding to recede. Follow this work on their Facebook page. Their disaster response updates and donation information [can be found here](#).

Moms and grandmoms join in prayer: 8am Fridays, Trinity Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall. 1546 N Luther Rd. Fremont, NE

Women's Thursday Evening Bible Study: 6-8 pm in the church basement. All women of the community are welcome.

LWML: Lutheran Women's Missionary League is collecting canceled stamps (those that have been mailed, antique stamps, etc.) This project is ongoing until the Convention in June 2025. For questions contact Linda Meyer at 402-372-6415.

Grief Support West Point: The last Monday of each month, 5:30 – 6:30 pm at Franciscan Healthcare Assisi Conference Room, West Point. Short presentation followed by open discussion. Nobody is forced to talk if they do not want to talk. This is a time to learn about grief and mourning, and give and receive support from others. No registration required for these monthly sessions.

Children's Activity Bags: Cloth bags are hanging on the hooks in the back of the church for children to use that have coloring pages, small toys, a snack, crafts and other surprises. Please hang back up after use at the end of the service.

Use your time and talents! Be a Lector, Video Tech, Audio Tech or Projectionist for our worship services, or serve as a Wedding Coordinator for weddings. Training is provided. Contact the church office at 372-2111.

Main Street Living

“Main Street Living” is a liturgical worship service broadcasting a different local pastor each Sunday morning. It airs along with the classic Lutheran Hour program, “This is the Life”. Both can be viewed on KLKN Channel 8 (Lincoln) & WOWT Channel 6.2 (Omaha). Worship services are interpreted and closed captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Visit www.mainstreetliving.com/lincoln for more information and to view current and past episodes.

Lutheran Hour Ministries

Daily Devotions from LHM will help strengthen and encourage your faith as you do the same for others. Have them delivered right to your inbox, podcast the audio devotional, access them on your mobile device through the FREE app, or listen with Spotify, iHeart Radio, Alexa, or Google Home. Seasonal Devotions for Advent and Lent are also available in both English and Spanish. Perfect for personal reflection or to share with family, friends and congregations, these seasonal meditations will help prepare you to celebrate the true meaning of these seasons.

Lutherans for Life: meets every other month on the third Thursday of the month at St. John's in Beemer at 1:30 p.m. in the basement. Gospel focused Bible Study about God's call to support life from conception to natural death. If you have any questions, please call Pastor Belinsky at (231) 383-3300 or e-mail him at pastormike01@gmail.com.

Missionary Support: To financially support Jana Inglehart (Dominican Republic) or Ruth Maita (pronounced My-tah) (Puerto Rico) donations can be sent to Mission Central, 40718 Hwy E 16, Mapleton, IA 51034. Designate name in the memo line.

To support Josh Lange & family, (Asia) donations can be sent to Mission of Christ Network, PO Box 533 Concordia, MO 64020. Designate name in the memo line.

To financially support Jacob Fraher and family (Kenya) donations can be sent to Faith Aid, P.O. Box 4326, Ashburn, VA 20148. Designate name in the memo line.

E-MAIL BULLETIN AVAILABLE.

If you have not received this, please call the church office and update your email address.

402-372-2111

If you have not signed up to be included in our Church and/or School Messaging system, please call the church office at 402-372-2111. With your cell phone number and/or email, we can keep you updated on cancellations, Church or School events and special messages.

RIGHT NOW MEDIA

Check out this digital library with numerous Christian resources for Bible Study, personal and family devotions and for living out your faith.

Link to this “Netflix of Video Bible Studies” with more than 20,000 videos, including over 2,000 safe entertaining videos just for kids.

Scan the QR code or text the code: STPAULWP to the number 49775 to welcome you to a link to register for free.

This resource is currently being provided for you by St. Paul members and Board of Parish Education.



BECOME A TUITION ANGEL

The Tuition Angel program gathers funds to help parents who desire a Christian education for their children, but struggle to afford it. You can help a family with all or some of their tuition costs. Though tuition rates are below the actual cost to educate a student, for many middle and income families, that amount is out of reach. You can help with a one time donation, or monthly donation in whatever amount you choose. Please call the school office at 372-2355 to learn more.

Volunteer Opportunities at St. Joseph Elder Services

Drivers to deliver Meals on Wheels (Approximately 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

Front Desk at the Retirement Community

(Presence, greet visitors, direct as needed [phone is answered by the staff])

Front Desk at the Villa

(Presence, answer the phone and direct calls, greet visitors.)

Join in and help with activities.

(Bingo, card games, etc. with groups or individuals)

Help transport to religious services or activities

(Push wheelchairs, walk with walkers)

Please contact Jane if you would like to volunteer or have any questions.

Email: jweiler@sjeswp.org Phone: 402-372-1118 x519

It's a blessing to be able to watch the service online, on our website and You Tube. Offerings are used to help make this online service possible and to continue the work of the church and school. If you cannot worship in person, please continue to give your tithes and offerings, that we can continue the work of spreading the Good News of the Gospel. Offerings can be mailed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, 434 N. Lincoln St., West Point, NE 68788, dropped off in the mailbox at the south door of the church, or use “*Joyful Response*”. Thank You.

“Joyful Response: your offerings go directly from your bank account to our St. Paul Lutheran Church and School account. Please call the church office to set this up. Have your bank account number and routing number when you call. Your donations can be given weekly, monthly, or bi-monthly, and you will receive a giving statement.

Help support St. Paul Lutheran School through the following programs:

Best Choice® Save-A-Label™ Program: Participating is as easy as 1-2-3!

Shop at your grocer for BEST CHOICE products. There are more than 4,400 Best Choice® items at more than 3,000 stores. Brands include Best Choice®, Clearly by Best Choice®, and Best Choice® Superior Selections®. Save the UPC portion only of the labels from those products. It is not necessary to send in the whole label. To ensure it is a Best Choice product look for the words “Best Choice®” printed above the UPC symbol. Turn the UPC codes into the school office! We receive \$30 for every 1,000 labels we send in.

Box Top’s for Education: Cash can be earned for St. Paul School through the Box Tops for Education program, via the Box Tops App, by visiting online at www.boxtops4education.com. It’s as easy as 1, 2, and 3.

1) Purchase eligible Box Tops products.

2) Redeem your earnings by going to the Box Tops App or online, within 14 days from purchase, and scan or enter your receipts (both paper and digital receipts are eligible). There is a maximum of scanning 50 receipts per day per registered account.

The actual “Box Top” from the product is no longer accepted

3) St. Paul earns cash rewards which are directly deposited into the school’s account.

You can also earn BONUS cash rewards by redeeming 14-digit Bonus Box Top Codes OR participating in periodic bonus cash opportunities on both the App or online. Offers are updated all the time, so make sure to check back often!

Casey’s Rewards Program. Did you know that Casey’s has a Rewards program and that our school is participating in the Cash for Classrooms part of that reward program? You earn points on all your Casey’s purchases in-store, online, or at the pump. You can then turn those points into donations to St. Paul School.

You can join Casey’s Rewards by creating an account through the Casey’s app by downloading it from the App Store or on Google Play or online at Caseys.com. You then start earning points on your everyday purchases and turn those points into a donation to our school.

To donate your points just find St. Paul Lutheran School in the rewards section of the program. It’s that easy!

All Casey’s donations go directly to our school. Funds are disbursed twice a year, in December and April, via a check to the school. There is no minimum amount required. We have already received funds from generous community donors.

Each month, the Salvation Army and Food for the Heartland provides non-perishable food items, bread, and vegetables/fruits for area residents. Volunteers from local churches distribute the food at the drive-through pickup held the third Saturday of each month. Any Cuming County resident can pick-up food; there are no income restrictions. Grace Lutheran Church has received several grants to add protein and dairy to the monthly distribution, and that money has supported this program for 2 years. Unfortunately, the funds are running low. Each month, anywhere from \$750 - \$800 is needed to pay for the protein and dairy items for the 70-80 households that receive food. We are asking for help in raising additional money to continue to provide protein/dairy monthly. Perhaps your business, church, club, family would like to sponsor a month, or two, or more.

Donations designated for the monthly food distribution may be sent to Grace Lutheran Church 104 South Colfax Street, West Point, NE 68788 for ‘protein/dairy monthly distribution’. If you have questions, please contact the church at 402-372-2050 or gracewpn@hotmail.com.