

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**WEST POINT, NE**

**May 11, 2025**

**Rev. John P. Gierke, Pastor**

**FROM THE ELDERS:**

May 9, 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, Mark Groth, David Hughes,  
Mark Johnson, Dennis Mueller, Justin Miller  
Phone numbers for the Elders are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**Stewardship Corner**

**May 11**

1 Peter 2:11 – “Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.” Passions of the flesh — that means the things our flesh desires. One way to sum up all the “passions of the flesh” is to call them greed: the desire to have more things to bring us comfort and peace of mind. But that shows us the real problem with greed. It wages war against our soul, and it urges us to place our trust in the things of this world and not in God. But St. Peter reminds us that we are sojourners and exiles. We belong to the kingdom of God. We have been purchased by the blood of Christ and belong to Him. That knowledge frees us from greed, and it frees us for generosity.

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](http://www.stpaulwp.org)

**Our Sunday Service,**

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

**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 congregation

**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**

May 11

### **"How to Be Happy"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Lasting happiness is found in surrender, rather than control.

(John 15:11)

May 18

### **"Truth That Takes Us In"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Jesus is the Truth Who will take you in to live like He lives, planted in God His Father's love.

May 25

### **"What's Your Story?"**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Gregory Manning

Our difficulties often become the backdrop against which God reveals His faithfulness. Each challenge is an opportunity for Him to display His power.

(John 9:1-11) (John 15:9)

### **This week at St. Paul Lutheran Church:**

- Sunday, May 11: 9:00 am – Worship followed by fellowship in the narthex.  
10:30 am – “Growing in God’s Grace” for kids in the church basement conference room.
- Monday, May 12 : 10:00 am - Sunday Service on cable channel 11.
- Tuesday, May 13: 7:00 pm – Council meeting in the church basement.
- Wednesday, May 14: 8:15 am – Chapel  
6:00 pm - Kindergarten & 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation at church.
- Thursday, May 15: 6:00 pm – Women’s Bible study in the church basement.
- Friday, May 16:
- Saturday, May 17: 6:00 pm – Worship and communion followed by fellowship in the church basement.
- Sunday, May 18: 9:00 am – Worship and communion followed by fellowship in the narthex.  
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.

**Church renovation project:** Donations received as of May 4, 2025, are \$127,358.77.

**Congratulations to our 2025 graduating seniors:**

**Nicholas John Gierke**, son of Pastor John & Tonya Gierke

Future plans: Northeast Community College, majoring in welding

**Allie Jo Kaup**, daughter of Dustin & Jamie Kaup

Future plans; Wayne State College, RHOP program, majoring in medical laboratory science.

**Campbell Lee Knutzen-Snodgrass**, daughter of Alan Snodgrass & Holly Knutzen-Snodgrass

Future plans: Wayne State College, RHOP program, majoring in dentistry & biology.

**Lillian Pearl Meiergerd**, daughter of Jason Meiergerd & Dana Meiergerd

Future plans: Northeast Community College, majoring in nursing.

**Max Jacob Peterson**, son of Tony & Katie Peterson

Future plans; University of Nebraska, Lincoln, undecided

**Addison Marie Toelle**, daughter of Bruce & Deanne Toelle

Future plans: University of Lincoln, majoring in business, finance.

**May the Holy Spirit** bless Leighton Joseph Jensen on his Confirmation Day. May he always love and guide Leighton as he goes through life. Congratulations!

**LWML:** Lutheran Women's Missionary League will stop collecting canceled stamps (those that have been mailed, antique stamps, etc.) May 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Sparklight** is having technical issues with their equipment. Unfortunately, they are not sure if or when this issue might be resolved. If you are unable to view our worship service on Channel 11, you can view it on "You Tube".

**Vacation Bible School,** June 2-6, 2025, 8:30-11:30 am each day.

Get set for a Wild West adventure learning about God's plan for His creation and explore the new frontier. Kids will learn from the Bible, have snacks, play games, make crafts and sing songs. VBS is open to children 3 years old to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Any older children or adults are welcome to participate as helpers. There is no fee for the children to register but donations are accepted to help with the costs. Additionally, there will be a free family luncheon on Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, immediately following VBS. Registration forms for VBS are coming soon.

**VBS Volunteer Opportunities:** Teachers, assist teachers, snack donations, craft helpers, snack helpers, game leader, music leader, sewing bandanas & craft materials. Please see the table in the back of the church sanctuary for the details for each item.

**The National LWML Convention** themed "Growing in God's Grace" is in Omaha, Nebraska this summer, June 26-29 for a time of cherished renewal, mission opportunity and refreshment. You can sign up for one day or all three. More information at <https://www.lwml.org/convention> or contact Linda Meyer or Peg McAllister for more details or help registering.

**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, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday evenings, 7 pm, at the McAllisters, 103 Kaup St. Bring a Friend!

### **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 Hearts for Jesus, were \$407.61. Thank you to everyone who donated.

**Fourth Quarter Chapel donations** will go to Camp Luther of Nebraska. Camp Luther of Nebraska a non-profit, Christian ministry supported by the congregations of the Nebraska District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. We are blessed with 160 beautiful acres of land in southwestern Colfax County, Nebraska, and we offer a wide variety of programs and services including summer camp (overnight camp, day camp, family camp), Vacation Bible School, our His Kids special needs ministry, outdoor education, youth retreats, confirmation retreats, group retreats, facilities rental, and more.

**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 St. Paul church basement. All women of the community are welcome.

**Grief Support West Point:** The last Monday of each month, 5:30 – 7 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](http://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](mailto: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.

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

**Graybeal's Receipts** are being collected for St. Paul Lutheran School.

Receipts dated August 1, 2024 through April 15, 2025 can be dropped off at school or at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

**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](http://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](http://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.

### **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](mailto: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.

**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.