St. Paul Lutheran Church News Bulletin

October 4, 2026

St. Paul Lutheran Church
434 N Lincoln St
West Point, NE 68788

Website: stpaulwp.org **Phone:** 402-372-2111 **Email:** stpauloffice@stpaulwp.org

It is the Mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church to reach the lost with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to equip the saved for a life of Christian service.

Pastor John P. Gierke

Church Office: Penny Haase
President: Dennis Mueller
Elders: Larry Abrahams, Mark Groth, David Hughes, Mark Johnson, Bill McAllister and Terry Mohl

Worship Services

Regular worship services are Saturday evenings at 6pm and Sunday mornings at 9am. Holy Communion is celebrated on the first and third weekends of the month.
The worship service program can be viewed on our website, and the video services are streamed on YouTube, aired Mondays at 10am on cable channel 11, and radio broadcasted Sundays at 11:30am on KTIC FM 107.9 and AM 840.
Cost to sponsor a Lutheran Hour or St. Paul broadcast is $60.

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. **The cost is $121.00 a week. Please make checks to "Daily Chapel".**

As We Gather

"God loves you." It is not like we have never heard that before. We may even have taken that fact for granted, thinking, "Well, of course He does! That's His thing! 1 John 4:8 says that God *is* love." Nevertheless, as our lives and circumstances unfold, through the uncertainties of sin and doubt and failure, many have come up short and been forced to wonder, "How can God love me now?" Love, after all, is always in direct proportion to our worthiness of it, to how lovable we are, right?

The highest love of God, agape, can commonly be defined as the love of intelligence and corresponding purpose. This definition may seem at first to drain the whole idea of the depth of emotion or the value of love. But we discover the power of God's love even more as we are convinced of the greatness of our need—our own sin and unworthiness. That's when the cross of Calvary and the sacrifice of Christ crucified shines forth as the highest, greatest, and almost unbelievable love of God for you—even you. God has loved you with an everlasting love - in Christ Jesus our Lord!

The Lutheran Hour - Our Weekly Message Of Hope

October 4, 2026
"Embrace Life"
Guest Speaker: Rev. Germán Novelli Oliveros
Jesus offers His abundant life to people plagued by pain and problems.
John 10:10-11

Encouraging Stewardship

October 4 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Luke 14:11 – "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." The kingdom of God is always upside down and backwards like this. We must die in order to live. We must be humbled so we can be exalted. It's like this with giving as well. When we give away, then we receive much more than we bargained for: peace of mind, contentment, joy.

This weekend's Lutheran Hour and St. Paul Broadcast are sponsored by Gary and Connee Reimers and family in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Please contact the church office to sponsor a broadcast. Cost is now $60.00 per broadcast

This Week At St Paul Lutheran Church

Sunday, October 4:
7:45 am - Adult choir practice in the church basement
9:00 am – Worship and communion
10:30 am - Bible Study "How Great Is Our God"
Monday, October 5:
10:00 am – Sunday service on cable channel 11
Tuesday, October 6:
Wednesday, October 7:
8:20 am - School Chapel in the church sanctuary
7:00 pm - Confirmation classes for 7th & 8th grade public students
7:00 pm - Youth **(Guys and Gals)** Devotions at Bill & Peg McAllister's
Thursday, October 8:
Friday, October 9:
Saturday, October 10:
No worship service
Sunday, October 11:
7:45 am - Adult choir practice in the church basement
9:00 am – Worship and "155th Celebration"

Email News Bulletin

Emails with this news bulletin are available. Call or email the office to sign up.

Beacon Messages

Beacon messages are texts or emails sent out to alert changes to the services and important information. To sign up, please call or email the church office, with a cellphone number or email to receive the alerts. If your contact info has changed, please inform the church office.

Announcements

To have an announcement displayed on the slides before and after church or sent as a beacon, the information must be sent to the church office by noon on Thursdays.

Please Call Ahead

Before coming to St. Paul Church office. For church business calls, use 402-372-2111.

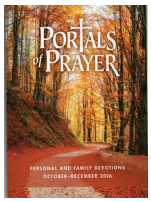
St. Paul "On-a-Mission" Bags

Make every trip a mission trip! Wherever you go, you'll have the opportunity to tell anyone who asks you about Jesus and that's the reason for the hope that we have. Then invite them to come to St. Paul if they don't already have a church home.

These bags are available for $5.00 apiece. **The proceeds will go to support our missionaries connected with St. Paul through LCMS Mission Central in Mapleton, Iowa.** We will also keep a number of bags handy as a gift to our guests who would like one to help carry out our Lord's mission.

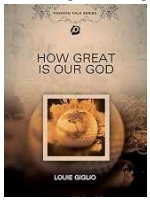
Portals Of Prayers

New copies of Portals of Prayer are now available for you to pick up. They are on the table in the Narthex, please help yourself.



Sunday Bible Study

How Great Is Our God with Louie Giglio - Your life is a miracle, and the Creator of the universe knows you by name.



Sunday Service

Our Sunday worship service airs Mondays on Cable Channel 11 at 10:00 am.

Board Positions

We are in need of filling several board positions.
Board of Parochial School Education (1)
Board of Stewardship (2)
Board of Parish Education (4)

Please contact Dennis Mueller, President, for more information about these positions if you have someone in mind or might be interested yourself.

Lectors Needed

We are in need of more people to read the Bible readings for our Saturday and Sunday worship services. If you are interested or know of someone, please call the church office at 402-372-2111.

School Chapel

School Chapel will be on Wednesday mornings at 8:20 am. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Youth Devotions

Wednesday, October 7th, youth (guys and gals) devotions will meet at 7:00 pm at Bill and Peg McAllister's. All high school students are welcome.

Fish Fry

You're Invited to St. John's Lutheran Church, rural Pender for the Orphan Grain Train Fish Feed Sunday, October 4, at 10:30 am. OGT Presentation 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. Serving a meal of fish, potatoes, salads, desserts and drinks. Free will offering with proceeds being used for OGT Missions Locally and Worldwide.

Life Line Screening

St. Paul Lutheran Church will be hosting a Life Line Screening event on October 9th. Life Line

Screening is the premier provider of stroke and cardiovascular disease risk screenings since 1993. Life Line Screening is extending a discounted offer to all St Paul Lutheran Church members which will identify your risk level for the following diseases:

1. Carotid Artery Disease
2. Peripheral Arterial Disease
3. Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm
4. Atrial Fibrillation

For more information go to **www.llsa.social/habc or call 800-324-9458** to schedule your appointment! A simple screening can be worth a lifetime**.**

Annual Bake Sale

Mark your calendar now for St. John's Lutheran Church Beemer 51st annual bake sale and luncheon. Saturday, October 10th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Beemer Legion Hall. Serving creamed chicken on a bun, hot dogs, salads, & homemade pies. Other items include baked goods, greeting cards, knives and dish cloths for sale.

Save The Date

Sunday, October 11th- We will celebrate St. Paul's 155th anniversary year during our worship service followed by a meal in the church basement. We will also recognize Pastor's Gierke's 30th anniversary as an ordained pastor this year. Pastor Chip Winter will not be able to be our guest preacher, as his congregation called a new Senior Executive Pastor who accepted their Call and his installation is also scheduled on October 11th. He plans to send a video greeting with his father for our celebration.

Rev. Lonnie Jacobsen, our Nebraska District's Executive Assistant to the President for Mission and Ministry will be our guest preacher that day. Rev. Jacobsen was present and participated in the service at Pastor Gierke's ordination 30 years ago, before he went to the seminary.

155th Celebration Meal

The meal for our 155th celebration has been planned. The menu will include ham and roast pork, green beans, bread and rolls, cake and cookies. Bottled water, lemonade and coffee will also be provided. **We are asking the congregation to bring a side dish (any kind).**

St. John's Octoberfest

Members of St. John's Lutheran Church and School, rural Columbus, invites you to their Octoberfest German Dinner on Sunday, October 18. Serving times are 11:00 am - 1:30 pm. Meal price for adults is $18.00, $7.00 for children, 5-10 years of age, and ages 4 and under are free. The church is located north of Columbus Community Hospital on 48th Avenue or 6 ½ miles south of Creston at the corner of Hwy 91 and 205th Avenue. Their worship Service begins at 9:30 am. For more information call St. John's Lutheran at 402-285-0335.

Fall Gala

Help support Lutheran High School - Fremont. They will once again be having their Fall Gala on October 23rd at 6:00 pm at the Fremont Golf Club. This year's theme is "Hearts On Fire" So, mark your calendars. For more information contact Dawn Cooksey **402-990-9444.**

O Christmas Tree

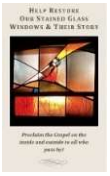
It's hard to believe that Christmas is less than 3 months away. This year we are wanting to update the Christmas tree in the new Narthex. If you would like to donate a new Christmas tree, preferably with lights or have a gently used newer tree that you no longer use please consider donating it to the church. Would like one to be at least six feet or taller. Thank you!!

Your Help Is Needed

Help restore St. Paul's stained glass & its story. Proclaim the gospel on the inside and outside to all who pass by.

Keep telling the story. The stained-glass windows have been telling God's story of grace through St. Paul and Jesus' people since the current sanctuary was built in 1956. They are in need of re-leading and

refurbishment, in order to aid us in telling the story for many more years to come. Please help as you are able, and as God guides you, over and above your regular tithes & offering.
In addition to the Sanctuary's stained glass windows, the stained glass window of the cross on the south side, the bell tower's glass panels and the stained glass windows in the offices will need restorative attention as well. These will involve additional quotes.
Sponsor a panel, a pane, or portion of a pane. With 8 panels to choose from, you (your family, or a group of people) can sponsor: an entire panel of three panes; a pane (1/3 of a panel); or any portion of a pane. Lambrecht Glass (who restored the Narthex windows) had given us a quote of $109,000 to restore these 8 panels and protect them with exterior tempered glass. The quote may go up as time progresses. For more info, please pick up a pamphlet from the table in the Narthex.



Teacher/Faculty Spotlight

This week's faculty member is our school's principal, Paula Peatrowsky. This is her first year as Principal, but her love for this place goes back much further, she fell for St. Paul years ago, cheering on her nieces and nephews at every school event she could get to.

Why St. Paul? "I love that St. Paul feels like family! And I love the opportunity to share Jesus with others."
Paula grew up on a pig farm in Cedar Bluffs and spent 26 years in Omaha Public Schools.
Paula's husband, Alan, is serving his 22nd year in the Omaha Police Department. He is a Lieutenant in Northwest Omaha. They have been blessed with two daughters.
Cassie is finishing her final year of college in Seward at Concordia University. She is double majoring in K–6 Elementary Education and K–12 Art, and this spring she will be completing her student teaching.
Their younger daughter, Joelle, is in her first year at Wayne State University in the ROP program. She is pursuing a degree in Biology on the Pre-Physician Assistant track. After completing her studies at Wayne State, she plans to attend UNMC to complete her degree as a Physician Assistant.
A few fun things to know about Paula is she can twirl a baton and tap dance (her husband says she can also "drive from the passenger seat"!)

Help Kids Thrive

We know a lot of you have already been so generous supporting St. Paul this year, thank you! This one's a little different: we're specifically collecting sensory support items for the kids who need a little extra help feeling calm and staying regulated throughout the day. Things like weighted lap pads, sensory chairs, wobble stools, and bubble tubes make a real difference for these kiddos.
Have a gently used item you're willing to part with? We'll happily "adopt" that too, no donation is too small. See something that's not on the list but you think could help? Add it! We welcome all donations.
If you can help, it goes straight toward helping our kids feel safe and ready to learn.
👉 Scan the QR code or visit: **https://www.amazon.com/reg.../gl/guest-view/1STLDFN8TH64D...**
tmartinez@stpaulwpne.org | 531-777-5020

Newsworthy

If you have a St. Paul Church or school event or activity that you would like included in our weekly newsletter/ bulletin you can contact the church office. We would love to also include some pictures.

Learn More About St. Paul

Scan the QR code to visit our website and learn more about our Church.

An Eight Year Old Was Asked To 'Explain God.' Here's How He Answered.

Heavenly

"One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth.

He doesn't make grown-ups, just babies. I think they are smaller and easier to make. That way, He doesn't have to take up His valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.

God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times besides bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because He hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in His ears, unless He has thought of a way to turn it off.

God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere, which keeps Him pretty busy. So, you shouldn't be wasting His time by going over your mom and dad's heads asking for something they said you couldn't have.