

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEST POINT, NE

March 3, 2024

Rev. John P. Gierke, Pastor

FROM THE ELDERS:

March 1, 2024

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.

“The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us” (John 1:14)

God’s Blessings to you all!

St. Paul Board of Elders

Larry Abrahams, Mark Groth, DJ Weddle, David Hughes,

Mark Johnson, Dennis Mueller, Justin Miller

Phone numbers for the Elders are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

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

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

February: the month devoted to love. Stores are filled with heart-shaped boxes of candy and heart-shaped cards and vases of flowers with heart-shaped gift tags. All this is available for the consumer so that he can find the appropriate expression of his devotion to his loved one. If that expression of love has been preceded by a year of thoughtful and loving words and deeds, it is welcomed and cherished by the recipient. If not, it is just an empty ritual, done out of duty rather than true devotion.

Our relationship to the Lord is similar. He, too, desires our sincere devotion, not empty lip service. *“The Lord says: ‘These people come near to Me with their mouth and honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me’ ” (Isaiah 29:13).*

Stewardship is serving, helping, giving, but love is the basis for stewardship. Without love, our good deeds are empty and without merit. The first act of true stewardship is to *“love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength” (Deuteronomy 6:5).* Jesus called this the most important commandment (Mark 12:29, 30). With that love for the Lord in us, we are enabled to be good stewards. Then we can do acts of good stewardship, acts of true devotion.

Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church:

Saturday, 6 pm

Sunday, 9 am

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

2024 Lenten Schedule

Midweek Lenten Services

Feb. 21, 28, Mar. 6, 20 at 7 pm

No Midweek Lenten Service March 13.

Please join us for LUKE WINGER

Juggler and inspirational speaker

At 6:30 pm at St. Paul Lutheran School

Open to the Public

Note: Confirmation

is not on Palm Sunday this year

Sat., March 9, 6 pm, Confirmation Essays

Sun., March 10, Confirmation Service at 9 am

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7 pm

with communion

Good Friday, March 29

12 noon service – no communion

7 pm Tenebra Service – no communion

Sat., March 30 – no service

Easter Sunrise Service - 6:30 am

with communion

Easter Breakfast – 7:30 am

Easter Service – 9 am

with communion

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.

Midweek Lenten Services

air Thursdays at 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 given in honor of Gwen Lindberg
whose birthday was Friday, Feb. 28.

Given by friends.

**Sponsors are needed for The Lutheran Hour Broadcast
and our St. Paul Broadcast.**

Cost is \$40.00 per broadcast.

Please contact the church office at 402-372-2111.

Daily Chapel

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

Daily Chapel: Cost is \$81 a week. Donations of any amount are welcome for this program.
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. Or you may drop off checks here at St.
Paul church. Thank You.

To Sponsor a Lutheran Hour or St. Paul radio broadcast

Please contact the church office at 402-372-2111.

Cost is \$40 per broadcast.

The Lutheran Hour

March 3

"Included in Such Company"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The more you listen to the life of Jesus,
the more you admire Him
and the more grateful you are to be included in His company.
(Mark 10:43-45)

The Lutheran Hour

March 10

"All Bets Are Off"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Jesus engages his opponents in a battle of wits and wins—for us.
(Mark 11)

The Lutheran Hour

March 17

"The Strangest Request"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe

God promised to make Abraham the father of many nations
through the gift of a son named Isaac.
But then God asked Abraham to return that gift in a most shocking way.
(Genesis 22:1-14)

This week at St. Paul Lutheran Church:

- Sunday, Mar. 3: 9 am – Worship & Communion
Bible Study in the church basement following worship
- Monday, Mar. 4: 10 am – Sunday Service on cable channel 11
- Tuesday, Mar. 5:
- Wednesday, Mar. 6: 8:15 am – Chapel
5 pm – Confirmation
5:30 pm – Lenten meal
7 pm – Lenten Worship
- Thursday, Mar. 7: 2 pm – Ladies Aid
10 am – Lenten Service on cable channel 11
6 pm – Women's Bible Study
- Friday, Mar. 8:
- Saturday, Mar. 9: 6 pm – Confirmation Essays
- Sunday, Mar. 10: 9 am – Worship & Confirmation

St. Paul Parish Coordinator: Full or part time position available in the church office. Please contact Larry Abrahams at 402-380-8928 if interested.

The Church Directory App: is ready for use. We will need an email to send each family their own unique code. Please call the office at 402-372-2111 to set this up.

Women's Thursday Evening Bible Study: 6-8 pm in the church basement. All women of the community are welcome. New Topic Feb. 29, "The Deeply Formed Life" on RightNow Media by Rich Villodas.

Mark Your Calendars: Lutheran Schools Week: March 11-15
St. Paul Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, March 17.

Lutheran Schools Week: Events include pajama day, a special presentation and entertainment by Luke Winger, a dodgeball tournament, grandparent's day, and a daddy/daughter, mother/son dance; all capped off by a pancake breakfast.

Family night at Dairy Queen: March 13 from 4pm-9pm mention St. Paul's or Lutheran Schools Week and 15% of sales will be donated to the school.

No Midweek Lenten Worship Service Wednesday, March 13

Join us at St. Paul Lutheran School March 13 for Luke Winger: juggler and inspirational Christian speaker who uses his skills and experiences to entertain, encourage, and inspire people to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Concessions at 5:30pm – 6:15pm, presentation starting at 6:30pm.

Save your plastic jars! The Vacation Bible School children will be making a craft this summer requiring 80 plastic jars, such as the kind used for mayonnaise, peanut butter and parmesan cheese. Please wash the container and the lid and bring them to the church for collection.

A Benefit for Doug Siebrandt is Saturday, March 9 at Beed Transportation Building, 745 S. Railroad St., West Point. Donations of desserts are requested. If you can help by providing cookies or bars (in disposable pans), please call Megan Maas at 402-909-2705 by March 2. Desserts can be dropped off at Beed Transportation by 2:30 pm, March 9. A truck show and Silent Auction begin at 4 pm, free will offering dinner at 5 pm.

Pancake Supper: Sunday, April 7, 5-7 pm at Zion Lutheran School Gym, 1710 20th Rd, Bancroft. Sponsored by Zion Lutheran Church. Freewill donation with proceeds to help with tuition for Zion Bancroft students attending St. Paul Lutheran School.

Cuming County Area Relay For Life Survivor Meal is Friday, March 22, 5pm, at the Nielsen Community Center in West Point. Survivors can register online at www.RelayForLife.org/CumingNE or call 1-800-227-2345 option 4. You will receive a complimentary Survivor Shirt that will be mailed to you. Please RSVP for the survivor meal by March 8, to Carly at 402-430-6369 or email carlysalak@yahoo.com. The meal is free to the Survivor and 1 Guest.

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.

“Understanding Your Grief” an 8 week grief support group Tuesdays, March 5 until April 23, 6:pm-7:30 pm at Franciscan Healthcare, West Point. 2nd floor of the hospital in the Clare Conference Room. No fee to attend. Registration is required to ensure enough workbooks for each participant, and as space is limited. Register by e-mailing tmanhart@franhealth.org or call 402-372-6708. Give your name, phone number and # attending.

Come Make a Joyful Noise! Choir practice is Sundays, 7:45 am, in the church basement. All voices welcome!

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.

For prayer requests on the prayer chain: please call Linda Kreuger at 402-380-9414.

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.

Remember You Are Dust: photographic display of Ash Wednesday participants in Decatur, Nebraska at the Sears Center. On display through Good Friday, March 29. Viewings are from 9am – 2pm. Lunch is served each day at noon. Coffee and rolls are served Friday mornings. Broasted chicken on Thursday evening, March 21. Call at least a day in advance to reserve your lunch, rolls, or evening meal. 402-349-5525.

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.

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.

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.

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.



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:

Please save Graybeal's receipts from August 15, 2023 – April 15, 2024. Receipts may be turned in at the school, or put in the bins in the back of 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 or by clipping actual "Box Tops" from products and turning them into the school office. 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. Also, you can cut the actual "Box Top" from the product and turn them into the school office. Please make sure the box tops have not expired. We earn \$0.10 for each actual box top.

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.