

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**WEST POINT, NE**

**March 31, 2024**

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

**FROM THE ELDERS:**

March 29, 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).**

**Holy Week Services:**

**Sat., March 30 – no service**

**Easter Sunrise Service - 6:30 am, with communion**

**Easter Pancake Breakfast – 7 am to 10 am**  
**at St. Paul Lutheran School gym**

**Easter Service – 9 am, with communion**

**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)*

*Jesus is Risen! Halleluia!*

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.

## **STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

*“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9).* Without question, Jesus is the Chief Steward. None can compare to His example of selflessness and giving. He laid aside His rights as Son of God in order to be the Son of Man. He was willing to endure ignominious death on the cross so that we could be rescued from sin, death, and the power of the devil. He taught us to think and live a new way – as servants who are available to serve, not to be served.

**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.

### **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 Holy Week Schedule**

**Sat., March 30 – no service**

**Easter Sunrise Service - 6:30 am**  
**with communion**

**Easter Pancake Breakfast – 7 am to 10am**  
**at St. Paul Lutheran School Gym**

**Easter Service – 9 am**  
**with communion**

**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.

**Maundy Thursday Service airs on cable channel 11**  
**Friday, March 29 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**  
is given in Memory of Loved Ones  
who lost the battle to cancer.

**This week's St. Paul Broadcast**  
is sponsored in memory of Roland Elsasser  
whose birthday would have been March 29.  
Given by family.

**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.

### **The Lutheran Hour**

March 31

#### **"Eucatastrophe"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler  
The top three best-selling books all present visions of hope,  
but how they hope to achieve it is a much different story.  
(Mark 16:6-7)

### **The Lutheran Hour**

April 7

#### **"Raise the Flag"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler  
Learn how the followers of Christ are raising God's flag in the world.  
(Acts 1:1-11)

### **The Lutheran Hour**

#### **"Breathe In, Breathe Out"**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Leopoldo Sanchez  
The Holy Spirit breathes life into the Church and  
the Church breathes that life out to the world, with the love of Christ.  
(Acts 2:42-47)

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

- Sunday, Mar. 31: 6:30 am – Sunrise Worship and Communion  
7 am-10 am – Easter Pancake Breakfast @ St. Paul School Gym  
9 am – Easter worship and Communion
- Monday, Apr. 1: 10 am – Sunday Service on cable channel 11  
Church Office Closed  
No School
- Tuesday, Apr. 2: No School
- Wednesday, Apr. 3: No School
- Thursday, Apr. 4: 2 pm – Ladies Aid  
6 pm – Women's Bible Study – All Women of the community  
are welcome
- Friday, Apr. 5:
- Saturday, Apr. 6: 6 pm - Worship & Communion
- Sunday, Apr. 7: 9 am – Worship & Communion  
Bible Study in church basement following worship

**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.

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

**Easter Lilies are given by:**

**Bev Barry and family**, in memory of Bill Barry;

**Wayne Beck**, in memory of loved ones;

**Starla Ehrisman** in memory of Donald Ehrisman.

**The Gierke family** in Thanksgiving for Jesus;

**The Gierke family** in memory of Rev. Charles Gierke, Bill & Valerie March and Thomas March;

**Tim Martens** in memory of Donna Martens;

**Ron Neiman, Sheri & Dann, Bryan, Tracy & Joe**, in memory of Mary Neiman.

**Maren Reppert**, in memory of loved ones;

**Dennis and Sally Rosenthal**, in memory of their parents.

**Dennis & Joyce Suhr**, in memory of loved ones;

**Larry Wegner**, in memory of Vernon & Ruth Meyer, Albert & Frieda Meyer, and Harly Rozendal;

**Carol Vanek**, in memory of her parents Roland & Anita Elsasser and sister Sandi Hicks.

**St. Paul's 40 day Red Letter - Being Easter Challenge**, by Zach Zehnder. March 31-May 10. Get your copy in the back of church this Easter Sunday, or from the church office during the week.

**Summer Club Registration Night:** Tuesday, April 2, 5-6:30 pm at St. Paul Lutheran School. Any families needing a place for their children during the summer, please attend. Registration items needed: Registration Form, Automatic Withdrawal Form, Copy of Immunization record for each child, Copy of Insurance, \$50.00 deposit, Signed handbook acknowledgement form.

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

**Invitation to Zone 4 LLL:** Zone 11 Lutheran Laymen's League will hold a spring rally April 7 at 3:00 pm at Christ Lutheran Church in Norfolk. Speaker is Pastor Steve Weispfennig from St. John's Lutheran Church in Yankton, SD. He will speak on the resurrection of Christ.

Registration begins at 2:30 pm.

A meal will follow the rally at a cost of \$13 per plate. Please register for the meal by contacting Deb Kirsch at dkirsch508@gmail.com, or text or call 402-860-1194. Everyone is welcome to attend. Registration deadline for the meal is April 3rd.

**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.

**LWML:** Lutheran Women's Missionary League is collecting 4.5 inch adult jean pockets or crocheted pocket quilts. Directions for assembly are in the back of church along with a box for the donation of these. Also being collected are canceled stamps (those that have been mailed, antique stamps, etc.) Convention is June 2025. Additional information has been put in LWML member boxes. For questions contact Linda Meyer at 402-372-6415.

**LCEF Nebraska District College Scholarship**

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) Nebraska District College Scholarship was developed to encourage college students in the Nebraska District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) to pursue their educational goals.

Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. Applicants must be a graduating high school senior with a minimum 3.0 GPA or current full-time post-secondary student at an accredited institution with at least one year of courses remaining and a minimum 2.5 GPA. Applicants must also be a member of a congregation belonging to the Nebraska District LCMS.

**Applications close April 14, 2024.** Winners will be announced on May 6, 2024. Learn more and complete your application at [lcef.org/nebraskascholarship](http://lcef.org/nebraskascholarship).

**Women's Thursday Evening Bible Study:** April 4, 6-8 pm in the church basement. All women of the community are welcome.

**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. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:tmanhart@franhealth.org) or call 402-372-6708. Give your name, phone number and # attending.

**Methodist, Fremont Health:** Grief Support Group, April 4, 11 & 18, 6:30 -8:30 pm. 450 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> St., Fremont Health Park Plaza, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. Please register by contacting Scott Jensen, Health Chaplain at 402-727-3663. Group is open to the community and is free of charge. Refreshments provided.

**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.

**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.

### **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](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.

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

**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](mailto:gracewpn@hotmail.com).