

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEST POINT, NE

October 20, 2024

Rev. John P. Gierke, Pastor

FROM THE ELDERS:

October 18, 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.

**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, 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

A bumper sticker said, "Money isn't everything, but it's right up there with air and water." We live in a money-driven culture that often associates a person's value by how much he earns and possesses. In order to be labeled a success, many are driven to possess more and more. Gaining wealth is often an obsession. The Apostle Paul warns us, "*The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil*" (1 Timothy 6:10). Jesus warns us about wanting money and things: "*Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions*" (Luke 12:15). With God's help, we can keep material things from becoming overly important.

St. Paul church office currently is understaffed and 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.

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.

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 St. Paul Ladies Aid.

**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

October 20

"Children of God--No Longer Losers"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Leopoldo Sanchez

God turns lost losers into forgiven sons and daughters.

Through Christ, we too become children of God's kingdom, members of His household.

(Hosea 12:2-6)

The Lutheran Hour

October 27

"God-Struggles"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

It's been said, everyone you meet is fighting an unseen battle.

God calls us to enter the struggle of those around us because,

in Jesus, God has entered our struggle.

(Genesis 38:28)

The Lutheran Hour

November 3

"Working the System"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God's Law--a "system" that keeps the world from flying apart

while it also shows us we need the Savior

Who came to live, suffer, and rise for us.

(Genesis 33:8)

This week at St. Paul Lutheran Church:

- Sunday, Oct. 20: 7:45 am – Adult Choir Practice
9 am – Worship & Communion followed by Fellowship in the narthex
Bible Study “Called to Serve” in church basement after worship
10:30 am – “Growing in God’s Grace” for kids
in the church basement conference room
- Monday, Oct. 21: 10 am – Sunday Service on cable channel 11
- Tuesday, Oct. 22: 7 pm – Church Council
- Wednesday, Oct. 23: 8:15 – Chapel
2nd quarter Chapel Offerings go to Grace Lutheran School, St. Petersburg, Fl.
6 pm - Public School Confirmation
6:15 pm – Bell Choir
- Thursday, Oct. 24: 6 pm – Women’s Bible Study
7 pm – Miriam Circle in narthex
- Friday, Oct. 25: 7-9 pm Beth Moore Simulcast Event in church basement
- Saturday, Oct. 26: 8:30 am-noon – Beth Moore Simulcast Event in church basement
6 pm – Worship – followed by fellowship in the church basement
- Sunday, Oct. 27: 7:45 am – Adult Choir Practice
9 am – Worship followed by fellowship in the narthex
Bible Study “Called to Serve”
in church basement after worship
10:30 am – “Growing in God’s Grace” for kids
in the church basement conference room
1:30 pm – Circuit Bible Institute at St. Paul, Wisner
6 pm – Circuit Reformation Service at St. Paul, Wisner



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.

Miriam Circle meets Thursday, October 24, 7 pm, in the narthex. Our Bible study is “A Reason to Celebrate” in the Fall Quarterly. Roll Call is a Favorite cake.

All Women are welcome to join us.

Beth Moore Simulcast Event, Friday, Oct. 25, 7-9 pm, and Saturday, Oct. 26, 8:30 am- noon. Beth Moore will present the event from Nashville, TN. Participants can join in from our church basement. Sloppy joes served prior to the Friday evening session.

West Point Circuit Bible Institute: Sunday, Oct. 27 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Wisner. Registration begins at 1:30 pm, 2 pm – Pastor Panel, 2:30 - Part 1, 3:30 – break, 3:45 – part 2, 4:45 - Q&A, 5 pm – supper, (free will offering) 6 pm - Circuit Reformation Service. (Offering to Jesus Our Savior Lutheran School, Winnebago)

Have you ever wondered what a Pastor really is? Or what is the Pastor's relationship with his congregation? Come to the West Point Circuit Bible Institute and hear Rev. Ryan Janke explain “How does God interact with His Church,” “Distinction between Clergy and Laity,” “What is the Office of the Keys” and much more.

A request has been received from a non member to use the church for a wedding July 19, 2025. Any member wanting to use the church this date, please contact the church office by October 29, or it will be booked. Thank You.

BIG Mission Event: Sunday, November 10, at Divots Convention Center, Norfolk. Gary Thies, Master of Ceremonies & Presenter. 5 pm Social Hour, 6 pm Buffet Dinner. Tickets: \$60 per person. (\$35 dinner, \$25 donation) Sponsored by Servants of the Savior of Christ Lutheran Church, Norfolk. Proceeds from Dinner and Live Auction benefit Orphan Grain Train relief projects, Missionaries in several countries and other special mission projects. Tickets available through Christ Lutheran Church Office, 605 S. Fifth St, Norfolk. 402-371-1210

Prepare for November Abortion-Related Ballot Measures

A new educational campaign has now been launched by Nebraska Family Alliance to help you navigate the abortion-related ballot measures in Nebraska. Our **Campaign Toolkit** is now available and designed to equip you to stand up for life against the pro-abortion ballot measure, Initiative 439. Access fact sheets, voting guides, and more on their website at <https://www.voteagainst439.com/>

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod believes that abortion is contrary to God's Word and "is not a moral option, except as a tragically unavoidable byproduct of medical procedures necessary to prevent the death of another human being, viz., the mother" (1979 Res. 3-02A).

Two initiatives concerning abortion will be on the Nebraska ballot this November. The pro-abortion ballot initiative 439, "Protect Our Rights," would legalize abortion until birth, subject preborn children to painful late-term dismemberment abortions, put girls at greater risk for human trafficking, and eliminate parental notification requirements. The pro-life ballot initiative 434, "Protect Women & Children," asserts that life is a human right, and women, children, and families in Nebraska deserve real love and support, not dangerous proposals that jeopardize the health and safety of women and end the lives of precious baby boys and girls. Nebraska is a pro-life state, and our laws should reflect our pro-life values.

[Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit](#)

[Nebraska State Income Tax Credit](#)

Do not miss the deadline and an opportunity for this tax credit. Taxpayer contribution made to Opportunity Scholarship are eligible for a dollar-for-dollar tax credit on their Nebraska State Income Taxes for up to 50% or \$100,000 of your 2024 tax liability. This is available for individuals, corporations, estates, and trusts. You can even make sure your contribution will help kids who choose the schools you care about the most. This credit end on October 31, 2024 and will not be available on or past this date. To find out more or contribute, go online to givehope.nebraskaopportunity.org.



A tax credit contribution or tax deductible charitable donation to Opportunity Scholarships of Nebraska empowers families to choose the best option for their children, regardless of income or zip code. Don't miss out on your opportunity to give hope to Nebraska kids with your state income tax liability!

NEW Tax Credit Deadline: Monday, October 21. New guidance from the Department of Revenue requires that all tax credit forms be submitted by **Monday, October 21** to ensure turnaround on verification. **Payments must reach OSN before October 30.** If you would like assistance with this process, contact givehope@nebraskaopportunity.org or call 402.205.7047. For all personal financial questions, please consult your tax professional.

[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](#).

Please remember in your prayers, the family of George Fraher, who died Thursday, Oct. 10 at Watertown S.D. Funeral Service is Monday, Oct. 14, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Watertown, S.D. Cards may be sent to Carmen Fraher at 1020 4th St. NW, Watertown S.D. 57201.

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, starting Oct. 6, 7 pm, at the McAllisters, 103 Kaup St. Bring a Friend!

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

Blessed Christian Women's Event "God Can": Oct. 26 at 1C Church, Columbus, NE. Come hear four women share how their faith has guided them through life's challenges. Tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$55 for VIP. Costs increase Oct. 1. VIP tickets include lunch with the speakers and a swag bag. Sponsored by: The Farmer Took a Wife. Questions: blessed@thefarmertookawife.com. Doors open at 10:30am.

Lutheran High Fremont Coffee & Conversation: Everyone welcome. 8:30 am, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21. 105 E. 6th Street, Fremont, NE Questions: Dawn Cooksey (402)-990-9444 dcooksey@luhifremont.org

NEEDED: St. Paul Parish Coordinator: Immediate opening for full time or part time position in the church office. Please contact Larry Abrahams at 402-380-8928 if interested.

GROW Nebraska District Youth Gathering: Nov. 9-10 at Lincoln Middle/High School. Students entering 6-8 grades are invited. Registration includes Saturday dinner and snacks, speakers, t-shirt, talent show, and games. Hotel not included. \$105 per person if registered by Sept. 30. To register, contact Jenn Batenhorst at 402-380-4848.

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

Women's Thursday Evening Bible Study: 6-8 pm in the church basement. Topic: "Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman" 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.

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 Information for October

“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.

***Oct 6, 2024, 10:00am - “Transition”** - A young boy reacts to the divorce of his parents and the new reality he now faces. **10:30 AM - Rev. Henry Witte**, pastor at Hope Lutheran Church in South Sioux City, NE, presents a message titled “Pay Closer Attention or You Will Drift Away“. This sermon is based on Hebrews 2:1.

***Oct 13, 2024, 10:00am - “Senior Citizen”** - A man struggles with purpose and a place in life after retirement. **10:30 AM - Rev. Robert Mayes**, pastor at Immanuel and Zion St. John Lutheran Churches in Beemer and Wisner, NE, presents a message titled “The Best Directions”. This sermon is based on Mark 10:17-22.

***Oct 20, 2024, 10:00am - “The Gift”** - A daughter struggles with what to do with birthday gift money. **10:30 AM - Rev. Ricky Jacob**, pastor at Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Church in Winnebago, NE, presents a message titled “Be Strong in the Lord Jesus”. This sermon is based on Ephesians 6:10-17.

***Oct 27, 2024, 10:00am - “The Sexton”** - A pastor and a sexton (church caretaker) with magical powers fight an eerie duel in a church. **10:30am - Rev. Richard Snow**, Nebraska District LCMS President located in Seward, NE, presents a message titled “Free Indeed“. This sermon is based on John 8:31-36.

For more information visit: www.mainstreetliving.com

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.