

# St. Paul Newscaster



Published monthly in the interest of  
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Diller, Nebraska

#### **Our Mission**

*To open our hearts and doors to share God's promise by transforming lives  
through our commitment and discipleship to Jesus Christ.*

**October 2024**

*Pastor Mark Liscom*

## **Fighting**

*“Fight the good fight of faith, take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession the presence of many witnesses” (1 Timothy 6:12)*

We human beings have an intense relationship with fighting. On the one hand, we discourage it. “Stop fighting” I remember mom saying on many occasions. Fighting and war are often understood to be one of the defining features of a fallen and sinful world.

But on the other hand, we love fighting. We love conflict. It’s our entertainment, probably the central theme of most of it. “I won’t stop fighting!” our politicians say. “Never quit, never give up! We honor those who fight for us, and our highest praise can be, “she’s a fighter!”

Which is it? Stop the fighting? Or keep up the fight?

Our Scripture verse from Timothy might help us here. The fighting that works brings life. I’ve been sick recently and quit exercising for two months. But I feel better now, and it’s back into the fight against age and death. You can’t have me! Not yet. Very, very helpful!

But then of course, there is a time to stop fighting. To give it up. To let it go. This can be in the service of life as well. As Ecclesiastes says so well in Chapter 3, “There is a time for war and a time for peace”. (Ecclesiastes 3:8b). So fighting is an interesting subject indeed.

We live in a society that is all hot and bothered looking for a fight. Lord, give us some wisdom here. Teach us how to fight in ways that bring life. Gotta think about this one!

*Pastor Mark*

Editor, Typist, Calendar and Assembly of the Newscaster:  
Kendra K. Weers

### Newscaster Reporters

Church Council – Brian Weers      Treasurer's Report – Allen Roelfs  
WELCA – Peggy Hemphill      Eunice Circle – Irene Gibson  
Work Day – Carolyn Schultis  
Christian Education and VBS – Elizabeth Roelfs, Sheri Schultis  
and Kristen Hennerberg  
Youth News – Joely Weers, Myleigh Weers and Brennan Schultis  
Worship Committee – Council      Mutual Ministry Committee – Council  
Birthdays & Anniversaries – Jane Pretzer      Personals – Elizabeth Roelfs  
WELCA Coffee List – Elizabeth Roelfs      Acolyte List – Pastor Mark Liscom  
Worship Assistants & Greeters Lists – Sherry Henrichs



*Sponsoring the October Newscaster are*  
**Brian and Kendra K Weers**

**In Honor of Our Family's Many Fall Birthdays  
and**

**Judy Landenberger**

**In Loving Memory of Ray Landenberger  
and in honor of my Family**

*Happy birthday(s) and Blessings to the Memory of your loved one  
and family. Thank You for sponsoring this Newscaster!*

*Sponsors for 2024 have been fulfilled, we thank you!*

*There is a bright yellow sign-up sheet on the announcements bulletin board in the back of the Narthex  
for 2025, and remember, postage has increased, so sponsorship has increased to \$40/sponsor.  
Please consider sponsoring this important communication tool for our congregation.*

### SHARE YOUR HAUNTED TRUNK!

Bring your trunk and join the  
Hauntingly Good Fun on October 27.  
There are lots of little ghosts and  
goblins looking for an evening of fun  
BUT WE NEED TRUNKS!

The event will be at  
St. Paul church from 4 – 6pm,  
Indoors AND Outdoors!  
Food is available!  
Several TRUNK AWARDS will be given.



Sunday  
October 27  
4:00 – 6:00pm  
St. Paul Lutheran  
In-church and  
Parking Lot



# St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Minutes for September 19, 2024

Council members present were Brian Weers, Doug Schmidt, Allen Roelfs, Pastor Mark Liscom, Jeanette Bures and Scott Pretzer. Gary Bergmeier was absent. "God Sightings" were shared and Pastor Mark offered an opening prayer. The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Scott moved to accept the minutes and Allen seconded. The minutes were approved.

## Treasurer's Report

Allen Roelfs reported that the Portico bill needs to be paid, painting for window frames has been paid. We still expect a bill next month for glass covers and caulking, etc., from Fairbury Glass. Giving has been good, THANK YOU to the Congregation! Jeanette moved to accept the report and Scott seconded. Motion passed.

## Memorial Treasurer's Report

The account balance is currently \$11,680.12. Allen moved to accept the report and Scott seconded. Motion passed.

## Pastor's Report

4 worship services, 1 wedding and rehearsal, 1 Confirmation class, no rest home visits, 4 text studies, 1 pre-marital meeting. Found out he's had Pneumonia for the past month! Youth Group will meet on Monday. A guy is selected for the "difficult conversations" listening post group. Eleven families with 12 kids signed up for Confirmation. Will be attending the Theological Conference on October 21-22 in Kearney. There are 31 children enrolled in CrossWalk.

## Vice Chairman's Report

No report.

## Committee Reports

**Worship and Music** – May be asking for ideas, etc., for a Christmas Program.

**Christian Education** – CrossWalk has been going for two weeks and is going ok. They want to talk about adult education now that CrossWalk and Confirmation are going.

**Food Stand** – No report.

**Property** – Painting project – Jeannie is done with the ramp and windows, bill has been submitted to Allen. The expanded Sunday School room needs to be painted and carpeted, received an estimate for materials, labor and paint. Need color choice to start project. Windows project – Fairbury Glass is done with window installation and they are caulked. Have an estimate of \$750 to put the etched window, formerly in the entry, back in the entry with a new bronze sash. Two inches off the top and bottom and one inch off the width to get it to fit. Since the window is etched, some heat build-up may be a problem, and may get dirt between the pieces of glass. This has been tabled to the October meeting. Fire Extinguishers – we have three extinguishers, one in the kitchen, one by the mailboxes and one up front. They don't have any tags or dates of installation, and two of them look like they have been hanging in place for quite a while. Called Lincoln General Fire to see if church or businesses need to be checked annually. Lincoln General Fire can do a 26-point check and get a new tag for \$7, which is good for one year. Estimated cost for 6-year check is \$50-60. Every 12 years, a Hydro test should be done with a cost of \$50-60 plus \$35 for the test, which is usually cheaper than replacing the unit. Lincoln General Fire has 10 new units available which are \$227 each. Allen moved to take our 3 fire extinguishers to Lincoln General Fire to have them tested and we intend to add a fourth fire extinguisher to the church in the addition. Motion seconded by Jeanette, motion passed.

**Communication and Outreach** – Listening Post meeting is going forward, will meet in about a month. Trunk Or Treat will be on October 27<sup>th</sup>, unless there is a conflict.

**Memorial** – Talked about the etched window from the front of the church could maybe be a memorial project to put back in place at church entry.

## Old Business

The church 'Garage Sale' will take place on October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> with food available since the bar will not be open.

## New Business

- Jeanette mentioned that the former Dana College is now a place where grown foster kids can live. Lutheran Family Services is involved, and we may have a speaker about it.
- Pastor Mark and Gary will go to another Cluster meeting for congregational leaders.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 7:30pm, committees meet at 6:30pm. Allen moved to adjourn the meeting and Doug seconded, motion passed. The meeting was adjourned and closed with The Lord's Prayer.

~ Brian Weers, Council Secretary

## TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 9/16/2024



### Current Balances

General Fund	\$15,669.88
Benevolence	\$ 961.74
Designations	\$ 3,281.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,913.37</b>

### Operating Expenses

Available Cash	\$15,669.88
Remaining Bills	
Portico	\$ 1,856.19 <i>(bill not ready)</i>
<b>Remaining Bal</b>	<b>\$13,813.69</b>

### Offering Summary

	July	August	September
Current	\$ 8,489.40	\$ 9,584.85	\$ 7,100.00
Benevolence	\$ 446.10	\$ 320.65	\$ 195.00
Designated Funds	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 25.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 8,960.50</b>	<b>\$ 9,905.50</b>	<b>\$ 7,320.00</b> <i>(partial month)</i>

**We need to receive \$10,325.39 in CURRENT each month in order to meet our budget for 2024.**

## Women's Bible Study



## September Eunice Circle

*Minutes for September 2024 were not available at press time. They will be published in an upcoming issue of the Newscaster.*

## Mission Work Day

The quilters met on August 27.  
We will meet on September 24 to tie quilts  
and in October to pack and label boxes  
for shipping to LWR.  
Boxes will be delivered to Omaha by Kendra K Weers.  
Please come and join us!

**SPREADING GOD'S GRACE**



## We pray for our congregational members who are injured and/or are in the hospital:



Our prayers are with **Jonathan Schmidt** and his entire family as he recovers from a farm accident which severely injured his leg. We celebrate your strength and spirit and the skills of the medical staff guiding your healing.

Prayers for a speedy recovery go out to **Josiah Barnts** who broke his leg and **Griffin Zabokrtsky** who broke his arm during football competitions. Thinking of you both.

**Jaxon Warnke** sustained a leg injury. We are thankful he is healing quickly. What a joy to see how CrossWalk friends and classmates are stepping up to support you. We pray that you're back to normal soon.

Our friend **Irene Gibson** is recovering from a procedure. We pray this has brought relief from pain and a return to the many things you enjoy.

**Larry Germer** has been hospitalized during the month of September. We hold him in our prayers as he continues to recover. We also think of **Sondra** during this stressful time.

*Please remember in your prayers all of our members and extended church family who are not able to be with us, those that are in assisted living and care centers and those who may be in need of God's comfort, healing and peace:*

*Eldean Banahan, Robert Weers, Norris Gold, Tyler Wolken, Mike Balderson,  
Norm Balderson and Ervin Hennerberg*

# Women of the ELCA

## Unit Meeting

August 25, 2024

A Unit Meeting of the Women of the ELCA was held following the church service on Sunday, August 25, 2024, with 14 members present.

We opened with reading the Purpose Statement of the Women of the ELCA in unison.

An inspiration was read by Jane Pretzer entitled “If Jesus Came to Your House.”

The meeting was led by President, Ardie Barber.

*Minutes* of the March 3, 2024, unit meeting were read by Secretary, Peggy Hemphill, and were approved as read.

The *Treasurer’s report* indicated a balance on hand of \$2,702.12. The Treasurer’s report was approved.

*Correspondence* – a Thank You was read from Samantha Clifford for remembering her with our spiritual support while she was away at college. A letter of thanks from Lutheran World Relief was read thanking us for our years of support through our donations and work projects.

*Committee reports* were given: *Work Group* – nothing new to report. *Monthly Card Project* volunteers for the next several months are: September – Jane Pretzer; October – Julie Schmidt; November – Kendra K. Weers; December – Sherry Henrichs; January 2025 – Beth Roelfs; and February 2025 – Jill Bergmeier. *Work Day* – It was reported that 3 quilts had been made since our last meeting. They meet on the 4th and 5th Tuesdays of each month from 9 a.m. until noon and any help would be greatly appreciated—come join the fun! *Baby Care Kits* – nothing new to report. *School Kits* – nothing new to report. *College Students* – nothing new to report. *Eunice Circle* – meets on the second Monday of each month. *Kitchen* – nothing new to report.

*Old Business:* Spring Gathering was held in April. No one from our group was able to attend.

*New Business:* Autumn Renewal will be October 12, 2024, at St. Paul’s in Grand Island. Thank Offering Service is tentatively set for November 24 with Beth Roelfs in charge. Volunteers are needed to be in charge of the annual Food Drive and Coat Drive. Kendra K. Weers volunteered to head up the Coat Drive but a volunteer is still needed for the Food Drive. This would include promoting the event and division and delivery of items to the local food pantries. Jan Gold, Judy Landenberger, Linda Behrends, Bets Beran and Peggy Hemphill volunteered to make cookies for the Crosswalk Kickoff set for September 11, 2024. Beth Roelfs brought up a possible service project for the future known as Dana Village. Lutheran Family Services (LFS), one of Nebraska’s largest human care organizations, has launched a 10-year strategic plan for the former Dana College Campus. “Dana Village” will provide holistic support, including attainable housing, for young people aging out of the foster care system. Other populations, such as low-income elderly, will also be able to apply to live in the community. They are in need of monetary and tangible items including furniture and household goods. Jeanette Bures will talk to Church Council to see about a speaker for Mission Sunday regarding this project.

*Offering* for the day was \$99. No date was set for our next meeting.

The meeting was closed with *The Lord’s Prayer*.

~ Respectfully submitted, Peggy Hemphill, Secretary

## Gratitude Thought by Women of the ELCA



The Women of our church are invited to reflect and act in gratitude for the many large and small blessings that make up our days through the Thank Offering Mission. Some women may give regularly, others occasionally, some may have not started. It is never too late to begin practicing gratitude. A few coins in a cup, an appreciative heart and a breath prayer of thanks is all it takes. ALL women of St. Paul will be invited to share their Thank Offerings during the worship service the Sunday before Thanksgiving in November. Watch the November Newscaster for details.

*Normal day, let me be aware of the treasure you are. Let me learn from you, love you, savor you, bless you before you depart. Let me not pass you by in quest of some rare and perfect tomorrow.*

## CrossWalk Gets Off to a Great Start

September 11 was the first CrossWalk session of the year for over 40 children and staff. The time together was filled with familiar energy-filled songs with Sheri Schultis. Tyler Wolken led the kids on the journey of a pop tab as it is donated to the Ronald McDonald Houses to support families dealing with the illness of their children. They were reminded that the gifts we give to God do not have to be large. The power of a pop tab can be a tool of God's work. Beth Roelfs marched the students into a review of CrossWalk guidelines. She discovered there were a lot of Smarties ready to begin a new year.

During the opening, the students whose families are new to CrossWalk received a Bible Story book as a gift for their homes from St. Paul's. The 2nd Graders were awarded their Student Bible from the St. Paul's faith family. Throughout the year, they will have the opportunity to learn how to use the Bible as a tool.

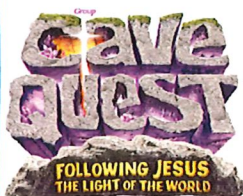
Students also celebrated September birthdays and delivered their summer collection of pop tabs. They filled the big jar once and started on the 2nd. Their goal is to fill the jar 5 times to win a special celebration. Diane and Bob Wellsandt delivered the donations gathered during the 2nd semester of last year to the Omaha Ronald McDonald House. It totaled 76 lbs.

A welcome celebration for the children and their families was hosted by the Outreach Committee. Everyone enjoyed cookies and ice cream. Pastor Mark welcomed everyone and introduced the CrossWalk staff. It was a wonderful way to begin the year.

As lessons have started, the students have learned about the Old Testament characters Ezra and Nehemiah and how God used them and uses us today to share his love and guidance to the world. ~ Photo and article by Beth Roelfs



## VBS KIDS AND OUR YOUTH HELP CARE FOR OUR FARMERS



VBS kids putting together the care packages



VBS showed their generosity by putting together care packages for the farmers in our community.

Donations from the congregations and community included granola bars, snack crackers, peanut butter/cheddar crackers, fruit snacks, dried fruit snacks, Chex mix, chips, Rice Krispie treats and bottled water.

THANK YOU to all who donated items, VBS kids that put together the care packages, and our Youth who distributed the packages to our Farmers.

WE APPRECIATE YOU!



Youth member Joely Weers delivering a care package to the farming family of the Pretzers



## GET READY TO DANCE!

The Confirmation students started off their year on September 11 with a special evening at the Gary Bergmeier farm with lots of fun and fellowship.

October will be busy with classes on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> (Service Project), 23<sup>rd</sup> and a Halloween Dance at MOSAIC in Beatrice on the 30<sup>th</sup>. For the dance, *please wear some kind of costume*, and we will leave the church at 6pm and return to the church at 8pm. The residents and students always enjoy a fun party to celebrate Halloween.

On Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, there will be the First Communion class (6<sup>th</sup> graders) from 10:00 to 11:30am to learn about Communion and being an Acolyte. *First Communion will take place the next day on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.*



The Diller-Odell High School held the National Honor Society induction ceremony on Wednesday, September 25 where they inducted 14 new members.

New Inductees from our church were Joely Weers, Peyton Denner, Morgan Steensness and Scarlett Steensness.

Current members from our church are Brennan Schultis and Myleigh Weers.

After the ceremony, National Honor Society members and guests enjoyed pizza and dessert.

Congratulations to all our church youth on this amazing accomplishment!



*Just married*  
♥  
∞

*Congratulations to Lance Lawton and Erica Urbach as they were united in marriage on September 14. We also extend best wishes to Susan and Larry Lawton as their family celebrated this joyful event. May God bless Lance and Erica in their lives together.*

*The impromptu choir sang "The Bond of Love" from the OSB during our September 8<sup>th</sup> Worship service.*

*Thank you to those that come and share their music gifts. It truly makes our worship special!*



# CHURCH GARAGE SALE

## HAVE ITEMS TO SELL, OR SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP?

St. Paul is having a "Garage Sale" during the Hwy 136 "Trail of Treasures" garage sales in the area to raise funds for property improvement projects, like the window coverings, painting and very light remodeling in the former classrooms.

If you would like to donate items to sell, please bring them to church by Thursday, October 3 so they can be priced and arranged. The sale will go from 8am to 5pm on Friday and Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

We will also have food available, since the restaurant in town will not be open.



## HELP FEED THE HUNGRY IN OUR COMMUNITY

Fall Food Drive will be held at St. Paul during the month of November. As you are shopping over the next month, consider adding a few items each week to share with others.

## COAT DRIVE is HAPPENING NOW

October is the time to clean out those closets and share any cold weather gear that may not be needed by your family. Items being collected include: coats, snow boots, gloves, mittens, snow pants, coveralls, and scarves for children, men and women. Donations can be hung on the hallway coat rack or in the collection basket. **ONLY SHARE GOOD QUALITY, CLEAN ITEMS PLEASE.** The campaign concludes on the 1st Sunday of November.



## HUMBLE BEGINNINGS



True Christian religion does not begin at the highest as all other religions do, but at the lowest. Therefore, whenever you are concerned to think and act about your salvation, you must put away all speculations about the Majesty, all thoughts of works, traditions and philosophy — indeed, of the Law of God itself.

And you must run directly to the manger and the mother's womb, embrace this Infant and Virgin's Child in your arms, and look at Him — born, being nursed, growing up, going about in human society, teaching, dying, rising again, ascending above all the heavens, and having authority over all things.

— Martin Luther, Commentary on Galatians



## October Wedding Anniversary

October 10, 1998

∞ Mr. & Mrs. Chris & Stacy Schlichtman



## October Birthdays



- 1 Jeremy Meyer
- 1 Corina Lottman
- 2 Jill Scheele
- 2 Jill Holliger
- 2 Lance Lawton
- 4 Pastor Mark Liscom
- 4 Steve Fugett
- 6 Megan Langenberg
- 6 Griffin Zabokrtsky
- 7 Jill Lottman
- 7 Cale Clifford
- 9 John Denner, Jr.

- 9 Sarah Meyer
- 9 Jarod Gold
- 9 Madeline Lottman
- 9 Valerie Lottman
- 10 Jeanette Bures
- 14 Jonathan Schmidt
- 15 Zachary Warren
- 15 Tynleigh Sasse
- 16 Kendra K Weers
- 17 David Duis
- 18 Phyllis Wiemers

- 18 Kevin Banahan
- 19 Josie Hennerberg
- 20 Marla Weichel
- 20 Bradley Hawkins
- 21 Scott Pretzer
- 22 Robert Weers
- 25 Janet Whitehead
- 26 Patrick Hemphill
- 27 Linda Beran
- 29 Dylan Nippert
- 31 Sheri Schultis
- 31 Samantha Clifford



**VOLUNTEERS:** If you are unable to serve on the Sunday(s) you are assigned, PLEASE arrange with someone else to fill in and notify others in the assigned Sunday of the change. Thank You!



**October 6 Sunday Worship Service  
with Holy Communion**

*Worship Assistant – David Henrichs  
Greeter – Dean Pretzer*

*Coffee Service – Kendra K Weers, Deb Nippert*

**October 13 Sunday Worship Service**

*Worship Assistant – Gary Bergmeier  
Greeter – Charles Barber  
Coffee Service – Ardith Barber, Kristen Heidemann*

**October 20 Sunday Worship Service**

*Worship Assistant – David Henrichs  
Greeter – Gary Bergmeier  
Coffee Service – Jeanette Bures, Jill Scheele,  
Kaitlyn Scheele*



**October 27 Sunday Worship Service**

*Worship Assistant – Sherry Henrichs  
Greeter – Jim Bures  
Coffee Service – Robbyn Roelfs, Stacy Roelfs*



**November 3 Sunday Worship Service  
With Holy Communion  
First Communion**

**All Saints Sunday and Memorial Dedication**

*Worship Assistant – Sherry Henrichs  
Greeter – Dennis Nippert  
Coffee Service – Jane Pretzer, Jill Zabokrtsky*











# October 2024



[www.stpauldiller.com](http://www.stpauldiller.com)

\* Facebook – St. Paul’s Lutheran Church Diller Nebraska

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
<b>First Communion</b> <b>Sunday, November 3</b>			<b>CROSS WALK</b> Christian Ed 4pm  Confirmation Parents Night 7pm		 8am – 5pm both days	
Red Hymnal <b>Worship Service 6</b> Holy Communion 9:30 AM  			9  <b>CROSS WALK</b> Christian Ed 4pm  Confirmation Service Project 7pm	10	11	12
Blue Hymnal <b>Worship Service 13</b> 9:30 AM	Eunice Circle 1:30pm  	15	16  <b>CROSS WALK</b> Christian Ed 4pm  NO Confirmation Committees/ Council Meetings 6:30/7:30pm  	17	18	19
Red Hymnal <b>Worship Service 20</b> 9:30 AM	21  <b>Theological Conference</b> Through 23rd	22  <b>Work Day</b> All Day	23  <b>CROSS WALK</b> Christian Ed 4pm  Confirmation 7pm	24  Newscaster Items Due	25	26
Blue Hymnal <b>Worship Service 27</b> 9:30 AM    REFORMATION Sunday 4 – 6pm	28	29  <b>Work Day</b> All Day	30  <b>CROSS WALK</b> Christian Ed 4pm  Confirmation 6 – 8pm	31  Reformation  	1  	2  First Communion and Acolyte Class 10 – 11:30am



St. Paul Lutheran Church  
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