

**St. Paul's Lutheran**

From the desk of Pastor Rohde:

**Address:**

605 S. Center St.  
Bremen, IN 46506

**Telephone:**

Church:  
1-574-546-2332  
School:  
1-574-546-2790  
Preschool:  
1-574-546-2848

**Fax:**

1-574-546-3242

**E-Mail:**

church@stpaulsbremen.org

**Website:**

stpaulsbremen.org  
facebook.com/stpaulsbremen

**Church Office Hours:**

M,W,Th, F 8:30 – 11:30 am

**Sunday Schedule:**

Worship: 8 & 10:30 am  
Sunday School & Adult  
Bible Class: 9:15 am  
Unity Sunday: 9:30 am with  
Sunday School following

**Pastors:**

Rev. Roger Rohde  
Office Hours:  
M & Th 8:30 – 11:30  
1-574-209-0306 (H)

Rev. Neil Wonnacott  
Office Hours:  
W & F 8:30 – 11:30  
1-574-301-9291 (H)

Many years ago, near Electra, Texas, an oil well was being dug. It was 180 feet deep and 12 inches wide. During the digging, a child fell into the well. From the depths below, the child's plea could be heard, "Daddy, get me out!" Ropes were tied to the father's body and an effort was made to lower him into the narrow well, but to no avail. Other efforts were made to rescue the child, but all ended in failure. The child's plea became fainter and fainter, "Daddy, get me out! Daddy, get me out!" The cry finally ceased. Later grab hooks brought to the surface the lifeless body of this child. Strongmen, who had been unable to rescue the child, sat down and wept.

Who was to blame for this child's death? It was impart due to the neglect of those digging the well. They didn't take enough caution in making the well less accessible to a young child. It was impart due to the neglect of the father. He could have been more watchful concerning his son's movements. There surely was enough blame to go around. The fact is that because people were not careful enough, this young life was lost.

Today there are many children walking in a lost state, because people are careless. Parents are bringing their children into a world that has little or no concern about a child's relationship to Christ. There are those who call themselves Christians living lifestyles that don't show a deep love for Christ and a commitment to grow in His grace and walk in His ways.

The Lord warns parents and all Christians to be mindful of how their lives are leaving impressions on those children. In Luke 17, the Lord said to His disciples: "Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come. It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around his neck than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin. So watch yourselves" (verse 1-3a).

The most tragic thing that can ever occur is when a person ends up in hell because of our lack of responsible living and testimony. The Lord tells us in Ephesians 6: "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord" (verse 4). In Proverbs 22:6, we are told: "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." Jesus in John 20 instructs His church: "Feed My sheep. Feed My lambs" (15, 17).

Now is the time for parents, pastors, teachers, and all God's people to make a sincere commitment to walk with Christ and proclaim His truth through word and deed. Let us never be careless in our living or teaching, lest we hear someone cry out hopelessly and end up in hell eternally. May we be faithful in sharing God's Truth through the words we speak and the actions we take.

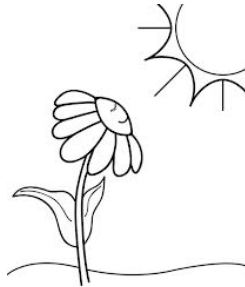
## Lesson in Stewardship: Die to Live

There was once a pastor who was unexpectedly called to serve at the seminary. The congregation he served loved him deeply and was filled with sadness at the announcement of his departure. The congregation hosted a farewell for him.

At the farewell celebration, a young boy came up to the pastor and said, "I really hope you like it at the seminary." The pastor responded, "Why, thank you so much. By the way, do you know what a seminary is?" The boy answered without hesitation, "Sure, it is a place where you go to die." The pastor laughed, and then explained the difference between "seminary" and "cemetery." However, after that the pastor reflected upon his calling a bit more, he thought to himself that perhaps the boy might be right. The seminary is a place where one goes to die – die to self that Christ might live in him.

Is that not what God wants us all to do –die to live. Peter tells us: "Jesus Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might **die to sins** and **live for righteousness**; by His wounds we are healed" (24). Paul tells us in Romans 6: "Count yourselves **dead to sin** but **alive to God** in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from **death to life**; and offer the parts of your body to Him as instruments of righteousness" (verses12-13).

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**THE DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER EPISTLE IS AUGUST 20th!!!** Epistle articles, comments, ideas may be deposited in the epistle box in the Narthex mail slots or better yet e-mailed to Deb Burcham at [dburcham@stpaulsbremen.org](mailto:dburcham@stpaulsbremen.org). I appreciate all of your articles, ideas and comments!

### **From the Church Secretary:**

#### **A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY**

A new church directory will be printed sometime before school starts. ***Now*** is the time to get your updated information to the church secretary. If you have changed your home phone to a cell phone please let us know of the changes. If you don't want your cell phone published, but it is the only way for us to get hold of you, please indicate that desire and we will keep it confidential. There are change forms near the mailboxes in the narthex. It's easy, fill out the form with any changes and slip it in the bottom corner box labeled "secretary". You may call during office hours as well. 574-546-2332. Updated information is essential for communication, *we so appreciate* the effort to keep us up to date. Thanks!

**NEW COLLEGE ADDRESS?** College students, if you have your new address for school this year, we need you to fill out the form for directory changes. The addresses will be used for epistle mailing and for “care boxes”. NOW, before you leave for school would be *a great time* to collect your new address! Thanks!

**Board Briefs:**

**Christian Education:**

Sunday School Mission of the Month – Lutherans For Life - \$75

**HURRY! HURRY! HURRY!**

Time is limited and it's first come first served!!!! You have the opportunity of a lifetime and it's just for those young men and women between the ages of 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade and we don't want you to miss out!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church will be the site of an animated Wax Museum on Rally Day (August 30<sup>th</sup>) during the Sunday School hour. To be one of the few lucky individuals to have the opportunity to participate, you must be present during the month of August at your appropriate Sunday School classroom to learn more information on how you too can make history!

Dazzle your parents, grandparents and even your pastors, as you teach them about infamous biblical persons whenever YOU are “turned on”.

Do you have what it takes to be among the chosen few?????????

***Lifelight*** will take place from September 16<sup>th</sup> through November 11<sup>th</sup>. Sessions are each Wednesday from 6:45 - 8:15 p.m. This year's Lifelight topic is the Book of Ezekiel. Please look for a registration form in future church bulletins.

**Parish Fellowship:**

There will be a mini breakfast on August 30 from 8:30 - 9:15 a.m. There will be a sign up sheet on the 'Check It Out' bulletin board (outside the offices). Please sign up to bring your goodies!

**Stewardship:**

Many thanks to Tom Coxey for being an excellent leader of the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University 9-week course that took place this spring.

The Board of Stewardship welcomes Jerry Smith as a new board member. The board is very thankful to have Jerry's involvement.

Many church members have inquired about electronic tithing. Mark Mateka is utilizing his expertise in researching options regarding this.

The Board of Stewardship is working on St. Paul's being a beneficiary of the AmazonSmile Program. With this program, church members that make purchases on

Amazon can elect to have Amazon donate a portion of the total purchase price to the church. There is no cost to church members to participate in this program.

**Church Office: Membership Changes**

Deaths:

Jeff Fretz  
Darlene Nickerson  
Gert Purschwitz (long time member)

Renewal of Wedding Vows:

Brad & Ada Sahlhoff

2015 Parish Planning Committee meetings: October 26

2015 Voters Assembly meeting: August 24, November 23

**Altar Guild: August attendant is Mel.**

Altar Flowers in August:

2 Jim & Janet  
9  
16 Larry & Grace  
23  
30



The Altar Flower Chart for the 2015 Liturgical Year is hanging in the Narthex (North side), just outside the altar guild room door. Please look it over and sign up for flowers.

**PTL News and Notes:**

Aug. 8 - Back to School Pool Party at Bremen Public Pool from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

September 12 - Kali Rose concert to benefit PTL & Tuition Aid 7 p.m.

September 15 - Harman Fundraiser all day

September 25 - School Picnic (time to be announced)

***St. Paul's PTL, school and preschool would like to thank everyone who helped decorate, donated candy and loaned their garage, trailer and vehicle for the Fireman's Festival parade float. Your support is so important and we are thankful for all you do.***



## ***BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY!!***

The LEG ladies are studying “How Should Chrtistians Live?” The study is on the books of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John. We meet on the odd-numbered Sunday evenings (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>) in the Jerusalem Room at 7pm. Contact the church office or call Joanna to reserve your copy of the study guide. We are looking forward to welcoming you!

Ladies Encouragement Group  
Moving our feet, shining our light!

## ***WE HAVE A JOB FOR MEN***

If you are a male of high school age or older, St. Paul’s has a “job” for you. It is not an easy task, but it’s one that every man has been given to carry out....to study God’s word, obey His commandments and live a life that is pleasing to Him....a job we can never retire from.

The Men’s Breakfast Bible Study meets every other week on Wednesday morning from 6:30AM to 7:30 AM and through fellowship and Bible study we help each other in our “jobs” that God has given us. The food and fellowship often create laughter that we all enjoy. Please come and learn with the rest of us. Our schedule for 2015 is as follows:

August 12, 26      September 9, 23      October 7, 21      November 4, 18      December 2, 16

We meet in the cafeteria conference room in the Bremen Hospital. Come in the main entrance, walk straight ahead to the waiting area, then turn left...the cafeteria and conference room are on your left.



CoolCups.com



## **If All The Bible Translations Had A Dinner Party**

By Stephen Altrogge (<http://theblazingcenter.com>)

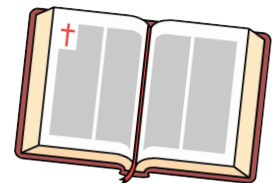
**English Standard Version (ESV):** Hey everybody, can I have your attention? Great, thanks.

Look, I’m so glad that you’re all here for this reunion of sorts. It sure is great to have all of us translations together in one...

**New International Version (NIV):** Since when did you become the big cheese who gets to tell us what to do? Look, I know you’re the new kid on the block, and that a bunch of pastors are all like, “Rah, rah, ESV, our study Bible can beat up your study Bible.” But just because you’re new and polished doesn’t mean you’re better. Some of us have been around for a long time and have seen a lot of things.

**King James Version (KJV):** Hear, hear! Thou young Bibles have no sense of tradition or languages. Thou goest hither and yon, getting makeovers every three years. NIV, in the last ten years thou hast gotten plastic surgery and thou hast begun dressing like a metrosexual. Thou hast lost thy manhood! I haven’t changed one jot or tittle in over 400 years! [Takes small sip of merlot from a goblet marked “Ebenezer”].

**NIV:** I am not dressing like a metrosexual! These are skinny jeans. They’re supposed to look...skinny. And in terms of my manhood, let me make something...



**The Message (MSG):** Dudes, why does Old Man James always talk like that? [Slurps on Redbull]. I mean, like, what's the difference between "Thee" and "Thou"? And what are jots and tittles? Are they like "Mike & Ike's"? Honestly, I feel like I'm talking to someone who speaks Mexican. Whatever's. I totes don't get it.

**ESV:** Okay, okay, listen. Yes, I have been getting a lot of attention lately, and I did have a snazzy marketing campaign, but that doesn't mean I'm bet...

**MSG:** Dude, can you talk a little quieter. My son, The Message Remix, is competing in the X-Games, and I'm trying to watch on my phone. He's totes shredding the half-pipe.

**Amplified Bible (AMP)** [nervously rubbing hands together, perspiration forming on mustache]: I just want to say that I'm really grateful, excited, thrilled, jazzed, stoked to be here. I talk a lot, say a lot of words, run my mouth when I get nervous, anxious, stressed, worried, so please ignore, deny, pay no attention to me. Did I say too much?

**KJV** [speaking very loudly]: Translations these days have no sense of history, no sense of tradition. I wast commissioned by King James himself. I am practically royalty. Back in my day, there was no New Living Message Voice Remix. There were no glow in the dark covers or Bible XTremes. There was only the king's English, and we liked it that way. Message, who doth commissioned you? Was it a President or Prime Minister?

**MSG:** Uhh, a guy name Eugene. He's from Montana, I think. Wears Birkenstocks. Totes awesome dude.

**Scofield Reference Bible (SRB):** Guys, I know that, technically, I'm not a translation, so I really appreciate you letting me be here. Gosh, it's so exciting to be here with all of you. I don't often get the chance to speak. I've prepared a detailed presentation I'd like to share with all of you.

**ESV** [muttering]: Oh boy. Here we go.

**SRB:** Anyway, I've got a lot of really neat charts and tables that I'd like to show you guys. I think that by the time this dinner is over, we can predict the return of Christ to within 24 hours.

**NIV:** Look, not to be a jerk, but I think all of us contain a verse in which Jesus says we can't know the time or the hour.

**ESV** [snickering]: Are you sure you still have that verse?

**NIV:** Oh, is that how it's going to be? Don't even get me started. Old Man James over there has more errors than Derek Jeter, and The Message is practically having a rave. Then there's Amp, who can't stop talking, and Mr. Scofield who has managed to connect Israel, Michael Gorbachev, and Michael W. Smith. I'm the only sane one of the bunch!

**AMP:** I think you're overreacting, being hyperbolic, exaggerating. Yes perhaps I do speak, pontificate, ramble on a bit, but it's all for good. I think if you would just let me speak, talk, hold forth a bit more, you would see that I have wonderful, extravagant, delightful ideas.

**NIV:** And ESV, don't get me started on your whole family. You're brother, Study Bible, has a serious weight problem. I mean, he needs to go on Atkins or something. Your grandma, Mrs. Heirloom, likes to wrap herself in calfskin. Calfskin! Does she sleep on a bed of veal? And your little sister, Glo Bible, looks like she's ready to hit the rave scene.

**ESV** [standing up]: You stay away from my family! We're working on our problems. At least I didn't have a vasectomy!

**MSG:** Woah...this just got intense. [cracks open another Red Bull]. What's a vasectomy?

**NIV:** How dare you?!? Let's make this clear. I was neutered. There is a big difference. It's kind of like being a eunuch, but different.

[Awkward silence]

**SRB:** So like I was saying, I have these really neat color-coded charts that clearly show how the fall of the Berlin Wall was predicted in...

**KJV:** Oh just shut up, dear boy. Thou rants and rants when thou knowest nothing! I long for the good old days when a man protected his family with both the broadsword and the Bible.

**SRB:** Well then. I'll be leaving.

**Catholic Edition Revised Standard Version (CRSV):** Guys, I know I haven't said anything yet, but I really think I can solve this problem.

**ESV:** No, no. I know how you work. You think that because you have extra books, that somehow makes you special. Well it doesn't!

**MSG:** Dudes! Dudes. It's in these times that I like to quote that verse in Proverbs which says, "Can't we all just get along?"

# SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

School Office phone: 546-2790

Fax: 546-3242

e-mail: [schools@stpaulsbremen.org](mailto:schools@stpaulsbremen.org)

August 2015

Our theme for the 2015-2016 school year is Life Together. This is based on I Cor. 1:9 (ESV). We give thanks to God for His gracious love to all of us!

During Mrs. VanSoest's maternity leave this year, the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grades will be taught by Mr. Mark Wildauer. Mr. Wildauer has most recently been teaching in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mr. Wildauer and his wife will have three of their children in our school. We welcome Mark and his family to our congregation and school.

SCHOOL REGISTRATION is on Aug. 3 and 4. These days will include both the final registration and the payment of fees.

Aug. 03 from 3-5 P.M. and 6-8 P.M.

Aug. 04 from 9 - 11:30 A.M.

Please contact us to discuss any concerns or if you need an alternative date for your child's registration. School begins on August 13 at 8:30 A.M. (It is a Thursday, so it is a "late start" day.).

If you know of any families that we should approach concerning SCHOOL ENROLLMENT here at St. Paul's School please contact St. Paul's School office

In preparation for school beginning on August 13, a PTL POOL PARTY will be held on Saturday, August 8 from 5:30 - 7:30 P.M. at the Bremen Pool.

VOLUNTEER FOR THIS COMING YEAR! We welcome all helpers, even one-time helpers. We can use your assistance. If you would like to help please contact the school office.

THE TUITION AID FUND seeks your contributions to help those who desire a Christian Education for their children but who need a little help to meet the costs. Your generosity will greatly benefit the cause of Christian Education for both members and non-members. We are also seeking donors who would like to SPONSOR a child or family directly. Please contact Mr. Russell.

NOTE: Contact the church or school office if you have questions concerning scheduling the use of any of the facilities. Please check the Church Calendar for other school events.

## August Devotion: "Lights in Dark Places"

*"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden." Matthew 5:14*

How have we been discharging the duties of citizenship in our great and blessed land? Is our country, our city, our town, our neighborhood, our street, the better for our having lived here? Have we by our Christian witness and by our daily actions made a constructive contribution to the betterment of our community?

Or have we merely been the passive and ungrateful recipients of all the bounties, both spiritual and material, that God has showered on us through our land, its institutions, and its government?

In His Sermon on the Mount Jesus said that Christians are to be lights -- not sponges! They are to give forth -- not merely soak up. They are to show the way to others -- not obscure it.

God puts His lights in dark places so they may spread their rays where they are needed. The world today -- our nation, our community -- needs nothing more than the light of the Gospel, which God has put into our hands. Wherever we are, God has placed us there "for such a time as this" (Esther 4:14).

May the light of the Gospel shine forth from our lives into the land we love the most.

PRAYER: Dear Lord, "Bless our native land; firm may it ever stand!" for Jesus sake. Amen.