

**St. Paul's Lutheran**

**Address:**

605 S. Center St.  
Bremen, IN 46506

**Telephone:**

Church:  
1-574-546-2332  
School:  
1-574-546-2790  
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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)

From the desk of Pastor Rohde:

We all have encountered life-changing events of one kind or another. Some life-changing events are joyful such as getting married, being blessed with a child, or purchasing a new house. Other life-changing experiences are more challenging and tainted with sorrow such as an accident, illness, or death. Everyone reading this article has encountered life-changing experiences of both kinds. Yet, there has never been a more life-changing event than the one that occurred almost 2,000 years ago.

On that day three women were taking a long and difficult walk to the tomb of One that was near and dear to them. Two days before they saw Him on a cross in great agony and pain. Now they were going to His tomb to anoint His body with spices in an act of devotion and love. When they got to the tomb, the stone was rolled away and the grave was empty. This already could be termed a strange, life-changing situation. Yet, the greatness of this situation was magnified when it was learned that Jesus' body was not there, because He had risen from the grave and was alive.

This life-changing experience for these women is the greatest life-changing experience for all of us. It is such a life-changing event, because Jesus' resurrection brings blessings to all mankind and these blessings are of an eternal nature.

Because Jesus is risen from the dead, we are certain that our sins are forgiven. Paul wrote: "If Christ has not been raised... you are still in your sins.... But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep" (I Corinthians 15:17,20). Jesus' resurrection is life-changing, because all our sins are forgiven and the Lord remembers them no more.

Because Jesus is risen from the dead, we can live in the certainty of all His promises. Jesus fulfilled the promise that was thought to be impossible. He said of His body: "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days" (John 2:19). No one throughout all of history had ever brought himself back from the dead. But Jesus did. His resurrection displays His faithfulness to His promises and assures us of His ability to fulfill all the promises He has made to us.

Also, because of Christ's resurrection, death has been conquered and all who believe in Jesus Christ, as their Lord and Savior will live with Him in heaven forever. Jesus said, "Because I live, you shall live also" (John 14:19).

It becomes quite evident that Jesus' resurrection from the tomb is the greatest life-changing event for all people. His resurrection assures us our past is forgiven, our present is secure in His promises, and our future in heaven is guaranteed through His name. As we deal with life-changing events in our lives, may we not forget the most significant life-changing event of all, Jesus' resurrection from the grave. Hallelujah!

## Lesson in Stewardship: The Significance of the First Day of the Week

As we draw near to the celebration of Easter, we learn something important about our use of the first day of the week. The Easter account in Scripture tells us that three women went to the tomb of Jesus “on the first day of the week.” As they made that journey to the tomb of Jesus, their hearts were filled with sorrow over all the things that had transpired during the last several days. They were also concerned about how they were going to roll the huge stone away from the entrance to Jesus’ tomb.

What would have happened if these women had not used the first day of the week to journey to the place where Jesus could be found? If they hadn’t made that journey, they would not have learned that the stone had been rolled away and Jesus had risen from the dead.

How important is it for us to come to the place where Jesus may be found, His church, on the first day of the week. It is there through His Word and Sacraments that we are reminded and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Each Sunday is meant to be a celebration of the life we have in Christ, that the One Who died for us is alive to care for us and bring us safely to heaven.

Do not let your life be burdened by the events you encounter each week. On the first day of the week hear the voice of Jesus say to you, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me” (John 14:1). Come to God’s house and behold the resurrected Savior. See the reality of His resurrection and live in the comfort of His governing ways.



**THE DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL EPISTLE IS MARCH 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!

**New Adult Bible Study will start on March 6<sup>th</sup> (Spring Quarter)** in the Jerusalem room. The book of the Bible is Paul’s letter to the Ephesians, which is about the church and about the fellowship of believers who make up the church. It is about us, for by faith we are the church in our time and place. We, by God’s grace, are part of God’s family – a family united in Christ and sustained by the Holy Spirit. This class will be led by Pastor Wonnacott. The new quarter is an opportunity to invite a friend to study the Word of God.

**Starting March 6<sup>th</sup> in the Bethany Room will be the study Martin Luther** led by Jim Russell. This is a newly released DVD assisted study entitled: “A Man Named Martin: Part 1 – The Man.” The study is produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries. (Parts 2 & 3 of the study will be released later in 2016 & 2017.)

## LENT 2016: “PLACES OF THE PASSION”

The scenes of Lent are familiar. The Upper Room, the Garden of Gethsemane, the halls of Pontius Pilate, and the hill of Golgotha—these are the places we remember when we meditate on our Lord’s Passion. Yet when Jesus enters a place, He never leaves it as He found it. The most troubling places in our lives become the most amazing places of God’s grace when Jesus visits them.

For this reason, in our midweek Lenten series, we will read and contemplate Luke’s account of our Lord’s Passion. Each week, we will read a different section of the story; and each week, Luke will take us to a different place, the places of the Passion.

Our focus, however, will not be on these physical places. Instead, we will gaze in wonder on the spiritual work that our Lord does there. Jesus will share His strength in our times of weakness. He will fill us with His praise in the midst of our sorrow. Week after week, we will enter the places of the Passion only to discover our Lord . . . waiting for us . . . willing to share with us a love that was set in place before the foundations of the world.

Plan to come to our midweek Lenten services this year at 7:00pm. Prepare to enter into these places of devotion, for there, your Lord will meet you, sharing with you His wondrous love that saves a fallen world.

### Sermon Titles and Texts

3/2/16 Midweek of Lent 3: “The Betrayal: A Place of Eternal Love” (Luke 22:47–53)

3/9/16 Midweek of Lent 4: “The Courtyard: A Place of Renewal” (Luke 22:54–62)

3/16/16 Midweek of Lent 5: “The Trial: A Place of God’s Will” (Luke 22:63–23:25)

Holy Thursday: “The Last Supper: A Place of Forgiveness” (Luke 22:7–23)

Good Friday: “Golgotha: A Place of Simple Love” (Luke 23:44–49)

### Midweek Lenten Dinners – 6:00pm

Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup> Stewardship Board & Altar Guild

Mar. 9<sup>th</sup> LEGs

Mar. 16<sup>th</sup> School Board

### **Board Briefs:**

#### **Christian Education:**

Sunday School Mission of the Month – Lutheran Child & Family Services - \$75

#### **Church Office: Membership Changes**

Transferred In: John Marburger, Connie Marburger, Linda Allen

#### **Parish Fellowship:**

Co-Ed Volleyball will be on Thursday, Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9pm for all men and women ages 14 and up.

Board briefs cont.

Euchre Party is Friday, Mar. 4<sup>th</sup>, from 7-9:00pm in the Bethany Room. Anyone 16 and older can join us for fun and fellowship, and please bring a snack to share. Please bring cards and a card table if possible. Beverages will be provided. This evening is sponsored by Parish Fellowship. Come and bring a friend!

Men's Group takes place on Sundays, Mar. 13<sup>th</sup>, from 2-4:00pm for all men ages 15 and above. We will meet in the gym for basketball and fellowship and will close with a prayer.

### **Stewardship:**

The Church has just received it's first check from the AmazonSmile program for just over \$10.00. If you haven't signed up already, please do so while placing your Amazon order.

A Stewardship Policy has been completed for Parish Planning review.

### **Youth:**

Jr. High Youth Nights for March

Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 7-9PM (Meet in the gym)

We will start practicing for the SonRise Service (March 27<sup>th</sup>) on Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 11:30AM-12:30PM.

We are having a bowling outing for the Junior High Youth and the High School Youth at Signature Lanes on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016. It will take place at 2-4 PM. We ask that those wishing to attend this event sign-up by March 1<sup>st</sup> on the youth board outside the church offices (Absolutely no later than March 6<sup>th</sup>). We need drivers/chaperones to sign-up as well. The youth are welcome to bring friends! The Youth Board will be covering the cost.

The High School Youth will be serving the Easter Breakfast this year. The meal will be served 8:15-9:15AM. We will be serving pancakes, sausage, and fresh fruit. We ask that the High School Youth be there by 7:00AM to begin preparing and setting up for the meal.

For the Community Outreach this month the Junior High Youth and the Senior High Youth will be doing a Food Drive Scavenger Hunt on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 3-5PM. Church Members wishing to donate may bring food to the church. There will be a box for collection starting on March 6<sup>th</sup>. The food donated will be given to the Food Pantry at St. Dominic's Catholic Church in Bremen.

### **Altar Guild: March attendants are Elaine & Kay.**

Altar Flowers in March:

6                      13                      20                      Steve & Michelle                      27

The Altar Flower Chart for the 2016 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.

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

The LEG ladies invite you to join them for Bible study!

LEG meets 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 (546-2332) 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:



CoolCups.com

March 9, 23  
April 6, 20  
May 4, 18  
June 1, 15, 29  
July 13, 27  
August 10, 24

September 7, 21  
October 5, 19  
November 2, 16, 30  
December 14, 28



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.

## **Basketball Update!**

Congratulations to the St. Paul's 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade basketball team on a very successful 2015-16 season. The Eagles ended their season with a record of 8 – 1 after defeating Resurrection Lutheran Academy on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> with a final score of 14-7. Thank you for all the support that we received throughout the season from the congregation. Special thanks go to the PTL who operated the concession stand for every home game, and the many volunteers that helped make each game happen!

# SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

School Office phone: 546-2790

Fax: 546-3242

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

March 2016

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!

OUR SPECIAL CHAPEL emphasis for March is Camp Lutherhaven. Our offerings will go to support and its program of outdoor ministry. We also donate a portion of the offering to our Tuition Aid Fund. If you would like to donate to either project please contact St. Paul's School office.

**PRESCHOOL will hold an OPEN HOUSE on March 3 from 6 – 7:30 p.m.** Invite someone, or come yourself, and check out their program.

**KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP will be held March 10 from 6:30-7:30 P.M.** for the 2016 - 2017 school year. Please set aside that evening if you have a Kindergartner for next year. Or tell someone you know who would be interested. Thanks!

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION ON NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK. We are celebrating March 28 through April 1 this year.

VOLUNTEER FOR THIS COMING YEAR! We welcome all helpers, even one-time helpers. We can use your assistance with a variety of tasks. 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.

PTL: Please save ALUMINUM CANS. These cans may be deposited in the shed on the south end of the parking lot. If you have other aluminum items to donate, call the school office at 546-2790. Also please save the small logo printed on the labels or the lids/caps of CAMPBELL LABELS items. Thank you.

*NOTE: Contact the church or school office if you have questions concerning scheduling the use of any of the facilities.*

## Mark your calendars: Preschool Open House

St. Paul's Lutheran Preschool will kick off New Student Registration for the 2016-2017 school year with an open house on Thursday, March 3rd from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. Bring your student to meet teachers, tour the facility, and pick up registration materials. Can't make the open house? Call [574-546-2848](tel:574-546-2848) to make an appointment at a different time. Reserve your students place at St. Paul's Lutheran Preschool, celebrating 45 years during the 2016-2017 school year!

## Kindergarten Information Evening

St. Paul's Lutheran School at 605 S. Center St. in Bremen will host a Kindergarten Information Evening on Thursday, March 10th from 6:30 to 7:30 P.M. You are invited to bring your Kindergarten-to-be for a visit. Your child will have the opportunity to join our kindergarten teachers, Mrs. VanSoest and Mrs. Middaugh, in a short class session with the theme "Kindergarten is "Beary" Special". Parents may tour the school and ask questions about the school and its programs during this time.

St. Paul's is open to all students, preschool through 8th grade, and offers a nurturing, Christ-centered environment with a complete curriculum. Our purpose is "to faithfully proclaim God's saving grace so children will grow in their relationship with Jesus as we prepare them academically, socially, and emotionally for life in this world.

All grade-school faculty hold a state license with at least a BA or BS in education. Our teachers are very accessible and are available before and after school for parent conferences. Smaller class size enables our teachers to address the individual needs of each child. A range of extra-curricular offerings in our school and community round out the program of study at St. Paul's and affords our students opportunities to identify their God-given gifts and abilities. Graduates of St. Paul's School consistently perform well in high school and beyond. Before and after school care is available and bus transportation is provided in the Bremen School District. Parents may register their student for this information evening by e-mail at [schools@stpaulsbremen.org](mailto:schools@stpaulsbremen.org), calling the school at 574-546-2790 or on our web site, [stpaulsbremen.org](http://stpaulsbremen.org).

St. Paul's is 'A Great Place To Grow'.

## Scholastic Book Fair is coming Soon!

A Scholastic Book Fair will be held on March 11- 18, 2016 in the Bethany Room. Books from Preschool to adult will be available for purchase. Times for the Book Fair will be between Sunday Church Services on March 13th; Wednesday Lenten Services on March 16th; before and after Preschool and Day School. Mrs. Middaugh is looking for willing volunteers to help set up and run the Book Fair. Please contact Mrs. Middaugh if you are willing to help!

Mark your calendar cont.

Life Together - 1 Corinthians 1:9 God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**National Lutheran Schools Week - March 27 - April 2, 2016**

As St. Paul's celebrates National Lutheran Schools Week, we will bring His promise to our children each day this week with our opening devotions beginning at 8:05 a.m. in the Church. All are welcome to join us!

Each day we will have special student activities:

**Sunday, March 27: Easter Sunday**

**Monday March 28: Pajama Day** - A great way to start the week!

**Tuesday March 29: Teacher Appreciation Day** - A chance for us to show our teachers how greatly we appreciate all they do for us.

**Wednesday March 30: Class Color Day** - Each class will be assigned a color for the day and students are encouraged to wear only that color. We will also be participating in our annual Bowl-A-Thon in the morning.

**Thursday March 31: Hawaiian Day** - Come in your best Hawaiian gear.

**Friday April 1: Foolish Fan Friday** - Come dressed as a fan or a fool or a foolish fan - have fun with it!

During NLSW we not only want to thank God for our school, but we also want to thank each of you who are reading this, for your encouragement, time, prayers and financial support. All of these help to make St. Paul's Lutheran School a place where we can raise up faithful disciples.

# Showcase of Fine Arts and Crafts



St. Paul's PTL is sponsoring the 22nd Annual Showcase of Fine Arts and Crafts, Friday, April 22 at 7:00 P.M. in the Bethany Room. Everyone is invited to come and view the art and craft entries. There will also be a showcase of the music entries, with a program of the instrumental, piano, and vocal entries.

Please note: This year we will again have an area for "open entries." This will be for members of our congregation who wish to display an art or craft item but do not have a family member in our school. If you are interested in entering, please contact Anita Eichinger, 546-4607, or pick up an entry form packet outside the church office. The deadline to return entry forms is April 14.

Mark your calendar cont.

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER WITH THE SEMINARY KANTOREI, at Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, Kramer Chapel, Sunday, March 20 at 4:00 p.m. The Kantorei, directed by Kantor Kevin Hildebrand, is a men's choir of 12 students studying for the pastoral ministry at CTSFW. This approximately one hour service includes several Scripture lessons for Holy Week with choral responses, congregational hymns and canticles. Seminary professor, the Rev. Dr. Paul Grime, will serve as preacher. For more information, please visit [www.ctsfw.edu/Music](http://www.ctsfw.edu/Music) Events or call 260-452-2224.