

St. Paul's Lutheran

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)

From the desk of Pastor Rohde:

Early in my pastoral ministry I was leading a children's talk in which we were looking at God our heavenly Father. During that talk a child in the group raised his hand and informed me that he never knew his dad, because his dad died before he was born. My heart ached for this child. The void he felt was very noticeable. The rest of the children's message that day was spent talking about the eternal hope we have through Jesus' death and resurrection.

This child's response to his earthly father and its impact on him knowing the heavenly Father has never left me. Present statistics tell us that four out of ten children are born to unwed mothers. Of the 12 million single parent families in America today, 83% of them have a mother but no father. One out of four children under the age of 18 – a total of about 17.4 million – are being raised without a father. These statistics do not even consider that in some households the father is more like another child than the one who is to be leading his household in godly fashion.

Americans suffer today from knowing the heavenly Father, because the image of a father presented by their earthly father is negative to non-existent. It is time that all men realize the important role God has given them to be a positive influence in helping the younger generation know the true nature of God the Father.

There are especially three images of the heavenly Father that each man should exhibit in his life. One, listen to your children and minister to them. In Matthew 7:9-12, Jesus notes: "Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask Him! So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." We exemplify the heavenly Father when we listen to our children and lovingly minister to them.

Two, the heavenly Father is forgiving. We have the wonderful parable of the lost son who took his inheritance and squandered it (Luke 15:11-31). The father never forgot about his son and when he came back with a repentant heart, the father embraced and forgave him. We need to practice the forgiving love the heavenly Father has shown us, so that young people can learn of and behold the matchless love and forgiveness of the heavenly Father in Jesus Christ.

Three, having a loving and caring father doesn't always mean he gives us what we want. In Hebrews 12, it speaks of how the heavenly Father disciplines His children because He loves them (verses 4-11). The heavenly Father knows what is best for us and that is how He directs and governs our lives. I recall an eighth grader coming to my office on a Friday night crying. When I asked her what was wrong, she said: "I don't think my father loves me, because he always lets me do what I want."

God, our heavenly Father, is perfect in every way. He listens to us and helps us. He loves and forgives us. He lovingly leads us in ways we don't always understand. Yet, He is faithful and we are privileged to call Him, "Abba, Father!"

God help us to so live that people may see the truth of the heavenly Father in our lives and have a favorable and comforting view of Him.

Lesson in Stewardship: Prosperous Prosperity Practiced

Living in a land of prosperity we often forget why we are prosperous and who is responsible for this prosperity. Back in the good old days when the first temple to the Lord was going to be built, the people of Israel gave most generously from the things they possessed. Their giving was stirred by the fact that they knew all that they had was not rightfully theirs, but belonged to God Who had entrusted them with these things. King David noted: “Who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from You, and we have given You only what comes from Your hand. O Lord our God, as for all this abundance that we have provided for building You a temple for Your Holy Name, it comes from Your hand, and all of it belongs to You (I Chronicles 29:14, 16).

Do we in our lives rightfully recall to Whom all are blessings belong? God has blessed us with body and soul, eyes, ears, and all members, our reason and all our senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives us clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all we have. He richly and daily provides us with all that we need to support this body and life. Do we recognize all the gifts God has entrusted to us, and do we use them wisely understanding that they still rightfully belong to God?

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THE DEADLINE FOR THE JULY EPISTLE IS JUNE 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. I appreciate all of your articles, ideas and comments!

New Sunday School and Bible Classes for Summer

Summer Sunday School and Bible Classes start June 5th with a new quarter. Children will remain in the classes that they just finished in school this year **except: 8th grade through high school will participate in the adult class.**

Class:	Teacher:	
Preschool – Kindergarten	Megan Burcham	This class will meet in the preschool.
1 st – 3 rd grades	Marilyn Gumz	This class will meet in Mrs. Coxey’s classroom.
4 th – 7 th grades	Jeanette Rettinger	This class will meet in Mrs. Middaugh’s classroom.
8 th gr. – high school		meet with adult classes.

Adult classes:

Bethany Room	Dennis Sienicki
Topical Bible Studies with a “summer theme”: weddings, fishing, family reunions, and others.	
Jerusalem Room	Pastor Rohde
Pastor will be continuing the Doctrinal study class but will change rooms.	

Board Briefs:

Christian Education:

Sunday School Mission of the Month – Bremen Holy Walk - \$75

Church Office: Membership Changes

Deaths: Bill Helmlinger

Board briefs cont.

Church Properties:

Carpet cleaning will take place June 21 thru 24.

Youth:



**MINIATURE GOLF AT PLA-MOR (BREMEN)
ALL JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
INVITED!!!**

DATE OF THE EVENT: Saturday, June 11th, 2016

MEET IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT AT: 1:45PM

EVENT TIME: 2 – 4 PM

PLEASE SIGN-UP BY: Friday, June 10th, 2016

**BRING MONEY FOR CONCESSIONS & ARCADE GAMES
YOUTH BOARD WILL BE COVERING FOR MINIATURE GOLF &
DRIVING RANGE!!!**

Church Service Opportunity –

Youth in 7th grade and older are strongly encouraged to help out with Vacation Bible School. Vacation Bible School will be June 13th – June 17th. Contact Ericca Thornton, if you have any additional questions.

Stewardship:

E-TITHING

Lori Haug has painstakingly sifted through the many options and intricacies regarding the process of e-tithing. The Board of Stewardship and Mark Matejka will need to work further on the details.

At this point however, the board would like to know how many individuals will likely participate in e-tithing.

Please e-mail Bill Garl if you would likely participate in e-tithing at W.garl@mchsi.com.

2016 PPC meetins: July 25, October 24, December 19

2016 Voters' Assembly meetings: June 27, August 22, November 21

Altar Guild: June attendant is Dorothy.

Altar Flowers in June:

5

12

19

26 Jim & Phyllis

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.



PTL NEWS:

1. PTL will be having a float in the Fireman's Festival parade on Wednesday June 29. If you would like to help, please contact Jennifer Russell.



2. We are in need of candy donations (suckers, hard candy, tootsie rolls) for the Fireman's Festival parade. There will be a marked box in the Narthex for donations.



3. Our next PTL meeting will be Tuesday June 14 at 5:30.

4. St. Paul's **PTL would like to thank all of you who have volunteered** to help throughout this school year. Your willingness to serve has been a blessing and we are thankful for all of you.

SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

School Office phone: 546-2790

Fax: 546-3242

e-mail: schools@stpaulsbremen.org

June 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!

We give thanks to God for all of His gracious love! We also thank God for all of our VOLUNTEERS.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASSES OF 2015-2016: Our best wishes to all of our students, but especially to the Kindergarten and Eighth Grade students. The **Kindergarten class:** Alexis Andrews, Linnea Clark, Peyton DeMaso, Brooklynn Hochstetler, Paul Miller, Reuben Napper, David Rowe, Sophia Sahlhoff, and Antuany Sanchez, and the **Eighth Grade Class:** Anders Brurok, Beck Brurok, Ellie Feldman, and Matthew Harman. We pray for God's blessings on all of our students as they continue their education.

If you know of any families that we should approach concerning **SCHOOL ENROLLMENT** here at St. Paul's School please contact one of the teachers or St. Paul's School office. **RE-ENROLLMENT** of our current students is already under way.

FINAL REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT OF FEES will be held July 26 & 27. Contact the school office if you need an alternative date.

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.

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.



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY!!

The Ladies Encouragement Group (LEG) has begun “Prophets and Kings – Being in the Culture and Not of It”. It is from the Focus on the Family series, “That the World May Know” with teacher and historian, Ray Vander Laan. In ancient times, the Hebrews were confronted daily with decision of :”Whom shall I serve?” The consequences of their choice are the stories that make up; the Old Testament. This study explores the turbulent history of Israel’s prophets and kings and we will learn from their story how to build our own devotion to and trust in God. In addition to watching the DVD, there will be time for Bible Discovery and Discussion. The group meets at 7 pm in the Jerusalem room. All ladies are encouraged to attend! Summer LEG meetings are;



in

June 5 th	The Wages of Sin
July 17 th	The Lord is My Shepherd
July 31 st	God with Us

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:

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.



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June Devotion: "Be Happy"

Phil. 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"

"Religion takes the joy out of life." That may be true of religions that require people to attempt to achieve perfection on their own. But the one religion for which that statement is completely false is Christianity. The Christian faith gives us constant reason to be joyous.

There is reason for joy when God lets us wake up in the morning. With the psalmist we say, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). With God's love and mercy in Christ, we go about our activities relaxed and at peace.

Paul experienced many hardships and disappointments in life. At the time he wrote the words of our text, he was under arrest for proclaiming Jesus as the Christ. And yet, even in chains, he encouraged the Philippians to be joyous.

Knowing that all things work together for good to those who love God, we can face challenges, hardships, and suffering with joy. God will give us courage and strength to deal with whatever confronts us. Even in disappointment and failure, God is still with us to comfort us and help us with our problems and sorrows.

No, the Christian faith does not take joy out of life. Rather, it alone assures us that God is at our side.

PRAYER: Thank You, Lord, for the many reasons for joy each day of our life. Help us to rejoice in You today and always. Amen.