# The Epistle

# August 2016

# 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) I am sitting in my mother's hospital room waiting to see what God has in store for her and us with regard to her physical life. At 89 years of age her physical status has become more complicated and many options need to be considered. So we are in a pattern of waiting.

As I wait for the doctor to come in, evaluate the situation, give us a report, and tell us where we go from here, I come to think of the position we are in with regard to the Great Physician, Jesus Christ. Many times Jesus speaks to us about waiting upon Him and hearing His Word that we may be informed about the direction He wants us to take.

While we are careful to make contact with a medical physician, ask him questions, listen to his answers, and follow his prescription, we are not so careful with our spiritual physician, Jesus Christ. We are slow to call upon Him in prayer. We do not listen well to His instruction by hearing, reading, and studying His Word. We are quick to deal with life our way and then we wonder why so many things go wrong. Jesus is a greater physician than any medical doctor we will ever encounter and yet we often times treat Him with less respect, attention, and patient waiting than our physical doctors.

As I sit in my mom's hospital room waiting for a doctor's report, I am once again struck by the great complexities of the human body. I think of the Lord Who created this body and how He came to earth in love to save this body from sin, death, and the power of the devil. The Great Physician, Jesus Christ, has done more to heal and save our lives eternally than any medical doctor will do for our physical needs.

In the days ahead as we wait for medical doctors to care for us physically, let us not forget about the One Who deals with us for eternity's sake. Let us abide in His Word and commit ourselves to His care. He seeks to lead us through this life unto Himself in heaven where there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

Since this article was initially written my mother has passed away. She trusted in the Great Physician and now all the perils of this life are behind her as she dwells with the Lord in His heavenly kingdom. Alleluia!

# Lesson in Stewardship: Why Am I So Busy?

Most of us have at some time in our life noted the complexity of life and how busy we are. Why is that? Is it a time management problem? Do we get our priorities mixed-up? Do we take on too many responsibilities?

As Martin Luther wrote the section of the Catechism entitled, "The Office of the Keys," he began one portion of that section with these words: "Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker?"

Looking at this list and considering our lives, each of us has been given various vocations to fulfill. For example, I am a father, grandfather, husband, brother, pastor, co-worker, neighbor. God has blessed me and given me various roles or vocations to fulfill. The same is true for you.

We cannot undertake all these vocations with the same diligence and energy all of the time. Situations will often dictate which area will receive our attention at any given time. Yet, there is one principle of Scripture that can be of assistance in helping us have our priorities in a proper and God-pleasing order. The principle is this: "Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (I Corinthians 10:31). It is well for us to ask ourselves each day and in every circumstance: Where and how can I honor God in the vocations He has given me? When we are attentive to God's will and the ministry He gives us every hour, we will know where He wants us to be and what He wants us to do, and we will accomplish His will and purposes for our lives.

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LIFELIGHT BEGINS SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> FOR 9 WEEKS. IT WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS FROM 6:45 TO 8:15 PM IN THE BETHANY ROOM.
THIS YEAR WE WILL STUDY PARABLES OF JESUS. JOIN US!

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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. I appreciate all of your articles, ideas and comments!

Hello St. Paul's Family!

As many of you know, I graduated this May from Valparaiso University's nursing program. I have since been appointed to a missionary position by the LCMS. I will be moving to the Dominican Republic this fall and joining a team of pastors and deaconesses. The LCMS has had a missionary presence in the Dominican Republic for 10 years and I am so excited to begin working with the team and communities down there!

To learn more, stop me at church, read through the enclosed prayer card, and visit lcms.org/Tinkey. There are many ways you can walk beside me in this new ministry! I look forward to sharing more about my position as you send me out.

God's blessings, Jamielynn Tinkey

### **Board Briefs:**

### Christian Education:

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

Church Office: Membership Changes

Deaths:

James L. Brown Walter Vernasco

Reaffirmation of Faith:

Peggy J. Miller

Released:

Brian Miller

Kenneth, Lori, Amanda, Kenneth II Knigga

#### Youth:

- For the Youth Service Project for the month of August we will be collecting school supplies in a box located in the Narthex for the school here at St. Paul's. Items to be collected include but are not limited to pencils, color pencils, crayons, spiral notebooks, etc.
- 2016 Junior High Youth Rally- This 24-hour event includes making new friends, incredible Bible Study times, music, games, outdoor activities, campfire devotions, worship, and inspiring speaker; all in the setting of God's great outdoors! For those interested in attending the Indiana District LCMS Youth Rally at Camp Lutherhaven there is a sign-up sheet on the Youth Bulletin Board. Please be sure to take and fill out a medical form also on the bulletin board. Return filled out medical forms to the Youth Board mailbox. The youth rally will be September 17 & 18, Sat. 10 AM Sun. 11:30 AM. This event is only for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The sooner you sign-up the better.

2016 PPC meetins: October 24, December 19

2016 Voters' Assembly meetings: August 22, November 21

# Altar Guild: August attendant is Mel.

Altar Flowers in August:

7 Jim & Janet

14 Larry & Grace

21 Dennis & Peggy

28 Bill & Julie

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.



Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, is pleased to offer a preventive health event <u>at St Paul's Lutheran Church on 9/1/2016</u>. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visitwww.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.

each Wednesday from 6:45 – 8:15 p.m. This year's Lifelight topic is Jesus Parables.  Please fill out and return the form below by September 4 <sup>th</sup> so that we know how much material to order.
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REGISTRATION FOR LIFELIGHT
The Parables of Jesus
(Pre-registration helps to make sure we have an ample supply of materials!)
Each WednesdaySeptember 14 <sup>th</sup> through November 9 <sup>th</sup> 6:45 to 8:15 p.m.
Name(s)

PLEASE return to church office by September 4th. Thank you!

# SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

School Office phone: 546-2790 Fax: 546-3242

e-mail: schools@stpaulsbremen.org

August 2016

Our theme for the 2016-2017 school year is <u>Upon this Rock</u>. This is based on Is. 26:4 (ESV): "Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock" We give thanks to God for His gracious care for us all!

**School begins on August 10 at 8:00 A.M.** (This is a Wednesday, so it is a Chapel day.)

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

# Chapel projects /offerings for 2016-2017:

Aug/Sept.- Bremen Food Bank & Fort Wayne Seminary Food Bank

Oct - Liberian Schools

Nov /Dec - Rev. Micah Wildauer: Togo

Jan/Feb - Seminarian Support

Mar - Camp Lutherhaven

Apr – Jamielynn Tinkey: Dominican Republic

May – Worship for Shut-Ins

Also->\$20/ mo. to the Tuition Aid Fund

**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 <u>church or school office</u> if you have questions concerning scheduling the use of any of the facilities.

\*\*\*Please check the Church Calendar for other school events.

# **BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY!!**

The Ladies Encouragement Group (LEG) will be finishing up "Prophets and Kings – Being in the Culture and Not of It" on Sunday, July 31st at 7 p.m. It is from the Focus on the Family series, "That the World May Know" with teacher and historian, Ray Vander Laan. We will begin a new study on Sunday, August 7th. The LEG Bible study group meets the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month at 7 p.m. in the Jerusalem Room at church. All ladies are encouraged to attend! Summer LEG meetings are;

July 31<sup>st</sup>

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:

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.







# August Devotion: "Big God, Little Stones"

And when the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was but a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. 1 Samuel 17:42

Goliath dismissed David because he was a mere youth; Goliath made a big mistake.

New Castle, Pennsylvania's Jerry Brown Jr. dismissed an 89-year-old woman when he stole her friend's purse. His was also a big mistake.

Now it's true, this lady didn't have David's sling and three, smooth stones taken from a riverbed. On the other hand, she did have her cane. Stones or cane, both can come in handy when bringing down a bad guy.

This lady rather than standing there looking all frail and helpless gave a whack to Brown's getaway car. She gave it such a whack she scratched the paint and left a dent in the vehicle. Between the dent, the scratch and the description of the robbers, the New Castle police were soon able to arrest Brown and an accomplice, Tatiana Vargas.

Over the years I've noticed the forces of evil tend to dismiss and discount God's people. We don't look like much; we don't sport halos like the saints do in the artists' depictions and most of us don't perform miracles.

Even so, God's people, the young and old, the weak and the frail can accomplish great things when they put their trust in the Lord. According to Scripture, it was in the Lord -- not those stones -- that David placed his trust. Indeed, he said as much to Goliath when he shouted, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the Name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied."

Now I don't know which evil giant is coming against you. I don't know what force of evil is going to try and intimidate you, frighten, bully and terrorize you.

I do know that when you stand by the side of the Lord, you need not be afraid. Indeed, as St. Paul said, it is because of the crucified and risen Savior's victory that the Lord's saved people are "... more than conquerors through Him who loved us" (Romans 8:37b). Even when they're up against Goliaths.

**THE PRAYER:** Dear Lord, God of grace, today I give thanks. All around me there are forces of evil. They would undermine my faith and paralyze me into inaction. May I, trusting in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, move forward in faith. May I give to all a witness that in Christ God's people are conquerors. In the Savior's Name. Amen.