

**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)

Loretta and I have been asked by many people how we liked our vacation to Alaska. It was a wonderful and relaxing experience especially considering the people with which we shared it and the beautiful aspects of God's creative work we saw.

As is the case with most vacations I have gone on, I always seem to encounter various experiences that help me better understand God's biblical truths. This vacation was no exception. One of the things that struck me most was our one week upon a cruise ship. I don't know if any of you have been on a cruise ship before, but this was my first such encounter. My experience may have been different than yours, but this is what happened to us that created a much deeper appreciation for me of God's grace in Christ Jesus.

It was the card key we were given before we boarded the ship. The card key for our cabin had a bar code on it that enabled us to get on and off the ship, enter our cabin, and purchase anything that was being offered on the ship. The significance of this card key was that without it you could do none of those things. It was emphasized to us frequently that no money is exchanged on the ship and you must have your card to get on and off the ship.

This led me to ponder the importance of Christ Jesus in our lives. Without Christ Jesus we cannot get on board His ship, the Church. Without Christ Jesus we cannot enter a room in His heavenly kingdom. Without Christ Jesus we are not able to get any of the spiritual and eternal blessings He has to offer.

Many in our world believe that having a joyful life here on earth and eternally can take place apart from Christ Jesus. Yet, it is Jesus Himself Who clearly stated: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father but by Me" (John 14:6). Jesus is the key to entrance into the kingdom of God on earth and in heaven. Peter wrote: "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver and gold that you were redeemed from your empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect" (I Peter 1:18-19). Just as Loretta and I could not go anywhere or purchase anything without our key card, we cannot get into heaven without Christ Jesus.

This, dear friends, is why we need to stay close to Jesus, hold onto Him in our hearts and walk with Him by faith in our lives. Apart from Christ, we can do nothing (John 15:5).

## Wise Stewardship with Our Money

During this time of year the elected officers of our congregation have a big responsibility to fulfill. They are working on putting together a congregational budget for 2016. This is a big undertaking for as one of our former treasurer's use to say, "The church works differently than the world." This treasurer was also the treasurer for a company and noted that in the world a company pretty well can set a budget because they can pretty well estimate the income they will receive from the sale of their product. That is not the case with the church. A congregation's budget is met by the freewill offerings of its members and what that will be is always uncertain. This makes faithful stewardship in the development of a congregational budget rather tricky. Yet, God does speak about some principles of wise stewardship in this area that we can keep in mind.

- 1) We are not to store up funds and make them our security. The profitable farmer did that and God called him, "Fool" (Luke 12:16-21)!
- 2) We are to be careful in our spending. Living by faith does not mean we test God. Jesus says that a wise steward carefully examines the cost of things before he goes forward and acts (Luke 14:28-30).
- 3) Each of us is to examine ourselves to see if we are wise stewards of what we give to the Lord. God speaks of testing the sincerity of our love for Him and faith in Him by beholding the willingness we give to the Lord from the riches with which He has blessed us (II Corinthians 8:8-12).

Stewardship is nothing less than the recognition of the blessings God has given us and our using them to faithfully honor Him and enrich the world we live in with Christ. God help us to be faithful stewards.

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER EPISTLE IS OCTOBER 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!



# Reformation / New Member / Friendship Unity Sunday - October 30<sup>th</sup>

*Bible Classes and Sunday School at 9:00am*  
*Worship at 10:15am*  
*Dinner at 11:45am*



We will have a Bourbon Street Pizza dinner in the fellowship hall. Bring a friend, and also bring a dessert to share. Call the church office at 574-546-2332 by October 23rd to sign up or return the form found in the epistle or bulletin to the church office.

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New member – Friendship dinner

Name \_\_\_\_\_ # attending \_\_\_\_\_

## **Board Briefs:**

### **Christian Education:**

Sunday School Mission of the Month – Worship For Shut-Ins - \$75

*This year the children's Fall Celebration will be a "Trunk or Treat" event. It will be held on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Cars will be parked around the church parking lot and candy will be distributed out of each trunk.*

**We are in need of volunteers to participate by parking their cars and handing out candy. Volunteers are welcome to decorate their trunks and/or wear costumes. We are also in need of candy to be distributed.** There will be a box in the Narthex for candy donations. Popcorn will also be given out along with a Gospel message to all children. Contact Jason or Jennifer Russell at for more information.



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

Released to church of choice: Marcie and Kenly

### **Parish Fellowship:**

Mother/Daughter and Adopted Mother/Adopted Daughter Banquet is Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. Come and enjoy being served good food and music by the men of the church!

Co-Ed Volleyball will be on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9pm for all men and women ages 14 and up. Bring a friend.

Euchre Party is Friday, October 28<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. Come and bring a friend!

Men's Group takes place on Sundays, October 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 4-6pm for all men ages 15 and above. We will meet in the gym for basketball and fellowship and will close with a prayer.

### **Stewardship:**

Work continues pertaining to the process of registering the church for E-Tithing (electronic tithing).

### **Youth:**

#### **Junior High Youth Nights**

Friday, October 7th, 7-9 PM in the Gym and Friday, October 21st, 7-9 PM in the Gym

The Youth Board is running a Cornhole Tournament at the Bremen Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 8th from 2 - 6 PM. We need Junior and Senior High Youth to assist with running the tournament. There will be 2 shifts (from 1:30 - 4 and 4 - 6:30) for which 3 - 4 youths can sign up. All funds raised at this event will go to the Center for the Homeless in South Bend. Please sign up on the Youth Event Board.



## **Creating Family Fun the Original American Way.**

All junior high and senior high youth members are invited! The youth board will be covering the cost of admission (drivers/chaperones included)! Please bring comfortable walking shoes, insect repellent, and money for concessions (optional). We will be going to the corn maze on **Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please be at the church and ready to leave at 1PM. We will be at the corn maze from 2:00 – 4:30PM. We will be back at St. Paul's at approximately 5:30PM. Drivers are needed! **Please sign-up on the Youth Event Board, if you are interested in attending.**

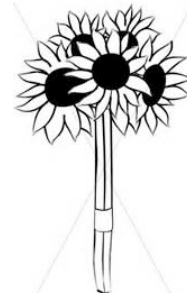
2016 PPC meetings: October 24, December 19

2016 Voters' Assembly meetings: November 21

**Altar Guild: October attendant is Elaine.**

Altar Flowers in October:

2	
9	Caroline
16	Ellen
23	Wayne & Robin
30	



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.

## **Request from Preschool**

Please be considerate about letting children play in preschool classrooms. Remember they are classrooms and teachers keep them prepared for the following days' activities. Keep in mind the toys are age appropriate for 3 and 4 year olds. Storage areas should be off limits to all children.



# SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

School Office phone: 546-2790

Fax: 546-3242

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

October 2016

Our theme for the 2016-2017 school year is Upon this Rock. 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!

OCTOBER brings a busy schedule. We will celebrate Grand-persons Day (Oct. 10) and, later in the month, Reformation Day. We will end the first quarter of the school year on Oct. 12. We have Parent-Teacher Conferences on Oct. 18 & 19. The students will also have two two-day breaks on Oct. 13 & 14, and Oct. 20 & 21. Please check the October calendar enclosed in the Epistle.

## Chapel projects /offerings for 2016-2017:

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

**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.

**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.

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

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

The Ladies Encouragement Group (LEG) have begun an new Bible study entitled 'The 7 Experiment – staging your own mutiny against excess' by Jen Hatmaker. 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! Pick up your study guide from the church office and join us!

Ladies Encouragement Group  
Moving our feet, shining our light!



*Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Class has begun.*

*We meet from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.*

*in the Jerusalem Room.*

*All ladies are welcome!*

## ***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:

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.



CoolCups.com



## October Devotion: "Value"

*(Jesus said) "But even the hairs of your head are all numbered."  
Matthew 10:30*

Here's a question for you. It doesn't make any difference how old you are. Every generation ought to have a clue as to the answer.

Here's the question: What do the following all have in common?

- a. Ben Turpin's crossed-eyes
- b. Egon Ronay's taste buds
- c. Merv Hughes' mustache
- d. Jeff Beck's fingers
- e. Bruce Springsteen's voice
- f. Troy Polamalu's hair
- g. David Beckham
- h. Betty Grable's legs

Did you figure it out? All these famous people had a physical attribute considered so unique or so indispensable that the attribute was insured. For example, Troy Polamalu is spokesman for Head & Shoulders shampoo. Proctor and Gamble recently had Polamalu's hair insured for \$1 million.

If you got that question right, the next one ought to be even easier. Ready? Here it is: What are *you* worth? Understand, I'm not speaking about the kind of value two sweethearts share with each other. You know, things like, "Honey, you're worth a billion bucks!"

I mean, what are you *worth*?



Well, maybe that question is a little harder than I thought. It all depends on who is answering it. Your family might consider you invaluable; your boss might think you're irreplaceable. Of course, there is the other side of the coin. There are probably those folks who consider you a nuisance, an irritation, and a pest. You get the idea.

Now, what do you think would happen if we asked God? Go ahead; ask Him "How much is this person worth?"

Have you ever thought what the Lord's reply might be? Might it not sound something like this: "At first glance it would seem his sins have so tarnished his soul that he seems to have no value at all. On the other hand, I have always loved him even when He didn't love Me. When He wandered from Me, I did what was necessary to bring him back. I even sacrificed My only Son so he could once again become part of My family. What is he worth? He cost Me the life of My Son! That's about as valuable as a person can get."

Yes, that's the way the Lord feels about us. And how should we feel about Him? Luther said it well: "It is our duty to thank and praise, to serve and obey Him."

This is most certainly true.

**THE PRAYER:** Dear Lord, for loving me when I wasn't lovable, for caring for me when I didn't care for You, I give thanks. May my life be an unending song of gratitude for Your blessing and my blood-bought salvation. In Jesus' Name I give thanks. Amen.