

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)

There is a significant encounter in Scripture from which we can learn a lot about living together as brothers and sisters in Christ. Miriam criticized Moses for the wife he had chosen. The Lord heard the criticism and struck Miriam with leprosy (Numbers 12).

The definition of the word “criticism” is to “**dwell** upon the **perceived** faults of another with **no view of their good**. There are three aspects of criticism which make it dangerous. First, criticism often arises as one makes a perceived judgment about another, but not really knowing the truth. Perceptions are most often inaccurate. This is why the Lord tells us: “If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you” (Matthew 18:15). What we perceive may not be the truth, so we are to go and speak to our brother or sister, not to everyone else. Second, criticism arises as we dwell on the negative, when that negative may not be true. Third, criticism usually occurs from tearing down not building up. It is not for us to bring people down, but to lift them up in the Lord. Leading a person to see the error of their ways and repent of their sin has its place, but criticism does far more than that.

Being critical of others is dangerous for it not only means we make incorrect judgments of others, but it affects our own relationship with God. Remember God smote Miriam with leprosy. She criticized her brother, but her criticism not only negatively affected her relationship with her brother but with God. Jesus said, “Whatever you do to one of the least of these My brethren, you do to Me” (Matthew 25:40). The God-inspired writer James tells us: “With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God’s likeness. Out of the same mouth come forth praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be” (James 2:9-10).

God does not want us to be critical of one another, but to be “devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves” (Romans 12:10). God’s message in our dealing with one another is clear: “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with Whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling, and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you” (Ephesians 4:29-32).

Lessons in Stewardship: An Attitude of Gratitude

A very gifted man had lived the early years of his life with not much appreciation for all he had. Then one day he was diagnosed with ALS. Suddenly what he thought would be a long life had been narrowed down to a few years. Interestingly enough, this man would say that this is one of the greatest things that ever happened to him. He put it this way: “When one’s expectations are reduced to zero, one really appreciates everything that one does have.” Things you took for granted or overlooked suddenly become meaningful: the laughter of children, a sunrise or sunset, the love of friends and family, or just a walk in the park.”

The fact is that some of the most miserable people in the world are those who believe that life owes them something. The Apostle Paul was in prison with no hope of getting out when he wrote: “Give thanks in all circumstances for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus” (I Thessalonians 5:18).

What this means is that God would have us stop competing, comparing, and complaining, and take time to “smell the flowers.” Focus on all the good things that God has given you each and every day, especially the gift of His Son. It is amazing how that will develop and attitude of gratitude.

Happy Father's Day

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!

Pastor Wonnacott and Family will be on vacation June 9th – 11th, and 16th -18th, Katie’s graduation weekend and Christie’s parents’ 65th wedding anniversary.

The congregation is invited to celebrate the high school graduation of Katie Wonnacott at her Open House on Saturday, June 10th from 1-4 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The Lord’s Supper accomplishes something. (500 Year Reformation Anniversary– 1517-2017)

We believe Jesus is present because He promises to be. And when God is present, things happen. Either life or death, either blessing or curse, but be assured of this: something occurs when God is present. Jesus comes to us in His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins to all who trust in His Word. All who receive the Sacrament receive Christ’s body and blood. Those who receive it in faith receive the benefits given in Christ’s promise. Those who do not believe receive judgment.

Dear St. Paul's congregation,

A great and sincere "Thank you!" to all for the wonderful retirement celebration held last month. Thank you also for the generous monetary gift presented to me.

It has been a great blessing that God has enabled me to serve in some small way in His kingdom here at St. Paul's for the past 44 years. My deepest gratitude to all those who planned and implemented the celebration program - St. Paul's Parent-Teacher League & St. Paul's School Board, to those who prepared and served the meal, to the children who sang, and to all others who gave of themselves to attend and participate in the celebration. My heartfelt thanks to you all!

St. Paul's has become 'family' to me throughout these years. I have been blessed beyond measure by being able to serve among the people of St. Paul's. May God continue to bless us in ways only He can imagine. To God alone be the glory and praise!

Ken Eichinger

Firemen's Festival Parade 2017

Greetings to all families at St. Paul's Lutheran Church School! Our church and school will have a spot in the parade this year and we would love to have you join us and be in the parade! We are looking for kids who would like to walk and throw candy out during the parade, and adults to help pass out fliers and walk with our church banners. The parade is on Tuesday, June 27 at 6:30 PM. We will be meeting at our designated spot (to be determined) at Bremen High School and we need anyone in the parade to be there no later than 6:00 PM. We will contact all our walkers with further details and plans for that day sometime by Mid June. If you do not wish to be in the parade, but would like to help, we are accepting candy donations and there will be a box in the church narthex. To God be the Glory, St. Paul's PTL

Staff contact: Mark Wildauer 414-698-8928

PTL contact: Heidi Wildauer 414-698-8650

the GARMS FAMILY

MINNESOTA'S FAMILY OF SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC

In Concert

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Bremen, Indiana

Friday, July 14, 7 PM

Freewill door offering

Board Briefs:

Christian Education:

Sunday School Mission of the Month – Lutheran Braille Workers - \$75

Church Office:

Membership changes:

Confirmed (Jr.) – Brody Beasley & Jacob Miller

Confirmed (Adult) – Joseph & Ashley Potoczky

Transferred – Erika Kemker to Trinity Lutheran, Indianapolis

Register now for *Mighty Fortress Vacation Bible School!* Registration forms are available in the Narthex. The dates for VBS are June 26 – June 30, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Stewardship:

1. This month’s Blue Envelope explanation (Designated Gift) pertains to THE CHURCH SPECIAL NEEDS FUND. This Savings Reserve Fund was established to cover the cost of future projects announced by our Church Property Board and/or special opportunities for continued church growth as suggested by the Parish Planning Council. Gifts to these funds may be designated on your blue offering envelopes.

2. Taking a vacation “out of town” this summer? Make tithing simple by going to www.stpaulsbremen.org and register for electronic tithing(e-tithing).

2017 Voters’ Assembly meetings: June 5, August 28, November 27

2017 Parish Planning Council: July 24, October 23

Altar Guild: June attendant is Dorothy Sahlhoff.

Altar Flowers in June:

4 Ed & Linda Coffell

11

18

25 Phyllis Brown



The Altar Flower Chart for the 2017 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 Ladies Encouragement Group (LEG) Bible Study meet 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! We are in a bible study entitled Fearless Conversation – How Can We Be Fully Faithful When We’re Fully Flawed. Please join us!

Ladies Encouragement Group
Moving our feet, shining our light!





Come Join the “Feast” !!!



Then Jesus declared, “*I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.*” John 6:35

Every two weeks, a group of men from St. Paul’s meet for breakfast and Bible study at Bremen Community Hospital in the cafeteria conference room. The conversation and fellowship make this a great way to start a day by feeding our physical and spiritual needs.....it’s been rumored that laughter and friendship have been carried from the breakfasts !

Come, join us and bring a friend along. We start at 6:30 AM and finish at 7:30 AM. The schedule for 2017 is as follows.

	June 14, 28 –
July 12, 26 -	August 9, 23 -
September 6, 20 -	October 4, 18 –
November 1, 15, 29 -	December 13, 27

If you have questions, feel free to contact Dave Burcham (574-546-4262). The breakfast will take 0.3% of your time from a two week period....not a very big sacrifice when you think about it. What better way to start the day than fellowship in studying God’s word!

The following students at St. Paul’s Lutheran School have earned Honor Roll status for the Fourth Quarter of the 2016-2017 school year:

Eighth Grade: Brody Beasley, Jacob Cross, Jonah Cross, Jacob Raasch

Seventh Grade: Ty Feldman, Ellia Foster, Aidan Russell

Sixth Grade: Ian Raasch

Fifth Grade: Thomas Harman, Kaia Podlin, Avery Wildauer

Fourth Grade: Wyatt Beasley, Lindie Feldman, Kila Foster, Tyler Raasch, Ian Russell, Noah Wildauer

The following students have had perfect attendance for the Fourth Quarter of the 2016-2017 school year:

Kindergarten: Abby Wildauer

First Grade: David Rowe

Second Grade: (none)

Third Grade: Grace Barts, Zeke Feldman, Leah Rowe

Fourth Grade: Lindie Feldman, Noah Wildauer

Fifth Grade: Gabby Barts, Avery Wildauer

Sixth Grade: Connor Barts

Seventh Grade: Ty Feldman, Aidan Russell, Tyler Schmeltz

Eighth Grade: Jacob Cross, Jonah Cross

SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

School Office phone: 546-2790

Fax: 546-3242

e-mail: schools@stpaulsbremen.org

May 2017

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!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASSES OF 2016-2017: Our best wishes to all of our students, but especially to the Kindergarten and Eighth Grade students. **Kindergarten:** Isaiah McGowen, Colton Napper, Ryan Smith, Brantley Thornton, and Abby Wildauer.

Eighth Grade: Brody Beasley, Jacob Cross, Jonah Cross, Jacob Miller, and Jacob Raasch.

We pray for God's blessings on all of our students as they continue their education.

We are currently ENROLLING STUDENTS for the 2017-18 school year. If you know of any families that we should contact about SCHOOL ENROLLMENT here at our school, please contact one of the teachers or the school office.

FINAL REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT OF FEES will be held July 25 & 26. Contact the school office if you need an alternative date. School begins Aug. 09!

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

June Devotion: "The Good Shepherd"

Ezekiel 34:12 "As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock...."

One of the most comforting Old Testament pictures of the Messiah was that of the shepherd. Jesus claimed the title Messiah for Himself when He said: "I am the Good Shepherd" (John 10:14). He based His claim not on His teachings and miracles alone, but rather on His Saviorhood, as the One who laid down His life for His people. Christ laid down His life as a ransom to purchase His sheep.

Why did He have to die? Because "we all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way" (Isaiah 53:6). Willfully we left the fold. We became lost in the night, in the storms of a troubled world. We became lost in our own pet theories and the blinding fog of our doubts, our sins.

For such lost sheep as we are, the Good Shepherd came and freely, willingly, lovingly laid down His life that we might once again be led back into the fold. What a wonderful shepherd is ours!

No wonder we love this picture of Christ!

PRAYER: Dear Lord, You are my Good Shepherd. Thank You for caring for me and keeping me in Your loving arms. Amen.