

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)

A king sought wisdom from the wise men that were on his staff. The issue with which the king was dealing had to do with what was the best and worst part of man. He asked his wise men to ponder this question and come back to him with an answer. A few days later the wise men returned and informed the king concerning the answer to his question. The wise men noted that the best and worst part of man is the same body part – the tongue. When the king inquired as to how they arrived at this answer, they quoted Scripture: “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 praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be” (James 3:9-10).

The tongue is the most constructive and destruction part of the human body. With it we can help and assist people, share the life-giving message of the Gospel, and sing praises to our Lord. Yet, with that same tongue we can destroy relationships, bring emotional and social destruction to people, and lead them away from Christ. This is why the Lord warns us in James 1:26: “If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle the tongue but deceives his own heart, this one’s religion is useless.”

The Lord’s command to us is very clear: “Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from spreading deceit” (Proverbs 34:13). The reason for this command is that our tongue can be a piercing sword or it can be a means by which we promote health (Proverbs 12:18). How are you using that flapping body part in your mouth? Are people drawing closer to the Lord by the way you use your tongue, or are you promoting dissension, hurt, and pain by the words you speak?

The proper use of our tongue is not something we can control on our own. The truth of Scripture is that “no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison” (James 3:8).

The only way for us to be better stewards of our tongues is to call upon the Lord in prayer. Job prayed: “Teach me, and I will hold my tongue” (Job 6:24). The Psalmist prayed: “Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips and from a deceitful tongue” (Psalm 120:2). Isaiah noted: “The Lord God has given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him who is weary” (Isaiah 50:4). How much have you prayed for wisdom and guidance before you have used your tongue? How often has your lack of pray over your tongue brought spiritual harm and destruction to the lives of people?

May we in this month of Thanksgiving sincerely pray for godly wisdom in the use of our tongues. May He be our guide in what we say and when we say it. Let our commitment through the power of the Holy Spirit be that of Job: “My lips will not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit” (Job 27:4).

Lessons in Stewardship: To Glorify God

Sometimes we make the concept of stewardship too complicated. Most often we seem to associate stewardship with money, although God associates stewardship with every aspect of our lives. Paul wrote to Christians and said: “You were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s” (I Corinthians 6:20). Jesus Christ died and rose again to set us free from sin, death, and the power of the devil that we might live for Him now and dwell with Him in heaven. This is why David noted: “I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify Your name forever” (Psalm 86:12).

A Christian author and theologian of the 1900s, William MacDonald, wrote a tract entitled: Our Reason for Being. In it he stated: “In planning your career, you should remember this: the great goal of your life is to glorify God and to represent His interests on earth. Everything else is incidental.”

This fits with what Jesus preached to His people in His Sermon on the Mount: “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:16).



THE DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER EPISTLE IS NOVEMBER 27TH!!! 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!

The entire Christian life is one of repentance. (500 Year Reformation Anniversary– 1517-2017)

Luther’s 95 Theses begins: “When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, ‘Repent’ (Matt. 4:17), he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.” Christians are to daily die to the old Adam, their sinful nature. The focus is not on our dying or on our old Adam (sin). The focus is on the promise of resurrection in Jesus Christ. He is our life. He is our hope. He is our joy. Repentance is a turning away from self to Jesus. In Him are life and light. In Him are salvation and forgiveness. In Him is eternal life. Repent. You are His. Through Baptism. And this is true every day.

Save the Dates

November 12th Veterans Recognition Service – Sunday School at 9am,
Church at 10:15am, Reception at 11:45am;
November 22nd – Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7pm;
November 23rd - Community Thanksgiving Dinner at noon;
November 29th –Midweek Advent One - Dinner at 6pm and Worship at 7pm.

Board Briefs:

Christian Education:

Sunday School Mission of the Month – Lutheran Bible Translators - \$75

Church Office:

Membership changes: Kennedie baptized

Lay Ministry: Caring Concern - The Fourth Commandment: (God's Representatives)

This is a matter of caring concern for your child, or the young child that you are responsible for, age 13 or younger. The Board of Lay Ministry asks that if your child needs to leave the sanctuary during the worship service, you as a parent or responsible adult will need to escort them to and from the sanctuary. The exception is the children dismissed for Children's Church. (3 years old to 2nd grade) They are escorted to Children's Church by an adult and they are returned to the sanctuary by a member of the Board of Lay Ministry. In the Fourth Commandment, 'What does this mean' Luther's last phrase is, "love and cherish them". Any questions you may have please contact a member of the Board of Lay Ministry.

The Fourth Commandment – Honor your father and your mother.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

Parish Fellowship:

Euchre Party is Friday, November 10th, 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, November 12th & 26th, 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 Board has approved our annual clothing drive for Hope Ministries during the month of November. We ask that you would consider donating your gently used clothing for the people of Hope Ministries and the community. There will be a table set up and labeled "Clothes for Hope" in the narthex during the month of November. The need is for any and all types of clothing. Prayerfully consider this opportunity to help your neighbor in need.

Thanksgiving Eve Service is November 22nd at 7pm. As we remember that all good things come from God, may we pause in our busy schedules to come to God's House and thank Him.

Veteran Recognition Sunday is November 12th. Note there will be only one service at 9:30am, no Bible classes or Sunday school. Following the service there will be a reception in the fellowship hall for the veterans and the congregation. Also, there will be displays from our veterans.

Midweek Advent Meals and Services begin November 29th. This meal is sponsored by Parish Fellowship. On the menu are two kinds of Italian casseroles served with salad, garlic bread and cookies. This is a Thrivent sponsored meal. Parish fellowship will also be supplying the drinks and dinnerware. Let us come together and feast on good food and the Word of God.

Advent Cookie Sign-up list is on the "Check It Out" Board by the school secretary's office.

Board briefs cont.

Stewardship: The Board of Stewardship continues to explain the various Charitable and Services Agencies that our church supports. This month is about Laborers for Christ.

The LCEF's Laborers for Christ program provides the hands and hearts you need to accomplish God's plan for your ministry. Members of Laborers For Christ assist with ministry projects-remodeling existing facilities, building new ones or updating older structures for optimal efficiency.

Since 1980, Laborers For Christ has helped complete more than 860 of these projects. Members are dedicated Christians who enjoy witnessing their faith, serving others, traveling and meeting new people.

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

St. Paul's wants to remind you that we offer e-Tithing as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

This program is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

E-Tithing allows you to go to stpaulsbremen.org website at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider e-Tithing

Youth:

Jr. High Youth Bonfire –

All 6th-8th graders are invited to attend our Bonfire on Friday, November 3rd, 7-10PM. We will be having a bonfire with food outside at the fire circle behind the Gym. We will also be playing outside games that night in addition to inside games that are typically played at a Youth Night.

Please dress appropriately for the weather. Invite your friends.

Leaf Raking and Yard Work for the Elderly –

The Jr. High and High School Youth are invited to help with Leaf Raking and Yard Work for the elderly members of our congregation on Saturday, November 4th, 10AM-1PM. Please meet in the Church parking lot promptly at 10AM. Please bring leaf rakes, leaf blowers, tarps, and gloves. Please dress appropriately for the weather. Parish Fellowship will be providing lunch for the youth in the Fellowship Hall (Bethany Room). Parents can pick up their children from 1-1:30PM in the Fellowship Hall (Bethany Room).

Sr. Youth Open Gym/Study Time

Wednesday, November 8th, 7-9PM in the Gym

Altar Guild: November attendant is Heather Middaugh.

Altar Flowers in November:

5 Paul Seegers
12 Fox Family
19
26

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 meets the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month at 7 p.m. in the Jerusalem Room at church. All ladies are welcome and encouraged to attend! We are in a bible study entitled Living Victoriously– A Walk Through The Book of Ephesians. Copies of this study may be picked up in the church office. 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:

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!

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study is studying, **LIVING VICTORIOUSLY**, A Walk Through the Book of Ephesians. The purpose of this Bible Study is to lead us into a deeper relationship with God through the study of Scripture and by embracing the self-discipline of a Spirit-led life. All women are cordially invited to attend this uplifting study. We meet Thursday mornings from 9 to 11 am in the Jerusalem Room.

Martin Luther said: “Grant that I may not pray alone with the mouth; help me that I may pray from the depths of my heart.”

SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

School Office phone: 546-2790

Fax: 546-3242

e-mail: schools@stpaulsbremen.org

November 2017

Our theme for the 2017-2018 school year is It's Still All About Jesus, based on Hebrew 13:8 (ESV): "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." We give thanks to God for His unchanging grace toward us all!

The SCHOOL YEAR is already one-quarter of the way over. The first report cards have been issued and parent conferences have been held. Please continue to pray for our students and their families. Please remember to invite parents who have prospective students to seek more information from us. Your positive words of encouragement are often a determining factor in enrolling new families. Registration information can be found in the School Office or at www.stpaulsbremen.org. Thanks for your help!

The School Chapel offerings for November and December go to help support Rev. Micah Wildauer in his ministry in Togo.

Remaining Chapel projects /offerings for 2017-2018:

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. 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.**

The following students at St. Paul's Lutheran School have earned Honor Roll status for the First Quarter of the 2017-2018 school year:

Eighth Grade: Ty Feldman, Ellia Foster, Aidan Russell, Tyler Schmeltz

Seventh Grade: Ainsley Miller, Ian Raasch

Sixth Grade: Avery Wildauer

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

Fourth Grade: Sara Sahlhoff, Jack Wildauer

The following students have had perfect attendance for the First Quarter of the 2017-2018 school year:

First Grade: Colton Napper, Abby Wildauer

Second Grade: Alexis Andrews, Galvin Hunt, Sophia Sahlhoff

Third Grade: Ben Andrews, Izzy Wildauer

Fifth Grade: Wyatt Beasley, Ian Russell

Sixth Grade: Lexie Cannon, Avery Wildauer

Seventh Grade: Aaron Miller, Ainsley Miller, Ian Raasch

Eighth Grade: Ty Feldman, Aidan Russell, Tyler Schmeltz

Public Relations and Evangelism Boards are in need of your help for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner on November 23rd. We need:

1. Pumpkin Pies (20)
2. Set-up crew (for the fellowship hall) (4)
3. Servers (6)
4. Drivers to deliver the carry-out orders (4)
5. Clean-up crew (for the fellowship hall and kitchen) (4)
6. Greeters (2)

The Whitlock is supplying the mashed potatoes and gravy. The Community Hospital of Bremen is supplying the carry-out containers. We also have a Thrivent Action Team box with a \$250.00 debit card for the cost of the turkey, dressing, tossed salad, rolls and butter, which will be prepared by Del-Mar Catering. There will be a sign-up list on the "Check It Out board". Prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve the community and our own members.

November Devotion: **"Nothing Impossible!"**

"I am God Almighty; walk before Me and be blameless."

Genesis 17:1

Our God fulfills every promise He makes. He can do this because He is almighty.

When elderly Abraham and Sarah were promised a son and heir, they found it hard to believe. To them it seemed impossible. Sarah even laughed at the possibility. But the Lord reminded them of His almighty power with the question, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (Genesis 18:14).

When Mary was told that she was to become the mother of the promised Savior, she asked the angel how this could be. Gabriel explained that the Spirit's power would bring this about. Then he told her that her cousin Elizabeth was also expecting a son in her old age, and he explained, "Nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 1:37).

Jesus, God's Son, showed His almighty power by healing the sick, stilling storms, raising the dead, and doing other miracles. He showed that He is a friend who even today can act miraculously in answer to our prayers. Consequently, we keep on hoping even when our situation seems to be hopeless. Despite the most desperate circumstances, we know that with Him all things are possible. Above all, we rejoice that we are kept by the power of God in the true Christian faith to salvation.

PRAYER: Almighty Lord, keep us strong as we trust that You can deliver us from every trouble. Amen.