St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School November 2025 NEWSLETTER

Daylight Savings Time ends on Nov. 2! Adjust your clocks!

Church office hours vary at this time.

Please call 402-228-1540 or email <u>stpaulbeatrice@gmail.com</u>. If you need immediate or pastoral assistance, please contact Church Chair Rod Aden at 402-239-5305 or Elder Dave Doering at 402-806-1015.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND ADULTS!

Come downstairs after the service for coffee, juice, snacks, and informal Bible Study with Pastor, and Sunday School classes with bible stories, activities, singing, and maybe even a craft! **Sunday School will not be held on Sundays when congregational meetings are held.

Worship is at 9:00 a.m. No Monday night service as of now, but We Live Stream! Remember! If you can't attend worship in person on occasion, you can always watch it live on YouTube, facebook, our website (stpaulbeatrice.org) and our Subsplash app. You'll find archived services there too, and the previous Sunday's service can be heard on KWBE 1450 AM and 94.7 FM every Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. We'd love to have you join us in person too for Word and Sacrament, and to rub shoulders with fellow Christians.

A Voter's Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Nov 23 following worship (approximately 10:30 am) to discuss and pass the 2026 budget. Plan to attend!

ALL SAINTS DAY: Please notify the church office if you have a loved one who passed away in the past year who is not a member of St. Paul's and you would like them to be included in remembrance on All Saints Day, November 2.

Food Drive! We are excited to announce that we are one of only 50 Thrivent Fall Food Shelf Challenge grants awarded! Now the generosity begins on our part. Before November 12, we are challenged to collect 500 individual containers of non-perishable foods or essential items. If we reach the goal of 500 items, the Beatrice Community Food Pantry will be given \$500. 500 items=\$500 for the food pantry! The food drive will be supplemented with a Generosity Multiplier Gift, courtesy of the Thrivent Member Network-Nebraska Region.

SCHOOL'S ONGOING SCRIP CARD FUNDRAISER: Shop with gift cards that give money back to our school through the "Scrip Card" program. The program is at no extra cost to you, but, depending on the vendor, the school can earn up to 14% of the denomination of the card you purchase. The cards are vendor specific (i.e. Walmart gift cards may only be used at Walmart). More information and order forms are available at the school. If you plan to shop at a certain participating vendor or give gift cards for birthdays or holidays, consider buying them through school.

November School News

"I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations."

Psalm 57:9

During the month of November, we turn our thoughts to Thanksgiving and the many blessings we receive from God! The students and staff at St. Paul's Lutheran School would like to take this opportunity to **thank our church family for their support** of our daily ministry at the school and childcare. We are thankful for the amazing staff, who go above and beyond to help all of the children in both the school and childcare learn and grow in the love of Jesus.

Sunday, November 9th will be our school **Science Fair and Open House**. The PTL is also hosting a **Soup Supper.** Please plan to join us between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. to see the student's science projects and enjoy our school open house. The Scholastic Book Fair will also be set up at our school and open for purchases.

November 9th the school children will be singing for our 9:00 worship service.

Our Second Graders have been invited again this year to participate in **swimming lessons** at the YMCA. They had to lessons in October and will have their final lessons on November 7th, 14th and 21st. Thank you to the swim teachers at the YMCA for teaching our students this important life skill.

Our Town Beatrice will be airing a commercial featuring the school, childcare, and church that will run the week of November 3rd through 8th on 10/11. Watch for it!

November 26th through the 28th will be our **Thanksgiving Break.** We look forward to spending time with families and reflecting on how God has abundantly blessed us.

In Christ, Jonetta Hagemeier, Head Teacher

Big Give Reception



Character Awards



All School Trip to Vala's



Youth Group News

St. Paul's Youth Group for 6th - 12th graders, meets the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month. Meetings are held at the school from 5-7pm unless a special activity is planned. We can't wait to see you at our meetings for an activity, food, and a Bible Study. Watch the bulletin for additional activities planned, AND give JoAnna your email address so you'll always be in the know! Questions? Contact Joanna Gellermann-Long 425-591-5318 or Jessica Leseberg 402-230-0988.

Our 6-8th graders are attending the **Middle School Youth Gathering** in Kearney November 8-9, 2025. Thank you to all who have helped us earn \$ to attend!

An ongoing fundraiser! We sell **SuperWash Car Wash Tickets** at a discounted price! You can buy 5 tokens for \$20! What a deal! Give them as gifts! Available in the church office.

Get St. Paul's church app on your phone. Simply point your phone camera to the QR code or go to... https://subsplash.com/st-pauls-lutheran-chur/app





Blessings of the Harvest Dinner & Auction

at the Vintage Venue Saturday, November 22rd 4:30 pm doors open, with dinner served at 6:00pm

Tickets are \$50 per person.
This covers your dinner and 2 drink tickets.

(Twenty five dollars of each ticket is considered a tax-deductible contribution.)

Tickets are after worship, at the church or at the school!

If you have item(s) to donate to the auction, see Carla Loemker or Julie Fehn. (402-520-0015) (402-239-4031)

Harmonious Stewardship from LCMS

"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another" (Romans 12:4-5).

One of the most forgotten concepts in stewardship is the interdependent nature that makes up the Body of Christ and the way that body supports the shared work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is experienced in the local congregation, as well as in broader mission and ministry efforts at the district and Synod levels. Yet in these words, St. Paul reminds the Romans and us that we are indeed members of one another. This is true in our worship. It is also true in our stewardship of the Gospel. Stewards of all shapes and sizes, ages and abilities, affluence and influence are all assembled around Word and Sacrament in the local congregation with no one being more important than the other.

Part of this forgetting lies in what the eyes see and how our human mind operates. Our eyes and our minds are quick to come to the erroneous conclusion that the person who writes the biggest check is the more important steward. Human logic, flawed by sin as it is, could make a claim that the youngest child or the most infirm, aged member of the congregation would certainly be considered something less than important when it comes to the stewardship of the Gospel.

Paul makes it clear in these words that this is not how stewardship of the Gospel is measured in the Body of Christ. Rather, it would be better to view local stewardship like the lost art of harmony in congregational singing. This has been lost not only due to the performative nature of the lead singers of the local praise team, but also because modern hymnals are written to almost force the novice hymn-singer into unison voice. Creative harmonization by talented organists is beautiful to listen to, but does not always support the people in the pews in singing in parts. This is a loss in demonstrating a very practical aspect of whole-body stewardship.

The sound that builds when choral and congregational singers settle into their voice parts is nothing short of heavenly! Yet when altos, tenors and bass sing their individual parts without any concept of how they fit together, the music doesn't sound as powerful. The narrow range of the typical alto line almost sounds monotonous. The tenor line can get painfully high, and the baseline can get uncomfortably low. But, when interdependently entwined, along with the melody that is so often carried by the sopranos, the music becomes a tremendously powerful tool in communicating the Gospel.

The same is true of individual stewards. Certainly, stewards with more financial means are in a unique place to "carry the tune" for ministry in a local congregation. But that doesn't rule out the faithful stewardship of the saint-like 94-year-old Hulda, who prayed for her young pastor in German every night while the aches and pains of arthritis and the grief of losing a daughter to cancer kept her awake. This does not rule out Jimmy, the profoundly developmentally disabled confirmand whose basic but dramatically eloquent confession of the faith left an impression on a congregation long after he went to be with Jesus. It doesn't rule out the single parent, the recovering addict, the family coming out of bankruptcy, the elderly widow and everyone in between.

The Lord has entrusted all the baptized with stewardship of the one thing needful: the Gospel of Jesus Christ. No one member of any congregation is more important than another when it comes to this stewardship. The biggest check isn't always the best way to communicate the Gospel. In fact, it is almost always better communicated with the widow's mite, the tenacious stewardship of the talents and so much more.

In the local congregation and beyond, our corporate stewardship of the Gospel needs each other to fill out our great confession. It is not about equal amount. It is about interdependence that only the Holy Spirit can work! Each of us has a role to play, a harmony to sing. The standard for that role is faithfulness. We do not have the same function, but we have the same Jesus! As we sing the parts entrusted to us by the Holy Spirit, the sweet music of the Gospel goes out!