

**May
2018**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Member Lutheran Church Missouri Synod- LCMS
1112 Bailey Street, Sac City, Iowa ~ 712-662-7029
Rev. Don Pobanz



God's Word in the Divine Service

A recent survey by the trusted surveying company Gallop showed that the biggest reason people attend church was to hear God's Word, especially as God's Word is found in the sermon. What an encouragement that people are most interested in what God has to say. This same survey also shows that church attendance doesn't depend near as much as how people feel when in church, about how many community outreach programs a church has, or surprisingly how good the choir is (or whether a church even has one), or even whether the religious leaders are dynamic or interesting or inspiring.

Even though that may be the case, pastors still want to preach good sermons. To assist in that, this past week about 50 pastors from our Iowa District West went to Fort Dodge for a Symposium on Preaching. It was in honor of the late Iowa District West President, Richard Kapfer. The presenter was Dr. Rev. Kolb from Concordia Seminary in St Louis.

So what do you suppose the main point that a speaker like this makes for a bunch of pastors? You might be surprised to learn many of the things that it is not. It was not about some specific technique or way of talking, nor was it an instruction manual. It isn't to have a captive audience to share their

thoughts, their desires, their pet projects. It wasn't about how to get people to like them or compliment their speaking. It isn't really even about the pastor at all. That is part of the reason that so many pastors dress almost identically.

Instead, it was a reminder that when it comes to preaching, the purpose is give people Jesus. How? By giving them God's Word. It is that simple and yet very complicated at the same time.

This may seem strange, until you stop and consider who is it that forgives your sins, who washes you clean. And then considering how this cleansing from sin comes to you through the Word, not human words, but God's Word. And God's Word does things. It creates, just as we read about in the first few chapters of Genesis. God's Word isn't just for intellectual knowledge. Rather it is for the strengthening of your faith.

In this world, we so often get burdened by our many failures. These failures are with our family, with our co-workers, and even people we come into contact with in the course of our normal activities. And it isn't just what we say or do, it is even what we think, and even that impulse to sin. All of these things remind us that we are not God and that we are in need of God.

Just as we learned in confirmation class concerning

baptism, "it is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word (Small Catechism)" that provides us with the forgiveness of sins.

Because God is a generous and gracious God, He also provides us with other means for the forgiveness of our sins. That is the primary purpose of the sermon. Oh sure, your pastor hopes you also learn something and enjoy the sermon, but even if you don't learn anything new, you will receive forgiveness. And what could be better than that?

So when you come to church, listen to God's Word. And while personal illustrations make it easier to pay attention, they are not the main event. Even if they don't make sense or don't seem to fit, you still hear God's Word. And you are served through that Word. It is why it is called the Divine Service (the God Service). It is where God serves you.

And when you leave church, know that God wanted you in church, not so much that you can give him anything (even though we should give him our thanks and praise), but so He can give you the forgiveness of your sins.

As God's child, go in peace knowing that you are forgiven.

Pastor Pobanz

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**2018 Church Officers
and Board Members**

Sunday School

The Sunday School children have learned how God created the heavens and the earth. On the seventh day God finished His work and rested. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy.

On March 18th, the Sunday School teachers had a meeting and it was decided that Sunday, May 13th would be the last day for Sunday School. We will have a scavenger hunt and hand out Perfect Attendance Certificates. A special treat will be provided by Carolyn Noess. Sunday School and Midweek Teachers will receive a gift along with Timothy Pobanz and Pastor Pobanz.

On March 25th, there were two students confirmed, Nathan Pobanz and Connor Noess.

Perfect Attendance for March:
Preschool-grade 1: Brody Hunziker, Kolbe Hunziker, Madilyn Ruge
2nd-4th grade : Makynli Hunziker
5th-8th grade : Katie Jansma, Fern Pasche, Nathan Pobanz

Sunday School Superintendent---Rebecca Peters

SPY'S



St. Paul's Youth attended a Sioux City Musketeers hockey game in Sioux City on March 31st and had a blast together! The next morning we served Easter Breakfast, which was a success! Thank you to all who attended. Also thank you again to those who ordered Butter Braids. We received them just in time for Easter and got the majority of them passed out by Easter morning. I hope you all enjoy them as much as we do!

On Friday, March 13th Lucas and I took 3 of the youth to Willow Ridge Golf Course to enjoy a unique South American menu prepared by Iowa Central Culinary Arts students, and Chef Geoffrey Phillipson (who prepared our Valentine's supper) We had to step out of our comfort zones with the menu, including several types of seafood; including scallops, shrimp, and even OCTOPUS! We topped it off with some steak and stopped for ice cream for dessert. The

kids had a great time and we got there just in time to watch the storm from INSIDE!

Our youth were once again struck by tragedy when Melissa Dettman, the mother of youth member, Madi Dettman, passed unexpectedly on March 24th. Please keep Madi and her family in your prayers as they continue to struggle to make sense of their loss, and find a new "normal". Please pray that they would keep their faith and find strength in Jesus Christ and the promise he gives us, especially after this Easter holiday season.
*Youth leaders,
Kalyn and Lucas Johnson*

CAMP OKOBOJI SPRING VOLUNTEER WEEKEND MAY 3-5, 2018

Join us to help get the camp ready for the busy summer season. Come as you are able, between Thurs. May 3th and Sat. May 5th.

Preparations for the summer will conclude Saturday, May 5th with dinner for volunteers. You are welcome to stay overnight Sat. and help with an Omelet Brunch fundraiser from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Sun. the 6th. (you can also just help with the brunch)

Please call ahead for reservations for housing and meals.

**Camp office: 712-337-3325 or
email Joy.campokoboji@gmail.com**

**Minutes from Women of St. Paul meeting
April 4, 2018 13 members present**

Pastor Pobanz led a devotion from the Women’s Quarterly. Co president Freda Meyer called the meeting to order. Sec. Lauri Pobanz presented the March minutes. They were approved.

The treasurer Linda Case, gave the Treasurer’s report. There was a starting balance of \$834.80. Income was \$133.21 for a total of \$938.01. Expenses were \$398.57 leaving a balance of \$574.44. Report was filed for audit.

Old Business:

-Spring Rally will be held at Emmanuel in Lake View on April 17th. Registration begins at 5:30, program to follow supper. The meal is \$6.00. Ingathering items include: lg. Cans of fruit and vegetables, cake mixes (no chocolate) peanut butter, salsa, nacho cheese etc.

-Marge Glasnapp reported Meals on Wheels is going well. She plans to retire as coordinator, so we are looking for a new coordinator starting next year.

-A motion was made by Marlene Lents for the Confirmation Receptions in the future to consist of 1 item, such as rolls, or coffee cake, and coffee. Second by LaVon Boysen. Motion carried.

New Business:

Freda Meyer and Sue Dettman went to the LWML Zone Board meeting. We are to bring old cell phones and ink cartridges to the spring rally. Ingathering items listed above.

- The LWML District Convention will be held June 28-30 at Camp Okoboji. We discussed delegates from our group. Lauri Pobanz and Marlene Lents will consider and get back to us. Delegates are asked to bring one new bra each to the convention. They also will collect new underwear and socks, washcloths, towels etc.

- The camp quilt sale will be July 7th. It is possible some quilts will be donated.

- The national LWML Convention will be June 20-23, 2019 in Mobile, Alabama.

- A reception for the high school graduates is planned. Invites will be sent and based on response, we will decide details next meeting.

-Nancy Murken made a motion after Marge Glasnapp asked about getting a new coffee maker for the kitchen as the current one leaks. Motion carried.

- The Fall Women’s Retreat at Mission Central will be September 22, 2018.

Birthdays and Anniversaries were recongnized.

Meeting adjourned will the Lord’s Prayer and Common Table Prayer.

Kay Christian hosted, Lauri Pobanz and Marlene Lents will host in May. Next meeting May 2nd.

Respectfully submitted, Secretary Lauri Pobanz

Dear Fellow Members of St. Paul’s:

Easter—what does it mean for us?

When Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sins, he gave us the gift of Eternal Life. There is no greater gift. A verse from a popular hymn reminds us: “*We give thee but thine own, Whate’er the gift may be, For all we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.*” This reminds us that everything we have, including our income, is a gift from God; and as such we need to use this gift wisely. Below is the listing of family contributions from last year. Please take some time to study this information. We are asking that you prayerfully consider increasing your contribution by whatever percentage you feel you can or even by \$1 weekly. All contributions are so important to continue God’s work here at St. Paul’s and in the mission field!

*~Thank you for your consideration.
Board of Stewardship*

From:	Yearly Contributions To:	Number of Families
\$0.00	\$0.00	109
\$0.01	\$51.00	26
\$51.01	\$156.00	22
\$156.01	\$260.00	13
\$260.01	\$520.00	22
\$520.01	\$780.00	20
\$780.01	\$1,040.00	6
\$1,040.01	\$1,300.00	9
\$1,300.01	\$1,560.00	9
\$1,560.01	\$1,820.00	2
\$1,820.01	\$2,080.00	2
\$2,080.01	\$2,340.00	2
\$2,340.01	\$2,600.00	3
\$2,600.01	\$3,120.00	7
\$3,120.01	\$3,640.00	5
\$3,640.01	\$4,160.00	1
\$4,160.01	\$4,680.00	1
\$4,680.01	\$5,200.00	1
\$5,200.01	\$10,400.00	7
\$10,400.01	\$15,600.00	1
\$15,600.01	\$20,000.00	1
	Total Families	269

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Council Minutes

April 10, 2018

President Fred Bruns called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pastor Pobanz presented a meditation from Ist Samuel the last Judge of Israel.

Minutes from the March 13, 2018 council meeting were approved.

Pat Laursen reviewed the treasurer report. Report approved.

Kay Christian reviewed the finance report. Report approved.

Elders: Roland Harklau reported.

- The online survey has produced 39 responses. The survey will close at the end of April. The responses will be summarized and made available.
- Reviewed Pastor's monthly report
- Question about pastor substitute payment was answered.

Education: no report

Evangelism: no report

Stewardship: Sandy Zimmerman reported.

- Annual contribution report will be appearing in the bulletin.
- Served the last Lenten supper.

Trustees: Neil Neitzke reported.

- Downstairs men's bathroom. Jerry's will be letting Trustees know the extent of repairs. There is the possibility of replacing the sink and urinal.
- Neil reported on AC unit for sacristy. Recommended the purchase of a portable unit. Pat made a motion to purchase the AC unit from Menard's-\$229.00. Kay seconded. Motion carried.
- Jerry's is scheduled to install 2 new AC units in sanctuary soon.
- Parsonage garage door has been fixed.
- The old choir loft and the upstairs music storeroom need repair due to leaking roof. Need to make sure that roof areas have been sealed.

Pastor's Monthly Report for March 2018.

- Transfers In/Out-0; Baptisms-Xavier De La O on 3/17/2018, Noah Just, Paige Dierenfeld, Sonya Dierenfeld on 3/25/2018; Deaths-Melissa Dettman passed away 3/24/2018 and funeral 3/30/2018; Hospital Visits-2; Home bound Visits-16; Member Visits-5; Weddings-0; Confirmation Children-Connor Noess and Nathan Pobanz on 3/25/2018, Confirmation Adult-Brian and Sonya Dierenfeld on 3/25/2018; Church and Communion attendance- see church info sheet.

Old Business:

- Carolyn reported that there have been donations received to provide for purchase of 2 AC units for the sanctuary and the automatic defibrillator.
- Pat gave the council members an explanation about the availability of Thrivent funds utilizing Action Teams. She will write up the information to be placed in the church bulletin and the Enlightener. The council gave ideas for projects to use the funds. VBS is applying for funds.
- Kay reported the remote switch for the counting room area will be installed soon.

New Business:

- Neil gave a brief report from the Annual Camp Okoboji meeting held on 4/7/2018.
- Carolyn gave the names of seminary students we will be supporting. They are Rako Zech; Kevin Peterson; Trae Fistler.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Attending; Fred Bruns, Gary Langbein, Roland Harklau; Neil Neitzke; Pat Laursen; Kay Christian; Sandy Zimmerman; Karen Neitzke; Pastor Pobanz, Carolyn Noess.

*Respectfully submitted,
Karen Neitzke, secretary*

Birthdays



3	Lora Becker	14	Haylee Nissen
4	Bodi Penniman	15	George Weir
4	Anthony Quail	15	Ross Opsal
5	Beverly Von Ahn	17	Arlin Ringgenberg
6	Blake Wirtjers	17	Melody Baker
6	Bruce Peterson	17	Tori Hutchinson
6	Mark Peterson	17	Shirley Hollander
7	Donald Meyers	18	Nels Hollander
7	Rose Kreft	19	Ken Bentsen
7	Rick Huseman	19	Michelle Auen
7	Stacey Bauman	21	Lisa Scuito
9	Patricia Laursen	21	Sami Neville
10	Sue Hall	22	Renee Gastelum
10	Tanner Kischer	22	Hayden Schade
11	Kevin Hatch	25	George Mack
11	Rebecca Dettmann	28	Carson Ruge
12	Lori Greenlee	29	Thorben Duitsman
12	Kellan Johnson	31	Sylvia Jensen
13	David Hartje	31	Amber Jenkins
14	Mark Jansma	31	Steven Burns

Anniversaries

Arlin & Geri Ringgenberg
5-1-1965 53 yrs.

Mickey & Sue Dettman
5-3-1969 49 yrs.

Michael & Amber Jenkins
5-5-2007 11 yrs.

Gene & Doris Berry
5-17-1959 59 yrs.

Michael & Tina Zimmerman
5-20-1996 22 yrs.

Pastor Don & Lauri Pobanz
5-24-1986 32 yrs.

Donald & Shellie Meyers
5-24-1986 32 yrs.

Lucas & Kalyn Johnson
5-24-2008 10 yrs.

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod - Stewardship Ministry

St. Paul teaches, "Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches". Galatians 6:6

And again, he says, "Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel"

1 Corinthians 9:13-14

In other words, ministers of the gospel are supported by the offerings of those who are served by them. And this is how the Church lives even now. It is standard practice.

But this deserves closer examination. For it instructs us not *just* that we are to give but also *what* we are to give. And it does so with four little words: "In the same way ..."

St. Paul is building his case for supporting the preachers of the Gospel with the sacrificial giving of individual members on the example of the Old Testament people who supported the Levites with their offerings and sacrifices.

We're to support the Gospel ministry "in the same way." But how did the Old Testament people support the Levites?

Moses records this: "You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always"

Deuteronomy 14:22-23

The Levites were supported by the tithe, 10 percent of all the yearly yield of that which was harvested.

Does that seem like a lot? Does it surprise you that St. Paul instructs us that we are to support the New Testament Gospel ministry "in the same way?"

If it does, ask yourself: is the Church's job in the New Testament bigger or smaller than the Levites' job in the Old Testament? Back then there was one Temple, and the ministry was almost exclusively located in one nation among the descendants of Abraham.

Jesus calls us to teach and baptize all nations Matt. 28. And there are churches and ministries all around the world. How could we support this new Gospel ministry with anything less than the Israelites supported the Old Testament ministry?

Of course, we are free to give more, for we have received more than those in the Old Testament. We have received the fullness of God's revelation, the fullness of His salvation, the fulfillment of everything that God promised to do.

For we have received Christ, God's own Son, in the flesh, who took upon himself our sins and in exchange gave us his righteousness. The Father claimed us as his own in Holy Baptism.

He gathers us together in the place where his name dwells to feast on the first fruits of the resurrection, the risen and living body and blood of his Son, our Lord, Jesus. He reminds us that we are His, that all things are ours because we belong to Him. He blesses us here in time with physical and spiritual gifts.

In the same way, and in response to his fatherly divine goodness and mercy, we gladly give to those who proclaim to us "the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light."

For once we were not a people, but now we are God's people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have indeed.

1 Peter 2:9-10

Those Who Serve in May 2018

Date	Elder	Greeters	Ushers	Acolytes	Organist	Video Taping	Broadcasting
Sat. 5 th		Neil & Karen Neitzke	Mitch Dettman Madi Dettman	Keagan Bundt	Timothy Pobanz		
Sun. 6 th		Donovan & Rebecca Dettmann	Todd & Teri Luckow	Ryan Petersen	Timothy Pobanz	Eric Yunginger	Bruce Peterson
Sat. 12 th	Todd Ernst	Keith & Becky Diersen	Lee & Annette Green	Wyatt Kreft	Timothy Pobanz		
Sun. 13 th		George Mack	Jeff & Dorothy Wirtjers	Noah Just	Timothy Pobanz	Neil Wedeking	Merlen Noess
Sat. 19 th		Rita Jenkins	Carson Ruge Keith Diersen	Tori Hutchinson	Michele Dettmann		
Sun. 20 th	Eric Yunginger	Dianne Graeve	Ross & Denise Opsal	Katie Jansma	Michele Dettmann	Roger Jensen	Michele Dettmann
Sat. 26 th	Todd Ernst	Steve & Jean Burns	Neil & Karen Neitzke	Carson Rudd	Timothy Pobanz		
Sun. 27 th	Mark Jansma	Loren & Sandy Wuebker	Brandon Langbein Joe Langbein	Nathan Pobanz	Timothy Pobanz	George Kischer	Merlen Noess

April Treasurer's Report

General Account

Beg Month	Balance	30340.95
Deposits		14855.53
Checks		15576.86
Voided		15.00
BALANCE		29634.62

Memorial Fund

Beg Month	Balance	15786.28
Deposits		2.60
Checks		0
BALANCE		15788.88

Thrivent

Beg Month	Balance	1,335.20
Deposits		1,305.00
Checks		0
BALANCE		2640.2

Savings Account

Beg Month	Balance	3,830.90
Deposits		2.36
Checks		0
BALANCE		3833.26

May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 5:30 Board of Education 7:30 Elders	2 1:30 Women of St. Paul 3:45 Midweek	3 8:30 Women's Bible Study 10:30 Parkview Communion Service	4	5 6 Divine Service
6 9 Divine Service 10:15 Adult Bible Class Sunday School	7 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 5:30 Trustees	8 7:30 Council	9	10 8:30 Women's Bible Study	11	12 6 Divine Service
13 9 Divine Service 10:15 Adult Bible Class Sunday School	14 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	15	16	17 8:30 Women's Bible Study	18	19 6 Divine Service
20 9 Divine Service 10:15 Adult Bible Class	21 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> <i>Newsletter articles for June/July due</i>	22	23	24	25	26 6 Divine Service
27 9 Divine Service	28 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	29	30	31	1 June	2 6 Divine Service



...for behold, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come...
Song of Solomon 2:11-12

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
1112 Bailey Street
Sac City, IA 50583

Return Service Requested

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Enlightener

May 2018

