

# THE EPISTLE

JUNE - 2019

We, as members of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church have come to faith by God's grace and have seen that Jesus came to earth to save us from our sins. We are compelled to grow spiritually and to share this good news with each other, through the Word and Sacraments. We, as our loving response, will present Christ crucified to the world. We apply these truths in our daily lives all to the glory of God!

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School (WELS) -- Norfolk, Nebraska

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## Reach for the Finish Line

*“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” -- Philippians 3:13-14*

I loved to watch the Summer Olympics when I was growing up. The track and field events were of special interest. I couldn't wait to see how far Carl Lewis would leap in the long jump and how fast the sprinters would finish the 100-meter dash. It was especially exciting when it was a close race and the sprinters would stretch forward as far as they could, trying to be the first to cross the line.

That's the picture I have in my mind when I read these verses from St Paul's letter to the Philippians. Like a good sprinter, Paul lived his life of faith eagerly stretching for the finish line. He couldn't wait to finish the race and find eternal life with Jesus.

Do you live your faith with the same kind of eagerness and effort? If you are like me, the answer is: not always. This world has a way of weighing us down. The pressures, worries, and anxieties of this world slow our pace. Temptations trip us up and lead us off track. Our life of faith can be exhausting, especially when we take our eyes off of Jesus.

God's Word encourages us to focus on the prize—to keep our eyes on the wonderful heaven that Jesus has prepared for us. He promises to give his followers an eternity of perfect peace and rest—a place with no pain, sorrow, or fear, a place full of joy, glory, and praise, a place where we will never grow weary or weighed down. It sounds wonderful, doesn't it?

When life gets you down, keep your eyes on Jesus and reach for the finish line.

### Prayer:

Dear Jesus, life in this sinful world can be so exhausting. Help me to keep my eyes on the heavenly goal. Fill me with your love that I may always stretch for the finish line. Amen.

*This devotion brought to you by WELS and [www.WhatAboutJesus.com](http://www.WhatAboutJesus.com).*



# St. Paul's Lutheran School

*St. Paul's Lutheran School exists to assist our congregation & community by partnering with parents for gospel-growth in children - spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally, and physically - all through the life-saving Gospel of Jesus Christ!*

## **St. Paul's Lutheran E.C. Meeting May 21, 2019**

### Principal's Report

#### 1) Information

- a. Last Day of School was Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> (Kickball Tourney & Dance)
- b. Awards Night was held at beginning of month – good turn out!
- c. After School Program – averaged 17-20 students per day
- d. Play Night was April 26<sup>th</sup> – our students did an awesome job!
- e. PSG – Stepping into role for Rummage Sale this summer
- f. WELS Olympics and Arbor Day took place Friday May 10<sup>th</sup>.
- g. Financial Aid Requests have been coming in – extended deadline until June
- h. St. Paul's SCRIP – Available at school Tues./Wed. throughout the summer

#### 2) Enrollment

- a. K-8 Enrollment: 83 (11 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduating)
- b. Pre-K enrollment – 44
- c. Keystone Academy – meeting with more families weekly!
- d. Next year Preschool #'s – 59 enrolled at this point
- e. Kindergarten Enrollment (13 signed up already)
- f. New student possibilities (so far 8 new enrollees in grades 1-8, 6-7 more?)
- g. Tuition increase for Preschool and K-8, Minimal amount (\$75 for K-8)
- h. 2019-2020 enrollment looking to be around 150 students preschool-8<sup>th</sup> grade!
- i. Space adjustment for new preschool room...

#### 3) Ministry Action Plan

- a. Gym, EC Center, etc. – Stakeholder Meetings, June 16, 17, 19, 20?
- b. Accreditation – Exemplary Status attained. Need to set up SIP in June.

#### 4) Other Items

- a. PATCH Grant – We received \$400 and presented our project on May 1<sup>st</sup>
- b. WELS Ed – Tech - Lead Conference this summer, attending with Mrs. Mullen
- c. 2019-2020 Calendar is approved
- d. 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> class trip to Kansas City went well! Students got to see a lot!
- e. Advertising – Working with a graphic designer for re-branding ideas
- f. School Apparel – looking to give each student a shirt to start the year!
- g. Reading and Recreation – summer reading program for the month of June.

In Christ,  
Mike Paulsen

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## LADIES AID

The St. Paul's Ladies Aid met for their Annual Birthday Luncheon on May 2, 2019. There were eleven members present. Guests were: Betty Hille, Scott Brown, Mike Paulsen, Heidi Rixe, Shannon Spreeman, Sarah Nelson, McKinzie Paulsen, Yajaira Myers, Pastor Reichert, and Pastor Hirsch. Children from the Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades, under the direction of Mrs. Shannon Spreeman, Mrs. Sarah Nelson, and Mrs. Rachel Reichert, sang several songs for the ladies. Pastor Reichert's Bible Study was on John 21:1-19 "The Risen Christ comes in Glorious Power".

President Schlieve called the meeting to order. Roll Call was taken and the Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$723.55.

A motion was made and seconded that we take \$25 from the Treasury and add it to the \$75 Mission money collected. Motion carried. The Mission that we will send this to will be decided next month.

Reports: Carole Kopietz and Betty Hille reported on the Spring Rally at Shepherd of Peace.

The Fall Rally will be at Living Hope in Omaha.

Kitchen – Carol Wachter

Flower – Marian Tinius

- Carol Schlieve announced that she has received the flower calendar.
- The President asked if it would be all right to eliminate the Entertainment report. This was agreeable.

Correspondence was read.

Those helping with the kitchen cleaning last month were: Carole Kopietz, Kris Huddle, Carol Wachter, Carol Schlieve, Marian Tinius, and Neva Winter. After some discussion a motion was made and seconded that we put all but 45 of the sherbet dishes on the rummage sale. Motion carried.

President Schlieve announced that Chris Driesbach will be at the church services May 11 & 12.

The Birthday Song was sung for Betty Pufahl and Marian Tinius.

Our next meeting will be at The Meadows at 1:30 PM on June 6, 2019. Carol Schlieve and Marian Tinius are on the Hostess and Entertainment Committees. Roll Call will be your "Parent's Wedding Date". Group 2 will serve next.

The meeting was adjourned by singing "Abide O Dearest Jesus".

Neva Winter,  
Ladies Aid Secretary

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## OBITUARY

### GILBERT GERHARDT GRIMM

Gib was called home to his Savior's side in heaven on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at his home.

Gib was born to life in this world on August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1924 to August and Helen (Draeger) Grimm in Stanton County, and was reborn to spiritual life through Holy Baptism on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 1924 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Norfolk. Gib grew up on the family farm and attended country school and St. Paul's Lutheran School in Norfolk, where he was also confirmed in the true Christian faith on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1938.

Gib married Ruth Bretschneider on August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1946 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Norfolk. They farmed in Stanton County until 1952. Gib then worked for Gillette Dairy in Norfolk as a delivery man. In 1960 Gib and Ruth bought Mel's Drive Inn and retired in 1982. Ruth passed away in 1992. Gib married Lorene Droescher in 2005; she passed away in 2017.

Gib was an avid sportsman.

Gib is survived by his 2 children, Roger (Jane) Grimm of St. Paul, MN and Debra Brauer of Norfolk; 2 step-sons, Vern (Kathy) Spahn of Oakdale and Dennis Droescher of Norfolk; 8 grandchildren; 4 step-grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Dee Wachter of Norfolk.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wives, Ruth and Lorene; 2 brothers, Gary and Ed Grimm; and 3 sisters, Lorene Klug, Louella Rilus, and Althea Oestreich.

**"The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised." - Job 1:21**

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**May RADIO BROADCASTS (94.7 FM -- Sunday at 9:00 AM)**

- May 5 - St. Paul's Radio Broadcast Fund  
May 12 - In memory of Ella Bohn, given by her daughter Carol Bohn  
May 19 - St. Paul's Radio Broadcast Fund  
May 26 - In honor of Marian Tinius' 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, given by their children

**MEMORIALS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

**ST. PAUL'S RADIO BROADCAST:**

- In memory of Gilbert Grimm (\$30)(\$20)

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**Church Attendance:** Apr. 24 (10), April 27 (54), April 28 (121) = 185 (41%)

May 1 (12), May 4 (53), May 5 (128) = 193 (43%)

May 8 (6), May 11 (77), May 12 (170) = 253 (56%)

May 13 (Preschool Graduation) = 175

May 15 (K-8 Graduation) = 202

May 18 (48), May 19 (111) = 159

**Communion Attendance:**

April 24 (6), Apr. 28 (78) (22%)

May 4 & 5 (127) 34%

May 18 & 19 (110) 29%

**Weddings:**

None

**Baptisms:**

None

**Funerals:**

05/11/19 Gilbert Grimm

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**Monthly Calendars may be picked up in your mailslots at church.**