



From the Pastor's Study
Pastor Kinney

Private Confession



Martin Luther once said "When I urge you to go to Confession, I am doing nothing else than urging you to be a Christian" (Martin Luther's Exhortation to Confession, 1529).

Certainly we can see numerous examples in the bible of private confession. Like 1 John 1, Psalm 51, and James 5. But one place where we see this played out is in the events of David and Bathsheba in 2 Samuel 12. We know about the grievous sins that David committed but we often forget about what happens afterwards. The prophet Nathan comes to David, confronts him with his sin, and calls him to repentance. David then confesses his sin and receives absolution. David had done heinous and horrible things! But when he confessed his sin Nathan says "The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die." This is private confession! Where we confess our sins, and receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.



Luther makes clear in his small catechism "This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:22-23) Therefore, we believe that "when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

We know from the catechism that the scriptures teach that Pastors possess "The Office of the Keys which is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent." So this all means that when the apostles and therefore Pastors are sent out by Jesus, He gives them the keys to loose (forgive) the sins of penitent sinners and bind (not forgive) the sins of the impenitent so long as they do not repent (Matt 16; Matt 18; John 21).

<p>Partnership Office Address: 613 S. First, Hiawatha, KS 66434 Phone: 785-740-0268 <i>office@nekpartnership.org</i></p> <p>Office hours: <i>8 am-1 pm Mon & Wed</i> <i>8 am-3pm Tues & Thurs</i></p>	<p><u>Member Congregations:</u></p> <p>First Lutheran, Sabetha 311 Cedar Sabetha, KS 66534 785-284-3566</p> <p>St. Paul, Fairview 110 East Maple Fairview, KS 66425 785-467-8816</p> <p>Immanuel, Fairview 656 240th St. Fairview, KS 66425</p> <p>Zion Lutheran, Hiawatha 613 South 1st Hiawatha, KS 66434 785-742-3995</p>	<p>Pastor Michael Dunaway Cell 785-285-1714 revdunaway@gmail.com (Day off-Friday)</p> <p>Pastor Ian Kinney Cell 260-348-1891 pastoripkinney@gmail.com (Day off-Saturday)</p>
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Because the Scriptures show examples of this, we see this in our Lutheran Confessions. Therefore, private confession is in no way a “roman catholic” practice but it is indeed very Lutheran! To show this, I vowed at his ordination to hear confession and never reveal the sins confessed to me. If I ever did, I would be removed from the ministry. Moreover, you can see in our Small Catechism, the fifth chief part is all about private confession. Then of course the Augsburg Confession teaches that “private confession is not abolished among us” but instead that “private confession ought to be retained in the churches” (Augsburg Confession XXV & XI).



This is a treasure which Jesus has given to His Church through His Pastors to forgive sins and comfort troubled consciences. This is a gift of the Church where Jesus gives you forgiveness so there is no law on how much you can or have to do this but it is a great treasure of the Church and comfort to troubled souls to receive the forgiveness of sins. If you are curious what it looks like, you can see what the Rite of Private Confession looks like in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) on page 292. And those “confessional booths” you see in TV shows or in the Roman Catholic church weren’t invented until around the 1600’s. The ancient practice of the Church is to confess your sins at the altar rail.

So, all of that being said, you will notice in the calendar that every Saturday morning from 9-9:30 is now marked with a slotted time for Private Confession. I will be available in the Zion sanctuary for anyone who would like to take advantage of this treasure of the Church.

What about frequency? Well, in the olden days (before the telephone was invented) some of you may remember the language of “announcing for communion”. This is when you would come to the pastor every Saturday for confession in preparation to receive communion every Sunday. You are certainly welcome to come that often, but to give you a tip, I and my family try to go monthly, some people go weekly, and some people just go 4 times a year or only in Lent. So if you live in Hiawatha or thereabouts, it’s pretty easy to make it every now and then and I highly encourage it. If you don’t live in Hiawatha, perhaps if you are making a trip to Walmart or McDonalds on Saturday morning, you can add this to your schedule every now and then. Otherwise, I am happy to meet with you at your home or at any of the sanctuaries of the partnership if another time works better for you.

Jesus gives us this gift for our comfort and consolation that even _____ *that* awful sin you committed is forgiven and covered by the blood of Jesus. And I can promise you, that when you confess your sins and I place my hands on your head and pronounce God’s absolution, there is nothing like it in the world.

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VACATION

Pastor Dunaway will be on vacation from August 5th through August 19th.
If you have any pastoral needs, please contact Pastor Kinney
at 260-348-1891
or you can email him at pastoripkinney@gmail.com.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Military: (F) Liam Blum, Kelsey Blum, Aaron Foist; Allan Feek, Kevin Remmers; (I) Tristan Knott, Chad O'Brien, Daniel Wheeler, Paul Reynolds Jr.; (SP) Kyle Vanness, Mary Burkett, Spencer Ernst, Bert Ernst.

Care Facilities & Shut-Ins: (F) Stan Kohlmeier, LaVonne Thieme, Gerrienne Heim, Don Heim, Rosemary Scher, Eldon Schwant; (I) Gene Rice, Emma Middendorf; (StP) Carol Bauer, Betty Allen; (Z) Judy Clay, Darlene Covert, Connie Kneisel, Lawrence Thonen, Jaynell & Donald Robidoux.

Also in our prayers: (F) Don Windle, Larry Cox, Fred Feek, Carla Bishop, Roger Riekenberg, Curtis Cook, Mark Joachim, Lisa Riekenberg, Sara Clements, Crystal Kinkler, Gabriel Cook, Melonie Creek, Darrel & Sharon Cohoon, Megan McConnauey; (IMM) Asher Youde, Betty Kolbek, Fred Meeks, Roger Pusch, Abigail McFall, Janice Backer; (St.P) Vauncille Barrett, Doug Barrett, Sidney Doane; (Z) Jackie Bianchi, Sherry Hartley.

We Remember the blessed saints who now rest in the Lord, and we pray for their families that they remember all who die in the Lord live with the Lord. (Romans 6:5)



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

*Aug 1-Tammy Cochran, Aug 3-Cora Lee Rahe, Aug 4-Paige Stover,
Aug 4-Claire Heiniger, Aug 5-Annie Manche, Aug 6-Zana DeJong, Aug 6-Sage Meyer,
Aug 7-Larissa Brown, Aug 8-Evelyn Goodman, Aug 9-Candace Sullivan,
Aug 9-Alisha Barnhart, Aug 10-Sharon Lowe, Aug 10-Rosemary Scher,
Aug 11-Steve Stoller, Aug 11-Les Trentman, Aug 12-Hannah Gavin, Aug 13-Stan Kohlmeier,
Aug 13-Glenna Strahm, Aug 13-Eldon TenEyck, Aug 14-Darlene Atland, Aug 14-Trek Koerperich,
Aug 14-Jr. Lowe, Aug 14-Camryn Rahe, Aug 14-Adrian Worthington, Aug 15-Althea Stephens Jante,
Aug 16-Vauncille Barrett, Aug 17-Emily Lee, Aug 17-Kenzie Ploeger, Aug 19-Jodi Lee,
Aug 20-Sharon Trentman, Aug 21-Deb Ellis, Aug 21-Brandon Walter, Aug 21-Jace Kohlmeier,
Aug 24-Millie Stoller, Aug 24-Marlene Bosworth, Aug 24-Amy Feek, Aug 25-Melanie Schremmer,
Aug 26-Brian Heiniger, Aug 26-Derek Stephens, Aug 28-Karsyn Martinson, Aug 31-Mike Bulk*

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

*Aug 4-Dennis & Kim Kleopfer, Aug 6-Jason & Angelia Steiner, Aug 7-Marvin & Karen Kohlmeier,
Aug 10-Mike & Natasha Bulk, Aug 11-Ken & Judy Georg,
Aug 16-Les & Sharon Trentman, Aug 19-Bob & Virginia Freese,
Aug 25-Patrick & Tessa Sheik, Aug 26-Jace & Jill Kohlmeier,
Aug 28-David & Joann Davidson, Aug 31-Jeff & Leslie Brockhoff,*

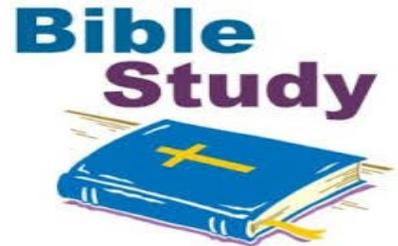


MEETINGS

JOINT ELDERS – August 9th @ 7:00pm
JOINT COUNCIL – August 16th @ 7:00pm

Partnership Ladies Bible Study

*The Ladies Bible Study meets on
Tuesday nights at 6:30pm.
This is held at Zion Lutheran in Hiawatha.
Please plan to join us!*



NEW PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE

August

Our website, (www.neklutherans.org), contains the history of the partnership and partnership churches, a calendar of events, recent happenings and a hint of what will be happening in the future. There is an activity page to look at and new pictures are added frequently. It has past copies of the newsletters and the calendar for you to reference. Special announcements are also placed on the website. Go to www.neklutherans.org.

*If you have a smartphone,
scan this square with your
phone's camera to check out
our new website!*



PLEASE HELP TO KEEP US UP TO DATE:

*If you have a new phone number, address, or email address,
please make sure you send it to the Partnership office.*



*You can e-mail the office at
office@NEKpartnership.org or call 785-740-0268.
The office would also like the names and addresses
of any members who are at college. Thank You!*

SERVERS FOR AUGUST

FIRST LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Aug 1st: **Elders**—Shane Schuette & Dwight Edelman, **Acolytes**—Tinner Bachelor & Hadden Bachelor, **Ushers**—Steve Huneke & Jason Steiner, **Greeters**—Marvin & Karen Kohlmeier, **Counters**—Vicki & Dwight Edelman

Aug 8th: **Elders**—Kurt Detweiler & Patrick Cochran, **Acolytes**—Lily Pearson & Jethro Steiner, **Ushers**—Bob Steiner & Shaun Pearson, **Greeters**—Rick Strahm Family, **Counters**—Heather Lehwald & Glenna Strahm

Aug 15th: JOINT PARTNERSHIP SERVICE at Fairview Park starting at 10:00am, followed by Potluck Dinner.

Aug 22nd: **Elders**—Dwight Edelman & Shane Schuette, **Acolytes**—Chloe Detweiler & Millie Stoller, **Ushers**—Mike Bulk & John Feek, **Greeters**—Steve Huneke Family, **Counters**—Stan & Patty Remmers

Aug 29th: **Elders**—Patrick Cochran & Kurt Detweiler, **Acolytes**—Naomi Pearson & Tinner Bachelor, **Ushers**—Patrick Sheik & Jordan Huneke, **Greeters**—Ed & Linda Hatheway, **Counters**—Glenna Strahm & Jason Steiner

Altar Guild for August: Glenna Strahm, Sarah Strahm, Martha Pearson
Trustees for August: Ed Hatheway & Shaun Pearson

ZION LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Aug 1st: **Elder**—Leon Wissmann, **Acolyte**—Corey Dunaway, **Ushers**—David Middendorf & Derrick VanDusen, **Greeters**—Jodi Lee & Nanci Oswald, **Lector**—David Middendorf, **Sound System**—Bob & Virginia Freese

Aug 8th: **Elder**—Scott Gigstad, **Acolyte**—Remington Killman, **Ushers**—Leon Wissmann & Chad Hinton, **Greeters**—Jodi Lee & Nanci Oswald, **Lector**—Richard Clay, **Sound System**—Derrick VanDusen

Aug 15th: JOINT PARTNERSHIP SERVICE at Fairview Park starting at 10:00am, followed by Potluck Dinner.

Aug 22nd: **Elder**—Dale Strobel, **Acolyte**—Corey Dunaway, **Ushers**—Richard Clay & Clint Meyer, **Greeters**—Jr. & Jeanne Lowe, **Lector**—Leon Wissmann, **Sound System**—Leon Wissmann

Aug 29th: **Elder**—Kurt Killman, **Acolyte**—Remington Killman, **Ushers**—Leon Wissmann & Chad Hinton, **Greeters**—Larry & Carol Walter, **Lector**—Jessica Gigstad, **Sound System**—Jr. Lowe

Altar Guild for August: Diane Davis, Donna Gormley, Janette Thonen, Jodi Lee

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Aug 1st: **Greeters**— Steve & Nancy Manche

Aug 8th: **Greeters**— Darryl & Helen Hoppe

Aug 15th: JOINT PARTNERSHIP SERVICE at Fairview Park starting at 10:00am, followed by Potluck Dinner.

Aug 22nd: **Greeters**— Mark & Becky Meyer

Aug 29th: **Greeters**— Bill Rand & Carolyn Schneider

Altar Committee for August: Karen Bauman, Sarah Kleopfer, Doug Kleopfer

JOINT PARTNERSHIP SERVICE and POTLUCK
August 15th, 2021
Fairview Park
10:00am

*Please plan to come to the Joint Partnership Service at the Fairview Park
(Community Building if rain)
on Sunday, August 15th, starting at 10:00am.*

*We will have the church service at 10:00am
followed by a Potluck dinner.
Drinks and table service will be provided.
Please bring a dish or two to share.
Also bring your lawn chairs!!*



ZION LWML

The regular meeting of the Zion Lutheran LWML was held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. President Lela Middendorf called the meeting to order with 4 members present. A Bible Study from the National Convention entitled "Running on Solid Ground" was shown via livestream. Things for us to remember are that Jesus is the designer of the race, He is builder of the course, He is our trainer, and He is also first runner and first finisher in the race. We need to keep our eyes on Jesus.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read with one correction, and the treasurer's report was given. A thank you note was read from Traci Rahe thanking us for our support of her ministry.

As our Zone delegate, Lela gave a brief report and shared photos of the 39th biennial LWML Convention held on June 24-27 in Lexington, KY, which sounded like so much fun. The motto for the convention was "Running the Race - Looking to Jesus".

Members are reminded that we have a couple more weeks to gather items for Kaden's Kloset in Troy, KS, which supports adoptive and foster families.

Lela will attend Kansas Assembly of Leaders meeting this weekend in Wichita, KS. A motion was made, seconded and carried to send long 6 hygiene kits to Orphan Grain Train for the ingathering at this meeting.

The meeting was closed with a devotion from Debbie Larson, National LWML President, entitled "Surrounded and Supported". We need to look back at all who have gone before us and finished their race and help us to witness for Jesus while we run our race.

The next meeting of LWML will be on August 10, 2021.

Anne Arnesen, Secretary

St. Paul Dorcas Society

Nine members were present for the July Dorcas meeting. Nancy opened with a short devotion and the remainder of the meeting was spent packing kits for Orphan Grain Train. Kathy will be taking the kits to the KAOL meeting in Wichita.

There will be a congregational picnic on August 22nd at 6:30 in the church basement. Table service and drinks will be provided. All members are invited, and all are asked to bring a dish or two to share.

Mites and Christmas Stocking monies were collected.

Carolyn and Rosalie were hostesses.

There will be no meeting in August due to the Congregational Picnic. Our next meeting will be on September 1st at 7:00pm. Karen Bauman will be the hostess.



FIRST LWML

The July 7th meeting of First Lutheran LWML was called to order by President Martha Pearson. Our Bible lesson for this month was the 2021 Prayer Service entitled "He Prayed with Them" and was led by Carole Feek. Roll call, "Freedom is" was answered by 7 members.

In the absence of Ruth Swart, the minutes were read by Kathy Steiner. They were approved as read.

Carole Feek gave out copies of the treasurer report. They were approved as read. Karen A. made a motion to give First Lutheran Preschool \$100. Second by Kathy. Motion passed. Mites and dues were collected.

Committee Reports: Karen K. reported purchasing some supplies for the church and Carole reported getting some supplies for the kitchen.

Other business: Karen A. requested that the lesson for the following month be added to the minutes each month so that it will appear in the monthly Church Newsletter. All agreed that would be very helpful. The August 4th lesson will be "Come Unto Me, Ye Weary" from the summer Lutheran's Woman's Quarterly page 20.

Next month's mission focus will be school children. Tammy will check on the needs of our Sunday school classes and report back to us on how we can help.

Brenda gave the closing from Mustard Seed Devotions entitled "Who Invented the Smiley Face."

Submitted by Kathy Steiner

ST. PAUL CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC

**Church
Picnic**



St. Paul will have their congregational picnic on August 22nd at 6:30pm in the church basement. Please bring a dish or two to share. Table service and drinks will be provided. All members are invited! Please join us!



The first day of school for the Hiawatha Schools and the Sabetha Schools is Thursday, August 19th. Horton Schools will start on Tuesday, August 17th.

The Partnership members pray for a successful and fulfilling year for all of the students in Sunday School, Catechism classes, and in the local schools. We pray for all of those students furthering their education after graduating from high school. We also pray for the teachers and families of the students.

FIRST PRESCHOOL



The Preschool Board thanks everyone for their donations, help at the food stand, and for their attendance. All of your support makes these fund raising events successful.



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Please join us, with your confirmand(s), for our 2021-2022 Confirmation Orientation meeting on August 25th at 6:30 P.M. at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fairview.

We will provide an overview of this year's catechetical instruction, go over requirements and hand out this year's schedule and syllabus.

The first confirmation class will begin the following week, September 11st, at 6:30.



NE KS Partnership LCMS

Member Congregations:

Zion Lutheran Church
613 S. 1st Street
Hiawatha, KS 66434

St. Paul Lutheran Church
110 E. Maple Street
Fairview, KS 66425

Immanuel Lutheran Church
658 240th Street
Fairview, KS 66425

First Lutheran Church
311 Cedar
Sabetha, KS 66534

August 2, 2021

Dear Parents and Confirmation Students, Grace to you and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Once again we see summer ending and a new school year beginning. For many this is a bittersweet time...a mixture of mourning the loss of summer freedom coupled with an enthusiasm for what we will experience this year. For others the excitement of a new school year far outweighs the Rest and Relaxation you may be leaving behind.

Now I know you see the importance of secular school...for a good education is vital in today's society. In our ultra-competitive world the employers are seeking the very best employees. Consequently, both parents and children realize you must do well in school in order to get a good job with growth potential; but, what about Confirmation?

Confirmation, as you know, is that public rite of the Church preceded by a period of Biblical instruction, or catechesis, designed to help baptized Christians learn to identify with the life and mission of the Christian community. In confirmation class one learns to believe from God's Word and the power of the Holy Spirit that they are sinners who need to repent of and confess their sinfulness so that they may then receive the Lord's grace and forgiveness. It is in confirmation our Christian youth learn about prayer, about God's commandments and meanings, about our ecumenical Christian statements of faith, about the Holy Sacraments - what they mean and what they do - and how to live faithfully in their vocation as hearers of the Word, as husbands, wives, fathers, children and as citizens of both the kingdom of the world and God's Kingdom of Believers.

As parents we want the very best for our children. We want them to have not only a good secular education, but also the very best this world has to offer in material things and worldly experiences. Yet our wants must be tempered with the understanding that all worldly things are only temporary. Worldly things will one day wear out, become outdated or become just a memory. Confirmation, on the other hand, is a gift that lasts forever. It will not wear out or become obsolete. The faith it promotes and nourishes will serve your child now, both in this world, and forever, in the world to come.

And not only does Confirmation have eternal significance, it is also the visible fulfillment of the promises made to your child as his or her baptism, when you as parents, pledged to support them in their walk of faith and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper.

Please join us, with your confirmand(s), for our 2021-2022 Confirmation Orientation meeting on August 25th at 6:30 P.M. at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fairview. We will provide an overview of this year's catechetical instruction, go over requirements and hand out this year's schedule and syllabus. The first confirmation class will begin the following week, September 11st, at 6:30.

We pray for your consideration and attendance. Your servants in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Dunaway
Pastor Kinney

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 Zion Bible Study 9:15 First Bible Study First Elder's mtg.	2 9:00 Staff Meeting	3 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	4 1:30 First LWML	5 Week 1 Visits	6 Pr Dunaway Day Off	7 Pr Kinney Day Off 9:00 Meetings & Counseling w/apt 9:00 Private Confession
8 9:15 Zion Bible Study 9:15 First Bible Study	9 9:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Joint Elders	10 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Zion LWML	11	12 Week 2 Visits	13 Pr Dunaway Day Off	14 Pr Kinney Day Off 9:00 Meetings & Counseling w/apt 9:00 Private Confession
15 10:00 JOINT Service @ Fairview Park w/ Potluck Dinner 7:00 First Men's Group	16 Articles Due For Newsletter 9:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Joint Council	17 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Zion Council	18	19 Week 3 Visits	20 Pr Dunaway Day Off	21 Pr Kinney Day Off 9:00 Meetings & Counseling w/apt 9:00 Private Confession
22 RALLY DAY 9:15 First Bible Study & Breakfast 9:15 Zion Bible Study 6:30 St. Paul Congregational Picnic	23 9:00 Staff Meeting	24 2:00 Birthday Party @ Maple Heights 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	25 1:00 AC Home w/communion 6:30 Confirmation Orientation meeting	26 Week 4 Visits	27 Pr Dunaway Day Off	28 Pr Kinney Day Off 8:00 Zion Men's Group 9:00 Meetings & Counseling w/apt 9:00 Private Confession
29 9:15 Zion Bible Study 9:15 First Bible Study 9:30 Fellowship @St.Paul	30 9:00 Staff Meeting	31 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	