



*Northeast Kansas
Lutheran Church Partnership
*LCMS**

FEBRUARY, 2022

From the Pen of the Pastor

You Are Whose You Are

By the Grace of God I am what I am (1 Cor. 15:10)

These are the words of St. Paul, the believing child of God...the Apostle of the Risen Lord...an ardent laborer in the Lord's Kingdom....the powerful preacher to the Gentiles and the author of thirteen of Scriptures blessed Epistles. 'By the Grace of God,' indeed it was, for this man wasn't always a Saint...there was a time when he was one of the biggest bigots and most zealous persecutors of Christ's Church on earth. He even participated in the stoning of Stephen, the first martyred saint. He was then known as Saul.

Now Saul certainly was not a follower of Jesus. In fact, he didn't even know him before his crucifixion. The narrative of the Book of Acts suggests that Saul's conversion did not come about until four to seven years after Jesus was crucified. Saul described himself as "a Pharisee of Pharisees." In doing so he exposed some warts, for the Pharisees were the strictest of Jewish sects. Their failings include their reputation for clinging to their own laws and traditions instead of God's Law....their great hypocrisy...their higher concern with outer purity than in the purity of the heart...their vanity and craving of the best seats in social gatherings...and for praising God with their lips while their heart was far from Him.

But, by the Grace of God, Saul was converted. On the road to Syrian Damascus, after having secured for himself a mandate issued by the High Priest to seek out and arrest any followers of Jesus he could find, so they could be returned to Jerusalem for questioning and possible execution, Saul meets the Lord Jesus. In the third person narrative of Acts 9 we're told...

"As Saul neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

As we might imagine, the men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

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Fairview, KS 66425
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Fairview, KS 66425

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The account continues with a description of how Ananias of Damascus received a divine revelation instructing him to visit Saul at the house of Judas on the Street Called Straight and there lay hands on him to restore his sight. Although Ananias is reluctant, because of Saul's reputation for persecution, he obeys the divine command. He went to the house and placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Converted by the Lord and Baptized in His name, Saul was changed into one of the Lord's most revered evangelists and apostles. Thereafter Saul, known also as Paul, became a preacher of the Gospel, a founder of Churches and Christ's tool to bring salvation to the Gentiles. Paul never tired of praising the God of Grace and Mercy and singing hymns of thanksgiving for the grace of God which made him, as terrible as he had been, a believing and loving disciple. With deep emotion Paul confesses of Jesus,

"He loved me and gave Himself for me" (Gal 2:20),

and to others he proclaimed the truth of his conversion, saying...

"I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. ...But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, my immediate response was not to consult any human being.

Dear Brothers and Sisters of this Lutheran Partnership of congregations, as we begin this New Year, may we all take time to rejoice in all that God can do; especially, in how He can take sinful human creatures like Saul, and you and me, and change us into the people He created us to be, so that we may do in and for His kingdom and people that which He created us to do. In 2022, may we all respond to God's goodness, and our conversion through Christ, as faithfully as Paul did, so that many more people, Jew and Gentile alike, may know the peace and salvation Christ wants all people to have.

Once again, Happy New Year Everyone!
Pastor Mike

VISIT THE PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE

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**.



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PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Military: (F) Madisen Cochran, Memphis Cochran, 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, 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, Tom Hansen.

Also in our prayers: (F) Ruth Swart, Julie Bauman, Darrell Schuette, Steve Stoller, Mardell Duvel, Evelyn Goodman, Fred Feek, Carla Bishop, Roger Riekenberg, Lisa Riekenberg, Curtis Cook, Crystal Kinkler, Gabriel Cook, Melonie Creek, Darrel & Sharon Cohoon, Megan McConnauey; (IMM) Fred Meeks, Roger Pusch, Abigail McFall, Janice Backer; (St.P) Wes Duesing, Chris Torrey, Doug Barrett; (Z) Charlotte Gigstad, Richard Schilling, Dale Strobel, Charles Fritz, Debbie & Andy Trent, Sherry Hartley.

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Feb 2-Christine Rosenberger, Feb 4-Nanci Oswald, Feb 5-Cathy Brockhoff, Feb 6-Larry Walter, Feb 8-Aubrey Rahe, Feb 10-Ken Meyer, Feb 10-Kortlan Kleopfer, Feb 10-Marty Martinson, Feb 11-Kathy Heiniger, Feb 11-Tammy Sisk, Feb 13-Tinner Bachelor, Feb 13-Jason Steiner, Feb 16-Marcia Spellmeier, Feb 16-Avery Davidson, Feb 17-Steve Bauman, Feb 20-Steve Huneke, Feb 21-Ursula Bauman, Feb 22-Emmett Lehwald, Feb 22-Hunter Lehwald, Feb 23-Eva Maria Kinney, Feb 23-Caleb Sullivan, Feb 23-Dawn Stephens, Feb 24-Dennis Manche, Feb 24-Kurt Killman, Feb 25-Brian Burenheide, Feb 25-Aaron Georg, Feb 25-Darin Georg, Feb 26-Paige Strahm, Feb 27-Milan Kloepfer, Feb 28-Martha Pearson, Feb 28-Margo Fries

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Feb 5-Carroll & Roberta Plattner, Feb 6-Chuck & Deb Sjulín, Feb 11-Dwight & Charlotte Kruse, Feb 16-Maurice & Darlene Atland, Feb 19-Gary & Nanci Oswald

SUNDAY SCHOOL



We invite all kids to come and join us for Sunday School!
Sunday School meets each Sunday morning at **9:15am** at **First and Zion**.
Sunday School at **St. Paul** starts after the service at **9:30am**.
The Zion Adult Bible Class and the **First Adult Bible Class** meet
on Sunday mornings at 9:15am. Please come join us!!

MEETINGS

JOINT ELDERS – February 14th @ 7:00pm

JOINT COUNCIL – February 21st @ 7:00pm

PARTNERSHIP ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday nights at 6:30pm at
St. Paul Lutheran in Fairview

Evening Prayer Service

@6:00pm

Adult Bible Study

@6:30pm



Partnership Ladies Bible Study

Ladies Bible Study
meets on
Tuesday nights at 6:30pm
at Zion Lutheran.
Please join us!

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

Thursday, February 24 is AHG Bring a Friend night!
If you know of a young girl who is interested in seeing what AHG is all about,
Bring a Friend Night is a great opportunity.
Contact Joan Stoller or Jessica Gigstad if interested in this event.

American Heritage Girls meet twice a month on Thursday nights.



ATTENTION ALL YOUTH:

LYF will meet on the first Sunday of the month
unless otherwise posted.
This will be at First Lutheran from 5:30-7:30pm.

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 FEBRUARY

FIRST LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Feb 6th: **Elders**–Shane Schuette & Dwight Edelman, **Acolytes**–Tyson Detweiler & Hadden Bachelor, **Ushers**–Steve Aeschliman & Steve Goodman, **Greeters**–Les & Sharon Trentman, **Counters**–Vicki Edelman & Steve Aeschliman

Feb 13th: **Elders**–Kurt Detweiler & Patrick Cochran, **Acolytes**–Millie Stoller & Naomi Pearson, **Ushers**–David Bauman & Bud Bauman, **Greeters**–Steve & Karen Aeschliman, **Counters**–Heather Lehwald & Glenna Strahm

Feb 20th: **Elders**–Scott Schremmer & Shane Schuette, **Acolytes**–Paycen Schremmer & Tinner Bachelor, **Ushers**–Stan Remmers & Shaun Pearson, **Greeters**–Marvin & Karen Kohlmeier, **Counters**–Allan Spellmeier & Darrell Schuette

Feb 27th: **Elders**–Dwight Edelman & Shane Schuette, **Acolytes**–Jethro Steiner & Lily Pearson, **Ushers**–Darrell Schuette & Ed Hatheway, **Greeters**–Matt & Sydney Bosworth, **Counters**–Patty & Stan Remmers

Altar Guild for February: Glenna Strahm, Sarah Strahm, Martha Pearson

Trustees for February: Matt Bosworth & Ed Hatheway

ZION LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Feb 6th: **Elder**–Kurt Killman, **Acolyte**–Brady Killman, **Ushers**–David Middendorf & Derrick VanDusen, **Greeters**–Anne Arnesen & Deb Reschke, **Lector**–David Middendorf, **Sound System**–Jr & Jeanne Lowe

Feb 13th: **Elder**–Scott Gigstad, **Acolyte**–Corey Dunaway, **Ushers**–Bob Freese & Larry Walter, **Greeters**–Anne Arnesen & Deb Reschke, **Lector**–Kurt Killman, **Sound System**–Derrick VanDusen

Feb 20th: **Elder**–Leon Wissmann, **Acolyte**–Remington Killman, **Ushers**–Leon Wissmann & Richard Clay, **Greeters**–Scott & Jessica Gigstad, **Lector**–Richard Clay, **Sound System**–Dwight Meyer

Feb 27th: **Elder**–Kurt Killman, **Acolyte**–Brady Killman, **Ushers**–David Middendorf & Derrick VanDusen, **Greeters**–Scott & Jessica Gigstad, **Lector**–Leon Wissmann, **Sound System**–Bob & Virginia Freese

Altar Guild for February: Anne Arnesen, Deb Reschke

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Feb 6th: **Greeters**– Darryl & Helen Hoppe

Feb 13th: **Greeters**– David & Danny Bauerle

Feb 20th: **Greeters**– Mark & Becky Meyer

Feb 27th: **Greeters**– Bill Rand & Carolyn Schneider

Altar Committee for February: Charlotte Kruse, Cindy Manche, Doug Kleopfer

ZION LWML

The regular meeting of Zion Lutheran LWML was called to order by Lela Middendorf, President, on Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. with 7 members present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was provided by Diane Davis, treasurer.

A thank you call was received by Anne Arnesen from Lois Voss who thanked us profusely for the quilts that were given to she and Don for Christmas. They love them! Thank you notes were also received from Maurice Atland and Cora Lee Rahe for their quilts.

Discussion was held regarding the purchase of the LWML Quarterly for all women in our congregation. The magazine has some valuable information that we feel every woman could benefit from even if they don't belong to LWML. Virginia Freese moved and Janette Thonen seconded to provide these magazines for the women at Zion. Motion carried.

It was discussed that we could eliminate Birthday Offerings since any monetary celebrations of a birthday can simply go into our regular offering fund. Anne Arnesen moved and Barbara Mueller seconded that we should eliminate the birthday fund. Motion carried.

Sharon Lowe moved and Janette Thonen seconded that we serve coffee and pastries prior to worship services on Sunday, January 30, 2022 before church rather than provide a soup luncheon. Motion carried. Free will donations can be made to the LWML on that day.

Lela announced that the Kansas District Convention would be held on April 22-25 in Overland Park, and we should all consider attending.

Next meeting of LWML will be February 6, 2022 at Zion at 10:00 a.m.

Anne Arnesen, Secretary

ST. PAUL DORCAS

The Dorcas ladies of St. Paul had a giving tree full of hats, gloves and mittens, (25- stocking hats, 34 pairs of gloves and or mittens.)

They are being donated to the children at Hiawatha Elementary. A big thank you to those who donated!

PARAMENTS

White paraments are the color of "purity" and "completeness" and symbolize joyful celebration of the work of our Savior. In addition to their use during Eastertide, white is the appointed color for such festive Sundays as Christmas and its twelve days. This includes Epiphany, the Baptism of our Lord, Transfiguration Sunday, and Trinity Sunday.

White signifies important events throughout the church year.

Green paraments used during Epiphany and Pentecost seasons symbolize the spiritual growth God gives the church and to each believer and are by far the most common color seen during the church year. Green is the appointed color for all but a few of the Sundays during those two seasons. Green is considered a neutral color, but there is nothing colorless about our need to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ. That's why the "green meadow" time of the church year is so lengthy.

St. Paul Preschool

We are so excited to be learning about the Arctic and all the animals that live there.

The students are also enjoying all the new purchases through the grant as well as the new classroom. We would like to invite everyone down to see all the changes when we get finished.

Pastor came and talked to us about Jesus baptism and what that means for us.

Thank you again everyone for your continued support of our wonderful program .



LYF SWEETHEART DINNER

*The NEK Partnership Sweetheart Dinner
will be on Sunday, February 20th from 5:30pm—7:30pm
at the Fairview Community Building.*

Free will offering.

*The menu will be chicken or beef enchiladas and rice, chips and dip,
Mexican chocolate cake or fried ice cream.*

There is a sign-up sheet at each church.

*Please consider supporting our youth program
through this effort.*

Invite your family and friends!



First Preschool

Happy New Year from the Preschoolers! We are learning fun winter poems and rhymes and reading books about snowmen and winter.


Our Bible stories have been about Jesus growing up. We read about Jesus learning from the teachers in the temple.

We are busy learning more letters, sounds, and numbers. The kids are working hard and learning so much! Fun letter activities have included gluing macaroni on letter M's, creating with toothpicks and marshmallows, and stringing noodle necklaces for letter N.

We are thankful for each student and their family that attends our school. We pray that we will be a blessing to them.

Check out our Facebook page: [First Lutheran Christian Preschool](#) to keep current with more activities and pictures. We would love for you to spread the word about our school!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	2 Groundhog Day 10:30 Ministerial Alliance 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Bible Study	3 Week 1 visits	4 Pr. Dunaway Day Off	5 Pr. Kinney Day Off 9:00 Private Confession
6 9:15 Bible Study @Zion & First 9:30 St. Paul Dorcas Elder's mtg. @First 5:30 LYF mtg.	7 9:00 Staff meeting	8 9:00 Circuit 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	9 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Bible Study	10 Week 2 visits 6:15 AHG	11 Pr. Dunaway Day Off	12 Pr. Kinney Day Off 9:00 Private Confession
13 Super Bowl 9:15 Bible Study Zion & First 10:00 Zion LWML	14 Valentine's Day 9:00 Staff meeting 7:00 Joint Elders	15 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Zion Council	16 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Bible Study	17 Week 3 visits	18 Pr. Dunaway Day Off	19 Pr. Kinney Day Off 9:00 Private Confession
20 9:15 Bible Study @Zion & First Zion Elder's mtg. LYF Sweetheart Dinner 7:00 First Men's Group	21 Presidents Day Articles Due for Newsletter 9:00 Staff meeting 7:00 Joint Council	22 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	23 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Bible Study	24 Week 4 visits 6:15 AHG	25 Pr. Dunaway Day Off	26 Pr. Kinney Day Off 8:00 Zion Men's Group 9:00 Private Confession
27 9:15 Bible Study @Zion & First Breakfast @First 9:30 St. Paul Fellowship	28 9:00 Staff meeting	