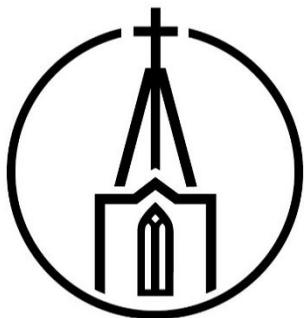


Saturday/Sunday, September 19/20, 2020
The 16th Sunday after Pentecost



**St. Paul's
Lutheran Church**
1100 Georgia Ave., Norfolk, Nebraska

Office & Website:
(402)371-1233 www.stpls.com

We welcome you all to our worship service! We are gathered for the purpose of worshipping our God who showed His love for all people by sending His Son to die for our sins on the cross of Calvary. We're also gathered to strengthen our faith through using His means of Grace, the Gospel in Word and Sacrament!

There are LARGE PRINT copies of this bulletin on the counter in the narthex, please feel free to take one. Bathroom facilities are available both upstairs (across from the west car-port entrance) and in the basement.

If you have any questions about the school or the teachings of St. Paul's, which is part of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, please don't be afraid to contact Principal Aaron Markgraf about the school, or Pastor Paul Hirsch, whose numbers are listed on the back cover of this folder.

We invite our guests to come again and worship with us again. You are always welcome here in God's house!

Our Holy Communion Practice

Dear visitors and guests: You may be relieved to know that we do not want to impose our practice of Holy Communion on you. In fact, God's Word teaches that Communion is intended only for those who have been taught the Biblical truths and meaning of the Sacrament, and for those who have previously expressed their doctrinal unity (communion...common-union) with the congregation. This is what is meant by the scriptural practice of "close communion."

It wasn't too long ago that most Lutheran church bodies held to this practice, but now many have now abandoned it in the age of political correctness. We still appreciate it and retain it, and extend fellowship at the Lord's Table to the communicant members of our Wisconsin Synod and also those of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), with whom we are presently in doctrinal fellowship. If, as our guest today, you have not had the opportunity to explore or express your fellowship with us, please observe our Communion service today, and speak with our pastor later if you have questions. We'd be happy to spend time over an open Bible and explain why we do what we do as we try to faithfully follow Scripture.

Times to Formally Gather around the Gospel:

Saturday: 6:30 PM Worship Service

Sunday: 9:00 AM Worship Service & 10:15 AM Bible Class (in church basement...materials provided)

6:30 PM COVID Service (1st & 3rd Sunday of the month)

Wednesday: 10:00 AM Bible Class (in church basement...bring your own Bible!)

The Sunday service is broadcast live every week on KNEN, 94.7 FM, and livestreamed via our website – stpls.com.

These Sunday service video recordings are also archived on Youtube.

Opening Hymn #337 “Delay Not! Delay Not” Found on p. 15!

The Order of Worship Based on CW, p. 15 “The Common Service”

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

P: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

ALL: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!



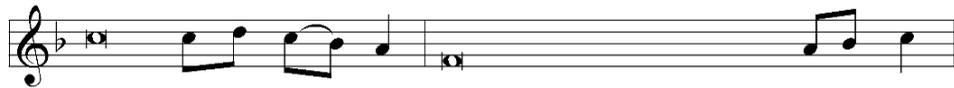
C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;

you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,
are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, please use Your constant grace and mercy to cleanse and defend Your Church on earth; and because we cannot continue safely without Your help, always protect and govern us by Your goodness; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

C: A - men.

The Old Testament Lesson Ezekiel 33:7-11

*God gives us the serious responsibility of watching over each other's souls. We must share the law with those who are disobedient and the gospel to those who are looking for hope. **Verses 10 & 11 serve as the sermon meditation text!!***

⁷“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. ⁹But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

¹⁰ “Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?”’ ¹¹ Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’

The Psalm Psalm 34:1-15

P: ¹ I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

C: ² I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

P: ³ Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.

C: ⁴ I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

P: ⁵ Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.

C: ⁶ This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.

P: ⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.

C: ⁸ Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

P: ⁹ Fear the LORD, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.

C: ¹⁰ The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

P: ¹¹ Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

C: ¹² Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days, ¹³ keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies.

P: ¹⁴ Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

C: ¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry.

The Epistle Lesson Romans 13:1-10

Not only are we citizens of God's kingdom of grace, we are also citizens of an earthly kingdom, our country! We owe them taxes, revenues, honor, and respect because they are established by God and serve as God's agents by punishing evildoers and protecting law-abiding citizens.

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. ² Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. ³ For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. ⁴ For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

⁶ This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. ⁷ Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

⁸ Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

The Verse of the Day 2 Peter 3:9 *Spoken responsively!*

P: The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness.

C: Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

After the Gospel is announced:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

Christ's Church will diligently use God's Law and Gospel to call a straying brother to repentance, which is always the church's goal!. The church speaks with Christ's full authority when it declares God's judgment upon the impenitent sinner and pronounces full forgiveness to the penitent sinner.

¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸“Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under

Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn #391 "God Loved the World So that He Gave" HOTW



1 God loved the world so that he gave His on - ly
 2 Christ is the sol - id rock of faith, Who was made
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die— His Son with
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives the
 5 When you are sick, when death draws near, This truth your



Son the lost to save That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death. All who con - fide in
 sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the
 sins that you have done. You're jus - ti - fied by
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus saves my



him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word does teach How we the bless - ed goal may reach.
 Je - sus' blood; Bap - tized, you are a child of God.
 soul from death— This is the an - chor of my faith!

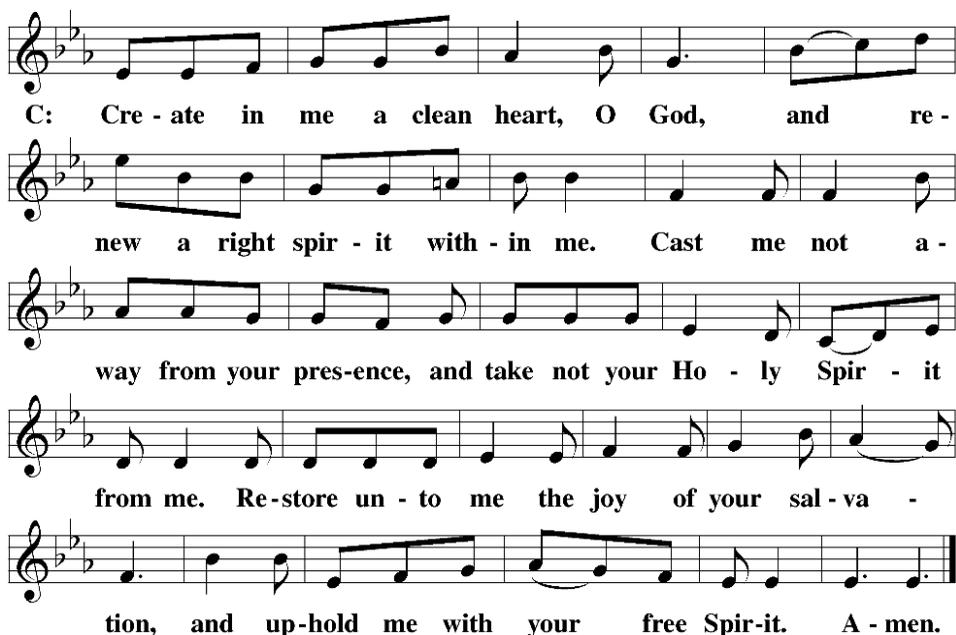
6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 To you, O blessed Trinity,
 Be praise now and eternally!

OUR GOD IS THE GOD OF LIFE

I. Our sins bring us death

II. God's grace gives us life

Sermon Response *All sing!*



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

The Offering

Our financial offerings are one way we give back to God in response for ALL He has done for us! As members of St. Paul's, we gather our thank-offerings which are used to fund the operations of this congregation, our Christian high school – Nebraska Evangelical Lutheran High School, and the work of our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. We don't expect or ask our visitors and guests to give toward this offering since it is our pleasure just to have you with us! But if you would like to, please feel free. It is our joy and privilege as Christians to generously give to the work of our Lord! Scan the QR code to give digitally, or offering plates are located at the rear of church.



Prayers & Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in His name, there He is with them to shepherd His flock till He comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song.



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Jesus' Words Instituting His Holy Supper

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.
 C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - men.

The Distribution

Song of Simeon *Nunc Dimittis*

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - - ra - el.

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - - men.

The Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Closing Hymn #338 "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this



me and rest; Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down Your
free - ly give The liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; Stoop
dark world's light. Look un - to me; your morn shall rise And



head up - on my breast." I came to Je - sus as I
down and drink and live." I came to Je - sus, and I
all your day be bright." I looked to Je - sus, and I



was, Wea - ry and worn and sad; I found in
drank Of that life - giv - ing stream; My thirst was
found In him my star, my sun; And in that



him a rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.
quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in him.
light of life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

Thanks Pastor Lindke for leading worship!

337

Delay Not! Delay Not



1 De - lay not! De - lay not! O sin - ner, draw near!
2 De - lay not! De - lay not, O sin - ner, to come,
3 De - lay not! De - lay not! The Spir - it of grace,
4 De - lay not! De - lay not! The hour is at hand;
5 De - lay not! De - lay not! Why long - er a - buse



The wa - ters of life are now flow - ing for you.
For mer - cy still lin - gers and calls you to - day.
Long grieved and re - sist - ed, may take his sad flight
The earth will dis - solve, and the heav - ens will fade.
The love and com - pas - sion of Je - sus, your God?



No price is de - mand - ed; the Sav - ior is here.
Its voice is not heard in the vale of the tomb;
And leave you in dark - ness to fin - ish your race,
The dead, small and great, in the Judg - ment must stand—
A foun - tain is o - pened—how can you re - fuse?



Re - demp - tion is pur - chased; God's prom - ise is true.
Its mes - sage, un - heed - ed, will soon pass a - way.
To sink in the gloom of e - ter - ni - ty's night.
What pow'r, then, O sin - ner, can lend you its aid?
Come, wash and be cleansed in his par - don - ing blood.

A couple of COVID Reminders...

- + Please wait to leave your pew at the direction of the usher.
- + As you leave the sanctuary and go to Bible Class or your vehicle, please do not bunch up in the mailbox area, but leave a clear corridor to the exits.

St Paul's Weekly Giving to the Lord – General Fund, September 12th & 13th

Yearly Need	YTD Need	YTD Offerings	YTD Need vs Offerings	Last Week Received	Weekly Need	Difference
\$370,844.46	\$72,137.65	\$72,902.66	\$765.01	\$5,761.00	\$7,131.64	-\$1,370.64

SOME CHURCH FUNCTIONS THIS WEEK:

Sunday, 9/20 = Worship Service w/ Communion, 9:00 AM
Bible Study, 10:15 AM
COVID Service w/ Communion, 6:30 PM

Wednesday, 9/23 = Worship Service Broadcast on Local Cable 12, 9:00 AM
Bible Class (Schliewe), 10:00 AM

Saturday, 9/26 = Worship Service, 6:30 PM *Organist: Mrs. Diane Herbolsheimer*

Sunday, 9/27 = Worship Service, 9:00 AM
Bible Study, 10:15 AM

St. Paul's Contact Information

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amarkgraf@stpls.com

Jeanette Leuthold, Secretary
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St. Paul's Website: www.stpls.com
 WELS Website: www.wels.net

Some Announcements

September 19&20, 2020

- 1) **Sunday Morning Bible Class** -- Today, Pastor Lindke will be finishing his class covering the topic – “How We Got the Bible.” Next Sunday (September 27) we'll restart our review of “Key Chapters of the Bible,” spending a couple of weeks reviewing “The Flood” – Genesis 6-9.
- 2) The **Flowers on the Altar** are in honor of Darlene Bretschneider's 90th birthday, given by her family.
- 3) On the weekend of October 17/18, **Pastor Mark Luetzow** will be our guest preacher/presenter. Pastor Luetzow is the President of **Michigan Lutheran Seminary**, which is one of two preparatory high-schools that our Synod operates in the big picture of encouraging and preparing young Christians to be future pastors and teachers (the other prep-school is Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, WI). He'll be here to encourage and remind and inform us of some of the work being done for this important work for the future of our church!
- 3) Our **area golf-outing** which raises \$\$ for the area schools' tuition assistance funds, will be held on **Sunday, September 27, 1:00 PM at Fairplay Golf Course** just south of Norfolk. Both business sponsor and individual participant forms/sign-ups are available at the Communication Center in the narthex.
- 4) St Paul's members have been asked to donate some items for the **Area WELS golf/tuition event** on September 27, 2020. These items include hamburger buns, styrofoam cups, napkins, potato salads, and baked beans. If you are interested in donating, there is a sign-up sheet at the Communication Center. Donations should be given to Mr. Markgraf or Ms. Lindemann by noon on September 27th. THANKS!
- 5) **THE NEW-LOOK CHOIR HAS STARTED!!** The first rehearsal of a men's choir was held last week and getting together again this week (9/23 @ 7:00 PM in the church) for our second rehearsal. This is still an open invitation to any male member of the species who'd like to sing in a very special and unique setting! The plan is to sing for the Sunday, September 27, worship service. Questions?? Contact Mr. Brown...(402)730-3278, or scottbrown@stpls.com.

- 6) **Our Annual Trunk or Treat is scheduled to be held on the afternoon of Sunday, October 25th.** This is a joint church / school event that is a fun way to create awareness of our ministry within the community! Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more info on how you can help and participate!
- 7) **LWMS Gathering:** On Saturday morning, October 3rd, from 9:00-10:30 AM there will be an abbreviated LWMS (Lutheran Women's Missionary Society) Rally with just our five NE NE area congregations. It will be held here at St. Paul's in the church. Pastor Thomas Rockhoff will speak about his ministry in Yankton, SD. There will also be some interesting mission videos. We hope you can join us.
- 8) **Fellowship Group** will not meet on Sunday, Sept. 27. We are planning our first fall meeting for Sunday, Oct. 25. More information about that meeting will be coming shortly.
- 9) Due to extenuating COVID circumstances, the regular **joint/area Reformation service** is being cancelled this year. As a congregation, we'll be doing our Reformation focus on the weekend of October 31/November 1.
- 10) Sunday, October 4 is the date for a **double-header down at NELHS**. At 4:00 PM the Fall Concert will be held, then an Association Meeting will be held following that at 5:00 PM.

Church Cleaning Teams:

Sept. 20 & Sept. 27 – Team 2: Darol Duseau, Mike & Linda Mullen, Sarah Nelson, Joel & Kathy Wiedeman

Oct. 4 & Oct. 11 – Team 3: Loren & Marianne Bloomquist, Jim & Diane Herbolsheimer, John & Sarah Kouba, Gordy & Jane Winter
