

The Visitor

Rev. Karl J. Koeppen,
Senior Pastor

Rev. Roger A. Drinnon,
Associate Pastor

Mr. Brian P. Porter
Principal

Rev. David Baker,
Missionary to Mongolia

Rev. Ross Engel,
Adopt-A-Chaplain

October/ November 2024



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL

#changinglives

Please also see us online!

Worship & Bible Study Opportunities

Traditional Worship:

Saturday 5:00 pm @ the Downtown Church
located at 348 E. Merchant St., Kankakee, IL

Sunday 8:30 am @ the School

located 1780 Career Center Road, Bourbonnais, IL

Contemporary Worship:

Sunday 11:05 am @ the School location

Adult Bible Class & Youth Bible Class:

Sunday 9:50 am @ the School location

Classes for Adults & Youth (6th - 12th grade)

Sunday School:

Sunday 9:50 am @ the School location

Classes for Children (Preschool - 5th Grade)

Church & School Office: 815-932-0312

Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Church Website: www.stpaulslutheran.net



Newsletter Deadline November 15th

Special Dates

- Pastor Appreciation Month, October
- World Communion Sunday, October 6
- Columbus Day, October 14
- Reformation Day, October 31
- All Saints' Day, November 1
- Daylight Savings Time ends, November 3
- Veterans Day, November 11
- Thanksgiving Day, November 28

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS!

Youth Nights, 6-8pm:

- Oct 6th & 20th
- Nov 3rd & 17th

1st Tuesdays (Oct 1st & Nov 5th), 6:30-8:30pm: Youth Room open for youth 7th - 12th grade to come hang out and enjoy fellowship.

Trunk or Treat - Sunday, Oct 27th: Join us after church to decorate the youth car(s) and then hand out treats during the event.

LCMS Youth Gathering Family Meeting - Sunday Oct 6th, 5pm: All youth attending the gathering and their parents are asked to attend this important meeting to begin preparations for the Youth Gathering.



TRUNK OR TREAT

The school family favorite, Trunk or Treat, is scheduled for Sunday, October 27th from 3 to 6 pm. We will be including some Oktoberfest flavor by having brats and hotdogs (grilled by our wonderful principal, Brian Porter), German potato salad, chips, hot chocolate, coffee and water. There will be a bounce house, fun fall games for the kids to enjoy, as well as an autumn-themed photo booth, where you can take your picture with your children. Trunks will be open from 3 to 4 pm. Food will be available from 4 to 6 pm. *This is a GREAT OPPORTUNITY for our school and church families to mingle and get to know each other. Please come!!* In case of inclement weather, everything will be moved inside, including the bounce house and the "trunks", by setting up card tables (provided by each trunk family).

4 REASONS YOUR KIDS NEED TO SEE AND HEAR YOU DO DEVOTIONS

*God's Word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!*

LSB657, st 4 - A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

In an email recently, I received a list of four reasons why children need to see and hear parents doing devotions. In *A Mighty Fortress*, Luther talks about the fact that God's Word abides. God's Word, the scriptures, but also God's Word made flesh, Jesus! It is important that we share both and we need to start that in the home.

In the email, the author wrote: *For many years now, I've asked students about their quiet time with the Lord. Frankly, many struggle with consistency, especially with prayer. Anecdotally, though, here's what I've learned: the students who struggle least tend to have had parents who modeled quiet times for them. Sometimes they did that intentionally, but at other times it just happened. Their parents did their quiet time in a more public place, and their kids took note. Here's why that matters:*

1. Kids need to see a devotional life beyond Sunday.

If all they see happens on Sunday, they'll assume that Sunday is the only day to be with God. Likewise, if the only prayers they ever hear are over dinner, they'll learn that's the only time to pray.

2. They need to see that Christianity is a lifestyle, not just a weekend habit.

One of the ways they'll learn that Christianity changes lives is by seeing their parents read the Word and hearing them speak to God throughout the week. Their first role models need to be in their home.



3. They need to hear prayers over them and about them.

Even if it seems they're not listening, they need memories of their parents' voices praying for them. They'll need to hear those voices in their heads years later when the world sends them alternative messages.

4. They need memories to encourage them in the years to come.

Maybe it's a well-worn Bible with Daddy's notes in it. Perhaps it's Momma's prayer notebook that's crinkled over the years. Or, maybe it's an electronic journal written by one of their parents. In any case, it will be a gift they'll cling to years later.

Think about that parents and grandparents! Involve your kids and grandkids in your devotional time. If you have no children, perhaps you can share your devotions with nieces and nephews and others that God brings your way. You may still need some completely alone time with God, but don't miss the opportunity to invite others to join you.

If your preschooler grants you only 15 seconds of attention, put them on your lap for 15 seconds - then tell them a one-sentence story with your Bible open, and say a prayer for them. If your teenager will give you only that same amount of time, pray a scripture verse over her before she starts the day. Send your adult children an email each day, letting them know what the Lord is showing you from His Word. Occasionally, send them a text telling them how you're praying for them.

If your devotional life is inactive or lacking, try picking up a devotional we have available for you at the church or school. There are PORTALS OF PRAYER and MY DEVOTIONS. Each booklet is a quarters worth of devotions and prayers. You don't have to be a Bible scholar to do devotions. But starting them is important.

It matters that our kids learn from us how to spend time with God.

Blessings in Christ!

Pastor Karl Koeppen



GIVING THANKS

1

*Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.*

LSB 895, st 1 - Now Thank We All Our God

In November, many Americans will gather with family and friends around a dinner table that will contain a feast that would have been the envy of many kings and princes in ages past. Even though we may face tough times, we are still blessed to live in the United States of America.

The Apostle Paul reminded the Thessalonians of the need to not only rejoice in the midst of challenges, but to be thankful. *“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).*

When I read that passage from St. Paul, I can't help but think of the Pilgrims. In October of 1621, William Bradford, Governor of Plymouth, declared the first official day of Thanksgiving. The public proclamation on behalf of the Pilgrims came as a result of their first bountiful harvest. The Pilgrims were overflowing with gratitude to God because the harvest of 1621 provided more than enough corn to see them through their second winter.

History records that Indian chief Massasoit arrived unexpectedly a day early for the celebration. The Chief brought 90 Indians with him - - causing the Pilgrims to nearly despair, questioning whether or not they could feed that many without dangerously diminishing their winter supply of food. As it turned out, the Indians had arrived early so they could hunt and contribute to the feast. The Indians provided five dressed deer and more than a dozen fat wild turkeys. There was plenty of food - - which was even more of a reason to give thanks.



In fact, that's what they did; they extended the Thanksgiving celebration to three days.

But what were they giving thanks for? It depends who you ask. The politically correct response is that the pilgrims were giving thanks to the Indians. To get the true answer, we need to look back.

The Pilgrims' journey began in Holland - - not for religious freedom, as is often cited, but for the freedom to build a community on biblical principles for their children. They had left England, where they did not have religious freedom and moved to Holland where they were free to worship as they pleased. But the culture was so corrupt, they made plans to go to the New World.

What was that journey like? One hundred two Pilgrims had been crammed into a space on the Mayflower that was about the size of a volleyball court. Compound that misery with the lack of light and fresh air (all the hatches had to be battened down because of stormy weather) and a limited diet of dried pork, dried peas, and dried fish, and the stench of an “ever fouler bilge” which lasted for 66 days at sea.

They arrived in the fall of 1620 just in time to prepare for winter. During that first winter, nearly half of the 102 pilgrims died - - 47 in all. In February, at the height of winter, they were dying at a rate of two per day. Thirteen out of 18 of the wives died, with only three families remaining unbroken by death that first winter. Yet even still, they were thankful. And they remained thankful even though at times their daily rations consisted of one kernel of corn.



The experiences of the Pilgrims were recorded in the historical work *Of Plymouth Plantation*, penned by their leader, Governor William Bradford, who said of the Pilgrims, “*Last and not least, they cherished a great hope and inward zeal of laying good foundations, or at least making some ways toward it, for the propagation and advance of the gospel of the kingdom of Christ in the remote parts of the world, even though they should be but stepping stones to others in the performance of so great a work.*”

So, they were giving thanks to God for all things that had brought them to that moment in time. They were thankful for God’s provision, protection through trials, and assistance from the Indian tribes. But they saw it as God working through all those things to supply their needs for the celebration.

The Pilgrims had the ability to rejoice and hope even in the midst of death and great need because they knew their lives served a greater, eternal purpose.

My friends, the same is true for you and me. When we know and follow Jesus Christ, our lives have that same eternal purpose and that alone gives us a reason to rejoice and be thankful.

I pray that you can join us for worship to give thanks God each and every weekend, but also join us as we celebrate the national holiday of Thanksgiving in November. Please join us in worship on Wednesday, 11/27 at 7pm or on Thursday, 11/28 at 10am. Both services will be held at the downtown church in Kankakee.

Blessings in Him!

Pastor Karl Koeppen

LOVE THAT LASTS

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.” 1 John 2:15

A one degree error in the short run does not seem like much of an error, but a one degree error over several miles does matter. You can wind up hundreds of miles apart over a long distance. The same is true for doctrine. A one degree error might seem at first as though nothing has changed. But when we allow a one degree deviation from the Truth that one degree can bring about devastating consequences for a congregation. This is the Apostle John’s warning in 1 John 2:15. The warning is that if we love the world then the love of the Father is not in us.

As Christians we can be tempted to deviate from God’s Truth to make the Christianity seem more palpable but in doing so we lose the power of the Gospel – the forgiveness of sins. In my newsletter article, I will go over three challenges to the Christian faith that if left unaddressed will cause severe spiritual consequences down the road. Just a note, this list is not exhaustive. I could add more as we are beset by a world that rejects Christ and His Truth. The three major temptations we face as a church in the 21st century include expressive individualism, a culture that indulges in hatred, anger, and fear, and a culture that celebrates libertinism.

- **We live in culture that loves expressive individualism.** The Gospel Coalition identifies expressive individualism as one of the greatest challenges to the church. Expressive individualism seeks self-fulfillment as the purpose and meaning in life. No longer are individuals bound by a common commitment together in the form of confession and community. Instead, individuals seek to get “something out of” institutions. Loyalty to an institution is based on how that person feels – and that feeling can change day to day. The Father’s love is not based on a feeling but upon the work of His Son to give us eternal life. The love of the Father is countercultural in a self-serving world. God’s love through the work of Jesus turns us of from being inward focused to outward focused. In the church, we don’t seek to serve ourselves but seek to serve others. (Luke 22:24-27; John 3:16; 1 John 3:16-18)

• **We live in a culture that loves to indulge in hatred, anger, and fear.** When I was at the Lay Leadership Summit a few weeks ago, I was able to speak to a lot of people as I was the Set Apart to Serve representative for district. Many were fearful of the future of the church. The church is indeed in serious decline in North America. However, we are not to meet the challenges of ministry with hatred, anger, and fear. The love of the Father is not found in hatred, anger, and fear. While the world indulges in these emotions, it should not be so for Christians. These emotions are going to bubble up as Election Day approaches as fear, anxiety, and anger grip the spirit of the nation. John reminds us Christians that perfect love casts out fear. James further reminds us that anger does not produce the righteousness of God. While not compromising the Truth of Christianity on several hot topic issues, we are to respond to the world's attacks with kindness and love. (James 1:20; 1 John 4:18)

• **We live in a culture that embraces libertinism over the Truth.** Libertinism is a worldview that boils down to “live and let live” or “you do you” as long as it doesn't directly harm anyone. Certain sins are now celebrated in our culture. The problem we face is that the world is highly effective in catechizing ourselves and our children in its ways that speak against the Christian Truth. We may want to respond to this challenge by hunkering down in our fortress church, however, we cannot avoid the world. I wish we could ignore the world and only talk about positive things. As our Lord speaks in John 17, we live in the world but we are not of it. (John 17:16-19) No matter how much we try to shelter ourselves or our children from the world, we will be exposed to the world and its ways. Even Jesus in the wilderness could not avoid the temptations of the world (Matthew 4:1-11). A friend of mine who homeschools his children told me that transgender ideology was spread to his children through interactions with cousins. The only effective way to combat the world's catechizing is to daily catechize yourselves and your children using the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. (Ephesians 6:17)

The Christian Truth compels us to reject the world and its lies. The world's conceit is that it matters more than God. Be reminded of this: This world will not last forever. The challenges we face will not last forever, however, the love of the Father for you does last forever. In response to the Father's love, focus on the things that actually matter. Look to where you can serve your neighbor or where you can serve here at St. Paul's. The love of the Father abides in those who serve others. Reject those who amplify voices of hatred,

anger, and fear. The love of the Father is not in those who indulge in and promote hatred, anger, and fear.

The world will seek to catechize us in its ways over God's ways. Reject the world's ways and lies. Be in God's Word. Be in God's Word in daily devotions. Be in God's Word by coming to church. The Father sent His Son to die for you. This wondrous news is beyond all imagination. Show the love that the Father has given to you through His Son to others. Keep first things first in your life. The first thing and only thing needful for us is the great confession: “*Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.*” (John 1:29) Go into the world with that one needful thing needful in life – the Father's love in Jesus. We have a message the world can't beat. Amen.

~ Pastor Drinnon



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS



Don't forget to set your clocks back when Daylight Savings Time ends **Sunday, Nov 3rd!**

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Your children are invited to join us for Sunday School every Sunday morning from 9:45 to 10:45. The preschoolers and kindergartners will meet in the Extended Care room at the end of the lower grade hall. The 1st through 5th graders will meet in the Music Room by the gym and then disburse to various classrooms in the upper grade hallway. Our time together will be filled with exciting Bible stories, games/activities and songs! Children will be rewarded for attendance throughout the year.

PLEASE NOTE: We will be practicing for the Sunday School Christmas program throughout the months of November and December so attendance is especially important.

SAVE THE DAY FOR THESE SPECIAL UPCOMING SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENTS

- Family Sunday School on....
~**October 27th** for Reformation
~**November 24th** for Advent
- Sunday School Christmas program on Sunday, **Dec. 15th** in the beautiful, historic downtown church



SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

The youth group meets for Bible study every Sunday between services. This year, we have two options for our 6th - 12th graders. Mr. Eden is leading a "Bible Adventures" study. Mrs. Drinnon and Mrs. Cherry are leading a "Digging into the Word" study where we will dive into our study bibles beginning with Paul's Journeys in Acts. Meet in the youth room at 9:45 am to learn more about each study.

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH!

Faith Friends - Faith Friends is a new ministry at St. Paul's, where an adult prays for a youth of our congregation for a whole school year. Last year we had 38 adults praying over 48 students in the 7th - 12th grade. It is now time to reset for the new school year. We are looking for adults who are willing to pray for students and their families, greet them in church, and send cards of encouragement throughout the school year. If you were part of the ministry last year, watch for an email about the new year. If you would like to start now, please contact Sarah Cherry at 815-651-6864 (text is best) or sarahcherry30@yahoo.com. All confirmation students and active high schoolers will be partnered with an adult, unless a parent chooses to opt out of the prayer ministry.

Faith Friends Prayer Ministry will be starting again in mid-October. Adults and youth pairings will be sent out in October and there will be a Meet and Greet on October 20th between services. If you signed up to pray for a student, watch the mail and email for updates. Families with a 7th - 12th grader please mark you calendar for Faith Friends Meet and Greet so you can meet your Prayer Partner.

Butterbraids will be available for pre-order Oct 6th through 20th. They will be delivered on Wednesday, Nov. 20th.

Calling all bakers! Our annual Christmas Cookie Sale is not possible without your generous donations of homemade cookies. Please sign up between Sunday services in November or contact Katrina Drinnon (katrinadrinnon@gmail.com or 618-975-8361) no later than December 1st if you are willing to volunteer your baking talents.

PHIL'S FRIENDS PACK PARTY

On October 12th, we are hosting another Care Package Pack Party in Fellowship Hall at the Downtown Kankakee Campus from 9:30 to 11am. Join us as we pack care packages for those going through cancer treatment.

PHIL'S FRIENDS NEEDED ITEMS

As St. Paul's grows this ministry, there is an ongoing need for care package items, homemade port pillows and hats, and handcrafted items like journals and cards. Financial support is also helpful too. Please consider helping any way you can. For more information contact Sarah Cherry at 815-651-6864 or sarahcherry30@yahoo.com.

“GOD’S FOREVER PROMISE TO DAVID CONTINUES”

When: Every Sunday at 9:50 am

Location: Room 131

Teacher: Pastor Drinnon

Pastor Drinnon has started a new Bible study on 1st & 2nd Kings. These Old Testament books grant us insight into the rise of Solomon’s kingdom, the schism between the Northern & Southern Kingdoms, and the eventual destruction of Israel and Judah for their unfaithfulness. Nevertheless, God remains faithful to David and His promises to Him throughout the entire history of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah. God remains faithful even today.

This study will be exploring these topics:

1) *Faithfulness & Obedience*: The central theme throughout both books is the importance of faithfulness to God’s promises and obedience to His commands. Kings who followed God’s ways experienced blessings and protection, while those who turned away faced dire consequences.

2) *Leadership & Responsibility*: The kings of Israel and Judah served as both political and spiritual leaders. Their decisions affected the spiritual well-being of the entire nation. This underscores the profound responsibility of leadership in all spheres of life.

3) *The Preaching of the Word of God*: The role of prophets such as Elijah, Elisha,

and others is prominently featured in these books. They spoke God’s word with authority, calling kings and people alike to repentance and faithfulness. Their lives and ministries demonstrate the power of prophetic obedience and God’s faithfulness to His promises.

Although 1st & 2nd Kings are historical books, they continue to be relevant to us today reminding us for the need to be personally faithful to God, the need for faithful leadership, and to listen to the Word of God in aspects of our life. This study will enrich both newcomers and Bible study veterans alike as we delve deep into God’s Word.

“TEN ON TUESDAY” BIBLE STUDY

You are invited to a one-hour Bible study on the Book of Exodus every Tuesday at 10 am in Fellowship Hall. Do circumstances prepare us for the future? Only if we believe that God is preparing us for what is next in our lives. The birth of Moses, the Passover, overpowering Egypt with plagues and moving over 2 million people to the Red Sea were all preparations for the children of Israel who had suffered through several generations of slavery and were led by a loving God to the Promised Land. Bring your favorite version of the Bible so we can read and discuss verse by verse the Book of Exodus with your discussion leader, Roy W. Cordes (815-304-5002).



“JESUS’ PRAYER LIFE ACCORDING TO THE GOSPELS”

We will cover Jesus' prayer life in the Gospels as an example for us to follow. Jesus prayed BEFORE all the big events happened in His life. We will look at those moments to understand the power of prayer in His life and how prayer can be a much more powerful part of our daily lives. Jesus needed daily time to have communion with His heavenly Father. Jesus took the time to pray to His Father, even when He was pressured by people. Do YOU take the time to pray each day when you feel pressured?

Where did Jesus repeatedly go to pray? Jesus was recharged from praying all night to call His 12 disciples the next day. Why? Great power comes from prayers directed to the one true God.

Pastor Dave Bottorff wrote this Bible study and will be your teacher at their home at 1573 Surrey Drive in Bourbonnais. Email him at dmbot7222 @comcast.net if you plan to attend this Bible class on **October 22nd and November 26th at 7pm..**

MARRIAGE RENEWAL RETREAT

Refresh, re-energize, and reconnect at a beautiful retreat center, The Shack, in White Cloud, MI. The retreat is being held November 1st - 3rd and will be led by couples who have led Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends, but in a more relaxed format. If you are interested in getting more information about this weekend, contact Ruth Fabbro at 815-450-5665.

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST

We meet again **Saturday, October 26th & November 23rd at 7:30 a.m.** in the Riverside Hospital Cafeteria. Join us as we study God’s Word.



FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Everyone is invited to join us for our monthly fellowship dinners. We visit a different restaurant each month and share a great couple of hours eating and getting to know each other better. No special commitment is expected and these evenings are very casual – just come as you are when you are able. Anyone who has come even once will tell you how much fun it is! We will meet again **on Friday, October 18th at Olive Garden** and **on Friday, November 15th at 6 pm at Oliver’s** in West Kankakee. Everyone is welcome! Call Nancy Eden at 248-842-2837 to RSVP.

PROJECT COMPASSION/ GABRIEL'S CALLERS

Would you consider joining? Our only agenda is to share God's love and to care for the well-being of our members, especially our shut-ins, those grieving, or anyone with special needs. We meet quarterly, at which time we have devotions and prayer and we share our ministry over a meal. Don't worry about whether or not you have the skills; we will train you. Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, Nov 13th at 6pm** at Chicago Dough. Please contact Pastor Drinnon at rdrinnon@stpaulslutheran.net or Ken Ebert at kebert24@comast.net or 815-922-0656 with any questions.

SERVICE OF HOPE & COMFORT



For some, the holidays may be a very difficult time of year because of the loss of a loved one through death, the loss of health due to illness or injury, the loss of employment or the loss of a marriage. Therefore, you are invited on **Wednesday, November 20th at 7:00 pm** to hear God's Word, to meditate, and to join in singing hymns and carols of comfort and in praying for healing and hope. This service will be at the downtown church. If you have questions or need directions, please call the church office at 932-0312.

VETERANS' DAY CHAPEL

We will be honoring our Veterans in chapel on **Wednesday, November 6th from 8:30-9:15 am** with a program and reception afterward. There are a few ways that you can help make this day special for our Veterans.



- *Field of Flags:* We will be creating a Field of Flags. You may purchase a flag for \$5 in honor of a specific veteran or for all veterans. The students will plant the flags in front of the school. The money collected will be sent to the Manteno Veterans Home. Purchase flags using the enclosed order form.
- *Attend Chapel and Reception:* Please come to our chapel service and invite anyone who would like to celebrate our heroes with us. The children will sing and lead the chapel service to thank the men and women who have served our country. RSVP so we may plan accordingly using the enclosed form.
- *Volunteer:* We will be asking for volunteers to donate baked goods for the reception, and we will need help setting up the event. Watch the weekly announcements for the Sign-Up Genius.
- *Questions?* Contact Mrs. Stirnaman at jstirnaman@stpaulslutheran.net.

DOWNTOWN LANDSCAPING

In August, the Board of Trustees refreshed the landscaping on the west side of the downtown school along Dearborn Street which had been deteriorating for decades. The old dirty rock and plastic underlayment was removed and new landscape fabric and rock were laid down. The great crew of volunteers included Jim Beedle (and his dump truck), Mary Kay and Sicily Beedle, Bill and Judy Kronen, Dave Harms, Matt and Loree Yoakum, John Veers, Greg Ronchetto, Mike Callan, Jim Hedge, Bob Carruthers, and Brian Lundmark, with a special thanks to Ken Capps and Lee's Rental of Manteno for the use of a Bobcat. The project was financed by Thrivent.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

The annual canned food drive **starts November 1st and runs through the entire month**. The Board of Human Care distributes food baskets year round and you can help stock our food pantry by bringing in nonperishable food and non-food items like paper towels, toilet paper and other toiletries, laundry detergent, etc. As we head into the holidays, now is a great time to reflect on everything that we have been blessed with and to share our gifts with those less fortunate. If you would like to help, you may bring your donations to the school or church.



PRAIRIEVIEW FALL FESTIVAL

The 2024 Prairieview Fall Festival celebrating 50 years of Prairieview Lutheran Home was a great success!

St Paul's book booth did very well. We raised \$2,000 for this worthwhile ministry. Proceeds from this year's festival will be used for future capital planning projects such as new air conditioners, painting and flooring, and maybe a new walking path for the residents.

We are blessed to have such hardworking and amazing volunteers that make the book booth the success it is! Thank you so much to all the volunteers who helped in any way: Judy Kronen, Bill Balgeman, Earl Jensen, Grace Weith, Sylvia Stone, Karen Beatty, Linda Johnson, Deb and Mike Callan, Bennie Ehrich, Kathy Goers, Barb Campbell, Anita Schluter Wilson, Sharon Friesner, Joan Gehm, Jan Monk, Liz Deck and Gene Wachholz.

Also, thanks to all who donated books. Remember that we collect books all year. Collection boxes are at both locations.

~ Nancy Campbell and Jeanne Vilt
Human Care Board

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Please join us for the LWML Fall Gathering and Operation Christmas Child Packing Party on **Saturday, October 5th** at the school. The

day will begin with a light breakfast at 8:30 a.m, followed by devotions and a Bible study. After that, there will be a brief business meeting for the LWML members however if you don't want to participate in the meeting, then you may help organize supplies that were brought in that morning. We will be begin packing the shoeboxes around 10:00 am. We will pack as many boxes as we can depending on the amount of supplies that are received. An offering will be collected at the meeting to help with shipping expenses. Please come and help share the love of Jesus with the children who will receive these gifts. The missionaries who receive these boxes use them to share the love of Jesus with the children they teach and their families. They look forward to receiving these boxes and are so grateful when they arrive. Because of your support of this project, many children throughout the world get to know Jesus. Thank you for your generosity!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair will be here from **Friday, November 1st through Sunday, November 10th**! The Book Fair will be set up in the school library and it will be open before and after school, during half day preschool pick-up, during parent-teacher conferences, and on Sunday mornings. Stop by for some early Christmas gifts! Ordering online is also available and enhances your book fair shopping! There are more books available for all ages on the website and you can also filter your search by interest, reading level and age/grade to find the perfect book. Plus you can shop 24/7. All proceeds from the Book Fair benefit our school library.

SCORE RECYCLING CONTEST



Start saving your cans for Belson's recycling challenge! Helping us earn money for the school is easy. All you need to do is mention St. Paul's when you drop off your cans at Belson's. You earn cash for the cans, St. Paul's earns points for the pounds. At the end, St. Paul's will receive an amount for every point scored. The schools with the top scores will win additional cash and prizes. You may also drop your cans off at the school. Just call Christie at the church office to make arrangements.

CHURCH HISTORY

Do you have boxes of old photos laying around? Could some of the old photos be of St. Paul's church and/or school? As part of our anniversary celebrations, we will be displaying church history photos and artifacts. The church archives contain some photos but we are looking for more. If you have photos of the church, school, or past events that you would like to share, you can donate them to the church or you can use your cell phone to take a digital picture of the photos and either email them to the church office or text them to Natalie Cherry via Sarah Cherry at 815-651-6864. Also, if you have stories about pastors, teachers, or events, or have memories you would like to share, please e-mail them to the church office. Your story may be used as part of the church history display.

DO YOU SHOP AT MENARD'S?



If you make purchases at Menards and do not intend to mail in the rebate slip, please consider donating your rebate receipts to the church. Simply drop them off at the church office or put them in the collection plate. Our custodians and trustees shop at Menards regularly and your rebates would go to great use!

August MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

| | |
|--|------|
| Baptized | 1809 |
| Communicant | 1319 |
| Communing | 434 |
| Attendance Avg. Weekend Worship (as of the end of the month): | |
| Month | 265 |
| Year-to-date | 257 |

YTD FINANCES (through 9/8/24)

Thankofferings

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Receipts: (Envelopes, Plate, Sunday School + Electronic) | \$133,270.33 |
| Budgeted: | \$160,192.30 |
| % of Need: | 83.19% |

Building Fund

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Receipts:(Envelopes+Electronic) | \$21,721.00 |
| Budgeted: | \$33,653.80 |
| % of need: | 64.54% |

NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL?

Would you like to receive St. Paul's bi-monthly newsletter in your electronically instead? If so, please provide your email address to Christie in the church office at crahn@stpaulslutheran.net. The newsletter is also available on our website, www.stpaulslutheran.net.

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 39: 2'Ectggt'Egpgvt'Tqcf "'/DqwtDqppcka"
 : 37 /; 54 /2534 "*****"



"YOTUJ'R'UEJ'GFWNG"

Traditional SAT 5:00 pm - Downtown Church Site (D)
 Traditional SUN 8:30 am - Bourbonnais School Site (B)
 Contemporary SUN 11:05 am - Bourbonnais School Site (B)



October

Sunday School/Adult & Youth Bible Class SUN 9:45 am - Bourbonnais School Site (B)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|-----------|---|---|---|
| <p>Communion is celebrated the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month</p> | | 1 10:00am Adult Bible Study (D) 4:00pm Jr. Confirmation (B) 6:30pm New Member Class (B) | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 8:30am LWML Fall Gathering & Op. Christmas Child (B) 5:00pm Worship (D) |
| 6 BUTTERBRAID SALES BEGIN 8:30am Worship (B) 9:45am Youth Bible Study (B) 9:45am Children's Sunday School (B) 9:50am Adult Bible Class (B) 11:05am Worship (B) 6:00pm Youth Night (B) | 7 7:00pm Lay Ministry Mtg (B) | 8 10:00am Adult Bible Study (D) 6:30pm New Member Class (B) 6:30pm School Board Meeting (B) | 9 | 10 6:00pm Gospel of Mark Bible Study (B) | 11 | 12 9:30am Phil's Friends Pack Party (D) 5:00pm Worship (D) |
| 13 LWML SUNDAY 8:30am Worship (B) 9:45am Youth Bible Study (B) 9:45am Children's Sunday School (B) 9:50am Adult Bible Class (B) 11:05am Worship (B) | 14 NO SCHOOL | 15 10:00am Adult Bible Study (D) 4:00pm Jr. Confirmation (B) 6:30pm New Member Class (B) | 16 | 17 | 18 NO SCHOOL 6:00pm Fellowship Dinner (Olive Garden) | 19 5:00pm Worship (D) |
| 20 BUTTERBRAID SALES END 8:30am Worship (B) 9:45am Faith Friends Meet & Greet (B) 9:45am Children's Sunday School (B) 9:50am Adult Bible Class (B) 11:05am Worship (B) 6:00pm Youth Night (B) | 21 7:00pm Church Council Mtg (B) | 22 10:00am Adult Bible Study (D) 6:30pm New Member Class (B) 7:00pm Adult Bible Study (1573 Surrey Dr., Bourb) | 23 | 24 6:00pm Gospel of Mark Bible Study (B) | 25 EARLY DISMISSAL | 26 7:30am Men's Bible Breakfast (Riverside) 5:00pm Worship (D) |
| 27 8:30am Worship (B) 9:45am Youth Bible Study (B) 9:45am Family Sunday School (B) 9:50am Adult Bible Class (B) 11:05am Worship (B) 3:00pm Trunk or Treat (B) | 28 | 29 10:00am Adult Bible Study (D) 6:30pm New Member Class (B) | 30 | 31 REFORMATION DAY | | |

| Sunday | | Monday | | Tuesday | | Wednesday | | Thursday | | Friday | | Saturday | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------------------|---|---|-------------|---|--------|-------------|--------|--|
|  | | | | Communion is celebrated the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month | | | |  | | 1 | 2 | SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 5:00pm | Worship (D) |  | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | |
| SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8:30am | Worship (B) | 7:00pm | Lay Ministry Meeting (B) | 10:00am | Adult Bible Study (D) | 8:30am | Veterans Day Chapel (B) | PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES | | 5:00pm | Worship (D) | | | | | | | |
| 9:45am | Youth Bible Study (B) |  | | 4:00pm | Jr. Confirmation (B) |  | EARLY DISMISSAL | | NO SCHOOL | |  | | | | | | | |
| 9:45am | Children's Sunday School (B) | | | 6:30pm | New Member Class (B) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9:50am | Adult Bible Class (B) | | |   | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11:05am | Worship (B) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6:00pm | Youth Night (B) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | | 11 | | 12 | | 13 | | 14 | | 15 | | 16 | | | | | | |
| SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR | | NO SCHOOL | | 10:00am | Adult Bible Study (D) | 6:00pm | Project Compassion & Gabriel's Callers Dinner (Chicago Dough) | 6:00pm | Gospel of Mark Bible Study (b) | NEWSLETTER DEADLINE | | 5:00pm | Worship (D) | | | | | |
| 8:30am | Worship (B) |  | | 6:30pm | New Member Class (B) |   | | |  | 6:00pm | Fellowship Dinner (Oliver's, Kankakee) |  | | | | | | |
| 9:45am | Youth Bible Study (B) | | | 6:30pm | School Board Meeting (B) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9:45am | Children's Sunday School (B) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9:50am | Adult Bible Class (B) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11:05am | Worship (B) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | 8:30am | Worship (B) | 18 | 7:00pm | Church Council Mtg (B) | 19 | 10:00am | Adult Bible Study (D) | 20 | 7:00pm | Service of Hope & Comfort (D) | 21 | | 22 | | 23 | 7:30am | Men's Bible Breakfast (Riverside) |
| | 9:45am | Youth Bible Study (B) | | | | | 4:00pm | Jr. Confirmation (B) | | | | | | | | | 5:00pm | Worship (D) |
| | 9:45am | Children's Sunday School (B) | | | | | 6:30pm | New Member Class (B) | | | | | | | | | |  |
| | 9:50am | Adult Bible Class (B) | | | | |   | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11:05am | Worship (B) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 6:00pm | Youth Night (B) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | 8:30am | Worship (B) | 25 | THANKSGIVING BREAK | | | | | | | | | | 30 | 5:00pm | Worship (D) | | |
| | 9:45am | Youth Bible Study (B) | | | 10:00am | Adult Bible Study (D) | | 7:00pm | Worship (D) | | 10:00am | Worship (D) | | | | | | |
| | 9:45am | Family Sunday School (B) | | | 6:30pm | New Member Class (B) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 9:50am | Adult Bible Class (B) | | | 7:00pm | Adult Bible Study (1573 Surrev Dr., Bourb) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11:05am | Worship (B) | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | | | | |



Serving our Lord in October

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Sun., October 6 | 8:30 am 11:05 am | Brody Brinkmann, Mason Raloff Annie Schneider, Luke Stirnaman |
| Sun., October 13 | 8:30 am 11:05 am | Ava & Jackson Veasey Norah Callan, Claire Wilson |
| Sun., October 20 | 8:30 am 11:05 am | Ryleigh Reiniche, Trenton Stephens Emma Davis, Miles Truax |
| Sun., October 27 | 8:30 am 11:05 am | Maci Proctor, Quinn Styck Daphne & Delilah Sexton |

LAY READERS SCHEDULE

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| Sat., October 5 Sun., October 6 | 5:00 pm 8:30 am 11:05 am | Jennifer Richardson Loree Yoakum Bill Dyche | Sat., October 12 Sun., October 13 | 5:00 pm 8:30 am 11:05 am | Rich Nordmeyer John Veers Ben Kubal |
| Sat., October 19 Sun., October 20 | 5:00 pm 8:30 am 11:05 am | Ken Ebert Dee Cordes Debbie Turrell | Sat., October 26 Sun., October 27 | 5:00 pm 8:30 am 11:05 am | Rich Engel Bill Balgeman Heidi Ostrowski |

TRUSTEE SCHEDULES

| | |
|--|--|
| Sat & Sun., Oct. 5 & 6 5:00 pm - Jeff Johnson 8:30 am - Tom Stirnaman 11:05 am - Jim Trudeau | Sat. & Sun., October 12 & 13 5:00 pm - Rob Wood 8:30 am - Jeff Johnson 11:05 am - Greg Wheeler |
| Sat. & Sun., October 19 & 20 5:00 pm - Jeff Johnson 8:30 am - Tom Stirnaman 11:05 am - Jim Trudeau | Sat & Sun., October 26 & 27 5:00 pm - Rob Wood 8:30 am - Brian Porter 11:05 am - Greg Wheeler |



Serving our Lord in November

| <i>ACOLYTE SCHEDULE</i> | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Sun., November 3 | 8:30 am 11:05 am | Olivia Reardanz, Ava Veasey Audrey Nordmeyer, Layna Rahn | | | |
| Sun., November 10 | 8:30 am 11:05 am | Isaac Lundmark, Trevor Smith Jacob Kubal, Lucas Porter | | | |
| Sun., November 17 | 8:30 am 11:05 am | Gavin & J.P. Woods Nolan Freitas, Beth Schreurs | | | |
| Sun., November 24 | 8:30 am 11:05 am | Aidan & Nolan LaVoie Dain & Dylan Blair | | | |
| Wed., November 27 THANKSGIVING EVE | 7:00 pm (Downtown) | Nora McHugh (crossbearer) Vinny Kreft, Audrey Nordmeyer | | | |
| Thurs., November 28 THANKSGIVING DAY | 10:00 am (Downtown) | Mo Macari(crossbearer) Gloria Morocho Loja, Layna Rahn | | | |
| <i>LAY READERS SCHEDULE</i> | | | | | |
| Sat., November 2 Sun., November 3 | 5:00 pm 8:30 am 11:05 am | Jennifer Richardson Lauren Lundmark Josh Cherry | Sat., November 9 Sun., November 10 | 5:00 pm 8:30 am 11:05 am | Rich Nordmeyer Loree Yoakum Sharla Ronchetto |
| Sat., November 16 Sun., November 17 | 5:00 pm 8:30 am 11:05 am | Ken Ebert Roy Cordes Sam Bottorff | Sat., November 23 Sun., November 24 | 5:00 pm 8:30 am 11:05 am | Pat Hatch Nancy Eden Karen Beatty |
| <i>TRUSTEE SCHEDULE</i> | | | | | |
| Sat. & Sun., November 2 & 3 5:00 pm - Jeff Johnson 8:30 am - Tom Stirnaman 11:05 am - Jim Trudeau | | Sat & Sun., November 9 & 10 5:00 pm - Jeff Johnson 8:30 am - Brian Porter 11:05 am - Greg Wheeler | | Wed, November 16 & 17 5:00 pm - Rob Wood 8:30 am - Tom Stirnaman 11:05 am - Jim Trudeau | |
| Sat. & Sun., November 20 7:00 pm -Jeff Johnson | | Wed, November 23 & 24 5:00 pm - Rob Wood 8:30 am - Jeff Johnson 11:05 am - Greg Wheeler | | THANKSGIVING (Wed. & Thurs., Nov. 27 & 28) 7:00 pm - Rob Wood 10:00 am -Terry Treece | |

PERSEVERE WITH THANKSGIVING

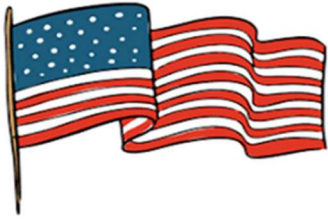
It has come to our attention that several members have been inquiring about how to make a special contribution to St. Paul's in honor of our church and school anniversaries. If you would like to celebrate our history by making a donation toward our future, you may:

- 1) Write a check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and write "Anniversary" on the memo line. You may either drop it in the collection plate or mail it to the church office at 1780 Career Center Road, Bourbonnais IL 60914.
- 2) Put cash in a envelope labeled "Anniversary" along with your name. You may either drop it in the collection plate or bring it off to the church office at 1780 Career Center Road.
- 3) Go to stpaulslutheran.net and click on "Giving" or scan the QR code below to give electronically. You will be asked to enter an amount, a frequency (one-time, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or yearly), a fund (select "Anniversary"), and your billing information. You may elect to link your donation to a bank account or a credit card.



- 4) If you already contribute electronically and you would like to make a change to your recurring donation, please call Christie in the church office at 815-932-0312.

We thank you for your generosity and your faithfulness. We could not share God's Word through Christian education without you!



Field of Flags

This form is due to the office by October 21. Please put the form and money in an envelope marked "Veterans Day".

Student Name: _____

How many flags would you like to order? _____

Please check one:

My flag(s) are for all veterans.

My flag(s) are in honor of the following veterans (please print names clearly and use the reverse side if you need more room):

Each flag is \$5. How will you pay for your flags?

Cash Enclosed

Check Enclosed (payable to St. Paul's Lutheran School)

FastDirect



Veterans Day Chapel RSVP

How many additional guests (veterans or not) will attend our chapel presentation on Wednesday, November 6?



Suggestions and Ideas

Good basics to include:

- * Washcloth
- * Spiral notebooks
- * Coloring books
- * Pencils
- * Erasers
- * Scissors
- * Construction paper
- * Crayons
- * Pens
- * Stickers
- * Pencil bag
- * Drawing tablets
- * Colored pencils
- * Pencil sharpener
- * Solar calculator

For fun:

- * Plastic animals
- * Stuffed animals
- * Musical instruments
- * Picture books
- * Balls
- * Yoyos
- * Building sets
- * Colorful card games
- * Cars
- * Whistles
- * Jump ropes
- * Baby dolls
- * Jacks

Also good ideas:

- * Sunglasses
- * Hair ties/clips
- * Socks
- * T-shirts
- * Hats
- * Kids jewelry
- * Gloves

WHATEVER WILL BRING A CHILD JOY!

Each box needs one special WOW item to catch the child's attention as soon as they open the box and let them know they are special.

NOT Allowed

- * Candy/food
- * Violent toys
- * Easily broken items
- * Medications
- * Lotions
- * Toothpaste
- * Soap
- * Liquids
- * Used items

NOT recommended

- * Playdoh
- * Reading books
- * Superhero books or toys

Monetary gifts are very welcome as each box costs \$10 to ship.



phil's friends

cancer is strong. hope is stronger.

Care Package Needs

Adult items only please! All items need to be new and unused, because our friends with cancer have compromised immune systems. Email info@philsfriends.org or call 224-653-8315 for the greatest need.



LOTION

Fragrance-free;
5oz. or smaller



HATS

Knitted, crocheted,
baseball, etc.

FUZZY SOCKS

Womens
only



BIOTENE

6oz. or
smaller



GIFT CARDS

USED TO
PURCHASE NEEDED ITEMS



LIP BALM



**Due to an
abundance,
please inquire
if needed

DECKS OF PLAYING CARDS



PUZZLE BOOKS



SINGLE TOOTHBRUSHES & TOOTHPASTE

(5 OZ OR LESS)



TISSUE PACKS

**Due to an
abundance,
please inquire
if needed



JOURNALS



Size:
5x7
(not spiral
bound)

BLANKETS

Rolled throw
blankets, crocheted,
or fleece tied
See instructions on back.



HEADQUARTERS CROWN POINT HOPE CENTER: 1249 ARROWHEAD CT, CROWN POINT, IN 46307

WHEATON HOPE CENTER 213 W WESLEY ST, WHEATON, IL 60187

ADDISON HOPE CENTER 1150 N SWIFT RD, ADDISON, IL 60101

224-653-8315 | [INFO@PHILSFRIENDS.ORG](mailto:info@philsfriends.org) | [WEB: PHILSFRIENDS.ORG](http://WEB:PHILSFRIENDS.ORG)



phil's friends

cancer is strong. **hope is stronger.**

Fleece Blanket Instructions

1. Select fleece material for a two-sided blanket. When selecting the material, choose one that is patterned and one that is a solid coordinating color. Please purchase 1 1/4 yards of each fabric. (after it measures 40 x 60)
2. Spread out the material on a flat surface with the softer or more brightly colored sides facing out. Keep the fleece pieces together and trim the edges, if needed, to meet the size requirements. (be sure to remove selvage edges)
3. Cut out a 4"x4" square of fabric out of each corner. Make sure that you are cutting both pieces of fleece at the same time. After the square corners are cut, start cutting strips along the sides of the blanket. Starting at the corner, cut strips approximately 2/3 to 1" wide and 4" long. The strips don't have to be exactly uniform, but they should be approximately the same size.
4. Once your blanket fringes have been cut, tie the strips together using a simple knot, attaching the bottom layer to the top layer. Keep first knot slightly loose & tie the second knot securley. tight. You'll want to tie two knots in each strip.
5. When finished tying, trim the fringes, so that they are neat and even.

