

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School
Announcements - March 15th & 16th

ATTENDANCE CARDS

Please locate the Attendance Cards in your row and fill one out when you arrive. They will be collected during the offering. If you are visiting, please feel free to include your address and phone number. You may also include any prayer requests on the attendance card.

SHINE WORK DAY

St. Paul's Kankakee is hosting a Shine Service Day on **April 5th from 9am to 2pm**. There will be two major projects going on. One will be a Phil's Friends Work Day in Fellowship Hall. Creative projects for all ages will be available all day - tying fleece blankets, coloring boxes and Cards of Hope, creating journals and cards. Second, St. Paul's is working to update the old school building. Work crews will work on various projects that day including, but not limited to, hauling garbage out of the basement, hanging new blinds, possibly laying flooring in one room, rearranging rooms, and cleaning. They also plan to provide lunch and helping with lunch can be an act of service. Please contact Sarah Cherry at sarahcherry30@yahoo.com or the church office at 815-932-0312 to participate. If you register on or before March 9th, a Shine t-shirt will be provided free of charge.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

The new Lenten devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries are now available at the church and the school so feel free to grab a copy of *Servant of the Lord*.

In *Servant of the Lord*, we see Jesus as God's Son and our Redeemer. He has made the Heavenly Father known to us. Proclaiming the kingdom of God, Jesus served us lovingly, patiently, and compassionately as He died for our sins and rose three days later in Easter victory. All this Jesus did as God's chosen Servant, sent from heaven to earth to be our King, Savior, and Friend.

DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR GARDENING?



In the past, Ms. Hinze has hosted a Garden Club every summer and involved the children in taking care of the garden just outside the south doors of the school. Would you like to take this over and make it your own? If you are not interested in leading a club but find gardening therapeutic, we would welcome your help in maintaining the garden too so if you are interested in either of these options, please call the church office.

LWML'S MARCH MISSION GRANT

Although overall church attendance has decreased amongst aging adults, the population reached by Worship Anew is growing rapidly each year. With support from the Lutheran Women's Missionary League of the Northern Illinois District, Worship Anew seeks to continue broadcasting our weekly 30-minute worship program in current markets and expand into new markets. Our broadcast faithfully and boldly proclaims the Gospel through Scripture readings, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, hymns, and a sermon preached by an ordained LCMS Pastor. As a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS, Worship Anew shares correct Biblical doctrine as presented in the Lutheran Confessions.

This month, the mites collected by LWML will benefit Worship Anew. Please prayerfully consider donating your change to this ministry. LWML is collecting mites this weekend in the school cafeteria between church services.

PAPER & CARDBOARD RECYCLING

For those who have no other options for the recycling of their cardboard and paper products, St Paul's will continue to offer our recycle dumpster for your use. However, due to the volume of recyclables from the school, everyone MUST flatten boxes before putting them in the container to have adequate room for everyone's needs. Thank you for your cooperation.

LENTEN DINNERS

The Lenten Dinner on **March 19th** will be served from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall at the downtown church prior to the midweek worship service at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Parish Fellowship is serving the meal and a freewill offering will be taken. **The menu is: Lasagna, Salad & Garlic Bread.** Please join us for this time of fellowship and then worship at 7:00 p.m.



READER'S CHOICE AWARDS

Last week, the Daily Journal released their Reader's Choice awards. We are proud to announce that **Pastor Koeppen was voted Best Pastor** and **St. Paul's Lutheran School was voted Best Preschool**. We were also named Runner-Up to Best Private School. Please tell your friends! Thank you to everyone who voted!

Congratulations!
We are "Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."



KNOW THY ENEMY

A new Bible Study with Pastor Koeppen started last Sunday, March 9th. Using clips from the movie, Nefarious, we will consider the work and influence of Satan. The movie has been described as “The Screwtape Letters on steroids.” In that momentous work on demonic influence, author C.S. Lewis warned about the twin traps we fall into when it comes to acknowledging evil: “There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them.”

We live in a world in which there is more danger in underestimating the influence of evil in our culture than over-emphasizing it.

Evidence of the spiritual battle is everywhere. Let's face it, few people want to be in a battle. As followers of Christ, however, we're in the middle of a conflict that has been raging for thousands of years - whether we know it or not. Thus, it is critical for us to know the eternal stakes.

And so, you need to know your enemy. Together, we will take a deeper look at the truth about Satan, demons, and the pervasive evil from the unseen realm that has manifested in our culture today. Yes, those are dark subjects, but they're also critical for us as children of God.

This study will help you to understand the times and to examine everything we've been given in Christ to stand courageous and firm against the forces of evil. As the Scriptures tell us 365 times, “fear not.” In fact, through the truth of who we are in Christ and the armor He has made available to us, we can stand confidently against the Enemy's snares and schemes.

YES, SATAN IS MIGHTY, BUT OUR GOD IS ALMIGHTY!

Join us for class at 9:45 on Sunday mornings in Room 131.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY **“LECTURES IN GENESIS”**

Teacher: Pastor Drinnon

When: 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 6:00 pm

On February 27th, Pastor Drinnon started a new Bible study on the Book of Genesis. They will meet again on **Thursday, March 27th**. This study offers a profound opportunity to deepen our understanding of God's creation, His covenant with His people, and the foundational truths of our Christian faith.

Why study Genesis? Genesis is the first book of the Bible and holds a unique place in both the Old and New Testaments. It is filled with profound theological insights, rich narratives, and timeless lessons. From the creation of the world, to the fall of humanity, to God's promises to Abraham and the patriarchs, Genesis sets the stage for the entire biblical account. It is here that we first encounter God's sovereignty, His justice, and His mercy—elements that are essential to understanding the Gospel.

Throughout this study, we will:

- Explore the creation account and its theological and Christological significance.
- Dive into the stories of Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.
- Discuss the implications of original sin, the promise of redemption, and God's ongoing faithfulness.

- Reflect on how Genesis relates to our lives today especially in the light of humanistic rationalism and how the accounts in Genesis point forward to the fulfillment found in Christ.

Materials: The study will utilize the ESV Illuminated Scripture Journal: Genesis to write notes in to take with you beyond the classroom. You can order one yourself on Amazon or email Pastor Drinnon to order you one. Please bring your Bible, your Illuminated Scripture Journal, and a heart ready to dive deep into God's Word.

All are welcome! Whether you're new to Bible study or have been studying the Scriptures for years, this study is for you. Come, engage with us as we explore the ancient truths of Genesis that continue to shape our faith and our understanding of God. If you have any questions or would like more information, please email me at rdrinnon@stpaulslutheran.net. I look forward to seeing you there!

MENS BIBLE BREAKFAST

Please join Pastor Koeppen on **Sat., March 22nd at 7:30 am** in the Riverside cafeteria to study God's Word over coffee and breakfast.





Help support our congregation through Thrivent Choice.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Don't leave FREE money on the table! If you have a Thrivent insurance policy or annuity product, you may be eligible to choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable outreach funding. **Call 1-800-THRIVENT (847-4836) by March 31st to direct your Choice Dollars to St. Paul's.**

FELLOWSHIP DINNER



Everyone is invited to our monthly fellowship dinners. Each month, we visit a different restaurant 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 at least once will tell you how much fun we have! The next fellowship dinner will be **Friday, March 21st at 6 pm at Tucci's.** If you would like to join us, please call or text Nancy Eden at 248-842-2837. We would love to see you!

FAITH IN ACTION

Have you received hope, comfort, and love at a time in your life when you needed it most? Do you feel it's time to give to others the blessings you have received?

There are hospice patients in your area that would benefit greatly from your companionship and encouragement. We are also looking for people who would like to knit, crochet, or sew for our comfort care hospice program. Volunteers create blankets, robes, drawstring bags, prayer shawls and other needed items for hospice patients. Your volunteer time would suit your schedule and your location. **Also donations of yarn are needed and welcomed!!!** Find out more about our amazing team of caring VITAS volunteers by calling or emailing Joseph Calderone at 708-781-4405 or joseph.calderone@vitas.com.

Sharon and Dan Friesner have arrived safely in California. As many of you know, this was a very bittersweet move for them so if you would like to drop them a note or card (or add them to your Christmas card list), their new address is:
7429 Azimuth Lane #232
Sacramento, CA. 95842

TRANSFORMING YOUR PRAYER LIFE

On **Tuesday, March 18th** we will finish the "Transforming our Prayer Life" Bible study and also start "Road to Coronation", a Lenten Bible study.

"ROAD TO CORONATION" takes you on a journey beside Jesus on His walk to the cross, examining the distinct passion narrative in each of the four Gospels.

What emerges is a vivid encounter with a King who lived solely to serve rather than to be served-who welcomes outcasts as family, touched the "unclean," performed miracles that made astonishing theological declarations, and raised the dead-all the while challenging and confounding the spiritual authorities of His day.

Little wonder that five days after Jesus entered Jerusalem, Jesus' "coronation as King" took place-in the form of crucifixion on a cross. Vindicated in the resurrection and enthroned in the ascension, our forgiving Lord and Servant-King, Jesus the Messiah, calls us now to listen, believe and follow-in short, to find life by giving it away.

Call Pastor Dave Bottorff, the leader for this Bible study, at 815-304-4553 to come to this Bible study at his home at 1573 Surrey Drive in Bourbonnais on the fourth Tuesdays of April and May and also this fall on the fourth Tuesdays of September, October and November.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

March 8th & 9th

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| Worship Attendance: | |
| Saturday, 5:00 pm | 104 |
| Sunday, 8:30 am | 91 |
| Sunday, 11:05 am | 79 |
| WEEKEND TOTAL | 274 |
| Ash Wednesday | 100 |
| Adult Bible Study | 13 |
| Youth Bible Study | 16 |
| Children's Sunday School | 18 |
| Offerings Given: | |
| General | \$14,810.90 |
| Building | \$1,562.00 |
| School Ops | \$300.00 |
| Anniversary | \$50.00 |

PHIL'S FRIENDS DATES

We are increasing our efforts with Phil's Friends in 2025. We will be hosting a work day and a Pack Party every month. Our next Pack Party will be **Saturday, March 22nd, 9:30-11 am.** Our next work day is April 5th at the Shine Work Day. All events will take place at the newly renamed St. Paul's Mission and Ministry Center (downtown campus buildings). Please use the alley entrance.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Roger Drinnon **Liturgist:** Rev. Karl Koeppen

Organist: 5:00: June Schmidt 8:30: Nadine Engel

A/V: 8:30: Todd Engel 11:05: Josh Cherry

Live Streaming/Recording: Matt Callan, Todd Engel, Annie Schneider

Lay Ministers: 5:00: Ken Capps
8:30: Kevin Kurtz, Greg Deck, Rich Engel, Hill Love
11:05: Bruce Clark

Lay Readers: 5:00: Audra Taylor
8:30: Bill Balgeman
11:05: Mellody McDonald

Acolytes: 8:30: Ava & Jackson Veasey
11:05: Jacob Kubal, Miles Truax

Trustees: 5:00: Jeff Johnson
8:30: Tom Stirnaman
11:05: Greg Wheeler

Ushers: 5:00: Jim Sharper, Rob & Mary Wood
Subs: Brandon Tomblin
8:30: Dain Blair, Dylan Blair, Chris Tomblin, Steve Weith
Subs: Brody Brinkmann, Seth McHugh, Layna Rahn, Olivia Reardanz
11:05: Bill Burger, Mike Callan, Hailey Porter
Subs: Chloe Butler, Andrew Kubal, Ben Kubal, Doug Schultze

Contemporary Service Song Leaders: Heidi Ostrowski, Deb Turrell
Extra Measure Band: Matt Callan, Bill Dyche, Gail & Duane Ferrebee, Greg Ronchetto, Cindy Rubin, Jim Stone, Ellana Turrell

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

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| Sun, Mar. 16 | 8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am | Worship - Traditional - <i>Communion</i> (Bourb) Adult Bible Study (Bourb) Youth Bible Study (Bourb) Children's Sunday School (Bourb) Worship - Contemporary - <i>Communion</i> (Bourb) |
| Mon, Mar. 17 | 7:00 pm | Church Council Meeting (Bourb) |
| Tue, Mar. 18 | 4:00 pm 7:00 pm | Jr. Confirmation Class (Bourb) <i>Transforming Your Prayer Life</i> (1573 Surrey, Bourb) |
| Wed, Mar. 19 | 5:30 pm 7:00 pm | Lenten Dinner (Lasagna) (Downtown) Midweek Lenten Worship Service (Downtown) |
| Thur, Mar. 20 | 6:00 pm | <i>Lectures in Genesis</i> Bible Study (Bourb) |
| Fri, Mar. 21 | 6:00 pm | GRANDPARENTS DAY EARLY DISMISSAL 11:15 / 11:30 am Fellowship Dinner (Tucci's) |
| Sat, Mar. 22 | 7:30 am 9:30 am 5:00 pm | Men's Bible Breakfast (Riverside) Phil's Friends Pack Party (Downtown) Worship - Traditional (Downtown) |
| Sun, Mar. 23 | 8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am | Worship - Traditional (Bourb) Adult Bible Study (Bourb) Youth Bible Study (Bourb) Family Sunday School (Bourb) Worship - Contemporary (Bourb) |