

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School
Announcements - April 12th & 13th

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.

Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

HOLY WEEK - Downtown Church

Maundy Thursday, April 17th

7:00 pm

Good Friday, April 18th


12:05 pm and 7:00 pm (Tenebrae)

NO SERVICE on Sat., April 19th

Easter Sunday, April 20th

6:00 am, 9:00 am, and 11:00 am

BLOOD DRIVE

The Outreach & Connections Board is hosting a blood drive on **Monday, April 21st** in the school gym from **12 to 5 pm.**  The students may not be old enough to donate blood, but they are learning how blood donations can save lives. The Future Blood Donor program teaches students about the function of blood in the body and the importance of blood donation. Students can recruit their parents to volunteer and/or donate at the drive and raise funds for the school. Students can receive recognition from Red Cross and know they helped save lives. To donate, visit RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code **stpauls** to schedule your appointment. For questions, please contact Sylvia Burger (sylviab1980@yahoo.com or 815-343-3460) or Isaac Fabbro (isaacfabbro24@gmail.com).

Please note the church office will be closed on Friday, April 18th and Monday, April 21st in observance of Good Friday and Easter.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
"LECTURES IN GENESIS"

Teacher: Pastor Drinnon

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

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.

Please bring your Bible, THE ESV Illuminated Scripture Journal (available on Amazon), and a heart ready to dive deep into God's Word. All are welcome!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
"KNOW THY ENEMY"

Teacher: Pastor Koeppen

When: Sundays, 9:45 am

Location: Room 131

Using clips from the movie, Nefarious, we 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!



LWML MITES

Mite Sunday is being moved to the 4th Sunday in April due to Easter falling on the 3rd Sunday. Please consider donating your change to LWML on **April 27th** for their ministries around the globe.

This month's featured mission grant is **St. John LaGrange Reaching Out**. St. John's has expanded their VBS outreach to multiple events per year - summer, winter, and spring. They minister to as many as 200 children per event, more than 80% of whom come from surrounding communities, and many with no knowledge of Jesus. They present Bibles as gifts to children who have no access to God's Word and send their families weekly email Bible lessons following VBS. This year they are establishing a weekly outreach event for families. The importance of local pastors cannot be underestimated. These men of faith know the culture and how best to share God's truth and the love of Christ. This grant will support three seminaries and six missionaries. They will be receiving help for scholarship aid, textbooks, and infrastructure.

SHOP WITH SCRIP (a/k/a T.R.I.P.)

Don't forget about SCRIP as we head into spring! It's easy to make money for your child's or grandchild's school account and St. Paul's while paying face value for gift cards from over 750 retailers including Dick's Sporting Goods, Ace Hardware, Menards, Lowe's, Home Depot, Amazon, Walmart, several hotels and airlines, and so much more! Stop by the church office or call or text Julie Dummer at 815-530-7320 to place your order. You can also order gift cards and download e-cards from the Raise Right app.



BOOK COLLECTION REMINDER

St. Paul's will once again be doing a used book booth at Prairieview's Fall Festival in September and **we are in need of books.** There are collection bins at both locations. At the school, you may place your books in the labeled red donation box. At the church, there are labeled containers in the atrium just inside the alley doors. If you have any questions, if you would like to arrange a time to drop off, or if you need to schedule a pick-up, please call or text Nancy Campbell at 815-592-4273.



TABEA RUMMAGE SALE

Spring is upon us, and that means spring cleaning! As you purge, please keep St. Paul's in mind. We are now accepting donations for our spring rummage sale. The sale will be **Thurs. & Fri., April 24th & 25th** from 8 am to 4 pm in the downtown gym. You may leave your treasures by the gym doors before any downtown church services or call Carol Ginger (815-922-5525) or Pat Baker (708-772-0933) to make other arrangements. Please DO NOT bring items to the school location. We respectfully ask that all donated clothing is clean. We cannot accept TVs or computers. The proceeds help purchase supplies like candles, wine, wafers, robes and other necessities that help enhance all church services. We thank you for your donations!



LAST CALL FOR CANS!!

The SCORE recycling contest is coming to an end in April so bring your cans before it's too late. We are currently in 4th place. Let's finish strong!! The more we collect, the more the school earns! You can also bring them directly to Belson. When you bring your ticket to the cashier, just tell them you'd like the points to go to St. Paul's. Thank you!!

SAVE THE DATE!!!



St. Paul's will be hosting VBS this summer from **Monday, June 16th through Thursday, June 19th**. We will be guiding kids on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and glistening glaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that he is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North!



EASTER BREAKFAST

The youth will be serving pancakes, sausage, muffins, egg casseroles & more in Fellowship Hall **from 7:00 to 8:30 Easter morning**. A freewill donation will be collected to help with the 2025 National Youth Gathering expenses. Come celebrate our risen Lord in fellowship!!

ZONE 18 LWML SPRING RALLY

All ladies are invited to Trinity Lutheran Church in Herscher (255 E. Third St.) for the LWML Zone 18 Spring Rally **April 26th** where Sarah Cherry will be speaking about Phil's Friends. Come for a light breakfast at 8:30 with the Rally beginning at 9:00. Find out about area activities! There will be an ingathering of items for Phil's Friends such as puzzle books, playing cards, lip balm, unscented travel size lotions, travel size toothpaste, individually wrapped toothbrushes and pocket packs of tissues. Boxes will be packed for Phil's Friends. Do come and support this great mission! Please RSVP by April 20th to Connie Tranos - text or call 815-735-9592.

CARD CART MINISTRY

Do you have a minute (or two or five) to stop by this colorful cart in the cafeteria between worship services Sunday to color and/or sign a card of hope to let those going through tough times know that they aren't alone? Come check out our card cart in the cafeteria!



"ROAD TO CORONATION"

This new Bible study 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 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, calls us now to listen, believe and follow, 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 **4th Tuesdays of April, May, September, October and November.**

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST



Pastor Koeppen will be leading the Bible Study "The God Who Speaks" on **Sat., April 26th**. Please join him at **7:30 am in the Riverside cafeteria** to study God's Word over coffee and breakfast.



FROM UPLIFTED CARE

We need you! Are you looking to make a big impact? We invite you to join us as an 11th Hour Volunteer, providing compassion when it's needed the most! At UpliftedCare, we believe that no patient should die alone. Our 11th Hour Volunteer Program ensures a caring, compassionate person is at the bedside of our patients who are alone as they are nearing their time of death. Our 11th Hour Volunteers are specially trained to provide a reassuring presence to our dying patients. Lending comfort by holding a hand, playing soft music, praying, reading or just sitting vigil in calm silence, these volunteers bring so much peace during a person's final moments. This program operates on an on-call basis and the volunteer would choose their shifts based on their own availability. While the instance of a patient being alone as they near death is rare, it does happen from time to time. To find out more information on this rewarding volunteer experience, please call Sarah McCabe at 815-939-4141.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

April 5th & 6th

Worship Attendance:	
Saturday, 5:00 pm	70
Sunday, 8:30 am	125
Sunday, 11:05 am	95
WEEKEND TOTAL	290
Wednesday, 4/2	120
Adult Bible Study	19
Youth Bible Study	20
Children's Sunday School	20
Offerings Given:	
General	\$18,478.11
Building	\$3,995.00
School Ops	\$250.00

DO YOU SHOP AT MENARD'S?

Springtime....synonymous with home improvement projects, deep cleaning, and of course landscaping! If you shop at Menards and do not plan 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!



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Karl Koeppen **Liturgist:** Rev. Roger Drinnon
Organist: 5:00: Nadine Engel 8:30: Nadine Engel
A/V: 8:30: Todd Engel 11:05: Josh Cherry

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

Lay Ministers: 5:00: Greg Deck
8:30: Bill Balgeman, Ken Capps, Bruce Clark, Kevin Kurtz
11:05: Bob Carruthers

Lay Readers: 5:00: Audra Taylor
8:30: Mark Hess
11:05: Karen Beatty

Acolytes: 8:30: Ashton Finnegan, Jackson Veasey
11:05: Jacob Kubal, Claire Wilson

Trustees: 5:00: Rob Wood
8:30: Brian Porter
11:05: Greg Wheeler

Ushers: 5:00: Keith Christensen, Pat Hatch, Terry Treece
8:30: Bill Balgeman, Jim Baron, Aidan LaVoie, Nolan LaVoie, Scott Styck, Steve Weith
11:05: Dave Kesinger, Aric Turrell, Sean Turrell, Kim Williams

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

Sanctuary Singers: Connie Blacklock, Mike Clendenin, Liz Deck, Katrina Drinnon, Nancy Eden, Brent Eden, Adele Hinze, Elayne James, Sandy James, Eugene Wachholz

Youth Choir: Hope Brammer, Chloe Butler, Natalie Cherry, Olivia Douglas, Alena Lagesse, Daphne Sexton, Delilah Sexton

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Sun, Apr. 13	8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am 6:00 pm	Worship - Traditional Adult Bible Study Youth Bible Study Family Sunday School Worship - Contemporary Youth Night	<i>(Bourb)</i> <i>(Bourb)</i> <i>(Bourb)</i> <i>(Bourb)</i> <i>(Bourb)</i> <i>(Bourb)</i>
Mon, Apr. 14			
Tue, Apr. 15	4:00 pm	Jr. Confirmation Class	<i>(Bourb)</i>
Wed, Apr. 16			
Thur, Apr. 17	7:00 pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY Worship - <i>Communion</i>	<i>(Downtown)</i>
Fri, Apr. 18	12:05 pm 7:00 pm	GOOD FRIDAY NO SCHOOL / OFFICE CLOSED Worship Tenebrae Worship	<i>(Downtown)</i> <i>(Downtown)</i>
Sat, Apr. 19			
Sun, Apr. 20	6:00 am 7:00 am 9:00 am 11:00 am	EASTER DAY Sunrise Worship - <i>Communion</i> Easter Breakfast Worship - <i>Communion</i> Worship - <i>Communion</i>	<i>(Downtown)</i> <i>(Downtown)</i> <i>(Downtown)</i> <i>(Downtown)</i>