

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School**  
**Announcements - July 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>**

**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.

**PRAIRIEVIEW FALL FESTIVAL**

This year's Fall Festival will be **September 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**. Sign-up sheets have been posted at the school and at the downtown church to help with our used book booth. We are in particular need of people to help haul the books there, set up the booth, and then pack up the leftover books afterward. Our book booth is a big undertaking but many hands make light work. Please consider volunteering.

We are also still accepting book donations at both sites. If you have any questions or need a pick up from your home, call Jeanne Vilt at 815-932-9855 or text her at 815-216-0240 or call or text Nancy Campbell at 815-592-4273.



A Special Voters Meeting is being called for **Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm** in the school gym. The topics include a Matching Funds Fundraiser, consideration of various possibilities to help decrease the upcoming deficit, and the approval of the 2025-26 budget.

***This is an important meeting as we face a shortfall in our budget and need help from our members to decide how to proceed.***

Members of the congregation who are age 18 or older are eligible to become voting members and participate in the decision making of the congregation. After attending two Voters Meetings in a 24-month period, a member is accepted into voting membership. Voting privileges continue as long as you are a member.

**MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST**



Please join Pastor Koeppen on **Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am** in the Riverside cafeteria to study God's Word over coffee and breakfast.

**"THE GOD WHO SPEAKS"**

***When: Every Sunday at 9:50 am***

***Location: Room 131***

***Teacher: Pastor Koeppen***

"The God Who Speaks" challenges the church to live as if God truly does speak. There is a war raging around us – in society, in our churches, and in our homes.

This Bible Study will take sections from a documentary that traces the evidence of the Bible's authority through interviews with some of the world's most respected biblical scholars. This film answers common objections about the Bible's reliability and equips believers to confidently base their lives on the power of God's Word.

**"PROVOKING PROVERBS"**

***When: Every Sunday at 9:50 am***

***Location: School Library***

***Teacher: Pastor Drinnon***

Join us as we dive into David Lawrence Coe's *Provoking Proverbs: Wisdom and the Ten Commandments*, a thought-provoking study that connects the timeless truths of Proverbs with God's Law for daily life. Explore how the wisdom of Scripture guides us in honoring God and loving our neighbor. All are welcome — come grow in wisdom and grace! For more info or to register for the class, email [rdrinnon@stpaulslutheran.net](mailto:rdrinnon@stpaulslutheran.net).

**UPLIFTED CARE WORKSHOP**

Please join us for the Beautifully Broken Grief Workshop on **Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 11:30 am** at the UpliftedCare Community Grief Center (3115 N. 1000W Rd., Bourb). The death of a loved one can leave us feeling broken. What do we do with this feeling of brokenness? We slowly heal and put ourselves back together. This interactive workshop will help identify the feelings of brokenness and illustrate the process of putting ourselves back together through gluing a broken vase and focusing on the beauty that can be created in the cracks. Each attendee will then have their "beautifully broken" vase to represent their emotions and remind them of the beauty they may find along their healing journey. Join us to explore this idea through discussion and crafting with others who are grieving. All supplies will be provided along with refreshments. Registration is required so materials may be prepared. To register for this FREE grief workshop or for more information on our grief support services, please call our office at 815-939-4141.

**Newsletter DEADLINE** If you would like to publish an article or announcement in the Aug/Sept newsletter, please email your request to [crahn@stpaulslutheran.net](mailto:crahn@stpaulslutheran.net) **no later than July 15th.**

### LWML MISSION GRANT

Next weekend, LWML will be collecting mites to support the mission grant for Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry, located at Hope Lutheran Church in South Sioux City, Nebraska. Siouxland is building relationships with Hispanics in the tri-state border region of Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota. Pastor Henry Witte collaborates with and trains local congregations to meet the needs of their Hispanic neighbors and share the Good News of Jesus with them.

This grant provides additional support for Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry outreach and is being used for English as a Second Language classes, citizenship classes, community outreach events, Spanish Bibles, catechisms, hymnals, and other resources, plus retreats, conventions, and special holiday meals.

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

We are grateful for your constant support and prayers on our journey to the LCMS National Youth Gathering. It will be an honor to represent St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New Orleans. We look forward to sharing our experience with all of you.

~ The St. Paul's LCMS National Youth Gathering Family

### SAVE THE DATE!

On **Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>**, we will be hosting an outdoor worship service and church picnic at the school site. Add it to your calendar so you don't miss the fun!!

### GOOD GRIEF FAMILY CAMP

You are invited to join UpliftedCare for the Good Grief Family Camp on **Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 4 pm** at the UpliftedCare Community Grief Center in Bourbonnais. Good Grief Family Camp offers children and teens a full day of support and fun. Your family will learn valuable tools to help them grieve in a healthy way, while connecting with others who have also lost a loved one. Each activity is designed to help you and your child navigate grief emotions and learn productive coping skills. Good Grief Family Camp reminds you and your child that you are not alone in your grief and gives you the opportunity to have some fun and make new friends through shared experiences.



### WASHER/DRYER NEEDED

The school is in need of a clothes washer and electric dryer. If you have either or know of someone who does, please contact the office.

### SCHOOL REGISTRATION



A letter has gone out to all school families with instructions on registration as well as a school supply list. Registration forms are now available on our website ([www.stpaulslutheran.net](http://www.stpaulslutheran.net)) and on Fast Direct and may be submitted electronically. If you would like to pick up hard copies of these forms or drop off your completed forms and/or any required physicals, dental or vision exams, the school office is open from 9:00 to 3:30 Monday through Friday.

**The orientation open house will be Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 5 pm to 7 pm.**

There will be a mandatory presentation by the principal, which may be attended at either 5:00 or 6:00. Classroom presentations will occur after that. Once you have visited your children's homerooms, you are welcome to leave. Please plan to bring all school supplies to the orientation.

### OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

July 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>

#### Worship Attendance:

Saturday, 5:00 pm	56
Sunday, 8:30 am	120
Sunday, 11:05 am	76
<b>WEEKEND TOTAL</b>	<b>252</b>

Adult Bible Study ..... 22

#### Offerings Given

General	\$12,773.31
Building	\$3,924.00
School Ops	\$255.00

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

In October, LWML will be hosting an Operation Christmas Child workshop, where adults and children will be invited to help assemble shoeboxes that will be shipped to remote areas of the world as a witness of Jesus and his love. ***If you are interested in contributing, now would be a great time to stock up on some extra school supplies to include in the boxes!*** We could use spiral notebooks, pencils, erasers, scissors, construction paper, crayons, pens, colored pencils, pencil sharpeners, pencil bags, and solar calculators. Thank you so much!!



## **SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING SUMMARY**

The Voters Assembly met on Sunday, June 22, 2025, with 36 voters in attendance.

Because this was a special Voters' meeting, there was one agenda item:

- **2025-2026 Budget and Discussions** - The budget reality is challenging as we look at our current giving and expenses. Over the years, all the boards (especially the employing boards) have trimmed as much as possible without hurting our ministry opportunities. But with that said, we are looking at a deficit of approximately \$300,000.00 for next year's budget.

The voters discussed various ways to close that gap.

- **Reductions in Expenses.** Over the years, the boards have been very good at reducing expenses and cutting where they can. The unfortunate reality is that the majority of our budget goes to salaries and benefits for our workers as they serve the Lord here.
- **Increases in Income.** The Board of Stewardship is working on additional ways to keep the congregation informed of the current financial situation as well as ways to help the congregation be good stewards of the gifts God has given them.
- **160<sup>th</sup> / 165<sup>th</sup> Thank Offering.** Unfortunately, the fund raiser has not achieved the goal of raising \$160,000.00. To date, we have raised approximately \$20,000.00.
- **Greater Communication.** It was also discussed that there needs to be greater communication of our financial situation and needs to the congregation. The Board of Stewardship is already at work to revamp the way our financial income and expenses are shared with congregation.

Other suggestions were heard by the Voters and it was decided to schedule another Voters meeting at the school site on **Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.** to look at refined budget numbers and the following possibilities to help decrease the upcoming deficit. We are looking for discussion and/or approval from the voters on these items:

- **Closing of the Brinkmann Endowment Fund.** This creates a savings of approximately \$49,825.00. The Brinkmann fund was established with restrictions for 20 years. After 30 years, we are able to use this Fund for any ministry needs.
- **Loan from the Organ Fund.** This creates a savings of approximately \$79,691.00. This was created after the organ was replaced downtown as it has the ability to add pipes to it. Since these were gifts for a specific intent, we could use those funds as a loan and repay them at a later date.
- **ComEd Solar Rebate.** The building of the solar field has helped our energy costs. There is a rebate on our expenses for that from ComEd in the amount of \$108,900.00. While the original intent was to use that to pay down the loan for the solar field construction, there is a suggestion to use those funds for our budget shortfall.

We do pray that you can join us at this important Voters' meeting to set the course for our ministry at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School.

**SERVING IN GOD’S HOUSE TODAY**

**Preacher:** Rev. Roger Drinnon

**Liturgist:** Rev. Karl Koeppen

**Organist:** Nadine Engel

**AV:** 8:30: Todd Engel                      11:05: Josh Cherry

**Live Streaming/Recording:** Matt Callan, Todd Engel, Beth Schreurs

**Lay Ministers:**    5:00:    Bob Carruthers  
                          8:30:    Ken Capps, Greg Deck, Rich Engel, Brent Eden  
                          11:05:    Kevin Kurtz

**Lay Readers:**    5:00:    Rich Nordmeyer  
                          8:30:    Nancy Eden  
                          11:05:    Karen Beatty

**Acolytes:**        8:30:    Dain & Dylan Blair  
                          11:05:    Lucas Porter, Luke Stirnaman

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

**Ushers:**           5:00:    Jim Sharper, Rob & Mary Wood  
                          8:30:    Dain Blair, Dylan Blair, Chris Tomblin, Steve Weith  
                          11:05:    Bill Burger, Mike Callan, Hailey Porter

**Contemporary Service Song Leaders:** Heather Stroo, Deb Turrell

**Extra Measure Band:** Bill Dyche, Duane & Gail Ferrebee, John Gruber, Greg Ronchetto, Cindy Rubin, Jim Stone, Ellana Turrell

**THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES**

<b>Sun</b> , July 13	8:30 am 9:45 am 11:05 am	Worship - Traditional <i>(Bourb)</i> Adult Bible Study <i>(Bourb)</i> Worship - Contemporary <i>(Bourb)</i>
<b>Mon</b> , July 14		
<b>Tue</b> , July 15		<b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>
<b>Wed</b> , July 16	6:30 pm	Special Voters Meeting <i>(Bourb)</i>
<b>Thur</b> , July 17		
<b>Fri</b> , July 18		
<b>Sat</b> , July 19	5:00 pm	<b>LCMS NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING</b> Worship - Traditional - <i>Commuion</i> <i>(Downtown)</i>
<b>Sun</b> , July 20	8:30 am 9:45 am 11:05 am	<b>LCMS NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING</b> Worship - Traditional - <i>Communion</i> <i>(Bourb)</i> Adult Bible Study <i>(Bourb)</i> Worship - Contemporary - <i>Communion</i> <i>(Bourb)</i>