

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School
Announcements - August 9th & 10th

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 5th & 6th**. 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.

IT'S A PICNIC! A CHURCH PICNIC!!

On **Sunday, August 24th** we will have a single worship service to close our year-long celebration of St. Paul School's 160th anniversary. The service will be at **10:00 a.m.** outside, under a tent, in front of the school. Following the service, we will celebrate with a church picnic! There will be seating inside and out for the meal and fun activities for all ages - including a bounce house, volleyball, wiffle ball, kickball, bags, bingo, Bozo buckets, and more! Mr. Porter will grill hamburgers and hotdogs and we ask everyone to bring a dish or two to share.

To RSVP, call the church office or scan the QR code below. We ask that everyone sign up so that we know how many people to plan for. We hope all church & school families and alumni will join us to celebrate 160 years of God's blessings on our school and enjoy good food, fun and fellowship! We will be introducing our new staff members and the 2nd graders will be receiving their Bibles at this service!



**"WHO IS THE GREATEST?
(IT'S NOT WHO YOU THINK)"**

Teacher: Pastor Koeppen

When: Every Sunday, 9:50 am

Where: Room 131

This class will study Matthew 18 and consider the question: "Who is the greatest?" The study is presented in four separate video vignettes discussed by Dr. Jeffrey Gibbs with Dr. Jeffrey Kloha in a casual, fun setting. Join us as we look to God and His Word.

AN INVITATION

TO JOIN OUR CONGREGATION

Have you been attending church here, but not yet become a member? If so, we warmly invite you to consider joining our congregation. We will be starting new member classes on September 30th. Please contact the church office at 815-932-0312 or crahn@stpaulslutheran.net if you are interested in taking these classes.

ATTENTION ST. PAUL'S ALUMNI!

On August 24th, we will be hosting a brief alumni gathering at the school campus between the outdoor anniversary worship service and the church picnic. If you ever attended St. Paul's Lutheran School, please plan to come and share this announcement with any alumni that you are still in touch with! We would love to see them all!!

**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 quarterly meeting will be at Monical's Pizza in Bourbonnais on **Wednesday, August 13th at 6 p.m.** Anyone interested in becoming a visitor or caller is welcome to attend.

2nd GRADERS RECEIVE BIBLES

On **Sunday, August 24th**, the 2nd grade students will receive a Bible during the 10:00 worship service at the church picnic. We will be hosting a breakfast with special activities for the students and their parents beforehand. Please meet in the cafeteria at 9:15 am. A letter went out last week in the mail. If you have any questions or have not received a letter, please contact Christie in the church office at 815-932-0312.





**NEW ADULT BIBLE
STUDY
BEGINS TUES. 8/12
& SUN. 8/17**

The Romans had a goal of killing all Christians in the Empire. Especially where Paul and other missionaries visited converts to the faith. Torture and killings were a way of life. Perseverance was a part their daily walk. Peter writes to those struggling with worldly problems and shares with them "Peter's Joyful Perseverance", teaching them to grow in faith each day as they overcome their situation. Your faith will grow as we face worldly setbacks on our Christian walk today.

Taught by Roy W. Cordes, you can attend this class on Tuesdays at 9:50 am in Fellowship Hall or on Sundays at 9:50 am at school in the upper grade classroom area. Lessons will be repeated every Sunday from the Tuesday morning class. Learn more about impulsive Peter and face your perseverance-required situations with joy - the joy of knowing that Jesus is right beside us all the time.

CHURCH PICNIC VOLUNTEERS

We could use some volunteers to help with the church picnic - setting up, tearing down, and monitoring the bounce house and a game or two. If you would be willing to lend a hand, we would be so grateful! Please call the church office at 815-932-0312 or email crahn@stpaulslutheran.net if interested.

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

If you have a child who is planning to begin or finish the confirmation program this year (typically 7th and 8th graders) and they do NOT attend our school, please watch your mail for a letter concerning confirmation classes. They will be starting August 26th. If you do not receive a letter by August 13th, please call Christie in the church office.

**YOUTH MINISTRY
BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH!**

Summer is coming to a close. Come join us on **Sunday, August 17th** at the school to celebrate another successful year of youth ministry, a summer of Be the Church mission opportunities, and the upcoming year. From 4:00 to 5:30, we will celebrate with last year's youth group. From 5:30 to 8:00, we will welcome our new youth, including the incoming 7th graders and their parents!

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Everyone is invited to join us for our monthly fellowship dinners. No special commitment is expected and these evenings are very casual – just come as you are when you are able. Our next fellowship dinner will be on **Friday, August 15th at 6:00 pm at Chicago Dough**. If you would like to join us, please call or text Nancy Eden at 248-842-2837.

ORIENTATION OPEN HOUSE

The **orientation open house will be Monday, August 18th from 5 pm to 7 pm**. Mr. Porter will be speaking at 5 pm and again at 6 pm. Please plan to attend one of these sessions and bring all school supplies to the orientation. School begins Wednesday, August 20th with early dismissal at 11:30.

**SUMMER T.R.I.P. ORDERING
What is the Tuition Reduction Incentive Program?**

* Raise money by using gift cards to pay for everyday purchases. Choose from over 750 of your favorite brands and retailers, including Amazon, Old Navy, PetSmart, Meijer, Dick's Sporting Goods, Dunkin' and so many more!

* Pay face value for gift cards. A portion of what you spend will be credited to St. Paul's and a portion will be applied to your school account to be used for tuition, lunch or extended care.

* If you do not have children that attend St. Paul's, you may donate your share to a school family or to St. Paul's.

How do I order?

* Call or text Julie Dummer at 815-530-7320. Submit your request to her by Thursday for delivery by the following Friday.

* Install the RaiseRight app and order your gift cards electronically.



WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the date! Our next Women's Retreat will be **September 13th from 9am to 2:30pm** at the school. Lunch is included and there will be beverages and snacks available in the morning. The topic will be: Women in the Bible. Look for a sign-up sheet between services starting August 10th or contact the church office if you plan to attend. If there is any particular woman of the Bible that you are interested in, please indicate that when you sign up.



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 Wed., July 16, 2025, with 50 voters in attendance.

At this special Voters' Meeting, there were a number of agenda items:

- **Matching Funds Fund Raising Request** - An anonymous individual has approached us with a matching fund challenge to help with our church and school ministry and our budget realities. Our generous donor has pledged to match up to \$100,000.00 of donations (\$50,000.00 for the General Fund and \$50,000.00 for the Building Fund) which will enable us to raise a total of \$200,000.00 to support St. Paul's Church and School. As of the Voters' Meeting, we have already had several other generous offers of additional \$1000 matching gifts for both the General and Building Funds. This fund raising opportunity was approved.
- **2025-2026 Budget** - The final item on the agenda was approval of the 2025-2026 budget which included the Matching Funds Fund Raiser as well as the Brinkmann Endowment Fund Transfer and the loan from the Organ Endowment Fund. The Budget and additional items were approved. With the approval of these items, the budget is basically balanced. While these are all great blessings, we realize that these are one-time solutions.

COLLEGE & MILITARY ADDRESSES



Please use the enclosed form to update the church office on military members and college student addresses for the fall so that we may stay connected to them as they continue their journey. Thank you!

STAFF DEDICATION

Please join us on Sunday, **September 14th during the 8:30 am service** when our church and school staff will be recognized for their years of dedicated service. A reception will be held in the cafeteria following the service. Please come and express your appreciation.



FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Enjoy a back-to-school celebration outside on the grounds of St. Paul's Lutheran School from **6pm to 8pm on Friday, Sept 12th**. All school families, church members and alumni are invited!! Watch for more details as the event approaches. This free evening of fun is brought to you by St. Paul's PTL and Thrivent Financial.

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST



Pastor Koeppen is leading a Bible Study entitled **"Know Thy Enemy"**. 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."

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!**

Please join Pastor Koeppen on **Saturday, August 23rd and September 27th at 7:30 am** in the Riverside cafeteria to study God's Word over coffee and breakfast.

"PROVOKING PROVERBS"

When: Sunday at 9:50 am
Last class SUNDAY, AUGUST 17th
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!

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE
August 2nd & 3rd

Worship Attendance:

Saturday, 5:00 pm	62
Sunday, 8:30 am	102
Sunday, 11:05 am	56
WEEKEND TOTAL	218

Adult Bible Study **12**

Offerings Given

General	\$14,914.82
Building	\$4,012.00
School Ops	\$315.00

SERVING IN GOD’S HOUSE TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Karl Koeppen

Organist: 5:00: Aaron Heldt 8:30: Diane Dyche

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

Live Streaming/Recording: Matt Callan, Todd Engel, Luke Stirnaman

Lay Ministers: 5:00: Ken Capps
8:30: Hal Bryant, Bruce Clark, Kevin Kurtz, John Veers
11:05: Greg Deck

Lay Readers: 5:00: Rich Nordmeyer
8:30: Ruth Fabbro
11:05: Melody Trudeau

Acolytes: 8:30: Micah Lundmark, Mo Macari
11:05: Trenton Stephens, Miles Truax

Trustees: 5:00: Jeff Johnson
8:30: Tom Stirnaman
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: Chloe Butler, Natalie Cherry, Alena LaGesse, Deb Turrell

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

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Sun, Aug. 10	8:30 am 9:45 am 11:05 am	Worship - Traditional (Bourb) Adult Bible Study (Bourb) Worship - Contemporary (Bourb)
Mon, Aug. 11		
Tue, Aug. 12	9:50 am 6:30 pm	Peter’s Joyful Perseverance (Downtown) School Board Meeting (Bourb)
Wed, Aug. 13	6:00 pm	Project Compassion & Gabriel’s Callers Quarterly Meeting (Monical’s, Bourb)
Thur, Aug. 14	6:00 pm	Lectures in Genesis (Bourb)
Fri, Aug. 15	6:00 pm	Fellowship Dinner (Chicago Dough)
Sat, Aug. 16	5:00 pm	Worship - Traditional - Communion (Downtown)
Sun, Aug. 17	8:30 am 9:45 am 11:05 am 4:00 pm	Worship - Traditional - Communion (Bourb) Adult Bible Study (Bourb) Worship - Contemporary - Communion (Bourb) Youth Back-to-School Bash (Bourb)