

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School
Announcements - November 22nd & 23rd

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.

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 at katrinadrinnon@gmail.com or 618-975-8361 no later than December 1st if you are willing to volunteer your baking talents.

FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please join us for Family Sunday School this **Sunday, November 23rd** between the church services. We will be preparing an Advent Wreath kit for each family to take home. We will meet in the gym at 9:45.



MORE BLESSED TO GIVE

We are in the seventh week of our **TEN for TEN Giving Challenge** (ten percent for ten weeks). In the words of the sainted Billy Graham, "God has given us two hands, one to receive and the other to give with." It is nice to be on the receiving end, but it is even more meaningful to be the giver. Jesus said, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive"* (Acts 20:35). Jesus knew that our acts of giving return to us more than what we give. God wants only the best for us when He asks us to give. Giving should not be an onerous obligation, but an opportunity. Through our giving, God makes an impact in our world. He uses our generosity to help those in need, to build and advance His Kingdom, and to strengthen and enrich us as givers.

One of the blessings from this giving challenge can be that our attitude toward giving changes from a "got to" to a "want to." When God opens our eyes so we can see the good that our giving is doing, our attitude about giving will change. Giving is God's nature, and, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can imitate Him and give freely.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Don't forget to take time during your celebrations to thank God for all His blessings. Join us for Thanksgiving services at the beautiful downtown church on **Wednesday, Nov 26th at 7pm** or **Thursday, Nov. 27th at 10am**.



ADVENT DEVOTIONS

This year's Advent devotions, ***Born to You ... a Savior***, are now available for pick-up at the downtown church and the school. Feel free to grab one for yourself and one to share!

God in His incomparable love has made a way for us through the wilderness. He did this by giving us His Son, our Light in the darkness. In ***Born to You ... a Savior***, we embrace the Christmas joy and wonder of Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

At Christ's birth, God the Father did a new and everlasting thing in our lives: He gave us His one and only Son for our redemption. In divine humility, Jesus joined us as a human being. Born of a woman, bearing the sins of the world, Jesus comes to us as our Protector, our Deliverer, our Savior.



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP BAND

All 6th - 12th grade band and orchestra musicians, along with any adult musicians, are invited to join the Worship Ensemble on

Sunday, Dec. 7th during the 8:30 am service. We will provide music for the pre-service, offertory, and post-service.

We will rehearse on Sat., Dec. 6th at 9am in the school gym. Donuts, juice, and milk will be provided after the rehearsal.

Please message Bill Dyche at bill.dyche66@gmail.com or 815-592-0870. Include the musician name, instrument, email, and cell number.

CHRISTMAS GREENERY

We are looking to beautify the downtown site flower boxes for the Christmas season. If anyone would be interested in donating greens, please contact:

Ann Harms. 815-258-4542

Jill Graveline. 815-549-8298 or

Kathy Marcotte 815-530-0433

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

All preschool through 5th grade students are invited to participate in the Sunday School Christmas program on **Sunday, December 21st at 4 pm.** Students will begin rehearsing during the Sunday School hour this week and continuing through the program date. Please have your children attend Sunday School regularly if they plan to participate in the program. There will also be two Saturday morning rehearsals at the downtown church on December 13th & 20th from 9 to 11 am.



CANNED FOOD DRIVE



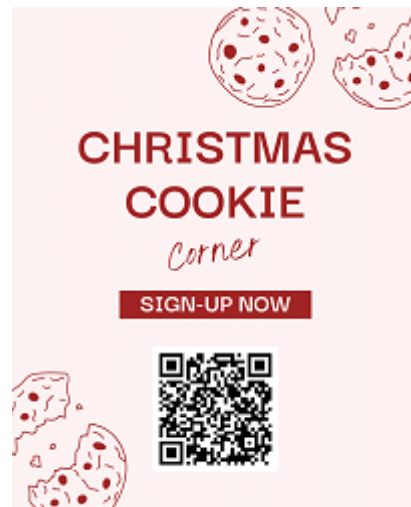
The annual canned food drive runs through the month of **November.** The Board of Human Care distributes food baskets year round and you can help stock our food pantry by bringing in nonperishable food and non-food items like paper towels, toilet paper and other toiletries. As we head into the holidays, 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.

CHRISTMAS PARTY RESCHEDULED

Due to multiple conflicts at St. Paul's and in our community, the Youth Ministry Christmas Party has been rescheduled for **Friday, December 19th from 5-8pm.** Join us for food, cookie decorating, Christmas fun, and a white elephant gift exchange. Please bring a wrapped goofy white elephant gift (valued \$10 or less) for the gift exchange.

CALLING ALL YOUTH!

Your help is needed with our Annual Christmas Cookie Sale! Youth families, our annual Christmas Cookie Sale is our biggest youth ministry fundraiser of the year to help fund the LCMS Youth Gathering trip and other youth ministry events. We need your help to bake and pack cookies. ***Please sign-up for one or more volunteer opportunities from November 30th through December 21st via this Sign-up Genius QR code:***

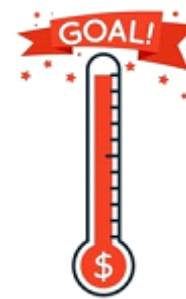


BUTTER BRAID PICK-UP

If you ordered Butter Braids from the Youth fundraiser and have not yet picked them up, please see Liz Lesch or Katrina Drinnon on Sunday morning to pick up your order.



PICK UP TODAY!



MATCHING FUNDS CHALLENGE

The Lord has touched the hearts of the people of this congregation to give generously to the Matching Funds Challenge. You have given \$44,218.12 to the General Fund and \$56,082.15 to the Building Fund. We have \$5,781.88 left to raise the \$50,000 in the challenge. Please prayerfully consider giving to this challenge.

CARE PACKAGES AVAILABLE

Do you know someone with cancer? Would you like to send them Hope? If you know someone locally and would like to deliver it, you can pick one up from the church office during normal office hours. If the person lives further away and the box needs to be shipped, you can contact Sarah Cherry with the address and we will ship out one of our boxes. Either way we need the person's address so they can receive their monthly Cards of Hope for the next year.



With
Deepest
Sympathy

If you would like to send your condolences at the passing of Pastor Mueller, you may send them to:

Sandy Mueller

1710 Plum St.

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

BRADLEY CHRISTMAS PARADE



On **Friday, December 5th,** the Village of Bradley will present their annual lighted Christmas parade. This year's theme is "A Christmas Jubilee on Gingerbread Lane" and St. Paul's PTL

is entering a float! We would love to have you walk with us alongside the float. If you are interested, please call the church office. The more walkers we have, the bigger impact we'll make as witnesses !



ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

The BIG day is just around the corner! On December 14th we will celebrate God's faithfulness to St. Paul's with a combined worship service at 10 am at our historic downtown church. (Please note there will NO Saturday service that weekend.)

Hopefully you received your printed invitation in the mail this past week. It has all of the information for the weekend, including a special alumni event on Saturday, December 13th. If you did not receive an invitation, please reach out to the church office.

We ask that you please use the QR code in the invitation to let us know you are planning to attend any or all of the weekend festivities. The sign-up link is also available on our website stpaulslutheran.net or feel free to call the church office at 815-932-0312 to RSVP.

It is going to be a glorious day, praising the Lord for all of His gifts and His grace and mercy to St. Paul's for the last 165 years!! Something to consider....St. Paul's began in 1859, 16 months before the Civil War!! God has seen our congregation through so many ups and downs, all so that His precious Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ would be, and continues to be, shared with those around us—our families, our communities and the world!

There will be a reception and light lunch following the worship service, allowing time for fellowship and catching up with alumni (both students and staff)

and former members who will be joining us. At that time, you will be able to view highlights from our historical timeline, Confirmation pictures from throughout the years, and old pictorial directories and yearbooks. In addition, the former school on Dearborn, which has been newly renamed St. Paul's Mission and Ministry Center will be open for tours. This is now home to an official Phil's Friends Center of Hope.

You won't want to miss this amazing time together!! So, mark your calendar, plan to attend, and please let us know your intentions to join us on December 13th and 14th!!

165th Anniversary Chairman,
Nancy Eden

PHIL'S FRIENDS - KANKAKEE HOPE CENTER UPDATE

Our team at the Kankakee Hope Center is continuing to work steadily, and we are excited to share that we are on track to complete **700 care packages** in 2025! These packages bring Christ-centered hope and encouragement to those facing cancer.

As you plan your Christmas shopping, we ask that you consider picking up an item or two for Phil's Friends. This ministry is donor run and we thank you for your continued support and generosity. Thank you for your continued support, prayers, and partnership. We look forward to all that God will do through this ministry in 2026!

T.R.I.P. ORDERING

Hosting Thanksgiving dinner? Getting a head start on your Christmas shopping? Use T.R.I.P. cards to fund your purchases for the upcoming holidays! Order by 9 am on December 8th to guarantee delivery by Christmas.

What is the Tuition Reduction Incentive Program?

- Raise money by buying gift cards for everyday purchases. Choose from 750+ national retailers like Ulta, Nike, American Eagle, PetSmart, Cabela's, LL Bean, Michael's, Bath & Body Works, Best Buy, Barnes & Noble, Amazon, Marshall's, Jewel, and tons of restaurants, airlines, hotels & more!
- Pay face value for gift cards. St. Paul's will receive a portion of what you spend and a portion will be applied to your school account to use for tuition, lunch or extended care.
- If you do not have children at the school, you may donate your share to the school.

How do I order?

- Call or text Julie Dummer at 815-530-7320.
- Install the RaiseRight app and order your gift cards electronically. Call the school office for the enrollment code.



OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

November 15th & 16th

Worship Attendance:

Saturday, 5:00 pm	53
Sunday, 8:30 am	149
Sunday, 11:05 am	69
WEEKEND TOTAL	271

Service of Hope & Comfort	17
Youth Bible Class	14
Children's Sunday School	25

Offerings Given

General	\$15,151.62
Building	\$1,522.00
School Ops	\$345.00
Matching (General)	\$3,400.00
Matching (Building)	\$1,050.00

ANNIVERSARY KEEPSAKE ORNAMENT

Don't forget to purchase a beautiful anniversary keepsake ornament for your Christmas tree - and buy a couple extra as gifts! They capture our history perfectly and they're only \$25! They are available for purchase after the Saturday evening service and between the Sunday services or you may call the church office to reserve yours.



SERVING IN GOD’S HOUSE TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Karl Koeppen

Liturgist: Rev. Roger Drinnon

Organist: Nadine Engel

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

Live Streaming/Recording: Matt Callan, Todd Engel

Lay Ministers: 5:00: Bruce Clark
 8:30: Bob Carruthers, Rich Engel, Kevin Kurtz
 11:05: John Veers

Lay Readers: 5:00: Georgia Hess
 8:30: Rich Engel
 11:05: Tammie Mesenbring

Acolytes: 8:30: Ty Luhman, Mo Macari
 11:05: Vincent Kreft, Lucas Porter

Trustees: 5:00: Jeff Johnson
 8:30: Barry Gadbois
 11:05: Greg Wheeler

Ushers: 5:00: Jim Sharper, Rob & Mary Wood
 8:30: Manuel Morocho Loja, Chris Tomblin, Steve Weith
 11:05: Bill Burger, Mike Callan, Aric Turrell, Sean Turrell

Contemporary Service Song Leaders: Isaac Fabbro, Ellana Turrell

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

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Sun , Nov. 23	8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am	Worship - Traditional (Bourb) Family Sunday School: Advent Project (Bourb) Youth Bible Study (Bourb) Worship - Contemporary (Bourb)
Mon , Nov. 24		THANKSGIVING BREAK BEGINS!
Tue , Nov. 25	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	New Member Class (Bourb) <i>Road to Coronation (1573 Surrey Dr., Bourb)</i>
Wed , Nov. 26	7:00 pm	Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service (Downtown)
Thur , Nov. 27	10:00 am	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Thanksgiving Day Worship Service (Downtown)
Fri , Nov. 28		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Sat , Nov. 29	5:00 pm	Worship - Traditional - Communion (Downtown)
Sun , Nov. 30	8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am	Worship - Traditional - Communion (Bourb) Children’s Sunday School (Bourb) Youth Bible Study (Bourb) Worship - Contemporary - Communion (Bourb)