

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School Announcements - January 31st & February 1st

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.

FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please join us as we begin Lent with a special Family Sunday School on **February 15th at 9:45 am** between the church services. Everyone is invited!

The 2025 financial statements are now available for pick-up in Fellowship Hall or at the school, depending on which service you frequent. They are organized alphabetically. If you cannot find yours, please contact Christie at 932-0312. Thank you for your generosity!

If you have not already picked up your envelopes for 2026, they are all at the school now. Feel free to stop by during the week to pick them up.



CREATION MUSEUM & ARK

The Outreach and Connections Board is organizing a trip to the Creation Museum and Ark **July 9th - 12th**. There will be an informational meeting after the late service (12:30pm) on **Sunday, February 8th** about the trip. We will meet in the cafeteria. Please come if you are interested in joining us on this trip. If you are interested but can't make it to the meeting, please let the church office know so we can get a feel for how many people would like to go.

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL ENROLLMENT
Enrollment is now open to the public!
Tell your friends!! We have been blessed with increasing enrollment over the years, especially for our preschool and lower grade classes, so don't delay.



PTL'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

PTL will be hosting St. Paul's Lutheran School's **Boots & Blessings** on **Saturday, February 28th** at Quality Inn in Bradley. Join us for an evening of dinner and live music (provided by South Side Social Club)! Doors will open at 6 pm with a cash bar. Dinner will be served at 7 pm and the band will entertain us from 7 to 10 pm with intermittent breaks for live auction items throughout the night.

Tickets are on sale now through February 16th! Individual tickets are \$55 and include a meal and one beverage ticket (alcoholic or non-alcoholic). You may also buy an entire table for \$500, which includes eight meals and sixteen beverage tickets.

To purchase your tickets, scan the QR code or use the link on our website (stpaulslutheran.net).



Our silent auction will be exclusively online again. It will open a week before the event and close at the end of the live event. **If you work for or own a business that would be willing to sponsor the event or donate a basket, service, or experience for the auction, please call the school office for the proper**

paperwork. All donors will be advertised at our event and on our auction website, as well as in our Thank You Video, which will run on our school website and Facebook page. **If you have a talent to share, we would also love to get some great handmade products for the auction!** All donations need to be received by February 5th.

Our goal is to raise \$40,000. **All proceeds from the event will be used to provide teaching supplies for our teachers, iPads and chromebooks for the lower grades, laptops for our teachers, and additional security measures for our school.** Thank you for your support!

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Peace Lutheran, Saginaw, MI is hosting a women's retreat at the Gillman Springs Retreat Center in Gladwin, MI **February 20th - 22nd**. Ruth Fabbro will be attending so contact her at 815-450-5665 if you would like to attend with her. The cost is \$165 which includes a two-night stay (double occupancy), 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 2 dinners. The topic is **The Daniel Plan by Rick Warren**. This is a faith-based health program that focuses on improving overall well-being through five key areas: faith, food, fitness, focus, and friends inspired by the biblical story of Daniel. The deadline for registration is February 11th.

AN INVITATION TO JOIN OUR CONGREGATION

Have you been attending church here at St. Paul's but not yet become a member? If so, we warmly invite you to consider joining our congregation. If you are:

- ***A member in good standing of another Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Congregation***, we need a letter of transfer from your home church and you need to attend our Assimilation Classes only.
- ***A member in good standing of another Lutheran Church***, we need a letter of transfer from your home church and you need to attend our Faith and Membership Classes and Assimilation Classes.
- ***A member in good standing of another denomination***, we need a release of membership from your church and you need to attend our Faith and Membership Classes and Assimilation Classes.
- ***Not a member of another church***, you need to attend our Faith and Membership Classes and Assimilation Classes.

The next Faith & Membership class just started last Tuesday, January 27th - it's not too late to join! The class will meet at 6:30 pm every Tuesday through March 24th. If you are interested, please check the box "Looking for a Church" or "Interested in Joining" on the attendance card along with your contact information or call the church office at 815-932-0312.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2026 Flower Chart has been moved to the school. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers in honor of or in memory of someone or some special occasion, please sign up on the chart for your desired weekend. Please include your phone number.

The cost is \$25.00 per vase. If you would like both vases on a given weekend, please list your name twice. Checks (payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church) or cash payments may be put in the offering plate or turned in to the church office. Please contact Lynda Koeppen at lykoeppen@comcast.net or 815-932-1545 with questions.



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 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 on **Wed., February 11th at 6 pm at Monical's in Bourbonnais**. Anyone interested in becoming a visitor or caller is welcome to attend.

THE SERVING CHRIST: GOSPEL OF MARK

When: Every Tuesday, 9:45 am
Where: Fellowship Hall
Leader: Roy W. Cordes

Mark speaks to us about this suffering Messiah, the meaning of His sacrifice and Resurrection for us, and His call to us to follow Him in a life of service and sacrifice. How do we live that type of life in today's world? Mark tells us to follow Jesus in his Gospel that describes "The Serving Christ."

Mark was not a disciple of Jesus and was not labeled as a fisher of men, but he learned from working as a missionary with Peter. His rapid-fire story after story moves quickly through the three year ministry of Jesus starting in Galilee and moving through other areas in Asia Minor.

Come with your Bible every week and we will discuss verse-by-verse to learn what God's Word tells us about being "fishers of men" today. You are invited to join us at our downtown church campus.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are in need of **ushers** for our regular weekend services and the upcoming midweek and holiday services. If you are willing to help, please contact the church office.

Do you have a creative or artistic streak? We are looking for volunteers to get a head start on the **set design for VBS**. Our theme is Rainforest Falls so this could be a really fun project!



TRIVIA NIGHT: OLYMPIC NIGHT OUT

Our annual Trivia Night fundraiser is coming up on **Friday, March 13th**. Doors open at 6 pm and trivia starts at **6:30 pm**. The theme this year is Olympic Night Out in celebration of the 2026 Winter Olympics. Adults, please gather your friends and family and encourage them to register a team for the event! Early bird registration is open through February 1st for \$100 a team (up to 8 players). After that, registration will be \$120 a team or \$15 a person. Mulligans will also be available for purchase for \$20 at the event. Medals will be awarded for Best Trivia Team, Best Dressed Team, and Best Decorated Table! Who will bring home the Gold?



For anyone interested in singing with the adult choir, there will be a choir rehearsal this **Sunday, February 1st at 5:30 pm** in the music room at the school.

LOCK-IN WITH CONCORDIA CHICAGO'S YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

On Friday, February 6th at 7 pm through Saturday, February 7th at 7 am will be our annual Lock-In with students from the Concordia University Chicago Youth Ministry Team at the Bourbonnais school campus. Stay all night for fun, games, food (nacho bar!!), and Bible study. Bring \$10, your Bible, comfy clothes, tennis shows, pillow, blanket/sleeping bag, and your toothbrush. Please register using the QR code:



RECYCLING CARDBOARD

If any members are recycling their cardboard at the school because they have no access at home, we thank you, but you MUST break down any boxes so that there is room for everyone's recyclable waste. (St. Paul's does not receive any kind of compensation for this program.)



If you or your organization have anything stored in the southwest room in the Mission and Ministry Center contact Bill Balgeman at 815-937-4947. The room must be cleared in the next few weeks. Any unclaimed items will be disposed of.

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am aware that some of you are not fond of the furniture in the atrium prior to the rummage sales. The Board of Trustees and the Joseph Ministry are working to rectify this situation. We have cleared and painted the basement rooms in the Mission and Ministry Center to be used for VBS and medical equipment storage, and we are also in the process of cleaning out the southwest upstairs classroom. We will be having the asbestos tile removed, painting walls, and installing a new floor so that rummage sale items can be stored there until the sale. Please be aware of the impact that this sale has on our community and our church. A group of volunteers transport unneeded belongings from church members, and those in the community, regularly to the Center where, every week, the rummage sale volunteers price and sort them so that they can be distributed to those in need at little cost. The exposure of our church to Kankakee County is priceless. Many thousands of hours are invested in the twice-annual sales, and many thousands of dollars are earned to be used for Center improvements and maintenance, communion supplies, altar paraments, robes, and candles. As we move toward our goal, we all will try to arrange the furniture in the atrium in a homey and organized manner. Thank you for your patience. ~Bill Balgeman

LCMS LERT BASIC TRAINING

**When: Saturday, March 7th
9 am to noon**

**Where: Lord of Life Lutheran Church
40W605 IL-38
Elburn, IL 60119**

In the chaos of disaster, it's important to stay focused on the task at hand. LCMS Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) training will help you focus on the most important thing to remember as you prepare for or respond to a disaster in your community or beyond. At the center of our LERT volunteer training is one thing: MERCY! Christ's mercy is the basis for everything we say and do. This training event will equip you to be an effective volunteer should a disaster strike your community.

LERT training is also now offered to youth, ages 14 – 17, so they can also assist in general disaster response safely and under the guidance of their own youth leadership. LCMS Disaster Response has developed new guidelines for youth participation. A parent must be present and sign forms for participation.

The registration cost for new LERT volunteers will be \$35.00. The registration fee can be paid online with a credit card or at the event when you check-in by cash, check or credit card.

To register, go to
<https://lcc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/1479/responses/new>

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Join us this Epiphany season for a six-week Bible Study **on Sundays at 9:45 a.m.** as we explore the parables of Jesus found throughout the Gospels. Each week, we'll take a closer look at one of Jesus' parables — unpacking its meaning, discussing its context, and discovering how these timeless stories continue to shape our faith and daily life. Whether you're a longtime student of Scripture or just beginning to dig deeper, this study will offer rich conversation, thoughtful insight, and encouragement from God's Word. We hope you'll join us!

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

January 24th & 25th

Worship Attendance:

Saturday, 5:00 pm	.....	56
Sunday, 8:30 am	.....	97
Sunday, 11:05 am	.....	38
WEEKEND TOTAL	.....	191

Adult Bible Class	.....	5
Youth Bible Class	.....	0
Children's Sunday School	.....	10

Offerings Given

General	.....	\$12,111.96
Building	.....	\$400.00
School Ops	.....	\$310.00

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Karl Koeppen
Liturgist: Rev. Roger Drinon
Organist: Nadine Engel
Lay Ministers: 5:00: Rich Engel
8:30: Bruce Clark, Kevin Kurtz, John Veers
11:05: Greg Deck

Lay Readers: 5:00: Olivia Reardanz (8th Grade)
8:30: Brody Brinkmann (8th Grade)
11:05: Jacob Kubal (8th Grade)

Acolytes: 8:30: Maddie Billingsley, Brody Brinkmann
11:05: Emma Davis, Annie Schneider

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

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

Contemporary Service Song Leaders: Mellody McDonald, Heather Stroo
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, Feb. 1	8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am 2:00 pm 5:30 pm	Worship - Traditional - Communion New Member Reception Adult Bible Study Children's Sunday School Youth Bible Study Worship - Contemporary - Communion LWML Tea Party Choir Rehearsal	(Bourb) (Bourb) (Bourb) (Bourb) (Bourb) (Bourb) (Downtown) (Bourb)
Mon, Feb. 2	7:00 pm	Lay Ministry Meeting	(Bourb)
Tue, Feb. 3	9:45 am 4:00 pm 6:30 pm	<i>The Serving Christ: Gospel of Mark</i> Jr. Confirmation Class Faith & Membership Class	(Downtown) (Bourb) (Bourb)
Wed, Feb. 4			
Thur, Feb. 5	6:00 pm	DEADLINE FOR AUCTION DONATIONS Phil's Friends Walk-In	(Downtown)
Fri, Feb. 6	7:00 pm	Youth Lock-In	(Bourb)
Sat, Feb. 7	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Phil's Friends Work Day Worship - Traditional	(Downtown) (Downtown)
Sun, Feb. 8	8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am 12:30 pm	Worship - Traditional Adult Bible Study Children's Sunday School Youth Bible Study Worship - Contemporary Creation Museum Trip Informational Meeting	(Bourb) (Bourb) (Bourb) (Bourb) (Bourb) (Bourb)