

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School **Announcements - February 14th & 15th**

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 this Sunday, **February 15th** at **9:45 am** between the church services.

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.



IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Wednesday, February 18th, marks the beginning of the season of Lent in the Church Year. Lent is the 40-day season of the Church Year that culminates in Good Friday, the day we observe the crucifixion of Jesus our Savior. Because of this, the season of Lent has historically been a very somber one, marked with themes of spiritual preparation and repentance.

One Lenten practice that is fairly common is the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. Like other Lenten practices, this is not something we are commanded to do, but many choose to do it because it is a reminder of their sinfulness, as well as the salvation we have because Jesus died for our sins. Receiving the ashes does not make one a better Christian, but it can be a reminder to ourselves (as we look in the mirror and at one another), that not only are we sinful people, but we are also people redeemed by the cross of Jesus Christ our Savior.

If you are unable to come to the evening service at 7 pm downtown, you are welcome to join us for the school chapel service at 8:30 am.



LENTEN DEVOTIONS

In love, God sent His Son to redeem the world. In hatred, He was rejected.

In ***Behold Your King!***, we see the Savior stripped of His dignity, led away, and crucified on our behalf. No one could imagine this Man, this condemned and forsaken Man, was God in the flesh sent to liberate us from our sin by His death and resurrection.

That the Son of God joined us in our frail state of humanity is testament to God's overwhelming love and concern for the world. And not only this, Jesus endured scorn and derision from His creation, His earthly subjects. And yet, as King, as Lord of all, He did the unthinkable: He laid down His life for the sins of the world.

Copies of this Lenten devotion are available for pick-up at the school and church locations.



For anyone interested in singing with the adult choir, there will be a choir rehearsal this **Sunday, February 15th at 12:30 pm** in the music room at the school. Adults and high school youth are welcome to sing!!

YOUTH NIGHT

Our next Youth Night will be **next Sunday, February 22nd at 6pm** at the school. These events are open to all 7th through 12th graders. If that's you, we would love to have you join us for an evening of fun!

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST

We meet again **Saturday, Feb. 28th at 7:30 am** in the Riverside Hospital Cafeteria. Come join us for breakfast as we study God's Word. I pray that you can join us for the study!

~ Pastor Koeppen

LUTHERAN WITNESS

If you are interested in beginning or renewing a subscription to Lutheran Witness, please contact the church office at 932-0312. **Orders are due by March 1st**. The cost is \$23.50 for the year.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Don't leave FREE money on the table! If you have a Thrivent insurance policy or annuity product, you may be eligible to choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable outreach funding. **Call 1-800-THRIVENT (847-4836) by March 31st to direct your Choice Dollars to St. Paul's.**

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THE SERVING CHRIST: GOSPEL OF MARK

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

Jesus' early ministry around Galilee featured teaching, prayer and healing. The first 3 chapters of Mark provide us with an example to follow today, and then in the 4th chapter He starts teaching using parables. People were coming from all over the region and beyond as His popularity increased each day of His ministry.

The twelve disciples were being trained for their ministries and were always amazed at how Jesus handled those who were opposed to Him like the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees. The world can be opposed to you if you choose to follow Jesus, and Mark's Gospel can give you lessons on how to compete with an immoral society.

One of the ways to compete with an evil world is through prayer. At the end of each class you have the opportunity to ask the leader to pray for individuals and concerns. We pray for new requests and also pray thanking God for answered prayers. Why don't you join us this week and give it a try?



St. Paul's Lutheran School's annual fundraiser will be **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 until 10 pm with intermittent breaks for live auction items.

LAST CALL FOR TICKETS!!
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). **If you would prefer to pay with a check or cash, you may call or stop by the office by noon on Monday, February 16th to reserve your seats.**

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!



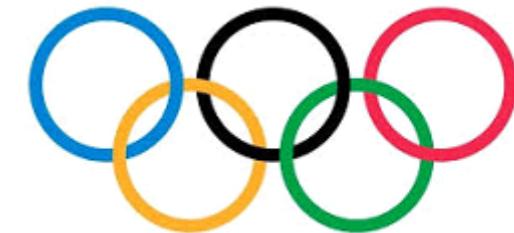
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are in need of **ushers** for our regular weekend services and the upcoming midweek and holiday services.

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!



If either of these opportunities sound like a good fit for you, please call the church office at 815-932-0312



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?



NOW HIRING - FULL-TIME STORE OPERATOR

Bridge Thrift Home & Restoration in Frankfort is a faith-based organization based on the values and beliefs of our Founders and members of our Board of Directors. This key role will oversee the day-to-day operations, lead staff and volunteers, and more. If you or someone you know has retail leadership experience, a heart for community impact, and wants to be a part of a growing team, apply online at thebridgeteencenter.org/jobs.

ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS!!

SAVE THE DATE!!

We "Value Our Faithful, Difference-Making Volunteers!" Parish Fellowship is planning a Volunteer Recognition Reception for all of our amazing St. Paul's Church volunteers on **Sunday, March 15th at 2:00 p.m.** If you are a church volunteer, you should be receiving an invitation in the mail next week with more information and an RSVP deadline. More information will also be in the weekly bulletins. We look forward to celebrating you and your service to our Lord and St. Paul's!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



April 6th is the date for the Red Cross blood drive at St Paul's School. Please mark your calendars. This is truly a life saving event.

To sign up to give blood, go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=stpaulsbourbonnais> or scan the QR code. We will also need volunteers the day of the event. Please contact Sylvia Burger at 815-343-3460 if you are interested.



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 as storage for VBS and medical equipment, 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. Volunteers regularly transport donations from church members and those in the community. 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 Mission & Ministry 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>**

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

January 31st & February 1st

Worship Attendance:

Saturday, 5:00 pm	.....	65
Sunday, 8:30 am	.....	101
Sunday, 11:05 am	.....	83
WEEKEND TOTAL	.....	249

Adult Bible Class	.....	9
Youth Bible Class	.....	6
Children's Sunday School	.....	14

Offerings Given

General	.....	\$12,626.81
Building	.....	\$11,967.00
School Ops	.....	\$325.00

LWML MITES

LWML will be collecting mites this weekend after the church services. The mission grant for this month is for A Place of Refuge (APOR), a sanctity-of-life ministry where women can reside for their entire pregnancy and up to a year following the birth of the child. They are taught life and parenting skills. The women attend worship at a local LCMS congregation every Sunday with staff teaching Catechism to the moms. The Holy Spirit has brought many moms and babies to the baptismal font. This grant will fund the purchase of a new van for transportation to church, Bible studies, doctors' appointments, and grocery shopping, plus a set of five parental skill books to be gifted to each new mom.

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: Karen Beatty
8:30: Bill Balgeman
11:05: Deb Turrell

Acolytes: 8:30: Lana McHugh, Olivia Reardanz
11:05: Kaden McDonald, Dylan Nordmeyer

Trustees: 5:00: Jeff Johnson
8:30: Mike Regas
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: Natalie Cherry, 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, Feb. 15	8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am 12:30 pm	Worship - Traditional - Communion (Bourb) Adult Bible Study (Bourb) Family Sunday School (Bourb) Youth Bible Study (Bourb) Worship - Contemporary - Communion (Bourb) Adult Choir Rehearsal (Bourb)
Mon, Feb. 16	7:00 pm	NO SCHOOL <i>in observance of President's Day</i> Church Council Meeting (Bourb)
Tue, Feb. 17	9:45 am 4:00 pm 5:00 pm 6:30 pm	<i>The Serving Christ: Gospel of Mark</i> (Downtown) Jr. Confirmation Class (Bourb) Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours (Bourb) Faith & Membership Class (Bourb)
Wed, Feb. 18	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship (Downtown)
Thur, Feb. 19	6:00 pm	Phil's Friends Walk-In (Downtown)
Fri, Feb. 20		
Sat, Feb. 21	9:30 am 5:00 pm	Phil's Friends Pack Party (Downtown) Worship - Traditional (Downtown)
Sun, Feb. 22	8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am 6:00 pm	Worship - Traditional (Bourb) Adult Bible Study (Bourb) Children's Sunday School (Bourb) Youth Bible Study (Bourb) Worship - Contemporary (Bourb) Youth Night (Bourb)