

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School
Announcements - April 25th & 26th

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.



**VBS 2026 -
 SAVE THE DATE!!**

All children entering 4-year-old preschool through 6th grade are invited to spend a week with us at Vacation Bible School. Mark your calendars for **Monday, June 15th through Friday, June 19th!** *Rainforest Falls* promises a week of wonder as kids explore the powerful nature of God! Through life-changing Bible stories, the coolest animal buddies, and joyful worship, they'll discover who God is and how to stay rooted in His love.

BLOOD DRIVE THANK YOU

The St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School Blood Drive was a success! Donors increased by 8 and the number of units collected increased by 6.



One donor from both years said she saw our site and gave in memory of Jennifer Wilken, a past St. Paul's School librarian. The donations make a real difference in the lives of those in need and for the donors too.

Many thanks to the volunteers: Barry Gadbois, Bill Burger, Mary Kay Tanka, Adele Hinze, Kim Williams, Carol Baron, Loree Yoakum and Isaac Fabbro.



**ANNUAL BENEFIT
 CAR SHOW**

Caleb's Prayer Foundation was formed 12 years ago in memory of Caleb Hoggins, who lost his battle with cancer at 15. The mission of the foundation is to provide financial assistance to families in Kankakee and Iroquois counties that are coping with the effects of cancer. Since its inception, **Caleb's Prayer** has distributed over \$119,000 to local families, helping with groceries, transportation, utilities, housing, insurance, medical bills, and funeral expenses. The main source of income is an annual car show at Phillips Auto Group, Bourbonnais. This year's event is **Sunday, May 17th** (rain date May 31st).

There are a multitude of ways you can help if you feel so inclined.

- Become a sponsor
- Donate a door prize
- Register your car or truck (see below)
- Simply show your support by coming to this FREE event to browse the beautiful cars

Registration for car entries is from 9 to 11 am and the entry fee is \$20. This event opens to the viewing public at noon and is FREE. Grilled burgers and hot dogs, chips, and drinks are available for purchase. 100% of the profit goes to local families. For more information, please contact Christie at crahn@stpaulslutheran.net or 815-932-0312. We hope to see you there!

CALLING ALL VBS VOLUNTEERS!

VBS is not possible without our dedicated team of volunteers. Whether you serve as a crew leader or helper, lead a station, help with registration, photograph the fun, or help behind the scenes, we need you! Please prayerfully consider getting involved as a volunteer. All volunteers are asked to complete the VBS Volunteer Application by scanning the QR code below. Please also mark the following dates on your calendar and plan to attend:

- Volunteer Training:** (Please plan to attend one of the two sessions)
 * Sunday May 31st 9:45-10:45 am
 * Sunday June 7th 9:45-10:45 am

Volunteer Orientation:
 Sunday June 14th 12:30-2pm (lunch included) & 2-4pm set-up

VBS Week: Monday June 15th through Friday June 19th, 5:30-8:00pm (VBS Staff devotions will begin at 4:45pm.)

If you have questions about becoming a VBS volunteer or need assistance with the volunteer application, please contact Liz Lesch at 815-263-0537.



**PLEASE NOTE CHANGES!
 8th GRADE CONFIRMATION IS
 SUNDAY, MAY 3rd**

The 5:00 pm Traditional Worship Service will be held on Saturday, May 2nd at the downtown location as usual.

The 8:30 am Traditional Worship Service will be held on Sunday, May 3rd at the school location as usual.

 The Jr. Confirmation Worship Service will be at 11:05 am at the downtown location.

There will be NO Adult Bible Class, Children's Sunday School or Coffee Hour between the services.

THE SERVING CHRIST:
GOSPEL OF MARK

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

Jesus spent a lot of time training His disciples to carry on His earthly ministry. The disciples were very young and had questions about a lot of different issues and Scripture says in several places, they didn't understand what was going on or who Jesus was. Obviously the suffering, arrest, crucifixion and resurrection solidified their faith and led them to ministry for the next 20-50 years after Jesus ascended into heaven. Everyone except for John died a martyr's death because they continued to confess Jesus as Savior and Messiah.

You had the opportunity to learn about the suffering, arrest, crucifixion and resurrection this past Lenten and Easter season. Now you have another opportunity to solidify your faith by attending the Tuesday morning Bible Class and discussing this information by studying verse-by-verse in the Gospel of Mark. It seems like every time you read the same story, you discover something new that you never paid attention to before.

The last 8 chapters of Mark begin with the trip to Jerusalem and end with the resurrection. It is Spring, the time of growth, maybe it is time for you to bring your faith to Bible Class and let it grow!

WE'RE GETTING THE BAND TOGETHER!

6th -12th grade band and orchestra musicians, along with any adult musicians, you are invited to join the Worship Ensemble on **Sunday, May 17th during the 8:30 am worship service.** We will provide music for pre-service, offertory, and post-service. ***We will have a rehearsal on Saturday, May 16th at 9:00 am in the school gym.*** Donuts, juice, and milk will be provided after rehearsal. Please contact Bill Dyche by sending a text to 815-592-0870 or send an email to bill.dyche66@gmail.com. Please include the following information: musician name, instrument, email, and cell number.

SENIOR SEND-OFF NIGHT

On **Wednesday, April 29th,** join us from **6:30pm to 8:30pm** to celebrate our graduating seniors and pray over them as they prepare for the next leg of their journey.



BE THE CHURCH 2026
MISSION: BEST VBS EVER!

This year for our ***Be the Church*** local mission project, we will be working together as a congregation to support the St. Paul's Vacation Bible School program, ***Rainforest Falls***. VBS is far more than just a week in June. Lots of work goes into preparing for the week, and each of the students and volunteers involved in VBS need your prayers and support. Over the next few months, there are many ways to get involved and BE THE CHURCH! To sign up, scan the QR code or go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B44AFAC28A0FECE9-62976668-bethechurch>.

VBS Giving Tree - As a way for the congregation to support our VBS mission, we will be setting up a giving tree with leaves each containing an item needed for VBS.

Be a VBS Prayer Buddy & Sponsor a Book of Psalms for a student! - This year's VBS curriculum includes a Book of Psalms for students to mark our Sticky Scripture messages throughout the week and take home to share with their family. Prayer Buddies will help cover the cost of the books (\$3.99 each), write a message in the book to the student they sponsor, and pray for that student during VBS week and beyond.

Help Design & Build the Set - Join us on one of the following evenings at the St. Paul's Mission and Ministry Center VBS Prop room to design, build, and paint set elements including rocks, bridges, fallen logs, waterfalls, and more for our rainforest.

April 22nd 6-8pm

May 4th 6-8pm

May 13th 6-8pm

Family Fun Movie & Service Day:

Friday, June 5th - 2-8pm - Youth and adults of all ages, join us at the Bourbonnais School campus for a fun day of watching movies and creating our rainforest leaves, vines, flowers, and more! Come when you can and leave when you must. Pizza will be available at 5:30pm.

Join the decorating crew! - Help us transform the school into a rainforest adventure

Saturday, June 6th, 9-noon - Decorate entryway & lobby

Sunday, June 7th, 1-3pm - Decorate hallways

Sunday, June 14th, 2-4pm - Set-up gym & classrooms

Saturday, June 20th, 9-noon - Post-VBS clean-up



UNDERSTANDING ISLAM
BIBLE STUDY

In a world where Christianity regularly encounters Islam—both globally and in our own communities—it is important for Christians to understand what Muslims believe and how we can faithfully bear witness to Christ. Beginning **April 19th**, we will offer a **six-week Bible study on Islam** designed to help Christians think carefully, historically, and biblically about this major world religion.

This study will explore **the origins of Islam in pre-Islamic Arabia**, where a mixture of tribal religions, Judaism, and Christianity existed prior to the rise of Muhammad in the 7th century. From there we will trace the development of Islam through key historical moments including the early expansion of Islam, the Crusades, and the continuing interactions between Christianity and the Muslim world.

We will also examine **major theological expressions of Islam today**, including Sunni and Shiite Islam, reform movements such as Wahhabism, and the influence of modern political and religious movements in places such as Iran.

Most importantly, we will consider **how Christians have historically responded to Islam** and how we can **lovingly and faithfully witness to Muslims today**, always confessing the truth that salvation is found in Christ alone (John 14:6; Acts 4:12).

TABEA RUMMAGE SALE

We are now accepting donations for our semi-annual rummage sale. The spring sale will be **Thurs. & Fri., May 7th & 8th** from 8 am to 4 pm in the downtown gym. You may leave your treasures by the gym doors on Saturdays before the 5 pm service or you may schedule a time to drop off or pick up with Carol Ginger (815-922-5525) or Pat Baker (708-772-0933). Please DO NOT bring items to the school location. We respectfully ask that all donated clothing is clean. We cannot accept TVs or computers. The proceeds from our sales help purchase much needed supplies such as candles, wine, wafers, robes and other necessities that help enhance all church services. We thank you for your donations! May God bless you and your families for helping so faithfully.



The Board of Parish Fellowship would like to thank those members who delivered over 40 Easter flowers to St. Paul's members who are shut-ins or in area nursing homes. Those who helped were Bill & Kim Balgeman, Joan Gehm, Colleen LaGesse, Loree Yoakum, Anita Schluter Wilson, and Gene Wachholz. A special thanks to Lynda Koeppen for all her assistance and to those members who donated flowers for delivery.



DO YOU SHOP AT MENARD'S?

Springtime.....synonymous with home improvement projects, deep cleaning, and landscaping! If you make purchases at Menards and do not intend to mail in the rebate slip, please consider donating your rebate receipts to the church. Simply drop them off at the church office or put them in the collection plate. Our custodians and trustees shop at Menards regularly and your rebates would go to great use!

CREATION MUSEUM TRIP
POSTPONED

The trip to the Creation Museum has been cancelled for July, 2026 because we did not have enough interest. We plan on moving the trip to July, 2027. The tentative date is **July 8-10, 2027** so mark your calendars. We will need deposits by Feb. 1, 2027. If you made a deposit for this year, your checks will be returned to you.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

April 18th & 19th

Worship Attendance:

Saturday, 5:00 pm.....	64
Sunday, 8:30 am.....	116
Sunday, 11:05 am.....	76
WEEKEND TOTAL.....	256

Adult Bible Class.....	12
Youth Bible Class.....	6
Children's Sunday School.....	15

Offerings Given

General.....	\$14,004.43
Building.....	\$2,236.00
School Ops.....	\$485.00

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Roger Drinnon

Liturgist: Rev. Karl Koeppen

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

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

Lay Readers: 5:00: Audra Taylor
 8:30: Lauren Lundmark
 11:05: Mellody McDonald

Acolytes: 8:30: Nolan LaVoie, Max West
 11:05: MacKenzie Norton, Annie Schneider


Trustees: 5:00: Mike Callan
 8:30: Tom Stirnaman
 11:05: Jim Trudeau

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: Isaac Fabbro, Mellody McDonald
Extra Measure Band: Matt Callan, Bill Dyche, Duane & Gail Ferrebee, Greg Ronchetto, Cindy Rubin, Ellana Turrell

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Sun, Apr. 26	8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am	Worship - Traditional (Bourb) Assimilation Class (Bourb) Adult Bible Study (Bourb) Children's Sunday School (Bourb) Youth Bible Study (Bourb) Worship - Contemporary (Bourb)
Mon, Apr. 27		
Tue, Apr. 28	9:45 am 7:00 pm	<i>The Serving Christ: Gospel of Mark</i> (Downtown) <i>Seven Principles of Prayer</i> (1573 Surrey, Bourb)
Wed, Apr. 29	5:30 pm 6:30 pm	K-8 Spring Concert & Art Fair (Bourb) Youth Ministry Senior Send-Off (Bourb)
Thur, Apr. 30	6:00 pm	Phil's Friends Walk-In (Downtown)
Fri, May 1	5:00 pm	Spring Fling Dance (Bourb)
Sat, May 2	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Confirmation Breakfast, Pictures & Rehearsal (Downtown) Worship - Traditional - Communion (Downtown)
Sun, May 3	8:30 am 11:05 am	Worship - Traditional - Communion (Bourb) Jr. Confirmation & Worship - Communion (Downtown)

	<p>2026 National Day of Prayer “Glorify God Among The Nations, Seeking Him In All Generations” 1 Chronicles 16:24</p> <p>Thursday, May 7, 2026 - 6 am to 6 pm @ St. Paul's Lutheran Church</p>
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