

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School
Announcements - May 2nd & 3rd

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.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Everyone is invited to our monthly fellowship dinners. No commitment is expected and these evenings are very casual – just come as you are when you are able. We will be meeting on **Friday, May 15th at 6:00 pm at Beans & Barley Brews in Ashkum.** Please join us! RSVP to Nancy Eden at 248-842-2837.

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

 If you have an announcement or article that you would like to have published in the June/July newsletter, please submit it to crahn@stpaulslutheran.net no later than **Monday, May 15th.** Thank you!

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.



THE SERVING CHRIST:
GOSPEL OF MARK

When: Every Tuesday, 9:45 am

Where: Fellowship Hall

Leader: Roy W. Cordes

Just before Jesus and the disciples experience the triumphal entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, Jesus is challenged concerning a question about divorce, teaches others that their faith needs to be like that of a child and also performs some more miracles and answers questions about our status in heaven if we are one of His followers.

A humble servant who became a man to cover our sins and ensure us that we are forgiven continues to amaze His disciples who were beginning to accept the fact that He had to be the Messiah. The Messiah, not for political reasons, but for spiritual reasons. The same Messiah that will return some day because He has prepared a place for us in the new heaven and the new earth.

Join us so we can be encouraged by God's Word and His plan of salvation for us.

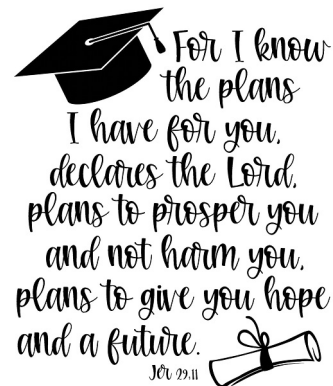


WE'RE GETTING THE BAND TOGETHER!

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 **Tuesday, May 19th,** 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.



For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.
Jer 29:11

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 below or register via Sign-Up Genius at <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.

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.

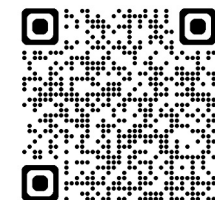
Join the decorating crew! - Help us transform the school into a rainforest adventure

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

Our semi-annual rummage sale will be open from 8 am to 4 pm **Thurs. & Fri., May 7th & 8th** in the downtown gym. Stop by for some amazing deals and support Tabea! 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.



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.

BOOK COLLECTION REMINDER

St. Paul's will once again be doing a used book booth at Prairieview's Fall Festival on September 11th & 12th and we are in need of books. There are collection bins at both locations. At the school, you may place your books in the labeled red donation box. At the church, there are labeled containers in the atrium to the right of gym doors. If you have any questions, if you would like to arrange a time to drop off, or if you need to schedule a pick-up, please call Jeanne Vilt at 815-932-9855, call or text her at 815-216-0240, or call or text Nancy Campbell at 815-592-4273.



OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

April 25th & 26th

<u>Worship Attendance:</u>	
Saturday, 5:00 pm	60
Sunday, 8:30 am	117
Sunday, 11:05 am	84
WEEKEND TOTAL	261
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Adult Bible Class	14
Youth Bible Class	9
Children's Sunday School	23
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<u>Offerings Given</u>	
General	\$11,796.86
Building	\$365.00
School Ops.	\$300.00

RUMMAGE SALE HELPERS

Anyone can help! We will especially need a few men for heavy lifting. We are scheduling two-hour sessions for set-up help on May 5th & 6th and during the sale on May 7th & 8th between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. If you are interested in helping, please call Carol Ginger (815-922-5525) or Pat Baker (708-772-0933). We thank you for your service and pray that God bless you for serving so faithfully.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Karl Koeppen
Liturgist: Rev. Roger Drinnon
Organist: Aaron Heldt

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

Lay Readers: 5:00: Audra Taylor
 8:30: John Veers

Acolytes: 8:30: Lucas Porter, Zachary Porter
 11:05: Dylan Blair, Norah Callan

Crossbearer: 11:05: Mo Macari

Trustees: 5:00: Rob Wood
 8:30: Barry Gadbois
 11:05: Mike Callan

Ushers: 5:00: Diana Hinderer, 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: Heidi Ostrowski, Sharla Ronchetto
Extra Measure Band: Matt Callan, Duane & Gail Ferrebee, Greg Ronchetto, Cindy Rubin

Choir: Natalie Cherry, Liz Deck, Katrina Drinnon, Brent Eden, Nancy Eden, Rick Einfeldt, Duane Ferrebee, Gail Ferrebee (director), Adele Hinze, Elayne James, Sandy James, Heidi Ostrowski, Sharla Ronchetto, Cindy Rubin, Eugene Wachholz

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Sun, May 3	8:30 am 11:05 am	Worship - Traditional - <i>Communion</i> (Bourb) Jr. & Confirmation & Worship - <i>Communion</i> (Downtown)
Mon, May 4	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	VBS Set Design (Bourb) Lay Ministry Meeting (Bourb)
Tue, May 5	9:45 am 4:00 pm	<i>The Serving Christ: Gospel of Mark</i> (Downtown) Jr. Confirmation (7 th Grade only) (Bourb)
Wed, May 6		
Thur, May 7	6am-6pm 8:00 am 6:00 pm	National Day of Prayer (Downtown) Rummage Sale (Downtown) Phil's Friends Walk-In (Downtown)
Fri, May 8	8:00 am	Rummage Sale (Downtown)
Sat, May 9	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Phil's Friends Work Day (Downtown) Worship - Traditional (Downtown)
Sun, May 10	8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:05 am	MOTHER'S DAY Worship - Traditional (Bourb) Adult Bible Study (Bourb) Youth Bible Study (Bourb) Children's Sunday School (Bourb) Worship - Contemporary (Bourb)