

THE MESSENGER

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
511 S. Walnut
Strasburg, Illinois 62465
(217) 644-2661
stpaulcms@consolidated.net



MAY 2022

Dear Friends in Christ:

The topic for May is the article from the Brief Statement, Of Man and Sin

We teach that the first man was not brutelike nor merely capable of intellectual development, but that God created man in His own image, Gen. 1:26, 27; Eph. 4:24; Col. 3:10, that is, in true knowledge of God and in true righteousness and holiness and endowed with a truly scientific knowledge of nature, Gen. 2:19-23. We furthermore teach that sin came into the world by the fall of the first man, as described [sic] Gen. 3. By this Fall not only he himself, but also his natural offspring have lost the original knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, and thus all men are sinners already by birth, dead in sins, inclined to all evil, and subject to the wrath of God, Rom. 5:12, 18; Eph. 2:1-3. We teach also that men are unable, through any efforts of their own or by the aid of "culture and science," to reconcile themselves to God and thus conquer death and damnation.

How did we get from knowing that man was created in the image of God to thinking that man began as an amoeba and eventually willed himself to what we are today? The idea that there were pre-humans and they walked around saying "ugh" to each other truly does a disservice, to say the least to our forefathers. This is what happens when man chooses to live in unbelief of God, the creator and giver of life. If there is no God, then there has to be an explanation for the reason that things are the way they are. Which leads to having to come up with another solution, which even that is flawed because in the face of evil everywhere around us, there are those that believe that man is inherently good. Now I have been called a cynic, mostly by myself, along with many other names but I really prefer thinking that I am a realist. I have no problem seeing us humans the way that Jesus does. We find this in the Gospel of Matthew 15¹⁹ "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander." No one has to teach us how to sin, we are very proficient and efficient at it. Why is that? Because that is who we are. Hi, my names Kene and I'm a sinner.

To think that Adam and Eve knew God perfectly and were happy in that knowledge should cause us pain to think how easily they threw it all away because they thought that God was holding them back or cheating them out of something. Now, because of their lack of believing the word of God each and every human that has been born has been born a sinner, an enemy of God, one who hates even the concept of God. Romans 5¹² "Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned..." We have lost that clear knowledge of who the Lord is, which is why Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 13¹² "Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned."

Now that being said the other side of all this is that since I am not able to move toward God because of sin He came to us. We were the dead ones that needed to be brought back to life, and since we were dead, incapable of helping ourselves, the Son of God came and died and rose for me reconciling me/us to God, Romans 5¹⁰ "For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation." We know now that even though this side of heaven we have to deal with temptation, sin, devil, world, and our sinful flesh, wholeness is coming as our salvation is sure in Christ Jesus as we remain in Him.

God's Blessings

Pastor Whybrew

Ladies Aid Minutes

St. Paul's Ladies Aid Society met in the church social hall on April 7, 2022, at 1:30 pm. Neva gave a devotion and mites were then collected. Connie Wirth served as our hostess today.

President Linda Doehring opened the meeting with prayer and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was answered by twelve members and one guest, Diane Paraiso. The March minutes were read by Kay and approved. Sixteen cards were sent to our church family and friends in March. Thank you, Muriel! Charlene gave the treasurer's report and it was approved.

In correspondence, we received information about the Central Illinois District Convention. It will be held on April 29-30th, in Springfield IL. Muriel and Marlene are planning to attend on Saturday only. We also received nice thank yous from the Spannagel family and from Noah and Rebecca for the gift in honor of the birth of Veronica.

Business included the up-coming Joy Shop on April 21st, at Trinity in Stewardson, at 6pm. Several members plan to attend. It was decided to donate towards the Orphan Grain Train as a whole society for the Joy Shop this year. Next, we voted on the Mite Mission Grant proposals for the next year. There were fifteen mission projects listed and we voted for our top four. The top four choices and the approval for the district mite budget to remain the same as this year: \$105,000.00, were all going to be given to Sara Wendling, our zone president. After all ballots are received from all societies in our district, the winners will be announced at the District Convention. Chris announced the visit from the Comfort Dog was a great success at both St. Paul's and Grace churches last month. Karen Kull added the VBS project this year will also be to help support this Comfort Dog mission.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the changes to the Ladies Aid Constitution when merging with the Grace Ladies Aid. All changes were proposed and voted on and will be presented to the Grace Ladies Aid to discuss and vote on as well. More information will follow upon approval.

In other business it was moved and seconded to give a donation to the Pregnancy Center in Shelbyville for their annual fundraiser and give a donation to Trinity Lutheran School in Stewardson for their annual Dinner and Auction Fundraising Event in May.

The members were reminded of the upcoming Holy Week services coming soon!

Neva was thanked for the beautiful March altar flowers. Connie was thanked for being our April hostess and providing us with beautiful spring decorations and delicious refreshments. Sharon will provide the flowers for the altar in April and our May hostess is Charlene.

We closed the meeting with the Doxology, the Lord's Prayer and the Table Prayer. There were no April birthdays to acknowledge, but Bob and Yvonne were recognized for their 61st wedding anniversary on April 2nd.

Kay Dust, secretary



- 2 - Troy Salazar
- 3 - Claire Logue
- 4 - Jocelyn Schultz
- 5 - Angela & Jason Edwards (21)
- 6 - Rick* Vonderheide; Jacob Schultz;
Gene Lankow
- 10- Gerry Schlechte; Carolyn Boldt;
Lorelei McCormick
- 11- Brenton Pieper; Cody* Bushue
- 13- Brendon Bowers; Daniel Vogel;
Casen Logue; Lennon Booher;
Kalei* Rincker
- 14- Carol Salazar; Gaylor Stremming;
Laura Dollarhide
- 15- Amanda Doehring; Ron Sporleder;
Gabe* & Marcaill Allen (1)
- 16- Brandon Doehring; Alex Allen;
Liam Booher
- 17- Kayla Duncan; Jessica Bloemer
- 18- Adrienne & Cody* Bushue (3)
- 19- Jonathan & Abby* Luce (4);
Jesse* Wallin
- 20- Allison Vonderheide
- 22- Dianna Gibson; Lois Ogle
- 25- Wilma Spannagel; Josh Tabbert
- 26- Jonathon Schultz;
Brandon & Shelby Beltz (4)
- 27- Travis Pieper; Darrell & Molly Gilbert (33)
- 28- Steve & Sharon Weber (34)
- 29- Debbie* Stremming
- 30- Sharon Stremming;
Stephanie & Jared* Petri (13);
Maxine Ruff; Harper* Hoene
- 31 Jonathon Luce; Rachel Wallin;
Ellie Wittenberg;
Chris & Jennifer Ashmore(14)



Shoe Box Project The collection items for the shoe boxes for the month of May are clothing from size 2 to 16. This includes new shirts, pants, skirts and jackets. Thank you for caring!



Pastor Whybrew: chebrev@yahoo.com
Church: stpaulcms@consolidated.net
Website: stpaul-strasburg.com
YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Strasburg Illinois
Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church

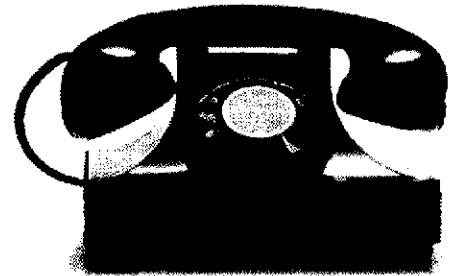
Articles for Newsletter & Guide

Information for the Guide needs to be in the office by 8:00AM on **Wednesday morning**. Articles for the Newsletter should be in the office by the **15th** of the month.



Weekday School Kids Schedule

Wed. May 4 6:30-7:30 PM
WDS School Picnic



PAUSE FOR PEACE

As your day draws to a close, spend a few moments with God, reflecting on His love and care for you throughout the day. Just dial 644-3124 to hear His message.

YOUTH GROUP News

LYF would like thank everyone that supported our Pancake & Sausage breakfast! Thanks to your generous support, we served around 140 people and made \$1200. We enjoyed serving you and appreciate your support of our activities.

LYF The LYF will go bowling for their last meeting of the school year on Wednesday, May 4. Youth should meet at Trinity at 6:30 p.m. to carpool to Effingham. Officer elections will also be held.



Music Notes

- Tue. May 3 – Choir Rehearsal
- Sun. May 8- **Choir Sings**
"Beside Still Waters" arr. Carl E. Wacker
- Tue. May 17- Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.
- Tue. May 31- Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.
- Sun. June 5- Choir Sings**
"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"
Carl P. Daw Jr/Richard Jeffrey (Pentecost)



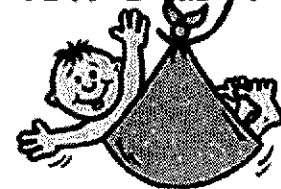
We are going to start back our Sunday morning greeters. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex if you wish to be added back into the rotation, or you can call the church office at 217-644-2661.

Thank You!

Thank you We Want to thank the Ladies Aid and the Cradle Roll both for their very generous gifts to us during Veronica's birth and hospital stays in St. Louis. Thanks also to the many wonderful St. Paul's people who have been praying for us and our baby. We appreciate all of your help and support. Noah Prosser & Rebekah Manzella

Thank you To everyone who helped in any way to make the Easter breakfast a nice event. The food was delicious and the decorations were very festive and beautiful. Thanks also for the donations to the shoe box project of \$172.

Congratulations on Your New Baby!



Brooks Harrison White, son of Zachary and Kelsey (Weber) White was born April 14, 2022. He weighed 8 lbs 1oz and was 20 1/2 in. long. Grandparents are Steve & Sharon Weber, Cindi & Eric Higgins and BJ & Mecca White. God's blessings to Brooks and his parents.

Church Cleanup

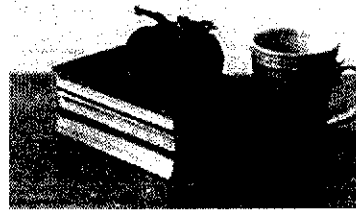


Storage rooms and classrooms are being cleaned out and there are many items on tables in the school gym for people to look over and take if you want. Items include maps, science and social studies charts, card catalogs, trophies, posters, red and blue hymnals, Bible story filmstrips, Christmas candles, 150th Anniversary t-shirts and fans, St. Paul's cookbooks, and much more! These items are available to take from now until Sunday, May 1.



Camp CILCA scholarships for St. Paul's youth St. Paul's BOE is offering to pay for 1/2 the cost of any 2022 Camp CILCA

summer camp for any youth member of our congregation. Camp CILCA (Central Illinois Lutheran Camp Association) is operated under the Central Illinois District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The camp sits on 225 acres of woodland and open fields just north of Springfield, Ill. Various 1, 2, 3 or 5-night camps are available. A copy of the full schedule is available in the youth Sunday School classrooms as well as on www.cilca.org. If you are interested in this opportunity or have questions, please contact Karen Kull at 217-549-3141. All camp registration is to be submitted online, however, if you have any difficulty, contact the CILCA office for assistance. Phone 217.487.7497. WWW.CILCA.ORG



Donated Books Available to Members

The Cradle Roll committee has donated over twenty books which are shelved in the bell tower library. The books are sorted and shelved by the categories FAMILY, MARRIAGE, PARENTING, and TRIALS. Members are encouraged to borrow any of the books and return them when finished. A printed list of the titles and description is available in the library.



Registration is now open for St. Paul's and Grace Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School. VBS will be held at St. Paul's Church June 20-24, from 9-11:30 a.m. The theme is "God's Wonder Lab-Jesus Does the Impossible." An Adult class following the VBS theme will be taught by Pastor Whybrew and Virginia Vogel. Registration forms are available in the narthex, in the church office, and on St. Paul's FB page. Please register by May 30.

Please invite and encourage your children, grandchildren and neighborhood children to attend. If you are available to help that week, please contact the VBS committee (Karen Kull, Dee Dee, Susie Allen, and Cindy Roley) or call St. Paul's Church office at 217.644.2661. Junior High and High School students are especially welcome to help.



In April, St. Paul's sent a gift of \$1,300 to 4th year Seminarian Alex Goodwin. Call Day is set for Tuesday, April 26, at which time Alex will receive his first congregational call. Commencement is Friday, May 20. Alex, wife Esther and son Malachi would enjoy receiving cards and notes from our members. Thank you for your continued support of future pastors and teachers.

**Alexander Goodwin
14 C Founders Way
Clayton, MO 63105**

CRADLE ROLL MINISTRY

Some children are particularly sensitive, rambunctious or strong-willed. Other children have been diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder or sensory processing disorder. Many of these children have outsized reactions to ordinary, everyday experiences such as the ticking of a clock, fluorescent lights or socks with seams. Sometimes they talk too loudly, hug other children too tightly or seem not to have any interest in interacting with people at all. They might insist on talking about only one subject. Much as we try to minimize their distress, we cannot create a world that is comfortable for them. However, all kids want to connect, be understood, have a say in what they do and how they do it. The challenge in working with differently wired kids is to figure out how to achieve these goals without getting mired in frustration or blaming our kids when they are different.

From your parenting tool box a tool to use is to **join them in their world**. When your child seems to be in her own world, uninterested in relating to you or anyone else, try getting down with her on her level. Ask what she is playing. Tell her you want to play, too. Ask permission to do so. Suggest activities that extend or enhance learning as you play together.

Another tool to use is to **take time to imagine what your child is experiencing**. When a child is being difficult, our impulse is to focus on what we want him to do, not what he is feeling. It is hard to figure out what those feelings are. Kids on the autism spectrum can be insistent on routines and sameness in a way that baffles us. Try to help him handle frustration and become more resilient by accepting his feelings. Make a list of substitutions to use to help with different thoughts, sensations, emotions, etc.

Another tool to use is to **put into words what kids want to say**. They're brain-to-mouth connection hasn't matured. Their tongues and lips aren't yet coordinated. They do not have the vocabulary to express themselves. It can be tempting to ignore what they trying to say or act like we don't understand. Putting children's feeling and desires into words is helpful even when we can't give them what they want. When kids feel understood they also feel more calm, connected and able to tolerate frustration. Patiently repeat the words you understand, and have the child repeat what he is trying to say. Write down everything you hear him say, and read it back to him. Encourage him to repeat it.

Taken from How To Talk So Little Kids Will Listen by Joanna Faber and Julie King, pp. 163-182.

The Tree of Life: God's Promise of Salvation



Coming Soon:

The Tree of Life Congregational Study

Beginning Sunday, June 5, St. Paul's will begin The Tree of Life: God's Promise of Salvation, a special ten-week congregational study. The Tree of Life will include a ten-week sermon series, Youth and Children's Sunday School lessons, and adult Bible class lessons.

The Tree of Life examines God's plan of salvation as it unfolds through the Old Testament and is fulfilled in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The first five weeks will focus on the Old Testament, while the last five weeks will feature lessons in the New Testament. We will begin with creation and the fall into sin, which brought all the evils we experience into this world. Then we will look at the unfolding of God's promise to send His Son with lessons on Abraham, Moses, King David, and Daniel.

Then, in the second half of The Tree of Life, we will focus on Jesus' coming as our Savior. We will look at His birth, Baptism, ministry, crucifixion, resurrection, and His promise to return on the Last Day to judge the living and the dead.

By the end of these ten weeks, you will be refreshed with the Bible's overarching theme and storyline, equipped with the tools for unlocking the full riches of each page of Holy Scripture. The Tree of Life 2022 curriculum comes from Concordia Publishing House.

All offerings from Sunday School classes during June and July will go towards designated charities each month - Rachel, LLC K-9 Comfort Dog in June and Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box ministry in July.

We invite all families to attend this ten-week study from June 5 to August 14 (Voters Meeting on July 24). Pastor Whybrew's sermons will follow the story theme each week during the 8:30 a.m. worship service. At 9:40 a.m. there will be a Sunday School class for adults/high school, a class for youth in grades 1-8 and a preschool class. Plan now to attend and be part of it.

The Tree of Life: God's Promise of Salvation

A 10-Week Congregational Study

Sundays, June 5 – August 14*

*VOTERS MEETING JULY 24

- Examine God's promise of salvation from Genesis to Revelation
- Sermons focus on the study theme each week
- All Sunday School classes study the same weekly Bible stories
- Providing Sunday School classes for:
 - High School/Adults in the Social Hall
 - Youth class for grades 1-8
 - Preschool class



CREATE FAMILY TIME

Attend Worship Service at 8:30 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:40 a.m.
together as a Family

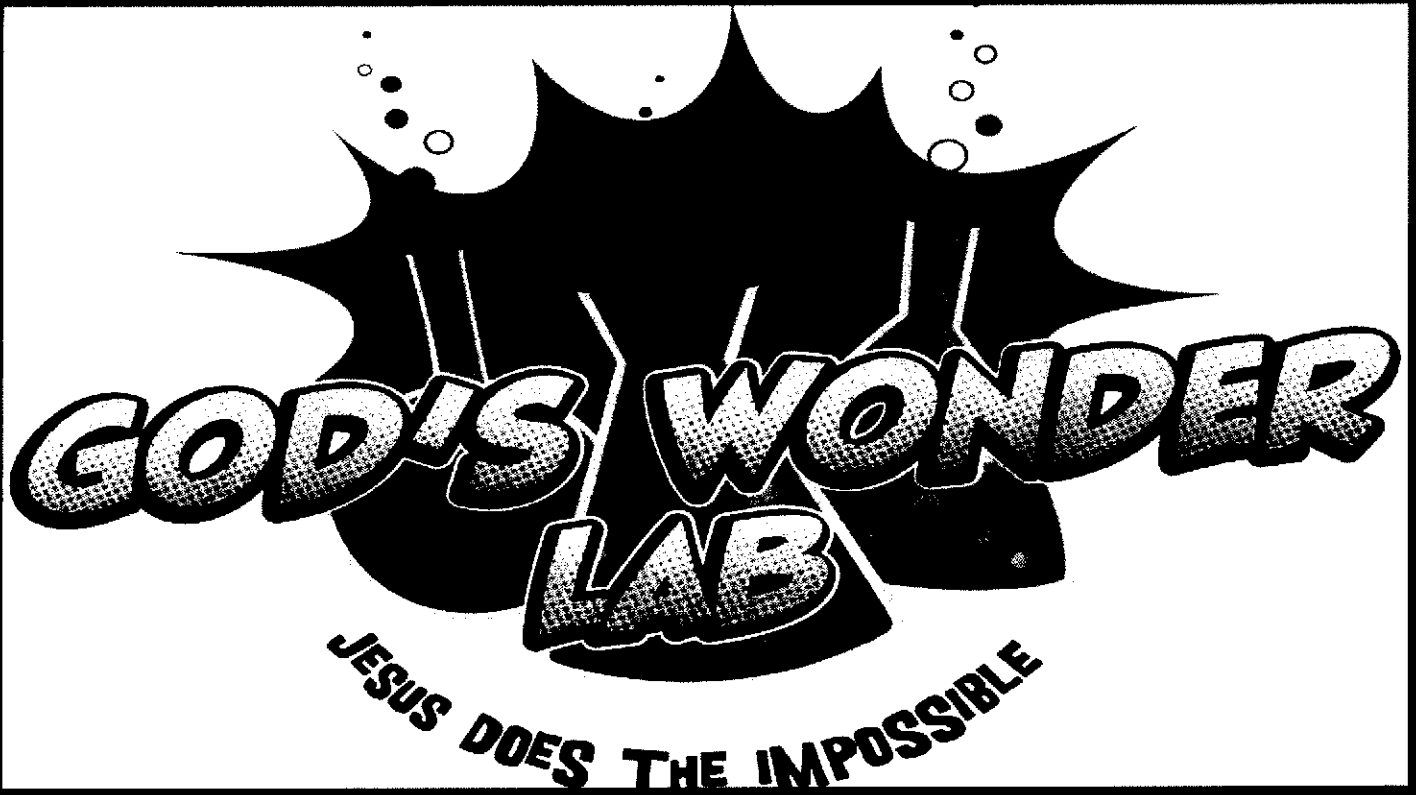
Study the same lessons each week

Have discussions about the lessons afterwards with your
spouse, children, or other members of St. Paul

WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERINGS FROM CHILDREN & ADULTS
WILL GO TO DESIGNATED CHARITIES IN JUNE & JULY

June: Rachel, Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog

July: Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box ministry



You are invited to Vacation Bible School

June 20-24, 2022

9-11:30 a.m.

Hosted by St. Paul's & Grace Lutheran Churches

Held at: St. Paul's Lutheran Church

511 S. Walnut St, Strasburg, IL

For ages 3 to those who will enter 7th grade in the fall

An adult class is also available. It will follow the lesson theme of God's Wonder Lab.

Adult class led by Pastor Kene Whybrew & Virginia Vogel

Mission Project: Rachel, trained Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog

Please register by May 30

Learn about Jesus, our Savior

Meet New Friends

Make Crafts

Play Games

Do Fun Activities

Sing Great Songs

Eat Snacks

For Information or To Register:

- 1. Call the church 217.644.2661**
- 2. Email stpaulcms@consolidated.net**
- 3. Facebook—St. Paul's Lutheran Church Strasburg IL**

May 1, 2022

Dear St. Paul's Members,

The Church is excited to announce that you may now set up your Offerings for a recurring automatic withdrawal (ACH) from your bank account. There is no fee for setting up your ACH payment. You will be required to fill out an authorization form and submit it to the church office prior to the ACH being set up. We will have two options to choose from for withdrawals. You may choose monthly, and that will be deducted on the 20th of each month or Bi-weekly and that will be deducted on the 5th and the 20th of each month. There will also be three options to choose from for Offering funds. You may choose the three funds of your choice and the amounts you wish to contribute.

If you ever wish to change your Offering amount or designated fund to something different than your original option a new signed authorization form will need to be filled out.

It is the Church's intention to draw payment from the account you provided on the 5th and 20th or 20th of each month. However, the transaction is subject to banking hours, including weekends and holidays, and could fluctuate up to 2 or 3 business days. For example, your offering is due July 5th and the 5th falls on a Saturday, your offering would be processed on Friday.

If you are interested in setting up ACH payment, please complete the enclosed form and mail it to the church office 511 S Walnut, Strasburg, IL 62465 (attn. Sue) or deliver it to the office in a sealed envelope prior to June 30th. Your first ACH payment will occur on July 5th.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office at 217.644.2661.

Application and Contract for Bank Debits of Offerings

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Please print information

Member Name _____

Start Date _____

It is the Church's intention to draw payment from the account you provide on the date each month. However, the transaction is subject to banking hours, including weekends and holidays, and could fluctuate up to 2 to 3 business days. For example, your offering is due July 5th and the 5th falls on a Saturday, your offering would be processed on Friday.

Account Number **(Office will complete)** _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION INFORMATION

Name of Financial Institution _____

Financial Institution Address _____

Street Address

City, State, Zip Code

Type of Account _____ Checking _____ Savings

ABA Routing Number _____

Account Number _____

Offering Fund & amount \$ _____ General \$ _____ Building \$ _____ Synod \$ _____ Other
(only choose up to 3)

Monthly on the 20th of each month _____

Bi-Weekly 5th & 20th of each month _____

- I hereby authorize St. Paul's Lutheran Church to initiate monthly/bi-weekly charges to my bank Account, which is identified above.
- I also authorize the listed financial institution to make the monthly/bi-weekly requested payment in accordance with this ACH plan.
- This authorization will remain in effect until the Church has received a completed **TERMINATION** of Contract For Bank Debits of Offerings, from the authorized parties to terminate this payment arrangement, and until the Church has a reasonable opportunity to act on that notification.
- I agree that I am obligated to the Church for Offering service and insufficient fund charges, in the event that a charge to my bank account is dishonored, for whatever reason, and that the Church retains its normal collection Rights.

Member Signature _____

Date _____

**Return completed form to St. Paul's Church, 511 S Walnut, Strasburg IL 62465
Or deliver to the office in a sealed envelope**