

THE MESSENGER

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
511 S. Walnut
Strasburg, Illinois 62465
(217) 644-2661
stpaulsstrasburg@gmail.com



MAY 2025

Dear Friends in Christ:

This month we are going to continue looking at how "the entire teaching about God's purpose, counsel, will, and ordination belongs to our redemption, call, justification, and salvation." (Concordia, the Lutheran Confession Pg 605) This is how it is best that Christians deal with the doctrine of election that we have been studying these last five months. Which is why in point six that we will be looking at this month the authors go to great lengths to emphasize the Lord's loving work for those that are His. They convey that message here in point six, *"He also will protect them in their great weakness against the devil, the world, and the flesh. He will rule and lead them in His ways [Deuteronomy 8:6], raise them again when they stumble [Proverbs 4:11-12], comfort them under the cross and in temptation [2 Corinthians 1:3-5], and preserve them for life eternal [John 12:25]."*

The challenge with any writing is to be sure that you have concisely written your message so that it will stand up to the test of time. Which is why the Book of Concord, the beliefs of confessional Lutherans, has stood the test of time, over these almost 450 years. You really cannot go wrong when you have such great source material, such as the Bible for the foundational teachings of your Church.

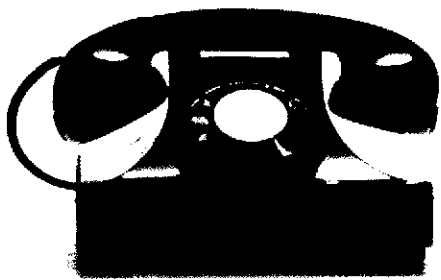
Look at some of the key words from point six, protect, rule, lead, raise, comfort, and preserve. All of those things that the Lord does is not because we deserve it, or have bargained for them, or for any other reason than that we are His people through the shed blood of Jesus. Everything that happens in our lives, from our own sin to when we are sinned against, is caused by, as they have been dubbed the unholy Trinity, the devil, the world, and our flesh! Which, I know we have to leave room for God's action also, but that is the point of point six, since we are God's people then everything that point six states is God's activity in the lives of His people.

So, we come to the prime question that we dealt with months ago, "how do I know that I am one of the elect?" This is where we have to give thanks to the Lord for the clarity of His word. First, how many people does the Lord want to die apart from Him? Paul writing to Timothy says the answer shouldn't be a shock to us, for he writes in 1 Timothy 2:4 that the Lord is the one "...who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." (ESV) If this is His desire then He must have put into place the means by which we are to be saved. It's almost too good to be true, but it is true. God did have a plan for salvation for all, and it's the same plan then as it is for now. This is how Paul describes it in 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, ³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures..." (ESV) How do we know that we are the elect of God? Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ!!! He is our certainty, our hope, our protection, and our strength.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 - Troy Salazar
- 3 - Claire Logue; Caroline Polk
- 4 - Jocelyn Schultz
- 5 - Angela & Jason Edwards (24)
- 6 - Rick* Vonderheide; Jacob Schultz;
Maxwell Bowers
- 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; Gaylord Stremming;
Laura Dollarhide
- 15- Amanda Doehring; Ron Sporleder;
Gabe* & Marcaill Allen (4)
- 16- Brandon Doehring; Alex Allen;
Liam Booher
- 17- Kayla Duncan; Jessica Bloemer
- 18- Adrienne & Cody* Bushue (6)
- 19- Jonathan & Abby* Luce (7);
Jesse* Wallin
- 20- Allison Vonderheide
- 22- Dianna Gibson; Lois Ogle
- 25- Josh Tabbert
- 26- Jonathon Schultz;
Brandon & Shelby Beltz (7)
- 27- Travis Pieper; Darrell & Molly Gilbert (36)
- 28- Steve & Sharon Weber (37)
- 29- Debbie* Stremming
- 30- Sharon Stremming;
Stephanie & Jared* Petri (16);
Maxine Ruff; Harper* Hoene
- 31 Jonathon Luce; Rachel Wallin;
Ellie Wittenberg;
Chris & Jennifer Ashmore(17)



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.



Pastor Whybrew: chebrev@yahoo.com
Church: stpaulsstrasburg@gmail.com
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 7 6:00-7:00 PM WDS Picnic



Invitation to Attend WDS picnic There will be a Weekday School picnic on Wed., May 7, from 6:00-7 p.m., to celebrate the end of the 2024-25 school year for the children attending St. Paul's Wednesday evening Christian education classes in grades 1-6, and also the confirmation students in grades 7 and 8. St. Paul's Education team would like to invite the parents, grandparents, family and members of Grace and St. Paul's to attend the picnic May 7.



Tue. May 13- Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm
Sun. May 18- Choir Sings
Tue. May 27- Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm
Sun. June 1- Choir Sings

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

*Confirmation Sunday was April 27, 2025
Those being confirmed are:*

Lorelei McCormick,
daughter of Heath & Autumn McCormick
Bryce Rincker,
son of Mike & Laurie Rincker
Noah Vonderheide,
son of Bryan & Allison Vonderheide

The Oral Exam, public profession of faith prepared for by
long and careful instruction, was at 5:00 p.m. on
Saturday, **April 26th.**



May Greeters

May 4- Dean Schultz
May 11- Patsy Lenz
May 18- Barb Ohnesorge
May 25- Gary Wirth

June Greeters

June 1- Zach Shelton
June 8- Autumn & Heath McCormick
June 15- Josh Layton
June 22- Dwight Lading
June 29- Gary & Karen Kull

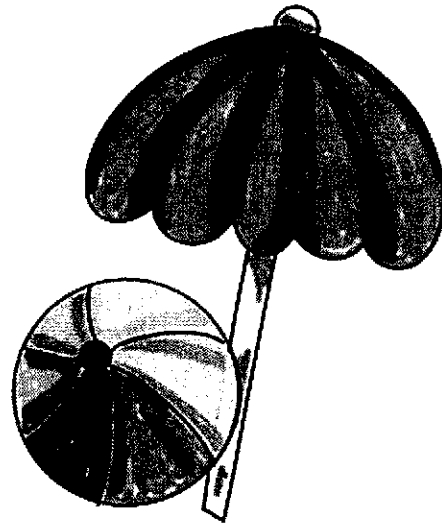
***** If you would like to be a greeter, please
contact the church office 217.644.2661.**

Thanks

Thank you I would like to thank the Lutheran Ladies Aid for the card and gift. It is very much appreciated. Dwight Lading

Thank You to the Elders and their families for serving Easter breakfast! A special thank you to Autumn, Lori, and Laurie. We also thank Olivia Telgmann for the awesome backdrop and balloon display in the Narthex. Olivia has a small business named O-ver the Top Events that serves clients for parties and other events. Thank you Olivia for the beautiful display.

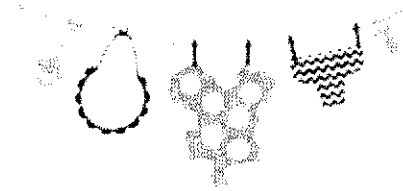
Thank you Thank you to all of the ladies of the Cradle Roll for the meals, book, and stocking cap. It was very generous of you and was very appreciated as we navigate life with a newborn. Cole, Megan, & Aslynn Hartke





Baptism

Baptism Tate William Rincker was baptized Saturday, March 29, 2025. Tate is the son of Zachary and Stacey Rincker. His sponsors are Josh Lorenz, Grace Rincker and Maddie Rincker. Grandparents are Doug & Marla Rincker and Jerry & Kim Lorenz. God's blessings to Tate and his family



Dear friends in Christ,
A blessed Easter season to you! Thank you so much for your continued financial support and prayers. They are such a blessing to Naomi and myself.

My classes at the seminary are going well and Naomi is continuing to enjoy her work as a teacher's aide at Ascension Lutheran School in Ft. Wayne. This Lent I had the opportunity to preach for all the midweek services at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Hartford City, Indiana. It was a great joy to do so and I grew much in my sermon preparation and delivery through that opportunity.

On April 28th I will receive my vicarage assignment and we will begin to start planning for our year on vicarage. I will keep you updated in the next newsletter, but continue to keep us in your prayers as we start planning for this next step in my formation as a pastor. Again, thank you for all of your support!

Yours in Christ,
Hunter Kinnison

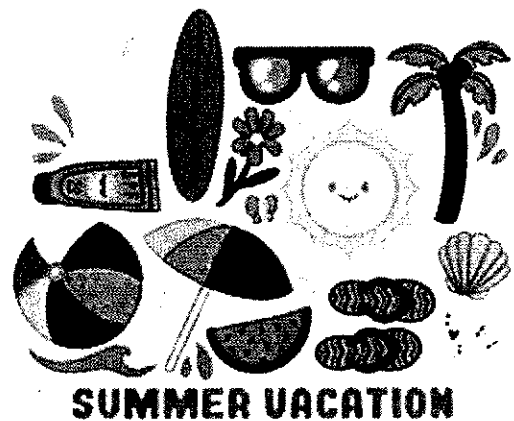
Congratulations Congratulations to Gabe and Marcaill Allen on the birth of their son, Augustus James, born March 30, 2025. Grandparents are Jim & Leslie Allen and Jack & Pam Clark. God's blessings to Augustus and his family.

Congratulations Congratulations to Nick and Brittani Oller on the birth of their daughter, Hazel Jean Oller. Hazel was born on Sunday, April 13, 2025. She weighed 8lbs and was 20 1/2 inches long. Grandparents are Chris & Karla Tabbert, Pam Tomaszewski and Tim Oller. God's Blessings to Hazel and her family.

***St. Paul's Adopted Seminary students Micah Brown and Hunter Kinnison both received \$1000 from seminary student donations in March. Thank you for your generous donations and prayers for our students.

On April 30, Michah will receive a pastoral call assignment at a service at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. On April 28, Hunter will receive a Vicarage Internship Assignment at a service at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. We pray God's blessings upon these assignments.

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The Lutheran Ladies of Strasburg meeting report for April 2025

The April 3rd meeting of the Lutheran Ladies of Strasburg was called to order by President Muriel Merriman at Grace Lutheran Church, Strasburg, IL. Eighteen members were present. Pastor Whybrew opened with devotions from our memory verse for today Proverbs 3:5. Muriel thank the hostesses Leigha Moffett and Neva Hagen for serving and for the beautiful spring decorations.

Roll call and reading of the minutes was completed by Secretary Tammy Sentel. Treasurer's report and collection of dues and Mites were conducted by Treasurer Charlene Telgmann. Cindy Roley guided the group in a Mites devotion "Little gifts of love".

The pocket quilt committee reported on the completion of 47 pocket quilts. The pocket quilts will be inserted into April's cards the group will be sending out to shut-ins at both congregations. Lori Pieper and Judy Wittenberg gave an update on the bookmarks being made for this year's Confirmands.

The May 6th Joy Shop at St John's Dietrich, IL was discussed. Several members signed up to attend. The ingathering project for the Joy shop will be the food pantry at St Paul's Lutheran Church at Effingham, IL. A list of items was passed around and will be posted at both churches.

It was decided that the April monetary projects will be a gift card for the Trinity Lutheran School's spring fundraiser and a donation to LCMS Disaster Relief fund. The group made plans for the June 5th meeting. The group will meet at 10am for a brief meeting then car pool to Windsor Pub for lunch. The next meeting will be at **St Paul's** on May 1st at 130pm. Hostesses for May will be Charlene Telgmann and Connie Wirth. All ladies from the congregation are invited to attend.

The meeting closed with the Doxology, Lord's Prayer and Table prayer. The meeting concluded with the group enjoyed some delicious refreshments.

Secretary, Tammy Sentel



You are invited to Vacation Bible School

June 16-20, 2025

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

Adult class led by Pastor Kene Whybrew

Please register by June 2, 2025

***Learn about Jesus, Our Savior**

***Meet new Friends**

***Make Crafts**

***Play Games**

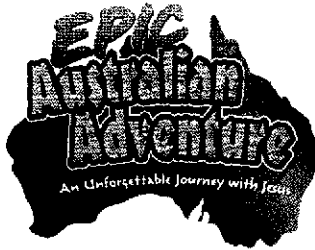
***Do fun Activities**

***Sing Great Songs**

***Eat Snacks**

For Information or to Register:

- 1. Call the church 217.644.2661**
- 2. Email stpaulsstrasburg@gmail.com**
- 3. Facebook-St. Paul's Lutheran
Church Strasburg IL**



ST. PAUL'S & GRACE DUAL PARISH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, 511 S. WALNUT, STRASBURG, IL 62465
JUNE 16-20, 2025 9:00 – 11:30 A.M.

#1 Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade entering Fall 25: _____

Allergies or Medical Condition: _____

#2 Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade entering Fall 25: _____

Allergies or Medical Condition: _____

#3 Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade entering Fall 25: _____

Allergies or Medical Condition: _____

May we use your child's (children's) picture (or video) for church purposes only? ☐ yes ☐ no

Parent(s): _____ Addr: _____ City: _____

Phone: (cell) _____ (work) _____ In case of emergency: _____

Check if interested in Adult VBS class _____ Name _____

Please return by June 1: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Office, 511 S. Walnut St., Strasburg, IL 62465

Questions: Contact St. Paul's at 217.644.2661 or Diane Jack 217.565.3434



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