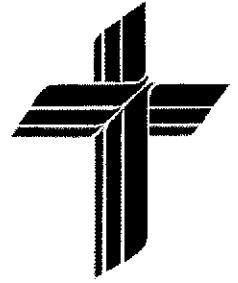


THE MESSENGER

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



September 2023

Dear Friends in Christ:

Proverbs 28:26 Whoever trusts in his own mind is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom will be delivered.

It goes without saying that God knows us really well. After all, He created us and knows everything about us and has seen our lives play out before we were even thought of. Let that sink in for a few moments. Solomon, the smartest guy in the room, as gifted by the Lord, as we are told in 1 Kings 4: "29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore..." wrote this Proverb to put even His own life in perspective. Sadly, Solomon does not take his own God given advice and allows his foreign born, pagan wives to lead him astray. In other words, he trusted in his own mind, rather than walking in the wisdom of God. For "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight." (Proverbs 9:10) Again Solomon's own writing of this Proverb goes against how he is living his day-to-day life. However, which one of us can cast dispersion on Solomon? What I mean is, who among us as members of Christ's Church, are not guilty of doing the exact same thing that Solomon did, and we aren't even the smartest people in the room. Okay, speaking for myself only maybe! The point is that we don't have to be Solomon to know what the wisdom of God is for us, because that for us is to know and believe in His Son Jesus Christ. We know this because He has given us the Holy Spirit that we may now walk in the faith that He has given to us to believe all that He has proclaimed through His Word. We all as believers know that our minds are a mess, drama, suffering, pain, trials, expectations, and the list goes on and that could be just one day. That's not even including all the other things that we have going on around us that add to the anxiety of our days. Even as all of this is all true, as it has been for every generation from the fall, the end result for a believer is that God has got it under control. We are not to be foolish, thinking that if we only had control of the wheel, reins, yolk or whatever that we would be better off. The only way that we have a good conclusion in any scenario is through the cross of Jesus Christ, true God, and true Man, given for us. Which is why we are to be wise and walk in Him.

SEPTEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 - Adam Hoene; Mark & Melissa Luce (33)
- 2 - Steve Weber; Austin Wittenberg; Jordan Wittenberg; Roger & Marilyn Kull(56); Brian & Lisa Shelton (22); Brad & Brea* Wirth (16)
- 4 - Ramona Radloff; Frances York
- 5 - Eli Dollarhide; Olivia Telgmann; Abigail Oller
- 6 - Charlene Telgmann
- 7 - Linda Oakley; Katie Thomas
- 8 - Darrell & Doris Cress(39)
- 9 - Claire McCormick; Kendra Hayes; Gerry & Dawn Schlechte(34)
Nathan* Luce
- 10 - Jacob Pfeiffer; Kendall Fulk
- 11 - Isabella Manhart; Will & Alexis * Tabbert (1)
- 12 - Ron Wirth
- 15 - Donna Pfeiffer
- 16 - Bradley Wirth; Kevin Wirth
- 17 - Jeremy Reel
- 18 - David Stremming
- 19 - Mitchell Esslinger; Harper Layton
- 20 - Mark Luce; Logan Wirth*; Isley Wallin
- 21 - Nicholas McCormick; Raina Teague; Paige Layton
- 22 - Rick & Susie Allen(44); Colton* & Alecia Booher (11)
- 23 - Mary Brehmer
- 24 - Robert Stremming; Derek Bloemer
- 25 - Kim Storm
- 26 - Autumn McCormick; Doug Stremming; Kevin* & Lori Mathis(25); Sheryl & Rick* Vonderheide(36);
- 27 - Karen Pfeiffer; Bryan Vonderheide
- 28 - Crosby Ashmore
- 29 - William C. Orr; Laurie Rincker; Camden Layton; Amelia Ohnesorge
- 30- Hudson Bloemer



LOCAL LINKS

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.



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 217.644.3124 to hear His message

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SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

Greeters-

- Sept. 3- Brandon & Shelby Beltz
- Sept. 10- Jim & Phylliss Weiss
- Sept. 17- Bob & Yvonne Pfeiffer
- Sept. 24- Mark & Melissa Luce

OCTOBER SCHEDULE

Greeters-

- Oct. 1- John & Judy Wittenberg
- Oct. 8- Bob & Ronda Schlechte
- Oct. 15- Gerry & Dawn Schlechte
- Oct. 22- Otto & Lisa Rincker
- Oct. 29- Noah Prosser

Fall 2023

Fall is coming and that means it is time to round-up choir members to start a new season! Our congregation has a long legacy of dedicated choir members who brought spouses, siblings, children and friends to learn how to sing 4-part harmony. Our current members will help new choir members as we work on anthems for our church services. We are ready to help a new generation get started on their journey of singing God's praises!

Our first rehearsal of the Fall season will be Tuesday, September 5 at 7:00 pm in the choir section of the church. In October we will begin rehearsal for the 60th annual combined choirs Christmas Cantata which will be here at St. Paul on Sunday December 10, 2023.

Consider this your special invitation! Just come to any rehearsal and see how welcome you will be!

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Tue. Sept. 5-Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
Tue. Sept. 12- Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
Sun. Sept. 17- Choir Sings

Tue. Oct. 3-Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
Tue. Oct. 10-Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
Sun. Oct. 15- Choir Sings
Tue. Oct. 24-Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
Sun. Oct. 29-Choir Sings



Our Sympathy Please keep the family of Marlene Wirth in your thoughts and prayers. Marlene passed away Thursday, July 6, 2023. Funeral services were held at 10:00 AM Thursday, July 13, 2023 in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Strasburg, IL with Rev. Kene Whybrew officiating. Burial was in St. Paul's Cemetery, Strasburg, IL.

Our Sympathy Please keep the family of Bradley Frieze in your thoughts and prayers. Bradley passed away on Sunday, July 30, 2023. Funeral services were held at 10:00 AM Saturday, August 5, 2023 in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Strasburg, IL with Rev. Kene Whybrew officiating. Burial was in St. Paul's Cemetery, Strasburg, IL.



Addresses needed for students leaving for college

If you have a child who will be living away from home at college, please send their mailing address, email and phone number to the church secretary by August 18. Drop it by the church office or email the office at stpaullems@consolidated.net.



Thank you Thank you to everyone for the prayers, cards, calls and texts during Marlene's battle with cancer. They were all greatly appreciated. Thanks to Pastor Whybrew for his prayers and visits. We also want to thank everyone who helped in anyway with the funeral and luncheon. The Gary Wirth Family

Thank you We want to thank your church congregation for supporting the Family Life Center by participating in our Baby Bottle Campaign. Because of your generosity, we raised over \$108,000 for our three centers! Your church congregation's contribution in 2023 for our Baby Bottle Campaign is \$854.13.

Thank you A big Thank You to the Cradle Roll for the gift cards. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. Brittany, Rusty, Callie & Kimber Clifton

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Blessings to Emily Funneman and Elizabeth Funneman who were confirmed in the faith of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod on Sunday August 6, 2023. We welcome them as communicant members of St. Paul's.

Weekday School is a Christian Education program for students in grades 1-8. It meets on Wednesday evenings at St. Paul's. Curriculum includes learning the Lord's Prayer, Books of the Bible, The Ten Commandments, Bible passages, The Apostles Creed, and stories from the Bible. The 7th and 8th grade students will meet with Pastor Whybrew to prepare for confirmation.

St. Paul's Weekday School for 2023-24 will begin Wednesday, August 23. Registration for children in grades 1-8 will be from 6-6:30 p.m. and Weekday School classes will meet from 6:30-7:30 p.m. If you have questions, please contact the church at 217.644.2661.

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New School Year

As we begin the 2023-24 school year, we pray blessings upon and give thanks for all our teachers and helpers in Sunday School and Weekday School. They are:

SS Pre-K, Autumn McCormick

SS 1-3, Lisa Shelton, Dawn Schlechte (sub)

SS 4-8, Dee Dee Batson, Laurie Rincker (sub)

SS HS, Doreen Whybrew, Sara Hayes, Johnna Schultz, Sarah Luce, Susan Hanfland (sub)

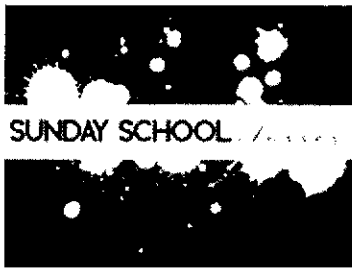
SS Adult, Heath McCormick, Gary Kull, Patsy Lenz

WDS 1-2, Courtney Orman, Jennifer Stodden (classroom assistant)

WDS 3-4, Susie Allen, Roger Kull (sub)

WDS 5-6, Dee Dee Batson, Roger Kull (sub)

Confirmation 7-8, Pastor Whybrew



Sunday School News

Thank you to Heath McCormick and Gary Kull for teaching the adult/high school summer Sunday School series – God’s Living Water. The lessons were very interesting. New freshman and all high school students are invited to join the high school Sunday School class in Room 4 beginning Sunday, August 6. Come and enjoy some special treats that day. The three adult Sunday classes will start meeting separately again on August 6. The class with Heath McCormick will meet at the north end of the social hall, Patsy Lenz will meet in the social hall and Gary Kull will meet in the bell tower area. We invite you to join one of these classes. Children moving to new Sunday School classrooms will do so on August 13. Children going into 1st grade this fall will move to Rm 2 with Lisa Shelton who will teach grades 1-3. Children going into 4th grade will move to Rm 3 with Dee Dee Batson who will teach grades 4-8.

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Join us for our first LYF meeting on Wednesday, September 13 at Grace, 7:30 p.m. All high school students are welcome to attend! We look forward to getting together for fellowship, snacks, games, and officer elections.

LFY members attended the Higher Things conference in Carbondale the week of July 17th. They had the opportunity to worship with over 1100 attendees, listen to breakaway speakers, and explore SIU’s campus during free time. This year’s theme: Beyond Reasonable Doubt explored our faith and how to prove it. We thank you for your continued support that made this trip possible! (enclosed is a picture of some of the youth who attended)

Bible Trivia Night

Put on your thinking caps and join us for an evening of fun playing Roger Kull’s famous Bible Trivia Game. Our first Game Night of the year will be at 6:30 on Sunday, September 10. From then on we will count on having this once a month. Everyone is welcome. Kids can play, too.

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Seminary Student News St. Paul’s adopted seminary students for 2023-24 school year will be Joshua Gerken and Hunter Kinnison. Joshua was our adopted student last year and is a 2nd year student at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. Hunter will be a 1st year student at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne this fall where he will begin classes on September 5. His hometown is Dieterich, IL, where he is a member of St. John Lutheran Church. Thank you all for your support of our seminary students!



Lutheran Ladies Aid of Strasburg – August 3, 2023 Minutes

The Lutheran Ladies Aid of Strasburg met in St. Paul's Church Social Hall on August 3rd, 2023 at 1:30pm. Our President, Linda Doehring, gave the devotions today, due to our Pastor being at the Synod Convention. She gave a thoughtful devotion on praying and how to remember who to pray for using our five fingers to represent our thoughts. Linda concluded with prayer. Muriel Merriman and Leigha Moffett were our hostesses for the day.

Linda Doehring called the meeting to order by welcoming 12 members to roll call. Kay Dust read the July minutes and they were approved. Eleven cards were sent to church family and friends in July by Muriel. Caralea Smith sent four cards to Grace Church members. Charlene read the treasurer's reports and they were approved. Linda read correspondence from many. Thank yous were read from the Wirth and Polk families and the Seminary Military Project we supported last month. A Thank you note was also read from Floyd and Chris Storm for the cards sent to them. Our project for the month is to send a donation to Stewardson-Strasburg School District to help with hygiene items, Blessings in a Backpack food supplies or school supply needs. Kay will check with the Elementary principal at S-S to see what would best help their needs. Linda also shared the Family Life Center newsletter and discussed the Dinner to be held at the Keller Convention Center on Sept. 14th.

Linda attended the Zone Officers Meeting on July 25th to discuss the revised CID By-laws. Our President Linda asked for volunteers for the new Auditing Committee. Leigha and Kay will serve on that committee in December. The nominating committee for our Aid will be Judy Wittenberg and Cinda Held to bring a slate of officer candidates to our December meeting. The LWML banner made by the Ladies of Sigel will be hung at Grace on August 20th and St. Paul's on August 27th. The joint Fall Rally will be held on Sept. 20th, 2023 at Faith, Shumway. There will be an 8:15 am registration time and meeting starts at 9:00. The In-Gathering donation will be a monetary donation or food items for the St. John's Food Pantry in Effingham. There will be a \$15.00 registration fee. There is an LWML CID Fall Retreat at Camp Cilca on Oct. 6-7th with a 5:00 pm starting time. The Joy Shop for 2024 will be held in April at St. Paul's-Wheeler. The Officer's Training will be held in Strasburg in July of 2024.

Linda thanked Tammy Sentel and Sharon Rincker for the July church flowers. Muriel and Marianna Moffett will place the August church altar flowers. Muriel and Leigha were thanked for the August meeting décor and refreshments! Our September hostesses will be Judy and Vivian Granat. We had a surprise Grandbaby Boy shower for Pastor and Doreen, only they were not in attendance due to being at the Synod Convention in WI—so a surprise table awaited them on their return! ☺ The meeting was closed with the Doxology, the Lord's Prayer, and Table Prayer. We wished Karen and Gary Kull, Linda and Don Doehring, Judy and John Wittenberg and Chris and Floyd Storm August Happy Anniversary greetings! **REMINDER- our September meeting is at Grace Church Social Hall on Sept. 7th, 2023! All ladies are Welcome!!**

Our Bible verse for the day: Man does not live on bread alone. But on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Matthew 4:44

Kay Dust, secretary

CRADLE ROLL

Whether they are called problems, challenges or issues, all parents have them. How can parents deal with them? We can go to the Lord in prayer and trust in Him to lead and guide us. We can persistently ask, seek and knock in prayer. Consider the words of John White in his book *Parents In Pain*:

We must go to God with our problems and wait in His presence. We are to express our concerns fully and to tell Him of our bewilderment. We are to tell Him, too, that we know He hears and that we cannot understand what is happening.

God ever mocks people who approach Him in this way. He is Patient and gentle, and He takes His time. Occasionally He may clarify matters quickly, but more often the process is slow. He wants to teach us about Himself. The very problems we bring to Him serve as the basis of a lesson, a lesson through which we will be changed, our view of Him will become larger and the goal we are to seek for our children will be made clearer.

So the next time the feeling of parental inadequacy grips you, or problems, challenges or issues confront you, pray. As the hymn says: Take it to the Lord in prayer. He will hear you.

Taken from *Pills from Parents in Pain* by Lee Ezell, 1992, pp. 169-170.

Sept. 2023

St. Paul's Weekday School Calendar 2023-24

AUGUST 2023

Wed., 23 6:00-6:30 p.m. Registration

Wed., 23 6:30-7:30 p.m. WDS

Wed., 30 6:30-7:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

Wed., 6 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 13 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 20 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 27 6:30-7:30 p.m.

OCTOBER

Wed., 4 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 11 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 18 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 25 6:30-7:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

Wed., 1 6:30-7:30 p.m. (Music 7:30-8) *

Wed., 8 6:30-7:30 p.m. (Music 7:30-8) *

Wed., 15 6:30-7:30 p.m. (Music 7:30-8) *

Tue., 21 6:30-7:30 p.m. (Music 7:30-8) *

No Class on Wed., Nov 22

Wed., 29 6:30 Advent Service, 7-8 p.m. Christmas
Eve Practice +

DECEMBER

Wed, 6 6:30 Advent Service, 7-8 p.m. Christmas
Eve Practice +

Wed., 13 6:30 Advent Service, 7-8 p.m. Christmas
Eve Practice +

Wed., 20 6:30-8 p.m. Christmas Eve Dress Rehearsal +

Sun., 24 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Program

JANUARY 2024

Wed., 3 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 10 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 17 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 24 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 31 6:30-7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

Wed., 7 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 14 6:30 Lent, 7-8 p.m. WDS

Wed., 21 6:30 Lent, 7-8 p.m. WDS

Wed., 28 6:30 Lent, 7-8 p.m. WDS

MARCH

Wed., 6 6:30 Lent, 7-8 p.m. WDS

Wed., 13 6:30 Lent, 7-8 p.m. WDS

Wed., 20 6:30 Lent, 7-8 p.m. WDS

Wed., 22 6:30 Lent, 7-8 p.m. WDS

Wed., 27 6:30-7-8 p.m.

APRIL

Wed., 3 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 10 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 17 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wed., 24 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Sun., 28 8:30 a.m. Confirmation (8th grade)

MAY

Wed., 1 6:30-7:30 p.m. WDS Picnic

* Music practice these weeks from 7:30-8 p.m. is for the St. Paul's Christmas Eve program

+ No WDS instruction Nov. 29 through December. There will be practice only these weeks for the Christmas Eve program.



16822 E 600th Ave.,
Dieterich IL 62424
hunter.kinnison@ctsfw.edu

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
c/o Karen Kull
511 S Walnut St.
Strasburg, IL 62465-1036

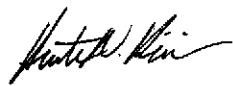
Dear saints at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Strasburg,
Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

I was notified today by Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne's Financial Aid Office that you have adopted me through the seminary's student adoption program, and I wanted to immediately take time to thank you for this gracious act. Thank you for your generosity towards me and I want you to know that I thank our Triune God, also, that He has worked through you and my other benefactors to provide for me my daily bread.

I move into the seminary on August 31st, and I begin my first year of my seminary education on September 5th. I am eager and excited to find out what my classes are, meet my professors, and learn how I can best serve Christ and His Church.

I will keep you in my prayers and thanksgivings during my time at the seminary and I look forward to continued communication with you. I hope that you will likewise keep me in your prayers that, if it be God's will, I, through my training at the seminary, might be raised up as a faithful undershepherd in Christ's Church to teach the faithful, seek the lost, and care for all.

Yours in our Lord Jesus Christ,

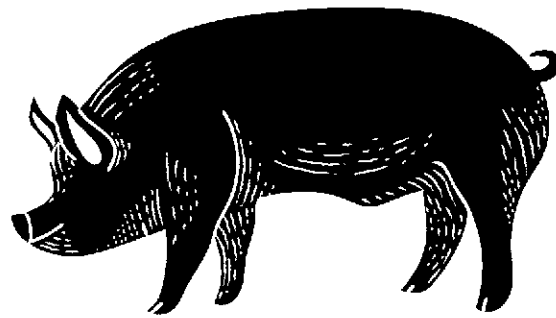


Hunter N. Kinnison
Wednesday, Trinity XIII, 2023 A.D.

Come And Pig Out

PLEASE JOIN US!
for the eighth annual
TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Hog Roast & Silent Auction



Menu includes pulled pork, rope sausage, potato salad, baked beans, coleslaw, applesauce, chips, bread, and Texas sheet cake.

Carryouts are available in the church basement.

Where: Trinity Lutheran School, Stewardson

When: Sunday, October 29, 2023

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Cost: Free Will Donation



Proceeds will go toward school restroom renovations and educational expenses.