



ST. Paul's  
Lutheran Church, School & Daycare

# News N' Notes

## What's Happening in St. Paul's

July 1, 2017

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

June was a busy month for St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School. We said "goodbye" to Sue Benedict as she retired as our long-time St. Paul's kindergarten teacher. We honored our St. Paul's School eighth grade graduates as they head off to high school. We were blessed with Missionary Shauen Trump's presentations on his work in Africa. We wished Jared Stiek a fond farewell as he headed off to Concordia University Chicago as Professor Jared Stiek. We were blessed as seven missionaries from St. Paul's headed down to help the flood victims of Louisiana put their homes and lives back together again. July and August will equally be busy for us:

**You are welcome to join us on Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. for an outdoor worship service in Palmer Park, 2501 Palmer Dr, Janesville, we are calling *Praise in the Park*.** If you know of someone who may not be comfortable with coming to a formal service in a church building, then you are more than welcome to invite them. The message, music, and fellowship will be especially designed for those who may or may not have a relationship with our Lord Jesus or His Church. A free lunch will be provided and games will follow. Please bring a lawn chair. The Thursday 6:30 p.m. and Saturday 6 p.m. services will be held at their regular times in the church sanctuary. In case of bad weather, the service will be held in the church sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. If you have any questions, contact John Mueller at 754-4471 or [jmueller@stpaulsjanesville.com](mailto:jmueller@stpaulsjanesville.com).

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# What's Happening in St. Paul's

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**Goodbye and Hello:** Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> is Vicar Ethan and Kim Spira's last day with us. Our incoming vicar, Marin Cerchez will be inducted at that service as well. Following the service a reception will be held in Fellowship Hall (the church basement) for the Spiras and the Cerchez family.

**Vacation Bible School:** Your children, grandchildren, and neighborhood children will love Vacation Bible School from July 31 – August 4, 8:30 – 11 a.m.! The theme is *Maker Fun Factory* and is open to children ages 3 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Register online at [www.stpaulsjanesville.com](http://www.stpaulsjanesville.com) or call 754-4471, ext. 306. If you have any questions, contact Kathy Pingel at [kpingel@stpaulsjanesville.com](mailto:kpingel@stpaulsjanesville.com) or 754-4471, ext. 306.

Again, may each of your days this summer be filled with the Cross-empowered and empty tomb-based love, forgiveness, and hope of our once dead but now living Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I hope to see you in church if not before.

God's Blessings!

Pastor Decker

See What all the BUZZ is about at Vacation Bible School!

Our Theme: Maker Fun Factory

July 31 to August 4, 2017

8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Janesville WI

Ages 3\*\* years through 8th Grade

*\*\*Young children must be potty trained to attend VBS*



Register online at [www.stpaulsjanesville.com](http://www.stpaulsjanesville.com)

Or call 608-754-4471 ext. 306



## Thank You from the Spiras

Thank you. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you St. Paul's. It has been a privilege being with you this last year. Vicarage is a year for growth and learning, and God has taught us many valuable lessons through the wonderful family we have here. You are some of the most giving and generous people either of us have ever met and we cannot thank you enough for everything. Time and time again the overflowing love of the Father was evident in and through you. We say with full confidence, St. Paul's has some of the best people in the world!

While it is sad to say goodbye, we approach July 16th joyfully, knowing that the love, prayers, and support that have been poured out on us will now pour out on Vicar Marin and his family. You will remain in our prayers, and we look forward to hearing all the ways that God continues to expand His Kingdom through you all. As our time at St. Paul's closes and we look towards the next chapter Jesus has for us, we go knowing that our family here is in good hands. His plans are greater than ours. Years from now, no matter how far we are from St. Paul's, Janesville will always hold a special place in our heart; so will all of you.

God's blessings and love,

Vicar Ethan & Kim Spira

## Official Acts

On May 21, 2017, the following were received into communicant membership: Levi Ames; Presley Belk; Grace Bolden; Samantha Jessie; Jaida Jones; Layla Kleeman; Benjamin Knuth; Joshua Knuth; Katherine Leach; Evan Lloyd; Makayla Maurer; Kianah Michaels; Karalynn Pingel; Claire Rusert; Tayelin Sihabouth; Kennedy Straight; Jayda Swopes; Lauryn Swopes; Savannah Swopes; Lorien Teval; Sydney Thompson; Ellen Toberman; Tyler Vincetich; Christopher Wier; Kadin Wojcik; and Kiel Wolff.

### Membership Changes:

*Members transferred to LCMS Congregations:*

05-22-17

Kathy Zakarias transferred to St. Michael Lutheran Church, Portage, Michigan.

## What's Happening in School Ministry

What a year! We have had an exciting year at St. Paul's, and now it has come to a close.

I think the best way to sum up the year would be by sharing a story. On the last day of school, while signing year-books, I asked a student if she would be returning next year as she had started the year here wanting to go to the public middle school. She told me she would be returning to St. Paul's in the fall because it is so much more than just school. She said it is friends and learning about Jesus, and that everyone here is her family now. She gets it. She

knows the importance of the work we do here.

I'm excitedly looking forward to the fall, so we can continue that work!

Rob Lunak



## What's Happening in Women's & Family Ministry

Women's Summer Bible Study began with "Sip, Savor, and Drink Deeply", a study with a coffee theme. Jesus is a friend who wants our company. He invites us to dig into Scripture and learn how we are a vessel created and chosen by God, redeemed in Christ, and ready to be filled for His purpose.

Date Night Out was held at the Italian House in May. Couples had an Italian dinner, fellowship with other Christian couples, and learned how we can strengthen our marriages with Christ in the center. Our final session of this series will be held at the end of June with a Date Night Cook Out.

Kathy Pingel

# Check Out the New LWML Website

The St Paul's Women in Mission (LWML) has a new web site! Please check there for meeting notices, ingathering updates, service opportunities, and general information.

Just go to the St Paul's website [www.stpaulsjanesville.com](http://www.stpaulsjanesville.com) and click on the "Church" tab. A blue strip will pop up with more choices. Choose "Women in Mission." Or you can type in the address directly: <http://www.stpaulsjanesville.com/church/lwml> To comment or give corrections/suggestions for the web page, please contact an LWML officer or e-mail [lwml@stpaulsjanesville.com](mailto:lwml@stpaulsjanesville.com)

We will still be using our annual booklets, and notifications in *News & Notes*, and *Opportunities* as usual.



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## Lutheran Women in Mission

### JULY EVENTS

St Paul's Women in Mission (LWML) will be getting together for some spiritual growth on Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 6:30pm in St Paul's Fellowship Hall (church basement).

Ruth Braatz will be leading us in a Bible Study, followed by a Business meeting. The ingathering will be school supplies to donate to Orphan Grain Train. Please join us!!!

**JULY QUILTING DATES:** Wed. July 12th 9am-3pm and Thurs. July 13th 9am-noon in Fellowship Hall. Bring a sack lunch if you will be staying over the lunch hour on Wednesday. Coffee is provided. No experience or equipment is needed, but experienced quilters are also welcome!

### AUGUST EVENTS

On Tuesday, August 15 the St Paul's Women in Mission is hosting a service project from 1:30 pm - 7:00 pm We will be preparing and assembling pillowcase dresses for girls in poor areas. (*See the article on page 7 of this newsletter.*) The project will begin at 1:30pm in Fellowship Hall (the church basement) with a potluck supper at 6-7pm.

We would especially like to invite families with teenage girls to help support their sisters in other nations. The ingathering will be supplies for the service project. Look for more specifics in the *Opportunities* or on the web site for St Paul's Women in Mission (LWML).

Worried you don't know how? You will be taught what to do, so come and join the fun and serve our Savior!

**QUILTING:** Tues. Aug. 22nd and Wed.. Aug 23rd





**Comfort Dog Ministry**

## Comfort Dog Ministry

The Comfort Dog Ministry team will be busy in July and August. Several team members will be spending two days the end of July at the National Lutheran Church Charities (LCC) K-9 Comfort Dog Conference in Northbrook, Illinois. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to attend informational sessions covering topics such as Ministering Outside Our Comfort Zone; Police Ministry; Veteran Ministry; and Ministering to Those Affected by Suicide. We also will have the opportunity to spend time with ministry teams from all over the country.

On Tuesday, August 1, we are planning on having a booth at the Janesville Police Department National Night Out event from 5-8pm. Watch the *Opportunities* for more information about this event and plan on attending.

On Sunday, August 6, from 10a- 4p the ministry team will be at the Tallman Arts Festival, 426 N. Jackson St., Janesville. We also hope Comfort Dog teams from Northern Illinois and the Milwaukee area will be able to join us to help promote the benefits of this ministry to Janesville and the surrounding area.

Then on Sunday, August 27, we are having the second annual Corn Roast/Cookout fund raiser. This will be held at Skelly's Farm Market, 2713 S. Hayner Rd. from 12-4p. Sweet corn, brats, hot dogs and beverages will be served. A free will offering for the meal will be taken. This is the major fund raiser for the Comfort Dog ministry so please come out to enjoy this church and community event to help *Show the Mercy, Compassion, Presence and Proclamation of Jesus Christ to Those Who are Suffering and in Need* (LCC mission statement). There will also be a fun fund raising event that families and teams can enter. More details will be printed in upcoming *Opportunities*, but it will involve a timed race event in one of Skelly's awesome corn mazes. Other free activities for children will be held on the playground at Skelly's.

If you have any questions about the Comfort Dog Ministry or would like to become involved in some way, contact Cheryl Skelly (322-1536), Kathy Overley (346-5713), or visit our page on the church website for more information and to contact us through email. And please continue to pray for this ministry and the team members.

### Do You Know Where This Member Is?

#### **Trista Seeman**

We have attempted to send mail to Trista. According to the Post Office she has moved and left no forwarding address.

If you know where Trista has moved to, please let the Church Office know (754-4471). Thank you.

St. Paul's v. Lutheran  
Church, School  
And Day Care

*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

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**Church Council 2016-2017**

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608-346-9485  
Brian Garcia, Treasurer  
608-449-4711  
Sarah Williams, Chair  
608-295-2806  
Jack Eden  
608-751-5999  
Jennifer O'Connell  
608-359-3544  
Nate Simmons  
608-436-6720

**Summer Worship Schedule:**

Thursdays at 6:30p  
Saturdays at 6p  
Sundays at 9a

## Pillowcase Dresses

Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) has a special service project planned for Tuesday, August 15, 2017 from 1:30 to 7p in Fellowship Hall (the church basement).

Dresses for young girls to enjoy, wherever needed in the world, will be made from pillowcases. All women — young or older, teens or grandmas, are invited to work on these dresses.



The work project will take place from 1:30 to 6p. Come for the entire time or help out when you can. Sewing machines, scissors, 1/4" or 1/2" elastic, double-fold bias tape and laces, etc. for decorations are needed.

At 6p we will enjoy a Salad Supper. Please bring a salad to share. Rolls, dessert and beverage will be provided. The evening will close with a devotion.



**DONATIONS of NEW or GENTLY USED PILLOWCASES** are requested for a special LWML/Orphan Grain Train project. Please place them in the container under the mailboxes in the Ringold Street entrance of Fellowship Hall (the church basement).

