

News N' Notes



ST. Paul's
Lutheran Church, School & Daycare

August 18, 2019

Dear Fellow St. Paul's Members,
Greetings in the wonderful Name of our Creator, Savior, and Best Friend Jesus Christ! I pray this note finds all of you well.

Last month our Lord Jesus answered our prayers and sent Pastor Josh Grotelueschen to us as our associate pastor. Jesus promises to give us what we truly need and He was very faithful. He only asks that we patiently trust in His day and way of answering prayer.

Now that Pastor Josh is here I ask that you would not stop offering your prayers for your pastors. Pray that we would be faithful to proclaim God's pure Word, faithful in bringing the comfort of the Gospel to the troubled, sick, and dying, and faithful in our interactions as fellow workers in God's Kingdom. Allow me to describe how Pastor Josh and I will conduct the Word and Sacrament ministry as coworkers here at St. Paul's.

To help our positions as your senior and associate pastors avoid any possible divisions and disruptions in our team ministry, Pastor Josh and I will try to equally divide and share the pastoral work among you. To that end Pastor Josh and I will divide the church roster in half with Pastor Josh being responsible for weddings and funerals of members whose names fall between A-L and I will be responsible for those services of members whose names fall between M-Z. At the beginning of each year we will flip our halves of the alphabet. Baptisms will be performed by the pastor scheduled to preach for the day as some of our worship services will only have one pastor both preaching and leading the liturgy. Members are free to choose either pastor in terms of counseling but recognizing that the pastors will confidentially inform each other as to whom they are counseling. The pastor not preaching for the

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upcoming weekend will make hospital calls six days of that week with John Mueller making calls on Fridays as both pastors will be taking that day off.

Pastor Josh and I will divide the St. Paul's school junior confirmation instruction year in half with Pastor Josh teaching from August to early December and I will teach from middle December until junior confirmation day. I will be teaching all of the public confirmation class. John Mueller, Pastor Josh, and I will divide duties in teaching the post-confirmation *Life of Faith* class. Pastor Josh will be teaching the adult confirmation class. The adult confirmation class will be taught during four sessions, each session held once a month and lasting for four hours. The four sessions will be repeated every four months throughout the year beginning this month. St. Paul's school confirmation students will be expected to attend the first three sessions (as the fourth session will cover material contained in the eighth grade post confirmation class) and the St. Paul's public school students will be expected to attend all four. Pastor Josh will also be teaching the Sunday morning *Route 66 Class* and I will be teaching the *Tuesday Morning Bible Class*.

Pastor Josh's areas of responsibilities include *assimilation*, that is, helping new members become active in the life of St. Paul's. He is also responsible for *generosity*, that is, encouraging people to share God's blessing within our church and community. Finally, *local, state, national, and international missions* conducted through St. Paul's are Pastor Josh's responsibilities.

Now that we are blessed with Pastor Josh, I am launching into projects that have heretofore been postponed due to me being the sole pastor at St. Paul's. First of all, Pastor Josh and I will be spending time and energy resurrecting, reconfiguring, and redirecting the facilities task force, missions task force, and the board of elders. Please stay tuned, but at this point I will say that the board of elders will be a major part of spearheading the *ReVitality* program that will be conducted here (the three modules will deal with an evaluation of current ministries, developing a ministry to those who have strayed from the church, and developing an outward focus to our church and school).

Secondly, much as we would sincerely wish that there wasn't, there does exist a need for more unity between our church and school. Bridges need to be established and maintained that can help to unify our church and school's time, energy, and vision. To that end, I am requesting that the church council form a task force of current and former school parents to help identify and help in the process of building those bridges.

Finally, I will, with vital help, set up an ongoing and anonymous Google instrument seeking people's opinions concerning the strengths and challenges of our mission and ministry here at St. Paul's.

By the time you read this we should be through the interview stage of our facility addition feasibility study. We pray that the Lord of the Church would richly bless this effort and give us a clear picture of what our options are for the Kingdom work here at St. Paul's.

IT'S GREAT TO MEET YOU!

It's Been a Month Already!

I want to thank everyone in the congregation for being so warm and inviting to me over this last month. I cannot believe that I have been working here for a month already! This is truly an exciting time to be here at St. Paul's in Janesville. I am quickly learning how many people can fit in my house with the Sunday dinners, which have been a blast. I am thankful for all who have attended so far, and if you have not signed up yet please consider doing so. These have provided me an opportunity to get to know people on an individual basis, which I greatly appreciate. There will be several other opportunities for me to get to know you that are coming up quickly!

After Labor Day weekend I will be taking over the Route 66 class. We will be finishing up the Gospel of John the first week, and then deciding where we want to go after that.

There is also a new class in development called the Faith in Action class. This class will be open for all members, and it will also be the class that any guests will be taking in order to become a new member. This class will be covering not only the foundations of our faith, but also how our faith relates to people of different faiths. If you have been wondering how Christianity applies to issues such as abortion, or LGBTQIA+, or how it relates to other faiths such as Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and atheism please come and attend. The classes will be held once a month, keep an eye on the opportunities page for the class dates. If you want to make sure you do not miss a session please give me your email address so I can add you to the list. Email me at jgrote-lueschen@stpaulsjanesville.com.

Once again I am so happy to be here with you all in Janesville WI and I am excited to share in the ministry that is happening here.

Pastor G

A New Session of Sunday School Begins

Each Sunday morning beginning Sept. 8 from 9:15—10:15 a.m. in St. Paul's School building for children 3 yrs to 8th grade.

"Enduring Faith", our CPH curriculum, will lead us through the stories of Creation, Old Testament Heroes and New Testament truths of Jesus and His Ministry.

Grades 5-6 will be led in real life applications of God's Truths and Grades 7-8 will have a junior high Bible study designed just for them.

Parents are encouraged to stay for "Stuff They Didn't Teach Me in Sunday School" Bible Study in the Women & Family Ministry Room during the Sunday School hour.

Parents in Prayer

Join us each Thursday morning (that school is in session) at 8:15a beginning September 5 in the new Women's & Family Ministry Room on the first floor of St. Paul's School.

Join us when you can. Stay for as long or short as you'd like. Come and hang out with us, have coffee, meet new people and pray for the needs of our:

- Children
- Church
- School
- Community

P.S.-Grandparents are welcome too!

God is our Safe Place

In July the Comfort Dog team headed to Northbrook to attend the LCC K-9 National Conference. The theme was "God is our Safe Place" based on Psalm 46:1 which says: "God is our safe place and our strength. He is always our help when we are in trouble". In the midst of what sometimes seems to be a chaotic world that we live in, we can stand firm in the promise that God is our security and that He is our safe place. The Comfort Dog ministry gives us a chance to go out and bring the Mercy, Compassion, Presence and Proclamation of Jesus to those who feel unsafe and are in need.

Mary had an opportunity, along with her veteran handlers, to visit Camp Hometown Heroes with other Kare-9 Comfort Dogs during the LCC conference. This camp serves children who have lost loved ones who served in the U.S. military. It was a wonderful chance to help bring comfort to those children who have experienced this difficult loss.

Please contact Mary by email, through Facebook or by talking to one of her team members, if you know of someone, or someplace that would benefit by a visit from her. Her email address is : Mary@K9Comfort.org.



For nothing
is impossible
with God

Luke 1:37

Orphan Grain Train

Thank you! The Orphan Grain Train Team would like to thank all of you for the support and prayers you offer to us as we reach out to help so many people that are in need. Currently we have helped people in 68 countries and in 27 states here in America. We feel blessed to be able to help others.

This past year was a little slower. We averaged 27 volunteers who put in 869 hours of their time to pack 867 boxes of much needed items. Besides clothing and medical supplies we shipped 13 bicycles; one suction machine; one CPAP machine; four offering plates; wheel chairs; walkers; canes; exercise bike; and suitcases. This past year we had many afghans, blankets and quilts. Besides our local ladies making quilts, we also received 104 from St. Mark's Lutheran church in Rockford, Illinois. They have promised to bring more in the future.

We still pack every other month on the second Saturday from 8a to 11a and then volunteers take these items to Westfield, Wisconsin, where they are shipped around the world. Join us for any or all of these days and feel the joy we have of reaching out to make life better for someone else. What we do is out of love and in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

“ . . . feel the joy we have of reaching out to make life better for someone else.”

Fellowship Club Kick-off

Fellowship Club will be kicking off their 2019-2020 season on Tuesday, October 1st at 6pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend on October 1st to meet and hear Kim and Randy Tewes speak about the Christian mission organization, *Outreach for World Hope*. Kim and Randy live in Verona, Wisconsin. They pursued successful careers in real estate before beginning mission work together in Ecuador, South America, in 2001. In 2005, they established the non-profit organization *Outreach for World Hope* to save the lives of starving children in eastern Guatemala. They now travel to Guatemala with mission teams from Wisconsin and other parts of the country, several

times a year. They have established a permanent team in Jocotan, Guatemala. This team, several of whom were originally helped by OWH, work to serve the residents in the surrounding mountain villages by distributing monthly food allotments, performing medical screenings, and helping them grow some of their own food. Kim is also the author of a book, [Tears Water the Seeds of Hope](#), a true story about her mission work and the establishment of their organization.

You are invited to join us for a potluck dinner, bringing a dish to pass, at 6pm in the church Fellowship Hall. Kim and Randy will begin their presentation at 6:45p.





Women's Bible Study

"Love Rules"

What do the Ten Commandments do for you? Do they send you on a guilt trip? Or do they hold life-changing love? Join us beginning Sept. 9 on Mondays at 9a at Panera Bread, 2753 Milton Ave, Janesville. The book is \$10 payable at the first session to St. Paul's.

RSVP by Sept. 8

Kpingel
@stpaulsjanesville.com

Lutheran Women in Mission

Potluck Meeting

St Paul's Women in Mission host a Pot Luck with Wisconsin Right to Life guest speaker!

Tuesday, September 17th at 5:30 pm the ladies of the St Paul's LWML (Women in Mission) will be hosting a salad potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall (the church basement) with a speaker Doreen Shirek, the director of the local chapter of Wisconsin Right to Life, to follow shortly after the meal. The ingathering will be for Wisconsin Right to Life for those wishing to donate.

Fall Retreat

The Women in Mission's Fall retreat will be held in Green Lake Wisconsin on Friday, Sept 20 and Saturday, Sept 21 for anyone wishing to attend. There is an option to arrive up to a day early for added retreat and relaxation time. The theme is "Go and Tell the Story" from Ephesians 4:25 with guest speaker Karen Lippert. See lwml-swd.org/events/retreat for more details and to register.

Joy: A Study of Philippians

All women are invited to join us Wednesdays at 9a or Thursdays at 6:30p beginning September 11 and 12 in the Women's and Family Ministry Room on the first floor of St. Paul's School for a special Bible study.

Written by former St. Paul's Pastor's wife, Deb Burma, "This women's Bible study on the Book of Philippians, the 'letter of joy,' unpacks messages of contentment, confidence, humility, and hope—all found in Christ and infused with joy—in the mountaintop moments and in the mundane."

The cost of the book is \$10 payable at the first session to St. Paul's.

RSVP by September 10

kpingel@stpaulsjanesville.com



Official Acts

Baptisms:

June 29, 2019

Ivy Maelynn Kellner

Parent: Jessica Kellner

Witnesses: Elizabeth Decker and Gary Schulze, elder

June 29, 2019

Layla Jane Kellner

Parent: Jessica Kellner

Witnesses: Elizabeth Decker and Gary Schulze, elder

July 22, 2019

Josephine Helen Krueger

Witnesses: John Mueller; Alysse Kuglitsch; Cadin Wojcik

July 27, 2019

Willow Ozora Wales

Parents: Dustin & Chelsea (nee Norquay) Wales

Sponsor: Eleanor Norquay

Witness: Elizabeth Decker

July 27, 2019

Walker Owen Wales

Parents: Dustin & Chelsea (nee Norquay) Wales

Sponsor: Jacob Norquay

Witness: Elizabeth Decker, Tom Moore

July 27, 2019

Westin Orion Wales

Parents: Dustin & Chelsea (nee Norquay) Wales

Sponsor: Joel Norquay

Witness: Elizabeth Decker

Deaths:

08-01-2019 Lois C. Kerl

08-17-2019 Dale R. Brockway

In Sympathy:

Please pray for these families: Pastor Jack Fish on the loss of his brother, James Fish; Allen Kerl and Tamara McIntosh on loss of wife/mother Lois Kerl; Roger Punzel on loss of brother LeRoy Punzel; Sonia Elser on loss of mother Violet Casper; the family of Dale Brockway; Dale Oas on loss of sister Beth Cunningham.



Official Acts

Membership Changes:

Transferred to LCMS:

- Nate & Lisa Simmons, Joshua and Andrew transferred to Alive in Christ Lutheran, Columbia, MO [July 16, 2019]
- William Eden transferred to Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, Menomonee Falls WI [August 1, 2019]
- Samuel Miller transferred to Zion Lutheran Church, Omaha NE [August 21, 2019]

Released to Other Denomination:

- Baptized child Madelyn Morris released to New Life Assembly of God, Janesville WI [July 18, 2019]

Removed by Moving Without Transfer:

- Richard & Marissa Grooms, baptized Grace [July 23, 2019]
- Henry & Diane Soper [July 23, 2019]
- Sherri (Radtke) Egeness [August 1, 2019]
- Janelle Onsgard [August 21, 2019]
- Amanda (Tepatzi Leon) Suryavanshi, baptized Paul Tepatzi Leon [August 21, 2019]





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

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Ringers of Joy

Ringers of Joy will be starting up practices for the new Fall season on Wednesday Evenings at 5:30p in the balcony at church. The first rehearsal is Wednesday, September 4th. We need additional ringers—please consider playing, we will train you! This is an adult group of bell ringers that play once a month at Thursday eve services as well as Sunday morning services. For further information call the church office 608-754-4471 ext. 350 or email Dennis Wahrle at dwahrle@att.net.



Church Council 2018-2019

Jack Eden	608-751-5999
Jennifer O'Connell	608-359-3544
Rhonda Schulze	920-946-7417
Jeff Elser	608-752-5120
Tom Neumann	608-756-1978
Laura Manke	608-563-1142
Jen Ellis	608-449-3072
Jason Harvey	608-322-9443
Barb Frank	608-718-1278

Regular Worship Schedule:

Thursdays at 6:30p
Saturdays at 6p
Sundays at 8a & 10:30a

Joyful Noise Choir

A Heavenly Choir is a happy Choir. Joyful Noise, the adult choir at St Paul's will begin practices September 8, between the Sunday morning services (9:20a) in the band/music room at St Paul's school. This group sings twice a month and at church festivals throughout the year. We needs more voices! Come join us for a time of singing and fellowship. For further information call the church office or email Dennis Wahrle at dwahrle@att.net.