

THE MESSENGER



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

APRIL 2025

Dear Friends in Christ:

5. He will also sanctify in love those who are justified, as St. Paul says (Ephesians 1:4 *even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love*).

Point five can never be told to sinners ever enough. The one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit loves you!! Yes, I used two explanation points. Because if this was a paper in High School, I probably would have used five to be sure I had taken up enough space. This is an undeniable Biblical truth. Jesus says so himself in John 15:9 *"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love."* Jesus is the epitome of God's love for His sinful creation. If He, God, didn't love us then He never would have cared about the fact that we were lost in sin and would be separated from Him forever. But He did send Jesus who, knowing that He was going to have to suffer and die, still came and took upon Himself our flesh so that He could pay the prices for our sin. Not only that but then also we would receive the Holy Spirit, whom He gave to us, that we may now know what Jesus did do for us as well as the faith that we received by the Holy Spirit through the waters of Baptism. All of this has been given us by God for our sanctification, Holy Living, that all who believe Jesus know, wit certainty, that we have been made righteous, justified, by Him.

All of this is why Paul is able to write to the church in Rome these words in Romans 6:22 *"But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life."* That is why the doctrine of Election is to be a comfort to those who believe. It is not about me loving God first, but rather Him loving us, period. That's what the grace of God is all about. Jesus does the calling. Jesus does the saving. Jesus does everything, and we get to believe that we are His because of what He has done and continues to do for us until we die, or He returns. I know to some people that sounds too good to be true. Sadly, many have been burdened with supposed "to do lists" from God. Rather than trusting only in the promises that He has made and continues to keep in His word, the Bible. It is true that we do get to believe in those promises. That we get to worship and pray as He commands us to do. That we get to tell other people about Jesus. But all of these things are after the fact of Jesus' death and resurrection for us. Not a requirement that we have to do to come to God, but rather the living of those promises in the Bible that Jesus has given to us. This is the holy life that the Lutheran reformers are speaking of here in point five of the Formula of Concord. All who believe in Jesus Christ are Justified and Sanctified which is what Paul says to the Church in Rome once again.

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (Romans 3:21-26 ESV)

Conclusion of Lenten Midweek Services 10:30 AM Grace and 6:30PM St. Paul's

April 2 – Midweek 5 "The Good News of a Savior Who Unites Heaven and Earth" Genesis 28:10-22

April 9 – Midweek 6 "The Good News of a Savior Who Brings Good from Evil" Genesis 50:15-21

Holy Week Schedule

April 17 - Maundy Thursday - 10:30AM Grace and 6:30PM St. Paul's

April 18 - Good Friday - 10:30AM Grace and 6:30PM St. Paul's

April 19 - Easter Vigil - 6:30 PM St. Paul's

April 20 - Easter Sunday - 8:30AM St. Paul's and 10:30AM Grace



Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 - Robert & Yvonne Pfeiffer (64)
- 3 - Todd Daniels; Roy & Mary* Reed (21)
- 5 - Stella Petri
- 7 - Danielle Wirth; Chris Kessler
- 9 - Delbert Foelsing; Troy Uphoff;
Trent Uphoff; Jeanne Wildman
- 10- Ron Boldt
- 12- Bob & Ronda Schlechte (28);
Allison & Bryan Vonderheide (22)
- 14-Darin Storm; Brooks White
- 17-Alicia Kessler; Doug & Amy Stremming(22)
- 18-Jake* & Megan Ray (10)
- 19-August* & Doris Supan (51);
Rosemarie Manhart
- 21-Carol Polk
- 22-Wanda Kessler; Matt Tabbert
- 23-Courtney Koch; Rosalyn Reel
- 24-Rosemary Sporleder;
Kelsey White
- 25-Marcaill Allen
- 26-Kathy Eckstein; Kurt Storm
- 30-Donna Rincker; Troy Salazar Jr.;
Richard Stremming;
Chris & Sue Bowers (37)
Alan* & Courtney Koch (3)



LYF Check out our restocked card selection in the nursery/choir room at St. Paul's! Birthday, anniversary, Easter, confirmation, graduation, baptism, sympathy, and more!

Pancake Breakfast Join us for a LYF Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 6th at St. Paul's. We will be serving a delicious meal of pancakes, smoked sausage and scrambled eggs from 8-10AM. We appreciate your continued support!



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. April 2 7-8 PM(Lent)
- Wed. April 9 7-8 PM(Lent)
- Wed. April 16 6:30-7:30 PM
- Wed. April 23 6:30-7:30 PM
- Wed. April 30 6:30-7:30PM
- Wed. May 7 6:30-7:30 PM WDS 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.





Music Notes

Tue. Apr. 1 Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm
 Tue . Apr. 15- Choir Rehearsal
 Sun. Apr. 20- Choir Sings-Easter Sunday
 Wed. Apr. 23- Choir Rehearsal
 Sun Apr. 27- Choir Sings-Confirmation



April Greeters

April 6- John & Judy Wittenberg
 April 13- Bob & Rohnda Schlechte
 April 20- Gerry & Dawn Schlechte
 April 27- Otto & Lisa Rincker

May Greeters

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

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

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CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Confirmation Sunday is 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

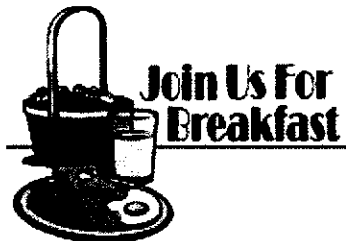
The Oral Exam, public profession of faith prepared for by long and careful instruction, will be April 23rd.



Church Council meeting is April 7, 2025 @ 6:30PM

Voter's meeting is April 27, 2025 after church.

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Easter Breakfast: Everyone is invited to attend a continental breakfast on Easter Sunday at 9:30 a.m.



Easter Egg Hunt The Sunday School is going to have an Easter Egg hunt at 10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday. All children from 0-6th grade are invited to participate. It will either be held outside the back door of the school or in the gym, depending upon the weather.



Palm Sunday The Sunday School children will parade in before church on Palm Sunday with palms. Children can meet in the choir/cry room off the narthex before church. They will parade in during the first hymn or processional at the direction of Pastor.

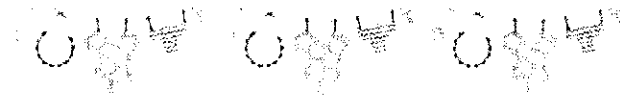


Thank you Thank you to everyone who sent cards for my 90th birthday. I really enjoyed reading all of them. Beulah Ulmer.

Thank you Thank you to everyone in our church family who sent birthday wishes for my 90th birthday. Your cards, personal greetings, phone calls and texts made my birthday special. What a lovely surprise it was to have the College Plus, Alpha and WLS Sunday School classes sing Happy Birthday and celebrate with a delicious cake provided by Patsy Lenz. You made my birthday memorable, and I am most appreciative. God's blessings to each of you. Virginia Vogel

Thank you Thank you for the delicious and convenient meals provided by the Cradle Roll. Such a generous act of kindness and it was greatly appreciated during the first few weeks with our precious Ella. Justin & Kendall Fulk

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Congratulations Congratulations to Mitch and Kenzie Stewart on the birth of their son, Leeland Richard. Grandparents are Gary & Dorothy Zwilling and Crystal Stewart. Great grandparents are Richard & Cathern Stremming

Congratulations Congratulations to Chris & Alicia Harrell on the birth of their daughter, Carter Jean. Carter was born on Saturday, March 8, 2025. Grandparents are Rick & Susie Allen. God's blessings to Carter and her family.

Congratulations Congratulations to Dylan and Amelia Ohnesorge on the birth of their daughter, Blair Ragan Ohnesorge. Blair was born on Thursday, March 6, 2025 and weighed 7lbs 4 oz. Grandparents are Joe & Linda Buscher, Brad Ohnesorge, and Barb Ohnesorge. Great Grandparents are Betty Buscher and Mary Lou Schaefer. God's blessings to Blair and her family.

Congratulations Congratulations to Cole and Megan Hartke on the birth of their daughter, Ashlynn Kay. Ashlynn was born on Saturday, March 8, 2025. Grandparents are John & Lisa Cress and Rick & Donna Hartke. God's blessings to Ashlynn and her family.



Communion Cards Please make sure you are filling out communion cards on communion Sunday's so that your attendance can be recorded. Thank you!

Reunion The 1975 confirmation class will be having a reunion Sunday, March 23rd. The members of that class include: Ann Lading, Twilla Kessler, Jill Storm, Cathy Juhnke, Penny Pfeiffer, Jeanne Foelsing, Paula Pieper, Otis Rincker, Chris Doehring, David Allen, Bob Schlechte, Kendall Lading and Steve Weber.

Palm Sunday The Sunday School children will parade in before church on Palm Sunday with palms. Children can meet in the choir/cry room off the narthex before church. They will parade in during the first hymn or processional at the direction of Pastor.

Save the Date: The Dual Parish is sponsoring Vacation Bible School on June 16-20, 2025 from 9:00-11:30 AM at St. Paul's. Further information will be forthcoming with a registration form. This years theme is "Epic Australian Adventure: An Unforgettable Journey with Jesus."

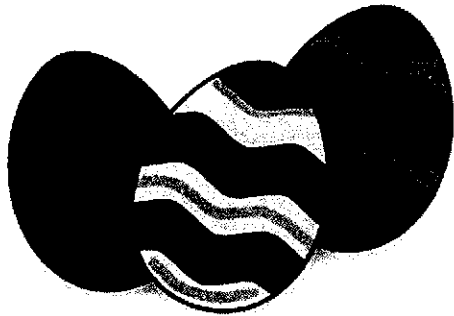
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Sympathy Please keep the family of Lawrence Carie in your thoughts and prayers. Lawrence passed away last week. He was the father of Donna Rincker



Dear friends in Christ,
 As always, thank you so much for your financial support and for your prayers. Classes are back in session at the seminary and we are all enjoying the warm weather that we have had so far since classes started. I am enjoying all of my classes so far, especially Pentateuch II where we are studying the books of Exodus through Deuteronomy and Church History IV where we are learning about the history of Lutherans in North America. I pray that your Lent is going well as we consider the passion and death of Christ for our salvation.
 Yours in Christ,
 Hunter Kinnison



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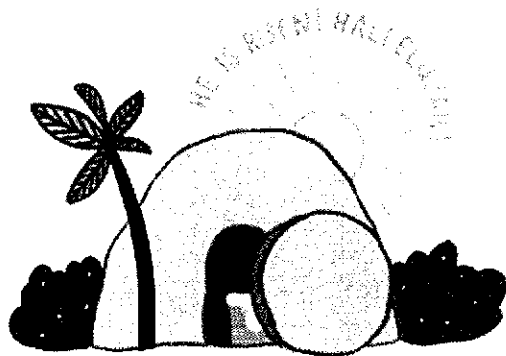
HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

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April 18-Good Friday 10:30AM Grace 6:30 PM St. Paul's

April 19- Easter Vigil- 6:30PM St. Paul's

April 20- Easter Sunday 8:30AM St. Paul's 10:30AM Grace



The Lutheran Ladies of Strasburg report for March 6th, 2025

The March 6th meeting of the Lutheran Ladies of Strasburg was called to order by President Muriel Merriman at Grace Lutheran Church, Strasburg, IL. 15 members were present.

Pastor Whybrew opened with devotions from Philippians 4:10. Roll call and reading of the minutes was conducted. Treasurer's report was given by Charlene Telgmann. Both reports were approved.

Cinda Held from the pocket quilt committee showed 3 examples of pocket quilts she made. It was agreed that the group would make the smaller version of the pocket quilt and include a small cross inside the quilt. Kay Dust volunteered to find the small crosses. Additional members volunteered to help with making the quilts. The committee will be Cinda Held, Cindy Roley, Vivian Granat, Leigha Moffett, Tammy Sentel and Muriel Merriman.

Karen Kull gave a report on the meal the group prepared and served to the Trinity School on March 4th. The group served 100 students plus staff and teacher. The ladies served tacos, apple slices and Jell-O cake.

Vivian Granat gave a report on the committee working on bookmarks for this year's Confirmation students. Pastor Whybrew reported there will be 3 Confirmation students this year on April 27th at St Paul.

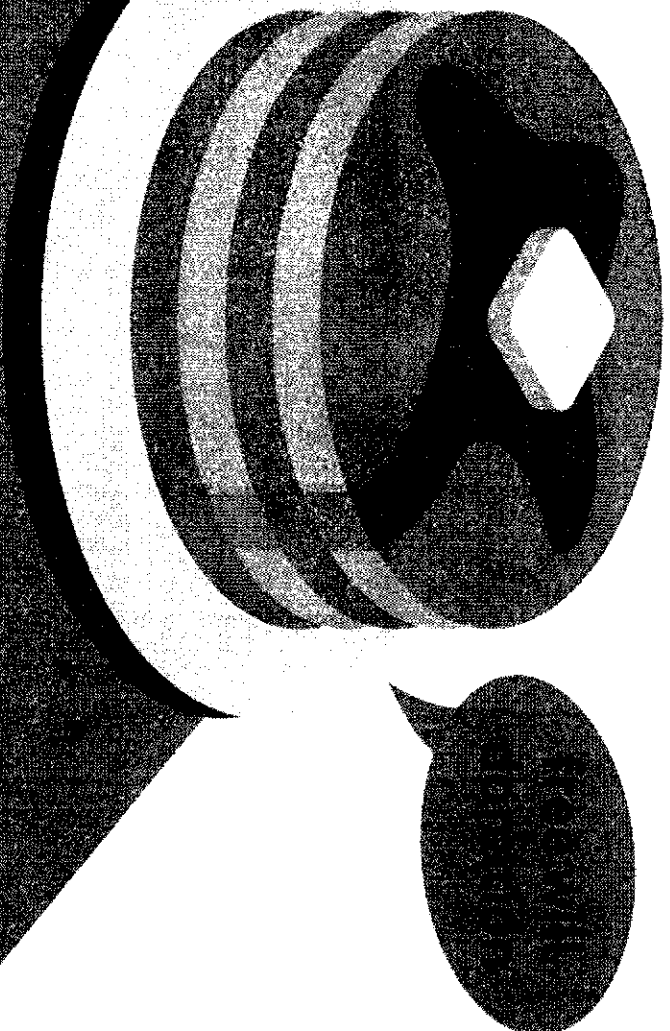
New business included a discussion about the Joy Shop on May 6th at St John Lutheran church in Dieterich, IL. There will be a light meal, program and a collection for St John Lutheran church in Effingham's food pantry. The group voted to give a monetary donation to the Edwards family for medical expenses. Upcoming events include mite boxes in April, Easter on April 20th and the National LWML convention in Omaha, NE this year. The group also decided to pay the registration fee for Tammy Sentel who shared she would be attending this year. A committee was formed to plan 10-20 minute presentations that can be presented to the group in future meeting. The committee includes Karen Kull, Maude Hartman and Muriel Merriman. The next meeting will be at Grace Lutheran Church on April 3rd at 1:30pm. The hostesses will be Leigha Moffett and Neva Hagen. Ladies from both congregations are always welcome to attend. April's flower committee will be Tynia Kessler for Grace and Lisa Rincker for St Paul.

President Muriel Merriman thanked today's hostesses Cindy Roley and Vivian Granat for the beautiful spring decorations and delicious refreshments. Muriel also thanked the March's flower committee Caralea Smith of Grace and Muriel Merriman of St Paul,

The meeting closed with the Bible verse: Philippians 4:13, Doxology, Lord's prayer and common Table prayer. The group sang Happy Birthday to Sharon Rincker and Yvonne Pfeiffer. Connie and Wayne Wirth were recognized for celebrating 68 years of marriage.

Secretary Tammy Sentel

PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER



• Sunday, April 6, 2025 •

Serving 8 - 10 AM

Menu

Pancakes

Smoked Sausage

Syrup

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



Celebrate the Risen Savior!!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025

Communion service at 8:30 AM

Continental Breakfast at 9:30 AM in the social hall

Egg hunt for ages 0-6th grade 10 AM in the backyard

All are welcome!!!

511 Walnut St Strasburg IL 62465

Call 217-644-2661 with questions



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



ST. PAUL'S & GRACE DUAL PARISH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, 511 S. WALNUT, STRASBURG, IL 62465
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