



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S PEN...

The other day I was driving down the street and passed by a car that had an unique bumper sticker. On the bumper sticker it said, "God is in control." That type of bumper sticker can be a helpful reminder to all those who see the car that God is present and that He is there to protect and guide all along the way.

The only problem was that shortly after I saw this car, the driver was cut off by another vehicle. He promptly sped up and gave a very noticeable and obscene gesture to the driver in the other car. The actions of the driver might cause one to wonder the sincerity of the message on the outside.

Are you a bumper sticker Christian or is your faith much more? Would it be obvious to those around you that Christ is the center of your life, or would they see you as a hypocrite? Do you stand ready to share the latest gossip about someone, demean someone you don't like, pass on rumors about people or just talk maliciously? St. Paul warns the early church at Ephesus about this when he writes, "So, I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in their hearts. Having lost all the sensitivity, they have given themselves over...so as to indulge in every kind of impurity. (Eph 4:17)

We have been redeemed from this. The Lord Jesus poured His blood out on the cross for you and me so that we are no longer bound to these sins or the lifestyles they represent. We read, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me." (Gal 2:20) Notice the words! I am not living, but Christ is living in me! **Everything** I do should reflect that new hope! **Everything** should testify to that love of Christ!



Will we fail? Of course! This side of heaven, we are still plagued with our sinful nature. This, however, does not mean that we capitulate and allow it to take over. We must daily repent and force that evil nature down. Luther uses this in his explanation to Baptism when he says, "The old Adam in us should by daily contrition be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should dial, emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever." We must daily examine our lives and recognize the hurt and harm that we do and strive through the power of the Holy Spirit, to live a life reflective of our Savior who lives within us. We must replace the gossip, rumors, evil thoughts and other sins with the fruits of the spirit. The presence of love, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, self-control will soon leave no room and no acceptance for the other.

Then we can truly say, "God is in control!"



TIGER TRACKS

August 31, 2018

www.stpaulslutheran.net

NO SCHOOL MONDAY, We will be closed for Labor Day. We will return to school on Tuesday at 8:15AM.



BACK TO SCHOOL FAMILY FUN NIGHT, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

- Enjoy a back to school celebration outside on the grounds of St. Paul's Lutheran School. The entire family is invited. From 6:00-8:00PM there will be games, a bounce house, face painting, Ruel's Reptiles, rolling video games and so much more! Concessions will be available for a fee. If our parking lot is full you may park at Liberty and walk over. This free evening of fun is brought to you by St. Paul's PTL and Thrivent Financial. Would you like to help? See Kris Duchene or Angel Heldt.



SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK OFF SEPTEMBER 9th

- Preschool through Sixth Grade Sunday School will begin with a Kick-Off on Sunday, September 9th from 10:00-10:45. Parents are encouraged to join their children for the day. We will begin in the music room with registration and continue into the gym for songs and teacher introductions. Students and parents will then move to their classroom to meet the teachers and complete a beginning of the year activity. Please note that we are beginning at 10:00 on this day to give parents and students the opportunity to participate in the Day School Staff recognition in the cafeteria after the first service. Beginning the next week, September 16th, we will resume meeting at the regular start time of 9:50

CHAPEL - Chapel is Wednesday at 8:30AM. Please join us, everyone is welcome. We have a special Chapel project going on until October 3rd. Chapel offerings will be donated to St. Paul's LWML for Operation Christmas Child. We will also be collecting supplies. The offering will help ship the boxes of collected items. Last year we shipped over 100 boxes. This year we would like to do even more! **Some of the supplies need are listed here:**

- Shoe Boxes are needed ASAP!**
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|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Toothpaste | Toothbrush | Sunglasses |
| Washcloth | Bar Soap | Soap holder |
| Scissors | Erasers | Drawing tablet |
| Card games | Kid's jewelry | Jump ropes |
| Toy Cars | Jacks | Plastic animals |
| Coloring book | Pencil bag | Stickers |
| 24 box crayons | Yo Yos | Lego's |
| Colored pencils | Hard candy | Whistles |
| Stuffed animals | | Chewing gum |
| Picture books | | Pencils and pens |
| Pencil sharpener | | Comb and brush |
| Toothbrush holder | | Spiral notebook |
| Musical instruments | | Construction paper |

PARTNERSHIP HOURS

OPPORTUNITY - Help us get ready for the Operation Christmas Child event by pre-wrapping shoe boxes with colorful children's wrapping paper or Christmas wrapping paper (no Santa's please). Tops and bottoms should be wrapped separately. We have boxes stored off-site. If you would like to help wrap, please let Mrs. Meyer know and we will bring boxes here to the school for you to take home and wrap.



HEARING & VISION SCREENINGS

will be held here at school during regular class time on Wednesday, September 5th. The fee is \$4 per screening and most parents paid this fee during registration. If you didn't stop by the office and see Mrs. Meyer. The vision screening will not be sufficient for the required vision test for Kindergarten students. Those exams need to be given by an optometrist.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Our school directory will be published September 30th. If you wish to have your address and phone number *omitted* please contact the office by next Friday, Sept. 8th. This directory is "in house" only and will be shared with school families, teachers, coaches and church and school boards as needed.

EXTENDED CARE AND LUNCH BALANCES

This year you will see all your balances on Fast Direct in detail. We now have a timer option available to keep track of extended care charges. Bare with us as we get acclimated with the new system. This system will show you much more details than the past system we used. Charges are not currently up to date but as we learn this new system we hope to get closer to a more up to date tracking. You can access your balances by going to the finance \$ icon in the top blue portion of your fast direct screen. If you are looking for more details just click the actual number of your charges and it will give you a break down. If you do not already have fast direct sent to your email or your phone you can go into your account and check mark that area. Once a week we will be sending out reminders that you have a balance due. In previous years there were handwritten green sheets with your balance. These will no longer be issued as we move to a more electronic tracking system.



FAITH & MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

If you are interested in becoming a member at St. Paul's, please attend Faith & Membership Classes beginning Sunday, September 16th, during the Sunday School hour, which starts at 9:50AM. Please call Andrea in the church office if you have any questions 815-932-0312.

WAYS TO HELP RAISE MONEY FOR ST. PAUL'S AT NO ADDITIONAL COST TO YOU!

Kroger Community Rewards:

Do you shop at Kroger? Have you designated St. Paul's to receive your rewards? We currently only have 102 families participating. This last quarter we received \$361.99 just because those families swiped their KrogerPlus rewards card at checkout! What a great deal!

Smile.Amazon.com:

Shop AmazonSmile and we earn money! Just log on to smile.amazon.com. On your first visit you need to select St. Paul's to receive your donations. They will remember your selection, and every eligible purchase made at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation of 0.5%. We have earned \$184.66 this quarter!

BOX TOPS for Education:

Clip Box Tops off select items, drop them in the bucket in the office or put them on collection sheets and turn them in to the office we will do the rest. Each Box Top earns St. Paul's \$0.10.

T.R.I.P.:

Purchase TRIP cards here at the school from selected vendors and a designated percentage will be rewarded. That percentage will be shared between you and the school. You can use your half of the awarded amount for your hot lunch, extended care or tuition accounts. Julie Salzman is available before school, during school and after school for you to make purchases. You can also complete an order form, send it in an envelope and she will send your filled order home with your child. It's a great opportunity to support St. Paul's and make a little extra for yourself! Order forms are in the lobby. See Julie TODAY!

CROSS COUNTRY

St. Paul's is hosting a Cross Country Meet on Wednesday, September 13th, at Perry Farm. All Cross Country parents are asked to help at this event buy anyone can come root on our runners.



STAFFING CHANGES-As you may know, Mrs. Wright has left St. Paul's teaching staff. The following staff changes have been made: Mrs. Stirnaman will be teaching 5-7 language Arts and 8th grade writing. Previously, Mrs. Stirnaman taught Language Arts at BBCHS.

Mrs. Kara McHugh will take over the music teaching responsibilities as well as the K-5th grade choirs as well directing the Christmas and Spring Programs.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hehman will taking some of the other responsibilities that were part of the Mrs. Stirnaman's schedule. This would include 4th grade writing, various study halls and also work with students who need additional help in school.

Mrs. Bethany Hanel will become our part-time librarian.

We thank God that He has provided these wonderful and talented people to meet the needs of our school in providing an excellent Christ-centered education.

As we make these changes , it may take a couple of weeks to get the FastDirect System updated for grade review and also communication. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Each of these new staff members also has a school business email account with their first initial last name@stpaulslutheran.net

TABEA RUMMAGE SALE—Sept. 27-28 from 8AM-4PM at our church located at 348 E Merchant St. in Kankakee. You may drop off your treasures at the downtown church on Saturdays before the 5PM service or anytime the week of the sale. Clothing should be clean and free of holes. All donations help purchase supplies for communion and other necessitates that help enhance all church services. Earn partnership hours by helping set-up prior to the sale and during the sale. You may contact Carol Ginger (815-922-5525) or Pat Baker (815-935-1694) to volunteer.



SINGLE MOM SATURDAY is Saturday, September 22, from 8AM—NOON at Court Street Ford on Latham Drive in Bourbonnais. Single Mom Saturday is a free oil change and car wash for a single mom in the community who has registered through the WBGL-FM, 104.7 web site. The deadline for single mom's to sign-up is September 5th. WBGL radio and 14 different locations (St. Paul's is one of the locations) throughout Illinois have teamed for this event. Court Street Ford does the oil change, St. Paul's provides greeters as well as staff for the car wash. All supplies will be furnished. Be the first to sign up to run the power car washer device at Court Street Ford! 3 person teams in 2 hour shifts will be needed for washing cars. St. Paul's is delighted we can complete both the car wash and the oil change in one location! Contact Liz Deck if you would like to volunteer at eddeck@comcast.net



UPCOMING DATES

- Sept 3 Labor Day—No School
- Sept 5 Hearing & Vision Screenings
- Sept 7 Back to School Family Fun Night, 6-8PM
- Sept 9 Staff Appreciation Sunday 8:30AM service
- Sept 10 Athletic Parent Meeting 6pm
- Sept 13 St. Paul's Cross Country Invite at Perry Farm
- Sept 14 Early Dismissal Preschool, 11:15PM K-8, 11:30PM No lunch served
- Sept 17-28 MAPS Testing
- Sept 22 Single Mom Saturday 8-Noon @ Court Street Ford
- Sept 27-28 Tabae Rummage Sale Downtown Kankakee Church Location, 348 E Merchant St 8AM-4PM