



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S PEN...

Have you ever watched a large bird of prey soar? The past weekend, as I was driving on the freeway, I could see this magnificent bird as it lofted above the road looking for prey. It seemed to soar so majestically as it floated from one side of the road to the other. Seemingly, without significant effort, it glided above the road.

Is your life like this magnificent bird of prey or is it beginning to feel like a fish flopping around on the beach? The first several weeks are now history. The exhilaration of the moment, the joy of the first day, the anticipation of new has probably faded to a general routine of the daily activities. The car pool schedules, not to mention the increasing amount of homework, all seem to collide into insurmountable obstacles that surrounds us. It is easy to feel overwhelmed, frustrated, and even angry, as roadblocks or interruptions come into view.



This is where one of my favorite Bible verses comes into use. The prophet Isaiah writes, "but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." (Isaiah 40:31) The Lord promises that when we trust in Him, He will lift us up and carry us over the troubled terrain that we call life.

This does not mean that there will not be times when we are crawling on the ground struggling. Because of our sinful condition and the evil that we do, we are plunged to the ground at times with little apparent help. The devil would have us despair at these moments. St. Peter describes his action when he says, "Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." (I Peter 5:8) He is waiting for the moment to pounce and drive us further away from God.

We, however, are not left to struggle alone. The Isaiah passage mentions soaring on wings like eagles. These are not our wings but those of a loving God. These are the wings of a God that loves us so much that He sacrificed His one and only Son, on the cross, for our sins. This is the God that promises that He gives us the strength when we are on the ground **to walk and not grow faint**. The strength to handle the daily hassles, frustrations, problems and crises does not come from oneself. It comes from the Lord of all creation.

This all powerful God will lift you up. He will carry you over the terrain of life. He will empower you through the work of His Spirit to conquer all trials and soar to victory. As St. Paul writes, "in all these things we are made conquerors through Him who loved us." (Rom 8:37) With that power behind us and under us, we cannot fail.



TIGERS

September 7, 2018

www.stpaulslutheran.net

BACK TO SCHOOL FAMILY FUN NIGHT, TONIGHT FROM 6-8PM - Enjoy a back to school celebration inside of St. Paul's Lutheran School. The entire family is invited. 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.

CROSS COUNTRY

St. Paul's is hosting a Cross Country Meet on Thursday, September 13th, 4:30pm at Perry Farm. All Cross Country parents are asked to help at this event but anyone can come help. This is a fun way to earn participation hours, cheer on our students, and help our school. Please send Mr. Fiscus a fast direct if you can help.



WE NEED SHOE BOXES:
Operation Christmas Child is in need of shoe boxes. Please drop off at the office if you have any!

8th GRADE BAKE SALE:

St Pauls 8th grade students will be selling delicious home baked goods during the Cross Country Meet on Thursday Sept 13th at Perry Farm! Swing by for a treat on your way home and cheer on our runners! Meet begins at 4:30.



Athletic Parent Meeting

Athletic parent meeting is this Monday night at 6pm Sept 10. If your child is planning on playing sports you must attend this meeting.

CHAPEL - Chapel is Wednesday at 8:30AM. Please join us, everyone is welcome. We have a special Chapel project going on until October 11th. 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 (for shipping the items)
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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.
- Volunteer during the Tabea Rummage Sale
- Sign up to help for Single Mom Saturday
- Help during cross country meet
- Weed Whacking
- Take down church after the 11:05AM service.
- Help during soccer and volleyball.

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 TODAY. This directory is "in house" only and will be shared with school families, teachers, coaches and church and school boards as needed.

ST. PAUL'S SCARECROW AT THE 6TH ANNUAL BTPD SCARECROW HALLOW FESTIVAL

We are looking for volunteers to help design and decorate a scarecrow for the Scarecrow Festival at Perry Farm. This is great way to earn partnership hours and help get our school and church noticed in our community. Let Mr. Krupski or Mrs. Meyer in the office know!



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NEW! SOCCER!

St Pauls has added Co-Ed Soccer this year! We are so excited to have another sport to our athletics! Way to go Mr. Fiscus! A huge shout out to him, Mr Weaver, Mr. Schultz and Miss Reynhout for getting the field ready. Come tonight to cheer on our first home game at 4:30!



DRESS CODE REMINDER:

As it gets cooler, it is important to remember that students in grades K-8 are not permitted to wear warm-up pants or sweat pants to school except on specially designated dress down days. In addition athletic shorts are also not allowed in K-8.

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.

PTL MEETING: Be part of your school and your Parent Teacher League! There will be an organizational meeting to kick off the school year and get parents to sign up for different activities and also the direction of the organization as we reorganize this group. This meeting will take place on Monday, September 24th at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Plan to be involved. **WE NEED YOU** to make this happen. Childcare will provided in the gym during the meeting. Any questions see Mr. Krupski.

STAFF RECOGNITION AND ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION — THIS SUNDAY, 8:30AM

Please join us this Sunday during the 8:30AM service when our church and school staff will be recognized for their service. A reception will be held in the cafeteria following worship to honor all of our staff. Please plan to come and express your appreciation!

OFFICE UPDATES:

We have been working hard in the office this year making some of our new changes to help streamline systems. A few things I want to make you aware of:



Your daycare charges are now up to date as of last Friday August 31st. You can see these charges under your Finance Icon above. You can also click the total balance number and it will give you a breakdown of charges. All deposits have been entered so your Fast Direct is up to date.

Another change that you will see is balances will be sent to you by fast direct. You will be alerted by email and text message that you have a new Fast Direct Message. We have set up the system to give you that total first hand, to eliminate paper systems in the office. This system allows for parents to be reminded electronically. If you feel that it is to many reminders, you can adjust this very simply by going into your account by uncheck marking the box in view parent information in the top part.

UPCOMING DATES

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| 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 4:30pm |
| 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 24 | PTL Meeting 6:30 |
| Sept 27-28 | Tabea Rummage Sale Downtown Kankakee Church Location, 348 E Merchant St 8AM-4PM |