



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

April 2024

Pastor's Message

Remember the Past



Benedict Arnold was a distinguished member of the Continental Army in the 1770s. He was smart and brave, helping win several victories for the Americans, even being promoted to major general. Yet he did not feel appreciated by the Continental Congress. After he married into a Loyalist family from Philadelphia, his wife kept him connected to a British officer, Major John Andre, by relaying messages between the two men. Together they plotted to surrender the American stronghold of West Point to the British.

There are many ways to win a war, and the devil will stop at nothing to take down strongholds in God's kingdom. John wrote to the church in Pergamum: **Revelation 2**¹⁴ Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality.

¹⁵ Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Repent therefore!

Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

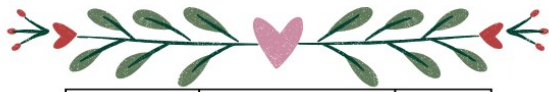
Balaam was a false prophet hired by Balak, a Moabite king, to curse the Israelites on their way to the Promised Land. The LORD only allowed Balaam to speak blessings on the Israelites. But Balaam did teach King Balak how to take the Israelites down from within, by having the Moabite women entice the Israelite men to idol worship, sexual immorality, and ultimately death. The LORD sent a plague that wiped out 24,000 Israelites who had yoked themselves to Baal. In Pergamum, it was being taught that idol worship and sexual immorality were acceptable and beneficial. Some Christians there latched onto that teaching. The Nicolaitans seem to be a group that promoted sinful living since Christians were forgiven anyway. Some Christians there followed that teaching as well. The devil was working from within to take down the church in Pergamum.

He does the same in churches today when it is taught that homosexuality is healthy, cohabitation is commendable, and sexual experimentation is encouraged. He infiltrates the church when sins such as filthy language, pornography usage, and other online impurity are left unaddressed. He breaches our defenses when we tolerate sins among believers because they are so prevalent in the world all around us. Don't surrender! Repent.

In 1780, American militiamen intercepted a letter and exposed the plot to surrender West Point. John Andre was hanged. The Lord says he will fight against those who hold to the teachings of Balaam and of the Nicolaitans. That is a fight that must end in death. In the end, no one can escape the sword that comes out of the Lord's mouth. So, put to death now the depravity that the Lord here condemns. Slay the immorality with which we've mingled. Point out sin in love and confess it from the heart. These are wrongs for which Christ was pierced and wickedness which his death has pardoned.

Remember the past. History teaches us how devious the devil is but how his tactics always end in defeat. At the cross his head was crushed. On the Last Day he will be plunged into the lake of fire. Remember the one who holds history in his hands. Christ, whose Word is a sharp double-edged sword, was victorious over the grave. He who is, who was, and who is to come has written you into his story. That teaching we will hold onto for eternal salvation.

In Christ whose past has secured our future,
Pastor Bode



Happy Birthday

AND GOD'S BLESSINGS!



Addilynn	Leverenz	May 1
Jacob	Clappes	May 1
Megan	Nasgovitz	May 2
Jane	Roe	May 2
Jeremy	Rasmussen	May 3
Emerson	Radue	May 3
Ashley	Pieper	May 4
Bobby	Perl	May 4
Zachary	Prem	May 4
Jan	Goedeke	May 4
Richard	Merkel	May 4
Gregory	Gmeiner	May 5
Brandon	Schelk	May 6
Jean	Wuestenhagen	May 6
Kathy	Sprenger	May 8
Christy	Eick	May 8
Timothy	Brunner	May 8
Julie	Brunner	May 9

Donna	Wieland	May 12
Mike	Olson	May 13
Austin	Radue	May 13
Heather	Langdon	May 14
Derrick	Hermann	May 14
Wesley	Rieth	May 15
Ione	Prange	May 15
Logan	Binsfeld	May 15
Henry	Lis	May 16
Brittney	Stromski	May 18
Lydia	Bramstedt	May 19
Bristol	Wolfert	May 20
Shera	Schomberg	May 20
Eunice	Eickhoff	May 21

Elizabeth	Munnik	May 21
Allan	Reseburg	May 21
Gary	Bauer	May 21
Eric	Specht	May 22
Pat	Loersch	May 22
GraceAnn	Oleck	May 23
Eric	Reinemann	May 24
Lynda	Geiger	May 24
Henry	Stewart	May 25
Zachary	Olson	May 25
Alyssa	Jackett	May 26
Tabitha	Dekanich	May 26
Cameron	Mayer	May 27
Jacob	Ostermann	May 27
Pierce	Bonack	May 27
Margene	Kolberg	May 29
Josiah	Horn	May 31
Amanda	Grunewald	May 31



Happy Anniversary!



Vant Hul	Eric & Susan	May 5
Eirich	Dennis & Marilyn	May 13
Kraemer	Allen & Lynn	May 13
Pahl	Neil & Sharon	May 15
Schirmer	Rodd & Kelly	May 18
Terrazas	Rodrick & Kristen	May 19
Doro	Tim & Ann	May 20

Kuether	Richard J. & Lois	May 24
Maass	William & Lynette	May 25
Dragan	Rodney & Jayne	May 25
Litt	Lyndon & Gale	May 29
Stewart	Craig & Emily	May 29
Curia	Luther & Gillian	May 30

"Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." ~Mark 10:9

Council Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2024

Chairman: Eric Eickhoff
Vice President: Doug Mattek
Recording Secretary: Eric Specht
Treasurer: Jim Van Alstine
Financial Secretary: Kevin Mueller
Elder: Tim Klapperich
Elder: Will Belitz

Evangelism: Brandon Lis
Trustees: Trevor Wehrmann
School Board: Dan Radue
Principal Mike Wieting
Pastor Adam Bode
Staff Minister Luther Curia

The meeting was called to order by President Eric Eickhoff.

Pastor Bode opened the meeting with a devotion followed by prayer.

The Secretary's minutes from the March 6, 2024 Council Meeting were approved.

Transfer In

- Andy & Cassy Schueler (Madilyn, Loreilei)

Transfer Out

- Lloyd & Shirley Jaeger
- Margaret Schwark

Baptism

- Abigail Jean Dekanich

Release

- Erica Hughes

Release

- Jacob Brunner
- Matthew Brunner
- Rick & Karla Hameister
- Rayven Kalmerton
- Matt & Kali Thiel (Hannah, Caleb)
- Andrea Wodrich (Rory, Brooke)
- Ben & Jamie Englebert

Motion to Approve the Membership Action Motion Carried

Staff Minister Mr. Curia:

Nothing to Report at this time

Pastor Bode:

- Confirmation will be May 5, 2024 with services at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. With Examination at 1:00 p.m. on May 4. There will be Sunday School but no Bible Study
- Scheduled for Confirmation - Derek Andrews, Olen Berg, Bryce Bonack, Paschal Curia, Ruth Davis (Calvary), Brooke Heilman, Kendall Holzward, Hannah Krell, Abby Leverenz, Madilyn Schueler, Lexi Schuenemann, Braden Sixel, Blake Valukas.
- Was great to see all those who worshiped Easter Sunday.
- Thankful for Pastor Kock and his help.
- Ascension service will be at SJSP in Cleveland this year. Luther will coordinate special music. Pastor Bode will preach as it his turn in the 4 year rotation.

Current membership:

Communicants =	676
Children/Other =	169
Total =	845

Council Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2024

Elder's Report

Nothing to report

Principal's Report

Will be heading to Washington DC with the 8th grade class on April 27th.

Mrs. Jennifer Hacker has accepted the call to serve as 3rd and 4th grade teacher beginning in the 2024-2025 school year.

Updates are being made to both the PK and K-8 Parent/Student Handbook, Early Childhood Update

3K - Pre-Enrolled (19), Registered (15), Wait List (6)

4K - Pre-Enrolled (20), Registered (10), Wait List (1)

K - Pre-Enrolled (17), Registered (9), Wait List (0)

11 of 15 registered 3K families intend to use Wrap Around Care. This will require adequate staffing to keep 1:8.

EC is currently without Aftercare staff on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

EC is currently without Wrap Around Care staff on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

School Board Report

The Garden Gym Usage School Board and Elders have approved the proposal. Really comes down to insurance. Council gave the go-ahead to expand Garden Gym usage times on a trial basis in April and May.

Working on a Contingency plan in case School Choice goes away or if we choose to go away from School Choice. As of now we will address this issue if this happens, and will continue to discuss this issue. The School Board has been in contact with Mt Olive, Appleton for some help with this. Wrap around care and are running into deadend upon deadend, we really cannot find anyone to fill the position for wrap around care from 11:30-5:30 p.m.

Mr. Johnson's schedule could be a full time position with the administrative and intervention along with other duties as well. We received a covid grant which we use to help pay and this grant is going away. The intervention work that Mr. Johnson is doing is really important for our students.

Motion to make Mr Johnson's call a full time call, motion carried.

Motion to issue a one year call to Pastor Kock for principal relief position, motion carried.

Council Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2024

Treasurer Report

Revenue

Offerings for the month of March (5 Sundays & 3 Lent services & Holy Week) totaled \$90,100 (averaging \$18,000 per week) down from February (4 Sundays & 3 Lent services), which totaled \$64,400 (averaging \$17,600 per week and compared to last year March-2023 (4 Sundays & 4 Lent services) totaled \$79,300. Year to date, offerings are running \$49,200 under budget. Tuition on the other hand is running \$23,000 over budget. Year to date total revenue is running \$17,500 under budget.

Special donations received in March were:

- We received an additional \$27,500 for Growing Forward.
- \$1,100 for the Youth Group.
- \$1,000 for the Michigan Lutheran Seminary Scholarship Fund
- \$250 for Faith for the Future.

Expenses from special funds were:

\$4,510 was paid for new church microphones from the AV Fund

\$1,000 was paid to Michigan Lutheran Seminary

A comparison of 9 months of the 23-24 budget year was compared to the same period for 22-23

- Actual offerings were up 13% this year compared to a budget increase of 15%
- Mission offerings to the WELS and MLHS are up 2% from last year and are following to the budget.
- Church expenses are down slightly in 23-24 compared to 22-23
- School expenses are up 37 % from past year compared to a budget increase of 31%. The increase is mainly due to the addition of two full time teachers and 6 part-time aides. We also had higher expenses in equipping the new pre-school classrooms.
- Property expenses are up 24% compared to a budget increase of 60%. The expanded building anticipated higher utility, property insurance and maintenance. Fortunately, these higher expenses were not incurred.
- \$69,200 of interest was paid so far this year, compared to -0- as we had no debt for the construction period that fell in the 22-23 year. This \$69,200 is under the \$90,700 planned so far in 23-24

Trustee's Report

Bring back the arbor day cleanup on April 27th with rain day May 4th.

Planning to pour more of the concrete driveway out the back door and regrade some of the grass area to get better drainage. Approximately \$5000 for this work.

Quote from Poblocki Paving for repairs to fix the Parking lot is going to be \$25,000 from Poblocki. \$12,000 to seal coat and fix the Western 2/3's of the lot. \$13,000 to fix the major broken out issues on the South East end. Have something in this year's budget and possibly roll into next year's budget to take care of the parking lot repairs with Scrip funds and special appeal.

Motion to proceed with the parking lot repairs, Motion carried.

Discussion on whether we still plant a tree for arbor day.

Evangelism Report

Reviewing the New Member process to see what is working and what isn't.

Living Nativity has contacted evangelism about doing some outreach together.

Activities Report

Had 17 in attendance for axe throwing, the next pi night is scheduled for March 14th.

Community Easter Egg Hunt is planned for March 30th

Officer's Report

Council Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2024

Evangelism Report

We are actively pursuing new members for the Evangelism committee. Evangelism will run some names past Council since they need Council approval.

Evangelism has agreed to help Living Nativity with recruiting members for cast and helpers for Living Nativity. We will also create a flier with upcoming events at church and school during the month of December. Lastly, we will attempt to get Living Nativity back in the Plymouth parade.

Activities Report

Community Easter Egg Hunt 3/30

Pastor B led the devotion

Expecting around 150 children

Officer's Report

Did Not meet last month

WELS

Supporting called workers

The Care Committee for Called Workers (CCCW), part of WELS Special Ministries, recently updated its materials. The CCCW exists to assist WELS calling bodies in the spiritual, physical, intellectual, and emotional care of their called workers. Its materials offer instructions on how to set up a congregational care committee as well as ways to help called workers financially prepare for retirement.

“While many calling bodies informally provide support to their workers, having an intentional, structured plan and organization makes sure workers are heard and encouraged,” says Rev. Joel Gaertner, director of WELS Special Ministries. A congregational Care Committee for Called Workers can provide that structure so congregations can make sure their workers are cared for. St. John, Redwood Falls, Minn., has had a formal Care Committee for Called Workers for years, offering support to its 14 called workers and 2 support staff at its church and school. Five lay married couples form the committee, which is headed by Mr. Lance Otto, a member of the congregation’s Board of Elders. Each couple is assigned three to four called workers with whom they meet regularly.

Otto says a couple from the committee is in contact with the called worker from the very beginning—right when the call is accepted. That connection continues with once-a-year formal visits and numerous check-ins throughout the year. “They’re not just there to solve problems; they’re there to be a supporter and encourager,” says Otto. Having a contact couple also offers a safe place for called workers to share their concerns.

“Our Savior demonstrated a loving and caring heart for his disciples throughout his ministry. By his example, Jesus gave us a model of caring for our called workers. His command to love one another surely applies to Christians caring for the workers he sends us,” says Gaertner. “A local CCCW is often the best way to accomplish this.”

Learn more about how to set up a Care Committee for Called Workers at wels.net/cccw.

WELS Numbers

1,243 churches

335,648 baptized members

269,032 communicant members

356 early childhood ministries

280 Lutheran elementary schools

30 area Lutheran high schools

Council Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2024

Groups addressing important issues

A number of groups have been carrying out their assignments to address various issues that are important to our called workers, congregations, and members. Here is an update on those groups and their assignments.

The Ministry Recruitment task force (already described more fully in a [previous issue of Together](#)) Chaired by Rev. Paul Prange, this task force was formed as a result of a [resolution](#) passed by the 2023 synod convention due to the significant shortage of pastors, teachers, and staff ministers. Its assignment is to look at all factors that impact the recruitment of called workers and bring recommendations for a synodwide effort to recruit and train more called workers. It will bring its recommendations to the 2025 synod convention.

Task force on critical theories

Chaired by Rev. Snowden Sims, this **task force** was assigned to evaluate the topic of critical theories and provide guidance to WELS called workers and members on how to understand and address these philosophies in light of Scripture. The task force will submit its recommendations to the Conference of Presidents, which will then produce and distribute a pastoral brief on the subject.

Theology curriculum task force

The theology curriculum task force is currently in an 18-month development of the components necessary for future content writers to create new instructional materials for WELS schools to use for the instruction of God's Word. The task force wants the new curriculum to hold fast to our purposes of sharing God's Word in its truth and purity with the next generation and meet the needs of increasingly diverse classrooms. One of its goals is to provide a curriculum that is primarily digital in format, which will make it possible to update the curriculum on an ongoing basis. The task force chairman is Mr. Jim Rademan. Mrs. Melanie Giddings is the curriculum coordinator.

Long-range strategic planning task force

Chaired by Rev. Jonathan Hein, this task force is developing a new synod long-range strategic plan that will guide all areas of synodical mission and ministry. The six-year plan, entitled "Christ through us" (the theme of the 2025 synod convention), will be presented to the synod convention in 2025.

175th anniversary planning committee

Chaired by Prof. Joel Otto, the committee has already begun to make plans for the celebration of the synod's 175th anniversary in 2025. The theme for that celebration will be the same as the theme for the 2025 convention ("Christ through us"). Plans include a book that provides a pictorial history of the synod, video vignettes, an interactive online history of WELS, and a synodwide celebration Sunday in the fall of 2025.

Gender, sexuality, identity

A standing committee (not a temporary task force), chaired by Rev. Greg Lyon, is developing resources for pastors, congregations, parents, and young people to help them deal with transgender and same-sex attraction issues that are becoming more common in our society and culture.

Man/woman roles

The Conference of Presidents is continuing its work to develop a pastoral brief on man/woman roles. The brief will be distributed as soon as it is completed.

Please remember these groups as they work to address important issues biblically and evangelically

Council Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2024

Artificial Intelligence

Unprinted Memorial (2023-04)

Subject: Artificial intelligence and the church

Floor Committee #2

WHEREAS 1) the development of and advances in Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) technology are exponentially increasing on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS 2) the current AI models are based on language, the means by which God created the universe(Genesis 1:1) and became flesh (John 1:1); and

WHEREAS 3) researchers in the field of AI studies have raised concerns regarding the societal, moral, and ethical implications of the development of AI and its effect on human civilization; and

WHEREAS 4) the Lord of the church has called God’s people to be proactive in discerning what is good and evil (Hebrews 5:14); therefore be it Resolved,

a) that the synod in convention direct the Conference of Presidents to study by whatever means it deems most appropriate the development, implementation, and implications (societal,

theological, and ethical) of AI as it pertains to the ministry of the church; and be it Resolved,

b) that the synod in convention issue a moratorium on the use of language model AI to develop sermons, catechetical material, or other church-related content until the results of the Conference of Presidents’ study be released; and be it finally Resolved,

c) that the Conference of Presidents make a preliminary report available to the district conventions in Report to the Twelve Districts in time for conventions in 2024.

Mr. Daniel G. Baker, Milwaukee, Wis

MLC Day

May 1, 2024

Join MLC supporters across the globe in celebrating and promoting ministerial education on MLC Day.

Please consider joining us in one of the following ways:

- **Pray** for our ministry
- **Share** our story with the hashtag #MLCDAY24
- **Give** a gift to help us reach our \$120,000 fundraising goal.

Visit [MLCday.com](https://www.mlcday.com) for more information.

Council Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2024

MLHS:

- Click [here](#) for the Lancer Express, a weekly video update.
- School Choice vouchers for 2024-2025 can be applied for now.
- Lancer for a Day happened on March 8.
- The musical "Bye Bye Birdie" was presented March 8-10
- Calls
- Pastor Jason Hacker is transitioning into his role as MLHS President. Planning to be more present in the area beginning in May.
- On March 7, Mark Hesse from Kewaskum, WI was called to teach Social Studies.
- On March 7, Jason Schultz from Doral, FL was called to teach Theology
- James Otto has returned his call to teach English at West Lutheran High.
- Abbie Bosin has received a call to teach at Lakeside in Lake Mills, WI
- Nathan Gurgel has received a call to teach at Sola Fide Academy in Lawrenceville, GA.
- Campaign update - Info [at this link](#).
- St. Paul's federation delegates to MLHS are Pastor Bode, Principal Michael Wieting, Jim Van Alstine, Will Belitz, Kevin Mueller, Mike Heilman, and Tom Sawall.

Old Business:

Items in Old Business were taken care of in the School Board Report

New Business:

Promotion of Dementia Workshop (April 17th)

Will be opened to our members sponsored by Harvest Home and Sharon Richardson will be speaking.

District Convention Delegate on June 11th and 12th which is typically a full day and a 2/3 day on the second day. Looking for someone from the council to go.

Science Fusion Purchase (approximately \$1700 with shipping)

This would be for next year's workbooks. There are still some funds that were given for Science. Motion to use these funds for the Science workbooks, motion carried.

Telling the Next Generation Workshop - Wednesday, August 7 (8:30 am - 2:00 pm)

Strongly encouraging all leadership that can attend to attend. Please let Mike Wieting know by April 30th if you can attend. April 26th would be appreciated due to the Washington DC trip.

Thank you.

Reminders

1. Pastoral Call Meeting April 14th after the second service.
2. Budget Meeting April 18th (for those involved) Email will be sent.
3. Voters Meeting June 9th. Will be approving our yearly Budget.

Motion to adjourn the meeting, motion carried.

Pastor Bode closed the meeting with Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Eric Specht

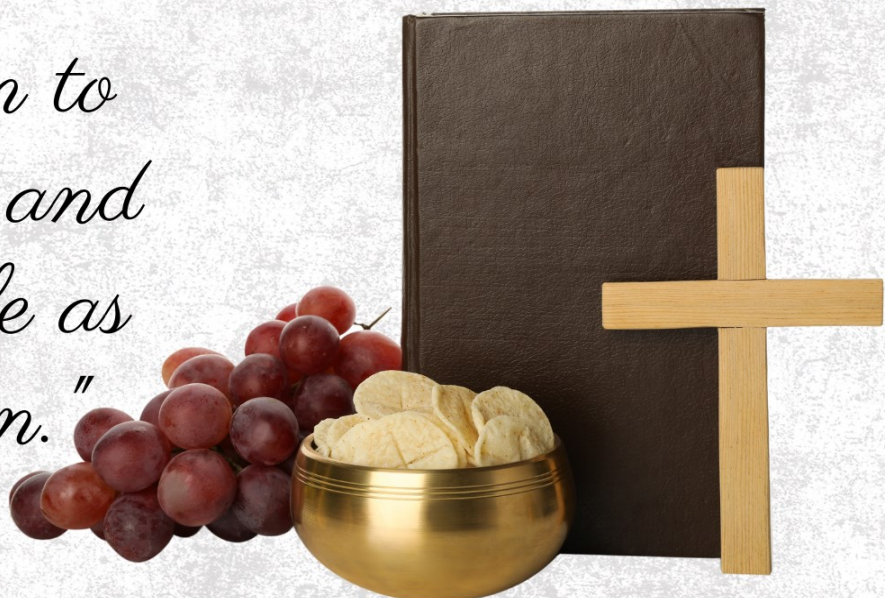
These thirteen young people will be confirmed in the faith in May:

EXAMINATION - MAY 4 @ 1PM
CONFIRMATION - MAY 5 @ 11AM



Please keep them in your prayers and encourage them when you see them.

"Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown."
- Revelation 2:10.



PTF Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2024

Opening Devotion - Pastor Bode

60 Second Classroom Updates

- 3K - Mrs. Wieting
- 4K - Mrs. Panzer
- Kindergarten - Mrs. Meitner
- 1st grade - Mrs. Johnson
- 2nd grade - Miss Doletzky
- 3-4 grades - Mr. Johnson
- 5-6 grades - Mr. Dais
- 7-8 grades - Mr. Wieting

○ Overnight Maritime Museum field trip won't be happening this year ○ Christmas gift to the kids will be: a lock-in at school on the last day of school pending school board approval

Principal's Report

- See attached report
- Highlighting parental choice program deadline this Thursday April 18 at 11:59pm ● Also highlighted: spring break might be moved to March 17-21 instead of the week after Easter, being as Easter is so late this year. School board meets tomorrow night to approve and discuss.

Early Childhood Report

- End of the year program will be happening soon, please look at the email from Mrs. Wieting to sign up to help.
- If anyone is undecided about registering for next year, please reach out to Mrs. Panzer, Mrs. Meitner, or Mrs. Wieting. Check your email for more information.
- Looking for donations of outside toys: bubbles, chalk, etc. and also gently used hot wheels, tricycles. No training wheel bikes or two-wheeled bikes.

Current Funds - \$21,150.82

Proposals

- A proposal was made to have a set budget every year for teacher
- appreciation week, a set amount for each full-time teacher and also including aides and volunteers - \$600 total (up to)
- \$6948.19 for chair purchasing for the Christmas service. In the past we've rented chairs every year. We can buy them in groups of 100 with a holder and a strap. We are hoping to buy 300, which is the amount that we usually rent every year. The storage gurus of church have given approval and say they can find room for them.
- Bringing Comedy Sportz (improv group) to the Silent Auction 10/5/24 for \$2100. Down payment is \$420 to secure the date. The show is an hour and a half. It was brought up that it will take selling 210 tickets at \$10 each to break even, and it is a fundraising event. It was brought up that the idea was to make the Comedy Sportz "outreach" and invite the community. Someone said that "outreach" should mean sharing Jesus, not just getting people physically in the building.

PTF Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2024

Proposals

- \$18,000 for a playground for the school for outside - this price doesn't include installation or base. There has been no school board approval yet. The system is rated for 2-12 years old. There are two pieces - the first one has a rock climber, 3 slides, etc. geared more toward little kids. The second piece is more of an obstacle course-type, geared more toward older kids. Zach Theobald suggests possibly \$3000 for the cement truck and mulch. If we split it up, first phase would be \$10,000 and second about \$8,000.

Voting

- Motion was made and seconded to keep the operating budget at \$5000 for next year. Approved.
- Motion was made to approve up to \$600 for teacher appreciation for this year. Approved.
- Motion was made to add the \$600 to the operating budget for next year to bring the total up to \$5600 for the operating budget. After discussion, this will be tabled until next year.
- Motion was made that we spend up to \$10,000 on playground equipment for the first phase. Amended to \$12,000 to cover shipping and installation costs. Amendment approved. Motion approved.
- Motion made for \$6600 for chairs. Seconded. Approved.
- Motion made to spend up to \$2100 for Comedy Sportz. We only have \$840 left. Motion was seconded. Amendment made to ask for \$420 for down payment. Motion was tabled. A new motion made to ask for \$420 for down payment. Seconded. Approved.

Next Year's operating costs - \$5000 (change)

- Student Babysitting - \$200 (\$50/meeting)
- Meals - \$600 (\$150/meeting)
- Events - \$1000
- Special Requests - \$3200
- \$400 was approved last meeting for 8th grade graduation party and gifts o New Items? (Mr. Wieting, Carli Miller)

New Business

- Teacher Appreciation Coordination
- Mrs. Belitz Gift Ideas - Gardening items, Kwik Trip, going out to eat with her husband
- PTF Officer Vote/Transition
 - Motion made to accept nominations for Bessa Theobald for secretary and Beth Heilman for President. Verbal vote made ; unanimous approval.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Family Dance Party - May 3
- Ascension Service/Singing - May 9 at SJSP Cleveland
- Teacher Appreciation Week - May 6-10
- 4K-K End of Year Program - Friday, May 10
- Grade 5-8 St. Paul's School Musical -Thursday, May 16
- 8th Grade Graduation - May 19
- Last day of School - May 22, 11:30am Dismissal & Picnic

Martin Grunewald—90

Martin Grunewald was born on April 7, 1934 to Martin and Elnora (Barts) Grunewald Sr., and grew up in Ada. The family home was located on the same property where Vintage of Ada now stands. He had three brothers: Milton, Merlin, and Norman - and one sister, Viola. Merlin is the only surviving sibling, living in Cleveland, and Martin and Merlin's children made sure that the two brothers were able to get together from time to time when their health permitted.

The family attended Trinity Church in Howards Grove and faith was an important part of family life. Martin's parents were farmers, having both animals and crops, and Martin developed a love of the outdoors.

Martin attended elementary school in Ada, and went on to Kiel High School. After graduating, he worked at Semph's grocery store in Ada, where he met his wife, Marilyn. Marilyn was a member of St. Paul's and they were married there on May 12, 1956. Martin joined the church at that time and he's been a member of St. Paul's ever since. They were blessed with 63 years of marriage before Marilyn's passing in October of 2019.

Martin and Marilyn's first home was an apartment in Millersville next to the old Fire Department. They had six children - all girls: Connie, Ruth, Donna, Amy, Diann and Jennifer. Growing up, they lovingly referred to Martin as the king of the house of queens. It was very important for Martin and Marilyn to pass down their faith, and all of the girls were baptized and confirmed at St. Paul's. With the exception of Ruth, who lives in Florida, the rest are still in the general area and they get together when possible, including this past Christmas. In all, Martin has eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. .

After the apartment in Millersville, the family moved to a home on Bittersweet Lane, where Martin's love of the outdoors continued. They received permission to plant a huge garden on the land behind their house which was owned by Badger Hatchery. The children have fond memories of planting potatoes on Mother's Day, and one year they dug up over 3000 pounds. The garden was so impressive that it won recognition in the Sheboygan Press.

Martin is a lifelong resident of the area and has a deep connection to it. A jack of all trades, he worked for many of the area's major employers, including Milwaukee Cheese Co., Kohler Co., Bitter-Neumann, Neumann Plumbing & Heating, and Piggy Wiggly. One of the family's favorite stories dates back to his time at Milwaukee Cheese, when Martin's mother requested that he bring home Limburger cheese. Although Martin hated the smell, he was not one to disappoint his mother, and he proved his resourcefulness by tying the cheese the bumper of his truck.

Martin Grunewald—90

Continued

Although work kept him busy, he still managed to be handy around the house, building a deck onto the back, and the family has many fond memories from time spent there. They also added a three car garage, which gave them the extra space to let all those potatoes dry out

Martin was also very active in the the community, and when Millersville and Howard's Grove joined together, Martin was the Village's first treasurer in 1967. He also served for a time as Millersville's Fire Chief and was a member of the Millersville Recreation Association.

Martin currently lives at Harvest Home in Howards Grove, where he is surrounded by many family photographs, including an amazing portrait of the large extended family. It was very important to Marilyn to have it taken and Martin treasures it every day, still marveling at how amazing it was that they were all able to come together for it. Martin's daughters visit him regularly and Donna, who is also a member at St. Paul's, occasionally brings him to church for Sunday worship. They always drive down Bittersweet Lane so he can see the house which holds so many memories for him.

Faith and family are the two most important pillars of Martin's life and he feels he has been richly blessed. And St. Paul is very blessed to have him as a member. .

Interview by St. Paul's History Committee (March 2024)

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School Only 9:30am Worship 10:15am Garden Gym Open 11am Confirmation Worship</p>	<p>6 3:30pm Garden Gym Open 6pm Worship 7pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 8:30am M.M. Bible Study 9am Bible Study 3:30pm Garden Gym Open 4:15pm Pub. School Cate. 6:30pm Evangelism 6:30pm Piano Recital 6:30pm Gym Reserved</p>	<p>9 1pm Ladies Aid 6:30pm Ascension Worship K-8th Sing</p>	<p>10 6pm 3K-K End of the Year Program</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 8am Worship 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:15am Garden Gym Open 10:30am Worship—3K & 4K Sing</p>	<p>13 3:30pm Garden Gym Open 6pm Worship 7pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 8:30am M.M. Bible Study 9am Bible Study 3:30pm Garden Gym Open 4:15pm Pub. School Cate. 6:30pm School Board 6:30pm Officers 6:30pm Gym Reserved</p>	<p>16 6:30pm 5th-8th Grade Musical</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 6pm WELS Youth Night</p>
<p>19 8th Grade Graduation—Harvest Room Reserved 1st-8th Sing Both Services 8am Worship 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:15am Garden Gym Open 10:30am Worship</p>	<p>20 3:30pm Garden Gym Open 6pm Worship 7pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 9am Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 8am Worship 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30am Worship</p>	<p>27 4:30pm Trustees 6pm Worship 7pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 6:30pm Elders 6:30pm Gym Reserved</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	