

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – 2/9/2020

**Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)** - Beginning this month in our worship and Bible classes, we are introducing the EHV, the new Bible translation developed by Lutheran scholars. This translation is recognized as a fresh and readable translation of the familiar message, faithful to the Bible's original languages by reflecting their expressions, imagery, and style. This is a trial period as we determine how to move forward now that our aging NIV 1984 Bibles are out of print.

**Family Bible Hour** – Please join us in the church sanctuary this morning for an inspiring video presentation by Pastor David Rosenau, who serves one of our WELS churches in Florida. This presentation was given last month at our WELS leadership conference and serves as an excellent encouragement to Christians and congregations about the importance of leading people to Jesus.

**Thursday Bible Class** - Two more chances to study the book of 1 John. Come and delve into a beautiful faith building and faith practicing book.

**Lenora Gierach** was called home to heaven on February 4th. The family has made arrangements for a visitation to be held here on Feb. 17th from 10:00am to 12:00pm. A funeral follows at St. Paul's at noon.

**New Bible Information Class Beginning** - Interested in refreshing in the Word or in investigating membership at St. Paul's? This is the class for you! The course is on Sundays from 1:30 to 3:30pm for 8 weeks. Register with either pastor.

**Accreditation Highlights** - In late January, a team of four experienced and accomplished educators were on site at our school to review our self-study and to offer both commendations and recommendations for improvement. They visited classrooms, observed school culture, interviewed parents and staff, and poured over forms, evidence, and plans. On Wednesday, they announced that we have received the highest accreditation status: “exemplary”. They were especially impressed by our students’ Christian attitude; the “flex” time on Wednesday afternoons to grow in culture, woodworking, culinary arts, and racket sports; our recent curriculum updates; and our all-school worship routines at the beginning and end of every day. We are so blessed with our school ministry to partner with parents in our congregation and community to shine Christ’s light on children’s lives. The detailed report of the accreditation visit will be published soon.

### **Annual Meeting Highlights**

- The voters’ gave approval for St. Paul’s to enter into the Special Needs Scholarship Program. See below for a brief explanation.
- The voters’ gave approval for development of a financial campaign to eliminate our congregational debt and then proceed to raise funds for a future building project.
- The name of our congregation on our Constitution was updated for accreditation purposes. It now reads, “St. Paul’s Ev. Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool of Howards Grove.” The change acknowledges the preschool.
- We already have 16 students registered for 4K next school year.

**Special Needs Scholarship Program** - The members of St. Paul's recently approved enrollment in the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP) beginning in the 2020-2021 school year. SNSP provides students with disabilities the option to collect a voucher from the state. Voucher money is used to assist students according to their needs plan. We are excited about this opportunity to help us better serve our school families and carry out our mission. If you have any questions about SNSP, please contact Principal Marohn.

**Wisconsin Parental Choice Program** - St. Paul's Lutheran School is a participant in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP). This is a program designed to assist families who desire private schooling for their children but would benefit from financial assistance.

Families who meet income and residency requirements are eligible to receive a tuition voucher from the state to attend St. Paul's Lutheran School. No tuition is charged to the family. Children receive a high quality, Christian education.

Any student entering 4K, Kindergarten, or 1st grade is eligible to apply for the WPCP. Students transferring from the public school system, or out of state, or homeschool education, may apply at any grade level. If you have any questions about WPCP, please contact Principal Marohn.

**A Capital Campaign Committee** at St. Paul's has been organized in line with the actions of the last voters' meeting. The following people have agreed to serve on it: Corey Schroeder, Eric Eickhoff, Kathleen Eickhoff, Jim Van Alstine, and Pastor Mueller. Their first meeting is Feb 9. Regular communication will follow.

**Mindful Moms** - We meet every Wednesday at 10 am. On February 12, we will study the Lord's Prayer with applications for moms and young children. Child care is provided during the study. On February 19, we will have a playdate with a pajama party theme.

**Ash Wednesday** - On February 26, we begin the season of Lent with the solemn celebration of Ash Wednesday. Please mark your calendars for our 6:30 service that day with communion. A hot dog meal will be served by the Altar Guild starting at 5:00pm ending at 6:00pm.

**Marriage Enrichment Workshop** - Public health leaders have identified "social determinants of health" – things that affect a wide range of health, functioning and quality of life. Jesus has identified "determinants of a healthy marriage" – things that affect the health of your marriage. As it turns out, the same factors that contribute to a healthy life with Jesus contribute to a healthy marriage. Luther Curia will be hosting a marriage enrichment retreat at the Osthoff Resort Friday-Saturday, March 13-14. The retreat will help you learn those "determinants of a healthy marriage." More than that, it will equip you to practice them and maintain the health of your marriage long after this memorable weekend get-away. Flyers with event details and registration forms can be found in the member room. Contact Luther with any questions:

**[luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org](mailto:luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org)**

**Forward in Christ** - The February issue is now available. Make sure to read the parenting article this month, which highlights how to keep your child engaged during church. There also is a great article on Jesus as our prophet. Pick up your free copy from the display holder in the narthex.

**Scrip - Fast Fundraising February** - Earn funds for St. Paul's twice as "kwik" with a 10% discount (normally 5%) on Kwik Trip scrip gift cards Feb. 1-29. Scrip can be purchased in the office during open hours and at the scrip table in the narthex on Sundays. We also have Festival Foods, Meijer, Miesfelds, Piggly Wiggly, Pick n' Save, Culvers, BP, Menards, Walgreens, and Walmart on hand.

**Howards Grove Fire Department Brat Fry** –If you would like to help the fire department by supplying cakes and tortes for their annual brat fry on Sunday, February 23rd, please sign up in the member room. Please label your pans with your name and church so they can make sure that all the pans can get back to us. Thank you in advance for your help.

#### **Elected Congregational Leadership**

**President** - Todd Marten      **Treasurer** - Jim Van Alstine

**Financial Secretary** - Joey Balge      **Evangelism** - Nick Schmidt

**Recording Secretary** - Kevin Reinemann   **Stewardship** - Jeremy Neseemann

**Board of Education** - Travis Krell, Dan Radue, Thomas Cameron, Zach Theobald

**Board of Trustees** - John Marten, Jeremy Pieper, Terry Roehrborn, Mark Eichhorst

**Board of Elders** - Corey Schroeder, Ed Strauss, Bill Reichardt, Ron Kallies, Mark Kolosovsky,  
Don Last, Eric Eickhoff

### **Appointed Congregational Leaders**

**Sunday School Superintendent** - Craig Schuenemann

**Youth Group Leader** - Mike Leahy