



The Epistle May

2023

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."

Philippians 1:3-5

Friends and Members of St. Paul's,

We have been blessed over the past couple of years to have Sam Wegner, a DCE intern student from Concordia University in Chicago and Michael Ewert, a 2nd year Concordia Seminary student serving and gaining ministry skills here at St. Paul's. Sam will be leaving after the Sunday Service and farewell brunch on Sunday, June 4th and Michael will also be departing sometime in the later part of May. Sam will be getting married this summer, and then teach and serve at a Lutheran High School in Budapest, Hungary over the next few years. Michael, will be receiving his vicarage placement (yearlong internship) in April and start serving in that congregation this summer. Both Sam and Michael have been tremendous blessings to our congregation. Sam has helped move forward a youth program that we hope will continue long after she has departed. In addition, she has helped get a multi congregational young adult ministry off the ground. She has taught Bible classes at Reflections Memory Care and Garden place in Columbia along with the High School Bible class and 5th grade confirmation. Her commitment, organizational ability, computer savvy (tech skills), love of theology, and willingness to be part of all aspects of ministry here at St. Paul's has been greatly appreciated. Over these past two years Michael has grown in his abilities to lead worship, teach Bible Class, and make personal visits. Like Sam, his willingness to learn and to join in on a variety of service opportunities in this congregation is quite commendable. A huge thank you goes out to each of you, friends, and members of St. Paul's, for your willingness to serve the church at large in shaping these future church workers. Over the next month be sure to express your appreciation to God for these servants, and when you get a chance let them know how much you have valued their time among us. Have a blessed May.

**Yours in Christ,
Pastor Krenz**

May Sermon Series

May 7th & 8th John 14:6

"Confirmed to confess Jesus as the way, the truth, and the life"

May 14th & 15th "Adopted" John 14:18

May 21st & 22nd Ascension Day Theme with Pastor Sievers

May 28th "The Living Waters of Pentecost" John 7:37-39

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Pastor Stephen Krenz

618-363-0121

DCE Intern Sam Wegner

920-530-8638

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Mission Statement:

Our mission is to Proclaim Christ,

Teach Christ's Word and Reflect Christ's Love to all!

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 227 Goodhaven Street,
Columbia, IL 62236 618.281.4600 stpauls-lcms.org**

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Member Spotlight

Welcome!

Reverend Tony and Cindy Troup

We live in the country between Waterloo and Hecker. We have lived there a little over 9 years. Tony retired from being a pastor at Immanuel Lutheran in Waterloo this past October after serving them for almost 27 years. I was the preschool teacher/director for Immanuel's preschool for over 20 years. Now I work retail a couple of days a week. We have 3 adult children who are all married and there are 8 grandchildren between them. Our son actually got married at St. Paul about 14 years ago. We love to spend time with our grandchildren and kids. We do some hiking and attending the kid's activities as much as we can.



Welcome!

Evelyn Diana Busch

Baptized

Sunday, April 16, 2023

Parents: Travis & Kristy

Congratulations!
and continued blessings with the
Renewal of Vows Ceremony
for Rick and Mary Schmidt
on April 15, 2023.



In Honor of our oldest member,
Melvin Bercherer's
100th birthday on June 10th
we encourage you to send a
card to help him celebrate!



1626 Ghent Road, Columbia, IL 62236

Thank You: A special thank you to
Women's Ministry who makes sure that the
children's worship activities bags are ready for
each service. Women's Ministry meets the
3rd Monday of each month @ 6:30 pm.

Official Acts of the Church

Transfer In: Rev. Tony & Cindy Troup, 1/31/2023
Funeral: Dale Ritter, 3/9/2023
Funeral: Sharon Garfield, 3/15/2023
Renewal of Vows: Rick & Mary Schmidt, 4/15/2023
Baptism: Evelyn Diana Busch, 4/16/2023

Something from Sam

When was the last time you attended a family reunion? I love these gatherings -- they allow us a chance to slow down and catch up with everyone in the middle of our busy lives. Everyone checks in on how grandma and grandpa are doing, or dotes on the newest baby in the family. In many ways, the church can also be thought of like a family gathering. Through the blood of Jesus, we all are connected and become members of His family. And, like our own families, the church spans generations, including everyone from infants to great-grandparents. The diversity of these multiple generations is a great strength to the church, especially when it comes to supporting families with children and youth in the congregation.



A 2017 research study of LCMS young adults showed when older adults from the congregation invested in students' lives, it made a huge impact! Those who had connected with at least five Christian adults were more active in church when they grew older. Some of these supportive adults included parents, Sunday School teachers, and church workers. But, many were simply ordinary congregation members who looked for ways to connect with students. I'd challenge you to look for ways that you can be a supporting adult for a young person in our church. Whether it's serving as a confirmation friend, starting a conversation when a student approaches you for worship notes, or thanking young people for serving in church. These small connections can play a big role in building up young members of our church family!

WE THANK YOU SAM!

Please join us in the fellowship hall on Sunday, June 4th following the worship service as Sam gives us information on her next missionary endeavor to Hungary. This fellowship time will include a light brunch, and a time to say thank you for her work among us.

Financial donations can be made personally to her and her fiancée Kendall, or in her name to the missionary organization "Mission of Christ Network" which she will be a part of in Hungary.



LWML/LADIES LEAGUE

Easter and spring decorations graced the Fellowship Hall at our April meeting. Nancy Radentz led with a devotion entitled "Begin with God: He is Savior." followed by the common table prayer. Nancy, also provided an Easter card for us to color "For I know that My Redeemer Lives."

Lunch (desserts by our hostesses, Jean and Stefanie) was

followed by a topic by Helen Nowak entitled "Why I Became a Teacher." She shared her experiences throughout the years and mentioned people who encouraged her to become a teacher. A business meeting followed.

Our May 4th meeting will begin at 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Helen plans to order and pick up tortellini and a salad from Papa Vito's for our lunch. Sandy R. and Wanda Gross will be our hostesses. Pastor Krenz is planning to present a topic following our lunch. If you are a Mailbox Member and wish to attend, please let me know.

LWML News (For our members and Mailbox Members)

LWML Convention "Celebrate the Lord of the Nations" will be held at Milwaukee, WI from 6/22 to 6/25/2023. Registration has begun.

Please feel free to join us at meetings, events, service projects, or just to visit. For more information, contact Wanda at 618-281-4691

LWML Mission Statement

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.



Zion Evangelical Church, Millstadt Sisters in Faith,

is having a Spring Luncheon on Wednesday, May 10th "Don't Worry, Bee Happy". Delicious lunch, entertainment, attendance prizes, Quilt Drawing, Raffle boutique, fun and fellowship! \$15 per person—reply by Friday, May 5th. 618-476-1778.

Gateway Grizzlies Game



Please sign up to join us for the Gateway Grizzlies game on Wednesday, June 7th.

The game starts at 6:45 with the gates open at 5:45. Like last year those attending from St. Paul's (guests and members) will get a meal. A generous donor is covering the cost for the event, but we are asking that \$10 per person be donated to a mission project that will be decided later by the stewardship committee. Please sign up in the narthex. The **deadline to sign up is Tuesday, May 3rd.**

Summer Fellowship Picnic

Members and friends of the congregation are invited to a **congregational picnic** at **Bolm-Schuhkraft Memorial Park** in Columbia on **Sunday, June 18th between 10:30am-11am.**

While chicken and hot dogs will be provided, we are asking members to bring side dishes, desserts, and drinks. Please **sign up in the narthex** if you are planning to bring a side dish and/or attend the picnic. Outdoor games are also being planned. Come one, come all!

Church Potluck Picnic in the Park





OOPS – Answering Two WHY Questions?

Question #1 - WHY is it so HARD for us to talk to our children and grandchildren about Jesus when they grow up and get out of the habit of worshipping, praying, and acting like they still believe in Him and want to follow Him? **Answer** – BECAUSE we're afraid of what they will say and think of us.

Question #2 - WHY is it so IMPORTANT for us to do just that? **Answer** – BECAUSE we love them so much and want them to be saved.

Here are four suggestions for starting up a meaningful conversation about Jesus with them:

- (1) "Want to go to church with me next _____?" followed by "I love to go to church because _____."
- (2) "Are you praying for anything special these days?" followed by "Well, I've been praying for you a lot these days because _____."
- (3) "Do you still believe in Jesus?" followed by "I just had to ask because I love you so much and so does Jesus."
- (4) "Do you know you and I are both going to die someday?" followed by "I sure want to see you someday when I'm in Heaven."

OOPS – May the Holy Spirit inspire you to try out these suggestions and leave the rest in His faith-creating hands.

That's our May Outreach **OP**portunity **S**uggestion.

Come Flier with us!

All are invited to join us on Sunday, May 7th at 2 pm to distribute fliers thru-out Columbia. Our goal is to have 10 teams of at least 2 people to cover a number of homes for 1-2 hours. Sign up in narthex. Inviting our community to grow in Christ with us.

Do you have a favorite hymn?

We would like to incorporate our parishioners' favorite hymns during the summer months.

If you have a favorite hymn that is **not** in the Lutheran Service Builder, please list below with Composer. If from the Lutheran Service Builder, You will need hymn name and LSB number to be included on the form below. We will use as many as possible fitting the Scripture readings for the day. Please deposit this form in Jeanine Consolino's church mailbox as soon as possible.

Thanks!

Hymn choice:

_____ (#)

Hymn title:

Hymn composer: (if not in LSB)

My name

Pastor and Jeanine



Comforts of Love Quilters—Tuesdays

Quilters meet Tuesdays from 9 am to 10:30 am. Please join us!

We have "sew" much fun! Remember us w/ **Extra fabric, gently used sheets, Large table clothes and embroidery thread!** Thank you for all your support!

WOMEN's Ministry Sunday Potluck

On the fourth Sunday of each month, we will gather after the 10:30 service for a fellowship meal.

The Women's Ministry generally meets on the third Monday of each month. (5/16)

Please join us at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

May 22nd Church-Wide Fellowship Potluck



News... We are continuing to have the pantry open three times each month. We are seeing and serving new families all the time. Thank you for your help!

Current Pantry Needs:

Applesauce,
Ketchup,
Cereal,
Evaporated Milk,

Flour,
Sugar,
Brownie Mix,
Chili Beans,

Peaches,
Pineapple,
Graham Crackers,
Coffee & Tea

May Dates:

5/3 5/10 5/17

Food Pantry Hours:

1st & 3rd Wednesdays
1:30-3pm
2nd Wednesdays
4-6 pm



Confirmation Students:

On **Sunday, May 7th** at the **10:30am** service **Brynnley Grider, Tanner Roessler, Sylvia Ebersohl, and Dane Quevreaux** are scheduled to be confirmed. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their Christian journey.

Summer Worship Service Times:

Just a reminder that from

June 4th-September 3rd

we will be going to one 9am Sunday Service.

The Summer Sunday School/Adult Bible class

Sunday morning schedule will run

June 25th thru July 30th from 10:15am-11am.



Vacation Bible School

We will once again be hosting our VBS this year, **June 12th - 16th, 9 am to 12 pm** each day. We are in need

of several volunteers who would be willing to be site leaders and group leaders for the week. This year's theme is **God's Living Water**.

Pick up a flier in the Narthex and invite your neighbors and friends.

If you are interested in helping out, please **contact Carleigh Ottwell** carleigh.ottwell@gmail.com or **618-719-9307**.

Member Visits

Pastor has begun with a couple visits, and is looking forward to greeting many more of our members in the coming months. Dianne and I (Pastor Krenz) will continue contacting members for visits.



The purpose of these visits is to better understand and meet the needs of St. Paul's members. His hope is to visit 2-4 homes per month. If members prefer not meeting at home, he will be happy to meet at church.

May 15th

Newsletter Deadline is the 3rd Monday of most months. Please send articles, photos, etc. to secretary@stpauls-lcms.org

-Thank you for your help!

Thank you to our Newsletter Folding Volunteers that help each month!

We had extra helpers to cut, fold and stuff for Holy Week

- Thank You for your time!



Youth Ministry Update

Upcoming Youth Nights:

Middle & High School students are welcome to join us at church for time to hang out, play games, and spend time in God's Word.

Sunday, April 30th at 6:00 - 7:30pm

Sunday, May 28th at 6:00 - 7:30pm

High Ropes at Camp Wartburg

On **Saturday, May 13th**, we will be taking 6th-12th grade students to tackle the high ropes course at Camp Wartburg! It should be quite the adventure! We will meet at church at 12:30pm and be back about 4:30pm. We are asking students to **bring \$5 along** on the day of the event. If your student or their friends would like to attend, please let Sam Wegner know **by May 3rd** at cwf_wegnersm@cuchicago.edu or (920) 530-8636.

Adult Education

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

John Bible Study: Throughout the month of May, we will be continuing our verse by verse study of John in the Sunday morning Bible Class. Come one, come all.

Tuesday Men's Bible Study

Meet with us at 7:15 am in the Narthex. All men welcome.

Wednesday Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will be on Hiatus until this fall.

Fridays, Once a Month - It's Some of the PSALMS in 2023

We're going to be studying some of the Psalms in our first Friday of the month **Not Just for Couples Bible Study Group**. ***We will next meet Thursday, May 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.** Before class preparation is strongly encouraged. Adults of any age are welcome. Please contact **Pastor Sievers (314-882-2097)** or pastorsievers@yahoo.com

Membership Classes

If you are someone you know is interested in learning more about what Lutherans believe and teach, please contact Pastor Krenz. Typically these classes go 10 weeks, and he can accommodate various schedules. A hybrid confirmation class can also be given for high schoolers or college students, who for a variety of reasons were not able to participate in the middle school confirmation program.

Parents & Families Bible Study

Our Parents & Families Bible Study will have additional sessions meeting in May. Join us during the education hour, from 9:15 - 10:15am on Sunday, May 7th and Sunday, May 14th.

We will meet at the end of the Sunday School wing. Families of all ages & grandparents are welcome!





Frequently asked Questions...

Ask the Pastor



Why do we learn from the catechism? Isn't learning the Bible enough?

In our church constitution it states that communicant members are to accept the Bible as the only rule and standard of faith (2 Timothy 3:14-17). In addition, members are to understand and accept the teachings of Luther's Small catechism, which was written in 1529, as an ordered summary of what the Bible states about the Christian faith.

The catechism was not intended to merely be a reference book, rather a devotional aid reflecting on

- the God who gives us His law in the 10 commandments;
- what we are to believe in the creeds;
- the why and how of praying in the Lord's Prayer;
- and the personalized gifts of the Lord's Supper, Baptism, and confession/absolution.

The catechism is not an "add on" to the Bible, but rather a book that helps us understand the Bible and incorporate its teachings into our life.

The most recent edition of the catechism, which came out in 2017, includes Martin Luther's original catechism. In these first 40 pages you will find the six chief parts of what we believe summarized, along with daily prayers, the table of duties, and questions to ask when going to the Lord's Supper. The next 300 plus pages address these six chief teachings of the Christian faith in greater detail while addressing several contemporary questions. In this section numerous Bible passages are provided that back up key Christian teachings.

I would highly recommend incorporating Luther's catechism into your devotional life, by meditating on the six chief parts and the explanations. In addition, having the 300 plus pages of the catechism's explanation serves as a great resource in learning what we believe and why we believe it. You can order the 2017 edition of the catechism by calling Concordia Publishing House at 1-800-235-3040.

If you have a question that you would like addressed by Pastor Krenz in future newsletter articles, please send it to Pastork@splcolumbia.com.

May 2023 Preschool News

It is hard to believe we are already counting down the days until summer break! With just under a month remaining, we are soaking up every last bit of our time together. Our last weeks of preschool will continue with many fun experiences for the children. With much to look forward to e.g., our teddy bear picnic, camping day with S'mores, and a Luau for our beach/ocean unit, we will marvel at the Lord's creation of our Earth and everything in it as we celebrate Earth day by planting seeds & flowers as well as learning ways that we can help keep our Earth clean. We thank God for all his wondrous creations and may we relish in all the beauty that surrounds us.



Jesus Lessons for May

- Phillip and the Ethiopian
- Paul's Conversion
- Dorcas



We give thanks to:

our preschool families for their commitment and support to our program, St. Paul's Lutheran Church

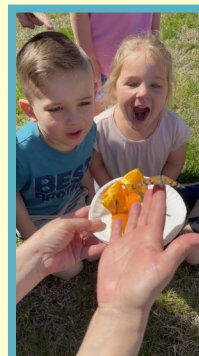
for financial and prayer support, Thrivent members who have donated their Choice Dollars to our preschool, Marianne May for maintaining the playground, Pastor Krenz and Sam Wegner for sharing God's word at Chapel each month with the children. We are very thankful & blessed for each and every one!

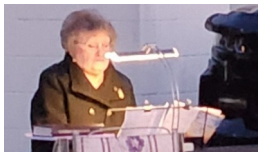


Registration is still open for fall!

If interested, call our Director, Shelly Augustin at: 618-281-4190

Sending Summer Blessings your way!
Shelly Augustin,
Director







BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Julie Arbeiter Patsy Powell	2 Caroline Herbeck Wes Mahnken	3 Carol Essert Andrew Holman Gene & Brenda Henckler ♡	4 Nicholas Bierman Jordan Colyer Nathan & Stacey Filipiak ♡	5 Debra Dietz Michele Nelson Wanda Porfell Heather Quevreaux Jason & Lori Woodcock ♡	6
7 Paulette Kremmel Richard Pulcher Quintin Roland Mike & Gail Zavadil ♡	8 Steve Dinkelmann	9 Sarah Fulk Silas Smith	10 Tom Eytchison Rex Hancock Joe Starek Mel Stuckmeyer	11	12 Ryan Greer Pastor Krenz	13 Mike Louis Seth Schwartz Nicole Zavadil
14 Kip & Heather Quevreaux ♡ Dan & Judith Schwartz ♡	15 Tucker Herbeck Ervin Riebeling Jr.	16 Ray & Mary Clyde ♡	17 Jeremy Grueninger Todd Hale Robert & Melissa Roessler, Jr	18 Mallory Beatty Graycie Luberda Juanita Ritter	19 Susan Champion Charles E. Farris, III Lisa Krenz	20 Tom McLaughlin
21 Tricia Dinkelmann Angie Dixon Kylie Hofstetter Cameron Nowak Lennon Ottwell	22	23 Charles Consolino John Grohman	24 Callahan Rule	25 Marianne May Jane Stumpf Jeffrey & Ginger Crank ♡	26	27 Owen Lambert Melodye Stamm
28 Chelsea Linderer Terry & Debbie Aldridge ♡	29 Taylor Bierman Kinley Kritz Reagan Mathews	30 Colin Grandt	31 Don & Nancy Radentz ♡ Dale & Cindy Schickedanz ♡		♡ Anniversary	



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MAY	1 Count (Team 1) 6:30 pm Divine Service	2 District Pastors Conference in Red Bud Men's Bible Study 7:15 am 9 am Quilters 5:30 pm Youth Board Mtg 7 pm Board of Education	3 Food Pantry 1:30—3 pm 6:30 - 8:30 pm Confirmation Questioning	4 Ladies League 11:30 am NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	5 Bible Study @ Bria Nursing Home 2 pm	6
DCE Conference @Concordia Chicago						
7 Confirmation Sunday Divine Service 8 am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15 am Fellowship Hall Youth Bible Study 9:15 am Youth Rm Sunday School 9:15 am SS Wing Divine Service 10:30 am Confirmation (Sanctuary) Come Flier With Us 2 pm	8 Count (Team 2) 6:30 pm Divine Service	9 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am 9 am Quilters 5:30 pm Trustees, Outreach, Communication 7 pm Elders	10 Reflections Memory Care Bible Stories 1 pm Food Pantry 4-6 pm	11	12	13 12:30 Youth High Ropes @ Camp Wartburg
14 Mother's Day Divine Service 8 am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15 am Fellowship Hall Youth Bible Study 9:15 am Youth Rm Sunday School 9:15 am SS Wing Divine Service 10:30 am (Sanctuary)	15 Count (Team 3) 6:30 pm Divine Service Women's Ministry 6:30 pm Newsletter Articles Due	16 Men's Bible Study 7:15 9 am Quilters	17 Food Pantry 1:30—3 pm	18 Last Day of Pre-School 9 am Newsletter Folders Pre-School Chapel 11:15 . Sievers Evening Bible Class Psalms 6:30 pm	19 Worship @ Bria Nursing Home 2 pm	20
Pastor on Vacation thru Monday, May 18-22						
21 Divine Service 8 am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15 am Youth Bible Study 9:15 am Youth Rm Sunday School 9:15 am SS Wing Divine Service 10:30 am (Sanctuary) Daisy Scouts Fellowship Hall Rental 3-6	22 Count (Team 1) Divine Service 6:30 pm	23 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am 9 am Quilters	24	25 Garden Place Bible Study 3 pm	26 The Grande Worship @ 2pm	27
Pastor on Vacation thru Monday, May 18-22						
28 Pentecost Sunday Divine Service 8 am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15 am Fellowship Hall Youth Bible Study 9:15 am Youth Rm Sunday School 9:15 am SS Wing Divine Service 10:30 am (Sanctuary) Potluck Fellowship after 10:30 service Youth Night 6 pm	29 Memorial Day Count (Team 2) NO Service	30 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am (Narthex) 9 am Quilters	31 6:30 pm Middle School/High School Youth Parents Mtg	*** Dates, times, & locations subject to change. Additional activities my be added at a later date. For the most up-to-date calendar listing, go to: stpauls-lcms.org then click on the "calendar" tab. ***		



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**227 N. Goodhaven Drive
Columbia, IL 62236**

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Worship with Us...

**Sundays 8 am & 10:30 am
Mondays—6:30 pm**



The Epistle

May.2023