



T H E E C H O



St. Paul Lutheran School
701 Washington Street Grafton, Wisconsin 53024
Phone: 262-377-4659 FAX 262-377-7808
www.splgraffton.org e-mail: school@splgraffton.org

December 20, 2024

***"In Christ you also are being built up together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."
Ephesians 2:22***

The GREATEST Gift

Have you been part of a white elephant gift exchange? It can be a riot, and sometimes you get lucky and take home a fantastic gift. Other times, you may have gone home with a menagerie of broken toys, statues, silly games or a box of expired candy and chips.

Christmas is about the greatest gift the world has ever known. The gifts we give to each other are a small reflection of what God did for us. He gave us His beloved and precious Son, even knowing how we would mistreat Him. The Father knew that the "good news of great joy that will be for all the people" would mean the ultimate sacrifice—Jesus was born to die. Still, God gave His gift freely and joyously because of His relentless, unwavering love for humankind. His sacrificial gift was necessary for our salvation.

How beautiful it must be to the Lord when we embrace his gift, his Son, with the same enthusiasm children have on Christmas morning. For parents, all the frustrations of standing in line, finding the right color, and everything else it cost fade into distant memories as they delight in watching in giving to their children. "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!" (Matthew 7:11) God is the ultimate gift giver.

So as you gather around the tree and the annual gift giving frenzy commences, take a moment and give thanks for the best present you've already been given. The real Christmas miracle didn't happen on 34th Street, but in a lowly manger in the little town called Bethlehem, when God came to be with us.

Mrs. Werner, PreK Teacher
(Excerpt from the Skit Guys)



DECEMBER

23-Jan 3 Christmas Vacation – NO SCHOOL

JANUARY

6	Mon	Classes Resume
8-17	We-Fr	MAP Testing
9	Thu	A Girls Basketball Tournament PreK/K Information Night Panther Parent Meeting
11	Sat	5 th /7 th Round Robin BB Tournament
12	Sun	A Girls Basketball Tournament
17	Fri	End 2 nd Quarter
20-24	Mo-Fr	Pre-K Parent/Teacher Conferences
22	Wed	Chapel – 1 st Grade (Boyce)
23-24	Th-Fr	K-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences
24	Fri	NO SCHOOL
25-26	Sa-Su	B Boys Basketball Tournament
26-31	Su-Sa	National Lutheran Schools Week

Notes from the Principal:



- Enrollment for the 2025-26 school year is right around the corner. A special PreK & K Information Night is scheduled for Thursday, January 9 at 6:00 pm. Registration for new families will open on January 15. Those interested in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program, enrollment will open up February 1.
- School will be on Christmas Break December 21 through January 5. Merry Christmas to our entire St. Paul family.

St. Paul Lutheran

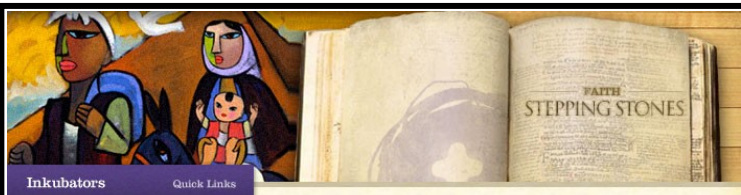
Prek & Kindergarten Information Night

January 9, 2025 @ 6PM

2025 Registration Begins January 15th

Enrollment Information

Focused on Excellence + Centered on Christ



Faith Stepping Stones

Faith Stepping Stones is faith based parenting education from cradle to high school graduation through eight short-courses, which pull parents into the role of primary faith mentors for their own children every night through blessing, prayer, scripture, Highs & Lows, and faith dialogue (FAITH 5).

Stone 1: Raising a Healthy Baby

This is a class where parents of infants and/or pregnant parents will learn about the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of infants. Parents will also be taught to give their children a nightly blessing. This class will begin on **Wednesday, January 8 at 6PM in the youth room and run through Wednesday, January 22.**

Check out the link to sign up tinyurl.com/FaithStone1 or for more information contact Tracy at tracy.krueger@splgrafton.org.

Stone 2: Raising a Healthy Preschooler

You are invited to join us for Stone 2: Raising a Healthy Preschooler. In this class there will be three sessions on physical, emotional and spiritual needs of preschoolers. Parents are also taught how to do a nightly blessing and prayer as a family faith practice. This class will meet in the youth room and run

Wednesday, February 5, 12, and 19 from 6-7:15pm.

Check out the link to sign up tinyurl.com/FaithStones2 or for more information contact Tracy at tracy.krueger@splgrafton.org.

Interest Day is a special school day where students attend different hands-on classes in a variety of areas. In the past, we have offered cooking, crafts, woods, sports and music classes, just to name a few. This school year, our Interest Day will be held on the morning of Friday, March 7. We are always looking for any new ideas for classes. We also need volunteers to lead a session. If you have any ideas, or you or someone you know would like to lead a class, please contact one of our committee members:



- Amy Steiner: amy.steiner@splgrafton.org
- Jenny Clemens: jennifer.clemens@splgrafton.org
- Lisa Frinzi: lisa.frinzi@splgrafton.org
- Shelby Nauta: shelby.nauta@splgrafton.org
- Rachel Nelsen: rachel.nelsen@splgrafton.org
- Amy Schumacher: amy.schumacher@splgrafton.org

The Church and School Offices will be closed:

Tuesday, December 24
Wednesday, December 25
Tuesday, December 31
Wednesday, January 1

ST. PAUL ADVENT + CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

<p>Wednesday Advent 6:30pm December 4; Grades 5-8 December 11; Grades 3-4 December 18; Grades 1-2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lessons & Carols <i>Adult Music Groups</i> Saturday, December 7: 5pm Sunday, December 8: 8am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Soloists & Small Groups</i> Sunday, December 8 9:30am, 11am</p>	<p>Pre-K & Kindergarten Christmas Service Saturday, December 14 9am & 10:30am</p> <p>Weekend of December 22 Saturday 5pm Sunday 8am, 9:30am, 11am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Christmas Eve Tuesday, December 24 12pm, 2pm Traditional 4pm Contemporary 7pm, 11pm Candlelight</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Christmas Day Wednesday, December 25 9:30am Traditional/Communion</p> <p>Weekend of December 29 Saturday 5pm Sunday 8am, 9:30am, 11am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Year's Eve Tuesday, December 31 5pm Traditional/Communion</p>
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No Monday Night Services November 25 - December 30. Resumes January 6, 2025.
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased. Luke 2:14

THANK YOU for all your help! The Panther Parents would like to thank everyone that helped brighten the Christmas season for so many families right here in our community. Without your generosity, these families would not have had much this Christmas. Thank you and have a very Merry Christmas!

St. Paul Giving Tree

Christian Day School Singing Schedule

Sat.	Jan. 18	5:00 pm	Children's Choir
Lutheran School's Week			
Sun.	Jan. 26	8:00 am	(K-8) Last name A-K Sing With JiVE
		9:30 am	(K-8) Last name L-Z Sing
Sun.	Feb. 2	8:00 am	PraisePower
Sat.	Feb. 8	5:00 pm	JiVE
Sat.	Feb. 15	5:00 pm	Gr. K-1 Sings
Sat.	Mar. 1	5:00 pm	Gr. 6-8 Sing w/ Concert Band
Wed.	Mar. 5	4:30 pm	PraisePower



**UNIT THREE >>> STRESS LESS-BREATHE EASY
CONNECT THROUGH CONVERSATION**

>>> UNIT THREE <<<

We all have times in life when we feel stressed and anxious. When we are stressed it affects our minds, emotions, and bodies. This month's third Friendzy unit equips students with strategies to stay calm when stress and anxiety arise. Students will learn tools to help them work through stress and uncertainty.

>>> CONVERSATION STARTERS <<<

> Can you remember a time when you experienced stress

KEY VERSES

LOOK AT THE BIRDS. THEY DON'T PLANT OR HARVEST OR STORE FOOD IN BARN, FOR YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER FEEDS THEM. AND AREN'T YOU FAR MORE VALUABLE TO HIM THAN THEY ARE? CAN ALL YOUR WORRIES ADD A SINGLE MOMENT TO YOUR LIFE?

MATTHEW 6:26-27

"GIVE ALL YOUR WORRIES AND CARES TO GOD, FOR HE CARES ABOUT YOU."

1 PETER 5:7

- or anxiety? What happened and what was your response?
- > What tools and strategies have you learned in this unit to overcome stressful situations? Remember and utilize the C.A.L.M. acronym taught in this unit.
- > What is a strategy for stress that you can put into place this week in your life?

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Save the Date!

**JANUARY 24
6PM**

**MORE
DETAILS TO
COME AFTER
THE NEW YEAR**

Middle School Youth

All 6-8 graders are invited to join us for middle school youth. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month September through May from 3-4:30pm in the youth room. For more information Contact: tracy.krueger@splgrafton.org



12/22: Enjoy Christmas break!

1/12: Join us this week as we play the floor is lava. We will also have a short devotion and enjoy some snacks together. Hope to see you there!

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Come join us for the fun! Sunday School runs Sundays September-May from 8:15-9:15am, and is open to children ages 3 thru 6th Grade. To have your child join us for this year's Sunday School please fill out the registration form at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/SSregisterate24>. If you have any questions, please contact tracy.krueger@splgrafton.org.

12/22: No Sunday school this week. Merry Christmas!

12/29: No Sunday school this week. Class resumes January 5th. Happy New Year!

Father Daughter Dance 2025

BEACH PARTY!

All girls 3PreK- 5th grade along with their dad, grandpa, uncle or other special friend are invited to dance the night away!

January 31, 2025

7:00pm - 8:30pm

St. Paul Family Life Center
Tickets will be available for purchase Jan. 20-24 before school at the main entrances from 8:00am - 8:15am or after school in the school office.

The cost is \$15.00 per family.

After January 24, tickets will cost \$20.

for more info contact diane.schumann@splgrafton.org

NIGHT OF PRAISE SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2025

6:30PM-7:15PM

FLC for REFRESHMENTS

7:15PM-8:15PM

SANCTUARY for PRAISE & SING
- freewill offering -

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FELLOWSHIP, MUSIC & PRAISE!
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT STUDENTS ATTENDING THE LUTHERAN YOUTH GATHERING IN SUMMER 2025 IN NEW ORLEANS.

*CHILDCARE WILL BE AVAILABLE.
\$5 PER CHILD OR \$10 MAX PER FAMILY*

PLEASE CONTACT STACEY MAMMEN WITH QUESTIONS
262-689-8494

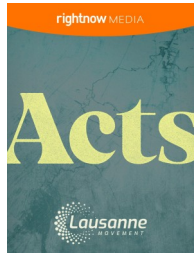
RightNow Media

RightNow Media is the world's largest video-streaming library of biblical resources. Every person in our church can access Biblically-based videos on topics like marriage, parenting, youth, recovery, leadership, finances and much more. You can also choose from more than 2,000 wholesome, educational, and entertaining videos in the RightNow Media library designed specially for children. Stream them at home or on the go with the RightNow Media app. To sign up via **Online Registration**:



Visit <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/splcas> to create your account. Or you can: **Text-to-Sign-Up: Text SPLCAS to 49775** and receive a direct link to the registration page.

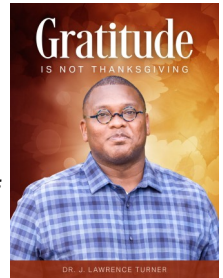
Already signed up to use RightNow Media, but looking for some ideas of what to watch?



Acts by Francis Chan, Anne Zaki, Chadwick Mohan, Anand Mahadevan, and Kwasi Amofo
In this compelling six-part series from the book of Acts, church leaders from nations around the world equip us to take the gospel of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Join Francis Chan, Anne Zaki, Chadwick Mohan, Anand Mahadevan, Jorge Salazar, and Kwasi Amofo, and be inspired to lead as servants, overcome opposition in community, face persecution with boldness, and reframe your workplace as your mission field. [Acts :: RightNow Media](#)

Gratitude Is Not Thanksgiving by Jason Turner

The only appropriate response to the faithfulness and goodness of God is GRATITUDE. In this study, Pastor Jason Turner will convey a biblical understanding of the necessity for authentic gratitude in the life of a faithful follower of Jesus. Jason will explore how we express it to God and communicate it to those through whom God works to bring about His good and perfect will for our lives. Gratitude is a worshipful disposition toward a good and gracious God. Jason will explore four main characteristics of what gratitude is not in moving us to understanding that gratitude is something that Christ Followers should model in their everyday life. [Gratitude Is Not Thanksgiving :: RightNow Media](#)

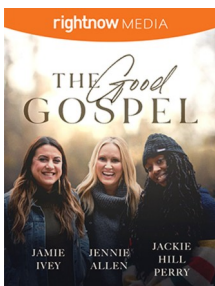
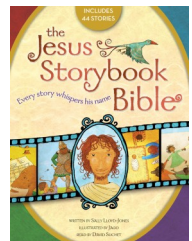


Fire and Faithfulness by Sadie Robertson Huff (youth)

We live in a world that doesn't care what God wants. Sure, they may not say it that way, but the messages that parade across social media declare that God's way just isn't worth it. But as Christians, we're committed to following Jesus in every aspect of our lives. Is it possible to live—or maybe even thrive—as a believer in our world today? In this four-session series with Sadie Robertson Huff, discover the lost art of faithfulness in the face of a world that wants nothing to do with God. Trek through the story of four young Israelites who, when ripped from their homes, faced a choice: remain faithful followers in a foreign land, or bow before an empire that hated God. [Fire and Faithfulness :: RightNow Media](#)

The Jesus Storybook Bible (ages 5 and under)

The Jesus Storybook Bible tells the Story beneath all the stories in the Bible. At the center of the Story is a baby, the child upon whom everything will depend. Every story whispers his name. From Noah to Moses to the great King David—every story points to him. The Jesus Storybook Bible invites children to join in the greatest of all adventures, to discover for themselves that Jesus is at the center of God's great story of salvation—and at the center of their Story too. [The Jesus Storybook Bible :: RightNow Media](#)








The Good Gospel by Jennie Allen

So many of us claim to know the gospel, but sometimes we can forget parts of the story. God has created a narrative of salvation that reveals who he is—and so much more. Because of the gospel, we can experience life with God. Because of the gospel, we are free from sin and death. Because of the gospel, we have an eternal hope no matter what happens. Do we live like we believe every part of the gospel? In this six-week study with Jennie Allen, Jamie Ivey, and Jackie Hill Perry, learn about the foundation of our faith to discover how God brings us from death to life, from fallen to free. [The Good Gospel :: RightNow Media](#)



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS



Sunday	22-Dec	29-Dec
	Worship at 8:00; 9:30; 11:00,	Worship at 8:00; 9:30; 11:00,
Monday	23-Dec	30-Dec
	Daycare CLOSED NO SCHOOL Christmas Vacation 	Daycare CLOSED NO SCHOOL Christmas Vacation
Tuesday	24-Dec	31-Dec
	CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 12pm, 2pm—Traditional 4pm—Contemporary 7pm, 11pm—Candlelight 	Daycare CLOSED NO SCHOOL Christmas Vacation New Years Eve Service, 5pm 
Wednesday	25-Dec	1-Jan
	 CHRISTMAS DAY 9:30 am Worship	 Daycare CLOSED NO SCHOOL Christmas Vacation
Thursday	26-Dec	2-Jan
	Daycare CLOSED NO SCHOOL Christmas Vacation	NO SCHOOL Christmas Vacation
Friday	27-Dec	3-Jan
	Daycare CLOSED NO SCHOOL Christmas Vacation	NO SCHOOL Christmas Vacation
Saturday	28-Dec	4-Jan
	Worship at 5:00pm;	Worship at 5:00pm;

Dear Parents,

We are so proud of your children - they have worked to learn songs, lines, movement, and performance skills. The time spent learning has also helped with their public speaking and presentations.

Most importantly, though, God's Word is lodged more firmly in their hearts and minds to sustain them through their lifetime. Thank you again for your partnership!

Click on this [PDF with links](#) to the video files (mp4) for all the performances you would like to see through the year. The video files can be downloaded to your device or played from the web browser (this option may not always be smooth. Downloading tends to work better).

~ A gentle reminder please - the concerts/musicals/plays are for you and your family only. ** Please do not post online so we avoid copyright issues and stay legal to avoid possible blocking of school/church media accounts. *Feel free to watch at home, but please do NOT put on Facebook, YouTube, or any social media.* **

~ Public worship services are always on St. Paul's [Vimeo](#) and [Church Facebook](#) pages and sometimes also on the [School Facebook](#) page.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

~Ms. Valerie Bremer

All 3rd-5th grades are invited to an afternoon of open gym on **Sunday, January 19** from **3-4:30pm**. We will meet in the gym for fun and lots of high energy activities. We will close our time together with snacks and a short devotion. Sign up here to join the fun: tinyurl.com/opengym3-5



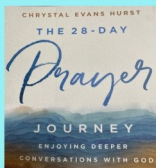
Rooted Women Winter Bible Study

Join us for our Winter Bible study on Prayer by Chrystal Evans Hurst

Mondays at 6:30PM

1/20, 2/3, 2/17, 3/3, 3/17, 4/5

Get your book & study guide in the office or contact Tracy Krueger



Please join Rooted Women as we dive into a 5 session study on prayer beginning **January 20**. We'll be using the study **The 28 Day Prayer Journey** by Chrystal Evans Hurst. Together we'll explore the 4 postures of prayer: Thanksgiving & Praise, Repentance, Asking, & Yielding. Hope you can join us as we join in a prayer journey to increase and change our conversations with God. Books/Workbooks available in the office or contact Tracy Krueger tracy.krueger@splgraffton.org



Building Tomorrow's T-Wolves Today!

INTEREST SURVEY

for incoming 5th-8th graders

YOUTH PROGRAMS



Complete the survey if you're interested in learning more!

Living Word Lutheran is exploring youth program opportunities for incoming 5th-8th graders!

Potential programs include Girls Volleyball, Football, Ski Club, and Band/Choir.

If you're interested in getting more information or possibly joining next fall, please complete our survey.

[INTEREST SURVEY LINK](#)

LIVING WORD LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

YOUTH DANCE CLINIC

1-DAY CLINIC
Sunday, January 26
2:30-5:30 PM @ LWLHS

PERFORM ON
Tuesday, January 28
Arrive at 6:00 PM
Performance around 7:35 PM
Halftime of Varsity Girls Basketball Game

Pink Theme!

OPEN TO GIRLS IN 2ND-8TH GRADE

\$40 (includes shirt)

Register online at... LWLHS.COM/EVENTS

Girls in 2nd-8th grade are invited to participate in a fun-filled 1-Day Dance Clinic with a Pink Theme at Living Word!

REGISTRATION LINK

1-Day Clinic Info:

When: Sunday, January 26
Time: 2:30-5:30 PM
Where: Living Word Lutheran High School

Performance Info:

Participants will perform at the halftime show of the Varsity Girls Basketball Game on Tuesday, January 28.
Arrival Time: 6:00 PM
Performance: Around 7:35 PM

Cost: \$40 (includes a clinic T-shirt and dinner the night of the performance)

The incoming freshman application is now OPEN and our early application discount window is closing soon!

To apply online, visit www.lwlhs.com/apply. **If you apply before December 31, you'll receive a \$450 tuition credit.**

Use our [Admissions Checklist](#) to stay updated on your application process.

Our mission is to make an education at Living Word [affordable](#) for all families. We do this through a variety of programs:

- Wisconsin & Milwaukee Choice Program SNSP voucher for students with IEPs
- Association Church assistance program
- Tuition Assistance through Living Word Lutheran High School

In short, we will work with your family to make an education at LW affordable!

