



T H E E C H O



St. Paul Lutheran School
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December 6, 2024

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

Luke 6 | Peace on the Mountain

WRITTEN BY LEA VAVERCHAK Submitted by Deanne Boyce, 1st Grade Teacher

There's something serene about a mountain. It's quiet, beautiful, and it's a place you can think and clear your head. Jesus must have felt the same way about them. He tended to go into the mountains often when He wanted time alone to pray. Which is exactly what was happening in Luke chapter 6. Jesus was at the beginning of His ministry. He had begun healing and was starting to teach and paint a picture of what it looks like to follow Him. And then we find Him in verse 12, "one of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray and spent the night praying to God" (NIV). Before teaching, healing, and decisions, He was in the quiet, praying. What happened next was significant. He came down from the mountain and chose His apostles. The men who would build His church and ultimately spread the Gospel throughout the world were chosen after this night in prayer.

Quiet, uninterrupted time with God gave Jesus wisdom, guidance, and peace. He left that night of prayer ready to make substantial decisions that would leave a lasting impact on the world. Vines Dictionary shows that the phrase "to continue" [all night in prayer] is in other places in Scripture too. It's interpreted as "to abide together, abide with." One definition of abide is to remain stable or fixed in a state. So Jesus remained in a state of prayer all night long. German pastor, George Muller, lived by this. He showed everyone what it looked like to continue or abide in a state of prayer. Mueller said, "I live in the spirit of prayer. I pray as I walk about, when I lie down and when I rise up. And the answers are always coming." Living in a spirit of prayer leaves the prayer line open, never really finishing with an amen, but instead, continuously meditating on Him, breathing in and out prayers all day long, praying verses as He brings them to mind, praising, and worshipping Him. And when our hearts are heavy, there's a decision to be made, or we're just weary, we need to "go to the mountainside" and pour out our hearts to Him. The more we're in communion with Him, the more He is able to minister to us, leading and guiding us where He wants us to be and ultimately bringing us peace.

Two thousand years ago, Jesus came to bring peace to our broken world. As we celebrate His birth this season, let's remember we're not only celebrating what happened then and what's to come later, we're also celebrating what resides in us now. His name is Peace and He lives within.

REFLECTION In this season of busyness, where is my mountainside, my place of quiet with God? How can I remain in a spirit of prayer?

PRAYER Father, I come to you in this quiet place, laying all of my worries, fears and questions at your feet. Would you fill me with your wisdom, strength and unwavering Peace? Thank you, Lord, for all you are doing in me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

DECEMBER

7	Sat	Panther Parent Cookie Walk
10	Tue	Gr. 3-4 Field Trip to Wade House
11	Wed	Gr. 3-4 Advent Service
13	Fri	Band & Choirs Christmas Concert
14	Sat	Pre-K/K Christmas Service
15	Sun	Panther Parent Meeting (4:30pm)
18	Wed	Grades 1-2 Advent Service
19	Thu	Gr. 5-8 Field Trip to Circle B

Notes from the Principal:



1. Enrollment for the 2025-26 school year is right around the corner. A special Pre K & K Information Night is scheduled for Thursday, January 9 at 6pm. Registration for new families will open on January 15. Those interested in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program, enrollment will open up February 1.

2. Basketball season has begun around St. Paul. We will be hosting multiple tournaments again this year. If you are interested in helping out at the scorer's table, taking tickets or working in the concession stand, please contact Mr. Kell. First tournaments are January 9, 11 and 12.

3. Christmas at St. Paul continues this coming week with our 3rd & 4th Grade students Christmas Program on December 11 at 8:25am and 6:30pm and our Band and Choir Christmas Concert at 9am and 6:30pm. Pre K & K Christmas Programs are on Saturday, December 14 at 9am and 10:30am.

THANK YOU!

We Raised OVER:

\$85,000

We are truly grateful
for your generous
support!



ST. PAUL DAY OF GIVING FINAL RESULTS

We are thrilled to share the incredible results of our St. Paul Day of Giving: Thanks to your generous support, we raised over **\$85k** (including the Endowment match)! 60% of donors were first time donors to the Every Generation Faithful Together Ministry Expansion Fund. Thank you for supporting our ministry and school for generations to come!

St. Paul Lutheran Annual Cookie Walk

December 7th
9:00-11:00am

\$12 per box

Come and select from a variety
of holiday cookies, candies, & treats

~ Gluten and nut free options available ~



The Panther Parents annual Christmas Cookie Walk is coming up on **Saturday, December 7th** from **9 AM – 11 AM** (or until cookies run out) in the **FLC**. Mark your calendars and come early to see the beautifully decorated and delicious selection of cookies, candies, & treats. Containers will be provided for you to choose your own items. **\$12 per container**. Bring your friends and family and get into the Christmas spirit. You can get all of your holiday treats for the season at the Cookie Walk! The varieties will be endless & will include gluten free and nut free options!!!

Have a gift for the Giving Tree? THANK YOU to everyone for your generous donations so far! Your gifts will help brighten Christmas for many local families this year. If you still have items for the Giving Tree, please bring them in with tags attached by **Monday,**



December 9th. Items can be turned in to the school office or placed under the tree to be collected daily. (Items may be boxed but please do not wrap.)

Please reach out to Samantha McCarthy at samccarthy09@gmail.com or 262-227-4777, or Nora Brooks at norabeth219@yahoo.com with any questions.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING WITH SCRIP



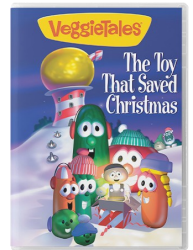
With gift cards from more than **750 top brands**, find gifts for everyone on your list!

The travelers (Kwik Trip, BP, Mobil, Speedway). **The foodies** (Culver's, Noodles, Qdoba, Panera, Eaton's, Buffalo Wild Wings). **The caffeine aficionados** (Starbucks). **The trendsetters** (TJMaxx, Ulta, Target, Dick's Sporting Goods, Walmart). **The home improvement DIYers** (Home Depot, Menards, Fleet Farm) and the on **the fly-ers** (Amazon). Plus so much more! Our final order before the Christmas holiday will be placed on **Friday, December 20 at 8:30am!**

Questions? Contact Meagan Steinke at 262-377-4659.

VEGGIES & ICE CREAM

Families of all ages are invited to come join us on **Friday, December 6** from **6-7pm** as we watch *The Toy that Saved Christmas*. We will also be making some fun crafts and enjoying some ice cream. Signup here to join the fun: <https://tinyurl.com/VeggiesDec24>



Christian Day School Singing Schedule



Sun.	Dec. 8	9:30 am	Praise Power
Sun.	Dec. 8	11:00 am	JiVE and JuBellate
Wed.	Dec. 11	6:30 pm	Gr. 3-4 Advent/Christmas
Fri.	Dec. 13	9:00/6:30	Band/Choirs Christmas Concert
Sat.	Dec. 14	9:00/10:30	Pre-K/Kind. Service
Sun.	Dec. 15	11:00 am	Children's Choir
Wed.	Dec. 18	6:30 pm	Gr. 1-2 Advent/Christmas
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



**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?

C.A.L.M. TO CALM



Try taking 5 deep breaths. Inhale slowly and deeply through your nose.



When you are stressed, it's a great idea to move our bodies to release nervous energy and clear our brains.



Listen to your feelings and present them to God.



Stop the stress by intentionally making an interruption in it.



FRIENDZY

UNIT 3 | C.A.L.M. TO CALM

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@splgrifton.org



12/8: This week we will have a Christmas party with cookies, gifts, devotion, and more. Sign up here to join us in December: <https://tinyurl.com/MSYDec24>.

12/22: Enjoy Christmas break!

St. Paul Lutheran
Prek & Kindergarten
Information Night
January 9, 2025 @ 6PM

2025 Registration Begins January 15th

Enrollment Information

Focused on Excellence + Centered on Christ

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@splgrifton.org.

12/8: This week's Bible story is from 2 Samuel 9, King David is kind to Mephibosheth. We will be learning that God is kind so we're kind.

12/15: This week we will be learning that Jesus is humble, so we show humility. We will read Luke 2:1-7 as we look at the story of Jesus born in a stable.

NIGHT OF PRAISE
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2025

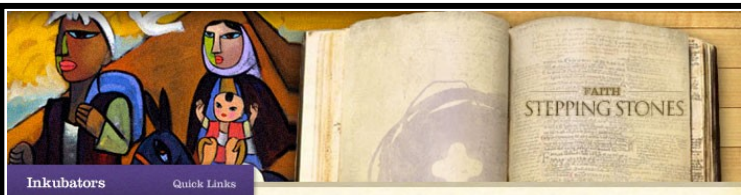
6:30PM-7:15PM
FLC for REFRESHMENTS

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



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

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School 2024 Advent Christmas Worship Services

Lessons & Carols Worship Service

Saturday, December 7 at 5pm
 Sunday, December 8 at 8, 9:30 & 11am



Advent by Candlelight (FLC)
 Sunday, December 8 from 6:30 pm

children's
program

Grades 3-4 Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 11 at 6:30pm



St. Paul Band/Choir Christmas Concert

Friday, December 13 at 9:00am & 6:30pm

Pre-K/Kindergarten Christmas Service

Saturday, December 14 at 9:00 / 10:30am



Grades 1-2 Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 18 at 6:30pm



Christmas Eve Services

Traditional, 12pm
 Traditional, 2pm
 Contemporary, 4pm
 Candlelight, 7pm & 11pm



Christmas Day Service

Traditional/Communion, 9:30am



New Years Eve Service

Tuesday, December 31 at 5:00pm



Rooted Women

Advent by Candlelight

Sunday December 8, 2023

6:30PM

Join us as we prepare our hearts & minds this Advent as Dr. Paavola speaks on "The Gifts that Last"



Please Sign Up Here: <https://tinyurl.com/AdventbyCandlelight24>

EVERY GENERATION FAITHFUL TOGETHER UPDATE

Our ministry expansion project continues to make great progress. In the last month, the committees reported the following:

Building Committee:

- All new utility connections have been completed in Washington St.
- Landscape restoration has been completed east of the gym and out to Washington St.
- Steel structure erection has been completed.

During the next 30 days

- Second floor slab will be poured with provisions for the weather.
- Exterior wall framing will progress throughout the month.
- Window framing and blocking will also progress with wall framing.



Finance Committee:

- Cumulatively to date, St. Paul has paid nearly \$1.3 million toward the construction of the new building to its architect and general contractor.
- Over \$1.3 million in promissory notes have been issued by St. Paul to date. For those that remain interested, we are continuing to issue promissory notes. Please reach out to the Finance Office to learn more.
- Lutheran Church Extension Fund is finalizing their review of St. Paul loan application in December.
- At the end of November, St. Paul had over \$1.9 million of funds on hand to satisfy construction costs for the next several months. Current projections suggest we may need to begin borrowing from an external lender beginning in February 2025.
- Please reach out to Jason Hasenstein (jason.hasenstein@splgrifton.org) with any questions or if you would like a more in depth review of the new building related finances.

*Please continue to visit the Every Generation Faithful Together website for more information.
splgrifton.org/faithfultogether*



THANK YOU FROM THE BOARD OF EVANGELISM!

The Board of Evangelism would like to thank everyone who walked with the St. Paul float and all who donated candy for the Grafton Christmas Parade.

This parade is a wonderful opportunity to share Jesus and St. Paul with our community.

Thank you for being a blessing!



2024 GRAFTON CHRISTMAS PARADE



COMPASSIONATE
WITNESS



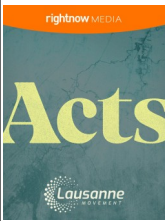
RightNow Media

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.

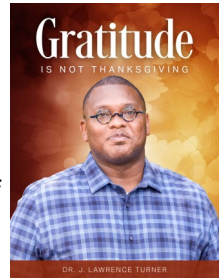
Already signed up to use RightNow Media, but looking for some ideas of what to watch?



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](#)

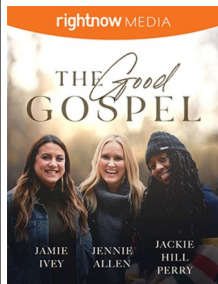
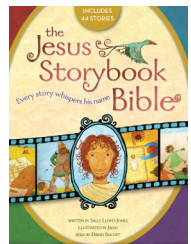


Fire and Faithfulness by Sadie Robertson Huff (youth)

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	8-Dec	15-Dec
	Worship at 8:00; 9:30; 11:00, PraisePower sings @ 9:30 JiVE & JuBellate play @ 11 Middle School Youth, 3pm Advent by Candlelight, 6:30pm	Worship at 8:00; 9:30; 11:00, Children's Choir sings @ 11 7/8 Boys & Girls BB Tournament @ Living Word Panther Parent Meeting, 4:30pm
Monday	9-Dec	16-Dec
	Children's Choir, 3:15p BB @ Trinity Freistadt; 5/6G-4:15, 6B-5:15, 7/8B-7:15	BB vs. Brookfield Christian; 5B-4:30, 6B-5:30, 7/8B-6:30 BB @ Brookfield Christian; 5/6G-4:30, 7/8G-5:30
Tuesday	10-Dec	17-Dec
	Gr. 3-4 Field Trip to Wade House	
Wednesday	11-Dec	18-Dec
	CHAPEL - Gr. 3-4 Christmas Program 8:25am/6:30pm	CHAPEL - Gr. 1-2 Christmas Program 8:25am/6:30pm
Thursday	12-Dec	19-Dec
	7/8 Boys & Girls BB Tournament @ Living Word	Gr. 5-8 Field Trip to Circle B BB @ St. John WB; 5G-4:30, 6G-5:30, 7/8G-6:30 BB vs. St. John WB; 5B-4:30, 6B-5:30, 7/8B-6:30
Friday	13-Dec	20-Dec
	Band & Choirs Concert 9:00/6:30 7/8 Boys & Girls BB Tournament @ Living Word	Last Day of Classes
Saturday	14-Dec	21-Dec
	PreK & K Christmas Program 9:00/10:30am 7/8 Boys & Girls BB Tournament @ Living Word Worship at 5:00pm;	Worship at 5:00pm; <div style="text-align: right;"> </div>