



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



February 21, 2025

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

I am on my third journey reading through the Bible. I grew up in a faithful family, went to church and Sunday School but each time I read some of these Bible stories, I am amazed at the new things God is teaching me through His Word!

Last week, I read in Exodus the story of Moses in Egypt. I was trying to put myself in the Israelites shoes as they worked harder and harder. The more they worked, the more God blessed them. Pharaoh took away their straw to make bricks but expected the same production, but God blessed the Israelites and made them stronger. Finally, after the TEN plagues (frogs were always my favorite), they were free to go and again, God showed them He loved them and would never leave them. When the Red Sea was ahead, again God had a plan. They crossed on dry land. As they wandered in the wilderness, things changed! Their positive thoughts didn't last long. After only three days of traveling, the Israelites started to complain.

Complaining was second nature for Israel during the wilderness years. They complained about their hardships and the wilderness food. They wanted something different from the manna they had to eat, day in and day out. The food they had eaten in Egypt seemed so much better.

I was starting to wonder about my journey in this life. Am I like the Israelites? Is my complaining heard more than my thanksgiving and gratefulness? My New Year's Resolution was to keep a GRATEFUL Journal. Each night, I sit and reflect on how God showed Himself that day. I can't believe all the things that God has shown me! Beautiful sunrises and sunsets, a bed to sleep on, little people that give me hugs each morning, a smile from someone as I walk down the hall, loving family and friends, a funny story, cars that work, warm houses, exercise, time outside, plenty of food, challenges that help me grow, my dishwasher - I could go on and on. Then there are the BIG things - forgiveness of my sins, God's Word that speaks to me and LIFE EVERLASTING!

Paul calls us to do everything without grumbling and complaining ([Philippians 2:14](#)). He says: "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" ([1 Thess. 5:16-18](#)). "Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever" ([Psalm 106:1](#)).

I think in this New Year, I'm learning to open my eyes to the challenges as God's hugs. He is pulling me closer to Himself as I learn to trust and grow closer to Him. I pray that you will take that journey with me. Start a grateful journal and jot down some things today that God has blessed you with! Trust Him to bring you closer through His Word.

Denise Gieschen, CARE Director

FEBRUARY

21 Fri 1/2 Day of School 11:40am Dismissal
NO 3&4Pre-K AM Classes PM classes attend in AM
24 Mon NO SCHOOL (Winter Break)
28 Fri End of 2nd Trimester

MARCH

5 Wed ASH WEDNESDAY
Chapel – 4th Grade (Anderson)
6 Thu Panther Parent Meeting

Notes from the Principal:



- The 63rd Annual St. Paul Classic is in the books. Thank you to everyone that volunteered to help make the tournament a huge success. Thank you also to all of our donors and sponsors. St. Paul boys went 3-1 in the tournament and took home the consolation championship.
- Congratulations to our A Girls for being accepted into the LSA State Tournament. Games will take place the weekend of March 7-9.
- St. Paul's Archery Team competed at Hortonville last weekend. Landon K. (7th grade) finished in 8th place in the Elementary Boys Division and Toby M. (8th grade) finished in 8th place in the Middle School Boys Division.
- Time is running out to donate Thrivent Choice Dollars for 2024. Please consider having your dollars donated to St. Paul Lutheran School.

Panther Parents invite you to:

Schools Out Skate at Skateland

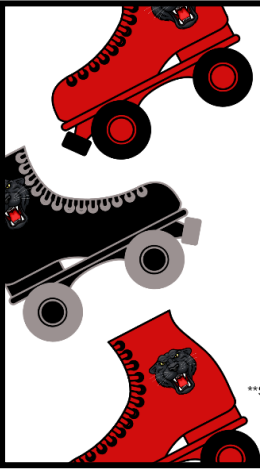
Friday March 7th 12:30pm-2:30pm

\$8 to skate

Skate rentals included

Concessions will be available for purchase

**STUDENTS 4TH GRADE AND YOUNGER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.



OPEN GYM!

All 3rd-5th grades are invited to an afternoon of open gym on **Sunday, March 2** 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

LHS TUITION ASSISTANCE INFORMATION 2025/2026 Financial Support

If you are thinking of, or will be enrolling your child at Living Word, Milwaukee Lutheran, or Sheboygan Lutheran High Schools for the 2025/2026 school year, St. Paul offers tuition assistance. You must fill out an application in order to be considered to receive tuition assistance from St. Paul Lutheran Church. Application forms are available at the School Office (open 8am through 4pm; Monday through Friday), in the carport entrance and online at: splgrafton.org/church.

Applications are due in the office no later than **Friday, February 28**. Applications received after this date will receive Tuition Assistance only if funds are available.

Questions? Contact the Church Office at
262- 377-4659, Ext. 332.



VEGGIES & ICE CREAM

Families are invited to come join us on **Friday, March 14** from **6-7pm** as we watch *Celery Night Fever*. We will also be making some fun crafts and enjoying some ice cream.

Signup here to join the fun: tinyurl.com/VeggiesMar25.

HELP FEED 120 PEOPLE IN NEED! Community Meal at Ozaukee Food Alliance Saturday, March 1

St. Paul is stepping up to serve 120 meals for those in need in Ozaukee County, and we need your help to make it happen!

How Can You Help?

We need pans of **lasagna**, **cookies**, and **bars**.

- **Food Donations:** Contact Polly Morrison at pollykm40@gmail.com or 262-377-4846
- **Monetary Gifts:** Donate directly to St. Paul Lutheran Church (note: Saukville Meal)

Help us help our neighbors in Ozaukee County!

Approved Calendar Dates 2025-26 School Year

Date	Event
Aug 14	Teachers Report
Aug 21 (Thu)	Orientation Day
Aug 25 (Mon)	First Day of Classes
Aug 29	No School (Labor Day Weekend)
Sept 1	Labor Day No School
Oct 6-8	Outdoor Education (7 th)
Oct 31	No School
Nov 21	End of 1 st Trimester
Nov 24-28	Thanksgiving Break – No School
Dec 22–Jan 2	Christmas Break – No School
Jan 30	P/T Conferences – No classes
Feb 20	Half Day – 11:40 dismissal
Feb 23	No School – Winter Break
Mar 6	End of 2 nd Trimester / Interest Day
Mar 30–Apr 6	Spring Break/Easter – No School
May 22	Half Day – 11:40 dismissal
May 25	Memorial Day – No School
May 29	PreK Closing Service
June 5	K-8 Closing Service/10am dismissal/ Graduation
June 12	Teachers Last Day

March 8

Walther Christian Academy Choir Host Families Needed



St. Paul will host the Walther Christian Academy Choir from Chicago for a Saturday night in March.

Can you:

- enjoy a concert at St. Paul on Saturday night, March 8 at 6:30pm
- provide a bed and breakfast for 2 - 4 high school students
- take home students after the concert (about 8:30pm) for relaxing Saturday evening
- bring them to St. Paul for worship on Sun, March 9 about 7:30am

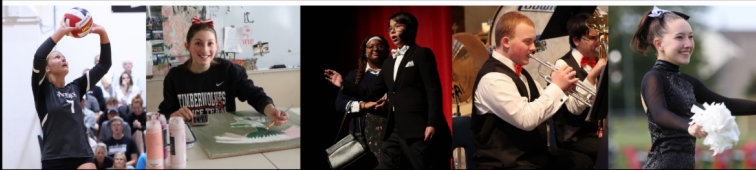
Please sign up using tinyurl.com/WaltherChoir2025, calling the reception office or contacting Valerie Bremer by phone (377-4659 x.110) or email (music@splgrafton.org).



LIVING WORD LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Youth SUMMER CAMPS

SPORTS, MUSIC, ART & MORE! | OPEN TO ALL KIDS IN 1ST-8TH GRADE



MORE DETAILS AT: WWW.LWLHS.COM/CAMPS

IT'S TIME! [Youth Summer Camp](#) registration is now open at Living Word Lutheran High School.

We have various camp offerings for all kids in the community in 1st-8th grade, plus some camps open to incoming 9th graders, including:

Boys: Basketball, Football
Girls: Volleyball, Basketball

Co-Ed: Art, Runners/Track, Soccer, Theater, Band, Speed/Agility Training

PLUS: Our Junior Wolves Basketball Program is running their Annual "Scoring Camp" for boys and girls in August!

Need a break for lunch? For those attending both a morning and afternoon camp on the same day, we have a 1-hour lunch break in our cafeteria for students to bring their own lunch to eat.

Our teachers and coaches are thrilled to offer these opportunities to compete, create, perform, and excel this summer!

Find out camp dates & details at:
www.lwlhs.com/camps

[Click here](#) for our camp flyer.

Lutheran State Basketball Tournament Workers Needed

Date: March 7 & 8

Locations: St. Paul and Our Savior's Grafton

Needed: Admissions Table, Concessions, Scorer's Table

Sign up [HERE](#): Or Email Jenny

Clemens: jennifer.clemens@splgrafton.org

High School Students Welcome!!



DONATE BLOOD

HAZEL'S BLOOD DRIVE!

Hosted at St. Paul Lutheran Grafton Family Life Center | 701 Washington St, Grafton, WI 53024

Blood transfusions are a lifeline for countless individuals. From accident victims to cancer patients, those who need blood transfusions often face life-threatening situations. Every donation has the potential to save multiple lives. Whether you're battling a chronic illness, recovering from surgery, or simply helping a neighbor in need, blood transfusions can be the difference between life and death.

Friday

March 7

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Donate blood for a chance to win a trip to Hawaii!*

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT: Visit the link below or call 877.232.4376 to secure your spot today:



tinyurl.com/hazel3725



*NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open to legal residents of WI, IL, IN, and WI residents only. Ends 3/31/25. One (1) drawing. Enter by blood donation or online. See Official Rules and online entry form at versiti.org/avection.
Sponsor: Versiti, Inc., 638 N. 18th St., Milwaukee, WI 53233.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

NEW MEMBER CLASS

WEDNESDAY'S AT 6-7:15PM
CHURCH FRONT CONFERENCE ROOM

SESSION 1 - MARCH 5
THE ECUMENICAL CREEDS

SESSION 2 - MARCH 12
HOLY BAPTISM &
HOLY COMMUNION

SESSION 3 - MARCH 19
LIVING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

SESSION 4 - APRIL 2
ORIENTATION & TRANSFERS

*MARCH 26-NO CLASS DUE TO SPRING BREAK

FREE CHILDCARE AVAILABLE.
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
TINYURL.COM/LENTCHILDCARE

SIGN UP NOW!

262-377-4659, EXT. 332

MARTHA.WITT@SPLGRAFTON.ORG





UNIT FIVE >>> KNOW YOUR LIMIT
CONNECT THROUGH CONVERSATION

KEY VERSES

"LORD, YOU ALONE ARE MY PORTION AND MY CUP; YOU MAKE MY LOT SECURE. THE BOUNDARY LINES HAVE FALLEN FOR ME IN PLEASANT PLACES; SURELY I HAVE A DELIGHTFUL INHERITANCE."
PSALM 16:5-6

"I HAVE THE RIGHT TO DO ANYTHING; YOU SAY-BUT NOT EVERYTHING IS BENEFICIAL. I HAVE THE RIGHT TO DO ANYTHING-BUT NOT EVERYTHING IS CONSTRUCTIVE."
1 CORINTHIANS 10:23

CONVERSATION STARTERS <<<

- > What are two personal boundaries you have set for yourself? Why are they important to you?
- > What are some thoughtful questions you can ask your friends to understand their boundaries?
- > How can you model social awareness and responsible decision making in honoring someone else's boundary that is different from yours?

>>> UNIT FIVE <<<

This month's unit teaches the importance of knowing our limits. Learning to set healthy boundaries in our relationships is an essential life-long skill. When boundaries are healthy, we know our limits. This unit teaches students to know their limits by listening to their mind, heart, and body and to set healthy boundaries to stay within those limits.

Christian Day School Singing Schedule



Sat.	Mar. 1	5:00 pm	Gr. 6-8 w/ Concert Band
Wed.	Mar. 5	4:30 pm	PraisePower
Sun.	Mar. 9	9:30 am	Children's Choir
Sun.	Mar. 16	8:00 am	JiVE
Wed.	Mar. 19	4:30 pm	JuBellate
Wed.	Apr. 2	4:30 pm	Children's Choir
Wed.	Apr. 9	4:30 pm	JiVE
Sun.	Apr. 13	8:00 am	(K-8) Last name L-Z Sing With JuBellate

Accepting Endowment Fund Grant Applications - Fiscal Year 2025-2026

In accordance with the distribution policy and bylaws of the St. Paul Endowment Fund, a total of \$42,400 will be available to distribution from the St. Paul Endowment Fund during the 2025-2026 fiscal year (July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026). Endowment grant applications are now being accepted by the St. Paul Endowment Committee. A copy of the endowment grant application is available through the St. Paul Endowment website (<https://www.splgraffton.org/church/endowment/>), in the St. Paul Finance Office, or by contacting Jason Hasenstein, Director of Finance. One of St. Paul's Boards must sponsor each endowment grant application. Please direct any questions regarding endowment grant applications and/or submit any grant applications to Jason Hasenstein, Director of Finance. Grant funds will be distributed as long as endowment funds remain available in the fiscal year.

Endowment Fund Committee:

- Jason Hasenstein jason.hasenstein@splgraffton.org
- Travis Keshenberg tlkcf@me.com
- Sue Putterman sue@sehmercpa.com
- James Meyer jimpmeyer1@gmail.com
- Wayne Wiertzema wwiertzema1@gmail.com



Hands are used to heal, mend, build, teach, comfort, and so much more. Yet, as humans, our hands are sinful and unclean. Christ's hands are the ones that can transform our dirty, sinful hands into beautiful, clean ones for His plans. Spend this Lent exploring God's Word to see how His hands are used in both the New and Old Testaments, from creation to crucifixion and eternal life.

WEDNESDAYS | 4:30PM & 6:30PM

ASH WEDNESDAY | MARCH 5
Freely Gives: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Randall Ferguson
Meal host: Women's Guild
Ashes will be available (optional) prior to service

MIDWEEK 1 | MARCH 12
Creates and Saves: Matthew 14:22-33
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Kevin Voss
Meal host: LWML

MIDWEEK 2 | MARCH 19
Casts Out Demons: Luke 9:37-43; 11:14-23
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Jason Soensen
Meal host: 8th Grade

MIDWEEK 3 | MARCH 26
Heals the Sick: Matthew 8:1-4, [5-17]
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. John Oberdeck
Meal host: LERT & HMC

MIDWEEK 4 | APRIL 2
Raises the Dead: Luke 7:11-17
Guest Preacher: Rev. Jonathon Bakker
Meal host: IMPACT High School Youth

MIDWEEK 5 | APRIL 9
Holds All Things: John 3:11-18, 22-36
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. James Kroemer
Meal host: Elders

Lenten dinners served 5:15PM-6:15PM
NEW THIS YEAR: Free-will offering accepted; no tickets needed.
Thank you for your support of our ministries!

JELLY BEAN JAMBOREE

APRIL 5, 2025
9:00 - 12:00

FREE Indoor Event - Refreshments

Visit ozaukeeebunnybreakfast.weebly.com for more information

Event Location:
Circle B Recreation
6261 Hwy 60, Cedarburg

See the Bunny

Ages 10 and under



Crafts and Games

VBS Save the Date

VBS this year is June 16-20, 9am-12pm. We will start volunteer sign up in March and child registration will begin the end of April. We are also in need of cardboard for some of our decorating projects. Please contact Tracy at tracy.krueger@splgraffton.org if you have cardboard we can use or have any questions about VBS.



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@splgraffton.org



2/23: We will be hearing a devotion and playing two truths and a lie Bible edition. As always you won't want to miss the snacks and don't forget to invite your friends.

EVERY GENERATION FAITHFUL TOGETHER UPDATE

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



Building Committee:

- Exterior wall sheathing has been completed.
- Air and water barrier being applied.
- Roofing has been completed on the main roof.
- Interior framing has been completed and will be inspected by the Village.
- Electrical, Plumbing, HVAC and Sprinkler rough-ins in progress.

Next 30 days:

- Mechanical rough-ins will be completed and inspected.
- Insulation will be installed.
- Drywall will begin.
- Interior stairs will be installed.
- Exterior masonry will begin.

Finance Committee:

- Cumulatively to date, St. Paul has paid nearly \$2.4 towards the construction of the new building.
- At the end of January, St. Paul had more than \$1.7 million of funds on hand to satisfy upcoming construction costs for the next couple of months.
- More than \$1.6 million in promissory notes have been issued to date.
- Regarding any financing needed through Lutheran Church Extension Fund at the end of January, LCEF reported that all loan closing conditions have been addressed and satisfied. LCEF is preparing the final Loan documents to be executed in February.
- Please reach out to Jason Hasenstein (jason.hasenstein@splgraffton.org) with any questions or if you would like a more in-depth review of the building expansion related finances.

Please continue to visit the Every Generation Faithful Together website for more information.

<https://www.splgraffton.org/faithfultogether>

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/SSregistrate24>. If you have any questions, please contact tracy.krueger@splgraffton.org.

2/23: This week's Bible story is from Matthew 5-7, Jesus teaches us to live differently. We will be learning that Jesus is different and so we live differently.

3/2: Join us as we learn that Jesus is our friend and as we look at Matthew 9:9-13.

LUTHERAN HIGH DRAMA DEPARTMENT PRESENTS



FEBRUARY 21 - 7:00 PM
FEBRUARY 22 - 7:00 PM
FEBRUARY 23 - 2:00 PM

AT THE LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



TICKETS AVAILABLE AT LUTHERANHIGH.COM/PAC
SCAN QR CODE FOR TICKETING INFORMATION



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS



Sunday	23-Feb	2-Mar
	Worship at 8:00; 9:30; 11:00, Middle School Youth, 3pm	Worship at 8:00; 9:30; 11:00, Gr. 3-5 Open Gym, 3pm
Monday	24-Feb	3-Mar
	NO SCHOOL Winter Break	Children's Choir, 3:15pm Worship at 6:30pm
Tuesday	25-Feb	4-Mar
	BB vs. St. John WB; 5B-4:30, 6B-5:30, 7/8B-6:30 BB @ St. John WB; 5G-4:30, 6G-5:30, 7/8G-6:30	
Wednesday	26-Feb	5-Mar
	CHAPEL - Mr. Kell	ASH WEDNESDAY CHAPEL - 4th Grade (Anderson) PraisePower sings @ 4:30pm Service Lenten Worship Services at 4:30pm & 6:30pm Dinner 5:15pm-6:15pm
Thursday	27-Feb	6-Mar
		Panther Parent Meeting, 6:30pm
Friday	28-Feb	7-Mar
	End of 2nd Trimester	Interest Day - 11:40 AM Dismissal Panther Parent Skateland Event, 12:30-2:30pm State Basketball Tournament
Saturday	1-Mar	8-Mar
	Worship at 5:00pm; Gr. 6-8 Sing w/ Concert Band	State Basketball Tournament Worship at 5:00pm;

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**:

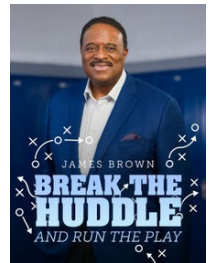


Visit <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/splcas> to create your account. Or you can: **Text-to-Sign-Up: Text SPLCAS to 49775** and receive a direct link to the registration page.

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

Break the Huddle and Run the Play by James Brown

Every Sunday, millions tune into CBS Sunday Afternoon sports to watch James Brown deliver bold commentary on what is taking place on the field. Brown turns to his true vocation, teaching God's Word, to help us understand how important it is to break the huddle and run the plays that God has laid before us. Walking through James 2:14-26, Brown illustrates that, while we know we are saved through grace, faith without action is dead. But we don't need to be afraid of breaking the huddle, because we know who calls the plays and that God will block for us. We only need to be obedient and run the plays He has laid out for us. [Break the Huddle and Run the Play :: RightNow Media](#)

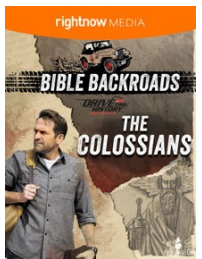
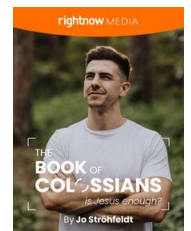


5 Steps to Stress-Free Parenting by Kari Russo

In a recent survey, seventy percent of parents described their role as a parent as being stressful. It's no secret that parenting is the toughest role that one will ever have. In this series, Kari Russo will apply her twenty-five years of counseling parents and adolescents and walk the audience through how to not only parent well but to navigate the challenging times that we live in. Kari admits that parenting can be tough, however, she also believes that God would have never assigned parents to the task of discipling and leading their children well if God didn't believe that they could do it. [5 Steps to Stress-Free Parenting :: RightNow Media](#)

The Book of Colossians: Is Jesus enough? By Jo Strohfeltd

There has never lived a more compelling person than Jesus of Nazareth. But is he *enough*? *Enough for your salvation, your character, your purpose? Enough for your whole life?* In this five-part series, Jo Ströhfeltd walks through Paul's words in the book of Colossians to remind us that when we put Jesus at the centre of everything, everything changes. [The Book of Colossians: Is Jesus enough? :: RightNow Media](#)

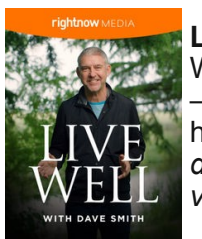
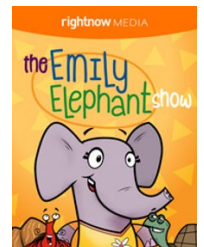


BIBLE BACKROADS™ - The Colossians by Dave Stotts (ages 8-18)

Dave Stotts, host of *Drive Thru History*®, explores the scripture, history, geography, archaeology, and impact of Paul's letter to the Colossians in the New Testament. The home base for the series is Dave's Garage™, a state-of-the-art, extended reality lair where almost anything is possible. In addition to teaching with a collection of monitors, maps, animations and artifacts, Dave treks outside his garage for special adventures throughout the Mediterranean region. Designed for all ages, BIBLE BACKROADS™ is fun, fast-paced, and educational, encouraging families to dig deeper into the Biblical accounts together. [BIBLE BACKROADS™ - The Colossians :: RightNow Media](#)

The Emily Elephant Show by Phil Vischer (ages 8 and under)

Emily the Elephant has her very own show! Join Emily and her friends as they answer big questions about God, learn Bible stories, and sing songs about biblical truths. Enjoy this show from Phil Vischer, founder of Jellyfish Labs and co-creator of the acclaimed *VeggieTales*, with your whole family. [The Emily Elephant Show :: RightNow Media](#)



Live Well by Dave Smith

Wellbeing isn't just a trendy, twenty-first century buzzword. It originates in the heart of God. This timely – and timeless – five-part series is centered on God's plan for your wellbeing. Dave Smith takes a holistic, biblical approach to how to live with *shalom* – wellbeing in every area of life – exploring six different but interrelated areas of our lives – physical, emotional, spiritual, relational, financial, and vocational wellbeing. [Live Well :: RightNow Media](#)