



The Messenger

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL (WELS), GREEN BAY

February, 2024

Where Is Your Matthew?

— Pastor Ben Enstad

Wow! What a great opportunity we had last month! We were blessed to have Missionary Joseph Lindloff here to present on his work starting a new mission in Marquette, Michigan, and to preach on the calling of Matthew. He taught us that “It Takes A Matthew to Reach A Matthew”.

So, have you been thinking about who your Matthew might be??? What person in your life has a broken relationship with Jesus, or even none at all, to whom you are able to relate in a unique way? Who have you gotten to know because of a shared suffering, challenge, experience, or life circumstance? There’s your Matthew!

Please, take some time to connect with them about your faith. Whatever it is you share as a “Matthew,” ask them about it. Ask them if they think something is missing in their lives, especially regarding that which you share. Be open about how your relationship with Jesus and your connections here at St. Paul help you overcome.

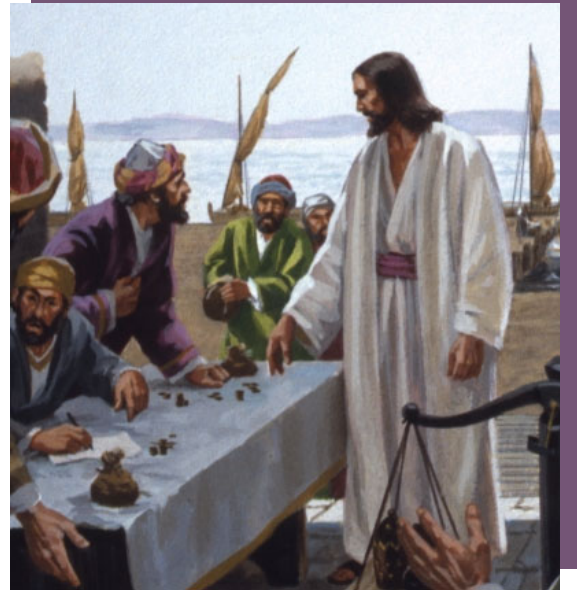
And just so you know, it’s okay to play the long game if you’re convinced that’s where you’re at. I saw this tactic at work again recently as a young person in our congregation

patiently worked on and encouraged a friend and her family. This girl is quiet and reserved — maybe not what you picture when you think of a missionary. You might usually picture a charismatic missionary like Missionary Lindloff. But it takes all types. It Takes A Matthew to Reach A Matthew. And through this quiet young person’s patient love, a new family has been in worship two times in the last month!

So, I’ll ask you again: *Who is your Matthew?*

Settle on that person. Let the thought of them burrow deep into your heart. And then...start. Start simply by praying for them. Pray also for opportunities to witness to them and for the boldness and love to do so. And, believing that God’s answer to that prayer is a resounding “YES!,” watch for that opportunity to come and know you will have what you need to say in that moment.

God bless each one of you as you seek your Matthew!



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The Season of Lent Is Here.

Ash Wednesday is February 14.

- Special worship is at 3:45 and 6:30 p.m.
- The focus is *Rethinking our Priorities*
- Holy Communion and imposition of ashes is offered in each service.
- A supper is served between services, hosted by the St. Paul Ladies Aid.

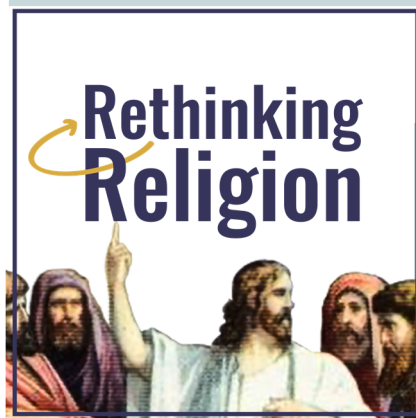
Midweek Lenten Worship

is also offered on each Wednesday during Lent, at 3:45 and 6:30 p.m.

The Theme for the Midweek Services: *God on Trial*

February 21: Restraint	Pastor Ben Enstad — St. Paul
February 28: Testimony	Pastor Leon Ehlert — Beautiful Savior
March 6: Misconceptions	Pastor Roger Holtz — Christ the King
March 13: Truth	Pastor Aaron Schultz — Messiah
March 20: Sympathy	Pastor Ben Workentine — St. Mark

Lenten Suppers are served between services, 4:30—6:15 p.m.



Sunday Worship Themes for February:

- February 4** — Fifth Sunday after Epiphany: The Devil's Work Undone
- February 11** — The Transfiguration of Our Lord: A Glimpse of His True Glory
- February 18** — First Sunday in Lent: Rethinking Trials, Tests, and Temptations
- February 25** — Second Sunday in Lent: Rethinking Suffering under the Cross

February, 2024

Call Decision Letter

Dear fellow members St. Paul Lutheran's congregation;

This past month I have deliberated my call here at St. Paul's and the call I have to St. John's Lutheran in Watertown. I would like to thank those of you who spoke to me and offered advice, answered questions, and listened to me as I deliberated. I had the opportunity to reflect on my time here at St. Paul as well as to discuss what possibilities lie ahead here at St. Paul. St. John's and St. Paul both have wonderful opportunities to serve God while serving a congregation as an educator, and both currently have needs that the calls I hold would help fulfill. Ultimately, I feel continuing to serve God here at St. Paul is the correct path for me. I will be returning my call to St. John's Lutheran. I pray God will continue to bless my time here at St. Paul.

Your brother in Christ;
Jared Brennan

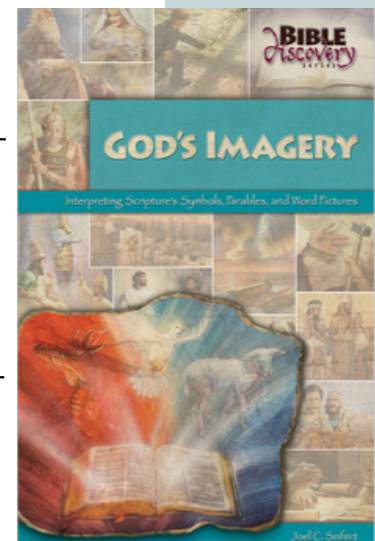
St. Paul Book of the Month

— Peter Schaewe

God's Imagery, by Joel Seifert, is part of the Bible Discovery Series produced by Northwestern Publishing House. The purpose of the series is to provide background resources to help God's people read and understand the Bible better. *God's Imagery* shares examples and gives doctrinally clear explanations of three ways in which God uses figurative language in his Word to communicate who he is and what he has done for us.

- *Symbols* (Part I) reviews eight sets of objects or pictures used in Scripture that connect to key truths about God, sacrifices, festivals, numbers, the Savior... Symbols need explanation for us to understand the intended connection, which makes this section especially informative. I enjoy Scriptural symbolism, so I was pleased to find extra bits of knowledge, even around symbols about which I already understood the meaning.
- *Parables* (Part II) uncovers heavenly meanings to some of the earthly stories for which Jesus did not supply interpretation. Again, you'll also find additional information, like the difference between "heaven" and "the kingdom of heaven." Pastor Seifert also gives a helpful warning about people who try to make more connections than Jesus intended.
- *Word Pictures* (Part III) are more universal than symbols and don't always need explanation to be understood, but they do strengthen the impression of spiritual truths. When David writes, "The Lord is my shepherd," or the Apostle Paul writes that you were "dead in your transgressions and sins" (Ephesians 2:1), the comparison has greater impact. This section goes deeper into the word pictures and will help you appreciate God's connections to you through figurative language.

You can borrow *God's Imagery* from our church library, or you can order your own copy from Northwestern Publishing House (nph.net) or Amazon.



The Messenger

School News

— Principal Stephen Miller



Psalms 145:13b, our school year theme, speaks of the Lord's faithfulness and enduring love. This resonates with our school's values and serves to remind us that God is always there to support us in our efforts to create an environment where students thrive academically, socially, and spiritually.

Our basketball teams continue to capture the essence of teamwork and sportsmanship. Led by Coaches Retzlaff, Lorenz, and Hepner, our teams have shown remarkable skill and dedication on the court, securing victories and fostering a sense of pride among students and supporters alike. Each team's success goes beyond the scoreboard, as players exemplify resilience and camaraderie, exemplify Christian character, and create a positive atmosphere throughout the school. Their

growth in skill and confidence from game one has been remarkable.

Adding to the spirited atmosphere is our dynamic cheerleading squad, whose energy and enthusiasm electrify the crowds during every game. The squad, coached by Mrs. Jill Schultz, supports the basketball team and plays a crucial role in fostering school spirit. Their vibrant routines and unwavering encouragement inspire a sense of unity among students, reinforcing the school's commitment to fostering a supportive and inclusive community.

Amidst the excitement of the basketball season, we recently celebrated Spirit Week. This festive occasion brought students and staff together in a display of competition and unity—from themed dress-up days to a spirited Penny Wars competition. Spirit Week showcased the creativity and interests of the student body. This annual tradition reinforces the importance of school pride and strengthens the bonds that make our educational community soar.

Everyone at our school is excited to see the completion of the new building addition. This

modern facility provides additional early childhood classrooms and enhances the learning environment for everyone. With modern amenities and updated technology, the new addition reflects the church's commitment to providing students with the best possible resources for academic success. We look forward to seeing the space full of excited learners for years to come.

We are preparing for our Winter Carnival, to be held on February 24, from 3-7 p.m. More information can be found on the Facebook page, but this is a significant event with the opportunity to showcase our school to the community. If you know a family with school-age children, please invite them to join us. If you are available that day and can help, please contact the office. We can use volunteers to make this the best day possible. Please pray that God continues to bless the mission and ministry of our school as we continue to teach children and their families about God's plan of salvation.

LWMS News

61st Annual LWMS 2024 Convention: Registration is now open. If you have attended a recent LWMS Convention, you should have received a convention newsletter in the mail, which includes registration information. All convention information is also available on LWMS.org. If you have any convention related questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

SAVE THE DATES:

- LWMS Paperland Cir-

cuit 2024 Spring Rally, April 20, at St. Paul, Winneconne. Immanuel, Town of Clayton will co-host.

- LWMS 2024 61st Annual LWMS Convention, June 27-30, 2024, Hosted by Minnesota Circuit in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Check www.lwms.org for registration, lodging, etc.
- LWMS Paperland Circuit 2024 Fall Rally, October 12, at St.

Matthew, Appleton. Eternal Love, Appleton will co-host.

May GOD continue to bless the efforts of our Missionaries and LWMS.

Lisa Koenig - LWMS Reporter
CookieBaker@1791.com
920-469-1758



Donations Are Requested for the Fox Valley WELS Athletic League Cheer Competition and A-Team Basketball Tournament at Fox Valley Lutheran High School, February 16-18

St. Paul is responsible for helping with concessions for this year's tournament weekend. Your donations are needed to support this undertaking. All proceeds are divided among the league schools in the end. You can:

1. Give monetary donations to purchase items for the concession stand. These can be dropped off at the church/school office or given to our athletic directors, Mr. Jammer or Mr. Wellhoefer.
2. Bake and package dessert items (cookies, bars...) that can be sold at the concession stand. Please put single-sized servings in a clear, sandwich-sized bag and drop them off at school before the end of the school day on Friday, February 16.
3. Purchase water/soda/Gatorade that can be sold at the concession stand. Please watch your St. Paul E-News for a link with information about the amount and kind needed. Please drop off your donation before the end of the day on Friday, February 16.

Thank you in advance for all donations. They are greatly appreciated.



The Messenger

Thank You Notes

St. Paul students at our Lutheran high schools recently received tuition gifts from our congregation. Here are some of their expressions of thanks.

St. Paul Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for the \$100 check going towards my FVL tuition! May God continue to bless you.

Ethan Pelch

Dear Robert M. Clausen and the Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so very much for the check. It really is a blessing to know so many people care about my Christian education and support it. FVL is a wonderful school, and I am very blessed to be able to go there and hear God's Word every day.

Lord's blessings

Michelle Holley

Members of St. Paul,

Thank you for the \$100. It is greatly appreciated. Thank you as well for your prayers and encouragement in my education and continued studies of God's Word.

Your sister in Christ,

Lily Schmidt

Dear St. Paul Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for the \$100 to support my studies at Fox Valley Lutheran High School. I appreciate the support and letter of encouragement. I am grateful for the opportunity to attend Fox Valley Lutheran to further my education and understanding of the Word of God.

I also thank St. Paul School for giving me a great education that I can use to honor and glorify God. I will keep St. Paul Church and School in my prayers, that the school will continue to grow and the building project goes well.

Sincerely,

William M. Techlin

Fellowship Breakfast: Everyone is invited to the monthly Fellowship Breakfast, held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Village Grille on Hoffman Road in Allouez (801 Hoffman Rd.). Please join us on February 13, 8:30 a.m. Please email Dennis or Liz Oberer at doberer@new.rr.com with questions.

Thank You...



St. Paul Lutheran Church exists to celebrate our freedom from sin, death, and hell through Jesus Christ; to nurture our church family with God's Word for lives of service to Him; and joyfully to share the good news of salvation with the world around us.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL (WELS)

514 S. Clay St., Green Bay, WI 54301, www.stpaulgreenbay.com, (920) 435-8468, Facebook

GriefShare

Beginning Thursday, February 29, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, (2160 Packerland Dr.) hosts another GriefShare series. GriefShare is a 13 session seminar and support group for people who are grieving the loss of someone close. In this seminar, you will have the opportunity to connect with other people who understand what you are experiencing. You will receive comfort and encouragement during this difficult time.

Each GriefShare session includes a video lesson and group discussion. You will receive a GriefShare workbook to help with note-taking, journaling, and grief study. Videos feature experts on grief recovery, dramatic reenactments about living with grief, and real-life stories of people who have experienced losses like yours. During group discussions, you will have the opportunity to interact with others who have experienced a recent loss, learn about their experiences and share your own feelings. For more information, visit www.beautifulsavior.com/grief-share.

To register, contact Pastor Michael Dietz, who is leading the seminar. His phone number is 636.288.3201. His email address is: pastor_dietz@beautifulsavior.com

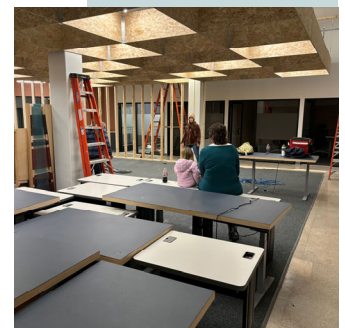
Post-Mission Festival Updates

Right after Missionary Joseph Lindloff was at St. Paul for our Mission Festival on January 21, telling us about what's happening with the new mission start in Marquette, Michigan, things moved forward for the mission.

The congregation has a name! The Marquette New Start Core Group decided to call the mission **Anchor Church**. This name is anchored in Hebrews 6:19—***We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.***

They also have a location! Anchor was granted their request for funding for rental space on Washington St. It is a massive blessing for them to have their own ministry space right in the heart of Marquette. The lease is signed and they should get the keys on February 1. If you're in Marquette, make sure to stop for a visit! The address is 130 W. Washington St.

If you'd like to support Anchor Church, offering envelopes are available in the narthex for your gifts — or give online using the QR code at the right.



Ladies Aid in February: We'd love to have you join us on Tuesday, February 6, 1:00 p.m., for our February Ladies Aid meeting. In addition to our business meeting, Jill Schultz will talk to us about how she got started with her bakery business, Five Thumbs Up. (Maybe she'll bring cheesecake samples!)

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:00 AM – Bible Study 10:30 AM – Building Meeting 6:30 PM – ESL Class 7:00 PM – Catechism Classes Tubing and Sledding Night at Tiletown	2	3 FVWAL Small School Lakeshore Division B Boys Basketball Tournament
4 8:00 AM – Communion Service 9:15 AM – Bible Hour 10:30 AM – Communion Service 11:45 AM – Sunday Catechism	5 5:30 PM – PTO Meeting 6:30 PM – Communion Service	6 1:00 PM – Ladies Aid 6:30 PM – Outreach Committee Meeting 6:30 PM – ESL Class	7 No Breakfast Bible Study 9:00 AM – Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM – Church Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM – Prayer at the Close of Day	8 No School – Teachers Conference 9:00 AM – Bible Study 10:30 AM – Building Meeting 6:30 PM – ESL Class 7:00 PM – Women's Group at ****	9 No School – Teachers Conference 4:00-5:00 PM – Food Pantry Distribution	10
11 8:00 AM – Transfiguration Service 9:15 AM – Bible Hour 10:30 AM – Transfiguration Service 11:45 AM – Sunday Catechism	12 No School – Teachers Conference Break 6:30 PM – Transfiguration Service	13 8:30 AM – Fellowship Breakfast 5:30 PM – Tech Committee 6:00 PM – Board of Stewardship 6:30 PM – ESL Class 6:30 PM – Board of Christian Education 7:00 PM – Board of Member Care	14 6:00 AM – Breakfast Bible Study 9:00 AM – Women's Bible Study 3:45 PM – Ash Wednesday Worship Jr. Choir Sings 4:30-6:15 PM – Lenten Supper 6:30 PM – Ash Wednesday Worship 7:30 PM – Choir	15 9:00 AM – Bible Study 10:30 AM – Building Meeting 6:30 PM – ESL Class 7:00 PM – Men's Bible Study Group	16	17 FVWAL A Boys Basketball Tournament at Fox Valley Lutheran High School
18 8:00 AM – Communion Service 9:15 AM – Bible Hour 10:30 AM – Communion Service 11:45 AM – Sunday Catechism FVWAL A Boys Basketball Tournament at Fox Valley Lutheran High School	19 6:30 PM – Communion Service	20 6:30 PM – ESL Class 6:30 PM – Church Council Meeting	21 6:00 AM – Breakfast Bible Study 9:00 AM – Women's Bible Study 3:45 PM – Midweek Lenten Worship Grades 1-8 sing 4:30-6:15 PM – Lenten Supper 6:30 PM – Midweek Lenten Worship Grades 1-8 sing 7:30 PM – Choir	22 9:00 AM – Bible Study 10:30 AM – Building Meeting 6:30 PM – ESL Class	23	24 3:00– 7:00 PM Winter Carnival
25 8:00 AM – Service Grades 3K-5K sing 9:15 AM – Bible Hour 10:30 AM – Service 11:45 AM – Sunday Catechism 1:00 PM – Family Basketball Games	26 6:30 PM – Service	27 2:00 PM – Early School Release 6:30 PM – ESL Class	28 6:00 AM – Breakfast Bible Study 9:00 AM – Women's Bible Study 3:45 PM – Midweek Lenten Worship 4:30-6:15 PM – Lenten Supper 6:30 PM – Midweek Lenten Worship 7:30 PM – Choir	29 9:00 AM – Bible Study 10:30 AM – Building Meeting 6:30 PM – ESL Class		