



# The Messenger

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

November, 2022

## God Works Through You

— Pastor Jon Zabell

Once, during that period of pastoral internship known as *vicar year*, as I was helping to straighten the church hall after a potluck dinner, my supervising pastor told me something that has etched itself in my mind. He said, “The ministry is 90% custodial.” We were in a mission church, one he had been serving since its beginning. What do you do when there’s no custodian on hand? Garbage doesn’t take itself out.

It strikes me, though, that there is truth to be found in his words for any pastor anywhere, and for everyone else, too, not just pastors. We shouldn’t get discouraged about the mundane, earthly aspects of our callings. God works through it all.

We who carry the hope of heaven may become discouraged at times because so much of what we’re supposed to do before we get there seems menial and ordinary. Monday morning’s alarm chime sends shivers down the spine. Stacks of dirty dishes next to the kitchen sink make us cringe. So we do our work, but we may consider much of what we do to be a necessary evil.

It doesn’t have to be that way. The truth is, any work we do to serve others in faith is truly divine. Why? Because as we do even menial tasks, God himself is at work. When God provides food for a child’s lunch, he doesn’t drop it directly from heaven to the kitchen table. He calls farmers and wholesalers and ad-

vertisers and retailers and parents, each of them working within the limits of their own jobs, so lunch can be served. Any one of these people may consider their work at times to be dull. They might not realize that what they are doing is, in a real sense, divine. God is at work.

For you and me, his work started when he called us to faith in Jesus through his Word. We who are redeemed by his blood have life in heaven and a new life of love and service here and now. Each day God is there for us in Word and Sacrament to overcome the sinful flesh that wants to serve self instead. Each day he places you and me into situations where we can carry out this love and service in unique ways by using the gifts he’s given us. The result? Through us he brings honor to his name and blessings for the people around us.

Martin Luther (1483-1546) called this the doctrine of *vocation*. He was using that word differently than it is often used now. In today’s secular lingo, *vocation* means career. A vocational school, for example, offers job training. Luther used the word more broadly than that. *Vocation* is everything a believer does to serve others. Children have vocations; so do retirees. Most of us have many vocations. One person may be a wife, a mother, and an office manager. Each vocation is a calling from God. Each vocation is an opportunity to serve. Each



vocation is God’s way of working among us and through us.

Where has God placed you in life? What gifts has he given? What callings? Count on the one who sent his Son to save you also to equip and bless you with everything you need to carry them out. And rest assured, even when the task seems ordinary or dull, God is at work. “So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31).

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# The Messenger

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## Call Letters

***On Monday, October 17, St. Paul congregation extended divine calls to three teachers to join us starting in the 2023-2024 school year. They are Joshua Lepke, 5th grade, Elizabeth Broring, 3rd grade, and Melissa Koenig, 1st grade. Please keep these called workers in your prayers as they consider their calls to serve here at St. Paul. Their acknowledgment letters follow.***

October 20, 2022

Dear Members of St Paul's Lutheran School and Church,

With this letter I am acknowledging that I have received the Call to serve as 5th grade teacher and Associate Athletic Director at St Paul's Lutheran School. As you have called me trusting the Holy Spirit, I will treat this call with the respect it is due. Over the next few weeks I will give much thought to the information you have sent me and will look forward to talking with the members of your congregation. I will look at the current and future needs of St Paul's Green Bay as well as my current call, St Paul's Muskego, and trust that the Lord leads me to a decision that will be the best for His kingdom.

Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers for me and my family.

In Christ,  
Josh Lepke  
St. Paul's Lutheran, Muskego, Wisconsin

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October 19, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing to acknowledge the divine call extended to me on Monday, October 17, to serve as third grade teacher at St. Paul Lutheran School. It is a humbling privilege to serve God and his people through the public ministry. Such divine calls need and deserve careful and serious consideration.

Throughout the coming weeks, I want to thank you for your prayers and humbly ask you to continue to remember me in them as I prayerfully consider where I can best use the gifts that God has given me to serve his Kingdom. Please also keep the ministries of Trinity and St. Paul in your prayers. I am confident that the Lord will draw all of us closer to him as we lean confidently on his Word and promises to bless and guide us.

May our Father, who has shown his victory over sin and death, continue to bless us all with the peace of forgiveness and the outpouring of his Holy Spirit, so that we may glorify him and serve those around us with his Good News.

In Christian Service,  
Miss Elizabeth Broring  
Trinity Lutheran, Marinette, Wisconsin

## November, 2022

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October 21, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at St. Paul Lutheran Church and School,

Greetings from northern Minnesota where the leaves are falling from the trees and cooler weather is upon us. This past week the Lord extended a Divine Call to me through your congregation to serve as your first grade teacher. I am humbled to receive this Call and grateful for the opportunity to consider how my gifts may best serve the kingdom of God.

I look forward to communicating with your leaders, and I welcome the opportunity to speak with anyone from St. Paul who would like to contact me. I can be reached by call, text, or email. My cell phone number is 920-562-4863 and my email is [ms.koenig@stmarksbemidji.org](mailto:ms.koenig@stmarksbemidji.org). In addition, I will be speaking with the leaders and members of St. Mark, Bemidji, where I am currently serving.

As I prayerfully consider where to serve the Lord, I ask that you please keep me in your prayers, as well as God's people here in Bemidji, Minnesota. Please be assured that St. Paul Lutheran Church and School are in my prayers and in the prayers of the members of St. Mark as well.

I am currently in my fifth year of teaching. After I graduated Martin Luther College in 2018 with an elementary education degree and an instrumental music degree, I was assigned to Bemidji, Minnesota to teach kindergarten, first, and second grade. This year, we are blessed to have 31 students in our school with 14 students in my classroom. My principal teaches 3rd-8th grade with 17 students. We are in the final stages of a building project where we added a classroom for our 3rd-8th grade students to our current facility.

I love using my musical abilities to edify the church and glorify God. Our students sing multiple times for church services where I direct them in song. I have played the piano and trumpet for church. Also, I enjoy singing in our adult choir. I know there are many opportunities to use my musical gifts at St. Paul within the school and church as well.

In northern Minnesota, there are not many WELS schools or churches. The closest WELS church to St. Mark in Bemidji is over an hour away, and the closest WELS grade school is over three hours away. I am quite familiar with the city of Green Bay since my hometown is De Pere, Wisconsin. I attended First Lutheran in Green Bay through first grade until the school closed. Then, my family and I became members at St. Mark Lutheran in Green Bay, where I attended school from second grade through eighth grade. From there, my high school years were spent at Fox Valley Lutheran. I am also familiar with St. Paul, as I have played trumpet for a few Easter services several years ago. I have wonderful memories growing up in "Packerland," and I look forward to exploring more about the community!

Thank you for the trust you have placed in me by extending this Divine Call. May our gracious Lord continue to richly bless you as we serve him day by day.

In Christ,  
Melissa Koenig  
St. Mark's Lutheran, Bemidji, Minnesota

### THANKSGIVING WORSHIP AT ST. PAUL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 9:00 a.m.



## School News

— Principal Stephen Miller



Students take in a lesson with Mr. Jammer on Grandparents Day.



During the 2022-2023 school year, our FVL theme is *Overflow with Hope*, with an October emphasis on our Confident Hope. “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1, NIV) We are reminded that the Christian is saved by grace alone, through faith alone. As Christians, we are confident in the death and resurrection of our Lord and what that means for us. What a wonderful feeling to know that the victory is won and that we can be confident that the faith he has given to us ensures our place in heaven.

November marks a time of transition in our athletics program as we shift from volleyball and soccer to basketball and cheer. We are excited to offer one girls and two boys teams this year, but we could still use additional assistant coaches. Previous experience is appreciated, but

not necessary. If your schedule permits, please join us for a home game, the first of which will be November 21. You can view our school calendar [here](#) which has all dates and times.

Grandparents Day on October 14, was a huge success with over 140 grandparents and great-grandparents in attendance. It was wonderful to see multiple generations of our families in the halls and classrooms of St. Paul. From set up to take down, many of our parents, students, and staff showed their “Eagle Pride” by helping with everything from table arrangements to serving food. It was a wonderful day and we pray that our special guests enjoyed their time with us.

On October 14, we said goodbye for now to Mrs. Bethany Parsons, one of our Extended Learning

teachers. We wish her, Pastor Wolf Parsons, and their family all the best as they begin the next chapter of their lives and ministry in Minnesota. On Monday, October 17, we had the opportunity to place calls for 1st, 3rd, and 5th grade teachers. Please pray for these teachers as they deliberate the calls they currently have and the opportunity to serve at St. Paul.

On the evening of November 11th, all members are invited to visit the school and observe the hard work and research conducted by the students of St. Paul during our Social

Studies Fair. The Social Studies Fair is a combination of social studies skills and Bible history. Student projects will be focused on Bible history. We will take a deeper look at Biblical figures, Biblical lessons, topical Biblical research, and Biblical structures. In addition to selecting a specific theme, students are encouraged to share the importance of their topic in their own lives and what God has taught us through the lesson they are sharing. Don't worry if you miss the official fair date, the displays will remain in place until the end of services on Sunday, November 13.



Families packed the Activity Center for lunch on Grandparents Day

## LWMS News

**Thank You** to all who donated to the LWMS Paperland Circuit Fall Rally Mission Projects using the September Special Offerings envelope. A total of \$617.88 was collected and sent to the LWMS Paperland Circuit Treasurer.

**The LWMS Paperland Circuit 2022 Fall Rally** was held on Saturday morning, October 15, at Living Water in Oshkosh. It was a wonderful morning of mission updates and fellowship. Pastor Ben Enstad, Chairman of the Northern Wisconsin Mission Board, was our main speaker, and he gave updates on WELS home mission work being done in the Northern Wisconsin District and how our work here ties to the WELS "100 Home Missions in 10 Years" initiative. It was a very interesting presentation with lots of information. The total mission offerings received from the LWMS Paperland Circuit congregations was \$12,467.93. These offerings will be split between Home Mission, Tools for Outreach, and World Mission Repatriation Confer-

ence. There were 171 in attendance at the rally. Six ladies from our congregation attended the Rally. The rally offering amount was \$2903. This offering will be used for: Speaker Fees (\$270), Mission for the Visually Impaired (\$300), bring the Circuit Working Fund to \$400 (approx. \$104.38), and remaining (approx. \$2,498.62) will be given to the Northern Wisconsin Mission Board, Mission Opportunity Fund. Send One Sister recipients were selected. When received from the LWMS Paperland Circuit Secretary, her detailed report will be available on the bulletin board outside of the office and linked in the St. Paul E-News.

### **LWMS 2022 Convention and Taste of Missions:**

Worship services, presentations, and recipes are archived and available for viewing. Visit [LWMS.org](http://LWMS.org) and [tasteofmissions.com](http://tasteofmissions.com).

### **SAVE THE DATES:**

- LWMS Paperland Circuit 2023 Spring Rally on

April 22, at St. Paul, Appleton, co-hosting with St. Paul, Dale.

- 2023 ~ 60th Annual LWMS Convention, June 22-25, 2023 ~ Hosted by the Crow River and Rock River Circuits at the La Crosse Convention Center in La Crosse, Wisconsin.
- LWMS Paperland Circuit 2023 Fall Rally, date is TBD, but it will be held at Beautiful Savior, Green Bay
- LWMS Paperland Circuit 2024 Spring Rally. Our President-Elect is looking for a congregation to host.
- LWMS Paperland Circuit 2024 Fall Rally, date is TBD, but it will be held at St. Matthew w/ Eternal Love as co-host.

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

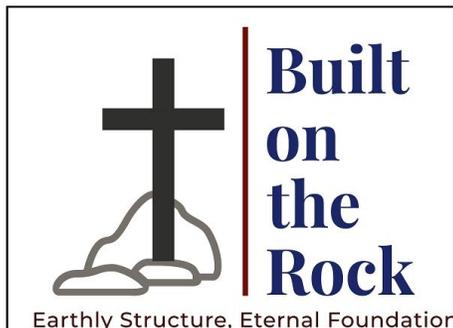
Lisa Koenig  
LWMS Reporter  
[CookieBaker@1791.com](mailto:CookieBaker@1791.com)  
920-469-1758



**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 (801Hoffman Rd.). Please join us on November 8, 8:30 a.m., for good food and chitchat. If you have questions, please email Dennis or Liz Oberer at [doberer@new.rr.com](mailto:doberer@new.rr.com).

# The Messenger

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## Update

St. Paul is now officially under construction. Early efforts are taking us closer to the point where we will be ready for the major excavation and building work being planned for early spring. At the end of October, a portion of our south parking lot was removed to make room for our newly relocated playground and a new driveway from Clay St. into the lot.

As our project progresses, let it be a reminder of the way each of us believers is under construction throughout our time in this world. True, our salvation is already finished and complete in Jesus, but this is also true: the Lord is always building us to look



more like him. See his law work again and again like a wrecking ball on the sins in your heart: sins of greed, sins of worry. See his gospel message of our Savior's victory raise you up again and again to be the living stone that you are, built on Christ our chief cornerstone, and let your whole life be a sacrifice of thanksgiving.

Evidence of this spiritual construction project going on in people's hearts isn't hard to see here at St. Paul: together we've challenged ourselves to contribute 23% more in undesignated offerings this year ('22-'23) than we did last year ('21-'22). We've also resolved to take on a \$4.5 million construction loan. And while it's true that we're behind on our plan for undesignated offerings for '22-'23, it's also true that we have paid off our \$400,000 loan for lower level renovations fourteen months ahead of schedule. And while we haven't yet reached our initial building project goal of \$1 million in combined pledges and gifts, we have surpassed the \$750,000 mark. From where come these bold goals we've set for ourselves? And the generosity we're seeing, where does it originate? There is no stinging whip be-

hind these gifts. Christ's love compels us.

So then, what now? If you're like me, eager to offer increased financial support as you're able, but wondering where best to direct additional gifts, think general fund first: undesignated offerings to support our growing ministry. And let there be no doubt: a 23% increase in undesignated gifts received will translate into more and more souls hearing the gospel here *right now*, even before the building is constructed, because ministry opportunities abound. Then, as God blesses and moves you, let any *additional* increase you decide to give go to *Built on the Rock*, the newly constructed space that will enable us to increase our gospel reach for generations to come.

Will you pray with me? Let's put both construction projects into the Lord's good and gracious hands: both the project he has begun in our hearts, and the ministry space he's inspired us to build. *And let's count on him to bless us in whatever way is best, as he promises.*

*Pastor Jon Zabell*

Many thanks to everyone at St. Paul for the special service and celebration in connection with my 25th anniversary of gospel ministry on Sunday, October 23rd. Your prayers, your gifts, and your kind words mean the world to Julie and me. We are truly blessed to be a part of our St. Paul church family, and to serve together with you in Jesus' name.

*Pastor Jon Zabell*



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](http://www.stpaulgreenbay.com), (920) 435-8468, Facebook



# Bay Area Life Center

Update 2022

## By the Numbers

Our blessings have been abundant this year, and we have quite a story to tell. Take a look at our numbers:

Guest visits in January 2022: 33

Guest visits in September 2022: 223

### Since January:

# of diapers distributed: 32,570

# of car seats distributed: 46

# of Pack 'n Plays distributed: 24

# of Christian counseling sessions: 3+

### Our Facebook Impact This Year:

Reach (# of people who saw our posts): 13,305 (up 629% from last year!)

Page visits: 771 (up 87% from last year!)

Likes: 104 (up 352% from last year!)

We can't wait to see how God blesses us going forward!

## A Special Thank You



First and foremost we thank God for giving us the ability to reach families in our community. We're also thankful that he has moved so many of you to donate time,

clothing, books and funds.

We're also grateful for the seven volunteers who volunteer at our reception desk and the five who continually sort our clothing donations and stock our displays.

If you'd like to volunteer, visit [bayarealifecenter.com](http://bayarealifecenter.com) and click "How can I help" to fill out a volunteer interest form.

## Christmas Plans



Due to the amazing increase in families served this year, our plans to support our clients during the Christmas season have changed.

This year, instead of providing our partner congregations with gift purchasing ideas, we are kindly asking for monetary support.

Beginning November 1, envelopes will be available at each of our congregations for members to pick up. We kindly ask that you donate whatever you are moved to give. All funds raised will be used to purchase Wal-Mart and Kwik Trip gift cards for our families. This way, our families can purchase gifts, groceries, or refill their vehicles. We believe this will best support their needs. In addition, we will provide each family with one Christmas children's book and one Basics of the Bible book. We will also include information on upcoming Christmas church services in the area.

Envelopes will be due back to your church office by November 30.



Bay Area Life Center is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Visit us at [bayarealifecenter.com](http://bayarealifecenter.com) and be sure to "Like" us on Facebook!

# ST. PAUL SAN PABLO

## LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

# November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8am Communion Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Communion Service 11:45am Catechism Class 4:00pm Area Reformation Service @ First Lutheran	31 3:30pm Girl's B Practice 6:30pm Service	1 9:00am Video Devotion with Pastor Zabell 1:00pm Ladies Aid 3:30pm Cheer Practice 3:30pm Parent / Teacher Conferences 5pm Boy's B Practice 6:30pm ESL Classes 6:30pm Evangelism Committee	2 6:00am Bible Study (Julie's Cafe East) 8:20am School Chapel 8:30am Womens Bible Study 3:30pm Girl's B Practice 6:30pm Church Choir Practice 7:30pm Prayer at the Close of Day	3 9:00am Bible Study 3:30pm Cheer Practice 3:30pm Parent / Teacher Conferences 5pm Boy's A Practice 6:30pm ESL Classes	4 9:00am Video Devotion with Pastor Enstad	5 7pm Women's Bible Study @ Zambaldi's
6 8am Communion Service - 3rd & 4th Sings 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Communion Service 11:45am Catechism Class	7 3:30pm Girl's B Practice 5pm Boy's A Practice 6:30pm Service	8 8:30am Fellowship Breakfast 9:00am Video Devotion with Pastor Zabell 3:30pm Cheer Practice 5pm Boy's B Practice 6:00pm Board of Stewardship 6:30pm Board of Education 6:30pm ESL Classes 7:00pm Board of Elders	9 6:00am Bible Study (Julie's Cafe East) 8:20am School Chapel 8:30am Womens Bible Study 3:30pm Girl's B Practice 6:30pm Church Choir Practice	10 9:00am Bible Study 3:30pm Cheer Practice 5pm Boy's A & B Practice 6:30pm ESL Classes	11 9:00am Video Devotion with Pastor Enstad 4:00pm Food Pantry	12
13 8am Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Service 11:45am Catechism Class	14 3:30pm Girl's B Practice 5pm Boy's A Practice 5:30pm PTO Meeting 6:30pm Service	15 9:00am Video Devotion with Pastor Zabell 3:30pm Cheer Practice 5pm Boy's B Practice 6:30pm Church Council 6:30pm ESL Classes	16 6:00am Bible Study (Julie's Cafe East) 8:20am School Chapel 8:30am Womens Bible Study 3:30 Girl's B Practice 6:30pm Church Choir Practice	17 9:00am Bible Study 3:30pm Cheer Practice 5pm Boy's A & B Practice 6:30pm ESL Classes	18 9:00am Video Devotion with Pastor Enstad	19
20 8am Communion Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Communion Service - Junior Choir Sings 11:45am Catechism Class	21 4pm Girl's Home Game 5pm Boy's B Home Game 6pm Boy's A Home Game 6:30pm Service	22 9:00am Video Devotion with Pastor Zabell 2:00pm Early Release 2:15 Cheer Practice 5pm Boy's B Practice	23 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Recess 6:00am Bible Study (Julie's Cafe East) 8:30am Womens Bible Study 6:30pm Thankgiving Service	24 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Recess 9:00am Bible Study 9am Thankgiving Service 6:30pm ESL Classes Happy Thanksgiving	25 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Recess 9:00am Video Devotion with Pastor Enstad	26
27 8am Service 9:15am Bible Hour 10:30am Service	28 3:30pm Girl's B Practice 5pm Boy's A Practice 6:30pm Service	29 9:00am Video Devotion with Pastor Zabell 3:30pm Cheer Practice 5pm Boy's B Practice 6:30pm ESL Classes	30 6:00am Bible Study (Julie's Cafe East) 8:20am School Chapel 8:30am Womens Bible Study 3:45pm Midweek Advent Service 4:30pm Girl's BB Practice 6:30pm Midweek Advent Service - Grades 1-8 Sing	1 9:00am Bible Study 3:30pm Cheer Practice 5pm Boy's A & B Practice 6:30pm ESL Classes	2 9:00am Video Devotion with Pastor Enstad 4:30pm Girls B Home Game 5:30pm Boy's B Home Game 6:30pm Boy's A Home Game	3

**Color Key:**

Church  
School  
Both