

The Masthead

Monthly Newsletter

"Equip, Support, Serve and Witness Where God Calls Us!"

MAY 2023



Church Office: 248-541-0613 & School Office: 248-546-6555

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Front Page.....	1
Ministry	2-4
Stewardship News	4
School News	5
Notes & Directory	6
Birthdays	7
Calendar	8



REV. JAKOB ANDRZEJEWSKI

MAY SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Ascension Worship
Memorial Weekend
Mother's Day
National Day of Prayer
Youth Confirmation Sharing of Faith
and Confirmation Sunday



Reflection on an Easter Vigil Reading

(Easter vigil is usually celebrated on the Saturday before Easter Sunday around sunset which marked the beginning of the next day in Jewish culture... The next day being the Sunday of our Lord's resurrection... The basis for an Easter vigil service comes from Luke 24:1-3 where Jesus was raised sometime before the dawning of the sun.)



Vicar Zachary Staehr

Daniel 3:24-25

Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up in haste. He declared to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king." He answered and said, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods." (For context see Daniel 3:1-30)

Reflection

On Easter vigil there are many readings. Each tells of a salvific work of our God and Father for His people. One reading that just sticks out is this account of the fiery furnace. This is just a great account to read from beginning to end, so I encourage reading the context also, but the specific section in Daniel 3:24-25 includes something that I have never recognized nor seen before. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were bound by strong men from the king's army before they were thrown into the fiery furnace (a furnace that was heated to 7x its usual heat). The furnace killed the mighty men that threw these three men into the furnace so that they landed on the ground of the furnace because of their bindings.

That is not the end of the story though because King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished to see something in the furnace. He didn't see three people in the furnace trying to get out, nor were they struggling with their bindings whether it was rope or chain. It also does not mention that he heard them cry out in pain. What Nebuchadnezzar finds astonishing is that there were not three but four men, and these men were not bound by anything. His astonishment likely continued because they were not grappling to get out of the fire nor escape the heat, but they were walking in the midst of the fire without crying out in pain.

The fourth person in the fiery furnace has the unusual characteristic of having the appearance "like a son of the gods". The Lord delivered these three faithful men from the flames so that the only thing that the flame consumed was their binding of rope or chain.

God's judgment on the Last Day will be with fire (Isaiah 66:15-16a; Zephaniah 1:14-18), but, when we are with Jesus in faith, we will be like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego who were saved out of the flame. We will pass through the fire, but the fire will have no power over us (Malachi 4:1-2). Though the fire of God burns the chaff, His people will be saved and refined through the fire that will burn away every impurity in us (Isaiah 1:25; Isaiah 48:9-11; Malachi 3:2-3, 6; 1 Peter 1:3-9). All that will be left for us is the righteousness of Christ (Is. 43:1-3; Romans 6; 1 Corinthians 15:50-58). Thanks be to Him who gives us eternal life by His resurrection so that we too may have salvation from the judgment of sin!

Hallelujah! He is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

MINISTRY



SHARING OF FAITH MAY 12 & CONFIRMATION MAY 14

Friday, May 12 is the Sharing of Faith service at 5:00 p.m. for our confirmands. Everyone is invited to attend this special service program.

On Sunday, May 14 we will be confirming these youth in the 11:00 a.m. worship service. They will make their vows and take the Lord's life-giving body and blood through First Holy Communion. Please join us in welcoming our new confirmed members! Reception in the lounge follows service.

Our 2023 Confirmands

NATALIE BAKER LYRA BOWDICH IRIS LOUWERS JAMES OHNGREN

RO Memorial Day Parade
Monday, May 29th @ 9:00 a.m.

The parade begins at Main Street and Lincoln and will proceed north. The parade has been held on Memorial Day for several decades as a respectful tribute to our veterans – past and present. For more information, visit us at romi.gov/parade



Monthly Bible Readings



SEASON	DATE	FESTIVAL	FIRST READING	PSALM	EPISTLE	GOSPEL
	May 7	Fifth S. of Easter	Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60	Psalm 146	1 Peter 2:2–10	John 14:1–14
	May 14	Sixth S. of Easter	Acts 17:16–31	Psalm 66:8–20	1 Peter 3:13–22	John 14:15–21
	May 18	The Ascension of Our Lord	Acts 1:1–11	Psalm 47	Eph. 1:15–23	Luke 24:44–53
	May 21	Seventh S. of Easter	Acts 1:12–26	Psalm 68:1–10	1 Peter 4:12–19; 5:6–11	John 17:1–11
PENTECOST	May 28	The Day of Pentecost	Num. 11:24–30	Psalm 25:1–15	Acts 2:1–21	John 7:37–39

MINISTRY



Now's the time! Don't let your children miss the adventure, joy and wonder that a week at a Christian camp can bring. Camp nur-

tures faith inside of kids! Sign up your children for Summer Camp. Summer Overnight Christian Children's Camps (for grades 1-10) are important for the development of faith, values and life skills. Camp Concordia, in Gowen, MI north of Grand Rapids, is the overnight children's Lutheran camp in the Michigan District available to everyone's kids. Some kids come to find new friends and others bring friends. Either way, in the midst of the canoeing, swimming, archery, cookouts and campfire devotions, kids get to relate to the faith journey's of young adults who serve on the Camp Concordia summer ministry staff. This is an opportunity for your kids, or for you to reach out to the children in your neighborhood or community. To find out more on camping registration and to read what parents have to say, please visit the camp's website at www.campconcordia.org or call the camp office for more information at 616-754-3785.

Adult Softball Sign-Up—Church

softball this summer is on the horizon. Games are played Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday typically one night a week. Occasionally there could be a week that we play two nights a week. Game nights are at Our Shepherd in Birmingham. The season begins in late May running through early August. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center, if you are interested in playing please sign up soon so we can determine the amount of interest. Please contact Chuck Brewer 586-822-8619 or brewerchuck10@gmail.com with questions.



Operation Layette's Coming May25 @ 7:00 P.M.



What is Operation Layettes? The Council of Lutheran Women collects layette (infant) items to give to various organizations in the Detroit area which assist pregnant women in need.

In the past, many layettes assembled by the members of St. Paul, Royal Oak, are delivered to various organizations such as; Image of God Pregnancy Center of Detroit, a pro-life advocacy program that helps women in crisis with spiritual and physical needs, as well as Compassion Pregnancy, Peace in Detroit, and St. Joseph's Hospital in Pontiac.

You may donate baby items throughout the year. Types of donations accepted are: Onesies and sleepers (3-6 months); receiving blankets; cloth diapers; socks and booties; sweater sets (knit or fleece); baby

lotion; bottles; infant toys.

Everyone is invited to attend Operation Layette's assembly evening. We begin at 7:00 p.m. in the church lounge. Stop by for a few minutes, a couple of hours, or just pop in to find out what it's all about. Questions, please call Pam Stasko at [248-544-8390](tel:248-544-8390).

Happy Mothers Day May 14, 2023



Attention High School & College Grads!!

We are preparing to create a display board for all our youth who are graduating this year and hoping to get pictures of our graduates with name, school name and degree (if college) and (if high school) your name, school name, graduation date and if planned college name you will be attending. Please turn these into the church office or email them to prodway@stpaulroyaloak.org. Photos will be returned per your request. Thank you.



Saturday Men's Breakfast -

All men of St. Paul and their friends and neighbors are welcome to join and fellowship with other men of St. Paul on Saturday, May 20, 2023. Devotions, breakfast and a Bible study is always on the agenda. We meet in the church lounge at 7:30 a.m. Hope you will come and join us!

MINISTRY



What a privilege we have to come before God's throne of grace in prayer for our Nation! Please consider participating in a time of prayer with our school and church family on Thursday, May 4, at 12:00 Noon in the church sanctuary. The National Day of Prayer theme is based on James 5:16, "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." The prayer guide inserted in this week's bulletin is a great resource to use in your daily prayers for our Nation.

Ascension Worship

The Ascension of Our Lord, which occurred 40 days after Jesus Christ rose from the dead on Easter, is the final act of our redemption that Christ began on Good Friday. On this day, the risen Christ, in the sight of His apostles, ascended bodily into Heaven. On Thursday, May 18 worship with us at 7:00 p.m. with Holy Communion for the Ascension of Our Lord. Following the service is an Ice Cream Social presented by St. Paul School Staff.

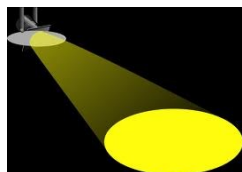


SPRO Youth Events May-June 2023



Sunday, May 7th – Lunch and bowling after late service – join us at Bowlero Lanes (4209 Coolidge Hwy) for lunch and two games of bowling – grades 6-12 – no money needed for lunch or bowling. RSVP to Carrie (info below) by 4/30/23. 12:30-2:30pm - please arrange for transportation.

Sunday, June 4th – Let's welcome the new confirmands to senior high youth Bible study! We'll have breakfast and meet in the confirmation room for games and Bible study. 9:30am – all youth & confirmands welcome. **As always, bring a friend to any of these events!** For additional information or questions, please text or email Carrie Smith (smithcarrie5@yahoo.com – (248) 990-5414) or Sue Francik at suefrancik@gmail.com - (502) 381-3597).



Stewardship Spotlight

The Gift of the Gospel

"For this reason, I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly" (Eph. 3:1–3).

There is that word: stewardship. It is a word that so many Christian people balk at. In fact, it isn't really a joke that when the word "stewardship" is mentioned in church, men guard their wallets and women clutch their purses. The Church has earned this response. Over the generations, the Church has allowed the word stewardship to become equated with the financial resources necessary to compensate staff and pay bills.

So, as we consider simple gifts, does it surprise you that Paul would willingly talk about stewardship with the people of Ephesus? Notice what He isn't talking about: money. What Paul is talking about is REAL stewardship, which deals with stewardship of God's grace. That is the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

The greatest gift that our Lord has given us to steward is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Truthfully, it is the ONLY gift we are given to steward. How you are led by God to steward the resources entrusted to you by God are to be stewarded for the sake of the Gospel. How you use your stuff tells a great deal about what you think of the Gospel. If your stuff is used to help your family, friends, congregation and community to better understand the Gospel, you are a faithful steward. If it is about you and your comforts, or even their comforts, that isn't faithful stewardship.

This perspective is helpful. It also causes us some grief. None of us are always faithful in our stewardship for the sake of the Gospel. What Paul calls us to in these words is repentance. Today we ask the Lord to work in and through our stewardship so that the people around us will KNOW about our stewardship of the Gospel as individuals and as a congregation.

From **Simple Gifts** – a devotional series on Stewardship provided by the LCMS.

SCHOOL MINISTRY



St. Paul Lutheran School

100+ Years of God's Grace

Our Mission

"Equip, Support, Serve and Witness Where God Calls Us!"

Statement of Purpose

St. Paul Lutheran School equips children for a life of service with a foundation of academic, physical, spiritual, and social maturity centered around Christ Jesus.

By Mr. Chris Francik, Principal



Easter Reflections



The shock and amazement of that first Easter morning floods my mind and heart with a variety of thoughts and feelings. I ponder how the first witnesses of the empty tomb, several women, Peter, and John, felt when they saw the open grave. What had happened? Where was Jesus? What does this mean? The staff of St. Paul Lutheran School and I have the blessing to answer these questions for our students and their families. Teaching and modeling the truth and joy of Jesus' resurrection is one of the many benefits of ministering at St. Paul.

St. Paul is actively enrolling students in preschool through eighth grade. If you know children and their families who would benefit from the teaching of this timeless Gospel message for our salvation as well as receiving an excellent academic education, please have them contact me at 248-546-6555 or cfrancik@stpaulroyaloak.org.

It's that time of year again--2023-2024 SCHOOLYEAR REGISTRATION—

REGISTRATION FEES (*Paid in the office and are not refundable*) (*Kindergarten - 8th Grade*) (*Per Child*) April - June 9 is \$350; June 10 or After is \$400 **TECHNOLOGY FEE:** \$100 per student

PRESCHOOL TUITION *Preschool Registration Fee is \$150 per child (Registration Fees are Non-Refundable)*

A Retirement Celebration—The St. Paul Board of Education will be hosting a celebration of Sue Trepianer's 33 years of ministry at St. Paul Lutheran School on **Sunday, May 7** after the 11:00 a.m. service. A light lunch will be served. Please come and celebrate Sue's many years of faithful service. *If you would also like to contribute towards a monetary gift, please drop an envelope in the church office marked "Sue T's gift" by May 1.* Thank You

Tuition Assistance Fund- The Board of Education wanted to make sure that everyone is aware that this fund exists to help families who need some assistance in paying their tuition bill next school year. More details will be shared at the Voters Meeting, May 7 (9:30am). Watch for a door collection in this month. Thank you for supporting the school.

School Fundraisers

Kroger Community Rewards-Go online to [Kroger.com/community-rewards](https://www.kroger.com/community-rewards) to create an account. Kroger Community Rewards makes fundraising easy...all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card! Another convenient way to support St. Paul. Our Organization # is HG674.

Calendar-May

May 4	National Day of Prayer
May 11	Spring School Concert (7:00 p.m.)
May 18	Ascension Day Worship (7:00 p.m.)
	Ice Cream Social (following service)

May 22-25	Outdoor Education (Grade 5/6)
May 26	Field Day (School Dismissed at Noon)
May 29	Memorial Day (No School)
May 31	Pk Special Book Bag (Set-up, lounge)

Church NOTES

Directory

For Pastoral Services

Pastor Jakob Andrzejewski
(cell) 734-644-0059
revjski@stpaulroyaloak.org

Church Office
248-541-0613

School Office
248-546-6555

Church Fax
248-541-6965

School Fax
248-546-8096

Church E-Mail:
prodway@
stpaulroyaloak.org

School E-Mail:
slutheranscho113880@
comcast.net

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/
stpaulroyaloak

Web:
www.stpaulroyaloak.org



PRAYERS

Church Boards
Board of Education
Board of Elders
Board of Evangelism

Fund Operating
Music Ministry
Board of Stewardship
Board of Trustees
Women's Guild
Board of Youth
Communications &
Technology

Prayers for our Homebound

Bill Fortner
Margaret Kuhlmann
Irma Pope
Charlette Schroeder
Ralph Schroeder
Jeanette Till
Kathleen Ulrich

Prayer for our Missionary
Rev. Gary & Stephanie
Schulte

Prayers for Military

Eric Banker
Mark Bowdich
Paul Bowdich
Sam Eskew
Ryan Espinoza
Trevor Guilmette
Brandon Newton
Brendan Sharp
Hayden Sharp
Joe VanDamme
Tirzah VanDamme
Jason Zuniga
Gabrielle Zuniga

To Add/Remove a prayer,
please email the office at prod-
way@stpaulroyaloak.org.



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

St. Paul Church

In memory of *Bill Carpenter* by Carrie Smith

In memory of *Art & MaryAnn Peludat* by Jeff Ostrowski

In memory of *Bob & Doris White* by Jeff Ostrowski

In memory of *Carolyn Dober* by Katharene Sheof,
Tina Southerland, M/M Terry Fraga, M/M David Tyn-
dall, M/M Gregory Schultz, Anonymous

Garden Club

In memory of *Bill Carpenter* by M/M Mark Olsen,
M/M Greg Paul

In memory of *Herbert Huff* by Dorothy Huff

Music Fund

Gift given by *Robert & Bess Cook Foundation* on
behalf of Libby Walker

GIFTS—Donate to the church by giving a memorial or honorarium by using
the card located in the lobby. This is a two part card, one to go with the
gift to the church and the other to be mailed to the family. Contact the
church office, 248-541-0613 for any questions regarding this. Thank you.

**School & Church
Closed
May 29
Memorial Day**

OFFICIAL ACTS

Baptisms

Kinsley Brooke Kiebusch
Parents, Ryan & Danielle Kiebusch

Date:

04/23/2023

Membership

Members In by Confirmation:

Babycz Mike 446 Drayton Ferndale MI 48220
Charlton Brian 14801 Talbot St. Oak Park MI 48237
Eovaldi Grace 18904 Birchcrest Detroit MI 48221
Rossi David 511 E. Fifth St. Royal Oak MI 48067

Members In by Transfer:

Delfin Nick 1029 Mohawk Royal Oak MI 48067
Greener Cathryn 4003 Custer Royal Oak MI 48073
Miller Lauren 1029 Mohawk Royal Oak MI 48067
Lynn White 333 N. Troy Royal Oak MI 48067

Members Out Per Request:

Alice Jackson
Pat & Martha Smyth
Cheryl Vickers
Norma White

Address Changes:

Lauren Banker 3206 Martell Rochester Hills MI 48309
Clara Lichtenberg 3442 Devon Rd #326 Royal Oak MI 48067
M/M Thomas Stecker, David, Amelia 8250 Oak Park Bld, Oak
Park, MI 48237
Ross Pierce Family, 18885 English Ivy Dr., Macomb, MI
48042

Phone # Change:

Connie Moulis 248-510-9345

May Birthdays

If we've missed listing your birthday, please contact the church office 248-541-0613



01	Addison Squire	14	Desmond Shaw
02	Colleen Olsen	15	Kelsey Milz
03	Jeanette Till	18	Faith Frederick Leah Mitchell
05	Jennifer Rabideau	20	Evan Szerdi
06	Monica Mills	22	Alan Dunker Ralph Schroeder Carrie Smith
07	Lee Woelmer	25	Bob Rutledge
08	Georgia Martini	28	Otto Smith Donna Snell Melia Woelmer
09	Brian Hermann Ronald Loretitsch	29	Theodore Eising Denny McClatchey
10	Samantha Rasmussen	30	Marley Baker Carole Brower- Lawrence Art Steiber Navy Valdes
11	Cathryn Greener Roger Pierce Hayden Sharp	31	Steven Ebmeyer Devin Mitchell Harold Sharp
12	Steven Carpenter Daniel Carpenter Daniel Lawrence Meagen Lienard Jeremiah Smith Barb Strick		

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
	1 9:00 AM Trustees 9:00 AM WBC 7:00 PM Elders Mtg	2 3:00 PM MLT Mtg (conf. rm) 6:00 PM School Game Nite-Gym	3 8:30 AM Chapel 10:00 AM Bible Class 6:00 PM Garden Club	4 8:00AM Men's Breakfast-The Avenue 12:00 PM Nat'l Day of Prayer 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM Bells Practice	5	6 Set-up 10:30 AM Use 1:00-5:00 PM Lounge - Millinger																																																																																																		
7 8:15 AM Worship c 9:30 AM Voter's Mtg 11:00 AM Worship Retirement Party- Sue Trepanier follows late service, lounge	8 9:00 AM Trustees 9:00 AM WBC 7:00 PM All Boards	9 7:15 PM YA (Atwater)	10 8:30 AM Chapel 10:00 AM Bible Class 6:00 PM Garden Club	11 8:00AM Men's Breakfast-The Avenue 1:00 PM Finance Mtg 7:00 PM School Spring Concert	12 8:30 AM School- Special Person Day 12:30 PM School- Fun Run by PTL 5:00 PM Youth Statements of Faith	13																																																																																																		
14 8:15 AM Worship 9:45 AM Bible Cl, SS 11:00 AM Worship c 11:00 AM Youth Confirmation Sunday, reception follows in lounge Mother's Day	15 9:00 AM Trustees 9:00 AM WBC 7:00 PM Council Mtg	16	17 8:30 AM Chapel 10:00 AM Bible Class 6:00 PM Garden Club	18 8:00AM Men's Breakfast-The Avenue 7:00 PM Ascension Day Worship c Ice Cream Social follows	19	20 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast, lounge																																																																																																		
21 8:15 AM Worship c 9:45 AM Bible Cl, SS 11:00 AM Worship SPRO Class Reunion, gym-150th Rev. Mark Werner	22 9:00 AM Trustees 9:00 AM WBC	23 7:15 PM YA (Atwater)	24 8:30 AM Chapel 10:00 AM Bible Class 6:00 PM Garden Club	25 8:00AM Men's Breakfast-The Avenue 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Layettes, lounge 8:30 PM Bells Practice	26 12:00 PM School Dismissed Field Day	27																																																																																																		
		5th/6th Grade Outdoor Education (off campus)																																																																																																						
28 8:15 AM Worship 9:45 AM Bible Cl, SS 11:00 AM Worship c	29 Memorial Day Offices/School Closed	30	31 8:30 AM Chapel 10:00 AM Bible Class 6:00 PM Garden Club	<div> <div> <div>Apr 2023</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <div>Jun 2023</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30							S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																		
						1																																																																																																		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8																																																																																																		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15																																																																																																		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22																																																																																																		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29																																																																																																		
30																																																																																																								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																		
						1																																																																																																		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8																																																																																																		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15																																																																																																		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22																																																																																																		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29																																																																																																		
30																																																																																																								