

**"Making Disciples For Life"**  
***Matthew 28:19-20***

January 12, 2023

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**



**In the Bleak Midwinter**

The fun of the holidays has ended. Thanksgiving meals, Christmas gatherings, and New Year's parties, have all come and gone. The days are short, and it feels as though we haven't seen the sun in weeks. Now, I'm an optimist and I do my best to stay positive, but I'll admit it's difficult this time of year.

Everything seems so...dark. The lack of daylight and sunlight no doubt have an impact on my overall demeanor, but so does this time of year. After the "high" of the holidays, I naturally start trying to figure out what's next? The Super Bowl? Nope, being a Packer fan, I can't look forward to that this year. Valentine's Day? That's for young couples. Spring Break? (don't tell me you haven't looked to see how far away Spring Break is...) I go through this every year.

I'm quick to forget that this season of the church year, Epiphany, is all about light. Perhaps if I took time to focus on the importance of the Epiphany season and what it represents, I wouldn't be such a mope this time of year. Christ came to be the light of the world. He dispels the darkness. And, yes, while it is presently cold and gloomy outside, our future is bright, for Christ has come as our light. His birth, which we celebrated just a couple weeks ago, brought light into our dark world. A Savior, born into a dark, sin-filled world for you and for me.

What is YOUR favorite Christmas song? My wife loves to tease me that mine is an old song called, In the Bleak Midwinter. But that song always reminds me of how Jesus came into our cold, dark world to bring us light and salvation.

[In the Bleak Midwinter](#)

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain.  
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.  
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.



## National Lutheran Schools Week

NLSW runs January 21-January 29. Please watch for a separate mailing detailing all the fun events that will be taking place.

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- **Meal Train-** The Segura Family has been such a blessing to so many people and the Lord has always given many blessings to them and will continue to do so. Their son Noah not only needs our prayers, but time to spend with his parents and siblings. To maximize the time Lisa and Frank can spend with Noah while he receives treatment for leukemia, our community needs to come together.

A meal train has been set up to lighten the burden of cooking/making meals for the family. You may also contribute financially to help cover costs of groceries, take-out meals, medical bills, etc. Let's show the Segura Family how much they are loved! ♥ Please contact Lisa to coordinate meal drop off times.

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/q9ezym>



### CHOICE MEETINGS

As most of you know, St. Paul's participates in the Wisconsin Parent Choice Program and the Milwaukee Parent Choice Program. One of the stipulations of the Choice Program is to hold two meetings per school year to meet with all families to answer any questions about the Choice Program, get any information about the Choice Program, and learn about the Choice Program. Our first meeting this school year was last night. The second meeting is set for **February 23<sup>RD</sup> at 6:30P.M.** Please come if you would like to learn more about the two Choice Programs in which St. Paul's participates.



# OPEN HOUSES

February 1 - Lincoln Campus 3:00-6:00pm

February 2 – Grant Campus 3:00-6:00pm



## *Volley for Life*

**St. Paul's Lutheran School --- 7821 W. Lincoln Ave. West Allis**

**February 3rd-4th, 2023  
Fundraiser for the Segura family**

- Volleyball
- Contests
- Silent Auction
- Food

**(see attached sheets)**

### **WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

All school families are invited to worship with us each weekend. We understand that it is in worship where we draw closer to our God. In worship, God is present, and we have the opportunity to give thanks, receive forgiveness, gather with fellow believers, listen to His Word, pray for others, and to be strengthened in our faith to go out into the world to share Christ and to meet the challenges in everyday living. Our worship life also demonstrates how important God is to us and our families. As we teach our children God's truth, we model how important God is to us and should be in our lives as He is so good. Make it a priority to worship regularly and spend time in His Word this school year.



### **Changes are coming to the Kitchen!**

During the month of January, work will be taking place in the Kitchen to replace the sinks and cabinets on the South wall. **Please avoid** of January as the will be no sinks available.



January, work will be taking place the sinks and cabinets on the **using this area** during the month remodeling takes place and there

## **A Spiritual Trivia Night for Families**

Saturday, February 11 @ 6:15pm

Dinner Provided

**Save the Date!!**

Come out for a wonderful gathering to grow in faith as parents and children while having a whole lot of fun as well!! There will be just three categories and we want you to know the topics so you can prepare to compete well. Here are the topics:

Toy Story - The Original Movie  
The Stained Glass Windows of St. Paul's Sanctuary  
Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

So, before February 11, watch Toy Story *again* and be prepared for questions about the movie including some spiritual emphases. Take a look at the stained glass windows and use one of the booklets available in the church office that explains the imagery. Finally, during the month of January and early February, read through Paul's letter to the Ephesians as a family (or individual) and be prepared for some questions on this important book of Biblical Truth.

### ***From the Pastor***

*"If you continue in my Word, you are truly my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32)*

It was one of the first times I taught an adult instruction class in the teachings of the Christian faith. I had asked the people in the class to share why they had signed up to attend the class. Then one of the students asked, "Why are you here teaching this class?" I responded something like this: "I believe that the love and grace of Christ Jesus and the

truth of his Word that I am going to teach you in the next few weeks are absolutely the most important things in life.”

I still believe that. That’s why I left the profession of being a Certified Public Accountant to become a pastor over thirty years ago. I want people to know about Jesus, to trust His promises and to follow the teachings of His Holy Word. There is absolutely nothing more important in life.

How well do you know the Bible? How well do you know the heart of Jesus? The answer for most people who answer in truth is this: “I don’t know Jesus and His Word as well as I should.” So I want to encourage you to considering making a big commitment to grow in knowing Jesus and His truth. We are having a twelve-week adult instruction class beginning on Saturday, January 21. It will meet at 9:00am and goes to about 10:15 or 10:30am each Saturday. It is a great way to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18)

So hear the words and the heart of Jesus in the gospel of John: ***“If you continue in my Word, you are truly my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:31-32)*** There is great freedom, hope, and peace found in knowing and following Jesus. I hope you will consider coming to the class. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center in the church lobby or you can call the school office (414-541-6251) or church office (414-541-6250) to sign up.

Blessings and freedom in Christ Jesus throughout the year of our Lord, 2023.

*Pastor Bender*



January 16	Martin Luther King Day – NO SCHOOL
January 20	End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
January 23	Report Card Day – NO SCHOOL
February 3	Teacher In-service – NO SCHOOL
February 24-26	Boys Basketball Tournament
February 27	Teacher Workday – NO SCHOOL
March 10	3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Masterpiece Gallery 4:30-6:00pm
May 5	Grandparents and Special Guest Day (half day until 11:30)

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

January 14	<b>Girls Varsity vs. St. Martini @ Our Father's 10:00am</b> Boys Varsity vs. Grace Oak Creek @ Our Father's 11:00am
January 18	Boys Varsity vs. Hales Corners @ Hales Corners 6:30pm <b>Girls Varsity vs. St. Martini @ Beautiful Savior 7:30pm</b>
January 21	<b>Girls Varsity vs. Granville Lutheran @ Granville 11:00am</b>
January 25	<b>Girls Varsity vs. Northwest/Pilgrim @ SPWA 5:30pm</b> Boys Varsity vs. St. Martini @ SPWA 6:30pm

## SINGING SCHEDULE

April 1	Grades 5-8 sing in church 5:00pm
April 16	Grades 1-4 sing in church 10:30am



## JANUARY

Micah Baars  
William Baker  
Elena Brofka  
Adan Correa  
Layla Cruz  
Liam Jessel  
Helena Keen  
Kian Koble  
Emilia Kosek  
Seth Lucas  
Jackson Petersen  
Rhyder Raatz  
Owen Radtke  
Joseph Segura  
Joseph Stathas  
Cal Streicher  
Jaxson Zimmer

# BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

## **JANUARY**

- 1 – Sophia Schulz
- 6 – Vincent Sanchez Loomans
- 8 – Ray Edwards
- 11 – Savannah Lentini
- 13 – Olivia Kassa & Hunter Kassa
- 15 – Easton Kassa & Maia Sleik
- 17 – Elena Brofka & Henry Sanchez Loomans
- 18 – Abigail Gennerman
- 19 – Leyna Sleik
- 20 – Kian Koble
- 27 – Braelyn Zellmer

***May God continue to bless you in your Baptismal Grace!***