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### "Making Disciples For Life"

Matthew 28:19-20

November 10, 2022

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



#### A Personal Invitation

"Come to me...and I will give you rest"

Matthew 11:28

We are approaching the time of year when people start to receive invitations to various things. Maybe it's an invitation for Thanksgiving dinner. Maybe it's an invitation to a Christmas party, or for New Year's Eve. Whatever the event, we've all received an invitation at some point for something.

Jesus extends an invitation to all of us. When Jesus says, "Come to me," He doesn't say come to religion, come to a system, come to a certain doctrine, come to a certain denomination or to a particular congregation. This is a very personal invitation to a God, an invitation to a Savior.

Our God is not aloof—he's not somewhere far away and so far above us that he can't see and understand our problems. Jesus isn't an aloof God who stayed secluded or hidden up on the mountaintop—he's a Savior who came down and lived and worked with the people. Everywhere he went, the crowds followed, drawn together by the magnet that he was—and is—the Savior.

The life of Jesus Christ is a message of hope, a message of mercy, a message of life in a dark world that is freely given to us all. All we need to do is accept the invitation.

On that note, I would like to personally invite you to worship with us at St. Paul's! Our services are Saturday at 5:00, and Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30. I HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

#### A few notes:

- Next week is Spirit Week! Make sure to check the flier that was sent home.
- Next weekend is the girls' basketball tournament. This is a two-day event that features a lot of exciting games and a lot of fun fellowship. If you haven't signed up to help yet, please check Sign Up Genius to see when and where help is needed. Saturday afternoon and evening are very short on help.
- The playground is almost done! Workers are putting finishing touches on it today and tomorrow. The grass area will be off-limits until spring.

- **Singing Dates**-There are a few dates where our kids will be singing in church, please add these dates to your calendar and plan on your child being there.
  - o December 10, 5:00 Grades 5-8
  - December 14, 6:00 Grades 3K, 4K, and K
  - o December 17, 5:00 Grades 1-4
- Educator of the Year-This is an award that the South Wisconsin
  District of Lutheran schools gives out each year. Last year we had
  three nominees, but not the winner. This year let's see if one of our
  outstanding staff members can win!



Here are the links to the nomination forms.

Nominations will be open until November 15.

 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. <a href="https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/g9ezym">https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/g9ezym</a>



## Chapel Offerings Update and Thank You

For the months of September and October, our chapel offerings were



collected to support *Feed My Starving Children.* Last week we sent a contribution of \$500 to this organization.

In September, the 8th graders attended a meal-packing event where they helped to pack 143 boxes each containing 216 meals. Those nearly 31,000 meals will be sent to feed hungry children around the world.



### **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 **is Thursday**,



**November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**. School Board members will be available to answer any of your questions. This meeting is for all of our families, not only families who are in the Choice Program this year or may be in the Choice Program in future years. The second meeting is set for **February 23<sup>RD</sup>** 

Please come to our meetings if you would like to learn more about the two Choice Programs in which St. Paul's participates.



## SCHOOL PICTURE RETAKE DAY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>



#### 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.

## From the Pastor

But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 1 Timothy 6:11-12

#### Fight the Good Fight

There are lots of ways to be competitive in the world around us. Sports get the blood pumping, cards can get people engaged, and work has people trying to move on ahead. Competition is something we can all relate to, it is a part of daily life. Some are just more concerned about winning than others but we are all trying to be ahead. However, how often do we think of faith as a competition? If you are like me its not very often.

However, Paul often describes faith in exactly those terms. It is a competition, we are running the race, fighting the fight, trying to get the crown. Paul is describing a passive faith of living and let live, but an active faith that works. Now do not get me wrong, we are saved by Jesus Christ and his work accomplished on the cross, not by our actions. As Ephesians 2:8-9 tell us For it is by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- not by works so that no one may boast. Our salvation comes from Christ, through faith alone. However, living the Christian life does require us to actively work for Ephesians 2 continues with verse 10 For we are God's workmanship,

created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. God did not save us to do nothing, but to do good things. This is where faith as a competition comes in. However we are not competing against other people, but against ourselves, against the world and our sin. We need to do good works for the sake of the neighbor, even when everything is telling us not to.

What does this competition look like? It looks like seeing a neighbor in need, when you have already had a long day. Are you going to win the competition by going and helping, or lose to the weariness of the flesh. It looks like doing the right thing, even when no one is looking. It looks like being kind, even when you are at wits end. It looks like repenting even when we don't want to admit that we are wrong. Above all it looks like holding on to the faith even when everything is screaming at you not to. The world tells us that we as Christians are wrong on so many levels, and it would be easy to cave in and live like the rest of the world. If it was up to us we probably would. But it is not up to us, we do not fight the fight by our own power. Instead we continue going through the power of the Holy Spirit. We continue the fight through the power of prayer, asking God to give us the strength to keep on going. He promises that he will send the Holy Spirit and all the gifts of the Cross. So fight the good fight of faith, keep on going knowing that the Lord is fighting for you.

Pastor Josh



November 18 & 19 Girls Basketball Tournament
November 23-25 Thanksgiving – NO SCHOOL

December 1 Picture Retakes
December 15 Christmas Store
Dec 22-Jan 3 Christmas Break
January 4 Classes Resume

## SINGING SCHEDULE

December 10 5-8 Grades 5:00pm

December 14 3K, 4K and Kindergarten 6:00pm

December 17 1-4 Grades 5:00pm





# **NOVEMBER**

Ava Bingenheimer
Memphis Cruz
Matthew Dawursk
Aaron Drent
Lauren Flessert
Nadia Galindo
Abigail Gennerman
Joshua Hafemann
Ronan Slaske
Leyna Sleik
Logan Wachholtz



# **NOVEMBER**

- 1 Riley Strysick
- 3 Aevery Moonen
- 5 Maverick Dachowski
- 11 Kayla Gennerman
- 15 Drew Gutknecht
  - 17 Leo Reuter
- 21 Matthew Dawursk
- 22 Skylee Ulatowski
- 25 Benjamin Bublitz

May God continue to bless you in your Baptismal Grace!