

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Newsletter



From the Pastor's Desk

As we seem to be making a turn from the impact of Covid on our lives, let us not be too quick to place the fall in church attendance on the back of the virus. This pandemic of declining attendance has been ongoing for far too long a time. Hence, I offer this message from a few years ago by Wayne Muller, graduate of Harvard Divinity School, and founder of Bread for the Journey, a network of ordinary people engaged in grassroots philanthropy. Of Muller, Henri Nouwen, whom you have heard me quote previously, writes, "Wayne Muller gently moved me beyond the seductive worries of Why me? He helped me look through my wounds as a window, opening to a new vision of who I am - and where I am now being called to go" as a servant of Jesus Christ.

"One morning a few years ago, Harvard president Neil Rudenstine overslept. For this perfectionist in the midst of a major fund-raising campaign, it was cause for alarm. After years of non-stop toil in an atmosphere that rewarded frantic overwork, Rudenstine collapsed. "My sense was that I was exhausted," he told reporters. His doctor agreed. Only after a three-month sabbatical - during which he read essayist Lewis Thomas, listened to Ravel and walked with his wife on a Caribbean beach - was Rudenstine able to return to his post. That week, his picture was

on the cover of Newsweek magazine beside the banner headline "Exhausted! "

"In the relentless busyness of modern life, we have lost the rhythm between action and rest. As the founder of a public charity, I visit the offices of wealthy donors, crowded social-service agencies and the small homes of the poorest families. Remarkably, within this mosaic there is a universal refrain: "I am so busy." I speak with people in business and education, doctors and day-care workers, shopkeepers and social workers, parents and teachers, nurses and lawyers, students and therapists, community activists and cooks. The more our life speeds up, the more we feel weary, overwhelmed and lost. Despite our good hearts and equally good intentions, our life and work rarely feel light, pleasant or healing. Instead, as it all piles endlessly upon itself, the whole experience of being alive begins to melt into one enormous obligation. It becomes the standard greeting everywhere: "I am so busy." We say this to one another with no small degree of pride, as if our exhaustion were a trophy, our ability to withstand stress a mark of real character. The busier we are, the more important we seem to ourselves and, we imagine, to others. To be unavailable to our friends and family, to be unable to find time for the sunset (or even to know that the sun has set at all), to whiz through our obligations without time for a single mindful breath - this has become the model of a successful life.

"Because we do not rest, we lose our way. We miss the compass points that show us where to go. We lose the nourishment that gives us succor. We miss the quiet that gives us wisdom. Poisoned by the hypnotic belief that good things come only through tireless effort, we never truly rest. And for want of rest, our lives are in danger. "How have we allowed this to happen? This was not our intention; this is not the world we dreamed of when we were young and life seemed full of possibility and promise. How did we get so terribly rushed in a world saturated with work and responsibility, yet somehow bereft of joy and delight?

"I suggest it is this: We have forgotten the Sabbath.

"Most spiritual traditions prescribe some kind of Sabbath, time consecrated to enjoy and celebrate what is beautiful and good - time to light candles, sing songs, worship, tell stories, bless our children and loved ones, give thanks, share meals, nap, walk and even make love. It is time to be nourished and refreshed as we let our work, our chores and our important projects lie fallow, trusting that there are larger forces at work taking care of the world when we are at rest.

"Sabbath time is a revolutionary challenge to the violence of overwork, because it honors the necessary wisdom of dormancy. If certain plant species do not lie dormant during winter, the plant begins to die off. Rest is not just a psychological convenience; it is a spiritual and biological necessity. Perhaps this is why, in most spiritual traditions, "Remember the Sabbath" is more than simply a lifestyle suggestion. It is a commandment, an ethical precept as serious as prohibitions against killing, stealing and lying. How can forgetting the Sabbath - forgetting to be restful, sing songs and find nourishment and delight - possibly be morally and socially dangerous?

"Roger is a gifted, thoughtful physician. Physicians are trained to work when they're exhausted, required to perform when they are sleep-deprived, hurried and overloaded. "I discovered in medical school," Roger told me, "that the more exhausted I was, the more tests I would order. I was too tired to see precisely what was going on with my patients. I could recognize their symptoms and formulate possible diagnoses, but I couldn't hear precisely how it fit together. So I would order tests to give me what I was missing. "But when I was rested - if I had an opportunity to get some sleep, or meditate, or go for a quiet walk - I could rely on my intuition and experience to tell me what was needed. If there was any uncertainty, I would order a specific test to confirm my diagnosis. But when I was rested and could listen and be present, I was almost always right."

"Sabbath is more than the absence of work; it is a day when we partake of the wisdom, peace and delight that grow only in the soil of time - time consecrated specifically for play, refreshment and renewal. Many of us, in our desperate drive to be successful and care for our many responsibilities, feel terrible guilt when we take time to rest. But the Sabbath has proven its wisdom over the ages. The Sabbath gives us the permission we need to stop, to restore our souls. As part of the Judeo-Christian tradition, it is already woven into the fabric of our society. Many of us still recall when, not long ago, shops and offices were closed on Sundays. Those quiet Sunday afternoons are embedded in our cultural memory.

"Much of modern life is specifically designed to seduce our attention away from Sabbath rest. When we are in the world with our eyes wide open, the seductions are insatiable. Hundreds of channels of cable and satellite television; phones with multiple lines and call-waiting, begging us to talk to more than one person at a time; mail, e-mail and overnight mail; fax machines; billboards; magazines; newspapers; radio. For those of us with children, there are endless soccer practices, baseball games, homework, laundry, housecleaning, errands. Every responsibility, every stimulus competes for our attention: Buy me. Do me. Watch me. Try me. Drink me. It is as if we have inadvertently stumbled into some horrific wonderland.

"The point is not to return to some forced, legalistic Sabbath. We rightfully chafe against the dreary and humorless Sundays that obscured the more traditional healing prescriptions of companionship and laughter. A new Sabbath must invite a conversation about the forgotten necessity of rest. Sabbath may be a holy day, an afternoon, an hour, a walk - anything that preserves the experience of life - giving repose and nourishment. During Sabbath, when we take our hand from the plow and let the earth care for things, while we drink, if just briefly, from the fountain of rest and delight.

"I make a plea for renewed Sabbath-keeping. As a nation, we cannot live like this, endlessly

rushing about in a desperate frenzy, never stopping to enjoy the blessings of family and friends, unable to taste the fruits of life. We can change society by beginning a quiet revolution of change in ourselves and our families. Let us take a collective breath, rest, pray, meditate, walk, sing, eat and take time to share the unhurried company of those we love. Let us, for just one day, cease our desperate striving for more, and instead taste the blessings we have already been given, and give thanks. Religious traditions agree on this: God does not want us to be exhausted; God wants us to be happy. And so let us remember the Sabbath.” (Wayne Muller, USA Weekend, April 2-4, 1999)

To Sabbath, is to rest. As we approach Easter and beyond, let us make a conscious effort to return to Sabbath. Begin with worship, glorifying the One, Jesus Christ, who calls us to rest in Him. “5 For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him.” (Psalm 62:5 ESV)

God’s blessings to all,
Pastor David Reber, Jr.



**CHECK YOUR
CHILD’S
BACKPACK
FOR NOTES
EVERY NIGHT!**



Note from the Principal

“Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.” John 1:29

The Easter season reminds us that our Redeemer Lives!

Just as the trees and flowers begin to bloom, our students continue to grow in knowledge and faith. The St. Paul’s Lutheran School students will celebrate Christ’s resurrection this month. Good Friday is a school holiday, there will be no school on April, 15.

The students will have Chapel each Wednesday morning at 9:00am. The next PTL meeting will be on Monday, April 4 at 6:30. We will have our spring picture day on Monday, April 11. Achievement Testing will begin on Monday, April 18 and run through Tuesday, April 26.

St. Paul’s Lutheran School is accepting enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year. Space is limited and is starting to fill up quickly. We hosted a successful Pre-K Preview event on Thursday, March 31. It is exciting to see our enrollment continuing to grow. Members of our St. Paul’s congregation and members of sister Lutheran congregations are eligible for discounted tuition.

The students continue their Stamp Out Starvation donations. Our April donations

will help Food For The Poor, Inc., an organization founded in 1982. Food For The Poor is an interdenominational ministry working to end the suffering of the poor in the Caribbean and in Latin America. Not only do they provide food, water, and housing for the poor, but they provide educational materials, build schools, and supply income-generating projects. Our students will learn the importance of service to others.

Thank you for supporting our March Dine Out Day at A Fuego Pizzeria. Another Dine Out event will be scheduled soon.

We have the best students, parents, and teachers. Thank you to the St. Paul's Lutheran School for your support. We value your time, talents, and treasures!

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:13

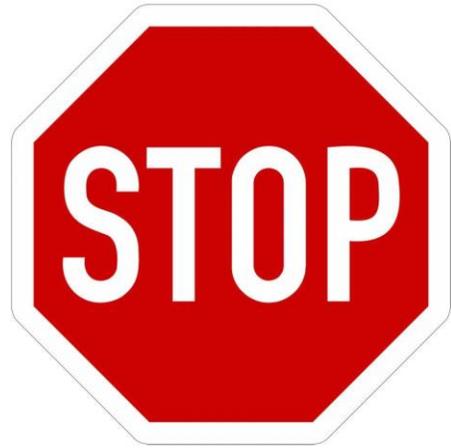
May the Lord be with you,



Richard P. Burdick, Principal



**PREACH AND
TEACH TO ALL,
COMFORT AND
SUPPORT
THOSE IN
NEED!**



If your child will be absent due to illness (or any other reason), please notify the office by 9:00 AM at (580) 234-6646. If the office does not hear from you by 9:00 AM, we will call to check on your child. The office will notify the teacher.

If your child arrives after 8:15 AM, please check in at the office **BEFORE GOING TO CLASS. This applies to Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten as well.**

Happy Easter everyone! Praise the Lord, He is Alive!

Ms. Penny Stover & Mrs. Teddie



PRE-K

Ms. Stover



Hello from the Pre-K kids! March was a busy month for us. We learned about St. Patrick and how he used the green shamrock to teach people how God was the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, three in one.

We also learned about all the changes God's world under goes in the spring. Then we looked outside and saw the grass turning green, daffodils growing and trees budding! Hooray, it is spring!

Holy Week will be here soon and we will learn about how Jesus came to earth and gave us his promise of eternal life. We will celebrate His resurrection with an Easter Egg Hunt on Thursday, April 14st before we leave for Easter Break.

KINDERGARTEN

Mrs. Lamle



Happy Spring Everyone !

Thank you very much for the prayers during my mother's illness and her passing!

Also, thank so very much for attending your child's parent/teacher conference! It takes a team to make education work for your child! We are busy little bees! These little ones have come so far this year! It's truly amazing to watch all of the progress they have made! I'm so proud of them!!!

As for reading this last 9 weeks we will be doing a lot of reading and writing stories. Plus there are a few reading tricks I'll be teaching them 😊. As for math we will continue to build on the skills we already know.

Our Easter Party will be the 14th at 2:30. No School the 15th.

We will be going to Leonardo's April 8th.

Love in Christ,
Easter Blessings!

Mrs. Lamle & Mrs. Judy

**ACHIEVEMENT
TESTING**

April 18th- 26th



March Music Madness is a big hit with all the students! The final four are We don't talk about Bruno, You are my Sunshine, Don't give up on Me and Let's get a little bit Crazy! All of the classes, PreK through Fifth, continue to learn and sing Lent Chapel Songs. Some of the selections include The Lamb, God so Loved the World, and What Wonderful Love is This.

We are having a Spring Musical Program! All of our students are learning wonderful praise songs for our musical, God's Not Dead. The program is on May 11th at 6:30 PM. I know St. Paul's students can not wait to perform for a live audience!

Blessings,
Ms. Salisbury



FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH



We ask you to tell others about our school. We have small class sizes, wonderful, caring teachers who are state licensed and highly qualified. Keep in mind there is a \$100.00 referral incentive to refer someone to our school. Thank you for your support of St. Paul's Lutheran School!

FOURTH/FIFTH GRADE

Ms. Collums



The social studies fair projects were absolutely wonderful! I was so impressed with all the hard work and creativity!

April is a busy month. Mid-terms will come home on the 11th. Our Easter party will be on the 14th. Testing week is the 18th – 22nd. Last book report of the school year is due on the 29th.

We are learning about explorers in social studies. The students get excited when we read about the explorer that they researched. In science we are learning about the ocean such as waves, currents, tsunamis, etc.

We will also be learning about Jesus' death and resurrection. "The Life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20

Blessings,

Ms. Collums



"Stamp out Starvation"

Want to wear JEANS on Friday???

Ms. Collums' 4th/5th grade class will be raising money for Stamp Out Starvation as a service project this year. Each Friday students will have the opportunity to pay \$1.00 to wear jeans and a St. Paul's T-shirt. The last Friday of each month will be a free day to wear jeans and a St. Paul's T-shirt so everyone can participate on that day. Just send \$1.00 to school on the Friday you will be wearing jeans and a St. Paul's T-shirt. Feeding Children International will send us the supplies that we purchase with our fundraiser dollars so we can assemble baggies of food for the children. Each bag that we assemble will contain 6 servings of food. For every \$500 raised, we can prepare enough food for 2,173 meals. PLEASE be a part of the solution for world hunger and support this worthwhile cause.



PTL NEWS

Our next meeting will be **Monday, April 4 at 6:30 PM** at 1810 E. Broadway. We would love to see everyone there. Dine Out

Many thanks to all who came to support our Dine Out at A Fuego in March. Stay tuned for our next Dine Out.



friends and neighbors to clip them too!

We will be kicking off our spring fundraiser selling chocolate on April 4th. Money will be due April 26th. For the top three sellers, there will be cash prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100!



Keep collecting those Box Tops and Best Choice labels to earn money for our school. Remember, Best Choice labels include anything with a label on it, not just cans!

Pop and Popcorn

This month we will be doing Pop and Popcorn on April 1st and April 29th. Watch for those order forms and thank you for supporting PTL. If you have a problem with your order, don't hesitate to contact us and we will try to make it right.



Remember to keep your receipts and add them to your Box Tops app to get money for our school. Also, did you know you can still collect Best Choice labels and turn them in to the office? Each label collects 3 cents, so encourage your

If you shop at Casey's, there is a new opportunity to support our school. Download their app and as you shop and collect points, you can donate your points in the form of cash to St. Paul's! Once you have the app, click on "Rewards." When you look up our school, type "Saint Paul Lutheran School" in Enid, Oklahoma.



With the colder weather upon us, remember to check out the clothes closet upstairs. We gratefully accept donations. Please ensure donations are clean, and in good condition. All items are only \$2.00 and 100% profit to St. Paul's PTL!

Don't forget to check out the clothes closet when the weather warms up! Every purchase benefits PTL.



We are eager to increase our membership and hope to see new faces at our next meeting. It is definitely never too late to join. We plan to meet on the first Monday of every month, unless there is a conflict, so mark your calendars!





A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who has entrusted their child/children to us. Every staff member takes their job seriously! We all care about your child's spiritual, emotional, physical, and academic well-being. It is a privilege to work with your child and with you, as we work together to do what is best for your child/children.

PLEASE tell others about our school. YOU are the best advertisement for St. Paul's Lutheran School.

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulslutherschool>



Welcome!

We invite you and your family to join us for services every Sunday morning. We offer an 8:00 am service and a 10:30 am service, both services live-streamed on our website: www.stpaulsenid.com. Our nursery is open during the 10:30 AM service for children 4 and under.