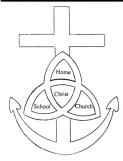
# ST. PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

# January 2024



Building Relationships in Christ

## St Paul Ev Lutheran Church

1415 Tenth Ave
Rochelle IL 61068
Ph: 815-562-2744
Church Email:
stpaul2@Rochelle.net
Website: stpaulev.org
Vacancy Pastor
Rev. Michael Wolff
Marcia Schnorr, DCM
Parish Nurse
After hours: 562-6823

# St. Paul Lutheran School

Ph: 815-562-6323 Steve Hall, Principal School Email: office@stpaulrochelleil.org Website:

# JOIN US!

In person at 6:00pm Saturday or 9:00am Sunday



### OR

FacebookLive At 9:00 am

### OR

WRHL Radio 1060AM At 10:00 am Or 93.5 FM

# **Changes for the New Year**

Change is the only thing that we can be sure of in the coming year. We hope and pray that we will find a full-time pastor. With the coming of a new pastor, decisions will need to be made about the parsonage. Will a pastor want to live in it, or will he want to buy his own home? The council also decided to make some changes after the planning session we had last fall. We will be looking for people to help us make changes for the better at church. Our seniors will have to make plans for after graduation. There will be the changes that we expect and want, and the changes that we dread and don't see coming. We may be worried about how the changes will affect us.

We don't know what will happen in 2024. We may be worried about the bad things that could happen to us next year. However, worry comes from the devil, not from God. Worry is the stress that comes when we believe that things will not be all right, they will be bad. Concern means that we care about the problem, but it focuses on what can be done and what cannot be done. Jesus tells us about worry in Matthew 6:33-34. "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." In other words, do what you can today to make things better today, and don't worry about what will happen tomorrow.

Jesus encourages us to seek God's Kingdom of Grace first in all things. He has overcome all things that would harm us. He died for all sin and rose from the dead in victory to give us hope and joy always, even in troubled times. 1 John 5:4-5 says, "For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith." Therefore, face this new year with confidence that God will be with us each step of our journey in life. We will overcome all things. Seek God's Kingdom in His Word and Sacrament and the Holy Spirit will strengthen and guide you all of 2024. He will bless us that we might be a blessing to others and shine with Christ's love.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Michael D. Wolff

# **MONTHLY MISSION OFFERING**

Our regular MONTHLY MISSION OFFERING offered on the weekend of January 20 & 21. A Basket will be made available for your gifts and support of "Lutherans For Life." This Lutheran ministry is a vital and life saving service in many ways. Although technically reversed, the Roe vs Wade ruling which legalized abortion, left more than 60 million babies whose lives were ended legally. The affects on would have been mothers, fathers, sibling and grandparents are devastating. The work of LFL along with our congregations bring the comfort and love of the Gospel.

We are blessed to be united and recognized as supporting LFL and continue to speak up and encourage all human life.

# **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE**

Lutherans For Life started as the vision of a handful of Lutheran leaders in 1976, this

For Life

initial work grew to the Lutherans official launch of Lutherans for Life (LFL) in April of 1979.

Lutherans For Life offers counsel, hope, healing, and reconciliation with Jesus Christ through Word of Hope (888-217-8679; www.word-of-hope.org) to women and men who are experiencing the aftermath of an abortion.

The truth we proclaim is not to be proclaimed timidly or ashamedly, nor should it be proclaimed with anger and finger pointing. The truth of the Gospel is to be proclaimed in love. Love confronts people with their sins, but love does not condemn people because of their sins.

The love of Christ's Gospel meets people where they are in their sin, but does not leave them there. It frees them from the crushing weight of sin and guilt and brings them to new life, as they are restored in their relationship with their Creator and live the life God originally intended for them. Find more information on LFL at website: www.lutheransforlife.org

# **February Newsletter Deadline**

January 15th Please get your items in by the deadline. Thanks!

# Guild Bake Sale

The Women's Guild would like to thank all those who donated baked goods, candy and money donations to our bake sale. Also a thank you to all those who made purchases. We made a record amount of \$925.00.

# **Winter Fellowship Potluck**

The date is set for February 9 for the winter fellowship potluck. 🔊 More details will be in the next newsletter, but mark the date on



your calendar. If you came to the fall potluck, please share with others how nice an evening it was. There was great food and fellowship.

# **Thank You**

Thank you all for the prayers and cards, while I was recovering from a fall. Thank you for the visit from Pastor Wolfe. I am home and look forward to celebrating Christmas. A blessed Christmas to all of you. Carol Elliott

# A Note From Raeda

Thank you so much for your continuous prayers, we indeed need it...This year all Municipalities decided not to decorate the public Christmas trees, or even lighten it, as a respect to those innocent who lost their lives in Gaza and West Bank.

Please send my greetings to all my beloved ones at St. Paul and thank them for me as I deeply know they keep asking you [Marcy] about me and our people.

Although The current situation is so hard and painful, We trust God, and believe there should be a reason for what is happening.

Love you!

# **Thrivent Matching Funds**

Are you a Thrivent member? Please take the couple of minutes it takes to make your designation by going on their web-site or by calling 1-800-847-4836. It is an easy process and we appreciate your donation. The deadline for releasing your 2023 dollars is March 31, 2024.



And so we begin another year. Like many of you I look forward to the new year and immediately begin to plan for all of the things that I have to get done. There are plenty of decisions that need to be made that will shape things now and in the future.

In a sense it's the same for our Congregation. We too have many decisions that we should make this year. Some new, and some that have been around awhile. In the weeks prior to the Congregation meeting on February I I<sup>th</sup> I hope to be able to distribute some short summary/informational sheets regarding several of the agenda items. I think it's important that this information is available in advance so that our discussions will be productive. Ultimately, it may even take some special meetings to get a consensus. But ultimately, we as a congregation need to make these decisions.

First and foremost, the main reason for the February meeting will be that of the annual elections to fill the various Church Board and Council positions. Currently there are open positions on just about every board. An updated roster is available in this newsletter and in the Church office. Please consider how you may help serve as there are many opportunities to do so. Your voice and ideas will be welcomed. I do need to point out one position that has gone unfilled for many years and that is the Vice President of the congregation. This a very important spot that needs to filled this year. My term will be completed next year and I've been here long enough. It's time for new blood and new thinking. Filling this slot now will allow for a much easier transition. I pray that right person will step forward.

As always feel free to contact me with any comments or questions

Bob Mortimer 312-316-6519

# WORSHIP THIS MONTH

January 6 January 7 January 13 January 14 January 20 January 21 January 25	9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Contemporary Liturgical w/Communion Thursday Fellowship Worship
January 25 January 27 January 28	2:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m.	Liturgical w/Communion

# **CONGREGATION MEETING**

February 11th after worship.

The agenda will include election of officers and board members. Additional items will be announced as the agenda is firmed up.

# **Greeters and Lay Readers Needed**

We need members to sign up to be a friendly greeter welcoming worshippers as they enter. Lay readers for the Old Testament and Epistle lessons are also needed. If you have interest in helping with either of these areas, please contact the church office or chat with Jeff Truckenbrod.

## **Adult Information Class**

An adult information class is being planned. If you are interested in learning more about what we believe and explore the possibility of joining St. Paul, please call the church office (562.2744) or speak with Pastor Wolff.

# LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES WRHL 1060 AM—7:30am Sundays

January 7 "As We Forgive"

January 14 "How Could She Ever Forgive Him?"

January 21 "The Battleground of Forgiveness"

January 28 "Forgiveness is a Gift from Far Away"

Join us for our 9:00am Sunday service or listen to our broadcast on WRHL(1060AM) or (93.5 FM) at 10a.m. It is also on Facebook Live at 9:00am.

# **Worship Anew**

Comcast channel 138 on TLN—11:30am Sundays

January 7 "Epiphany Light

January 14 "See Greater Things"

January 21 "Proper Perspective

January 28 "Teaching With Authority"

# The Parish Nurse's Notes:

Dear St. Paul Family and Friends,

Donation important, YES, Patients with blood loss due to trauma, surgery, or gastrointestinal bleeding and for individuals with certain medical conditions (such as kidney disease, HIV/AIDS, rheumatoid arthritis, or Crohn disease) or treatments (such as chemotherapy) receiving donated blood can be lifesaving.

Eligible to donate at age 16 with parent consent and older. You are not permitted to donate blood if you are pregnant or until 6 weeks after pregnancy, weight of less than 110 lbs, medical conditions severe heart or lung disease, hemophilia, iron deficiency anemia, or chronic leukemia.

Expectations prior to and during blood donation they will be ask a series of standard questions to determine you are in good health. Any medical conditions or illnesses that are noted may disqualify your blood donation. An exam that includes temperature, heart rate, and blood pressure to make sure these are stable. A finger stick for a blood sample to make sure your blood cell count is high enough to donate. Blood donation takes about an hour of your time.

When donating you will be in a slightly reclined chair. A needle inserted into the arm and approximately 500 ml (one pint) of blood will fill the bag while you gently squeeze a ball in that hand. They closely monitored during the blood donation and after the donation is completed, you will be offered a drink and snack before you leave the donation site. You will leave the wrap on your arm for 4-6 hours.

You may note a little bruising and soreness where the needle was after your donation is completed. Some donors may feel a bit fatigued after their donation. Drinking plenty of fluids and no heavy lifting or strenuous activity after donating blood. Blood donations can be done every 8 weeks that is six times a year.



What are the facts? One pint of blood can save 3 lives. 4.5 million Americans will need blood transfusion each year. Someone needs blood

every 2 seconds. Only 37% of the US population is eligible to donate blood – less than 10 percent do annually. About 1 in 7 people entering the hospital needs blood. Red blood cells live about 120 days in the circulatory system. Donated red blood cells can be stored for 42 days. Shortages of blood happens during summer and winter holidays.

If all donors gave blood 3 times a year, blood shortage would be rare. If only 1% of all Americans would give blood, blood shortage would disappear for the foreseeable future.

Check for a location by you to donate Blood. You can go to the website: Redcrossblood.org Please consider saving a life today.

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for a friend.

Linette Feltes, BSN, RN Parish Nurse

**Health Letter** this month was shared by Linette Feltes, BSN, RN. Linette has been on our parish nurse team and is primarily responsible for newborn contacts and some general hospitality services.

Parish Nurse Office Hours remain Monday through Friday 8am-II:30am unless announced otherwise. You may also call Marcy at her home at other times. If she is not home, please leave a message. She will respond at the earliest possible time.

Thank you to all who donated time, talent, and/or treasures to the various Christmas outreach activities—including 161 gifts for the residents in local nursing homes, 227 cards for all residents in senior living sites, and 25 "cheer boxes" for our known homebound members. This annual event is organized by the Board for Health and Human Care and the seniors of St. Paul. This year 161 gifts were prepared for nursing home residents. In addition, 48 Christmas cards were delivered to Bethlehem in April and 48 Christmas cards were delivered to Romania in September.

Please donate any Christmas cards with a Christmas theme or general winter theme that can be used for cards next year. If you are willing to help with this project, supplies are available in the parish nurse's office. Minimal skill is needed; instructions will be provided. Empty rectangular tissue boxes and show boxes are also accepted. This is a year-round project to get have enough for the distribution.

Ist Thursday outreach to senior living sites in collaboration with Christian Senior Ministries will be on January 4th as follows: Hawthorne Inn (10am), Lincoln Manor (11am), and Liberty Village (1:15pm). Marcy leads a simple devotion and someone provides some music. Mr. Hall provides the music for the afternoon event. Anyone is welcome to join in the fellowship and outreach.

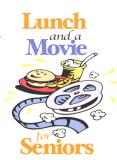
The Parish Nurse Team and the Board for Health and Human Care will have a joint meeting on Saturday January 6<sup>th</sup> at 9am for breakfast, abbreviated meetings, and fellowship.

Senior Ministry Program Books for 2024 are now available in the parish nurse office. If you have not previously participated, this is a good time to begin.

A "Senior Special" will be offered on first Fridays at 10am beginning on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Each of these will be a different focus and any senior or sorta senior is welcome. The January Senior Special will be a basic Christian Caregiving class. This will be of interest to both new and present Project Compassion volunteers as well as those just wanting to gain some helpful skills to use to provide Christ-centered compassionate care to family and friends. This might be new information for some—and a refresher for others. Contact Marcy in the parish nurse office if you plan to attend so that sufficient materials are available.

**Senior Social** is tentatively planned for **Sunday**, **January 7**<sup>th</sup> —weather permitting. A matinee and a meal will be planned for a nearby movie theatre or on Netflix—depending upon what is showing and the weather. Contact Marcy (815-562-2744 mornings or at home 815-562-6823 and leave a message).

Piper Albaugh



**OK Club** will meet **Friday**, **January 12**<sup>th</sup> **at noon** at church with lunch from the Country School. A short devotion and a simple game will be on the agenda. If you wish to attend, please call Evelyn Hintzsche at 815-562-815-562-4668. Any senior is invited

**Senior Supper Club** will meet **Friday, January 19**<sup>th</sup> **at 5:30pm** at Alfano's. A devotion from the Psalms and a "table talk" activity will be the diversion. If you wish to participate, please contact Dave Stewart at 815-973-4938. Any senior is invited to attend.



Thursday Worship Service will be Thursday, January 25 at 2pm. This service is specifically planned for those whose health needs make it difficult to participate in one of

the regular week-end services. Pastor Wolff will lead a short communion service. Marcy will be available to assist with any health needs. A time of fellowship will follow. If you need a ride to the service, please call Marcy or the church office by Tuesday and every effort will be made to obtain a ride for you.

**OK Club** will meet on **Friday**, **January 26 at noon** at the Sunrise. A devotion and some reminiscing about winter activities will be the diversion.

Patricia Rewerts 91	1/2	* ANUARY	c *
% Trisha Nicolay 206 Roy Ave	<u> </u>	** Birthdays and Anniversaries	
Emily Metzger Weber	1/3		
Zachary Pauser	1/4	Bettina Ball	1/19
Toni Rowley	1/4	Karen Bauer	1/19
Raymond Rainwater	1/5	Christa Seebach	1/21
Dennis Schabacker	1/5	Dina Bearrows	1/21
Christina Warner	1/6	Michael Eyster	1/23
Barb Kustes	1/7	Jason Osborne	1/23
Linda McAnly	1/8	Doug Fyke	1/26
Brett Metzger	1/9	Bernice Knolhoff 98	1/26
Barbara Bartha 91	1/10	2203 Flagg Rd	
2203 Flagg Rd		Rosalie Krause	1/26
Chris Kustes	1/10	Austin Sarver	1/26
Lois Delhotel	1/10	Kyle Eyster	1/27
Brittney Vandre	1/10	lan Metzger	1/29
Marilyn Bonneau 96	1/12	Debbra Doubler	1/31
Hawthorne Inn 2201 Flagg Rd	#11		

1/18

M/M John Schinzer 59	1/6
727 N Main St	
M/M Jacob Abell	1/7
M/M Steve Chappa	1/11
M/M Fred Fletcher	1/27
If we missed your important day it listed incorrectly, please call the church office (815.562.2744)	

# St. Paul Lutheran School

"Putting Faith in Education"



# Thoughts from the Principal...

I was watching a movie recently. It was about a man who had everything money could buy in this world. One morning he woke up and he was magically thrust into a different world. He went from the world of high finance on Wall Street to a suburban family man. He was mortified to be in the suburban world but by the end of the movie, when he was back at Wall Street, he fought to get back to his family and the simple life.

Where does our joy come from? I know that sometimes I try to find my joy in stuff. Sometimes I try to find my joy in temporary things. When I do that, I am searching for joy in all the wrong places. When I realize that my joy is based on **whose** I am instead of **who** I am and **what** I have, that's when I can have that peace that passes all understanding.

It's okay to enjoy the things that this life and this world has to offer. But if we try to find our joy in this way we are heading for disappointment to be sure.

Jesus came that we may have life, and have it abundantly (John 10:10). But that abundant life can only come when He is the focus of everything we do. We look to the babe of Bethlehem. We look to the Savior of the world. We look to our Lord who calls us by name and claims us as His own. There we find the true joy of living, and the promise of life everlasting.

Blessings, Steve Hall; Principal (reprinted from January 2021)



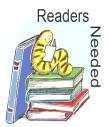
Welcome

We have a new 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher who begins her duties in full at the beginning of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. Her name is Maylene Carreno from Oregon,

Illinois. Toni Rowley has been filling in on an interim basis. Many thanks to Mrs. Rowley for stepping up during this unexpected vacancy.

# **Readers Needed**

If anyone is interested in reading with any of our lower grade children, please contact Mr. Hall.





The St. Paul JV Boys Basketball Tournament is scheduled for February 23-24, 2024. If any congregation members could spare a little time and help with gate, concessions, or hall

monitoring, please contact Mr. Hall (shall@stpaulrochelleil.org).

We are still in need of donations to the Frieda Pickreign Fund, which is the scholarship program that allows families to attend St. Paul Lutheran School who otherwise might not be



able to. Please consider an end of year donation to this essential program.

# **OPEN 2024 CHURCH COUNCIL & BOARD POSITIONS**

# The blanks represent the open positions for 2024.

The names in italics are those members who have consented at this time to run for the position. There can be more than one person running for each open position. All positions are two year terms unless indicated otherwise. If there is an open one year position, the elected candidate receiving the least number of votes will receive that term. All candidates for each open position are listed in the order they were received. If you would like to add your name for consideration or would like more information about any position, please contact the Board Chairperson, or the church office (815-562-2744).

# The election meeting will be after the worship service on February 11, 2023.

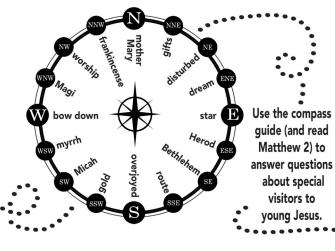
				<b>Candidates</b>
President Vice-President:	Bob 	Mortimer **	until 2/28/25 1 yr term until 2/28/25	
Treasurer:			until 2/28/26	
Recording Secretary:			until 2/28/26	
Board of Elders		<u>Candidates</u>	Board of Property M	anagement
Jeff Truckenbrod Chair	until 2/28/25		Chair	until 2/28/26
	until 2/28/26			until 2/28/26
	until 2/28/26			until 2/28/26
	until 2/28/26		Ron Schabacker	until 2/28/25
	until 2/28/26		Mark Metzger	until 2/28/25
1 yr term *	**until 2/28/25		6	
Glen Mehrings	until 2/28/25			
Jeff Warner	until 2/28/25		D I CIT LA /II	•
Anthony Rowley	until 2/28/25		<b>Board of Health/Hun</b> Pat Burch Chair	nan Care until 2/28/25
			Joyce Soost	until 2/28/25
			Marilyn Murphy	until 2/28/25
<b>Board of Parish Educat</b>	ion & Youtl	Bonnie Steder	J 1 J	until 2/28/26
Chair	until 2/28/26	Marge Kuehl		until 2/28/26
	until 2/28/26			
	until 2/28/26			
Janet Sarver	until 2/28/25		<b>Dayschool Board</b>	
Kyle Furman	until 2/28/25		·	
Brandi Casey	until 2/28/25		Ron Duval Chair	until 2/28/25
				until 2/28/26
				until 2/28/26
				until 2/28/26
Board of Inreach & Ou	trooch		Kurt Lodico	until 2/28/25
Chair	until 2/28/26		Kelly Soost	until 2/28/25
Chan	until 2/26/20		Brandi Johnson	until 2/28/25
	until 2/28/26			
	until 2/28/26			
	until 2/28/26	**IC.1	, '1 1 1	.1
** 1 yr term			a one year term available	-
Dave Stewart	until 2/28/25		the least amount of votes	
Gail Schabacker	until 2/28/25	one year teri	<u>m. A candidate cannot ru</u>	n tor a 1 yr
		position.		

Rev 12/12/2023

# January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00am Worship 10:00am Bible Study	1	2 7:00am Men's Bible Breakfast @ Sunrise 6:00pm Inreach/Outreach	3 9:45am Women's Bible Study	4 1st Thursday 10am- Hawthorne Inn 11am - Lincoln Manor 1:15pm - Manor Court	5 10:00am Senior Special 9:00am PN Team & Board Breakfast 6:00pm Contempo Worship	6 9:00am PN Team & Board Breakfast 6:00pm Contempo Worship
7 Sr Social Event 9:00am Worship/Communion 10:00am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:00am Public School Confirmation	8 5:30pm Dayschool Board 5:30pm Elders	7:00am Men's Bible 7:00am Men's Bible Breakfast @ Sunrise 1:00pm Hannah- Tabitha Circle @ Church 6:30pm WOW Bible Study	10 <b>8:45am School Chapel</b> 9:45am Women's Bible Study	11	12 12:00pm OK Club @ ( Church RSVP Evelyn V 815-562-4668	13 6:00pm Worship/Communi
14 9:00am Worship 10:00am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:00am Public School Confirmation	15 Newsletter Deadline 7:00am Men's Bible 6:00pm Church Council Breakfast @ Sunrise	16 7:00am Men's Bible Breakfast @ Sunrise	17 8:45am School Chapel 9:45am Women's Bible Study	18	19 5:30pm Sr Supper Club Monthly Mission Off @ Alfano's RSVP to Lutherans For Life Dave 815-973-4938 Worship	20 Monthly Mission Off Lutherans For Life 6:00pm Contempo Worship
21 Monthly Mission Offering - Lutherans For Life 9:00am Worship/Communion 10:00am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:00am Public School Confirmation	22	23 7:00am Men's Bible Breakfast @ Sunrise 6:30pm WOW Bible Study	24 8:45am School Chapel 2:00pm Thursday 9:45am Women's Bible Fellowship Worsh Study	ij	26 OK Club @ Sunrise RSVP to Evelyn 815- 562-4668	27 6:00pm Worship/Communi
28 9:00am Worship 10:00am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:00am Public School Confirmation	29	30 7:00am Men's Bible Breakfast @ Sunrise	31 8:45am School Chapel 1st Thursday 10am- 9:45am Women's Bible Hawthorne Inn 11an Study Lincoln Manor 1:15p - Manor Court	n -	2 10:00am Senior Special <b>6:00pm Contempo</b> Worship	3 6:00pm Contempo Worship

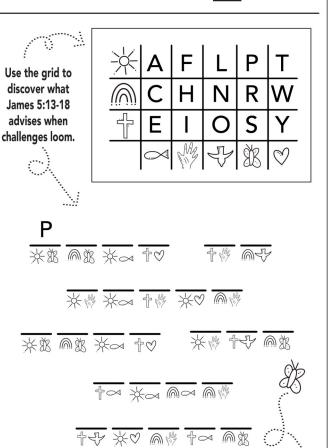
# Puzzle!



1. Who was king at the time of Jesus' birth? (ESE)	
2. Who came from the East to worship the one born king of the Jews?	
(WNW)	
3. How did King Herod feel about Jesus' birth? (NE)	
4. Which prophet did the chief priests and teachers of the law quote wh	en King Herod
asked where the Christ would be born?(SW)	
5. In what city would Christ be born? (SE)	
6. King Herod lied to the wise men, telling them to search and report ba	ick so he, too,
could do what to Christ? (NW)	
7. What did the Magi see in the east and follow to find Jesus?	(E)
8. When the star stopped, how did the Magi feel?(S)	
9. Who else did the Magi see with Jesus? His(N	I)
10. Before they worshiped the child, what did the Magi do?	(W)
11. Name the three treasures the Magi brought for Jesus.	
(SSW)(NNW)	(WSW)
12. These three treasures were all brought for Jesus as	(NNE)
13. What warned the Magi not to return to Herod? A(	ENE)
14. The Magi had to return to their country by another	(SSE)

Answers: 1. Herod; Z. Magi; 3. disturbed; 4. Micah; 5. Bethlehem; 6. worship; 7. star; 8. overjoyed; 9. mother Many; 10. bow down; 11. gold, frankincense, myrth; 12. giffs; 13. dream; 14. route

# Puzzle!



to \*~ ma mo to ta \*v \*v to

U.S. POSTAGE PAID ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS 61068 PERMIT NUMBER 93

# RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The mission of St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church: Building relationships in Christ now and forever.

# **JOIN US!**

# Live in person on Saturday at 6:00pm or Sunday at 9:00am

### OR

9:00 am Facebook Live - St. Paul Lutheran Church Page

## OR

10:00 am on WRHL Radio 1060AM or 93.5 FM

Pastor Michael Wolff, Vacancy Pastor 562-2744 Marcia Schnorr, Parish Nurse 562-6823 Steve Hall, Principal 562-6323

Church Office 562-2744, School Office 562-6323, Church Office E-Mail Address: stpaul2@rochelle.net Website: stpaulev.org



