



St. Paul's EPISTLE

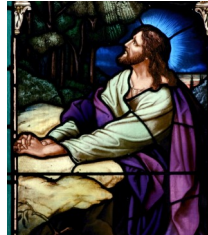
March 2017 edition

Jesus Christ Has A Question For You

By Pastor Mumm

On the evening before Jesus suffered and died on the Cross, He took His disciples with Him to the Garden of Gethsemane. Now, Jesus is the one, true God in divine unity with the Father and the Holy Spirit. But, Jesus also became a true human being in order to earn forgiveness of sins and everlasting life in heaven for us and all people. As a true human being, Jesus has human feelings and emotion just as we have them.

On the night before His sufferings and death, Jesus pondered the fact that He would be horribly abused by unbelieving men and would experience the horrors of hell as He would be punished for mankind's sins on the Cross. Jesus has human emotions and feelings. He was troubled by the abuse and pains of hell which He was asked to experience on Good Friday.



Jesus asked His disciples to be with Him in the Garden of Gethsemane. As a human being, Jesus needed and wanted the love and support of His believing friends. He said to Peter, John and James, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me!" - Matthew 26:38. Jesus then prayed to the Father in heaven, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup (the cup of experiencing the horrors of hell) be taken from me. Yet not my will, but as you will." - Matthew 26:39.

Jesus prayed this prayer three times. When He returned to His disciples they had fallen asleep. Jesus ask the disciples, "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?" This is a question which Jesus may very well be asking each one of us.

Are we faithfully and thankfully making and taking the time each day and week to read and hear God's Word and to pray to Him in our homes and at our church? God the Father and the Son (Jesus) and the Holy Spirit is the Giver of our earthly life and of our food, clothing, shelter and of every good thing. God, in the Person of Jesus Christ was punished for our many sins on the Cross and earned forgiveness and everlasting life in heaven for us.

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God's House.
Your Home.

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Sunday worship
at 8:00 & 10:30am

www.stpaulswr.org

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God in the Person of the Holy Spirit has given us God's Word, the Holy Bible, and offers and gives us faith in Jesus and the forgiveness and salvation from death and damnation in hell which Jesus earned for us. If we believe in the LORD God as our Creator, Savior, and Faith-giver, we love Him because of His love for us and we strive to worship Him each day and week. Our love and worship is far from perfect, but believers strive to faithfully hear and read God's Word and pray to Him.

If the LORD God keeps this world going, on March 1, 2017, the Christian Season of Lent will begin. During the Season of Lent, Christians have the privilege to gather for special midweek worship services in addition to our regular weekly worship services. During Lent, Christians have the privilege to review the journey of Jesus to Jerusalem where He offered His sacred life on the Cross as the payment in full for mankind's forgiveness and salvation.

Jesus Christ, as true God and true man, suffered and died, was buried in a tomb, physically rose from death, and ascended back into heaven to prepare a new and perfect world for His believers. Jesus assures us that He is always watching over us with His love, help, forgiveness, comfort, and salvation.

Jesus promises us, "And surely I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20). As Jesus loves us and is always with us, may we love Him and always be with Him. Let's make the time and take the time to faithfully hear His Word and pray to Him each day and each week in our homes and at our church.

Jesus spoke to His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane and is also speaking to us, "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." (Matthew 26:40-41).

A Prayer to the LORD our God, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit:

"Dear Father in heaven, thank You for loving us and saving us from our sins, death, and damnation in hell. Thank You for all the good things You give us in this world. Please empower us with a growing faith in and love for You and for Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Please give us the thankfulness and wisdom to make time each day and each week to faithfully hear and read Your Word and to talk with You in prayer. Help us to spend precious hours with Jesus on earth and then to be with Him and You and the Holy Spirit in the glories of heaven. We thank You and ask for Your forgiveness and blessings in the holy name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen."

Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive

Be a part of the Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive. We are collecting new personal care and cleaning products for local crisis agencies. Look for a donation box in the Welcome Center from Sunday, Feb. 19 through Sunday, March 12. Items collected will be sent to the South Wood Emerging Pantry Shelf & Warming Shelter (SWEPS) and The Family Center Domestic Violence Shelter. Because hygiene and cleaning items are not covered by FoodShare (Food Stamps), many low income families rely on agencies for these products. Items needed include: bar soap, soft soap, shower gel, shampoo, diapers & wet wipes, deodorant, toothbrushes & toothpaste, disposable razors, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, laundry detergent, dish soap, paper towels, and more. Stocking the shelves of our local centers allows them to dedicate their limited financial resources to providing safe housing, nutritious food, and counseling to those they serve.



Hygiene Drive
thru Mar. 12

- Counting Our Blessings
- Six people attended a workshop on using our school for outreach
- The book fair exceeded its goal
- Through Labels for Education will be able to upgrade our wifi.

Need More than a Date Night?

Join us for the Marriage Workshop weekend at St. Paul's!

On March 17 and 18, we will explore the Love and Respect DVD series by Dr. Emeerson and Sarah Eggerichs. Whether you are soon to be engaged or have been married for 40 years, couples of all ages are welcome to join in the discussion and fellowship. Based on Ephesians 5:33, we will learn about his and her deepest values and study the Crazy, the Energizing, and the Rewarded Cycles of marriage. The conference runs from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. on Friday and from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday. The cost is \$10 per couple to cover the expense of the workbooks. Snacks each day and a soup & sandwich lunch on Saturday will be provided. More information is available at the signup table located in the Welcome Center or at www.stpaulswr.org. If you have questions, please contact Mike or Gail Kretschmer at mikegail@solarus.net or 715.325.5678.



Support Your Local Missionary

One of our congregation members, Melissa Christenson, is going on a Kingdom Workers' mission project to Southeast Asia. This area has one of the highest illiteracy rates in the world. Melissa will be working with teachers to help spread literacy, faith, and a love of reading! The trip costs about \$3,500. If you would like to give a gift toward her trip, visit <https://se-asia-literacy-project-june-2017.everydayhero.com/us/se-asia-literacy-project>. For old-school givers, just put your gift in an envelope and give it to the church office. Please pray about partnering with Melissa in her mission project!



Jason & Melissa Christenson
and their children,
Vanessa, Mikayla, & Julia

"Repent: Turn to Jesus!"

The theme of our Midweek Lenten Services, "Repent: Turn to Jesus!" flows from the critical questions that occasioned Martin Luther's ninety-five theses and thereby the Lutheran Reformation: What is the essence of repentance? Is repentance the act of "doing penance"—making satisfaction for sin? Or is repentance something else entirely? Repentance, Luther came to see, is God's gracious gift to us. Luther proclaimed the biblical truth that the believer's entire life is a life of repentance—a daily return to the saving waters of Baptism. Our midweek service will be held on Wednesdays at 3:30 & 6:30 p.m. May the Lord of the Church bless your Lenten season as you "repent and turn to Jesus."



Midweek Lenten Services
and Lenten Suppers
Begin March 1

Help with Lenten Suppers

Supper will be served between our midweek services from 4:30-6:00 p.m. To make sure we have enough help each week, this year we are asking everyone to help twice during the Lenten season. Individuals with last names starting with the letters A-H will help on Mar. 1 & 22, letters J-N will help on Mar. 8 & 29, and letters O-Z will help on Mar. 15 & Apr. 5. We know everyone has a different schedule, but help is needed the entire evening. We need help before the supper with set up and food prep. During the mealtime, we need people to serve food and wash dishes. After the supper, we need people to clean up and put everything back in order so it is ready for the hot lunch program the next day. Early or late your help is appreciated. Just report to the kitchen and ask what needs to be done. Please also remember to bring a dessert to share if you are able.

St. Paul's School News



Now Enrolling!!!
2017-2018 School Year

Five-Day, Full-Day Option Available!

ST. PAUL'S PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

We offer...

- 3-day or 5-day, half or full-day options!
- Christ-centered setting.
- Research-based curriculum.

Requirements...

- Must be 3 or 4 by September 1st.
- Completely potty-trained without the use of pull-ups.

Space is limited!

Check us out online: www.stpaulswr.org

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL
Director: Hannah Mueller
311 14th Ave. S
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
Phone: 715-421-3634
E-mail: littlelambs@stpaulswr.org

Preschool News – by Mrs. Hannah Mueller

We have been incredibly busy! Not only have we been learning about shapes, different ways snow can melt, Groundhog's Day, and our letters up to Q, but we've been busy creating winter crafts and working on our gross-motor skills (large movements). Our annual Scholastic Book Fair was a great success! We set our goal to hit \$2600 in sales and we ended the week with just over \$3000. Thank you for your contributions! We're still waiting to hear what our rewards will be for that amount. God is good!

St. Paul's Preschool program is now enrolling for the 2017-18 school year! Registration packets have been handed out to our current 3K and Little Lambs families. Please turn in your packet as soon as possible to save your spot. We've had a lot of interest (almost a call every day) inquiring into our Preschool program. Registration opens up to the public on Monday, February 27th. If you have not received a packet or have any questions, please let me know! You can contact me by calling the school (715-421-3634 ext. 15) or email at littlelambs@stpaulswr.org.

Kindergarten News – by Mrs. Trisha Engelbrecht

Lately we have been very grateful that our God is a God of order; we have been using that information to find patterns everywhere. We recently celebrated the 100th day of school, which is an excellent opportunity to find number patterns. We were able to get to 100 by skip counting many different ways. We were able to group things into tens and even learn about dimes and count money. We used our patterns to find missing numbers up to 100 and solve many number puzzles. Thank God for making it easy.

We also found patterns in words, even in our unique English language. We learned that many words that rhyme have patterns of letters in them we call word families. After learning the word "at" we were able to extend the word pattern to other words like: bat, cat, fat, hat, mat, pat, rat, sat, and that. All those patterns make learning just a little bit easier. I love seeing that "Oh, I see!" reaction when they spot and use a pattern!



Pajama Day

1st-2nd Grade News – by Mrs. Karen Obsuszt

We just finished celebrating Christian Education Week at St. Paul's. The week was packed with some exciting things for all the students to enjoy. The students really did a great job participating in all the events for each day. They also did a nice job singing in church. It is always a blessing to hear them sing after all their hard work. We are very thankful for the opportunity to provide a Christian education to so many children. It is so fun to see the students get so excited about celebrating this opportunity.

We are also excited about Valentine's Day. Of course the students love to exchange valentines in class and share treats, but what a special time to remind each other about God's love for us. God's love for us goes far beyond a one day celebration like Valentine's Day. He sent his son to die for us so we will have eternal life with him forever. That is something we can celebrate every day.

3rd - 4th Grade News – by Mr. Jon Engelbrecht

It has been an exciting month in the 3rd and 4th grade classroom. Since the last epistle, we ended the second quarter, which means we have switched from science to social studies. This year is an exciting year as the students take a look at Wisconsin history. They have been digging deep into the founding of our great state and the many important cities that are in our state.

The fourth graders have been enjoying their time tackling division with two digit answers, some with remainders and some without remainders. It remains to be seen who will win out in the end, division or the student! We participated in our annual Zaner-Bloser handwriting competition. It was a tough year deciding winners, but Christian Matthews prevailed in third grade, and Brianna Perry was the fourth grade winner. We now wait patiently to see if either one can become a state winner. Stay tuned!

5th-6th Grade News – by Mr. John Quint

One of the student groups that doesn't get a lot of attention is the St. Paul's Safety Patrol. On a volunteer basis, students from grades five through eight ensure the safety of their fellow students before school in the cafeteria hallway and after school while students wait for their buses or car pick-ups. Patrollers maintain good behavior and report any problems to the supervising adults. To thank them for their service, we hold two special events during the year, one of which is coming up on March 2nd. The patrollers will gather after school for fun, games, and a pizza supper. Later in the year, they will spend the day in the Dells at the Mt. Olympus Water Park.

In science class, after finishing a chapter on simple machines (levers, pulleys, wheel and axles, etc.), fifth and sixth graders are currently working on their Rube Goldberg machines. They need to build a crazy compound machine that can either break an egg or pop a balloon. The machines will be on display at St. Paul's Got Talent on April 7th.

7th-8th Grade News – by Mr. Randy Pahl

A "heart-filled" greeting is being sent your way from all of us in grades 7-8 in this month of February. We certainly hope you had a "love-ly" month thus far; one in which you had the opportunity to share the love of your Savior with all those whom the Lord has placed in your lives!

At the time of the writing of this article, the basketball season has not yet officially drawn to a close. On February 3rd we wrapped up Christian Education Week with home basketball games against Our Saviors of Wausau. On Saturday, February 18th St. Paul's boys' and girls' varsity teams would be heading up to the Northland Lutheran Grade School Tournament. We would like to send out a great big THANK YOU to all who helped coach our teams this year: Mrs. Chelsie Thuecks, Ms. Jess Kruger, Mrs. Sheila Hacker and Mr. Scott Hacker. And, finally, congratulations to our girls, boys, coaches, parents and fans for a wonderful year of representing St. Paul's Lutheran School!

Also, in February, we have been busy academically. In our Christ Light lessons we have been engaged in discussions surrounding how to deal with not only the here and now, but what the Lord has in store for our futures. Algebra class has been filled with multiple ways of solving equations with two variables, while 7th grade math begins to take more and more and more and ... steps in preparation for next year's algebra course. Science has revolved around the study of the eight planets (poor Pluto); while in government class an in-depth study of civil rights have kept our people very busy for the past 50 years (well, at least two weeks).

With Ash Wednesday (March 1st) just around the corner, may the yearly journey to our Savior's cross keep your hearts and minds focused on our awesome God during the days and weeks before us.



Pajama Day

St. Paul's Pine Car Derby Results

Winners in Craft



1st—Emma Schroeder



2nd—Henry Woltman



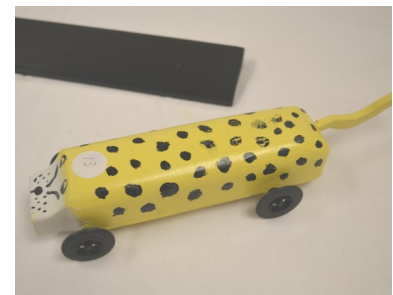
3rd—Aaron Volden



4th—Rose Paul



5th—Kiley Carroll



6th—Brianna Perry

Winners in Division I Speed

- 1st – Emma Schroeder
- 2nd – Ian Antoniewicz
- 3rd – Brianna Perry
- 4th – Henry Woltman
- 5th– Kiley Carroll

Winners in Division II Speed

- 1st – Aaron Volden
- 2nd – Rose Paul
- 3rd– Jonathan Duerr
- 4th – Charlotte Mews
- 5th – Lyric Mews
- 6th – Katherine Duerr

LWMS Convention Open for Registration

The annual convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) will be held June 22-25 in Orlando, FL. The convention kicks off Thursday evening with a worship service. Friday and Saturday feature speakers from various WELS mission fields. In addition, attendees can choose to attend workshops. For recreation, attendees can opt to visit the Holy Land Experience, a biblical-themed museum, or an airboat ride for Florida wildlife viewing. The conference will conclude on Sunday with a worship service. Complete convention and registration information can be found at lwms.org. Copies are also available in our Welcome Center.

Alzheimer's Presentation in Stevens Point

Pastor Curt Seefeldt of the Lutheran Home Association will present information on Alzheimer's disease at The Word in Stevens Point on Saturday, March 4. The discussion will include diagnosis, treatment options, family care and spiritual questions. The presentation runs from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with a free lunch provided. There is no charge for the event. Please register at www.divine-word.com or call 715-341-2915. The Word is located at 1009 Clark Street in Stevens Point.

THE WORLD IS MINE

-- Author unknown

Today, upon a bus,
 I saw a very beautiful woman
 and wished I were as beautiful.
 When suddenly she rose to leave,
 I saw her hobble down the aisle.
 She had one leg and used a crutch.
 But as she passed, she passed a smile.
 Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.
 I have two legs; the world is mine.

I stopped to buy some candy.
 The lad who sold it had such charm.
 I talked with him, he seemed so glad.
 If I were late, it'd do no harm.
 And as I left, he said to me,
 "I thank you, you've been so kind.
 It's nice to talk with folks like you.
 You see," he said, "I'm blind."
 Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.
 I have two eyes; the world is mine.

Later while walking down the street,
 I saw a child I knew.
 He stood and watched the others play,
 but he did not know what to do.
 I stopped a moment and then I said,
 "Why don't you join them dear?"
 He looked ahead without a word.
 I forgot, he couldn't hear.
 Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.
 I have two ears; the world is mine.

With feet to take me where I'd go..
 With eyes to see the sunset's glow.
 With ears to hear what I'd know.
 Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.
 I've been blessed indeed, the world is mine.



Called Home to Heaven
 Tom Bushmaker
 January 21, 2017

Special Gifts and Memorials

*Through February 12, 2017***Current Ministry**

- In memory of Tim Olari's father given by Jim & Jeanne Jackson
- In memory of Cheryl (Hafermann) Alizadeh given by Sue Bobrowski

Mortgage

- In memory of Tim Olari's father given by Mike & Judy Anderson
- In memory of Herb Weiss given by Cheri Weiss & Family
- In memory of Tom Bushmaker given by Jack & Pat Fluno and Tom & Barb Reitz

Cheerful Givers

- In memory of Tim Olari's father given by Sue Bobrowski
- In memory of Tom Bushmaker given by Sue Bobrowski

Student Assistance Fund

- In memory of Tom Bushmaker given by Edna Haferman

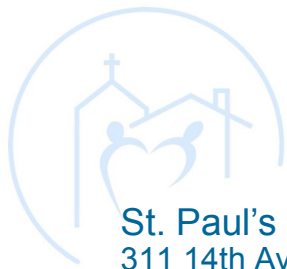
Together We Shine

Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) invites you to their Together We Shine event on Sunday, March 5. Fellowship begins at 12:00 p.m. with an open house running until 3:00 pm. The purposes of the event is to thank you for your continued support of this ministry, to celebrate the Lord's blessings through NLHS, and to raise \$17,000. There is a buffet-style dinner for \$10 per plate (\$5 for ages 10 and younger) and child-care for little ones after the meal. You will have opportunities to hear from students, visit classrooms, learn about different aspects of Northland, enjoy entertainment, and bid on items in a silent auction. Please contact NLHS with reservations for the dinner by Feb. 27 (715-359-3400 or nlhsoffice@nlhs.org).

Upcoming Events at NLHS

March 2 – Friends & Family Forensics Night
 March 3 – Grade School Lock-in
 March 5 – Together We Shine
 March 11 – District Forensics at East Jr. High
 March 12 – Lent/Easter Concert
 March 18 – Pioneers District Basketball Tourney





St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
311 14th Ave S
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-2402

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Phone: 715-421-3634
E-mail: churchoffice@stpaulswr.org
March 2017 edition

Upcoming Events

Marriage Workshop at St. Paul's
March 17-18

St. Paul's Got Talent
April 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday Worship
April 16 - 7:00 & 9:30am

National WELS Handbell Festival
April 29 & 30
at Lincoln High in Wisc. Rapids



Midweek Lenten Services
Wednesdays at 3:30 & 6:30 p.m.
Beginning March 1

Pastor Martin Baur · 715-421-1424 · Pastor James Mumm · 608-780-7106