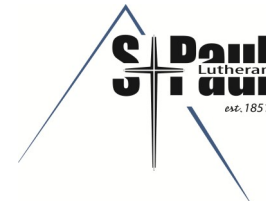


T H E E C H O



St. Paul Lutheran School

701 Washington Street Grafton, Wisconsin 53024

Phone: 262-377-4659

FAX 262-377-7808

www.splgraffton.org

e-mail: school@splgraffton.org



February 27, 2026

*"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever. His faithfulness continues through all generations."
Psalm 100:5*

Finding Joy in the Gloomy Season

Winter can feel long. The sky turns gray earlier, the trees stand bare, and the cold keeps us inside. For many of us, the gloominess can begin to settle not just outside our windows, but inside our hearts. We miss the sunshine. We miss the color. We miss the energy of summer. Yet winter has a quiet lesson for us: God is still at work, even when everything looks still.

In Scripture, we see this truth over and over. In the Psalms, David writes, "Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning." Even in seasons that feel dark, God promises that joy is not gone; it is simply waiting. Think about what is happening beneath the frozen ground in winter. Seeds are resting. Roots are growing deeper. Trees are conserving strength. What looks lifeless is actually preparing for new life. In the same way, God often uses our quieter, slower, even gloomy seasons to grow patience, trust, and hope in us.

Most beautifully, we remember that Jesus entered our world in what looked like a dark season. In the humble setting of Bethlehem, hope was born. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Because of Christ, winter never has the final word. The gray skies do not cancel God's goodness. The shorter days do not shrink His promises. Our joy does not depend on the weather – it depends on our Savior.

So even as we patiently await spring, we can look for small signs of joy in the coming winter days: warm kitchens, shared laughter, quiet evenings, extra time together. We can thank God for rest. We can notice His faithfulness in simple ways. Even in the gloom, His light remains steady. And that light is enough.

My prayer for you and your family:

Heavenly Father, thank You for being our light in every season. When winter feels long or heavy, remind us that You are still working. Help us find joy in small blessings and trust that You are growing something good in us. Fill our homes with warmth, patience, and hope. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Elizabeth Wulfkuehl
6th grade teacher



MARCH

4	Wed	Chapel—5th Grade (Schulz)
5	Thu	Panther Parent Meeting
6	Fri	End of 2 nd Trimester Interest Day – 11:40am Dismissal NO 3&4PK PM Classes Panther Parent Skateland Event
11	Wed	Chapel—Camp LuWiSoMo
14	Sat	St. Paul Archery Tournament
18	Wed	Chapel—1st Grade (Pingel)
20	Fri	March Madness (6pm)
24	Tue	Gr. K-2 Field Trip to North Shore
25	Wed	Chapel – 4 th Grade (Anderson)

Notes from the Principal:

- Last Friday over 500 guests joined us for our annual Family Day. Families participated in five different classroom activities and worshipped together. Special thank you to our staff for creating a unique day where we could celebrate the gift of family.
- Do you have Thrivent Choice Dollars from 2025 available to donate? If so, please consider having those dollars sent to St. Paul Lutheran School by March 31.
- Congratulations to our A Girls Basketball Team for being selected to the LSA State Basketball Tournament which will be held the first weekend in March.



THANK YOU!

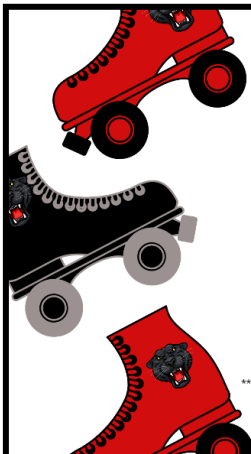
A **HUGE** thank you to all who participated in our recent Even Odds Pizza Fundraiser on January 27! It was a great night to enjoy some delicious pizza...and boy did we! With your help, we earned 'drum roll'...\$1525.13 for our school! A special thanks to Even Odds Pizza for partnering with St. Paul— we appreciate it!

Panther Parents invite you to:

Schools Out Skate at Skateland

Friday March 6th 12:30pm-2:30pm
\$8 to skate
Skate rentals included
Concessions will be available for purchase

**STUDENTS 4TH GRADE AND YOUNGER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.



Accepting Endowment Fund Grant Applications - Fiscal Year 2026/2027



In accordance with the distribution policy and bylaws of the St. Paul Endowment Fund, a total of \$45,600 will be available to distribution from the St. Paul Endowment Fund during the 2026/2027 fiscal year (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027). Endowment grant applications are now being accepted by the St. Paul Endowment Committee. A copy of the endowment grant application is available through the St. Paul Endowment website (<https://www.splgrafton.org/church/endowment/>), in the St. Paul Finance Office, or by contacting Jason Hasenstein, Director of Finance. One of St. Paul's Boards must sponsor each endowment grant application. Please direct any questions regarding endowment grant applications and/or submit any grant applications to jason.hasenstein@splgrafton.org Grant funds will be distributed as long as endowment funds remain available in the fiscal year.

VEGGIES & ICE CREAM

Families are invited to come join us on **Friday, February 27** from **6-7pm** as we watch *Princess and the Popstar*. We will also be making some fun crafts and enjoying some ice cream. Signup here to join the fun: tinyurl.com/VeggiesFeb26.



Christian Day School Singing Schedule



Sun.	Mar. 1	11:00 am	Children's Choir
Wed.	Mar. 4	4:30 pm	JiVe
Sun.	Mar. 8	11:00 am	PraisePower
Wed.	Mar. 11	4:30 pm	JuBellate
Sun.	Mar. 15	9:30 am	JiVe
Sat.	Mar. 21	5:00 pm	Gr. 6-8 Sing w/ Concert Band
Wed.	Mar. 25	4:30 pm	Children's Choir
Sun.	Apr. 19	8:00 am	(K-8) Last name L-Z Sing With JuBellate
		10:30 am	(K-8) Last name A-K Sing With Concert Band

PARENTING GENERATION SCREEN

GUIDING YOUR KIDS TO BE WISE IN A DIGITAL WORLD



COME MEET JONATHAN MCKEE AND HEAR HIS PRESENTATION
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
899 S. 6TH AVENUE, WEST BEND
SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST @ 4:00 PM

MEET THE AUTHOR!

Nationally Renowned Author
Jonathan McKee

"YOUR PHONE IS NOT YOUR PROBLEM. THE PROBLEM IS WHEN WE LET OUR PHONE CAPTIVATE US SO SIGNIFICANTLY WITH THE UNIMPORTANT THAT WE IGNORE THE IMPORTANT ALL AROUND US." --JONATHAN MCKEE

CHAPTER 1:

"Everything you wish you'd known before you bought your kids their first screen."



Approved Calendar Dates 2026-27 School Year

Date	Event
Aug 14	Teachers Report
Aug 20 (Thu)	Orientation Day
Aug 25 (Tue)	First Day of Classes
Sept 4	No School (Labor Day Weekend)
Sept 7	Labor Day No School
Sept 28-30	Outdoor Education (7 th)
Oct 30 (Fri)	No School
Nov 20	End of 1 st Trimester
Nov 23-27	Thanksgiving Break – No School
Dec 21–Jan 1	Christmas Break – No School
Jan 22	Parent/Teacher Conferences – No classes
Feb 19	Half Day – 11:40 dismissal – Winter Break
Feb 22	No School – Winter Break
Mar 5	End of 2 nd Trimester / Interest Day
Mar 22-29	Spring Break / Easter Monday – No School
Apr 24-28	8th Grade Washington DC Trip
May 3 (Mon)	No School
May 28	Half Day – 11:40 dismissal
May 28	PreK Closing Service
May 31	Memorial Day – No School
June 4	K-8 Closing Service / 10am dismissal / Graduation
June 11	Teachers Last Day



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School runs Sundays September-May from 9:30-10:30am, and is open to children ages 3 thru 6th Grade. We also have a teen Bible study group that meets at 9:30am. To have your child join us for

this year's Sunday School or the teen Bible study please fill out the registration form at the following link: tinyurl.com/SSregister25. If you have any questions, please contact tracy.krueger@splgraffton.org.

3/1: Join us as we hear the story of Paul prays for the church as we learn that we pray.

3/8: This week's Bible story is from James 2:1-13, James warns against favoritism. We will be learning that we show kindness to everyone.

Sunday School Volunteers

SUNDAY SCHOOL
HELPERS NEEDED!



Our Sunday school is growing! In order to make Sunday school a success we are looking for extra volunteers to help with teaching and assisting. Provided lessons are simple to prepare and lead. To sign up here to help: tinyurl.com/SSvolunteers25. For more information contact Tracy Krueger at tracy.krueger@splgraffton.org.

Middle School Youth

All 6-8 graders are invited to join us for middle school youth. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month September through May from 3-4:30pm in the youth room. Please watch for email updates and reminders throughout the year. For more information contact Tracy Krueger at tracy.krueger@splgraffton.org. Hope to see you there.



3/8: This week we will be playing 9 square in the air, sharing a devotion, and enjoying snacks together. Hope to see you there!

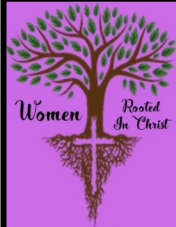
3/22: We will be playing kickball, sharing a devotion, and munching on some animal crackers. Don't miss out on the fun!

Hello St. Paul Member!

St. Paul is once again gracious enough to host some of the Lutheran Sports Association basketball games for the Tournament of



Champions State Championships. LSA thanks St. Paul for its generosity. LSA will have games here March 6-7. We are in need of help to man the admissions table and the concessions stand. Please click on the [link](#) or reach out to Jenny Clemens at jennifer.clemens@splgraffton.org to sign up. We really appreciate your help!



Lenten Breakfast with Rooted Women!

Saturday March 14, 2026

8:30-10:00 AM Youth Room

Join us as we gather for food and fellowship to honor the Lenten season and anticipate the joy of Easter together!

Please sign up here-
<https://tinyurl.com/LentenBreak26>



EASTER EGG HUNT

This year's Easter Egg Hunt will be held on **Saturday, April 4 beginning at 10am** in the gym. Everyone is invited! Please sign up to participate at <https://tinyurl.com/Easteregg2026>.



If you would like to make a donation of candy or other items to place in eggs, or prizes for the prize table, please take one or more of the donation eggs from the board in the Gathering Hall. All items donated should be returned no later than Sunday, March 22.

Volunteers are needed to help with stuffing eggs on Sunday, March 22 and with setup, running crafts/games, and helping with the egg hunt on Saturday, April 4. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/Eggvolunteers26>. If you have any questions, please contact Tracy at tracy.krueger@splgraffton.org. Thanks for your help with this event!

VEGGIES & ICE CREAM

Families are invited to come join us on **Friday, March 13 from 6-7pm** as we watch *Lord of the Beans*. We will also be making some fun crafts and enjoying some ice cream. Signup here to join the fun: <https://tinyurl.com/VeggiesMar26>.



VBS Save the Date

VBS this year is June 15-19, 9am-12pm. We will start volunteer sign up in March and child registration will begin the end of April. Please contact Tracy at tracy.krueger@splgraffton.org if you have any questions about VBS.



Check out the volunteer sign up form (*Beginning 3/1*) here: <https://tinyurl.com/VBSVolunteers26>



LUWISOMO

Youth Camps Summer 2026

LuWiSoMo Youth Camps provide campers with faith-growing opportunities and unique learning experiences while having fun in a beautiful Christ-centered outdoor ministry setting.

KinderCamp

For campers Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 1 preferring to spend the weekend with their parents or grandparents

JuniorCamp

For campers Kindergarten to Grade 3 ready to spend a weekend away from their parents

Youth Camp

A 5-night camp for campers in Grades 2-8
Age groups vary for each camp week

Lutheran Band Camp

A 6-night camp for students in Grades 5-9 with experience playing a band instrument

High School Camp

A 5-night camp for students in Grades 8-11

Counselor In Training (CIT)

For high school students wanting to be leaders at camp

Details & Registration Information @
www.luwisomo.org

LUNCH BAGS FOR NEEDY FAMILIES & HOMELESS IN MILWAUKEE

Our Church has volunteered to supply bag lunches for The Gathering meal site on March 26 so people can have a meal on Sundays when meal sites are not open. Please help by donating the following food items for these lunch bags:

- individual packages of tuna or chicken (these are most needed)
- individual bags of salty snacks
- individual applesauce
- individually packaged desserts
- monetary donations to purchase fruit, bread, bottled water and other needed items.



Food donations can be placed in the bin in the Welcome Center, monetary donations can be made to St. Paul with a special note that it is for The Gathering. Adult volunteers are welcomed to help pack lunches on March 26 at 3:30pm.

PLEASE DONATE BY MARCH 23

Questions? Contact Polly Morrison
at pollykm40@gmail.com or 262-377-4846



Camp Invention
SPARK SUMMER FUN AT
CAMP INVENTION

LEARN MORE AT INVENT.ORG/CAMP



A fourth grader practices persistence while building and testing their unique invention.



An Instructor empowers a third grader as they design their robotic copybara costumes.



A fifth grader has fun exploring hands-on physics experiments.



A TYPICAL DAY AT THE ALL-NEW 2026 CAMP INVENTION®
Led by qualified local educators, this fun, hands-on STEM summer adventure is designed to ignite creativity and boost confidence in curious kids!

A.M. BASE CAMP: Start the day with creative games.



FUR-ENSICS™
Campers build confidence and critical thinking skills as they explore forensic science and the inner mechanics of their adorable take-home robotic copybar!



THE INFRINGERS™
Inspired by real-world STEM superheroes, campers work together to invent creative solutions for challenges in their community and around the world.

GAMES & LUNCH: Play action-packed games & refuel with lunch!



MAKE WAVES™
Diving into entrepreneurship, campers design an eye-catching billboard boat to hook beachgoers and practice persistence as they discover the science that keeps it afloat!



SPACE MORPHERS™
Campers build a DIY rocket and practice problem solving as they grow a dazzling crystal tree and hatch an animal egg in the Space Lab.

P.M. BASE CAMP: Wind down with problem-solving games.

SECURE YOUR SPOT TODAY!
Grades: Rising 1st - 6th
Campers are grouped by grade
Location: St. John's Lutheran School
899 South 6th Avenue, West Bend, WI 53095
Dates & Time: June 15 - 19, 2026 | 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM
Cost: \$285 (before discount)
Payment Plans Available up until 4/15/2026
Sibling Discounts at INVENT.ORG/CISAVE
Before and After Care Available: 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM | Additional \$100
Camp Director: Marcia Milam | mmilam@sjlsab.org

Exciting news for this location! For a more convenient program schedule, add our Before and After Care option to your cart at registration. Before and After Care hours are from 7:30AM - 5:30PM for an additional \$100 per week.

If these dates/times don't work for you, please visit invent.org/cisave for other locations near you.

SAVE \$25
WITH CODE **FUN25**
AT INVENT.ORG/CISAVE
Offer expires March 31, 2026

Register at invent.org/cisave or 800-968-4332





Investors in Creativity and Invention
Army Educational Outreach Program
General Motors
Houston Corporation Foundation
Overstock Family Foundation

The Red Backpack Foundation by Sara Blalock
Shenape Technology, LLC
U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) STEM
Walton Family Foundation
The Wissman Family Charitable Fund



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS



Sunday	1-Mar	8-Mar
	Worship at 8:00; 9:30; 11:00 Children's Choir sings @ 11am 3rd-5th Grade Open Gym, 3pm	Worship at 8:00; 9:30; 11:00 PraisePower sings @ 11am Middle School Youth, 3pm Daylight Savings Time Begins State Basketball Tournament
Monday	2-Mar	9-Mar
	Children's Choir, 3:15pm	Children's Choir, 3:15pm
Tuesday	3-Mar	10-Mar
Wednesday	4-Mar	11-Mar
	CHAPEL - 5th Grade (Schulz) JiVE sings @ 4:30 Lenten Worship Services at 4:30pm & 6:30pm Dinner 5:15pm-6:15pm	CHAPEL - Camp LuWiSoMo JuBellate plays @ 4:30 Lenten Worship Services at 4:30pm & 6:30pm Dinner 5:15pm-6:15pm
Thursday	5-Mar	12-Mar
	Panther Parents, 6:30pm	
Friday	6-Mar	13-Mar
	End of 2nd Trimester Interest Day - 11:40am Dismissal No 3 & 4 PK PM Classes Panther Parent Skateland Event State Basketball Tournament	Veggies & Ice Cream, 6pm
Saturday	7-Mar	14-Mar
	State Basketball Tournament Worship at 5:00pm;	Archery Tournament @ St. Paul Rooted Women Lenten Breakfast, 8:30am Worship at 5:00pm;

RightNow Media

RightNow Media is the world's largest video-streaming library of biblical resources. Every person in our church can access Biblically-based videos on topics like marriage, parenting, youth, recovery, leadership, finances and much more. You can also choose from more than 2,000 wholesome, educational, and entertaining videos in the RightNow Media library designed specially for children. Stream them at home or on the go with the RightNow Media app. To sign up via **Online Registration**:



Visit <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/splcas> to create your account. Or you can: **Text-to-Sign-Up: Text SPLCAS to 49775** and receive a direct link to the registration page. **QR Code Access:** A quick scan with your smartphone will take you directly to the registration page.



Already signed up to use RightNow Media, but looking for some ideas of what to watch?

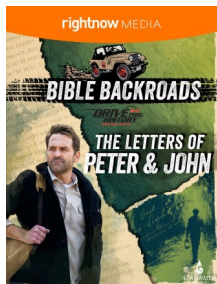
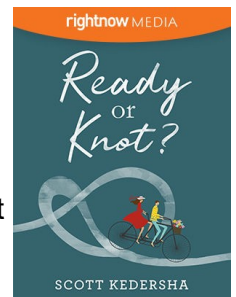


With by Skye Jethani

Religion offers people particular ways of relating with God, but are we approaching him with the right perspective? To what extent do fear and a desire for control skew our attitude toward God? Join author Skye Jethani in this five-session study as he explores four popular but flawed postures—Life Under God, Over God, From God, and For God—then offers a more freeing and hopeful option for relating with the God who loves us. What does Life With God look like? [With :: RightNow Media](#)

Ready or Knot? by Scott Kedersha

God designed marriage to be a permanent commitment this side of glory, which is a lot of pressure when you think about it. How can you know for sure if he or she is actually “the One”? In these twelve sessions, Scott Kedersha, Marriage and Family Pastor at Harris Creek Baptist Church in Waco, Texas, surfaces twelve crucial questions every couple should consider prior to exchanging their vows. Drawing from his experience having counseled more than 5,000 premarital couples, Scott will teach prospective spouses how to talk about everything from finances and in-laws to sex and friendship. [Ready or Knot? :: RightNow Media](#)



BIBLE BACKROADS™ - The Letters of Peter & John by David Stotts (ages 8-12)

Dave Stotts, host of *Drive Thru History®*, explores the scripture, history, geography, archaeology, and impact of the letters of Peter and John. The home base for the series is Dave's Garage™, a state-of-the-art, extended reality lair where almost anything is possible. In addition to teaching with a collection of monitors, maps, animations and artifacts, Dave treks outside his garage for special adventures throughout the Mediterranean region. Designed for all ages, BIBLE BACKROADS™ is fun, fast-paced, and educational, encouraging families to dig deeper into the Biblical accounts together. [BIBLE BACKROADS™ - The Letters of Peter & John :: RightNow Media](#)

Off the Couch Into Creation - Season 1 by Kian, Hudson, Morgan, and Asher Wild (ages 5-13)

Join the Wild Brothers — Morgan, Hudson, Kian, and Asher — as they transition from their adventurous upbringing in Indonesia to exploring the natural wonders of the United States. Determined to prove that adventure isn't limited to distant lands, they embark on journeys starting right in their backyard. This award-winning series inspires families to discover the beauty and excitement of God's creation close to home. [Off the Couch Into Creation RightNow Media](#)



Identity by Eric Mason (Middle/High School Youth)

** Note: The real-life stories in this series contain mature themes.**

Who are you? Our world values being unique. So much so, that we end up looking the same as we try to be different. But we aren't a number. We aren't our clothes, our relationships or our accomplishments. In Christ we are much more. In these four thought-provoking youth Bible study sessions, Eric Mason compares the message the world constantly tells teens about their identity with the truths found in Scripture. The world tells us it's all about how you look, what you have, what you do, and whom you are connected to. But Scripture teaches that while those things can be important, they do not constitute who you are. As followers of Jesus Christ, our identity is found in Him. With biblical teaching and real-life stories, this series will help students ground their identity in Christ and live boldly as children of God and heirs of heaven. [Identity :: RightNow Media](#)

