



The Monthly Herald

May 2025

The Finish Line

¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 3:13-14*

My grandparents have lived in Indianapolis, Indiana since before I was born. Therefore every Memorial Day weekend they would host an Indianapolis 500 race party. A few people would go to the race and be able to sit on turn 3, while everyone else stayed back at the house and enjoyed a good time of food and fellowship. It was always a wonderful event, even though when I was little had very little idea what was going on.

I was the oldest grandchild, and had no cousins who were my age in the family. So, when I became old enough, they let me go to the race every year. I quickly fell in love with the race. I loved the sound of the engines, the endurance of the athletes, and the strategy of trying to get across the finish line first. Eventually over the years I learned some of the names of the racers (Tony Kanaan and Marco Andretti were my favorite), and looked forward to seeing them year after year. I loved the lore of the race and diving into its history. Though some may see the oval course and think “How hard can it be?” I knew the work and the passion that went into the 500 miles that was this race.



So it is with the Christian life. We are brought into it when we are baptized, and participate in the Christian walk even if we hardly understand what is going on. Our parents bring us through the motions. In confirmation we really grow in appreciation and understanding as to what is actually happening. But confirmation is not a graduation, rather it is still very much the beginning of the Christian walk. Some may look at the Christian faith and say “*It’s easy, try to be good and trust in Jesus for forgiveness!*” However, this fails to truly appreciate the depths of what is going on in the Christian race. By enduring in the race we learn how great and hard the Christian life is. We see the work that Christ really needs to put into us to make us clean. We experience the hardships and trials of temptations. We go through things that would tear us apart. But it is worth growing through, and we need to grow in our appreciation for it.

I cannot imagine what it would be like to see the checkered flag waving to signal your triumph. That is a sight I will never see and know that it applies to me. However, I do know this. Because of Easter Sunday I know that Christ will come at the end, and he will take all of those who persevered and endured in the race home with him forever. We cannot persevere or endure on our own. Like the car engine we need the fuel. Therefore Christ provides the fuel with his Word and sacrament. The driver cannot remain focused on what happened a hundred miles ago, he needs to be focused on what is right ahead. Therefore Christ forgives us the mistakes we have made in our pasts so we can remain focused on him. Yes indeed we are in a race, we are straining towards the goal.

The Christian journey is far deeper, difficult and more wondrous than anyone could have imagined. It is also better than it looks at the surface level, for it is a journey with Christ. Therefore do not just remain on the surface level of the Christian faith, but truly get to know it. Continue to dive deeper into it. See how much you need the fuel that he provides. Learn the history of the other racers; hear the stories of Abraham, David, Peter and others. Cheer on your friends, and let them cheer you on as well. But above all keep your mind focused on Jesus and keep pursuing him, and he will get you across the finish line.

Pastor Josh

Blessings to our Confirmands

Confirmation Questioning – May 15th at 6:00pm

Confirmation ~ May 18 at 10:30am

Ryan Lee Allmann

Micah Renae Baars

Reed Matthew Byrge

Eliza Estelle Carson

Jalen Thomas Dollhopf

Ray Fredrick Edwards

Autumn Amayah Ewing

Kayla Lynn Gennerman

Derrick Glass

Dominic Jeremiah Immekus

Alexander Meeks Jr

Alyse Anne Partl

Lance Charles Romano

Delylah Elizabeth Roth

Millons Lloyel Scott

Cheyenne Gracie Ulatowski

Logan Maxwell Wachholtz

Mother's Day Weekend

May 10-11, 2025

3rd Annual Event

St. Paul's Students Assisting in Worship

Special Recognition of Mothers

Only Two Services: Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 9am

Sunday Morning Continental Breakfast



Bible Studies

Sunday Morning Bible Class: 9:15am in the Fellowship Hall

“See Through the Scriptures” is a Bible study to help give a condensed summary of God’s working throughout history, so that you have a better understanding of the Biblical worldview and a greater appreciation of God’s saving work through Jesus Christ, His only Son, who died and rose again for us.



We have just begun this study so it is a great time to join the class. We meet in the fellowship hall At 9:15 Sunday morning. The schedule for May is as follows:

May 4 – No Class: Voters’ Assembly between services

May 11 & 18 – See Through the Scriptures

May 25 – No Class – Begin Summer Worship with 9am worship each Sunday morning.

Please come and invite others to come with you. Hope to see you there.

Thursday Morning Bible Class: 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall

Join us this month for a variety of different topics.

Men’s Bible Breakfast

“The he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.’” We will finish up our “third day” study of Scriptures which, in sublime ways, connect to the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In May we will meet on the 10th and the 24th.

May 10: The “Third Day” Scripture in the prophet Hosea.

May 24: THE “Third Day” event: the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and all it means for us!

All men are welcome to join up with the class at any time. We gather about 7am, share life, share a wonderful breakfast together, and then study God’s Word. The 79th street doors are the entrance to use.

Spring Voter’s Meeting

Sunday May 4, 2025 9:15am
in the Sanctuary

2026 Budget and Election of Officers
and Servants are on the Agenda

Emergency Pastoral Care: 217-779-7985 or 608-290-9837

Dear Fellow Christian friends,

I would like to thank all those who participated in this Lenten season's dinners before the 6 pm worship. Thank you for coming and for your fellowship and sweet comments to me about the food. I am grateful for the faithful helpers each week who come and serve and clean up... couldn't have done it without you! Thank you for your generous free will offerings as well. After 15 years of doing Lent and Advent dinners it is the people of St. Paul's who make this so rewarding for me and I am so thankful for each and every one of you who take part in this fellowship!

God Bless you all. ~ Shelly Mueller



KORN Scholarship Fund

College Students Preparing for Church Work

The Korn Scholarship Fund at St. Paul's Lutheran Church assists students financially who are preparing for full-time church work in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Applications are available in the church office. Please return applications to the church office **by June 1st**.

APOR LIFE WALK 2025

A Place of Refuge Ministries of South WI, Inc. is pleased to announce the Annual Life Walk 2025. The event is hosted by Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church on Saturday, June 21, 2025. It is located at 945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122. The event is one of our major fundraisers.

Registration starts at 9:00 a.m. with light breakfast. The event agenda follows with the Welcome, Opening Prayer Service, and Walk. The day will end with prizes, music and lunch.

Get friends and family to sponsor your Walk! Children are welcome and encouraged to walk. School groups may also want to participate. Prizes will be given for most money raised and most sponsors.

Registration opens May 1, 2025. Please go to aplaceofrefuge.org to register. Join us for a fun filled event showing your love for sanctity of life.

Questions? *For details contact Susan 414.313.3888.*

South Wisconsin District Financial Aid applications are **due May 15.**

Anyone attending a Concordia University or Seminary, is a member of an LCMS congregation in the SWD and is preparing to be a full-time church worker (pastor, teacher, deaconess, DCE/DCO, DFLM, DPM, lay minister) is encouraged to apply. There are two applications required (District Financial Aid Application and Personal Aid Application). Both are available on the SWD website – www.swd.lcms.org/AID.

Ladies Groups

Widows Lunch

All widows in the congregation are invited to lunch at Open Flame (5081 S. 108th Street) on May 14th at 11:00am.



Quilter's Patch

I am at a loss of words as to what to write this month. So I decided to start by being thankful. First for each of the ladies that work on the quilts. Some have the ability to layout and sew beautiful quilt tops. Others sew the top, batting and back together for each quilt. Then there are those that finish off the quilts with knots in each of the squares. Secondly for the group at Orphan Grain Train and others that work with them to gather and deliver quilts to individuals in need. Lastly, for all the individuals that donate supplies or finances to get the quilts to those in need. It is really a joy to be part of this ministry. The dates for May thru September are below:

May 5th and 19th
June 2nd, 23rd and 30th
July 7th and 21st
August 4th and 18th
September 15th and 29th

If you have any questions regarding the quilting group, you may contact Dawn Ziolecki via email at dzwolf2012@gmail.com or call or text 414-841-6097

Ladies Guild

The end of April was busy with Easter and then the Zone Spring Rally. I will write about the rally in the next Herald. So, what is happening this month?

- May 17th is the Heart to Heart Sister of all nations event at St John's Glendale 7877 N Port Washington Road. The event is 8:30am to 2pm. For more information or RSVP contact jamellis2003@yahoo.com.
- May 19th at 6:00pm is our next meeting. It is also our potluck!!! All ladies of St Paul's are invited to join us. Please bring a dish to pass to share with us as we discuss what is happening in the guild.

For additional information you can contact Dawn Ziolecki at cell, text, 414-841-6097 or dzwolf2012@gmail.com OR Toni Dunn at cell, text, 414-335-3553 or tdunnusa@outlook.com



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLTK_vX6NR9S0VJuxmk0PpA?view_as=subscriber

Subscribe to our channel! Watch our worship services and devotions! We will have worship services on-line for about 6 months and special services (Christmas, Easter etc) for 1 year.

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulwa/> Access Facebook for church and school updates, video announcements, school chapels, and devotions! Visit our Website! www.splcwa.org Support our ministry through online giving! Stay up-to-date on our activities! Our weekend worship services are broadcast on TWO radio stations each Sunday at 8:00am. "JOY" 1340 AM and 98.7 FM

Sharing God's Bounty

Whom Are You Looking At?

The disciples were thrilled. They had their Lord back in their presence once again. Since his resurrection, he had appeared to them and others several times. They were still a little confused, though, when he talked about “wait[ing] for the gift [his] Father promised” (Acts 1:4), and, then, “He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight” (Acts 1:9).

You can imagine their bewilderment. He had died and been buried and then had risen from the dead! He had walked among them and taught them again, and now he is taken up into the clouds. No wonder they stood ... probably with mouths agape ... looking into the sky where they had last seen him.

It took “two men dressed in white” (Acts 1:10) to bring them back to their senses. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into Heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into Heaven” (Acts 1:11).

Back they went to Jerusalem. Their eyes were no longer on the clouds, but they were still looking at Jesus. They waited. They prayed. They chose another disciple. And they waited some more ... all the while looking at Jesus.

Whom are you looking at? Yes, Jesus had ascended. We can only imagine his joyful triumphant return as all the hosts of Heaven welcomed back the risen victorious Savior. Because he is that Savior, because he is the “author and perfecter of our faith,” “let us fix our eyes on Jesus” (Hebrews 12:2). Though his Word and Sacraments, he will lead us in his ways; he will teach us obedience and self-sacrifice; he will teach us love for our neighbors. With joyful and generous hearts, we celebrate the new life that Easter brings us by sharing the message of the Cross and the Empty Tomb with all who listen. Keep looking at Jesus until in Heaven you see him face to face!

God comes first, not last. Otherwise, we give him only the leftovers after we have made sure that we have provided for our own comforts.

The principle of sacrificial giving is that our giving to God comes off the top of all that he has given us. Otherwise, some would say it is not a true offering, just a tip left at the table. Pray to be enabled to give generously.



The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
the plans of His heart to all generations.
Psalm 33:11

Music Notes

Thank you to all the singers and instrumentalists enhancing our worship and giving glory to God during Lent, especially Holy Week, and on Easter!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

My favorite day of the year is Easter. I love pretty much everything about it: the music, the decorations, Easter dinner with family and/or friends, it's springtime, people wear nice clothes and sometimes even hats to church, etc. But most of all, I love the life-changing message. It never gets old: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Bursting into joyous song is the natural response.

Someone said if Jesus didn't rise from the dead, nothing else matters, but if He did rise from the dead, nothing else matters. A bit of a simplification, but it's true; if Jesus didn't rise from the dead, nothing has much meaning except for what we choose to give it. But if Jesus did rise from the dead, everything else becomes so much less significant than this one event with eternal effects.

Yes, even as painful as some things may be for us, we have hope in the future, which Christ's resurrection makes certain for us. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! The quote above says "if He did rise from the dead," but we can be confident that He did indeed rise from the dead. Not only is the Bible true and we know its Author doesn't lie, but there is a wealth of evidence outside of the Bible that supports the claim of the resurrection. If you have or someone you know has any questions about it, feel free to ask me or one of the pastors. So we sing. We sing "alleluia," which, like "hallelujah," means "praise the Lord." Alleluia, because He deserves it. Alleluia at Easter especially because He saved us. How can we help but sing when we know our eternity is secure with Jesus? We'll live in His love forever! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

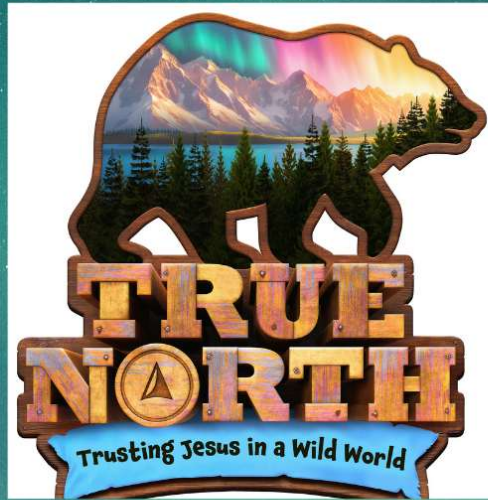
There is a story I love about when the Russian Communist leader Nikolai Bukharin, who took part in the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917, spoke to a crowd in Kiev in 1930. After an hour of tearing down Christianity and arguing for atheism, Bukharin felt confident he had convinced the crowd. Then he allowed an Orthodox priest to speak. The priest said, "Christ is risen!" and the crowd roared back, "He is risen indeed!" That crowd would have known that they could be arrested for saying this. Thank God we have freedom to proclaim this here! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Thank God for the seven weeks of the Easter season to celebrate that Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! May we never tire of proclaiming in word and song: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Deaconess Carole King



SAVE THE DATE



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 16TH-20TH

9AM-NOON

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

All children entering K-5th grade are
invited to attend!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

\$12 for one child

\$20 for 2+ children



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MINI ADDITION

A VBS FOR 2-4 YEAR OLDS



YOU AND YOUR CHILD ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A
MINI VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WHERE WE WILL
LEARN ABOUT JESUS, PLAY GAMES, EAT A FUN
SNACK, AND CREATE A CRAFT TO TAKE HOME!

\$5 PER CHILD
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



WHEN: JUNE 21ST, 9AM-10:30AM
WHERE: ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our youth group is selling delicious Milwaukee Pretzel Co. Bavarian pretzels!

**Please call the office to place an order!
Checks are made out to St. Paul's Youth Group.**



COMMUNITY Fundraising Program

Our story:

After living in Germany for a year, Katie and Matt Wessel set out to recreate the delicious soft pretzels they fell in love with at Munich beer gardens. So they got to baking and in 2013 founded Milwaukee Pretzel Company. Today each pretzel is still rolled by hand and baked with love.



Fundraising program:

We partner with groups across the country who are looking for an innovative way to help drum up dollars for a worthy cause. The best part? Each organization keeps 50% of what they raise! Support your local community AND enjoy delicious soft pretzels - a true win-win!



WHAT MAKES OUR PRETZELS SO GOOD:

WHEAT FLOUR

The workhorse. Gives the pretzel a nice dose of protein.

RYE FLOUR

High in nutrients and adds a rich, earthy flavor to the pretzel.

WATER

A foundational ingredient. Water is responsible for triggering the baking process!

BUTTER

Who doesn't love butter? Butter gives the pretzel a richer flavor compared to oil.

SALT

More than just flavor! Salt is a key ingredient that increases crust color, controls yeast fermentation and strengthens the dough.

LYE

Food safe of course! This gives the pretzel that classic tang we all know and love along with that deep, nutty brown exterior.

YEAST

Our pretzels wouldn't have a pillowy interior without it!

MALT

Adds a hint of sweetness along with contributing to the texture.



MADE IN A PEANUT AND TREE NUT FREE FACILITY



BAKED WITHOUT ARTIFICIAL FLAVORS & COLORINGS, PRESERVATIVES OR ADDED SUGAR

BAVARIAN SOFT PRETZELS

All orders come with pretzel salt, reheating instructions and a coupon towards a future order at milwaukeepretzel.com! Pretzels arrive fresh - not frozen. All pretzels are packed in a freezer safe bag and are good for up to six months frozen.



\$18

5-pack Bavarian Soft Pretzel Twist

A five pack of our 5oz authentic Bavarian soft pretzel twists. How big is a 5oz? We like to say the size of your hand with your fingers outstretched. Each 5oz pretzel feeds 1-2 people.



\$35

10-pack Bavarian Soft Pretzel Twist

A ten pack of our 5oz authentic Bavarian soft pretzel twists. How big is a 5oz? We like to say the size of your hand with your fingers outstretched. Each 5oz pretzel feeds 1-2 people.



\$15

Bavarian Beast

Our famous 1 LB Bavarian soft pretzel - the Bavarian Beast - a guaranteed hit at your next gathering! Feeds 3-6 soft pretzel lovers.



\$20

50-pack Bavarian Soft Pretzel Bites

The perfect bite! A great after school snack, charcuterie boards and family movie nights. 50 bites will feed about 5 people.

INGREDIENTS: Enriched flour (wheat flour, malted barley flour), Water, Butter (cream, natural flavor), Rye Flour, Contains less than 2% of the following: Salt, Malt Powder, Yeast, Sodium Hydroxide ALLERGENS: Milk, Wheat

Get in touch with us by visiting milwaukeepretzel.com

