



# St. Paul's Lutheran School

## FALL/WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER



### St. Paul's Teaching Staff:

Dave Hall, Headmaster, 6-8 Teacher  
Rev. Kevin Koester, Pastor, Religion and Catechesis Teacher  
Holly Klotz, Secretary, Art Teacher  
Scott Gercken, Kantor, Teacher  
Vicky Greco, Grade 3-5 Teacher, Athletic Director  
LaDonna Hoffman, K-2 Teacher  
Rebekah Koester, Math Teacher  
Anne Clark, Teacher Assistant

### Past Event Photos

Below are a few pictures from our first Volleyball game in September, Track and Field Day and the coffee and... after Christian Education Sunday.



### Welcome to our 1st Newsletter!

To my knowledge, the school has never published a newsletter on a regular basis, so this is something new for us! Members of the church made the suggestion to create one as a way to inform our church what is happening at the school, and our staff thought it was a great idea! I hope you enjoy it, and let me know if you have any suggestions on how to improve. Thank you!  
- Dave Hall, Headmaster.

### What do we believe and teach at St. Paul's Lutheran School?

St. Paul's Lutheran School prepares children for the future by providing knowledge and skills to achieve academic excellence, personal growth, and success in a safe, positive and Classical Lutheran environment. We offer basic education in the core disciplines and humanities: reading, writing, science, mathematics, geography, history, literature, music, and art. Physical education is also an important part of our curriculum. We have high academic standards which seek to promote excellence and achievement from all our students, but we are not an elitist school only for the gifted and advanced learner. We believe that all children can learn, especially when challenged and motivated by specific knowledge, high expectations, exceptional teachers, and the discipline and support of parents. Our low teacher to student ratio makes St. Paul's Lutheran School an ideal setting with varying degrees of ability.

Under the guidance and blessing of the Holy Spirit, St. Paul's School exists to further the following objectives:

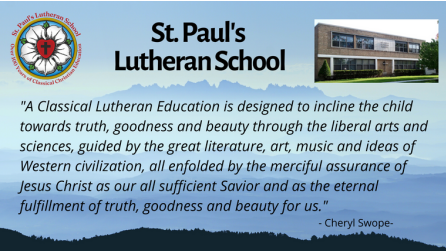
- We teach children to look to God in FAITH and to care for their neighbor in LOVE by means of The Six Chief Parts and the Seven Liberal Arts.
- We seek to engage and challenge our students, aiming them towards fulfilling their highest potential.
- Using time-tested standards, we help you raise life-long learners, critical thinkers, and self-disciplined children.
- We balance the humanities, arts, and sciences to give a full perspective of life.
- The Word of God enlightens all subjects we teach, since God is the center of all knowledge and all wisdom. History, Literature, Science, Music, Math, Art, Language, etc. are all taught from a Christian worldview.





# School Happenings...

## What is Classical Lutheran Education?



## The Teacher's Corner

This year we are privileged to have on our staff, Vicky Greco, long-time member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Here is a bit about her.



My name is Vicky Greco, and I have been a teacher over twenty years. I attended Eastern Illinois University and have degrees in education, Spanish, and health science. I have taught all levels and many different subjects, most involving language, grammar and writing. I was a teacher at Bourbonnais High School, Walther Lutheran, St. Paul's, St. Edmund's, Riverside-Brookfield, and now here again at St. Paul's.

Additionally, I am a lifelong member of the St. Paul's congregation and attended this Lutheran grade school along with my older siblings. Not only were some of my best memories made in the very classroom I now have as my home base, but also Christian friendships were formed that have lasted and grown. It is in this church and school where the foundations of my faith were built and edified.

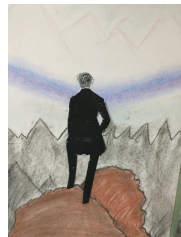
My husband and I live a busy life in Brookfield, just a few blocks away from St. Paul's. God has blessed us with four wonderful children: Raymond, Joy, Wesley, and Aaron. We love to travel and own an RV. As a family, we camp a lot and spend many afternoons hiking, biking and kayaking. Also, we are a musical bunch with instruments being played and songs being sung almost always. Thanks be to God for the gift of family!



## What have St. Paul's students been learning?

Each Friday, Mrs. Greco has art class for the 3-5th graders. In September, she had students create their own version of "The Wanderer Above the Sea Fog" by German painter, Caspar David Friedrich.

Caspar David Friedrich was a 19th-century German Romantic landscape painter. He is best known for his mid-period allegorical landscapes, which typically feature contemplative figures silhouetted against night skies, morning mists, barren trees or Gothic ruins.

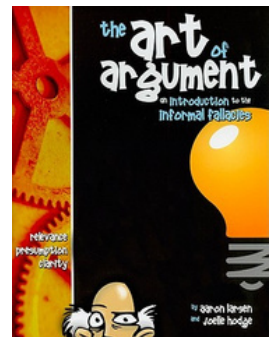


## 6-8th Grade History

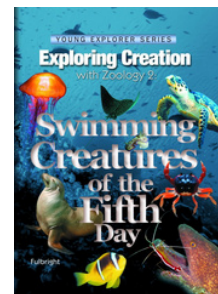
In our history class, we are just finishing up studying World War I and the Bolshevik revolution. But, on Friday's we take a break and focus on philosophy.

Students are learning about logic and how to identify false arguments. We are using the excellent text, "The Art of Argument".

So far students have learned about many types of false arguments that our media, corporations, scientists and many others use today. It is great for them to learn this, so they can avoid being easily deceived.



## 3-5th Grade Science



In 3-5th grade science, students are learning all about "Swimming Creatures of the 5th Day".

Students will be learning about all of God's swimming creatures. This month they are learning about marine mammals. Students are creating an "ocean box" and as they learn about new creatures throughout the year, they will add them to their boxes.



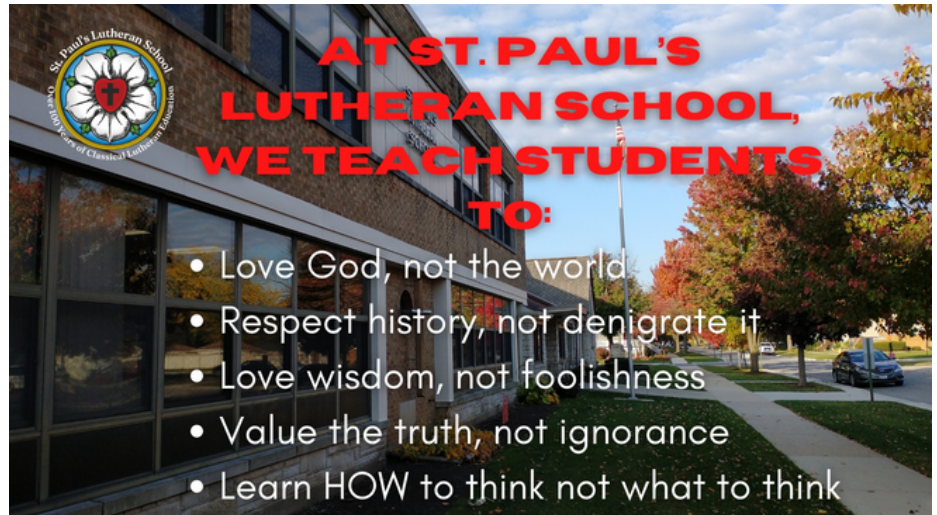
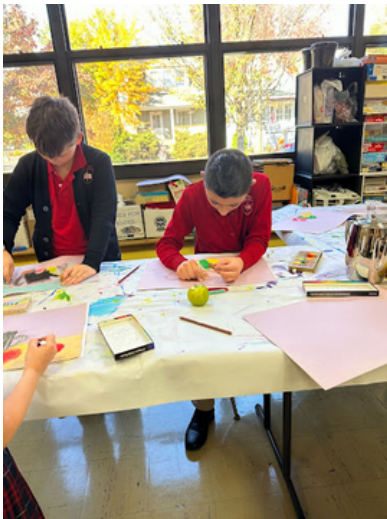


# School Happenings Continued...

## Celebrating Monet

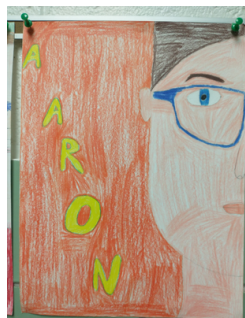


## More Photos.....



- Love God, not the world
- Respect history, not denigrate it
- Love wisdom, not foolishness
- Value the truth, not ignorance
- Learn HOW to think not what to think

## Mrs. Klotz's 6-8th Grade Art Class: Half-Face Portraits



## 6-8th Grade Writing and Grammar

This week the class wrote quick, 5 paragraph essays about their Thanksgiving breaks. It is a lot of fun to read them. Through their writing, I get to know them more and more. Also, the use of technology is increasing as the older students not only type papers, but also design and record themselves speaking. We all just experimented with FLIPGRID and the children will get used to seeing themselves on screen and listening to themselves speak.

## 6-8th Grade Science

This past week it was all about "Them Bones"! We have continued our exploration of God's amazing creation: the human body. Our first system students have been learning about is the skeletal system. We completed a computer activity, and also did a lab exploring the spinal column using ordinary materials like rubber bands, paper towel tubes, and styrofoam. Students are learning how important this is, and how it allows us to move, and protect the spinal cord.



## 3-5th Grade Geography

We continue to work on our research of Central American countries. The following students are going to be experts on the countries listed! All 7 students - 100% - finished their researched packets on time today. Now they are creating a slideshow on Google! Presentations will be the week of Dec 13, 2022!





# School Happenings Continued...

## Celebrating Veterans



## Volleyball Season!



## The History of St. Paul's Lutheran School

St. Paul's Lutheran School was founded in 1902. On December 28, 1902, it was decided to conduct a Christian Day School in conjunction with St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Less than one month later, in January of 1903, St. Paul's Lutheran School was started. Its first teacher was Vicar W. L. Peterson, who instructed the children in the rear room of the church building until June 1904. The tuition was fifty cents per child per month for the first child, and twenty-five cents for the second child. All other children in the family were free.



In 1918, because of World War I, the school was able to enroll only ten children, so it was closed. In 1921 Pastor Oscar Rockhoff's efforts to re-establish a Christian Day School resulted in the opening of St. Paul's School with an enrollment of 12 students. The school closed again in 1922, when only four students were enrolled.



In 1912 it was decided that the sacristy of the church was unsuited to serve as a classroom, and since the congregation had no parsonage, the congregation undertook the construction of the building that was to serve as school and parsonage. On May 9, 1912, a motion to purchase the two lots east of the church and to erect a school building was approved. Excavation of the new building was to begin in June, and on October 6, 1912, the congregation dedicated its new school building, which also housed a modern parsonage on the second floor. The cost of the building was \$5,312.86; the lots were purchased for \$615. In September of that year the school opened with 24 children.



In 1923, under the crusading leadership of Mrs. Marie Verdon, who went house to house to encourage parents to support a Christian education for their children, St. Paul's Lutheran School re-opened in Fall of that year.

In 1925, the school enrollment continued to grow, and it became necessary to provide larger quarters for the school. On May 28th that year, approval was granted to erect a new parsonage, and convert the two rooms above the current school into a suitable classroom. The school had now developed into a fully accredited eight-grade school.



In 1957, the new St. Paul's Lutheran School, built at a cost of \$200,000, was dedicated. A modular classroom was installed in 1974 to accommodate the growing enrollment. In 1976, enrollment was at an all-time high of 153 students. Over the course of St. Paul's 118+ year history, the commitment to Christian Education has remained.

