

WELCOME

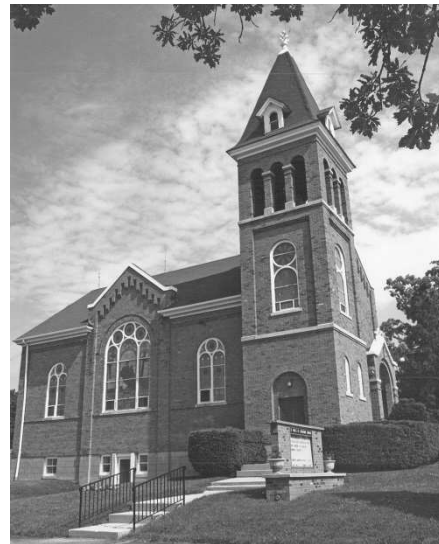


In 1865, the Civil War in the United States had just ended. Two years later, Alaska would be bought from the nation of Russia. Four years later the West and the East would be linked together with a transcontinental railroad.

Life in the United States was changing. During the time of

change in the world, a small group of German Lutherans, in the township of Franklin, decided that they wanted to worship together. On September 21, 1865, they met together for the purpose of organizing a Christian congregation so that God's unchanging Word could be proclaimed to a changing world. They realized that they needed a house in which to worship. Soon the first church building of St. Paul's was built on what is known today as College Avenue.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church continued to grow by God's grace. Approximately, 50 years later, the congregation built a new church on 51st Street to meet the current needs and future needs of St. Paul's. Over the next 94 years, the worship facility would go through a number of changes. In 2010, the congregation made the decision to build a new church once again. On Easter 2011, the first services were held in our new church.



As we are wrapping up our 150th anniversary of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, we will continue to look forward in spreading the message of the Gospel to the members of St. Paul's, the people of Franklin and the souls in the world.

We hope you enjoy reading about some of the history of St. Paul's over the past 150 years. We give thanks to all those servants of Christ who have served and are serving faithfully in our church and school. (We have tried to list many of them in this service folder.)

Most importantly, we want you to remember that our church has always been about souls. It is about bringing the comfort of the Gospel to souls that are troubled and hurting. It is about strengthening the souls that are already in Christ. It is about sharing the Gospel with souls that do not yet know Christ.

There are many opportunities that lay ahead of us as a congregation. As we work and grow together in Christ, the Lord will bless us in many ways. May we all join with the Apostle Peter in saying: *"grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."* (2 Peter 3:18)

The Lord has blessed us with his Grace for 150 years. May we continue to give thanks to God for those blessings. May we give thanks to the Holy Spirit for the faith that we have in Jesus. May we trust that the Holy Spirit will guide our efforts and continue to bless the ministry at St. Paul's.

CELEBRATING GOD'S GRACE FOR 150 YEARS

THE OPENING HYMN "Amazing Grace"
Christian Worship #379

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound—
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me;
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares
 4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years,

That saved a wretch like me! I
 His Word my hope se - cures. He
 I have al - read - y come; 'Tis
 Bright shin - ing as the sun, We've

once was lost but now am found,
 will my shield and por - tion be
 grace has brought me safe thus far,
 no less days to sing God's praise

Was blind but now I see.
 As long as life en - dures.
 And grace will lead me home.
 Than when we'd first be - gun.

Please stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: *(Spoken)* Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.
(Psalm 90:1)

C: You, O Lord, have been a dwelling place for us and for our children.

P: Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. *(Psalm 90:2)*

C: You, O Lord, have been with us these 150 years!

P: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. *(Psalm 46:1)*

C: You, O Lord, have been our refuge and our strength!

P: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. *(Psalm 46:7)*

C: You, O Lord, are the eternal One and we trusted in you.

P: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. *(Lamentations 3:22-23)*

C: You, O Lord, have been our faithful One!

P: I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. *(Matthew 16:18)*

C: You, O Lord, have built your church in this place and we have been blessed.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We deserve your eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

P: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *(Spoken)* Amen.

CONGREGATION RESPONSE“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Christian Worship #234, verse 1

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for
he is your health and sal - va - tion!
Let all who hear Now to his tem - ple draw
near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, you have promised to be with your Church forever. We thank you for those who founded this community of believers and for the signs of your favor over these past 150 years. Increase our faith, knit us together in the bonds of love, and make our fellowship an example to all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: *(Spoken)* Amen.

Please be seated

CHOIR ANTHEM “This Is My Word”

*As the snow falls from heaven, as it comes in swirling showers from the sky,
So is my Word.*

*As the rains bring the water to the earth that is thirsty and dry,
So is my Word.*

*And the Word of my mouth, it shall not return empty;
It will bless the earth wherever it is heard.
This is my Word.*

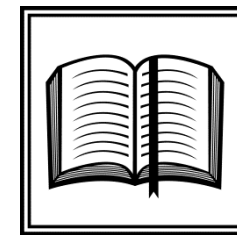
*As the rains bring renewal and the tender buds begin to come alive,
Begin to come alive, so is my Word.
Giving seed to the sower, and the bread to the hungry ‘til they thrive,
So is my Word, so is my Word.*

*And the Word of my mouth, it shall not return empty,
It will bless the earth wherever it is heard,
This is my Word, this is my Word.
O Lord, when I am weary, when I feel the days I’m living are in vain,
My God, help me be faithful to the Word.*

*You have given to proclaim.
Proclaim the Word, proclaim the Word, proclaim the Word
And you will go out in joy and be led forth in peace,
And the hills will break before you into song.*

*So be faithful, brave, and true,
For I will go before you.*

*And when your earthly journey here is done,
I’ll say well done, I’ll say well done, I’ll say well done, well done!
As the snow falls from heaven and the rain comes in showers from the sky,
This is my Word, my Word.*

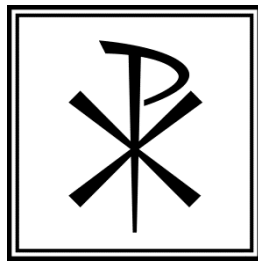


CELEBRATING GOD'S GRACE

1. SAVED BY GOD'S GRACE

SCRIPTURE READING & MEDITATION Ephesians 2:1-9

^{2:1} As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,
² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world
 and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air,
 the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.
³ All of us also lived among them at one time,
 gratifying the cravings of our flesh and
 following its desires and thoughts.
 Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.
⁴ But because of his great love for us, God,
 who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ
 even when we were dead in transgressions—
 it is by grace you have been saved.
⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and
 seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,
⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show
 the incomparable riches of his grace,
 expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.
⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved,
 through faith—and this is not from yourselves,
 it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works,
 so that no one can boast.



CONGREGATION HYMN..... "In Christ Alone"
 Christian Worship Supplement #752

1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found.
 2 In Christ a - lone— who took on flesh,
 3 There in the ground his bod - y lay,
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,

He is my light, my strength, my song;
 Full - ness of God in help - less babe.
 Light of the world by dark - ness slain;
 This is the pow'r of Christ in me;

This cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground,
 This gift of love and right - eous - ness,
 Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day
 From life's first cry to fi - nal breath,

Firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.
 Scorned by the ones he came to save.
 Up from the grave he rose a - gain!
 Je - sus com - mands my des - tin - y.

What heights of love, what depths of peace,
 Till on that cross, as Je - sus died,
 And as he stands in vic - tor - y,
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man

When fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease!
 The wrath of God was sat - is - fied;
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
 Can ev - er pluck me from his hand;

My Com - for - ter, my all in all,
 For ev - 'ry sin on him was laid.
 For I am his and he is mine—
 Till he re - turns or calls me home,

(Fine)

Here in the love of Christ I stand.
 Here in the death of Christ I live.
 Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
 Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

1

CELEBRATING GOD'S GRACE

2. GROWING IN GOD'S GRACE

SCRIPTURE READING & MEDITATION 2 Peter 3:17-18

¹⁷ Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned,
 be on your guard so that you may not be carried away
 by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position.

¹⁸ But grow in the grace and knowledge
 of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
 To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.



¹ The hymn, "In Christ Alone," summarizes the sacrificial, earthly life of our Savior and the glory that is now forever and ours through faith.

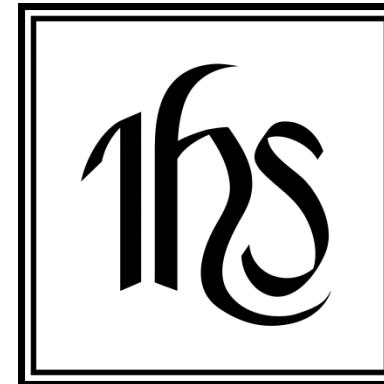
CONGREGATION HYMN..... "Christ is Our Cornerstone" *Christian Worship #528*

1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone; On him a - lone we
 2 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall
 3 Here, gra - cious God, do now And ev - er - more draw
 4 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im -

build. With his true saints a - lone The courts of
 ring! Our voic - es we will raise The Three in
 near; Ac - cept each faith - ful vow And all your
 plore, And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us

heav'n are filled. On his great love Our hopes we
 One to sing And thus pro - claim In joy - ful
 chil - dren hear, And more and more On those who
 ev - er - more Un - til that day When all the

place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
 song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.
 pray Each ho - ly day Your bless - ing pour.
 blest To end - less rest Are called a - way!



CELEBRATING GOD'S GRACE

3. SHARING GOD'S GRACE

SCRIPTURE READING & MEDITATION Ephesians 3:7-12

⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.

⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.

¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,

¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

ANTHEM "May the Peoples Praise You"

Words & Music by Keith & Kristyn Getty

Students:

1. *You have called us out of darkest night,
Into your glorious light,
That we may sing the wonders of the Risen Christ.*
2. *May our every breath retell the grace
That broke into our strife
With boundless love and deepest joy, with endless life.*

Refrain:

*May the peoples praise you, let the nations be glad!
All your blessing comes that we may praise
May praise the name of Jesus.*

Choir:

3. *All the earth is Yours and all within
Each harvest is Your own
And from Your hand we give to You to make Christ known.*
4. *May the seeds of mercy grow in us
For those who have not heard
May songs of praise build lives of grace to spread your Word.*

Choir & Students

Refrain:

*May the peoples praise you, let the nations be glad!
All your blessing comes that we may praise
May praise the name of Jesus.*

Bridge:

*Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty
Worthy, worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty
All creation praise Your glorious Name.*

Congregation Joins

5. **This our holy privilege to declare
Your praises and Your name
To every nation, tribe and tongue Your Church proclaims.**

Refrain:

**May the peoples praise you, let the nations be glad!
All your blessing comes that we may praise
May praise the name of Jesus.**

THE OFFERING

As a response of faith, gifts of money are received and presented to the Lord. Believers know that God's work must be done. God's Word of salvation must be proclaimed to the ends of the earth. Our members have joined together in faith and love to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. God wants us to be cheerful with our gifts, not giving out of guilt or a sense of obligation. The Bible teaches that our offerings are an act of worship. May the Lord bless you. And may he use our gifts to be a blessing to many others. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

After the offering is brought forward, the congregation stands and joins in singing:

1 We give thee but thine own, What - e'er
2 May we thy boun - ties thus As stew -

the gift may be; All that we have is
ards true re - ceive And glad - ly, as thou

thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.
bless - est us, To thee our first - fruits give.

Christian Worship #485, verses 1-2

RESPONSIVE LORD'S PRAYER

M: O God, through Jesus' sacrifice you have restored us as your forgiven children. In his name we pray:

C: Our Father in heaven.

M: Help us to know you through your inspired Word and to live by it as children in your family:

C: Hallowed be your name.

M: Give us your Holy Spirit to rule in our hearts, and use us to extend your kingdom of grace to others:

C: Your kingdom come.

M: Make us zealous to carry out your will as gladly as the angels do, and to conform our will to yours:

C: Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

M: Merciful Lord, since you are the provider of all things necessary for our bodies; fill us with trust:

C: Give us today our daily bread.

M: Continue to erase our iniquities, and help us gladly to forgive and to do good to those who wrong us:

C: Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

M: We know the devil seeks to destroy our souls and the world lures us to ruin by appealing to the desires of our flesh. Guard us from the poison of misbelief and the trap of un-repentant sin:

C: Lead us not into temptation.

M: Keep safe our bodies and souls, our property and honor, and above all send the Holy Spirit to preserve our faith in Christ which leads to life everlasting:

C: But deliver us from evil.

M: For all these petitions we look to you as King of Kings and Lord of your church:

C: For the kingdom,

M: You alone hold the power to grant our requests:

C: the power,

M: We worship you from whom all blessings flow:
C: and the glory are yours, now and forever.

M: Relying on Jesus, who cancelled our sins and made us acceptable in your sight, we pray with confidence:
C: Amen. It shall be so.

THE BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.
C: *(Spoken)* Amen.

Please be seated

CONGREGATION CLOSING HYMN“Facing a Task Unfinished”
Words & Music by Keith & Kristyn Getty

1. Fac -
 ing a task un - fin - ished, that drives us to our knees. A need that, un - di -
 min - ished, re - bukes our sloth - ful ease. We, who re - joice to know Thee, re -
 new be - fore Thy throne the so - lemn pledge we owe Thee - to go and make Thee
 known. 2. Where

oth - er lords be - side Thee hold their un - hin - dered sway; where for - ces that de -
 fied Thee, de - fy Thee still to - day. With none to heed their cry - ing for
 life, and love, and light, un - num - bered souls are dy - ing and pass in - to the
Refrain
 night. We
 go to all the world, with king - dom hope un - furled. No oth - er name has
 power to save but Je - sus Christ The Lord. 3. We
 bear the torch that, flam - ing, fell from the hands of those who gave their lives pro -
 claim - ing That Je - sus died and rose. Ours is the same com - mis - sion, the
 same glad mess - age ours; fired by the same am - bi - tion, to Thee we yield our

Refrain

powers. We
go to all the world, with king - dom hope un - furled. No oth - er name has
power to save but Je - sus Christ The Lord.

4. O

Fa - ther who sus - tained them, O Spi - rit who in - spired, Sav - iour, whose love con -
strained them to toil with zeal un - tired. From cow - ar - dice de - fend us, from
leth - ar - gy a - wake! Forth on Thine er - rands send us to la - bour for Thy

Refrain

sake. We
go to all the world, with king - dom hope un - furled. No oth - er name has
power to save but Je - sus Christ The

Lord. We go to all the world, His king - dom hope un -
furled. No oth - er name has power to save but Je - sus Christ The
Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amazing Grace

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders Pastor Brian Adams & Pastor Jacob Hoff
 Organist & Choir Director Mrs. Marie Becker
 Accompanist Miss Heather Schmidt

PASTORS OF ST. PAUL'S

Pastor Phillip Brenner – 1865-1868 (Visiting Pastor)
Pastor P. Lukas – 1868-1874
Pastor W. Hinnenthal – 1874-1885
Pastor H. Ebert – 1887-1894
Pastor H. Monhardt – 1895-1936
Pastor Gilbert Schaller – 1936-1949
Pastor Gerhardt Hillmer – 1949-1963
Pastor Edwin Biebert – 1963-1978
Pastor Leo Gruendeman – 1978-1980 (Vacancy Pastor)
Pastor Richard Raabe – 1980-1989
Pastor Kenneth Gawrisch – 1989-2005
Pastor Brian Adams – 1994 -
Pastor Peter Sternberg – 2006-2014
Pastor Jacob Hoff – 2016 –

CURRENT TEACHERS (KINDERGARTEN – GRADE 8) OF ST. PAUL'S

Mr. Nathan Schulmeister (Principal, Grades 7-8) (2013 -)
Mr. Lyle Timm (Grade 6) (2002 -)
Mr. Randy Willms (Grade 5) (1984 -)
Miss Heather Schmidt (Grades 3-4) (2006 -)
Mrs. Marie Becker (Grade 2) (2012 -)
Mrs. Kristine Riel (Grade 1) (2013 -)
Mrs. Rachel Manske (Kindergarten) (2016 -)
Mrs. Deby Totic (Extended Learning) (2015 -)

CURRENT CHILD CARE TEACHERS

Mrs. Nancy Willms (Jr. Kindergarten) (1995 -)
Mrs. Mary Tripoli (Jr. Kindergarten) (2014 -)
Mrs. Patti Krizan (3yr. Preschool) (2004 -)
Mrs. Dawn Stella (3 yr. Preschool) (2009 -)
Mrs. Rebecca Kragh (Afterschool) (2014 -)

PAST TEACHERS OF ST. PAUL'S

Averbeck, Mrs. Ann (1970-71)
Batterman, Brittany (2007-2012)
Bersch, Mr. Beldon (1951-1953)
Blankenhahn, Gottlieb (1865)
Brenner, Rev. Philip (1868)
Brockman, Mr. A. (1891-94)
Buske, Terry (1998-00, 2001-02, 2007-2012)
Carmical, Mrs. (1962-63)
Cummings, Becky (2009-14)
Ebert, Rev. H. (1887-90)
Fitschen, Miss Katherine (1955-59)
Frey, Miss Dorris (1953-56)
Gawrisch, Mrs. Sue (1990-2006)
Gersonde, Mrs. Linda (1979-80, 1981-92)
Gorsalitz (see Mrs. Karlyn Werner)
Greve, Mr. Vernon (1946-48)
Gronholz, Miss Judith (1967-68)
Gruber, Mr. M. (1890-91)
Grunze, Kristie (2008-2012)
Hansen, Mr. L. (1885-86)
Hartmann, Miss Bernice (1949-51)
Heller, Miss Jeanine (1980-87)
Hertig, Mike (2012-14)
Hillmer, Rev. Gerhardt (1951-54)
Hillmer, Mr. Karl (154-55)
Ingebritson, Mr. Julius (1940-44)
Jacobs, Mr. David (1963-64)
John, Mr. R. (1897-1903)
Johnson, Miss Jill ((1974-1976)
Kemper, Miss Cinda (1968-1969)
Kloko, Mr. Jeffery (1987-90)
Klueger, Miss Gladys (1956-60)
Kratz, Mrs. Diane (1991-94)
Kremer, Miss Marlis (1980-81)
Kuske, Miss Helen (1948-49)
Larsen, Sharon (1998-2013)
Lukas, Rev. P. (1868-74)
Martin, Mr. P. (1886-87)
Meyer, Mr. H. (1895-97)
Meyer, Miss ((1962-63)
Meyer, Mrs. Lois (1965-68)
Milazzo, Karen (2011-15)
Monhardt, Rev. H. (1903-11)
Monhardt, Miss Friede (1911-36)
Marowsky, Mrs. Dawn (1997-2002)
Marowsky, Mr. Gerald (1997-2002)
Nagel, Miss Louise (1974-2007)
Neyhart, Mrs. Kathy (1997-98)
Pingel, Mr. David (1964-69)
Platz, Mr. (1868)
Pliesis, Mrs. Eunice (1967-72, 1973-79)
Proeber, Ken (2011-2013)
Rathbun, Miss Joanne (1976-80)
Robbert, Mrs. Sharon (1969-78)
Rusert, Miss Mary (1971-74)
Sadler, Emily (2006-08)
Schaller, Rev. Gilbert (1936)
Schaller, Mrs. (1936-40, 1944-45)
Schaser, Mrs. Sarah (2000-01)
Schinschke, Mrs. Louise (1979-2007)
Schuster, Mrs. Sandra (1994-95)
Shevey, Mrs. Julie (1995-97)
Sievert, Miss Carolyn (1959-60)
Smith, Dina (2002-08)
Terek, Mrs. Diane (1985-98)
Toppe, Carol (2015-16)
Ulbricht, Mr. Eugene (1972-84)
Wendland, Mr. Paul (1971-72)
Wendland, Mrs. Sandy (1972-74)
Werner, Mrs. Karlyn (1963-67)
Wille, Gary (1969-2013)
Wilsmann, Mrs. Carole (1968-73)
Wulff, Mrs. Annette (1960-64)
Wulff, Mr. Frederick (1959-70)
Zautner, Mr. Karl (1894—95)

St. Paul's has also had a preschool program since 1995 where many people have served over the years. We thank them all for their service.

We apologize if any names or dates are incorrect or missing.

If you are aware of any changes, please feel free to let us know.

KEY DATES & INTERESTING FACTS IN ST. PAUL'S HISTORY

September 21, 1865 – The story of the beginning of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church goes back to 1865. A group of German Lutherans met on September 21st for the purpose of founding a new congregation – St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

October 9, 1865 – Construction began on the 1st church building at the cemetery property (now on College Avenue.)

December 1865 – The new church building was completed. It was 32 feet wide x 42 feet long. It was built for a cost of \$1,029. It had six pews on each side. Each pew sat six people. According to one history account: *“An old pot-bellied stove was in the front of the church to heat it. The Church Elders sat in the front of the church facing the people. Jokingly, some people say that the Elders made sure that the people did not fall asleep. Others said that it was to make sure intruders (Indians) would not come in.”*

April 15, 1866 – It was announced to the congregation that a new school building would be built on the Smith Road (51st Street) site (which was already under construction and would soon be ready for occupancy).

June 8, 1866 – St. Paul's Lutheran Church is accepted into the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Wisconsin and Other States (Wisconsin Synod) as its 70th congregation.

1869 – Some members left St. Paul's to form a new church – St. Peter's Lutheran Church on 68th Street just north of Rawson Avenue. The church eventually closed (around 1883), and in 1983 the church building was moved to the Franklin Historical Park.

1887 – A new organ was installed in the Church (College Avenue site) for a cost of \$75.00. The old organ was moved to the one room school on Smith Road.

1887 – When Pastor Ebert came to the congregation, a parsonage was built for him, at a cost of \$942.40, next to the school on Smith Road (51st Street). It was a year of building. For a new school house was also planned. It was to stand on the site of the old school. Old lumber was used in its construction. The tower was to be the same as on the old building. New “patent” desks were to be purchased for the new school.

October 16, 1887 – A new school was built and dedicated on the Smith Road (51st Street) site for a cost of \$59.00.

1889 – According to one of the historical accounts: *“An attempt was made to unite the school with the public school, so that the teacher could fill both positions. But to the saving of pure Lutheran doctrine, this attempt failed.”*

1893 – The school boasted that it had 65 students in the one room school on Smith Road. That year saw an addition to the school in the form of an instruction room for confirmands.

January 2, 1916 – The congregation voted, 18 (for) vs. 13 (against), to build a new church.

January 16, 1916 – The congregation voted, 27 (for) vs. 9 (against), to build the new church on the Smith Road site (51st Street). The new church would be built at a cost of \$11,629.39. It would be dedicated in the Fall of 1916.

1924 – A great improvement for the congregational property was the introduction of electricity wherever light was necessary. The Young People and the Ladies' Aid were given the opportunity to discuss whether they wished to help with project. In December 1924, the Young People offered \$200 and the Ladies Aid expressed their willingness to pay the rest.

1925 – English services began to be held on the 1st Sunday of the month. The Wisconsin Synod hymnals were introduced.

1928 – A new organ was purchased and the old organ was sold for \$25.

1932 – English services began to be held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. (German services continued in other services.)

1936 – English services began to be held on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month. Pastor Schaller changed the custom of having men sit on the north side of the church and ladies on the south side of the church. He told the congregation that the singing would sound better if the men and women would sit together.

1941 – St. Paul's celebrated its 75th Anniversary with the following events:
Sept. 15th – an ice cream social.
Sept. 17th – Confirmation Class Reunion.
Sept. 19th – Ladies' Aid Entertainment night.
Sept. 21, 1941 – Jubilee Sunday (8am – English; 9:45 – German)

1950 – It was resolved to move the one-room school house, add a room to it, and a full-basement under the two room school house.

August 19, 1951 – The new two room school was dedicated.

1959 – It was resolved to finish a 3rd classroom in the basement of the two room school house.

1964 – St. Paul's School now had 100 students in 3 classrooms. More were expected in the future. Plans began to be drawn up for a new school.

June 20, 1965 – It was decided, by a vote of 26 (for) vs. 4 (against), to build a new school building. It would be comprised of 4 finished classrooms and a fellowship unit (gym).

January 23, 1966 – Ground-breaking of the new school.

February 3, 1966 – Construction began on the new school.

1966 – The congregation celebrated its Centennial celebration. It culminated with a 3 week celebration:

Nov. 13 – Pastor Buenger (Southeast Wisconsin District President) preached.

Nov. 20 – The new school was dedicated. Pastor Oscar Naumann (WELS Synod President) preached.

Nov. 27 – The Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Choir helped to celebrate the focus on Christian Education.

1983 – The church went through a major remodeling project. The interior of the church was repainted, pews were taken out and refinished, a new communion rail was installed, the windows were reframed, new carpeting installed, the pipe organ was rebuilt, and the exterior of the church was repaired.

June 5, 1983 – The church building was re-dedicated.

1984 – The church basement was remodeled, a new furnace was installed, the parking lot was paved, and the two room school building was taken down. An addition of 3 classrooms and a storage room were added to the school building.

December 2, 1984 – The addition to the school building was dedicated.

1991 – The congregation celebrated its 125th Anniversary. As part of that celebration, the fellowship unit (gym) was refurbished. The first storage garage behind the gym was built.

June 23, 1991 – The worship services focused on the past Confirmation Classes of St. Paul's. A picnic/pig roast followed in the afternoon.

September 8, 1991 – The focus in the worship services were on Christian Education. DMLC Professor Frederick Wulff, former Principal of St. Paul's spoke.

December 1, 1991 – A festival worship service was held, celebrating the 125th Anniversary of St. Paul's. Pastor Carl Mischke (WELS President) preached.

July 18, 1994 – It was decided, by a vote of 38 (for) vs. 18 (against), to build a Child Care Center, along with an addition of 2 classrooms and new office and hallway space.

June 4, 1995 – The new Child Care Center, new classrooms and office expansion was dedicated.

1998 – The school reached an enrollment of 176 students.

Spring of 2006 – Preliminary evaluation of the need of a new worship facility was conducted.

October 2006 – Presentation was made to the congregation titled: *"New Church Possibilities."*

March 19, 2007 – The Church Council approved the hiring of the *"James Company"* to assist with the Building Fund and Stewardship Appeal at St. Paul's.

October 7, 2007 – The congregation celebrated the *"Faith Needs Room to Grow Appeal Gathering Sunday."* The congregation celebrated both in worship and in a special dinner the opportunities that God was giving us in this new appeal.

October 21, 22, 2007 – The first commitments for the *"Faith Needs Room to Grow Appeal"* were brought forward and presented to the congregation on this weekend. Approximately, 1.6 million dollars were committed to the project by St. Paul's members.

June 2008 – Excel Engineering from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin was chosen to be the architectural firm for our new church.

October 25, 26, 2009 – An Open Forum was held at St. Paul's for the purpose of presenting preliminary drawings of the new church to the congregation and also to update the financial commitment that the congregation had made to the project.

April 19, 2010 – An Open Forum was held at St. Paul’s to present the latest building plans to the congregation, along with a financial update. Responses were also presented to address the congregational questions, cost concerns and government requirements.

May 17, 2010 – Over a hundred church members gathered at St. Paul’s for this Voter’s Meeting. The ballots from the voting members were carefully counted, and the results were eighty-six for building a new church and twenty-two were against. A new chapter of St. Paul’s history was begun at that point.

June 13, 2010 – The groundbreaking service for the new church was held outside on the site where the church would be built.

June 2010 – Construction began.

September 5, 2010 – The last service was held in the old church (1916 building). Demolition of the old church began a little over a week later.

April 24, 2011 - Easter Celebration and first services in the new church. Approximately 280 people attended the Easter Sunrise Service at 6:00am and over 600 people attended the Easter Festival Service at 8:30am.

May 22, 2011 – Dedication of the new worship facility. Pastor David Rutschow, WELS District President of Southeastern Wisconsin District was the guest preacher.

THANK YOU

First, we give thanks to God for all the blessings that he has poured out on St. Paul’s for the past 150 years. We truly have a gracious and loving God! His Grace is amazing!

Secondly, we thank all the members of St. Paul’s, who over the past 150 years have given a tremendous amount of time, talent and treasure to the ministry of St. Paul’s. Without their sacrifices and commitment, St. Paul’s would not have all the blessings that we have today.

Thirdly, we thank the 150th Anniversary Committee, who has worked hard this past year. The events that were planned focused on the theme: Past, Present and Future. They held a number of special activities, including:

- An old fashioned church picnic to kick off our celebration last September with over 250 people.
- During Advent and Lent we watched two wonderful movies reminding us of the many wonderful blessings we enjoy in Jesus.

- Following our Ascension Day worship service, we held an ice cream social which was well-attended.
- Finally, today our special anniversary service and dinner.

Fourthly, we also thank those individuals who have personally given generously to cover all costs of our anniversary dinner today.

ANNIVERSARY PROJECT

The special project for this 150th Anniversary year was the replacement of our new organ. The organ is a Rogers Artist Model 599. The cost of the organ was \$58,150. It was installed in February 2016, and we have been enjoying it in our worship services since then. It has been truly a blessing to our congregation. We give thanks to the Lord that the cost of the organ has been fully covered with donations.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Dear Members of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church,

We thank the Lord that he has given you the privilege and opportunity to celebrate God’s blessings for 150 years. Thank you for inviting us to celebrate God’s blessings on September 18th. We are sorry that we will be unable to be with you for this celebration. But be assured that God’s love for you will never cease for “we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who has been called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28)

Thank you again for inviting us!
Pastor & Mrs. Edwin Biebert

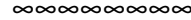
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Dear Members of St. Paul’s,

Thank you so much for the invitation to attend the 150th anniversary service on Sept. 18th. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend due to previous commitments. My one year at St. Paul’s was very memorable. Principal Wille was very easy to work with and I had much support from the other faculty members. It was a blessing to teach at St. Paul’s after being “off” to raise our two children.

God's richest blessings in the years ahead - and may God bless the coming school year! To God Be the Glory!

Marlis Kremer



Dear Friends,

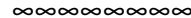
I will be thinking of you on this special day as you conclude your 150th anniversary celebration. Thank you for your very kind invitation to join you on this day as you celebrate the past!

Regretfully, Ken and I will not be able to join you on this day. We will be in Alabama visiting our son Benjamin.

We send our heartfelt thoughts for all the blessings that the Lord granted to our family through your Christian Day School where our three children, Benjamin, Emily, and Peter attended.

I also was blessed to become a part of your faculty and thankful for that opportunity to help students!

Sending our greetings with thankful hearts!
Diane Kratz
"Remember your life with Christ is saturated in Grace!"



Dear Friends at St. Paul's,

Thank you for the invitation to join in your celebration of the 150 years of God's Grace to St. Paul's family of believers.

The invitation helped spark and stir memories of life and times when we were privileged to serve the congregation. During those years we developed friendships which continue to this day. When we meet members in stores, on the street, or in other churches we visit, it is heart-warming to see how the Lord has guided St. Paul's members to continue in the faith and remain loyal to Jesus as Lord and Savior.

We will be on vacation, out of state, as the anniversary event occurs. Therefore, we will be unable to attend. Thank you, again, for the invitation.

May the Lord continue to bless and use your efforts as you share Jesus with the community in Franklin, WI.

Yours in Christ,
Ken and Sue Gawrisch



Dear Members of the 150th Anniversary Committee,

Thank you for the kind invitation to celebrate and share such a landmark occasion with you. Because I now must limit my travel and visits away from my home at Brookdale Edina, I will excuse myself. I gave up international travel three years ago and have now severely restricting domestic travel. Unfortunately, old age changes things. This may seem strange to curtail travel to Franklin since my wife and I have attended funerals and weddings of students and parents at St. Paul's in the past. St. Paul's has always been a big part of our life. I am sorry I will not be with you with my presence; but I will be with you in spirit.

How fortunate you have been to be a part of that historic congregation that goes way back to Civil War era. Oh, if those forefather pioneers could be with us now and see what the seeds they had planted had produced. The following narrative of experiences may contain an awful lot of history, but what can you expect from a retired history professor?

I have such fond memories of my eleven years serving as your principal starting way back in 1959. That call I received to serve you as principal was my very first call into the teaching ministry. I was wet behind the ears from inexperience, but I was eager to start. I was so thrilled to first locate my teaching station in Franklin. With a map in my hand and driving down Rawson Avenue eastward, past the quarry and open farmland, I turned left onto 51st Street. It was an easy turn from Rawson Avenue because the traffic was almost non-existent and there just open lots on all four corners of 51st Street. The old school building was just north of the old church on the left hand side of the road. Both of those relics are now long gone. The school building was a weathered white wooden structure with one floor that had two classrooms. The basement had a room for 1st and 2nd graders. A big drainage culvert cut across the property and continued behind the school. To outsiders the sight may have appeared rather primitive, but to me this was a magnificent structure, because here the children of St. Paul's were taught God's Word within all subject matter and this school prepared them to live their life with Christ as their guide. Here they were taught that God loved them so much to die for them so that they might live forever.

There was no housing for the teachers so I roomed with a church member's family over on 27th street. The middle grade teacher had a similar rooming arrangement elsewhere. I married after my first year of teaching and rented an apartment over a stand-alone garage,

just off of Grange Avenue. In the morning before leaving for work, I shoveled coal into the furnace located by the car stalls, hoping the coal would keep burning until I returned home from teaching school. The organist for St. Paul's owned and lived in the house on the front of the lot. The black car I recently purchased had been used to transport meat. I don't remember the name of the meatpacking company, but I covered up the logo on the doors with spray paint. Since the vehicle was used to transport meat it had no back seat. Yet it served my needs.

I can still remember the names and faces of all those I taught during those years and the devotion of fellow teachers and parents who worked alongside me. No kidding. I may forget dates and places, but not the faces of people associated with the school. We became family – real family. We didn't have much for a playground but the kids made improvised "houses" with rooms made from branches of trees behind the school. The adjoining land had actually belonged to the Martin family whose farmhouse was diagonally across the street from the church. Their curious cows would peek into the basement windows during the school day. My baseball team had to maneuver around cow pies as they made the rounds around the bases of our improvised ball diamond. When competing city teams came to our home games they thought that was gross, but we just laughed. It was no big deal to just wipe "stuff" off our shoes. The biggest problem was when we had to slide into the bases. We had a big tree in center field that if a batted ball hit it we counted it as a double. The tree was not only an obstacle, but it was diseased. A hefty school board member came out one day with a buzz saw and cut the monster down. It no longer served as shade for the cows or anyone else.

This was good old farm country out in the sticks. We poured water on a slope in the winter so it would freeze and form an icy slide. The kids may still remember how we made sleds out of cardboard boxes. Even the teachers took turns with the children as we tobogganed down that slippery slope. We had a marked off area for snowballing so only willing participants would enter. Before we knew better, children played dangerous and insensitive games like tag, pom-pom pull away, Red Rover and kick ball. The teachers even went outside to engage in those now deemed hazardous activities with the students. We didn't know better back then.

The children helped with the upkeep of the school. They cleaned the blackboards, dusted the erasers, emptied the wastebaskets, swept the floors, put up and took down the flag from the flagpole. Older boys were on the safety patrol to slow down traffic on 51st Street. Duties for little ones included feeding the fish and changing the water in the fishbowl. One first grader even made coffee for the teachers in the morning. Everyone was responsible for keeping the playground clear of litter. On certain days litter was a "ticket" for reentering school after recess. I think it helped instill pride in the school property.

During those early years we had no paid janitor. The church made up a list of parents and alphabetically assigned dates to clean the classrooms, halls, cloakrooms and bathrooms. I

was not aware of all the details, but apparently there was a cleaning procedure they followed. I know that if there were conflicts with a given date, cleaners could get a substitute or trade dates with another family. This practice really helped to keep the operation costs of the school low, while giving a sense of ownership to parents at the same time

The school was a good investment for the congregation. Those who graduated from St. Paul's have had a positive impact. A good number of our "kids" became pastors and teachers in our Synod and gave the church reason to be proud. I had the privilege to teach some of them at Martin Luther College. No doubt all of the graduates were assets to the congregation. I was honored to be have been a part of your congregation those eleven years.

Did the children suffer academically from attending that little wooden building when they could have attended a well-funded beautiful public school with better equipment? God blessed that little humble schoolhouse. Some of those very children who studied with cramped quarters in multi-grade classrooms went on to some pretty high level occupations. I used to tell them that the toughest part of going to college is finding a parking place. One became a science professor at a public university before becoming president of Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minnesota; another taught at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill before teaching at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire; another taught at the University of Toronto in Canada before teaching Shakespeare at Cambridge University in England; another gave pipe organ lessons to college students at Martin Luther College in New Ulm; another is still presently a key employee in the business office at Martin Luther College; still another was a professor at Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee. I could go on to mention those who encouraged their own children to enter the ministry of the Wisconsin Synod and other noble professions.

Actually, all of the children who attended your little school in those days were winners. I would have liked to have had them all be valedictorians like a number of schools practice, but I only gave about 10% the highest grade of A. That was before grade inflation. To do that today the teacher would need a bodyguard, not only from students but irate parents. Whatever high schools our graduates attended they took lead roles in musicals and most were on the honor rolls. Best of all was the Christian witness they gave to the world. Throughout Franklin and our Synod, St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School have an excellent reputation. When I hired an outside bus firm (Broadrick Bus Line) to temporarily transport our children to school, the non-Lutheran owner was so impressed with the conduct of our children he placed his own children in our school.

Back in those days we did not have computers with PowerPoint and all that stuff for classroom instruction. There was a used TV set in my classroom for us to watch big news events and funerals of important dignitaries, but we didn't have a fancy remote to change channels. If the picture became fuzzy we had to fidget with the rabbit ears on top of the set. We could boast that we had a Thermo-Fax machine that used special heat sensitive paper to

make duplicate copies. Wow! Imagine a device like that. I also recall meeting with the school board about having overhead projectors in every classroom. We thought we were on the cutting edge of technology. Not much by today's standards, but we tried to keep up to date.

The physical education program was based on the booklet U.S. Official Physical Fitness Guidelines put out by the Kennedy administration. Our "gyms" in that wooden building were the classrooms after we pushed the desks to the side of the room. The first indoor pieces of equipment were tumbling mats used for floor acrobatics. The first outdoor equipment was a tetherball set, so popular that students lined up in a long row to use it. A generous family donated a used merry-go-round rig that the teachers reassembled on the playground and repainted over a weekend. This too was a big hit. I don't know whatever happened to it, but we put a lot of miles on that whirling wonder. Naturally we were all really thrilled to hear that our planned new school would include a full gymnasium with bleachers.

During the Cuban Missile Crisis I worked closely with the Milwaukee Lutheran Principals' Conference. Our thirty plus Wisconsin Synod Lutheran schools in Milwaukee set up a phone call system to keep each other informed when we expected a nuclear strike to hit Milwaukee. Plans were drawn up for evacuating to the countryside on recommended routes or just hunkering down in our schools. The plan for St. Paul's was to stay put because Rawson Avenue would be blocked with traffic. The upstairs classroom had many windows so we conducted drills that had the children crawl under desks and cover their faces as protection from shattering shards of glass.

Since our wooden structure was located within a central nuclear blast zone, we assumed it would be incinerated. We followed a devised plan to stay in the basement until the toxic air had cleared enough to go outside. With the help of parents we set up a water supply and stored a large supply of canned goods to last for a couple of weeks. I sent printed forms to parents who lived close-by to indicate if they wanted to pick up their children or leave them to stay (you could say die) with us in the basement. We guessed none would survive a nuclear attack, but the options were not that great. Fortunately the Russians blinked and their ships heading for Cuba backed off. The foodstuff we had stored became dated and we returned our stockpile to the donors. Later on, when John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, the middle grade children filed into my classroom to watch newscasts on a television set. A lot of history took place in the turbulent 60s.

The 1960s were years when women sports teams were just being worked into school programs nationwide. At St. Paul's our initiated girls' volleyball team got off the ground with me as the coach. The upper grade girls filled the trophy case with 1st place trophies – beating competition from Wisconsin Synod schools, Missouri Synod schools, Catholic schools and the public schools. Actually, to fill the roster I had to dip into the middle grades to field a team. Those girls played their hearts out and were unbeatable. In five game matches with other schools we always won the first three sets, making the last two sets unnecessary to

play. When other coaches asked me how they were so highly motivated, I said we stop at McDonalds after the games. Actually we really did stop at McDonalds in Hales Corners before I drove them to their homes. If there was time we stopped at Whitnall Park between College Avenue and Rawson so the girls could roll sideways down the hills.

In those 11 years in Franklin we built a beautiful new school building on a purchased lot behind the old church building – right where the old baseball diamond was situated in the cow pasture. The dedicated members of St. Paul's dug deep into their pockets as a labor of love. A good number of the members volunteered to paint walls and to paste ceiling tiles from tall shaky ladders. One very competent and efficient lady volunteered to become my full time secretary in the new principal's office -- absolutely free of any wages. No longer did I need to stop teaching to answer telephone calls. This angel from God even placed orders to publishers for textbooks and supplies needed for the coming new school year.

Parents donated money at our annual "Variety Show" to purchase new curtains to grace the stage of our new fellowship hall. I imagine over time those green curtains withered away, but they were testimony of loving parents. One member not only served as the leader of the national Lutheran Pioneers, he installed overhead lighting to enhance our musical productions held on the stage. What a winning combination from friends of Christian education at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

The Variety Show gained momentum over the years. Our first show was held in 1960 in the church basement and featured a modern day version of "Little Red Riding Hood." A group of boys also sang a song about a grandfather's clock that stopped short never to go again. When we started up a school band they also played a few numbers for the event. Remember when we had a school band? Later, some questioned why we use the term "Variety Show." Well, that was the original intent – variety – but eventually we narrowed in on plays and musicals. The first stage we had was a platform six inches high and placed between curtains in the church basement. Gilbert and Sullivan operettas soon became a mainstay. The "Mikado" with the wandering minstrel was my favorite. Once in a while we created stuff on our own – like a rendition of "Sound of Music" or a German version of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfknicks".

Eventually we engaged a choreographer from the YMCA to create dance routines for the musicals. Once when I took our students backstage at a production by the Suburban Players in nearby Greendale, the costume and makeup staff fell in love with our kids. They came out for our productions at St. Paul's and provided their professional touches to our performers. All the children wanted to participate in performances and we obliged them. For Snow White, my wife even created a singing part for the mirror to enlarge the cast. Our ultimate goal was to instill confidence in children and bring out their talent – not merely to entertain parents. However, improved public relations were a good by-product and we tried to get

coverage in the Franklin Hub. I understand this Variety Show tradition still continues at St. Paul's.

Parent volunteers drove our school buses on designated routes to bring kids safely to and from our school that was located on a well-traveled street with no sidewalks. One member even donated a school bus to St. Paul's school during those years. What examples of Christian love! Teamwork makes things happen.

My wife Annette Wulff taught kindergarten, lower grades, classroom music and served as choir director for both the church and school. Back then there was still evidence of cherished old German traditions in our congregation. I drove the school bus with Annette and the school choir to sing German hymns at the homes of old timers. Mrs. Wulff loved St. Paul's. She helped out too when the upper grade students took regular fieldtrips to the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. The trip was long so she led the children in camp songs and her favorite "The Orchestra Song". That made it easier for me the bus driver to concentrate on driving through downtown Chicago. Of course, Annette always helped out on our annual end-of-the-school-year outings at the Muskego Beach Amusement Park. She helped pass out ride tickets and took rides with the kids on what was at that time the fastest roller coaster in the world.

When we left Franklin it took years for her to recover from the move. Right up to her death in 2013 we talked about those good old times and good old friends. She was always saying: "When can we visit our friends in Franklin?" Even when her doctors said absolutely NO because of required nursing care three times a day, seven days a week, she still begged to go visit our friends from Franklin.

An interesting side note: My wife did substitute teaching for neighboring Lutheran schools. At St. John's Root Creek she taught an elementary grade school student by the name of Mark Jeske. He still remembers that time. Later when Rev. Mark Jeske taught religion at Wisconsin Lutheran High School in Milwaukee, he had students from St. Paul's (that I had taught) in his classes. I know that even later on a contingent of members from St. Paul's began faithfully watching Mark Jeske on his inspirational television program Time of Grace.

God has richly blessed St. Paul with faithful laborers. When I took a call to be a history professor at Martin Luther College in 1970, you extended a call to the gifted and dedicated Gary Wille to become your new principal. I knew Gary well as one who could inspire students. He was not only an innovative teacher he was our football coach and the boys worked hard for him. He gave the football players names like "Mad Dog" and they played with the fire of Green Bay Packers. God has blessed Gary's work and the same could be said of the devoted teachers who worked with him. Today God continues to bless your congregation through Christian education and through the Word and Sacraments in your church services.

To the members of St. Paul's congregation I celebrate with you this day and say: "Well done thou good and faithful servants!" You have taken the torch handed to you from our forefathers and held it high. My wife and I attended the dedication of your beautiful new church building, a symbol of your commitment of faith. May God continue to bless you and keep you. In the coming years may you continue to have God's Word as your "great heritage".

*God's Word is our great heritage
And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age
Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way,
In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure,
We keep its teachings pure.
Throughout all generations.*

In our Savior's name,
Frederick Wulff
(Former principal of St. Paul's Lutheran School)