



St. Paul's Newsletter

April 2014 ~ Volume 2, Issue 3

6881 S. 51st Street ~ Franklin, Wisconsin ~ 53132

"I Need More...Strength"



After several attempts of twisting and tapping, the lid just wouldn't budge. "Honey, can you open this for me?" Her teenage son is eager to flex his muscles. He opens the jar and hands it back to his mother.

Life is sometimes like that jar, isn't it? Sometimes we just don't have the strength we need to tackle what's in front of us. Not the strength it takes to move a piano or to change a flat tire, but the strength we need to raise our children or to stay married to someone who is so difficult to live with. We need the strength it takes to go to work and deal with people who are rude, inconsiderate and lazy, or to walk to the mailbox that contains bills we'll have difficulty paying.

I need more strength!

"Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth...He gives

strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak...Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." (Isaiah 40:28-31)

What should we do when we need more strength? Hand that jar over to the Lord. He has all the strength we need and so much more. After all, he is the One who created the earth and everything in it. More than that, this strong, wise, loving God came to earth in the person of Jesus Christ. The all-powerful God came in human weakness to rescue us from sin and death. He was condemned and crucified. Weakness, right? No! Strength! Jesus used his strength to remain on that cross until every last sin of ours had been paid for. His empty tomb proves it. "Jesus was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead" (Romans 1:4). Death has been defeated! The guilt of sin before God has been removed! By trusting in Jesus, life in heaven is waiting for us.

Need more strength? The One who created the earth has it. The One who died and rose for you has it. He is the One who gives us the strength to face each day with fresh confidence. Find that strength in his Word. And then be ready to soar. Be ready to soar on eagles' wings with renewed strength! Be ready to soar on eagles' wings through every challenge of life! Be ready to soar on eagles' wings to the home that Jesus has prepared for you in heaven!

Inside this issue:	
Midweek Lent Holy Week & Easter Opportunities Church Pictorial Directory Appointments	2
G.R.A.C.E. Place Preschool PowerHour	3
Membership Changes Pastor Adams' 25 years in the Pastor Ministry Thank You. Easter Event for families	4
Bible Study Opportunities Friendship Weekend	5
Principal's Report School Open House	6
Mary Martha Speaker Financial Update A Stewardship Thought	7
Lutheran Women's Missionary Society News	8
WELS news	9
WELS news	10
WELS News 2014 VBC Dates	11
WISCO Academic Top Ten NPH New Release	12

Midweek Lent 2014

This Lent, follow the Passion history as told by Saint Mark. Lead God's people on the familiar journey of our Savior "to the cross" but also "to the crown." Every verse of the final three chapters (14-16) will be covered. The series culminates in the Easter sermon on Mark 16.

Our Midweek Lenten Worship Services are at 3:30 & 6:30pm.

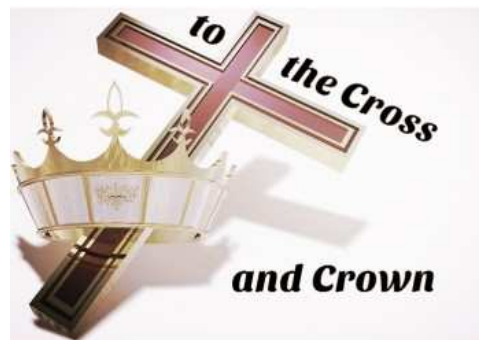
The schedule for this year's mid-week services is:

April 2: "The Verdict" (Pastor Ellenberger) - Mark 15:1-15

April 9: "Ashamed" (Pastor Kleist) - Mark 14:66-72

April 17: "Those who Passed By" (Pastor Adams—Maundy Thursday, 3:30pm & 6:30pm) - Mark 15:16-30

April 18: "He Saved Others" (Pastor Sternberg—Good Friday, 1pm) - Mark 15:31-47



April 20: "Death Undone" (Pastor Adams—Easter Festival, 8:30am) - Mark 16

Holy Week & Easter Worship Opportunities

The Holy Week and Easter service opportunities are:

- **Palm Sunday Weekend** - April 13 & 14: 8:00am, 10:30am; 6:30pm.
- **Maundy Thursday** - April 17: 3:30pm & 6:30pm.
- **Good Friday** - April 18: 1:00pm & 6:30pm (Tenebrae).

- **Easter Sunrise** - April 20: 6:00am
- **Easter Breakfast** - April 20: 7:00am
- **Easter Festival** - April 20: 8:30am
- (No Worship Monday, April 21)

Please come and join us. All are welcome.



Church Pictorial Directory Appointments

We are once again doing a new pictorial church directory in April. Photography dates have been set for April 23 - 26 and April 29 - 30.

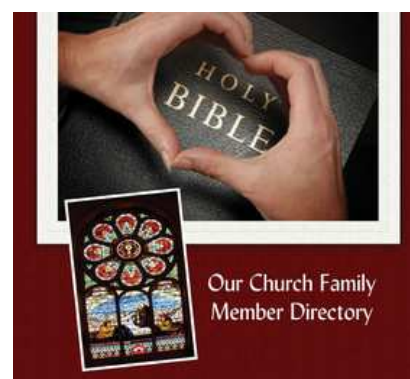
There is an insert in this month's newsletter that gives some basic information about a church directory.

If you wish to help with the directory, please talk to Pastor Adams.

You may sign-up for Photography dates online. Go to St. Paul's website: Stpaulsfranklin.org.

At the bottom of the Home page, you will see a link that says: [Click Here..](#) That link will take you to an appointment sign-up page.

We also will have a sign-up sheet in the church/school office in the near future.



G.R.A.C.E. Place ~ Sunday mornings at 9:15am



Our Sunday School program is called G.R.A.C.E. Place. It meets on Sunday mornings from 9:15am—10:00am. During this 45 minute time, there is a worship and praise

time where kids will learn and sing fun and worshipful songs to Jesus. They will learn the point of that day through stories and at times a skit (on DVD) focusing on the theme for that day. They will learn in a fun and meaningful way where they get to be involved. There is also a craft time and a snack time.

Any child from pre-school through grade 6 is welcome to come. You do not need to be a member of St. Paul's to come. Visitors are always welcome.

We begin at 9:15am in the school and end at 10am in the school. Below is our upcoming schedule.

Please come and join us.

March 30: Jesus Teaches His Disciples to Pray

April 6: Jesus Feeds Thousands

April 13: Crowds Welcome Jesus to Jerusalem

April 20: No Class—Easter

April 27: Jesus Comes Back to Life

May 4: Peter Explains Belief in Jesus

May 11: Jesus Returns to Heaven

Preschool PowerHour

What is Preschool Power-hour?

It is a fun Christian Program for Young Children which enriches their lives with Bible Stories. They stimulate their minds with music and movement activities. They gain spiritual, social and development growth; and they make new friends.

For Whom?

All children ages 0-4 with their caregivers are invited to attend Preschool Power Hour at St. Paul's Lutheran School.

Preschool



for ages 0-4

When?

They meet on Fridays (Twice a month) at 10:45-11:45am. Please join us for one morning, or join us every time! Preschool Power Hour begins with a snack and continues with a Bible story with songs, then general music and movement activi-

ties (including use of rhythm instruments), followed by gym activities.

Remaining Dates in 2014

April 11 & 25

May 9

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them. (Mark 10:14-16)



Elders' Report ~ Membership Changes ~ March 25, 2014

Transfers Out:

- Mrs. Charmaine Davey, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, West Bend (WELS)

Baptisms:

- Oliver Rhys Koenig (Noah & Jennifer Koenig—March 23, 2014)
- Aubrey Elise Kremser (Marcel & Tiffancy Kremser—March 30, 2014)



25th Anniversary of Ministry Thank You

The Apostle Paul in his letter to the Philippians wrote these words: *"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 1:3-6)

I am, first of all, thankful to God for allowing me to serve him in the ministry these past twenty-five years. I am also thankful to all the members of St. Paul's for calling me to be one of your shepherds for the past nearly twenty years. Your support of all those who have been called

to serve you is very much appreciated.

Sunday, March 16th, was truly a very special day in my ministry. Words cannot express how much it meant to me to hear words of encouragement and support from so many members of St. Paul's.

The Lord has truly blessed St. Paul's in so many different ways. What a privilege it is to work with all the called workers, staff and members of St. Paul's. They all truly serve their Lord with all their hearts. I am also grateful for the gift that was given to me on behalf of the congregation, along with a very special picture memory book.



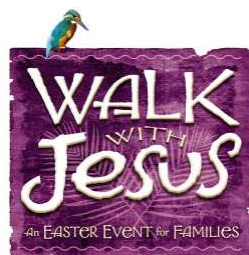
I truly believe that the Lord has so many blessings yet to be poured out on us as a congregation. May we always continue to work together in the partnership that we share centered on our Savior, Jesus Christ.

~ Pastor Brian Adams.

An Easter Event for Families - Postponed until next year

As material was looked at closer, it became clear that this program would not work out to be accomplished for this year.

We will postpone doing it until next year.



Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Morning Bible Class ~ 9:15am.

The Sunday morning bible class is looking at "Come Follow Me," the new movie produced by the Synod as a sequel to "Road to Emmaus" (2011). This 34 minute movie depicts what it means to be a disciple, a follower of Jesus. The movie recounts the experience of the apostle Peter—his misunderstanding, denial, doubts, and fears. The way for Peter to be a follower of Jesus is found in the power and promises of Jesus' word, in the same way as it is for us.

Wednesday Morning Bible Class ~ 9:30am

We are studying a series called "God's Faithfulness." God created a perfect place where the people he created could live with him in joy. Adam and Eve sinned, and through them we lost the privilege of living with the Lord. But God did not give up on us. He devised a way so he could live with us again. Then he faithfully carried out that plan.



F.R.A.N Outreach - Friendship Weekend - April 6 & 7, 2014



As mentioned last month, a research study found that 74% of unchurched people said they would be more likely to attend a church because a friend invited them. This is often called "FRAN" outreach. FRAN stands for friends, relatives, associates and neighbors. In other words, it is looking at the people in your life who are not well-connected to Christ, if at all, and sharing the Gospel with them. And one way you can do that simply is by inviting them to join you for a worship service.

To help in this task, the Board of

Outreach is making plans for a special friendship weekend on Sunday, April 6 and Monday, April 7. This weekend was chosen because it coincides with the school open house on Sunday afternoon and Tuesday evening. The services that weekend will be similar in format to our regular worship but will include a simplified message and explanations of our Lutheran way of worship.

What can you do? Here are some steps that will outline what will happen over the next month: Write down your FRAN contacts—a list of people in your life that you don't believe to have a church home. Again, think about your friends, relatives, associates and neighbors. The list can not be too long!

Pray that the Holy Spirit would give you courage to invite them to join us and that he would lead them to accept your invitation. Deliver the invitations, either by hand or through the mail. There is not need

for those you invite to give you an immediate answer.

Call all those you invited a few days later. If they haven't made up their mind, tell them again how much you would like them to join you. Offer to drive by their home and pick them up.

Give thanks to God in prayer, no matter the result. Thank him for grant to you the privilege of playing a role in his saving work.

That is all there is to it. It is a simple way for all of us to do some outreach to the people in our lives. Thank you for being part of it!

Principal Schulmeister's Report

We are reaching the final two months of school. There are plenty of things happening in our school. If you know of anyone that would like to know more about the great Christian Education that we offer at St. Paul's please invite them to take a look and meet our teachers.

There are two **Open Houses** scheduled, **April 6, after church until 2pm, and April 8 from 6:30-8pm.** We look forward to seeing you all there.

This is also a month of preparation, there is preparation for celebrating our risen Savior, preparing for plays, and for our Eighth Grade students preparing for Confirmation and

Graduation in May. Our students will be preparing to aide in the worship of our Savior on Easter as we have done at St. Paul's. Our Kindergarten and our Seventh and Eighth Grade plays the first weekend of May. And our Eighth Grade students will begin their preparations for examination on May 15, and Confirmation on May 18. This will be a time when we all can remember the great promises we made to God, to remain faithful until we meet him face to face, and accept them as members of our church in Holy Communion.

Hope that in April we will be blessed with warmer weather and the joys of spring to remind us of



the new life we have in Christ through his death and resurrection. May God Bless you and your families this Easter Season.

Nathan Schulmeister,
Principal

School Open House - April 6th & 8th

St. Paul's
Lutheran Church
School & Preschool

April 6th 11:30-2pm • April 8th 6:30-8pm

Come In, Tour the School, Meet the Teachers

You're Invited
OPEN HOUSE



A safe and fun place for children to develop physically, socially, academically, emotionally, and spiritually.

All training and instruction is designed with the intent to "Touch Tender Hearts with the Love of God."

St. Paul's School can partner with you to help your children see the wonders of God's creation.

- 3K to 8th Grade Christian Education
- Family Environment
- Small Class Sizes
- Strong Test Scores
- Before / After School Care Is Available (6:30am – 6:00pm)

Join us

**Sunday, April 6th 11:30–2pm or
Tuesday, April 8th 6:30–8pm**

Come In, Tour the School, Meet the Teachers

Mary Martha Society

Kyle Brightsman to Speak About Mission Trip

Kyle Brightsman, St. Paul's member and a student at Wisconsin Lutheran High School, will give a presentation at St. Paul's on Tuesday, April 15th at 6:30 p.m., about his mission trip to Palm Coast, Fla.

Everyone in the congregation is invited to hear the presentation,

which is sponsored by the Mary & Martha Society. Refreshments will follow the mission talk.

The Mary & Martha Society is a ladies' organization in the congregation that does a variety of activities to support the church and missions. All women of St. Paul's are invited to join the group, which meets the third Tuesday of each month from September through May.



Financial Update - January & February 2014

Contributions during the months of January and February were both below budgeted needs. Through eight months of the current fiscal year, we are \$28,160 or 8% behind our budget. Contributions are also still significantly below the prior year. Through eight months, we are approximately \$26,500 below prior year contributions, which is a 7% below prior year contributions.

Due to the fiscal year to date below budget contributions the operating cash balance has been significantly depleted and the cash balance continues to be tight. We all need to work on reducing the contribution deficit so that we can continue the mission of the church, which requires financial support to meet operating costs to fulfill the work of the Lord. Please prayerfully consid-



ered your future contributions to help reduce the budget deficit.

A Stewardship Thought - The Grace of Giving

Through our own personal efforts, we are not going to be able to increase our level of giving. We grow in the grace of giving as the Holy Spirit, working through God's Word, instructs and empowers us to be more generous.

As we spend time reading and studying God's Word, we will grow in faith and, as a result, grow also in our generosity. The Apostle Paul wrote: **"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will**

abound in every good work." (2 Corinthians 9:8)

It is only by God's grace that we have money to give, and it is only by God's grace that we have the desire to give.

Prayer:

Lord, I thank You for the most indescribable gift, the gift of Your Son, Jesus. May Your love and generosity empower me to honor You with my life and blessings. Help me to grow in the grace of giving. Through Christ I pray. Amen.



Lutheran Women's Missionary Society News

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY DOOR COLLECTION:

We will be conducting our bi-annual door collection to support the work of LWMS on April 6, 2014. This collection will support many WELS mission projects not funded by the WELS budget, including these specific missions - On the Circuit Level: WELS Home Missions: 'WELS-Canada Evangelist and Pastoral Studies Institute Training' and WELS World Missions: 'Dominican Republic/Haiti Projects' and On the National Level: WELS Home Missions: 'Equipment Fund' and 'General Hispanic Outreach' and WELS World Missions: 'Seminary and Bible Institute Conference' and 'Translation Working Group' (specifically Chinese instructional materials for Asia Lutheran Seminary). To learn about these missions and all mission work not funded by the WELS budget, go to: <http://www.lwms.org/> and search for the 'Mission Projects Booklet'. If you are able to support this mission work, it would be greatly appreciated!

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY SPRING RALLY:

All WELS confirmed ladies are invited to attend the LWMS Milwaukee Metro South Circuit's Spring Rally - which will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2014 at Grace Lutheran Church - 700 Beechwood Ave, Waukesha, WI. Registration and a FREE Breakfast are from: 7:45 - 8:45am - with a devotion, presentation, bible study, and business meeting following. Our presentation will be on the 'Share the Mission' program at Wisconsin Lutheran High School with WLHS student missionaries as the speakers. The rally will also include an opening devotion, bible study, and business meeting. We will be voting on new officers and which of the following WELS missions we will fund for the

next year:

WELS Home

Missions:

'Musical Assistance'

or 'Language

Training' and

WELS World

Missions:

'Repatriation

Conferences'

or 'East Asia

Projects'. Attend and have a say

(vote) on which mission projects

our donations will fund this next

year! For more information, flyers

are located in the church narthex.

Hope to see you there!

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY LOGO SEARCH:

Attention WELS Women of all ages! The LWMS Milwaukee Metro South Circuit is thinking of developing a logo of our own (for use with a future Circuit Webpage or Facebook page and for use in conjunction with the displaying of a banner at our rallies). We are asking for YOUR input! Should we even go forward in creating one? Should we use a theme? What bible verse will we base that theme on? What image/photo/icon best depicts our circuit's name ('Milwaukee Metro South') or bible theme? Other considerations in logo development: Ladies only, original image only, and the image or photo should have a vertical orientation - so the corresponding banner hangs vertically. If you just wish to contribute an idea or just give us your thoughts, a questionnaire can be found on the counter in the church narthex with more information. If you wish to submit a logo design, it should be printed/drawn/painted on standard sized paper or cardstock (8½" X 11"). Be sure to include the questionnaire with your name and design. Questionnaires (and logos) can be turned in at the logo display at



our LWMS Spring Rally or can be mailed to the address shown at the bottom of the questionnaire. Hopefully, our logos will be voted on at our circuit's Fall Rally by our rally attendees. As LWMS is a completely volunteer organization and all our funds go to mission endeavors, no monetary compensation can be given for the logo. Be Creative! Have Fun!

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY 2014 CONVENTION:

The LWMS 51st Annual Convention will be held on June 26-29, 2014 in downtown Dallas, Texas at the Hyatt Regency. Join us for a weekend of worship, workshops, speakers, displays, fellowship and fun. For all of you who do attend, it is a time of meeting old acquaintances and making new friends, a time of inspiration and edification in our walk with God, a time of listening to the struggles of one mission field and rejoicing in the growth of another. With a convention theme of: "You Will Be My Witnesses" (Acts 1:8), LWMS reminds us that we ALL are 'God's Witnesses' - for reaching the lost, for the building and edification of the church, for the glory of our great God! For more information and a registration form, flyers are located on the counter in the church narthex. To find out more about our conventions and how you can serve or support WELS missions through LWMS, go to: www.lwms.org.

TOGETHER



Conference of Presidents Meet

The Conference of Presidents (COP) will meet on Wednesday (March 19) of this week in its regular monthly teleconference. Items on the agenda include:

1. Discussing ideas related to training teachers to serve as principals.
2. Issuing a divine call for the position of director of the Commission on Lutheran Schools. This position became vacant with the acceptance of a call by current director Mr. Greg Schmill. Schmill will continue to serve as director until the end of June.
3. Discussing how to respond to the 2014 CMO commitments, which are well below the increase called for by the ministry financial plan (budget) adopted by the synod convention last summer. A variety of options will be under consideration.

Rev. Doug Engelbrecht, president of the Northern Wisconsin District, is recovering from a serious heart attack. The COP joins all members of our synod in thanking God for his gracious care for our brother and in asking God to be with him and his family as he continues his recovery.

Please continue to remember our

fellow believers in the country of Ukraine. The political situation of the country and the future of our sister Lutheran church body in Ukraine remains volatile and uncertain. Pray that God would graciously protect our brothers and sisters and that they may continue to proclaim his precious gospel even in the face of trial, hardship, and possible persecution.

Serving in Christ,
President Mark Schroeder



Worship Conference Registration Opens

Registration is now open for the seventh triennial WELS National Worship Conference, being held July 22-25 at Carthage College, Kenosha, Wis.

The conference has something for everyone interested in worship. Rev. Bryan Gerlach, director of the Commission on Worship, says, "The primary audience is those who plan worship—pastors, musicians, and worship committees, and those responsible for making sure there's good worship in the churches—but one of the things that's made our event so successful is that we deliberately plan things so that there's something of interest to laypeople

in every time slot."

The conference workshops cover topics from choir directing, teaching children music, graphic design, church architecture, and art. Other highlights of the conference include a festival choir of more than 120 voices, a high school honor choir, a children's choir, and a 40-piece orchestra. In addition, four new compositions have been commissioned for the conference.

To register online, go to www.wels.net/2014worshipconference. Lodging is available either in campus dorms or a nearby hotel. Rates vary based on accommodations and days attending.

Gerlach encourages anyone interested in worship to attend, saying the event is as much inspirational as it is educational. "It really is a mountaintop experience," he says.



WELS Wins Film Award

On March 15, WELS' newest outreach film, *Come Follow Me*, received the award for best short film at the Christian Worldview Film Festival in San Antonio, Texas.

"Come Follow Me was chosen as the best short film by our judges because of the strong biblical

TOGETHER



worldview and the high production values," says Rev. Phillip Telfer of the Christian Worldview Film Festival. "Come Follow Me best represented the kind of films that we believe will have an eternal impact on lives through this powerful medium."

Come Follow Me was submitted to the film festival by its distributor, Vision Video. Mr. Bill Carroll of Vision Video was in San Antonio for the festival and accepted the award on behalf of the film's production team. Carroll says, "Vision Video is so pleased to be associated with Come Follow Me, a beautifully crafted film that truly conveys the love of Jesus and the true meaning of Christian discipleship."

Come Follow Me, released in fall 2013, is the second in a series of four outreach movies that are a collaboration between WELS Commissions on Evangelism and Adult Discipleship; Northwestern Publishing House; WELS Multi-Language Publications; and Boettcher+Trinklein Television, Inc. Road to Emmaus, the first film in the series, outlines God's plan of salvation.

Rev. Mike Hintz, director of WELS Commission on Evangelism, explains that work has begun on the script for the third film. "It will tell the life of Jesus, especially from the viewpoint of his mother, Mary," says Hintz. "We are also planning a fourth film with a focus on the apostle Paul and the advance of the gospel into the world."

Road to Emmaus is available in seven languages and is often used in

WELS mission fields as well as in local congregations. The original DVD of Come Follow Me includes English with closed captioning and Spanish. WELS Multi-Language Publications is working on providing Come Follow Me in other languages to enhance its use in outreach.

"What we heard over and over at the festival was how Come Follow Me works so well as an outreach tool," says Mr. Steve Boettcher, the film's director and producer. "The film makes it simple for anyone to present the gospel to a friend or neighbor in a way that's straightforward, compelling, and doctrinally sound."

100 copies have been donated to St. Paul's for people to use as an outreach tool. Please watch for more information at St. Paul's. To learn more, visit www.wels.net/comefollowme.



Meditations Available Electronically

Meditations, a collection of daily Scripture-based devotions and prayers published by Northwestern Publishing House (NPH) for almost 60 years, is now available as an Apple app and as an e-book.

"Both the e-book and the app make it easier for people on the go and using mobile devices to access the devotions no matter where they are," says Rev. John Braun, NPH vice president of publishing services. Printed quarterly in correlation to the church year, Meditations currently reaches almost 70,000 subscribers through its booklet format. With the addition of electronic media, NPH gives WELS members another way to access this popular publication as well as reaches an even broader audience. "With the app we hope that people outside our fellowship will find the content and the format interesting and they will use it," says Braun.

More than 2,200 people have already downloaded the app, which was released March 1. One reader writes, "I have been looking for a nice devotional app that isn't too cheesy and has specific topics and Bible chapters to cover. This one is perfect. I love it!"

The iOS app, available through the Apple App store, offers a daily devotion as well as Scripture readings, daily prayers, and special occasion prayers. After a two-week free trial, buyers can continue receiving devotions through a 30-day subscription for \$1.99 or a yearly subscription for \$12.99.

Meditations has been published as an e-book since December 2013 and is available through Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

Meditations isn't the only publication that NPH is delivering electronically. According to NPH president,

TOGETHER



Mr. Bill Ziche, more than 100 new, bestselling, and classic NPH book titles are available as e-books. This year, NPH also began offering a digital version of the synod's magazine Forward in Christ in celebration of the magazine's 100th anniversary.

"God's Word is constant and unchanging, but the ways to reach people with his Word are always changing," says Ziche. "Looking forward, Northwestern Publishing House will continue to explore new ways to reach and meet the needs of those we serve—in places and ways that are relevant to them."

Learn more about Northwestern Publishing House and its products at www.nph.net.



A New Promise in Japanese

The Promise, a booklet WELS Multi-Language Publications (MLP) developed to share the gospel in a simple way for mission and evangelism work, is available in more than

40 translations. Now, a group of volunteer translators from the Lutheran Evangelical Confessional Church (LECC) in Japan has retranslated the Japanese and updated the images of The Promise to communicate God's Word better with the people of Japan.

Rev. Brad Wordell, Asia coordinator for MLP, explains that the group of volunteer translators, including the illustrator, was recruited from the LECC congregation in Tokyo. It took the 15 volunteers about nine months to complete the project. An additional 15 to 20 people in Japan were involved, including the Japanese pastors. The cross-continental project also consulted with Japanese prospects at the Chapel (the WELS campus ministry at UW-Madison) in Madison, Wis., to read through the manuscript and offer ideas.

There's much more to translation than simply changing words. The message also has to resonate culturally with the intended recipients. Wordell says, "We wanted a better resource to hand people. The members did not feel comfortable handing out the current version (even though it has been a tool in the past for helping people understand the Bible). So we decided it would be a great first project for our MLP Tokyo team."

Volunteer Egawa-san shares her experience with the project: "It was a joy to accomplish our goal of revising The Promise. We have heard from Christians and non-Christians that they like the finished product. Our first edition of The Promise had 'noise' in it, which made it harder for people to hear and understand the message of the gospel. For example, the Japanese sentences sometimes were difficult to understand; the colors and general impressions of the illustrations weren't right for Japan; the photos on the cover were old; and the size of the booklet was too big. As we worked on the revision together, we tried to create an environment where everyone's opinion was important. Working together to make the book has also increased our desire to hand it to people. In the process God has increased our Christian love for each other and our sense of mission in his church. Redoing The Promise has also given us ideas about how to get this message out to others. We want to record this book for the blind, distribute it through the Internet, and make it available for reaching out to Japanese-speaking people in other countries."

The new Japanese revision of The Promise is available online through Northwestern Publishing House at www.nph.net.



Save the Dates

Vacation Bible Camp 2014

July 7-11, 2014 ~ 9am - 3pm

Wisconsin Lutheran High School - Academic Top Ten

The Academic Top Ten for the Class of 2014 from Wisconsin Lutheran High School has been publicly announced. Rankings are based on the cumulative GPA of seniors at the end of seven semesters. If several students share the same cumulative GPA, the following formula is used to break the tie: a Rigor of study (number of AP courses taken)

– 40%; a ACT score – 25%; National Merit status – 20%; a Co-curricular participation – 15%.

Congratulations to **Austin Wirtz**. He was ranked as number 2 in his class. Well done!



New from Northwestern Publishing House

Life is full of questions



Life is full of questions

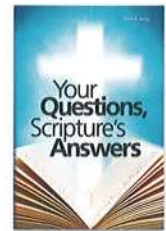
Is there any hope of salvation for a child who has not been baptized?

Can Christian schools make use of aid from the government in the form of vouchers?

Do we still have to obey the Ten Commandments?

Some of my relatives are getting tattoos and body piercings. . . . How should we respond to this?

Difficulties and mysteries in life often lead to questions that challenge our faith and cause sleepless nights. In *Your Questions, Scripture's Answers*, author John Brug examines hundreds of real questions from real people of different backgrounds and faiths to give in-depth answers directly from the Bible. Find your answers along with guidance to share God's wisdom and defend your faith.



Your Questions, Scripture's Answers
by John F. Brug

Includes subject index. Softcover, 383 pages.
GS1500776, \$19.99

Available as an e-book at www.amazon.com/kindle or www.barnesandnoble.com/nook.

Shop NPH Christian Books & Gifts in Milwaukee, or to order, call 1-800-662-6022 or visit www.nph.net.

Price is subject to change without notice. All orders are subject to shipping and handling fees and sales tax where applicable.

 **NPH**
Christian Books & Gifts
1250 North 133rd Street, Milwaukee, WI 53226

 Northwestern
Publishing House
www.nph.net

 Find us on
Facebook

