

upcoming events



may18

Commitment

Café

6:30 pm • gym

may19

Commitment

Sunday Brunch

noon • gym

We are so blessed to have a body of believers who continue to be dedicated to Christ and His kingdom! This is a big weekend for St. Paul's as we gather together as a church family to make our pledges as to how we individually are going to Rededicate ourselves to St. Paul's and the ministries of the future here in Munster, spiritually, physically, and financially.

Stay after the Saturday service for appetizers and beverages, or after the late service on Sunday for a sunny brunch, hosted by Women's Ministry and the Board of Fellowship. There will be lots of prayers of thanksgiving, fellowship, and some fun surprises—don't miss it!

may12

Saving/Giving/Living

9:30 am • lunchroom

All-ages Sunday School will meet in the lunchroom for an opportunity for kids junior high and younger to make a bank craft to take home! Together we will learn about the importance of Biblical saving, giving, and living with the gifts we have been given. Each family will go home with a lesson about good stewardship to go through together at home. This is our last Sunday School for the Spring!

**Can't make a
Commitment
Celebration?
Make your pledge
online**

If you are unavailable to attend a Commitment Celebration and make your pledge by May 19, please take the time to make your Rededication known by turning a Commitment Card in to the Church Office or filling out the Pledge Form on the St. Paul's website at STPLmunster.com/rededicated. Any questions about making pledges, please contact Paul Burghardt.

jun1-2

First Gifts

Dedication

Worship Services

The weekend of June 1-2 will be a very special one as we bless the first fruits of our efforts by placing our pledges for year one in God's Hands. Gifts can be made by check and brought with you to worship in the Rededicated envelopes, or made online at STPLmunster.com.

rededicated

our 3-year ministry expansion
campaign here at St. Paul's

apr
2019
newsletter



Glenn and Zina Bachert
with grandchildren
Arlene, Kane,
and Deegan

Why Now?

The cornerstone from the dedication

of our "new" church and school says 1979. Why then? Couldn't they have built St. Paul's in, say, 1977 or 1985? Sure, probably. The main point is not the exact time that they built it, but that they built it. When they built it, they dedicated it to preaching and teaching God's Word to the next generation.

That was forty years ago. In Deuteronomy 1, forty years marked a generation and a time of testing. The time has come for the next generation to step up to the plate and rededicate ourselves and this place to the mission and ministry of God's Word, especially with an eye to the next generation.

Unless Christ comes again in the meantime, our goal is to pass on what we inherited. We want faithful Christians here in A.D. 2059 asking and answering the same sorts of questions we are right now, rededicating themselves and St. Paul's to the mission of preaching and teaching God's Word to the next generation.

What St. Paul's is and does here in Munster gets more important as it gets more difficult. Our society is less churched and less based on

Christianity than it was a generation ago. But our namesake St. Paul himself passed the church to the next generation by saying to St. Timothy, "Be prepared in season and out of season." St. Paul's has seen many seasons and by God's grace has continued to thrive because those who were nurtured by the Word in this place have stepped up again and again to maintain, update, and improve it.

Now is an excellent time for us to do likewise. The passage of time will not make anything easier. God has given us the wherewithal to rededicate ourselves and this place to His kingdom.

We're rededicating St. Paul's to the next generation not in urgent desperation but with careful deliberation and determination, and with every hope and expectation that the whole St. Paul's family will be excited at the idea of giving to the next generation what we received from the last.

Pastor Peter Speckhard
St. Paul's Lutheran
Church & School
Munster, Indiana

An Easter Prayer for us:

Dear Jesus:
Thank you for rising from the dead on Easter morn so that we can and do have hope. Please bless our Rededicated to Hope Campaign.

Send your Holy Spirit that we- as a church and school - will be moved to be generous with all that you have given us: our time, talents and finances.

We trust that you will do great things through us and through this campaign. We pray boldly that your will be done!
Amen

*Deb Cundiff
Prayer Director
Rededicated to Hope*



Many thanks to Char Trost and Linda Jensen for their continued support of St. Paul's!



Even grinning 3rd grade unicorns danced at our talent show!

Night of the Stars Celebrated our Many Blessings, Past, Present & Future!

Over 20 acts performed, speakers spoke and all had a great evening as we celebrated St. Paul's together at the Night of the Stars in April! Singers, dancers, and even a poem from Pastor Speckhard and surprise dance from the faculty entertained and informed.

Marilyn Brandt shared many memories with us of St. Paul's past, reminded us of how many lives have been impacted positively through

hope in Christ here, and emphasized that even though a lot has changed, one thing is constant, "God's watchful plan over us and over St. Paul's." Fifth grader Elizabeth Boiquaye read her winning essay about what SP would look like in the future, and

*Rachel Gena
School Emphasis Director*

many drawings of "future SP" were on display, too, some with slides, food dispensers and unicorn mascots.

It was a night to relax, celebrate, and look to the future of St. Paul's. Many thanks to the church members and school students who shared their talents with us, to Dave Boblink who told us about the Rededicated Campaign and how we can contribute to say "thank you" for the HVAC upgrade, and keep St. Paul's strong for the next generation, and Char Trost, Linda Jensen, Tina Lagunas, Crystal Gena, Trisha Doorn, Jim Gier, Jaymes Hayes, Jason Gena, Barb Mertens, Debbie and Jim Minyard, and 8th grade concessions for all the help organizing, judging talent entries, running the

production.

We hope you too feel inspired about St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School and consider new ways to get involved and Rededicate yourselves to support her future!

Kids are Part of the Church Family, Too!

Sunday School families offer their praise and creativity to Jesus at our Hosanna Party

Parents and children together on Palm Sunday learned about praise, not for a favorite sports team, but for Jesus himself! Just like the children and parents on Palm Sunday outside of Jerusalem, our families got a chance to praise- by giving of themselves to help build something special for God's House: a series of mosaic art panels.

Designed by St. Paul's members, these panels fit together to make designs representing water themes from the Bible; showing Creation waters being separated and the fish of Galilee. Families used a map which showed them which colored glass tiles when where, and glued them in. Eventually these panels will be decorating our redesigned Narthex interior! Families were also able to take a sample tile home to remember their gifts of time and talent to God.

If you would like to be part of placing some tiles for these panels, there will be other opportunities through Women's Ministry Pinterest night and the Commitment Brunch- so don't miss it.

*Wendy Bockelmann
Rededicated Children' Emphasis Dir.*



Now to Him who is able to do

immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, **to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.**

- Ephesians 3:20-21



Pastor Tom Eggebrecht of LCEF and from Orlando, Florida was guest preacher on April 6-7. You can listen to his powerful message on Ephesians 3:20-21 at STPLmunster.com/sermons

Who has inspired you at St. Paul's?

When asked, "Why St. Paul's?" so many of us are saying because of the inspirational Christian relationships with our church family.

Do you know someone, past or present who is one of those unsung heroes? Is there someone who has inspired you to persevere, to do grow in your faith, or has exercised quiet Christian strength?

Please share your story online at STPLmunster.com/rededicated, in the offering plate in the pews, or at the Rededicated display in the Narthex by May 13!

