



# Parents Newsletter

February 2012

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**Saint Paul Lutheran High School  
Concordia, Missouri**

*Christ-centered experiences in learning, for living.*

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## Worth It

2 Corinthians 9:8-9 *“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. As it is written: “He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.”*

We raised the cost of attending Saint Paul Lutheran High School. We didn't want to but we did. In fact, if you have been around for a while, you will not be surprised that this happens every year. (A nice letter in this newsletter will explain more of the details.)

I could go into a discussion about our budget and how we let the quad repair go for yet another year (because who needs speed bumps when you have potholes). We could talk about the economy or any number of factors that affect our bottom line, but for you it is personal. How are YOU going to make it all work out this year?

Each family has to do its own evaluation of the information it has and come up with a decision on what is worthwhile and what is not. What is it worth to have a Christian education? What is it worth to have the formative years of high school surrounded by

teachers who intentionally incorporate their Christian worldview into their course work, conversation, extra-curricular activities and even free time. What is the value of having a peer group that is maturing together in academics, spirituality and social skills?

On the other hand, can you *afford* it? What does Paul write to the Corinthians about this? “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!” Really? Does God do that? Yes, He does!

Saint Paul has been blessed during these past few years with donors who thought enough of this ministry to give generously so that many families were able to receive grants and aid. God also has given YOU what is needed to “abound in every good work” as well.

Often I hear from those who are ignorant of this ministry that SPLHS is just another school for snooty rich families. What they see is a nice campus, respectful students, active parents, and graduates who live lives of significance. The assumption is that one has to be wealthy (and perhaps a little bit snooty) to receive such an education, yet the apostle Paul wrote, “*He*

*has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor.*” This is a euphemism for those who are “poor” in spirit (cf. Matthew 5:3), or simply those who are *humble* in spirit (recognizing their need for a Savior).

One of the reasons that we have such a devoted school family is because there are a lot of people here who have “skin” in the game. That is to say that they have made sacrifices. Instead of investing in things that pass away, they have made the decision to send their child to Saint Paul Lutheran High School. These are the parents who ask themselves, “How can I afford NOT to do this?”

Pastor Paul M. Mehl  
Executive Director

## A New Semester

Moeller gained five new dorm students this semester and so far everything is going great! We welcomed sophomores Sydney Aversman and Lydia Browning and freshmen Sabrina Hayter, Amy Zou, and Katie Park. We continue to have small groups every Sunday night. The groups changed for second semester so the girls have opportunity to get to know even more girls on a personal level.

One more addition everyone was excited about is Sadie. Sadie was my Christmas present. She’s a 4-month-old miniature labradoodle. Last semester, when I would see the girls, it was always, “Hi Miss Denk.” Now, if I have Sadie with me, it’s always, “PUPPY!” or “Sadie!” and then I am acknowledged, but that’s okay. She brings a lot of joy to not only the girls in Moeller, but to everyone on campus.

*“Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”* -

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Hannah Denk  
Moeller Resident Hall Supervisor

## We’ve Got Power

We believe in the power of God’s Word. We believe it because God has promised it. In Isaiah 55:11 God says, *“My word will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”* That purpose is summarized in the Gospel of John 20:31, *“These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.”*

We believe in the power of God’s Word. St. Paul assures us of its power in 1 Thessalonians 1:5, *“Our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit, and with deep conviction.”* God’s Word can accomplish this because it *“is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart”* (Hebrews 4:12).

Trusting the promises of God, we believe in the power of God’s Word at Saint Paul Lutheran High School. The preaching, study, and application of God’s Word to all aspects of life shape our identity as a school and as individuals. Where sin invades our community and lives, the fault is ours—it is not a failure of God’s Word. But thankfully, *“if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One”* (1 John 2:1).

Yes, we believe in the power of God's Word. The proof is in the promises of God (not always in the "pudding" of our lives). So, walking by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7), we continue in that Word believing that *"He who began this good work in us will bring it to completion in the Day of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (Philippians 1:6).

Pastor Bill Heine  
Dean of Chapel

## **Assistant Principal**

Things have been running well since the return after Christmas vacation. It's hard to believe we are entering the month of February. Midterm for the third quarter will be February 3th. At that time we'll have a better handle on how our students are doing academically.

Students are involved in many activities ranging from sports to drama to math team to the choir preparing for its annual spring break tour. Spring break will begin after classes on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and classes will resume on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Please plan your travel arrangements according to those dates. March 13<sup>th</sup> will be a late start for the students because the faculty will begin the day with a faculty meeting. Classes will begin at 9 a.m. We will be hosting two student teachers from Concordia University at Mequon, Wisconsin. It's always exciting to bring in future educators to be a part of our school.

Rev. William Heine has accepted a call to be principal and associate pastor at a church and school in Houston, Texas. He will be leaving at the end of the current school year. We wish him well in this new endeavor to which the Lord has led him. We will certainly miss his expertise in the many areas in which he has served Saint Paul. In the coming months, please take time to share with him your appreciation for all that he has done while he's been a part of the Saint Paul family. Our prayer is

that the Lord would bless his ministry in Texas, and that He would guide our call process to find a replacement.

If you have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me at 660-463-2238 ext. 226. I will be glad to talk with you. We feel blessed to have the opportunity to share a Christ-centered education with your children and are thankful to have the privilege to do so. We take that task very seriously and want to be sure that we are providing a quality education. May God bless and keep all of you.

John Beerman  
Assistant Principal

## **Auction Homeroom Challenge**

Congratulations to the five homerooms — Brandt, Pitsch, Krause, Nelson and Payne — that won breakfast, in our Homeroom Challenge!

Our school still needs you and your homeroom's participation. Items are due by February 15 to be counted for your homeroom.

Each additional homeroom to have 100% participation will earn a week of dress down this spring. Get creative and donate an item that will raise money for our school.

Questions? Contact Gloria Burrow

## **Meet the Faculty**

Next in our series of articles featuring Saint Paul faculty and staff, we introduce Mr. Monte Pitsch, Saint Paul's Athletic Director.

Mr. Pitsch is the son of Leland and Della Pitsch of Fort Smith, Arkansas. His older brother, Mat, also of Fort Smith, is running for state representative. His sister, Lori, works for the city of Pittsburg, Kansas, and his "little brother"

Troy is middle school principal in Pflugerville, Texas.

He attended Lutheran elementary schools in Kansas and St. Charles High School in St. Charles, Mo.

Like his father, Mr. Pitsch graduated from Concordia University Nebraska (CUNE) with a B.S. degree and a Lutheran Teachers Diploma. He, too, is perusing a career in Lutheran schools through teaching and coaching.

Upon graduation from CUNE in 1994, he taught one year at St. John's Lutheran School in St. Louis before entering full-time graduate studies at the University of Missouri St. Louis. He received a M.S. degree in secondary education in 1998.

Mr. Pitsch received and accepted the call to Saint Paul Lutheran High School in the summer of 1996. In his 16 years here, he has coached boy's basketball, football, baseball and golf.

"My wife Marta and I enjoy raising our three daughters, Madison (14), Malaina (11) and Maggie (8) in the strong Lutheran community of Concordia," he said.

The Pitsch family attends St. Paul Lutheran Church, Concordia.

"I enjoy my call to Saint Paul Lutheran High. I think the Lord is doing great things at our school."

Today, in addition to being athletic director, Mr. Pitsch teaches physical education, weight training, and is freshman class sponsor.

"I believe we have a student body that we are preparing to bring Christ to the world. I enjoy teaching and coaching all my students."

The Pitsch family lives in campus housing at 303 College Drive.

John C. Bobzin  
Academic Dean

## Last Chance to Visit Costa Rica

The International Trip to Costa Rica for this coming May is quickly filling up. We currently have two student places available. This trip will be very educational and active. The itinerary includes visiting a local school, planting tree saplings in the cloud forest, a canopy tour of the rain forest, visiting a waterfall, kayaking, whitewater rafting and a folklore evening.

The price of the trip is \$2,500, which includes a free semester in the Saint Paul dormitory for each student who attends the trip. Each student will receive high school credit for the travel experience upon completion of the outlined criteria for school credit associated with the school's international trip.

If you are interested please contact Larin Payne at [lpayne@splhs.org](mailto:lpayne@splhs.org), by phone at 660-463-2238 x274, or visit our trip website at <http://www.eftours.com/preview-tour.aspx?pt=PA-1010256>. Sign up soon to take advantage of this incredible opportunity!

Larin Payne  
Costa Rica Trip Sponsor

## Business Office Notes

The following t-shirts are for sale in the Business Office.

### Final Four Volleyball shirts

Long Sleeve, 1 large - \$8.50

Short Sleeve \$6.00 each

2 large, 1 medium, 2 small, 1 XL

1 3XL - \$8.00

**Drama** “You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown”  
T-shirts

Short sleeve, navy with yellow \$8.00  
1 large, 3 Medium

**Girls** Basketball T-shirt

1 long sleeve, small - \$14.50

The Business Office is holding a “Key Round-up” in the month of February. Please check your keys to see if you happen to have a SPLHS key you no longer need or had forgotten about. Keys may be turned into the Business Office Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thank you.

Lynette Schnackenberg  
Business Office Admin. Assistant

## The Rehearsal

A Short Play by Don Zolidis

The spring play, *The Rehearsal*, by Don Zolidis has been cast and crewed. Members of the cast include Kristin Almelid, Sydney Aversman, Rachel Galvankova, Nathan Gerdts, Rye Gifford, Sam Hargrave, Sabrina Hayter, Leah Hoffmann, Brooklyn Kleeman, Josh Mourey, Linh Nguyen, Meagan Nolte, Madison Pitsch, Ashley Richter, Alicia Royuk, Kelly Snader, and Gerhard von zur Muehlen. Students serving as understudies are Rob Fager, Alicia Royuk and Kelly Snader.

Students who are working behind the scenes include Shania Anderson, Lydia Browning, Sarah Brunkhorst, Lily Burrow, Cindy Chen, Kristy Cheng, Hope Colwell, Maddy Fiene, Miriam Hargasova, Samantha Heisleman, Hunter Herald, Sung Min Hong, Brandon Hoppmann, Cameron Kramer, Angela Lee, Young Jae Lee, Nicole McGinnis, Raymond Mock, Sara Nierman, Angelika Paul, Chevy Rockhold, Anna Snader, Fern Tativechakul, Jalen Timm, and Galen Westre.

We were very pleased with and thank all who auditioned. We couldn’t be happier to have a student body so motivated to be a part of our theatre department. GTGTG!

The show is scheduled for Friday, March 16, and Saturday, March 17, with curtain up at 7:30 p.m. We are also excited that this production will fall on the same weekend as the SPLHS annual lock-in, so seating may be a bit limited on Friday night. Admission is free, although free-will donations are always welcome and appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Synopsis of the show:** “A young teacher tries to pull off a production of *Guys and Dolls*, but putting a musical together is never easy, especially with a megalomaniacal stage manager, a lead who’s convinced that *Wicked* is a much better show, and a girl who is clinically incapable of following directions (she has a doctor’s note to prove it). And to make matters worse, there aren’t nearly enough guys to be the Guys. A hilarious and poignant look behind the scenes of a drama club production filled with –what else? – lots of drama.” (Playscripts, Inc.)

Rebecca Nelson & Kim Brandt  
Directors

## Senior Class Notes

The class of 2012 is working hard on Fundraising. We’ll need everyone’s help to be successful. I know we can do this!

On Tuesday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, seniors will be auctioned off during halftimes of girls and boys varsity basketball games against CHS. Chris Gerdts will be the auctioneer. Every senior will be sold. We want you to be in groups of three. Chelsea has organized this and will set up the schedule so you know which halftime you will be auctioned. **Get your groups of three to Chelsea by Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>.** Thanks Chelsea! **Atten-**

**tion Freshmen:** This is your chance to get back at your senior. Use them wisely.

Want to show someone how much you care this Valentines Day, but don't know how? You're in luck! The seniors are selling valentine cookies. Suzanne and Emma will get this fundraiser underway starting the last week of January. Order forms will be given to each homeroom. After all the order forms are collected, **every senior is expected to help with sorting, packaging, and delivering.** Don't complain; this gets you out of class on the 14<sup>th</sup>! The sorting will be done the weekend prior to Valentines Day.

Everyone get your friends together and compete in trivia night! Trivia night will be Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Our class has never done this before, but Lauren, Emma and Suzanne are figuring it out. On the night of trivia, **every senior is expected to help out.** You will be organized into workers who will do things like sell answers, keep score, and run concessions. We owe a big thanks to Mr. Heimsoth for guiding us through this process!

This year, it is our senior duty to design the signature t-shirts. Meagan, Katee, Suzanne and JoJo will organize this when January ends.

March 24 will be the 3-on-3 basketball in the gym. Get geared up for this! **Every senior is expected to work a shift.** There are a lot of things to coordinate for this such as: advertising, referees, timers, scorekeepers, and possibly a concession stand. Dylan, Lauren, and Seth will be working hard at that with the help of Pastor Dahlke.

Krispy Kreme doughnuts might be sold one more time this year. We have not decided that. These next two months will be very busy for our class! Let's make them successful so we can leave the school with a nice class gift and enjoy the senior trip together before we go our separate ways after graduation. GTGTG

Suzanne Allen  
Senior Class Secretary

## Freshman Class Parents

We are running a fundraiser at halftimes of boys basketball games where you have to make a free throw, lay-up and a three pointer in 30 seconds. Winners receive a free, large pizza from Pizza Hut. This fundraiser started slow but is gaining momentum.

Our basketball lessons went well. We heard a lot of positive feedback from them and we will continue to do them in the future.

In the spring we will have a closest-to-the pin competition for golf. At our next meeting we will discuss other possible fundraisers for the spring.

Monte Pitsch  
Freshman Class Sponsor

# *February Sports Page*

## **Athletic Director Notes**

### **Athletic Schedules**

Subscribe to Saints Alert, check our school's Website [www.splhs.org](http://www.splhs.org), and read the Parents Newsletter to get athletic schedule changes. If you have scheduling questions that don't get answered, feel free to email me at [montepitsch@yahoo.com](mailto:montepitsch@yahoo.com).

Our JV team recently won the championship at the Calvary Lutheran High School Tournament in Jefferson City. The JV team is coached by Doctor Schmidt and Pastor Dahlke. The team has lost only one game this season.

Monte Pitsch  
Athletic Director

### **Schedule Changes**

We added a freshman girls and boys game at Marshall on Monday, February 6 at 6 p.m.

We have had a lot of changes to the spring schedule. We will put updated schedules in the next Parents Newsletter and will put spring schedules on the school's Website. The spring sports schedule is always a mess due to weather so, sign up for Saints Alert.

### **Boys Basketball**

As of now, our record is 9-6, and 2-2 in the I-70 Conference. We won games over Lexington and Wellington in the Lafayette County tournament. Seth Dahlke and Sam Schmidt were named to the all-tournament team. After the tournament we hit a tough stretch where we lost three in a row, but the boys weathered the storm and are playing real good basketball right now. Districts will be in Richmond this year but we don't know the schedule as of now. As always, we thank the fans and the Weis Whackos for their support.

### **Lady Saints Basketball**

The Lady Saints are carrying an 8-7 record. Our conference record is 1-3 with three more conference games to be played. We've played some really good basketball, but we've not been able to finish the close games this season as well as we would like.

The JV girls team has been extremely busy with usually two to three games per week and have been quite successful. There is only about one month remaining in the season, so if you get the chance to come and watch a game, we'd love for you to be there.  
**GTGTG**

John Beerman  
Coach

## TUITION/BILLING

This letter contains very important information regarding your student's 2012-2013 tuition rates and payment plan options. Please read thoroughly.

Dear SPLHS Family,

We are excited to have your student as a part of the Saint Paul family for the 2012-2013 academic year. To best serve our families, we will continue our partnership with FACTS Management Company. FACTS will manage all Web Based Enrollment, Tuition/Billing, and Grant/Aid. FACTS serves over 5,000 schools nationally and is the industry leader for private and faith-based schools.

Saint Paul Lutheran High School remains one of the most affordable options in Christian education today. Please know that we value our school families and do not take your commitment for granted. Tuition for the 2012-2013 academic year is as follows: Commuting Student \$9,485  
Resident Student \$14,035.

February is enrollment/re-enrollment month for the 2012-2013 school year. Effective February 1, 2012, you will be able to enroll by proceeding to [www.splhs.org](http://www.splhs.org), click on Admissions, and then click on Web Based Enrollment. This is the direct link to the FACTS system. Simply follow the outlined steps. If you are re-enrolling, your username and password will remain the same as last year. If you have forgotten your user name and/or password, please call FACTS at 1-866-441-4637. FACTS office hours: 7:30am-7pm Monday – Thursday 7:30am-5pm Friday.

Once you have completed the enrollment process and printed all necessary forms, click on the Tuition Agreement tab and complete the required agreement. Please note: enrollment is NOT complete unless a Tuition Agreement is finalized. Your email address is necessary for future communications and notifications of incidental fees your student may incur during the course of the school year.

Please respond to this notification by taking the appropriate actions as noted above to complete your student's enrollment. Please direct all questions to Carol Bruce in the Advancement office at ext. 232 or call FACTS at 866-441-4637. We look forward to working with you and anticipate an exciting new school year.

Yours in Christ,



Dr. Kenneth Wesemann  
Director of Advancement

**Servants of the Saints  
exists to advance the mission of  
Saint Paul Lutheran High School  
through prayer, fellowship and resources**

**SOS February Calendar**

**SOS Meeting, February 15, 7:00 p.m., Biltz Hall**

The SOS meetings are designed for you to hear the overall activity for the year and learn how you can participate to be sure the events will be successful, enabling SOS to meet its goal. Come join us and see what is happening with SOS!

**The SOS Valentine dinner/dance** will not be held this year due to the lack of interest. This is not a money-making project and in the past we have barely covered our expenses.

**Wish Lists projects**, completed on the 2011-2012 Wish List are: SPLHS operations; uniform replacement; donation to Concordia Fire and Ambulance; 10 net books for speech classes; 5 desks for new classroom; 1 ceiling projector; 2 Coolpix 5600 cameras; 2 rice cookers; 3-5 gallon drink dispensers; 50 water bottles and carriers; banner. Ongoing project: fruit for the dining hall.

**SOS will be sponsoring** several events in the near future. In March we have the annual Sausage Dinner. This will be held on Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> in the dining hall. We will also host the reception after the home Singing Saints concert on Sunday, March, 18<sup>th</sup>. The spring rummage sale will be held April 20 and 21. Please watch for volunteer sign up sheets!

**SOS** is in need of several chairpersons for the 2012-2013 school year. The ice cream stand for the fall festival and the Service Committee are open for volunteers. We are also in need of someone to take over the Saints Store for next year. If you are interested in any of these please contact Beth Hoppmann or Beth Schemmer.

**The Prayer Chain** is available to advise our SOS membership of a need for prayers. This may be a prayer for yourself, your student at SPLHS, a family member, or for whomever you desire prayers. To ask the Saint Paul family to offer such a prayer, send your request to [bheine@splhs.org](mailto:bheine@splhs.org). Should you wish your name to be added to the email address book to receive prayer requests, send your email information to Rev. Heine at [bheine@splhs.org](mailto:bheine@splhs.org).

**A SOS successful year** requires your involvement. To fund the projects adopted to benefit students and the classrooms we need parents and others to volunteer their help and assistance. Please attend the meetings and step forward to offer your assistance.

If you have SOS information to be included in the March Parents Newsletter, please contact Beth Hoppmann at [thehoppmanns@centurytel.net](mailto:thehoppmanns@centurytel.net) or 660-463-7547 or Beth Schemmer at [schemmer@ctcis.net](mailto:schemmer@ctcis.net) or 660-584-2368.

The next SOS meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. in Biltz, Conference Room A. Hope to see you there!

**Servants of the Saints** officers and chairmen for the 2011-2012 academic year are listed below. Contact these people if you have questions about an upcoming project.

**Co-Presidents**

Beth Hoppmann 660-463-7547  
[thehoppmanns@centurytel.net](mailto:thehoppmanns@centurytel.net)  
Beth Schemmer 660-584-2368  
[schemmer@ctcis.net](mailto:schemmer@ctcis.net)

**Spiritual Life Committee**

Rev. Bill Heine 660-463-0250  
[bheine@splhs.org](mailto:bheine@splhs.org)

**Vice-President**

Derron Rolf 660-641-2625  
[dlrolf@dstsystems.com](mailto:dlrolf@dstsystems.com)

**Service Chairman**

Martha Brunkhorst  
660-815-2925

**Secretary**

Carol Bruce 660-463-2238 ext. 232  
[cbruce@splhs.org](mailto:cbruce@splhs.org)

**Resource Co-Chairmen**

Jill Peery 660-563-3993  
[daddysgirl197529@yahoo.com](mailto:daddysgirl197529@yahoo.com)  
Luci Mehl 660-463-7859  
[lmehl@splhs.org](mailto:lmehl@splhs.org)

**Treasurer**

Markus Reinke 660-463-7477  
[markus@reinke.net](mailto:markus@reinke.net)

**Fellowship Chairman**

Beth Schemmer  
[schemmer@ctcis.net](mailto:schemmer@ctcis.net)