



Dear Parent,

Greetings in the Name of Jesus!

This letter is being sent to all St. Paul families and friends who have children and youth eligible to participate in one or more of our Christian education programs. If your child is already enrolled, we are looking forward to his or her return. If you have not taken advantage of these opportunities, we hope you will consider doing so. Sunday School and Mid-Week IMPACT! classes will begin a new school year very soon. The enclosed information will help you prepare for your children's participation.

Sunday School will begin a new year on September 8. This is Rally Day and on this day the children move up to begin their new classes. If your child was enrolled in Sunday School last year, there is no need for you to re-register. We ask that you would come to the Lower Atrium area of the Education Building between 8:45 and 9:15 a.m. to verify that we have your child registered in the correct class.

Sunday School classes are offered for all children age 3 through grade 5, meeting 9:15-10:15 a.m. each Sunday morning through May. If you have a child beginning our three year old class or a child that has not enrolled in Sunday School, please complete a Sunday School registration form that will be available at the Reception Desk in the Lower Atrium. We will be happy to enroll your child at that time and show him or her to their classroom. Our early childhood classes (PS 3/4 and Kindergarten) are held in the Preschool classrooms on the ground level of the Education Building and our elementary classes (grades 1-5) are held in the basement of that same building.

If your child will be participating in our Mid-Week IMPACT! program, we will begin on September 11, at 6:00 p.m. Midweek IMPACT! is a tuition-based program for children in grades 1-5 that provides a more in-depth study and application of the Bible. Please note the important change in IMPACT! this year. To more appropriately align all the classes with the various ministries, the sixth grade will now be a part of the REACH program on Wednesday evenings. For more information about REACH, please contact Pastor Nick Koschmann.

Mid-Week IMPACT! registration and health forms will be available in the Lower Atrium of the Education Building on September 11. Please come with your children the first night of class to complete the forms and make your tuition payment. Mid-Week IMPACT! orientation

materials will also be sent home at that time. If you would like to complete the forms ahead of time, you may download them www.splconline.com.

In addition to our children's education programs, I'd like to bring to your attention some other important information to share with you regarding Christian Education and family life ministry here at St. Paul.

There are many Christian education classes for adults that will be offered during the Sunday Education Hour and Mid-Week IMPACT! time. I encourage you take advantage of one of these great opportunities. You can find a complete schedule on our web site or contact Pastor Rick Blythe for more information about any of these classes.

*The **Blessing of the Backpacks** was such a hit this past year that we are doing it again on Rally Day, September 8, as a part of the children's message in the 10:45 a.m. worship service. All children are encouraged to bring their backpacks to worship and join us during the children's message as we ask the Lord's blessing on them as they begin a new school year. We will also include a special Litany of Blessings for all our public school teachers, staff and administrators, preschool teachers and staff and all of our volunteer education staff from our congregation. If you are one of these people or know of someone who is, please join us or share this information with them.*

***Prime Time With God** will begin once again on September 8. This is a special time of age-appropriate worship for children age 3 - grade 3 that takes place during the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Participating on a voluntary basis, children will leave the worship service following the children's message and return following the sermon.*

***Family Sunday Celebration** is a new Faith@Home ministry that begins on Sunday, September 15. Once each month, families are invited to join us for a quick meal and a celebration that focuses on learning one new faith skill that can be put to use in their family. We'll begin immediately following the 10:45 a.m. worship service and last no more than 1-1½ hours. I'm looking forward to seeing you there!*

Thanks for your time reading through all this important information. We look forward to serving you, your children, and family through the children's and family ministries of St. Paul Lutheran Church. May God continue to bless your home!

Serving Jesus Through Serving You,

*Donald R. Busse
Children and Family Life Minister*