

October 2011

Parents are the Core of St. Paul Lutheran School

St. Paul Lutheran School is located inside St. Paul Lutheran Church on Washington Avenue in Batavia. The church and hall buildings house classrooms for children from three-year-old preschool through grade five. This year, 54 students are enrolled at St. Paul.

Each morning, a group of school parents gives encouragement, smiles, and waves to students as they make their way to the classrooms. Last year the teachers kindly named them the “Coffee-less Club.” These parents bring their children to school, support each other, offer a helping hand, and provide a beneficial parental presence at school.

Parents cook and serve hot lunch for students one day a week. Many of them enjoy the opportunity to work together, interact with students, and eat lunch with their children. Students like to tell them all about their day and what they like to eat. A favorite lunch is Thanksgiving dinner, which includes turkey, mashed potatoes, and corn.

Parents are also wonderful reading buddies and tutors, providing students with additional one-on-one instruction. They take the time to help with field trips and school events as well. School principal, Ann Werk, notes that at times a lottery is required for field trip chaperones, which is great. The St. Paul staff appreciates having supportive parents.

The school’s parent-teacher association is called FOLKS (Friends of Our Lutheran Kids). Jennifer Wagester currently serves as the FOLKS president and is also a member of the school board. She’s working with the school to apply for a \$50,000 Pepsi Refresh grant and hopes it will be online for the November 2011 voting cycle. On November 1, check online at [www.refresheverything.com/stpaul](http://www.refresheverything.com/stpaul) for the grant to “add a library and media center to our school.”

Adding a library and media center is part of Phase Two of St. Paul’s building campaign. Phase One includes the addition of handicap accessible restrooms on the main floor and an entry with elevator access. For Phase Two, the current porch area will be enclosed to house the library and media center. The total cost of Phase Two is estimated at \$100,000. Most of the labor for construction has been donated by St. Paul congregation members, which makes the funds go further. So far, St. Paul has received approximately \$23,000 in charitable donations and generated about \$7,000 through fundraising efforts.

Being awarded a Pepsi Refresh grant would also be an awesome start for December, which is one of the busiest months at St. Paul. School parents are hosting a Scholastic Book Fair from December 1 through 7, and the school’s Christmas Program will be Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m. The program features a fun, musical for all ages with a parent-sponsored Bake Sale to follow. Please mark these dates on your calendar as members of the community are invited to attend!

St. Paul Lutheran School welcomes children of all faiths and accepts new students throughout the year. If you would like more information about St. Paul, please see the school's website at [www.stpaulbatavia.org](http://www.stpaulbatavia.org) or call the main office at 585-343-0488.



Enclosure of the porch area for a new library and media center at St. Paul will begin after the new entry (right) is complete.



When finished, St. Paul will be fully handicap accessible and offer a new library and media center.



St. Paul students enjoyed reading with Curious George at last year's book fair. Geronimo Stilton is scheduled to visit this year. The book fair will be held December 1 – 7.