

The Substitute...

Recently I had to go to Madison for a day of training for our participation in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program beginning next year. As many know, it is part of my routine to start the day by greeting students, parents, and others. I often shake hands, high-five or fist bump, and wave to those driving by. On the morning I was in Madison, Caleb Spittel, a 4th grader, decided to take my place and started greeting, shaking hands, waving, and the like. Caleb became a substitute.

A week ago I was dealing with a problem in the gym and was late to my 5th & 6th grade Health class. A.J. Bushkie directed the class to turn in their assignments, get quiet, and get ready by opening their text books to the next lesson. A.J. was my substitute until I arrived.

Every once in a while a teacher may miss a day of school due to illness or a personal concern and a substitute will be called to handle the instruction while they are out.

In various sports, coaches make substitutions due to the need for rest, an injury, poor performance, to change the flow of a game, or a need to communicate.

At meetings, a vice-president or assistant chair substitutes for the president or chair whenever the latter is absent or unable to fulfill their responsibilities.

Substitutes are fairly common and can be quite valuable and important.

We need a substitute. We need the Substitute. Because of sin, we were separated from God for eternity and doomed to die eternally. We could not, and cannot, help ourselves. Someone is needed to redeem us, to reconcile us to God, to make atonement, to pay the penalty for divine justice to be satisfied. And only Jesus could be the perfect Substitute for us.

A few years after Isaac was born to Abraham and Sarah, Abraham was called upon to take Isaac to the land of Moriah and offer him as a sacrifice on one of the mountains there. Before any harm came to Isaac, God stopped Abraham and provided a ram, caught in a thicket, as a substitute for Isaac and it was sacrificed instead. This is a preview of Jesus the Substitute.

Before Jesus began His public ministry and was baptized in the Jordan River, John the Baptist, seeing Jesus coming toward him, exclaimed, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29b) John was announcing the Jesus was the One who had come to bear the sin of His people. In His person, He would fulfill all of what was symbolized in the Old Testament sacrificial system, by which a lamb was slaughtered and burned on the altar as an offering before God to represent atonement for sin. The lamb was a substitute, so in calling Jesus "the Lamb of God," John was asserting that He, too, would be a Substitute, but also the One who would make real atonement.

Jesus is our ultimate Substitute. He stepped into the role of Substitute, representing His people. He didn't lay down His life for Himself; He laid it down for His sheep.

Nearly 700 years before Jesus was born, Isaiah foretold what our substitute would go through for us. Chapter 53 of Isaiah speaks to the suffering and death of Jesus.

The following verses also tell us of Jesus the Substitute:

- "God made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." ~ 2 Corinthians 5:21
- "He himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." ~ 1 Peter 2:24
- "For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit." ~ 1 Peter 3:18

Now that we are saved by our Substitute and have been given the grace to live to righteousness- then let us give thanks, praise, honor, and glory to Jesus!

May His resurrection power enable you to really live a grace-filled life.

Peace & Joy!

Mr. Joel Bahr, Principal

KNIGHTS PAGE

Pleased to Present a Parent

One of the true blessings here at St. Stephen Lutheran School is the love and support parents have for our school. Their contributions are very valuable to the operation of our ministry. We are very grateful for them all and are “*Pleased to Present*” the following parents this month.....

Members of our Annual Auction Committee: Tina Pamperin, Brenda Kane, Molly Jackl, Gina Wittnebel, Katie Schwartz, Monica Roskopf, Ryan Slade, Crista Slade, Kelly Merrill, Tiffanie Greuel, Jackie Vincent, and anyone else I might be forgetting (please forgive). What a great event they planned and ran March 3rd - *A Knight at the Museum*. We appreciate all the time and energy given to a memorable and valuable evening to benefit our students.

Members of our Board of Education: Jenn Franz, Mark Gregor, Keith Kanzenbach, Tasha Manthey, Marilu Marquardt, Lori Marschke, Kyle Schick, Katie Schwartz, and Ryan Slade. We appreciate all the time and wisdom they give in direction and leadership for our school ministry.

A few of the members above have been serving for a number of years. Some have or will be stepping down. We can always use the help and support of other parents and friends. If you are willing to serve or want more information about serving on our boards and committees, please contact our office. We are grateful to God for our servants!

We recognize and appreciate the members of our Annual Auction Committee and our Board of Education, giving God thanks and praise for each of them. We are blessed to work with them and pray for God’s continued guidance and blessings upon them all.

Upcoming events

- April 5-7 St. Stephen Rummage Sale & Brat Fry
- April 8 PreK-1 Sing at 10:30
- April 13 Talent Show-6:00 p.m.
- April 16-10 8th Grade Class Trip to Washington DC
- April 21 2nd-4th Sing at 5:30
- April 27 Midpoint 4th Quarter

Happy Birthday to

- April 8 Miles Dykstra
Isaiah Gregor
- April 20 Brittin Vincent
- April 21 Abigail Herrmann
- April 25 Austyn Manthey
- April 26 Edynn Jacobson
Triton Schick
- April 27 Jordy Slade
- April 29 Jacob Seehafer
Mason Wolff

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Wisconsin Parental Choice Program

St. Stephen Lutheran School is working to participate in the WPCP (Wisconsin Parental Choice Program) for the 2018-2019 school year. Eligible students in grade PK4 through Grade 6 may make application to attend our school without a charge for tuition. Our school, on behalf of each eligible student's parent or guardian, receives a state aid payment. Seats or placements are available for all eligible students in PK4, Kindergarten, and Grade 1, and also for a new student entering Grades 2-6. The available seats are limited, and applications for WPCP eligibility are open through April 20th --- so we encourage application and enrollment now.

For more information, questions, and assistance with the WPCP program, please contact our office today.

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April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 NO SCHOOL	3 Hamburger on bun Tator Tots Yogurt	4 Chicken Nuggets French Fries Orange Slices	5 Bosco Sticks Lettuce Salad Peaches RUMMAGE SALE	6 Chicken Patty Tator Tots Peaches RUMMAGE SALE	7 RUMMAGE SALE
8 PreK-1 Sing in Church at 10:30	9 French Toast Sticks Cheese Omelet Sausages Cinnamon Roll	10 Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Veggies & Dip Yogurt	11 Sub Sandwiches Chips Veggies & Dip Pears	12 Spaghetti with meatballs Lettuce Salad Garlic Bread Mixed Fruit	13 Ham on bun Broccoli w/cheese Pineapple tidbits TALENT SHOW 6:00 p.m.	14
15	16 Hard or Soft Shell Tacos Lettuce Salad Applesauce 8 TH GRADE TRIP	17 Mac 'n Cheese Corn Dogs Veggies & Dip Mixed Fruit 8 TH GRADE TRIP	18 Pizza Lettuce Salad Applesauce 8 TH GRADE TRIP	19 Hot Dogs French Fries Pears 8 TH GRADE TRIP	20 NO SCHOOL 8 TH GRADE TRIP	21 2 nd -4 th Grades Sing in Church at 5:30
22	23 Nachos Meat & Cheese Lettuce, Tomato Apple Slices	24 Hamburger on Bun Tator Tots Yogurt	25 Chicken Strips Potato Smiles Applesauce	26 Bosco Sticks Lettuce Salad Peaches	27 French Toast Sticks Cheese Omelet Sausage Cinnamon Roll Midpoint 4 th Quarter	28
29	30 Pizza Lettuce Salad Applesauce					