



# The Voice

of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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**April 2018**

blip

/blɪp/ 

noun

1. an unexpected, minor, and typically temporary deviation from a general trend.

Dear Friends in Christ:

On Saturday, March 16, our son Eric got a call from his oncologist. The results of his pet scan had come in. Except for “one small blip” on his spleen, he was cancer-free. They’re going to do another pet scan in a

few weeks to determine what is happening with that blip. Of course we’re thrilled at the near perfect results. Eric looks good, feels good, and is definitely ready to move on with his life. It is definitely an Easter moment for us and our family.

We found a good definition of a “blip.” It’s defined as “an unexpected, minor, and typically temporary deviation from a general trend.” And yet as unexpected, minor, and typically temporary as it is, it has the power to force us to say that Eric is mostly cancer free. As Eric’s mom and dad, we ponder this “blip” on an emotional level. Wendy, having survived two cancers so far, knows well what a “blip” can mean. We are trusting that God will work his perfect will out in Eric’s life, and are so grateful to see him well. As your pastors, we are asking you to think about your life in Christ, this beautiful risen Christ, we celebrate at Easter.

We’re filled with his risen life. But the question we invite you to consider is: where are the blips in your Christian life? Where are those unexpected, minor, and typically temporary spots in your life that bear watching? Further testing? Those places that keep us from fully embracing the Easter life Jesus has given us to live?

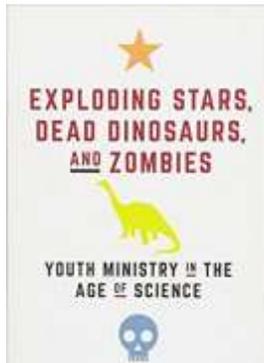
One of the things that helped Eric on his journey through chemotherapy, was the community of friends that stood by him, his wonderful parishioners he serves, and Janice, his wonderful wife. They brought the joy into his life, and even with the “one small blip” that remains, they will continue to be his support and his joy.

God gives us the church to be our remedy for the sin that remains in our lives. (*Continued next page...*)

*(Article from page 1 continues ...)*

Wherever sin tries to weaken our faith and our hope, the community of the church brings us joy, brings Christ to us. As springtime finally overtakes the winter, and as the joy of Jesus risen permeates your days, give thanks for our church, and for those who gather together each week. The small little blips in our life remind us that death is real. But Christ, our life and light, remind us that life wins out over death. For all of you struggling with the blips, we wish you Easter peace and joy.

Pastors Wendy and Tim



## High Schoolers and Middle Schoolers and Parents: Your Help and Input Needed.

One of the things we've offered to the congregation over the past few years are conversations on Faith and Science. Once in a while, some of our high-schoolers or middle-schoolers have attended. They're on Monday nights at 8pm every couple of months. Recently one of the parents said to me: "My daughter would like to come, but Monday nights don't work so well." It got me to thinking: Would it be worth putting something together: a class, a meeting, a recurring event for our kids that would be devoted to issues of science and faith? I'd like to hear from you, if you think this is an idea you'd like to pursue. That way we could still have conversations on Monday nights for those who can come -- adults or kids -- but we'd have a dedicated time just for our high-schoolers and middle-schoolers to think through these issues. The ELCA (our church) has some excellent resources that could be the backbone of our group work. We could add pizza or some other kind of meal to make it more exciting. Maybe if we have enough who are interested, we could invite other kids from neighboring congregations to join in too. **Parents:** let me know if you think this might be helpful for your son or daughter. **Kids:** let me know if a time, like a Sunday afternoon or a Summer Series, would interest you. We could have a lot of fun with this, and along the way answer some of your deepest questions.

Pastor Tim

## Around St. Paul's

Sunday School youth saw "Seussical!" on March 10 at Williamsville North High School.



Our photographer was a bit "woozical" when St. Paul's attended *Seussical!*

## Highlights from Women's Retreat on Feb. 24



## Lenten Message



This season of Lent featured Scriptures highlighting the ways we have failed God, and God's great triumph in the cross of Christ.

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### *Parish Registry*

#### *Please Pray For*

Dick Atkins	Marge Kolb
Dick Edwards	David Kuehfs
Ursula Grau	Eric Madsen
Beverly Heinricher	Jim Murray
Ed Jacobi	Eva Paulson
Pearl Kibler	Art Plant
Holly Kolb	Tony Rizzo
	Pat Valentine

#### **BOOK CLUB NEWS**

Book Club will meet May 20 at 3:00pm in the Friendship Room to discuss *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah. Our hostess will be Mary Howe and all are welcome. Questions? Please call Ellen Pachioli at 636-9786.

*Please remember in prayer all those who serve in the military and all victims of war and oppression.*

**THANK YOU NOTE:** Thank you everyone for your contributions of cans and bottles as I raise money for my American Music Abroad trip this summer. It is really helping, so please keep them coming! --Ellie Walker

**Deadline for the May edition of *The Voice* is April 23**  
Please submit articles to [stpaulsvoice@yahoo.com](mailto:stpaulsvoice@yahoo.com) or our box in the office.