

Prior to submitting an application for enrollment at St. Paul's Lutheran School, please read the following policies and statements about our school. Thank you.

## **FAMILY VALUES POLICY**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School teaches in accord with the Scriptures, Lutheran Confessions, and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod on all matters of doctrine, including doctrines related to the definitions of human life, marriage, sex, gender, and family. These doctrines include but are not necessarily limited to our belief that:

- A. human life begins at conception
- B. our lives belong to God
- C. sexual relations are reserved for marriage
- D. we are to honor God with our bodies
- E. marriage is a permanent union of one man and one woman
- F. every person is either male or female
- G. a person's sex is an objective biological fact

We believe that these doctrines reflect God's design of humanity, marriage, family, and society, and that teaching them is part of our mission as a church and school.

We also believe that in this fallen world people who are loved by God experience difficulties and brokenness for themselves and their families when God's good designs do not seem to work or apply properly in their lives, and we seek to have nothing but compassion for people in those circumstances. As fellow sinners we recognize that our church and school communities are filled with people whose individual and family lives do not and cannot perfectly reflect God's will or design, and we preach full and free forgiveness for Christ's sake to all who repent and trust in Him for salvation. While we struggle to apply them, the doctrines and designs themselves remain good and true.

Advocating against or deliberately contradicting these doctrines in a way that interferes with or significantly undermines the mission of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School may be grounds for removal from the St. Paul's Church and School community at the discretion of the senior pastor, principal, Board of Christian Education, and Board of Deacons.

## STATEMENT ON CRITICAL RACE THEORY

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School teaches in accord with God's Word that God made mankind in His image and that all human beings share the same origin, suffer from the same fall into sin, and are offered full redemption in Jesus Christ. Strictly speaking, there is only one human race. Accordingly, we serve students and families of all ethnicities and colors without distinction. We seek to provide a learning environment in which skin color and ethnicity is irrelevant.

We also acknowledge that despite Christianity's clear teaching that all people have the same inherent value and ultimate origin, differences in skin color have often led to injustice, bitter hatreds, prejudice, and divisions in the world and even among Christians. These sins and afflictions can be difficult to overcome, and God's Word calls to repentance anyone who manifests or perpetuates them. Although we may be required for some government purposes to classify our students according to their ethnicity, race, or skin color, such classifications work against our Christian and educational mission and purpose, so we strive not to import them into the classrooms or into the hearts and minds of our students.

We reject any religious doctrine, sociological theory, or educational practice that:

- A. perpetuates negative stereotypes based on race/color;
- B. tolerates abusive language based on race/color;
- C. accuses people of being racist based on their race/color;
- D. categorizes or segregates students according to race/color;
- E. asks students to classify themselves or others according to race/color;
- F. Applies differing academic expectations or standards of behavior based on race/color;
- G. expects or assumes solidarity or group loyalty among people of the same race/color;
- H. treats individuals as representatives of their race/color.

We will address God's Word and sound management principles any faculty, staff, student, or parent who violates these teachings and policies. Persistent violations may lead to removal from the St. Paul's Lutheran Church and school community.

## GENDER IDENTIFICATION POLICY

Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of St. Paul's Lutheran School. All instruction, intra and extracurricular events are done in honor and praise of Him. St. Paul's Lutheran School distinguishes between male and female based on an individual's gender as indicted on their birth certificate. Restroom facilities and locker rooms are designated at St. Paul's Lutheran School to accommodate males or females as such.