



Weekly Update #25

March 7, 2025



Devotional Thought

Wisdom - Jesus is the Light of the World

John 8:12 *Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

There are certain things a person can do in the dark, things that come easily to a person. Maybe you can navigate in total darkness from your bedroom to the kitchen without a major mishap because you've done it many times before. You know the way. You can do it "in your sleep." There are other times when you need some light – especially for things that don't come so easily.

Sadly, one of the things that comes easily to us is sin. We can do it in the dark. We can sin without even thinking about it. Sin comes naturally. Doing what is good and right, however, is another story. For that we need light.

Thankfully, Jesus is the light of the world! By grace, through faith, he has filled us with the light of life. Now, set free from the darkness of sin and death, we are able to follow him. We are able to serve him with lives of thanksgiving and praise, doing things that are good and right. Praise God! We are blessed to live in the warmth and glow of the Light of the World!



Call News

On Wednesday, February 19, Mr. Sam Kleinke received a call to teach Biology and Anatomy at Winnebago Lutheran Academy in Fond du Lac, WI.

On Sunday, March 2, Pastor Karl Schauland received a call to be Associate Pastor at St. John in Redwood Falls, MN.

Please keep Mr. Kleinke, WLA, Pastor Schauland and his family, St. John in Redwood Falls, and GPLHS in your prayers as they seek the Lord's guidance in their decisions.

Parent Academic Survey

A Parent Academic Survey was emailed to all of the GPLHS parents this past Wednesday. We would greatly appreciate you taking time to complete this survey before **March 10**. The survey results will be very helpful as we start our curriculum study. If you have not received the email with the survey, please let Mr. Kyle Bender

know (kbender@gplhs.org) and he will send a new one out to you. We are asking for only one survey per household. Thank you!

Upcoming Special Schedules

On Friday, March 7, we will be using the 11:45am schedule because our GPL Grade School Basketball Tournament will start at 1:00pm. Many students and faculty members will be involved with this.

On Friday, March 14, we will be using the 2:30pm Dismissal Schedule to have a Spring Concert rehearsal from 2:30-3:30pm.

Tuesday, March 18, There will be a 2:30pm dismissal because of Spring Break.

Finally, Spring Break is from March 19 – 24. ****Please note Monday, March 24 was added to this break. There is NO SCHOOL during break!



Students Participating in WELS National Band Fest

Martin Luther College is hosting the 2025 WELS National Band Festival on March 7-9. This festival will welcome students from all area Lutheran High Schools. The culminating event is a 2:00pm concert on Sunday, March 9, featuring these students. This concert will also be livestreamed at <https://www.welsfinearts.org/band-fest>. GPLHS has 6 students participating in this festival. They are Cindy Lee, flute, Caleb Kleinsasser, bass clarinet; Lydia

Wolfe, flute, Emily Moritz, trumpet, Kaitlyn Rawerts, Euphonium and Miriam Jarcik, clarinet.



GPL Grade School Basketball Tournament

We are looking forward to our Grade School Basketball Tournament coming up on March 7-8, including competitive and recreational divisions. This event gives our GPL Honor Society members the opportunity to serve in various capacities and prospective students a chance to experience a weekend at GPL.

Click [HERE](#) for the updated schedule.



Purchase GPL Wear at the Basketball Tournament!

Do you need GPL items to show off your Panther Pride? The Honor Society will be selling Panther items such as t-shirts, long sleeve t-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, polos, stadium chairs etc. on the GPL Elementary Basketball Tournament, March 7-8. The prices will range from \$10.00 to \$80.00 and there will be a variety of sizes. The proceeds from these sales will benefit the Honor Society. Thank you for your support.



The Panther Booster club will meet on Thursday, March 13 at 7:00pm. All families are welcome to come to the meeting as we take a look at the blessings from this year's concession seasons and consider how these gifts can be best put to use at GPLHS for our students and programs.



GSI Thrift Annual Meeting

GSI Thrift will hold its annual meeting at GPLHS on Sunday, March 16 at 1:00pm. The meeting will include the approval of disbursement recommendations, the election of board members and reports from the GSI board president and store manager. Over the years GPLHS and its students have been greatly blessed through the efforts of GSI, its staff, donors and volunteers. Individuals interested in this work are invited and encouraged to attend.



Spring Concert and Winter Awards Ceremony

Join us Sunday, March 16 at 2:20pm for music from our piano students and 3:00pm for the GPL Spring Concert. GPL music students, both instrumental and vocal, will perform in the GPLHS Chapel/Auditorium. If you are not able to join us in person, you can watch online.

The awards ceremony for our winter activities students and families will be held on Sunday, March 16 immediately following the Spring Concert. Participants in girls and boys basketball, cheerleading and the One Act play will be recognized.



Annual ECC Band Concert

The ECC Band Festival will be taking place at GPLHS on Thursday, March 27. Participants will be performing a band concert at 5:30pm in the gym at GPLHS to which everyone is invited.



Looking for a Prom Dress?

Prom is April 12th!

Prom is 5 weeks away! Are you still looking for a prom dress? GSI is the place to go! They have a great selection of dresses at an affordable price! Check them out at 102 W Kemp Ave, Watertown, SD 57201. They are open Monday – Friday from 9:30am to 5:30pm and on Saturday from 9:30am to 4:00pm.

Click [HERE](#) for GPL prom dress guidelines

Re-Enrollment Process Open

We have begun re-enrolling students for the 2025-26 school year. The re-enrollment of returning students consists of these three steps:

1. Filling out and submitting the brief [Google Form](#) to indicate your reenrollment plans
2. Filling out and submitting a form that will be coming to you via email from PowerSchool Enrollment (noreply@infosnap.com with subject Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod Enrollment for [Student's Name])
3. Paying the registration fee. Registration fees can be paid with cash/check in the GPL office or can be paid online [here](#). No payment will be made in PowerSchool.

If you complete this process including payment of registration fee by March 31, you will benefit from the discounted registration fee of \$150 per child. If you complete this process after March 31, you will need to pay the full registration fee of \$300 per child. We're looking forward to continuing our partnership in Christian education!



Ryla Leadership Training

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS PROVIDES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TOP-NOTCH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

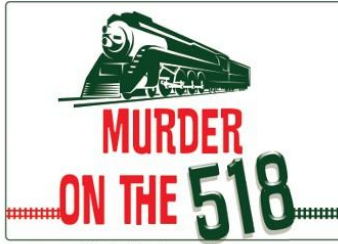
Youth who are sophomores or juniors in high school in a public or private school or who are homeschooled and have an interest in learning about and developing their leadership potential are invited to apply for the Great Plains RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) program. Local Rotary Clubs will review applications, conduct interviews, and make final selections to send participants to Great Plains RYLA camp July 7-11, 2025 at Maranatha, Brady NE.

Great Plains RYLA is a co-ed leadership camp designed to develop leadership skills through problem-solving, communication, and team building while learning about the value of service, the importance of community, and the role of Rotary locally and internationally. Participants will also develop self-confidence and a network of friends. RYLA students participate in team-building trust activities, participate in hands-on leadership development activities, hear from first-class speakers from throughout the state, and engage in fun activities. Great Plains RYLA is available to all eligible youth regardless of their current leadership ability or grades in school.

Funding for the awards is provided by local Rotary Clubs which fund each student's attendance at RYLA camp. Rotarians also serve as counselors for the annual camp.

To apply visit, www.greatplainsryla.org. Applications must be completed on or before **March 31**.

Great Plains Lutheran High School
proudly presents



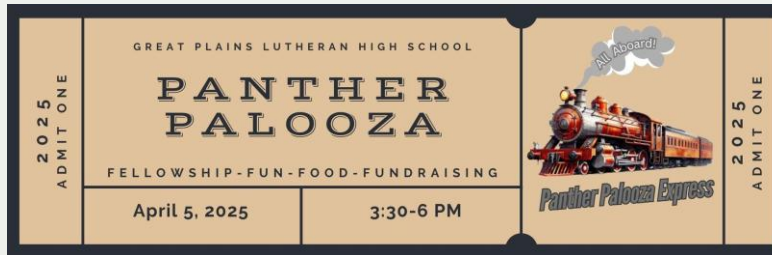
A family-friendly murder mystery
by Michelle Giles

Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc., Englewood, Colorado

Thursday, April 3rd, 10:00 AM
Friday, April 4th, 12:30 PM, 7:00 PM
Saturday, April 5th, 7:00 PM
Tickets \$10 for adults, under 18 free!

Murder on the 518 - Save the Dates!

Mark your calendars! The spring production *Murder on the 518* will be performed on Thursday, April 3 at 10:00am, Friday, April 4 at 12:30pm and at 7:00pm and the final show will be on Saturday, April 5 at 7:00pm. The cost will be \$10 for adults while 18 years old and younger will be FREE. You may use your Activity Pass to attend the performances.



Panther Palooza will take place on Saturday, April 5, 2024 from 3:30-6:00pm. There will be food, fellowship, and fundraising for the Fine Arts and Student Assistance. The theme this year is *All Aboard*. Just like we did last year, you will sign in and bid on items on your own smartphone, laptop or computer. To register please go to bit.ly/25palooza

or scan this



Panther Camp

Panther Camp is a one-week camp for young people who will be in grades 7-9 during the 2025-2026 school year. It is a time to relax and have fun, get acquainted or reacquainted with other young Christians, get to know the GPLHS family, and develop the talents and abilities God has given each of us.

Panther Camp is held on the GPL campus and utilizes all of the school's facilities, including the dormitory. The camp is staffed by the faculty, staff and coaches of GPLHS with the assistance of GPLHS students and alumni. Panther camp 2025 will run Sunday evening, June 8, through midday Friday, June 13. The cost for each camper is \$150. An online registration form can be found at gplhs.org. Panther Camp will be filled on a first come, first served basis.



Sports

Get the latest news and scores on all sports activities! The updated Sports Page will be emailed on Sunday, March 2. [READ MORE](#)

Two Week View

Click [HERE](#) to access the *Two Week View*.

Online Calendar

Click [HERE](#) to access the *Online Calendar*