

To all those at St. Paul's:

A huge THANK-YOU! My wife and I had the privilege of housing 2 of your great young girls, Shane and Jaclyn, from your choir on their spring tour through Lena, Illinois. They were absolutely wonderful and uplifting! The only problem was that our time together wasn't nearly long enough!

I told the girls, and now I would like to share with you as well, of how uplifting, your whole choir visit was. It wasn't just the harmony and unison of their voices. No! It was the harmony and unison of the voice of The Lord that they professed through their actions and lives! I told the girls, seeing The Hope of The Lord in your young people reminded me of the story of Elijah in I Kings 18. Of his *mountain top* experience, to only 1 chapter later, to have fallen into a very deep depression. We too have been depressed lately by the things going on in the world today. But The Lord came to him, Elijah, and refreshed him and then reassured him that he was not alone! He, God, had 7,000 that had not bowed a knee to the Baal's. In a world that seems to be coming apart, your choir brings that same calm voice of Hope and Assurance! All is *not* lost! We are *not* alone! There is hope in our youth no matter what the world around us says. Just as in the time of Lot, in Genesis 19, when all the men of Sodom came to Lot's house to force their will on the 2 men of God, and in verse 9, "kept bringing pressure on Lot and moving forward to break down the door." The world is pushing, not just on the door, but on the very foundation of God's structure for human existence, marriage and the family! As it always is with The Lord, He provides such a stark, defining difference to the world, and a way out. In Revelations 3:20, He says "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." Wow!

What a contrast to the world! That is what your school is all about. You have been set apart and transformed. Romans 12:2 says, "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will."

We trust that Shane and Jaclyn were a great core sample of the rest of the choir and school, because they were fantastic! We loved having them.

May God continue to bless them, you, and your school, through the using of the talents that He has given each of you.

Thank you all again!

In Christ,

Dennis and Kathy Potter