

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, School, & Preschool (WELS)
922-1080 (office phone) 1010 Adams Ave., North Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Pastor Thomas Behnke, 948-1384 (cell), 922-1718 (h)
 Pastor Michael Kampman, 238-5777
 Website: www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com
 WLA Principal David Schroeder: 921-4930
 WELS Christian Family Counseling: 800-282-0561
 WELS Ministry of Christian Giving: 920-740-5899

Principal Aaron Hartwig, 7-8
 Steven Lehman, 5-6
 Marlee Hill, 3-4
 Rebecca Miller, 1-2
 Gwen North, Kindergarten
 Susan Wright, Preschool

Worship: Saturday at 6:30pm; Sunday at 7:45 & 10:15am

December 22 & 23, 2018		Advent Four	Gathering Rite 128 399 v. 1 29 26 v. 1 & 3
Order of Service:	Page 38, <i>Christian Worship</i>		
Psalm of the Day:	Psalm 85, page 97		
Sermon Text & Theme:	Hebrews 10:5-10		
<u>"When Christ Came Into the World"</u>			
	1. He became the final sacrifice 2. He made you perfectly holy		

Welcome to worship at St. Paul's!

- **A T-coil hearing loop system** for those with hearing aids is available. Also, we have "loop listeners" (headphones). Please ask an usher.
- **Large-print service folders** are in the entryway. These folders contain the entire service.
- A **Child Training Room** for parents with small children is available. You can hear and see the service from this quiet, comfortable area.
- **Restrooms** are to the right as you exit the sanctuary.
- **Please sign our friendship register** and pass it along. Thank you.
- **Service Note(s):** Please be sure to have a **Gathering Rite** for worship. Also, we will sing **399 v. 1** as the offering is returned.

God's Word this week: The birth of a baby usually thrills us. Today's readings about the birth of Jesus excite us—and more. They show us how the wages of sin is death. They comfort us with Satan's inability to nab Jesus. They renew our faith that God in Christ casts down the mighty from their thrones but lifts up the lowly.

Ushers this weekend are Teams Williams, White, and Schwefel. Next weekend (*Dec. 29/30*) ushers will be Team 14 (D. Babler), Team 15 (S. Schwartz) and Team 16 (B. Bruss). Our **greeters** are Katie Fischer, Vicki White, and Trish Babler. Next week they will be Janet White and Pam Eckert. Christmas Eve: Kastorff Family and Palmer Family.

December 22 - 31, 2018

12/22	Sat	6:30pm	Worship
12/23	Sun	7:45am	Worship
			NO Sunday School or Adult Bible Study
		10:15am	Worship
12/24	Mon	4:00pm	Christmas Eve Worship
		6:00pm	Christmas Eve Worship
12/25	Tue	9:00am	Christmas Day Festival Service
12/29	Sat	6:30pm	Worship
12/30	Sun	7:45am	Worship
		9:00am	NO Sunday School or Adult Bible Study
		10:15am	Worship
12/31	Mon	6:30pm	New Year's Eve Worship with communion

Sunday School will be on holiday break until Sunday, January 6th. Adult & Teen Bible Study will resume Wednesday, January 2nd at 8:45am and Sunday, January 6th at 9:00am.

Volunteer for the Lord Opportunities: (1) Church cleaning openings are available. (2) Snow blowing help would be a blessing! (3) Our Sunday School preschool/kindergarten room is looking for someone interested in teaching every other week. (4) We are looking for a gentleman to be the team leader for ushering team #10 this coming year.

2019 offering envelopes are ready for pick-up from the table across from our mailboxes. They are arranged alphabetically from left to right. Please don't use these envelopes until 2019 begins. Also, when 2018 ends, please don't use your old envelopes anymore. Thank you!

BIC: After the New Year, we would like to begin Bible Information Class for adults interested in membership or learning more about what St. Paul's and the WELS teach. Please contact one of the pastors if you'd like to know more or attend.

Second Impressions Thrift Store: Thank you to all who have brought donations and to all who volunteer. New donations and volunteers are needed all the time. The store, which assists WLA students, is located at 325 Winnebago Dr. near the A&W. Phone: 907-9900.

WLA hot lunch help is needed January 21-25. Hours are 9:30-1:30. The work is helping prepare and serve a nutritious meal to grateful high school students! Please sign up on the table near the Martin Luther room.

“Come and see,” said Philip (John 1:46). Christmas Eve has surpassed Easter as the church service that unchurched or de-churched individuals are most likely to visit. Flyers on the table near the Martin Luther room contain an invitation and service times for our services. Please consider being Philip for your family, friends, and neighbors and give them the gift of the Light in the darkness of sin.

We will gather a free-will offering at *all our Christmas services* for second grade student **Mason Paolasini** who continues his stay at Children’s Hospital in Milwaukee. Mason had a sudden, severe respiratory/lung infection and greater complications ensued. Because of his condition, bills will be significant and his parents, Lisa & Johannes Jerman, could be taken away from their employment for extended periods. Please also pray for little Mason and his family.

WLA Junior Vikes Wrestling for students in grades K-8 will begin Monday, January 7th. Registration is that evening in the WLA chapel from 5:00-5:30. More information is available from the school entry table or contact Josh Guell at guell42@yahoo.com or Pastor Brad Wright at bwright@wlavikings.org.

WLCFS-Christian Family Solutions has thought-provoking blogs, written by counselors, about the holiday season. The topics this month are: *What’s Your Digital Resolution?; Spiritual, Emotional, & Physical Preparation for a Healthy Christmas Season; Family Peace at the Holidays; Help at Home for the Holidays*. Please go to www.ChristianFamilySolutions.org to find these links or for more information.

Winnebago Lutheran Academy is seeking an individual to lead our Mission Advancement Department. This individual will spearhead development efforts as Winnebago Lutheran Academy continues to grow and fulfill its mission. This person will be tasked with developing relationships that will strengthen and build financial support for WLA. For more information, contact Principal Schroeder: dschroeder@wlavikings.org.

Officers of the congregation will be installed on Sunday, January 13th, during the 10:15am service. We will also say thank you to those whose terms have expired and have served the Lord and us so faithfully. Those being installed are asked, please, to gather in the fellowship hall at 10:00 that morning. Thank you!

In case you were not here last week, it was announced that Mrs. Marlee Hill, our 3rd & 4th grade teacher, declined the call to teach at Peace Lutheran, Sun Prairie. We are grateful that she will continue to serve us at St. Paul’s, and wish her God’s blessings as she does!

New Year's Eve worship will be held Monday, Dec. 31st at 6:30pm. It will include the Lord's Supper. St. Paul's member and Martin Luther College student Dana Pietrzyk will be the pianist that evening! This service will also include a prayer for families of members who have gone home to heaven during 2018.

Calendars and newsletters for January are in our mailboxes this weekend. We hope you will stop by and pick them up today!

Memorials: \$1,010 in loving memory of Arnold Heise from family and friends; and for the Debt and Gym funds in memory of Jeff White's father, Jerry White, grandparents, Engman & Mabel Gilbertson, and aunt, Marjorie Gilbertson. May the Lord use these gifts to bring his salvation to all!

These are the observations of a Bible Institute professor who visited China for the first time last fall:

The Chinese communist government denies God exists. Consequently, though religious liberty exists on paper, tolerance of Christianity is deteriorating in practice. Recently the government banned all Sunday Schools and children's ministries. Children are not allowed to attend worship. No baptisms of people under age 18 are allowed, not even in government-registered churches. Christian adults are afraid to be publicly baptized because it could cost them their jobs.

In a city we visited, an unregistered church with a number of our online students was forced to disband. Those Christians didn't do anything wrong. The government concocted a "violation" that they had committed.

We Americans who enjoy religious freedom can't understand the situation in China. The government knows everything. At any time, it can close a church or make life miserable for a Christian. It is probable that more and more Christians will have to go "underground" to practice their faith shielded from public view.

Please pray for the Christians in China. They are under great stress. Their future is uncertain. But the gates of hell will not prevail against the Lord's Church. For more information please go to 316Now.org.

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior freely and safely, may we remember and pray for the many who do not have that same opportunity.