



# St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran

Church • School • Preschool

1010 Adams Ave., North Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Office: 920-922-1080

*A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod ([www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net))*

Pastor Michael Kampman: 920-238-5777

Pastor Elijah Ehlert: 920-809-7237

[www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com](http://www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com)

WLA Principal David Schroeder: 920-921-4930

WELS Christian Family Counseling: 800-282-0561

WELS Ministry of Christian Giving: 920-740-5899

Principal Aaron Hartwig, 7-8

Joel Mathwig, 5-6 & AD

Kristin Kampman, 3-4

Kristi Utsch, 1-2

Dawn Hinn, Kindergarten

Megan Schoenbach, Preschool

### Worship Schedule This Week:

**Saturday at 6:30 PM and Sunday at 7:45 AM & 10:15 AM**

**Online services, materials and so much more can be found at**

**[www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com](http://www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com) or follow us [www.facebook.com/stpaulsnfdl](http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsnfdl)**

| December 23 & 24         | Advent 4  | Hymns                             |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Order of Service:</b> | The Service of the Word<br>Folder in pew/hymnal | Gathering Rite<br>No Psalm<br>328 |
| <b>Sermon:</b>           | Luke 1:26-38<br><br>God's Promise Fulfilled!    | 324:1<br>304<br>321               |

### Welcome to St. Paul's!

- **Parents, please feel free to use the child training room** to calm or feed small children. It's located across from the restrooms and is equipped with sound and light controls as well as one-way shades in the smaller section past the room divider.
- **A t-coil hearing loop system** is active for those with hearing aids. Headsets are also available. Ushers can help if you have questions.
- **Large print copies** of our service are available in the entryway.
- **Restrooms** with changing stations are to the right as you exit church.
- **Offerings** are gathered during worship. *As the offering plates are brought forward, please stand and sing 324:1.*

**Ushers** this week (23 & 24) teams are 7 (D. Preissner), 8 (C. Williams)/9 (J. White). Next week (30 & 31) [only a 9:00 am service Sunday morning again] teams will be 10 (T. Schwefel), 11 (D. Babler)/1 (D. Schumacher). Greeters will be C. Kitchen, D. White/Kampmans. Our organist this week is Dawn Hinn. Thank you all for your service to our Savior and St. Paul's.

## God's Word This Week:

Advent 4

THE KING SHALL COME: JUST AS GOD PROMISED!

In Eden, mankind fell into sin, bringing death and despair to Paradise. God immediately promised to send a Savior who would undo that devastation. This Savior would be a descendant of Adam and Eve—a human being. Century after century, through the prophets, God reiterated and expanded upon that promise of a Savior-King. In a manger in Bethlehem, on that first Christmas, God's promise was fulfilled.

The perfect faithfulness God demonstrated in keeping all his promises about Christ's first coming at Christmas is what gives us the certainty and comfort that God will keep his promises about Christ's second coming on judgment day. The King shall come!

### December 23 - 31, 2023

|       |             |          |  |
|-------|-------------|----------|--|
| 12/23 | <b>Sat.</b> | 6:30 PM  | WORSHIP [#7]   |
| 12/24 | <b>Sun.</b> | 9:00 AM  | WORSHIP [#8/9]<br><i>No Bible Class or Sunday School (back in Jan.)</i>  |
|       |             | 4:00 PM  | CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE  |
|       |             | 6:00 PM  | CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE  |
| 12/25 | <b>Mon.</b> | 9:00 AM  | CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL WORSHIP<br>No Catechism Class, Choir or Chimes Practice<br>SPLS & WLA on Christmas Break - Jan. 2 |
| 12/27 | <b>Wed.</b> |          | Adult Bible Class on Break until Jan. 10   |
| 12/29 | <b>Fri.</b> | 10:30 AM | Lutheran Home Service (Pastor Ehlert)  |
| 12/30 | <b>Sat.</b> | 6:30 PM  | WORSHIP [#10]  |
| 12/31 | <b>Sun.</b> | 9:00 AM  | WORSHIP [#11/1]  |
|       |             | 6:30 PM  | New Year's Eve WORSHIP with Lord's Supper  |

#### Christmas & New Year Worship Note:

Over Christmas and New Year's because of the way special evening services fall, we will only have one Sunday service at 9:00 AM.

Saturday service times remain unchanged.

### Divine Call News

Last week, our Principal, Mr. Aaron Hartwig was issued the Divine Call to serve as a 6th grade teacher and math instructor at Grace Lutheran School in Oshkosh. He asks sincerely for your advice and your prayers during the upcoming days as he deliberates where he can best serve in Christ's Kingdom.

**2024 Offering Envelopes Available Across from the Mailboxes**

## **Advent Wreath**

In our church, we light a candle of the Advent Wreath each week to be reminded that Christ our light appeared once at Christmas and will appear again at the end. We watch, prepare, rejoice, and behold as we count down the days to Christmas and look forward to His coming again. Come Lord Jesus! Come quickly! Amen!

## **Advent and Christmas Devotions from Martin Luther College**

Advent and Christmas Devotions are once again available through MLC, our synods worker training college. Devotions are available in the rotating tract rack in the narthex or you can find them online at [stpaulslutherannfdl.com/MLCdevotions](http://stpaulslutherannfdl.com/MLCdevotions).

## **Need Last Minute Christmas Cards?**

We have you covered! **Our library is stocked with beautiful Christmas cards and they are extremely well-priced. Find the perfect card today.**

## **Preschool Aide Needed in the New Year**

We are very grateful for the past few months of service provided by Mrs. Lauren Graumann, who served quite capably as our Preschool Aide. Mrs. Graumann will need to discontinue her role as aide when we resume classes in January, so we will need to fill the preschool aide position with a new candidate ASAP.

Preschool is full of joy and energy! The youngest members of our student body really can be some of the most rewarding to work with as they are just beginning to learn and socialize. It is a joy to watch the little lights turn on in their minds as they discover all they can do. If you are interested in serving in Mrs. Schoenbach's classroom with her 16 three and four-year-olds, please let Mr. Hartwig, or the office, know.

## **Calendars for 2024**

Our WInGS group has made calendars for 2024 available again this year. \$5 takes one home. Find them by the Martin Luther Room. Only a few remain!

## **Upcoming Events at WLA. Mark Your Calendars!**

**December 21 – January 2** No School, Christmas Break

### **January**

**3** Classes Resume

**15** No School, MLK Day  
FAFSA Night

### **February**

**16** Virtual Learning Day

**19** No School

**28** Blood Drive

## **Office Hours can vary over Christmas Break**

Pastors are certainly still around but visitation and day-to-day activity does pull them out of the office quite regularly. Our staff also enjoys a little rest and relaxation not to mention some time with family as the building quiets for a week. Please call in to make sure someone is around before wasting the gas between now and January 2.



### **Christmas Trivia**

- Where in the Bible do we read about the Birth of Jesus?
- Who gave birth to Jesus?
- Which city did Mary and Joseph travel to for the census?
- Who was Mary's cousin?
- What city was Jesus born in?
- Who appeared to tell Mary that she was with child?
- How many miles did Mary and Joseph have to travel to get to Bethlehem?
- How did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem?
- What time of the day did the angel speak to the shepherds?
- What sign were the shepherds supposed to look for when searching for Jesus?
- Who followed a star to find baby Jesus?
- Where was Jesus laid after he was born?
- What is a manger?
- How many wise men were there?
- Where was Joseph originally from?
- Who was the prophet that foretold a virgin shall give birth to a son called Emmanuel?
- What does the name Emmanuel mean?

*No Answer Key ... Dig into your Scriptures at home for the answers.*

## **Year-End Giving: *Donor Option Programs***

Many employers have adopted a “Donor Option Program” allowing employees to designate gifts to a specific 501(c)(3) not-for-profit eligible charity of their choosing. Many employers match these gifts too. Our church has received thousands of dollars through these programs over the years. If you have questions about your participation in such a program, check your employer’s guidelines or contact your business manager. To see a list of companies with matching gift programs visit [stpaulslutherannfdl.com/donorooption](http://stpaulslutherannfdl.com/donorooption).

## **Year-End Giving: *Qualified Charitable Distributions***

*A tax-efficient way to support the ministry here at St. Paul’s*

If you’re age 70.5 and older, you can support St. Paul’s by requesting a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) directly to St. Paul’s. Even better: If you are age 72 and older, the QCD will count toward your required minimum distribution! Qualified Charitable Distributions (up to \$100,000 per person per year) are excluded from taxable income! Please contact your tax professional or WELS Planned Giving to learn how you can make a tax-wise gift to St. Paul’s, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, or Winnebago Lutheran Academy.

## **Year-End Giving: *WELS Planned Giving***

Our synod employs planned giving counselors who are well-versed in ways to plan wills, trusts, and any number of giving vehicles should you so wish. Contact the office and one of the pastors can get you into contact with our district’s planned giving counselors should you wish. There is also a wealth of information available online at [wels.net/giving](http://wels.net/giving).

## **Year-End Giving Deadlines**

If you’d like your gift to be made in 2023 for tax purposes in person donations are good through Dec. 31. This is the safest way to make sure your gift is counted for 2023. If mailing it must be postmarked by the 31<sup>st</sup>.

Electronic gifts are a little harder. Your account must be successfully charged by midnight on Dec. 31. This generally happens when the gift is given. However, there can be a lag at Vanco at times. Plan a few days in advance here. For other gifts (stock, mutual funds, etc.), we encourage you to consult your financial and tax professionals to make sure all is in order.

## School & Sunday School Mission Offering

The School & Sunday School Mission Offering for the first semester goes to the Military Services Committee (MSC). MSC provides face-to-face ministry to WELS military personnel serving at installations in the United States and in Europe and resources for those serving elsewhere. So far \$1,025.94 has been collected this semester.

## New Matching Opportunity

The window for our matching opportunity is closing soon. Any gift made to the deficit reduction fund before the New Year is matched dollar for dollar up to \$25,000. Envelopes are available in the narthex information centers. \$14,425 has been matched to date.

## Offerings

We offer a variety of options to support the work of the Gospel:

- Place your gift in the offering baskets here at church in worship.
- Send your gift to St. Paul's at 1010 Adams Ave., NFDL, 54937.
- Place your gift in the birdhouse post near the office entrance.
- Scan the QR Code to go to our giving site or visit [www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com/offerings](http://www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com/offerings)
- Use Automatic withdrawal from checking.



- Sign-up sheets are available on our website or across from the office. Contact the office to set it up.
- Use "Vanco Mobile" found in your phone's app store. Search for "North Fond du Lac, WI" and choose St. Paul's. The Church account is for offerings. The School Account is for tuition.

## Last Week's Offerings

God's people presented the following gifts to their Lord: Current - \$12,619.75; Missions - \$1,026.50; Improvement - \$49; Mortgage - \$2,723; Children's Christmas Service - \$942.34; Christmas Envelopes - \$105; New Year's Envelopes - \$5; Preschool Tuition - \$436.50; Extended Care - \$509.25; Deficit Reduction - \$650 [matched]; Worship at the Cross - \$20 (Electronic funds included in these gifts - \$5,369.75; all offerings totaled \$19,111.84; Weekly Budgeted Target \$18,960). 189 people attended weekend services (78, 37, 74 [livestream - 51]). 420 attended the Children's Christmas Service [livestream - 69].

Current Fund Deficit \$148,783

Deficit Reduction \$63,252 (+\$14,425)

Current Fund Checking \$44,560.29

Current Fund Savings \$171,749.14

Deficit reduction subtracted from the Current Fund Deficit gives the current total behind.