



St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran

Church • School • Preschool

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (www.wels.net)

Pastor Michael Kampman: 920-238-5777

Pastor Elijah Ehlert: 920-809-7237

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

Kristin Kampman, 3-4

Rebecca Miller, 1-2

Dawn Hinn, K & Pre

Katie Schwartz, Aide K & Pre

Worship Schedule: 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 or follow us at www.facebook.com/stpaulsnfdl

Jan. 14 & 15, 2023	Baptism of Our Lord	Hymns
Order of Service	Service Setting Two p172	384 Psalm 45B
Sermon	Matthew 3:13-17	377 679:1,5
With You God Is Well Pleased		660 & 685 950

Welcome to St. Paul's!

- Parents, 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 & light controls. There is a one-way privacy shade in the smaller section past the room divider as well should you need it.
- **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 679:1,5.*

Ushers this week (14&15) will be teams 4 (C. Hintz), 5 (B. Tabbert), 6 (M. Ewerdt). Greeters will be P. Brennand, D. White, B. Ewerdt. Next week (21&26) will be teams 7 (D. Preissner), 8 (C. Williams), 9 (J. White). Greeters will be J. White, available, V. White. Our organist this week is Becky Miller. Thank you for your service to our Savior and St. Paul's!

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JESUS APPEARS AS THE ANOINTED ONE

“Christ” is not Jesus’ last name, of course. It is a title. The Greek word “Christ” and the Hebrew word “Messiah” both mean the same thing—“The Anointed One.” Anointing was the practice of pouring liquid (typically oil) over the head of someone to signify selection for some special task. However, when the Lord anointed heroes to do his saving work, what he poured over them was his Spirit. For centuries people of faith had patiently waited for the promised Messiah, the servant of God who would bring the salvation we so desperately need. The time had come for Jesus to be revealed as the fulfillment of that divine promise. So, Christ our Lord came to the Jordan River to be baptized, that he might be recognized by John and revealed to Israel. At his baptism, Jesus was anointed — marked as God's special servant and empowered by the Spirit of the Lord.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

January 14 – 22, 2023

1/14	Sat.	6:30 PM	Worship with Lord’s Supper
1/15	Sun.	7:45 AM	Worship with Lord’s Supper
		9:00 AM	Sunday School & Bible Class
		10:15 AM	Worship with Lord’s Supper
1/16	Mon.	ALL DAY	No School – St. Paul’s (Staff Development Day)
		6:00 PM	Public School Catechism Class
		6:30 PM	Choir Practice
		7:30 PM	Chimes Practice
1/17	Tues.	6:30 PM	Worship at the Cross at Faith in Fond du Lac
1/18	Wed.	8:45 AM	Adult Bible Class: Pharisees
		6:00 PM	Board of Elders
1/19	Thur.	7:30 PM	Adult Open Gym
1/20	Fri.	8:35 AM	School Chapel Service (all are invited)
1/21	Sat.	6:30 PM	Worship
1/22	Sun.	7:45 AM	Worship
		9:00 AM	Sunday School & Bible Class
		10:15 AM	Worship

Sunday School & Bible Classes: 9:00 – 10:00 am each Sunday

Sunday School (required for all public and homeschooled students) continues each Sunday through the school year. Bible Classes are offered for all others in the congregation and are a wonderful way to grow faith and get to know some other members of the congregation. Pastor Ehlert is currently teaching a study on the Pharisees. This same class is available each Wed. at 8:45 AM.

Holy Communion

Today we have the privilege of receiving Christ's true body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Through this sacrament, the Holy Spirit seals to us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation for the strengthening of our faith. Scriptures also teach that as we commune together, we are publicly testifying to a complete unity of faith based on a confession of all of God's Word. For this reason, we respectfully request that all of those who are not members of the WELS or our sister ELS please speak with one of our pastors before communing with us. Thank you.

CALL NEWS

Last week at our Annual Voters Meeting we joyously extended calls to **Megan Schoenbach** to teach preschool. Mrs. Schoenbach currently serves at Shepherd of the Valley in Menasha, WI. The call list indicated a strong preference for Preschool and for grade one. Her top five strengths were listed as Restorative, Developer, Positivity, Arranger, and Adaptability in that order. Mrs. Schoenbach is a granddaughter of Ambrose McTrusty, now home in heaven.

Ashley Phillips to teach grades 1-2. Mrs. Phillips currently serves at St. Matthew's in Janesville, WI. The call list indicated that she had a heart for grades one and two. A performance assessment completed on March 9 of 2018 listed her as strong in Classroom Instruction, Management, Professional Characteristics, and Professional Relationships. Her Top 5 Strengths were Positivity, Communication, Responsibility, Learner, and Adaptability in that order.

St. Paul's Night at the Wisconsin Herd - January 27

Mark your calendars! Join friends, family, and staff of St. Paul's Lutheran for a fun night out with the Wisconsin Herd as they take on the Swarm! All families from St. Paul's will be invited in early before doors open for VIP pre-game watch and invited down onto the court following the game for a group photo, shoot free throws, and autographs with the Herd team! Find out more or reserve your seat at <https://fevo.me/splfdl>.

Thank You to our Dedecorators

A special thank you goes out to all who helped as we took down decorations after the Christmas season. Many hands make light work and we were able to get everything stored away in a short amount of time. Again, thank you to all who assisted in both the putting up and taking down of decorations this year.

Bible Information Classes (Membership Classes)

Want to learn more about St. Paul's and the teachings of God's Holy Word? We would like to begin a BIC in the new year between services on Sunday mornings. We currently utilize a course entitled "Basic Bible Christianity: A study in the truths of the Christian Faith" Any who are interested may join us as we make our way through the 15 lessons it contains. At the end of the course, participants are invited to become communicant members of St. Paul's and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Contact a pastor today so we can make sure to have a course book ready for you.

Lenten Meals for 2023

I know it seems way too early to be thinking about Lenten Meals. However, Lent begins this year on February 22. Any group or individual can sign up to provide a meal between services (4:20-6:20 PM). The Women In God's Service have already volunteered to serve their traditional spaghetti meal on Ash Wednesday. They have also announced that they have nine pounds of meat left over in the freezer from when we fed MLC. This is available should anyone wish to serve a meal but you would likely have to pair it with something to have enough (soup and sandwich perhaps). Contact Sue Robinson (WInGS President) if interested. Our secretary, Amy Surian, can get you her number. Lenten Wednesdays run from February 22 through March 29. Those serving can designate where the meal offering goes. It really would be awesome to provide a meal each week this Lenten season.

Lutheran Home Volunteers

We are looking for a few individuals, willing to help out during the Friday morning chapel services at the Lutheran Home. Volunteers help bring residents down from their rooms to the chapel and get them settled for the service and then take them back to their rooms afterward. The service begins at 10:30 AM. At this time, all volunteers must be vaccinated against Covid-19. If you're interested in being a part of this simple way you can love and serve your neighbor, please contact Carol Jackson at (920) 922-5418 or Pastor Chris Rathje at (352) 445-8366.

Board of Properties Work done

Muza was able to come this last week and install industrial gutters and snow rails over the east gym doors. It is our prayer that this alleviates an ice issue that would make those doors difficult to open in the winter.

ANNUAL VOTER'S MEETING RECAP 1-8-2023

At our annual voters' meeting much was accomplished. After releases, transfers, baptisms, confirmations, and deaths this year, our congregation stands at 876 baptized members of whom 715 are communicants. Reports for the year were presented by the various boards. We thanked the outgoing members of our various boards: Dave Babler (trustees), Mark Ewerdt (properties), Jim Laudolff (elders), Tyler Dukelow and Tony Surian (Christian education). After recaps and discussion of the various items, we moved to our business.

We reviewed the recommended 2023 Budget attached to the agenda. After some discussion regarding the pay of our workers in these strange financial days, the expressed desire was to be able to pay them more for the work they do. The motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the budget as proposed with the exception of the WELS subscription. Because the number fell short by a little over \$14,000 it was decided that we send the remainder of our pledged amount to synod and then drop our subscription next year to the amount collected this year for a more realistic number. Our total budget for 2023 with our mortgage included is \$985,907 or \$18,959.75 per week. The 15% raise over last year is mostly due to anticipated insurance costs and inflation which has affected just about everything.

After some discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to replace the water softener in the school building (currently leaking) with a Culligan HE softener, like that installed in the church. Funds coming from the Improvement Fund.

Ushering & Greeters Schedules were attached and officially accepted by the voters.

Housing Allowances for our called workers, something that in no way affects the budget, were set for the coming year.

We also discussed and passed verbiage to change our bank signers and those with the ability to inquire following the death of Paul Gieschen who was called home to his Father in heaven on December 31, 2022. Our signers will be our trustees along with our congregation's controller. We also decided it might be good to make the administrative pastor an inquirer, someone who can ask and get information about accounts but not change them.

After the conclusion of our business, we opened the Call Meeting for preschool and 1-2 grade. After prayerful consideration, our voters unanimously extended calls to Mrs. Megan Schoenbach to teach preschool and Ashley Phillips to teach grades 1-2. We ask the Lord of the Church to lead these two women in a decision that will benefit the church at large as well as our efforts here in North Fond du Lac.

Copies of the agenda packet are on the information center in the narthex.



The Benefits of a Christian Education

There are at least five basic reasons why a Christian education at any level is so positive.

1. Christian schools teach the Bible, and all the other academic subjects are integrated with biblical truth.

It's the first and biggest reason. Yes, we have catechism and religion classes in-house, but even beyond these courses, the Bible is integrated into every other academic subject. This way, Lord willing, students understand that the truth of God's Word relates to every aspect of their lives.

2. Christian schools utilize Christian staff members who supply positive role models for the students.

This is an incredibly strong point of Christian education. Positive adult role models who not only can teach the Bible and integrate biblical principles into what else the school is teaching but also who are role models and examples of living for Christ and visual aids of what it means to follow the instruction of His Word.

3. Christian schools are usually characterized by high involvement and support from parents and families.

A significant benefit of a Christian school is that the student's parents and other family members are usually heavily invested in the overall success of the school. Because it usually isn't free, families are making a personal commitment of their resources to be involved in Christian education.

4. Christian schools offer a positive Christian environment in academic pursuits and extra-curricular activities.

There are exceptions of course, and no earthly institution is untouched by sin, but a positive Christian atmosphere built on the consistency of God's Word, Law and Gospel, goes a long way in helping shape our school.

5. Christian schools usually produce higher academic success rates.

Any number of factors enter in here. Smaller class sizes, Christian work ethic, that involvement and buy-in mentioned before, it all comes together to form the great recipe for student success.

Want to learn more about our school or preschool? Contact the office today (920) 922-1080 and ask for Mr. Hartwig. He would love to talk with you.

Stewardship by the Lectionary: Acts 10:34-38 (Second Lesson)

In a vision, Jesus sent Simon Peter to Caesarea, to the home of Cornelius, a Roman soldier. Peter proclaimed the good news that Jesus is the Messiah, anointed by the Holy Spirit at his baptism to be the Savior of the world. As Peter said, God does not show favoritism but wants people everywhere to hear the good news of salvation in Jesus. May we continue to support gospel ministry in our own community and in the world so that more people may hear that good news. by WELS Ministry of Christian Giving

Offering Totals for 2022

Your individual offering totals for the year 2022 have been placed into your mailboxes. If something doesn't look quite right, please contact Amy in the office. She would love to help figure it all out. It's also a good time to thank her for the work she does each week as she enters the information into our computer system.

Offerings

We offer a variety of options to help you support the Gospel ministry:

- Place your gift in the offering baskets at church when you worship.
- Mail your gift to St. Paul's Lutheran, 1010 Adams Ave., NFdL, 54937.
- Drop your gift off in the "birdhouse" post near the office entrance.
- Use Vanco Automatic withdrawal from your checking account. Sign-up sheets are available at the information center, on the table in front of the office, or our website. Contact the office to set it up.
- Use "Vanco Mobile" found in your smartphone'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 payments.

Offerings & Attendance Last Week:

We presented the following gifts as we knelt with the Wisemen:

Current – \$10,244.71; Missions – \$552; Improvement – \$492; Mortgage – \$2,863.75; Initial Offering Envelopes – \$425; Christmas Eve Envelopes – \$20; Christmas Envelopes – \$50; New Year's Envelopes – \$75; Preschool Tuition – \$1077; Alliant Energy – \$1750; Extended Care – \$572.50; Worship at the Cross – \$100; Altar Fund – \$100; WLA Tuition Assistance \$220; Hand Chime Music Fund – \$100. (Electronic funds included in these gifts – \$4,412.06; all weekend offerings totaled \$18,440.06; Weekly target \$18,960). Attending In-Person Worship – 232 (57, 54, & 121 [livestream – 47]). A memorial was given to the current fund in loving memory of Paul Gieschen whom the Lord called to Himself on December 31, 2022.