

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, School, & Preschool (WELS)

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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

Dawn Hinn, Kindergarten

Stephanie Liepert, Preschool

Public services have been suspended until at least April 5th.

Please visit our website for recorded and written sermons and services, devotions, and announcements.

Fourth Sunday in Lent (March 22, 2020)

God's Word this week: As Christians, we have nothing to fear! The condemnation of the Law was removed by Christ's life and death on our behalf. Reassured of God's forgiveness on a daily basis, we can live our lives to his glory by serving others.

The Spring LWMS Rally will be held, God-willing, Saturday, April 25th, 8:00-noon at Good Shepherd Lutheran, Fond du Lac. Missionary to Nepal and Pakistan, Pastor Michael Duncan, will be the guest speaker.

Sunday School has been discontinued for the time being. We'll keep you informed about any changes.

WInGS (Women In God's Service) is sponsoring two days in April when we will give the church a good spring cleaning: Mon/Tue, Apr. 6 & 7. Come anytime if you'd like to help. A list of things that need sprucing up will be in the narthex.

Food for Thought Donations: We are collecting food items for hungry children as part of the Fond du Lac Food Pantry "Food for Thought" program *during the season of Lent*. Bins are located near the Martin Luther Room in the narthex to deposit what you bring. A list of preferred items is there for you to take with you when you shop.

Easter Breakfast: A sign-up sheet for needed donations for the upcoming Easter breakfast is on the information center. We look forward to a wonderful Easter morning meal between services prepared by men of the congregation. Easter services, God-willing, will be 6:30am (Sunrise) and 9:00am (Festival) on April 12th with our breakfast served from 7:30-8:45.

Our church leaders and called workers continue to need your prayers and support. We thank you for your past practice of bringing your loving offerings so we can carry out Christ's ministry together. It is vitally important that we continue to do this in the coming weeks as well even though we can't meet together. Our controller will be able to fulfill our financial obligations if we are regular in our gifts, as the Lord asks (1 Cor. 16:2). We aren't suggesting that anyone give more, but we are asking that we all give regularly. This can be done by bringing offerings to the office, sending them by mail (1010 Adams Ave.), asking someone from church to pick them up, or using electronic options. A form for electronic funds transfers can be found at our website or you can request one from the office and we can send or email it. You can also give via your smart phone. Go to your phone's app store under "Giving Plus" and follow the directions. Finally, Vanco is now accepting gifts over the phone for our congregation. Their Client Services team will take donations if St. Paul's members call their team at 800-675-7430.

Recorded services are available on our website (www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com) at anytime. Different from live streaming, with recorded services you may choose the time you'd like to watch them personally or with your family (and this method is free for the church to use). Some online recorded worship services will be current, and some will be from past years.

OWLS: The next meeting of Flyway OWLS Chapter 77 (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) will be cancelled on Tuesday, April 14, 2020, due to the coronavirus. Our meeting on May 12 will be held at 1:00pm at St. Peters Lutheran Church, Fond du Lac, unless you receive another notice that we are unable to have our meeting in May. If you have any questions contact Stefanie Gutermann at 920-583-2166 or gutermann@utilitytool.com

WELS App: There are many resources for you to use on the WELS App that you can download for free. It includes daily devotions, articles from *Forward in Christ*, Christian music, answers to theological questions, and much more. Google WELS app today.

Last weekend 68+71+148 (287) worshiped. 149+47 (196) attended on Wednesday (Mar. 11). We brought these thank offerings: Current Fund-\$9,056.25; Missions-\$364.50; Improvement Fund-\$194; Mortgage Fund-\$1,208; Lent-\$1,474; Worship at the Cross-\$50; Piano-\$15; Gym-\$50; MLC Partner Grant-\$1,195. (Total electronic funds-\$1,460.23). Other receipts: Preschool-\$720; Extended Care-\$87.50.

Now that we are shut out of our church for worship for a while because of the public health emergency, we are experiencing a little bit of what our **shut-in** members go through on a weekly basis -- sometimes for years of their lives. They would love to be here, but are physically unable. Please keep them in your prayers because their isolation is even more than before. Your pastors, and many family members, are not able to visit some of them currently. If you know any of our shut-ins or senior members who are at high risk, please send them a card or give them a call. Remind them the Lord is with them...and his people with their mind and heart as well.

During these trying days, we hope that all of us will follow the directions of our health professionals and put into practice their hygiene suggestions. We should be concerned about our own safety, but especially about the safety and health of others. Some are very vulnerable to a miserable outcome if they contract this disease. Loving our neighbor is not an option for the follower of Christ. Our prayer is that the Lord will remove this scourge from among us soon. If not, then we pray that he would give us patience and a deepened faith as we **go daily to his Word**.

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

Thank you all for your support in the Congregational Partner Grant program this year. God-willing, I will be entering my fourth and final year at Martin Luther College this fall as an Early Childhood Education major. First semester, I will have the privilege to student teach at the Early Childhood Learning Center in New Ulm. I pray that God will richly bless you for being a faithful steward of the gifts he has given you. Please continue to keep me and all those at Martin Luther College in your prayers as we continue to study and prepare for the full-time public ministry. "Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all" (2 Thessalonians 3:16).

In Christ,
Dana Pietrzyk