## 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: <u>www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com</u> 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 further notice. Please visit our website for recorded and written sermons and services, devotions, and announcements.

## The Fifth Weekend in Lent (March 28 & 29, 2020)

**God's Word this week**: We are drawing closer to Holy Week when Jesus undergoes the incredible events of his Passion. This week we hear about our progress from death to life. Through faith in Jesus, we are raised from our spiritual death to a new life in Christ, and we are nurtured in this new life through the Word and Sacraments. The appointed readings this week are Ezekiel 37:1-14, Romans 8:11-19, and John 11:17-27, 34-39.

**The Spring LWMS Rally** will be held, God-willing, Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-noon at Good Shepherd Lutheran, Fond du Lac. Missionary to Nepal and Pakistan, Pastor Michael Duncan, will be the guest speaker. There is no word yet about any change of date for this event.

**Recorded services** are available on our website (<u>www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com</u>) 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. Devotions, printed sermons and services, and other materials are also available anytime from our website.

**OWLS:** April's meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting of OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) will be on May 12 at 1:00pm at St. Peters, 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 <u>gutermann@utilitytool.com</u>

**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.

**Our offerings** last week: Current Fund-\$8,704.49; Missions-\$880; Improvement Fund-\$245; Mortgage Fund-\$3,558; Lent-\$255; Worship at the Cross-\$50; (Total electronic funds-\$6,939.63). Other receipts: Tuition-\$1,500. **Memorials:** \$365 in loving memory of Irene Will from family and friends; and a gift to the Mortgage Fund in loving memory of Deloris Merk on her April 5<sup>th</sup>, 88<sup>th</sup> birthday from her daughter, Lori LeQue.

**Please keep** our shut-in and ill members in your prayers because their isolation is even more than before. Your pastors, and many family members, are not able to visit them currently. If you know any of our shut-ins or senior members, please send them a card of give them a call. Let them know they are loved and missed.

**Some of our members**, unfortunately, are experiencing unemployment or layoffs from work during these troubled times. If you hear of specific work opportunities, please feel free to pass them along to us and we will share them with members who indicate their need: <u>office@stpaulslutherannfdl.com</u>. And please pray for them!

**Ministry Support:** Our congregation's 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 even if 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 we give more, but we are asking that we all give regularly. This can be done by bringing offerings to the office (because of current closure rules, please call ahead), sending them by mail (1010 Adams Ave., NFDL, 54937), or using electronic options. **You may drop offerings off at church on Sunday mornings from 8:00-10:00 if you'd like.** 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 members. Their Client Services team will take donations if St. Paul's members call them at 800-675-7430.

**Divine Call:** Our Council and Board of Christian Education issued a divine call on Sunday to Mr. Michael Mittelstadt to teach grades 5-6 and serve as our school's athletic director. A native of Hartford, WI, he currently teaches at Bethlehem Lutheran School-South (Menomonee Falls Campus). Please keep Mr. Mittelstadt in your prayers as he deliberates this call to serve us.

## March 23, 2020

The Holy Spirit has led your church to extend me a divine call to be the 5-6th grade homeroom teacher as well as serve as the athletic director. It is truly a privilege to teach and guide Christ's lambs at any school! I ask that you keep me in your prayers as I consider the Lord's will as to where he wants to use me best within his kingdom.

In Christ's Service, Michael J. Mittelstadt

## To the members of St. Paul's,

Thank you so much for your generous gifts to help with expenses after my house fire. God was definitely watching over us and kept us safe. We are so grateful to have an amazing support system of family and friends helping us out. Hopefully the rebuilding process will begin soon. Thanks again. It is truly appreciated and we feel very blessed.

Diane Becker