

October 2020 Newsletter

WInGS

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, School, & Preschool
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)
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Worship Schedule Update!

Because spreading services out over three days produces a safer worship environment, our Church Council has determined that we will continue our summer worship schedule through the month of October. Services are held Thursday and Saturday at 6:30pm and Sunday at 9:00am. We will re-evaluate this at our Voters Meeting on October 18th.

Bible Study

We're looking at *brief* biblical topics and learning interesting and occasionally strange facts about Bible times.

So that we can spread out, we meet in the church sanctuary on Wednesday mornings at 8:45am and Sundays at 10:00am for about 45 minutes. All members are cordially invited to come and dig in!

Financial Update

With congregational changes on the horizon, we know that the Lord will be with us each step of the way. He has blessed us with an eternity of happiness and joy through our Savior.

One way we show our gratitude and trust is by our offerings. These gifts support the work the Lord has given us to do for the sake of precious souls. Here is a brief financial update:

2020	<u>Current</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Mortgage</u>
Feb	-\$12,431	-\$1,041	+\$6,348
Apr	+\$15,663	-\$ 433	+\$4,987
May	+\$18,334	+\$ 822	+\$3,206
Jun	+\$ 8,433	+\$1,914	+\$ 774
Jul	-\$ 515	+\$1,071	-\$1,040
Aug	-\$ 4,003	+\$1,956	+\$9,979

Also, through August we have under-spent our Current Fund budget by \$10,564.

Our Women In God's Service organization will not meet in October and November. However, they are hoping to have an *Advent By Candlelight* evening in the church sanctuary on Tuesday, December 8th. Please look for more information in the coming weeks.

Mortgage Renewal

The mortgage on our church and facility was renewed with National Exchange Bank and Trust this September. It is a three year contract with a 15 year amortization, with interest remaining at 3.75%. Payments will be \$10,974 monthly on a loan of \$1,508,542.

The new loan grew from \$1,384,098 because we are adding \$80,000 for repair of the flat roof and \$44,000 to replace existing lighting with LED products. While our monthly mortgage payment increased by \$500/month because of this, it is estimated that our electric bill savings will be almost the same amount. Because of improper installation and inferior products, our flat roof has caused us problems since our building project 13 years ago. That company has long since gone out of business. The mortgage will be ratified by our voters at the October meeting.

If you would like to contribute to these upcoming roofing and lighting projects, please feel free to use the yellow envelopes in your packets for special gifts, or bring your continued generous offerings for the Mortgage Fund.

*Gather
here with
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Voters' Meeting October 18th

Our voters will meet on Sunday, October 18th at 10:00am (after the 9:00am service) for the congregation's quarterly meeting. At this meeting we hope to elect new officers, ratify our new mortgage arrangement, review our budget and ministry programs, and extend a divine call for an associate pastor.

Secretarial Position Available Beginning Mid-December

St. Paul's is looking for resumes from members interested in our church and school secretary position. The position will pay \$14 hourly and offers 40hrs/week during the school year and 30hrs/week in the summer. The position will require data entry and some computer skills, a friendly personality, the ability and desire to learn various church and school programs, and the ability to keep all office information and communication confidential. More information and a fuller listing of duties can be found online or across from the office. If you are interested, please submit a resume to the church office by the end of October. Candidates best fitting needs of the position will be interviewed in November. Our hope is for the position to begin mid-December to allow some training with Karen before she retires at the end of the year.

Fall LWMS Rally

The Winnebago Circuit of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society will hold its fall rally on Saturday, October 10, at Faith Lutheran, Fond du Lac. COVID rules will be in place. Pastor Steve Hillmer of St. Matthew's, Oconomowoc will speak about the mission ministry he recently left in Reno, NV. Fall mission projects are Hispanic Training Support and Hmong Outreach in Vietnam. The agenda:

- 8:45 Registration
- 9:00 Opening devotion
- 9:25 Business meeting
- 10:30 Presentation
- 11:40 Closing prayer

School Update

A large part of our congregation's ministry takes place every weekday for nine months of the year in our Lutheran elementary school. In grades K-8 this year we have about 80 students being taught by our faithful faculty of 5 teachers. There are also 7 students taught by our preschool teacher. (We continue to enroll children in our 3-year-old and 4K preschool program.

Please feel free to share this information with family members, friends, and neighbors!)

As we all know, there are special challenges before us this school year. So far we have been blessed to have in-person classes each day since we began on August 26th. We are grateful to the Lord for the good health of all. While we know that there could quickly be some health changes, we also firmly believe that the Lord will bring about what is best for his people for time and eternity. We are grateful to our parents for cooperating so well with and being so positive about observing health protocols and standards recommended by our county's health department.

Please pray for our teachers, students, and parents. We are blessed that the Word of God continues to have an eternal impact on the souls of so many who will share this good news with the next generation. What we do today has a lot to do with what will happen, by God's grace, tomorrow and far into the future.



Worship at St. Paul's

It is our hope that more of us will be comfortable with returning to worship in the coming weeks, depending on the circumstances. We encourage all who do attend to lovingly remember the health of others and follow current safety guidelines. We also continue to encourage those with special health needs to be careful if they do attend. We are blessed that we have other means to hear the Word: videos, television, radio, written services/sermons, and the like (please see the bulletin for specific information). However, it is also important for Christians to keep their connection through congregational worship, fellowship, and the reception of the Lord's Supper. May the Lord allow us to do so increasingly in the coming weeks and months!

If you haven't been able to attend but would like to receive the Lord's Supper, please let the pastors know. We have learned how to do this in a safe manner individually here at church.