



# 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)**

September 23 & 24	Pentecost 17	Hymns
<b>Order of Service:</b>	Service of the Word <i>Service Folder</i>	576 Psalm 115
<b>Sermon:</b>	Matthew 20:1-16	572 750
Generosity Is Exactly What We Need!		753 582:1,4

### 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 750.*

**Ushers** this week (23 & 24) teams are 1 (D. Schumacher), 2 (L. Ziemer), and 3 (M. Peachy). Greeters are B&E Davies, J&L Jerman; K&L Robinet. Next week (30 & 1) will be teams 4 (C, Hintz), 5 (B. Tabbert), 6 (M. Ewerdt). Greeters will be B. Oelke, D&K Thurow, B. Ewerdt. Our organist this week is Becky Miller. Thanks for your service to our Savior.

**TELL US A STORY**

Much of what Jesus has to say to us is contained within his parables. Parables are simple little stories that contain profound truths about life and eternity. For the believer, a parable takes a challenging spiritual fact and makes it clear. However, since the parable conveys spiritual truth, for someone without faith, the story remains only that—a story. Therefore, our prayer for this worship series is that Christ would send us his Holy Spirit, so that we might receive the peace and power Jesus offers us in his parables. Tell us a story, Jesus! Our worship follows this path:

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – A Story of Perplexing Generosity

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – A Story of Spiritual Insincerity

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – A Story of Reckless Patience

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – A Story of Insane Rejection

**A STORY OF PERPLEXING GENEROSITY**

Give a single bag of M&Ms to two four-year-olds and tell them to share. You will witness counting done with accountant-like precision. Each child will get an equal amount of candy because that is fair. Human beings have an incredibly strong sense of fairness. That is why it can be so perplexing when we see how God dispenses blessing and grace. We see people who mock God who are more prosperous than believers. We see people who convert on their deathbeds, and Scripture tells us they obtain the same salvation as someone who has been Christian all his life. How is that fair? Through a simple story, Jesus teaches us a profound truth. We need to stop expecting God to be fair. God is not fair. He does not give us what we deserve, and that's called mercy. In fact, he gives us what we don't deserve, and that's called grace. No, God is not fair. He is breathtakingly generous.

**LWMS Rally Information & Offering** (continued from last week)

The LWMS Fall Rally is scheduled for Saturday, October 21 at Faith Lutheran (55 Prairie Road, Fond du Lac). Registration and Breakfast begins at 8:15 AM and the program itself starts at 9:00 AM. Childcare is provided. The Guest Speaker is Vicar C. J. Fury from Christ Lutheran Church in Denver, CO. He will discuss the "Vicars in Mission Setting" Program. Attendees will also hear from missionaries in Idaho and Tennessee. The Rally will conclude around 11:30 AM.

*Our Rally door offering for LWMS (Lutheran Women's Mission Society) Mission Projects will be available again this weekend.*

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## September 23 – October 1, 2023

9/23	<b>Sat.</b>	6:30 PM	Worship [#1]
9/24	<b>Sun.</b>	7:45 AM	Worship [#2]
		9:00 AM	Bible Class and Sunday School
		10:15 AM	Worship [#3]
9/25	<b>Mon.</b>	4:15 PM	SPLS Soccer at Faith in Fond du Lac
		6:15 PM	Public/Homeschool Catechism Class
		6:30 PM	Choir Practice
9/26	<b>Tues.</b>	6:00 PM	Board of Christian Education Meeting
9/27	<b>Wed.</b>	8:45 AM	Adult Bible Class
9/29	<b>Fri.</b>	8:35 AM	School Chapel Service (Mr. Hartwig)
			<i>WALL CUP Soccer in Oakfield on Saturday and Sunday</i>
9/30	<b>Sat.</b>	6:30 PM	Worship with Lord's Supper [#4]
10/1	<b>Sun.</b>	7:45 AM	Worship with Lord's Supper [#5]
		9:00 AM	Bible Class and Sunday School
		10:15 AM	Worship with Lord's Supper [#6]

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### **Asleep in Jesus, Blessed Sleep**

*Jeff Krug* was called home to heaven on September 13 and His funeral was held on Tuesday, September 19 here at church. This week the Mathwigs also said goodbye (for a short time) to Josh Mathwig (Mike & Linda's son and Joel's brother). His funeral was held on Friday, September 22 at St. Peter's in Fond du Lac. We keep the families and friends of Jeff and Josh in our prayers as they mourn their earthly loss but rejoice in the eternal victories these Christians now enjoy.

### **Abraham: Faith in God's Promises**

The first patriarch plays a key role in the history of the Bible as God narrows His plan of salvation through a specific family. The life of Abraham may seem utterly different from yours, but Abraham's life was filled with something common to all God's people: A life full of astounding promises of God, and faith in those promises. Through our study, we'll focus on the sometimes hard-to-believe promises that God made to Abraham, and see the implications of God's promises to you and me. *Adult Bible Classes are held every Wednesday at 8:45 AM and Sunday at 9:00 AM. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. The more the merrier!*

## **NEW Bible Information Class to begin October 1!**

We're getting a *new membership class* going beginning on October 1<sup>st</sup> between services. This class is the pathway to membership here at St. Paul's and offers a basic understanding of the truths of God's Word. Don't know if you are interested in membership just yet but want to know more about Jesus and what Lutherans teach and believe? This class is great for that. If we get done and you aren't ready for membership, that's okay. We are happy to have had the opportunity to teach. Contact one of our pastors if you're interested so we have the proper number of materials on hand.

## **SAVE THE DATE - Trunk or Treat - Friday, October 13**

Our Annual Trunk or Treat event is set for Friday, October 13 from 5:00-6:30 pm. We have sign-up sheets for candy and popcorn donations on the information table as you enter the school. Candy must be prepackaged and individually wrapped and we would like big bags of popcorn (ex. Valley Pop). There is also a sign-up sheet for decorating your trunk. There are a limited number of spots available. More information will be given as it becomes available.

## **Pastor Kampman Returned His Call**

Last week, Pastor Kampman announced that he had returned the call to serve God's people at Christ Our Rock in Rochester, MN. In other words, he will be staying with us here at St. Paul's. Please keep the people of Christ our Rock in your prayers as they continue their search for the right earthly shepherd to supply their needs and serve the community around them.

## **Lutheran Military Support Group Veterans Retreat**

The Lutheran Military Support Group is holding a retreat for veterans and their spouses at Camp Shiloh in East Texas, October 26-29. You can find out more at [lutheranmilitary.org/what-we-do/spiritual-retreats](http://lutheranmilitary.org/what-we-do/spiritual-retreats). If you have questions, contact LMSG leadership: Brad Price at [bprice@lutheranmilitary.org](mailto:bprice@lutheranmilitary.org).

## **Mr. Aaron Hartwig - Teacher of the Month**

Mr. Hartwig was awarded the teacher of the month by Sunny 97.7 this Friday in our chapel service. This distinction comes as a result of a nomination or nominations by students or parents. Congrats Mr. Hartwig! You can nominate your favorite teacher at [www.radioplusinfo.com/2020/10/02/teacher-of-the-month](http://www.radioplusinfo.com/2020/10/02/teacher-of-the-month)

## **Three Good Reasons to Worship In-Person Each Week: #2**

Why does God bring us together in families? So that we can help, encourage, love, and support, one another. Everyone needs it! Have you ever shown up to something and been the only one there? It doesn't feel great. It's not encouraging at all. I suppose we might make a weak argument that we can do the Means of Grace thing all alone, but for this one, we need our brothers and sisters. No snappy words are needed. You don't have to have all the right things to say. Just you in a pew will do. The more of us that gather the more encouraging it is. Oh, and it's good for your pastors too. By the way, last week was awesome! We almost hit 350!!

### **Upcoming Events at WLA**

#### ***October***

- 2-6 Spirit Week
- 4 Blood Drive
- 6 Skit Night
- 7 Homecoming Football
- 16 Flu Vaccine Clinic
- 18 Parent Teacher Conf.  
& FAFSA Night
- 20 Class of 24 Grandparents' Day

#### ***November***

- 1 Viking Open House
- 9-12 Musical
- 13 Remote Learning &  
Staff Development Day
- 22-24 Thanksgiving Break

### **Mortgage Refinancing**

Our church mortgage refinances every three years with National Exchange Bank. Our Board of Trustees was able to secure a 6.95% interest rate. Of course, this is still significantly higher than the 3% we were previously paying and will require us to consider our regular, planned thank offerings to the Lord as we go forward for the remainder of the year and into the next three.

### **School & Sunday School Offering for the first half of the year.**

The weekly mission offerings collected during the first semester in school and Sunday School are going to the Military Services Committee (MSC). MSC provides face-to-face ministry to WELS military personnel serving in the United States and in Europe, as well as resources for those serving on ships or deployed somewhere else in the world. The mission offering total last week was \$329.39. The total for the semester is \$542.24.

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8*

## 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 Lutheran, 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.
- Online giving at [www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com/offerings](http://www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com/offerings)
- Use Automatic withdrawal from your checking. Sign-up sheets are available on our website. 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 joyfully brought the following gifts: Current - \$15,873.85; Missions - \$998.50; Improvement - \$130; Mortgage - \$2,352.61; Choir Fund - \$1,326; Altar Fund - \$60 Audio/Visual Fund - \$20; St. Paul's Student Aid Fund - \$25; School Wish List -\$1,346; Preschool Tuition - \$1066; Extended Care - \$357.50; Deficit Reduction - \$705; Other Receipts Church (Unclaimed Revenue IRS) - \$104.92; (Electronic funds included in these gifts - \$5,384.65; all offerings totaled \$24,365.38; Weekly Budgeted Target \$18,960). 337 people attended worship (73, 67, 197 [livestream - 41]). **Memorials:** Memorials were given to the Current Fund in memory of Joann Williams (September 7, 2023) and Dave Kemnitz (August 31, 2023), to the Deficit Reduction Fund in memory of Jim Kemnitz (August 23, 2023), to the Choir Fund in memory of Trisha Babler (August 10, 2023), to the altar fund in memory of Jim Kemnitz (August 23, 2023), and to the School Wish List for classroom piano maintenance or replacement in memory of Trisha Babler (August 10, 2023). We keep all these families in our prayers and weep with them even as we rejoice that these brothers and sisters now see and experience the fulfillment of their faith.

Current Fund Deficit \$104,547.88

Deficit Reduction \$45,567.85

Current Fund Checking \$93,049.31

Current Fund Savings \$170,756.16

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

*A generous man will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.*

Proverbs 11:25