



ST. PAUL'S
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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FIRST SUNDAY OF

Advent

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 2, 2018



Christ's Love, Our Calling.

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



A member of the
Winnebago Lutheran Academy Association
www.wlavikings.org

WELCOME to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. We pray that God would bring you his richest blessings through the Word of truth we share here today. If you are here for the first time today or because you were invited by a friend or neighbor, we ask you to sign the guest book in the entrance so that we can keep in touch with you. If you have any questions — or would like to learn more — about what you hear today, please contact the pastor.

Statement of Mission

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to uphold the truth of God's Word and proclaim the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ

- by providing opportunities for men, women, and children to gather for worship and Bible study
- so that we all might grow in our faith and knowledge of God's Word
- and be equipped as his servants and witnesses in our community and our world.

Copies of the full statement of mission and vision are available in the entrance.

Announcements

WORSHIP FOLDERS - The ivory worship folder in today's bulletin contains everything you need in order to participate in today's worship service.

LARGE PRINT - Two large print hymnals are available at the back of the sanctuary. Large print copies of the bulletin and worship folders are also there.

HOLY COMMUNION - will be served in this week's service. Please note your intention to receive communion by checking the "Communed" box on the friendship register. Because the Bible has convinced us that receiving the sacrament together is a public statement of oneness in beliefs and commitments, guests who are not members of St. Paul's should speak with the pastor before communing. We don't want to put you in a position of stating your agreement with our beliefs without having the opportunity to explain them to you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets after the service in Room 1. These classes, for students from age three through grade six, are designed to get students familiar with Bible history, both to see the way that God showed his love to people throughout history and to learn ways to reflect that love in their attitudes, actions, and decisions. These classes also serve as a good preparation for confirmation classes in seventh and eighth grade.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY - Our Sunday Bible Study is taking a look at the spiritual truths in the new anniversary edition of the catechism published last year for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Not only will these topics provide a wonderful review of the things you learned in your own catechism instruction, they will also introduce you to the way this new edition has been designed to serve as a devotional book in addition to a book of instruction. Bible Study meets in Room 3 (at the top of the ramp). Note: Bible Class will not meet for the rest of December. We'll resume again on January 7.

This week: A New Creation: The Life of a Christian is a Life of Struggle

FAMILY OF THE WEEK - Each week, we highlight a family in our bulletin as our "Family of the Week." That family also serves as greeters that week. We're hoping that everyone can serve - and be introduced to the congregation - in this way. If you haven't been able to serve yet, please contact Jane Bergman to schedule a time when you can.

This week: **Gary Kuen** was raised on the family farm just outside of Brownsville and is a life-long member of St. Paul's. He served for most of his career as the superintendent of the Village of Brownsville, retiring in 2011. He has been married to his wife Judy since 1977. She retired from her work as a teacher in the Lomira School District in 2012. Gary and Judy's three children are all grown and gone. They have two grandchildren. Gary enjoys fishing, hunting, and playing cards.

JOINT LADIES' BIBLE STUDY - will take a pause through December. They will resume again in January. This class is led by Mrs. Naomi Schmidt. When they resume, they'll start a course on the glory of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. Ladies from several area congregations are attending.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY - meets every other Friday at 7:00 a.m. at Bublitz's Restaurant. We enjoy breakfast and a discussion of articles in the current "Forward in Christ." Next meeting: this Friday, December 7.

Note: a new winter schedule at Bublitz's means that the only mornings they'll be open early will be Saturday mornings, starting the week of our meeting. So, beginning December 22 and every other week after that, the Men's Bible will meet Saturday mornings at 7:00 instead of Friday mornings.

CHOIR and HANDBELL REHEARSALS - Choir is rehearsing for Thanksgiving and Christmas services Wednesday evenings at 6:00. Handbells will rehearse for Christmas services Wednesday evenings at 6:30.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE and REHEARSALS - We will work together with St. Luke's, Oakfield in several ways in the plans we're making for our Children's Christmas Service and rehearsals. The students of St. Luke's School will present their Children's service in the two Sunday morning services (8:00 and 10:30) on Sunday, December 16. All the students who are members of St. Paul's, those who are attending one of our Lutheran schools and those who are not, will present their Children's service in our Sunday morning service (9:00) on Sunday, December 23. Note: St. Luke's school students will also be invited to join our students for our service.

Rehearsals for these services will take place at St. Luke's Sunday, December 9 at 9:00 (between their services) and Saturday, December 15 (the day before their service), also at 9:00 a.m. All our students should plan to attend those rehearsals. Songs and parts were assigned to St. Luke's students this week and will be assigned to our Sunday School students today.

ADVENT SERVICES - Our midweek Advent services will begin this Wednesday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. This year we'll focus on the "other side of the coin" of the focus for the Sundays in Advent. As the Sunday services focus on what we want for our fellow believers, the midweek services will focus on what God wants (in other words, what his holy will is) for all his people and how he makes that happen.

"What God Wants for His People and How It Happens"

- December 5 He wants all people to know the truth - and be saved.
- December 12 He wants his people to proclaim his Word - faithfully.
- December 19 He wants his people to live holy lives - to his glory.

REFRESHMENTS - Christian Women's Ministry will provide the snacks after the Advent Service this Wednesday, December 5. All women of the congregation are considered members of Christian Women's Ministry and are invited to provide snack type items. (Cookies, candy, cheese, sausage, crackers, chips, nuts, fruit, etc.). Thank you.

TREE DECORATING - We've set aside time after the midweek Advent service next Wednesday, December 12, the second Advent service to set up the tree in church. Usually we are able to get the tree up and lights on that evening, but not the ornaments.

We've set aside time to work on ornaments the next morning, Thursday, December 13. Anyone who is able is invited to come to church at 9:00 a.m. to help with the ornaments. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

MEDITATIONS - Copies of the first issue of the Meditations Daily Devotional™ for 2018-2019 are available on the back counters. This issue begins Sunday, December 2. The theme for this year's devotions is "It Is Good for Us to Be Here," based on Peter's words at Jesus' transfiguration. Peter's words also apply to every opportunity we have to spend time in God's Word, whether in worship or in personal devotion or Bible reading. This year's devotions are based on the Gospel lessons that will be read each Sunday of this Church year.

TEACHERS NEEDED - Jesus' Little Lambs Child Care in Fond du Lac is looking to add to our teaching staff. Part-time and full-time workers are needed. Applicants do not need to have early childhood experience. They do need to be an active member in a WELS congregation and have a desire to share God's Word with children and families. If you are interested or have questions please contact Kendra Norris, JLL Director, at (920) 921-8500 or norris@gshep.net.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE (news from area WELS schools)

Divine Call - Principal Kaleb Buch has received a divine call to serve as the fifth and sixth grade teacher and principal at Christ Lutheran Church and School in Big Bend, Wisconsin. He would also have opportunities to serve in the areas of coaching and music if he would desire. Christ Lutheran School has 78 students this year. If you have any questions you would like to share or input you would like to provide to Mr. Buch about his call to Christ Lutheran or the call he currently serves at St. Luke's, feel free to contact him at 920.973.0439 or principal.buch@stlukesoakfield.com. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as they deliberate where best to serve God's people.

Giving Tree - St. Luke's has had the practice of displaying a "Giving Tree" near their school entrance. Requests for the various classrooms are printed on ornaments and displayed on a tree on a bulletin board in the school entry hallway. All are invited to take an ornament off the tree, place the money into the envelope provided and deposit it into the lock box on the opposite side of their school hallway by the fire alarm. This year, they'll make a duplicate tree and ornaments that can be displayed here. We'll let you know more about how to pay for items on the tree as soon as it's displayed.

Items purchased from the giving tree last year included glitter glue, decorating jewels, baby dolls, a three hole punch, rechargeable batteries, classroom pet supplies, head-phones, beads, pipe cleaners, card stock, and party/art supplies. The students of St. Luke's thank you!!!

NEWS AND NOTES FROM WINNEBAGO LUTHERAN ACADEMY



SCRIP - Don't forget, you can purchase SCRIP online and print at home, or have it sent directly to your phone - while you're waiting in the check-out line! It only takes a minute to set up your online account now - the enrollment code is B4F3BBL817984.

German Dinner - The WLA students traveling to Germany in the summer of 2019 are hosting a German dinner to help defray the cost of their trip. The dinner is February 6 in the WLA Commons. Come any time between 5:30 and 7:00. The cost is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 10 and younger. You can purchase your ticket at hometowntickets.com or from WLA students going on the trip. Contact Mrs. Mose with any questions. (kmose@wlvikings.org)

Vacation Hosts - We are still looking for more families willing to "holiday host" for our international students that stay in the dorms during the Christmas break (Dec 22 - Jan 1). If you might be willing to host or know someone who might be interested, please fill out a copy of the questionnaire on the west counter at the back of the sanctuary and either return it to me so that I can get that info to the dorm manager, or send it directly to Kelsey (her email address is on the questionnaire). Thank you!! Kristin Mose

Upcoming Events at the Academy:

You can always check out the school website (www.wlvikings.org) or Facebook page ('Winnebago Lutheran Academy') for the latest information and announcements. In addition, please make note of the following upcoming events at Winnebago Lutheran Academy:

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| Dec 20 | Christmas Concert (7:00) |
| Dec 21 | Christmas Concert (1:00) |
| Dec 24-Jan 4 | Christmas Break |

JOYFUL WITNESS PRESENTS “BEHOLD, A SAVIOR!” - You are invited to a Christmas concert to celebrate the birth of our Savior. *Joyful Witness*, a choir comprised of members of area WELS congregations, is celebrating 40 years of singing praises from generation to generation.

This year’s concerts will be held Friday, December 7 at St. Paul, North Fond du Lac at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 8 at St. Luke, Oakfield at 2:00 p.m., and will include an orchestra, a song from the first concert in 1978, and firsthand stories telling the promises fulfilled in scripture.

LUTHER PREP SINGERS - Next Sunday, December 9 the Prep Singers of Luther Preparatory School will sing in concert as part of worship at St. Peter, Fond du Lac. The Prep Singers will sing in both the 7:45am and the 10:30am services. Pastor Chartrand of Luther Prep will be the guest preacher reminding us on the blessings of our worker training schools. A presentation on Luther Prep will be given during the Bible study hour beginning at 9:00am. For more information, please contact the St. Peter's office - 920.922.1160.

CHRISTMAS at the SEMINARY - The Seminary Chorus will present its annual Christmas Concerts at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary on Sunday, December 9 at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m.

ALTAR FLOWERS - The poinsettias on the altar were placed to the glory of God by Stefanie Gutermann and Laurie Justman in memory of their parents Harlow and Mary Reseburg. Thank you.

Hearing the Word of the Lord

	Nov 25	YTD	Avg.	Pct.
Worship Attendance	126	3,603	76.7	26.0%
Last Year	65	3,872	82.4	26.7%

Serving in the House of the Lord

Ushers this week: Dale Schraufnagel, *captain*

Gregg Hansmann, Mike Zastrow

Communion Assistants this week: Gregg Hansmann

Greeter this week: Gary Kuen

Ushers next week: John Hall, *captain*

Chris Emmer, Matthew Reible, Kelly Thomas, Dean Wells

Greeters next week: Harvey and Jane Bergman

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Today,	9:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	10:15 a.m.	Sunday School Bible Study
Tuesday,	afternoon,	<i>Oshkosh Shutins</i>
	6:00 p.m.	Ministry Planning
Wednesday,	7:00 p.m.	Midweek Advent Service
Thursday,	1:30 p.m.	Ladies’ Bible Study
Friday,	7:00 a.m.	Men’s Bible Study
	8:15 a.m.	Chapel - St. Luke’s
	7:00 p.m.	Joyful Witness Concert at St. Paul, N. FDL
Saturday,	2:00 p.m.	Joyful Witness Concert at St. Luke, Oakfield
Next Sunday,	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	9:15 a.m.	Christmas Rehearsal at St. Luke Oakfield
Next Wednesday,	7:00 p.m.	Midweek Advent Service

DECEMBER CALENDARS - Copies are available on the back counter.