



## St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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THIRD SUNDAY OF

*Advent*

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
Sunday, December 16, 2018



A member of the  
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
[www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)



A member of the  
Winnebago Lutheran Academy Association  
[www.wlavikings.org](http://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 blue 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.

**PRE-SERVICE CAROL SING-** This Sunday and next, we'll set aside some time before the worship services, beginning at around 8:50, to sing some Christmas carols and hymns. This week: Away in a Manger, Go, Tell It on the Mountain, and O Little Town of Bethlehem.

**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 and SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY** - will not meet for the rest of December. We'll resume again on January 6.

**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: **Linda Sukowatey and Julie Sukowatey.**

**Linda (Pieper) Sukowatey** has lived in the Brownsville area her entire life and has been a member of St. Paul's for most of that time, too. She and her husband Jim were married at St Paul's in 1982. She recently retired after working at Society Insurance since 2001. She also was a travel consultant for many years for Fox World Travel and American Express Travel Related Services. Her husband Jim retired in 2014, after 25 years as an auto technician at Pete's Auto Repair in Waupun.

Her four children are grown and live within a 30 mile radius of Brownsville. Daughter Julie and her family live outside of Fond du Lac. Julie teaches third grade in the Oakfield School District. Daughter Tara lives in Beaver Dam and is employed at Saputo Cheese in Alto. Son Tyler lives in West Bend and is the finance manager at Bob Fish GMC /Buick in West Bend. Son Steven and his wife live in Oshkosh. He works at Gulf Stream in Appleton.

Linda and Jim enjoy camping, going up north in the summer months, bowling and playing cards (sheepshead). They also enjoy spending time with their three grandchildren, Raven (16), Jaiden (8), and Justice (5).

**Julie (Schmidt) Sukowatey** grew up just outside of Brownsville and has been a life-long member of St. Paul's. She married Mike Sukowatey, Jim's brother, six years ago. They recently purchased a home on North Street in Brownsville. Julie works as the assistant credit manager at Badger Liquor in Fond du Lac. She has in the past been a member of St. Paul's choir, served as a Girl Pioneers Leader and served for a time as our volunteer secretary. Julie enjoys spending time with her family, trout fishing, and crocheting.

**JOINT LADIES' BIBLE STUDY** - will take a pause through December. They will continue to meet the first and third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. here at St. Paul's (in Room 4 - please note this change) beginning 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 week at Bublitz's Restaurant. We enjoy breakfast and a discussion of articles in the current "Forward in Christ." Because Bublitz's new winter schedule makes Saturday the only morning they'll be open early, we will now meet Saturday mornings at 7:00 instead of Fridays, beginning this Saturday, December 22.

**ADVENT SERVICES** - Our *midweek* Advent services will continue this Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. This year's services will focus on several sections of Scripture that tell us 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** - The Choirs of St. Paul's will provide the snacks after Advent Service this Wednesday, December 19. If anyone else attending the service wants to supply a snack it will be welcomed.

**CHOIR and HANDBELL REHEARSALS** - This week's choir rehearsals for our Christmas services have been moved to Thursday. Choir will rehearse at 6:00. Handbells will rehearse at 6:30.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICES** - The students of St. Luke's School and Sunday School will present their Children's service in the two Sunday morning services (8:00 and 10:00) this morning at St. Luke's.

Our Children's Service will take place next Sunday, December 23 in place of the 9:00 morning service. All the students at St. Luke's and our Sunday School students will present that service. Because of the number of students who are participating and the size of the crowd we're expecting, that service will be held in the gymnasium instead of the sanctuary.

Dates/times for the Children's Services at the other schools our students attend:

St. John, Lomira:	Saturday, December 22 - 3:00 and 4:30
St. Matthew, Iron Ridge:	Monday, December 24 - 3:00 and 5:00

**CHRISTMAS SET-UP** - We'll be looking for volunteers for several projects after this week's midweek Advent service:

- 1) Setting up chairs and bleachers in the gym for the Children's Service
- 2) Preparing the Christmas bags for the Children's Service
- 3) Decorating two Christmas trees in the gym for the Children's Service

**CARDS FOR SALE** - The Christian greeting cards sold by the Christian Women's Ministry have been moved to the school hallway near Room 2. Cards include Christmas, birthday, sympathy, get well, anniversary, etc. Individual cards are 50 cents each or put together your own assorted box of 12 cards for \$3.50. St. Paul's cookbooks are also for sale. Money should be put in the box. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Wiepking.

**HMONG MINISTRY in VIETNAM** - More information about the Hmong ministry in Vietnam that was featured in last week's WELS Connection is available in pamphlets on the back counters. Those pamphlets include an envelope that you can use to donate toward a special offering to help build the theological training facility in Hanoi that the Vietnamese government has given us permission to build. Follow the instructions on the envelope if you'd like to donate toward that special offering.

#### **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@stlukesokfield.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 narthex. All are invited to take an ornament off the tree, place the money into the envelope provided and deposit it into the box on the table in the narthex.

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!!!

**Christmas Vacation Dates** - All three schools where our student attend school will begin their Christmas vacations this Friday, December 21. St. Luke's will dismiss at the usual time that day. St. John's and St. Matthew's will dismiss early, St. John's at 12:20 and St. Matthew's at noon.

**School Events at St. Paul's** - We're making plans for two school events to take place here at St. Paul's during the month of January. We'll host a movie night on Friday, January 18. All the families of St. Paul's and St. Luke's are invited. We'll also host the home basketball games vs. St. John, Lomira on Wednesday, January 30. Watch for more information about both.

#### **NEWS AND NOTES FROM WINNEBAGO LUTHERAN ACADEMY**



**Christmas Concerts** - Please join the WLA student body, faculty, and staff for the annual Christmas concert. As is the tradition, the concert will be presented twice - once this Thursday, December 20, at 7:00pm, and again this Friday, December 21, at 1:00 pm. Please join us in celebration of the Newborn King!

**Mission Advancement** - Winnebago Lutheran Academy is seeking an individual to lead our Mission Advancement Department. This person will spearhead development efforts as Winnebago Lutheran Academy continues to grow and fulfill its mission. This person will be tasked with developing relationships that will strengthen and build financial support for WLA. For more information, please contact Principal David Schroeder at dschroeder@wlvikings.org.

**Junior Vikes Wrestling** - for grades K-8 will begin Monday, January 7. More information is available on the counters at the back of the sanctuary.

**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 checkout line! Set up your online account now - the enrollment code is B4F3BBL817984 - it only takes a minute!

#### **Upcoming Events at the Academy:**

You can always check out the school website ([www.wlvikings.org](http://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:

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

**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@gshp.net](mailto:norris@gshp.net).

### Hearing the Word of the Lord

	Dec 9	YTD	Avg.	Pct.
Worship Attendance	48	3,711	77.7	25.6%
Last Year	75	4,066	83.0	26.9%

**2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES** - Offering envelopes for 2019 are available in the back pew. Please pick them up and make plans to use them for your first fruits giving for next year.

**AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS** - Please remember that you also have the option of setting up automatic withdrawals from your bank accounts for your offerings to St. Paul's. Forms from Vanco, the company that administers this for us, are available on the back counter. If you have any questions, please contact our bookkeeper, Lori Muentner.

### Serving in the House of the Lord

**Ushers this week:** Dennis Weigand, *captain*

Dan Loduha, Dan Robinson, Jon Schraufnagel, Scott Wells

**Communion Assistants this week:** John Hall, Dan Robinson

**Greeters this week:** Linda and Julie Sukowatey

**Ushers next week:** Bob Dabringer, *captain*

Tom Larsen, Gary Goebel, Steve Scharf

**Greeter next week:** Amy Weiglein

**Ushers Christmas Eve:**

Gregg Hansmann, Steve Scharf, Dennis Weigand, Dean Wells

**Communion Assistants Christmas Eve:** Andrew Carter, Dan Loduha

**Ushers Christmas Day:**

Dan Loduha, Dale Schraufnagel, Andrew Carter, Scott Wells

**Greeter Christmas Day:** Maria Carter

### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Today,	8:00 a.m.	Children's Service at St. Luke, Oakfield
	9:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	10:30 a.m.	Children's Service at St. Luke, Oakfield
	6:30 p.m.	Council of Elders
Tuesday,	afternoon,	<i>Theresa/West Bend Shutins</i>
Wednesday,	7:00 p.m.	<b>Midweek Advent Service</b>
	7:45 p.m.	Christmas Setup (chairs, bags, trees)
Thursday,	7:00 p.m.	WLA Christmas Concert
Friday,	1:00 p.m.	WLA Christmas Concert
Saturday,	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study - at Bublitz's
Next Sunday,	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Children's Christmas Service</b>
Next Monday,	6:00 p.m.	<b>Christmas Eve Communion Service</b>
Next Tuesday,	9:00 a.m.	<b>Christmas Morning Song Service</b>