



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)

Pastor Michael Kampman: 920-238-5777

Pastor Elijah Ehlert: 920-809-7237

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

Kristin Kampman, 7-8

Joel Mathwig, 5-6 & AD

Ashley Peterson, 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 or follow us at www.facebook.com/stpaulsnfdl

December 21 & 22	Advent 4	Hymns
Order of Service:	The Service of the Word handed out at the door	333 Psalm 85 327
Sermon:	Luke 1:39-55	309:1,4
	Mary's Carol	328 315

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 the church.
- **Service Notes:** The order of worship for today should have been handed out with the weekly bulletin. If not, our ushers are happy to get you one.
- **Offerings** are gathered during worship. *As the offering plates are brought forward, please stand and sing hymn 309:1,4.*

Ushers this week (21 & 22) teams are 8 (C. Williams), 9 (J. White), & 10 (T. Schwefel). Next week (28 & 29) teams will be 11 (D. Babler), 1 (D. Schumacher), & 2 (L. Ziemer). Greeters are smiling face, V. White, Kampmans. Next week, greeters will be a smiling D. White, R. Eggers, Robinets. Our organist is Dawn Hinn. Thank you all for your service to our Savior and all of us here at St. Paul's.

God's Word This Week:

GETTING READY FOR A REAL CHRISTMAS

... WILL LIFT UP THE LOWLY.

By this time of the holiday season, people are often weighted down. They feel guilty about presents that are not perfect, parties that did not go as planned, or year-end projects that did not get completed. To top it all off now is when it dawns on people how little attention they have given to the spiritual preparation Advent invites.

If that is how we feel, perhaps the frenzy of December has done us a favor. We have been stretched to our limits. We have been made painfully aware of our shortcomings. We have been humbled. Perfect! For being made aware of our weakness does not disqualify us from God's care. It does the opposite. It is what prepares us for the work he does best. He is a God who lifts up the lowly.

December 21-29, 2024

12/21	Sat.	6:30 PM	WORSHIP [#8]
12/22	Sun.	7:45 AM	WORSHIP [#9]
		9:00 AM	NO Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
		10:15 AM	WORSHIP [#10]

Christmas Break Dec. 21 - Jan. 6

12/23	Mon.	6:00 PM	Adult Choir Practice NO Public & Home School Catechism
		7:00 PM	Chime Choir Practice
12/24	Tues.	4:00 PM	CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
		6:00 PM	CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
12/25	Wed.	9:00 AM	CHRISTMAS DAY FESTIVAL WORSHIP
12/28	Sat.	10:00 AM	Basketball Open Gym
		6:30 PM	WORSHIP [#11]
12/29	Sun.	7:45 AM	WORSHIP [#1]
		9:00 AM	NO Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
		10:15 AM	WORSHIP [#2]

Bible Class, Sunday School, & Confirmation Class on break

Our Bible Study, Sunday School, and Confirmation classes are on break this weekend and next to allow for our teachers to enjoy a little relaxation and to accommodate travel plans this holiday season. We will begin again in the New Year.

A Special Word of Thanks

Many of you have given gifts to our staff here at St. Paul's. Know that we are thankful for all of you and grateful to work among you.

New Year's Eve Worship

New Year's Eve we gather at 6:30 PM to bring in the New Year wrapped in God's grace and mercy. The Lord's Supper is offered in this service along with a remembrance of those members who passed away in 2024.

A Call was Extended in Our Call Meeting on Dec. 11th

Our Voters extended a call to Mr. John Kujath currently serving God's flock as Principal at Bethlehem Lutheran in Hortonville, WI. He is married to Lisa and the two have a 2-year-old and a newborn. Say "hi", provide encouragement, or set up a conversation by e-mailing Mr. Kujath at jkujath@bethlehem-wels.com.

Bible Information Classes Start January 12th between services!

BIC is a great way to familiarize yourself with the teachings of God's Word and learn more about God and all He has done for us. It also serves as the pathway to membership here at St. Paul's. New Classes will start January 12th between services at 9 AM.

Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes for 2025 are available across from the Mailboxes. Please pick up your envelopes ASAP as our elders will then make calls to those who have not picked them up. Can't find your envelopes? Please contact Amy in the office and we will get your envelopes out as soon as we possibly can.

Advent Wreath

In our church, we light a candle of the Advent Wreath each week to be reminded that Christ our light appeared once at Christmas and will appear again at the end. We watch, prepare, rejoice, and behold as we count down the days to Christmas and look forward to His coming again. Come Lord Jesus! Come quickly! Amen!

Special Thanks for all the ways you have been helping out!

So much has been happening! The calendar has been crazy full! Thanks for special events, worship opportunities, and concerts which so many have participated in, volunteered for, and supported in so many ways.

Christmas Cards available in the Library

Looking for Christmas Cards to send out this season? Our library is stocked with beautiful Christmas cards and they are extremely well-priced. Find the perfect card today.

St. Paul's History – Pastor Timmel (1928 – 1932)

Pastor Kurt Timmel, called from Sugar Bush, WI, was the next pastor of our congregation. It was during his pastorate that the men's club was organized. When Miss Moerer's health would not permit her to continue as a teacher, Miss Kemnitz was called to teach during the school year 1931-32. In May of 1932, the congregation decided to call a male teacher from the graduating class at New Ulm, MN. Teacher Emanuel Arndt, St. Paul's first male teacher, assumed his duties in September 1932 and faithfully served until July 1, 1939, when he began to serve a congregation in Milwaukee. At a special meeting on August 30, 1932, Pastor Timmel asked the congregation to release him to serve Trinity Lutheran Church, Watertown, WI.

Family Skate Event - Save the Date!

Our Christian Education Society has reserved Korneli's on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2025 from 1:00-4:00 pm. You and your family can enjoy the company of other St. Paul's families while we have fun skating the afternoon away (and hopefully not getting injured!). The skating rink would like us to know that folks can bring their own skates if they're appropriate for the floor, and that concessions will be available for purchase. We hope to see you there! (Korneli's on the Avenue is located at 605 Fond du Lac Avenue).

Pioneer Playtime Begins again in January!

More Playdates are scheduled for children 0-5!

Upcoming dates:

- January 8 from 5:30 - 6:30 pm
- January 25 from 9:00 - 10:30 am
- February 12 from 5:30-6:30 pm
- February 22 from 9:00-10:30 am
- March 13 from 5:30-6:30 pm
- March 29 from 9:00-10:30 am
- April 9 from 5:30-6:30 pm
- April 26 from 9:00-10:30 am
- May 7 from 5:30-6:30 pm

Even if you don't have little ones, please share the information with those in your family that do. These groups can benefit young parents looking for positive playgroups and other parents to connect with. There is no cost and no sign-up is required.

Year-End Giving: *Donor Option Programs*

Many employers have adopted a “Donor Option Program” allowing employees to designate gifts to a specific 501(c)(3) not-for-profit eligible charity of their choosing. Many employers match these gifts too. Our church has received thousands of dollars through these programs over the years. If you have questions about your participation in such a program, check your employer’s guidelines or contact your business manager. To see a list of companies with matching gift programs visit stpaulslutherannfdl.com/donorooption.

Year-End Giving: *Qualified Charitable Distributions*

A tax-efficient way to support the ministry here at St. Paul’s

If you’re age 70.5 and older, you can support St. Paul’s by requesting a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) directly to St. Paul’s. Even better: If you are age 72 and older, the QCD will count toward your required minimum distribution! Qualified Charitable Distributions (up to \$100,000 per person per year) are excluded from taxable income! Please contact your tax professional or WELS Planned Giving to learn how you can make a tax-wise gift to St. Paul’s, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, or Winnebago Lutheran Academy.

Year-End Giving: *WELS Planned Giving*

Our synod employs planned giving counselors who are well-versed in ways to plan wills, trusts, and any number of giving vehicles. Contact the office and one of the pastors can get you into contact with our district's planned giving counselors should you wish. There is also a wealth of information available online at wels.net/giving.

Mark your calendars!

Second Impressions will be having a HUGE “Overstock” Sale beginning January 6. A huge selection of Men’s and Women’s Selected Clothing (located in the front of the store) will be just 50¢! Sale will be through January or while supplies last! NOTE: To give our volunteers and staff some extra time to relax and enjoy family and friends, the store will be closed December 24 through January 1. We will reopen on Thursday, January 2. Note also, that beginning in January, we will not be accepting donations on Wednesdays. This will help give us extra time to process our donations.

Christmas Break!

WLA & St. Paul’s Lutheran School are on Christmas Break from December 21 through January 6.

School & Sunday School Mission Offering

First semester offerings in School & Sunday School support the work of the WELS Asia One Team partnering with Christians in Asia and the United States, to equip, encourage, and educate reaching out to over 1.8 billion souls in Asia. Offerings help with work in Bangladesh. *Last week's offering was \$16.00. The total for the semester is \$689.87.*

Stewardship Thought

Stewardship by the Lectionary – WELS

God doesn't want our stuff! He doesn't want our money, our houses, our cars, our boats, our cell phones, or any of the things that are so important to our everyday lives. Besides, it is all his anyway. He gave it to us. He wants our hearts. He loved us enough to sacrifice his Son for our sins. His is a greater gift than any earthly thing we can imagine, and all we have to do is acknowledge it and believe it with our whole hearts. When we realize how much God loves us, it is only natural to show our love to him. We do this by living our lives in ways that glorify him, using our money, possessions, talents, and time in service to others and to spread the gospel. (Hebrews 10:5-10)

Offerings

We offer a variety of options to support the work of the Gospel:

- Place your gift in the offering plates here at church in worship.
- Send your gift to St. Paul's at 1010 Adams Ave., NFDL, 54937.
- Place your gift in the birdhouse post near the office entrance.
- Scan the QR Code to find our giving site or visit www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com/offerings.
- Use Automatic withdrawal from checking.
Sign-up sheets are available across from the office.
- 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

We gave the following gifts - \$8,150.68 (\$172.10 plate); Missions - \$547.50; Improvement - \$117; Mortgage - \$1,562; Thanksgiving Envelopes - \$65; Preschool Tuition - \$142; School Reimbursements - \$8,810; Poinsettias - \$700; Extended Care - \$168.50; Children's Christmas Service - \$902; Hand Chime Fund - \$20; Organ/Piano - \$200 (Electronic funds included in these gifts - \$2,057.38; all offerings totaled \$21,385.86; Weekly Budgeted Target \$19,672.75). 161 souls attended worship (53, 59, & 49 [38 livestreamed]). Our Children's Service had 383 in attendance [107 livestreamed].