

St. Paul's Lutheran Church July 2025 Newsletter

Seeking to proclaim Christ and Him crucified to more people more often.

I Wanna Be Like ... the Bereans!

I'm one of them. One of the forgotten generation in between the Baby Boomers and the Millennials: Generation X. But then just barely. Born in 1979, I just barely make the cutoff but much still applies. Growing up in the time outside was where I learned and interacted with my peers, before the time of cell phones and internet but it was all coming in by late highschool and college. None of that is overly important except to say that as a part of that generation, I grew up wanting to be like him. Everybody did. Can you sing it with me? "I wanna be, I wanna be like Mike."

Michael Jordan had set the NBA on its ear. Before Lebron or Shaq, Kobe or Curry, he played against guys like Magic and Bird. I wanted Air Jordans and mom said they were too expensive. I whined for weeks ... maybe even longer.

But alas, I was never destined for basketball greatness. No vertical and even less speed made me more suited for the line in football or the mat in wrestling. I know the world can be a cruel place sometimes. Though I shared his first name that was about it, I would never be like Mike. In fact, I'm not even sure I ever owned a pair of the shoes. Oh, well.

Thankfully, God gave other role models over the years. Eventually, even allowing me to chase after greater men than Jordan, though I have likely done about as well to attain to their status as I did to his. As we turn our attention this summer to the Means of Grace, however, I'd like to set an example in front of all of you. No not me ... please never me, you can be so much more. No instead, may we be like the Bereans.

The Bereans were a group of people, from, well, you guessed it, Berea, whom Paul encountered on his second missionary journey. Nestled closely to Thessalonica, Paul found his way to them after he was kicked out of Thessalonica. They heard the word he preached and listened to it. More than that, they listened to it and compared it with the Word of God. They studied it and took it to heart.

The Apostle Paul records,

¹¹ Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. ¹² Many of the Jews believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men. (Acts 17:11-12)

Now there is a role model, someone to emulate! A group that our group of Christians here can chase after and seek to be like.

We just started our summer catechetical review. This summer, we focus on the means of grace. If you miss a Sunday don't think you'll never be able to get back into the flow. Just grab your catechism and look at the passages that go with whatever we were talking about. Even if you didn't miss the Sunday, check up on the voices God has given you here at St. Paul's to see if what we are saying is in line with what Luther taught ... more importantly what God teaches in His Holy Word.

Gobble up God's grace as it shines in the Word, in Baptism, in the Lord's Supper. Be reminded of all that is yours through those means: forgiveness, life, and salvation. As you do, something else will happen. The Holy Spirit, will turn you into the Bereans. In fact, already has.

I won't use names, but there are already so many of you who do so wonderfully with this. I marvel at the understanding and knowledge possessed in conversations and in study. I can recall one little old lady, now at home with her Lord in heaven (and really so many Christians who stand with her), who regularly amazed me at the depth of Scriptural knowledge she possessed and the humility she so regularly displayed along with it.

So, as a tweener caught between the Boomers and the Millennials, who has had more than one role model in life, join me in a slightly different refrain. "I wanna be, I wanna be like ... the Bereans". It might not be as catchy, but they chased after a role model, maybe the only one worth following. They listened to Jesus and His Word. By God's grace, may we all.

St. Paul's Lutheran School Open Registration

School registration is officially open. The paperwork is available in the narthex and also online at stpaulslutherannfdl.com/registration. Preschool is seeing some interest so you may want to register soon. Get the word out that a Christian Education is just a phone call away. Anyone may call to inquire at the school office at 920-922-1080.

VBS Save the Date

Vacation Bible School dates are set for August 4-8, 2025 from 9 to 11:30 am each day. This summer, we're going on an epic adventure through Australia, and you're invited! We'll encounter amazing animals, lush landscapes, stunning sea life, and wondrous wilderness. And most importantly, we'll be guided by

our Savior, Jesus, who tells us, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" in our theme verse, John 14:6. Check out stpaulslutherannfdl.com/vbs to register or volunteer.



St. Paul's is turning 125 in 2026!

As we rejoice in 125 years of Gospel ministry in North Fond du Lac, we would like to form a celebration committee that can help with special services and events throughout the year. If you would be interested in joining such a team, please contact Pastor Kampman. We will likely start our work mid to late summer.

Congregational Controller Needed in 2026!

Our congregation's controller, Cyndi Hintz, has served us faithfully for 20 years. After all that time, she has decided to step down at the end of 2025. If there is someone with accounting experience who would like to take over this position (paying congregational bills, handling payroll, and taxes) at the end of the year, please contact the office or one of our trustees.

Food, Fun, and Fellowship July 13, 20, and 27!

Join us for Food, Fun, and Fellowship on July 13, 20, and 27 from 10 to 11 am. Enjoy a variety of activities including board games, cards, cornhole, and open gym. Light snacks will be provided. This is a great



opportunity to connect with others and have a wonderful time together. All are welcome! No payment is required, a free will donation basket will be out for those who wish to help with cost of snacks. A QR Code is also provided should you simply wish to donate some snacks on a Sunday.



By day not year ... that can be your own little secret.

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Asher Stahmann	7/1	David Zittlow	7/18
Bridger Stahmann	7/1	Lane Stevens	7/19
Chandler Stahmann	7/1	Andrew Rickert	7/19
Megan Schneiter	7/1	Cayleigh Tabbert	7/20
Sara Augustyn	7/1	Avery Seibel	7/20
Andy Hinz	7/1	Douglas Seffern	7/20
Shari Sterba	7/1	Amelia Utsch	7/21
Larry Wodack	7/1	Silas Fraley	7/21
Adler Meyer	7/3	Paige Miller	7/21
Ethan Kryzyanowski	7/3	Carson Zittlow	7/21
Adam Lamb	7/4	Damian Lietz	7/21
Kyle Lamb	7/4	Phillip Hinn	7/21
Wesson Stollfus	7/5	Emily Schwitzer	7/22
Charley Mathwig	7/5	Matthew Mikle	7/22
Zander Rushing	7/6	Brad Schumacher	7/22
Jenna Karr	7/8	Susan Butt	7/22
Chuck Stollfus	7/8	Carter Tillman	7/23
Jacob Fraley	7/9	Westen Tillman	7/23
Amelia Jorgensen	7/11	Lauren Stettbacher	7/23
Alexander Merten	7/11	Tobey Bortner	7/23
Cameron Merten	7/11	Cindy Margelofsky	7/23
Ashley Hass	7/12	Tony Fucik	7/23
Lara Mueller	7/13	Becky Coates	7/24
Donald Jahns	7/13	Andy Coates	7/24
Christina Muellenbach	7/14	Marilyn Beltz	7/24
Kalista Ziemer	7/14	Beth Ewerdt	7/26
Riley Meyer	7/14	Mallory Parks	7/28
Joan Breitkreutz	7/14	Robert Pietrzyk	7/28
Teresa Gilbertson	7/14	Nancy Schumacher	7/29
Rachelle Riebe	7/15	Donna Harbridge	7/30
Jennifer Jaschob	7/15	Lynette Malloy	7/30
Carlton Kastorff	7/15	Chris Schumacher	7/30
Maxwell Dukelow	7/17	Jeanette Leeman	7/30
Kevin Tillman	7/17	Jason Beier	7/31
Crystal Buerger	7/17	Curtis Heller	7/31
Kayden Muellenbach	7/18	Kathy Thurow	7/31
		Carol Boehning	7/31

A fun birthday activity. Find your baptism certificate and recall the day when you were born into the family of God.