

MAY 2024 St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church Connection

106 S. Maple St. PO Box 357 North Freedom, WI 53951

Message from the Pastor



Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. (Acts 2:1)

Everyone knows the two greatest Christian holidays: Christmas and Easter. Jesus' birth and his resurrection from the dead are reasons to celebrate! But not many people know what the third greatest Christian holiday is. It's Pentecost, the day of the Holy Spirit.

The word Pentecost means "fifty." Pentecost was an Old Testament festival, observed 50 days after the Passover Festival, and had the gathering of the firstfruits of the harvest. (Mideast harvest time was in the spring.)

Jesus' disciples were in Jerusalem as instructed by their Lord before he ascended (Acts 1:4-8). As they were gathered there, they heard the sound of a rushing wind filling the room; they saw what looked like flames of fire dividing and landing on their heads; and they were able to speak in languages they had never learned. Those were the signs of the Holy Spirit's coming (Acts 2:2-4).

Today we still observe Pentecost and the Holy Spirit's coming. The Spirit comes more quietly today, but no less powerfully; he enables us to see our Savior in the pages of Scripture and to believe in the triune God. The Holy Spirit also cleanses our hearts and dedicates us to the Lord.

Pentecost Sunday this year is May 19. The altar cloths on Pentecost are red, the color of the Holy Spirit and the Church. Be sure to come to church on Pentecost Sunday! Say a special prayer, thanking God the Father and the

Son for sending the Holy Spirit on us. Let's be sure to hear the gospel message in the Bible, for that is how the Holy Spirit still comes to us now. His coming is worth celebrating, just as much as Christmas and Easter!

--Pastor Timothy Blauert

May Devotions

From April 29 to May 5 we will not have the daily devotions because Pastor Blauert and Kristine will be on vacation. Our devotions from May 6-26 will be about the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Daily devotions will be emailed to members each day. Printed copies will be available weekly each Sunday for those who don't have email. If you would like to get your devotions by email but haven't been getting them, please contact Pastor Blauert, 507-279-8560.

Ascension Day Service, May 9

At St. John's Lutheran Church, Baraboo

6:30 p.m.

Celebrate our Savior's ascension to heaven!



Save the Date....

Sunday, June 2: After the combined 8:30 a.m. service, we will have an ice cream social to welcome new members and congratulate members getting confirmed and graduating. The social will be our monthly fellowship that day. Make plans to stay after church on June 2!

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Bible Study Opportunities!

Revelation: The Distant Triumph Song Sunday morning Bible Class

Sundays, May 19 and 26 between the services.

Monday Evening: "Bible Basics"

We are offering "Bible Basics" on Monday evenings this spring and early summer for you for anyone interested in a refresher on the basic doctrines of the Bible. Please contact Pastor Blauert if you're interested and he'll get the class started.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE:

Sunday School will be wrapping up another school year with the last class on May 12! We thank Lynn Zimmerman and Corisa Schneider for teaching this year.

Vacation Bible School is planning to have classes from August 12 to 14. Contact Pastor Blauert at 507-279-8560 if you'd like to help out in any way!



Game Night: Mon., May 20, 6:30 pm

Bring a snack to pass, a beverage and a game and join us for an evening of fun and fellowship! Bring a friend too!

ALTAR GUILD

The altar guild sign-up sheet for 2024 is on the table in the fellowship hall. This is a great way to help with worship at St. Paul's. Please speak with Rose Vertein if you are interested and have questions. Thank you!



On Mother's Day, May 12th, each woman who comes to church will receive a carnation. They are from the Sauk County Chapter Right to Life. May they serve as a reminder of God's wonderful gift of life. Pray for all mothers and soon-to-be-moms!



CARDS

Mary Klemm is our Sunshine Lady for St. Paul's. If anyone is sick or needs a card of encouragement, please contact her.



LADIES' AID UPDATE

Our next Ladies' Aid meeting will be Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 p.m. All ladies of the church are invited to grow in faith, serve the Lord and encourage one another.

The Church Council will meet between the services on Sunday, May 12th.

OUR GIFTS to the LORD Mar. 31—April 21

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Sun., Mar. 31: 7 am	50	\$1,977
10 am	24	\$400
Sun., April 7: 8:30 am	43	\$2,457
Sun., April 14: 7:30 am	25	\$890
10 am	67*	\$395
Sun., April 21: 7:30 am	36	\$965.25
10 am	16	\$651

* Includes St. John's Lutheran grade school children who sang on April 14 at 10 a.m.

Ave. attendance: 8:30 am (combined), 43; Early, 37; Late, 36.

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GLORIFY GOD with Altar Flowers!

Many of us have brought flowers to church in memory of loved ones. We can bring them to celebrate God's rich blessings to. Here are a few suggestions to spark celebration ideas: new baby/grandbaby, birthdays, weddings, anniversary, retirement, new job, holidays, baptisms, confirmations, graduations, health recoveries, or good health, faith, family and friends.

So, thank you for bringing flowers!

A few things to help you with this:

- There should be 2 matching arrangements, one on either side of the altar. You may purchase arrangements from florists, or
- We have 3 sets of matching vases in the kitchen if you're going to arrange your home-grown flowers or purchased bouquets from a grocery store.
- We have cut flower food packets in a kitchen drawer labeled FLOWERS (below the vases). Use 1 packet per vase. There are also floral shears for your use.
- Place the flowers by late Saturday or before the 7:30 service; remove them sometime after the late service. If you use the church vases, please clean and return them to church that week.
- When you intend to provide flowers, please sign up at least the Sunday prior.
- If you choose to bring plants instead of vased flowers, there are clear plastic trays to go under the flowerpots, located in the room to the right of the altar. Please use them to avoid leaking water on the stands.
- Call Mary Klemm 608-434-0650 or Kristine Blauert 507-460-2928 if you would like to provide but not arrange flowers, or for any other questions. Afterwards, you can enjoy the beautiful flowers at home and/or gift some to a friend of family member. We appreciate your consideration in providing altar flowers. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

Summer Convention and Conference times

Western Wis. District Convention: June 10 & 11 at Luther Preparatory School, Watertown, Wis. A male lay delegate is needed. Please contact Pastor Blauert by May 19th if you'd like to go.

WELS Women's Ministry Conference: July 28-30 at Ingleside Hotel, Pewaukee, WI. See Kristine Blauert for more information, or go to welswmconference.net.

National Conference on Worship, Music, and the Arts: July 30—August 2 at Carthage College, Kenosha, WI. For more info go to welsworshipconference.net.



“You Can Help our MLC Student”

We are donating funds for Martin Luther College's Congregational Partner Grant Program to help member Faith Blauert with next year's tuition at MLC. MLC will provide matching funds up to \$1,450. We need to submit it by June 30. Thank you for your contributions for a future called worker of our synod!

VACATION

Pastor Blauert and Kristine will be on vacation from April 29 through May 5. If you need pastoral help during that time, contact one of the other WELS pastors in the area (Pastors Kuske and Ertl of Baraboo, or Pastor Karow of St. John's, Rock Springs). Pastor Tim Kuske will be having the service on May 5th.

With the Lord: On Easter evening, Mar. 31, the Lord took the soul of Donna Krayner home to heaven. She was given a Christian funeral on April 13th. “Death has been swallowed up in victory!” (1 Cor. 15:54)

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INFORMATION ABOUT ST. PAUL'S:

Pastor: Rev. Timothy Blauert

Church secretary: Elaine Shimniok.

Contact us: Church office: 608-522-4493.

Pastor's cell phone: 507-279-8560.

Email: stpaulsnf@hotmail.com or
tkblauert@outlook.com.

Website address: www.stpaulslutheran-nf.org

Worship times: Sundays 7:30 and 10 a.m.

First Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Communion, 1st & 3rd Sundays

Sunday School: Sundays at 8:45 a.m., or after the service on the first Sunday of the month.

Sunday School teachers: Lynn Zimmerman and Corisa Schneider.

Adult Bible study: Sundays at 8:45 a.m. or after the service on the 1st Sunday of the month;

Bible information class is being held on an individual basis for anyone interested.

Church Council

President: Jim Dohner

Vice-president: Dave Zimmerman

Secretary: Paul Fuller

Treasurer: Mark Shimniok

Financial secretary: Jeremy Zimmerman

Head usher: Roy Schneider

Ladies' Aid

President: Elaine Shimniok

Secretary: Lynn Zimmerman

Treasurer: Elaine Shimniok

Sunshine Lady: Mary Klemm

LWMS Reporter: Linda Ennis

Church organists

Susan Grossenbacher; Lorene Belter

Church Custodian Vonnie Leifer

Please remember our shut-in members with your prayers and visits

Gary Meske (at home) Ellie Schultz (at home)

Please let Pastor know if you are sick, in the hospital, or are having any other difficulties. He'll be glad to visit and have a devotion and pray with you! Contact information for him is in the left column of this page.



Happy Anniversary to:

Tim & Julie Rathman – May 15, 1993

Curt & Patricia Klemm – May 25, 1990

Gary & Sandra Nehring – May 28, 1966

Chad & Melanie Zimmerman – May 31, 2003



Happy Birthday to:

Gary Meske – May 1 (turning 90!)

Suzanne Dohner – May 2

Donna Vertein – May 3

Jeremy Zimmerman – May 5

Gene Schellenberger – May 7

Melanie McLaughlin – May 9

Adelyn Shimniok – May 9

Vonnie Leifer – May 12

Gary Nehring – May 12

Wayne Vertein – May 13

Louise Crisman – May 15

Bill Page – May 15

Todd Nehring – May 20

Sue Bell – May 22

Calista Grooms – May 23

Jennifer Shimniok – May 23

Cooper Hehenberger – May 25

Brook-Lynn Klaetsch – May 25

Adam Shimniok – May 28

Ann Fuller – May 29