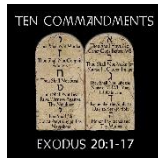


OCTOBER 2026 St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church Connection

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

Message from the Pastor



Conclusion to the Commandments

“I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments” (Exodus 20:5,6).

One time, Oprah Winfrey talked to her audience about her problems with the above passage. She had heard the passage above and thought to herself, “The Lord says he is a ‘jealous God’? That can’t be right!” (According to reports, Oprah still considers herself a Christian and follows Jesus, but also mixes other spirituality into her religion.)

It may sound strange to us as well that the Lord calls himself a “jealous” God. Some teachers of the catechism explain to the students that this passage talks about God being “zealous”, that he is very serious about his commandments and will punish those who sin, while rewarding those who obey. And that is true.

Yet, the Lord our God is indeed a “jealous” God. Jealousy is not to be confused with envy, which is a sin against the 9th and 10th commandments. Envy is like coveting, wishing to get what another person has. Jealousy is the flip side: Wanting to keep what you have. God is a jealous God. He wants us all to ourselves. He doesn’t want us to give our hearts to another god, be it Allah or Buddha or Mammon (money). He is serious that we worship him alone, and will punish us if we sin against him.

The Lord our God is a jealous God because he loves us so much. He wants what’s best for us. He knows it will hurt us if we sin and break his commandments. That’s why he had these commandments written down and given to Moses, so we can know clearly what his will is and what we are to do to please him.

In the conclusion to the commandments, God promises to show love to all who obey him. But he knows that we cannot obey him perfectly. The law makes us “conscious of sin” (Ro. 3:20) and aware that we need a Savior. That’s why the Father gave his one and only Son, Jesus, to keep the commandments for us and to suffer the penalty for our sins, being forsaken by God on the cross and dying for us. That kind of earnest love is what will lead us to love him most of all. May we be eternally thankful that our “jealous” God worked to save us and keep us for himself through his Son Jesus. Trust in Jesus, and not the works of the law, to be saved!

-Pastor Timothy Blauert

OCTOBER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Oct. 4: 19th Sunday after Pentecost. 8:30 am communion service. “Produce fruits of repentance and faith.”

Oct. 11: 20th Sunday after Pentecost. 7:30, 10 am services. “A feast for all peoples.”

Oct. 18: 21st Sunday after Pentecost. 7:30, 10 am communion services. “The Christian and the government.”

Oct. 25: 22nd Sunday after Pentecost. 7:30, 10 am services. “Love God, love your neighbor.”



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CONGREGATION MEETING

Sunday, October 11

St. Paul's will have their last quarterly meeting of the year between the church services on October 11, starting at about 8:35 a.m. We encourage all confirmed members to attend to discuss our church's business for the rest of the year.

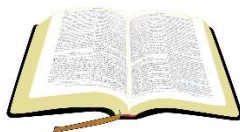
Christian Education



Sunday School has started and will continue to have classes each Sunday at 8:30 am when we have two services, and during fellowship hour on the first Sunday of the month. Lori Cook and Lynn Zimmerman are our teachers.

Confirmation Class for 7th-8th grade public students is meeting on Wednesdays at 1:45 pm.

BIBLE CLASS



Topic: "The Holy Spirit, Silent Member of the Trinity."

Times: Sunday, October 4 after the fellowship hour. Sunday, October 18 and 25 from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m.

For: All adults and teens!

LADIES' ACTIVITIES

Ladies' Aid meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 13

We invite all ladies to join us for our monthly meeting on October 13, starting at 6:30 p.m. We will finalize plans for the LWMS rally on the 17th (see below), and discuss ideas and plans for Christmas and winter activities. Ladies, come and join us!



FALL RALLY

**Saturday, October 17 at St. Paul's,
North Freedom**

Registration and fellowship begin at 9 a.m.

Pastor Blauert will do the opening devotion at 9:30 am. Following the business meeting, Missionary Charles Flunker and his wife Beth will do a presentation on our mission field in Brazil. Pastor Tim Kuske will close with a service.

Thank you to those who are volunteering to help with hosting the event. Please contact Elaine Shimniok if you haven't signed up and would like to help.

GAME NIGHT: Tuesday, Oct. 20



You're invited to join us at 6:30 for an evening of fun, games and fellowship! Bring a snack to share, a beverage, your favorite game, and a friend to join in the fun!

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CARDS



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

ALTAR GUILD

The altar guild sign-up sheet is on the table in the fellowship hall. This is a great way to help with worship at St. Paul's. Please call the church if you are interested and have questions. We are also looking for an altar guild coordinator. Talk to Rose Vertein or pastor for more information. Thank you!



Altar Flowers

On the table in the fellowship hall, please sign up to bring altar flowers for a particular Sunday, in honor of a birthday or anniversary, in memory of a loved one, or just on your own. Please refer to the directions in the fellowship hall for caring for altar flowers.

Our offerings and service to the Lord

Aug. 30, 7:30 am Attend.: 31; Offering: \$1,345
10 am Attend.: 16; Offering: \$635
Sep. 6, 8:30 am Attend.: 37; Offering: \$1,580
Sep. 13, 7:30 am Attend.: 29, Offering: \$717
10 am Attend.: 15; Offering: \$305
Sep. 20, 7:30 am Attend.: 38, Offering: \$1,490
10 am Attend.: 23, Offering: \$775

Average attendance: 7:30 am: 33; 10 am: 18; 8:30 am (combined): 37.



NEWS from the WELS



1) Former WELS president Rev. Karl Gurgel was taken home to heaven on September 13. Pastor Gurgel served as synod president from 1993 to 2007. A funeral service is being held for him at St. Matthew Lutheran, Winona, MN on Friday, Sept. 25.

2) Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, WI, has begun construction on their campus. They are building new classrooms to replace the original classrooms on the campus, built in 1929. A gathering hall and a student lounge will also be constructed. The final part of the project will be redesigning the old classrooms into faculty offices for the professors to meet with their students.

The seminary is the synod's school for training pastors of the WELS. Most students who are there are graduates of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota, and take an additional three years of classes and one year as a vicar (in a congregation) to train to become pastors.



With the Lord...

The Lord took the soul of Duane Belter home to heaven in Madison early on Friday, Sep. 11. A funeral service is being held at St. John's Lutheran, Baraboo, on September 25. Duane was the husband of Lorene Belter, who had been an organist at St. Paul's. Please keep Lorene and her family in your prayers.

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

ST. PAUL'S "INFORMATION" PAGE

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: 8:30 a.m.

First Sunday, 9:40 a.m.

Teachers: Lori Cook, Lynn Zimmerman.

(Rylee Zeman, assistant)

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

Church Council

President: Dave Zimmerman

Vice-president: Paul Fuller

Secretary: John Shimniok

Treasurer: Mark Shimniok

Financial secretary: Jeremy Zimmerman

Head usher: Bill Page

Ladies' Aid

President: Elaine Shimniok

Secretary: Kristine Blauert

Treasurer: Elaine Shimniok

Sunshine Lady: Mary Klemm

LWMS Reporter: Kristine Blauert

Church organist

Susan Grossenbacher

Church Custodian

Vonnie Leifer

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

Delores Raddatz (at home)

Ellie Schultz

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, as well as offer communion. His contact information is on the left column of this page.



Happy Anniversary!

Rick & Lori Hehenberger – October 2, 1982

Dave & Lynn Zimmerman – October 9, 1976

Dalton & Regalle Rathman – October 12, 2019

Brendon & Carrah Shimniok – Oct. 14, 2023



Happy Birthday to:

Dalton Rathman – October 4

Walter Klaetsch – October 8

Luke Rathman – October 8

Timothy Blauert – October 10

Brenda Zeman – October 10

Jim Dohner – October 16

Scott Klemm – October 16

Scarlett Klaetsch – October 17

Kody Weiland – October 18

Kyle Weiland – October 18

Melanie Zimmerman – October 29

Claudia Galston – October 30

Mike Weiland – October 30