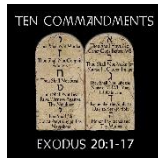


# APRIL 2026 St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church Connection

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

## Message from the Pastor



### The Fourth Commandment

*“Honor your father and mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD God is giving you.” (Exodus 20:12)*

Respect and honor are qualities that seem to be lacking in today's America. We see it in stores and playgrounds how kids behave as brats and parents don't know how to keep them in line. Students fail to show respect and listen to their teachers. Protesters and others attack the police and insist on their “rights”, and decry “police brutality” when officers are doing their job to enforce the law. And as for respect toward government leaders, that's been missing for decades. Whether the leaders are Republicans or Democrats, groups of people refuse to honor those whom God has chosen.

But God told the Israelites to honor their mother and father, and all in authority. Why? “So that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.” God has instituted the family as the building block of society. Trash the family, and society is going to break down. The same is true for governing authorities. Paul wrote, “Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God” (Ro. 13:1). Citizens need to honor and respect police and government, for the system of law and order, protection from crime, and defense from outside attack they provide.

That doesn't mean that we blindly do everything the authorities tell us to do. The Jewish council tried to prevent the apostles from preaching about Jesus. They replied, “We must obey God rather than human beings!” (Acts 5:29). If parents try to prevent us from going to church, or if national laws forbid us from speaking the truth of God's Word, we honor God by obeying him, not humans.

But otherwise, as Christians we need to take the lead in showing honor to all in authority. We do it because of Jesus. Jesus obeyed this commandment perfectly for us; he even submitted to the governing authorities who condemned him to death on a cross. His obedience and his death paid for the sins we've done, when we've talked back to parents or flouted government laws. On Good Friday and Easter, let's look to Jesus as our Savior, and as our inspiration to honor God by honoring the representatives he's placed above us.

*--Pastor Timothy Blauert*

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

**Maundy Thursday, April 2** 6:30 pm service with communion. “It Is Finished: A Cleansing Fountain.”

**Good Friday, April 3** 3 pm service “It Is Finished: Gone in a Single Day.”

### EASTER SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, April 5

7 am “Son-Rise” Service with communion

8 am Easter Breakfast

10 am Easter Service with communion



**APRIL 2026 St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church Connection**  
**106 S. Maple St. PO Box 357 North Freedom, WI 53951**

***APRIL SUNDAY WORSHIP THEMES***

April 12: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter. 7:30, 10 am service times. "HE LIVES to give me proof and peace."

April 19: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter. 7:30, 10 am communion services. "HE LIVES to restore my hope."

April 26: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter. 7:30, 10 am services. "HE LIVES as my Good Shepherd."

**Congregational Meeting**  
**Sunday, April 12, 8:30 a.m.**

We encourage all communicant members to attend our congregational meeting. Pastor and council will deliver reports on the first quarter of the year. There will also be a few membership changes to be approved. Please come and participate!



***EASTER SIGN-UP***

At church, please sign up if you are bringing Easter lilies in memory of a loved one. We ask that you bring your lily no sooner than Good Friday. Also, sign up if you are coming to the Easter breakfast on April 5 and what you are planning to bring.

**NEW SPRING BIBLE CLASS**

**"The Book of James"**



Starting on April 19, our Bible Class will study the book of James on Sundays, 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. We invite all adults and teens to join us!



**BAPTISMS**

Axtyn Lee Shimniok, son of Andrew and Melissa Shimniok, was baptized privately at St. Paul's on March 19.

Sofia Alexandra Shanks, daughter of Andrew and Daria Shanks, was baptized at the 10 a.m. service on March 22.

We give thanks to God that Axtyn and Sofia have been brought into God's family through Holy Baptism!

***LADIES' AID***

The Ladies Aid's next meeting will be Tuesday, April 14 at 6:30 p.m. We encourage all women to come to enjoy fellowship as well as discuss plans for serving the Lord at St. Paul's.

**LWMS RALLY: Saturday, April 18**

At St. Luke's, New Lisbon. Registration at 9 am. Speaker: Rev. Dan Sims, Christian Aid and Relief.

**GAME NIGHT, Tuesday, April 21**



We'll get together for our monthly game night on Tuesday, April 21st at 6:30 p.m. Bring your favorite board or card game, a snack to share, and a friend!

# APRIL 2026 St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church Connection

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



**Baby items** are being collected for the mission in Malawi. There is a list of needed items on the bulletin board and a box under the table for the collection. Items may be gently used, just no stains or tears. We will collect them until April 12.

**Congratulations to** Brendon and Carrah Shimniok who were blessed with a baby girl! Lydia Elizabeth was born on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.



The Ladies' Aid is hosting a bake sale on Sunday, April 26. Please bring price and packaged items on April 25 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Proceeds will go toward the WELS Apache mission schools.

## 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 speak with Rose Vertein if you are interested and have questions. 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.



## NEWS from the WELS WELS

The WELS Board for Home Missions approved three new mission starts at its spring meeting:

- Bastrop, Texas (a growing community about 25 miles east of Austin)
- Greeneville, Tennessee (located between Johnson City and Knoxville, Tenn.)
- North Marana, Arizona (in the greater Tucson metropolitan area).

In addition, enhancement grants were given to Good Shepherd, Holmen, Wis.; Mount Olive, St. Paul, Minn.; and Resurrection, Chesapeake, Virginia. Pray for these home missions!

### *Our offerings and service to the Lord*

Feb. 22, 7:30 am Attend.: 39; Offering: \$1,065  
10 am Attend.: 20; Offering: \$762  
Feb. 25 (Lent) Attend.: 26; Offering: \$490  
Mar. 1, 8:30 am Attend.: 34; Offering: \$1,321  
Mar. 4 (Lent) Attend.: 19; Offering: \$527  
Mar. 8, 7:30 am Attend.: 29; Offering: \$1,815  
10 am Attend.: 11; Offering: \$420  
Mar. 11 (Lent) Attend.: 22; Offering: \$420  
Mar. 15: Church cancelled due to ice.  
Mar. 18 (Lent) Attend.: 17; Offering: \$703  
Mar. 22, 7:30 am Attend.: 41; Offering: \$1,805  
10 am Attend.: 30; Offering: \$499  
Mar. 25 (Lent) Attend.: 22; Offering: \$550

Average attendance: 8:30 am (combined): 34; 7:30 am: 36; 10 am: 20. Lent average attendance: 21.

**APRIL 2026 St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church Connection**  
**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](mailto:stpaulsnf@hotmail.com) or  
[tkblauert@outlook.com](mailto:tkblauert@outlook.com)

**Website address:** [www.stpaulslutheran-nf.org](http://www.stpaulslutheran-nf.org)

**Worship times:** Sundays 7:30 and 10 a.m.  
First Sunday, 8:30 a.m.  
Communion, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

**Sunday School:** Sundays at 8:35 a.m., or after  
the service on the first Sunday of the month.

**Adult Bible study:** Sundays at 8:45 a.m. or  
after the service on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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: Linda Ennis

**Church organist**

Susan Grossenbacher

**Church Custodian**

Vonnie Leifer

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

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!**

Mark & Elaine Shimniok – April 5, 2003  
Eric & Tricia Klingenmeyer – April 16, 1994  
Andy & Melissa Shimniok – April 21, 2012  
John & Sue Bell – April 23, 1977  
Scott & Tonya Klemm – April 24, 1993



**Happy Birthday to:**

Allison Ahrensmeyer – April 9  
Susan Grossenbacher – April 10  
Linda Wiese – April 15  
Linda Gray – April 16  
Logan Hammermeister – April 20  
Roy Schneider – April 21  
Kristine Blauert – April 29  
Eric Klingenmeyer – April 30

**Passage to think about this month: *John 14:6.***  
*Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

