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

Message from the Pastor



The End Times Season

He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." (Revelation 22:20a)

When the original <u>Christian Worship</u> hymnal came out in 1993, it introduced a new season called "End Times." The last four Sundays of Pentecost were renamed "End Times" because the Scripture readings focused on the time toward end. Depending on the year, it started the last Sunday of October or the first Sunday of November and went through most of November. Each Sunday had a focus: 1st Sunday of End Time was Reformation; the 2nd Sunday, the Last Judgment; the 3rd Sunday, Saints Triumphant, and the last Sunday of the Church Year was Christ the King Sunday.

Apparently, the "End Time Season" did not catch on elsewhere. Thus, the new <u>Christian Worship</u> hymnal (2021) returned to the Sundays of Pentecost. But the Scripture readings on the last Sundays of Pentecost still have a focus on end times and preparation for the Lord's coming on Judgment Day.

Are we living in the end times? Our Lord has told us that we are. He's given us signs, such as wars, earthquakes, the hearts of many growing cold (see Matt. 24:4-14). Jesus tells us that the church will endure persecution. We see that happening now. Though we don't know the day when Jesus will return, we need to be ready for him to come at any time, as we see those signs.

"Therefore keep watch," our Lord Jesus urges us (Matt. 24:42a). The end times season reminds us that we can't become lackadaisical in our faith, nor lax in our Christian living. The

Lord's coming will be soon. Because of that, we want to live every day as people who are expecting Jesus to return, that day. So what will we be doing? We'll be praying and reading our Bibles. We'll be working hard at our jobs, raising our families, helping in different ways in our communities, and doing it all to the glory of God. We do these things, not to earn a place in heaven when Jesus returns, but to express our faith in Jesus who already has a place marked for us in heaven, because he paid for our sins with his blood on the cross.

"Yes, I am coming soon," Jesus says. Whether or not the Lord Jesus comes this month, later this year or next year, or many years from now, let's live as Christians ready for his return!

--Pastor Timothy Blauert

November Worship

Sunday, Nov. 2. 21st Sunday after Pentecost. 8:30 a.m. communion service. Theme: By Grace I'm Saved. (Fellowship hour afterwards.)

Sunday, Nov. 9. 22nd Sunday after Pentecost. 7:30 and 10 a.m. worship. Theme: The Resurrection to Eternal Life.

Sunday, Nov. 16. 23rd Sunday after Pentecost. 7:30 and 10 a.m. communion services. Theme: Persevere for the Coming Judgment.

Sunday, Nov. 23. Last Sunday after Pentecost. 7:30 and 10 a.m. worship. Theme: Live by Faith for Christ's Coming.

<u>Sunday, Nov. 30.</u> 1st Sunday in Advent. 7:30 and 10 a.m. worship. Theme: Come Lord Jesus! –As King.

Daily Devotions in November: We will be getting into the New Testament, starting Nov.
3. Devotions will be taken from Jesus' life recorded in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Sunday devotions will be from Psalms 105-111. Grow daily in the Word!

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

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Wednesday, November 26 6:30 p.m.



For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise. (CW #505:1)



BIBLE STUDY

Our Fall Bible study series is on the Nicene Creed. Class times are on Sunday between the church services from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m., on November 16, 23 and 30. All adults and teens are welcome to join us!

Sunday School

Sunday School is continuing classes throughout this month between the services, except Nov. 2 (after the fellowship hour). Thank you, parents, for getting them here!

Padies, 41d nems

Our next Ladies' Aid meeting will be Tuesday, November 11th at 6:30 p.m. All ladies are welcome. We thank the ladies for their service to the Lord and to our church! After Nov. 11, check the bulletin about going out in December for our Christmas dinner!

Bake and Craft Sale: November 2nd before and after the service, hosted by the ladies.

Church Council Meeting: Sunday, Nov. 9, 8:30 a.m.

GAME NIGHT, Tuesday, Nov. 18th



We'll get together for our monthly game night on Tuesday, Nov. 18 at 6:30 p.m. Bring your favorite board or card game, a snack to share, and a friend!

THANK YOU!

- ...To all who helped with the fall clean-up, both inside and outside the church.
- ...To members who are serving in unseen ways, with prayers, contributions and words of encouragement.
- ...To our Lord for giving us countless blessings for body and soul here on earth, and for preparing a place for us in heaven, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LIGHT PARADE FLOAT

The village of North Freedom is planning a holiday celebration on Saturday, November 29, including a light parade in town on 6 p.m. If you are interested in helping decorate a float for the parade, please talk to Pastor Blauert, 507-279-8560.



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

LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS...

<u>Christmas decorating:</u> Saturday, November 29. Please come by 8:30 a.m. to help decorate the church for Christmas that morning.

<u>Christmas Eve services:</u> Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The 3 p.m. service will be our children's service; 6:30 p.m. will be the candlelight service.

<u>Christmas Day song service</u>: On Thursday, Dec. 25, we will worship the Christ-child with a song service at 8:30 a.m. Circle the day in your calendar—Christmas is all about <u>Christ!</u>



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 Investment Funds is celebrating its 25th year in 2025. More than 260 WELS organizations, including schools, congregations and ministries, entrust more than \$350 million to WELS Investment Funds. The funds are used for scholarships to make Christian education more affordable for families, and endowments to provide funding for outreach and evangelism efforts in congregations. Their mission is to "help ministries make the most of God's gifts so they can share his grace today and for generations to come."

Northwestern Publishing House (NPH) is producing a new series called "People's Bible Devotions. The inaugural volume, *From the Beginning: God's Salvation Plan,* focuses on the first five books of the Bible, which is being released in October. Find out more at nph.net/pbdevotions.

Our Offerings & Service to the Lord

Sep. 28, 7:30 am Attend.: 32; Offering: \$1355 10 am Attend.: 18; Offering: \$470 Oct. 5, 8:30 am Attend.: 42; Offering: \$1,755 Oct. 12, 7:30 am Attend.: 30; Offering: \$995 10 am Attend.: 16; Offering: \$440 Oct. 19, 7:30 am Attend.: 38; Offering: \$800 10 am Attend.: 13; Offering: \$290

Average attendance: 8:30 am (combined): 42; 7:30 am: 33; 10 am: 16.



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

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

Church Council

President: Jim Dohner

Vice-president: Dave Zimmerman

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

<u>Please remember our shut-in members with</u> <u>your prayers and visits</u>

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 to:



Michael & Tracy Weiland (Nov. 12, 1994)



Happy Birthday to:

Melissa Shimniok – November 2
Tracy Weiland – November 3
Kay Gaetzke –November 4
Lincoln Shimniok – November 4
Arvin Faivre – November 9
Wyatt Klaetsch – November 9
Kristy Sorenson – November 12
Ellie Seaton – November 18
Harold Bochler – November 21
Brad Vertein – November 23
Dan Baumgarten – November 26
Phillip Klemm – November 28

Passage to ponder this month: <u>1 Thess. 5:16-18</u>

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."