St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



April 21, 2024 Mauston, WI



angolical Luthoran Church orists

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to spread God's Word to ourselves, our community, and our world.

To our friends who have been with us before, we welcome you back. To those who are visiting us for the first time, we extend our most sincere greeting. To those who are seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with a Living Savior, membership in His Church and Citizenship in His Eternal Kingdom. Our message is as old as God's Word to mankind:

Jesus Christ, crucified and risen for the salvation of all.

If you have questions or need assistance today please speak to a pastor or usher! Restrooms are located next to the entrance of the building, including a family restroom for parents with young children or those with special needs. For those with hearing difficulty we have a hearing loop installed in both our fellowship hall and sanctuary. The order of service and the hymns for worship today can be found in this bulletin. Please take the bulletin home with you as it contains contact information for our pastors and news about what is going on at St. Paul's this week.

If you are seeking a church home or interested in what we teach please talk with a pastor today. Free classes are offered regularly on the basics of the Bible and Christianity. These classes are for those who are seeking membership or looking for more information about God and the Bible.

If you have children with you today, we're glad you brought them with you! If your child becomes restless, a moment or two alone with them might be all that's necessary. You are welcome to step into our family room next to the sanctuary to calm your child as needed. Young or old—all are welcome here. May the Lord bless your worship today!



Fourth Sunday of Easter



The risen Savior gives good shepherding for his sheep.

Today the church celebrates Good Shepherd Sunday. The distinguishing mark of the Good Shepherd is his willingness to lay down his life in order to save the sheep. For Jesus, this was not a mere possibility but the purpose for which he came, the purpose he fulfilled with his death on the cross on Good Friday.

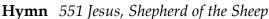
Under shepherds who follow in his footsteps will likewise face dangerous wolves—spiritually if not physically. In our First Reading, Paul warned the Ephesians elders of the wolves that were coming for the flock God had redeemed with his own blood. They would distort the truth. They would draw sheep away. He urged the elders to keep watch and be shepherds. He committed them to God's Word of grace for the strength they would need.

In our Second Reading, the apostle John warned his readers of bad shepherds; namely the false prophets who lead us away from Christ. They may speak of Jesus, but they do not acknowledge him as God in the flesh and Savior. Their teaching fits comfortably with the world's viewpoints. We find safety in listening, rather, to the Good Shepherd through the teachings of the apostles, who speak his Word.

In today's Gospel, Jesus distinguishes himself from the kind od spiritual leaders who do not defend his sheep form the wolves because they are not willing to pay the cost of doing so. Such hired hands run away to save themselves. For Jesus, the sheep aren't just to be used. He has a genuine relationship with them. He knows them. So he fives his life for them and, by doing so, gives life to his sheep.

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister Pastor Chip Wilke Organist: Mary Lynn Jirousek





Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession of Sins

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

Absolution

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

Christ, have mercy.

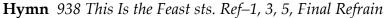
For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.





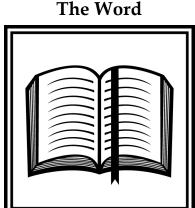
THE GOOD *
Shepherc
* LAYS DOWN *
his Life
* FOR THE *
Sheep

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



First Lesson: Acts 20:28–32

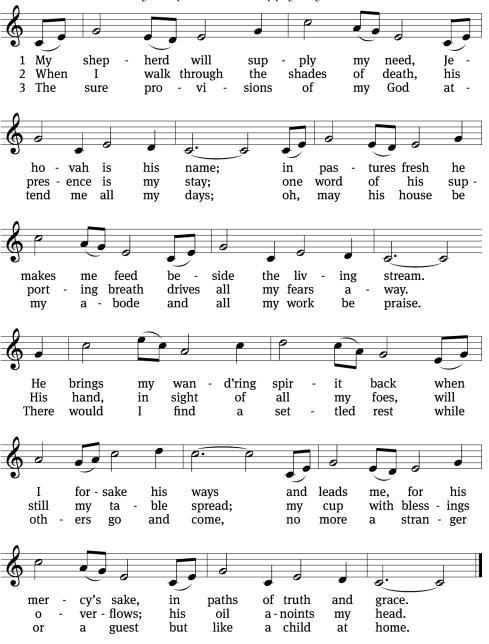
²⁸ "Always keep watch over yourselves and over the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has placed you as overseers, to shepherd the church of God, which he purchased with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure savage wolves, who will not spare the flock, will come in among you. ³⁰ Even from your own group men will rise up, twisting the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be always on the alert! Remember that for three years, night and day, I never stopped warning each one of you with tears.

³² "And now I entrust you to God and to the word of his grace, which has power to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 23F My Shepherd Will Supply My Need



Second Lesson: 1 John 4:1–6

4 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit who confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ and every spirit who does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard is coming and is already in the world. ⁴ You are from God, dear children, and you have overcome the false prophets, because the one in you is greater than the one in the world. ⁵ They are from the world. That is why they speak from a worldly perspective and the world listens to them. ⁶ We are from God. The one who knows God listens to us, but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. That is how we can distinguish between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: John 10:14

Alleluia. I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me. Alleluia.

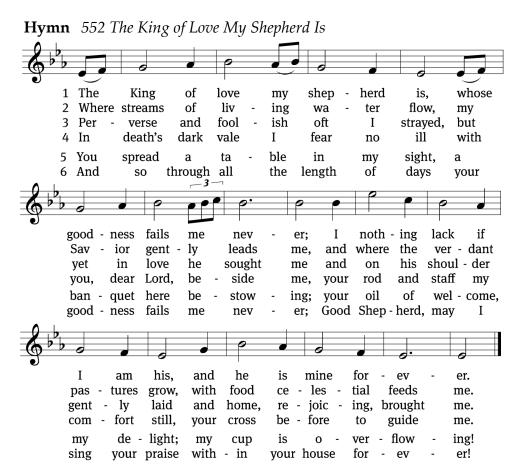
Gospel: John 10:11–18

¹¹ "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired man, who is not a shepherd, does not own the sheep. He sees the wolf coming, leaves the sheep, and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. ¹³ Because he works for money, he does not care about the sheep.

¹⁴"I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me ¹⁵ (just as the Father knows me and I know the Father). And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I also have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I may take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have the authority to lay it down, and I have the authority to take it up again. This is the commission I received from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.



Sermon: Pastor Chip Wilke Text: Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd!

¹The Lord is my shepherd. I lack nothing.

²He causes me to lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet waters.

 3 He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

 5 You set a table for me in the presence of my foes. You drench my head with oil.

My cup is overflowing.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever.

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.



We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,

of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

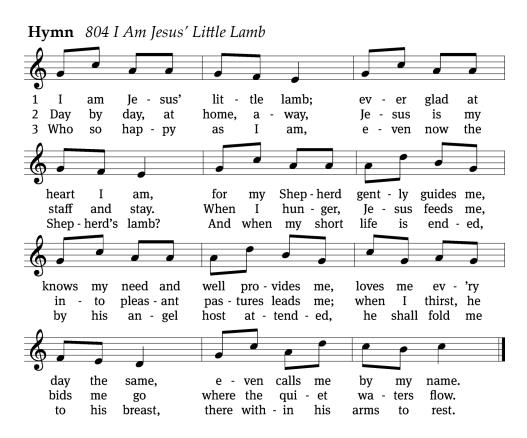
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering

St. Paul's members give as a response to God's love and in order to carry out ministry here and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering. While the offering is being taken, please take a moment to sign our friendship register



Prayer of the Church

Lord Jesus, Good Shepherd, we have heard the sound of your familiar and loving voice in the gospel and have feasted in the green pastures of your Holy Word. Bless your Word in our lives. Use its message to nourish and sustain us as we journey through this life to the next.

Give us joy in knowing that you laid down your life for the sheep—even sheep like us.

Gracious Shepherd, we are truly confused and foolish without you. Forgive us for the times we wander from you and stray from the call of your voice. Restore us to your fold, and protect us from the evil one. When Satan comes in the sheep's clothing of false teaching, expose his lies and guide us in your truth.

When temporary pleasures beckon us to follow the wide road to hell, use your rod and staff to curb our sinful nature and lead us in paths of righteousness.

Guiding Shepherd, bless your Church with faithful under-shepherds—pastors who proclaim your death and resurrection as they minister to the souls in their care. Continue to feed the lambs in your flock as you bless efforts to teach children to know you, their loving Savior.

Give all ministers of the gospel an unwavering devotion to your Word and a passion to share it.

Loving Shepherd, we pray also for those who are not in your flock. Let your voice be heard in all the world. Prosper the work of our missionaries at home and abroad. Give us all the zeal and courage to share with our friends and neighbors the good news of sins forgiven.

Use our witness to gather your people into one fold under your care.

Tender Shepherd, look with special care on all who suffer from loneliness, disease, accident or loss. Lift them into your comforting arms, and embrace them with the warmth of your love.

Carry them through life's troubling times. Renew hope and joy in their lives.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

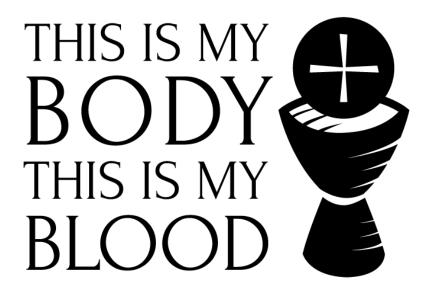
Eternal Shepherd, when our days on earth come to an end and we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, lead us safely to our eternal home.

There we will enjoy your goodness and mercy forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Sacrament



Preface

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**



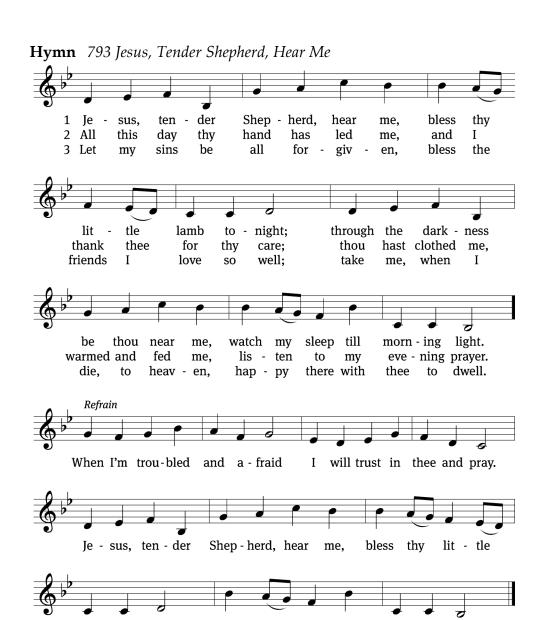
Distribution

Note to our Guest

Scripture teaches that when Christians partake of the Lord's Supper together, they are expressing their unity (1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Through this act they are confessing that they agree on all the teachings of Scripture. We do not wish to put our guests in the position of making such a confession without a full knowledge of our teachings.

Therefore <u>we respectfully ask that only those who are members of this or another WELS or ELS congregation come up to receive Communion</u>. This is not a judgment on your faith, but an effort to uphold the unity our Savior desires his people express in this Sacrament.

If you desire Communion fellowship with us, please speak to one of our pastors. We are eager to help anyone take this step.



to - night,

bless

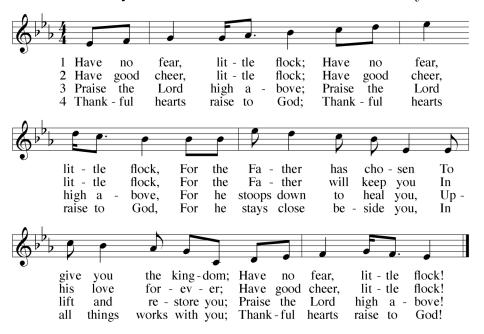
thy

lamb

lit - tle

lamb to - night.

Distribution Hymn: 442 Have No Fear, Little Flock (Red Hymnal)



Closing Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

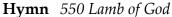
Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.





		MAUSTON			ADAMS-FRIENDSHIP		
Sun	4/21	7:45 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	1		9:15 am 10:30 am	Adult Bible Study Sunday School Worship	
Mon	4/22	3:45 pm	Bible Information Class Lil' Lambs Chapel Monday Night Service				
Tue	4/23	6:00 pm	Bible Information Class				
Wed	4/24	11:00 am 6:00 pm	Adult Bible Study Introducing Jesus Lil' Lambs Chapel Catechism Adult Bible Study Introducing Jesus				
Thu	4/25		Lil' Lambs Chapel Lil' Lambs Staff Study JAM		10:00 am	Bible Class Introducing Jesus	
Fri	4/26						
Sat	4/27	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am	, ,		10:00 am	Kids event	
Sun	4/28	7:45 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 1:00 pm	Adult Bible Class/ Sunday School	\d-Fr	9:15 am 10:30 am 1:00 pm	Adult Bible Study Sunday School Worship Call Meeting @ Ad-Fr Quarterly Voter's Mtg @ Ad-Fr	
Mauston attendance last week					Adams-Friendship attendance last week		
Sunday 7:45 a.m. 98				Sunday	y 10:30 a.m.	79	
Sunday 10:30 a.m. 76							
Monday 6:00 p.m. 14							

Needed to meet yearly budget: \$11,420/week	Weekly	Year to Date
Income last week	6,553.50	143,730.18
Expenses last week	7,849.49	149,441.40
Deficit/Surplus	-1,295.99	-5,711.22

Wish List - Mauston Church Parking Lot					
Total Cost	\$ 251,955				
Start up funds	201,000				
Total cash donations	45,765				
Received past week	220.00				
Total Funds available	\$ 246,765				
Still need	\$5,190				

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APRIL 28 QUARTERLY VOTER'S MEETING TO BE HELD AT ADAMS-FR: Since our 3rd Call Meeting is being held at the Adams-Friendship Church Campus at 1:00pm on Sunday, April 28, 2024, our St. Paul's Congregation's April 28. 2024 Quarterly Voter's Meeting which was originally going to be held at the Mauston Church Campus, will instead now also be held at 1:30pm at the Adams-Friendship Church Campus fellowship hall.

All members from Mauston and Adams-Friendship Church Campuses are encouraged to attend, as <u>we are all one congregation</u>, with two locations. We value and appreciate our Member Involvement in Church decisions, as well as we encourage everyone's selfless service to Christ's Church and willingness in helping to spread God's Gospel to our family, friends, and community. <u>It is very important that we all keep ourselves informed of the business of our Church and contribute to decisions that are made.</u>

Starting on Sunday, April 21st, you are encouraged to pick up the Voter's Meeting Agenda Packet, which can be found in the Narthex as you enter the Church. <u>Listed in this Agenda Packet</u> will be the last meeting's minutes and committee reports to be approved and Old and New Business Agenda Items to be discussed and/or approved as well as current written Committee reports for this Quarter. Little Lambs Day Care and Church Quarterly financial reports as well as other information explaining some business agenda items are also included to study in advance. Picking

SPECIAL VOTER'S 3RD CALL MEETING TO BE HELD AT ADAMS-FRIENDSHIP

CHURCH: On Sunday Afternoon, April 28, 2024 at 1:00pm, at the St. Paul's Adams-Friendship Campus Church Fellowship Hall, all of our St. Paul's Congregation members from both Mauston and Adams-Friendship campuses are all invited to attend a <u>Special Voter's 3rd Call Meeting</u> to attempt to fill the Vacancy Pastor position created when Pastor Sellnow accepted a Call to Glendale, Arizona and Rev. Jonathan J. Kolander returned our 2nd Call.

We value and appreciate all of our Congregation Member involvement in Church decisions even if you are not an eligible Voter. We encourage selfless service to Christ's Church and your willingness to keep informed about the business of our Church.

At this Special Voter's 3rd Call Meeting, our Asst. Circuit Pastor Dave Karow will represent our Circuit President and will present us with a slate of Pastors that he recommends could fit our needs. We will be given a small history of each Pastor on the slate and then we will discuss and vote by secret written ballot on which one we should call.

Note: If you are an Eligible voter and have not attended a Voter's meeting in the past calendar year, but you did attend the Special Pre-Call Meeting on Jan. 14, 2024, or the 1st Call Meeting on Jan. 28, 2024, the January 28, 2024 Annual Church Voter's Meeting, or the 2nd Call meeting held on Sunday, March 10, 2024, then you did make yourself eligible to vote at this 3rd Call meeting because these meetings were all considered Voter's Meetings. Attendance at this 3rd Call meeting will make you eligible to vote at future Voter's meetings over the next calendar year.

Reminder: Our Constitution and Bylaws state that eligible voting members are those Male Communicant Members who have declared their agreement with the Constitution, who are at least 18 years of age, and who have attended at least one (1) Voter's Meeting in the previous calendar year, which means one (1) year previous to this present meeting. Ron Pfaff, President, St. Paul's

REGISTER TODAY FOR TASTE OF MISSIONS, a hybrid event that will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2024, at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, Wis. Join us in person OR online to get a "taste of missions" no matter where you might be around the world.

The event kicks off with a special worship service where we will commission new home and world missionaries. Sample ethnic cuisine from some of our mission fields while enjoying fellowship and presentations from home and world missionaries alike. View displays, participate in outdoor family-friendly activities, and ask questions about the ups and downs of mission work during a panel discussion.

Registration is \$15 per person, with children 13 and under attending for free. Those attending in person will receive food tickets to sample ethnic food and will have the ability to purchase additional food from the food trucks. Or attend virtually for free and watch all events via livestream, view additional video updates from missionaries, and try your hand at making one of the many ethnic recipes shared on the website. Learn more and register at tasteofmission.com

ST. PAUL'S LIL' LAMBS REQUESTING HELP IN THE AFTERNOONS. This position can either be full or part time; depending on your interest and availability. If you a interested; please send your resume along with a cover letter to stpaulslillambs@gmail.com or contact Shar Weibel at 608-847-2515.

NEW CRAFT DAY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 27th On Saturday April 27th at 10:00 am (feel free to join us for the wow meeting at 9:00am) We will make paper decorations using the old hymnals. Children activities will be offered too. Bring a hot glue gun if you have one.

Mauston News and Notes

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to repair and make new banners. Please contact the church office 608-847-4108 if interested.

ROCK AND SHEILD EVENT On Saturday, May 4, Rock + Shield is going to Pinseekers in Deforest! We will meet here at church at 9:30 for a devotion before we go drive some golf balls. All teenagers and college-agers are welcome! Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Talk to Pastor Waldschmidt if you have any questions.

Adams-Friendship News and Notes

KIDS DAY BOOTH SATURDAY Saturday, April 27, St. Paul's will once again have a booth set up at the Kids Day event for Adams-Friendship—this year held in the High School gym. If you are willing to help staff our booth please sign up today or speak with Diane Roekle. Volunteers will offer games, crafts, and small gifts/prizes to the kids and their families who attend and can share information about St. Paul's with them as well.



ADAMS-FRIENDSHIP

511 West Lake Street in Friendship, WI

Worship Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Radio
Sunday at 10:00 a.m. on 106.1 FM

Office Phone 608-474-1436

Pastor Philip Waldschmidt 608-350-9681 revwaldschmidt@gmail.com

MAUSTON

517 Grayside Avenue in Mauston, WI

Worship Sunday 7:45 & 10:30 a.m. Monday 6:00 p.m.

Radio
Sunday at 9:00 a.m. on 92.9 FM & 1270 AM

Office Phone 608-847-4108

Pastor Russell "Chip" Wilke 608-350-9681 revwilke@gmail.com

Church Secretary: stpaulssec2@gmail.com

Follow us online: www.stpauls-wels.com

St. Paul's is affiliated with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



www.wels.net