



He Is Risen: Living the Resurrection Today

Consider a seed planted in the ground. It appears lifeless, buried beneath the soil. But in time, it sprouts, grows, and blossoms into something beautiful. Similarly, Jesus' death and resurrection demonstrate that what seems like the end can be a new beginning. In our own lives, God can bring growth and renewal out of our trials and hardships.

Early on that first Easter morning, a group of women approached Jesus' tomb, carrying spices and heavy hearts. They expected to find a sealed grave and a lifeless body. Instead, they encountered an empty tomb and two angels who proclaimed, *"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!"* (Lk. 24:5-6). This moment changed everything. The resurrection of Jesus is not just a historical event; it is the cornerstone of our faith and the source of our hope.

The resurrection assures us that death does not have the final word. In our community, where we face challenges like illness, loss, and uncertainty, the empty tomb reminds us that God brings life out of death and hope out of despair. When we feel overwhelmed by the difficulties of life, we can find comfort in knowing that Jesus has overcome the grave.

The disciples initially struggled to believe the women's report of the empty tomb. Their skepticism reflects our own doubts and questions. Yet, the resurrection invites us to trust in God's power, even when we don't fully

understand. In our faith community, we support one another in times of doubt, reminding each other of God's promises and the truth of the resurrection.

The resurrection calls us to live transformed lives. As followers of the risen Christ, we are empowered to love, serve, and forgive. In our daily interactions, we can embody the hope of the resurrection by extending grace to others, standing up for justice, and sharing the good news of Jesus. Our actions become a testimony to the living Christ.

The resurrection of Jesus is not just a past event; it is a present reality that transforms our lives. As we navigate the joys and struggles of life, let us remember that we serve a risen Savior who offers us hope, peace, and purpose. May we live each day in the light of the resurrection, sharing its power and promise with those around us.

– Pastor Justin Shrum

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Worship Schedule

Sunday services: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

***Summer Schedule begins 5/25 with Sunday services at 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. through Labor Day weekend.**

Monday evenings: 6:00 p.m.

Our 8am Sunday services are on YouTube and can also be heard on WNAM 1280 AM.



Easter Series – Because He Lives

(Continued): It is easy to become so engrossed in the details of historical events—who, when, where—that we miss their significance. For example,

consider World War II. There are many compelling stories. Lots of dates and data to remember. However, for a moment, set all that aside, and just imagine the Allies had lost. How would the world be different today? What would life be like for those of Jewish heritage? Would freedom exist in Europe? Would we be speaking German? With historical events, you miss out if you focus only on the details: *who, when, where*. You also need to focus what that historical event means. The Allies won. That means something!

In this season of Easter, it is good we review the details: *who, when, where*. That reminds us that the resurrection of Christ is not fairytale or fable. It is a historical event. . . the historical event. However, we do ourselves a disservice if we simply recall the historic details of Easter without thinking long and hard about Easter's significance. Jesus won. That means something! It is our privilege and pleasure to use the fifty days of Easter to discuss this fact: because he lives, not only is our eternity secure, but we have abundant resources to face the present.

5/4, 5/5	We Can See Things Clearly
5/11, 5/12	We Know Jesus is Trustworthy & True
5/18, 5/19	We Live Lives of Lavish Love
5/25	We Have Deep & Lasting Joy

Official Acts

Baptized:

Rowan Beirl, son of Emily & Jeremy Beirl

Forever with the Lord:

Karl Hoppe departed this life on March 26th, 2025 at the age of 79 years, 9 months, and 26 days.

Lila Schroeder departed this life on April 10th, 2025 at the age of 100 years, 11 months, 12 days.

Transfer In:

Mark Kuehn

Transfer Out:

Kailey Crenshaw

Chris Kantelberg

Ministry Funding Plan Financials through March 31st, 2025

	Mar.	YTD
Income	\$ 201,971	\$ 2,183,746
Expense	\$ 237,604	\$ 2,075,144
Deficit	\$ -35,633	\$ +108,602

School News

Mission Statement:

Using God's Word as our guide, St. Paul Lutheran School will raise up future generations of Christians in our community by assisting parents in the Christian teaching of their children and by striving for excellence in all areas of instruction.

Housing Needed: Our International Student Program is seeking families who are willing to provide a homestay for the upcoming school year. If you are interested in hosting an International Student or would like additional information, contact [Mr. Kelley](#).

St. Paul Night at the Timber Rattlers: Join us for a fun night of baseball and fellowship on May 31st at 6:40pm. The theme for the game is Star Wars with a post-game firework show. Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#).

Confirmation: The first Sunday in May is always set aside as our student Confirmation (10:30 service). We congratulate the following young people from St. Paul on their confirmation: Emily Carrel, Lucas Gosha, Mason Haack, Anabella Holmes, Olivia Jelinek, Hailey Miller, Reagan Pribbernow, Maggie Uhlenbrauck, and Hailey VanLinn. May you live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Congratulations!

Graduation: The St. Paul closing graduation service is Thursday, May 22nd at 6pm. Congratulations and God's blessings to our 2025 8th Grade Graduates: Miles Artz, Teddy Behnke, Brendan Blob, Ian Chen, Harper Essler, Mason Haack, Grace Hale, Eliana Hamblin, Samuel Holtz, Silas Holtz, Noelle Kelley, Lucy Kelly, Lydia Kraus, Charles Nichols, Hope Pomeroy, Elise Schultz, Jasmine Toppe, Vivian Wang, Charlotte Zera, and Austin Zimmerman.

Radio Broadcast Funding

We are in dire need of funding for our radio broadcasts. Currently we have three months left of broadcasts until our fund is depleted. If you would like to make a donation, please contact the office, or specify 'radio broadcast' in your check memo. There is also an option in the Church Center app in the 'Give' tab for 'Radio Broadcast'.

St Paul Employment Opportunity

We are seeking a **full-time Facilities Coordinator or Custodian** for our church and school. Mr. Ryan Zimmerman will be departing at the end of May, so the goal is to hire before then to facilitate training and transition. The decision between hiring a Facilities Coordinator or Custodian will depend on the candidate's qualifications, experience, and circumstances. Written job description and applications are available in the school office. Please contact

Pastor Holtz (mholtz@stpaulappletonwi.com), Jason Kelley (jkelley@stpaulappletonwi.com), or Perry Abitz (ccpresident@stpaulappletonwi.com) for further inquiries regarding this opportunity.

2025 Facility Improvement Proposals

The Council will present 4 facility improvements at the April 29 Voter's meeting. Please plan to attend. Some items were on hold as we considered a new school. A decision has been reached to continue using our school building and not expand. However, there are renovations and improvements needed over the coming years. Keep in mind that although our school is in excellent condition, it is 70 years old! These are the projects needed now, with more to follow.

We have a strong funding plan to pay for all the proposed work this year. In addition, special funds have been opened for each project, and members can contribute directly if desired. **Voters will be asked to approve these proposals.**

Project 1. Replace the original interior school doors with new doors to meet security and accessibility codes. New classroom doors will have 3" X 33" vertical windows and locksets that are always locked from the hallway to improve security. The doors will have closers and metal kickplates, as they do now. The internal entrance doors, gym doors, and kitchen doors will also be replaced to improve security and meet emergency egress codes. This investment is long overdue and will be welcomed by families and staff as we demonstrate our commitment to school safety and accessibility. **Cost \$38,918**

Project 2. Replace the carpeting in the kindergarten room with new LVP plank flooring. This is requested help

children with allergies. (It is our only carpeted classroom.) A solid surface floor will be dust free, and its durability is well suited to a classroom environment. Keeping it clean and stain free will not be an issue. The existing carpet is ten years old. **Cost \$8,964**

Project 3. Repave the parking lot. The parking lot and striping are in very poor condition. The solution is to excavate the surface, regrade the base adding gravel if needed, repave with a new 3.5" layer of asphalt, and restripe. This has been needed for several years but was delayed primarily due to our school replacement study. It didn't make sense to spend money on the parking lot until decisions were made. **Cost \$83,500**

Project 4. ECC Room Dividers and Building Code Compliance. Our ECC has been in operation since 2015 and expanded three years ago. We are at full capacity. Our ECC director developed a plan with the Properties Committee to divide the 3K room to enable several more children to be enrolled. This is important to families with multiple children. Without this project some families will likely have to move as we won't have space for all their children. Because this project will increase revenue, the cost will be paid for in less than a year. The second part of this project is adding doors to staff areas in the ECC rooms. At the last city safety inspection, it was determined the current child gates are not in compliance with egress codes. Removing the gates and adding the doors will remedy this problem. We will also add two sound control windows to lower the noise between the adjoining rooms. **Cost \$13,000**

LWMS News

All women of St. Paul are invited! St. Paul LWMS will meet in the church basement on Thursday, May 15th, at 6:30 PM. Please come and learn how our congregation supports missionaries and their families. We will be voting on candidates for the National LWMS Board of Directors as well as world and home mission projects for 2025/2026. LWMS meets four times throughout the year. After a break during the summer months, we will meet again on Thursday, September 18th.

Befriend a Mission Program: LWMS women love supporting missions and the missionaries who serve at them. One way this is apparent is through the Befriend A Mission program (BAM). Each of the 60 circuits, plus the non-circuit member congregations and the individual members, receive at least one home mission and one world mission to befriend over a two-year period. The women of the circuit pray for the mission and missionary, send cards of encouragement, and sometimes send gifts to support special projects or gifts simply to show love to the missionary and family. Over the next few months, we will be providing information about each of our new

2025-2026 BAM families. We continue to supply greeting cards for you to send to our BAM families. You can find them in the quilted pocket located on the LWMS bulletin board in the church basement.

A message from World Missionary Joel Hoff, TELL Network, One Africa:

Our family arrived in Zambia on March 1, 2023. Our first year was a whirlwind of transition and change. The Lord allowed new adventures, experiences, challenges, and blessings to enrich our lives each day. I joined the One Africa Team as the TELL (Think, Evaluate, Learn, and Lead) Network Missionary to Africa. TELL is an e-Learning program that teaches simple truths from God's Word that can be shared with others. My work includes online instruction and counsel to students as they train to be TELL Growth Development Leaders. There are currently students in 25 different countries throughout Africa. During my first year, I was able to visit national church partner leaders and/or TELL students in Cameroon, Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, Zambia, and South Africa. It has been a blessing to meet in-person the smiling faces that I have studied online. Some students are members of the Lutheran Church who desire to study God's Word and share Jesus with others. Many come from various religious backgrounds and, by God's grace, are receiving biblical training from theologically trained TELL instructors. We pray the Lord will bless their continued studies and efforts to tell others what they have learned.

'If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.' Psalm 139:9-10

World Missionary Joel Hoff,
TELL Network, One Africa

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church and School Project Wish List

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Debt Retirement | \$128,784 |
| 2. School Doors | \$38,918 |
| 3. Kindergarten Room Flooring | \$8,964 |
| 4. Repave Parking Lot | \$83,500 |
| 5. ECC Room Dividers & Code Updates | \$13,000 |

Any donations (large or small) given toward the item(s) is greatly appreciated. For a closer look as well as giving options, please follow this link: [Wish List Giving](#).

ECC News

We are so excited to share with you that St. Paul ECC has been nominated for Best of the Valley 2025 in TWO categories! Not only are we once again nominated for **Best Child Care**, but we are also nominated for **Best Pre-School**! If you would like to support us with your votes, the voting round runs May 1-15. We will publish a link on



our Facebook page, [St. Paul Lutheran Ministries: Church - School - Childcare](#), and in the church news. Please know you can vote in EACH category once a day, each day of the voting round. The top 3 finalists will be announced around the first of June. Thank you for ALL of your prayers and support for St. Paul ECC!

FVL News

HWY 41 construction and changes to the Ballard Road interchange could begin as early as April 28. See the [fvlhs.org/NEWS](#) page for a link to the DOT details.

Youth Sports Opportunities including Summer Camps (NEWLY ADDED - 2 sessions of the Jr. Foxes Golf Academy) and Fox Valley Saints Football (beginning in August) are shared on [fvlhs.org/youth-sports](#).

Future Freshman Night is Monday, April 28. Parents and 8th graders are invited to attend this special evening. Whether you have enrolled or are investigating your options, please join us. Parents will hear from key administrators and can submit questions when registering. Students will get questions answered and take a tour. Go to [fvlhs.org/future](#) for details and registration.

Urgent need for host families! We currently have 36 students enrolled. Of those, 15 have a host family, but the other 21 are waiting for housing for 2025-26. Consider hosting an international student, so they can get a Christ-centered education at FVL. Contact Monica Uhlenbrauck (muhlenbrauck@fvlhs.org).

FVL's annual Golf Outing (June 13) early registration (\$125/golfer) opens May 1. Get your foursome together now—this event tends to fill up quickly! Information, sponsorships, and registration at [fvlhs.org/golf](#).

All are invited to the FVL High School Band Concert in the FVL Auditorium on Thursday, May 1, at 6:30 PM. Concert will also be livestreamed.

All are invited to the FVL Schools Band Concert in the FVL Auditorium, May 5, at 6:30 PM. Students in grades 5-8 will be performing. Concert will be livestreamed.

No school and all offices closed on Monday, May 5. Join us in the FVL auditorium for the **FVLHS & FVL Schools Bands Jazz Concert** on Monday, May 12, at 6:30 PM. Concert will also be livestreamed.

You are invited to the FVL Choirs & Choraliers Spring Concert in the FVL Auditorium on Sunday, May 18, at 2:00 PM. Concert will also be livestreamed.

Fox Valley Lutheran High School will be hosting the 2025 WELS National Choral Fest in November. The festival steering committee is looking for people with catering or product-procurement experience (including managing a concessions stand) to assist on a meal and snack committee in preparation for this event. Anyone with questions or interest should contact Chuck Adrian (chuck.adrian66@gmail.com).