

302 N. Morrison St. Appleton, WI 54911

September 2025

The Living & Enduring Word of God

We live in a world filled with uncertainty and discouragement. News headlines and personal struggles can weigh us down, tempting us to despair. But God has given us something far greater than fear and frustration: his living and enduring Word.

Paul reminds us that the Scriptures were written to teach us, so that we might find endurance, encouragement, and hope. Every page of God's Word points us to Christ—the Savior who endured the cross for our salvation and who encourages us with his unfailing promises. Through his Word, we learn patience in suffering, strength for the weak, and the certainty of eternal life.

But God's Word doesn't only shape our hearts individually. It also unites us as his people. Paul prays that the God of endurance and encouragement would give us the same mind toward one another that Christ has toward us—an attitude of humility, love, and forgiveness. When God's Word dwells richly among us, we speak with one voice, glorifying our Lord together.

So take up God's Word often. Let it be your daily strength. In the Scriptures you will always find encouragement that lifts you up, endurance that sustains you, and hope that never disappoints. And as we stand together in

that hope, our united voice brings glory to the God who has redeemed us in Christ.

Prayer:

Lord God, you have given us your Word to teach, encourage, and strengthen us. Fill our hearts with the endurance and hope that come from your promises. Unite us as one body in Christ, that with one voice we may glorify you. Amen.

Pastor Justin Shrum

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Worship Schedule

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

Monday evenings: 6:00 p.m.

The Summer Worship Schedule ends on Labor Day weekend (Sunday 9:30 service) Our 8am Sunday services are on YouTube and can also be heard on WNAM 1280 AM.



'Wounds That Heal' Continued: Not all wounds are bad. A skilled surgeon takes a deadly sharp scalpel and cuts through flesh and muscle. The result of that wound: not harm, but healing. In the same way, we often say that words cut us to the heart. Words can wound. Sometimes, however, those painful words provide the very healing we need. "Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem" (Luke 13:22). Jesus knows that when he gets to Jerusalem, he is going to die. So, with a sense of extreme urgency, Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even though it hurts to hear them. In this series, we might not like everything that Jesus says. Yet, to ignore what Jesus teaches is to court eternal death. Hard as it may be, let us listen and take all that Jesus says to heart. For while Jesus speaks words that wound us, his intent is to heal our very soul.

9/7, 9/8	Wounds that Heal: Count the Cost
9/14, 9/15	Wounds that Heal: The Found are Left; The
	Lost are Found
9/21, 9/22	Wounds that Heal: No One Can Serve Two
	Masters
9/28, 9/29	Wounds that Heal: What Helps in Life Fails

Worship Schedule Change: Labor Day Sunday (8/31) marks the last Sunday of our summer worship schedule, with services at 8:00 and 9:30 (there is no service on Labor Day Monday). On Sunday, September 7th, we go back to worship at 8am & 10:30am. We will also have Monday services at 6:00 pm, beginning 9/8.

Official Acts

Baptism:

Lilyanna Vosters, daughter of Chelsea Vosters

in Death

Transfer In:

Jason Dutcher

Adult Confirmation:

Nathan Verhelst Elden Lemke Chelsea Vosters Sara Strum

Transfer Out:

Nancy Albright Sara Sartorius

Ken & Connie Frey Aaron & Stacey Kraus

Lilly Kraus Lydia Kraus
Jason & Charissa Kunstman and daughter

Ministry Funding Plan Financials through July 31st, 2025

	July	YTD		
Income	\$ 167,489	\$ 167,489		
Expense	\$ 200,098	\$ 200,098		
Deficit	\$ -32,609 \$	\$ -32,609 \$ -32,609		

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.

Back to School on 8/20: Registration day was a success! Sunday, 8/17 St. Paul School held their annual Back to School Sunday & Registration Day. Nearly all of our families were able to attend, and our students' school supplies were moved into their classrooms and ready to start instruction. Our Fall sports will kick off soon – the volleyball, soccer, and cross country teams have been practicing and learning new skills. All are welcome to attend student matches, meets, and games. Check out the Calendar tab in your Church Center app for schedules.

Everyone is invited to join the school-wide chapel services at St. Paul! This year, they will be held every Friday at 8:05am. If there is no school, there will not be a chapel service that week. You may check the Calendar in your Church Center app to confirm

Dear Members of St. Paul Lutheran Ministries,

Thank you for all of your support and donations that you have provided for our School Door Project! The new doors will greatly add to the safety and security of our students. They also help areas of the school look updated and visually appealing. If you haven't had the opportunity to support this project, you may do so online or provide donations to the office. As you have the opportunity, come and view the new doors at your school!

Thank you, St. Paul Lutheran School.

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study – 1 & 2 Peter: Living Hope in a Hard World This 10-session Bible Class will dig deep into the books of 1 & 2 Peter and will remind us that God does not abandon us in our suffering. Through the themes of suffering, the transformative power of God, spiritual authority, false teachers, and the last days, Peter directs us to the God who is faithful in our trials, working them for his glory and for our good.

Our group will meet every Tuesday morning (starting Sept. 2nd) at 10 a.m. in the church basement. Contact Kathy Schultz (schultzkathy48@gmail.com) if you plan to attend this Bible Class or sign up on the Church app. Click on "More" then "Groups" then "Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study."

New Starting Point Class Beginning 9/14: Whether you're brand new to the Bible, exploring Christianity for the first time, or simply looking for a solid refresher, Starting Point is the perfect place to begin.

This 8-week course offers a welcoming, no-pressure environment to ask questions, discover what the Bible says, and learn the core truths of the Christian faith. We'll cover topics like:

• Who is God?

- Why do we need a Savior?
- What is grace?
- How does faith grow?
- Why the Bible can be trusted

Classes begin Sunday, September 14th, at 9:15 in the School Learning Center and run weekly for 8 sessions. Each meeting lasts about an hour and includes discussion, guided study, and practical application. Contact Pastor J (jshrum@stpaulappletonwi.com) if you plan to attend this class or sign up on the Church Center App. Click on "More" then "Groups" then "Starting Point."

Fall Weekday Bible Class - Quick to Listen: Evolutionists, atheists, Bible skeptics, and LGBTQ people. For many Christians, these groups can seem intimidating, strange, unknowable, or even, regrettably, hard to love. The book Quick to Listen pulled back the curtain on these challenging worldviews and offered a glimpse into the minds of such unbelievers and skeptics. This Bible study builds on those insights, offering practical tools to reach these groups with compassion and humility as we show them Jesus. It prepares you to relay the true love of God—a forgiving love that goes far deeper than mere tolerance or cultural approval—and shows you how to love them in that way too.

This six-session Bible Class will be offered on Wednesday nights (starting September 3rd) at 6:30 p.m. and on Thursday mornings (starting September 4th) at 9:15 a.m. Both classes will meet in the church basement. Contact one of the pastors if you plan to attend one of these classes or sign up on the Church App. Click on "More" then "Groups" then "Wednesday Night Bible Class" or "Thursday Morning Bible Class"

Fall Sunday Bible Class – The Word Endures Forever: Lessons from Luther Yesterday & Today

In this Bible study, we will explore key truths from God's Word as echoed by Martin Luther during the Reformation era. By discovering the ways in which Luther taught these principles to the people of his day, we will better understand the faith of the famous reformer and grow in our knowledge of doctrines that still root the Christian faith today.

This eight-session Bible Class will be offered on Sunday mornings (starting September 7th) at 9:15 a.m. in the church basement.

LWMS News

At the LWMS National Convention in June 2025, we selected new world and home mission projects for July 2025-June 2026.

Mission Projects:

#HM-2024-09 Home Mission–Home Missionary Conferences

#WM-2024-16 World Mission – London & United Kingdom This month, information about the Home Mission

Project: Home Missionary Conferences will be included here. Information about the World Mission Project: London and the United Kingdom will be included next month.

Home Missionary Conferences: WELS congregations share many commonalities in terms of geography, demographics, and age of churches. Mission conferences that help Lutheran congregations-new and old-share strategies to reach the lost are important. In addition, WELS Home Missions supports a Church Planter Intensive Weekend for new home missionaries and their spouses to gather to network, ask questions of experienced church planters, and create a practical ministry blueprint for their unique mission settings. Your gifts will assist in hosting these conferences as home mission churches consider additional ways to spread the gospel message.

Reminder: Our St. Paul LWMS group has three more upcoming activities to finish out 2025.

September 18, 2025: Meeting at St. Paul in the church basement

October 11, 2025: Fall Rally at St. Paul in Green Bay November 20, 2025: Meeting at St. Paul in the church basement

All confirmed women of St. Paul are welcome to attend the meetings. We look forward to seeing you this fall!

A message from Native American Teacher Ben Pagel from Peridot-Our Savior's Lutheran School in Peridot, AZ:

130 years ago the Lord guided the leaders of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod to send two missionaries to the Apache Reservation in Arizona.

The Lord has blessed the sowing of seed since that time, starting with our gracious God providing a strong relationship between our original missionaries and Chief Cassadore who allowed the building of the first structures to sow the seeds of God's beautiful gospel to our Apache brothers and sisters in Christ.

God has allowed us to continue sowing those seeds on that very same plot of land, now to the 4th and 5th generations of Apache Christians.

This seed has continued to be sown only by the gracious gifts of God, which include the collective teamwork of many who have served directly on this field, the continued support of our District, Administrative Council, and Worldly Mission Board, and through the continued sustenance of so many fellow Christians across the world who pray much and give their support! We see the results of these sowed seeds in the active leadership that many Apache show in their daily roles as pastors, teachers, evangelists, church councilmen, school board members, and many other leadership roles in our churches, schools, and community.

We thank you all for your continued prayers, thoughts, and support to aid us in continuing to sow the seeds of faith in Apacheland!

'How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵ And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!' Romans 10:14-15.

Native American Teacher Ben Pagel, Peridot-Our Savior's Lutheran School, Peridot, AZ

Fall Festival 2025

Women's Ministry along with many volunteers will be hosting this event on **October 19**. It will include:

- h
- our delicious roast beef dinner with dessert \$12/adults \$5/kids
- a raffle with tickets priced at \$2 each
- a Soup Sale with a quart of soup for \$8
- THERE IS NO BAKE SALE THIS YEAR
- We plan to make and sell our famous Peppernuts
- Doors will open at 11am (change from past years)

We need some extra helpers in the kitchen. If you are interested, please contact Linda Zimmerman (920 788-6061) & leave a message if not at home. We hope you can join us on **October 19**!

What's New with Women's Ministry

We will begin meeting again on **Tuesday, September 9 at 6:30** in the church basement. Our meeting schedule has been decreased this year to 4 regular meetings to be held on the 2nd Tuesday in the months of September, November, February and April. Our group is small and we would love for you to join us. All women of the congregation are invited to join us at any time.

All of our events and any funds we raise are returned to the church and schools. In the past couple year, we have supported:

- the Radio Ministry
- have given each of the classrooms \$150 for classroom supplies
- provided funds for the VEX Robotics program
- recognition of our pastors, teachers & administrative staff during the year
- ECC classrooms with donation toward room dividers

ECC Update

The ECC has had a busy summer! We had several new friends join us for the summer months to fill some (short term) gaps in the childcare shortage in our area. During the summer we started a construction project of having our baby gates transformed into doorways. We also prepared for a rearranging of classrooms to better utilize the space we have, allowing us to open another classroom space for children under 2 years old.

We are so excited for another school year to start. We have many new families starting with us this week or in the near future. We can't wait to learn the names of so many new faces!

This summer we said goodbye to our 2 longest enrolled families in the ECC. Both families were here when I started at St. Paul nearly 8 1/2 years ago, and now the children have grown and aged out of needing childcare. The fact that our families stay with us for their entire early childhood experience is a real blessing, and we love that we are part of their family as much as they are a part of ours!

The Lord blessed us another way this year. St. Paul ECC won Best of the Valley for Best Childcare for a second straight year! We also were a Top 3 finalist for Best Preschool! What a tremendous blessing to be so well supported by all of you and the families we care for! Thank you!!!

-- Mrs. Candy Schulz, ECC Director

Van Gogh & Cookie Dough

The ECC is looking for a few volunteers to help at our Family Art Night on Friday, Sept. 19 at 5:00 in the church basement. This event is for our ECC 3k/4k families as well as our Kindergarten and 1st grade families. If you are interested in helping with this event or learning more details, please contact Sabrina Sakletski at sskaletski007@gmail.com or by phone (920)676-3703. Please note that volunteers will need to complete the St. Paul Safe Child Program prior to the event. Thank you!

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

1.	Debt Retirement	\$122,868
2.	School Doors	\$38,918
3.	Kindergarten Room Flooring	\$6,998
4.	Repave Parking Lot	\$83,500
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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.

FVL News

Join us for the **No Frills Golf Classic** on Monday, October 6. This year, proceeds will benefit Safe Families for Children (SFFC) Green Bay & Fox Cities and FVL IMPACT trips. Go to fvlhs.org/no-frills for details.

Current Youth Sports opportunities include youth basketball - **Nothin' but Net for girls** (season begins September 27), and **Hoops for boys** (registration closes September 14). **A cheer and stunt clinic** is available on Sept. 13 for girls 5K-8. Go to <u>fvlhs.org/youth-sports</u> for information.

FVL Giving Day is set for September 16 with a matching fund of \$190,000. Donations go toward making the annual mortgage payment and paying off Bond "B." Watch <u>fvlhs.org/giving</u> for details. If you have questions, contact Director of Mission Advancement Rev. Tom Mielke (<u>tmielke@fvlhs.org</u>).

Six of FVL's graduating classes are invited to receive special recognition at the Homecoming football game vs. New London on Friday, October 3. The classes of **1965**, **1975**, **1985**, **2000**, **2015**, **and 2025** are included in this special recognition. Tours of the school begin at 5:00 PM. All alumni are invited to attend for free (check in at the alumni table).