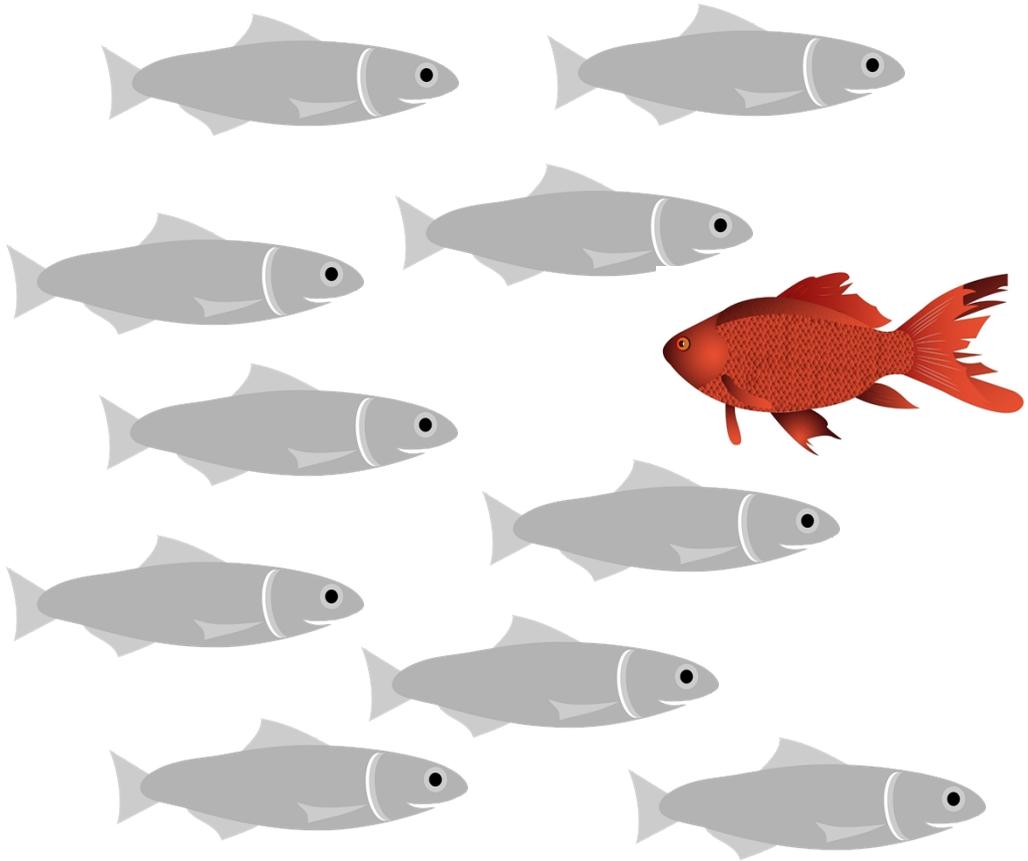


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world

- Romans 12:2a

SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY

January 20, 2019

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child is restless, you can use the Family Room to calm your child. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the Worship Center. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers or greeters can help you find the restrooms, family room or answer your other questions.

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

On January 22, the nation will observe the 46th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision. The lives of so many people have been changed and ended because of that decision. But that is merely a manifestation of the sin that has been going on since very early in human history. What are Christians to do? We remind ourselves of what God's Word says and live our lives accordingly, praying that our life of love draws people to see the truth found in the life and death of Jesus.

The liturgical color¹ for this Sunday is red. As we contemplate God's gift of life, the color red reminds us of the blood that is shed when we do not properly care for God's gift in various ways.

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"Creator of All Life." Text © 1991 Rev. Andrew Toopes. Edited by Pied-piper Music 1999, Frank Morgan 2000

"All Things Were Made By God's Great Power." Text by Timothy Snyder.

¹ The liturgical color is found on the pastor's stole and the piece of cloth hanging from the pulpit.

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

HYMN

Lord of Life

Tune: "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us" CW 486

**Lord of life, Whose hand has made us, formed us each with tender care.
You had crowned man with Your image, not intending such despair.
Yet through sin the glory faded, death and doom came in its place.
But in spite of our condition, we've been rescued by Your grace!**

**God so loved the world, He gave us Jesus Christ to bear our sin.
On the cross His life He offered, that we might be His again.
And the Holy Spirit calls us by the gospel's joyful ring.
Making us His own dear children; us, eternal life to bring.**

**Lord of Life, who rose in triumph, conq'ring death and giving hope,
You have called us and equipped us, in a sinful world to cope;
Teaching us to love each other, to befriend and help in strife;
To forgive and seek to comfort, and preserve the gift of life.**

**Help us, Lord, to see as You do, life is precious in each stage.
From the unborn to the feeble, life is precious in each age.
Help us, Lord to be Your witness and to show the world we care.
So that people may not perish, but, instead, Your life may share.**

Please stand.

M: In the name of the Father,

C: Who has made us and all people;

M: And of the Son,

C: Who lived and died that all people might live;

M: And of the Holy Spirit,

C: Who has given us a second birth.

All: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are not worthy to be in the presence of this holy God. But He has promised that if we confess our sins, He will purify us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him.

C: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We confess that so often we think, speak, and behave as if Your abiding presence makes no difference in our lives. Instead of allowing Christ to be exalted in all things, we seek to exalt ourselves. We fail to trust that He is present and at work in all our circumstances. Do not cast us from Your presence, Lord. Forgive us, and restore to us the joy of Your salvation.

M: Be of good cheer! God holds the cross of His Son before your eyes and assures you that your sins have been paid through His atoning sacrifice. Therefore, as a called servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

RESPONSE

Creator of All Life

Tune: "Christ is Our Cornerstone" CW 528

**All - Creator of all life, We come before You now.
With hearts united, filled with praise of Your great pow'r
To bring a life into this world,
A precious child, a gift from You.**

Choir - Regardless of our age, The Savior came to bring
Abundant life to each of us forever more.
To You we raise Our heart in praise
Each hour, each day for blessings giv'n.

**All - O Holy Spirit blest, the Comforter of all;
Instill us with the will to tell Your love's great pow'r.
Protect and keep each life, each soul,
Each child of God from Satan's reach.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, your Son came among us to serve and not to be served, and to give his life for the sins of the world. Transform us with his love to serve those whom the world offers no comfort and little help. Through us give hope to the hopeless, love to the unloved, peace to the troubled, and rest to the weary; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 4:1-16

The first atrocity is committed against God's gift of life.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 139 | CW p.117

Refrain: ♪ I will praise you, O Lord, for I am wonderfully made.

O LORD, you created my inmost 'being;*

You knit me together in my 'mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonder'fully made;*

Your works are wonderful, I know that 'full well.

My frame was not hidden 'from you;*

Your eyes saw my unformed 'body.

Refrain

All the days or'dained for me*

Were written in your book before one of them 'came to be.

How precious to me are your 'thoughts, O God!*

How vast is the 'sum of them!

Were I to 'count them,*

They would outnumber the 'grains of sand.

**Glory be to the Father and 'to the Son*
And to the Holy 'Spirit,
As it was in the be'ginning,*
Is now, and will be forever. 'Amen.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:1-2, 9-13

As we remember God's mercy for us in Christ, we are renewed in our zeal to be devoted to one another and our Lord in living our life of love.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Be imitators of God as dearly loved children

C: and live a life of love. Alleluia.

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Luke 5:17-26

Jesus' compassion shows us what it means to live a life of love.

After the Gospel, the announcement is made:

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The children are invited to come forward for an object lesson.

HYMN

All Things Were Made By God's Great Power
Tune: "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" CW 334

**All - All things were made by God's great pow'r,
The tallest tree, the brightest flow'r.
All people too, like you and me,
By God's own word we came to be.**

Children - Inside my mother, oh so small,
God knew me then, He knows us all.
I'm made by God from head to toe.
He gave me life and made me grow.

Women - Life is God's gift to everyone,
To mother, daughter, father, son.
The unborn child, the oldest man,
We're all protected by God's hand.

Men - Each life must end and when it's done
The Father's will for everyone
Is that the truth we all would see
And live with Him eternally.

All - I'll share the truth with everyone:
God loved the world and gave His Son
To wash away each person's sin.
Heav'n's gates are open, welcome in!

SERMON - LIVING A TRANSFORMED LIFE IN A CONFORMED WORLD

Please stand.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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.

Be seated.

THANK OFFERING

St. Paul's members offer their first and their best to their Savior in order to support the sharing of the Gospel through our church and our worldwide church body, the WELS. Our guests do not need to feel obligated to participate. We ask that everyone, guests and members, sign the Friendship Register which will be passed out during the offering.

If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



MUSICAL OFFERING

I Am a Child of the Lord

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M:** Holy Spirit, Comfort True, open our minds to the wonder of the Messiah who was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. Lead us to daily contrition and repentance that trusts ever more firmly your promise that our apathy, impatience and resentment for ministry are forgiven in Christ.
- C:** **Raise us up each day in the new life of faith so that we are joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.**
- M:** Holy Spirit, God and Lord, so fill our hearts with the assurance of salvation that we never lack zeal to be your witnesses. Awaken us to the opportunities to preach repentance and forgiveness in your name. If we cannot minister in those places, move us to support those who can with our gifts and prayers. Fill us with compassion for those in need and a love that is not idle.
- C:** **Transform us by the renewing of our minds so that we may be devoted to you and one another in love.**

M: Holy Spirit, Advocate and Guide, pour out your blessings on families, churches, schools, governments, health care agencies, and all other institutions you have established for our physical and spiritual good. We pray especially for the ministry of Christian Life Resources. Prosper it in their mission to use life and family issues to draw people closer to you. Give us all the courage to defend the sanctity of life from before the first breath of unborn infants to the closing breaths of the hospitalized and elderly.

C: Help us test, approve, and accomplish everything that is according to your good, pleasing, and perfect will.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent Prayer

M: Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Be seated.

The Sacrament

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: 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 this day for the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us and by whose testimony you have fixed our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - *Sanctus*

sung to the tune in CW 7

1. **O holy, holy, holy**
Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven
In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us,
Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy
Receive our fervent cry.

2. **Hosanna in the highest!**
How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming
To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation
And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage—
Hosanna, mighty Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD - *Agnus Dei*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



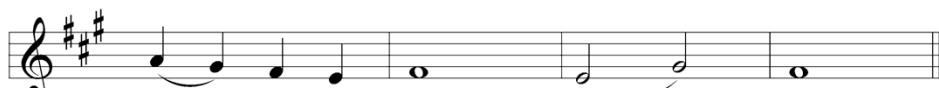
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

Please be seated and await the direction of the ushers.

The communicant members of our congregation will be invited to receive the Lord's Supper. Because the Bible has convinced us that Jesus' body and blood are present in the sacrament, and that receiving the sacrament together is a public statement of oneness in our beliefs and commitment, we ask our guests to speak with the pastor prior to communing. We don't want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of stating your agreement with our convictions before we've had an opportunity to explain and prove them from Scripture. The pastor would be happy to explore our convictions with you, on the basis of God's Word, so that you might commune with us in the future!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

If you are in need of gluten free wafers or grape juice, please ask for directions from an usher.

COMMUNION HYMN

Choir – *Life Song*
I Come, O Savior, to your Table | 310 (1-15)

Please stand

SONG OF SIMEON - *Nunc Dimittis*

sung to the tune in CW #19

**O Lord, now let your servant Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised Incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory Of those in Israel!**

CLOSING PRAYER

M: 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.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: 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.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory | 523 (1-2)





February 22-24, 2019
Hotel Mead - Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Imagine a weekend away from the daily stresses of work, home, and kids. You and your spouse will grow together in your faith life, enjoy "date night" activities and uplifting music, and learn practical, relationship-building skills such as intimacy, structuring priorities, and applying God's covenant to marriage.

This event is sponsored by St. Mark's Lutheran Church in De Pere.
For more information, visit WithThisRingRetreat.com.
Spots are filling fast, so sign up soon!

HELP FOR ABORTION RECOVERY

Many individuals suffer in silence and families are affected because of a past abortion. You or someone you know may be experiencing post-abortion stress, guilt, sadness, anger, or heartache. There is hope and healing in Jesus. Pastor Proeber can help with confidential counseling and referrals for women and men dealing with abortion-related trauma.

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT LIFE ISSUES?

Life issues involve more than just abortion and unplanned pregnancies. Christian Life Resources can provide biblical guidance on medical issues like cloning, infertility, organ donation, stem cell treatments, end of life issues, and more. Visit their website at christianliferesources.com.

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

1. In what areas of life do you think Christians are “swimming upstream” the most? In other words, which contemporary issues seem to be the most difficult to tackle for you personally or Christianity as a whole? What is God’s solution to those issues?
2. Read all of Psalm 139, which was the Psalm of the Day. Outline the thoughts of David into four main points. Which verse is the most comforting takeaway for you, especially in view of what you heard in worship?
3. What surprises you most in Genesis 4:1-16? I am shocked at verse 15, but maybe you find something else to be even more surprising. What makes it (whatever you choose) so shocking?
4. Write down three things you can pray about this week that touch on the sanctity of life.

5. If you were to focus on one of Paul's spiritually-minded suggestions from Romans 12:9-13, which one would make the biggest impact in your life? What about impacting the lives of those around you? What about impacting the people you pass by every day in the store or at work? Try to focus on putting one of Paul's suggestions into practice and see what happens.

YOUTH WORSHIP QUESTIONS

(Intended for grade school-age, but useful for anyone.)

1. Sometimes, in church, we hear or see words that are confusing or big. If you come across a word you don't know in one of the songs or readings today, write it down. Then, ask your family what it means when you get home.
2. What is one thing you want to remember about today's children's message?
3. What did you learn about Jesus in the sermon?
4. After what you heard in church today, what is one thing you can pray for?

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE STUDY

Habits: Walking by the Spirit

Join us in the cafeteria from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.

NEXT STUDY: CHRISTIAN DECISION-MAKING

For the last Sunday of January and throughout February, Pastor Proeber will lead discussion on the relationship between Christians and decisions. What part does God play in the different decisions I make? What if I can't decide between multiple good options? We will answer those questions and more in the coming weeks!

January 27 – What Shall I Do?

February 3 – Decisions and Adiaphora

February 10 – Be Willing to Follow Where God Leads

February 17 – Do Not Fear When Unclear

February 24 – Freedom, Not a Blueprint

CALL MEETING THIS MONDAY

Jan. 21 | 7:30 p.m.

Please join us this Monday as we call a second pastor to serve our congregation. Our district president, Pastor Michael Jensen, has chosen several men that fit our needs as a congregation. Our circuit pastor, Pastor Philip Wilde, will be on hand to lead us in a devotion and present the list of candidates. After prayer, our voters will cast ballots until one man is chosen to call as our pastor. If you haven't taken part in a call meeting before, we hope you will attend. If not, we urge you to keep this process in your prayers, so our voters are guided to the man God would have us call.

THE HUDDLES ARE UNDERWAY

Pastor Proeber held several huddles with members last week. He would like to meet with all of our members to get to know you and to hear your thoughts on the ministry at St. Paul's. If you haven't signed up yet, please do so before leaving church today. There are sign-up sheets on the Ministry Table in the Welcome Center. If you need to consult your calendar at home, you can sign up by emailing the church (churchoffice@stpaulswr.org), calling Pastor Proeber (715-421-3634 ext. 13), or by using the link on our facebook page.

VOLLEYBALL START DATE MOVED

Feb. 3 | 2:00-5:00 p.m.

The start of Adult Co-ed Volleyball has been delayed one week until February 3. However, Northland Lutheran High School needs to know whether we are participating in their tournament before that. If you are interested, please contact Todd Wolf at 715-697-2889. The tournament is on Saturday, February 9.

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY COMING THIS SUMMER

Please join us for a free professional photography session and be included in the new St Paul's Directory. We need you to help make our directory complete! Photography starts June 6. You will receive a free 8x10 portrait, a free printed directory, and have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits. Remember, this directory will not be complete without you!

OFF TO THE RACES

Jan. 20

The Lutheran Pioneers are holding their annual Pinecar Derby this Sunday afternoon in the gym. Registration begins right after the 10:30 church service. Families can enjoy a light lunch in the dining room while the cars are judged for Craft. Racing will begin around 12:30. You are welcome to come cheer on the racers.

The district level pinecar derby will be held here at St. Paul's on Saturday, Feb. 9. Extra help is needed with concessions and duties. To volunteer, please contact Kent & Kristie Schroeder at 715-421-4202 or knks@wctc.net.

BRING IN YOUR MILK CAPS

Kwik Trip is discontinuing their Milk Moola program, because it has become expensive to administer. All milk caps must be submitted by March 31. So search your junk drawer for any stragglers you've been hanging on to and bring them in. You can drop them off in the office or in the milk cap bin in the school hallway.

HELP WITH BOOKFAIR

Jan. 25-February 3

Our school will be holding a bookfair during Christian Education Week. Volunteers are needed for set up, cashiering, and helping children select books. If you can help, please contact Mrs. Karen Obsuszt at 715-421-3634 ext. 24 or karen.obsuszt@gmail.com.

SCRIP HELPS FUND OUR SCHOOL

In 2018, St. Paul's Scrip Program contributed close to \$6,000 to the operation of our school. Some families chose to designate their earning to their children's education, earning a total of just over \$1,800 in tuition. To find out how you can use scrip for Christian education, talk to someone at the script able on Sunday morning, contact our scrip coordinator, Deb DeWilde, by email (stpaulsscripwr@gmail.com), or visit our website (stpaulswr.org/scrip).

YEAR-END OFFERING STATEMENTS

Your 2018 offering statements have been placed in your mailsots. Although we try to be careful, there are occasional errors, so please check this against your own records. Correction can be made by contacting the church office.

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

If not, you might be missing out on updates and special notices from the church. To share your email address with us, just note it on the friendship register, or send us an email with the subject "add me to your list." Our email address is churchoffice@stpaulswr.org.

SIGN UP FOR e-NEWSLETTERS

Our monthly newsletters were published this week. If you would prefer to receive your newsletter via email, please let us know. You can also sign up on our website or facebook.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CONCERT, RETREAT OR CAMP?

Check out the list on our website, www.stpaulswr.org. Just look for WELS Events under the What's Happening tab. If we advertised the event in the bulletin, it should be listed there.

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

Last week's attendance: 268

Year-to-date average attendance: 279

From July 1, 2018 to January 11, 2019

Actual gifts to ministry: \$ 545,422

Actual cost of ministry: \$ 549,798

Mortgage Balance \$ 1,558,159



CALENDAR

January 20-27

SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the Dining Room
	9:15 AM	Sunday School (grades K-5)
	10:30 AM	Worship
	11:30 AM	Pioneer Pinecar Derby in the gym
	6:30 PM	Leadership Council in the Bible Study Room
MONDAY	6:30 PM	Willing Workers in the Dining Room
	6:30 PM	Worship
	7:30 PM	Call Meeting
TUESDAY	6:45 AM	Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	9:45 AM	Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
	6:30 PM	Stephen Ministers peer Group in the Resource Center
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM	School Chapel Service
	6:30 PM	Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
	6:30 PM	Catechism Class (grades 6-8) in the Bible Study Room
	6:30 PM	Choir in the balcony
	7:00 PM	Contemporary Choir in the balcony
THURSDAY	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	5:30 PM	Handbell Practice in the balcony
	6:30 PM	A People Close to God in the Bible Study Room
	6:30 PM	Men's Devotionals Basketball in the gym
SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the Dining Room
	9:15 AM	Sunday School (grades K-5)
	10:30 AM	Worship

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 25	Panther Home Game
Jan. 25-Feb. 3	Book Fair in the Library
Jan. 27	Christian Education Sunday
Feb. 3	Adult Co-ed Volleyball





www.stpaulswr.org

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Pastor Lucas Proeber | 989-780-3184 | pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org*