



Jan. Feb. Christ's Calling Card

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Wilton, Wisconsin
ELCA



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
401 Mill Street
Wilton, Wisconsin 54670
A member of the LaCrosse
Area Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

January February
2018

Bi-monthly Newsletter

Interim Pastor Brad Lindberg



Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

It is an exciting time to be a part of the church. I am grateful I get to spend a small portion of this time of transition with you. As we start this time together let me take a moment to introduce myself. It feels a little strange as it seems like we already know each other, but really we just know of each other. I recognize a lot of your faces and a lot of your names, but I can't necessarily put those two together and I certainly don't know most of the intertwined family tree connections so I will be needing your help and patience in putting these things together.

Many of you know that my wife is Dawn (Arndt), which means we might be related. We have two kids Andrew (3rd grade) and Delia (Kindergarten). I grew up in Minnesota, where my family continues to live. After graduating from St. Olaf College I worked as a youth minister in CA and back in MN before starting seminary, which is where I met Dawn my final semester of classes. We are excited to be heading over to Hawaii (Dec. 31) for two weeks to visit family there.

I currently work as a librarian at Elroy Public Library, where I am fortunate to get to do Story Time every

Thursday morning. I also am an assistant track coach at Brookwood HS, working primarily with the shot put and discus athletes. Given these other obligations my time with St. Paul's will be quite part time, primarily leading worship on Sundays and teaching confirmation on Wednesdays. After we return from vacation I plan to start some office hours on Tuesday, 9:30 - 12:30. Due to the unique nature of my relationship to the congregation the current agreement between myself and council is through summer so that we can have a period of seeing how it works or doesn't work with me as pastor. Con't p.2

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Website - <http://www.stpaulswilton.com>

Pastor Brad Con't

Then at that time we agree to part ways with no hard feelings or we can renew the covenant depending on how things go.

Another important task is to help the congregation prepare for new settled pastor. One of the ways we will prepare is through working with council to learn more about what a healthy congregation looks like and signs of unhealth so that if the congregation should start functioning in an unhealthy way leadership can address that before it becomes a significant issue. Think of it as something like going to the dentist for a check up. We don't assume there to be any problems at the check up, but we do go just in case so that we can catch things before they become a problem.

I also expect I will wrestle with you about what it might look like for St. Paul's to be even more generous, because I believe that by building on our strengths we improve in other areas as well. When I interviewed with Council one of the questions that I asked was about what St. Paul's is good at, what they are proud of, and overwhelmingly I heard that "we're generous for a small congregation." The first challenge is to remember that it doesn't matter the size of the congregation or the community, either you are generous or you are not.

Finally, I would like to invite you to our house on February 10, 2-4 pm. Every year between Christmas and Lent Dawn and I like to invite our congregations over for an open house as a way for us to spend time with each other in a more informal, relaxed setting. We will have some treats and you are welcome to stay as long or as short as you would like. We live at 2020 Grumann Dr. in Tomah.

Merry Christmas! I look forward to getting to know one another better in the new year to come.

**Blessings,
Pr. Brad <><**

BISHOP ARENDS



Bishop Arends offered the sermon on the first Sunday in Advent. Among the thoughts offered were the following.

Jesus is the Word God; the living Word of God. It is also correct to say the Word is what Christians share with one another. In fact, we as Christians must be aware that what we say is often considered the Word.

Advent is about welcoming Christ coming into our lives - each week.

As Christians, it is our responsibility not to let darkness win. Anyone who has traveled to the poor part of the world is struck by two things: the smell (like no other) and the hopelessness. Good Gifts is one way to fight against the darkness.

On Christmas Day the Gospel becomes: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

WE NEED YOU!

To paraphrase an old Uncle Sam poster, WE NEED YOU. Part of being a member of a church congregation is participation beyond Sunday morning if at all possible. Please don't wait to be asked. The congregation needs your help. Are you willing to serve on the alter committee, the church council, to usher, to read, to serve communion, or to teach Sunday School? Leave a message on the telephone, email the office, put a note in the collection plate, tell a Council Member or the Pastor. If we're planning to be a Church into the future, we need people to participate if they are able. Don't be afraid to try something new. There are mentors. And everyone was new once. Please 608-435-6647

Church: wiltonchurch@gmail.com

*Website: <https://www.stpaulswilton.com/>

*Facebook Home Page: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Wilton WI

**The Website & Facebook page were developed & are administered by April Arndt*

Council Activity



Council Minutes are now posted on the web site after meetings. They may be clarified as they are reviewed and approved at the following meeting. www.stpaulswilton.com

From December Minutes:

Interim pastor: Pastor Brad, the council and the Bishop agreed to a covenant stating that Pastor Brad will provide pastoral services to St Paul's from 12/1/17 – 8/31/17 with the option to extend this covenant if all parties agree.

Constitutional changes: D. Buchholz made a motion to change the size of the council from officers plus four to ten member to officers plus three to seven members. T Deichler 2nd, all ayes, MC. T. Deichler made a motion to hold a special congregational meeting on 1/7/18 regarding the constitutional changes developed earlier this year as well as the change in council size. T. Brandau 2nd, all ayes, MC.

From St. Paul's Website

Proposed Changes to St. Paul's Constitution - If you need a copy of the constitution or to review it; to the website & click the button at the bottom left.

The proposed constitution will be the sole order of business at a Special Congregational Meeting to be held on Sunday, January 7, 2018, immediately following the worship service. In accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, the Council President will call for a motion and second to adopt said constitution [as revised]. This will bring the document to the floor, to be followed by discussion. Any vote will follow the discussion. **[A vote for adoption means that the revised constitution will be up for final approval at the Annual Meeting.]** The ELCA provided a "model" constitution for churches to work with, and Pastor Wendland was good enough to lay our current 1994 constitution alongside the "model". From there, Dan Buchholz and Larry Ballwahn were asked by council to review, suggest, change, etc. until they came down with the finished product which was presented to council for review. The council then made the decision to present the changes to the membership. Please be aware the changes proposed are highlighted in yellow. You will also note the last constitution was adopted in November of 1994.

Thank you for taking the time to review. The current plan, provided the constitution is adopted, is to place this on the agenda of the Annual Meeting which will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2018, immediately following worship.

REVISED CONSTITUTION

WORSHIP NOTES FOR

January/February, 2018

The following are the Scripture readings that we will be sharing in worship during the months of January and February.

Jan. 7 – 1st Sunday after the Epiphany

Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7;
Mark 1:4-11

Jan. 14 – 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]; Psalm 139:1-6,
13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20;
John 1:43-51

Jan. 21 – 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12;
1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

Jan. 28 – 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111;
1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

Feb. 4 – 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c;
1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

Feb. 11 – The Transfiguration of our Lord

2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6;
2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

Feb. 18 – First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10;
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

Feb. 25 – Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31;
Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

THOSE SERVING IN JANUARY

Greeters: Bob and Louise Buchholz

Ushers: Bob Buchholz, Brian Buchholz,
Ed Ross, Justin Arndt

Altar: Deb Paeth and Nalani Bever

Acolyte: 7th Kora Staley; 14th Bryce
Gruen; 21st Natalie Stanek;
28th Madelyn Gruen

Readers: 7th Dan Buchholz; 14th Carolyn
Dougherty; 21st Tyler Brandau;
28th Kirstin Arndt

Communion Server: Tim Deichler

THOSE SERVING IN FEBRUARY

Greeters: Pat and Jerry Von Haden

Ushers: Lori and Joel Arndt;
Barb and John Ornes

Altar: Angie Gruen, Caitie Stanek

Acolyte: 4th Katie Gruen; 11th Thadyr
Conner; 18th Kora Staley;
25th Brady Zimmerman

Readers: 4th Greg Bever, 11th Karen Arzt;
18th Larry Ballwahn;
25th Leonard Arndt

Communion Server: Lois O'Rourke



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

January

- S 7th Sunday School, 9:00 am
Worship, 10:15 am
Special Congregational Meeting,
Immediately following worship
- S 14th Sunday School, 9:00 am
Worship, 10:15 am
Church Council, 11:30 am
- W 17th Confirmation, 6:30-8:00 pm
- Th 18th W-ELCA General Meeting, 10:00 am
- Sa 20th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
St. Paul's @ 9:00 am
- S 21st Sunday School, 9:00 am
Worship/Noisy Offering, 10:15 am
Confirmation Parent Meeting 11:30 am
- W 24th Confirmation, 6:30-8:00 pm
- S 28th Sunday School, 9:00 am
Worship, 10:15 am
Annual Meeting 11:15 am

February

- S 4th Sunday School, 9:00 am
Worship, 10:15 am
- W 7th Confirmation, 6:30 – 8:00 pm
- Sa 10th Blood Drive, 7:00 am – 11:30 am
Open House - Pastors Lindberg
- S 11th Sunday School, 9:00 am
Worship, 10:15 am
Church Council, 11:30 am
- W 14th **Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00 pm**
- S 18th Sunday School, 9:00 am
Worship/Noisy Offering 10:15 am
Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship
- W 21st Lenten Service, 7:00 pm
- S 25th Sunday School, 9:00 am
Worship, 10:15 am
- W 28th Lenten Service, 7:00 pm



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

January

- 4th Rachel Conner, Lois Reineke
5th Jennifer Gruen
6th Spencer Arndt
7th Matt Mayne
8th Addison Arndt, Lori Arndt, Cathy O'Brien
10th Lailah Ornes
14th Vanessa Anderson
15th Sarah Erdman
16th Tyler Bever
17th Kari Radke
18th Darrin Dougherty, Gina Rae
19th Ann Bever, Kevin Buchholz
21st Kelly Buchholz
22nd Kurt Radke
23rd Anna Radke, Jennifer Steinke
24th Thadyn Conner
25th Kevin & Barbara Bach
27th Timothy Ornes, John & Barb Ornes
29th Ayawyn Connor

February

- 1st Carol Osteboe
5th Kali Brandau, Stacy Brandau
11th Dawn Birkholz, Cole Budde,
12th Wayne Schindler, Anita Steinke
13th Sam Wildes
14th Scott Niedfeldt,
John & Florence Dougherty
20th Franklin Wildes
21st Lana Ross
22nd Tyler Brandau
24th Karen Arzt, Jerome Von Haden,
26th Andy Pasch
27th George & Carolyn Dougherty



2018 At-A-Glance

Altar/Communion:

January	Nalani Bever, Deb Paeth
February	Angie Gruen, Caitlyn Stanek
March	Steve and Pam Brandau
April	Lori Brueggen, Barb Ornes
May	Karen Arzt, Darcy Buchholz
June	Leonard and Dixie Arndt
July	Anita Steinke, Julie Acker
August	Janelle Buchholz, Joanne Schachtely
September	Bev Graunke, Lila Speicher
October	Arlis and Larry Ballwahn
November	Barb Bever, Dawn Birkholz
December	Joel and Lori Arndt

Communion Server:

January	Tim Deichler
February	Lois O'Rourke
March	Steve Brandau
April	Barb Ornes
May	Kathy Cale
June	Leonard Arndt
July	Dan Buchholz
August	Karen Arzt
September	Greg Bever
October	Arlis Ballwahn
November	Justin Arndt
December	Joel Arndt

GREETERS:

JAN	Bob and Louise Buchholz
FEB	Pat and Jerry Von Haden
MAR	John and Barb Ornes
APR	Anita Steinke and Lois O'Rourke
MAY	Karen Arzt and Ed Ross
JUNE	Leonard and Dixie Arndt
JULY	Joel and Lori Arndt
AUG	Bev Graunke and Lila Speicher
SEP	Anita Steinke and Lois O'Rourke
OCT	Judy Arndt and Arlis Ballwahn
NOV	John and Barb Ornes
DEC	Bob and Louise Buchholz

Acolytes:

JAN	4 th Kora Staley; 14 th Bryce Gruen; 21 st Natalie Stanek; 28 th Madelyn Gruen
FEB	4 th Katie Gruen; 11 th Thadyn Conner; 18 th Kora Staley; 25 th Brady Zimmerman
MAR	4 th Gracie Brandau; 11 th Katie Gruen; 18 th Bryce Gruen; 25 th Natalie Stanek
APR	1 st Madelyn Gruen (early), Katie Gruen; 8 th Thadyn Conner; 15 th Kora Staley; 22 nd Brady Zimmerman; 29 th Gracie Brandau
MAY	6 th Thadyn Conner; 13 th Bryce Gruen; 20 th Natalie Stanek; 27 th Gracie Brandau

Readers:

JAN	7 th Dan Buchholz 14 th Carolyn Dougherty 21 st Tyler Brandau 28 th Kirstin Arndt
FEB	4 th Greg Bever 11 th Karen Arzt 18 th Larry Ballwahn 25 th Leonard Arndt
MAR	4 th Arlis Ballwahn 11 th Lori Arndt 18 th Barb Ornes 25 th Kathy Cale
APR	1 st Dan Buchholz (early) 1 st Justin Arndt 8 th Carolyn Dougherty 15 th Tyler Brandau 22 nd Kirstin Arndt 29 th Joel Arndt
MAY	6 th Greg Bever 13 th Karen Arzt 20 th Larry Ball wahn 27 th Leonard Arndt
JUNE	3 rd Arlis Ballwahn 10 th Lori Arndt 17 th Barb Ornes 24 th Kathy Cale
JULY	1 st Dan Buchholz, 8 th Carolyn Dougherty 15 th Justin Arndt 22 nd Kirstin Arndt 29 th Joel Arndt
AUG	5 th Turtle Days 12 th Greg Bever 19 th Karen Arzt 26 th Larry Ballwahn
SEPT	2 nd Leonard Arndt 9 th Arlis Ballwahn 16 th Lori Arndt 23 rd Barb Ornes 30 th Kathy Cale
OCT	7 th Dan Buchholz 14 th Carolyn Dougherty 21 st Joel Arndt 28 th Kirstin Arndt
NOV	4 th Greg Bever 11 th Karen Arzt 18 th Larry Ball- wahn 25 th Leonard Arndt
DEC	2 nd Arlis Ballwahn 9 th Lori Arndt 16 th Barb Ornes 23 rd Justin Arndt 30 th Dan Buchholz

USHERS:

JAN/MAY/SEPT	Bob Buchholz, Brian Buchholz, Ed Ross, Justin Arndt
FEB/JUN/OCT	Lori Arndt, Joel Arndt, Barb Ornes, John Ornes
MAR/JUL/NOV	Leonard Arndt, Jerry Von Haden, Greg Bever, Steve Brandau
APR/AUG/DEC	Tim Deichler, Bart Arndt, Justin Arndt, George Dougherty



Interpretation of Scripture



Pastor Jeff Miller's sermon referred to Luther's Interpretation of Scripture. I wanted to learn a little more and found the following written by Missionary James Pruch and Graeme Goldsworthy. There is much similar information published. Note particularly, "all Scripture is interpreted by its relationship to the gospel." In other words, every text must be seen in light of God's redemptive work in the incarnation, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus." It is useful to keep this in mind when hearing the multiple positions quoted because "they are in the Bible."

Larry Ballwahn

From: JAMES PRUCH LIFE, THEOLOGY and Graeme Goldsworthy, Gospel-Centered Hermeneutics

How Martin Luther Interpreted the Bible

...

He believed that the sole content of Scripture is Christ.



Christ is the incarnate Word of God, therefore the Bible can only be God's word if it deals with Christ. [2] Luther further held that "all Scripture is interpreted by its relationship to the gospel." [3] In other words, every text must be seen in light of God's redemptive work in the incarnation, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Thus every text relates to the gospel either by promising, foreshadowing, proclaiming, or reflecting upon the person and work of Christ. The modern interpreter is helped by Luther's [view] because the gospel is timeless. Since Christ lived, died, and rose for believers past, present, and future, the gospel is immediately applicable to the modern reader. The gospel, therefore, is the applicational bridge from the ancient text to the modern reader.



W-ELCA



W-ELCA NEWSLETTER JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2018

A general meeting was held on November 30, in which decisions were made as to the distribution of funds. Gifts were given to Church employees, Sugar Creek Bible Camp, Lutheran World Relief and Wilton Food Pantry. Poinsettias were purchased for the Advent and Christmas season with donations for memorials accepted. Nalani requested that gifts given to them be used instead to purchase from ELCA Good Gifts. Motion was made to spend \$100 for the Bevers and an additional \$200 for Good Gifts.

The Prayer for Christian Unity Breakfast will be held on January 20 at St. Paul's. Invitations are being sent to St. John's, Faith, Immanuel Methodist and St. Matthew's.

Additional volunteers for the Prayer Chain should contact Carol Osteboe or Carolyn Dougherty. The 2018 booklet will be completed soon. Please notify them or the church office if you have a change in telephone number. This is especially important if you drop your land line and have only a cell phone number.

Forty-two dozen cookies were delivered to Lutheran Campus Ministry at UW-La Crosse as our contribution to that ministry.

The next W-ELCA General Meeting will tentatively be held on January 18 at 10:00 am in the church basement. We invite all women of the church to join in these activities. We need participation from everyone.

Arlis Ballwahn, Secretary



Christmas Eve 2017



Silent Night, Holy Night



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

"A Welcoming Place for over 125 years"

PO Box 129
401 Mill Street
Wilton, WI 54670
608/435-6647
wiltonchurch@gmail.com



Name
Address
Wilton, Wisconsin
