

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
426 Washington St. Wausau, WI 54403

Christopher Ewan—Visitation Minister (715) 680-0083

(Emergency calls after office hours only)

Kris Vraney—Office - admin1@stpaulsuccwausau.org

Mary Anderes—Office - admin2@stpaulsuccwausau.org

Tania Schwarze—Media Coordinator – web@stpaulsuccwausau.org

William Day—Chancel Choir Director

Carol Seefeldt—Bell Choir Director

George Felty— Organist

Stephanie Reyes—Housekeeper

Pastoral Support Committee: Tamara Sillars, Nate Helke,
Nora Schultz, Bill Panzigrau, Carla Elliott

Search Committee Members: Marie Martens, Tamara Sillars,
Matt Volhard, Rita Kellman, Nate Helke, Carol Seefeldt,
Josh Reissmann, Nora Schultz, Kateland Sillars, Allison Dean,
David Wilhams

Church Council Officers:

President- Nora Schultz

Vice-Pres- Colette Brill

Secretary- Allison Dean

Treasurer- Gail Rowell

Office Hours: 8:00 – 3:00 (Mon-Thurs) 8:00 – 12:00 (Fri)

Office Phone: (715) 842-3733

Our Website: www.stpauluccwausau.org

CCLI License: 3121320 & 20363711

One License: A-724784

CVLI License #505544354

Please note: Sunday Services are available on Public Channel Spectrum
980 or TDS 14. *Weekly Sunday Services begin on Tuesdays at Noon;
Wednesday at 5pm; Thursdays at 8am; and Sundays at 9:30 am.



St. Paul's

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
426 Washington St.
Wausau 54403

APRIL 2026 COMMUNICATOR

Going a little farther, Jesus fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.” -Matthew 26:39

Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest him.” Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. Jesus replied, “Friend, do what you came for.” Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. -Matthew 26:48-50

About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” [...] And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. -Matthew 26:45, 46, 50

The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.” -Matthew 28:5-6a

The gospel lesson a couple of weeks ago was subtitled “Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead.” It is a long, 45-verse reading, and at the end Jesus indeed calls to Lazarus to come out of the tomb. But the first thirty-seven verses give the background of the story: how Jesus receives word that Lazarus is sick; Jesus’s declaration to his disciples that what he’s about to do will be for God’s glory and to reveal who he (Jesus) is in relation to God; Martha and Mary’s anguish at their brother’s death

(continued next page)

and regret that their Lord hadn't come sooner; Jesus's tears of sympathy at the sisters' distress; and Jesus's request to go to the place where Lazarus was entombed. The temptation is to edit the lesson down, get to the dramatic part, when Jesus actually raises Lazarus from the dead. We rush to cut out the sad parts, the depressing parts, and jump to the celebration, the miracle.

That's what we often do with Holy Week and Easter. Attendance at church on Easter morning, when we celebrate Jesus' resurrection, will likely be much greater than attendance at Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday services. But our joy at the promise of eternal life revealed at Easter will be more complete, more joyful, if we journey with Jesus in the somber and despairful days that led to the empty tomb.

If you've missed the Palm Sunday service, please come to the Maundy Thursday service at Peace UCC and the Good Friday service at Grace. Worshipping together during Holy Week will make Easter more meaningful and joy filled. See you in church! -Chris



Confirmation Schedule:

- NO CLASS on Wednesday, April 1 (Spring Break)
- Wednesday, April 8: 6:00-7:00
- Wednesday, April 15: 6:00-7:00
- Wednesday, April 22: 6:00-7:00 (Statement of Faith Practice)
- Sunday, April 26: 9:00 service (Presentation of Statements of Faith)
- Wednesday, April 29: 6:00-7:00 (Prepare for Confirmation)
- Sunday, May 3: Confirmation Sunday (8:15 pictures)

Ministries Schedule



Scrip Sales

4/5 Carla Elliott
 4/12 Pam Helke
 4/19 Josh Reissmann
 4/26 Bev Romanowski

Ushers

4/5 7 am Team 6
 9 am Team 7&8
 4/12 Team 9
 4/19 Team 1
 4/26 Team 2

Readers

4/5 7 am Gail Rowell
 9 am Craig Clausen
 4/12 Cathy Taschler
 4/19 Craig Clausen
 4/26 Need Volunteer



Communion Setup & Cleanup

April 5 7 am Nora Schultz
 9 am Gary & Marie Kickbusch

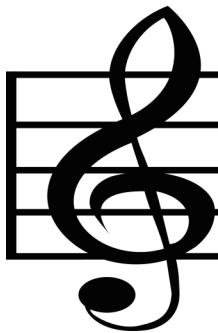
Worship Leaders

4/5 Pastor Jill Christopherson
 4/12 Chris Ewan
 4/19 Michael Loomis
 4/26 Chris Ewan

Media

4/5 7 am Chuck Romanowski
 9 am Gerry Brummond
 4/12 Travis Schubring
 4/19 Jim Maguire
 4/26 Gerry Brummond





Sharing their musical talents in church will be:	
4/5	7 am Senior Bells & Chancel Choir
	9 am Senior Bells & Chancel Choir
4/19	Starburst Choir

SCRIP TRIVIA ANSWER

Susie Shopper LOVES a good deal. Every month she goes shopping and spends:

- \$200 in gas at Krist Oil
- \$200 in groceries at Pick n Save
- \$100 in groceries at Lambs
- \$100 in paper and beauty products at Walmart
- \$100 of Bird Seed at Fleet Farm
- \$50 in cheese curds, custard, and fish fry at Culvers
- \$50 of bananas, donuts, potatoes, and coffee at Kwik Trip

If Susie uses scrip every month, and purchases the Kwik Trip grocery scrip at the special rate, how much will she donate to St. Paul's UCC in one year?

THE ANSWER IS: \$648.00.

If 50 members did this, it would mean an extra \$32,400 earned for the church in a year.



Spring is coming! Are you ready to make your garden and home improvement purchases? We have scrip available for Menards, Fleet Farm, Home Depot, and Walmart. We can also order Lowes and Ace Hardware. Support St. Paul's by making your lawn and garden purchases with scrip.

MOTHER'S DAY PIE SALE

ONLY \$17.00/Pie

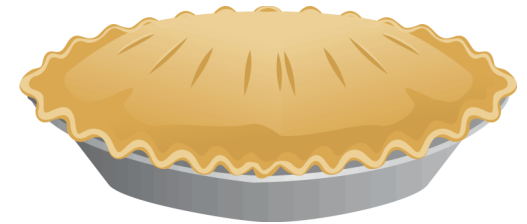
Pie orders are DUE BY 10:00 am on FRIDAY, APRIL 24

We must place our order by noon.

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE BELL TOWER RESTORATION PROJECT!

List the number of pies and variety you wish to order:

- _____ Raspberry Cream Cheese
- _____ Blueberry Cream Cheese
- _____ Lemon Cream Cheese
- _____ Strawberry Cream Cheese
- _____ Dutch Apple
- _____ Pecan
- _____ Chocolate Silk
- _____ Peanut Buter Heath
- _____ Cherry Crumb
- _____ Total Pies Ordered
- _____ Amount Enclosed

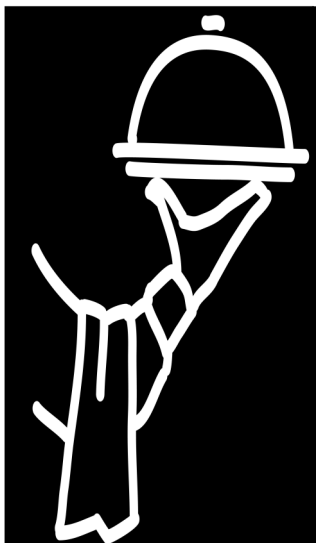


Name _____

Phone No _____

Pie Pickup will be from 1:00-3:00 pm on Thursday, May 7.

Please fill out the form and either email it back to admin1@stpaulsuccwausau.org or turn it in to the church office by Friday, April 24th at 10:00 am. All emailed orders will receive an email confirmation. If you do not receive an email confirmation, please call the church office at 715-842-3733. All pies must be paid for when picked up.



Diner's Club
Friday, April 17
6:00 Dinner
5:30 Refreshments
at Arrow Bar
6202 Schofield Ave.
Weston, WI
**Please sign up or call the
office at 715-842-3733 if you
plan on attending.**

ST. PAUL'S IN MARCH THROUGH THE YEARS...

On **April 2, 1945**, Rev. Grauer resigned and Rev. Ortwein became Senior Pastor.

Selma Pagenkopf was the church's choir director from **1912-1914**.

St. Paul's discontinued worship services in the German language in **April of 1947**, having two English services instead.

In **1960**, Sunday School classes were held in the basement of the Wisconsin Public Service building, due to the construction of the new sanctuary.

You're used to keeping up to date with church activities through *The Communicator*, but in **1960** the new monthly publication was called *The Evangel*.

In **April 1986**, a number of clergy from the Russian Orthodox Church were guests at worship.

Thank you! Gracias! Danke! Merci!

Mother Nature cooperated with us this year, and none of our Wednesday night Lenten worship services were affected by inclement weather. Thanks to all the church committees and members who stepped up and provided meals Wednesday nights through March and April 1: **Mission, Music, Building & Grounds, Finance, and Altar**. Thank you for the hearty food and for washing the dishes after!

Extra worship services and foot traffic through the church required additional cleaning, especially with all the snow and salt on the carpets and floors. **Nora Schultz** and **Gerry Brummond** helped overtime to keep the church tidy. They couldn't have done it without **Jim Maguire**, who fixed and did maintenance work on all the church's vacuums.

Bob Reinertson and **Sally Scinto-Reinertson** will represent St. Paul's as delegates at the Wisconsin Conference UCC Annual Meeting the weekend of April 10-11. Thanks to Bob and Sally for keeping us connected to the wider church!

Finally, many thanks to **Gary Helke** and his crew for cooking the meals at Palm Sunday brunch, Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, and Easter morning breakfast. That's a lot of cooking! Church Council at the next meeting will consider attaching a brass nameplate to the French toast griddle in Gary's honor. Seriously, thank you, Gary, for all you do!

Thank you!

**Join us for the last installment
in our Lenten Series**

Our Lenten series concludes this week as we finish discussing the stories and inspiration of Christians who came before us. Our last services for the season are on Wednesday, April 1 at 3:30 and 6:00. A meal will be served in Guild Hall from 4:15pm– 5:30pm.

Our last reflection will be on

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

America's foremost leader in the Civil Rights Movement, whose Christian faith formed his method of nonviolent protest.

We will be offering a Special Persons Service on Thursday, April 9 at 2:00 pm. This is a more private, easily accessible worship service. Communion will be offered as well as a fellowship gathering afterward.

Financial Report for February 2026

Current Giving:

February 2026	\$14,098.00
Monthly Goal	\$19,167.00
Year to Date:	\$30,176.50
Year to Date Goal:	Short of budget by \$8,157.50

Staff Support Expenses: Under budget by \$3,385.63

Administrative Expenses: Over budget by \$3,277.65 (Postage fees, permits, and advertising invoices higher in January.)

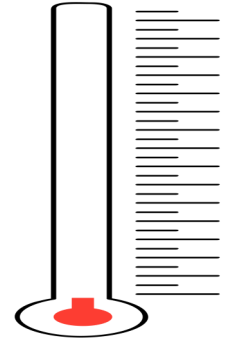
Program Expenses: Under budget by \$1,289.86

Property Expenses: Under budget by \$668.82

**Dollars and Sense from the Finance
Committee:**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Bell Tower Restoration Project! Through fundraisers, memorials, and donations made through the offering, we have raised \$8,445.58 to date.

The total cost of the project will be \$100,000, and is slated to begin in August. Every dollar earned and donated toward this project is truly appreciated.



Saturday, April 4th - 2026

FREE Breakfast & BUNNY with the EASTER EGG HUNT!

**Breakfast Served 8am-11am *Egg Hunt Participants Must Be Registered by 9am*

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
426 Washington St., Wausau 54403**



Attention

**St. Paul's Food Pantry will be
Open Every Thursday in April!**

****Volunteers Needed****

Hours of Operation: 9:00 am-Noon

Walk-up: Welcome all operational days

Drive-up: Limited to twice per month

Diaper Distribution: Once per month per family.

In person distribution only. NO carry-outs for others.

Treasure Sale Announcement!



**Are you in the midst of your spring
cleaning? Are there some nice as
new, gently used items that you
believe others would purchase?**

If so, please consider donating them to the Ladies of St. Paul's Treasure Sale. They have begun collecting items for their sale during Harvest Fest on October 3 and 4.

If you are going to need assistance bringing your items into church, please call ahead at 715-842-3733, so we can arrange a volunteer to assist you.



Tuesdays in June!

6pm- 7:30pm

**June 9: Cookout at Peace
UCC & VBS Launch
June 16: At Grace UCC
June 23: At St. Paul's UCC
June 30th: At Peace UCC**

*** All Are Welcome!**

Ages 3 & under must be supervised by adult.

***SIGN UP TODAY!**

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Holy Week Schedule

3/29 **Palm Sunday** 9:00 am at St. Paul's UCC
4/1 **Lenten Services** 3:30 and 6:00 pm at St. Paul's UCC, Dinner 4:15-5:30
4/2 **Maundy Thursday** Dinner 5:00-6:15 pm, Service at 6:30 at Peace UCC, 1530 Grand Ave. Schofield
4/3 **Good Friday** Service at 3:00 pm at Grace UCC, 535 S. Third Ave. Wausau
4/5 **Easter** Services 7:00 and 9:00 at St. Paul's UCC with breakfast between Services.

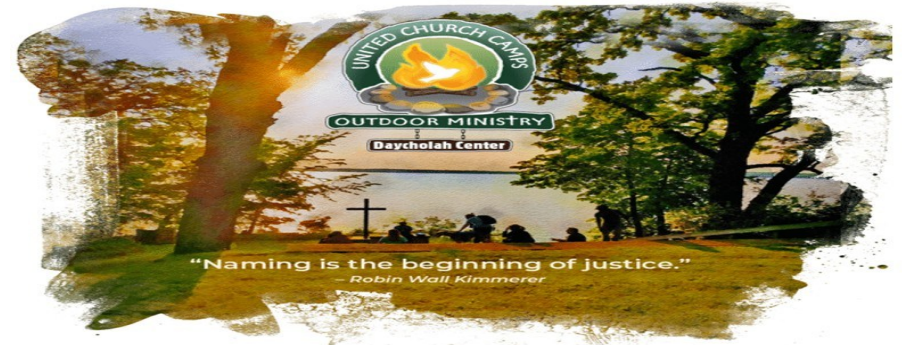


Are you receiving your weekly emails?

An email is sent out every week from St. Paul's UCC. If you would like to be on the email list, please provide your name and email address to the office at 715-842-3733 or admin1@stpaulsuccwausau.org.

Communion Services

In **May, June, July, and August**, we will continue to offer **communion on the third Sunday** of the month to accommodate the worship schedule. Christopher Ewan, Rev. Elizabeth Hazel, Pastor Jill Christopherson, Michael Loomis, and Pastor Ann Larrabee will continue leading us in worship.



Summer Camp Registration Is Open!



Registration for Summer Camp at Daycholah Center opened on January 12. Camp Daycholah offers a joyful, unplugged experience where children and youth build friendships, grow in confidence and spirit, and connect with nature. Families are encouraged to register early at: WWW.UCCI.ORG

Steffen Camp scholarships are available!

The Greater Northern Choral Association is holding their concert on April 26 at United Methodist Church, 903 Third St. Wausau.

This group includes many members of St. Paul's UCC. Please join them for an afternoon of great music!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Tania Schwarze	04/01	Barbara Bruning	04/14
Justin Sims	04/01	Hilary Clark	04/14
Jim Steponik	04/01	Amanda Schulz	04/15
Ahleah Furger	04/02	Dale Doescher	04/16
Courtney Kleiber	04/02	Caiden Kuhtz	04/16
Jaylon Talbot	04/02	Paula Mayer	04/16
Ronald Beilke	04/03	Beverly Romanowski	04/16
Brandon Gwidt	04/03	David Wilharms	04/16
Caiden Hoepfner	04/03	Erin Clements	04/17
Keith Kuhtz	04/03	Kari Dobratz	04/17
Branden Sanders	04/03	Blake Gauger	04/17
Brian Andrew	04/04	Lisa Peterson	04/18
Mike Kissinger	04/04	Dan Schultz	04/20
Harper Krause	04/04	Micah Volhard	04/20
Delaney Mattila	04/04	Lauren Watters	04/20
Lorenzo Paoli	04/04	Joseph Abt	04/21
Carol Seefeldt	04/04	Melissa Baker	04/21
Turi Cebula	04/05	Elizabeth Eversole	04/21
Andrew Sims	04/05	Bonny Prazuch	04/21
Alexis Voigt	04/05	William Franklin	04/22
Terry Morrow	04/06	Bre Grondin	04/22
Olivander Harris	04/07	Melissa Reissmann	04/22
Marie Martens	04/07	Richard Anklam	04/24
Linda Matthias	04/08	Donna Gatzow	04/24
Philip Schneider	04/08	Jace Hammerstrom	04/24
Linda Albrecht	04/09	Carol Lewitzke	04/24
Thomas Heise	04/09	Nicole Tieman	04/24
Ciera Pasholk	04/09	Annette Lauby	04/25
Debra Rothmeyer	04/10	Jesse Suchon	04/25
Sarah Flatter	04/11	Bob Reinertson	04/26
Kerry Gruening	04/11	Anne Wunsch	04/27
Ethan Baker	04/12	Christopher Conklin	04/28
Debra Nass	04/12	Teresa Volhard	04/28
Sierra Kowalski	04/13	Jonathon Gilbertson	04/29
Matthew Baker	04/14	Timothy Schulz	04/30

May God bless you on your birthday and always!

We have four tickets remaining for Clauson's brand new show:

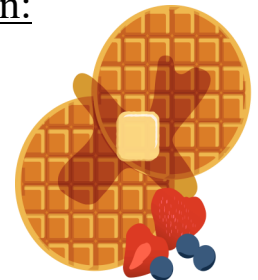
ALL TIME FAVORITES!

The trip is on June 18th, departing at 10:30 am. Only 4 seats remain. Reserve your seat soon!



Join us for breakfast on:

Sunday, March 29 after the 9:00 worship service AND Sunday, April 5 between the 7:00 and 9:00 worship services



Volunteers Needed
Join Our Media Ministry Team!

We are Looking for Members to Represent St. Paul's UCC on Various Social Media Platforms.

***TikTok *Facebook *Instagram**

***See Tania in the Church Office – Or Email Tschwarze@stpaulsuccwausau.org**