

~ St. Paul Epistle March 2026 ~

Lent Leads to the Triduum

The season of Lent is a journey. 40 days in the wilderness, seeking growth in our relationship with God, being intentional in our spiritual practices, and engaging in acts of mercy.

Lent leads to something beautiful, like a hiking trail ending at a picturesque waterfall or valley. Lent ends with the Triduum (pronunciation: trid-yoo-uhm). That's just a fancy word meaning "the three days" consisting of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil.

A quick note, the Triduum is part of Holy Week, but I tend to use the terms interchangeably.

To many pastors, Holy Week is stressful and is their least favorite time of the year. Too many services, too much planning, and something always comes up like a funeral or illness.

Perhaps it's my youthful energy, but I love Holy Week. I love the symbolism of the Triduum and how, as the sun rises on Easter morning, we join with millennia of Christians in proclaiming "Christ has risen!" I love how each worship service leads to the next.

Did you know that Holy Week is just one long service?

Palm Sunday is the start of Holy Week – in this service we echo the joyful cries of "hosanna" as Christ enters Jerusalem. We wave palm branches and sing triumphal songs. The messiah is here, we say, knowing full well what will happen by the end of the week.

Maundy Thursday begins the Triduum. In this service we confess our sins, recognize our part in Christ's death, and ask for forgiveness. On this night, Jesus instituted Holy Communion, so we celebrate it. But after communion, we strip the altar of all decorations, paraments, and vestments. Revealing a *stark* difference. We depart in silence.

Next comes Good Friday. We gather in silence, recognizing the weight of this day. There are many bidding prayers. We also take time to reverence the cross, recognizing that on a simple cross of wood hung the creator of the universe. We mourn with all creation Jesus' death.

Easter Vigil and Easter end the triduum. After Christ had been buried and dead three days, we keep watch with Mary and the other disciples. Mourning the death of Jesus but trusting in His words that He will rise again. So, as the sun peaks up on Easter morning, the tomb is revealed to be empty and we proclaim, "Christ has risen!" That God defeated death and Jesus lives again!

I love Holy Week, and I hope you will make plans to join us for each of our Holy Week services, we walk first, though, through the season of Lent.

Peace,
Pr. Anthony

Midweek

LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 25

St. Luke's Episcopal; 5:30 pm

MARCH 4

St. Paul Lutheran; 5:30 pm

MARCH 11

Immanuel Lutheran; 5:30pm

MARCH 18

St. Luke's Episcopal; 5:30 pm

MARCH 25

St. Paul Lutheran; 5:30 pm

ALL SERVICES ARE FOLLOWED BY A SOUP SUPPER AND FELLOWSHIP

Bountiful Lenten Worship Opportunities

One of the Lent disciplines is attending additional worship services. We have *bountiful* opportunities this year! DACMA services are Sunday nights, and St. Paul/Immanuel/St. Luke's are Wednesday nights with soup supper to follow. Check the graphics for more details.

Holy Week

SERVICE SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY*

9:00 am at Immanuel; 11:00 am at St. Paul

MAUNDY THURSDAY

5:30 pm at Immanuel

GOOD FRIDAY

5:30 pm at St. Paul

EASTER VIGIL

8:00 pm at St. Paul

EASTER SUNDAY*

9:00 am at Immanuel; 11:00 am at St. Paul

**Please note the time change at St. Paul for these days*

Holy Week

The Great Three Days (also called the Triduum) marks the end of Lent. You are highly, *highly* encouraged to make plans to attend as many Holy Week services as possible. There is something incredibly powerful about hearing the story of Jesus' last week, last night, death, vigil, and resurrection! Easter is more important than Christmas!

Palm Sunday (3/29) 9 am at Immanuel, **11 am** at St. Paul.

Maundy Thursday (4/2) 5:30 pm at Immanuel

Good Friday (4/3) 5:30 pm at St. Paul

Easter Vigil (4/4) 8 pm at St. Paul

(Yes, this replaces the usual Saturday night service. Expect this worship to last 1.5 hours.)

Easter (4/5) 9 am at Immanuel, **11 am** at St. Paul

*Please note the time change for St. Paul on Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday

DACMA Lenten Service Schedule

FEBRUARY 22 --- 6 PM --- FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

MARCH 1 --- 6 PM --- GRACE UMC

MARCH 8 --- 6 PM --- FIRST BAPTIST

MARCH 15 --- 6 PM --- SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY

MARCH 22 --- 6 PM --- IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

MARCH 29 --- 6 PM --- CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
A COMMUNITY HYMN SING IS BEING HELD AT
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN ON PALM SUNDAY TO
MARK THE END OF LENT AND THE BEGINNING OF
HOLY WEEK.

*Join us for worship and community! Services are
followed by refreshments and fellowship.*

Girl Scout
Sunday
March 8th



WELCA Coffee will
not meet in March.

PIZZA AND BINGO
SATURDAY, MARCH 28th following worship



Daylight Savings time begins Sunday March 8th

Worship Assistants Serving in March

Sunday March 1 ~ Sherry McCarter

Saturday March 7 ~ at Immanuel

Sunday March 8 ~ Glen Hughes

Saturday March 14 ~ Robin Colglazier

Sunday March 15 ~ Marian Myers

Saturday March 21 ~ at Immanuel

Sunday March 22 ~ Linda Patterson

Saturday March 28 ~ Lester Hallquist

Sunday March 29 ~ Joyce Craney

We celebrate with those who have March birthdays.

- 1 Mary Sekse
- 8 Christine Maves
- 11 Elizabeth Strom, Marian Ulferts
- 12 Joy Garnhart
- 14 Julie Hodgson
- 15 Timothy Thrasher
- 16 Melissa Stanek
- 17 Walter Lohse
- 22 Jason Wittenauer
- 23 Mary "Peg" Miller
- 24 Mark Peterson
- 28 Steven Marco, Alison Wittenauer
- 29 Dorothy Hodgson
- 31 Ellen Allen



Thank you to those who prayerfully submitted Commitment Cards this year. Immanuel members turned in 22 of them, and St. Paul folks turned in 30. Every offering is a gift to God. Thank you for helping both churches start the year in good finances.

EASTER FLOWERS 2026



_____ I/We wish to purchase a lily to decorate the church

_____ I/We wish to purchase a tulip to decorate the church

(Cost: Lilies \$16.50 and Tulips \$16.00 due by Thursday, March 12th)

My/Our gift is:

_____ in memory of _____

_____ in honor of _____

_____ to the Glory of God.

Given By: _____

Payment is due with order form.

_____ I wish to take my plant(s) home with me after the Easter service.

Pulaski Day Breakfast

Don't forget that on
Monday, March 2nd

Pr. Anthony and his brother are
hosting a Pulaski/Paczki Day
Breakfast.

It starts at 6 am in St. Paul's
Fellowship Hall. Check the
flyer for more details.

(A paczki is a Polish donut, by
the way!)

Blood Drive
Friday March 6
noon to 5 pm

Presented by: Pr. Anthony
and Henry Windau

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Pulaski/ Paczki Breakfast

Immanuel Lutheran Church



Free!

March
2nd

Pulaski/Pączki Breakfast

421 S Peoria
Dixon, IL 61021

6 am to 10 am
Fellowship Hall

First Communion Instruction

This year's first communion class will take place on Saturday, March 28th at St. Paul for both churches. If you feel your child is old enough and would like them to participate, please let the pastors know by Sunday, March 15th.

Parents are strongly encouraged to participate with their kids!

Class: Saturday, March 28th from 10 am to 12:30 pm @ St. Paul (Lunch included!)

1st Communion will be Sunday, March 29th @ both churches.



WELCA is hosting a "Trip to China" presentation. Pastor Leo and Linda Patterson will be sharing their trip to China along with their friend Brian Luebke. Stories and pictures will be included in the program. Thursday, April 16th at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Sesame cake and tea will be served. Also coffee. Please join us and everyone is welcome.

Easter Egg hunt treats needed!

PLEASE TAKE HOME A BAG OF EMPTY EGGS FROM THE GATHERING AREA – FILL WITH GOODIES (INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED CANDY, STICKERS, TOYS... PLEASE NO MONEY) AND RETURN THEM TO ST. PAUL BY MARCH 29. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!!!



EGG HUNT (AND A SPECIAL SCAVENGER HUNT) WILL BEGIN AT 10:00 AM ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5



PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 29, 8:00-10:30am



SEE SIGN-UP SHEETS IN THE
GATHERING AREA!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

MENU
PANCAKES, SAUSAGE,
EGGS, FRUIT,
BREAKFAST PASTRIES,
ORANGE JUICE, MILK
& COFFEE

A FREWILL
DONATION WILL BE
RECEIVED TO
SUPPORT ST PAUL
YOUTH MINISTRY
EVENTS

Children, Youth, Family News

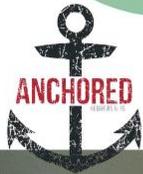
IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH



MARCH 2026

ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

TWO CHURCHES, 1 MISSION



QUAKE 2026

*"May your blessings outnumber
The Shamrocks that grow
And may trouble avoid you.
Wherever you go."
An Irish Blessing*



Thanks be to God...

...for the 19 students and adult leaders from St Paul and Immanuel who attended the 2026 Wisconsin Dells Quake last month!

"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain."

Hebrews 6:19



Page 2: Faith Formation & Christian Education

Page 3: Upcoming events

Page 4: March calendar

Children, Youth, Family News

Faith Formation/ Christian Education

MARCH

Sunday school



SPLC

March 1, 8, 15, 22 - **class and youth group**
9:30 - 10:30 AM Sundays

March 29 - **Faith Lab: Palm Sunday Breakfast** - students and families come for breakfast between 8 - 10:30am. Students help serve and clean up; then a craft or activity.

ILC

Come See Jesus:

March 1, 8, 15, 22 - **9:15am** in Sunday School room.

Nicodemus, Samaritan Women, Blind Man and Lazarus - all see Jesus.

Confirmation class

Sunday, 1-3pm at ILC

March 1 - class

March 15 - class

Students are encouraged to attend the Lenten midweek and Holy Week services with their families. Students should be working on their end-of-year digital media projects!

MARCH CHILDREN'S CHANGE/OFFERING

ST PAUL:

2026 VBS
service projects

IMMANUEL:

ywca

THANK YOU!



St Paul Spaghetti Dinner:

Deepest thanks to all who volunteered and contributed to St Paul's Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. We raised over \$1,300! Half the proceeds will go to the St Paul youth fund and half will go to help eliminate Dixon Schools lunch debt!



First Communion

ILC † SPLC

CLASS AND LUNCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 28,
10am - 12:30pm

Student and at least one parent should attend. RSVP the pastors by March 15!

CELEBRATION OF FIRST COMMUNION

ILC - Sunday, March 29, 9:00am

SPLC - Sunday, March 29, 11:00am

VBS planning meeting -

Wednesday, March 25, 5:00 PM at ILC

Called
To SERVE
Come be the hands and feet of Jesus
VBS
June 22-25, 2026
at Immanuel Lutheran Church

Children, Youth, Family News

MARCH

Upcoming Events



FAMILY GAME NIGHT

MARCH 13 - 5-7PM

YOUTH ROOM

Join us for a night full of fun, laughter, and friendly competition!

ST PAUL PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST

March 29, 8:00- 10:30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL FAITH LAB DAY:



Kids will help serve breakfast, eat and do a craft/activity.



Holy Week

SERVICE SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY*
9:00 am at Immanuel; 11:00 am at St. Paul

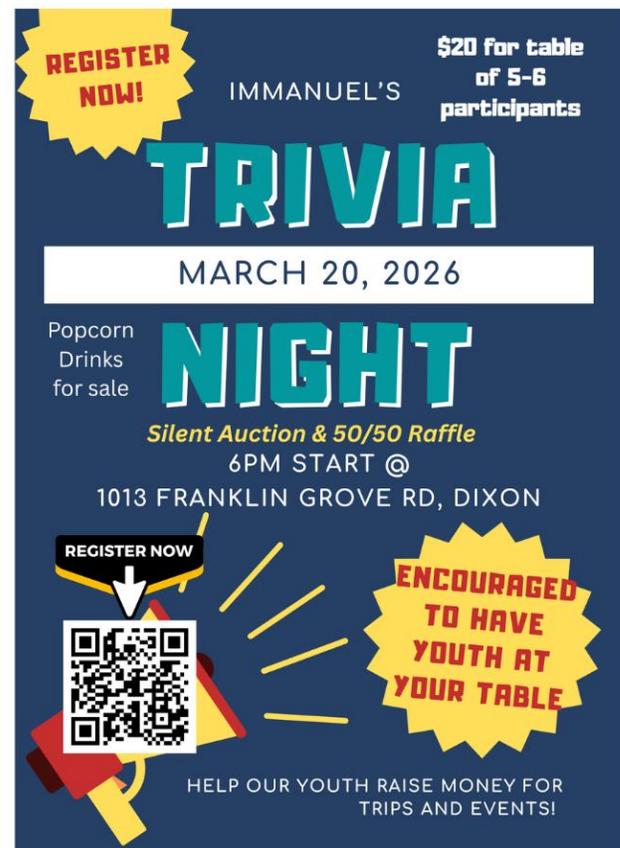
MAUNDY THURSDAY
5:30 pm at Immanuel

GOOD FRIDAY
5:30 pm at St. Paul

EASTER VIGIL
8:00 pm at St. Paul

EASTER SUNDAY*
9:00 am at Immanuel; 11:00 am at St. Paul

*Please note the time change at St. Paul for these days



REGISTER NOW!

IMMANUEL'S

TRIVIA

MARCH 20, 2026

Popcorn
Drinks
for sale

NIGHT

Silent Auction & 50/50 Raffle
6PM START @
1013 FRANKLIN GROVE RD, DIXON

REGISTER NOW



ENCOURAGED TO HAVE YOUTH AT YOUR TABLE

HELP OUR YOUTH RAISE MONEY FOR TRIPS AND EVENTS!



Easter Egg Hunt!

Beginning March 8th grab eggs from Immanuel and St. Paul and fill them with individually wrapped candy, or words of encouragement, bible verses, toys, etc. (please no money)

Please return these no later than March 29th!

Easter Egg Hunts (Sunday, April 5)

10:00 am @ Immanuel

10:00 am @ St. Paul (w/ scavenger hunt)

MARCH



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 SS ILC - 9:15am SPLC - 9:30am 1pm Confirmation @ ILC	2 6-10am Pulaski/Paczki Breakfast @ SPLC 3:30pm -FtBY @ ILC	3	4	5	6	7
8  Sunday @ SPLC SS ILC - 9:15am SPLC - 9:30am	9 3:30pm -FtBY @ ILC	10	11	12	13 5-7pm Family Game Night @ ILC	14
15 SS ILC - 9:15am SPLC - 9:30am Youth Comm. 9:15am 1pm Confirmation @ ILC	16 3:30pm -FtBY @ ILC	17 HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY 	18	19	20 6-8pm Trivia Night Fundraiser @ ILC 	21
22 SS ILC - 9:15am SPLC - 9:30am	23 3:30pm -FtBY @ ILC	24	25 5pm- VBS Planning Meeting @ ILC	26	27 6-8pm Trivia Night Fundraiser @ ILC	28 1ST communion class & lunch (SPLC), 10am - 12:30pm
29 PALM SUNDAY 8-10:30am Breakfast (SPLC) First Communion Sunday 9am - ILC 11am - SPLC	30 NO FtBY	31	1	2 Maundy Thursday 5:30pm @ ILC	3 Good Friday 5:30pm @ SPLC	4 Easter Vigil 8pm @ SPLC

CONTACT US

SPLC: Gerad Von Holten
 Email: youth@stpauldixon.org

ILC: Somar Bryson
 Email: yfdirector@ilcdixon.org

MARCH 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>9:30- 10:30 am Sunday School/Youth Group 10:45 am Worship - Praise Band 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Joint Confirmation at ILC 6:00 pm DACMA at Grace United Methodist</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:00 - 10:00 am Pulaski Day Breakfast 10:00 am Prayer Team 6:00 pm Property Committee</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 am Joint Staff Meeting at St. Paul 9:00 am Line Dancing</p>	<p>4</p> <p>1:00 pm Worship & Music Committee 3:00 pm Christian Ed meeting 5:30 pm Lent Worship at St. Paul soup following</p>	<p>5</p> <p>11:00 am Chair Yoga 1:00 pm St. Paul Ministries</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Noon to 5 pm Red Cross Blood Drive</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30 am - 3:45 pm CRE Resource Event at SVCC 5:30 pm Worship at ILC</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30 - 10:30 am Sunday School/Youth Group 10:45 an Worship Girl Scout Sunday Executive Council 6:00 pm DACMA at First Baptist</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00 am Prayer Team</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:30 am Joint Staff Meeting 9:00 Line Dancing 10:00 am Social Ministry Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>No WELCA Breakfast 2:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting 4:00 pm Praise Band rehearsal 5:30 pm Lent Worship at Immanuel soup following</p>	<p>12</p> <p>11:00 am Chair Yoga</p>	<p>13</p> <p>1:30 pm Liberty Court Worship</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:15 am Youth Committee 9:30 -10:30 am Sunday School/Youth Group 10:45 am Worship - Praise Band 1:00 pm-3:00 pm Joint Confirmation Class at ILC 6:00 pm DACMA at Sauk Valley Community</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00 am Prayer Team</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 am Joint Staff Meeting at St. Paul 9:00 am Line Dancing</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:30 am Heritage Square Worship 5:30 pm Lent Worship at St. Luke's soup following</p>	<p>19</p> <p>11:00 am Chair Yoga</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5:30 pm Worship at ILC</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 - 10:30 am Sunday School/Youth Group 10:45 am Worship 6:00 pm DACMA at ILC</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00 am Prayer Team 2:00 pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 am Joint Staff Meeting at St .Paul 9:00 am Line Dancing</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00 am Care Ministry Meeting 5:30 pm Lent Worship at St. Paul soup following</p>	<p>26</p> <p>11:00 am Chair Yoga</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00 am-12:30 pm Joint First Communion Class at St. Paul 5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul after worship Pizza & Bingo</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:00 am -10:30 am Palm Sunday Breakfast/Faith Lab 11 am Worship First Communion Sunday 6:00 pm DACMA at Church of the Brethren Hymn Sing Passion Sunday</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00 am Prayer Team</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:00 am Joint Staff Meeting at St. Paul 9:00 am Line Dancing</p>				

St. Paul Lutheran Church
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Website: www.stpauldixon.org
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm
Phone: 815-288-2757
Email: pastoragwindau@gmail.com
pastorreedwindau@gmail.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Staff

Rev. Riley Reed-Windau & Rev. Anthony Windau
Co-Pastors

Gerad Von Holten - Director of Youth and
Family Ministries

Rhonda Thomas - Secretary

Brenda Nailor & Sharon Colglazier - General Funds
Treasurers

Lorraine Hussung - Special Funds Treasurer



Church Council

Robin Colglazier – President
Linda Patterson – Vice President
Patty Hallquist – Secretary
Jeanette McWethy
Cyndi Starr
Char Huff
Tim Garnhart