Rev. Daniel Paavola grew up on a dairy farm outside New York Mills, Minnesota. Dan and Holly met at Minnesota State University, Moorhead, Minnesota and were married in 1979. They have three adult children, Christy, Steve, and Nicole.

Dan graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, in 1983 and then went on to earn a Masters of Theology degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1984. He was a pastor for twelve years at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Butternut, Wisconsin, a small town in the deep north woods. He then moved to teach theology at Concordia University Wisconsin in 1996. In 2004 he earned his Ph.D. in theology from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Dan is the author of several books published by Concordia Publishing House including *Our Way Home, Patience and Perfection, Grace Faith Scripture,* and *Flowing from the Cross.*

His hobbies include motorcycling, woodworking, and driving their 1917 Model T Ford car.