

MAR 2020

This newsletter is a monthly publication of St. Paul Lutheran Church. Articles and information pertinent to the life and mission of the congregation may be submitted to the church office or by email. Space limitations may require editing of material.

Pastor

Rev. Mike Metzler

Organists

Sue Hickle

Connie Odendahl

Church Secretary

Jennifer Kubesh

Church Newsletter

Jennifer Kubesh

Cydelle Klande

Church Council

Meets 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm

Randy Hickle,
Chairman

Matt Maser, *Vice
Chairman*

Tracy Peterson,
Treasurer

Tonette Peterson,
Secretary

Cydelle Klande,
Financial Secretary

Elders

Robbie Robinson

Toby Hickle

Aaron Peterson

Isaac Maser

Trustees

Rick Williams

Carol Robinson

Tony Nelson

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Greetings and His peace to you!



Ash Wednesday worship service is upon us. This day marks the first day of the Lenten season. Ash Wednesday gets its name from a tradition of blessing the ashes of last year's Palm Sunday palm branches and placing those ashes, which are often mixed with oil, on the foreheads of those that attend an Ash Wednesday worship service. You have maybe seen someone with an ashen cross drawn on their forehead on past Ash Wednesdays.

Often, as a priest or minister draws the cross on a person's forehead, he calls for the person to repent and believe in the Gospel of Jesus the Christ, and a reminder that we are from the dust and will return to dust at this life's end. Ash Wednesday isn't celebrated by everyone, but God stills calls us all to repent and this is only right as the season of Lent has as one of its focal points the repentance of one's sins. In many places of worship, the color purple is very common and it is often associated with penitence. It helps us to get in the mindset of being penitent.

What is 'being penitent'? Being penitent means being truly sorry for your sins and asking God for help to do better. This means you **really are** sorry for your sins. **Not just** sorry that you were caught in your sin, or **not only** sorry that you received punishment, but truly sorry. The kind of sorry you feel down in the pit of your stomach that makes you feel sick or like crying.

Another way we are often helped to get in the mindset of being penitent is to **NOT** sing ‘alleluias’ during worship service during the season of Lent. ‘Alleluia’ is a joyful expression meaning “Praise the Lord!” Not singing ‘alleluia’ until Easter helps us set apart the Lenten season as penitential and different than all other seasons.

The main focus of Lent is for us to consider, read about, and meditate on the passion of Jesus the Christ. Our one reason for being children of God, for being blessed with the graciousness of God through His Son as our Redeemer, over the weeks following Ash Wednesday, is about to be persecuted to the fullest extent and then crucified on a cross.

The time over the Lenten weeks we are to meditate on the suffering and impending death of God’s Son Jesus as our focus for Lent and being sorry for ones sins is a view we **need to have**, to truly be able to better understand just how much God gave for us and how much He loves each of us.

Jesus suffered for everyone. God’s son suffered for the sins of everyone that ever was and ever will be. Everyone means everyone. Serial killers, mass murderers, tyrants, dictators, abusers, etc... **EVERYONE**. God loves **ALL** of us.

Gracious Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your Son Jesus to suffer and die on a cross to forgive all of us of all our sins and make us Yours. In Your Son’s name we pray. Amen.

*God’s richest blessings to you and your family!
Your fellow servant in His name,
Pastor Mike*

Church News



March Ushers: Tony Nelson and John Frank

Lent: Robbie and Steve

Acolyte Schedule:

March 1st: Carlie

Wednesday March 4th: Nik

March 8th: Chase

Wednesday March 11th: (open)

March 15th: Ethan

Wednesday March 18th: Nik

March 22nd: Carlie

Wednesday March 25th: Grace

March 29th: Chase



Quilting:

Come join us for quilting on Monday's at 10am at the church. All are welcome!!

Pancake Breakfast:

This is on Easter Sunday at 7:30am. We need helpers!! See John Frank for more information or if you would like to help!

Lenten Services:

The dessert sign-up sheet for Wednesday Lenten Meals is up! Please take a look and sign up when you can bring in a dessert. Thanks!

Spring Ahead!!

Sunday March 8th is Daylight Savings Time, sorry lose an hour of sleep. Spring ahead!

Church Directory Updates:

We are updating our church directory! Please let the office know if your phone number or even your address has changed. Thanks!

CASE Update:

There is **NO CASE or Confirmation** on Wednesday March 25.

The Last Day of CASE is Wednesday April 29th.

Our Stewardship February 2nd - 16th, 2020

General Fund \$5,444.00
Altar Flowers \$60.00
Missions..... \$15.00
Sunday School..... \$17.00

TOTAL \$ 5,536.00

Hopkins Memorial..... \$20.00
Schroeder Memorial..... \$20.00

Flower Chart:

March 1st: Larry and Linda Marotz
..... in honor of their 48th wedding anniversary
March 8th: Robbie and Carol Robinson
..... in honor of their wedding anniversary
March 15th: Aaron and Tracy Peterson
.....in honor of Grace's birthday
March 22nd: Randy and Sue Hickle
.....in honor of their 54th wedding anniversary
March 29th: Open

Homebound:

Mona Klar
Lorraine Robbins
Lois Kendall
Janice Ladd
Pat Kunze
Kristi Graber
Vivian Kelm
Marjorie Pike
Florence Benoit





March 2020

2nd: Tim Davis
3rd: Lindsay Klar
4th: Grady Ausmus
 McKenna Rabe
5th: Michelle White
7th: Janice Ladd
15th: Joanne Hopkins
16th: Grace Peterson
17th: Robbie and Carol Robinson
18th: Lynette Maser
19th: Juventino and Audrey Zamora
20th: Cason Wimmer
21st: Christeva Perrotti
 Steve Marudas
23rd: Randy and Sue Hickle
24th: Tess Maser
26th: Matt and Pam Zabrok
27th: Linda Marotz
28th: Wendy Kottke, JoAnn Hedkte
29th: Toby and Yonna Hickle

If we are missing anyone, please let Jennifer or Cydelle know! Thank you.



NEWSLETTERS:

The newsletter deadline is the third Friday of each month. You can email your information to

cydelleklande@gmail.com

or

jenniferkubesh@yahoo.com

Thank You!!

LENTEN SEASON BEGINS FEB 26

Please join us for supper before the Lenten Service.
YOU DO NOT have to bring anything in for the main meal.
There will be a sign-up sheet for desserts.

**Wednesday's, the supper starts at 6pm with
Worship at 7pm.**

This is the menu for each week.

Feb 26th.....sloppy joes, corn, chips, pickles, and dessert

Mar 4th....soup/chili, corn bread, sandwiches and dessert

Mar 11th.....spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, and dessert

Mar 18th...hot dogs or chili dogs, beans, chips and dessert

Mar 25th.....soup and sandwiches, and dessert

Apr 1st.....soup and sandwiches, and dessert

There will be a free will offering, a fundraiser for Youth Group.
Some funding has been provided by Thrivent Action Teams.



EASTER SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday (April 9th) 7:00 pm

Good Friday (April 10th) 7:00 pm

Easter (April 12)	Sunrise Service	6:30 am
	Pancake Breakfast	7:30 am
	Easter Service	9:00 am



CREATION MOMENTS

Proclaiming Evidence for Truth

THIS WEEK'S CREATION MOMENT

Multiple Blessings from Trees



Genesis 1:11

"And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, [and] the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed [is] in itself, upon the earth: and it was so."

Genesis uses only a few words and simple language to describe the creation of trees. That hardly seems fair, considering the importance, variety and complexity of the largest and longest-living things on Earth.

The largest Sequoias in northern California weigh more than six blue whales. The tallest Australian eucalyptus trees and redwoods tower as high as a 30-story building. Some of the Bristlecone pines in the American west are 4,000 years old.

Trees do more than provide us with building materials, food and medicine. Like other green plants, trees take the waste carbon dioxide produced by animals and humans and turns it into oxygen. As a bonus, trees produce sugar. The cellulose fiber we call wood is actually only thousands of sugar molecules linked into long chains. In recent years, scientists have also learned that trees communicate with each other. They cool the air and pump enough moisture into the air to transform a dry, desert-like climate. If it were not for the mycorrhiza fungi, trees would battle through their roots for control of moisture and soil resources. However, when this fungus is present in the root systems, trees will link roots with each other and share water and nutrients.

Scripture's simple statement that God created trees expands into volumes of information as we learn more about them. This is how science done in faith – that is, as our search for knowledge about what God has made – serves to glorify our Creator!

Notes:

Ponte, Lowell. "What good is a tree?" Reader's Digest. Photo: Giant Sequoia. (Pixabay)

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Trails for Transplants

The Maloney story:

Meet the Maloney family, Paul, Erin and Chas. They live in Pine City. On October 27, 2013, their daughter and sister, Laura at 8 years old died in a tragic auto accident. When called by Life Source the day after the accident, they made the decision to have Laura be a donor. Laura was able to donate her eyes, knee cartilage and valves from her heart. It was a tough decision in the midst of the grief. But one that would prove to be their saving grace in the years that followed as they began to realize that Laura was somebody's hero. She gave someone the gift of sight.

In 2016, they stumbled by faith upon the Trails 4 Transplant Facebook page. They use horses to spread awareness about the need for organ, eye and tissue donation.

For more on Laura's story and more information, please visit Trails4Transplant's website at trails4transplants.org or visit our Facebook page.

The 2020 ride will be held May 22-May 30 in loving memory of Laura. They will be riding over 100 miles in 7 days across Pine County, starting at the Tamarack Horse Camp and ending at the Fairgrounds in Pine City, where there will be a silent auction, meal and fellowship.

Each rider has the responsibility to find sponsors to raise money which mostly benefits the Gift of Life House in Rochester, MN. This year, half will also go to Faith's Lodge and Pine County 4H.

Greg and Wendy Kroschel are riding in this benefit and are looking for sponsors. If you would like to donate, donations may be made out to Trails 4 Transplants and you can mail any donations back to the church and we will make sure they receive it.

If you would like to sponsor, please let the church know also. There is also sign-up sheet at the church if you would like to sponsor them to ride in this benefit.

Thank You!

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Unapproved council minutes
2-10-2020

Present: Pastor Mike, Tonette Peterson, Tracy Peterson, Randy Hickle, Carol Robinson, Tony Nelson, Robbie Robinson Jennifer Kubesh, Cydelle Klande, Wendy Kroschel

Meeting was called to order by Randy at 7:05pm. Pastor opened with a prayer.

Secretary's report was accepted as read

Treasurer's report accepted as read. Motion Carol second Tony

Income: \$11,613.45 . Checking \$20,431.29 Expense \$13,101.18 Savings \$58,710.68
Net Income \$-1,487.73 (noted that the Savings total includes the \$20,000 loan for Pastor as well as all memorial funds)

Pastor's report: hospital visits, home visits, office visits, attended various meetings, 1 funeral, Chaplain's group events, Little Lambs, Confirmation, Bible Studies, CASE, Mighty Fortress Board meeting and supper, PALS event

Wendy presented a wish to put out a donation basket and to publish info in the newsletter for Trails 4 Transplants. Motion by Robbie and second by Tony

Old Business

- * Spray foam was completed. Extra blown insulation will be done soon.
- *The elders will check into background checks for anyone working with youth. This is also needed for insurance.
- *A new bulb will be placed in the south peak stained-glass window.
- *The elders are looking for volunteers to help contact inactive members and to serve on the Board of Fellowship. (This is different from the Fellowship Committee). There is a Board of Fellowship duty list on the ushers table. Talk to an elder or Pastor if you are interested.
- *Upon motion by Tracy and second by Carol, a new doorbell will be purchased for the entryway.

New Business

- *There will be a LERT (church security and safety) training in Sauk Rapids on Feb 29. The cost is \$15 per person (to be taken from the general fund). At this time, Carol, Robbie, and Pastor are attending. They will bring back info to present to the council. If anyone else is interested, see Pastor.
- *Jennifer Kubesh and Jayne Maser will replace Jeanette Schaefer and MaryAnn Lyon on the Fellowship Committee checking account. Motion by Tracy Peterson and second by Carol Robinson. Voted. Carried.

Upon motion by Carol and second by Tony, we adjourned at 8:25pm

Respectfully Submitted, Tonette Peterson, St. Paul Lutheran Church council secretary

MARCH 2020

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10:30am Bible Study	2 10am Quilting	3	4 10am Bible Study 1:30pm C.A.S.E 2:30pm Confirmation 6pm Supper 7pm Lenten Service	5	6	7
8 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10:30am Bible Study	9 10am Quilting 7pm Council Mtg	10	11 10am Bible Study 1:30pm C.A.S.E 2:30pm Confirmation 6pm Supper 7pm Lenten Service	12	13	14
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS						
15 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10:30am Bible Study	16 10am Quilting	17	18 10am Bible Study 1:30pm C.A.S.E 2:30pm Confirmation 6pm Supper 7pm Lenten Service	19	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21
22 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10:30am Bible Study	23 10am Quilting	24	25 10am Bible Study 6pm Supper 7pm Lenten Service	26	27	28
SPRING BREAK – NO SCHOOL						
29 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10:30am Bible Study	30 10am Quilting	31				



COME JOIN OUR WORSHIPPING FAMILY

MARCH 2020

Worship: Sunday at 9:00 am

Sunday School: Sunday at 10 am

Church Email: st.paulhinckley@yahoo.com

For God so Loved the World



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