

St. Paul Lutheran Church

April 2024 Newsletter



Greetings and His peace to you!

ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN!!

Not long ago, or at least it doesn't seem all that long ago, Sherri and I left the Seminary community and came into your midst. The time had come for me to complete my studies and, God willing, receive a call to under-shepherd one of His congregations.

We were very eager to see where our wonderful, loving God would send us. Our eagerness mixed together with bit of fear and apprehension at the same time, made for a strange, hard-to-describe emotion. Despite this strange emotion, God kept us grounded and calm as I was called to serve you, our brothers and sisters in Christ here at St. Paul on call day. We traveled with anticipation and ease of step while keeping watch for the devil's schemes. It is a privilege and honor to have been here to grow in faith with you and see what God had in store for us and to move toward it together.

We were initially a bit sad to have left the Stanchfield area to go to Sem, but that faded and was replaced with joy of fellowship and in worship with you. Sherri and I being sent to Seminary and returning to this area is what God's will concluded, just as we pray in the conclusion to the Lord's Prayer, "***For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.***" The kingdom and the power are God's. And so is the will that rules that kingdom and power.

In the conclusion to the Lord's Prayer, we should be certain that the petitions we pray in the Lord's Prayer, please God, our Father in heaven, and that He hears as we pray them. God the Father through Jesus the Christ, His Son, commanded that we pray this way and promised to hear us.

As the Lord's Prayer concludes, we, too, at His direction, had to conclude our time here at St Paul and take another leap of faith to go wherever God would send us, fully knowing and trusting that He would take care of us wherever that might be.

I am very fond of **verse 8** in **Isaiah 6** which ends with the prophet Isaiah answering God's question of who will go by responding: "**Here I am! Send me.**" Even though this is one of my favorite verses and I try very hard to go and do the tasks He has set before me, I still sinfully rebel against Him and His will, often trying to 'force' or 'bend' His will to mine, which is not fruitful nor beneficial to anyone, and above all else, very disrespectful and sinful toward God. Thanks be to Him for His compassion, merciful grace, and forgiveness toward all of us when we ignore or fight against His will in our Fallen-ness!

You, now, together as a congregation, are to move toward another conclusion and the beginning of a new journey. Not one of your own choosing, but one God has set before you. Together, you must run the race and fight the good fight while proclaiming the Gospel that is the Good News of Jesus the Christ until He calls you to Himself or our Savior returns. To stay busy until God's will for His creation is finished and concluded, with all His people in heaven with Him.

The final word of the conclusion of the Lord's Prayer is the word "**Amen.**" And it is fitting that I also conclude, sharing with you that amen means 'so shall it be.'

God's richest blessings to you and God-speed!

in His name,
Rev Mike Metzler





What's coming up at Church....

THANK YOU from Arden Gruett's family, as we celebrate Arden's birthday on Sunday Feb. 18th. Arden and his family enjoyed themselves so much, great to see everyone again. Arden is now residing at Signe and Olivia Assistant Living in Pine City. The address is 14856 Edgewater Rd, Room 2. He would enjoy visitors and cards.

If anyone would like an updated list and address of our **home bound members**, see Jennifer.

Jennifer will be out of the office Monday April 1st to Thursday April 4th.

Council Meeting: Monday April 1st at 7pm.

Board of Fellowship Meeting: Tuesday April 2nd at 1pm.

Family Dinner: Wednesday April 3rd from 5 to 7pm.

If you have any special dietary restrictions and are planning on joining us for the family meal, please let Jayne or Connie know so we can ensure the meal options available options for you.

Pastor's last day will be Sunday April 7th,

Pastor Lehenbauer will be our vacancy pastor; he will begin on Sunday April 14th.

Youth Group Meeting: Wednesday April 10th at 6pm.

Quarterly Voter's Meeting: Sunday April 21st after worship.

Upcoming Events: LWML Kettle River Zone Spring Rally is Saturday April 13th at 9am at Trinity Lutheran Church in Isle.

Upcoming Events: Women's Spring Brunch is Saturday April 27th from 10am to 12:30pm at the Knife River Place in Mora. Soup and Salad Luncheon will include gluten and dairy free options available. Speaker will be Jenni Thyng. It is \$18.00 a person, see Lynette Maser or Maria Bernhardt for tickets and more information. Last date to purchase tickets is April 14th.



Confirmation day was on Palm Sunday.
Welcome *Piper Brant*, our newest Communicant member!

Congratulations, Piper!



Piper with Norah Ausmus

We welcome you Piper as a confirmed member at St. Paul Lutheran!

Palm
Sunday
Service
helpers:

Croix,
Charlie,
Abe,
Henry,
Liam,
and Levi



Birthdays & Anniversaries



April 2024

- 3rd: Greg and Judy Wickstrom
- 4th: Seth Davis
- 5th: Henry Ausmus
Star Lawin
Bill and Barb Morgan
- 8th: Bev Rabe
- 10th: Carlie Swanson
- 14th: Randy and Bev Rabe
- 15th: Katie Hagen
Cam Welch
- 16th: Lois Kruse
- 18th: Chuck Borchard
- 21st: Annika Maser
- 23rd: Marianna Somnuk
- 25th: Randy Hickle
- 26th: Tiffany Nelson
- 27th: Reagan Rungay
- 29th: Jessy and Cydelle Klande
- 30th: Mary Jarvis

If we missed anyone, please let Jennifer know!

Arden Gruett, Lois Kruse, Lorraine Robbins, Steve Marudas, Marlys Knutson, and those named in our hearts, for God's continued healing and comfort for them and their families.



Acolyte Schedule:

- April 7th:** Charlotte
- April 14th:** Norah
- April 21st:** Corbin
- April 28th:** Hunter

Flower Chart:

- April 7th:** Carol Robinson
.....in loving memory of Dad
- April 14th:** Randy and Sue Hickle
.....in honor of their wedding anniversary
- April 21st:** Gloria Maser Bjerke
.....in loving memory of mom, Irene
- April 28th:** Jeanette Scheafer....



SUPPLICATIONS

Supplications are requests in prayer on behalf of others. Supplications may be for things such as healing, to things like a better job or the like. Here are some supplications:

For **all who need some encouragement in weathering the changes in the future**, that God uplifts their hearts to look to Him for hope and comfort, strength to carry on, and joyous anticipation in seeing what He has in store for us while continuing to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel.

For **Arden Gruett, Lois Kruse, Lorraine Robbins, Steve Marudas, Jerome Kruse, Marlys Knutson**, and all those named in our hearts, for God's continued healing and comfort for them and their families.

For **all those serving us in our military or in a civilian capacity here in the U.S. and throughout the world**, especially **Eddie Welch**, who serves in our Navy, that God grant them the courage and honor to do what is asked of them in defense of our countrymen and women, and to have the compassion and mercy to help those in need wherever a need arises.

That God would grant this world peace.

Did you know?

What is the *Divine Call* that a pastor receives to go and serve a congregation?

The Divine Call can be described in two different ways.

The first way is when God works directly/immediately on a person, like when a person 'feels' him/herself summoned/invited by God to take up the work of ministry. Examples would be when God literally and directly speaks to someone such as in the cases of: Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jacob, many prophets like Elijah and Isaiah, the Disciples, and the Apostle Paul. Another example might be when a person 'feels' God 'pulling' and or 'calling' then into the ministry, such as you might have heard a pastor say or even experienced yourself as the reason for taking part in the proclamation of the Gospel.

The second way, and often the one we talk about most, is an external (or mediate) Call. This is when a parish takes action in electing ('extending the Call')/accepting a man as their pastor. This is certainly done under God's direction and will as He acts through a particular parish to provide for His people at that place with an under-shepherd of His choosing to best serve His people for a time period known only to God. With this type of a Call, the pastor tries not only to discern what God's will for the newly received Call, but also the Call he is currently serving at (except in the case of a graduate just out of Seminary). Please keep all pastors who receive Calls in your prayers as this is often very difficult physically and emotionally, asking God to help them see what His will for them is.

Confirmation Corner

We had a successful 2nd *Free Question and Pizza Day!* There were some very good questions presented, such as: "why does God do the things He does." We spent much time searching through many passages in the Scriptures for answers/direction and some ways to move forward.

We are finished with studies for the year and will resume in September. Please pray for the students.

Council Meeting
St Paul Lutheran Church
March 4th

Present: Aaron, Jennifer, Carol, Pastor, Matt, Greg, Rod, Star, Bill, David, John

1.Call to Order 7:05 PM

2.Open with Prayer

3.Approve Agenda/Additions

4.Approve Agenda minutes for February 5,2024 Bill 1st Greg 2nd

5.Treasurer's Report

Total Income 24,101.48

Net Income 371.60

Total Expense 23,729.88

Total checking 35,393.17

Total Savings 27,745.84

6. Total Memorials 5,983.02 Carol 1st Greg 2nd

7.Pastor's Report : Home visits, Office visits/meetings, Bible Studies, Confirmation classes, Attended KRC circuit meeting, BOF meeting, Family Fun night dinner, youth group, pre marital classes, Winter Fellowship at Masers, Lent Worship Services, In the works, KRC circuit meeting, BOF meeting Family Fun night dinner, finalizing Lent and Easter Liturgies, last Sunday will be April 7,2024.

8.Elder's Report: met with District President and Pastor Kleppe regarding the process of obtaining a new Pastor

9.Trustee Report N/A

10.Other Committee Reports N/A

OLD BUSINESS

A.Roof: personally Inspect, Matt and Aaron will look at all areas including non visible leak areas. Reviewed RCL Engineering plan, consult attorney. The process is ongoing Rod 1st Carol 2nd

B.Sound System: John Frank will adjust during service, sound has improved

C.Checking Account Closures (Fellowship and Youth Group) in process nearing completion

D.Pastor Vacancy

11.NEW BUSINESS

A.Insurance: no further help with roof, recommend placing water leak sensor ASAP, Surge Protection, Breaker Protection

12.Other Business None

13.Adjourn 8:20 PM Carol 1st, Star 2nd

14.Close with Prayer

Submitted by Carol Robinson



CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Email: st.paulhinckley@yahoo.com

Church Phone: (320) 384-6267

Website: www.stpaulhinckleymn.org



Like us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/SPLCHINCKLEY>

Check Facebook or church website for any updates on schedules for Worship Service and other events.

Pastor
Rev. Mike Metzler

Church Secretary
Jennifer Kubesh

Church Newsletter
Jennifer Kubesh
Cydelle Klände

Organists
Sue Hickle
Connie Odendahl

Church Council

*Meets 1st Monday
each month at 7pm*

Chairman: Aaron Peterson

Vice Chair: Toby Hickle

Elders: Rod Lawin
John Frank
Matt Maser
Greg Kroschel

Trustees: Bill Morgan
David Berquist
Doug Kottke

Secretary: Carol Robinson

Fin. Sec.: Star Lawin

Treasurer: Wendy Kottke

Stewardship

General Fund.....	\$8,679
Altar Flowers	\$234
Sunday School	\$20
Missions	\$65
TOTAL.....	\$8,998



New Pastor: There are pre call congregation survey's we would like the congregation to fill out. They are due back by April 14th, hand them back to Jennifer or mail them back to the church. There are two pages (see below and next page). Thank You.

There is also available a *Pastor Nomination Form* if you would like to nominate someone. Any questions, talk to John Frank.

PRE-CALL CONGREGATION SURVEY

Please complete the following survey and return it to the Call Committee. Your answers will assist both the District President and the Call Committee in evaluating pastors for the Call List.

What is the Gospel?

What led you to be part of this congregation:

List at least 3 things you feel the congregation does well by God's blessing:

What opportunities is God opening for the congregation to explore?

PASTORAL EXPECTATIONS

We recognize that the following may be very difficult to do, but we hope it will be helpful to you. Please try to rank the following pastoral functions, traits, and abilities according to what you feel is the order of importance for your congregation. Place a check mark next to the five most important traits you'd like to see in your pastor.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tact | <input type="checkbox"/> Preaching content & delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> Children/Youth/ Young Adult Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patience | <input type="checkbox"/> Sound theological teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Caring for inactive members |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperation | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmation instruction | <input type="checkbox"/> Assimilation of new members |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administration | <input type="checkbox"/> Worship | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipping the saints for service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Building community in the church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creativity | | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal witnessing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication Skills | | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Involvement |

What things do you think are most necessary for maintaining good relationships between pastor and people?

How does the congregation support the pastor's need for "private time" (for prayer, study, family, recreation)?



APRIL 2024



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 7pm Council Mtg	2 1pm BOF meeting	3 5pm Family Dinner	4	5	6
7 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	8	9	10 6pm Youth Group	11	12	13
14 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	15	16	17	18	19 <i>Newsletter Due</i>	20
21 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10am Qrtly Voters Meeting	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	29	30				

St. Paul Lutheran Church

PO Box 99

Hinckley, MN 55037

**Newsletter
April 2024**



For God so Loved the World