

# *St. Paul Lutheran Church*

## *February 2022 Newsletter*



*From the  
Pastor's Desk*



**Greetings and His peace to you!**

We have finally made it to the end of January! Whether by snow-machine, toboggan, ice skates, skis, snowboard, or just sheer determination, we have made it! Like many Minnesotans before us, we may gripe some, but we press on, looking toward the Spring and all that comes with it besides warmer temps. Like green grass, and da fishin' opener. It's good to look ahead with anticipation and enjoy the thought of all that we'll be able to enjoy, but too much looking ahead can be less than good for us. Too much looking ahead can cause us to lose our awareness of the present.

We do have a ways to go to get to spring yet and as tough as it has been to get to this point, we cannot just fast-forward to the end. I'd be nice, but that's not how it goes. The things that have been challenges for us all are still here and will still 'be a thing' for a while yet. I'm not just talking about the tension and turmoil here in the U.S. and in the world. I'm not just talking about the latest COVID variant that came through (and is likely still in) our community. Nor am I just talking about the Marxism movement that is sweeping through our whole country. All of those things are tools of a much bigger and often hidden or overlooked problem.

Well, yes, it is sin that's the main root cause, but I'm talking about the deliberate injection of problems between human creatures. Satan.

Satan is a master at using every single tool available to get you and others to turn away from God. His toolbox is nearly limitless. He has followers and servants that are almost as evil as he is. His methods are almost never an attack that's 'in your face.' No, no, he doesn't work that way. His favorite methods are to sneak attack and 'blind-side' you. You never see it coming until it's happening or already happened. He also likes to use his other favorite method. The devil is VERY GOOD at whispering lies in your ear in an effort to get you to lash out against someone, and especially to get you to doubt God and His Word. Consider how easy it was for him to convince Adam and Eve to eat that forbidden fruit.

If you have some doubts on whether the devil is really all that dangerous, consider him to be a cornered wild animal. Cornered animals, including human creatures, can be extremely dangerous. Now .... picture that same cornered animal that is also VERY angry, extremely clever, has nearly unlimited power, will NEVER give up, and has absolutely nothing to lose .... and even all of that may understate just how dangerous he is.

If it sounds like we're talking about battles and war, you are right. We are talking about war. Not only are we speaking of war, we ARE at war. We were at war last year, yesterday, and right now as you read this. We have been at war for a very long time and this war will not end until Jesus returns. We call it *Spiritual Warfare* and it IS real, and happening right now!

Whether you accept it or not, you are engaged in battle with evil forces that infest our world and use even (or especially) our friends and loved ones to attack us and get us to turn away from God. It happened to Jesus. He recognized that Satan was using Peter to try and get Him to not think of the things of God in **Matthew 16:23**.

None of us is Jesus, and that kind of leaves us feeling a bit like we're left 'hanging out in the breeze.' But God does protect us with His angels and gives us some tools to use. We find what those armor tools are in **Ephesians 6:11-18**.

Those tools are: 1.) The Belt of Truth- the truth sets you free (John 8:32). 2.) The Breastplate of Righteousness- it is God's graced righteousness that keeps us from eternal damnation. 3.) Shoes- Gospel of Peace- sharing of the Good News that brings God's peace. 4.) Shield of Faith- our God given and strengthened faith that shields us from the flaming attacks of the devil. 5.) Helmet of Salvation- the knowing and belief of our God-promised and delivered salvation protects us from the lies that Satan tries to get us to believe. 6.) Sword of the Spirit- the Word of God. Staying in the Scriptures strengthens us because there is power in God's word. And lastly, God wants us to talk to Him in prayer, and as it says in this passage in **Ephesians- "praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication."** Keep talking to God and asking Him for strength and help, especially in times of trials.

Concentrating on the future or the present too much isn't always good. We do live *in* this world, but we're not *of* this world of spiritual struggle so we should often look to the future. And that future is bright. Our future as believers is more than bright, it shines with the glory of our living, triune God where peace is norm not war and strife.

Don't look forward to just the future that holds warmer weather, look beyond.... to the eternal life future that holds the key to contentment while we are here in this world .... and look to God, the One that gives us that eternal future life!

God's richest blessings to you and your family!

in His name,

*Pastor Mike Metzler*

# CHURCH NEWS

## **Acolyte Schedule:**

Feb 6th: Nik

Feb 13th: Noah

Feb 20th: Grady

Feb 27th: Grace

**February Ushers:** Jacob, Isaac, John or Abe Maser

**Consider being an Usher:** If you would like to usher, talk to John Frank or let the office know which month works for you. There is also a signup sheet hanging next to the office door if you would like to sign up.

**Quilting** is underway, Monday's at 10am, everyone is welcome.

**Lenten Services:** Due to COVID, we will NOT be having Lenten Suppers this year. Worship is still at 7pm. Ash Wed begins on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Welcome back to the Confirmation Corner!**

Our 7 students have gone through what Sacraments are, what makes them special, and what God gives us through these special gifts. They have just recently finished learning about the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the gifts of God received through baptism and are now studying about Confession and Absolution.

Please keep our 7 students in your prayers. Don't forget to say 'hi' to each of them and give some encouragement.

Grady Ausmus

Grace Peterson

McKenna Rabe

Nik Welch

Zander Klar

Hannah Swanson

Noah Hickle

If you know someone who would benefit from adult confirmation instruction, please contact Pastor by office phone voicemail 320-384-6267 (ext 2), cell (or text) 763-286-4803, or email at [revmentzler18@gmail.com](mailto:revmentzler18@gmail.com)



# HOLY COMMUNION

The Elders met and after much prayer and discussion, they have decided to go back to the 'original' Sundays of the month that offered the Holy Supper.

**Communion will be offered on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of the month starting in February.**

Communion is offered in the continuous style of receiving the Lord's body and blood.

Please use social distance while waiting to receive the Lord's Supper. We have everyone waiting in one of the diagonal aisles as directed by the ushers and move to the nearest distribution station as invited by the Pastor or Elder.

Communion is offered curbside, at church or at your home, Let Pastor know when you would like to receive the Holy Supper.

The Elders will examine the COVID situation monthly using information available concerning our county and specifically our community to make informed decisions regarding how we can safely receive the Holy Meal, with the hope and prayer that we can return to the rail in the future.





## February 2022

3rd: *Davie Hopkins*

6th: *Jennifer Schroeder*

9th: *Cody Kendall*

*Steve and Deb Sikkink*

10th: *Ron Rabe*

12th: *Isla Zabrok*

13th: *Lois Kruse*

14th: *Jeanette Schaefer*

15th: *JD and Chelsey Bottelson*

*Jayne Maser*

18th: *Greg Wickstrom*

21st: *Arden Gruett*

24th: *Hannah Swenson*

*Nichole Hansen*

26th: *Shawn Ausmus*

*Kristi Jarvis*

*Larry and Linda Marotz*

27th: *Doug Maser*

*Tim and Sue Davis*

*Liam Rogneby*

28th: *Genoa Gregg*

*Diane Rogneby*

*If we missed anyone, please let Jennifer know!*

## Flower Chart:

**Feb 6th:** Hopkins Family

....in loving memory of Dave

**Feb. 13th:** Robbie and Carol Robinson

...in honor of their wedding anniversary

**Feb 20th:** Jeanette Schaefer

...in loving memory of Fred

**Feb 27th:** Tim and Sue Davis

...in honor of their wedding anniversary

## Newsletter Deadline:

Please email anything for the newsletter to the church email by the

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month.**

Thank you!!

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Thanks to T. Slatter (See John 8:43-45) 03-16-2005  
YOU KNOW HOW I CAN TELL WHEN YOU ARE LYING? ... YOUR LIPS ARE MOVING

# YOUTH GROUP

**Trampoline Park!** Yes, please plan to join Youth Group on **Sunday, February 6th** to go to the Duluth trampoline park. *We will meet for lunch at church after confirmation class is done.* Then we will carpool to DEFY in Duluth for an afternoon jump session. Please let Rebecca or Pastor know if you plan to attend. Confirmation age youth through high school are welcome to attend.

February Circuit Youth Event will be on **Sunday, February 13, from 2pm - 4pm** in Isle. It will include bible study, snacks and a crafty servant event. Please RSVP to Rebecca by 2/10.

St. Paul Youth Group will meet on **Wednesday, February 16 at 6pm.**

.....

Hello and blessings to you!

In January we played minute-to-win-it games at Zion Lutheran in Mora! The February Circuit Youth Gathering will be on Sunday the 13th from 2:00-4:00 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Isle.

See you there!

LeAnn Gregoire

Deaconess Intern/Circuit Youth Worker

# LITTLE LAMBS

Staci received an inquiry about the teaching position shortly before Christmas. She met with the individual to provide a tour and program overview. The individual was very interested, but was concerned about the number of hours. The Little Lambs Committee is hopeful that the individual might be willing to meet to discuss ideas and opportunities to grow the program.

In addition, two inquiries came in asking for information to be emailed, but neither of those inquiries produced an applicant. Postings were renewed in December on the Pine Technical and Community College job board and with the PTCC Early Childhood program director, online and in the local paper. Rebecca inquired with LeAnn our Circuit Youth Worker about possible interest, however her education and experience do not fit with DHS requirements. She has helped to share our opening with the other churches. We also approached a local childcare provider about the position, but it was not a fit for her.

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Unapproved 1-3-2022**

**Present :** Wendy Kottke, Doug Kottke, Robbie Robinson, Tonette Peterson, Randy Hickle, Matt Maser, John Frank, David Berquist, Greg Kroschel

Meeting was called to order by Randy at 7:10 pm. Robbie opened with prayer.

**Secretary's** report was accepted as read.

**Treasurer's** report was accepted as read upon motion by John, second by David

Income: \$199,507.35 Checking \$19,847.49

Expense: \$93,215.52 Savings \$59,054.33 Net Income: \$6,291.83

(Savings includes Pastor's \$20,000 loan and memorial funds)

**Pastor's report:** Pastor was unavailable, but a report was left. Home visits, office visit, Bible Study, CASE, online devotions, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship, caroling with SPLC and caroling with St. John's Kroschel church, EMS blessing, Elder supper and meeting, Pastor Hoppe farewell Motion by Robbie and second by David to discuss Missions Central and Youth Circuit Worker at the quarterly. Anyone that wants to be a delegate, or that has a resolution to bring to the conference in May, please see Pastor. Communion service will be discussed at the quarterly.

**Old Business**

\*Roof/Steeple: SPLC received a partial payment for the lift rental.

\*If you would like to serve as an usher, please see John Frank

**New Business**

\*Motion by Robbie Second by David to remove John Frank, Tim Davis, Tracy Peterson, and Judy Hopkins from Northview Bank accounts.

\*Jeff's will be shoveling when they plow

\*LL is still looking for a teacher and students to enroll.

\*Beginning 2-7-2022, SPLC council meetings will begin at 7:15pm. Motion Wendy second Robbie

\*The quarterly voters meeting will be 1-16-2022

Upon motion by Wendy and second by John, we adjourned at 8:20pm, closing with the Lord's Prayer.

*Respectfully submitted, Tonette Peterson, St. Paul Lutheran Church council secretary*

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
**Unapproved Quarterly Minutes**  
**1-16-2022**

Meeting was called to order by Randy at 10:22AM with 26 members present. Pastor opened with prayer.

**Secretary's report** was accepted as presented upon motion by Loren Vogler and second Chuck Borchard

**Treasurer's report** was accepted as read upon motion by Robbie Robinson, second by MaryAnn Lyon

Income: \$3,620.00 Checking \$19,671.32

Expense: \$7032.48 Savings \$59,054.33

Net Income: -\$3412.48 (Savings includes Pastor's \$20,000 loan and memorial funds)

**Pastor's report:** home/office visits, online devotions, CASE, Confirmation, Bible Study, newspaper articles, Elders meeting, council meeting, circuit meetings, circuit pastor's breakfast, youth events, circuit youth event, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas services, chaplain training. Accepted as presented Robbie Robinson second David Berquist

**Youth group** has been meeting. They sent out Thanksgiving wishes to shut ins, visited shut ins over the Christmas season. Planning summer activities. Youth group will pay \$150 per month for the circuit youth worker. SPLC will pay \$100 per month for the circuit youth worker. Motion Robbie Robinson, second Lynette Maser. Leaders will consider posting a wish list for items they may need for future events/activities.

Current balance is \$8,289.29

**LL** is still on hold. Still looking for a teacher. . Balance is \$18,141.85

**Sunday School** is going well. Christmas program was very nice. Help is always welcome.

**CASE** has 10 kids in attendance and is going well. Always looking for more kids and help.

**Old Business**

\*SPLC received a partial payment for the lift rental. The current leak is no longer related to storm damage. Randy continues to work on this and will keep us updated.

\*All furnaces have been installed and are working well. A proposal for an annual maintenance agreement was received. For \$1600/annually, all furnaces and air conditioner units would be cleaned and filters changed. Randy will get a detailed written proposal and bring to the next quarterly.

## **New Business**

\*Next quarterly will be 4/24/2022

\*Ash Wednesday (3/2) and all midweek Lenten services will be Wednesdays at 7PM  
Maundy Thursday (4/14) will be at 7PM. Good Friday (4/15) will be at 7PM.

Easter (4/17) will be at 630AM and 9AM. There will be no soup supper for Lent, and Pancake breakfast will be decided on closer to Easter. Motion MaryAnn Lyon second Carolyn Vogler

\*Holy Communion distribution was voted on. 13 every Sunday / 13 every other Sunday. 14 continuous/ 5 rail / 2 alternate. Since there was a tie, the elders will discuss how often Communion is served, and bring back the council. Motion Barb Schroeder second Jeanette Schaefer.

\*SPLC needs a delegate to attend the district convention in Brainerd (May 9-11) with Pastor. They will be voting on a new district president this year. Please see Pastor if interested.

\* Carolyn Vogler motioned, Matt Maser seconds to pay \$150/month to Missions Central

\*Member directories will be on the Ushers table Sunday.

\* The voicemail isn't working properly in the Pastor's office. They will look into getting a new phone or repairing this problem.

Upon motion by MaryAnn Lyon and second by Florence Berquist, we adjourned at 11:40AM closing with the Doxology.

*Respectfully submitted, Tonette Peterson, St. Paul Lutheran Church council secretary*



# CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Email: [st.paulhinckley@yahoo.com](mailto:st.paulhinckley@yahoo.com)

Church Phone: (320) 384-6267

Website: [www.stpaulhinckleymn.org](http://www.stpaulhinckleymn.org)



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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 Klande

**Organists**

Sue Hickle  
Connie Odendahl

## Church Council

*Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Monday each month at 7pm*

**Chairman:** Randy Hickle

**Vice Chair:** Toby Hickle

**Elders:** Robbie Robinson, John Frank,  
Matt Maser, Greg Kroschel

**Trustees:** Rick Williams,  
David Berquist, Doug Kottke

**Secretary:** Tonette Peterson

**Financial Secretary:** Cydelle Klande

**Treasurer:** Wendy Kottke

## Stewardship

**1/1/22 to 1/16/22**

General Fund .....\$5,459.00

Altar Guild .....\$100.00

Lutheran Witness .....\$47.56

Sunday School .....\$2.00

Youth Group .....\$25.00

**TOTAL .....\$5,633.56**

# February 2022

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6 9am Worship 10am Confirmation 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 11am Youth Group Event! Trampoline Park	7 10am Quilting 7pm Council Mtg	8	9 10:00am Bible Study 2:30pm CASE	10	Pastor off 11	Pastor off 12
13 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Confirmation 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 2pm Circuit Youth Event	14 10am Quilting St. Valentine's Day 	15	16 10:00am Bible Study 2:30pm CASE 6pm Youth Group Meeting	17	Pastor off 18	Pastor off 19
20 9am Worship 10am Confirmation 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	21 10am Quilting	22	23 10:00am Bible Study 2:30pm CASE	24	Pastor off 25	Pastor off 26
27 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Confirmation 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	28 10am Quilting					

# COME JOIN OUR WORSHIPPING FAMILY

**February 2022**

For God so Loved the World



*St. Paul Lutheran Church  
PO Box 99  
Hinckley, MN 55037*