

# *St. Paul Lutheran Church*

## *August 2023 Newsletter*



**Greetings and His peace to you!**

August is usually one of the hottest months during our relatively short summer. Lately, our weather has been more like fall than summer. Nice cool mornings and not too hot afternoons and evenings. And dry. It has been quite dry. Too dry, in fact. We really could use some rain to not only give a needed boost to the crops in the field, but also to give us a boost as well. Have you ever given thought to being in a better (or maybe worse) mood based on how well things are going around us? This may be a "Well, yaaa!" moment, but even something that doesn't really affect us directly like not getting enough moisture can influence how we feel and our mood. Seems kind of weird though, too, after all, it ain't like someone is enduring physical pain or verbal abuse if it doesn't rain.

Just the same, because of our fallen nature, we grow concerned over such things and sometimes that concern affects our moods. Concern is ok and normal. It is when concern turns into out-and-out worry or even dread, that is not a good thing. It's quite bad when that happens. We have then let our worry rule us, and control not only how we feel but how we go about our daily lives. Nearly everything, or maybe everything, we do is somehow tied to that worry. We needn't worry though. Those things that concern or worry us have been already taken care of.

Nope, I've not lost my mind. Oh, you *can* go ahead and worry about whatever it is that worries or concerns you .... but it won't do you one bit of good. It won't change anything. You'll just end up tired, a lot more stressed, and probably have a headache. Not much of a gain there, and the worry is still there going strong, maybe even stronger than before. So, why do we do this to ourselves?!

You already know what the answer is. Sin, Satan, and this world are responsible. Those 3 and your own fallen nature tell you that it is *you* that is in control of everything around you. Not sorry to burst that bubble, but you're *NOT* in control of much of anything. Certainly not everything that is going on around you. When was that last time you *made* your kids do something, or when was the last time you *made* your boss give you a raise or *made* your teacher give you a good grade? Not being in control isn't a good feeling, is it? You're not alone. None of us has the kind of control we want. It's ok, though.

If you're wondering how I can say that it's ok, you're likely not alone in that either. I *can* say that we don't have to worry about not being in charge because The One who is in charge has everything happening just like He wants it. Just like it needs to be. And *ALWAYS* way better that any one of us could do. That how He rolls. God made this world and everything in it and He is the One who sustains it and us, giving us everything we need! Daily bread freely given to us! **Trust in God** to give you everything you need and stop worrying about the things that may look out of control. God's got 'covered' anything and everything that we could possibly encounter.

Let God, our heavenly Father, do what He does, and not be sickened with worry. And let His peace, that surpasses our understanding, crowd out that worry and replace it with calmness and joy!



God's richest blessings to you and your family!  
in His name,

*Pastor Mike Metzler*

# Summer Gospel Concert's Biography's

## August 6th: The Klassen Family

Danelle and her husband, Brad, have six children. The younger four children, (Spencer, Jenna, Layton, and Justin) perform in the group with Danelle. Her husband, Brad, runs the sound system when time allows, as does her son-in-law, Eh Dah, Jenna's husband.



## August 13th: Holy Hootenanners

This group is near and dear to our heart, as a couple of the members have close ties with this community. They been playing here every season. They are sincere about their faith, and dedicated to spreading the gospel and talented.

## August 20th: The Highview Bluegrass Band

This group comes from Webster, Wi and they been performing for many different venues around the area. This group joined us last season and back again! Their great personalities and love of God and music is evident when they play.



## August 28th: Kenny Krona

Our last concert of the season! Kenny has been closing out the concert season the last few seasons. You only have to hear and see him play Orange Blossom Special once and you will want to come back every year. He has a great selection of songs, hymns and gospel tunes that are special to the young and old and everyone has a favorite.

**SUNDAY NIGHTS 6:30 pm - Concerts Free/Freewill Offering**

*Thank You to Greg and Wendy Kroschel for organizing the summer gospel concerts and to everyone who made this another great music season.*

# CHURCH NEWS



## **Aug Acolyte Schedule:**

August 6th: Piper

August 13th: Norah

August 20th: Corbin

August 27th: Hunter

**Directory Photos:** Sunday August 13th and 27th after worship service Jayne will be taking family pictures for the upcoming church directory. If those days do not work for your family, talk to Jayne. You can also bring in your own family photo if you like for the directory.

**Confirmation Retreat:** August 11th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Isle at 5pm. The group will be learning about the Sacrament of the Altar. Parent should have received an invitation and sign-up form. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Mike.

**Harvest Christian School:** The school will be having an open house on August 17 from 4-6pm. Enrollment is open for pre school through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. If you would like more information, call or email – 320-245-5330 or harvestcs@scicable.com

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## *SUPPLICATIONS*

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

**For all state governors,** that they would look to God, follow His guidance, do what is upright in God's sight in serving their fellow human creatures in their God-given vocations and having the courage not 'cave in' to societal trends.

**For all those struggling with drug addiction,** that God help them to look to Him for courage and strength to keep trying and not give up, and direct our willing hearts to continue to help them.

**For Arden Gruett, Lois Kruse, Florence Berquist,** and those we name in our hearts, for God's continued healing and comfort for them and their families.

**For those in the U.S. Army,** as they serve in their vocations that keep us safe and secure. God grant them courage and honor to meet the daily challenges, both in their training and when they are called upon to do their duty.

**For the Pine County road crews** that they know that God watches over them as they continue to repair our roads.

**For the Sturgeon Lake Fire Dept.** that they remember that God protects them as they serve us.

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## August 2023

3rd: Jim and Betty Christensen  
7th: Marv and Lynette Maser  
Jim and Mary Jarvis  
Mitchell Klar  
10th: Everett Ausmus  
Kay Gregg  
15th: Chase Klar  
16th: Ethan Perrotti  
18th: Garret and Michelle White  
19th: Jacob Perrotti  
Loren and Carolyn Vogler  
20th: Robbie Robinson  
21st: Isaiah Swenson  
Rod and Star Lawin  
28th: Marlys Knutson  
30th: Hayden Peterson  
31st: Tony and Carol Nelson

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

## Flower Chart:

**Aug 6th:** Mary Ann Lyon....  
.....in loving memory of John  
**Aug 13th:** Gloria Maser Bjerke..  
.....in loving memory of her mother,  
Irene Schmidt  
**Aug 20th:** Loren and Carolyn Vogler.....  
....in honor of their wedding  
anniversary  
**Aug 27th:** Tony and Carol Nelson....  
.....in honor of their wedding

## Prayer List:

Diana Norton, Lois  
Kruse, Lorraine  
Robbins, Arden Gruett  
and those in our  
thoughts and prayers.



## Did you know?

What is the **Office of the Keys**? It might sound really complicated and intimidating, but it really isn't.

The *Office of the Keys* is the special authority that Jesus the Christ gave His church on earth to forgive those who repent of their sins, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent. This is from **John 20:22-23**. The church then gives this authority to their called pastor.

Said a different way, if someone repents (truly confesses their sins, and asks God to forgive them and help them do better), then we are to forgive them and their sin is forgiven. But if they do not repent, they are not forgiven until they repent of their sin. Even if a person does not repent for days, weeks, months, or even years, we should still forgive them as soon as they repent, even, and especially, if it is on their deathbed.

It is called the *Office of the Keys* because forgiving someone is like a key that 'unlocks' the door to heaven and not forgiving is 'locking' the 'door' to heaven.



# VBS Photos!!





# Confirmation Corner

Welcome to the Confirmation Corner!

We have wrapped up for the year and Noah Hickle was confirmed at the end of May 2023 and is our newest communicant member! Welcome Noah!

Confirmation 2023-24 is fast approaching and will begin on *Sunday, Sept 10 from 10:30am to 12 noon* and continue throughout the year until May. Examination day is May 18 and Confirmation day is Sunday, May 19, 2024.

Returning as a 2<sup>nd</sup> year student is Piper Brant. She is joined by 4 - first year students- Norah Ausmus, Corbin Klande, Hunter Peterson, and Charlotte Rabe.

*If you know someone who would benefit from adult confirmation instruction, or just have a question or 2, please contact the pastor by office phone voicemail 320-384-6267 (ext 2), cell (or text) 763-286-4803, or email at revmentzler18@gmail.com*

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## Little Lambs Preschool

is now enrolling for Fall 2023

Ages 33 months to 5 years

### Program Highlights

- Christian Environment
- Kindergarten Readiness
- Emotional and Physical Growth
- Social and Academic Skills



Open house was held on July 25, and enrollment is still open in August for Fall. If you know anyone with little ones, please share this information. We welcome anyone interested to visit our playground and come check out the school!

***Please call 320-384-6267, ext #3 or you can email littlelambsprek@gmail.com for more information.***

# Official Adoption Agreement

## For the

### Direct Support of

**JOHN & JENN WOLF & FAMILY, OUR MISSIONARIES TO KENYA**

*Project #A10698-69400*



John and Jenn Wolf serve the Lord as missionaries in Kenya. As the Africa region's project manager, John provides oversight and support for projects and grants across the region, with a particular focus on mercy work. He also trains the local people and the local church partners to develop, manage and sustain projects that support Christian growth and congregational needs across Africa.

John was born in Farmington, Minn., and grew up in Baldwin, Wis. His home congregation is Hope Lutheran Church, Aurora, Colo. He received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Michigan Tech University, Houghton and

a master's degree in space studies from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. John served 20 years in the United States Air Force and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2015. His professional background includes project management and working with international partners in Europe and Asia. His hobbies include gardening, historical re-enactments, hiking and camping.

Jenn was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska. Her home congregation is also Hope Lutheran Church, Aurora, Colo. She received a bachelor's degree in South/Southeast Asian studies from the University of California, Berkeley. She also took graduate level courses in teaching and deaf education prior to teaching in Montana and California schools. Since 2001, she has been a stay-at-home mom, homeschooling their children and doing volunteer work. Her hobbies include fiber arts, classical violin, international folk music and reading. John and Jenn have five beautiful children — Ian, Sean, Thad, Annalise and Angus — who join them on the mission field.

Pray for the Wolfs as they serve in Kenya. Ask God to give them strength and wisdom in their mission work overseas. Pray for John as he supports the needs of the African people. Pray also for Jenn and the children as they build relationships with those in their community. Pray for the people in Africa that they are brought to a saving knowledge of Christ and are assisted in their vocations through the work of LCMS' African missionaries.



**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
**Unapproved Council Minutes**  
**6-5-2023**

**Present:** Tonette Peterson, Randy Hickle, Wendy Kottke, Doug Kottke, David Berquist, Robbie Robinson, Toby Hickle, Matt Maser, Pastor, Jennifer, Star Lawin, Aaron Peterson, Rick Williams, Carol Robinson, John Frank

**Meeting** was called to order by Randy at 7:15pm. Pastor opened with prayer.

**Secretary's report** was accepted as presented upon motion by Robbie and second by David

**Treasurer's report** accepted upon motion by John second by Matt

Income: \$50,072.88 Checking \$9,154.90

Expense: \$59,909.06 Savings \$33,683.14

Net Income: -\$9,836.18 (Savings includes Pastor's \$20,000 loan and memorial funds)

**Pastor's report:** Home visits, office visits, Confirmation, LL, funeral, Pastor's Conference, youth meeting, board of fellowship meeting, LL program, gospel concert, grad parties

**Old Business**

\*The roof valley caps are in Duluth and will be picked up and installed. There are still no leaks present.

**New Business**

\*The first gospel concert went well with about 95 in attendance. Will be watching cost of ads.

\*Welcome to the new council members that will begin their terms July 1, 2023.

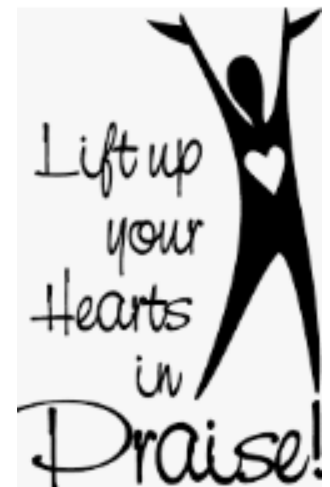
\*Thank you to EVERYONE that shares their time and talent serving in various ways for our building and church family.

\*The parking lot will be sealed on Wednesday (6-7-23)

\*Jennifer will be on vacation July 16-30th.

We adjourned at 8:08pm, upon motion by David and second by Robbie, closing with the Lord's Prayer.

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



**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
**Unapproved Council Minutes**  
**7-3-2023**

**Present:** Aaron Peterson, Toby Hickle, Carol Robinson, Star Lawin, Wendy Kottke, John Frank, Matt Maser, David Berquist, Doug Kottke, Bill Morgan, Pastor Mike Metzler, Jennifer Kubesh.

Meeting called to order by Aaron Peterson at 7:00 PM.

**Secretary report** was accepted as presented upon motion by John and second by David.

**Treasurer report** accepted upon motion by John and second by Matt.

Balances as of 06-30-2023:

Income: 55,299.43    Net Income: -14,034.54    Expense: 69,333.97

Checking: 4,606.54    Savings: 33,683.14 (Includes Pastor's 20,000.00 & Memorial funds)

**Pastors report:**

7 home visits, 1 off site meeting, 5 office visits and meetings, Men's group meeting successful and will plan to continue meeting every other month. VBS week of July 10-14, 2023. Upcoming Kettle River Circuit Youth event in Mora, water park event 07-07-2023. Isle is hosting the Circuit Confirmation retreat Scheduled August 12 and 13, 2023. New council members installed during church service on 06-25-2023.

**Old Business:**

*Roof Valley Cap*, Randy ordered extra ones, correct colors. Aaron Peterson picked up. No more leaks.

Question the possibility of some *outdoor services*.

*Looking for a 4<sup>th</sup> Elder.*

*Recording services* Camera, laptop on shelf in sanctuary, (Thank you Rick its beautiful) CD/Flash Drive to home bound will exchange for newest service during weekly visits.

**New Business:**

*BOF (Board of Fellowship)* continue to meet monthly, Surveys will be sent out soon, considering a light meal with devotion in future. Goals are to serve and uplift the community. Meet next 07-18-2023.

*Little lambs* no update at this time look for updates after summer session.

*Advertising:* Gospel Concerts Posters and Papers. Evergreen Add placed monthly to help defer cost of advertising. Scotsman Add placed monthly to help defer cost of advertising. Hinckley News and Pine County Book.

*Upcoming reports due one week before next scheduled meeting.*

*Mighty Fortress* cofounder with St Paul Lutheran Church and First Lutheran Church 30+ years ago. BOD (Board of Directors include 3 members and Pastor from both churches) Meet twice yearly. John Frank is President. 60 + year, Elderly a safe place to live at a reasonable cost. Run by Management company, Discussed dinner for residents Meet Chat and meal. Outreach for residents in Mighty Fortress in the near future.

Adjourned at 8:00 PM, upon motion by Wendy, Second by Star, Closed with Lord's Prayer.

*Respectfully submitted. Carol Robinson. 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)



**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 Klande

**Organists**

Sue Hickle

Connie Odendahl

### Church Council

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

**Chairman:** Aaron Peterson

**Vice Chair:** Toby Hickle

**Elders:** Rod Lawin

John Frank

Matt Maser

Greg Kroschel

**Trustees:** David Berquist

Doug Kottke

Bill Morgan

**Secretary:** Carol Robinson

**Fin. Sec.:** Star Lawin

**Treasurer:** Wendy Kottke

### Stewardship

**7/1/2023 to 7/22/2023**

General Fund .....\$5,762

Little Lambs.....\$10

Altar Flowers .....\$20

Missions.....\$15

**TOTAL .....\$5,807**





# CREATION MOMENTS

*Proclaiming Evidence for Truth*

## THIS WEEK'S CREATION MOMENT

### **The Purple Thief**



He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD is gracious and full of compassion. (Psalm 111:4)

Birds and insects that take nectar from a flower without picking up any pollen are known as nectar robbers. Now, you'd probably think that nectar robbers would be harmful to plants and trees, but the desert teak tree couldn't survive without a nectar robber – the purple sunbird.

In order to reproduce, this tree needs birds to pollinate its flowers. But since a tree cannot reproduce with its own pollen, it needs birds to fly from flower to flower and from one tree to another. Anything that encourages the pollinating birds to fly farther away helps out the teak trees.

That's where the purple thief comes in. Researchers at the University of Delhi discovered that the sunbird visits the flowers one hour before the pollinating birds arrive. The purple sunbird has a long, sharp beak that pierces the base of the flower to feed, so it doesn't pick up any pollen. It does, however, empty the flower of about 60 percent of its nectar, leaving relatively little for the pollinators. This means that the pollinators will have to travel to more flowers and trees to get enough food, spreading pollen wherever they stop for a meal.


The researchers noted that "the robber plays a constructive and crucial role in the reproductive performance of [a] threatened tree species." How right they are! And this unusual but crucial dining arrangement shows once again what an ingenious God we serve!

Ref: "These trees don't mind getting robbed", Science News. Photo: Purple sunbird. Courtesy of J.M.Garg. (CC BY-SA 3.0 Unported)

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# AUGUST 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 6:30pm Summer Gospel Concerts	7 7pm Council Mtg	8	9	10	11 5pm Confirmation Retreat – Trinity in Isle <i>Pastor's days off</i>	12 <i>Pastor's days off</i>
13 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 6:30pm Summer Gospel Concerts	14	15	16	17	18 <i>Pastor's days off</i>	19 <i>Pastor's days off</i>
20 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Photos for Directory 6:30pm Summer Gospel Concerts	21	22	23	24	25 <i>Pastor's days off</i>	26 <i>Pastor's days off</i>
27 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Photos for Directory 6:30pm Summer Gospel Concerts	28	29	30	31		

# COME JOIN OUR WORSHIPPING FAMILY

**August 2023**

For God so Loved the World



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