

# *St. Paul Lutheran Church*

## *February 2023 Newsletter*

*From the  
Pastor's  
Desk*



### **Greetings and His peace to you!**

Now that we have 'survived' the Christmas season (not that it is without joy in our celebration of our Savior's birth) and all the busy stress that so often comes with that time of year, we move toward an even greater Holy season and day, the season of Lent and Easter!

Christmas is certainly important as Jesus the Christ first needed to be born to fulfill the Father's plan, just like the saying of 'you've gotta get it started if you want to get it done' goes. And as we move into these seasons, we again need to be mindful and thankful for what they are all about. Reconciliation.

Sometimes we lose sight of just that. As great a thing as it is for us in this fallen world, we too often forget that God did not send His Son down here for the fun of it or because it was 'something to do.' There was a purpose and a plan that landed God's only Son here living with the creatures He created on a world He created. God plan was to reconcile an entire world to Himself. And He did just that through Jesus.

The part that we sight of is just what reconciliation is and that we are to reconcile among ourselves, especially as His people.

Reconciliation, is simply defined as "the restoration of friendly relations." That means fixing a problem in a relationship. Advent, Christmas, Lent and finally Easter, are all part of God's reconciling you .... us .... to Himself. No fluff, no extra, no frills. Just God fixing the relationship back to the way it originally was in the Garden of Eden. Where Adam and Eve were able to walk with God without fear and in totally harmony and peace.

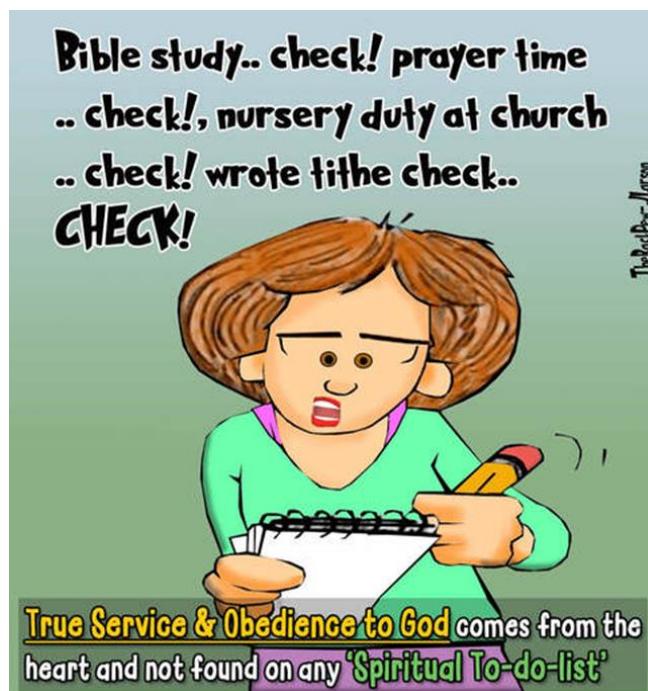
Harmony and peace. Those are not just nice thoughts or ideals. They are what God offers and gives. They are what we are to strive for among ourselves. This fallen world only offers things that are contrary to God. Things like greed, deceit, despair, and anger, all of which get us into nothing but trouble. Trouble with God, and one another. God has reconciled us to Himself, so what stops us from reconciling with one another. Is it those same couple of things just mentioned or something else that is of this world? If one of these earthly things that is keeping you from reconciling with someone, ask yourself, "What if God took this approach and never sent His Son?" In the Book of John, Jesus prays to the Father for protection on behalf of His disciples saying that they are not of this world just as He is not of this world. If we say we are His followers, shouldn't we too be following through as His who are also not of this world?

God the Father knows we have struggles as we live in this world, but He also sends His Spirit to help us just as Jesus promised. If you're having a mighty struggle, especially with reconciliation, send up prayer to the Father for extra help. He always hears the pleas of His people and cares enough to pay a heavy price to reconcile us to Himself and is pleased when we move toward reconciliation, even though it is often very hard to do.

God's richest blessings to you and your family!

in His name,

Pastor Mike Metzler



# CHURCH NEWS

## Acolyte Schedule

**Feb 5th:** Piper

**Feb 12th:** Noah

**Feb 19th:** Corbin

**Feb 22nd:** (Ash Wednesday)

**Feb 26th:** Hunter

## Ushers:

Aaron and Tracy Peterson and family

**Fellowship, Sledding and Fun!** Saturday Feb. 11th at Matt and Jayne Maser's 1-4pm  
More information to come. In the event of bad weather, we will be having it on Feb 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Second Thursday of month,** 1 to 2pm at the Hinckley Community Center, Catholic Charities. Drive up and pick up frozen meals.

**Summer Gospel Concerts:** If you know of a local band to play at the Summer Gospel Concerts, let Wendy Kroschel know. And keep in mind, if you can help with opening, closing the church or in any way with the concerts this coming summer, also talk to Wendy.

**Ash Wednesday** begins on Feb 22nd. Jayne and Jennifer will be serving soup and sandwiches at 6pm followed by worship at 7pm. We will be letting you all know which Wednesday who is serving and the days the potluck meals will be.

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

Take a peek at the **Flower Chart** and see which Sunday you would like to celebrate a special day or honor a loved one.

We will be having a **Garage Sale** May 4-6. More information to follow, the time of the sale and the donation drop off days.

## Church Council Positions are open!!

We need these positions for the coming terms. Terms served are 1-2 years. Please consider serving. Thank you.

*Financial Secretary*

*Chairman*

*Trustee*

*Elder*

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## February 2023

3rd: Davie Hopkins  
6th: Jennifer Schroeder  
10th: Ron Rabe  
12th: Isla Zabrok  
13th: Lois Kendall  
14th: Jeanette Scheafer  
15th: JD and Chelsey Bottelson  
15th: Jayne Maser  
18th: Greg Wickstrom  
21st: Arden Gruett  
24th: Nichole Hansen  
Hannah Swenson  
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!*

### Isaiah 45:18

*"For thus says the LORD.*

*who formed the earth and made it. who formed it to be inhabited: 'I am the LORD, and there is no other.'*

### Flower Chart:

**Feb 5th:** Hopkins Family....in loving memory of Dave  
**Feb 12th:** Jeanette Scheafer.....in loving memory of Fred  
**Feb 19th:** Maryellen Bruns...in loving memory of Harlow and Family  
**Feb 26th:** Larry and Linda Marotz...in honor of their wedding anniversary



**March Newsletter items are due by Feb 17th**

# CHRISTMAS 2022



Craft time with the CASE kids

Christmas Sunday School Program



Sunday School Kids Program



Little Lambs Kiddos Program



**Avalanche at  
the church!!**



**We hope everyone  
had a wonderful  
holiday season!**



# Youth Group

**Next meeting date is February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the church!**



**Circuit Youth Events** have been offered each month on the 2nd Sunday through our partnership with the circuit congregations with the exception of November when the leader, Leann, was on maternity leave.

Unfortunately, the participation for these events has continued to decline over the past year. With this in mind, and upon reviewing potential participation from our own congregation in the coming year, we are planning to withdraw from the circuit youth events for 2023.

## LITTLE LAMBS



Greeting Parishioners from Little Lamb's Pre-school:

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas season and are enjoying the new year. On January 5th the children performed in the Christmas program and did a wonderful job practicing and singing six songs.

We are now working on our songs for the spring program. The children are already off to a great start learning two of the songs for our spring program by heart. The children continue to work on recognizing letters of the alphabet and words that include them like the letter "Z" for zipper and zoo. The children also continue to work on counting from 1-20. We are working through the teens.

Most importantly, the children continue to learn the Bible lessons Daniel in the Lion's Den, David and the Lion's Den, and we will end the month discussing the Baptism of Jesus. Again, thanking for giving me the opportunity to do this important work, and I wish you well as you start off your new year!

*Jason Boldt  
Little Lamb's Pre-school teacher*

# Pastor's Corner

## CONFIRMATION

Despite a couple of weeks that it snowed before and after Christmas, we're forging ahead in our study of the 10 Commandments and their meanings, and how that is reflected in the lives we lead as Christian men and women.

We've made it through the 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment and with a make-up day or two, we'll be back on track!

Please keep Noah, Piper, and Makenna in your prayers.

If you know someone who would benefit from adult confirmation instruction, 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](mailto:revmentzler18@gmail.com)

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## SUPPLICATIONS

We always have many things to pray about, some of which are supplications. Supplications are requests 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 our mayor and the members of the city council, that they would lean on God and follow His guidance doing what is upright in God's sight in serving their fellow human creatures in their God-given vocations.

For all those struggling with anger, that God grant them strength, patience, understanding, comfort, and certainly, His peace.

- For Diana Norton, her daughter Mary Norton, Lois Kruse, Connie Odendahl, and Rod Lawin, and those we name in our hearts, for God's continued healing and comfort for these folks and their families.
- For those that work in the Federal Correctional System as they pursue their vocations caring for those that are imprisoned, keeping them and us safe, and looking out for one another each day. God grant them safety and courage to meet the daily challenges.
- For the Pine City Fire Dept. that they remember that God is also protecting them as they serve us.

# Did you know?

That the word justification means “the action of showing something to be right or reasonable”

If you thought that this sounds like something you might hear on one of those crime/court shows, you’d be right. Often in those shows, we also hear the word forensic which means “relating to or dealing with the application of scientific knowledge to legal problems.” We often hear it used in legal/court words like forensic medicine, forensic science, forensic experts, etc.

If we put forensic together with justification we get forensic justification, and that is exactly what Jesus the Christ did for an entire world. When He died on that cross, He not only literally took on the sins of the entire world, but paid our ‘debt of sin’ penalty. We were convicted in the ‘court’ of God’s Law as guilty, but Jesus stood up for us and rendered us innocent because He paid our debt. And our God accepted this substitute ‘debt payment’ and declared us innocent for His Son’s sake. Jesus’ death on that cross justified us in the sight of God.

Thank you all! for the Christmas cards, gifts, and well wishes! Sherri and I are thankful in Christ to be surrounded by fellow Christians especially during these special Holy days.

*God bless you all!*



**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
**Unapproved Council Minutes**  
**1-2-2023**

**Present:** Tonette Peterson, Randy Hickle, Pastor Mike, Wendy Kottke, Doug Kottke, John Frank, David Berquist, Robbie Robinson, Greg Kroschel, Rick Williams,

Meeting was called to order by Randy at 7:07pm. Pastor opened with prayer.

**Secretary's report** was accepted as the date changed from 11-7-22 to 12-12-22 upon motion by David and second by Robbie

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

2022 Income: \$120,475.02 Checking \$20,030.90 2023 Inc \$0

2022 Expense: \$140,602.37 Savings \$33,645.71 2023 Exp \$1,347.11

2022 Net Income: -\$20,127.35 2023 Net Inc -\$1347.11

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

**Pastor's report:** Home visits, office visits, Christmas Eve worship, Christmas Day worship, attended HFD/EMS luncheon, caroling, vacation, Sue Hickle thanked SPLC for the Christmas gift. She spoke of the extra time she spends during the Christmas season. She won't be able to continue to play for the late Christmas Eve service any longer. We will address the voters regarding dates and times for upcoming holidays.

**Old Business**

\*Upon motion by John and second by David, we will purchase a 10lb fire extinguisher for the shed. This is the best fit for that area and has an estimated cost of \$80.

\*Thank you to trustees and Rabe's for removing snow from around the church building.

\*We will try to not use the heat cables on the roof as to lessen the ice building up as it comes off of the roof. The trustees will watch closely for any leaks/problems. Doug & David will put some wood above the ac units & elec boxes in the northeast corner of the church/fellowship hall area to protect from falling snow/ice

\*So far, the roof remains leak free but there are still some things to complete. There are still talks between the insurance/Miller's & SPLC

\*Sanctuary repairs are still in the works

\*The parking lot get de-iced on Christmas Eve.

**New Business**

\*Voter's meeting will be 1-15-2023

\*An ushers schedule will be compiled soon by the elders.

\*The security system and fire alarm have been malfunctioning after each power surge/outage. Upon motion by Greg and second by David, we will get a tech from Heartland Security to work on this. Their estimated date is 2-28-23. The cost is \$75 trip fee and \$50/.5 hour. Rick and Pastor will be here that day.

\*Elders are compiling a list of possible candidates to fill council positions, and giving to Toby.

We adjourned at 8:16pm, upon motion by John and second by David, closing with the Lord's Prayer.

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

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
**Unapproved Quarterly Minutes**  
**1-15-2023**

Meeting was called to order by Randy at 10:10 with 35 members present. Pastor opened with prayer.

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

**Treasurer's report** was accepted as read upon motion by Jayne Maser second by Carol Robinson

2022 Income: \$128,353.25 Checking \$21,860.52

2022 Expense: \$146,078.56 Savings \$33,645.71

2022 Net Income: -\$17,725.31 (Savings includes Pastor's \$20,000 loan and memorial funds)

**Pastor's report:** home/office visits, confirmation, 1 funeral, youth events, circuit pastor's meeting, gospel concert, Bible Study, LL lessons, CASE, elders & council meetings, Thanksgiving Eve worship, advent and Christmas services, caroling, EMS meal, vacation

**Youth group.** Rebecca reported that they've been meeting monthly and doing studies and service projects. Participation in district events has dwindled, so SPLC will no longer contribute to the youth circuit worker at this time. SPLC youth group will focus on growing within our church. Current balance is \$5,147.15

**Sunday School** is going well and the Christmas program was great!

**CASE** is going well with 13 kids. Noted that in 2 years, 6 kids will age out and no new kids are scheduled to join yet. Meal, music, lectionary learning and crafts

**LL** we need enrollment to increase. There are currently 3 students. We will continue to run this year, and if there are not 8-9 students enrolled for next year, we will have to close. Christmas program went well. Current balance is \$14,351.37

**Trustees** have kept the snow on roof in check, as well as removed from around the building.

**Elders:** Discussion on 2023 Christmas services was had. There are additional musicians that we can utilize to help reduce stress for Sue and Connie. Please see an elder with your thoughts on Christmas Eve worship for 2023.

We currently need 2 elders, 1 trustee and a financial secretary to fill the council.

## **Old Business**

\*Silicone around the problem shingle seems to have worked. This isn't a permanent fix. Randy/Miller's/Miller's insurance continue to work on this. Thanks to Randy for all of his work on the roof.

\*Board of Fellowship will meet on January 19th at 6:30 at the church. Jayne, Toby, Yonna, Connie, Robbie, Carol, Jennifer, Marv, Lynette, Loren, & Carolyn. Motion Robbie, second Matt to get this board up and running.

## **New Business**

\*Lenten/Easter worship will be approved by the elders at the next meeting. Upon motion by Carol and second by Toby, soup supper will preface Lenten worship.

\*VBS dates will be July 10-14th. Motion Jayne, second Carol

\*We will have a garage sale May 4-6th. Watch for details to come

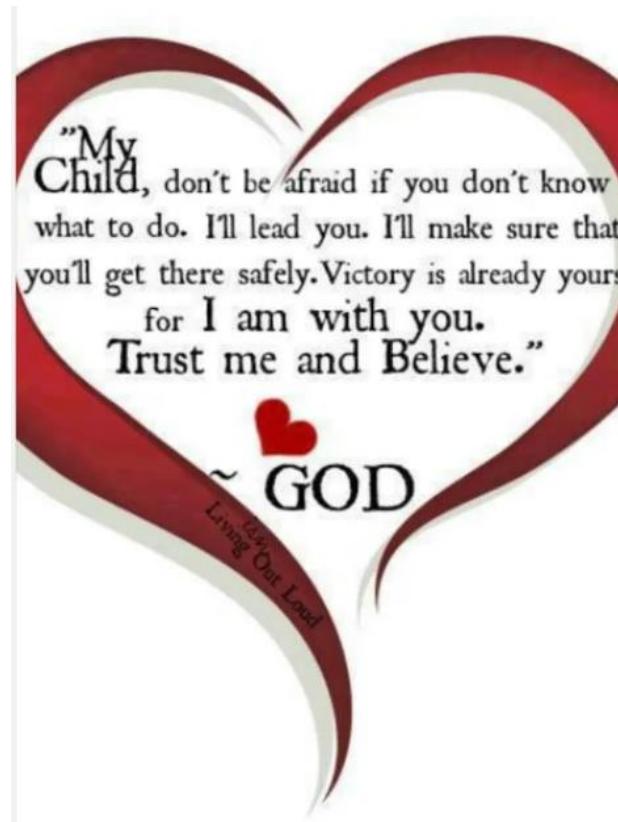
\*Upon motion by Loren and second by Jayne, SPLC will continue to donate \$150/monthly to Missions Central upon their discretion of use

\*There will be a sign up in the narthex for any weekly special music. We encourage anyone that would like to provide a musical offering to sign up.

\*Upon motion by Loren and second by Jayne, we will use some memorial funds to purchase some additional liturgy music for upcoming music students to use. We currently have 2 students that are able to play some liturgy and would like to continue. Connie and Jennifer will order this.

We adjourned at 11:25AM motion MaryAnn Lyon second Yonna Hickle 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)



**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:** 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

**Fin. Sec.:** Cydelle Klande

**Treasurer:** Wendy Kottke

**Stewardship  
9/19/22 to 10/23/22**

General Fund.....	\$7,192.00
Altar Flowers .....	\$96.00
Sunday School .....	\$1.00
Lutheran Witness .....	\$103.40
Missions .....	\$30.00
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$7,442.40</b>



# February 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 10am Bible Study 3pm CASE 3pm Confirmation	2	3	4
5 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	6 10am Quilting 7pm Council Mtg	7 8am Pastor Mtg	8 10am Bible Study 3pm CASE 3pm Confirmation	9 Groundhog Day	10	11 1-4pm Fellowship & Sledding @ Maser's
						Pastor by appt only
12	13 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	14 10am Quilting St. Valentine's Day	15 10am Bible Study 3pm CASE 3pm Confirmation 6pm Youth Group Mtg	16	17	18
						Pastor by appt only
19	20 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	21 10am Quilting	22 10am Bible Study 3pm CASE 3pm Confirmation 6pm Soup & Sand 7pm Worship ASH WEDNESDAY	23	24	25
						Pastor by appt only
26	27 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	28				



# **COME JOIN OUR WORSHIPPING FAMILY**

**FEBRUARY 2023**

For God so Loved the World



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