

St. Paul Lutheran Church

November 2023 Newsletter



Greetings and His peace to you!

Happy mid-fall to y'all! The leaves have been just beautiful thus far even though they have been dropping pretty fast in the last week or so. Thanks be to God for allowing us to see this beauty as only He can create it!

Sometimes we have so much icky-ness going on in our heads because of this Fallen world that we forget that God puts beautiful things here on earth as well. Beautiful things that help us to be a bit calmer and more peaceful. We don't always recognize these things as such, but none-the-less they are there. The beautiful fall colors being just one of these.

In fact, there are so many of these 'beautiful things' that help us 'get through' we often take them for granted or quickly overlook them. Things like a brightly iridescent rooster pheasant standing proud in a frost covered field, or a broad shouldered, big raked buck carefully pickin' his way through the woods, a good 'tune,' an 'out-of-the-blue' call from a friend, or a beautiful winter snowscape that glistens in the morning sun. Or maybe the snugly, calming sight and feel of warmth from a fire in the firepit or fireplace on a cool evening.

Whatever God has given you to help with a stressful situation, He meant it to give you a little extra boost of strength and to give you a little taste of how He will take care of every believer in heaven. Imagine all those calming, beautiful things the LORD has given you over your lifetime here in this world, and then realize that all of that added together won't even come close to how calm and peaceful it will be in heaven.

With Thanksgiving Day just around the corner, recall and look forward to all those beautiful things God has provided and give Him thanks and praise for them! And right after that, thank him for all those things that are not so great as well. For without a bit of 'not-so-good,' we wouldn't know what 'good' is, nor how good we really have it.

Have a safe, thank-filled, joyous, and blessed November!

in His name,
Pastor Mike Metzler

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 those serving as our teachers both at home or in our schools, that they would uprightly teach our children to the best of their teaching gifts in their God-given vocations and teach what is good and right in the Lord's sight.

For those in long term care and those that care for them, that God uplifts their hearts to look to Him for courage and strength to have compassion on and help others needing help both in daily life and in the trials that come

For Arden Gruett, Lois Kruse, Lorraine Robbins, Florence Berquist, Hayden Peterson, Marlys Knutson and those named in our hearts, for God's continued healing and comfort for them and their families.

For those in the U.S. Air Force, 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 MN Highway workers that they know that God watches over them as they help keep our roadways safe.

For the Brook Park Fire Dept. that they remember that God protects them as they serve us.

CHURCH NEWS



Nov Acolyte Schedule:

Nov 5th: Piper

Nov. 12th: Norah

Nov: 19th: Corbin

Wednesday Nov 22nd: Char
(*Thanksgiving Eve Service*)

Nov. 26th: Hunter

Nov. 29th: Corbin

(*Wednesday Advent*)

Nov Ushers: Marv Maser and Robbie Robinson

Dec Ushers: Tony Nelson and Matt Maser

GermanFest: We served 147 people, silent auction raised around \$1150 and the pie auction was \$646.00. The girls were sold \$100 in cards. Thank you all for baking, serving, cleaning, and all your hard work. See you next year!

Diana Norton was called home on October 6th. Per her wishes, there was no service. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

All Saints Day: In loving memory of Margie Pike, Joanne Hedtke, Ray Graber, Gerry Graber, Diana Norton

Family Dinner is on Wednesday November 1st from 5pm to 7pm. Let us take care of you and your family! If you have any questions contact Jayne or Pastor or text 320-279-2153.

Daylight Savings on Sunday November 5th. Fall BACK 1 hour!

Board of Fellowship: Meeting November 7th at 1pm.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship service on Wednesday November 22nd at 7pm.

Advent begins on Wednesday DEC. 6th, light meal at 6pm, worship at 7pm

The Board of Fellowship is planning a Live Nativity on Sunday December 10th starting at 1pm. Look for more information in the next newsletter and bulletins.

Orange Envelopes: These will be mailed out soon!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Nov 2023

1st: Ryan Ausmus
4th: Charlie Ausmus
5th: Florence Benoit
Mona Klar
9th: Jared Christenson
12th: Florence Berquist
Christina Somnuk
15th: Isaac Maser
18th: Yvonne Cottrell
19th: Isaac and Shelby Maser
22nd: Tony Nelson
Makenna Kroschel
25th: Marlowe Zabrok
28th: Dylan Mans
30th: Norah Ausmus

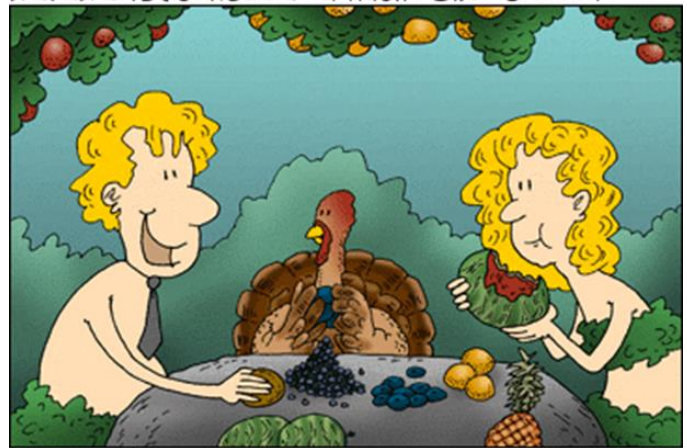
If we missed anyone, please let Jennifer know!

Flower Chart:

Nov 5th. Mary Ann Lyon
.....in loving memory of John
Nov 12th. Bill and Barb Morgan
Nov 19th. Open
Nov 26th. Open

We have openings December 17th and 31st.

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(See Genesis 3)

11-21-2011

I'D LIKE TO GIVE THANKS FOR THE FOOD,
FOR A PEACEFUL WORLD, AND THAT TURKEY IS
ALWAYS ABLE TO JOIN US ON THANKSGIVING

Did you know?

What is **stewardship**? Stewardship is a word that, often enough, brings mixed emotions and reactions. Sometimes when we hear the word 'stewardship,' we grip our purses a bit tighter or check to see that our wallets are still secure in our back pockets, as though some devious pickpocket has declared these items to be a target of interest. It ends up being a kind of 'knee-jerk' reaction of sorts. But what really is stewardship? And does it always necessarily involve money?

Stewardship is when "a person is given the task of caring for something or someone that 'belongs' to someone else." Stewardship does not always involve money. Baby-sitting or dog/cat-sitting would be examples of stewardship. House-sitting would be another example.

Stewardship includes using your God-given gifts of talent to care not just for one another and our and our neighbor's property, but to also do our part in caring for this planet that we live on. Those that do stewardship are called *stewards* and have accepted this privilege and honorable responsibility.

Youth Group

Thank you to everyone that helped out at Ruby's Pantry on Oct 28th.

Next Youth Group Wednesday Meeting will be November 8 at 6pm at the Church.

Youth Group will be doing Operation Christmas Child Box. Options are:

- Pack a box on your own and bring it to the church with \$10 for shipping fee by November 15.
- Donate an amount you would like and the youth group will use the funds to purchase items to go into a box for you. You can choose to provide a personal note to put into your box, photo, etc. if you would like. \$10 will go to the shipping cost. Please get your donation to Rebecca or Jennifer by November 12.
- Donate \$25 and the youth group can pack a box online on your behalf directly through Operation Christmas Child. We can accept donations for online boxes through December 15.

Youth Group will continue to meet on **Wednesdays throughout the year at 6pm**, at church for dinner, a lesson, and other activities.

Wednesday Schedule Nov 8 / Jan 10 / Feb 7 / Mar 27 ? / Apr 10 / May 11 / Jun TBD

Confirmation Corner

Welcome to the Confirmation Corner!

Confirmation classes are held Sunday mornings from 10:30am to about noon until May. Examination day is May 18 and Confirmation day is Sunday, May 19.

We are over ½ way in our study of the Lord's Prayer and its Petitions and meanings, and what we are asking our Father in heaven when we pray it. Please pray for our students throughout the year.

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 revmetzler18@gmail.com

**St. Paul Lutheran Church
Council Minutes (unapproved)
09-12-2023**

Present: Carol Robinson, Rod Lawin, Bill Morgan, Aaron Peterson, Matt Maser, Doug Kottke, David Berquist, John Frank Toby Hickle, Wendy Kottke
Guest Jayne Maser Call to Order. 7:12 pm by Aaron Peterson

Treasures Report, accepted by Bill, second by Doug.

Total Income, \$73,679.20 Total Expense, \$91,674.66

Total checking, savings – \$40,211.46. Including Pastors \$20,000.00 loan and Memorial funds of \$5983.02. Net Income, - \$17,995.46

Secretary Report accepted. (Jennifer August Council notes).

Pastors Report, unavailable.

Elder Report, budget concerns current financial status of church. Pastor salary and health insurance. Upcoming expenses.

Trustee Report, continue to work on grounds, Doug cut down tree. David in charge of tracking fire extinguishers, Fire Marshall due to inspect in December date to be determined. Jennifer to have posts removed by Little Lambs entrance.

BOF (Board of Fellowship)

Pictures ongoing. Noted attendance down over summer to complete photos. Shepherd Staff current directory ongoing.

Family meal was a hit with a good attendance, #40, plan to continue dinners on 1st Wednesday of the month. Parishioners want to have activity bags back for the little ones in the congregation. There was mention of need for a nursing room.

Mentioned about being sensitive to those who feel neglected by the church.

List of visitors/shut ins names to visit, check in, cards. A few people have volunteered in addition to pastor's regular visits. Senior and retired day recognition once monthly.

Upcoming picnic at Matt and Jayne Maser on September 23rd.

Old Business

Working on paperwork for Bank Resolution.

Constitution, our job responsibilities and expectations. Looking for clear path forward for all empty positions. Board of Missions, Board of Christian Outreach, Education. Can we run congregation with less people. Do we change the Constitution or leave it and fill positions as we can? Motion by Doug second by Carol

New Business

Miller Roofing has legal council, church does not, at this time. Engineers to professionally evaluate.

Sunday school teachers, McKenna Rabe and Grace Peterson to teach Sunday School, praying for clear direction forward on the rest.

2024 Budget discussed and will be finalized October 2. 2023.

Orange Envelope allocations (Missions, general fund and other). Motion by Matt second by Carol.

No Fall cleanup scheduled at this time. Special thanks to those who work on it at any given time.

Boards, committees to review their responsibilities and discuss with chair.

Boards each to designate a representative and report to chair.

Facebook access authorization

Discussed pros and cons of checkbooks being exchanged for cards and being under one account.

Weekly church bulletin to include Ushers for this Sunday and next month's scheduled Ushers. Acolyte for this Sunday and next Sunday. Prayer list to include our service members. Weekly donations received and needed.

Adjourned at 8:40 pm motion by Bill. Second by Wendy. Closed with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Carol Robinson

As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient it's important to remember why church attendance for you and your family matters so much.



You can't serve from your sofa. You can't have community of faith on your sofa. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together on your sofa.



Christians aren't consumers. We are contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. We pray by laying hands on the hurting. We do life together.



The church needs you.
And you need the church.



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Council Minutes (unapproved)
10-3-2023

Present: Jennifer, Rod, Star, Wendy, Bill, Doug, Toby, Carol, Matt, David, John
Call to order- 7:01 pm Open with prayer – Greg Approved agenda/additions
Approve minutes from 9/11/2023 - Matt 1st Bill 2nd.

Treasurers report – Total Income – \$79,778.42 Total Expense – \$99,341.18
Total Checking Savings \$38,664.16 Including \$20,000.00 for Pastor loan and
Memorial funds of \$5983.02 Net Income – 19,562.76

Pastors report - Pastor Appreciation Cake and gift card during fellowship, Fall
Liturgies, visits, meetings, bible Study, Confirmation classes, Install Sunday School
teachers and helpers

Elders report – Greg vacation, Jennifer, Aaron, and Matt working on Advertising for
German fest, WCMP 2 weeks, Local News 1 week \$ 300.00. Aaron to review duties,
pastoral duties according to Contract.

Trustee report -Flower pots stolen, Sign was taken down for Little Lambs Preschool,
continue to trim and mow, planning to clean outside windows as weather permits.
Replaced light in Sanctuary.

Board of Fellowship report – Wrapping up directory, Monthly dinner went well, plan
to continue next date is set for October 4th. Planning and prep for German Fest. Senior
Bingo.

Sunday School report – 10 children, get well cards, Grace, and McKenna teaching with
Supervision with Tracy.

Other Committee reports – Case starting 10/24/2023, School Mechanic to transport,
there are currently 5 students. Cost \$ 260.00, Board of Education in place to reevaluate
during Christmas break and make decisions. Pastor will lead with assist from Elders.

Old Business

- Bank Resolution still in progress. Eliminate basket at fellowship for donations, use for
Missions, concerts and other as a special donation periodically.

- Constitution (Boards) Vacancies:

Board of Missions – 2-year term

Board of Outreach – 2-year term

Board of Fellowship – 2-year term

Board of Education – 2-year term

Appoint Board of Education- 2 persons interested, Karissa Ausmus 1st carol 2nd Bill.
Yonna Hickle Wendy 1st Matt 2nd and Pastor.

Advertise with remaining board vacancies in bulletin and newsletter. Missions Outreach,
2-year term elected 2025.

- Roof Status with Millers (last week on eve of 9/11 in Sanctuary high winds and hard
rainfall possible cause). No leaks found with recent 3-day rainfall. Inspection set for
10/4/2023.

- German Fest - Scale back on advertising.

- Church Picnic report - overall went well with about 50 people attending. Send Thank
you card.

- Social Media Oversight Committee. Tonette, Pastor + 2 others. Oversee website,
Facebook.

- Checkbooks dissolved and moved to main account; Credit cards issued for those needing access. Already have cards through Northview. Balances tracked through P&L with receipts, similar to how we track with memorial money. 5 accounts \$ 2000.00 limit. Carol 1st Star 2nd
- 2024 budget finalized, to go to voters at Quarterly, 3 budget proposals. Housing allowance leave the same. 0 Missions, 0 funding for Summer Gospel Concerts Greg 1st Toby 2nd.
- Attendance declining, 2018 96 parishioners, 2022 68.6 parishioners, down 29%.
- Orange envelopes ordered, Pastor will include letter, General, missions and other. Jennifer.
- Computer froze up, 5+ years old, need new one. David Trustee to look for new computer with budget of \$700.00 John 1st Star 2nd.
- Fall Clean-up, dirt, and Landscaping, thank you card for Chuck for his years of service mowing church lawn.
- Snow removal 3 bids (trustees to obtain per 9/11 meeting). Jenson, Dan Masonry, Elliott's and Jeffs. Toby 1st Rod 2nd for more estimates.
- Board/Committee representatives, Representative 4 Elders - John F, Representative 4 Trustees - David.

New Business:

- Quarterly Agenda, Fellowship Basket, Budget, Roof Update, German Fest results, Caroling,
- Lawn Mowing (Chuck done fall 2023) Thank you for your service and dedication over the years.

Adjourn Greg 1st Bill 2nd. Close with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Carol Robinson



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Quarterly Voters Meeting
10-15-2023

Call to Order, Roll Call, Sign in. 10:25 AM 30 attended

Open with Prayer by Pastor Prayer

Secretary's report read and accepted Jayne 1st, Rod 2nd.

Treasurer's Report Read and accepted Jayne 1st, Star 2nd.

Checking: 18,330.91 Savings including and Pastor Loan: 27,075.84 + 5983.02
memorials. Total Income: 88,445.80 Expense: 101,575.97 Net Income : -12,130.17

Pastors report, 25 home visits, 10 office visit/ meetings 4 off site meetings/ visits, 0 hospital visits 3 official acts, including 2 installations, 1 blessing, 5 Confirmation classes, 4 adult Bible Study classes. Attended Kettle River Circuit Youth Confirmation Retreat in Isle, John Wolfe African Missionary visit here, Gideons Pastor Appreciation dinner, church picnic, Installation of Sunday school teachers and helpers, MN North District Fall Pastors Conference in Brainard. Continuing Article Spotlight on Faith for Hinckley News, Fall Liturgies, Preplanning Advent and Christmas, Working with Rev Schiller on Interparish Men's group events, continue to record and post Sunday worship.

Church Committees and Group Reports:

Youth Group No changes.

Sunday School, 10 students, Grace and McKenna teaching, Learning Bible songs perhaps singing during offering. Using CPH curriculum Karissa and Yonna to approve once we have completed current program.

Case has started and will be reevaluated during Christmas break. Pastor and Elders.

Little Lambs Preschool. Closed, supplies donate for future use. Money in fund to general fund or Little Lamb memorial for future use and repay if used monies to keep programs running or begin new programs.

VBS continuing next year using CPH material.

Trustee Report, Chuck retiring end of season 2023, thank you for your years of dedicated service.

Elder report, reviewed duties ongoing with church per constitution

Fellowship Committee, 12 members, dinners are going well, 40 attended last month participated, 14 different households. Plan to continue dinners, Thrivent funds to support this. Church Picnic 50 guests, fun was had by all who attended, meal hayride and fellowship.

Board of Fellowship, Coffee and fellowship after church, church to provide coffee, volunteers for baked goodies with the signup sheet.

Men's group, continuing to work with Rev Schiller on Inter Parish joint men's group events.

Old Business:

Roof Updates, Inspected, awaiting finalization of findings with Inspector.

German Fest did well however lower than normal income from people served, Pies and silent auction.

New Business:

Fellowship basket, eliminate basket for collection, funeral expenses and appliance and other kitchen needs from general funds, current money in fellowship fund to move over to general fund. Tracie 1st, Carol 2nd.

Budget 2024, #3 plan is approved. Loren 1st Jayne 2nd.

Thanksgiving Service 7AM, Advent Wednesdays at 7 PM, meal at 6 PM, Christmas Eve Service 9AM and 4 PM, Christmas Day Service 9AM.

Christmas Caroling/Nativity, Rebecca is working on.

Pastor Housing Allowance will remain the same as 2023 budget.

Board of Missions and Christian Outreach Board Members are needed.

Closing check books, operate under one account with debit card for each committee, will still be responsible for receipts.

Formal Request received for Audit on accounts upon account closure.

Little Lamb funds Ideas, see above # D under committee reports. Money to General fund, Memorial, Jayne 1st, Robbie 2nd.

Orange envelopes, order by Jennifer, to include letter from Chairman and Pastor, use of funds, General, Missions and other. Star 1st, Sue H 2nd.

Concerts, Summer Gospel, committee to help with fundraising to continue to concert's here at church.

Bingo, continue next meet 12/10/23 at 1 PM,

Fellowship basket, once monthly outside sanctuary for Missions donations, Last service of the month. Lynette M 1st, Toby 2nd.

Adjourn 12:20 Jayne 1st John F 2nd. Close with Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted 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

10/01/2023 – 10/29/2023

General Fund \$11,159
Altar Flowers \$20
GermanFest \$4,020
Missions \$5
OE General \$500
Youth Group \$15
TOTAL \$15,719





NOVEMBER 2023



| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | | 1 10am Bible Study 5pm to 7pm Family Dinner | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:30am Confirmation 10am Sunday School Daylight Savings! | 6 7pm Council Mtg | 7 1pm BOF Mtg | 8 10am Bible Study 6pm Youth Group Mtg | 9 | 10 <i>Pastor's days off</i> | 11 <i>Pastor's days off</i> |
| 12 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 10:30am Confirmation 10am Sunday School | 13 | 14 | 15 10am Bible Study 1pm Bingo | 16 | 17 Newsletter Due | 18 <i>Pastor's days off</i> |
| 19 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:30am Confirmation 10am Sunday School | 20 | 21 | 22 10am Bible Study 7pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship No School | 23 Thanksgiving Day  | 24 No school | 25 <i>Pastor's days off</i> |
| 26 9am Worship w/ Communion 10am Fellowship 10:30am Confirmation 10am Sunday School | 27 7pm Elder's Mtg | 28 | 29 10am Bible Study | No School 30 | | |

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

**Newsletter
November 2023**



For God so Loved the World