

# St. Paul's Epistle

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Box 726, Garrison, ND 58540

April/May 2023

Volume 41- Number 2



During Holy Week and the Easter Season we remember some of the most important events in the life of Jesus. We have some special worship times to celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

*-Palm Sunday is April 2<sup>nd</sup>.* During worship our Sunday School students are going to carry palms and bring the message. LYO youth will read, usher/greet and help with Holy Communion, along with serving caramel rolls as a fundraiser during fellowship, following the worship service.

*-Our Maundy Thursday worship is April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 p.m.* We will celebrate Holy Communion and remember Jesus' Last Supper with the disciples. First Communion students will be receiving Holy Communion, and there is also the stripping of the altar during the service.

*-Good Friday worship is April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 p.m.* Good Friday is the day we remember that Jesus died on the cross for us. We will journey this year, through the stations of the cross. The choir will also sing.

*-Easter is April 9<sup>th</sup>:* Sunrise Communion Worship Service is at 7 a.m. From 8:00-9:15 a.m. our LYO are serving an Easter Breakfast of eggs and ham and donuts. Another Easter Communion Worship is at 9:45a.m. to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. The choir will be providing special music.



*Join us as we remember the amazing gift we receive from Jesus!*

## **New Members & Reaffirmation of Council**

We are blessed to welcome new families into our St. Paul Family: Allen Engel, Delvin Kolden, Katie, Cohen, & Randy Bittner and Lucy and Liam Dewitz, Tiffany, Rickie, Tayla and Jason Ouhl, Stuart Bennett, Jody Gullickson, Courtney Krzmarzick, Parker and Levi Tomlinson, Courtney, Xena and Tylor Brostowitz, Klint, Nicole and Hayes Steele, Kent, Heather, Kendall, and Kaley Janz.

We also reaffirmed our council members and welcomed our new member: Randy Essler. Thanks for serving.

## **First Communion**

As Lutheran's we receive and celebrate two sacraments: Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. In preparation for children receiving their First Communion, instruction for third grade students and others who desire to take instruction, is on April 2 at 8:30 a.m. through the morning, and will conclude with a celebratory meal for the students and their families on Maundy Thursday (April 6) at 5:30 p.m. Students will then receive their First Communion during the 7:15 p.m. Maundy Thursday worship service.

## **From Easter Lilies to Easter Little Lunches**

As we move through Lent, drawing ever nearer to the baptismal waters of Easter, we invite you to consider giving memorials and/or honorariums toward "Easter Little Lunches." In lieu of Easter



Lilies, funds raised will cover the cost of one/two Easter bouquets with the remainder of the funds benefiting our local Little Lunches Backpack Program. This program provides a weekend supply of nutritious food for children when school lunch and breakfast is unavailable on a weekend or school holiday.

To give toward the "Easter Little Lunches" please place a completed form (included in newsletter and on table in church entry), along with your contribution in an envelope and place it in the offering plate or send it to St. Paul Lutheran Church. Those remembered and honored will be named in the Easter Sunday bulletin. The deadline is April 2<sup>nd</sup>.



Greetings friends!

Blessings to you and your families! Spring is here. Well the official day has come and gone but it certainly doesn't feel like spring. Especially with all the snow that is all over the ground. Hopefully a ND "spring" will be here soon.

Holy Week is upon us. We begin with Palm Sunday on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and end with Easter on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Please join us in the many ways of worshiping and giving thanks to God for what He has given us in His Son, Jesus. Check out the schedule in this newsletter.

The Church Council after many years of discussion has made the decision to put a permanent projector and retractable projection screen in the sanctuary. They believe it will enhance our worship experience and be helpful for children and youth ministries. I believe that as well.

Ministry programs will slow down at the end of May, but we will continue to have some events this summer. Please look for announcements on these events.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you are interested in new ways for you to be involved in our community of faith. We have a vibrant community and faith. I am proud to be a part of it!

If you are struggling, please remember there are many resources at St. Paul that can help you in your journey, whether it be going well or in a season of struggles. There are many sisters and brothers in Christ who would be available to visit with you and share in your life happenings with you.

My office door is always open, I am easily emailed, and I am a cell phone call or text away! And if you are a Snap Chatting person, I am slowly but surely learning how to do that too. ☺

Blessings as we move into the Advent and Christmas season!

Peace,

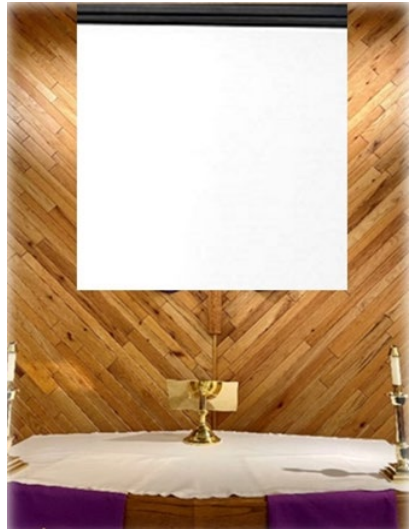
Rev. Janis Sloka, III  
Pastor

## Permanent Projector And *Retractable Projection Screen* In The Sanctuary

The Church Council after many years of discussion has made the decision to put a *permanent projector* and *retractable projection screen* in the sanctuary. They believe it will enhance our worship experience and be helpful for children and youth ministries.

After receiving a bid, they would like to move forward with your support. However, they will not install them until the monies are raised. So, we need your help! The cost is \$20,000 for the equipment, installation, and the work of an electrician. We know this is a lot of money but we want to install it correctly and it is not an easy installation with our high ceilings in the Sanctuary. Please prayerfully consider helping make this possible! Please see a council member if you have questions.

*Retractable not permanent*



## All Church BBQ

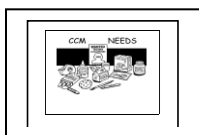
Celebrating an end to the programming year! Thanks to so many people helping to make this year a success!! We will be serving pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs and salads for all. Free will offering. It will be held on Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at St. Paul's. Bring your favorite yard game.



### Honoring Our Graduating Seniors

We will be honoring our graduating seniors during worship and fellowship on Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. The following are members of our congregation who will be graduating from Garrison

High School later this month: Ethan Betz, Rachel Hett, Tyler Syvertson, Will Lindvig, and from Max High School: Alexis Hatlestad. Congratulations graduates!! We wish them God's blessing on their graduation day, and we pray that God will guide them in the years to come.



### Camp Supplies Needed

We are again celebrating May as "Mother the Camp" month to help support Camp of the Cross Ministries. We will have a table set up in the Narthex to receive donations. There is also a poster listing supplies needed for the upcoming spring and summer camps. If you do not wish to go shopping but would like to contribute, there is also a box on the table in which to deposit checks or cash. CCM can then purchase items most needed. Your donation is greatly appreciated!!

### Directory Up-dates:

#### Change of Addresses or Phone Numbers

A reminder to let us know if your mailing or emailing address or phone number changes. We want to keep you up to date on the activities of St. Paul's. If we have your *cell phone number*, we can send you messages of activities or cancelations by text. Please give the office any of the changes you have, so we can get the up-dated directory out soon.

## ***Youth Happenings:***

### **During April:**

- Sunday School is sharing the message on Palm Sunday. The youth are helping in worship and serving caramel rolls at fellowship.
- LYO will serve breakfast after the Sunrise Service on Easter. We are serving eggs, ham, and donuts.

We appreciate Jr. and Sr. high involvement in our youth fundraisers and youth worship services!

### **April:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Communion instruction-youth  
Sunday School in worship  
LYO Caramel rolls during fellowship
- 5<sup>th</sup> – 3 p.m. Sonshine Friends Easter Party
- 6<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Supper
- 8<sup>th</sup> – 1 p.m. Easter Egg hunt in the city park
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 8-9:15 a.m. LYO Easter Breakfast
- 16<sup>th</sup> – 6-8th LOL  
3:30-4:30 p.m. K-2<sup>nd</sup> mock lock-in  
4:30-6:00 p.m. 3-6<sup>th</sup> mock lock-in  
6:00 p.m. Youth Group
- 30<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 a.m. 9-12<sup>th</sup> LOL  
12:00 p.m. Spring clean-up at Camp – 7-12<sup>th</sup> Gr. Youth

### **May:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sonshine Friends End-of-year Party
- 7<sup>th</sup> – 11 a.m. 6-8<sup>th</sup> Gr. LOL  
6 p.m. Youth Group
- 10<sup>th</sup> – All Church BBQ 6 p.m.
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 9:45 a.m. Honor our Graduates  
11 a.m. 9-12<sup>th</sup> Gr. LOL
- 21<sup>st</sup> – 9:45 a.m. worship – VBS Blessing
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Last day of Sunday School – Fun Day
- 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> – 6-8:30 P.M. VBS

### **June:**

- 11<sup>th</sup> - Rummage Sale Committee meets after worship –  
To label rooms & tables
- 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m. & 17<sup>th</sup> @ 2 p.m. – Set up/take down for  
Rummage sale - 7-12<sup>th</sup> Youth/Families Save the Dates!
- 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> – Rummage Sale

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL DATES

VBS dates are Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> through Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Our theme is “Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God!”. The sessions will be from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Registration forms will be available in April/May. If you have any questions, please contact Holly Klemisch at 701-471-3848.

## Church Rummage Sale

LYO youth will be holding their annual church rummage sale **June 16, 4-7 p.m. & June 17, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.**. A lunch will also be for sale. This is a big fundraiser for the youth and they will appreciate any “treasures” that you wish to donate.

We will only be **collecting** items for the week before the sale. You can start *bringing items* to the church the *afternoon of June 11*.

The fellowship hall will be set up for you to put your items where they will be for the sale.



We will have a person there each day to

organize as we go. Please place your items on the marked table or room as you bring them. Sorry... We cannot accept TV's, computers, chemicals, paint/varnish or food items!

*Scholarships*

St. Paul takes an active role in supporting our church youth. One way the Social Action Committee supports them is by offering seniors a scholarship towards their higher education. The committee tries to give \$500 scholarships to those students who have been active participants in our worship and/or youth activities. We serve free-will soup and sandwich lunches twice a year and a month of fellowship to raise money for the scholarships. For anyone in the congregation wanting to help by sponsoring a full or partial scholarship; you can donate by placing an envelope marked “scholarship” in the offering plate or by giving the money directly to Loree Jeffers. As always, the Social Action Committee appreciates your support!

## CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Church Council met Feb. 15, 2023.

-Lenten Services begin Feb. 22. Lenore's will be bringing food for Lenten suppers with people from the congregation serving. Pr. Janis meets with BLC and Meadows people weekly. We are adding a weekly door greeter to the action group list of jobs. Spring Supper plans are moving along. The property Committee will look at a few building concerns.

New Business: Looking at a projector and screen for the Sanctuary. They will look at other churches systems. MSC to place a yield sign on the south exit from the church. St. Paul representatives for the CCM annual meeting are Mike Maki, Holly Klemisch and Lisa Maki. Discussed joining "Cultivating Generous Congregations". This is a company that works with our Synod.

### Financial Update

	FEB. 2023	YTD 2023
Offerings	\$ 15,230.26	\$ 30,195.57
Expenses	\$ 14,643.95	\$ 33,867.92
Pars. Prin.	\$ 716.62	\$ 1,363.57
Total. Exp.	<u>\$ 15,360.57</u>	<u>\$ 35,231.49</u>
	\$ -130.31	\$ -5,035.92

As of MARCH 17, 2023

Offerings	\$ 12,425.80
Expenses	\$ 13,301.35
Pars. Prin.	\$ 688.41
Total Exp.	<u>\$ 13,989.76</u>
Difference	\$ -1,563.96

### Church Hours

The church offices will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. The church is open every day except Saturday and Sunday from 9- to around 4 p.m. When you need it opened for other activities and do not have a key, let any of us in the office know, so that we can have it open for you.



# Mission Action Donation Request

Each year our congregation sends items to Lutheran World Relief for distribution to various parts of the world. Your generosity has allowed us to send Baby Care Kits, Personal Care Kits, and School Kits. It is time to collect funds to enable us to continue this mission. You may use the enclosed envelope which can be dropped in the collection basket or left at the church. Personal Care kits and quilts will be shipped in mid-May. Your donations will help us to fill the School Kits and Baby Care Kits that will be sent in October. Please make checks payable to Bernie Ellwein. Thank you.



## Thank You:

*Lenten Mentors!*

Our 7th-9th grade confirmation students journeyed through the season of Lent accompanied by faith mentors. These mentors shared in worship with our confirmands and engaged in questions and conversation about God. Having trustworthy adults give of their time to help our youth wonder about our lives of faith is such a gift. Thank you so much to all of the mentors who served in this important role!

*Church Supper & Raffle!* Thank you to everyone who helped make our Spring Supper a success. It takes the whole congregation! A special thanks to Deb Youngs and Dan Spichal for chairing the supper. We made around \$3800, not sure if we have received all the bills yet.

Thank you, Linda Heer, for taking over the raffle for St. Paul Women. We made \$1312 on the raffle. Thanks for all of the donations and for buying the tickets!

*Raffle Winners:*

Quilt- Carrie Ahmann; Cenex Gift Cards-Cash Steele & Shelby Gehring; Krause's Gift Cards- Loree Jeffers & Michelle Rime; Necklace/Earring set- Harold Lindsey; Faith T-shirt- Darren Kolden; Table Runners- Helen Rostad & Joan Zimmerman; 2-Hand Towels- Harold Lindsey & Linda Heer; Coffee Basket- Juanita Grosz; Earrings- James Muzzy, Judy Polsfut, Julie Retterath; Dairy Queen Gift Cards-Michelle Wagner & Loree Jeffers; Norwex Cloth & Towel- Marsha Zimmerman, Shelby Gehring, Joan Sorenson.