

St. Paul's Epistle

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

June/July/August 2023

Volume 41- Number 3

summer NEWSLETTER

St. Paul's Summer Hours

The summer *office hours* are 10a.m.-1p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursdays.

The church building will be open from
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. most weekdays.

Call any of the staff if you would like to get in at any other time.

*Sunday, May 28th Worship is at the First Congregational, UCC church @ 10 a.m. No worship at St. Paul. It is Live Streamed.

Streaming Services This Summer

We will continue to Live Stream our worship service through the summer. Join us at 9:45 a.m. via Live Facebook.

Bible Study

The 10:00 a.m. Tuesday Men's Bible Study will continue at the church through this summer, as will the 10:00 a.m. Thursday Community Bible Study at The Meadows.

Kitchen Cleaning: June 7th @ 9:00am.

Everyone is invited to help. Men, women & children.

Circle will meet after the kitchen cleaning. We are ordering pizza for our lunch.

Congregational Potluck Picnics

June 21st @ 6pm July 19th @ 6pm August 9th @ 6 pm

The church through a Thrivent Action Team will provide the meat and we ask participants to bring a *potluck dish* to share.

Greetings friends!



Blessings to you and your families! Summer is here. I am excited for the warmer weather and the sun. I love working outside in the parsonage gardens. I also look forward to each summer when my family and I can travel back East to vacation in Maryland.

Summertime ministry is also upon us. What that means is that some of our programs are scaled down, but we certainly are still active this summer. We will continue live streaming our Sunday morning worship. So, no matter where you are you still can join us for worship or worship with us later in the day via the recording. The morning Bible studies on Tuesdays and Thursdays will also continue. The men meet on Tuesdays at 10AM in the chapel. I also lead a 10AM Community Bible study at the Meadows on Thursdays. You are welcome to join any of these times of fellowship, fun and study. They are fun, believe me!

We had such a successful end of the school year congregational potluck picnic in May, so we have scheduled one in June, July, and August. The church through a Thrivent Action Team will provide the meat and we ask participants to bring a potluck dish to share. Check out the dates in this newsletter.

We have two opportunities to worship away from St. Paul this summer. Worship will be suspended here on those Sunday's. The first one is Sunday, May 28th. We will worship with our sisters and brothers at First Congregational, UCC at 10AM and it will be live streamed. We will celebrate the installation of their new pastor. This is such a special time for us as we have for many years now shared our youth programs. At least 3 of their youth are traveling with us to the Black Hills on our Sr. High youth trip in June.

Another time to worship off site will be with sisters and brothers at Camp of the Cross Ministries on one of their Summer Sundays. We will worship at CCM on Sunday, August 6th at 10AM. I have requested that we worship in the Fellowship Center and not outside. That service will be live streamed. We will also be hosting the meal to follow.

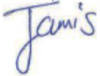
Please let me know if you have any questions or if you are interested in new ways for you to be involved in our community of faith. We have a vibrant community and faith. I am proud to be a part of it!

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! I am also on social media. And if you are a Snap Chatting person, I am still slowly but surely learning how to do that too. 😊

Blessings as we move into the Pentecost season. Have a blessed and safe summer!

Peace,



Rev. Janis Sloka, III
Pastor

Sunday worship August 6th will be at Camp of the Cross at 10:00 a.m., with lunch to follow. *The service will be in the Fellowship Center.* St. Paul is sponsoring the lunch this day. Please join us for worship and lunch. There will be no service at St. Paul's. The service will be live streamed from camp.



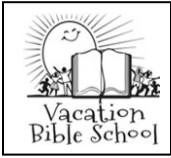
St. Paul's Cemetery Fund:

is in need of funds to cover the mowing and upkeep on the cemetery this summer. Donations would be greatly appreciated. Please mark them for cemetery, they may be put in the offering plate, given to Loree, or mailed to the church.

Attention: *If you have not received the church emails, please check your junk folder. If not there, please contact the church office to make sure we have the correct email address on file!

*Also, please let the church office know if your mailing address or phone number has changed!

Youth Happenings:



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS dates were Monday, May 22nd through Thursday May 25th. Our theme was “Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God!”

We had lots of youth and a very exciting time!

A BIG THANK YOU to all our planners and helpers!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

June:

11th - Rummage Sale Com. Meets-1 p.m. to set up

12th – 15th (9 a.m.- 8 p.m.) Collect Sale items

15th @ 7:00 & 17th @ 2:00 – Set up/take down for

Rummage sale - **7-12 Youth/Families Save Dates!**

16th-17th – Rummage Sale

21st – 6 p.m. Church potluck picnic

23rd-26th - Youth Trip to Black Hills

July:

5th – 5 p.m. 6-8 Gr. Youth activity – Babe Ruth game

7th – 5 p.m. 9-12 Gr. Youth Activity – Legion game

19th – 6 p.m. Church potluck picnic

August:

2nd – 11 a.m. 6-9th Gr. Raging Rivers Fun Day (all day)

9th – 6 p.m. Church potluck picnic

7 p.m. Elementary Youth Pool Party (tentative)

LYO Summer Fellowship:

The youth families oversee Summer Fellowship for June-August. Families have been assigned to the summer dates. Letters have been given/sent to these families. There is

also a list on the kitchen bulletin board. Besides appreciating the “goodies”, we appreciate your help with this youth fundraiser. Thanks for serving.



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 them, and they will appreciate any “treasures” that you wish to donate.

Collecting Items: We will be **collecting** items the week before the sale. You can start **bringing items** to the church the **afternoon of June 11 - June 15**. The church will be open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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

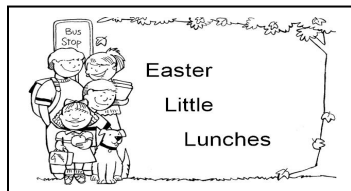
A person will be there each day to help you organize as we go. Please place your items on the marked table or room as you bring them.



Sorry... *We cannot accept TV's, computers, chemicals, paint/varnish, mattresses, or food items!*

Easter Little Lunches

This year we shared the good news of the Easter promise with our neighbors through our “Easter Little Lunches” memorials and honorariums. The



balloons and lilies for our Easter service were donated. Through your generosity we contributed \$1215 to the Little Lunches Backpack program! Thank you so much for embracing “Easter Little Lunches” to witness to the hope we have in Christ.

Sunday School Teachers Needed This Fall

We need volunteer teachers. The curriculum and setup will be ready to go...for the teacher to walk in and lead. Please contact Lisa Maki (701-500-0595), if you are willing to take a Sunday or two!!



First day of Sunday school will be September 10th, 2023. We will be starting at **11 a.m.** and ending at **11:45 a.m.** each week. More info. with specific details will come later in the summer.

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Church Council met March 27, 2023

- 2023 Church Supper proceeds went to the projector/screen project, along with a portion of the 2022 proceeds. \$5581.20
- St. Paul will be participating in a program called “Stewardship for All Seasons”. Deb Youngs and Randy Essler will serve on the task force.
- We will sponsor the Dinner at Camp on Aug. 6, and worship with camp on the 6th.
- There is a signup sheet in the narthex for council members to bring the offering to the office on Sunday mornings.
- Pastor Janis will be the Vice Pastor for the Max & Benedict congregations. This will not include Sunday mornings.
- We will require double signatures on the church accounts.

Church Council met May 11, 2023

- New Full-Time position - The Executive Committee met on May 9th to look at a combination of duties to make a full-time position. The position would combine Faith Formation, Treasurer & Secretary into one full-time position. Salary =\$35,600, Benefits=\$10,380. It would add approximately \$5000 to the current budget needs. The Committee recommends that the Council approve the new position. MSC. There was a motion to offer the job to Holly Klemisch. MSC. Holly accepted the new position. The position will start September 1, 2023. Loree will use the summer to transition duties to both Holly and Janis.
- Accepted the updated Personal Policy.
- St. Paul’s 2023 Synod Assembly delegate is Lisa Haugen.

Next meeting is June 21st at 7:00 p.m.

Financial Update

	APRIL 2023	YTD 2023
Offerings	\$ 18,958.02	\$67,317.25
Expenses	<u>\$ 18,263.32</u>	<u>\$78,528.20</u>
	\$ 694.70	\$-11,210.95

	As of MAY 15, 2023	YTD 2023
Offerings	\$ 11,696.42	\$79,013.67
Expenses	<u>\$ 9,942.10</u>	<u>\$84,938.96</u>
	\$ 1,754.32	\$ -5,925.29

MISSION MOMENTS

Action Groups - All members of St. Paul's are divided into four Action Groups. Each Action Group oversees church activities for a month. The Action Groups work as ushers, greeters, and communion assistants and serve potlucks, wedding, anniversary, and funeral lunches.

The groups meet the second to the last Sunday in a month to plan for the next month's activities. These brief meetings held after worship in the chapel allow you to sign up for duties of your choosing, on dates when you are available. The Action Group leaders may call on you to fill open duties and to serve or bake for things such as funerals that pop up during your month. We hope that this serves as a meaningful way for our people to engage in the life of the church. Please let us know if you are not sure that you were assigned an Action Group.

Women of St. Paul's:

Every woman that is a member of St. Paul's is a member of the "Women of St. Paul's". This used to be called WELCA, but for the last several years we have not been members of WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.) The women

raise money for youth camp scholarships, items for the church, camp, organizations in town and all over the country. The two main fundraisers are the Bake Sale during The Dicken's Festival and the Raffle during our church Spring Supper.

The women also have a quilting group. The women deep clean the kitchen, clean brass, sell cards and many other works of the church. Please be a part of the women's group.



CIRCLE

Women's Circle will meet on **June 7th**, after kitchen cleaning at 9 a.m., and **August 2nd** at 9:30 a.m. We do not meet in July.

Everyone is welcome to join us for a Bible study, short meeting, and goodies.

Committees:

The following are the committees that we have at St. Paul's to get the business of the church completed. Let one of the staff know if there is any committee that interests you, and that you would like to be a part of.

Fellowship: Find people to serve fellowship on Sundays, decorate tables for the season or special events, change picture above serving window, make sure that fellowship supplies are available. Money from fellowship is used for supplies, Operation Christmas Child postage, camp, and senior scholarships.

Parish Ed: (pre-6th): Faith formation, which includes Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and other activities and curriculum.

Altar Guild: Change paraments/banners, worship decorations, altar flowers, etc. in the Sanctuary.

Property: Maintains the church and parsonage property. This can be many kinds of projects.

Worship: Decides/discusses worship practices, songs, special guests, any worship activities.

Social Action: Does events and projects to help others. Ex: Little Lunches, Operation Christmas Child, M&M's, Hunger Banks, Sr. Scholarships, etc.

Tech./Audio: All aspects of technology. Computers, sound system, streaming worship.

Rummage Sale: help to plan and organize the annual youth rummage sale fundraiser.

Decorating: Decorate the narthex and/or church for different holidays, especially Christmas.

Finance: Monitor our budget along with the Treasurer and Council.

PERMANENT PROJECTOR AND RETRACTABLE SCREEN IN THE SANCTUARY

The Church Council after many years of discussion made the decision to put in the sanctuary,
a permanent projector and *retractable projection screen*.

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 have raised \$7,811 so far.
Can you help us meet our goal?**

Please prayerfully consider helping make this possible! Please see a council member if you have questions.

*Retractable not
permanent*

