

# St. Paul's Epistle

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



St. Paul  
Lutheran Church

March/April 2025

## ALL ARE WELCOME!

*Ash Wednesday is March 5th!*

We will start the Lenten season with supper on March 5th at 6:00 p.m., followed by **Ash Wednesday Worship at 7:00 p.m.** The Ash Wednesday worship service will include an Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

Wednesdays in Lent— Five Themes of Baptism

Lenten Worship at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. A light meal will be served at 6:00 p.m. March 12, 19, 26 & April 2 and 9



### *Palm Sunday Worship*

**April 13 at 9:45AM and Sunday School will be bringing in the palms. Sunday School will parade in the Palms.** The Easter Program will be April 27th!

***Easter Worship* April 20th at 9:00AM!**

***PLEASE note the time and only one service!***

**Breakfast served from 8 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. (muffins only)**

***Join us to worship the risen Christ!***

**Mark your calendars!**

***The Annual Spring Supper will be this Sunday, March 2nd!***



***New Members will be recognized on Sunday, March 23rd during worship!***



***Snow Birds let us know when you are returning.***



**Beginning Easter Sunday, April 20th worship will be moving to 9AM!**  
The Church Council after recommendations from Committees, surveys, staff and conversations has voted to move our worship service to 9AM from Easter Sunday on. It will remain at 9AM. Any questions, see a council member or staff person.



***Our mission is to GATHER as God's people; to GROW in faith, love, and service; and to GO into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.***

# Sunday School



Sunday School is on most Sunday's from 11 a.m. to 11:50 am. Through Easter. Times will be adjusted after Easter. More to come on this.

We will perform two plays during the year, one at Christmas and one after Easter.

Sunday School is open to any child going into Pre-K through Grade 6. We will start in the Rainbow Room and will split into 2 groups. We will watch a video of the lesson and then also have a craft, game or experiment.

We are looking for **volunteers** to lead stations this Spring. You can pick the Sundays

that work for you. If you are interested in leading a Sunday School station. Please contact Holly in the office to volunteer.

## **NO Sunday School Classes**

-March 16 and April 20

**The Sunday School Easter Program will be Sunday, April 27th during worship!**

**PLEASE NOTE: With the worship time changing in April so will the Sunday School Hour. MORE INFO to come!**

**GATHER**

**GROW**

**GO**

## Children & Youth Happenings

### **Sonshine Friends: (Wed. After-School Program)**

Our theme for this year is "The Awesome Promises of God".

We continue to separate into two groups; K-2nd Graders (Group A) and 3rd-6th Graders (Group B). It's not too late to join us!

**NO Sonshine Friends: March 12 and April 16.**

### **LYO - LIVING OUT LOUD**

Youth Meet-up for the Winter is for 6th-9th graders in the couch room after worship for visiting...we will talk about life happenings and discuss some tough questions we may have about our faith while enjoying a snack/beverage from fellowship! We will try to meet once a month most months.

*6-8th Grade Sunday Evening Youth Group* will be meeting once a month from 6PM-7:30PM.

### **First Communion Instruction**

It has been the practice that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders complete a class on First Communion and receive their formal First Communion on Maundy Thursday. However if parents of younger children believe they are ready to receive now, please visit with Pastor Sloka.

In keeping with this, Pastor Janis will be hosting the First Communion class on **Sunday, April 6th at 8:30 am** for the first part. The second portion of the class will continue after worship that day at **11 am**. A parent/adult is asked to attend with their child. This will be the only class they are required to complete. We will have a meal together with this year's students and family at **6:00 p.m. on Maundy Thursday, April 17th**. The students will receive their First Communion during Maundy Thursday worship. Mark your calendars early!



# Worship

## Sundays

*Please remember we are committed to Live Streaming all of our worship services. They are aired on our Web Site.*

**Scripture Readers** March, April and May

**Acolytes** for March, April and May

**Fellowship Servers** are needed for Sundays! We are looking for people willing to serve coffee, juice and goodies on Sunday mornings after worship during fellowship time.

## Ash Wednesday, March 5th

**Worship at 7:00 p.m.** The Ash Wednesday worship service will include an Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

## Wednesdays in Lent-

Lenten Worship at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. A light meal will be served at 6:00 p.m. March 12, 19, 26 & April 2 and 9

**Palm Sunday Worship April 13 at 9:45AM with Sunday School kids carrying palms.**  
*The Easter Program will be April 27th!*

**Maundy Thursday April 17th at 7:00PM.** *First Communion Children will receive their first communion.*

**Good Friday April 18th at 7:00PM.**  
We will follow the Stations of the Cross.

**Easter Worship April 20th at 9:00AM.**

# Women's Ministry

**Raffle** The women are having a Raffle to raise money for youth camperships, quilting, giving to organizations in the community, etc. The raffle drawings will take place at St. Paul's Spring Supper on March 2nd, 2025. We encourage all, to help us sell/buy our raffle tickets, which are now available on a table in the Fellowship Hall, or from Loree Jeffers, Linda Heer or the staff. We have some great prizes! Thanks!

## Financial Update

Feb 1-20th, 2025

**Income:** \$13,762.91

**Expenses:** \$18,717.88

**Difference** \$-4,954.97

**Thank you for your faithfulness and support of our ministry together!**

# Weekly Bible Studies

## Men's Tuesday morning Bible

**Study:** will continue on Tuesdays, at 10:00 a.m. in the chapel. The study is looking at the upcoming Sunday readings.

**MARCH 4TH WILL BE ON THE 3RD FLOOR...**

## Thursday Morning Community

**Bible Study:** at the Meadows will continue at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays. The study is looking at the upcoming Sunday readings.

## WOMEN'S CIRCLE MEETING and BIBLE STUDY

Morning Circle meets every month for fellowship and Bible study. They usually meet the 1st Wednesday at 9:30AM,.

## Heart River Bridges of Hope "Fresh Start Kits"

"Fresh Start Kit Ministry" is a program that helps youth and adults get started in life, once they are released from the correctional facility in Mandan. **Thank you for your support.**



## Quilting

Quilting will continue to meet every Monday at 1PM through the spring. Please call the office in case of inclement weather.



Greetings friends!

Blessings to you and your families! The Ground Hog was correct this year!

Please note a couple of things I am highlighting in this newsletter. There is information about when first communion instruction will be held, Lent opportunities and much more from other staff and council.

## CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Old Business:

- a. Updating the constitution - Pastor Sloka continues to work on this.
- b. Spring Supper - Randy reported that all orders have been placed.
- c. Worship time changes- the council discussed the changes ideas.

-Parish education recommended 9:00am.

-Worship committee recommended 9:00am

-Annual meeting survey tally was 18 votes for 9:00am, 9 for 9:15, 18 for 9:30 and 26 for 9:45.

Mike Maki made the motion, seconded by Traci Ruhland that beginning Easter Sunday, St. Paul's Sunday Worship schedule would be set for 9:00am. 7 voted yes, 2 voted no. Motion carried. The change in signage was discussed and included, the newspaper, weekly bulletins, website, highway signs and the sign on 5th Ave.

New Business:

a. Synod Assembly Representatives - The assembly runs May 30-June 1 in Minot. The church should send two representatives. Leann Wimer made the motion, seconded by Kayla Macheledt for Deb Youngs to be a delegate for St. Paul. Motion carried.

b. Microphones- the two headsets used in worship are old and having issues. Mike Youngs provided a quote for their replacement. Jenny Collings made the motion, seconded by Mike Maki to purchase option 1, version A at a cost of \$2830 plus tax for two new headsets<sup>4</sup> and that the funds be taken from the BNC Project Account. Motion carried.

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 continue through Lent and then into the Easter season!

Peace, Pastor Sloka

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Welcome Kayla Macheledt to our church council!  
Thank you Andrew for your service!

### 2025 Officers

Clair Eslinger– President  
Randy Essler– Vice President  
Deb Youngs– Secretary

## ACTION GROUPS

The April Action Group will begin sign up on March 16.

The May Action Group will begin sign up on April 13.



## *Special Lent Offering*

### *M&M's for C.A.R. (Central African Republic)*

**Empty and Filled containers of M&M's will be available for you to fill.** Each container is \$10 in quarters. Donations are also appreciated. There will be a display set up at the church to explain the M&M's for C.A.R. Thank you for your support!

# 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>Easter Sunday we will begin worship at 9AM every Sunday!</b> See the Newsletter for more information.</p>						<p><b>1</b> 9AM Potato Peeling for Spring Supper</p>
<p><b>2</b> 9:45 Worship- Holy Communion- Choir Sings 10:45 NO Fellowship SUPPER SET UP 11:00 Sunday School 4:00-6:30 Church Supper</p>	<p><b>3</b> 1PM Quilting 6PM Parish Education Comm.</p>	<p><b>4</b> 10AM Men's Bible Study ON THE 3rd Floor</p>	<p><b>5 ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 9:30AM Circle Meeting 3PM Sonshine Friends (B) 6PM Lent Meal/Choir 7PM Ash Wednesday 7:45 Sweet Sounds 8PM Mentor Meeting</p>	<p><b>6</b> 10AM Community Bible Study at the Meadows</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>
<p><b>9</b> 9:45 Worship with Sweet Sounds 10:45 Fellowship 11AM Sunday School 11:15 Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>10</b> 1PM Quilting</p>	<p><b>11</b> 10AM Men's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>12</b> 3PM NO Sonshine Friends 6PM Lent Meal 7PM Lent Service</p>	<p><b>13</b> 10AM Community Bible Study at the Meadows</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b> Women's Retreat in BIS 1PM Magic Club Meets</p>
<p><b>16</b> 9:45 Worship- Holy Communion 10:45 April Action Group meets 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 NO Sunday School 12:00 Reinhold Baptism BLC St. Patty's Day Party 6PM Youth Group</p>	<p><b>17 St. Patrick's Day</b> 1PM Quilting</p>	<p><b>18</b> 10AM Men's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>19</b> 3PM Sonshine Friends (A) 6PM Lent Meal 7PM Lent Service</p>	<p><b>20</b> 10AM Community BS- Meadows 6:30 Council</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>
<p><b>23 New Members Recognized</b> 9:45 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Sunday School</p>	<p><b>24</b> 1PM Quilting</p>	<p><b>25</b> 10AM Men's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>26</b> 2PM 3rd Floor Chapel 3PM BLC Chapel 3PM Sonshine Friends (B) 6PM Lent Meal 7PM Lent Service</p>	<p><b>27</b> 10AM Community Bible Study at the Meadows St. Paul Crafting</p>	<p><b>28</b> * Fire Department Fish Fry</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>
<p><b>30</b> 9:45 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11AM Sunday School</p>	<p><b>31</b> 1PM Quilting</p>		<p><b>OFFICE HOURS</b> Monday-Thursday 9AM-3PM Fridays 9AM-12Noon</p>			



2025

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
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**Church Council**

Clair Esslinger, President

Randy Essler, Vice President

Deb Youngs, Secretary

Jenny Collings

Mike Maki

Traci Ruhland

Leeann Wimmer

Wade Kolden

Cheryl Mehlhoff

Tami Engel

Barbara Holland Ferguson

Kayla Macheledt

**Staff**

Rev. Janis Sloka, III pastor

Holly Klemisch, Faith Formation Director

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