

# ANNUAL MEETING



**February 1, 2026**

## **St. Paul Lutheran Church, ELCA Annual Meeting**

*Fellowship hosted by youth*

**"Today's fundraiser is for our youth program:** after worship – bars, etc. are available. Get your snack and join the Annual Meeting.

Thank you Thelen's, Collings and Wimer's for hosting it.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

As we share the gospel of Jesus Christ, our mission is to GATHER as God's people; to GROW in faith, love, and service; and to go into the world as disciples of Jesus.

**PLEASE BRING THIS COPY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT WITH YOU TO THE ANNUAL MEETING**

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH + ELCA  
Box 726 - Garrison, ND 58540  
Janis Sloka, III, Pastor

**Annual Meeting- February 1, 2026  
for the year 2025**

**AGENDA**

- Call to Order
- Opening Prayer/Devotions
- Welcome to those who are joining us via Zoom
- Review Proposed Agenda
- Approve Minutes of the Meeting for the Year 2025
- Pastors Report
- Pastoral Acts and Statistics
- Faith Formation Directors Report
- SAM's Report
- Committee & Group Reports - (read at your discretion)
- Approve the Treasurers Report
- **Old Business**
  - Parking Lot Project Update
- **New Business**
  - Elections of Council Members
    - Nomination for a vacant 3-year position with 1 year remaining
      - Stu Merry
    - Nomination for 1<sup>st</sup> term (3 years)
      - Laura Hellebush
      - Keith Thelen
      - OPEN
  - Approval of 2026 Budget
  - Constitution Amendments
- Ministry Partner Reports
- Closing Prayer/Adjourn

## ANNUAL MEETING OPENING DEVOTIONS

L: Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you. **C: And also with you.**

L: Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. **C: Receive our prayer, O God.**

L: Descend on our hearts, that we may love others in the ways Jesus loves us.

**C: Receive our prayer, O God.**

L: Empower us to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.

**C: Receive our prayer, O God.**

L: Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner. **C: Receive our prayer, O God.**

L: Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement. **C: Receive our prayer, O God.**

L: Founded on Faith Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve. **C: Receive our prayer, O God.**

L: Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others. **C: Receive our prayer, O God.**

L: As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

**C: Amen.**

## ANNUAL 2025 MEETING MINUTES

February 2, 2025

Call to Order -Council President Clair Eslinger called the meeting to order at 11:27AM. He announced that the sign-in sheet had reached the minimum of 50 members present to begin the meeting. He also stated that a survey was being handed out to have congregational members share their thoughts on changing the Sunday service time to accommodate Pastor Janis' travel between churches.

Opening Prayer/Devotions - Pastor Janis Sloka led devotions which were based on Ecclesiastes3:1-8. Prayer, reading of the mission statement and a blessing were given.

Review of the proposed agenda- no changes were made.

Approve Minutes - Mike Youngs made the motion, seconded by Mike Maki to accept the minutes presented from the January 28, 2024, Annual Meeting and the Special Congregational Meeting held February 25, 2024. Motion Carried.

Pastor's Report-Pastor Sloka shared information from the written report stating acts from 2024 that included 10 baptisms, 10 first communions, 4 confirmations, 3 weddings and 4 new family units. Also mentioned were membership transfers, funeral and memorial services and congregational statistics.

Pastor Sloka expressed thanks for having Our Savior, Max as part of our ministry partnership. He shared that it is not a parish, but a contracted arrangement where they are paying for pastoral services. Pastor Janis had been doing 1 Sunday service a month, confirmation, visitations and being present 1 day a week.

Faith Formation Director's Report- Holly Klemisch referred the congregation to the written report that presented information on Sunday School, Sonshine Friends, Vacation Bible School and LYO/LOL activities.

Committee Reports- Written reports from Confirmation Ministry, The Women of St. Paul for meetings and quilting, Altar Guild, Technology, Social Action, Fellowship, Prayer Shawl Ministry, and the Property Committee were viewed. Holly shared that the next Parish Education meeting was scheduled for February 10, 2025, and everyone was welcome.

Approval of Treasurer's Report- Clair Eslinger asked the congregation to view and ask questions on the treasurer's report. Mike Maki made the motion, seconded by Keith Thelan to accept the report as presented. Motion carried.

### Old Business:

-The work in the sanctuary is completed.

### New Business:

- Election of Council Members
  - Mike Youngs made a motion, seconded by Loree Jeffers, to nominate Debra Youngs, Traci Ruhland, and Leeann Wimer for another term. Motion Carried.
  - Loree Jeffers made the motion, seconded by Jolene Splichal to cast a unanimous ballot for Deb, Traci and Leeann. Motion carried.
  - Loree Jeffers made the motion, seconded by Holly Klemisch to nominate and cast a ballot for Kayla Macheleldt for a 3-year council term. Motion carried.

- Compilation Report of the year 2023
  - Mike Youngs made the motion, seconded by Kayla Macheledt to approve the Compilation Report. Motion carried. Leeann Wimer shared that the review of finances and records was done by having someone review and check the responsible use of our finances.
- Approval of 2025 proposed budget- Council Member Jenny Collings stood to answer any questions on the proposed budget. Mark Torno asked why natural gas was listed in a lower amount. Jenny shared that the price had spiked but was now decreasing.
  - Andrew Haugen made the motion, seconded by Jolene Splichal, to approve the 2025 budget as presented. Motion Carried.

Ministry Partner Reports- Pastor Sloka referenced the reports in the meeting packet from The Western North Dakota Synod, Camp of the Cross Ministries and Lutheran Campus Ministries.

**Closing Remarks:**

Council President, Clair Eslinger expressed thanks and appreciation for Janis, Holly, Keith and others who helped with the work related to the water damage.

Holly shared that due to the claim, our insurance rates did go up but without another claim, they would decrease each year.

Janis expressed thanks to the family who donated the phone apps and equipment to monitor the heat and back room. This also helps with insurance costs.

**Closing Prayer:** Pastor Janis led a closing prayer and expressed a sincere thanks to the youth and Holly for the soup and sandwich lunch.

Clair asked that members contact Council Members with any questions or concerns. Seeing no other business, Clair adjourned the meeting.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted  
Debra Youngs, Council Secretary

## **Special Congregational Meeting**

Sunday November 16th, 2025

9:59 Meeting called to order by Clair

It was determined that we had a quorum. There were 61 members in attendance which met the 40-member requirement.

Opening prayer by Pastor Janis

### **New Business**

Randy – Council met to address the parking lot, which is need of repair – council made the motion to repair the whole parking lot with concrete and to raise \$600,000.

The motion was 2nd by Mike Maki

Discussion was had regarding the project:

- Finance discussion
- Asphalt vs concrete

- Dirt work

Ballet votes were collected – Yes, no, or abstain

36 yes votes and 25 no votes

Motion carried with majority of the votes being yes. Pastor urged everyone to realize that even though the vote was very close, it did pass so now we're all 100% behind it.

Council made an additional motion to seek additional financing to fund the project if necessary.

The motion was 2nd John Haugen

Motion carried

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Kayla Macheledt  
Church Council Member

## FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings friends!

It was another good year for us together in the ministry!

The Sanctuary being flooded and the renovations of the building are behind us. This upcoming year we are looking at the capital campaign project to replace our deteriorating existing parking lot. Fortunately, I have many years of experience in and around large projects because of my tenure at CCM as the Executive. I pray that this goes through and we have a new parking lot that only serves our many activities and ministries but the community who uses it as well.

I cannot thank enough the staff who support us in our ministry. Thank you to Pam, Lisa, Sundi, Kim, Loree, and Holly. And to your dedicated council members who make difficult decisions and love our ministry and church too!

Thank you to the council and then you for bringing Our Savior, Max into a ministry partnership with us. I know they are very thankful to you and that endeavor. Thank you for understanding when I am in Max on a day in the week. Or called there to pastorally minister to them. Please know that their monthly contract amount of money goes directly to you as a congregation and to not me personally.

Thank you for trusting the council and music committee for voting and moving worship back to 9AM. I do admit it's hard getting to a new routine on Sunday mornings, but many families appreciate it. I do with more time on a Sunday morning.

Thank you for also working with Our Savior to bring on Synodically Authorized Ministers (SAM's) to help us in our ministry. Thank you, Lisa Haugen, and Mike Youngs!

I look forward to the year ahead. Blessings to you and your families!

Peace,



Rev. Janis Sloka, III, Pastor

## PASTORAL ACTS 2025

### BAPTISMS (Includes from other locations\*\*)

March 16 Jackson Gene Reinholt

July 13 Blayne Harold Uhlich

August 3 Wesley Andrew Erickson

August 23 Riggs Brent Wade Kolden

October 26 Sutton James Kolden

November 2 Karlee Christin Lynn Kallberg, Scottie Lynn Kallberg and Annalise Lynn Kallberg

\*\* November 8 John Olle Otteson and Kayla Schlehr Otteson

November 23 Evelyn Joan Seidler- Mike Youngs, SAM

November 23 Kole Edward Steele, Kandice Jo Steele, and Ethan Kole Steele

### FIRST COMMUNION

#### **Maundy Thursday, April 17**

Sawyer Diffely

Kinlee Grimes

Kinsley Koelzer

Kamden Kolden

Brixen Leidholm

Reya Olson

Khloe Whitney

### CONFIRMATION/AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

#### **October 5**

Brynn Iglehart

Kane Kolden

Eli Ruud

Braelynn Smith

Bella Wimer

### WEDDINGS (Includes from other locations\*\*)

\*\* May 10 Ty Evenson and Kira Brossart

\*\* May 17 Joseph Krzmarzick and Bailey Brooks

June 27 Tiffany Bonney and Joshua Torno

July 26 Laura Zacharias and Casey Peiser- Wayne Johnson, SAM

\*\*July 26 Scarlet Parlier and Nick Hodges- Deacon Janie Hague

\*\* Kassie Stephen and Zach Schlichting

September 6 Mindy Rime and Chris Maxwell

### NEW MEMBERS

#### **March 23**

Carla Hodenfield

Nyssa, Rusty, Anson, Iver and Declan Stroschein

Darci Behles

Paige, Jacob, Gracelynn, Kinlee & Brooks Heilman

Kaycee, Andy, Brooks, Tatum, Reya, Saylor Olson

Larry Zieman

Amy, Wyatt, Colt & Jaxx Rime

Gerard Schwan- Associate

## **MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS IN & OUT**

### **IN**

Nyssa, Rusty, Anson, Iver and Declan Stroschein

Darci Behles

Paige, Jacob, Gracelynn, Kinlee & Brooks Heilman

Kaycee, Andy, Brooks, Tatum, Reya, Saylor Olson

Larry Zieman

### **OUT**

Marla and Iver Eliason

## **FUNERAL and MEMORIAL SERVICES (Includes members and non-members)**

\*\* nonmember   \*\*\* former member   \*\*\*\* another church or funeral home

### Name

February 15 Julie Knutson

\*\*\*\* March 10 Marvin Zablotney- Carpio Lutheran Church, Carpio, ND

April 11 Irene Jeffrey

\*\*\*\* April 15 Connie Sayler- Thompson Funeral Home and 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Hospital

April 30 Dorothy Kolden

\*\* \*\*\*\* June 2 Gloria Lies- Trinity Lutheran Church, Douglas, ND

\*\* June 4 Spence Flath- First Congregational Church here at St. Paul

June 14 Doug Steinmetz Celebration of Life

\*\* \*\*\*\* June 16 Gorlyn Wohlk- St. John, Ryder, ND

July 29 \*\*\*\* Lori Zieman Folden- Thompson Funeral Home

September 5 Leanne Haugen (baptized, confirmed, and married at St. Paul)

\*\*\*\* September 12 Mel Birkholz- First Congregational Church, Garrison, ND

September 19 Jim Hummel

\*\* September 21 Jane Zieman Stacey

November 7 Larry Rime

\*\* November 22 John Ole Otteson

## **CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS 2025**

Avg. Sunday In-Person Worship Attendance	101
--	-----

Avg. Sunday Meadows Worship Attendance	12
--	----

Avg. Sunday via Live Stream Worship Attendance	25
--	----

Active Baptized Members	473
-------------------------	-----

## 2025 Faith Formation Director Year End Reports

### **Sunday School**

We held an Easter Program consisting of songs and poems this year. Our Sunday School continued to follow the lectionary schedule the church follows. This allowed our kids to take what we heard in worship and learn more about it in Sunday School.

At the end of July, we held our annual Elementary Pool Party for Sunday School/Sonshine Friends families. We had between 25 -30 kids attend this event and we had hot dogs, chips, cookies, pop and water for the kids to snack on.

September 7th was the kick-off of Sunday School for the '25-26 School year. We have been averaging anywhere from 10 kids per week for Sunday School. Everyone starts out together and discusses what the theme was for the week then split into two age-based classrooms.

December 21st, we held our annual Christmas Program, which consisted of poems, songs, and the retelling of the nativity story where the kids 'built the nativity scene'.

We took two weeks off for Christmas break following this and resumed in January 2026.

### **Sonshine Friends**

I continue to split the kids into two different groups with Group A (K-2nd grade) meeting one week and Group B (3-6th grade) meeting the opposite weeks. Our group includes kids from other congregations as well. We have 20 kids in Group A and over 30 kids in group B. The theme for this year is the "Fruits of the Spirit". We have learned about 5 different fruits of the spirit so far. We also had a Christmas party for both groups separately this year. Our annual Friendsgiving was another success.

We took a Thanksgiving offering to cover the costs of supplies and snacks for the kids. The kids always amaze me with the things they can remember! They are wonderful young boys and girls, and we are blessed to lead them!

### **Vacation Bible School**

Our theme for VBS this year was "Camp Firelight: A Summer Camp Adventure with God" and was held from Tuesday, May 20 through Friday, May 23. Our program is always open to anyone in the community and surrounding areas. We had around 50 kids in attendance and our church was transformed into a campground adventure area. We received funding from Totten Trail gaming and from GAIA to help cover the costs of the program. These donations are essential to help make the event successful, covering not only the decoration costs, but also the take-home items the kids receive. The main characters (Bella W. & I) help set the theme verse and daily bible point through food, games, stories, music and science experiments. It takes a small army of volunteers to help everything run smoothly and we are truly grateful to the 20+ people who donate their time for the kids. It's almost time to start planning for next year!

### **LYO/LOL**

There is never a shortage of activities for the youth to participate in. This past year was no exception. I continue to help Mrs. Jenny Hirsch at the High School on Wednesdays with FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes). We meet twice a month, and we have anywhere from 6-10 kids attending. We've been focusing on different topics this year, from contentment to surrender.

I've tried to meet up with the 6-8th graders once a month and discuss tough faith questions, along with other relevant topics. We also try to host youth group for 6-9th graders once a month.

In June we held our annual rummage sale which raised over \$3500 for our youth activities. In July, three chaperones and I took 17 students to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp in Flathead, MT. It was

a great learning experience for our kids. They participated in many activities over the course of the week from low & high ropes, to kayaking, to a service project picking up trash alongside a busy highway. The kids were amazing and really participated well in each activity.

In August, our middle schoolers went to Raging Rivers in Mandan. We had 10-15 kids attend the event.

In October, Pr. Janis and I took around two high schoolers and 7-9 middle schoolers to the WND Synod Youth Gathering in Dickinson.

We've also hosted several fundraisers, which we do annually, including the Pancake Breakfast for a C.A.R. classroom, the Baked Potato Breakfast fundraiser and fleischkuechle sales over the Dickens Festival.

Blessings,  
Holly Klemisch, FFD

### **Confirmation Ministry Report 2025**

As the pastor, I meet with Confirmation students in class, during service projects and on retreats. We meet in class during the months of September and October. We then reconvened January into February. This upcoming year Lent starts on Ash Wednesday from February 18-March 25. Each student will meet weekly with a congregation mentor to discuss their faith and work through a booklet. The students will then meet with me in April into May for class. We usually meet on Wednesday evenings; 7<sup>th</sup> grade at 6:30PM and 7<sup>th</sup> graders at 7:15PM.. Our football players and wrestlers are now traveling to Velva to compete. Velva does follow the Wednesday Church night request, but unfortunately, they don't return until later that evening. I met with those students separately this past fall. Last Fall, I began meeting with the 9<sup>th</sup> graders at 10:30AM on a Sunday. 5 young adults affirmed their Baptisms this past fall. We will have 7 young adults affirming their faith this upcoming fall.

Peace,  
Pastor Sloka

### **2025 Synodically Authorized Ministers (SAM's) Year End Reports**

On December 7, 2025, I was installed (along with Mike Youngs), as a Synodically Authorized Minister at Our Savior Lutheran Church at Max, and St. Paul Lutheran Church at Garrison. This wasn't something I had envisioned, but something that God, (and Pastor Janis), put in my path. My heartstrings are tied to both congregations, and I especially love when we do things together (like Christmas Choir)!

Besides working with Elementary Fun Days, I plan to lead worship at Max once a month. At Garrison Mike and I will be able to fill in for Janis when he has vacation or in times of illness.

I have a past, a present, and a future at Our Savior and St. Paul. Your stories are important to me--your past, present, and dreams for the future shape who you are and how you see God in your life. I want to share my stories, and hear yours, so that we can encourage one another as we learn how to walk with Jesus in the world. What an exciting journey we have in store for us! Thank you for inviting me along.

Lisa Haugen, SAM

Lisa Haugen and I have been installed as Synodically Authorized Ministers for Our Saviors and Saint Paul Lutheran Churches.

I have felt called to this mission in sharing God's Word in our communities and enjoy the relationships that have started and will continue to grow.

I will lead worship at Our Saviors as needed and participate in any and all activities of the congregation. I have been helping with Confirmation and enjoy the students very much! I will also lead worship at Saint Paul when there is a need as well as continue to be a member and participate in activities there.

I thank you for trusting in me to fulfill these duties and welcome your prayers of support.

Mike Youngs, SAM

## **The Women of St. Paul Reports**

The Women met on September 14, 2025.

- Bake Sale at Dicken's Festival 2nd weekend: \$2528.85  
Co-Chairs: Nancy Livesay & Loree Jeffers  
Make Lefse for Bake Sale – Chair: Deb Youngs  
Dickens Booth cost: \$100, We used a Thrivent card for lefse & kuchen.
- Women gave summer camp scholarships to youth families. We had 15 go to camp this past summer.  
We gave \$2345 to camper's family.
- Raffle along with St. Paul's Spring Supper. Raffle \$1164.
- Gave Benevolences to the following: \*BLC Activity Fund \$50; Garrison Hospital Activity Fund \$50; Bridges of Hope \$100; Garrison Ambulance \$100; GFTH \$100; GARC \$100; Camp of the Cross \$500.
- Church Store: card order (Marlyn Zimmerman)

### **CIRCLE MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

Met the first Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. of most months in 2025. We bring something to share for fellowship, have a short discussion about: church store; brass cleaning; camperships; bake sale; lefse making; raffle, and quilting, depending on the time of the year. Then decide when to call an all-Women's meeting to involve those who cannot attend during the day. We also have a Bible Study, from "Daily Discipleship", from the ELCA.

We served a birthday party at BLC in June. We served Angel Food Cake, whip cream and strawberries. Kim Gehring played favorites on the keyboard. We bought flowers for the six residents that have birthdays that month.

Quilters meet on Monday afternoons at 1:00 p.m., for only the afternoon. They get lots of quilts finished throughout the year!

MSC to give benevolences that you can see in the All-St. Paul Women report.

Raffle: A suggestion was made that some of us give money towards gift certificates from Garrison for the Raffle. This worked well and we are doing that again as well as the wonderful prizes that are donated.

Staff made us breakfast of pancakes and sausage for our December meeting.

Submitted by Loree Jeffers

## Quilting Report

### Quilts Donated in 2025

- 80 Lutheran World Relief
- 31 Gifts from the Heart
- 25 Heart River Lutheran Church
- 20 Camp of the Cross Ministries Staff
- 23 McLean County Resource Center
- 20 Garrison Hospital 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
- 18 Benedictine Living Center
- 11 Ronald McDonald House
- 12 Garrison Area Resource Center
- 9 Garrison High School Seniors
- 4 Max High School Seniors
- 4 Individuals
- 2 Camp of the Cross Prairie Lake Festival
- 1 BLC St. Patrick Day Community Event
- 1 Benefit in Max
- 11 Baptisms

### **Donated:**

Thank you to all who used their Thrivent Action Team grants to support our activities. Without this support, our numbers would be much smaller. We received \$1,250 from Thrivent Action Teams.

Thank you to all who helped in anyway. All are welcome to join us on Mondays. We meet every Monday at 1PM except holidays, and bad weather days.

We also have bundles available if you would like to quilt at home.

Thank you again!

Helen Rostad, Coordinator

## Women's Treasurer Report

Women of St. Paul Financial Statement			2025	
Jan-Dec. 31, 2025			Amount	
	Balance Jan. 1, 2025			\$ 5,563.73
Income*				
Raffle			\$ 1,184.00	
Quilting Donations			\$ 300.00	
Store			\$ 118.00	
Memorial			\$ 15.00	
Dickens Booth donation			\$ 60.00	
Cash Box Dickens			\$ 280.00	
Circle Offering			\$ 363.00	
Dicken's Bake Sale			<u>\$ 2,606.85</u>	
			\$ 4,926.85	<u>\$ 4,926.85</u>
				\$10,490.58
Expenses				
Oshkosh Curch Supplies-Cards			\$ 44.60	
Campers			\$ 2,345.00	
Quilt Supplies			\$ 112.15	
Benevolences			\$ 1,000.00	
Cash Box-Dickens			\$ 280.00	
Raffle Permit (2026)			\$ 20.00	
Dickens Booth			\$ 100.00	
Little Lunches			\$ 363.00	
Helen Rostad - Quilt Supplies			<u>\$ 440.21</u>	
			\$ 4,704.96	<u>\$ 4,704.96</u>
	Balance Dec. 31, 2025			\$ 5,785.62
Special Funds: Quilting \$945.40; Carol Nelson \$247.96=	<b>\$1193.36</b>			
Campers \$2345				
\$5785.62 - \$1193.36=	<b>\$4592.26</b>			
2025 Raffle \$1164				
2025 Dickens Bake Sale \$2528.85				
Respectively submitted by Loree Jeffers				

## Altar Guild – 2025 Annual Report

The Altar Guild met during fellowship to set up the 2026 schedule. There are four members – Bernie Ellwein, Karen Rohde, Pat Larson, and Marian Lehnher. Pastor Janis sets up baptisms. Thank you, Allyson Youngs, for providing communion bread. Office staff (Loree/Holly/Janis) continue helping with special events/decorating.

Submitted by Marian Lehnher

## **Fellowship Committee – 2025 Annual Report**

The Fellowship Committee did not meet in 2025. The challenge continues to be finding people to serve. Committee members are Loree Jeffers, Pr. Janis Sloka, and Marian Lehnher. During summer, the confirmation families serve and that works very well. Thank you, Jan Norenberg, for decorating the fellowship tables.

Submitted by Marian Lehnher

## **St. Paul Prayer Shawl Ministry – 2025 Annual Report**

The prayer shawl ministry distributed ten shawls this year. We are fortunate to have a readily available supply of shawls/fleece throws. Thank you to those who donate. Contact person for the ministry is Marian Lehnher. If you know of anyone in need, let me know or deliver one yourself. Shawls, cards, and the recording sheet are in the corner quilting room in marked storage bins.

Submitted by Marian Lehnher

## **Property Committee Report 2025**

Greetings from the property committee!

The large focus for 2025 was assessing the condition of the church's parking lot and recommending action to the Church Council. This is covered in detail in other reports.

The church yard sprinkler system requires periodic replacement of parts due to damage from snow removal and normal wear. The condition of the lawn is monitored for weeds, etc.

Building maintenance included repairing plumbing fixtures, light switches, and related items. A "to do" list has been started where church staff and council are asking for repair/maintenance items so they can be attended to. These are at the church building and at the parsonage. Work will be completed by volunteers unless it is beyond their ability.

The committee also made sure that furnace filters were changed when necessary and other routine building maintenance.

Property Committee for 2025 was: Mike Youngs, Andrew Haugen, Keith Thelen, Brad Rohde, and Clair Eslinger.

Submitted by Mike Youngs

## **Tech/Audio Report 2025**

Greetings from Technology!

A few upgrades were made to the livestream and sound equipment at St. Paul in 2025. New wireless microphones for the minister and assistant were purchased which improved upon the sound quality compared to the old microphones.

The church's internet was also updated.

All sound/livestream equipment is now housed in a tech booth for a cleaner, more organized look and feel. There need to be some minor improvements of how and where small items (cord adaptors, portable hard drives, etc.) can be stored.

The main livestream operators are Andrew Haugen, Lisa Maki and Gerard Schwan. Mike Youngs coordinates and will step in as needed. One or two more tech individuals would be most welcome – if you are interested, please contact Janis or Mike.

Submitted by Mike Youngs

### **2025 Social Action Committee**

#### **Past Year:**

- \$500 senior scholarships- Jayden Diffely, Trevor Mautz, Kyler Schreiner, Lucy Taylor
- M&M's – \$311.85 (2024-\$273.10)
- Heart River Supplies – collected and sent \$90 to them. Quilts from Quilters
- Little Lunches – Easter Memorials/Honorariums - \$889.50 Little Lunches/\$265.50 Lilies
- Pantry –\$240 Christmas Poinsettias - \$275
- Operation Christmas Child – sent 30 boxes
- C.A.R. – collected through fellowship \$134.75 plus the youth raise money

Events/collections for 2026:

- \*Scholarships
- \*M&M's – March/April
- \*Heart River -Fresh Start Back Packs – January/February (quilts from Quilters)
- \*Operation Christmas Child – October/November
- Missionaries (church)
- Jesse Tree (church)
- \*Mother the Camp or Father the Camp
- Little Lunches/Pantry (Church for Poinsettias & Easter Lilies)
- \*Social Action Committee does this in 2026

Submitted by Loree Jeffers

## Balance Sheet 2025

Accrual Basis

As of December 31, 2025

	Dec 31, 25	Dec 31, 24	\$ Change
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Checking/Savings			
Endowment - Fund A	189,950.02	173,123.79	16,826.23
Endowment -Tru Community	273,023.65	248,249.30	24,774.35
Gen. Checking- TCB	23,960.97	28,662.16	-4,701.19
Gen. Savings & Conting-BNC ckbk	23,029.82	8,526.52	14,503.30
LYO Checking TCB	9,526.43	31,686.09	-22,159.66
Passbook Savings	71,023.34	58,688.40	12,334.94
Scholarship CD 512 @ GSBT	8,322.59	8,322.59	0.00
Special Designated ckg TCB	14,858.35	11,574.27	3,284.08
Tru Community CD LYO	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
Total Checking/Savings	<u>628,695.17</u>	<u>568,833.12</u>	<u>59,862.05</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>628,695.17</u>	<u>568,833.12</u>	<u>59,862.05</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>628,695.17</u></b>	<b><u>568,833.12</u></b>	<b><u>59,862.05</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
<b>Equity</b>			
Unrestricted Net Assets	568,833.12	541,110.80	27,722.32
Net Income	59,862.05	27,722.32	32,139.73
Total Equity	<u>628,695.17</u>	<u>568,833.12</u>	<u>59,862.05</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>628,695.17</u></b>	<b><u>568,833.12</u></b>	<b><u>59,862.05</u></b>

*You are invited to visit [www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving](http://www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving) to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving.*

*We also now offer Venmo and PayPal  
Thank you for being a part of what God  
is doing at St. Paul!*



SCAN ME



venmo

# Endowment Committee 2025 Reports



## ELCA ENDOWMENT FUND POOLED TRUST

01/01/2025 Through 11/30/2025

### PORTFOLIO SUMMARY

Asset Description	Market Value
Ministry Growth Fund	\$193,044.50
	\$193,044.50

### ACCOUNT ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Beginning Balance	\$173,123.79
Additions	0.00
Transfers In	0.00
Withdrawals	0.00
Transfers Out	0.00
Change in Market Value	19,920.71
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$193,044.50</b>

### ASSET DETAILS

Asset Description	Units	Market Price	Market Value
Ministry Growth Fund	112,833.929	1,710.87	\$193,044.50
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$193,044.50</b>

### St. Paul Lutheran Endowment Fund

Account # 5073

10/01/2025 - 12/31/2025

### Account Summary

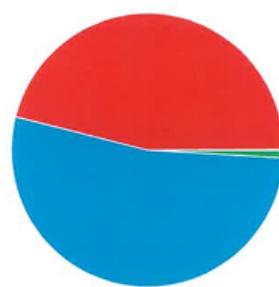


#### Change in Account Value

#### This Period

#### Year To Date

Starting Value	\$273,023.65	\$248,249.50
Deposits and Withdrawals	-9,054.00	-9,054.00
Dividends and Interest	2,729.04	8,113.68
Transfers	0.00	0.00
Change in Value of Investments	3,047.22	27,821.37
Ending Value on 12/31/2025	\$267,016.87	\$267,016.87
Total Change in Account Value	(\$6,006.78)	\$18,767.37
(Totals Include Deposits and Withdrawals)		



- Cash Equivalents
- Accruals
- Equity
- Fixed Income

#### Asset Composition

#### Market Value

#### % of Account

Cash Equivalents	\$2,363.42	1%
Equity	\$141,662.30	53%
Fixed Income	\$122,991.15	46%
Accruals	\$236.51	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$267,253.38</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### Realized Gain or (Loss) Summary

Short Term:	This Period	Year To Date
	\$949.96	\$949.96

Long Term:	This Period	Year To Date
	\$8,522.52	\$10,259.54

Total Account Value      \$267,253.38      100%

# Financial Secretary 2025 Report

## All Offerings and Contributions

### Totals Overview

Total Givers	169
Total Giving Transactions	2,422
Total Amount	\$334,723.06

### Funds Overview

BNC Project Acct. (22)	\$19,356.08
Scholarship Fund (5)	\$3,533.27
Memorial (8)	\$262.36
General Fund (2192)	\$211,365.22
Contingency Fund (14)	\$41,500.00
Youth LYO (59)	\$22,007.14
Special Account (46)	\$17,094.67
Fellowship (33)	\$1,969.57
Funerals (9)	\$3,570.00
Thrivent Choice Dollars (9)	\$1,658.00
Youth Fund (8)	\$2,619.40
Operation Christmas Child (3)	\$274.04
Little Lunches (1)	\$100.00
Cemetery Fund (6)	\$3,892.15
M&M'S (4)	\$425.16
Spring Supper (3)	\$5,096.00

### Method Overview

ACH Online (124)	\$37,949.14
Online (ACH) (630)	\$40,405.00
Check (943)	\$163,345.63
Online (Card) (434)	\$31,540.00
Cash (274)	\$51,167.44
Credit/Debit Offline (16)	\$9,590.77
Credit/Debit Online (1)	\$725.08

Respectively Submitted by Loree Jeffers, Financial Secretary

### Offering Envelopes-

2026 offering envelopes are again generic. All offerings go to the general operating account unless you specify differently on the envelope or on your check. Envelopes or cards for online giving are available on a table in the church entry. There are also some available in the pews each Sunday. *Envelopes are not required, but you will need your name with cash if you want a statement of giving at the end of the year.* Talk to Loree Jeffers if you have questions.

**\*\*Members, for a record of your giving, please if you give cash put your name on an envelope. Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at St. Paul Lutheran!**

Proposed 2026 Budget		2025 Budget	Jan-Dec 25	2026 Proposed
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>Offerings</b>				
	<b>Grant Income</b>	2,000.00		2,000.00
	<b>Parish Ed/Youth Offerings</b>	1,000.00		
	<b>Regular Offerings</b>	213,700.00	210,568.34	227,000.00
	<b>Max Pastoral Services</b>	24,000.00	26,225.00	24,000.00
	<b>Total Offerings</b>	237,700.00	236,793.34	253,000.00
	<b>Total Income</b>	237,700.00	236,793.34	253,000.00
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>Benevolences</b>				
	<b>Camp of the Cross</b>	4,600.00	4,500.00	4,600.00
	<b>Compassion Intl, Mishi/Donia</b>	1,216.00	1,116.00	1,216.00
	<b>Garrison Area Resource Center</b>	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	<b>Heart River Lutheran Church</b>	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
	<b>McLean Family Resource Center</b>	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	<b>Missionary-Langdji</b>	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
	<b>Missionary-Narem</b>	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
	<b>Lutheran Campus Ministry - MSU</b>	0.00		500.00
	<b>Western ND Synod</b>	6,870.00	6,870.00	6,870.00
	<b>WND Synod Conf Worship Offering</b>	500.00	500.00	500.00
	<b>Total Benevolences</b>	21,686.00	21,486.00	22,186.00
<b>Buildings &amp; Grounds</b>				
	<b>Church Repairs &amp; Maintenance</b>	2,500.00	2,632.92	2,750.00
<b>Church Utilities</b>				
	<b>Church Utility-Electricity</b>	4,200.00	4,477.09	4,200.00
	<b>Church Utility-Garbage</b>	990.00	984.00	990.00
	<b>Church Utility-Natural Gas</b>	5,500.00	3,104.39	5,500.00
	<b>Church Utility-Phone/Internet</b>	2,000.00	1,620.00	2,000.00
	<b>Church Utility-Water/Sewer</b>	750.00	694.99	750.00
	<b>Total Church Utilities</b>	13,440.00	10,880.47	13,440.00
	<b>Mowing</b>	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
	<b>Property Insurance</b>	8,200.00	15,160.00	16,750.00
	<b>Snow Removal</b>	2,500.00	1,975.00	2,500.00
	<b>Total Buildings &amp; Grounds</b>	27,840.00	30,648.39	36,640.00
<b>Church Expenses</b>				
	<b>Church/Office Supplies</b>	5,000.00	2,212.79	4,000.00
	<b>Copiers/maintenance</b>	5,600.00	4,726.90	5,600.00
	<b>Postage</b>	1,000.00	614.03	1,000.00
	<b>Synod Assembly</b>	1,000.00	1,365.35	1,500.00
	<b>Website &amp; Technology</b>	2,225.00	2,556.86	2,750.00
	<b>Total Church Expenses</b>	14,825.00	11,475.93	14,850.00
<b>Faith Formation</b>				
	<b>Parish Ed</b>			
	<b>Adult</b>	1,000.00	415.91	1,000.00
	<b>Youth- 7th to 12th</b>	3,000.00	1,078.82	3,000.00
	<b>Youth - Preschool to 6th</b>	5,000.00	1,797.88	4,000.00
	<b>Total Parish Ed</b>	9,000.00	3,292.61	8,000.00

	Worship Supplies	2,000.00	2,442.20	2,500.00
	Worship Technology	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	<b>Total Faith Formation</b>	<b>12,500.00</b>	<b>5,734.81</b>	<b>12,000.00</b>
	Parsonage Mortgage-TCB			
	Parsonage-Interest	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
	<b>Total Parsonage Mortgage-TCB</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
	<b>Pastoral Ministry Expense</b>			
	Parsonage Expenses			
	Parsonage Util-Water/Sewer/Garb.	1,100.00	1,140.83	1,200.00
	Parsonage Insurance	1,210.00	482.00	2,625.00
	Parsonage R&M	1,000.00	118.50	1,000.00
	Parsonage Util.-Electric/Heat	3,500.00	3,370.12	3,500.00
	Parsonage Util.-Phone/Internet	1,500.00	1,383.51	1,500.00
	<b>Total Parsonage Expenses</b>	<b>8,310.00</b>	<b>6,454.96</b>	<b>9,825.00</b>
	Pastor Cont Ed-Prof-Meetings	3,000.00	2,083.36	3,000.00
	Pastor Mileage Reimbursement	1,500.00	3,095.97	3,250.00
	Pastor Salary Expenses			
	Pastor's Social Security	6,271.00	6,459.12	6,271.00
	Pastor Housing Equity		0.00	2,000.00
	Pastor Pension/Insurance	13,000.00	12,627.84	13,000.00
	Pastor Salary	62,710.00	64,590.96	62,710.00
	<b>Total Pastor Salary Expenses</b>	<b>81,981.00</b>	<b>83,179.92</b>	<b>83,981.00</b>
	<b>Total Pastoral Ministry Expense</b>	<b>94,791.00</b>	<b>94,814.21</b>	<b>100,056.00</b>
	<b>Support Staff Expense</b>			
	Cont Ed-Meetings-Mileage	2,000.00	2,591.65	3,000.00
	Custodian	3,700.00	2,992.00	3,811.00
	FFD Pension/Insurance/Benefits	10,500.00	10,247.04	10,815.00
	FFD Salary	35,800.00	36,687.92	36,688.00
	Financial Secretary	2,750.00	3,293.84	4,120.00
	Organists	3,000.00	2,801.12	3,090.00
	Payroll Taxes			
	Medicare Taxes	800.00	656.14	800.00
	Social Security Taxes	3,250.00	2,813.73	3,250.00
	<b>Total Payroll Taxes</b>	<b>4,050.00</b>	<b>3,471.87</b>	<b>4,050.00</b>
	Pulpit Supply	800.00	1,075.80	1,100.00
	Secretary	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
	Tech Support	2,600.00	1,977.60	2,000.00
	Workers Comp	250.00	250.00	250.00
	<b>Total Support Staff Expense</b>	<b>66,250.00</b>	<b>65,368.84</b>	<b>66,904.00</b>
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>242,892.00</b>	<b>229,528.16</b>	<b>254,636.00</b>
	<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-5,192.00</b>	<b>7,265.16</b>	<b>-1,636.00</b>
	<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-5,192.00</b>	<b>7,265.16</b>	<b>-1,636.00</b>

## CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

### POWERS OF THE CONGREGATION

- \*C5.04. This congregation or the Congregation Council shall elect from among its the voting members of the congregation laypersons to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly as well as persons to represent it at meetings of any conference, cluster, coalition, or other area subdivision of which it is a member. The number of persons to be elected by this congregation and other qualifications shall be as prescribed in guidelines established by the Western North Dakota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

### PROPERTY OWNERSHIP

- \*C7.03. If the voting members of this congregation present at a legally called and conducted special meeting of this congregation vote to transfer; relate to another Lutheran church body, title to property shall continue to reside in this congregation, provided the process for termination of relationship in \*C6.05. has been followed. Before this congregation takes action to transfer/relate to another Lutheran church body, it shall consult with representatives of the Western North Dakota Synod.

### MEMBERSHIP

- FYI C8.02.01.. “Contribution of record” means:
  - a financial contribution to the congregation during the current or preceding calendar year, which is reflected in the records of the congregation treasurer; or
  - a contribution of time or talent to the congregation during the current or preceding calendar year, which is reflected in the records of the congregation secretary (e.g., serving on the congregation council or a congregation committee).
- Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of this congregation as well as the other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws. They shall not have voted as a seasonal member of another congregation of this church in the previous two calendar months.

### ROSTERED MINISTER

- \*C9.01. Authority to call a pastor shall be in this congregation by at least a two-thirds vote of voting members present and voting at a meeting legally called for that purpose. Before a call is issued, the officers, or a committee elected by this congregation when recommended by the Congregation Council to recommend the call, shall seek the advice and help of the bishop of the synod.

- \*C9.02. This congregation may call as a pastor Only:
  - a member of the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; or a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament who has been recommended for this congregation by the synod bishop may be called as a pastor of this congregation.
- \*C9.21. Authority to call a deacon shall be in this congregation by at least a two-thirds vote of voting members present and voting at a meeting legally called for that purpose. Before a call is issued, the officers, or a committee elected by this congregation with the recommendation of the Congregation Council to recommend the call, shall seek the advice and help of the bishop of the synod.

## **AMENDMENTS**

- \*C16.02. An amendment to this constitution, proposed under \*C16.01., shall:
  - be approved at any legally called meeting of this congregation by a majority vote of those voting members present and voting; and
  - be ratified without change unchanged at the next regular meeting of this congregation by a two-thirds vote of those voting members present and voting.

## **ROSTERED MINISTER**

- \*C9.06. At a time of pastoral vacancy, an interim pastor shall may be appointed by the bishop of the synod with the consent of this congregation or the Congregation Council.

## **COMMITTEES**

- He believes we should keep this and not remove it. Just do not follow it for now but have a goal to start one.
  - o C13.02. A Nominating Committee of six voting members of this congregation, two of whom, if possible, shall be outgoing members of the Congregation Council, shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible for consecutive re-election.

## **PARISH AUTHORIZATION** [\* Required provisions when congregation is part of a parish]

- \*C20.01. This congregation may unite with one or more other congregations recognized by the synod named in \*C6.01. to form a parish. Except as provided in \*C20.02. and \*C20.03., a written agreement, developed in consultation with the synod and approved by the voting members of each congregation participating in the parish, shall specify the powers and responsibilities that have been delegated to the Parish Council. The Parish Agreement shall identify which congregation of the parish issues calls on behalf of the member congregations or shall establish a process for identifying which congregation issues calls on behalf of the member congregations.
- \*C20.02. One congregation of a parish shall issue a call on behalf of the member congregations to a minister of Word and Sacrament or a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament who has been recommended by the synod bishop to serve the congregations of the parish. Such a call shall be approved prior to issuance by a two-thirds vote at a congregation meeting of each congregation forming the parish. If any congregation of the parish should fail to approve the call, the other congregations of the parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- \*C20.03. One congregation of a parish may issue a call on behalf of the member congregations to a minister of Word and Service or a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Service who has been recommended by the synod bishop to serve the congregations of the parish. Such a call shall be approved prior to issuance by a two-thirds vote at a congregation meeting of each congregation forming the parish. If any congregation of the parish should fail to approve the call, the other congregations of the parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- \*C20.04. Any one of the congregations of the parish may terminate their relationship with the pastor as provided in †S14.18\*9.05.d. of the synod constitution of the synod named in \*C6.01. In such case, the other congregation(s) of the same parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- \*C20.05. Any one of the congregations of the parish may terminate their relationship with a minister of Word and Service as provided in †S14.43.d. of the synod constitution of the synod named in \*C6.01\*9.05.d.. In such case, the other congregation(s) of the same parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- \*C20.06. Whenever a parish agreement is terminated, the call of any rostered minister serving that parish is terminated. Should any congregation that was formerly part of the parish agreement desire to issue a new call to that rostered minister, it may do so in accordance with the call process of this church.

Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus.



"I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, *as you are being rooted and grounded in love.*" (Ephesians 3:16–17)

These ancient words from the Apostle Paul gave shape to our 2025 Synod Assembly that was held in Minot in early June. They have continued to shape our shared ministry and mission throughout the year. They remind us that everything we do — from worship and service to leadership and mission — begins with God's deep, steady love.

As we look back on 2025 across the Western North Dakota Synod, I thank you for the ways we have witnessed together the love of Christ Jesus at work among and through you. People of God, called and sent by God, with faith, courage, and generosity — in small town cafes and office buildings that stand tall along city streets; in communities of learning like our schools and church school classrooms; in holy moments of Christ's healing touch in local food pantries or at a hospital bedside.



We continue to celebrate the growth of synod-authorized ministry across our synod, where gifted lay leaders are helping congregations thrive as witnesses of Christ's love in their communities.



This year also brought continued investment in lay formation, faith-in-daily-life conversations, and tools that help congregations deepen discipleship and embrace their callings. Through your congregation's mission support, our synod supports leaders in transition, strengthens local and global partnerships, and creates spaces of healing, learning, and renewal for people of faith across western North Dakota.

In every corner of Western North Dakota, we see congregations stepping into God's future with hope — feeding neighbors, welcoming newcomers, walking with the grieving, preparing the newly baptized, accompanying youth, and proclaiming good news in word and deed. These everyday ministries matter. They are changing lives.

Thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity, and your trust. Thank you for being rooted and grounded in Christ's love — and for embodying that love in your communities.



May the Holy Spirit continue to strengthen you in the year to come. And may the peace of Christ guard your hearts and minds as you live out the gospel with courage and joy.

Serving in Christ together,

+The Rev. Craig A. Schweitzer  
Bishop, Western North Dakota Synod, ELCA

Dear friends in Christ,

As Lutherans, we are set free to love our neighbors and seek justice. In Colossians 2, we read: "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving" (6-7).

I am abounding in thankfulness for you, church. You are an integral part of this mission as we envision a world experiencing the difference God's grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation. The ministries of congregations including yours, our synods and the ELCA churchwide organization are all working together today and every day so more people may know the way of Jesus and discover community, justice and love. From providing food to people experiencing hunger, to helping train the next generation of leaders that will lead this church, your support is at work here at home and around the world.

Your generosity to each of the three expressions of the church — your congregation, your synod and the churchwide organization — has made it possible for us to do this work

together. Your financial resources, your time volunteering and accompanying others, and your voices are so valued.

As we look ahead to the coming year, I encourage you to continue to walk in Christ, remembering you are rooted and established in faith, and free to love and serve your neighbors. Thank you, church, for the ways you connect with and support our siblings across the ELCA and in our communities.

In Christ,



  
The Rev. Yehiel Curry  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

---

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

—Colossians 2:6-7

---

Annual Report for 2025



Dear Partners in Ministry –

Thank you once again for supporting students at Minot State University through your partnership with Lutheran Campus Ministry! Your gifts, prayers, and encouragement make our call to walk with students in their journeys of faith & love possible.



Move-in day



Signing up for LCM!



Welcome week events



Worship on campus



Chaplaincy



Weekly Brunch & Bible



Monthly events



MSU Angel Tree



Food Pantry (100 visits/month), Tuesday Soup (450 served/week), and free Cold Weather Gear



We hope you enjoy these highlights! We are also busy leading weekly yoga, meditation, speaking with freshmen classes, and collaborating with departments on campus such as Nursing, Social Work, ND Center for Persons with Disabilities, and the Counseling Center. You can email Pastor Rachel if you'd like our quarterly physical or email newsletter for more on what LCM is up to and where God's Spirit continues to lead us: [Rachel.Simonson@MinotStateU.edu](mailto:Rachel.Simonson@MinotStateU.edu)

With Gratitude,  
Pastor Rachel Simonson

Blessings to you from Camp of the Cross Ministries! Thank you for a great 2025!

Here at CCM, our mission is Camping with Christ...for lives of Faith...

Thank you as a constituent congregation for your continued support to Camp of the Cross Ministries to help our continued successes. Camp would not be the ministry it is without your generous support through prayers, registrations as campers and retreat guests, donations, and financial support.

CCM is blessed with wonderful, hard-working year-round staff. Camp wouldn't be what it is today without the help of these people. Thank you Alea, Cory, Abbi, Jordan, Rose, and Janie for your love of CCM. In May, we hired a new Food Service Manager, Paul Case. We also hired Samantha Posey as Support Staff. At the end of July, we hired Ramsey Crawford for Maintenance and Support Staff. Welcome to Camp of the Cross.

We had another successful summer camp season. Registration and participation were good with over 200 campers registered. We hosted the ND National Guard Youth Camp and the Trinity Youth Camp. We are very thankful for our summer staff who faithfully worked long hours to serve the children, youth, and young adults. The children and youth had a great time.

We are gearing up for a great summer 2026 season and registration will open in November.

We started retreat season in January of 2025 with hosting a "Pop-Up" crafting event and it was well attended. We host monthly crafting events at CCM during the off-summer months.

We hosted the Prairie Lake Festival again in June. While attendance and numbers were down, we are hoping to bring new life to the festival in 2026. Be looking for more information on this event being held on June 20, 2026.

In August we held our annual Prairie Masters Golf tournament at the Garrison Golf Course with 13 teams participating. Thank you to everyone for making this event such a success. If you want to register or bring a team next year, we would love to have you.

In October we hosted our second annual Halloween Fun Day event with Trunk or Treating afterwards. This event is well attended by children and adults alike. We aim to make this a family event. We hope to bring a bigger event in 2026.

CCM will be operating Cratchit's Kitchen again during the annual Dicken's Festival in Garrison on the last weekend of November and first two weekends of December. Please come out and see CCM staff at Piccadilly Square and enjoy some good food.

Mark your calendars for upcoming events:

- November 15-December 31, 2025-Twice Blessed Event
- November 22, 2025-Scandanavian Supper
- November 28-29, 2025-Cratchit's Kitchen at Dickens Festival
- December 5-6, 2025-Cratchit's Kitchen at Dickens Festival
- December 12-13, 2025-Cratchit's Kitchen at Dickens Festival
- January 14-18, 2026-January Crafting
- January 30-31, 2026-CCM Men's Retreat
- February 12, 2026-Giving Hearts Day
- February 18-22, 2026-February Crafting
- March 11-15, 2026-March Crafting
- April 8-12, 2026-April Crafting
- April 17-19, 2025-Spring Youth Bash
- May 6-10, 2026-May Crafting
- June 20, 2026-Prairie Lake Festival

Thank you for your continued support and prayers. God Bless You!!



"Camping with Christ... For Lives of Faith..."

# GATHER, GROW, GO

## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

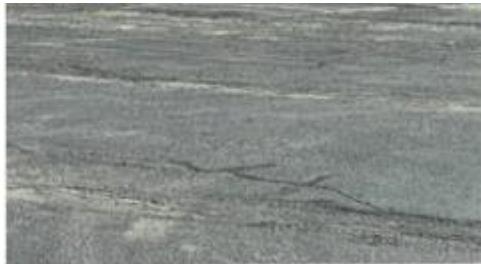
2026  
Parking Lot Project

At St. Paul, we are a church family. Through fellowship in God's word we strive to create a welcoming and safe environment and facility where all ages can participate.

### Our Goal

We need to reslope & replace the top with concrete to uphold our "Gather, Grow, Go" of our mission statement to support our ministry and community. The positive outcome of the new parking lot would include:

- water drainage
- improved safety
- improved handicapped access
- improved multi-use beyond parking



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.

## Financial Goal

Our congregation has approved \$600,000 and given their commitment toward this project. We are required to pay 50% of the total cost of the project when they begin. Our goal would be to fundraise \$600,000, but we would like to have \$300,000 (roughly half of the total cost) by the start of the project. Any money not fundraised would have to be financed.

Specifics of the project:

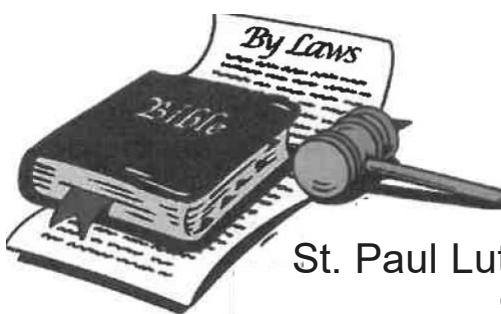
- concrete parking lot
- rebar
- remove asphalt
- curbing
- resloping & dirt work



## Our Plan

The council is seeking grants, fundraising ideas, and will continue to share information and updates on the project.

**We ask that you prayerfully consider helping us with this project beyond your normal giving this upcoming year.**



# Annual Meeting!

St. Paul Lutheran Church, ELCA  
Garrison, ND

Annual Meeting – February 1, 2026