



Q & A about the cottage meetings

What are the cottage meeting?

They are small fellowship gatherings in congregational members' homes. During the gathering we will take time to evaluate our congregation.

What is the specific purpose of the cottage meetings?

These cottage meetings are a crucial step in calling our next pastor. They are a time to discuss who we are as a church, where we think God is leading us, and what type of leader we need to follow God's call.

How many people can attend the cottage meetings?

So that everyone will have a chance to participate each meeting can be no larger than 15 people.

I am not good at speaking out in a meeting so why should I attend?

Don't worry, I use a tool called the affinity exercise in which feedback is solicited through a series of written notes.

What will you do with the information you've received from the meetings?

Several things:

- The transition team will compile a report that will include recommendation on how we can strengthen our congregation.
- They will share the information with call committee, who will use it to describe our congregation for potential candidates.
- We will also publish the report for future reference.

What if I have more questions?

Please feel free to talk with me or any member of the Transition Team. They are Sarah Groebner, Jena Veenstra, Gary Renner, Angel Rummel, and Kelly Sargent.

Be Hope-filled, Stay Strong and God Bless,

Pastor Carl

St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Meeting-February 10, 2024

The Church Council met at church for a retreat and February meeting on Saturday, February 10 at 10:30 a.m. Those present were Jacob Marz, Paul Muske, Angel Rummel, Kelly Sargent, Kim Graff, Pastor Carl and Jeff Krueger. Absent were Randy Wendt, Sarah Groebner and Kathy Pederson.

Pastor Carl led the group in devotions and prayer.

Chairman Paul Muske called the actual meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

M/S/P to approve the printed Consent Agenda and the January Secretary's minutes.

M/S/P to adopt the agenda.

M/S/P to approve the Financial Report as printed.

Pastor's Report

- Medical procedure on February 5, 2024 went well. Thank you for the prayers.
- Made four home visits during the month.
- Conducted the Memorial Service for Marcia Schiller on February 3, 2024.
- The Wednesday morning Bible Study was poorly attended so it is put on pause. Will try to find a different day and time after Lent.
- Confirmation is going well. Currently studying Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Will finish year teaching students how to read the Bible for themselves.
- Transition team is meeting February 11.
- Working on Shared Ministry Team with St. Johns Lutheran Church.

Old Business

- Transition Team has been meeting. Meeting dates and places will be set at meeting on February 11. All members will be encouraged to sign-up to attend one of the meetings using Google.docs or physical sign-up at church. Results of meetings will be reported to the congregation and the Call Committee.

•Discussion on Shared Ministry with St. Johns Lutheran. Shared some ideas on things we could share with each other. Our team members are Shawna Jacobs, Jeff Krueger and Kurt Glaeseman.

•Call Committee will actually be appointed by the Church Council. M/S/P to table it until next meeting—cottage meetings may help indicate persons who may want to be on the committee.

•Paul reviewed Committee assignments for the Council Members. Will continue to work on this.

New Business

•Church Council will serve the Lenten Supper on Wednesday, February 28 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Menu will be pulled pork sandwiches, chips, salads, bars and beverages. Jacob will prepare the pork; Kim will order chips and buns from Springfield Market; Kelly, Kim and Jeff will bring salads; Sarah, Angel, Paul and Kathy (Jeff) will bring bars.

•M/S/P to have Paul, Kelly and Anita be on the signature cards at the banks the church does business with. Jeff signed letters to go to each institution.

M/S/P to adjourn at 1:05 p.m. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m.

~by Jeff Krueger, Council Secretary

2024 Church Council

Paul Muske - Chair	
Jeff Krueger - Secretary	Kelly Sargent - Treasure
Randy Wendt	Jacob Marz
Kathy Pederson	Kim Graff
Sarah Groebner	Angel Rummel

The transition team
kindly invites you to a...

Cottage Meeting

The purpose of the cottage meetings is to get feedback from the congregation as we look for our next permanent Pastor. Refreshments provided!

- Tuesday, March 5, 7pm
Paul & Josephine Muske's Home
- Saturday, March 9, 2pm
Kurt & Jan Kratz's Home
- Sunday, March 10, 4pm
Harmon & Megan Quesenberry's Home

Scan the QR code to sign up
Or call the church office



St Paul Attendance

1/28 9am - 58 2/4 9am - 78 2/4 Annual Meeting - 21 2/11 9am - 87
 2/14 6:30 pm - 57 2/18 9am - 71 2/21 6:30 pm - 42 2/25 9am - 84

Budget Recap Year-To-Date (01/01/24 to 2/27/24)

Total Funds for Budget	\$17,288.01	Total Operating Funds	\$17,288.07
Budget	\$39,019.14	Operating Exp.	\$30,146.28
Difference	(\$21,731.13)	Difference	(\$12,858.27)

Memorials Given 1/01/2024 - 02/27/2024

In Memory:	Designated for:	Given by:
Bonnie Bloemke:	Robert Kratz Richard & Lois Zihlke Carol Carlson	St. Paul Lutheran Church St. Paul Lutheran Church Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Jean Youngerberg:	Jim & Elsie Groebner Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Kim Knutson:	David Bittler	St. Paul Lutheran Church
Marcia Schiller:	Robert & Sharon Rogotzke Rod & Rhonda Larson	St. Paul Lutheran Church Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Connor Olson:	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
James Lindeman:	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Art Kettner:	Robert & Sharon Rogotzke Richard & Lois Zihlke Tim & Jill Vogel Edward Meidl Daniel Kettner Peggy Larson Rod & Rhonda Larson Gary & Nancy Renner David & Lois Graff	St. Paul Lutheran Church St. Paul Lutheran Church St. Paul Lutheran Church St. Paul Lutheran Church St. Paul Lutheran Church Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund St. Paul Memorial Fund St. Paul Memorial Fund
Leland Haugen:	Daniel Kettner	St. Paul Lutheran Church

Please pray for... Rod Larson, Travis Gluth, Dalores Stern, Mary Glaeseman, The family of Gary Buck (Shawna Jacobs' step dad), Living Word Lutheran Church in Marshall, MN – Looking for a Director of Children's Ministry and Worship Leader, Our Savior's Lutheran in Lamberton, MN is looking for a pastor and an Organist, Our Redeemer Lutheran in Badger, MN is looking for a part-time pastor, The Augustana District as they navigate the search for a new service coordinator.; all those serving in the military, at home and abroad: Jesse Kettner, Cylee Graff, Shane Clemon, Ethan Langseth, Emily Wendt, and Tabor Gluth.

Prayer Chain –If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along, please call Jan Severson (723-6358) or the church office (723-5880). Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer Chain and/or (2) included in Sunday morning prayers which will be included for **two** Sundays unless otherwise specified.

Our worship services are live broadcast on YouTube! Just subscribe to our YouTube Channel by going to www.youtube.com and searching for St Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield, MN, or simply scan the QR Code with your smartphone. Be sure to subscribe so you will be notified when we go live!



March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	4	5 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast 7:00 Cottage Meeting @ Muske's Home	6 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Worship Choir Rehearsal Following 8:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast of Lenten Worship	7 9 am Ch. 8 Broadcast of Lenten Worship	8	9 2:00 Cottage Meeting @ Kratz's Home
10 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 4:00 Cottage Meeting @ Quesenberry's Home	11	12 10:00 am Worship at SJLH 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	13 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Worship Choir Rehearsal Following 7:30 Council Meeting 8:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast of Lenten Worship	14 9 am Ch. 8 Broadcast of Lenten Worship	15	16
17 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	18	19 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	20 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 4:45 First Communion Class 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Worship Choir Rehearsal Following 8:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast of Lenten Worship	21 9 am Ch. 8 Broadcast of Lenten Worship	22	23
24 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	25	26 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	27	28 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship with First Communion 8:30 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast of Maundy Thursday	29 9 am Ch. 8 Broadcast of Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship 8:30 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast of Good Friday Service	30 9 am Ch. 8 Broadcast of Good Friday Service
31 Happy Easter! 9:00 Easter Worship 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast						

* Indicates Choir Singing.

Worship Service Helpers

Date	Sound & Video	Projection	Reader	Acolyte	Usher	Organist
3/3	Trevor Krebs	John Mueller	Daniel Kettner	Bobbi Jo Timm Bentley Wendt	Team 3	Jo Schwartz
3/10*	Nick & Nathan Groebner	Grace & Molly Jacobs	Daniel Kettner	Ali Trapp Gabby Schenk	Team 4	Jeff Krueger
3/17	Dove Family	Dove Family	Jordan Pidde	Lily Groebner Brooklyn Anderson	Team 1	Jo Schwartz
3/24	Mueller Family	Mueller Family	Jo Muske	Ashtyn Rudolph Blake Zihlke	Team 2	Jeff Krueger
3/28*	Tim Vogel	Jordan Pidde	Mel Vogel	Grace Jacobs Molly Jacobs	Team 3	Jeff Krueger
3/29	Paul Muske	Jonah & Jordan Pidde	Kurt Glaeseman	Abbygail Jeppesen Ranee Dombek	Team 4	Jo Schwartz
3/31*	Trevor Krebs	John Mueller	Jeanette Pidde	Jenna Shaw Abigail Shaw	Team 1	Jo & Jeff

March Altar Guild

Kelly Sargent
Mel Vogel

Usher Teams

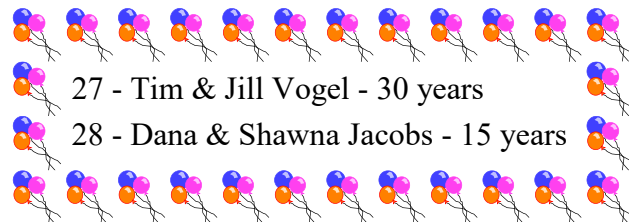
- 1 - Don Bloemke, John Marz, Jake Marz, Paul Meidl
- 2 - Doug Gatzlaff, Kurt Kratz, Dave Bittler, Peter Heitzman
- 3 - Doug Schiller, Russell Rogotzke, Mark Buerkle, Jeremy Dove
- 4 - Tim Vogel, Scott Vogel, Bill Vogel

March Birthdays!



There will be an Usher meeting on Sunday, March 3rd, following worship. All Ushers are asked to be there and anyone who would like to join the usher groups are also encouraged to attend the meeting.

March Anniversaries!



Bring your empty egg cartons to the church kitchen or drop off at Katie's office.

2024 Summer Bible Camp opportunities at Ingham Okoboji Bible Camp!

Early Bird Registration ends on March 1st, so register today! Proof of registration should be sent the church office so I can mark you down for a scholarship! Brochures are located at the entrance to the sanctuary or you can check dates and register online at www.okoboji.org/register

Parish Ed will cover half the cost of camp and the full amount of the Camp in a Day!

The Minnesota FoodShare/March Campaign brings together organizations, businesses, faith communities, and individuals to help keep over 300 food shelves statewide stocked throughout the year. Minnesota FoodShare has distributed over \$18 million to March Campaign participating food shelves via the Minnesota FoodShare Food-Fund. 100% of donations received by Minnesota FoodShare during the March Campaign go into the Food-Fund.

2024 MARCH CAMPAIGN WILL RUN February 26, 2024 to April 6th.

Please consider making a monetary donation or food donation to the Springfield Area Food Shelf during this campaign. Collection boxes have been placed in the local churches in Springfield/Comfrey as well as the local Springfield Market.

Please do not put money donations in the collection boxes.

Mailing address is PO Box 15, MN 56087

If you have questions, please call Shari Koll at 507-227-0386, you may also leave a message on the food shelf phone 507-723-3663

Looking Ahead ~ Holy Week Schedule

March 24th - Palm Sunday Worship 9am - Sunday School kids sing and brunch following worship.

March 28th - Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 p.m. with First Communion

March 29th - Good Friday Worship 7:00 p.m.

March 31st - Easter Sunday Service at 9:00 a.m.



**American
Red Cross**

St. Paul's next blood drive will be
April 29th from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Go to redcrossblood.org to schedule your appt.

Sign up to donate at

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=SPLC>

**St. Paul Lutheran
Church, LCMC**
303 N Cass Avenue
Springfield, MN 56087

Postmaster: Dated material
Please Deliver Promptly
Address Service Requested

Calendar Highlights - March 2024
6, 13, 20 - Lenten Meal & Worship
20 - First Communion Class
28 - Maundy Thursday Service
29 - Good Friday Service
31 - Easter Sunday

Phone: 507-723-5880

Fax: 507-723-8712

Office Hours

Pastor Carl Billings

Parish Coordinator: Katie Mueller
Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-noon
Email: stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

Housekeeping: Mary Jo Simonson

Maintenance: Al Groebner

Financial Secretary: Anita Jensen
Fin_secretary@newulmtel.net

St. Paul EPISTLE is a publication of St. Paul Lutheran Church. It is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs and ministries of the church.

Articles may be submitted for publication subject to content.

Sunday Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Coffee Talk



Springfield Area Food Shelf hours
Tuesday 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Thursday 9:30am – 11:30am
625 N Jackson Ave - Springfield, MN 56087
(Springfield Clinic Lower Level)
507-723-3663 (FOOD)

We are on the Web!
www.splcspringfield.org