

St. Paul's Epistle

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

January/February 2025



St. Paul
Lutheran Church

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Ash Wednesday is in March this year!

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. 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. (muffin sonly)

Join us to worship the risen Christ!

Special Lent Offering

M&M's for C.A.R.

New Members Anyone/families wanting more infor-

mation about St. Paul's and/or are thinking about becoming members, please let Pastor Janis or Holly know if you are interested. New members will be received in- to our family on Sunday, March 23rd during worship.



Offering Envelopes

Reminder that we have envelopes for weekly and monthly planned giving on the table in the Narthex.

The Annual Meeting

will be held

Sunday, February
2nd!

REPORTS will
due by Tuesday,

January 7th!

Mark your calendars!



The Annual

***Spring Supper will
be Sunday, March
2nd!***

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.

We sing once a month in worship, giving you details on those dates as they approach. We will perform two plays during the year, one at Christmas and one on Palm Sunday.

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

We are looking for **volunteers** to lead stations in the New Year. 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

-January 5th, 19th and February 16th

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

Camp of the Cross Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 23rd at 2PM.

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!

Sonshine Friends will resume January 8th.

NO Sonshine Friends: January 22nd.

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 twice a month most months.

6-8th Grade Sunday Evening Youth Group will be

meeting this winter once a month from 6PM-7:30PM.

First Communion Instruction

It has been the practice that the 3rd 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 be continued 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 January., February and March.

Acolytes for January., February and March.

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

Ash Wednesday is in March!

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. *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.

Easter Worship

ONE SERVICE at 9AM only!

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

January 1-December 27, 2024

Offering: \$223,030.66

Expenses: \$217, 429.18

Difference: \$5,601.48

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.

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, but January will be Wednesday, January 8th.

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. There is more information and items that are needed on a table in the narthex. We will collect in January and February for a drop off date in March.



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! A new year is here.

Our annual meeting is February 2nd. Please note the date and please plan to attend.

I continue to be overwhelmed and grateful for this new call and adventure in my life. It was another great year. It has had its challenges, but that is in any important ministry. I have a saying I remember a lot. "If the devil isn't on your back you ain't doing it right!"

I am excited that we have started a ministry partnership with Our Savior Lutheran Church in Max. They are

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Sanctuary Ceiling- The project is completed
- b. Updating the constitution - Janis will continue working on this. Our current one is already out of date.
- c. Spring Supper - is scheduled for March 2, 2025, and Randy, Cheryl and Deb are chairing the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Proposed 2025 budget approval to Annual Meeting - Randy made the motion, seconded by Andrew to approve the proposed budget to bring to the Annual Meeting. Motion carried.
- b. Camp of the Cross Annual Meeting - Camp has requested the use of St. Paul for their annual meeting on February 23. Andrew made the motion, seconded by Randy to have the CCM annual meeting at St. Paul. Motion Carried.
- c. Purchase of new sanctuary Christmas trees. It was proposed that the office staff look for sales during and after the holiday. A text message would go out to council members if trees were located at a good price.
- d. 2025 Council officers- Andrew Haugen has reached his terms at this point and will not be running. Traci, Deb & Leeann agreed to run again. Ideas to replace Andrew on the council will be discussed at the next meeting.

thankful for our partnership together and that I can serve them too as their pastor. Thank you for that opportunity in mission!

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

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 learning how to do that too.

Blessings as we continue to celebrate Christmas and move into the Epiphany Season!

FEBRUARY IS PAPER MONTH



ACTION GROUPS

The February Action Group will meet on Sunday, January 19th.

The March Action Group will meet on Sunday, February 16th.

COUNCIL MEMBER INSTALLATION

New, current, and elected officers of the council will be installed on Sunday, February 2nd. Thank you Andrew for your many years of service!



january

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	30 Office Hours 9AM-3PM	31 Office Hours 9AM-12noon	1 New Years Day Office Closed	2 Office Closed 10 Community Bible Study- Meadows	3 Office Hours 9AM-12noon	4
5 9:45 Worship with Communion & Baptism led by Sweet Sounds 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 NO Sunday School	6 The Epiphany of our Lord 1PM Quilting	7 10 Men's Bible Study ANNUAL REPORTS DUE!	8 9:30AM Circle 3PM Sunshine Friends (A) 6PM, 6:45PM, 7:15PM Confirmation Classes	9 10 Community Bible Study- Meadows Crafting	10	11
12 9:45 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Sunday School 11:00 LOL 6 th -8 th grade	13 1PM Quilting	14 10 Men's Bible Study	15 3PM Sunshine Friends (B) 6PM, 6:45PM, 7:15PM Confirmation Classes	16 10 Community Bible Study- Meadows 6:30 Council SLOKA VACATION	17	18
19 9:00 Feb. Action Group meets 9:45 Worship with Holly leading 10:45 Feb. Action Group meets 10:45 Fellowship NO Sunday School	20 1PM Quilting	21 10 Men's Bible Study	22 NO Sunshine Friends NO Confirmation Classes STAFF CONTINUING EDUCATION	23 OFFICE CLOSED 10 Community Bible Study- Meadows	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
Annual Reports Available						
26 9:45 <u>Worship</u> with Haugen's leading 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Sunday School	27 OFFICE CLOSED 1PM Quilting	28 OFFICE CLOSED 10 Men's Bible Study	29 3PM Sunshine Friends (A) 6PM, 6:45PM, 7:15PM Confirmation Classes	30 10 Community Bible Study- Meadows	31	

+++ The Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, February 2nd following worship! On Easter Sunday there will be one service at 9AM!



Staff
Rev. Janis Sloka, III pastor
Holly Klemmisch, Faith Formation Director

Church Council
Clair Eslinger, President
Randy Essler, Vice President
Deb Youngs, Secretary
Jenny Collings
Andrew Haugen
Mike Maki
Traci Ruhland
Leeann Wimmer
Wade Kolden
Cheryl Mehlhoff
Tami Engel
Barbara Holland Ferguson

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