



# *St. Paul News*

## *July and August 2023*

### **St. Paul Lutheran Church**

*The Lutheran Church -  
Missouri Synod*

1050 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Granite Falls, MN 56241

Rev. Jonathan Varns  
Pastor

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Larry Cuklanz  
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#### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church is to promote the worship of the Triune God as revealed in Holy Scriptures, by teaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and administering the Sacraments, in order to equip people for Christian life and service.

#### **Pastor's Message**

**“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery” (Gal. 5:1).**

We celebrate this month because of the freedoms and liberties our country has afforded us. We are right to do this. We should be thankful for these liberties: the freedom to gather together to worship and to live out what we believe in our daily lives.

But freedom and liberty in our age has devolved. It has become a freedom from duty instead of a freedom for it. Indeed, freedom and liberty in our age has turned into licentiousness: a license to do what we want, when we want.

This license is a submission, again, to a yoke of slavery. For freedom as license to do what we desire when we desire it means we are slaves to our desires, slaves to our passions.

Christ died to set us free from our sinful desires. In Holy Baptism, our Old Adam is drowned and put to death along with all sin and evil desires so that a new man may arise and live before God in righteousness and purity.

In Christ, we are a new creation. We are set free from the passions of the flesh so that we are free to do our duty and bear fruits of the Spirit.

Our duty is what God calls us to do as members of a family, society, and the church.

God calls us to believe in His Word and gladly hear and learn it. He calls us to pray for all people. He calls us to live in faith toward Him and in fervent love for our neighbor. He calls us to put the gifts He gives to us in His service. God calls parents to provide for their children and raise them in the fear and admonition of the Lord. And God calls children to honor their parents and provide and care for them when they are no longer able to do so themselves.

God calls the government to punish those who do evil and to reward those who do good. He calls citizens to pay their taxes and honor the governing officials as God's servants. He calls pastors to preach and teach the Gospel as well as repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And He calls hearers to support those who teach them with every good thing.

Christ died to set us free from the works of our selfish flesh, giving us the freedom and liberty to do our duty. Be free, but do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

+God's Peace+

Pastor Jonathan Varns

# ITEMS OF INTEREST

## LWML Happenings

The "Noisy Offering" along with the mites for June was \$37.14. Thanks for your continued support for LWML Missions!

The Summertime Pie Social will be held on Wednesday, July 19th. Sign-up sheets will be posted in church or call the church office to donate or help out with the prep work, serving and clean up. Many hands will help this event go smoothly! Thanks to Mary Kelly, Nancy Cuklanz, and Kathy Enninga for heading up this fund raiser event! See page 5 for more info.

The bulletin board has the flyer advertising the LWML Retreat at Lutheran Island Camp from August 11-13. You can attend one day or all three days. You will be uplifted with hearing great speakers and bonding with other Lutheran women from around the state!

Sunday, July 16th we will meet after the church service and have our quarterly meeting and finalize the plans for the Summertime Pie Social. This will be a very brief meeting.

## School Supplies

Stores are now offering great deals on back to school supplies and a perfect time to fill the collection boxes in the co-atrium. If you wish to donate items they will go to Bert Raney, Home Schooling, and OCC Shoeboxes.



Enjoy  
God's Creation  
this summer!

## Paschal Candle

Early in June, we presented and dedicated a new Paschal Candle as a memorial for Richard Tjosaas. This Paschal Candle is beautifully intricate with themes of the kingship of Jesus Christ. Paschal Candles were first introduced around the 5<sup>th</sup> century as large, center-piece candles with intricate artwork. Some candles throughout the years have been over 4 feet tall and could weigh as much as 300 pounds. Until recently, candles were made of wax, so every year churches would present a new Paschal Candle. This happened at the Easter Vigil Service of Light, and the Paschal Candle would be lit for Divine Services throughout the season of Easter. It would also typically be lit for Baptisms and Funerals throughout the year. It symbolizes Jesus' glorious Resurrection Triumph over the darkness of death and sin. It is also reminiscent of the pillar of cloud and fire that led the people of God to the promised land. Since liquid oil candles have been used more recently, Paschal Candles are often lit for every service year-round, since oil candles are not used up during use. We light out Paschal Candle for every service, including Baptisms and Funerals. A special thank you to the family of Richard Tjosaas for such wonderful gifts used in our worship!

## July Birthdays

July 1	Brandon Beyer
July 3	Ross Galow
July 4	Jennifer Johnson
July 5	Kandi Johnson
July 7	Tiffany Hustad
July 8	Steve Johnson Jenn Luepke
July 9	Len Markgraf
July 11	James Holtan
July 12	Gavin Soukup Eugene Streich
July 13	Jason Hoff Madison Jeseritz
July 14	Marlue Folkens
July 15	Lorna Ulven
July 16	Katie Keller LeeRoy Nelson
July 17	Meredith Zempel
July 18	Tiffany Miller Saylor Myers Chloe Van Sickle
July 19	Krystle Enninga Mason Luepke
July 20	Dylon DeVries Verlyn Kling
July 21	Laura Nelson Wesley Peterson
July 22	Trinity Kirschbaum Keirsten Markgraf
July 27	Kristi Doose Valeria Hildahl Donnie Trotter
July 28	Dorothy Ims
July 30	Bryan Rush
July 31	Tamara Berends Debra Kvam Larry Wilking Kevin Zimmer

## Birthday Blessings to you all.

Please contact the  
church office  
if we missed yours.

Portals of Prayer for  
July - September  
are available in the narthex.

**SAC Groups** will be our greeters and ushers.  
 If this is your month to serve, please prayerfully  
 consider where you are able to and willing to help.

## Group 2

### Serving for July

Anderson, Bryan and Renae  
 Berends, Randy and Tamra  
 Beyer, Brian, and Laura  
 Cobb, Kris and Holly  
 Enninga, Dan and Kathy  
 Enninga, Dustin and Krystle  
 Guertin, Sarah  
 Hammer, Brett  
 Hammer, Mary  
 Hempel, Terry and Rosemary  
 Hinz, Paul and Diane  
 Jeseritz, Randy  
 Johnson, Ted and Kathy  
 Kirschbaum, Janet  
 Korhuis, John and Kathy  
 Luepke, Otto and Theresa  
 Miller, Eugene  
 Myers, Troy and Jenna  
 Nokleby, Dorothy  
 Podratz, Ken and Carol  
 Redepenning, Tony and Amy  
 Rigge, Jim and Cindy  
 Sherman, Leslie and Renee  
 Sietsema, Barb  
 Stengel, Allen and Pat  
 Streich, Chris  
 Streich, LouAnn  
 Varns, Pastor and Lindsay  
 Wegner, James and Eileen  
 Zempel, Meredith  
 Zempel, Nicole  
 Zimmer, Kevin and Laura

## Group 3

### Serving for August

Baker, Lisa  
 Brown, Mike and Anne  
 Cuklanz, Larry and Nancy  
 Duenwald, Karley  
 Freitag, Avis  
 Gabbert, Carol  
 Galow, DuWayne and Karen  
 Hegna, Rolland and RaeAnn  
 Hewitt, Loretta  
 Hildahl, Linda  
 Hoff, Jason and Molly  
 Ims, Dorothy  
 Iverson, Pam  
 Johnson, Jennifer  
 Just, Wes and Norma  
 Kelly, Mary  
 Kvam, Curtis  
 Nelson, Carol  
 Olson, LuAnn  
 Peterson, LeRoy and Jan  
 Quintal, Teresa  
 Reinke, Gerald and Darlene  
 Rigge, Vernon and Anita  
 Rush, Barb  
 Schmidt, Deven and Jill  
 Schmidt, Douglas Jr. and Darla  
 Steffen, Boyd  
 Streich, Eugene  
 Streich, Linda  
 Trotter, Donnie and Jodi  
 Ulven, Lorna  
 Van Sickle, Eric and Jane  
 Winters, Kelly



**DON'T TAKE A  
 VACATION  
 FROM CHURCH**

## Vital Statistics

### Attendance and Offering Report - June 2023

Date	Attend	Comm	Offering
Sun, June 4	50	43	\$5,325.00
Sun, June 11	47	39	\$1,172.00
Sun, June 18	64	53	\$1,656.00
Sun, June 25	54	45	\$1,591.00

(2023 Budget Income needed each Sunday - \$3,834.23)

## August Birthdays

Aug 1 Kaisley Luepke  
 Brent Reynolds  
 Aug 2 Mary Kelly  
 Aug 3 Sue Erickson  
 Jackie Meyer  
 Tom Peterson  
 Aug 6 Kelly Schulte  
 Tyler Staab  
 Aug 7 Marjorie Bruss  
 Aug 8 Rachel Anderson  
 Daniel Beito  
 Kimberly Oien  
 Aug 9 Loren Peterson  
 Aug 11 Curtis Kvam  
 CoraAnn Wagner  
 Aug 12 Tanya Jeseritz  
 Ethan Kontz  
 Aug 14 Les Sherman  
 Julie Steffen  
 Chyanne Tesch  
 Aug 16 Wayne Olson  
 Anita Rigge  
 Aug 21 Laura Beyer  
 Tarin Gatchell  
 Ted Johnson  
 Janet Kirschbaum  
 Hailey Lindstrom  
 Paden Strutz  
 Aug 22 Greg Kirschbaum  
 Aug 23 Sam Canatsey  
 Coltan Ebel  
 Brooke Meyer  
 Aug 24 Wrigley Zens  
 Aug 25 Tim Hempel  
 Aug 27 Dan Enninga,  
 Trentyn Sheppard-  
 Bratsch  
 Lux Stengel  
 Aug 31 Sylvia Buchholz  
 Rolland Hegna  
 Chelsea Schmidt

### Birthday Blessings to you all.

Please contact the  
 church office  
 if we missed yours.

## Financials as of 6-26-2023

Year to Date Actual Contributions	\$76,723.38
Year to Date Contributions Needed	<u>\$88,206.24</u>
Difference	(\$11,482.86)
Year to Date Actual Expenses	\$91,894.35
Year to Date Budgeted Expenses	<u>\$88,206.24</u>
Difference	(\$3,688.11)

## Daily Bible Readings for July

Day	Morning Study	Evening Study
1	Job 21,22	Acts 10:1-23
2	Job 23-25	Acts 10:24-48
3	Job 26-28	Acts 11
4	Job 29,30	Acts 12
5	Job 31,32	Acts 13:1-23
6	Job 33,34	Acts 13:24-52
7	Job 35-37	Acts 14
8	Job 38,39	Acts 15:1-21
9	Job 40-42	Acts 15:22-41
10	Psalms 1-3	Acts 16:1-15
11	Psalms 4-6	Acts 16:16-40
12	Psalms 7-9	Acts 17:1-15
13	Psalms 10-12	Acts 17:16-34
14	Psalms 13-16	Acts 18
15	Psalms 17,18	Acts 19:1-20
16	Psalms 19-21	Acts 19:21-41
17	Psalms 22-24	Acts 20:1-16
18	Psalms 25-27	Acts 20:17-38
19	Psalms 28-30	Acts 21:1-14
20	Psalms 31-33	Acts 21:15-40
21	Psalms 34,35	Acts 22
22	Psalms 36,37	Acts 23:1-11
23	Psalms 38-40	Acts 23:12-35
24	Psalms 41-43	Acts 24
25	Psalms 44-46	Acts 25
26	Psalms 47-49	Acts 26
27	Psalms 50-52	Acts 27:1-25
28	Psalms 53-55	Acts 27:26-44
29	Psalms 56-58	Acts 28:1-15
30	Psalms 59-61	Acts 28:16-31
31	Psalms 62-64	Rom. 1

## Granite Falls Community Paper Shredding Event

Sponsored by Thrivent and St. Paul Lutheran Church

**Saturday, September 9, 2023**

**9 am to noon**

at St. Paul Lutheran Church parking lot - 1050 10th Ave

Donations accepted for:

Living at Home Block Nurse Program

and

St. Paul 125th Anniversary in 2024

Beverages and treats will be provided for everyone.



Please remove rubber bands and paper clips before bringing to event.

This is a Thrivent Action Team Event.



## Daily Bible Readings for August

Day	Morning Study	Evening Study	Day	Morning Study	Evening Study	Day	Morning Study	Evening Study
1	Psalms 65-67	Rom. 2	11	Psalms 90-92	Rom. 11:1-21	21	Psalms 119:1-48	I Cor. 3
2	Psalms 68,69	Rom. 3	12	Psalms 93-95	Rom. 11:22-36	22	Psalms 119:49-104	I Cor. 4
3	Psalms 70-72	Rom. 4	13	Psalms 96-98	Rom. 12	23	Psalms 119:105-176	I Cor. 5
4	Psalms 73,74	Rom. 5	14	Psalms 99-102	Rom. 13	24	Psalms 120-123	I Cor. 6
5	Psalms 75-77	Rom. 6	15	Psalms 103,104	Rom. 14	25	Psalms 124-127	I Cor. 7:1-24
6	Psalms 78	Rom. 7	16	Psalms 105,106	Rom. 15:1-20	26	Psalms 128-131	I Cor. 7:25-40
7	Psalms 79-81	Rom. 8:1-18	17	Psalms 107,108	Rom. 15:21-33	27	Psalms 132-135	I Cor. 8
8	Psalms 82-84	Rom. 8:19-39	18	Psalms 109-111	Rom. 16	28	Psalms 136-138	I Cor. 9
9	Psalms 85-87	Rom. 9	19	Psalms 112-115	I Cor. 1	29	Psalms 139-141	I Cor. 10:1-13
10	Psalms 88,89	Rom. 10	20	Psalms 116-118	I Cor. 2	30	Psalms 142-144	I Cor. 10:14-33
						31	Psalms 145-147	I Cor. 11:1-15

# Summertime Pie Social



St. Paul Lutheran Church

1050 10th Ave, Granite Falls

Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Menu: Barbeques, Hot Dogs,  
Potato Salad, Baked Beans,  
Potato Chips, Homemade Pie,  
Ice Cream, Coffee, and Lemonade

Prices: Adults.....\$12

Ages 2-10.....\$6

Under 2.....Free

Family of 4.....\$35

Sponsored by St. Paul Lutheran LWML

Partnered with Thrivent Action Team.

Proceeds from this event support LWML mission projects.

Takeout meals available - 564-2221