

# St. Paul's Messenger

A monthly newsletter for friends and family

June 2023

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 321 N. Park Avenue, Medford, WI 54451

Phone: 715-748-4909



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## EVENTS

June 14	Church Council
June 15	Mobile Food Pantry
June 21	Ladies Lunch Bunch

## Attendance

May 7	69
May 14	73
May 21	70
May 28	

*Thank you to the Craig & Lynn  
Glamann for sponsoring the  
June newsletter.*

## A MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT VAL BACH

May has been a very busy month for many members of our congregation. We had the pleasure and privilege of watching eight young individuals achieve one of their first big milestones in their Christian faith through the rite of Confirmation. Congratulations to all of our confirmands; keep your faith and God close throughout your lives!

When I think back to my confirmation, I remember that time being very pivotal in so many aspects of my life. That age is one where emotions are high; an age where we can be easily influenced by the people and things going on around us. Confirmation classes, for me, (even though there was one time where several of us had to write 500 times "I will not talk in class") had a very positive impact on me. And, I totally get it; the effort put into these teachings and the importance of those teachings is what helped shape me and my religion today; so Pastor Newton...thanks for reminding us of that.

Knowing how influential a role this played with me, I would like to personally thank all the parents of St. Paul's confirmands for recognizing the importance of having your son or daughter attend confirmation classes. Confirmation is a means of saying "yes" to God as He confirms His original promise made at his or her baptism. Without your guidance and commitment, your son or daughter would not have been provided this amazing opportunity!

As we all know, confirmation doesn't just happen on its own. The class preparation, Christian education and processes involved with the formal confirmation service take time, effort and commitment. There are so many people who played a role in leading our youth through the confirmation process. A big thank you to Pastor Nancy, Leon and Kim Gasek, Dan and Kathy Higgins, Dawn Harder, Chris Finkler, Sue King, Tina Dassow and all others who contributed in any way! Your labors have helped these youth take this next big step in their spiritual lives.

We have been asked by several members about the possibility of starting back up with a Bible Study group. If you are interested in participating in or possibly even leading a Bible Study group, please reach out to me or any of the other Council members. Let's make this a reality.

Congratulations to St. Paul's graduating seniors. We were able to recognize several of our graduates during worship on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. These are exciting times as you begin your next steps forward. We pray God's presence will help guide you in your future endeavors. Best of luck to you all!

St. Paul's church family is loving, welcoming and caring; we are proud to watch our youth as they grow personally and spiritually.

God's Work, Our Hands.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school had our last day on May 7th. We celebrated with lots of fun games and activities from the following Bible verses: Matthew 7:7, Isaiah 1:18, Romans 1:16 and Exodus 20:1-17. Thank you again for all the parent volunteers who helped make Sunday School run smoothly each and every Sunday.

See everyone back again in September!



## Vacation Bible School

**Who:** God's Children

**What:** Vacation Bible School (VBS)

**Where:** St. Paul's Church & Our Saviour's Church

**When:** July 20th- A one day event

**Why:** To learn about God and Jesus

\*\*\* More information to come. Keep checking the church's newsletter, Facebook, and the Sunday announcements for more information. Registration forms will be mailed when available.



## CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

On Sunday, May 21, the congregation recognized the high school graduates from St. Paul's. Only a handful of students were able to attend on that day but the names of the other graduates were shared. Long sleeve T-shirts were given to those graduates who responded to the invitation.



### Worship times will be as follows beginning June 4:

- Our Saviour's – Changing from 8:15 a.m. start time to 8:00 a.m.
- St. Paul's – Changing from 9:00 a.m. start time to 9:15 a.m.
- Every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday – 9:00 a.m. joint worship – to be hosted on a rotating basis between Our Saviour's and St. Paul's
  - July 30<sup>th</sup> – Joint Service Hosted by Our Saviour's
  - October 29<sup>th</sup> – Joint Service Hosted by St. Paul's

### CHOIR NEWS

Choir rehearsal will be on:

**June 11** at 8:30 a.m.  
Sing at 9:15 a.m. service

**June 25** at 8:30 a.m.  
Sing at 9:15 a.m. service

## MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

### The Mobile Food Pantry served 65 households on May 18.



50 individuals ages 0-17

70 individuals ages 18-59

60 individuals ages 60+

180 total number of individuals

28 individuals visited the pantry for the 1st time

2,140 pounds of food were distributed

Items distributed included: ham, ground pork, bread, cheese/pepperoni, cottage cheese, sunflower seeds, snack bars, baked beans, cereal, crackers, bakery, frozen yogurt, popcorn, nuts, light bulbs, sanitizer, & disinfectant

If you would like to help sponsor the food pantry, simply make out your check to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and include "food pantry" in the memo line. Business and individual sponsors are welcome.

**Thank you to the Willis Whetstone for sponsoring the May 2023 Mobile Food Pantry.**

**The next Mobile Food Pantry will be on Thursday, June 15.**

Volunteers meet at 1:00 p.m.

Distribution begins at 4:00 p.m.

### A Meditation Moment

Courtesy of the Kuse Farm Museum and Nature Preserve webpage

<http://www.kusemuseum-naturepreserve.org>

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. Romans 15:4 (NRSV)

#### God Raises Hope

God raised grass; God raised flowers.

Come, come and see.

God raised the downcast.

Come, come, and be free.

God raised a prophet; God raised a king.

Come, come and sing.

Raise your eyes; raise your hands.

Come, come your praises bring.

God raised Jesus up from the grave.

Come, come with hope.

God will raise believers

Come, come and live in hope!

*Loretta Kuse*

### Common Buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*)



#### God Raises Hope Within Us

This tall Common Buttercup raises its slender stems and golden blossoms to the sky. It appears to raise them in hope of receiving sunshine and energy. Shiny petals of the flower open to the sun and seem to say, "I am open to what God gives. My petals reflect the light that shines on them."

We too can raise our hands to God, accept God's goodness, and know that God gives us hope. We know that the light of the Son of God can be reflected in our lives.

Hope has been given to us and we share it with others.

Dear Lord,

Remind us each day of the hope we have for this life and the life to come. Thank you for loving and forgiving us and for promising to give us eternal life. In your name we pray, Amen.

© Dr. Hildegard Kuse and Dr. Loretta Kuse

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2023

June 1	Adalyn Hackbarth
June 2	Sue Gebert Michelle Kalmon Jacki Stelzel
June 3	Doug Meier
June 5	Kroix Borman
June 6	Ken Corley
June 9	Debra Bender Karli Nelson
June 13	Donald Koerner Barbara Krizan
June 14	Noah Krawczyk
June 15	Dennis Patterson Lawrence Schreiner
June 16	Kenneth Rodman
June 17	Saige Fettes Terry Holbach
June 18	Travis Schreiner
June 19	Aubrey Carter Sophie Koester Marney Richling McKenzie Waldhart
June 20	Linda Sackmann

June 21	Dawn Harder Stephanie Nicks Allison Nutting Madisyn Pilgrim Christine Weis
June 23	John Bauer Natalie Preuss
June 25	Jerrell Carstensen Lanny Dassow Karyn Gebert
June 26	Taylor Harris Rhonda Seidl Taylor Sherman
June 27	Michelle Hoffman Liam Kalmon Lori Nelson
June 28	Jack Schafer Carrie Zirngible
June 29	Sarah Imbach Chris Shore
June 30	Tyler Kmosena Jodie Metz

### Anniversaries

June 1	JoAnne & Scott Scheithauer Michelle & Stephen Schreiner
June 2	Alise & Chris Shore
June 3	Carrie & Charles Peterson
June 5	Krista & Doug Meier
June 9	Jenny & Jesse Higgins Maranda & Steve Balciar Nicole & Matthew Harder
June 12	Richelle & Scott Woller
June 13	Sharon & Clarence Ludwig
June 20	Val & Dave Bach
June 21	Marie & Donald Koerner
June 22	Marlis & Gary Carlson
June 23	Gale & Michael Raasch
June 29	Denice & Mike Poetzl



### COMFORT QUILTS

Hello everyone. The "COMFORT QUILT" ladies had an exciting, busy month of May. The "WOMAN'S SHELTER" was overjoyed by the amount of quilts we gave them. Since they moved to a new location, (the Gowey Abstracts building) they truly needed the quilts.

HOPE HOSPICE was very thankful for the donation. More quilts will be going there.

If you know of someone that needs comfort, please call me.

Thankfulness goes a long way.

God Bless

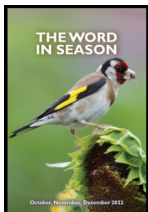
Chris Konieczny

715 965 8312



Quilter: Chell Anderson

### Daily Devotionals



St. Paul's offers free devotional books to assist you with your daily meditations.



**June 22, 2023**

**Please contact the church office  
if your contact information  
has changed.**

**Phone: 715-748-4909**

**Email: [stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com)**

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Council Members: Val Bach, Sally Lemke, Marie Koerner, Dan Higgins, Leon Gasek, Dave Hrabý and Gail Heurung. Missing - Heidi Haynes, Kathy Hackbarth and Carrie Zirngible. Guests: Tina Dassow, Nancy Jones and Pastor Bob.

Meeting called to order by Val Bach at 6:05 p.m. Val led the group in an opening prayer. Milestones and concerns presented - Nancy updated the group on Pat Johnson, Dave mentioned his daughter is turning 16 on Mother's Day. Motion by Marie, seconded by Sally to accept the agenda - motion carried Motion by Dan, seconded by Leon to approve the March 29 meeting minutes.

### **BUSINESS**

Treasurer's Report: Note the report sent had flip flopped mortgage and general giving ...Tina has it corrected and the report sent out in the newsletter will be correct. Discussion on amount of funds that we have and what we may want to do with it. A few bills, Kramer, Combined and Perrin's to be paid as yet. Leon mentioned that when we reach the \$100,000 balance on the mortgage...we should plan a push to pay off the balance. A motion was made by Dave and seconded by Leon to approve the Treasurer's report - motion carried.

Worship Committee: Pulpit supply is handled until September, except July 9, September 10 and September 17. Dave volunteered for July 9. Leon will check with Dawn about possibly having a play...Val may also take one of the Sundays.

Membership Update: Individuals count is now 580 down from 894. Households now 225, down from 296. Val mentioned there was a discussion on determining our financial split with Our Saviour's and how that was determined. Looking at it again in January. Val will clarify any questions regarding our membership numbers. Leon talked about new prospective members...one of the items people are looking for is Adult Bible Study. We will put out requests to see who may be interested.

Sunday School/VBS/Confirmation: Sunday school has completed. Confirmation was successful and VBS is set for July 20th. Kathy, Heidi and Barb Krug are working together in planning.

Joint Parish/Pastoral Search Committees: Committees are set and working together. Gary Jensen has agreed to be the Treasurer of the Joint Parish Committee. Right now there are 34 open positions on our NW Synod...more than double the usual amount.

Update of church repairs: Val Higgins did the painting...thanked her in church on Sunday. Discussed how much money is left in the Building Maintenance and the funds left from the insurance money...Val wanted to let everyone know that she checked with Church Mutual and any funds not required to pay for our repairs in our funds and do not need to be returned to Church Mutual.

New church times: Beginning June 4 our church time switches to 9:15 a.m. Emails have been sent and postcards are prepared to go out. Some other things we are looking at changing...cutting down on the readings...possibly having the first hymn in the PowerPoint. The offering will be collected at the back of the church...saving having the offertory. All things to cut back on the timing. The joint accounts will not need any funds until January 1. Everything is separate until that time. Joint services are set for the 5th Sundays.

Supply Preaching Fees: There was a discussion regarding the \$150 we currently pay in the NW Synod for Supply Preachers. The Eastern Synod currently pays \$200. Motion by Dave, seconded by Gail to raise to the \$200 fee (along with transportation) on September 1, 2023. Motion carried.

Emergency Care: Discussed our list of who to contact. Discussed the visiting of our shut-ins as well. Pastor Bob and Nancy work out who needs to have a visit. We may need to look at getting some of our lay people involved in this as well.

Synod Assembly: Unfortunately, St. Paul's was not represented at this year's meeting. Pastor Bob updated the group on what was addressed at the meeting.

*(Continued on page 6)*

(Church Council minutes - continued from page 5)

Community Mission With Jesus: Therese Gretzinger is the contact for the group. Val was looking for anyone who is willing to be on the contact list for the group. Some names were brought up to ask.

Nancy reported that she checked into Dropbox storage as backup for our church records. We have too much information for the free Dropbox and the storage we would require is \$10 a month. A motion was made by Leon, seconded by Dan that we subscribe to the Dropbox at approximately \$10 a month. Motion carried. Sally and Gail will assist with the blood drive on May 25th.

FIN: No new updates at this time.

Vacations: None scheduled at this time. Nancy is looking for a late start on May 24.

Next Meeting: Set for June 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Marie, seconded by Sally to adjourn. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

## JOIN OUR LAWN MOWING TEAM

We are in need of families or individuals that are willing to help maintain the church lawn during the mowing season. The mower and gas are supplied by the church.

The weekly sign up schedule is located in the Welcome Hall.

May 28-June 3	Harley Cook
June 4-10	Don Koerner
June 11-17	Don Koerner
June 18-24	Dave Konieczny
June 25-July 1	Harley Cook



**Weeks in July and August are unfilled at this time.**

The church has 2 push lawnmowers available at no charge. One mower starts and the other does not. Interested parties can contact the church office 715-748-4909 or Don Koerner after 4 p.m. at 715-965-2768.

## LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

**When: Wednesday, June 21**

**Time: 11:15 a.m.**

**Location: Munson Bridge Winery  
W6462 Bridge Rd.  
Withee, WI**

All are welcome to enjoy fun and fellowship.  
Meet at 10:30 in church parking lot for car pooling.

**For more information, contact  
Michelle Danen, 715-748-4397**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There is always a need for volunteers during the worship service. Did you know that each Sunday, we have 6-9 different volunteers helping with the service? Please pray about how you can help on Sunday morning. We are always looking for liturgists, communion preparers, communion assistants, and ushers. We are in need of individuals who can help setup and run the computer system. Our computer team is small and would appreciate a Sunday off.

If you can help, please call the church office at 715-748-4909.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

	2023		2022		YTD % of Change
	April	YTD	April	YTD	
General Giving	12,962	44,394	11,132	39,620	12.0%
Mortgage Giving	2,030	8,540	2,075	7,415	15.2%
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>14,992</b>	<b>52,934</b>	<b>13,207</b>	<b>47,035</b>	<b>12.5%</b>
General Expenses	10,963	30,874	13,728	36,623	-15.7%
Mortgage Expense	2,782	11,128	2,782	10,156	9.6%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>13,745</b>	<b>42,002</b>	<b>16,510</b>	<b>46,779</b>	<b>-10.2%</b>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$1,248</b>	<b>\$10,932</b>	<b>(\$3,303)</b>	<b>\$256</b>	
Designated Giving	6,390	103,118	550	16,847	512.1%
Designated Expenses	3,413	45,224	3,479	16,937	167.0%
Net Designated Income	2,977	57,894	(2,930)	(89)	
Net Combined Income (Deficit)	\$4,225	\$68,827	(\$6,233)	\$167	

<b>Bank Accounts - As of:</b>	<b>4/30/23</b>	<b>YTD Change</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<u>General Checking</u>	\$122,499	\$11,326	\$76,578
<u>Designated Funds in Checking</u>		\$0	
Building Maintenance	71,145	\$66,072	2,287
Comfort Quilts	516	(\$229)	661
Designated Memorials	2,878	\$0	2,218
Fair Trade Sales	568	\$45	780
Mortgage Fund	0	\$0	559
Thrivent Choice	3,062	(\$8,217)	11,156
Mobile Food Pantry	6,519	(\$135)	4,774
Sunday School	1,102	(\$355)	1,510
Youth Group	11,348	\$308	10,327
<u>Total Funds in Checking</u>	\$219,638	\$68,815	\$110,850
<u>Other Accounts</u>			
Events/Fund Raiser Acct	3,325	5	3,032
Needles for Needs Acct	2,336	(773)	2,542
Scrip Acct	2,946	(3,017)	8,272
<u>Total Other Accounts</u>	\$8,606	-\$3,785	\$13,846
<b>Total - All Accounts</b>	<b>\$228,244</b>	<b>\$65,030</b>	<b>\$124,696</b>
PPP Loan Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mortgage Balance	\$117,168	-\$33,509	\$192,577

Loan forgiven 3/15/21

### St. Paul's Giving Options

Mail your check to St. Paul's Lutheran Church,  
321 N. Park Ave., Medford, WI 54451

Simply Giving contributions are deducted from your  
checking or savings account.

Giving via St. Paul's Website

E-Giving Download the app "GivePlus Church"



SCRIP cards make great gifts for weddings, graduations, or other special occasions. A portion of each gift card purchase enables St. Paul's to do ministry. Check with the SCRIP counter on Sunday morning or call the office and someone will help you.

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

321 North Park Avenue, Medford, WI 54451

## Mission Statement:

Saved and strengthened by Christ, we proclaim God's love through worship, education, and service to our congregation, community, and the world.

## Contact Information

Nancy Jones (Parish Administrator)

Office phone: 715-748-4909

Office email: [stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com)

Pastor Bob Giese (for pastoral emergencies)

Phone: 847-899-7122

[rjgiese@gmail.com](mailto:rjgiese@gmail.com)

Pastor Nancy Amacher (for pastoral emergencies)

Phone: 715-223-5316

[revnia10@gmail.com](mailto:revnia10@gmail.com)

Tina Dassow (Treasurer)

[tinadassow@gmail.com](mailto:tinadassow@gmail.com)

## Church Council

Val Bach (President)

715-965-2358

[val.bach@weathershield.com](mailto:val.bach@weathershield.com)

Leon Gasek (Vice President)

715-785-7434

[kingasek@tds.net](mailto:kingasek@tds.net)

Heidi Haynes

715-965-6154

[heidi\\_haynes@yahoo.com](mailto:heidi_haynes@yahoo.com)

Kathy Hackbarth

715-965-2407

[kathyhackbarth@gmail.com](mailto:kathyhackbarth@gmail.com)

Gail Heurung (Secretary)

715-316-2788

[gheurung@gmail.com](mailto:gheurung@gmail.com)

Dan Higgins

715-748-5529

[higginsd1948@gmail.com](mailto:higginsd1948@gmail.com)

Dave Hraby

715-965-3150

[davidlhraby@gmail.com](mailto:davidlhraby@gmail.com)

Marie Koerner (Financial Secretary)

715-965-6328

[4-koerners@charter.net](mailto:4-koerners@charter.net)

Sally Lemke

715-965-2025

[slemke2@tds.net](mailto:slemke2@tds.net)

Carrie Zirngible

715-493-1696

[cczirn@gmail.com](mailto:cczirn@gmail.com)

## Additional Information

Sunday Service: 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School 9:15 a.m. (during school year)

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Facebook:** [StPaulsMedford](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsMedford)

**Website:** [www.stpaulsmedford.org](http://www.stpaulsmedford.org)



Please read the prayer list in the weekly service. If there is someone that needs to be added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 715-748-4909 or send an email to: [stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com)



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Phone: 715-748-4909

Email: stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com

## June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p><b>Starting in June, our worship service time will begin at 9:15 a.m.</b></p> </div>				1	2 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	3
4 9:15 Worship / Communion	5	6 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs Work Day	7	8	9 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	10
11 8:30 a.m. Choir rehearsal/ performance  9:15 Worship / Communion	12	13 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs Work Day	14 6:00 p.m. Church Council	15 1:00-5:00 p.m. Mobile Food Pantry	16 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	17
18 <b>Father's Day</b> 9:15 Worship / Communion	19	20 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs Work Day	21 11:15 a.m. Ladies Lunch Bunch	22 Newsletter Deadline	23 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	24
25 8:30 a.m. Choir rehearsal / performance 9:15 Worship / Communion 6:00 p.m. Suicide Support Group	26	27 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs Work Day	28	29	30 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
321 North Park Avenue  
Medford, WI 54451-1420

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A monthly newsletter for friends and family

**June 2023**

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*321 N. Park Avenue,*  
*Medford, WI 54451*

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*Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. (during school year)*

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