

St. Paul's Messenger

A monthly newsletter for friends and family

May 2023

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

Phone: 715-748-4909



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EVENTS

May 10	Church Council
May 16	Worship Committee
May 17	Ladies Lunch Bunch
May 18	Mobile Food Pantry
May 22	Newsletter Deadline
May 25	Red Cross Blood Drive

Attendance

April 2	84
April 7 (Good Friday)	45
April 9 (Easter)	177
April 16	54
April 23	65
April 30	

**Thank you to the Jason Steliga
Family for sponsoring the
April newsletter.**

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT VAL BACH

It's almost impossible not to notice the extra minutes of daylight that we are seeing in the early morning and later evening hours. Even though our recent temperature swings and the type of precipitation we had lately don't seem quite as convincing that spring has actually arrived, the additional daylight is a sure sign.

As winter moves into spring and spring moves into summer, we get to experience and enjoy more light each day. And, as we all know, it is difficult seeing or finding anything in the dark. It's also hard to know where to walk when it's dark outside; it can be downright scary.

So, it is truly amazing and wonderful, all at the same time, to know we can always count on God lighting our path, showing us the way, calming our fears.

With the Easter story still fresh on our minds, we can all relate to the darkness that undoubtedly loomed over everyone who watched Jesus suffer and die on the cross for us. But, after three days, that darkness was replaced with an everlasting light...the gift of eternal life that brings with it a hope that remains with all of us yet today.

There are many Bible verses that talk about God's light, but this one rang louder than the others I found.

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bow. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven". Matthew 5:14-16.

These words are powerful in many ways. God gives all of us light; but each of us can be that light in everything we do by sharing the word of the Lord, setting an example in all that we do and praising our Father in heaven. So, even on those dark, dreary days...look for that ever-present light. Follow that light. Be that light for others. Keep that Easter story alive!

God's Work, Our Hands.

Confirmation

Sunday, April 30, 2023



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2023

Back row: Leon Gasek, Dawn Harder, Dan Higgins, Chris Finkler, Sue King

Middle row: Cash Thums, Sophie Koester, Kodi Rappe, Kaitlyn Pester

Front row: Tina Dassow, Seth Williams, Jordan Lavin, Stacey Dassow, Kella Gebert, Kim Gasek

We are thankful for the help we received this past year from parents and members of the church. We couldn't have done this without you. Our strength is in our numbers and willingness to go forward in God's name. That being said, we are off for the summer. We want to extend a welcome to anyone that is being called to serve. There are so many opportunities within our church for serving and we would welcome any help if your calling is with the confirmation group in the fall.

Faithful submitted by
Kim and Leon Gasek

SUNDAY SCHOOL

April has been very busy for the Sunday School children. We were able to celebrate Easter with a little party by having a scavenger hunt, bowling to find an Easter verse and making cross pancakes! We hope everyone enjoyed family time on Easter Sunday.

Our last two Bible stories the children learned about were: Four Friends where the children realized the power of Jesus' forgiveness, which is a gift he has given us, and Mary and Martha, where they learned we need to keep God first in our lives.

On April 30, we had the privilege of singing the song, "I am So Glad Jesus Lifted Me," with the adult choir.



Remember, we will meet on May 7, as that will be our last Sunday School time until fall. Please watch for VBS information, if your child(ren) are interested in continuing to grow in their faith over the summer.

Thank you to ALL the parents and children that participated in Sunday School this year; we cannot wait to see everyone back next year

Sunday School Coordinators
Heidi Haynes and Kathy Hackbarth



MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

The Mobile Food Pantry served 78 households on April 20.



41 individuals ages 0-17

72 individuals ages 18-59

81 individuals ages 60+

194 total number of individuals

41 individuals visited the pantry for the 1st time

2,449 pounds of food were distributed

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 Weather Shield Lite Foundation for sponsoring the April 2023 Mobile Food Pantry.

The next Mobile Food Pantry will be on Thursday, May 18

Volunteers meet at 1:00 p.m.
Distribution begins at 4:00 p.m.

COMFORT QUILTS

As I'm writing this, I have so many prayers on my list that are very special to me. Seeing someone smile after being given a Comfort Quilt is so meaningful to us. We hope the recipients will treasure the quilts for a long time. One of our quilts was given to a soldier that came home and was to transition back into society. The quilt that was given to him helped him get back to his normal life .

This month, we gave our Comfort Quilts to many individuals who have a purpose. If you know of anyone, please call. We don't always hear of all the needs.

Happy May Day and God loves you.

Chris Konieczny
715-965-8312



NEEDLES FOR NEEDS COMMUNITY QUILTING GROUP

Our group is quickly closing in on our goal, having made 157 quilts so far. We are anticipating having to buy batting again within the next 2 months - the ladies are working hard!

We are still accepting donations of full size and larger cotton & cotton/poly blend flat sheets for the quilts, as well as embroidery floss. If you have any polyester blankets you don't need anymore, they make great batts for inside the quilts. Please think of us as you shop garage sales - sometimes there are some great deals on sheets, blankets, and even fabric.

We also have bundles available for you to sew at home; all bundles should be sewn into tops with a 1/2" seam allowance to make them nice and sturdy for the recipients. Connie has put together some fun fabric combinations — and some with the perfect number of fabric colors to make the classic diagonal pattern quilt top we know and love.

We will be in the Welcome Hall from 9 am to 2 pm every Tuesday this month; we'd love to have you join us for an hour or two — or the whole day!

Thank you for your faithful support of our ministry; it is very much appreciated!!

God's Work, Our Hands.
Submitted by Tonya Albers

SUMMER CAMPS



Luther Park, located in Chetek, WI, has a wide variety of camp opportunities this summer. If you are interested, there are brochures on the bulletin board, in the Welcome Hall as well as on the devotions book rack. Information and registration forms can be found online at the following web address: lutherpark.org/summer-camp

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 signup schedule is located in the Welcome Hall.



COMMUNITY MISSION WITH JESUS

Who are we?

Pay it forward...

*Volunteers needed
to help with*

*Lawn Work
Housework
Meals
Companionship
Laundry
Garbage
Short-term Medical
Dishes
Transportation*

**COMMUNITY
MISSION WITH
JESUS**

A ministry of:

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church-Holway

Community United Church of Christ
Medford

St. Paul's Lutheran—Medford

River of Hope-Medford

New Life Apostolic Church
Medford

Do you ever feel powerless?

Do you worry about friends and loved ones who are not getting the help they need at home?

We are thankful for the resources of the government, state, and county but sometimes people fall through the cracks.

Here to help.

How do we help people in our community who need extra support due to illness, death of a spouse, aging, or a physical disability?

We are looking for volunteers to assist people with cleaning, cooking, or transportation needs when these needs are unable to be met through other sources. Someone to help with lawn work, laundry, doing dishes, short-term medical assistance, or just companionship.

Community Mission With Jesus is an inter-denominational, non-profit ministry seeking to help people of all races, creeds, colors, languages, and nationalities.

If you would like to help either as a volunteer or as a donor, or if you need help, contact Teresa at 715-965-3186.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

When: Wednesday, May 17

Time: 11:15 a.m.

Location: 64 North Bar & Grill
2993 County Road E,
Medford, WI

**For more information, contact
Chris Finkler at 715-748-6848**

CHOIR NEWS

Choir rehearsal will be on:

May 13 at 8:10 a.m.

Sing at 9:00 a.m. service

May 27 at 8:10 a.m.

Sing at 9:00 a.m. service



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, May 25

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



We are looking a few individuals to help with registration, supplying treats for the donors, as well as lunch for the nurses and workers. If you are interested in helping, please call the church office at 715-748-4909

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.

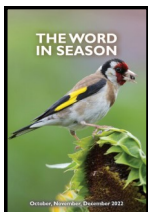
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2023

May 1	Ethan Melvin
May 2	Mary Clark Kadia Gehrke Raina Hillebrand Erin Holbach Josephine Judnic
May 3	Lisa Kopp Robert Schreiner
May 4	Savanah Huotari John Konrad Kodi Rappe
May 5	Jason Kopp Ashley Tabbert
May 7	Thomas Cady Mattie Gebert
May 8	Mina Clark Jesse Koerner Megan Ryskoski
May 9	Dante Axon Abby Graham
May 10	Tom Brost Kendyl Cahoon Charles Christensen Madilyn Hoefs Tracy Renderman
May 11	Michele Doberstein Brandon Homeyer Therese Hubbard
May 12	Steven Eisch Peyton Emmerich William Sherman
May 13	Hailey Bakkestuen Brett Hoefs Tyler Hoefs
May 14	Jamison Harder Lexus Hruby Amanda Langdon Noah Mitchell Kathleen Perrin

May 16	Mike Ecklund Lori Eisch James Kasparek
May 17	Martin Cipar Ruthie Clark Eryka Seidl Joan Steliga
May 20	Casie Haubert Michael Hempe Melissa Pilgrim
May 21	Kayle Brandt Pauline Coyer
May 22	Zoe Korenuk Sharon Ludwig Bobbie Nelson
May 23	Emma Carter Ross Hackbarth Carol Kasparek Kari Leech
May 24	Noah Emmerich Kathryn Nutting Tony Schumacher
May 25	Matthew Harder
May 26	Addison Brahmer Kathy Holub
May 27	David Nelson
May 28	Lindy Stelzel
May 29	Jacob Borman Nancy Dorava Alex Imbach Eric Jensen
May 30	Elizabeth Noland
May 31	Marie Koerner Shirley Schwarz

Anniversaries

May 1	Lynn & Craig Glamann
May 4	Brandi & Scott Bunkelman
May 9	Kriste & Ryan Brandner
May 11	Laureen & James Peterson
May 12	Nicky & Tyler Kollmansberger
May 19	Tina & David Dassow Kimberly & Chad Emmerich
May 20	Mary & Tom Brost
May 22	Katy & Marty Cipar
May 24	Wanda & Arvid Lekies Lori & Scott Waldhart



Daily Devotionals

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



May 22, 2023

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

Phone: 715-748-4909
Email: stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:03 p.m. Val led the group in an opening prayer. Concerns – sympathies on the death of Heidi's mother-in-law.

Members present: Sally Lemke, Marie Koerner, Val Bach, Heidi Haynes, Carrie Zirngible, Dan Higgins, Leon Gasek and Gail Heurung.

Guests: Nancy Jones

Members absent: Dave Hruby, Kathy Hackbarth.

Motion by Marie, seconded by Sally to accept the agenda – motion carried.

Motion by Leon, seconded by Dan to accept the March 8 meeting minutes – motion carried. Marie suggested that going forward we add the words motion carried to our motions to reflect the passing or not passing of the motions.

BUSINESS

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Because this meeting was held early – no treasurer's report. Confirmed that the Script money was paid out .

Financial Secretary: nothing to report, but discussion held on lack of giving numbers on the contributions. Request will be made for people to start using their # on their contributions.

Worship committee: Music is selected thru the Easter seasons. Nancy has the pulpit supply filled thru June 4.

Membership update: Each council member has been working on the lists that were given to them. Set Sunday as the deadline for turning them in.

Sunday School, Confirmation, VBS: Confirmation is set for April 30. Sally will introduce the confirmands and read their Bible verses. Sunday School continues to go well and nothing has been set for VBS.

Joint Parish Council and Call Committee: For the Joint Parish Committee -Val and Barb Krug, as Council Presidents will each serve on the Parish Council. Therefore, St. Paul's needs two more members. Leon spoke with Gary Jensen and he is willing to serve and Val spoke to the Schumacher's. Kathy Schumacher is willing to serve on the Parish Council. A motion was made by Gail, seconded by Leon to appoint Val, Gary and Kathy to the Joint Parish Council – Motion carried.

For the Call Committee – Val mentioned that Pastor Randy from the Synod said that as Council President – she should not serve on this committee. Val talked with Tony Schumacher and he is willing to serve. Heidi Haynes and Marie Koerner from the council also were willing to serve. A motion by Gail, seconded by Sally to appoint Tony, Heidi and Marie to the Call Committee – motion carried.

Taylor House: Mike Lindau would like to come in and speak to the congregation about Taylor House...to speak to their needs and what they do. Will invite him to do so, but not on Easter or Confirmation.

Synod Assembly: Set for April 29. Still looking for people to attend the meeting in Rice Lake. Val requests that we let her know if we can attend or if we know anyone else who can.

Kathy and Bob Harris: Thank you to Kathy and Bob for handling our church housekeeping in the interim. A motion was made by Gail, seconded by Heidi to purchase Script cards as a thank you – motion carried. Val will take care of getting the thank you prepared and sent to them.

Update on Repairs: The check is in and now we have the Master Clean billing. We have a \$500 limit on bills without authorization. However, we will pay bills that we have the approved estimates on and bring any not pre-approved to the council for authorization to pay. Will wait to decide on flooring until everything is completed. Val is asking for quotes on different types of flooring – carpet, carpet tiles, etc. Motion by Gail, seconded by Sally, to pay all billings as they are received per estimates – motion carried.

FIN Project: Leon reported that their final meeting is April 13 – finishing up compiling information gathered. Good feedback on the discussion held. We have the tools and may be able to hold more discussions going forward.

(continued on page 8)

(Church Council minutes - continued from page 7)

St. Paul's/Our Savior's – Parish Discussion: New committee meeting set for April 5th. Val will let our members know. May 1 our new agreement goes into effect. Will discuss things like the lectionary – narrative or common – and church start times. Pastors feel the amount of time between services is not sufficient for the Pastor to have any time with the parishioners. Agreement with Pastor Bob is all set – starts April 1. Val and Nancy will work with Bob on preaching and finding preaching responsibilities. Emergency contacts for ministry are all set as well.

Misc: No vacations scheduled for the staff at this time. Leon reported that background checks are all set – with Nancy keeping a spreadsheet on them so we know when they are due. Nancy had a request for sponsorship of the Farm Safety Books for the FFA. Decided not quite in the realm of our benevolent giving. Nancy shared that we have been challenged by the Methodist church for a pedal tractor race for Maple Fest. We need to get a team together.

Next meeting – May 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Gail, seconded by Heidi to adjourn – motion carried.



**Easter Sunday
April 9, 2023**

**Pastor Sara Bishop
sharing a message
with the children.**



Photos taken by Deb Bender

TREASURER'S REPORT

	2023		2022		YTD % of Change
	March	YTD	February	March	
General Giving	9,683	31,432	9,429	9,827	10.3%
Mortgage Giving	1,820	6,510	1,680	1,810	21.9%
Total Giving	11,503	37,942	11,109	11,637	12.2%
General Expenses	4,686	19,912	8,993	9,827	-13.0%
Mortgage Expense	2,782	8,346	2,782	1,810	13.2%
Total Expenses	7,468	28,258	11,775	11,637	-6.6%
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$4,035	\$9,684	(\$666)	\$0	\$3,559
Designated Giving	87,287	96,728	6,416	6,036	493.5%
Designated Expenses	21,590	41,810	6,140	3,498	210.7%
Net Designated Income	65,697	54,917	276	2,539	
Net Combined Income (Deficit)	\$69,732	\$64,602	(\$390)	\$2,539	\$6,399

Bank Accounts - As of:	3/31/23	YTD Change	2/28/22		Comments
<u>General Checking</u>	\$121,270	\$10,097	\$83,879	\$83,367	
<u>Designated Funds in Checking</u>		\$0			
Building Maintenance	71,145	\$66,072	2,287	2,287	
Comfort Quilts	516	(\$229)	755	755	
Designated Memorials	2,878	\$0	2,218	2,218	
Fair Trade Sales	568	\$45	701	701	
Mortgage Fund	0	\$0	1,093	121	
Thrivent Choice	0	(\$11,279)	8,930	10,645	
Mobile Food Pantry	6,662	\$8	4,378	5,137	
Sunday School	1,077	(\$380)	1,510	1,510	
Youth Group	11,315	\$275	10,327	10,327	
<u>Total Funds in Checking</u>	\$215,432	\$64,610	\$116,078	\$117,068	
<u>Other Accounts</u>					
Events/Fund Raiser Acct	3,324	4	3,032	3,032	
Needles for Needs Acct	2,391	(718)	2,584	2,563	
Scrip Acct	6,092	129	7,073	6,759	
<u>Total Other Accounts</u>	\$11,806	-\$586	\$12,689	\$12,354	
Total - All Accounts	\$227,238	\$64,024	\$128,768	\$129,422	
PPP Loan Balance	0	\$0		0	Loan forgiven 3/15/21
Mortgage Balance	\$123,538	-\$27,140	\$205,513	\$197,660	

Request from the Sunday finance counters:

Please place your offering number on your offering envelope and/or check. This will help the counters accurately document your giving. If you do not know your envelope number, check the envelope number list posted in the Welcome Hall or contact the church office at 715-748-4909.

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

Pastor Bob Giese (for pastoral emergencies)

Phone: 847-899-7122

rjgiese@gmail.com

Pastor Nancy Amacher (for pastoral emergencies) revnia10@gmail.com

Phone: 715-223-5316

Tina Dassow (Treasurer)

tinadassow@gmail.com

Church Council

Val Bach (President)	715-965-2358	val.bach@weathershield.com
Leon Gasek (Vice President)	715-785-7434	kingasek@tds.net
Heidi Haynes	715-965-6154	heidi_haynes@yahoo.com
Kathy Hackbarth	715-965-2407	kathyhackbarth@gmail.com
Gail Heurung (Secretary)	715-316-2788	gheurung@gmail.com
Dan Higgins	715-748-5529	higginsd1948@gmail.com
Dave Hraby	715-965-3150	davidlhraby@gmail.com
Marie Koerner (Financial Secretary)	715-965-6328	4-koerners@charter.net
Sally Lemke	715-965-2025	slemke2@tds.net
Carrie Zirngible	715-493-1696	cczirn@gmail.com

Additional Information

Sunday Service: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

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

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

Website: 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

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Phone: 715-748-4909

Email: stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs Work Day	3	4	5 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	6
7 9:00 Worship / Communion Last Day for Sunday School	8 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts	9 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs Work Day	10 6:00 p.m. Church Council	11	12 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	13
14 Mother's Day 8:10 a.m. Choir rehearsal 9:00 Worship / Communion	15	16 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs Work Day 11:45 a.m. Worship Committee	17 11:15 a.m. Ladies Lunch Bunch	18 1:00-5:00 p.m. Mobile Food Pantry Prevail Shred Day 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	19 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	20
21 9:00 Worship	22 Newsletter Deadline	23 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs Work Day	24	25 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive	26 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	27
28 8:10 a.m. Choir rehearsal / performance 9:00 Worship / Communion 6:00 p.m. Suicide Support Group	29 Memorial Day	30 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs Work Day		<div data-bbox="906 1709 1484 1965" data-label="Text"> <p>PLANNING AHEAD</p> <p>Starting in June, our worship service time will be changed to 9:15 a.m.</p> </div>		

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

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