



# The Parish Pulse

A monthly newsletter for friends and family of  
Our Saviour's Lutheran of Holway and  
St. Paul's Lutheran of Medford

**February 2025**



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



## A Message from Barb Krug, SAM

Greetings,

Hopefully that was our cold spell for this winter. Cancelling a worship service is not an easy thing to do but the safety of our congregational members is very important. We know the young families still went to their sporting events that may not have been cancelled, but they usually travel in groups and would have someone with them if they fell outside, or their vehicle broke down. I don't like living with "what ifs" but the possibility of one of our members, that usually comes to church alone, steps out of their house alone and travels alone, is cause for concern. Thank you all for understanding. I hope you had a chance to listen to the shortened service on St. Paul's Facebook page. I have to tell you; it was strange preaching to an empty church. I pray that never happens again but am thankful for Cathy and Nancy's help in making it happen this once.

As we look ahead to warmer temperatures and longer daylight, let's also look to the light that Christ provides. Darkness can sneak into our lives in so many ways, political views, illness, death, mental health issues, financial reasons, or a myriad of other things. In these frightening times, God is always with us. He is always leading us. Remember, we are a congregation of people that want to help anyone push that darkness away, if it sneaks into your life. Reach out and ask for assistance. You do not have to be alone in the darkness. 2 Corinthians 4: 6 tells us; "For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ." Let your light shine!

Blessings,

Barb - SAM

## World Day of Prayer Event on Friday, March 7



St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Medford, will host this year's World Day of Prayer service on Friday, March 7, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. Each year a different country serves as the writer of the World Day of Prayer worship service. For 2025, the World Day of Prayer Committee of the Cook Islands developed the theme, "I Made You Wonderful," from Psalm 139. A free will offering will go toward the work of World Day of Prayer.

Both men and women are invited to this ecumenical service.

### Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Holway

W7809 Apple Avenue, Medford, WI 54451  
Phone 715-965-5696  
Website: oursavioursholway.com  
Facebook: Our Saviour's Lutheran Holway  
Email: secretary.saviourschurch@gmail.com  
Parish secretary: Nancy Jones  
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

### St. Paul's Lutheran Church

321 N. Park Avenue, Medford, WI 54451  
Phone 715-748-4909  
Website: www.stpaulsmedford.org  
Facebook: StPaulsMedford  
Email: stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com  
Parish Administrator: Nancy Jones  
Office Hours: M-W-F 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

#### For pastoral care emergencies, call the following:

Barb Krug: 715-965-5696, barbkrug@charter.net  
Pastor Bob Giese: 847-899-7122, rjgiese@gmail.com  
Pastor Nancy Amacher: 715-223-5316, revnia10@gmail.com

### Sunday Services

**Our Saviour's Service:** 8:00 a.m.  
**Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.  
**St. Paul's Service** 9:15 a.m.  
**Sunday School** 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. Our next joint service is scheduled for **Sunday, March 30 at Our Saviour's.**



### First Communion Class

**Wednesday, February 26**

**Time: 4:00 p.m.**

**Location: St. Paul's Lutheran**

Open to children in grades 4-6 or any older children who haven't had instruction. Contact St. Paul's church office to register.

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



**March 5**

Register online at [www.lutherpark.org](http://www.lutherpark.org). Call to register. Download a registration form online and email that form to [info@lutherpark.org](mailto:info@lutherpark.org) or mail to 944 24 1/4 St., Chetek, WI 54728

## Luther Park Bible Camp

**Mission:** Luther Park invites people of all ages to explore and experience the love of God.

**Vision:** Luther Park will expand our ministry of the Gospel in ALL SEASONS, on ALL SITES, and with ALL PEOPLE.

Luther Park Bible Camp is a special outdoor ministry affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) located in the beautiful Northwoods town of Chetek, Wisconsin. Founded in 1932, Luther Park's Lakeside site sits on 10 acres along Prairie Lake. This site acts as the primary location for most of the happenings for the organization, from Fall, Winter, and Spring retreats, gatherings, events, weddings, and much more, to our three month summer camp program. With 15 buildings that include a Dining Hall, a Seasonal Chapel, four Retreat Facilities, Indoor Worship Space, eight Cabins, and our offices, we pride ourselves in the Northwoods feel our facilities offer. On the shores of Prairie Lake, a premiere boating and fishing lake, we also have a beautiful pool for the warm summer months, a high & low ropes course, archery, and a nine-hole disc golf course.

LPBC is also owns to two other sites, making it three places where people are able to be outside enjoying God's creation. The Farm Center, a historic farm across the street from our Lakeside site, is 74 acres of land that is home to our low ropes course, archery, disc golf, our garden, chickens, and goats. Onsite is also a barn, environmental education center, hiking trails, and open fields to play in. The third site, is Luther Woods, 320 acres of untouched paradise 35 minutes North of Prairie Lake in Birchwood, Wisconsin. Luther Woods has an A-frame cabin, a covered pavilion, the gorgeous Bodins Lake for recreation, and many Northwoods hiking trails. The woods are home to our primitive camping program, where campers can go out and be one with nature, giving witness to their place amongst creation.

Luther Park is an organization inclusive of all, and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, caste, creed, sex, age, marital status, national origin, mental or physical ability, political belief or affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression.

We look forward to seeing you along with your friends and family at one of our camps this summer!



**Luther Park Bible Camp**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Mission Statement: Our mission is to share the love of Christ with each other, our community, and the world.**

### Church Council

President: Mike Kesling - shamumrk@yahoo.com (715-512-0498)  
 Vice President: Jason Borman - jason.borman@us.nestle.com (715-965-6058)  
 Secretary: Meagan Neitzel - meagan.neitzel@aol.com (715-562-0100)  
 Treasurer: Nancie Adams - adams710@tds.net (715-965-6959)  
 Paula Stroinski - paula.stroinski@gmail.com (715-965-2084)  
 Echo Buehler - echo.op14@tds.net (715-748-3928)  
 Clarice Zenner - claricezenner@yahoo.com (715-579-4445)  
 Barb Krug - barbkrug@charter.net (715-965-5696)

### February 2025 Calendar for Our Saviour's

#### **Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m.**

February 2 Worship w/communion, Barb Krug, SAM  
 No Sunday School  
 February 5 Confirmation & Sunday School, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.  
 WELCA - 6:30 p.m. Fellowship, 6:45 p.m. Program, 7:00 p.m. Meeting  
 February 9 Worship w/communion, Pastor Bob Giese  
 Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.  
 Viewing *The Chosen* after the service  
 February 12 Confirmation & Sunday School, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.  
 February 16 Worship w/communion, Barb Krug, SAM  
 Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.  
 Viewing *The Chosen* after the service  
 February 18 Newsletter Deadline  
 February 19 Confirmation, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.  
 No Sunday School  
 Church Council, 5:45 p.m.  
 February 23 Worship w/communion, Pastor Nancy Amacher  
 No Sunday School  
 Viewing *The Chosen* after the service  
 February 26 Confirmation - Family Movie Night (at your home)  
 No Sunday School



Our Saviour's Quilters are accepting full size or larger flat sheets for the backing of their quilts. We prefer to have dark colors. No white sheets please. Direct questions to Karen Frosch

#### **January 2025 Attendance**

January 5	29
January 12	22
January 19	Cancelled
January 26	35

### Our Saviour's Worship Assistants February 2025

DATE	MESSAGE	USHERS	LITURGIST	COMMUNION	COUNTERS	ACOLYTE
2/2/2025	Barb Krug	Echo Buehler Paula Stroinski	Marian Nernberger	Paula Stroinski	Echo Buehler Paula Stroinski	Braxton Larson
2/9/2025	Bob Giese	Peter Jaslowski Gordy Lekies	Carol Lekies	Carol Lekies	Peter Jaslowski Gordy Lekies	Breckyn Klemm
2/16/2025	Barb Krug		Rod Adams			Xander Cynor
2/23/2025	Nancy Amacher	Carol & Gordy Lekies	Carol Lekies	Carol Lekies	Gordy Lekies	Stormie Dums

**February Altar Guild: Brenda Nernberger & Jessica Nernberger**

## Our Saviour's Council Meeting Minutes

Date: January 15, 2025

Attendees: Barb K, Clarice Z, Meagan N, Nancie A, Mike K, Echo B, Paula S, Jason

Meeting called to order: 5:45

Opened with: Devotion and Prayer by Mike.

Recited Mission Statement.

Paula made a motion to approve agenda as written and seconded by Nancie - motion carries.

Jason made a motion to approve December Meeting Minutes and seconded by Paula - motion carries.

Jason made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report and seconded by Clarice - motion carries.

### Standing Committees

#### *Education and Youth:*

Confirmation class held a Stump the Pastor session on January 8th and it went very well. Looking to hold more of these in the future. Holding Sunday School on Wednesdays has been a good way to integrate the different age levels.

The Christmas programs both went well and we had a good turnout at both.

#### *Property:*

Stairs and railings will be worked on this spring.

Mike is meeting with Jess on Friday, January 17, to discuss the windows on the west side.

#### *WELCA:*

Booklets are being finished to be sent out - no December meeting.

Ladies Lunch Thursday, January 23, at Wicked Events location.

#### *Worship:*

Sound system installation is completed and in use.

Confirmation students will plan and lead the Lenten services this year. The donations received during Lent will go to the Good Gifts program and the students will choose how to spend the money. See the billboard in the fellowship hall for more details.

Ash Wednesday worship services will be held at St. Paul's at 12:15 p.m. and Our Saviour's at 6:00 p.m.

Our Saviour's will host all midweek Lenten Services. Soup and sandwich potluck will begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by the 6:00 p.m. service.

March 30 will be the joint service at Our Saviour's with Donuts and Coffee served following the 9:00 a.m. worship service.

Looking into a new laptop to connect through the TV and Sound System.

### Old Business

Motion was made by Jason and seconded by Paula to approve the minutes from the Special Congregational meeting held on December 29, 2024 - motion carries.

Sure-Dry will begin work in the basement on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Tables and items will be moved into the Sunday School section so they are out of the way. Other work will be completed before Sure-Dry begins.

Mike and Heidi are going to go through the folding chairs and get rid of any of the non-silver ones.

Cemetery Association will discuss the meditation area at their meeting in March.

A discussion about designating some of the script card income into the Benevolence Giving fund was held.

Currently the script card income goes into the general fund. Nancie will bring the income from January script sales so we can make a more informed decision on where the money could be used outside of the general fund. This will then be reviewed quarterly.

Mike will ask for some congregational members to be a part of a committee to research our current insurance policy and compare it to other quotes to see what benefits our congregation more. The rising cost from Church Mutual is the reason for this committee.

It was suggested we have a small gift bag for new members to welcome them to our church family. A subcommittee to plan this would be best. Echo will add this to the WELCA agenda as well.

*Continued on page 5*



## Our Saviour's Lutheran

### Council Minutes Continued

No specific fund needs at this time, so will not send out a Capital Fund Drive letter asking for donations at this time.

Waiting on Jim and Kurt to discuss replacing lights in the basement to more efficient LED lights.

### New Business:

Remove screen from the altar area and find a new home for it.

### Next Council meeting February 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 p.m.

Paula made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jason seconded it - motion carries

Closed with The Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Meagan Neitzel.

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## Our Saviour's December Financial Report: 2024

### EXPLANATIONS:

This report shows the normal, ongoing bills that are paid on a regular basis each month. I have detailed the Income, as well as the line items expenses. Nancie

### Income Section:

General	\$7225.76(checking acc interest added \$33.76)
Hunger	\$490.00
Scrip	\$5385.00

TOTAL INCOME: **\$13385.76**

### Expense Section

Benevolence	\$287.68(to NW Synod of WI General Mission Support – 4%
Hunger	\$490.00(to Northwest Synod of WI for ELCA World Hunger
Special Offering/In/Out	\$285.00(\$150 Poinsettia's to Laurie's \$135 to Cemetery Assoc
Internet Service (Clark Electric)	\$61.94
Phone (TDS)	\$51.50
Electricity (Taylor Electric)	\$168.16
Dumpster (GFL Environmental)	\$69.64
LP Gas (Budget-Medford Coop)	\$286.00
Insurance (Church Mutual)	\$506.90
Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$213.35(Zenner Plumbing for furnace repairs)
Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$950.00(McMillan Electric for outside lighting)
Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$3067.20(Sure/Dry- down payment on basement project)
Payroll	\$575.00(watchman \$80.00--sec wage \$495.00)
Church Administrator	\$200.00
Supply Pastors	\$730.10
Music (Organist)	\$300.00
Copier Lease (E.O. Johnson)	\$128.14
VANCO charge	\$4.80
Script Cards	\$6126.69(Co. Market \$1632.00, Raise/Right \$4494.69)

TOTAL EXPENSES: **\$14502.10**

Savings Account: **\$8068.20**

### Mission Investment Fund:

Term Investment Fixed 4 Year – 3847      Rate 1.49%  
YTD Interest Earned      Matures 9/24/2025

09/30/2024 Balance: \$16,874.76  
Interest 12/31/2024 \$62.77  
**New Balance \$16,937.53**

<b>INCOME - Our Saviour's</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>YTD 2024</b>		
General	7,225.76	60,661.92		
Hunger	490.00	4,510.00		
Sunday School/VBS/Camp		1,000.00		
Change the World/Special Offering	285.00	7,923.10		
Scrip	5,385.00	28,160.00		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>13,385.76</b>	<b>102,255.02</b>		
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Monthly/Budget</b>	<b>Year/Budget</b>
Benevolence	287.68	2,411.11	250.00	3,000.00
Hunger In/Out	490.00	4,510.00	0.00	
Special Offering In/Out	285.00	7,622.72	0.00	
Internet Service	61.94	743.28	62.50	750.00
Phone	51.50	619.65	60.42	725.00
Electricity	168.16	1,940.32	166.67	2,000.00
LP Gas	286.00	3,054.00	333.33	4,000.00
Dumpster - GFL	69.64	789.85	41.67	500.00
Holding Tanks		0.00	20.83	250.00
Snow Plowing		356.25	100.00	1,200.00
Janitor Supplies		261.94	16.67	200.00
Clear Country Water Solutions		45.00	18.75	225.00
Building Repairs/Maintenance	4,230.55	5,839.04	83.33	1,000.00
Worship/Devotionals/Resources		875.54	50.00	600.00
Organ/Piano Maintenance		0.00	25.00	300.00
Insurance	506.90	5,431.16	375.00	4,500.00
Office & Computer Supplies/parts/ink		149.15	41.67	500.00
Postage and Stamps		68.00	16.67	200.00
Computer Maintenance/Repair		175.00	16.67	200.00
Treasurer Supplies		170.91	8.33	100.00
Newsletter Postage		418.62	37.50	450.00
Copier Lease	128.14	1,488.87	125.00	1,500.00
Supply Pastors	730.10	6,836.45	600.00	7,200.00
Conference Dues		34.10	3.33	40.00
Assembly Delegates		500.00	12.50	150.00
Joint Account** see notes below		500.00	41.67	500.00
Payroll-Secretary-Property Manager	575.00	7,757.38	650.00	7,800.00
Website		155.88	12.50	150.00
Music	300.00	3,209.80	325.00	3,900.00
Leadership Training		0.00	83.33	1,000.00
Education (Adult, Confirmation, Sunday School, VBS)		528.38	83.33	1,000.00
Background Checks		0.00	8.33	100.00
Camping Funds		400.00	20.83	250.00
Pastorial Admin	200.00	2,400.00	200.00	2,400.00
Miscellaneous- Special Events		167.58	41.67	500.00
Scrip Cards	6,126.69	26,971.99	0.00	
VANCO Charge	4.80	72.35	0.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>14,502.10</b>	<b>86,504.32</b>	<b>3,890.83</b>	<b>47,190.00</b>
<b>Checking Account:</b>		<b>Savings Account:</b>		8,038.49
<b>Camping Fund</b>	873.54		<b>Deposit</b>	29.71
<b>Sunday School/VBS</b>	1,572.53		<b>Total</b>	<b>8,068.20</b>
<b>General</b>	50,778.99			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53,225.06</b>	<i>Submitted By:</i>	<i>Nancie Adams,</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Message from Council President – Val Bach

January is a tough month for me, typically. All of the excitement from the Christmas holiday season is over; we take down all of the decorations and the house loses some of its warmth that emulates with the holiday lights. And, it's typically the coldest month of the year. Did I ever mention, I really don't like being cold (not sure why I live in Wisconsin)?

But January also is the time we ring in the new year. We make New Year's resolutions, reflecting on the past year and thinking about what went well, and what went not so well; thinking about what we can do different to improve upon in the upcoming year.

As I reflect on what went well at St. Paul's, there are so many things. We have welcomed several new families to our church (how wonderful); the roofing project was completed and looks amazing; the Ladies Lunch Bunch held a very successful rummage sale, which took a lot of effort by many (generously donating the proceeds to Community Mission With Jesus...thank you); we held several joint worship services with Our Saviour's, which always provide a perfect opportunity for fellowship with their congregation; we held our first-ever Christmas pageant (which was very cool); and we watched our children tell the meaningful Christmas story in their beautiful Christmas program, just to name a few. It was a smooth and rewarding year from my perspective as Council President.

And one other huge accomplishment achieved in 2024 was making the final payment on St. Paul's mortgage. WOW. We held the mortgage-burning party in early January to celebrate! The generosity and devotedness of our members who committed to this financial goal does not go overlooked. Without you, this wouldn't have happened so quickly. We paid a 30-year mortgage off in 15 years! I must say I wouldn't have believed it possible a few years ago. And, we were also blessed to have received several anonymous donations throughout the years that really moved the needle! A big thank you, again, to all of St. Paul's. Great job!

Another good thing...I really can't think of anything that didn't go well this past year; now, that says a lot!

Reminder that we will be holding the annual meeting on February 9th and will be discussing potential new building projects we well as presenting the budget for 2025 and electing new Council members. I hope you will be able to join us for this year in review and year in the making.

May God bless you and guide you throughout this upcoming year. May He help you with any struggles you might be facing. You are not alone; God is with you and so is your church family.

Stay warm!

God's Work; Our Hands.

The Mobile Food Pantry served 74 households on January 16, 2025.



51 individuals ages 0-17  
77 individuals ages 18-59  
66 individuals ages 60+  
194 total number of individuals

The next Mobile Food Pantry will be on Thursday, February 20, 2025.

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

Feed My People delivered 2797 pounds of food. Food distributed consisted of cheese, orange juice, fruit (oranges, blueberries apples), butter, meatballs, butter spray, black beans, chicken broth, bread, baked goods, pasta, frozen entrees, canned vegetables, cereal, oatmeal, and yogurt.

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 **Weather Shield Lite** for sponsoring the January Mobile Food Pantry and to the many volunteers that came to help distribute the food.

Correction for the December newsletter: Chris Finkler was the sponsor for the December 2024 Mobile Food Pantry.

Hello Beloved People of St. Paul's Lutheran Church –

I wanted to take a moment to share my heartfelt congratulations as you gather to celebrate this wonderful milestone! As you burn that mortgage, may you give thanks for the past, and look forward to the future!

During my time with St. Paul's (which began 21 years ago already), we embarked on an exciting journey to expand and renew the church building – a project that would make the church more accessible, even more welcoming, and ready to serve the needs of the community. Those were days filled with faith, hard work, and a shared vision for ministry, and I will always treasure the memories of how we came together to make it happen.

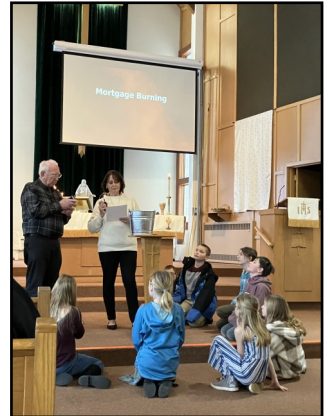
The mortgage burning is a powerful symbol of God's faithfulness and your dedication as a congregation. It represents the prayers, generosity, and commitment of so many people who have poured their hearts into this ministry over the years. I give thanks to God for the good work that has been done and for the ministry that continues to happen at St. Paul's.

As you celebrate this achievement, I pray that it will inspire hope and renewal for the future. May St. Paul's continue to be a place where God's love is shared and lives are transformed. Congratulations on this remarkable moment, and may God bless you richly as you move forward in faith.

I thank God for you all –

*Pastor Pete Warman*

Pastor Pete Warmanen  
St. Paul's Pastor from 2004 to 2013

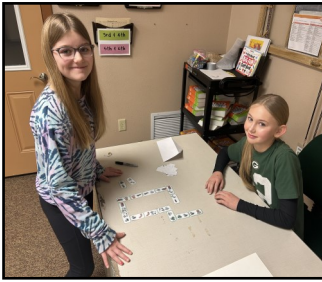


### St. Paul's Worship Assistants - February 2025

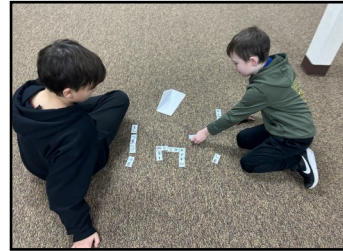
DATE	MESSAGE	LITURGIST	COMMUNION SETUP	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	USHER
February 2	Barb Krug	Gail Heurung	Kathy & Dan Higgins	Chris Finkler Sally Lemke Marguerite Jochimsen	Brock Anderson	
February 9 Annual Meeting	Bob Giese	Val Bach	Jo Cypher	Val Bach Jo Cypher Chris Konieczny	Savanna Brunner	Savanna Brunner
February 16	Barb Krug	Cathy Retzer	Kathy & Dan Higgins	Dawn Harder Chris Konieczny ?	Saige Fettes	
February 23	Nancy Amacher	Mark Temme	Kathy & Dan Higgins	Dawn Harder Chris Konieczny Tina Machon	Austin Faber	Austin Faber



### St. Paul's Sunday School



Sunday School started again January 5, after the Christmas season. In January the children learned about two Bible stories from Exodus: the 10 Plagues that God inflicted on Egypt to force the Pharaoh to free the slaves, and Moses parting the Red Sea. The children discovered how these stories showed God's power and protection over his people.



### Needles for Needs

We took some time off for the holidays and now another week off for the severe cold weather. But, we were able to get some organization and prep work done for our supplies. Even scraps of batting and mattress pads can be pieced together to make a full size quilt batt for a homeless vet quilt. We'd also like to give a big thank you to Patsy and Lee Paustenbach for the donation of two shelving units for our quilts and quilt supplies in the basement - we will be able to fit a lot on them! Connie and Carol have been prepping denim so that Rita and Dorothy can sew denim tops for our homeless veteran quilts. We are glad we can continue to work on them. I am sure the veterans are glad they have some sturdy, warm quilts for this weather we are experiencing. The end goal is to get all of those homeless veterans into housing, which Tom and his group Every Third Saturday have been accomplishing quite well these past couple of years. There's lots of updates on their Facebook page and their website: [www.everythirdsaturday.com](http://www.everythirdsaturday.com) As always, we'd love to have you join us for our workdays every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. We bring our own lunches most days, but we order soup from the VFW every second Tuesday. Come and see what we are all about!

Respectfully submitted,  
Tonya Albers

### Birthdays & Anniversaries - February 2025

#### BIRTHDAY

Feb. 2 Paul Lukewich  
Julie Scott  
Feb. 4 Jayne Wanka  
Feb. 5 Maridith Hoefs  
Feb. 6 Callie Woller  
Feb. 7 Sue Thiede  
Feb. 8 Jeremy DuBois  
Kella Gebert  
Feb. 9 Karson Ecklund  
Valerie Higgins  
Paty Noland  
Feb. 10 Dylan Cook

#### BIRTHDAY

Feb. 11 Johnathan Konrad  
Debra Metz  
Kathy Schumacher  
Feb. 13 Jaxton Homeyer  
Feb. 14 Denice Poetzi  
Stephen Schreiner  
Feb. 15 Lucille Buehler  
Nicholas Langdon  
Feb. 16 Heidi Haynes  
Clarence Ludwig  
Amanda Peterson  
Ryan Peterson

#### BIRTHDAY

Feb. 17 Jennifer Brehm  
Silas Fettes  
Pat Paustenbach  
Feb. 18 Nathan Doriot  
Dan Scheithauer  
Conner Zirngible  
Feb. 19 Bryan Kennedy  
Feb. 20 Susan Emmerich  
Samantha Untiedt  
Feb. 21 Brock Kalmon  
Carrie Peterson  
Feb. 22 Arvid Lekies  
Feb. 23 Jill Sperl

#### BIRTHDAY

Feb. 24 Jody Jochimsen  
Feb. 25 Rita Emmerich  
Feb. 26 Bruno Krawczyk  
Peggy Pirsch  
Feb. 27 Nicole Gebert

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Feb. 5 Kay & Richard Halopka  
Feb. 8 Jennifer & Mitch Brehm  
Feb. 17 Jeanne & Craig Zirngible  
Feb. 25 Pamela & Bryan Kennedy



### ST. PAUL'S LADIES LUNCH BUNCH Wednesday, February 19

**Location:** Kelli's Kitchen, 125 South 8th Street, Medford  
**Time:** 11:15 a.m.

All women welcome.

Please contact Michelle Danen, 715-748-4397, or Chris Finkler, 715-748-6848, if you'd like to be involved.



Choir rehearsals will be on the following Sundays at 8:00 a.m.  
February 9 & 23.

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

### St. Paul's Council Meeting Wednesday, January 8, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Val Bach at 6:00 p.m. Members present were Val Bach, Leon Gasek, Kathy Hackbarth, Tony Schumacher, Dan Higgins, Marie Koerner, Carrie Zirngible and Gail Heurung. Dave Hruby and Heidi Haynes were not able to attend. Guests present were Nancy Jones, Tina Dassow and Barb Krug.

A motion by Dan, seconded by Tony to accept the proposed agenda. Motion carried. A motion by Kathy, seconded by Marie to accept the meeting minutes from December. Motion carried.

#### **Business:**

#### **Reports:**

**Treasurer's report.** The mortgage is done!! Tina is working with Leon to prepare the proposed budget for 2025. A motion by Leon, seconded by Gail to accept the report. Motion carried.

**Financial Secretary** – discussed relocating the lock box to a more convenient location. That will be taken care of.

**SAM Report** – nothing new at this time. Mentioned doing a Stump the Pastor at Our Saviour's and how well that went.

**Worship Team** – Looking for guidance from the council regarding Lenten season. We will have Ash Wednesday at St. Paul's at 12:15 – with Our Saviour's having an evening service. Lenten services will be available at Our Saviour's. Planning a 5:15 Good Friday service at St. Paul's. Kathy Hackbarth mentioned the choir selection was hard to hear on Christmas – it was embedded in the power point. She said Scott Woller reached out to her that he would be happy to assist in making such recordings in the future.

**Sunday School/VBS/Confirmation/Adult Study** – looking into staffing for the VBS – more to come on that. Sunday School is back in session and going well. Leon will be gone from Confirmation for a bit – others are stepping up to help out. Leon stated how nice it has been that the parents have been providing the meals each week. We still have pizza in the freezer for confirmation – but have not had to use it at all. Nothing going on with the adult Bible study right now.

**Annual Meeting** – Date was updated to February 9. Leon is working on the budget with Tina. Annual reports are due the 10<sup>th</sup> to Nancy Jones for the annual report. Outgoing members of council are Gail Heurung, Val Bach, Leon Gasek and Dan Higgins. Gail has agreed to run for another term. There are several nominations to be presented at the annual meeting. Val consulting the constitution on the number of members we should have. Installation of council members will be determined at the first meeting in February.

**Ministry Site Profile** – Val will be updating as the access issue has been corrected.

**Joint Newsletter – Parish Pulse** - First edition is out – looks great – thank you to Nancy Jones for all her hard work.

**Joint Parish Council** – Joint Worship is set for March 30, at Our Saviour's. Breaking Chains is booked for Joint on June 29, at the Holway Town Hall – Family Day. Since they are hosting 2 joint worships first – St. Paul's will host August 31, and November 30. Next joint council meeting is set for July 9. All going well.

**Mortgage burning** – set for January 12, during church. Small reception with snacks and cake to follow.

**Youth Camp Options** – had several options presented for consideration.

**East Flower Bed** – waiting now til spring 2025 to complete.

**Future Building Projects** – still considering removal of asbestos – Val working with a gentleman on all the estimates – will be discussed at the annual meeting.

**We had an anonymous donation** - designated to the two quilting ministries, Community Mission with Jesus, Beds for Christ and locally for St. Paul's needs.

**Benevolence** – council agreed to \$10,000 for 2025 – the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter for 2024 has been paid, complete the pledge we made for 2024.

**Next meeting – February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.**

**Motion to adjourn by Tony, seconded by Marie, carried.** The council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Heurung, Secretary

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

	2024		2023		YTD % of Change
	December	YTD	December	YTD	
General Giving	16,374	118,510	15,562	114,035	3.9%
Mortgage Giving	-	16,339	2,325	21,955	-25.6%
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>16,374</b>	<b>134,849</b>	<b>17,887</b>	<b>135,990</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>
General Expenses	7,433	83,144	4,324	64,411	29.1%
Mortgage Expense		27,820	2,782	30,602	-9.1%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>7,433</b>	<b>110,964</b>	<b>7,106.28</b>	<b>95,013</b>	<b>16.8%</b>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>8,941</b>	<b>\$23,885</b>	<b>10,780.72</b>	<b>\$40,977</b>	
Designated Giving	4,158	46,795	7,135	141,702	-67.0%
Designated Expenses	2,279	75,749	4,604	122,036	-37.9%
Net Designated Income	1,879	(28,954)	2,531	19,665	
Interest Income	\$125	1,676		-	
Net Combined Income (Deficit)	\$10,945	(\$3,392)	\$13,312	\$60,642	

Bank Accounts - As of:	12/31/24	YTD Change	Comments
Fund in SPOS Joint Checking	\$1,000	\$1,000	
General Checking	\$180,642	\$24,251	\$156,391
Designated Funds in Checking		\$0	
Building Fund	1,360	(\$29,816)	31,176
Comfort Quilts	726	\$0	726
Community Benevolence Fund	133	\$17	116
Designated Memorials	4,140	(\$813)	4,953
Fair Trade Sales	476	\$189	287
Mortgage Fund	0	\$0	0
Thrivent Choice	1,230	\$898	332
Mobile Food Pantry	9,912	\$517	9,396
Sunday School	912	(\$165)	1,077
Youth Group	11,572	\$124	11,448
<b>Total Funds in Checking</b>	<b>\$212,104</b>	<b>(\$3,799)</b>	<b>\$215,903</b>
Other Accounts			
Events/Fund Raiser Acct	3,164	(863)	4,027
Needles for Needs Acct	1,411	(1,307)	2,718
Scrip Acct	9,033	407	8,626
<b>Total Other Accounts</b>	<b>\$13,608</b>	<b>-\$1,763</b>	<b>\$15,371</b>
<b>Total - All Accounts</b>	<b>\$225,712</b>	<b>-\$5,562</b>	<b>\$231,274</b>
Mortgage Balance		-\$62,656	\$62,656

2024 Pastor Expense - Budgeted  
2024 YTD Supply Pastor Expense

\$66,990  
\$8,157

## 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 at the SCRIP counter on Sunday morning or call the office and someone will help you.

## A Meditation Moment

Courtesy of the Kuse Farm Museum and  
Nature Preserve webpage

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

When Nancy took over the role of Parish Administrator, she would often need something extra to fill up a page in the newsletter. Hildegard Kuse kindly allowed her to use the meditations, written by Hildegard and her sister Loretta, that appear on the Kuse Nature Preserve webpage. With Hildegard's recent passing, it seems appropriate to honor her with one of their meditations. "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

Cathy Retzer



### Pine Family

#### Eastern White Pine "White Pine" "Northern White Pine" (*Pinus strobus*)

Say among the nations, "The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity." Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth. Psalm 96:10-13 (NRSV)

Wind through the needles of a pine tree seems to make them sing. Poetic language helps us talk about what we see and hear. The Psalmist expressed joy because the Lord is King. All creation seemed to join in praise of the Lord.

Examine the fine needles of the White Pine Tree. They grow in clusters of five. Although the tree remains green all winter, in autumn some of the needles turn brown and fall off. Pine needles contain acid and make fine mulch for plants needing acidic soil. They can be used as winter cover and later raked into paths to help keep down weeds.

Smell the needles. Smell the pitch that flows from injured parts of the bark. Notice the thick carpet of needles beneath the trees. Listen to the tree "singing" as the wind moves through its boughs.

Dear Lord,

Help us to join all creation in singing your praise. Amen

@Dr. Hildegard Kuse and Dr. Loretta Kuse

### St. Paul's Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, February 9, after the service

Please contact the church office or a council member if you have an issue that needs to be discussed at this meeting.

#### January 2025 Attendance

January 5	67
January 12	78
January 19	Cancelled
January 26	87

Check the Welcome Hall information board for opportunities to sponsor different ministries in the church, such as the Mobile Food Pantry and the Newsletter.



**Mission Statement:**

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

**St. Paul's 2024 Church Council**

Val Bach (President)	715-965-2358	brushbach@yahoo.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
Tony Schumacher	715-581-9488	anthonytylerschumacher@gmail.com
Carrie Zirngible	715-493-1696	cczirn@gmail.com
Tina Dassow (Treasurer)		tinadassow@gmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:15 a.m. Worship / Communion 9:15 a.m. Sunday School	3	4 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs  6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts	5 No Confirmation	6	7 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	8
9 <b>Annual Meeting</b> 8:00 a.m. Choir 9:15 a.m. Worship / Communion 9:15 a.m. Sunday School	10 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts	11 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	12 4:00 p.m. Confirmation  6:00 p.m. Church Council	13	14 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting  	15
16 9:15 a.m. Worship / Communion 9:15 a.m. Sunday School	17	18 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts Newsletter Deadline	19 Ladies Lunch Bunch 11:15 a.m. At Kelli's Kitchen  4:00 p.m. Confirmation	20 1:00-5:00 p.m. Mobile Food Pantry	21 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	22
23 8:00 a.m. Choir 9:15 a.m. Worship / Communion 9:15 a.m. Sunday School	24 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts  6:00 p.m. Suicide Support Group ( <b>Feb. 23</b> )	25 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	26 4:00 p.m. Confirmation & First Communion Class	27	28 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	



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

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## The Parish Pulse

A monthly newsletter for friends and family of  
Our Saviour's Lutheran of Holway and  
St. Paul's Lutheran of Medford

### February 2025

#### **Sunday Worship**

Our Saviour's Worship - 8:00 a.m.

St. Paul's Worship - 9:15 a.m.

#### **Contact**

Barb Krug - 715-965-5696, [barbkrug@charter.net](mailto:barbkrug@charter.net)

Parish Administrator - Nancy Jones

Our Saviour's - [secretary.saviourschurch@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.saviourschurch@gmail.com)

St. Paul's - [stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com)

