

# WINDS OF THE SPIRIT

Nordland Lutheran Church- Paynesville, Minnesota- March 2026

## Conversations with Jesus

This 40-day journey of Lent is a time of reflection and renewal as we contemplate turning toward God and turning away from self, as we live into our baptisms into Christ Jesus. What are the things that really matter in our lives? How can we still our minds and hearts this time of year, and clear out the things that distract us from drawing nearer to our God who saves us? May we explore the possibilities for ourselves and for our communities.

In all 5 Sundays of Lent the Gospel lessons will reveal Jesus in conversations with his friends and adversaries. Firstly, we will experience Jesus and the tempter right after Jesus' baptism in Matthew. Jesus' 40 days of fasting are the reason we trek on these 40 days of Lent. In the second week, we will meet Nicodemus who has many questions for Jesus, as he teaches about life in the Spirit. The third week of Lent, Jesus has a conversation with the Samaritan woman at the well, who thirsts for water. The living water of God's mercy and forgiveness will quench her thirst for all her life. Week four, Jesus heals a man who was born sightless revealing to us our identity as God's beloved through our baptisms. Week five has us experiencing the promise of resurrection as Jesus is with his friends Mary and Martha after the death of their brother Lazarus. The final Sunday in March will be Palm Sunday, which begins our Holy Week journey as Jesus makes his way to the cross.

Our Wednesday midweek services will include these same conversations with Jesus from Sunday. They will be recalled to inform our conversations with one another as we discern how these biblical characters

inform our lives of discipleship today. How might Jesus respond to our questions of faith, and our current needs of healing and wholeness today? I hope you can participate in these Lenten conversations to help inform your lives of faith.

For personal Lenten devotions "Love Outpoured" devotional books are available at church. These quick 2-minute devotional writings will focus on the book of Romans. Romans 5:5 says, "God's Love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit." Each day from Ash Wednesday through Easter includes a biblical text, a writing to ponder, a reflection, and a prayer. As we recognize

God's love outpoured on each of us may we pour that same love out onto our neighbors, and all of God's creation this month.

May these conversations with Jesus inspire you to be the hands, the feet, and the voice of Jesus that the world needs now!

Faithfully, Pastor Mindy Czcycalla +



### **Nordland Lutheran Church**

[www.nordlandlutheranchurch.org](http://www.nordlandlutheranchurch.org)

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Mindy Czcycalla – Interim Pastor

Vicky Pearson – Office Secretary

Michelle Weiss – Children, Youth & Family Coordinator

Larry & Melanie Powers – Custodians

Nancy Powers – Council President

*Secretary Office Hours Tues. – Fri.- 10 am – 2 pm*

## Congregational Life

March is Food Shelf Month - The Nordland Shopping Cart is out and available for your donations for our March Food Shelf Drive! Remember that your donations can be either grocery items (non-perishable) and/or monetary. Please specify "Food Shelf" in the memo if you are writing a check and leave at the church office. We'll take donations until Sunday, March 29 and will then deliver it to The Link, New London & the Paynesville Community Service Center before Easter. Thanks in advance for your generosity in supporting our broader community and our neighbors in need.



Save the Date - The 6th Annual Nordland Barbecue Blues Bash will be held on Sunday, August 9, 2026! More details to follow.

## Nordland's Mission Fest is June 27, 2026

Save the date!! Our Fest is an important fundraiser as we commit to send \$5,000 to ELCA Missions each year. Any funds raised over that go to local missions. As always, we need a committee to help organize, a basically already organized event. If you've never been on the committee, or have not been on it for years **we need you!** Please contact NLCW Pres. Becky Thompson or Vice Pres. Diane Christle if you'd like to help or have any questions.

## Women at Nordland Report

Like most of you that are my age...I'm looking at my annual "wellness" check-up soon. It got me to thinking about January resolutions and goals for the new year. How are yours going? Have you also bumped up against unexpected paths? Well, why not join us at NLCW (or the Men's group, or the Youth/Family group)! We all want to achieve our dreams and goals. The fellowship we gain by gathering together helps us share our thoughts/ideas, our talents, wisdom gained, and to

feel more secure and confident in our faith journeys. And we have fun too! Next NLCW is March 11. Coffee and treats at 9:00 am followed by short business meeting and then an inspirational Bible Study. Join us if you can! (*If you need a ride to church let us know.*)

February 11, nine ladies met for NLCW. Treasurer's report hand-outs were distributed. Secretary read six additional thank-you for donations received: \$200 to Lutheran Social Service; \$881 from Thank offering to WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Luth. Church of America); \$1,200 to The Link; \$200 to LWR Quilt and Kit shipping fund.

Old Business: We need volunteers to plan Mission Fest on June 27. (See separate Fest update in this newsletter.) Plan on attending two summer evening Bible Studies, with lite supper at 5:30, on July 8 and Aug. 12. An updated handbook is still in the works. The Fall Harvest Sale date is still pending. (Sunday afternoon on Sept. 20 was mentioned, but stay tuned for a definite date.) the high school graduated quilts are basically finished. Thanks quilters!

New Business: We have a new "Family of God" for 2026. Thanks go to Becky for seeing that they got gifts for February. Buyer is needed for coming months. Each month our treasurer, Gail, will give you \$60 in Paynesville Bucks from NLCW to go along with your gifts. (See Avie Hunt for details on family and their wish list.)

The meeting was adjourned and we enjoyed an enlightening Bible Study on praying with the body of the Earth – praying among trees and along rivers. Watch for updates on fun and faithful events the Sisters at Heart are doing ... and try to join them! Together we can do so much good in the world! God bless you all on your private Lenten journey that brings you to the Easter cross!

NLCW Sec. – Judy Deadrick

## Attention Women & Men of Nordland

Save the date: Sat, May 2, 2026 for the **SW MN Synod Women's Convention** and **Lutheran Men in Mission Convention** both to be held at Calvary Lutheran in Willmar. "Rising in Faith, Leading with Courage" is the theme. Naomi Baker is the feature musician and there will be a special performance by Sweetwater Revival and much more! Check out the poster on bulletin board. More info to come! Contact the church office if you are interested in attending, or watch for a sign-up sheet.

Nordland Women, you are invited to attend the **Crow River Conference Spring Gathering** on Sat. April 25 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Annandale. 7 am – 1 pm, more info to come later.

Also, the **Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering** is July 16 – 19 in Des Moines, Iowa. Registration deadline is June 21, 2026. The theme: "You are Worthy"! More info is online at [WELCATG.ORG](http://WELCATG.ORG) with links to register. A few women from Nordland are already signed up to attend! Come and celebrate our worthiness in Christ and continue to build a bold, faithful community of women!

**National Quilt Day** In honor of that day, we salute our women and men of Nordland for the many, many years of putting their compassion into works. Showing God's love to those in need! Needs like quilts for: Lutheran World Relief, graduates, family of God, and to local families. On Sun. March 22 there will be several quilts on display showing the dedication to this mission at Nordland. It takes a village of hands to get a quilt made!

**Thank You** Dear church committee,

I am deeply grateful to be awarded a Conrad Sunde Perpetual Fund Scholarship. Your generosity will help me pay for my college expenses, which in turn will allow me to focus on working towards my career goal. Thank you for investing in my future and I hope to honor your kindness through my achievements and service to others.

With sincere appreciation, Tyler Mahn

## March Events

### Sunday Schedule

Worship, 10:30 am

Fellowship & Education, 9:30 am

- 4 Christian Service Day, 9 am  
Soup & Sandwich Supper, 6:15 pm  
Freewill donation- Youth Fund  
Lenten Service, 7:00 pm
- 7 Men's Group, 8 am
- 11 NLCW & Gather Bible Study, 9 am  
Soup & Sandwich Supper, 6:15 pm  
Freewill donation- Sister at Heart  
Lenten Service, 7:00 pm
- 12 Church Council, 6:30 pm
- 14 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Holy Communion Retreat  
At GLBC, 9 am – 1:30 pm
- 15 Winds Newsletter articles due  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade Holy Communion Class, 9:30 am  
Education Board Mtg., 11:30 am  
Service at Glen Oaks, 2 pm
- 17 Service at Koronis Place, 10 am
- 18 Soup & Sandwich Supper, 6:15 pm  
Freewill donation- Youth Fund  
Lenten Service, 7:00 pm
- 19 Bingo at Koronis Place,
- 21 Men's Group, 8 am
- 22 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Holy Communion Class, 9:30 am  
National Quilt Day Display
- 25 Soup & Sandwich Supper, 6:15 pm  
Freewill donation- Scholarship Fund  
Lenten Service, 7:00 pm
- 26 Sisters at Heart, 6 pm
- 28 -29 Confirmation Youth Lock-In, 6 pm
- 29 Egg Bake Brunch, 11:30 am (Palm Sunday)  
Free will donation- Youth Fund

## March Serving Group



Chairs: Kenny & Nancy Drange,  
Ryan & Shonda Nohner

*W & C = work/ serve, start coffee  
& bring 3 dozen cookies.*

*C = bring 3 dozen cookies only*

Please have coffee & cookies ready by 9:15 am

Mar. 1	W & C	Kenny & Nancy Drange
	C	Gerald Chesness
	C	Steve & Jan Volkenant
Mar. 8	W & C	Chris & Ashley Gordon
	C	Bob & Susan Peterson
	C	Josh Deadrick
Mar. 15	W & C	Youth
Mar. 22	W & C	Doug & Tammie Knick
	C	Neil & Katie Christensen
	C	Jennifer Wendlandt
Mar. 29	W & C	Ryan & Shonda Nohner
	C	Wayne & Kathy Steffensen
	C	Kasey & Erin Schoumaker

*April Chairs: Anita Hagen, Jerome & Lori Nygaard  
Please have schedule in Winds box or office by 15<sup>th</sup>  
Thank you everyone!*

## Thrivent Members

If you have 2025 Thrivent Choice dollars available, you have until March 31 to distribute them. Go online [www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com), log into your account, and direct them to your favorite (Nordland?) charitable organization.

**Simply Giving** is a great (and easy) way to both help with your own personal budget (regular periodic outflows) and Nordland's operating budget (funds the church council can count on to cover regular expenses). Forms are available for download from the Nordland website. Paper forms are available from the church office.

## March Anniversary & Birthday

1. Deb Stulen  
Ryan & Cassandra Leukam
2. Brad Hanson
4. Justin Christle  
Susan Pederson
5. Carol Simonson
6. Terry Porter
7. Tyler Beck
8. Jan Peterson
9. Kelly & Nikki Tayler  
Shawn Clark
10. Annabelle Ball  
Taylor Stulen  
Kendel Weiss
11. Dan Deadrick
12. Joyce Hislop
13. Cindy Fletcher  
Lauren Gaebe  
Audrey Stulen  
Travis Schoumaker  
Rheagan Thompson
16. Karly Senger
17. Bruce Nokleby
18. Nikki Tayler  
Karli Kranz  
Drake McDowell
19. Bob & Cathy Lounsbury  
Jeremy Palmer
21. Irik Anderson  
Yvette Lounsbury  
Pat Nokleby
23. Robin Anderson
27. Krysta Romeling
28. Cheryl Haas  
Tayler Humbert  
Adam Schaefer  
Aubree Schoumaker
29. Randall Simonson  
Kris Haagenon
30. Kason Olson  
Kristin Clark  
Loren Pearson  
Wayne Steffensen  
Bruce Bork  
Matt & Susan Nelson
31. Emma Olson  
Neil Christenson

## Nordland Youth

The youth would like to thank everyone that came and supported the baked potato lunch.

February 11, we visited some Nordland members. Feb. 25 we are doing Lent supper.

March 14 a few 4th graders will go to Waters Edge in Spicer for a Holy Communion Camp for the day. So excited for them.

March 4 & 18 we are serving Lent suppers. There will be a confirmation grade lock in on Mar. 28-29.

Youth will be preparing an Egg Bake Bunch for you on March 29. Hope you'll be able to make it.

## Youth Mission Trip

As the weather is starts to get warmer. The youth are here to help with spring cleanup if you are interested. For a donation to the youth mission trip. They are going to Seattle, Washington in July.

Contact Michelle Weiss or the church office.

## Nordland Member Visits

Here are a few people the youth got to know while they were on visits.

Cora Moline, & Grant Thompson, along with Brad & Kari Hanson visited *Kathy Chesness*:

How long have you been a member at Nordland?  
*Born and raised at Nordland, worked out of state and then retired back in Paynesville. Baptized by Pastor Dahlke.*

What is one of the best pieces of advice you have ever received?

*Be yourself!*

What is a gift God gave you that you enjoy using?  
*Giving to others, serving and helping.*

What are some things you enjoy doing?  
*Quilting, rosemaling, serving others through organizations like American Auxiliary, Hospital Auxiliary, Bingo at Koronis Place and Care Center, & NLCW- Nordland Lutheran Church Women.*

Paige Nygaard, & Rhett Regnier, along with Becky Thompson visited *Bob & Susan Pederson*.

How long have you been a member at Nordland?  
*Bob- Birth until age 21, then both for 40 years.*

What is one of the best pieces of advice you have ever received?

*Susan- Follow your beliefs.*

*Bob- Don't worry much!*

What is a gift God gave you that you enjoy using?  
*Good parents and good wife, married 63 years.*

How have you seen or sensed God at work?  
*You just feel it and Pastors.*

What are some things you enjoy doing?  
*Genealogy, traveling, going to the lake, reading & fishing.*

## College Scholarship

Notice: Nordland members who will be attending a school of higher education for the 2026-2027 school year are encouraged to apply for a scholarship. Contact the church office or go to the Nordland website for an application. Please return application by April 15, 2026.



## Thank you for your support!

Your contribution continues to matter! You can mail in your contributions to the church, or use Simply Giving, which will allow you to set up your giving to take place automatically. The form can be found on our website, or can be mailed to you if you prefer.

Financials Update (as of Jan. 31):

Year-to-Date Expenses 17,571.07

Year-to-Date Income 11,407.33

Year-to-Date (6,153.74)

Average monthly offering needed to meet budget:  
\$18,728.17

