

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Remember God's Promises
Live our Faith
Serve our neighbor



March 2026

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Every Monday - Soup &
Prayer @ Parsonage
Every Wednesday Lenten
Meal 5:15 & Worship 6:30

LIVE STREAM

Our worship services
are live broadcast on
YouTube! Just
subscribe to our
YouTube Channel by
going to
www.youtube.com and
searching for St Paul
Lutheran Church,
Springfield, MN, or
simply scan the QR
Code with your
smartphone.



Giver vs. Taker

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' – Acts 20:35

The phrase, *'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'* is a phrase I use to hear, but never knew where it actually originated from until about 20 years ago this verse caught my eyes. Look at Acts 20:35. Right in the middle we discover the originator of this phrase, *"...remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said:..."*. If Jesus was the originator of these words they than take on an even bigger meaning don't they?

The problem is that for most people, including even the church, we focus vastly more on what we are getting than what we are giving. This is why the church in the West has become more and more a consumer-based institution. It's what we are getting from the message and the music that determines our attendance. It's do I like the people at such and such a church that causes us to go to that particular church. In many ways we have bowed down to the idol of ourselves when it comes to our Christianity. We base our walk with Christ on getting more than giving.

Continued on next page...

New Member Class

On Saturday, April 11th from 10:00 to 1:00 (Meal Provided) we will be providing a Membership Class to explore joining St. Paul Lutheran. We will explore what it means to be a member and the expectations of membership. God is up to something at St. Paul Lutheran and we want you to be a part of it. Please RSVP in the church office by calling 507-723-5880 or emailing the church office at stpaul.lutheran@hotmail.com.

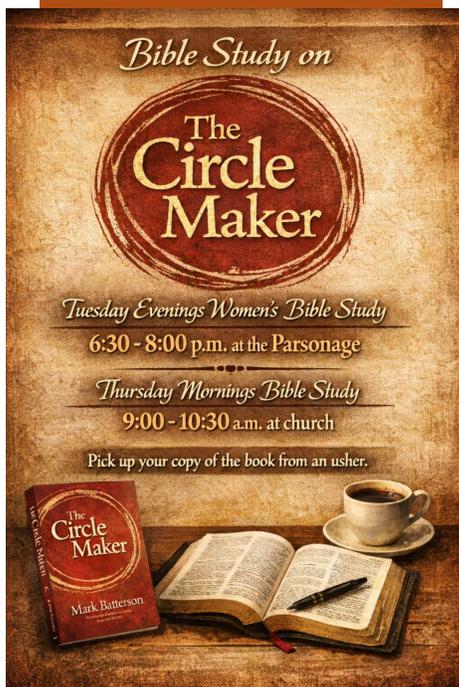
Bible Study on *The Circle Maker*

Tuesday Evenings Women's Bible Study from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Parsonage

Thursday Mornings Bible Study from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at church
Pick up your copy of the book from an usher.

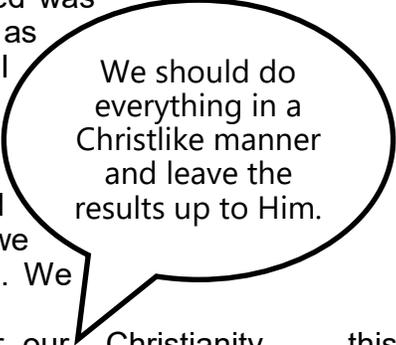
German Supper

Save the Date! Wednesday, April 22nd. See page 5 for more information.



Giver vs. Taker continued...

For example, take prayer. Over the years I have heard people complain that society has gone down hill since they removed prayer from the schools. First, of all that is not technically true. Prayer was not removed from school. Prayer that was school directed and led was removed from school. Students actually can pray anytime they want as long as it does not interrupt the normal flow of school. Trust me, I prayed many times when taking a test. Second, a question I ask people who say, "that our schools have gone downhill since prayer has been removed from our schools is this one," "So, when is the last time you prayed for your school district?" The problem is that we have expected the school to do what we should have been doing all along. When we expect someone else to do what we should be doing we are takers. We should be the ones giving ourselves to the full effort of prayer.



We should do everything in a Christlike manner and leave the results up to Him.

As much as we think the world should give us the platform for our Christianity this simply is not true. The world doesn't owe us anything. And if we are going to wait around for them to give it to us we are going to be gravely disappointed and spent a lot of wasted time throwing ourselves an inactive pity-party. Complaining about culture as far as I have seen has never worked for the church. But doing everything with a servant-like attitude towards a lost world has- even if we don't always get the results we may hope for. We should do everything in a Christlike manner and leave the results up to Him. 1 Corinthians 15:58 tells us, "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

We cannot expect a society that no longer operates with Christian principles to give to us what we want. But we can give to the world a Christlike response that brings him honor and glory. I will pray for this lost world, not demand my right to pray. I will serve this lost world, not demand that it serve me. I will love those who are lost with a Christlike love, not demand that they get their lives in order before I love them. I will give; rather than, take. After all, I have received so much more than I deserve.

For the Praise of His Glory,
Pastor Darren

Church Council Minutes

February 11, 2026

The meeting was called to order by Andy Renner at 7:47 pm

Members Present: Andy Renner, Kelly Sargent, Matt Sargent, Dawn Marz, Elsie Groebner, Angel Rummel, Jeremy Dove, Jeff Krueger, Katie Mueller & Pastor Darren

Absent: Kathy Pederson & Anita Jensen

Opening Prayer: Pastor Darren

Consent Agenda -- M/S/P by Kim & Kelly

Secretary's Report -- Approved

Financial Statement -- Approved -- Borrow up to \$10,000 to cover Monthly Costs M/S/P by Matt & Angel

Parish Ed Report --Approved

OLD BUSINESS:

Building & Grounds:

*Sanctuary Ceiling -- Reichel Insulation contacted to access and give a quote.

*Parsonage -- Housing Agreement presented/ accepted - M/S/P Kelly & Jeff

Pastor's Report -- presented

Website Update Given by Katie

Work Group Options - Discussed -- Tabled

NEW BUSINESS:

*Approval of Signatures for Accounts -- Add Andrew Renner to the account and remove Jacob Marz. M/S/P Angel & Kim

*Committee Appointments -- Council Reps Added

Building & Grounds -- Andy Renner
Membership Development -- Kathy Pederson & Pastor Darren

Mission Sponsorship -- Angel Rummel
Nominating Committee -- Matt Sargent & Andy Renner

Policy Committee -- Kim Graff
Stewardship Committee -- Dawn Marz

*Council Lenten Meal -- March 11th -- Taco Bar

*Holy Week -- M/S/P Angel & Kelly

Maundy Thursday -- April 2, 7 PM

Good Friday -- April 3, 7 PM

Easter Sunday -- April 5, 9 AM

*German Supper -- April 22nd -- Tickets set \$15 Advance & \$17 at the door -- M/S/P Kim & Matt

Closing Prayer: -- The Lord's Prayer

Adjourned: -- 9:20PM -- M/S/P Jeff & Matt
Submitted by Kim Graff, Council Secretary

Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin: Wednesday by 10 am.

Epistle: 20th of each month. Please call or email the church office with additions or changes for the bulletins or Epistle.
stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

Update

We appreciate you keeping us updated with any changes to your mailing address, phone number, and email address! We have many landline phones that are disconnected.

Birthdays and Anniversary's

- 3 - Sarah Riederer
- 11 - Ethan Langseth
- 12 - Lacey Groebner
- 15 - Justin Asmus
- 15 - Ali Trapp
- 15 - Mike Rogotzke
- 19 - McKenzie Jensen
- 20 - Jo Muske
- 21 - Keagan Streich
- 25 - Katelynn Clemon
- 25 - Brooke Kratz
- 30 - Duane Nachreiner
- 31 - Paul Muske

- 25 - Gabe & Samantha Salonek - 3 years
- 27 - Tim & Jill Vogel - 32 years
- 28 - Dana & Shawna Jacobs - 17 years

DATE	SOUND & VIDEO	PROJECTION	READERS	GREETERS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD
3/1	Groebner Boys	Groebner Boys	Jordan Pidde	Bill & Mel Vogel	Wyatt Dove Gavin Dove	Team 3	March 8 & 22 Kelly Sargent And Mel Vogel
3/4	Dove Family	Dove Family		Carol Carlson, Abby & Wyatt Dove	Hunter Jeppesen Madisen Schumacher	Team 4	
3/8	Trevor Krebs	Mueller Family	Jo Muske	Kevin & Jo Schwartz	Jonah Pidde Lorelei Pidde	Team 1	
3/11	Tim Vogel	Jacobs Girls		Kurt & Mary Glaeseman	Cash Anderson Reagan Plaster	Team 2	
3/15	Paul Muske Jonah Pidde	Jordan Pidde	Mel Vogel	Cash Anderson Reagan Plaster	Ellen Kral Leo Kral	Team 3	
3/18	Mueller Family	Mueller Family		Roger & Kelly Sargent	Rylyn Marz Blake Zihlke	Team 4	
3/22	Groebner Boys	Groebner Boys	Kurt Glaeseman	Mike & Crissy Rogotzke	Lydia Vogel Abigail Shaw	Team 1	
3/25	Dove Family	Dove Family		Paul & Jo Muske	Ellie Jensen Adalyn Rudolph	Team 2	
3/29	Trevor Krebs	Mueller Family	Jeanette Pidde	Bill & Mel Vogel	Gavin Brown Lily Groebner	Team 3	

PRAYER CHAIN

Please pray for...all those mentioned in our hearts; all those serving in the military, at home and abroad: Jesse Kettner, Cylee Graff, Shane Clemon, Ethan Langseth, and Emily Wendt.

Prayer Chain –If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along, please call Jan Severson (723-6358) or the church office (723-5880). Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer Chain and/or (2) included in Sunday morning prayers which will be included for **two** Sundays unless otherwise specified.

- Usher Teams
- 1 - Don Bloemke, John Marz, Jake Marz, Paul Meidl
 - 2 - Doug Gatzlaff, Dave Bittler, Andy Renner
 - 3 - Russell Rogotzke, Mark Buerkle, Jeremy Dove , Gavin Dove
 - 4 - Tim Vogel, Scott Vogel, Bill Vogel

Anyone interested in joining one of our many groups that help during the services on Sunday morning should reach out to Katie! We would love to have more people run the video and projector, read, greet, and usher!

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	2 5:30-6:30 Soup & 6:30 Prayer at the Parsonage 6:30 p.m. Parish Ed Meeting	3 6:30 Women's Bible Study at Parsonage 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	4 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 5:15-6:15 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	5 9 am Bible Study at Church	6 Office Closed	7 10-12 First Communion Class
8 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	9 5:30-6:30 Soup & 6:30 Prayer at the Parsonage	10 10:00 am Worship @ SJLH 6:30 Women's Bible Study at Parsonage 7:00 pm Ch. 8	11 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 5:15-6:15 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	12 9 am Bible Study at Church	13 Office Closed	14
15 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	16 5:30-6:30 Soup & 6:30 Prayer at the Parsonage	17 6:30 Women's Bible Study at Parsonage 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	18 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 5:15-6:15 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	19 9 am Bible Study at Church	20 Office Closed	21
22 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	23 5:30-6:30 Soup & 6:30 Prayer at the Parsonage	24 6:30 Women's Bible Study at Parsonage 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	25 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 5:15-6:15 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	26 9 am Bible Study at Church	27 Office Closed	28
29 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	30 5:30-6:30 Soup & 6:30 Prayer at the Parsonage	31 6:30 Women's Bible Study at Parsonage 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast				

St Paul Attendance

2/1 9 am - 76

2/8 9 am - 101

2/15 9 am - 104

2/18 6:30 pm - 75

2/22 9 am - 71

2/25 6:30 pm - 72

Budget Recap Year-To-Date (01/01/26 to 2/25/26)

Total Funds for Budget	\$18,600.25	Total Operating Funds	\$18,600.25
Budget	\$39,419.36	Operating Exp.	\$37,423.50
Difference	\$20,819.11	Difference	\$18,823.25

Scan to send your offering



No Memorials Given 1/29/2026 - 02/25/2026

In Memory:

Given by:

Designated for:

Looking Ahead ~ Holy Week Schedule

March 29th - Palm Sunday Worship 9am -
Sunday School kids sing

April 2nd - Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 p.m.
with First Communion

April 3rd - Good Friday Worship 7:00 p.m.

April 5th - Easter Sunday Service at 9:00 a.m.

Sign up to serve a Lenten Meal.
Contact Katie for more information.

We need servers on March 18th and 25th.

Meal 5:15-6:15 Worship 6:30

Pick up your Farm Fresh Eggs! Bring your empty egg cartons to church. Either leave in the kitchen or bring to Katie's office.

If anyone has a bookshelf they are no longer using, we could use it at church for Pastor's office. Let me know if you have one. Depending on the size we could use a few.

German Supper Requests:

Donations of bacon, pork, sugar, flour, vinegar, large cans of sauerkraut would be appreciated. Monetary donation will also be accepted to help offset the cost of groceries and take-out containers.

We will also need help to prepare leading up to the supper and also help to serve the day of. Please reach out to Katie if you can help!

St. Paul Lutheran Church

303 N Cass Ave, Springfield

GERMAN SUPPER



Wednesday, April 22, 2026

from 4:30 – 6:00 or Sold Out

DRIVE UP ~ TAKE OUT ~ DINE IN

Served **HOT** and ready to eat!

Sauerkraut with Pork and Dumplings, German Potato Salad, Brat, and Cookie

Advance Tickets \$15 per meal

At the Door Tickets \$17 per meal

Advance Tickets available at St. Paul Lutheran Church Office, Springfield Advance Press, or from a member of Church Council

Delivery to shut-ins only. Call 507-723-5880 by April 21st.



Soup & Prayer
at the Parsonage
Soup – 5:30 pm
Prayer – 6:30 pm
Every Monday

If you can't come for soup, you are welcome to come for prayer.

All are welcome!!!

St. Paul Lutheran Church

303 N Cass Ave.

Springfield, MN 56087

Postmaster: Dated material

Please Deliver Promptly

Address Service Requested

Phone: 507-723-5880

www.splcspringfield.org

Office Hours

Pastor Darren Olson

darrenolson553@gmail.com

Monday & Tuesday 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
or by appointment

Parish Coordinator: Katie Mueller

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-noon

stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

Financial Secretary: Anita Jensen

Fin_secretary@newulmtel.net

Housekeeping: Mary Jo Simonson

Maintenance: Al Groebner

St. Paul EPISTLE is a publication of St. Paul Lutheran Church. It is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs and ministries of the church.

Articles submitted for publication subject to content.

Sunday Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Sunday School (September-May)

10:00 a.m. Coffee Talk

Springfield Area Food Shelf hours
Tuesday 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Thursday 9:30am – 11:30am
625 N Jackson Ave - Springfield, MN 56087
(Springfield Clinic Lower Level)
507-723-3663 (FOOD)