

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
314 FOURTH AVE NE  
WASECA, MN 56093

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(Address Service Requested)

## March 2024

## Jesus Loves



**16** When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. **2** And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. **3** And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" **4** And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. **5** And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. **6** And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. **7** But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." **MARK 16: 1-7**

### ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH - (MISSOURI SYNOD)

314 - 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Waseca, MN 56093  
Church Office Hours (Mon-Fri): 9am-1pm

Phone: (507) 835-2647  
Email: [stpaulwa@hickorytech.net](mailto:stpaulwa@hickorytech.net)

#### Mission Statement

"Empowered by God's Word, we joyfully share the Love of Jesus with all people."

#### Vision Statement


"We will be a vibrant, welcoming church serving the needs of our members, community, and missions by partnering with other churches and organizations while preaching and teaching the inspired Word of God and our Savior Jesus Christ."

### SUNDAY MORNINGS (SEPTEMBER THRU MAY):

- ✝ **Divine Service w/Holy Communion:** 9:00 a.m. (also Facebook Live; and Radio 1170 AM/106.3 FM)
- ✝ Sunday School begins at 10:15am
- ✝ **Adult Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m.

**Pastor: Rev. Michael Grannis**  
**952-686-3046**  
[revgrannis@gmail.com](mailto:revgrannis@gmail.com)

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

 @stpaulwaseca

Greetings in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit, I have been asked, "Pastor, is it proper for Lutherans to make the sign of the cross in worship and in their daily lives?" Many in the Western world think of making the sign of the cross as being a "Roman Catholic thing" and therefore not something that "Protestants" do. However, this sentiment comes from a mixed understanding of what it means to be "Protestant." The truth of the matter is that making the sign of the cross upon oneself has been a practice of Christians going so far back (at least since the 100s) that this tradition is practiced both in the Western Church (Catholic) and Eastern Church (Orthodox).

Luther was a firm advocate of making the sign of the cross. He included it in the catechism as the way we should begin and end our day. He mentions making the sign of the cross in many of his writings as a way to ward off the devil, since it can be a clear sign that you trust in Christ. In fact, making the sign of the cross is a distinctly Christian act. Members of false religions around the world fold their hands, bow their heads, close their eyes and use other such motions of piety in their worship life, but only Christians make the sign of the cross. Indeed, making the sign of the cross is part of the historic practice of the whole Christian Church.

When the candidate for Baptism comes to the font, the instruction in the service says, "The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying: *Name*, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your forehead and upon your heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified." Thus, even before Baptism, at our entry into the Christian community, we were marked with the cross. Why is that? Because it was by the death of Christ on the cross that we have the Gospel of forgiveness and the promise of redemption from death and hell!

St. Paul says in Romans, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?... We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin (Rom. 6:3ff). Furthermore, Paul writes in Galatians, "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Gal. 2:20). And all who are baptized also receive our Lord's instructions, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me" (Matt. 16:24). So not only are we redeemed by Christ the crucified, but we live the way of the cross.

Interestingly, at the beginning of the funeral service the casket is covered with a pall, a white garment most often adorned with a cross. The pastor speaks the words, "In Holy Baptism *name* was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all *his/her* sin." The mark of the cross first made on the body at Holy Baptism now becomes a covering of the cross and Christ's righteousness,

indicating that the body of the believer will be raised to the fullness of redemption. In all of the Divine Service settings of Lutheran Service Book the instruction at the Invocation is this: "The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism." The cross is made when we hear the name of God, which was first spoken over and given to us in Holy Baptism: "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In other parts of the Divine Service the sign of the cross may also be made by the pastor and the people: the absolution, the Creed, the dismissal from the Lord's Supper, the benediction. We are continually marked!

As far as the mechanics and reason are concerned, the book *Lutheranism 101* gives directions: The sign of the cross is made by placing the thumb and first two fingers of the right hand together as a reminder of the Trinity. Touch your head at the naming of the Father; then bring your hand to the middle of your chest (over your heart) at the naming of the Son. At the naming of the Holy Spirit, touch your right shoulder and then your left shoulder... But when the sign of the cross is made, whether by pastor or people, let this be the proclamation: Christ has died for your sins upon the cross; in Baptism He shares that cross with you; because you share in His cross, you are a child of God and are precious in His sight"

Making the sign of the cross is not something anyone should feel forced to do. But some Lutherans have always used this faithful practice, it is encouraged in the Catechism, and it is increasing in use among Lutherans today. I for one think it is a good practice, and encourage our members to make use of this ancient symbol if you find it useful in your life and practice of our faith in Christ.

Living Forever, Now,  
Pastor Michael J. Grannis

**Mark your Calendars for these upcoming event**



Youth Mission Trip Team **Hot Beef Commercial Drive Thru fundraiser**  
Will be **March 8<sup>th</sup>** from 5pm to 7pm. You don't want to miss this!!!  
\$8.00 per meal \$2.00 for a slice of pie.



*Mark your Calendar!!! Quilter's Pork Chop Dinner will be March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. There will only be ONE sitting so watch for sales and get your tickets early!!*

*Easter Brunch*

*Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 following Sunrise service till 8:30 am.  
Menu: Biscuits and sausage gravy, pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, pastries,  
OJ, coffee and water. Proceeds go to Camp Omega Scholarships*



*Easter Sunrise service Sunday March 31st at 6:30am  
Sunday Service March 31<sup>st</sup> at 9am*



**All you can eat Benefit Breakfast for Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center** at the Waseca VFW on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am - 12 pm.  
Adults \$12.00, children 6-13: \$7.00, Children 5 and under: Free.  
Food donations for the Food Shelf are appreciated as they will be counted toward the March FoodShare Food Fund Campaign pounds of food collected.



will be on sale beginning March 17<sup>th</sup> and March 24<sup>th</sup>. Lilies and tulips will both be \$15.00 each.

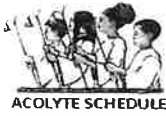


## BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

This Lenten season we see Jesus identify Himself as the God Who revealed Himself as "I AM" to Moses at the burning bush (Exodus 3:14). Jesus identifies Himself in the great "I AM" statements in the gospels. In our Bible reading schedule this month we read one of those "I AM" statements in the Gospel of Mark. Jesus is being questioned at His "trial" by the Jewish Sanhedrin. The High Priest asks Jesus if He is the Messiah, the Christ, the Son of God. And Jesus said, "I AM!" (Mark 14:62) The Jewish leaders understood the fact the Jesus had called Himself God, but they didn't believe He was God. So, they wrongly accused Him of blasphemy and sentenced Him to death on the cross. Christ took up the cross for us that by His sufferings, death and resurrection we might be saved, and be able to say, "I am a believer. I am a Christian. I am forgiven and saved in Christ." (Mark 8:34-38; I Corinthians 15; Galatians 3)

### March:

1. Numbers 27, 28, 29; Mark 8
2. Numbers 30, 31; Mark 9
3. Numbers 32, 33; Mark 10
4. Numbers 34, 35, 36; Mark 11
5. Deuteronomy 1, 2; Mark 12
6. Deuteronomy 3,4; Psalm 36; Mark 13
7. Deuteronomy 5,6; Psalm 43; Mark 14
8. Deuteronomy 7,8,9; Mark 15
9. Deuteronomy 10,11,12; Mark 16
10. Deuteronomy 13, 14, 15; Galatians 1
11. Deuteronomy 16, 17, 18; Psalm 38; Galatians 2
12. Deuteronomy 19, 20, 21; Galatians 3
13. Deuteronomy 22,23,24; Galatians 4
14. Deuteronomy 25,26,27; Galatians 5
15. Deuteronomy 28,29; Galatians 6
16. Deuteronomy 30, 31; Psalm 40; I Corinthians 1
17. Deuteronomy 32,33,34; I Corinthians 2
18. Joshua 1,2; Psalm 37; I Corinthians 3
19. Joshua 3, 4,5, 6; I Corinthians 4
20. Joshua 7,8; Psalm 69; I Corinthians 5
21. Joshua 9, 10, 11; I Corinthians 6
22. Joshua 12,13,14; I Corinthians 7
23. Joshua 15,16,17; I Corinthians 8
24. Joshua 18, 19, 20; I Corinthians 9
25. Joshua 21, 22; Psalm 47; I Corinthians 10
26. Joshua 23,24; Psalm 44; I Corinthians 11
27. Judges 1,2,3; I Corinthians 12
28. Judges 4,5; Psalm 39, 41; I Corinthians 13
29. Judges 6,7; Psalm 52; I Corinthians 14
30. Judges 8; Psalm 41; I Corinthians 15
31. Judges 9, 10; Psalm 49; I Corinthians 16



**ACOLYTE SCHEDULE**

Please arrange a replacement if you can not acolyte at the service assigned to you. Please notify the church office at 507-835-2647 when you have changed with another acolyte. Please arrive to the church 20 minutes before the service begins, as the candles are to be lit 10 minutes before the service.

- March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024: (Sunday) Kameron Kunkel*
- March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024: (Wednesday) Joel Hammer/ Makayla Clark Greeter*
- March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024: (Sunday) Ton Bethke/ Kina Grannis Greeter*
- March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024: (Wednesday) Alex Bethke/ Eliana Grannis Greeter*
- March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024: (Sunday) Kyler Welander*
- March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024: (Wednesday) Mason Precher*
- March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024: (Sunday) Kameron Kunkel {Palm Sunday/ Confirmation Sunday}*
- March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024: (Maundy Thursday) Joel Hammer/ Makayla Clark Greeter*
- March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024: (Good Friday) Ton Bethke/ Kina Grannis Greeter*
- March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024: (Easter Sunday 9am) Alex bethke/ Eliana Grannis Greeter*

**March 27<sup>th</sup> at Pizza Ranch at 11:30am, hosted by Nancy & Gene Schwarz**  
**We hope to see you all there!!**

**#29ERS**



*(Please note: If your name is not listed; we do not have your birthdate in our church records.*

*Please contact the church office and we will update our records. Thank you!*

Name	Birthday		
		Makayla Clark	March 18 <sup>th</sup>
Emily Holm	March 1st	Eden Inberg	March 18th
John Glister	March 2nd	Madison Olsem	March 18th
Margie Arndt	March 3rd	William Kuschel	March 20th
Lori Barbknecht	March 3rd	Dale Rudolph	March 20th
Dustyn Fogal	March 7th	Rhonda Christianson	March 23rd
LeeAnn Paulson	March 8th	Tim Arndt	March 24th
Darryl Rosenthal	March 8th	Greg Gentle	March 24th
Chad Hammer	March 11th	Terrie Goettl	March 24th
Denise Manthe	March 11th	Darlette Strand	March 25th
Frances Hursh	March 14th	Josiah Proechel	March 26th
Sara Steva	March 14th	Jody Buker	March 28th
Steph Seifert	March 15th	Linda Klinger	March 28th
Calista Schuette	March 16th		

# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

## **Sunday School News**

All children and youth Preschool age 3 through Grade 8 are invited to join us Sunday mornings 10:15 – 11:15. We begin in the upstairs Parish Hall with snacks and go down to the Old Parish Hall for opening with music. We then go to our individual classrooms for class time. Students are released to their parents at 11:15am.

## **Operation Christmas Child Collecting for Next Year**

Valentine's toy and school supply clearance is a great time to shop for the children of Operation Christmas Child. Small toys and games, trinkets, jewelry, cups/water bottles and craft/school supplies are perfect items for ages 2-14, for both boys and girls. **(No liquids, pastes, glue, putty, gels, dough or slime of any kind. No candy or gum. Also, no toy guns or military items.)** Items may be brought to church anytime throughout the year; we will store them for packing shoeboxes in the fall. Monetary donations to the Sunday School account cover the cost of the \$10 shipping fee per box; it takes \$2250 to ship 225 boxes. Thank you! Pray for the workers delivering the boxes and for the children receiving the shoeboxes around the world. We pray the Holy Spirit uses these gifts in amazing ways to share salvation found only in Jesus.

Questions about Operation Christmas Child? Please contact Jen LaCroix or Aimee Hill. We appreciate your partnership in this outreach ministry!

### **Updated suggested needs for Boys and Girls ages 2-14:**

Monetary donations for \$10 shipping per box – to pack and ship 200 boxes, we need \$2000

Toothbrushes (no toothpaste) – NEED up to 200 more

~~Washcloth wrapped around bar soap with rubber band~~ – Thank you!

Paper of all sizes, lined or unlined, spiral bound or not bound – NEED up to 150 more

Coloring books – NEED up to 75 more

Pens in black, red, blue – NEED up to 300 more

~~Pencils~~ – Thank you!

Colored pencils and Markers – NEED up to 75 more sets of each

~~Crayons~~ – Thank you!

Erasers, Dry watercolor paint sets

~~Small pencil sharpeners~~ – Thank you!

Combs, Brushes, Hair accessories, Necklaces, Rings

~~Cups or Water bottles~~ – Thank you!

Jump ropes, Marbles, Jacks, Outdoor activities

Playing cards, Small games

Solar calculator, Sunglasses, Band-Aids

Socks, Bags, Small backpacks, Flip flops/Sandals

Plain T-Shirts in larger sizes of youth large and adult small/medium/large

Wow! Toys for BOYS larger cars/trucks and balls that fit in a shoebox – NEED up to 100 more

~~Wow! Toys for Girls~~ – THANK YOU! We have over 50 baby dolls

Wow! Toys for Teens anything your young teen children/grandchildren like, they would like too!

## COTTA GUILD NEWS:



### February Cotta Guild

The Meeting opened with pastor doing installation of officers. Barb Denn and Deb Roemhildt did a devotional play on "Spreading the love of God to all." Two hymns followed the play, with singing, "How Great Thou Art, and Jesus Loves Me." Treasurer report read and approved. No January minutes.

February birthdays were Cheryl Sybilrud, Barb Denn, Kathy Flogstad and Kathy Lenz. Judie Thanked all involved for serving coffee hour and donations to Rachel's Hope.

Sheets for workers went around for 2 funerals and Lenten meal. Lenten meal will be Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>. We will serve hot beef, sloppy joes, lettuce salad and cake.

March 3<sup>rd</sup> is the pork chop dinner, served by Quilters. They need nine large pies and one refrigerator dessert from each circle.

The LWML winter retreat has been moved to Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>.

Rhonda will put out MITE box for March. March 10<sup>th</sup> we will serve cookies at coffee hour.

Our June Field trip to tour SPAM museum and the ne Rachel Hope building was discussed. Judie will call Mark Schultz to see if he is available. Lunch on your own at Bar BQ Restaurant. We will need workers for Minnesota South Convention in Mankato. Minutes taken by acting secretary Rhonda Christianson for Kathy Flogstad.

**Mites for Missions:** Our Cotta Guild supports missions near and far through the collection of our Mites for Missions donations. These mission projects are voted on at our Lutheran Women's Missionary League national and district conventions by the delegates. Thank you for your support of our Mites for Missions collection on the second Sunday of each month. Your donations may be placed in the mite boxes located at the church entrances. Your donations help share God's Word. The following mission grants were approved at the LWML National Convention in Milwaukee in June and have been paid.

### **Disaster Response Team** 2023–2025 Mission Grant 5 — \$50,000

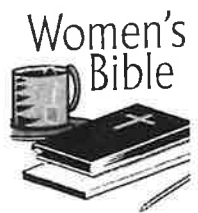
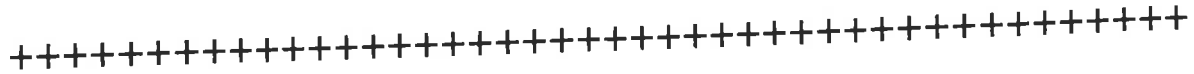
Trinity Lutheran Church Disaster Response Team (TLC DRT) in Tyler, Texas, answers the call to serve our neighbors in need by ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of people affected by severe storms such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods. The team is comprised totally of volunteer workers who set up base camps in areas that have been affected by natural disasters. They listen compassionately to the stories of people who have been affected by storms and share Christ's love with them in Word and action. TLC DRT's equipment and trailers are also used by volunteers from other teams, causing additional wear



and tear on equipment. This grant will allow repair and replacement of necessary equipment so the team can continue to be Christ's hands and feet and share God's love to people affected by disasters.

**Mobile Kitchen 2023–2025 Mission Grant 6 — \$85,000**

Forged by Fire Services strives to actively make known the love of Jesus Christ through its actions and words by providing warm meals, bottled water, and spiritual care to people in times of need following a disaster or economic downturn. They pray with those in need and offer resources such as devotionals and Bibles. This grant will allow the purchase of a mobile, self-contained kitchen trailer unit to provide meals in communities affected by disaster. Over 130,000 meals have been served in the Gulf Coast region. The mobile kitchen will benefit smaller communities in need that are often overlooked by larger organizations. When serving, Forged by Fire Services strives to connect local LCMS congregations within the communities and shares the mercy and grace of Christ, one plate of food at a time.



Women's Bible Study plans to meet Wednesdays, March 6<sup>th</sup> and March 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-10:45 in the old basement parish hall. All women are welcome to join us. We watch a video of a Bible lesson, read it in the Bible, and discuss what we learned.



The Neighborhood Service Center, which includes the Food Shelf, is feeding more families than ever from the food shelf. On average about 20 families a day are coming in for food. The most needed items are cereal and ramen noodles. The Board of Stewardship has placed collection boxes by the church entries for your donation to those individuals needing our support.

The Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center is home to the Waseca Area Food Shelf. In 2023 the Food Shelf helped provide food to 7669 individuals and distributed 137,265 pounds of food. Supplying the families that face insecurity with healthy food options would not be possible without the generous support of donors. The Waseca Food Shelf is so thankful for the Board of Stewardship's food collection boxes by the church entries. Needs are many - but items like ramen noodles, soup, and canned fruit are always in short supply. Cash or checks are also appreciated as monetary donations are used to obtain items through Food Bank suppliers that are able to purchase

food at a reduced cost. All monetary donations are tax deductible. A receipt is supplied for tax purposes at the end of the year. Checks should be made out to the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center (or WANSC) with the memo stating: Food Shelf. A tax receipt can be given for cash donations also if you provide your name and mailing address. Member of Thrivent? You can donate to the Food Shelf through Thrivent Choice online as well. Thank you for your continued support!



Are you in need of transportation to appointments or to the store? Are you able to drive someone to an appointment or to the store?? If you fit into either of these categories, please call the church office so, we can help you coordinate the rides that you may need.



A reminder to contact the Church Office when you are hospitalized, so that a pastoral visit can be arranged. Thank you.



Prayer Team will meet every Monday at 10am. Please feel free to come and join us in the Fireside Room.



Know someone who is in need of a "hug from above"? The Quilters are starting "**The Quilters Rocking Chair Project**". These quilts are located at the back of church and are available for anyone who may need one, no questions asked. Please check it out and if you have any questions please talk to Donna Hildebrandt.



# March 2024

## St. Paul Lutheran Church – Waseca



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1.	2.
<b>3. PORK CHOP FEED</b> 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Bible study	<b>4.</b> 10:00 am Prayer Team <b>12:30pm Education</b>	<b>5.</b> 1:00 pm Quilters  <b>6:00 PM Elders</b>	<b>6. 9:30</b> Women's study 3:30 pm Confirmation 4:30 -5:45 Meal 6pm Service 7:00 pm Senior Choir <b>7:00 pm Trustee's &amp; Evangelism</b>	<b>7.</b> 6:00 am Bible study @ Johnnie Bean	<b>8.</b> <b>5pm-7pm: Youth Mission Trip Hot Beef Commercial Drive thru</b>	<b>9.</b>
<b>10.</b> 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Bible Study	<b>11.</b> 10:00 am Prayer Team	<b>12.</b> 1:00 pm Quilters <b>6:00 PM Stewardship</b>	<b>13.</b> 3:30 pm Confirmation 4:30 -5:45 Meal 6pm Service 7:00 pm Senior Choir	<b>14.</b> 6:00 am Bible study @ Johnnie Bean 1 pm Cotta Guild	<b>15.</b>	<b>16.</b>
<b>17.</b> 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Bible Study	<b>18.</b> 10:00 am Prayer Team 6:00 pm NSC Board	<b>19.</b> 1:00 pm Quilters  <b>NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE</b>	<b>20.</b> 9:30 Women's Bible Study <b>3:30</b> pm confirmation 4:30 -5:45 Meal 6pm Service <b>7pm</b> Senior Choir 7pm Questioning	<b>21.</b> 6:00 am Bible Study @ Johnnie Bean	<b>22.</b>	<b>23.</b>
<b>24. 9:00 am Palm Sun. &amp; Confirmation Sunday</b> 10:15am Sunday School <b>10:15 am Bible Study</b>	<b>25.</b> 10:00 am Prayer Team	<b>26.</b> 1:00 pm Quilters	<b>27.</b> 29ers Potluck at 11:30am <b>7pm</b> Senior Choir	<b>28.</b> 6:00 am Bible Study @ Johnnie Bean  <b>Maundy Thursday Service 6pm</b>	<b>29. OFFICE CLOSED</b>  <b>Good Friday Service 6pm</b>	<b>30.</b>
<b>31. Easter Sunday</b> <b>6:30am Service</b> <b>7:30 to 8:30 breakfast</b> <b>9:00 am Divine Serv.</b>						

