



The Messenger

St. Paul's Liberty Lutheran Church

We are: a congregation called, gathered and united by Christ.

We trust: in God's creative and reconciling love through Christ.

We live: to celebrate, study, proclaim and live out the Gospel in our family, community and world.

Church Email: When emailing the church please use

stpllooffice@gmail.com (The old email @.org is no longer in use.)

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 8am – 12pm

Lenten Schedule



Sunday Mornings in the Sanctuary at 9am

Holden Evening Prayer serves as our liturgy.

Meet the following people from the Bible as we learn about the history of the Lord's Supper:

April 6: Mary Magdalene, Peter and the "other" Mary. We take part in the skits, "Good Morning Galilee" written by Pastor Jennifer Jelinek from Grace Lutheran Church in Cambridge.

**A million thanks to Ann Holmes for directing our Sunday "Good Morning" Galilee skits and doing a remarkable job casting and having props. We are also grateful for her work with our confirmation students on reader's theater. She is a gift to our congregation!

Lenten mid-week Dinner and Services in the Education center

It is a Christian Tradition to gather mid-week for fellowship and worship. The meals are listed below as well as the "sermon" portion of the worship. As is our tradition, members present choose the hymns we open and close worship with.

6pm supper (it will be ready at 5:45 if you need a little more time to eat)

April 2 Charity bar-b-que's

April 9 Youth Taco Bar

6:30pm service (which lasts a half hour)

April 2 Reader's Theater and Youth Choir

April 9 Promised Band



Holy Week

Holy Week

April 13 9am Palm Sunday

- Palm Sunday Worship with Gethsemane the Jerusalem donkey (thanks to Schusters) greeting us in the circle. We will process into the sanctuary with palms and have communion together.

- 10:15-11:15 All adults who assist with the Women of the Church (most of the congregation) are invited to breakfast in the education center as a thank you!

- 10:15-11:15 Sunday School children are invited downstairs for a Last Supper experience followed by an Easter Egg Hunt outside the Education Center.

April 17 6:30pm Seder Meal in the Education Center

- Experience The Passover Meal as it is integrated into the Lord's supper through a "taste and see" experience. **RSVP by calling or emailing the office with the number of people expected to attend from your party by April 10th.**

April 18 at 1pm and 6:30pm Good Friday Service at Deerfield Lutheran (with Promised Band playing at 1pm and Bell Choir at 6:30pm)

April 20 - Easter Services at 6am, 8am and 10am with communion

7-10am Easter Breakfast put on by the Youth, Men, Evangelism Committee and Boy Scouts!

Confirmation Schedule for March 6-7:30pm

April 2 - Lent
 April 9- Lent
 April 17- Maundy Thursday
 April 18- Good Friday
 April 20- Easter Sunday
 April 23- No Confirmation
 April 30- Last Week of Confirmation with mentors and families



**Sunday School
 10:15-11:15am.
 No Sunday School on
 Easter Sunday 4/20, and
 5/4 will be the last day of
 Sunday School**

**Middle and High School
 Youth Breakfast
 Thursday, April 17 at 7am
 Deerfield Lutheran Church**



Special Congregational Meeting - Sunday April 6 following worship

In November we realized that the doors leading into the newer narthex were not working properly. Upon further investigation we found that the frame is rotted and the doors rusted. We consulted with two companies, including Vogel, our restoration contractor. We chose to go with City Glass out of Janesville. We will be using glass doors to match our sanctuary doors which last longer and are less expensive than our current type of door. The cost is estimated at \$9,129 and we plan to take it out of our dedicated Building and Improvements account which has a balance of \$27,455. We are spending more than \$5,000 so will have a congregational meeting to discuss this work.



In the church season we continue with our forty days of Lent, the time we reflect on Jesus' forty days in the wilderness and think about our own wilderness experiences, often those that come upon us that require us to wait and wonder and continue to find hope, even where seemingly there is none. Unless we are forced to, we often try to avoid the wilderness at all costs, avoid that which makes us uncomfortable, which causes us to be vulnerable.

As I write this, I am just returning from North Carolina and our mission trip. The people of the Asheville area, more specifically the Swannanoa area East of Asheville were thrown into their own wilderness last September.

As we spoke with the local people we have found that this disaster was one of the worst in history. First the heavy rains hit, soaking the earth and priming the trees for toppling over with the horrific winds that followed. It was a double whammy and they will not likely ever fully recover.

As we spoke with many in the continual wilderness that has lasted over forty days and will likely be more like forty years, we heard a continual theme. We heard stories of the realities of death, of houses that had been completely swept away by the physical shifting of the river bed to take a new course where houses had been. We heard stories of people not realizing that the storm was much bigger than anticipated and yet roadways of escape blocked. We saw sides of houses ripped away revealing living rooms or bedrooms for the world to see and trees cutting other houses in half. We stayed at a camp that still had much clearing and right after the storm one could not even go ten feet without hitting a huge tree and of another person who still had to walk the half mile to her house because tractors couldn't access her steep driveway.

In the midst of death and wilderness which was confirmed with our eyes just as much as our ears, we also heard the Easter story, one of light and life creeping into the places of wilderness and death. We heard of communities coming together and neighbors meeting for the first time as people fired up grills and cooked through meats before they spoiled when electricity was lost. We heard of a volunteer who stopped at a rest stop just outside of Asheville and was pointed to a community food pantry where she didn't just drop off her donations and go back home like planned, but has now been there over six months and doesn't plan on leaving any time soon. We experienced community with people from Pennsylvania we never would have met. We listened to a musical ensemble that gave all their proceeds to the relief effort.

This is new territory for most of the people who experienced loss beyond belief. But it is not new territory to people who come from a culture of resiliency and self-sufficiency. It is in their blood and in their communities. We brought our hard-working ethic of Wisconsin (we continue to hear workers from Wisconsin are coveted, we get the work of a day done in a half day) and partnered with the locals resiliency and life sprang forth. In shared stories, in shared tears and shared laughter. We were all transformed from death into life, from Lent into Easter. We will hear from Luke, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, he is risen." We saw death in North Carolina, we also saw life. Both were held in tandem, but we left with hope. Hope that we will return and hope that life will continue to return. Thanks be to God,

Pastor Holly



Women's Night Out: 6pm Wednesday, April 22nd at 1855

*Older Wise Lutherans Coffee Hour
Thursday, April 10th at 9 am*

Anyone 55 and over is welcome to join us at the Ed Center for a festive breakfast to fill you up! We meet in the Education Center and have much conversation and laughter!



Women of the Church News

Summary of WELCA Board Meeting ~ March 9, 2025

- Cleaned much of the Ed Center. Still need to clean the storage room, re-label kitchen cupboards where items have been moved around.
- Cleaned the church – could have used more help. Pastor’s study still needs to be cleaned.
- WELCA Thankoffering – some money already turned in. Accepting offerings through April 13th.
- April 13th Thank You Brunch – We want to thank everyone who has helped in any way with our activities throughout the year.
- Fireside show on July 19th – “Church Basement Ladies – The Last Supper” Sign up sheets in the Ed Center and Narthex. Deadline for signing up: June 15th.
- We have purchased dessert plates and bowls for the kitchen.
- We are going to purchase 2 more racks for the dishwasher.
- We welcome Terri Borrud as a new co-chair for Miriam Circle



Volunteer Brunch Sunday April 13th

For all who have helped by donating food, worked at an event, donated money, purchased items supporting us...in other words, all of you.

Please come to the Ed Center following the church service for egg bake, pancakes, syrup, kringles, applesauce, milk, coffee.



Piggly Wiggly Receipts

Piggly Wiggly receipts are being saved at the church. It's as easy as placing your receipts from the Cambridge Store only in the plastic jug labeled and located in the north narthex. All proceeds will go to the Woman of the Church to help finance several projects throughout the year. If you have any questions please contact Holly Nelson. They will be turned at the end of the month.

NUTS



The women of the church have a supply of nuts if you are in need. They are \$12/bag and the offerings are: cashews, mixed nuts, pecans and walnuts. Call the office or let

Butterbraids being sold by our youth Now until April 19th

Order your butterbraid(s) from our youth. Flavors include: apple, blueberry, cinnamon, raspberry, strawberry, cream cheese, caramel rolls, and cinnamon rolls. They are \$16 each. Proceeds will go to our youth attending camps this summer (elementary, middle, and high school local camps, high school, mission trip to Kirchenwald in PA). You can



CIRCLE OF LOVE UPDATE MARCH 2025

18 years ago, St. Paul's Liberty Lutheran Church members joined the Circle of Love with Bethel Lutheran Church in Madison. In 2007 several children from Bordyanka, Ukraine, arrived here to spend the summer in Deerfield Wisconsin, away from the contamination of Chernobyl's nuclear accident. This was the beginning of a lifetime of relationships.

In 2008, Ann and Steve Holmes invited 2 young boys to their home from Bordyanka, Nikita Starovoytenko, and Roman Shulga. They spent the summer taking classes in Madison at Bethel, 3 mornings a week, learning English and computers, and touring Madison. The rest of their days were lived in Ann and Steve's home as members of their family. The boys enjoyed the sunshine and family activities here in Deerfield Wisconsin for 6 weeks.

Several years later Nikita's father, Olexander Starovoytenko, who worked at the Community Center in Bordyanka, took a business trip to Madison Wisconsin. He reached out to Ann and Steve to meet these people who provided a home for his son in the summer of 2008. This was an opportunity for Ann and Steve and Olexander, (Sasha), to develop a friendship that would not have occurred if not for the Community Center and the Circle of Love.

At that same time, several other families here in the Deerfield area hosted children from Ukraine. The program was active from 2007 to 2018. One of these children was Sofiia Kotenko, who arrived for the first time in 2014. Many of you know her as she resides in Deerfield at the Behlke's, as a refugee from the war in Ukraine. She is also an associate member of our congregation. On the 3-year anniversary of the start of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Sofiia shared a story with our congregation. All monies raised from that day are to be donated to the Veterans of the war in Ukraine. Sofiia has been here in USA for two- and one-half years, and has not seen her parents during all that time. She had an opportunity to travel back to Ukraine this month, for a long-awaited visit. This provided her with an opportunity to personally deliver the money raised during her talk.

She spoke with a representative of the Community Center in Bordyanka regarding the best use of this money, and was directed to a man who works with the veterans and knows what they need. This person is Olexander, (Sasha), Starovoytenk, the same man whose son Nikita from 2008, and the same man who visited with Ann and Steve when in Madison Wisconsin!

He speaks well of his visit here, and is very thankful for everything we have done for the children of Bordyanka. He has been providing aid for many of the soldiers who have graduated from the Community Center and are now in need of further assistance. He stated that the veterans desperately need generators, and that he will be able to purchase at least 3 generators with the money we have given. He was very happy to see Sofiiia and to remember his time here. Sofiiia was very surprised to meet someone from the Circle of Love. She stated that she felt a connection with Sasha, and was so proud to present him with the gift for the Veterans.

I am amazed and humbled to be a part of this wonderful ministry. Our outreach spans from Deerfield, Wisconsin, to Bordyanka, Ukraine! All because we here in Deerfield took the time and effort to help children have a summer free from radiation back in 2007. God works in so many ways, and sometimes we actually get to witness!!

Thank you to everyone here for your continued love and support. Wait for pictures that will follow soon.

Monthly Crafting Day

The Evangelism Committee is hosting a monthly craft day and you are invited to bring out your crafts and craft with us. Do you need room to do crafts? Is there a new hobby you want to try but you don't seem to have the space or time to do it? Do you want to teach people how to do something?

Come join us for our monthly crafting day! 8 am to 4 pm the following Saturdays: April 19th, May 3rd, June 7th, July 12th, October 25th, November 1st, December 6th.



Bring out your quilting, crocheting, knitting, jewelry making, scrapbooking or whatever craft you want to do and use the space of the Educational Center to craft with all of us.

Everyone is Welcome!!! So grab some friends and come out to craft with us!



St. Paul's Liberty Fest: Save the Date

Liberty Fest on Sunday June 22 from 12-7pm at the Fireman's Pavillion. If you are a business owner or know of someone who might want to support our festival with a raffle prize or sponsorship, please let us know. Thank you for all the ways you support this family event!

Information: **Entertainment:** David Hecht- 12:00-2:00pm, Horse - 2:30-4:15pm, Kristy B Band - 4:30-6:30pm, BINGO, Bags Tournament, kids activities including bouncy house and kids bingo. **Menu:** BBQ Pork, Brats, Cheesy Potatoes, Beans, Coleslaw, Bars, Ice Cream bars, Beer (domestic and specialty), hard seltzers, soft drinks and water.

Happy April Birthdays

1 **Jon Elmer**
2 **Glen Matson**
3 Alan Mikkelson
4 **LuAnn Hommen**
5 Greenly Williams
7 **Elaine Pohlman**, Harper Anklam, Jeff Staszak
8 Nick Slater
10 Ethan Kelley, Lincoln Holland, Lukas Weisensel
11 **Betty Nelson**, Ashley Dunneisen
13 **Sandy Gilbertson**
14 Lily Dunsirn
17 Carri Bohn, Harry Otteson, Masyn Knepper
18 Michael Hepfinger
19 **Edward Wayne**, Mallory Dunneisen
20 Barb Meyer, **Gail Peterson**, Rylee Berryman
22 Brian Anklam
23 Kaden Fiez, Kevin Haas
25 Trey Jourdan
26 **Joesph Peacock, Renee Rogers**
28 Kayla Gosdeck, Valerie Hove, Victoria Larson
29 Charles Ammerman, **David Tofte**, Nicole Roherty
30 Kelly Kittleson, Mason Birkrem

Talamore Senior Living, Room 120
275 N City Station Dr
Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Betty Nelson
Reena Senior Living
737 Reena Avenue
Fort Atkinson, WI 53549

Rose Zahn
203 N. Jackson Ave. Apt. 104
Jefferson, WI 53549

Arlene Scheel
Skaalen Heights
950 Ridge St. Apt. 202
Stoughton, WI 53589

Bonnie Kingswan
Talamore Senior Living
275 N City Station Drive
Sun Prairie, WI 53590

April Wedding Anniversaries

4 Mark and JoAnn Halverson
15 Robert and Julie Stenjem
16 Tim and Lori Gosdeck
27 Jason and Jodi Brandsma

Anniversary of 50 years and over and Birthdays over 55 are in bold. Please call the church office if you are not listed or changes need to be made.
608-764-5885

Life Milestones

Remember Homebound Members:

Marian Gotzion
Nancy Nesheim

Our House Senior Care
201 E. Madison Street Apt. 11
Cambridge, WI 53523

Delbert Dahl
6639 Pederson Crossing
Apt# 124
Deforest, WI 53532

Embersons'
1200 W. Evergreen Road
Deerfield, WI 53531

Elaine Schollmeyer
Wellington Meadows
525 Memorial Drive (Room 12)
Fort Atkinson, WI 53549

Diane Wilkinson
Home Again
308 England St.
Cambridge, WI 53523

Worship Assistants for the Months of April and May

We are looking for more volunteers to help fill these needs. If you can help please contact Michelle Jensen at jensen1318@gmail.com or 608-239-9575.

	Ushers	Reader/Prayers	Coffee Hour	Communion & Bread	Deacon	Cantor(s)	Acolytes
April							
Wed. 2	Acolytes	None	None	None	Missy Felio	None	Kaia Tallmand and Ryleigh Halverson
6	Felio family	Kathy Anklam	Randy and Mary Loomis	Ethel Lund	Tami Graffin	Jane Holland and Steve Holmes	Tessa Shortreed and Ryleigh Halverson
Wed. 9	Acolytes	None	None	None	Sue Mikkelson	None	Tessa Shortreed and Kaia Tallman
13	Ethel Lund and Steve Keller	McKenna Michel	Rochelle Vandergalien and Carri Speer	Lesla Herms	Tami Graffin	Jane Holland and Max Holmquist	Tessa Shortreed and Kaia Tallman
Maunday 17	None	None	None	None	None	None	Augie Knudtson and Landon Kittleson
Good Friday 18	TBD	TBD	None	None	None	None	
20 6am	Denny Rahn and Eric John	Holly Nelson	None	Sandy Gilbertson	Need	None	Augie Knudtson and Landon Kittleson
20 8am	Randy and Jessie Behlke	Jane Holland	None	Marla Tofte	Need	None	John & James Michel
20 10am	Bill, Denise and Weston Boerst	Sharon Holzapfel	None	Sharon Holzapfel	Need	None	Jace Caygill and Will Reed
27	Bill Boerst and Randy Behlke	Jane Holland	Randy and Jessie Behlke	Michelle Jensen	Tami Graffin	Michelle Jensen	Tessa Shortreed and Ryleigh Halverson
	Ushers	Reader/Prayers	Coffee Hour	Communion & Bread	Deacon	Cantor(s)	Acolytes
May							
4	Mitch and Sarah Schuster	Aleigha Altenberger	Ralph and Terri Borrud	Holly Nelson	Jessie Behlke	Michelle Jensen	Ryleigh Halverson

11	Eric and Chance John	Laurie Slinde	Steve and Ronda Erickson	Marla Tofte	Jessie Behlke	Jane Holland	Kaia Tallman
18	Zeke, Jessie and Sam Regan	Denise Kelley	Boerst Family	Rochelle VanderGalien	Jessie Behlke	Steve Holmes	
25	Pat and Beth Annen	Sharon Holzapfel	Vicki and Caroline Latsch	Sandy Gilbertson	Jessie Behlke	Max Holmquist	

Easter Flowers 2025



Tulips in memory of our grandfathers Jim Gilbertson and Albert Holmquist and in honor of our grandmothers Sandy Gilbertson and Laurie Holmquist given by Aina, Lilah, and Paige Holmquist.

Lily plant in memory of Jim Jensen given by Michelle, Nick, Matt and Maren Jensen.

Easter plant in memory of Roger & Gerry Hommen, Bert & Thelma Hommen, Art & Eleanor Rahn given by Daryl Rahn Families.

Tulips and Hyacinth in memory of Donna Smithback given by her family and Sofiia Kotenko.

Lilies in memory of Linda Storlie and Ramone & Beverly Sorlie given by Greg & Carole Storlie.

Lily in memory of Jim Gilbertson given by Sandy Gilbertson.

Tulips in memory of Robert & Wilma Birkrem, Otto & Ida Birkrem, Fred & Clara Frey. In honor of Mya & Brady Normington and Annilee & Oliver Legge given by the Holzapfel Family.

Lily in memory of Whitey, Georgia, and Kathy Jo Erickson given by Steve & Ronda Erickson and family.

Lily in memory of Carol Dvorak given by Dave Dvorak, Steve Erickson Family, & Troy Coffey Family.

Hyacinth in memory of Karen & Einar Borrud. In honor of our grandchildren; Preslee, Lawson, Lennon and Holland given by Ralph & Terri Borrud.

Lily in honor of Travis and Caroline Latsch, Tom and Staci Burns given by Vicki Latsch.

Lily in honor of Vicki Latsch given by Travis & Caroline Latsch.

Tulip in memory of our family members Edwin & Jeanette Tofte, Howard and Mary Mickelson, Miles Mickelson, and Alfred & "Dodo" Lund given by David, Marla & Craig Tofte.

Tulip and Hyacinth in memory of Lawrence & Marian Sargent and Louise Bakke and in honor of our grandchildren; Carson, Riley and Jocee given by Karen & Dan Sargent..

Tulip and Hyacinth in memory of Joel Prochaska and John Regan given by Zeke, Jess, and Sam Regan.

Lily given by Todd Nelson.

Continued....

Lily given in memory of our loved ones that live in our hearts and memories.

Tulips in memory of Grandpa Bob Saemann and Grandpa Buzz Kandler given by the Saemann Family.

Tulips in memory of Donna Slater and Andy Phillips given by the Slater family.

2025 Unapproved Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

2025 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

56 members present. 52 members needed for quorum.

Meeting called to order by President Lesa Herms at 10:04am.

1. Devotions and Opening Comments-Pastor Holly led the devotions in the booklet. President Herms shared her gratitude for the generosity of the members for overcoming a deficit.
2. Approval of Minutes from 2024 Congregational Meeting-Motion to approve minutes by Randy Behlke, second by Denny Rahn. Motion passed.
3. Treasurer's Report-Motion to accept report by Randy Behlke, second by Vicky Latsch. Motion passed.
4. Pastor's Report- Pastor Holly shared gratitude for the community of our congregation. She expressed respect to the leaders of the congregation as we represent dignity, honesty, and humility. She spoke highly about the leaders, Mindy Halverson, Steve Wetzel, and Rick Hommen as their term on Council has come to an end. She looks forward to a successful future for St. Paul's Liberty Lutheran Church.
5. Committee Reports- An insert was added to the agenda as there were some corrections made. Motion made to accept the committee reports by Michelle Jensen, second by Sandy Gilbertson. Motion passed.
6. New Business
 - a. Election of Church Council Members and other Church Leaders-President Herms presented the nomination ballot and called for additional nominations. No additional nominations were named. Nominations closed. All nominations were elected.
 - b. Restoration Update and Plan-Pastor Holly shared the update included with the annual meeting booklet. Several questions were shared during this discussion, Pastor encouraged concerned members to attend a restoration meeting. She deemed that if a congregational meeting is required we will proceed accordingly.
 - c. 2024 Church Budget-Motion to approve by Randy Behlke, second by Rachel Holmquist. Motion passed.
7. Adjournment-Motion to adjourn by Donna Rahn, second by Caroline Latsch. Motion passed. Adjournment at 10:40am.

Annual meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.