

St. Paul's Lutheran Church ELCA



May 2025

The Church Door

Country Fair News

Due to Hackensack's Road construction this year, we unfortunately feel the need to cancel this year's Country Fair. This is so concerning because the funds we raise during our Country Fair and quilt raffle are passed on to so many worthy non-profits. Did you know that last year WELCA (the coordinators of the CF) gave over \$5,000 in donations to:

- Hackensack Fire and Rescue
 - Faith in Action
 - Hackensack Food Shelf
 - Family Safety Network
 - Akeley Women's Shelter
 - Lutheran Social Service
 - Living Waters Conference of NE Synod
 - NEMN synod and churchwide
- We also gave over \$1,000 for expenses/donations within our Church community.

Just as you have helped at our Country Fairs in the past with your donations and time spent working, we hope you will help out this year with a monetary donation. Consider what you would have

spent buying pickles, baked goods, crafts, plants, sporting goods and outdoor items, nearly new purchases, and of course quilt tickets and lunch. Add it up. We hope you will consider donating that amount (or even more!) so we can continue to provide the financial support these non-profits are counting on from us.

If you would simply note on your offering envelope and checks "Country Fair", we will start a CF Fund to help our community. There are envelopes in the pews if you want to contribute using those.

If you have questions, contact any of the WELCA officers or CF coordinators: Diane Zaske, Laura Ristow, Ruth Bygness. Thank you so much!

HELP US HELP OTHERS



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Church Clean Up

It's Spring CLEAN UP TIME AGAIN!!

The planned "ENTIRE CHURCH"

Spring clean up date is Tuesday,

May 20th @ 9:00 a.m. Meet in the Fellowship Hall.

We will have Sign Up Sheets in the Narthex!

As always, your Property Committee
will provide lunch.

It's our way of saying

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US TAKE CARE OF ST. PAUL'S.

We couldn't do it without you!

(Please bring your favorite cleaning tools)

Property Committee meeting after Clean-up



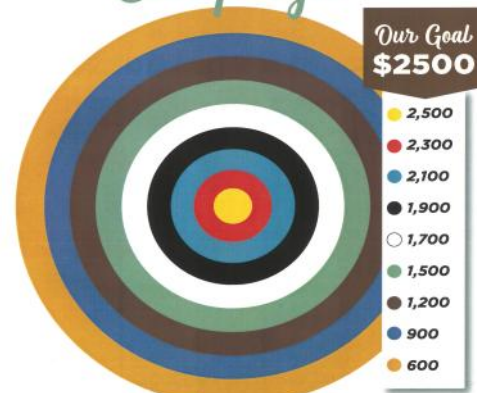
From the Treasurer

Just a note to update all on the *Aim to Train Campaign*, fundraising efforts to defray the cost of our new AED and the training. As of Monday April 7th, we have taken in \$1,529.00. This includes a donation from the Walker Legion Riders in the amount of \$500.00.

ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH



AIM TO TRAIN Campaign



DONATE TODAY!

Let's replace our on-site A.E.D & learn how to use it with a First Aid/CPR/A.E.D training session at our facility!

Questions or Help? Please contact Steve Hoopman (218)259.8112

St. Paul's Lutheran Church | 220 3rd Street S | P.O. Box 307, Hackensack | MN

Training For AED & CPR is scheduled for May 21st 5:00 p.m.

Sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

Class size is 16 people. Class takes Approx. 3-4 hours. Please sign up for a future class if you are unable to attend on the scheduled date.



Myanmar Earthquake

At least 3500 people have died and nearly 5000 injured when the 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck the impoverished Southeastern Asian Nation. USAID has not responded as expected, with cuts to this program. Other nearby countries have responded including Russia, China, and India. They have sent aid, rescue teams, and mobile medical units.

In addition to the damage caused by the earthquake, the country has been at civil war and battles between a patchwork of ethnic militaries and pro-democracy groups have hampered efforts. The International Medical Corps Emergency Medical Team has responded. It has a 4+ rating on Charity Navigator. Pray for the victims and victims' families caught in this tragedy.

Submitted by Sharon Schwegel
Mission Interpreter

April Birthdays

Mary E.

Mona W.

Bob M.

Rick Z.

Ken S.

Sue S.

Tonia K.

Marlys J.



St. Paul's Lutheran WELCA Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025, 9:30 am
Hostess: Deloris Ressen
Bible Study Leader: Loralee Torkelson
Number attending: 11

President Diane Zaske opened the meeting by leading the group in the Statement of Purpose and the Mission Statement.

Treasurer's Report: MSP

Secretary's Reports: MSP

Quilts: One a week are being finished – Two were donated

Prayer Shawls: 3 were given since our last meeting

Old Business:

1. Discussed having a "virtual" Country Fair this year as we don't know status of the road work for July.
2. The NE MN Synod Assembly is May 3-4 at Breezy Point. WELCA will donate a quilt.
3. MSP to make School Kits our in-kind gift again this year - assemble GWOH Sunday 9/7/2025

4. Deloris has offered to take on Easter Breakfast – Served 8:00-9:00 am

New Business:

1. Publicize School Kits and collect items from congregation
2. Living Waters WELCA conference Sat. April 12 at Bigfork. Sharon Schwegel will attend.
3. Discussed how a virtual country fair would work and options for sale of quilt raffle tickets.
4. Walking Tacos Event with the Bishop at Hope in Walker April 22 – 6:00-7:30 pm FREE!

Next Meeting: **Spring Fling Brunch** Thursday May 8th 9:30 am

Hostess: Garen Hebeisen and Shirley Johnson
Activity Leader: Laura Ristow

Respectfully submitted:

Laura Ristow, acting secretary

*An invitation to all ladies of St. Paul's
Come and join us for
WELCA's Spring Fling
Thursday May 8th
9:30 – 11:00
Brunch will be provided, and we will have games, prizes,
and fun fellowship!
Bring a friend or neighbor.*

Turn Your Tech Into Impact!

Got tech you no longer use? Donate it to UCC and make a difference!

We're Collecting:

- Laptops, computers, tablets, printers, monitors
 - Televisions, projectors, screens, DVD players
 - Stereos, speakers, sound equipment
 - Gaming consoles, controllers, accessories
- Routers, modems, networking devices

Drop Off:

UCC church, Monday–Thursday, 8 AM to Noon

Donations will be repurposed to support our community or properly disposed of to protect the environment. Watch for the UCC Tech Sale, where proceeds will help fund important projects!

Questions or need some help with your Technology? Contact

TechTeam.UCCHackMN@gmail.com.

Thank you for keeping tech out of landfills and supporting our mission!

Thank you!

Mike Schmitt

Tech Team Lead

UCC Church, Hackensack, MN

Tech Report

1. We have supported the Lenten and Easter services so far this month, with very good results.
 2. Mass communications- Unfortunately church directory does not offer the ability to text everyone in the directory anymore. (They dropped that service) But the tech team plans to research 1 software to contact the congregation all at once via email, text, voicemail. More to come on this.
 3. The TV in the Narthex is running St Paul's announcements on a trial basis. It is running the Pre-Announcements PowerPoint slide show. The TV needs to be turned on each morning but then shuts off automatically in the afternoon. Please let Chuck know your opinion if the announcements have value or not.
 4. MN Power has disconnected the Electronic Sign on Highway 371 in preparation for it to be taken down for the Little Boy River culvert project. So, the sign is out of service.
- Many Thanks to Mike, Char, Tammy, Tim, and Alice for all your efforts!
- If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions please don't hesitate to contact me.
- Chuck Forsgren 402-525-1127





Church Council

Meeting minutes

St. Paul's Church Council Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2025—St. Paul's Fellowship Hall and Zoom

Present: Pastor Leif, Laura Ristow, Russ Torkelson, Ron Wedin, Chuck Forsgren, Shirley Johnson, Alice Knowles, Steve Hoopman and Tonia Kahler.

Absent: none

Council President Chuck Forsgren convened the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Devotions: Alice Knowles

President's Opening Prayer

Mission Statement: "Proclaiming and serving Christ in the Heartland and beyond"

Additions to Agenda – Request for use of the church for a Fall Wedding.

Secretary's Minutes – MSP to accept as printed.

Treasurer's Report – MSP to accept as printed.

Pastor's Report – Holy Week services this week include a Seder Meal @ UCC, Good Friday service @ St. Paul's and Easter Service w/ breakfast prior to the service in the Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday.

Committee Reports:

Property report – Shirley Johnson and Rick Zaske have been busy readying the flowerpots located outside of the front entry doors for Spring planting. In addition, they trimmed the hydrangea bushes in front of the Church. The property committee has selected Tuesday May 20th for the Spring Clean Up Day beginning @ 9:00 a.m.

Tech team report – included in the newsletter.

WELCA report – included in the newsletter. Due to the construction on Highway 371, it has been decided that there will not be a Country Fair this summer.

Old and Ongoing Business:

1. The electronic sign will need to be removed and relocated during the highway 371 project planned for 2025. Minnesota Power has disconnected the power from the sign in preparation for its removal. Steve Hoopman has volunteered to coordinate the removal and storage of the sign. The Property Committee will take the lead on this project. No additional updates were discussed.

2. The AED is here and is located near the restrooms. Steve Hoopman has begun the fundraising efforts to pay for the AED and training on its use. If you would like to contribute to this project, please designate it on your offering. Training on the use of the AED and CPR will be held on May 21st. If you are interested in attending the training, please sign up with Tammy at the church office. Space is limited.
3. God's Work our Hands Sunday – September 7, 2025. We will be assembling school kits and rolling bandages. Please let WELCA know if you have any ideas for additional projects.
4. Still looking for congregants to attend the 2025 Synod Assembly in Brainerd on May 4th and 5th. Contact Pastor or Chuck if you are interested.

New Business:

1. MSP to allow AARP to use the church facilities at no charge during the 2026 tax season. This will be on Thursdays during the months of February, March and the first half of April.
2. Kids to Camp – decision has been made to support sending youth from Hope Lutheran in Walker to camp again this summer. Additional details to come.
3. Kids Fishing Contest – tentative date is July 22, 2025.
4. Approval given for an immediate family member to use the church for an upcoming wedding at no charge.
5. The Church Council Spring Retreat will be on Wednesday May 28th at the home of Shirley Johnson beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Devotions for next meeting – Laura Ristow

Next Council Meeting Date – May 28, 2025

Meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tonia Kahler, Council Secretary

Property Committee

Meeting minutes



ST. PAUL'S APRIL PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT APRIL 1, 2025, 9 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chuck Forsgren,
Jim Jacobsen, Dave Kahler, Dan Knicely,
Lewis Schrupp, Russ Torkelson, Deloris Ressen,
Pastor Leif Espeland, Shirley Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dick Ristow,
Jim Madland, Terry Bergstrom

OLD BUSINESS:

DBS Lifting Ramp: Scheduled for May 21, 2025,
Quoted \$2,160.00. Still on Schedule. AED
Training should not conflict.

Sidewalk Repair or Replacement: Discuss several
options. **Dave Kahler** will seek bids before the next
meeting and the committee will discuss replacement
vs. grinding down raised concrete.

AED IS HERE. Training Scheduled for May 21st.
Steve Hoopman is leading the Fund-Raising Goal of
\$2500.00.

ELECTRONIC SIGN UPDATE: Jim Jacobsen &
Chuck Forsgren have been in conversation with MN
Dot, MN Power & City of Hackensack regarding
disconnecting the sign. The sign must be moved by
May 1st. Steve Hoopman has offered to arrange
equipment to move the sign.

PLANTERS IN FRONT OF NARTHEX: Shirley
ordered Planters, and they have been delivered.

**RAIN GUTTERS ON THE EAST SIDE OF
THE CONFERENCE ROOM:** Shirley Shared a
quote from Reliable Gutters. After discussion, the
project was tabled at the present time.

SPLIT RAIL FENCE: Steve Hoopman has offered
to repair it.

**CRACKED WINDOW IN CONFERENCE
ROOM:** Tabled

NEW BUSINESS:

**SPRING CLEAN-UP DATE: MAY 20, 2025,
9:00 am**

PRUNE HYDRANGEA BUSHES: Rick Zaske &
Pastor Leif will prune when weather permits.

GRANDFATHER CLOCK: Mark Hamborg
from Park Rapids helped Tammy get the clock
running again by phone. He suggested if it fails to
keep running, we consider thorough cleaning.
Quoted \$550.00. It has been working for the past
month with no reported issues.

AARP TAX PREPERATION: Tax Preparers
have asked Tonia Kahler about the possibility of
using St. Paul's Fellowship Room in 2026 for the
AARP Tax Preparation Site. Property had no issues
and referred the question to the Council.

ADJOURN:
NEXT MEETING: MAY 6, 2025

St. Paul's Lutheran Church ELCA

Our Congregation is centered upon the person of Jesus Christ our Lord, Head of the Church and of this congregation. As members of Christ's Church, we seek to be His disciples as we serve each other, members of our community, and His Church throughout the world.

"Proclaiming and Serving Christ in the Heartland and beyond"

Kids to Camp

St. Paul's Church council chose to once again participate in fund raising for the Kids to Camp drive we have done the past several years. This project is a way we can encourage spiritual growth in local young people that do not attend church at St. Paul's. The cost for each camper is \$725.00 for a week.

You may donate to this project beginning in May and we will collect until the end of June. We will need to get the money to Hope in Walker by early July.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church ELCA

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

