



# Newsletter

Volume 28 Issue 1  
January 18, 2023

## Symmetry and Symbolism

You may or may not have noticed, but there has been a bit of an aesthetic change in the chancel area recently, so allow me to take the time to point it out in this brief newsletter. On the Sunday of the Baptism of Our Lord we dedicated some new communion ware for use in worship: cloths, linens, individual trays, and an additional pix (which holds the host), and also some new candle lighters. That time was as good as any to shift (physically) the focus of the altar. That means the Sacrament of the Altar is in the center, whereas for who-knows-how-long it was on the side. There are two reasons for this:

### *Physical Symmetry of the Divine Word*

Divine worship is that unique weekly experience we have wherein Jesus comes to us by the Word and Sacraments. The Christian church (especially in the Lutheran tradition) has always emphasized the *Word*, and we can consider the Word as embodying three different “forms”: the personal Word (who is Jesus Christ), the written Word (which is Scripture), and the spoken Word (which is preaching). All things of course are united in Christ, the divine Word through whom, for whom, and by whom all things were made and reconciled to God the Father by his Holy Spirit.

Simply put, the visual arrangement of the chancel area is now symmetrical: on one side, there is the lectern, from which we hear the written Words of Scripture; on the opposite side, there is the preached Word, which rightly distinguishes and applies that Word to the hearers; on the altar in the middle is the personal Word, the very body and blood of Jesus Christ. It's an added bonus for us that we have a crucifix painting that hangs over all as a visual representation of the same Lord. Sola Christus (by Christ alone).



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**SAVED**

by Jesus,

**SENT**

to serve.

## Symmetry and Symbolism

*Continued from page 1...*

### *The Altar*

Altars have been used for millennia for one primary purpose: sacrifices. Since Jesus has already been sacrificed on the altar of his cross, we no longer butcher and burn animals. Neither does Jesus get sacrificed again and again. But the altar still stands as a symbol of that sacrifice. So what of the Sacrament?

Well, in our context a few things get put on the altar: the altar book (which exists to aid the pastors), the candles (which I've heard affectionately called "dinner candles," the offerings, and (of course) the elements of bread and wine that become the body and blood during the Service of the Sacrament. The offering is placed there because frankly there isn't a better place to put them. Likewise the altar book. That leaves the primary focus: since altars are sacrifices, the remembrance of Christ's sacrifice is now "front and center," as it were.

*Simple, but Intentionally Meaningful.*

I want to be absolutely clear: there was nothing wrong with the way things were before. Still, it's nice to have reasons for doing what we do, standing where we stand, moving the way we move, and serving the way we serve. In liturgy and worship, as in all things, these reasons reflect the centrality of Jesus Christ in our lives as he serves us with his very body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. As we worship, we do so in physical ways that help our hearts and minds focus on the true purpose and effect of worship: salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

-Pastor Matyas

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## Turns Out, I Learned Some Things

Last week, Pastor Matyas and I were in St. Louis, MO participating in the next round of classes for the Specific Ministry Pastor Program. I was taking a class; he was teaching one.

I don't know if you have ever been to Concordia Seminary but it is well worth a look-see if you find yourself in St. Louis with some time to pull off I-64 at Clayton Rd. Parts of the campus are newer than others, but many of the original buildings date from the around the 1920's (and others were built to match) and have a very castle-like style. Many facilities have seen multiple updates while retaining they're classic charm. It's a pretty neat combination of solid, almost Old World, look and feel with modern use and facility. Exposed beam truss ceilings, neo-gothic arched windows, lots of stone and real wood paneling, and good WIFI. Actually, if St. Paul was made of stacked limestone instead of brick, they would be very similar. One becomes aware that Christians have been at this learning thing a looong time.

It's to this place that we send normal guys like me to learn about the unknowable, comprehend the incomprehensible, and explain the inexplicable. (For you Harry Potter fans, it's basically Hogwarts for Lutherans... but we'll save that fun for another time.)

The class I was taking as a one-week intensive was called "Creedal Themes". It required reading lots of stuff by guys with names like Basil the Great, Irenaeus of Lyon, Cyril of Alexandria, Nestorius of Constantinople, Eutyches, Arius, and Athanasius. Dudes from a really looooooong time ago. What could they possibly have known that we need today?

Turns out, a lot.

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## Turns Out, I Learned Some Things

*Continued from page 2...*

But it also turns out that there is a lot we don't know (and I would suggest can't, and shouldn't). When I was a young student of theology (like "11th-Grader-In-A-Lutheran-High-School" young), and for more years than I care to admit, I really thought and was motivated by the idea that God wanted us to know Him, and so it was my goal to learn absolutely everything about Him, to find all the answers to all the questions, and to master all the things so that no one could question my Smarty-Pants status as The Guy Who Knew Things. Some would call this "putting God in a box" and I either didn't see it that way or didn't care. Either way, I was unperturbed by criticism, but really frustrated by the lack of answers out there for some of the world's burning questions.

I have for some years now been getting more and more comfortable with the answer "I don't know" to many theological questions. We have, for some time now, prepared Confirmands for Public Questioning by telling them that the answer to the question "Can you explain HOW God can be the Trinity – 3 in 1 and 1 in 3?" is "No I cannot, but I believe and confess it none the less, because it is taught in God's Word."

What's that now? God's Word draws some lines of "This/Not That" around doctrine? Huh... What do you know...?

Turns out, God has made a box, of sorts, out of Doctrine, and THAT – what He sees fit to teach us - we CAN learn. We will NEVER know EVERYTHING about EVERYTHING inside this infinitely spacious box, but we can see the lines, and – not unimportantly – we can see what is NOT in the box.

There must be lots of Gods in the universe. NOPE! There is only One God.

The Son must have been created by God. NOPE! The Son IS God.

The Holy Spirit must just be a symbol of the Father doing things. NOPE! The Holy Spirit is real, personal, and active in power for your salvation.

Jesus was just a man. NOPE! He was God the Son.

Jesus was just God making Himself look like a man dying on the cross. NOPE! God the Son, The Word in Human Flesh died for your sin and rose in victory to life so that you may also live forever.

Call it a box if you like, but God has told us all we need to know for salvation in the teachings of His Word. Anything contrary to those doctrines is outside the box, and by definition makes war on your saving Faith.

Maybe that's why, once upon a time, they built seminaries – and churches! – to look like castles. Here is a fortress of sound teaching and worship of the one God that can withstand the attacks of the enemies of your Faith.

Turns out, there's a bunch more inside that box than we'll EVER know the end of. But we'll keep learning.

I'll see you there on Sunday.

-Vicar Schultz





## From the Principal's Office

St. Paul Lutheran School will celebrate National Lutheran Schools Week starting January 22 and continuing through to the 27th. According to LuthEd.org this celebration provides "our network of more than 1,800 LCMS preschools, elementary schools and high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God's work among us in Lutheran schools."

As a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church you play a vital role in the health of St. Paul Lutheran School. I would like to thank you for your prayers, encouragement, gifts of tithes, offerings, and tuition, which allows St. Paul to be operational. Thank you for entrusting your children and grandchildren's academic care and success with our teachers. Thank you for attending our athletic games, musical performances, and V.I.P. Day. Thank you for chaperoning our field trips, volunteering in our cafeteria, and visiting our office with a smile. St. Paul Lutheran School is a great school, because St. Paul Lutheran Church is a great church.

As both the wife of St. Paul Church's Pastor and the Principal of St. Paul School, I am recognizing more and more each day the beautiful and healthy relationship that exists between our Church and School. Please celebrate National Lutheran Schools Week with us. Be our guest on Thursday, January 26, from 7:15 am until 8:30 am in the school gym as we feast on pancakes and encourage one another in what God is doing here at St. Paul.

-Principal Mrs. Valerie Matyas

**HAPPY NATIONAL LUTHERAN  
SCHOOLS WEEK!**

**FREE!**

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**DATE: THURSDAY, JAN. 26**

**TIME: 7:15 A.M. – 8:30 A.M.**

**LOCATION: SCHOOL GYM**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT  
OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL &  
PRESCHOOL!**



## Annual Report—2022



### Parochial Report

**Baptized Membership** 913

**Confirmed Membership** 741

Total Gains 47

Total Losses 15

### Average Sunday Attendance

8:00 a.m. 179

10:30 a.m. 135

C&P 143

**Weekend** 316

### Baptisms

1. Grayson Hafeli January 16  
Kyle & Kyleigh Hafeli
2. Beau Marner January 30  
Michael & Kara Marner
3. Annaliese Gillespie January 30  
Sean & Courtney Gillespie
4. Walker Reymore February 20  
Brett & Kelsey Reymore
5. Eleanor Brenay April 24  
Matthew & Kayla Brenay
6. Landon Fritzler May 1  
Rich Perdue & Erica Fritzler
7. Howard Schlicker May 29  
Joshua & Samantha Schlicker

### Weddings

1. Cody Rajewski & Brooke Dubie June 4
2. Parker Davenport & Meghan Norfleet June 11
3. Riley Ringley & Chloe Warren August 12
4. Parker Wood & Martha Moreno November 4

### Funerals

1. Dolores Appold March 14
2. John Kamm May 10
3. Allan Wegener August 5
4. Irene Neumeyer October 24
5. Loretta Eickmeyer October 26
6. Vera Begick December 27

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## Baptisms

8. Margo Bucholtz                      June 6  
Michael & Michelle Bucholtz
9. River Lightfoot                      June 19  
Logan & Rachel Lightfoot
10. James Thompson                      July 10  
Josey Thompson & Kayleigh Whitlock
11. Sadie Podleski                      August 14  
Jason & Shay Podleski
12. Hazel Appold                      August 14  
Evan & Alex Appold
13. Jonah Weiss                      October 9  
Andrew & Summer Weiss
14. Reagan Schultz                      October 9  
Caleb & Mary Schultz
15. Maverick Jones                      November 6  
Ryan & Courtney Jones
16. Evan Gehrman                      November 6  
Jeremy & Laura Gehrman
17. Benjamin Ketcham                      November 27  
Timothy & Alyssa Ketcham
18. Noel Carr                      December 11  
Michael & Allison Carr

## Confirmations

1. Nathan Coyer                      Psalm 3:3
2. Landon LaForest                      1 John 1:9
3. Clarissa Carroll
4. Laura Gehrman
5. Mary Gettel
6. Ann Gurnee
7. Bree King
8. Shannon Martin



## *Releases & Transfers Out*

MAR:	Stephen & Sharon Schilke	Transferred out to Zion, Bay City
	Brandi Jimenez	Transferred out to Trinity, Monitor
	(Riley & Eston)	
APR:	Ethan & Angela Parons	Transferred out to Immanuel, Sebewaing
	Craig Wozniak	Transferred out to Zion Beaver
NOV:	Makenzie Pickell	Transferred out to St. Lorenz

## *Transfer In, Etc.*

FEB:	Tim & Brenda Rivet	Affirmation of Faith
APR:	Marybeth Lantz	Transferred in from Peace, Saginaw
JUN:	Carl & Carole Cryderman	Transferred in from Messiah, Midland
JUL:	Rachel Appold	Transferring in from Immanuel, Frankentrost
SEP:	Ryan & Justine Marlette	Transferred in from St. Michael's, Richville
	(Wesley & Bradley)	
	Andrew, Mary Gettel	Affirmation of Faith (Andrew)
	(Sophia, Amelia, Cooper)	
OCT:	Ben & Ann Gurnee	Affirmation of Faith (Ben)
	(Russell, Vincent, Margaret)	
NOV:	Al & Cathy Romig	Transferred in from Redeemer Lutheran, Salt Lake, Utah
	Rev. Kurt Eichinger	Transferred in from St. John Amelith
	Michael, Allison Carr	Transferred in from Trinity Lutheran, Utica
	(Levi & Noel)	
	Gail & Dayna Gesinski	Transferred in from Faith Lutheran
DEC:	Gary & Janet Heckman	Transferred in from Good Shepard, Saginaw
	Riley Ringley	Transferred in from Holly Cross, Saginaw

Number of Contributors		Amount Contributed in 2021		2021 Contribution Analysis	
205 (37%)	No Contributions	Envelopes in Report	547		
143 (26%)	\$1-\$1040	Active Contributors (Envelopes that Gave)	342 (63%)		
97 (18%)	\$1040-\$2600	Contributors who Gave Electronically	150 (27%)		
48 (9%)	\$2600-\$5200	Average Weekly per Active Contributor	\$50		
44 (8%)	\$5200-10,400	Average Monthly per Active Contributor	\$218		
10 (2%)	Over \$10,400	Average Annual per Active Contributor	\$2,610		



## Welcome New Members!

September 2022



Sophia  
Amelia  
Cooper

Andrew & Mary Gettel

Ben & Ann  
Gurnee

Russell  
Vincent  
Margaret

October 2022



David, Gail & Dayna Gesinski  
November 2022

Gail and Dayna Gesinski recently joined David Gesinski here at St Paul, transferring from Faith Lutheran. Both Dave and Gail are retired and Dayna is in grad school at Ferris, pursuing a PharmD. Thank you to Pastor Matyas and the entire St Paul community for being so warm and welcoming, even during the pandemic. We are all happy to be here now!!

Contact information for new members received since the latest directory was published is provided in the blue photo album at the bottom of the case where new member pictures are displayed in the church entry. Pictures removed to make room for new ones are stored in the photo album until those recently received members are pictured in a new directory.

## WILD GAME POTLUCK & SILENT AUCTION

Date: Sunday, January 29th

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: St. Paul School Gym



## Benkert Family Update

Friends and Family of St. Paul,

Happy New Year and greetings to one and all! I would like to take a moment to update you on our time at seminary. I am now well into my second quarter and so far things are going well. I am currently taking Homiletics I, Confessions I, Hebrew I, and Gospels II. Homiletics is designed to get seminary students prepared to preach, and since that is a rather large part of the office of Holy Ministry, it is definitely the class that I am trying to get the most out of this quarter. After this class is completed, I will be preaching at my fieldwork church; it looks like Easter will be my first time in the pulpit. We had a very good Christmas, and our Children were blessed to have some of you "play the part of St. Nicolas for them," thank you so much for that blessing. Vanessa and the kids are also doing well. Our children are fitting into their school more and more and are making good friendships. We wish you God's blessings on your new year and would ask that you keep us all in your prayers.

In Christ,

The Benkert's



## All Things Considered #7 "God is Moving in Myanmar/Burma"

This is the seventh in a series of more positive news items coming from nations which, historically, have been hostile to Christianity and to the followers of Christ. After so many years of writing about harsh negative and harmful responses to Christians it is good to see there are nations where terroristic actions are becoming less extreme. This vignette was taken from The Voice of the Martyrs 2022 Global Prayer Guide.



Last month we looked at a little story about what's happening in the sub-continent of India. The country to the east of India is the country of Myanmar/Burma. During WW2 Burma was in the thick of that terrible struggle in the CBI/Asian theater. It is a country I studied with great interest because my father spent time serving there and was part of the horrors of the tail-end of a battle called the "Burma Run." If you are interested look that battle up. Burma still experiences upheaval and many political and social unknowns. Below is a small synopsis of that harsh history from a Christian perspective.

"Myanmar has experienced great political upheaval, but front-line workers continue to minister to their predominantly Buddhist neighbors, including unreached people groups, as they are able. Indigenous missionaries are sharing the gospel, while other workers continue to support persecuted believers kicked out of their homes or villages. "Things seem uncertain., a VOM worker in Myanmar said, "but one thing we are sure about is Jesus is still our King. Nothing happens to us without His knowledge and permission."

In times of troubles and trials God is there and we are thankful for His presence. The Christian church of Myanmar/Burma truly needs our prayers. Pray that those ministering there will experience success and remain faithful to their calling. Pray also that we may be found worthy of being called, Christian.

## Acolyte and Reader Schedule for February 2023

<b>Acolytes:</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Readers:</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Sun., Feb. 5</b>	Iva Bebow	Chase Wyman	Scott Engelhardt	Terry Burkhard	
<b>Sun., Feb. 12</b>	Dolan Wills	Sofia Glasser	—	Jeremy Warren	
<b>Sun., Feb. 19</b>	Lillian Bourdow	Owen Weiss	Ken Van Cise	—	
<b>Wed., Feb. 22</b> Ash Wednesday	Maura Zeilinger (3:30 p.m.)	Ava Begick (6:30 p.m.)	—	—	
<b>Sun., Feb. 26</b>	Elise Helmreich	Hayden Kusterer	Ben Helmreich	Howard McMullen	

## Altar Guild and Ushers in February 2023

<b>Altar Guild:</b>	<b>8 a.m. Ushers: Group #3</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. Ushers: Group #6</b>	<b>Head Usher:</b>
Joanne Behmlander	ART ZEILINGER (671-2419)	BRIAN APPOLD (293-0195)	Dale Jezowski (327-7613)
Melissa Appold	Bob Schlicker	Andy Weiss	
Jean Begick	Jason Schlicker	Scott Weiss	
	Peter Auernhammer	Jeffrey Olson	
	Dan Bebow	Eddie Switek	
	Sawyer Bebow		

## Family Elder List (January-June 2023)

<b><u>Family Name:</u></b>	<b><u>Elder:</u></b>	<b><u>Family Name:</u></b>	<b><u>Elder:</u></b>
A-Bec Abraham-Beckers	Brian Appold	L-Na LaFontaine – Nagy	DJ Bourdow
Beg-Br Begick-Brown	Howard Helmreich	Ne-Schi Neuman– Schimm	Scott Weiss
Bu-E Buda – Engelhardt	Jeremy Begick	Schl – V Pfau-Schlicker	Tom Appold
F-He Finney - Hendrick	Ben Burnison	Wa – Z Schmidt-Wagner	Jerry Schlicker
Hi-Ku Hildebrant– Kusterer	Terry Burkard		

Your elder should be able to answer any church related questions you may have, or they can find the person who can answer your question.

### St. Paul Lutheran Church Newsletter

December 21, 2022  
Volume 27—Issue 11

6100 Westside Saginaw Road  
Bay City, MI 48706  
Church Phone: 989.686.7140  
School Phone: 989.684.4450

### Pastor:

Rev. Dennis Matyas

### Vicar:

Mr. David Schultz

### Principal:

Mrs. Valerie Matyas

### Office Manager:

Mrs. Nicole Burnison

Newsletter articles for the next newsletter are due on Wednesday, January 11, 2022. You may submit articles to the email address below or drop them off in the office.  
Website: [www.stpaulbaycity.org](http://www.stpaulbaycity.org)  
Email: [office@stpaulbaycity.org](mailto:office@stpaulbaycity.org)

**Voters Meeting Minutes  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
May 15, 2022  
(APPROVED)**

Chairman John Schlicker called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Pastor Matyas led us in an opening prayer.

**Minutes**-The minutes from the January 9, 2022 Voters Meeting and the February 20, 2022 Special Voters Meeting were approved as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report**-Treasurer Andy Wiess presented the final report in his tenure. Home revenue for the month of April and YTD are up compared to budget and to 2021 actual. Church expenditures for April and YTD are up compared to the budget and 2021. Some factors for that involve elder care spending and bulletin supplies. School salaries are up as well, due to more utilization of substitute teachers. Andy stressed the decline in Ministry Center Giving for the last month. The Board of Business Management will be monitoring it to see if it is a fluke or a trend. The Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit. John thanked Andy for his service as Treasurer and as past Board of Business Chair.

**Election**-Vice Chairman Jason Schlicker presented the ballot for today's election. **A motion passed** to approve the ballot as presented. The candidates were introduced, voting procedures were explained, ballots distributed and voting commenced. Pastor led us in prayer. **A motion passed** to make the election unanimous and to destroy the ballots.

Election results are as follows:

Chairman: Weston Appold

Vice Chairman: Jason Schlicker

Secretary: Sharon Schlicker

Treasurer: None

Assistant Financial Secretary: Gary Behmlander

Board of Elders: Jeremy Begick, DJ Bourdow, Terry Burkhard, Ben Burnison, Jerry Schlicker

Board of Trustees: Rylan Appold, Nathan Kolberg, Brett Reymore, Justin Zeilinger

Board of Education: Matt Schlicker, Judy Spielhaupter

Board of Youth Ministry: Jeremy Gehrman

Board of Business Management: Danny Bourdow, Dan Covieo, Lynn Hendrick

**Gifts and Memorials**-Jason reported that there were no new requests to report since the January Voters Meeting.

**175th Anniversary**-Committee Chair Vaughn Begick reported that they are looking for some youth and a teacher to be involved. The celebration is scheduled for Sunday, June 25th, 2023. They are working on a calendar to commemorate the anniversary. A theme is still needed.

**Board of Elders**-Tom Appold presented the Elders Report on behalf of Chairman Jeremy Warren:

1. Membership Changes

a. In

- i. Tim and Brenda Rivet (Profession of Faith)
- ii. John Kamm (Affirmation of Faith)
- iii. Marybeth Lantz-transfer from Peace, Saginaw

b. Out

- i. Steve and Sharon Schilke-transfer to Zion, Bay City
- ii. Brandi Jiminez, children Riley and Eston-transfer to Trinity, Monitor
- iii. Angela Persons-transfer to Immanuel, Sebewaing
- iv. Ethan Persons-transfer to Immanuel, Sebewaing



- v. Craig Wozniak-transfer to Beaver Zion
- vi. Kurt Eichinger-transfer to St. John, Amelith
- c. Deaths
  - i. Dolores Appold
  - ii. John Kamm
- 2. The Elders completed reading the book "The Spirituality of the Cross".
- 3. Vicar Schultz has completed his first semester in the SMP Program.

**Board of Trustees**-Chairman Weston Appold updated Voters on the following:

- 1. A new handrail has been installed at Church.
- 2. They are looking to purchase a new lawn mower, preferably a larger commercial grade unit.
- 3. Dan Bourdow has not received any response from Wolgast Construction yet regarding warranty issues with the Ministry Center.

**Board of Education**-Rachel Appold presented the Board of Education Report on behalf of Chair Danielle Bach:

- 1. The school year is wrapping up and the last day of school is June 3rd.
- 2. At this time, 115 students are enrolled in Pre-k through 8th grade next year.
- 3. Principal Jack Lustila will be retiring and moving on and Valerie Matyas will be assuming the position as Principal.

**Board of Business Management**-Chair Andy Weiss shared the following with Voters:

- 1. They are working on setting tuition rates for the upcoming school year.
- 2. They are reviewing the Endowment Fund accounts and investments so that the funds are getting the best return.
- 3. Property and liability insurance options are being investigated.

**Board of Youth**-Vicar David Schult reported on the following Youth news:

- 1. Plans for the National Youth Gathering this summer are going smoothly.
- 2. They are desperately looking for VBS Directors to take over most of David's VBS responsibilities.
- 3. They are also in need of Sunday School Directors.

**New Business**

- 1. Constitution and By-Law Changes
  - a. Pastor explained the three items for review and change. No action is required at this time.
    - i. Board of Education: "XI. 10. They shall visit the various classes of the parish school annually." The Superintendent suggested at the accreditation meeting that this be excised. Observation of teachers is included in the principal's job description.
    - ii. Planning Committee: Functionality of the past two projects has been inconsistent with the current bylaws; changes are suggested to better reflect an efficient process.
    - iii. Facilities Manager: With the increased footprint of the Ministry Center, the need is apparent for a person to be the go-to for any questions and issues relative to the general operations and maintenance of the properties.

There being no further business, a motion for adjournment passed. Following a moment of silence for Dolores Appold and John Kamm, Pastor led us in a closing prayer.

The meeting closed at 1:57 p.m.

54 Members were in attendance.

Respectfully submitted one last time,  
Jean Begick, Secretary



**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes of December 8th, 2022  
(Approved)**

Chairman Weston Appold called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Matyas led us in an opening prayer.

Council members in attendance include: Weston Appold, Pastor Matyas, Vicar Schultz, Andy Weiss, Valerie Matyas, Tom Appold, Jim Marter, Josh Schlicker, Leeta Theiss, Kayla Schlicker and Sharon Schlicker.

**Acknowledgement of Blessings** - The success of the Holly Jolly Christmas Store with families and volunteers helping the kids have fun buying gifts for others. We have a balanced budget for next year. New gutters at Vicar Schultz's house.

**Minutes** - *A motion passed* approving the minutes from November 10th, 2022 council meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** - Andy Weiss presented the treasurer's report. Church revenue is good vs the budget and school revenue is in line also. The scheduled mortgage payment is being made on the Ministry Center. The Ministry Center report will be updated in January. The Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit.

**Committee Reports**

**Gifts and Memorials** - No report

**175th Anniversary Committee** - Wes presented a report from Vaughn Begick. The calendar is being finalized which will also include drone pictures of the church and Ministry Center. Pastor Matyas is contacting former church members that are currently pastors to be guest pastors next year. Rachel Abraham has joined the committee to work on projects with the children. He also is asking if the meal after church should be at no charge, free will offering or sell tickets? We discussed and recommended selling tickets to plan the amount of food needed for the meal.

**Planning Committee** - Valerie Matyas presented the planning committee report. Jake Golden was present to explain different options regarding the school locker room remodel. Valerie will discuss the information with the planning committee and will also present it at the Voters Meeting, asking to move floor plans to bid documents. The voter's will be asked to approve moving forward with the plans and cost not to exceed \$5,000.

**Auditing Committee** - We discussed forming the auditing committee. *A motion passed* to appoint Barb Appold and Lori Appold to that committee. The plan is to have one more person added to that committee.

**BOARD REPORTS**

**Board of Elders** - Chairman Tom Appold

1. Membership changes

- a. In: Brenna King & Jacob King (children of Bree King) - baptized in 2015
- Riley Ringley - transfer from Holy Cross, Saginaw
- Gary & Jan Heckman - transfer from Good Shepherd, Saginaw

**Board of Trustees** - Chairman Josh Schlicker reported the following:

1. The estimate for the dehumidifier system for the Ministry Center is \$1,858. It was discussed and he will pursue and funds will come from the building fund.
2. The hot water heater in the church basement bathroom needs to be replaced.
3. Continuing to pursue an AED for the Ministry Center. If unable to get through Shocks & Saves, Ladies Aid would like to donate towards the AED and first aid kit.
4. Gutters were installed at the Ministry Center, Vicar Schultz's house and the God Box.
5. Will contact Hugo's regarding having the 2 mullions in the Ministry Center keyed alike.

**Board of Education** - Chairman Jim Marter reports they are continuing to work on classroom size policy and statement of belief. The staff Christmas party will be on December 16th. The school Christmas program will be on December 21st with refreshments after the program.

A truancy letter has been drafted for clearer communication with parents of students who have missed a substantial amount of school (10 days or more). The letter reminds parents that the Handbook states: "Children who miss more than 20 days in one year must be approved for promotion by the Board of Education".

**Board of Business Management** - Chairman Andy Weiss presented the budget for 2023. Preparing the budget consisted of reaching out to individual boards for information on the coming year, revenue study, salary study, health insurance increases, energy bill increases, cost of living, school changing to custodian service for cleaning and 2023-2024 school year to have half time first and second grade teacher. *A motion passed* to present the budget at the Voters Meeting for approval in January.

**Board of Youth** - Chairman Kayla Schlicker reported that they are working on the Christmas Eve service. The wild game dinner will be in January. There are 44 kids in Sunday School and they will be having a birthday party for Jesus. They are continuing to request communication go through the group vs Vicar. They will be in the process of contacting people for next year's VBS and also will be arranging child care for the Voters Meeting in January.

**Board of Evangelism** - no report

**Board of Stewardship** - Chairman Leeta Theiss met with Valerie for volunteer opportunities at school.

#### **Unfinished Business**

1. AED for Ministry Center
2. By-Law changes for January voter's meeting
3. The St. Paul sign at the end of Schwab Rd by I-75 was removed on 11/19/22

**New Business** - none

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m. Pastor Matyas closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Schlicker, Secretary

**Next Regular Voters Meeting-Sunday, January 8th, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. - Budget Approval**

**Next Council Meeting - Thursday, January 5th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**



# St. Paul Lutheran Church Calendar

## FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div> <div>Jan 2023</div> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <div>Mar 2023</div> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		1	2 6:00 PM Trustee Mtg.	3	4
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