



Newsletter

Volume 30 Issue 6
June 18, 2025

A Parable About Holy Communion

Every week my best friend's mother makes huge, delicious lunch on Sunday afternoon. She's been doing it for time immemorial. What started out as demur sustenance borne from meager newlywed circumstances has transformed into what can best be described as a banquet. Once in a while she and her husband laugh and remember fondly their humble beginnings: paper plates on a table-less dining room floor, a main course that may or may not have been alive in the woods behind the house an hour ago. But over the years, this meal has, for their family, evolved into a grand event. It isn't just a meal, but a celebration—of family, of unity, of love.

The day before, her husband comes in from the woods with his latest sacrifice, slaps it down on the counter to be processed, and kisses her on the cheek, prompting from his bride a genuine and delighted, "Ooh! Thank you, my beloved!" She then goes to work, preparing all of the elements, humming contentedly. The next day, she rises early to turn on the oven. After church, we are hardly in the door before she takes off for the kitchen and the sound of pots and pans clinking can be heard. Soon after, the heavenly aroma wafts throughout the house until our salivating souls can hardly wait for the dinner bell.

The meal has become famous around us, not just for the quality of the food but for the generosity of the hands that prepared it. Every one of her children has, at one time or another, and to a greater or lesser quantity, brought round a friend, a colleague, a romantic interest. I was once one of those guests: a grubby neighborhood child of tender age, hardly knowledgeable but implicitly aware of the sanctity of this tradition, keyed in only by the profound sense of acceptance regardless of the ringworm on my feet and shins. Back then, I spent most of my time climbing trees and avoiding my own home, where a microwave dinner on a rickety TV tray sometimes awaited me next to a parent who was clearly resentful of my continued existence. Until one day my friend and playmate asked me what I was doing for lunch, I had no idea another life existed. His face twisted in disgust as I told him (not at me, but at my billet), and he defiantly insisted that I come home with him to eat his mother's meal.



"Are you sure it's ok?" I asked. "Don't you need to ask her?" I had had enough experience with adults to know that they didn't like surprises, lest strange kids.

He scoffed, turning to leave and waving for me to follow him. "Nah, there's plenty of food. Besides, I'll vouch for you. Me asking you is like her asking you."

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SAVED

by Jesus,

SENT

to serve.

A Parable About Holy Communion

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Sure enough, when we walked in through the back, screen door banging behind us, my friend was greeted with a pleasant, "You're just in time!" and he pushed me forward to meet his mother.

"This is my friend. He's here to eat with us."

To my shock, no ounce of surprise or consternation entered her eyes. There was barely a visual appraisal of my unkemptness as she simply said, "Nice to meet you. Wash your hands and help us put another table leaf in." The swiftness of her acceptance of me stunned me, and the command to help made me feel not like a strange guest, but like someone for whom everyone was waiting.

As their family grew, the cooking has become more elaborate to reflect the tastes and needs of the eaters, but she never seems to take orders—she just cooks—and everyone finds something to love. It's like she knows us without us telling her. In fact, the whole affair has become so well known that everyone knows what to do without instructions. The entire ceremony reflects a tradition displayed by authentic and organic liturgies: the kids set the table, carefully and reverently laying out the modest china reserved for the meal. Everyone sits down with oohs and aahs as the steam rises, the napkins are placed in laps, the caps come off the heads. Father prays as everyone settles in with rumbling tummies. At the Amen, Mother serves and watches for that first collective bite. She smiles shyly at the inevitable compliments, her greatest desire seeing the satisfaction on our faces. No greater praise comes from her husband as he then engages each person in turn in conversation, offering wisdom between bites whilst we regale him with our troubles and successes.

Only a scant few times did I witness any conflict around that table. One time, two of the kids were having an argument that could be heard through the whole house. They didn't even stop when they sat down next to each other. But before the food was served, Father looked sternly at them and said, "You two are excused until you make up." They pouted and complained as they left, chairs scraping on the floor. Muffled yells could be heard from the other room, but after a little while they both came back, silent but for a few sniffs amid red eyes. They muttered apologies to the rest of us, and we patted them on their backs. Mother immediately started filling their plates, while Father nodded in approval. The entire conflict was forgotten, swallowed up by the serving spoon clinking on the plates.

Another time, a little sister, grumbling about the food, sat staring at her plate through the whole meal without taking a bite. I kept wondering why, since this was the highlight of my week. Didn't she know what she had? How could she be so disrespectful? She hardly ever ate anything! I stewed within myself until my impatience spilled out and I brazenly asked, "Why don't you just take her food and give it to someone else?" Mother looked at me like I was crazy.

"Because," she said simply, "I made it for her. If I take it away, it won't be here when she finally wants to eat it."

No one could force her to eat, but no one took away her chance to do so either.

Over the years, kids started to grow up and start their own families, but the table never seemed any less full. Where a seat was vacated, another soul filled it. I often felt sorry for those who had moved on, that they'd be missing this cherished experience, until during one meal the phone rang. Mother got up and answered, and I overheard the distinct comforting advice only a mother can give: instructions for a famous dish that I was eating even now. Realization and delight came over me, as I knew that somewhere one of these meals was about to happen on the other side of the country. As if by some mystic connection, the empty seat across from me suddenly felt exponentially full of some other family and their friends, inheritors of the grand tradition. The distance was bridged, and it was the meal that bridged it.



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A Parable About Holy Communion

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One day, I went back to the place I slept (I could barely call it home anymore), and my earthly father was sawing through a Hungry Man meatloaf. The chemical stench of microwaved plastic almost made me gag, especially after the homemade delights I was digesting.

"Dinner for you," he said without looking away from the TV.

My TV tray was empty. The "dinner" he left for me was in a box in the freezer, waiting to be thrust into its microwave crematorium.

I swallowed, trying to guess the best response. The easy way would be to go through the motions and retrieve the frozen dinner. The honest way I knew would be taken as an implicit judgment towards my father: the fact that I was full of good food already, that his provision was technically food but actually disgusting, that I found the practice of eating in front of a television to be about as enjoyable as being the only kid on a seesaw, turning down his offer would at best be grunted at and at worst invite a flurry of remonstrance.

I took a chance.

"... No thanks," I said. "I ate at my friend's house."

He dropped his knife, which clanged once on his tray before flipping brown monosodium glutamate on the carpet.

"That woman cook for you again?" he sneered, bending to pick up the knife and ignoring the gravy stain.

I shifted my weight. "Um ... yes."

He grunted. "She's a hypocrite, you know."

I stammered, searching for words. "Wh- why would you say that?"

He turned his gaze slowly towards me, narrowing his eyes in a wry smile. I knew that look. I had opened the door for an explanation, and he would avail himself of the opportunity to say anything he wanted. If at any time I protested some insult or negativity, he would flip it around on me, playing a defensive role by saying if I didn't want to hear it, then I shouldn't have asked.

"Would you say she's welcoming?" he baited.

"Yes, of course."

"What do you do there? Besides eat." I knew I was trapped. Whatever I said he would glom onto like a rabid dog with a bone, twisting and yanking until I let go. What to do? I explained the whole arrangement—the tradition, the provision, the setting, the washing, the prayer, the conversation, the laughter spilling forth like confessions of joy. By the time I was finished, I was breathless—always waiting to be interrupted, I poured out my story as quickly and disjointedly as it came into my mind, climaxing with my assessment of Mother's heart: "She just wants to feed everyone!"

He took a slow breath and said quietly, dangerously, "If she just wants to feed everyone, if she's so welcoming, then why are there so many rules?"

"... "



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A Parable About Holy Communion

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"If she just wanted to feed everyone, why do you have to go sit down at the table? Why go through all that ritual? Why do you have to take off your hat? Why do you have to wash your hands? Why do you have to help set the table? Why do you have to share your life and feelings with everyone else at the table? Why do you have to be invited?"

His volume increased with every rhetorical question, his rage growing closer to me. He was almost shouting as he spat out his last point, flecks of freeze-dried mashed potatoes peppering my cheeks.

I swallowed a lump in my throat, at a loss for words. Fortunately, his fury expended sufficiently for the moment, he waved his hand at me and returned to the sloop on his TV tray. "Bah. If she just wanted to feed everyone, I could just walk in, get some food, and leave. I can't do that, so she's a hypocrite. Dinner is between you and your food. Who is she to say otherwise?" He merely muttered the last part, fingers prying open a can of grape soda with a hiss.

Wanting nothing more than to escape, I sidled out of the room, out of the house, and into the woods, where I broke into a sprint. Tears splashed around the scabs of fake potatoes dried on my face, my mind racing.

Rules? Were they rules? I guess it was a rule that you had to wash your hands. I suppose it was a rule that you had to watch your language, that you had to pass the plates around, that you had to let someone finish their story before starting your own. But was it a rule that you even had to eat? Was it a rule that you had to feel welcomed, accepted, filled to bursting with good clean healthy food and fellowship?

No! I screamed to no one in particular. I stopped running, not realizing where I had run to until I looked up and saw Mother through the kitchen window. Without conscious thought, my feet had frantically taken me back to her. In the fading daylight, I could see her methodically washing the dishes, head bowed, wearing a contented smile and humming over the splashes of the water and clatter of silverware.

Not knowing why, not considering the time, and with no thought of trepidation, I slipped through the back door and sat down at the table. I belonged here, not out there. I sniffed, and Mother noticed me in the dim light—sweat-covered, red-faced, lips quivering. She raised her eyebrows, took off her dish gloves, wiped her hands on a towel, and sat down across from me.

She eyed me with empathy, waiting for me to speak first.

"Am I welcome to eat here?" I asked.

"Of course," she said. "The door is wide open for you."

"But ... is it open to anyone?"

She paused, seeming to consider something. "I suppose that's possible. Do you feel welcome here?"

"Of course!" I blurted out, making eye contact to emphasize my answer.

"Why?"

"Well," I said, looking down. "I guess I kinda feel like ... like one of you."

"And why is that?" She seemed to want me to work it out for myself.

I thought of all the meals I had had there, rife with tradition and ritual. No one thing seemed distinguishable from the other; it was all a mish-mash of celebration and unity. Slowly, I began to explain to her all of those liturgies, all of those practices, all of those ... beliefs ... that made us us.



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A Parable About Holy Communion

Continued from page 4...

Mother smiled knowingly. "So if someone else wanted to eat here, what would they have to do?"

It dawned on me like a lightning bolt. "Become one of us."

She patted my hand on the table and stood up definitively. "Sounds pretty simple to me." She turned toward the counter and fiddled with a tray of something. "You came round here once upon a time, hungry and dirty. We got you washed up and fed, and you fell right in line. Anyone who wants to join us the same way can join us the same way. Now if someone came round and made demands, tried to make us something else, well ..." she looked up in thought for a moment. "... I suppose then I'd close the door."

She turned around, and in her hand was a plate bearing a big piece of homemade chocolate cake. She put it in front of me with a fork and a napkin, and tousled my hair.

"We accepted you because you accepted us," she said.

I picked up the fork, watching her return to her dishes. As she turned the water on and put the dish gloves on with a snap, something else occurred to me.

"It's not just about the food, is it?" I said.

She turned her head, winked at me slyly, and resumed her chore.

-Pastor Matyas

New Officers

During our Voters meeting on May 18, 2025, the members of St. Paul Lutheran Church elected officers. We want to thank God for our newly elected officers (names in bold), those who are returning, as well as those who have faithfully served in the past.

Chairman - **Weston Appold**

Vice Chairman - **James Marter**

Secretary - Sharon Schlicker

Assistant Financial Secretary - **Randy Appold**, Mark Begick, Mike Schwab

Board of Elders - Brian Appold, Mike Appold, Jeremy Begick, DJ Bourdow, Terry Burkhard, Ben Burnison, Howard McMullen, Jerry Schlicker, Jeremy Warren, Scott Weiss

Board of Trustees - Kirk Appold, Rylan Appold, Greg Behmlander, Drew Bourdow, Dave Dent, **Jake Golden**, Nathan Kolberg, Mike Weiss, Dave Wood, Bob Wyman, Justin Zeilinger, Eric Zielinski

Board of Education - Mrs. Rachel Appold, Troy Duffey, Kara Marner, Donna Ott, **Caleb Schultz**, Judy Spielhaupter

Board of Youth Ministry - Vicki Begick, Shasta Duffey, **Jason Kusterer**, Tiffany List, John Schlicker,

Business Management - **Jean Begick**, Danny Bourdow, Katie Helmreich, **Bill Stephenson**, Lynn Strawn, **Andrew Wiess**

Board of Discipleship- Leeta Theiss



From the Principal's Office

Having grown up on a farm, I understand the rhythm of farm life. It begins in spring with tilling and planting. From there you might thin, cultivate, apply pesticides, and hoe. Come fall there is a sense of urgency as you harvest to beat the weather, beat the calendar, beat the frost.. The three seasons require activity, vigilance, and work-hard work.

In the dead of winter, farmers rest, ice fish, get cabin fever, and plan for the spring.

Farming is in my heritage, but it was never in my blood. The way my dad and brother appreciate the soil and crops never completely captivated my heart. Their love for the land and what it can produce is admirable, but it doesn't make my heart sing.

My heart comes to life when I think about Lutheran Schools and the seasons of the school year.



In the academic world the seasons look different than farming, but the rhythm is familiar. In the late summer early fall you prepare and plan. During the late fall winter and spring you sing, dance, drill, teach, laugh, motivate, push, nudge, guide, coax, coach, and build relationships with young learners. You create memories and moments, you instill biblical wisdom, and shape young citizens. The end of the school year is a flurry of celebrations, awards, concerts, banquets, and parties as you recognize all of the growth accomplished in the year. The school year requires activity, vigilance, and work. It is exhausting, yet extremely rewarding work.

In the summer, teachers rest, refresh, unwind, step back, retreat, and fill up.

I knew I wanted to be a teacher when I was in 3rd grade. Sitting in Mrs. Cohrs's classroom at Immanuel, Sebewaing, with the 14 other classmates, I knew...one day I was going to be a teacher, and I was going to teach in a Lutheran school.

This October, the teachers and I will travel to LEA Convocation, a huge Lutheran national professional development conference that takes place every three years. This year's conference is in St. Louis, Missouri. The Rummage Sale that took place the week after school ended was held to help defray the costs of the trip. The "treasures" that were donated profited over \$2,100.00. Simply incredible.

I want to thank all of the members of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School who donated their treasures for the sale, their time in volunteering, and their talents in organizing, sorting, pricing, clerking, and hauling away unpurchased treasures. Many hands do indeed make light work.

There is a rhythm in farming, teaching, and in the church year. We are currently in the season of Pentecost. A long, green season of the life and teaching of Jesus. May this summer season be a time to relax, rejuvenate, reinvigorate, and refocus your eyes for the Lord. Happy summer!

-Principal Mrs. Valerie Matyas

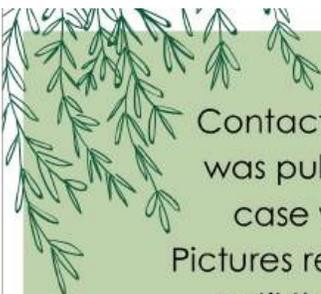


Welcome our Newest Member!



From Vern Gauthier:

I was Born in Alpena, Michigan. Moved to Bay City when I was 10. Attended St. Maria Gratti for elementary school. Went to John Glenn High School where I met my first wife. Joined Pilgrim Lutheran when we married. Moved back to Alpena in 1989 to help my dad run a business. After my dad passed, I worked at a nursing home as head of maintenance. After retiring from the nursing home 3 years ago, I moved back to Bay City. Continued my hobby of bowling where I met my wife, Ella, who was already a member of St Paul. Started attending worship with her and decided to join St Paul.



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.

Joy Group - July Meeting

Joy will meet on Thursday, July 17th at Frankenlust Township Park on Delta Road for our July meeting. We will have grilled hotdogs at 12 noon followed by fellowship. Drinks will be provided. You do not need to bring anything but yourself but if you are inclined to bring something, bring something that will go with hotdogs.

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED WE PRAY FOR THOSE ON “THE FRONT-LINE OF FAITH.”

Last month we prayed for Bibles that our brothers and sisters in chains want so much. This month we pray for those who carry and distribute those Bibles, strive to bring others to Christ and need godly provision and protection doing so.

WE REMAIN IN PRAYER FOR FRONT-LINE WORKERS

“Dear heavenly Father,

Thank you for our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters who have counted the cost to faithfully advance the gospel in the most difficult and dangerous places to follow you.

When they are beaten and brought before authorities, may they gain confidence through your presence; replace their anxiety with peace, love and faith. When they face slander, allegations and legal charges, may they reply lovingly, truthfully and wisely. Give them courage and endurance as they witness, plant churches, distribute Bibles and disciple new Christians.

We join front-line workers in joyful praise to the name above all names—Christ Jesus our Lord!

In Jesus' name, Amen.”

The above prayer was taken in its entirety from the “2025 GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE” from the Voice of the Martyrs. Always remember whose you are and pray that we witness to the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ because we are called by His name.



St. Paul Lutheran Church - Summer Office Hours

The office will be open in June & July every Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday from 8:00-3:00 p.m. If you need anything outside of the available hours, please email at office@stpaulbaycity.org.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Newsletter

June 18, 2025
Volume 30—Issue 6

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

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Dennis Matyas

Pastor:

Rev. David Schultz

Principal:

Mrs. Valerie Matyas

Office Manager:

Mrs. Nicole Burnison

Newsletter articles for the next newsletter are due on Wednesday, August 13, 2025. You may submit articles to the email address below or drop them off in the office.
Website: www.stpaulbaycity.org
Email: office@stpaulbaycity.org

Acolyte and Reader Schedule for July & August 2025

Acolytes:	8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	Readers:	8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Sun., July 6	Adelynn Dent	Charles Lusher	—	—	Richard Doan
Sun., July 13	Charlotte Bourdow	Mason Daniel	—	—	Josh Wegener
Sun., July 20	Gatlin Duffey	Jack Kusterer	—	—	Brian Appold
Sun., July 27	Lukas Schlicker	Brenna King	Sam Britton	—	—
Sun., Aug. 3	Cylis Kusterer	Bently Raquepaw	Scott Engelhardt	—	—
Sun., Aug. 10	Brynlee Kolberg	Ainsley Wiess	—	—	Jeremy Warren
Sun., Aug. 17	David Dent	Jacob King	—	—	—
Sun., Aug. 24	Hunter Duffey	Calvin Covieo	Ben Helmreich	—	Howard McMullen
Sun., Aug. 31	Isaac Matyas	Emmiley Lusher	—	—	—

Altar Guild and Ushers in July 2025

Altar Guild:	8 a.m. Ushers: Group #1	10:30 a.m. Ushers: Group #4	Head Usher:
Clarissa Marter	CARY BEHMLANDER 615-3283	BOB EASTMAN 686-7365	Dale Jezowski 327-7613
Cheryl Leppek	Dale Jezowski	Cindy Eastman	
Kristen Fisher	Adam Jezowski	Tim Begick	
	Matt Schlicker	Andrew Wiess	
	Roger Hendrick	Lynn Strawn	
	Isaac Matyas	Larry Strawn	

Altar Guild and Ushers in August 2025

Altar Guild:	8 a.m. Ushers: Group #2	10:30 a.m. Ushers: Group #5	Head Usher:
Lynn Strawn	RANDY APPOLD 239-2072	WAYNE STIEVE 525-4871	Dale Jezowski 327-7613
Dorothy Helmreich	Weston Appold	Terry Burkhard	
Sally McMullen	Greg Behmlander	Richard Doan	
	Matt Appold	Dave Maxwell	
	Daryl Appold	Eric Zielinski	
	Rylan Appold		

Family Elder List

<u>Family Name:</u>	<u>Elder:</u>	<u>Family Name:</u>	<u>Elder:</u>
A - Ba	Abraham-Bass	Ki - L	King-Lutz
Bb - Bz	Bebow-Bush	M - O	MacLeod-Ott
Ca - E	Campbell-Engelhardt	P - Sb	Parker-Sawicki
F - G	Finney-Gurnee	Sc - T	Schaefer-Trogan
H-Kh	Helmreich-Kernstock	V - Z	VanCise-Zimmer
	Brian Appold		DJ Bourdow
	Mike Appold		Scott Weiss
	Jeremy Begick		Jeremy Warren
	Ben Burnison		Howard McMullen
	Terry Burkard		Jerry Schlicker

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
Council Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2025
(Approved)**

Chairman Jason Schlicker called the meeting to order at 6:28 p.m. Pastor Schultz led us in an opening prayer.

Council members in attendance include: Jason Schlicker, Weston Appold, Pastor Matyas, Pastor Schultz, Valerie Matyas, DJ Bourdow, Greg Behmlander, Judy Spielhaupter, Leeta Theiss, Lynn Hendrick and John Schlicker.

Acknowledgement of Blessings – The loan for the Ministry Center will soon be under \$1 million. Valley Lutheran High School has been willing to host different events that add to the community.

Minutes - *A motion passed* approving the minutes from April 10th, 2025 council meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Andy Wiess is helping with the financials. First quarter YTD are in line with the budget on most items. Church expenditures are a little high, but it is a culmination of minor items, nothing concerning. School expenditures are a little higher due to technology and recreation costs. Operating revenues came in \$22K higher than budget and \$30K higher than the prior year. Through March, we are running consistent with the prior year and ahead of budget. We're at a YTD loss of (\$33,765) vs. a budgeted loss of (\$40,734) and vs. a prior year loss of (\$33,531). The Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit.

Committee Reports

Auditing Committee - No report

Gifts and Memorials – No report

Nominating Committee - Weston presented a proposed ballot. *A motion passed* approving the ballot.

BOARD REPORTS

Board of Elders - Chairman DJ Bourdow reported the following:

1. Peter Schimm has accepted the Call and will start June 1st. Appreciate Gary Heckman filling in over the Easter season.
2. Baptism: None
3. Deaths: None
4. Transfers In: None
5. Continuing to pursue peaceful releases.
6. May pursue new sign in sheets for the church. Suggest including a QR code to the donation website.

Board of Trustees - Chairman Greg Behmlander reported they are continuing to do repairs at church and school.

Board of Education - Chairman Judy Spielhaupter reported the following:

1. Teaching Staff Update (2025-2026):
 - a. 4th Grade – Katie Fehn

- b. 3rd Grade – Megan Gallagher
 - c. Y5/K – Hannah Lewicki
2. The BOE is nearing the completion of the BOE handbook update.
 3. Parent Pulse – Valerie Matyas created a short video to share the results of the feedback received during the first two cycles of this online survey program. The video covers:
 - a. two positive highlights
 - i. dedicated and caring staff
 - ii. family-like atmosphere
 - b. two areas for further exploration
 - i. more consistent communication from teachers to families
 - ii. improving the hot lunch program by offering healthier options and more variety
 - c. two concrete action steps
 - i. explore a more structured communication plan for teachers and families
 - ii. conduct a review of our present hot lunch menu

The third cycle of the online survey is presently open.

4. Sheri Lusher left and Sue Headings will be head cook for the remainder of the year.
5. Teacher Appreciation Week (May 5-8) – The BOE supplied treats each day for the staff to enjoy to show appreciation for all they do.
6. Cake and Card Reception will be on Sunday, June 8th between church services. We are celebrating:
 - a. 8th Grade Graduates (9 students)
 - b. Staff Anniversaries
 - i. Dianne Kramer – 25 years
 - ii. Karen Bass – 20 years
 - iii. Andrea Dent – 10 years
 - iv. Lara Polzin – 10 years
 - c. Farewells
 - i. Rachel Abraham (also farewell potluck on Sunday, June 29th)
 - ii. Jane Guse'
 - iii. Hannah Doan
 - iv. Rebecca VanTol
 - v. Jeannie Doyle
 - vi. Sheri Lusher

Board of Business Management – Chairman Lynn Hendrick reported the following:

Andy Wiess is helping with the April financials and balance sheet. Kelly Schimm is coming up to speed and asking great questions about the financials. They approved making additional \$8,000 of principal payments monthly on the Ministry Center loan, which is on top of the required monthly principal + interest. Lynn will be leading the finance review section needed for the School Accreditation. Checking into a third party that can audit the financials as a good business practice, particularly during each Accreditation cycle, which is a new requirement for Accreditation.

Board of Youth – Chairman John Schlicker reported the following:

SNYG

1. The 2025/2026 parent orientation was on May 4th and we had a good turnout.
2. Easter Breakfast raised over \$600.

National Youth Gathering

1. The dates are 7/19/25 - 7/23/25.
2. Will not renew the Envelope fundraiser, as there are other groups also fundraising.

3. The greeting card fundraiser will be removed for Palm Sunday and Easter, but will resume after that – timing TBD.
4. The JW Marriott on Canal Street has been confirmed.
5. The flights are reserved departing 7/18/25 at 6:05 a.m. from Detroit and returning 7/24/25 at 11:50 a.m.

SNYG

1. More dedicated leaders are still needed. The Matyas and Cmeyla families volunteered to be a part of the "hosting" rotation. Need to schedule a meeting this month to lay out summer plans.
2. A Gifts and Memorials request is submitted for the shed, anchors and signs.
 - a. The shed is with the trustees to assemble. Can order anchor kit as needed
 - b. Instead of yard signs, a 5' x 3' banner to identify the Can Collection shed has been purchased. Should be available in a week or two.

Junior High

1. 11 students are interested in attending the gathering in Frankenmuth in August. Will be pursuing getting St. Paul registered so parents can sign up their kids individually.
2. May 18th - Putt-Putt Golf Outing

Sunday School

1. The Easter Egg Hunt was on April 12th. Approximately 4,000 eggs were filled and about 3,000 collected. Extras were used on tables during Easter Breakfast.
2. May 18th is the last day for Sunday School.
3. A storage area has been designated in the church basement for Sunday School and VBS.

VBS

1. VBS is scheduled for 6/23/25 - 6/27/25.

Confirmation

1. There are 8 confirmands and they processed into church on Palm Sunday, holding their banners. The Friendship Circle reception was very nice. The Confirmation retreat was April 27th - April 29th and went well.

Board of Discipleship – Sent out some more post cards to visitors.

Unfinished Business

1. Narthex space optimization – a painter has been found, waiting to confirm start date. Estimated time to completion is five days.

New Business

1. Voter's meeting agenda – Jason will finish it tomorrow and email to Nicole. Will add an asterisk for the incumbents. Will be approving the January and two special Voter's meeting minutes.
2. Investigating Security Updates for security cameras, alarms, notification system (PA), keyless entry.
3. Investigating updating the bleachers at school.
4. Approved having alcohol for the choir/handbell party.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. Pastor Schultz closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

John Schlicker, Pro Tem Secretary

Next Voter's Meeting – Sunday May 18th at 12:00pm (noon)

Next Council Meeting – Thursday, June 12th, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School Calendar

July 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																	
<p style="text-align: center;">JUNE</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Su</th><th>Mo</th><th>Tu</th><th>We</th><th>Th</th><th>Fr</th><th>Sa</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <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></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	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						<p>1</p> <p>6:00 PM Board of Education</p> <p>7:00 PM Elders Meeting</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>							
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St. Paul Lutheran Church & School Calendar

August 2025

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