



PERSPECTIVE

Monthly Newsletter of

St. Paul Lutheran Church—ELCA

200 N. Commercial Street • Neenah, WI 54956

(920) 725-3961 • stpaulneenah.org



*Gathering Joyfully, Growing Spiritually, & Going Faithfully,
Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ!*

JUNE 2024

From Pastor Amy



How do you get to where you're going when you don't know the way? GPS and Google maps to the rescue! The other day as I was traveling to a conference, I was thinking about how dependent upon Google

maps I've become. I completely trust this program to tell me exactly where to go, where to turn, and to get me to my destination. It gives me directions, one step at a time, and I follow – usually – and when I don't, it re-routes me.

Sometimes following Jesus feels a little bit like following the Google maps, not knowing exactly where you are or how to get to where you're going, but simply doing whatever the next direction tells us to do. When we follow Google maps or any GPS program, we follow one turn at a time. The same is true for following Jesus. We follow one step, one turn at a time. Jesus doesn't map out our future for us anymore than the GPS gives us all the directions at once. All we are asked to do is take it one step at a time. And completely trust that the One guiding us is in control.

At times, that's easier said than done. We like to have everything mapped out for us so we know of the roadblocks, the detours, the changes ahead. Trusting that God will guide us through the journey can be challenging. We want clear answers, clear directions to know what turn God would have us take. That takes listening and discernment on our part. Discernment is the movement from seeing things from a human point of view to seeing

from a spiritual perspective. We are to be always looking for signs of God's work so that we can join God in what God is doing. That's our holy GPS. What is God doing? Where do we see God at work?

As we've begun our work with Cathy Cowling and are discerning where God is leading us and what God is calling us to do and be in this community, it feels a bit like following Google maps. God is leading us to a deeper relationship with Jesus and a deeper engagement with the community as we share the love of God in Jesus. We don't know exactly how we're going to get there, but trust that the Holy Spirit will give us direction – one step at a time.

It's frustrating sometimes to not know the path that is before us with all of its twists and turns. Following where the Spirit is perhaps is the ultimate act of trust – trust that God will take us where we need to go, the way we need to go, and along the way our faith will be strengthened. As we follow the Spirit's lead, we pray for guidance. We pray for patience. We pray for clarity of each step along the way, keeping our eyes and ears open to the movement of the Spirit around and in us. Along the way we might just learn that the journey is more important than the destination.

Following the Spirit one step at a time,

Pastor Amy

FINANCES FOR 2024 AS OF APRIL 30, 2024

YTD Income	\$160,709
YTD Expenses	\$114,788
Difference	\$ 45,921



Date	6/2/2024	6/9/2024	6/16/2024	6/23/2024	6/30/2024	7/7/2024
Assisting Minister	Eric Thompson	Dave Hoks	Linda Tipler	Eric Thompson	Dave Hoks	Linda Tipler
Lector	Kelly Thacker	Marianne Kolb	Jim Morgenstern	Jody Tews	Connie	Paul Roth
Communion Assistants	Eric Thompson Linda Tipler Lona Jorgensen		Linda Tipler Dave Hoks Laura Wyman			Linda Tipler Dave Hoks Laura Wyman
Ushers	Linda Parker Alicia Macias Linda Haufe	Roger Bauer Butch Grondahl Lyle Hemp	Don Boche Gene Evenson Eric Tipler Cody Tipler	Linda Parker Alicia Macias Linda Haufe	Roger Bauer Butch Grondahl Lyle Hemp	Don Boche Gene Evenson Eric Tipler Cody Tipler
Greeters	Sue Eckrich	Nancy Orlady	Laura Wyman	Kathy Procknow	Butch Grondahl	
Altar Team	Connie Morgenstern Connie Humski Linda Haufe		Peggy Wendt Connie Humski Linda Haufe			Jessica Hess Connie Humski Linda Haufe

Rev. Amy Engebose
Pastor
pastor@stpaulneenah.org

Kris Grutzner
Bookkeeper
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Todd Nerenhausen
Facilities Manager
tnerenhausen@stpaulneenah.org

Council
Don Boche, President
Kathy Procknow, Vice-President
Audrey Borchers, Secretary
Monika Knapp, Treasurer
Dave Fink
Kurt Mayer
Amy Mentz
Shelley Taycher

Julie Owens
Parish Administrator
parishadmin@stpaulneenah.org

Eric Ihde
Handbell & Sanctuary
Choirs
ihdeeric@gmail.com

Linda and Gary Parker
Custodians

Jill Hagen
Organist and Custodian

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Worship Ministry: Pastor Amy Engebose
pastor@stpaulneenah.org

Prayer Ministry: Mike Dvorachek
mdvorachek@centurylink.net

Property Ministry: Don Boche
dboche@gmail.com

Meal Ministry: Alicia Macias
aliciacamimilooscar1@yahoo.com

Mission Team: Jill Hannemann
jilli1216@aol.com

Knit2gether: Diana Vieth
nina500@icloud.com

Quilting Angels: Bev Quella
baquilla@gmail.com

Safety Team: Don Boche
dboche@gmail.com

Worship Services: Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
(in-person and online at Facebook and YouTube)
Office Hours: Monday—Friday, 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.





Council Corner

Council met May 14, 2024. We were happy to see that our new church directory was available to the congregation on Sunday! Thank you Gary O'Dell for putting the directory together and Jim Morgenstern for taking photographs!

Our custodians, Gary and Linda Parker, will be retiring on July 24. We will honor Gary and Linda on July 14, 2024 during coffee hour after church. Please join us in thanking Gary and Linda for their service to St. Paul Church!

We are hoping a few people would be interested in selling cinnamon rolls and coffee during the Memorial Day Parade. Let Pastor Amy know if you would like to participate in this fundraiser.

Council discussed the new Gift Policy Restriction and Release Form, and the formation of the Gift Team. We reviewed the latest meeting with Cathy Cowling which took place on May 5, 2024 after worship in which there were conversations at each table to discuss 4 questions: What does St. Paul do well? What does St. Paul do not so well? What would we like to do if money were not a factor? What is something we could do that requires a leap of faith? Discussion was lively and productive with Cathy. Our next step is for the Discernment Team to work with Cathy as we move forward. Shelley Taycher, from the Building Feasibility Team, provided a brief update on their progress so far with an appraisal coming out next month and town-hall meetings set to begin in the fall.

Please continue to pray for our congregation, council, Pastor and staff as we continue our journey bound in the love of Christ which binds us all together!

In God's Grace,

Audrey Borchers, Council Secretary

VBS Registration Open for Volunteers and Students!



Plans for VBS are going well! We have our teachers in place for all of the rotation sites and the PreK/K class! But we still need more volunteers to be assistants, small group leaders, decorators and registration people. Below is a brief description of the volunteer roles. Contact Pastor Amy if you can volunteer one day, two days, three days or all four days! VBS is August 5-8

Teacher Assistants: assist the teachers and students in a particular rotation area. We are in special need of assistants for PreK-K class.

Counselors: will lead a small group of students through the rotation stations and help where needed. Counselors must be 18 and older.

Junior Counselors: assist the counselor in working with a small group of students leading them through the rotation stations. Junior counselors may be middle or high school students.

Registration People: will check the VBS students in and out every day.

Decorators: help turn St. Paul Church into a camp atmosphere!

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Amy will be on vacation June 3-10. She will return to the office on June 11. Thanks to Pastor Vicki Fink for preaching on June 9! If you are in need of pastoral care while Pastor Amy is gone, please contact the church office or Pastor Niveen at St. Mark's Lutheran Church (920-725-2828).

St. Paul Serves Fox Valley Community Table

Please mark your calendars for the third date St. Paul serves Fox Valley Community Table in 2024: Saturday, June 29! A tasty and nutritious lunch will be offered and we look forward to your continued participation in this important ministry. Please look for specific information in early June about how you can help by donating funds or food and helping to serve.

We are thankful for all those generous St. Paul folks who donated money or food and helped to serve our April 27 meal! Thanks to your generosity, over 70 meals (both dine in and take out) were served to our neighbors. Your St. Paul crew wore their new aprons, provided by Jody Tews and personalized by Esther LaFond. Please consider joining us in serving our June 29th meal. We have an apron for you!



With gratitude,

Cindy Rieck and Jody Tews

Left to right: Pastor Clarence Harms, Julie Grondahl, Dorothy Scovronski, Darcy Zemlock, Diane Morse, Sherm Jansen, and Cindy Rieck

Volunteers Needed to Help Spruce Up the Church Saturday, June 15, 9:00 until about 1:00 p.m.

We are looking for people to do window work in the fellowship hall. There are 11 windows that are in need of:

1. Removal of storm windows
2. Clean the windows
3. Repair glazing
4. Prime storm & double-hung windows
5. Reinstall storm windows

The last day of this work will be Saturday, July 20, 9:00 until done (hopefully by noon). Your help is greatly appreciated!

St. Paul's Blessing Box



The suggested donation for the month of June is canned meats (i.e.: tuna, chicken, salmon, ham). These may also be in pouches.

Please leave donated items on the display table or in the wooden crate in the narthex. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing and generous support of this important ministry!



Notes of Thanks

Thank you to all of our musicians, the Sanctuary Choir, Handbell Choir, and their director, Eric Ihde, for all the fantastic music in worship this past school year! In you God is glorified! Thank you for your offering of beautiful music throughout the program year! Enjoy the summer “off” from rehearsals and we look forward to hearing you again in the fall! (Remember – we are always happy to have new musicians, singers, and ringers join us!)

We also thank Cindy Rieck and Shelley Taycher for being Sunday School teachers this past year! And thanks to their assistants, Diane Morse, Aubriann Koeune, and Natalie Shea! They all brought much creativity, fun, and love for our students!

Pine Lake Camp — Here We Come!

Our confirmation students, Evelyn Ellis and Maren Mayer, along with Pastor Amy, will be attending Confirmation Camp at Pine Lake Camp in Waupaca June 16-21. This year’s camp theme picks up the theme of the ELCA Youth Gathering, “Created to be” based on Psalm 139:4. Please hold them in prayer that the weather would be wonderful, new friendships will be made, and their faith will grow stronger.

Will You Help?



The ELCA Youth Gathering is in July in New Orleans, LA. Ellie Grondahl and Pastor Amy will be attending along with people from the other Neenah and Menasha ELCA congregations.

With each Youth Gathering, we give back to the city that is hosting us by doing service projects and collecting needed items. This year the Youth Gathering hopes to make 3,000 hurricane kits for the people of New Orleans containing needed items when a hurricane comes. Our region of the ELCA, region 5, has been assigned cooling towels to donate for the hurricane kits. Would you consider donating cooling towels to this effort? The cost is \$12 for a package of 4 towels. If you are willing to help us purchase these towels, please put your donation in an envelope and mark it “Youth Gathering towels”. You may drop off your donation in the church office or put it in the offering plate on Sunday. We will order the towels and have them delivered to New Orleans for the Youth Gathering. Thanks so much for your help!



BIRTHDAYS

June 4
Kathy Marien
Connie Morgenstern
Myla Shea

June 5
Evelyn Ellis
Nicholas Koeune
Jim Morgenstern

June 6
Arabella Meinholz

June 7
Lindsay Borchers

June 9
Amanda Connell
Breleigh Moderson

June 10
Mary Jansen

June 12
Kimberly Buckholz
Addison Koeune

June 13
Caryn Boehler
Kyler Logterman

June 15
Cindy Rieck
Kathryn Schreitmueller

June 17
Laurel Kaufman

June 20
Julie Grondahl

June 22
Gloria Spearick

June 24
Karen Dettlaff
Butch Grondahl
John Kalfahs

June 27
Don Boche
Luke Elkin

June 28
Morgan Vogels

June 30
Jessica Hess
Scott Olson
Mickie Powers

ANNIVERSARIES

June 5, 1999
Kathy & David Tonn

June 5, 1965
Wally & Joan Wollerman

June 10, 2017
Jason & Valerie Schwartz

June 12, 1993
Les & Laura Wyman

June 14, 1975
Jim & Connie Morgenstern

June 22, 2012
Nick & Aburianne Koeune

June 26, 2021
Don & Tammy Boche

June 26, 2020
Melissa Micale & Nick
Hackbarth

PARISH RECORDS

Death: Margaret Strohmeier

Baptism: Madelyn Rose Panure

Our Sympathy: We extend our sympathy to the family of Marge Strohmeier who died on April 29, 2024. Marge's funeral was held at St. Paul Church on May 6.

Welcome to the Family of God! We rejoice with Madelyn Rose Panure as she was baptized at St. Paul Church on Sunday, April 28. Madelyn's parents are Matt & Courtney Panure and her baptismal sponsors are Heather Towne and Drew Kreibich.

June Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Holy Trinity Sunday 9:30 am Worship 7:00pm Al-Anon	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 9:00am Quilting Angels 11:30am Community Table 6:30pm VBS Volun- teers meeting	29 10:00am Staff Meeting	30 9:00am Conversations on Scripture @ Shellatte's	31 9:00am Knit2gether	1 11:30am Community Table
2  9:30am Worship 7:00pm Al-Anon	3 1:30pm Memory Care Respite 6:30pm Build- ing Task Force Pastor Amy vaca- tion through 6/10	4 9:00am Quilting Angels 11:30am Community Table 6:15pm Exec. Comm. Meeting 7:00pm Property/ Safety	5 10:00am Staff Meeting	6 9:00am Con- versations on Scripture @ Shellatte's	7 9:00am Knit2gether	8 11:30am Community Table
9 9:30am Worship 7:00pm Al-Anon	10 1:30pm Memory Care Respite	11 9:00am Quilting Angels 11:30am Community Table 6:30pm Council	12 10:00am Staff Meeting	13 9:00am Con- versations on Scripture @ Shellatte's	14 Pastor's Sab- bath 9:00am Knit2gether	15 9:00am Spruce Up Day 11:30am Community Table
16  9:30am Worship 7:00pm Al-Anon Confirmation Camp all week! Pastor Amy at camp all week.	17	18 9:00am Quilting Angels 11:30am Community Table	19 10:00am Staff Meeting	20 9:00am Con- versations on Scripture @ Shellatte's 12:00pm Per- spective Dead- line	21 9:00am Knit2gether	22 11:30am Community Table
23 9:30am Worship 6:00pm Youth Gathering meeting 7:00pm Al-Anon	24 6:30pm Social Statement discussion	25 9:00am Quilting Angels 11:30am Community	26 10:00am Staff Meeting	27 9:00am Con- versations on Scripture @ Shellatte's	28 Pastor's Sabbath 9:00am Knit2gether	29 11:30am Community Table – St . Paul serves!
30 9:30am Worship 7:00pm Al-Anon	1 1:30pm Memory Care Respite	2 9:00am Quilting Angels 11:30am Community Table	3 10:00am Staff Meeting	4 Office Closed	5 9:00am Knit2gether	6 11:30am Com- munity Table

St. Paul Lutheran Church – ELCA
200 North Commercial Street
Neenah, WI 54956

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ELCA Draft Social Statement on Civic Life and Faith

The ELCA is developing a social statement on civic life and faith, the relationship of church and state, and related matters, as called for by the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. A draft social statement is now available as the ELCA congregations enter into a time of studying the document and providing feedback.

We at St. Paul Church, will be holding a 3-week study/discussion of the DRAFT social statement on civic life and faith. This study/discussion will be held on Monday evenings 6:30-7:30 pm on June 24, July 1, and July 8. We will separate the document into three sections for our discussion purposes. Part of our discussion will be providing feedback to the task force charged with writing the document. Paper copies of the document will be provided to discussion participants. Please be aware there will be some pre-reading of the draft social statement prior to each discussion. Please let Pastor Amy know if you will be attending this study/discussion.

As we enter into this time of review and providing feedback, there are also other opportunities being made available to us. Pastor Niveen Sarras, pastor at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Neenah and a member of the social statement task force, will be leading an online Zoom bible study of the types of governments in the bible. This online bible study will be held on Tuesday, June 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Online Bible Study, "Forms of Government in the Bible" with Rev. Dr. Niveen Ibrahim Sarras

- June 11, 6:30 - 8:00 pm | via Zoom
- Meeting ID: 868 3046 7562
- Passcode: ECSWstudy

There will also be hearings on the draft social statement across the ELCA giving people the opportunity to provide feedback in person. Two of those hearings will be held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Neenah, one on July 9, 10:00-11:30 a.m. and the other on August 15, 6:30 – 8:00 pm.

Social statements are the ELCA's primary documents to address significant social issues. They are intended to aid reflection, shape conscience and set forth the ELCA's teaching and policy on the major social issues and questions of contemporary life. Social statements are developed by task forces, using an established process of study and widespread participation across the church to guide theological and moral deliberation.