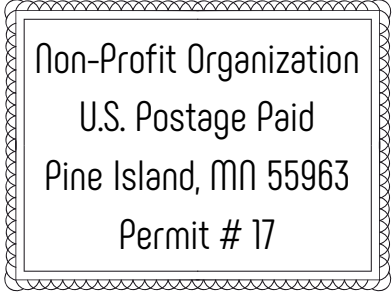


Saint Paul Lutheran Church

PO Box 357
Pine Island, MN 55963-0357

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



There was no celebrating for the women when they found Jesus' empty tomb. They did not know their dear friend and teacher had conquered death for humanity and was alive. The hole in their lives where Jesus had been, just kept getting bigger and emptier. We all know what it feels like to have a big empty place in our life.



*A Word
From Your
Pastor*

- It happens ...
- when you give your heart to someone who doesn't accept the gift
 - when you learn a sport, practice hard and still don't make the team
 - when you study and pursue a profession, only to find you hate your work
 - when you try to resist a temptation, but then give in to it again and again
 - when you move to a new job, then lose it in a downsizing
 - when you lose a spouse to cancer, and find yourself all alone in the world.
- These are big empty cold holes. Massive voids. Not easily filled.

These women are suffering from a great loss. We know a bit about how they feel. They watched their dearest friend suffer a gruesome death and now as they arrive at his tomb to do the last thing they can for him, they find nothing, a big empty cold nothing. They are shocked and terrified to be standing in front of an empty tomb and still somehow, they able to hear and believe the strangers who tell them; Jesus is alive and waiting to meet them in Galilee.

Believe in Jesus Resurrection. Follow Jesus into the future. These are responses, we like the women can make, responses that can fill the massive empty places in our lives. Emptiness will not be eliminated by a new career, a new spouse, a new house, a new car, or a better salary, but the empty holes in life can be filled by believing in the resurrection and following Jesus into the future. On Easter morning the women entered an empty tomb, grieving. On Easter morning WE enter a full church to celebrate the empty tomb, knowing the empty places in our lives can be filled because of an empty tomb.

Easter is the most important celebration in the Christian Church. Throughout history it has remained almost exclusively a Christian celebration, because there are few worldly distractions attached to it. The Easter Bunny gets little attention compared to Santa. There are no airline scheduling issues for travelers, because so few go home for the celebration. There are no outside lights, no office parties and no Easter carols.

Why do you suppose Christmas gets so much attention in and out of the church compared to Easter? Well, it is quite easy to take a baby and God choosing to live with us and turn the story into a beautiful, grand celebration. It's a whole different thing to pretty-up crucifixion and an empty tomb and one wants to admit to being a sinner in need of rescue. Christmas is sentimental, spectacular, stimulating, and so much more. It contains bits and pieces of all the things we WANT to have fill the holes in our lives. Easter is what we NEED. It's unconditional love and forgiveness that can fill all the empty places in our lives.

Shalom Pastor Marie

May Newsletter 2025

Our Mission

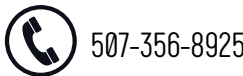
*"Guided by God's love, we are called to welcome, love, and work for God's people
.....here, there, and every where."*

Saint Paul Lutheran Church
214 3rd ST SW
Pine Island, MN 55963-9307

Saint Paul Staff
Rev. Marie AK Anderson
marieannka@aol.com

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am to 3pm

**Worship Schedule: 9am Sunday: In- Person, YouTube,
and Facebook**



507-356-8925



saintpaulpi@yahoo.com



www.saintpaulpimn.org

*Happy
Easter*



Important Dates & Easter Worship Photos

May

Level Up Friday 7-12.....	May 2
Ruby's Pantry.....	May 3
6th Graders Receive Bibles.....	May 4
Final Day of Sunday School.....	May 4
6th Grade Gospel of Mark Class.....	May 4
Mentor Night.....	May 14
Final Night of Confirmation.....	May 14
Council Meeting.....	May 15
Level Up Friday 7-12.....	May 16
Senior Quilt Sunday.....	May 18
Wild Walks.....	May 18
Church Office Closed.....	May 26



June

Cheese Fest Parade.....	June 8
Pastor Marie's Last Worship Service.....	June 15
Council Meeting.....	June 19 @ 7pm

July

Council Meeting.....	July 17 @ 7pm
----------------------	---------------



News and Announcements

Thank You!!

As many of you may have noticed, the new flooring has been successfully installed in the Fellowship Hall and Narthex. After countless hours of dedicated effort, the results are truly stunning! We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those who contributed their time to complete this project: Bob Doll, Karen Doll, Dale Morey, Vicki Morey, Dan Weber, Dawn Weber, Blake Henderson, Christian Pahl, Tom Bollman, Ken DeBoer, Mark Anderson, and Chris Stolp.



Get To Know Your Fellow Members!

Get to Know Members of Saint Paul Lutheran!



STEVE AND CARMEN PLESCHOURT
MEMBERS SINCE: 1991
HOMETOWNS: STEVE - FARIBAULT, MN
CARMEN - KENYON, MN
HOBBIES: STEVE: BOWLING, FISHING, GRANDKIDS, CALLING BINGO AND VOLUNTEERING AT THE PI SHARING SHELVES
CARMEN: HUGS FROM GRANDCHILDREN

ABOUT US

CHILDREN: 3 KIDS AND 7 GRANDKIDS
PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT: STEVE: RETIRED FROM MAYO CLINIC
CARMEN: CPA AND PART OWNER OF OERTLI & PLESCHOURT

FAITH STORY

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN?
HAVING BEEN HERE FOR ABOUT 35 YEARS, WE LIKE COMING TO A PLACE WHERE WE'VE MADE MANY FRIENDS AND FEEL COMFORTABLE.

HOW HAVE YOU SERVED HERE AT SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN?
CHURCH COUNCIL, CONFIRMATION, MISSION TRIPS, YOUTH GATHERINGS.

FAVORITE VERSE OR STORY
STEVE: MATTHEW 4:19. COME FOLLOW ME AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN.
CARMEN: HEBREWS 11, WHICH SERVES AS A REMINDER THAT FAITH IS NOT MERELY ABOUT IMMEDIATE RESULTS BUT ABOUT MAINTAINING HOPE AND ASSURANCE IN GOD'S PROMISES.

Get to Know Members of Saint Paul Lutheran!



NATE AND EMILY O'BRIEN
MEMBERS SINCE: 2016
HOMETOWNS: NATE - PINE ISLAND
EMILY - DASSEL, MN
HOBBIES: HUNTING, FISHING AND AGATE HUNTING

ABOUT US

CHILDREN: EASTON (8), CASE (6), ELLA (4)
PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT: NATE: AG PARTNERS
EMILY: HEMANN, GROVER & CO

FAITH STORY

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN?
OUR KIDS FEEL LOVED, COMFORTABLE & ACCEPTED AT SAINT PAUL- THEY HAVE A PLACE TO GROW IN THEIR FAITH WITH THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

HOW HAVE YOU SERVED HERE AT SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN?
SUNDAY SCHOOL LEAD, STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MEMBER & SERVING COMMUNION

FAVORITE VERSE OR STORY
PROVERBS 3

A Word From Your Youth Director

Level Up Youth Ministry Updates – Let the Fun Begin!

There's a lot of exciting stuff happening for youth at Saint Paul Lutheran, and we can't wait to share it with you!

🎉 Level Up Nights for 7th–12th Graders (6–9 PM)

We're launching Level Up Nights on the first Friday of every month from 6–9 PM just for our 7th–12th graders! This summer, we're kicking things up a notch with a Battle of the Grades—a friendly competition where each grade earns points for attending, bringing friends, and participating in epic game nights. Think water balloon Capture the Flag, pickleball relays, and more! The winning grade at the end of the summer will score a special surprise!

🎉 Level Up Nights for 3rd–6th Graders (6–9 PM)

Our younger youth (grades 3–6) get their own Level Up fun every third Friday of the month from 6–9 PM. These nights will be packed with fun devotions, interactive games, creative activities, and of course—food! It's a great chance for kids to connect, play, and grow together.

🌿 Wild Walks – Exploring Faith Outdoors

Once a month, right after church, our 3rd–6th graders will head out on a Wild Walk—a time to grow, connect, and explore our faith out in nature. These walks are a breath of fresh air for both body and soul!

❤️ Local Mission Opportunities – Let's Serve Together!

We're kicking off a new season of local mission opportunities for our youth—and inviting the whole church to get involved! Our first mission event will be on Friday, May 3rd at Ruby's Pantry. This is open to youth in 3rd grade and up. We'll meet at the church at 7:30 AM and head over together to start volunteering at 8:00 AM. If you'd like to join our volunteer team, please complete the Ruby's Pantry volunteer application and connect with me to confirm your spot.

🍷 Parents – Let's Connect!

I'd love to meet up and get to know you better—whether it's grabbing coffee or letting the kids run around at the park while we chat. Please don't hesitate to reach out. My heart is truly for your family, and I'm here to support you and your kids however I can.

🏆 Athletic Pass – Let Me Cheer On Your Kids! I'm thrilled to share that I now have an athletic pass from the school—so I can come cheer on your amazing kids at their games! If your child would like me to attend, just shoot me a quick text with their game schedule. I'd love to be there to support them.

Let's make this a season full of connection, faith, and unforgettable memories! ❤️

🎵 March Concert Recap – A Night to Remember

In March, we had an absolute blast taking a group of youth up to a Christian concert at Northwestern University, where we got to experience the powerful music of Allison Eide. It was an emotional and unforgettable night—watching youth of all ages come together, united in music and faith, was nothing short of inspiring. Moments like these remind us how alive and real God's presence is in the hearts of our young people. 🎵❤️



Faith Formation

Sunday School



**SUMMER WITH
SAINT PAUL KIDS
AKA VBS**

Confirmation

We are thrilled to share the wonderful efforts of our 7th and 8th grade confirmation students who engaged in a creative and meaningful project this Lenten season. On April 23rd, our students showcased their Lenten projects in a presentations for by their classmates, mentors, and families.



MAY

SUN 27	MON 28	TUE 29	WED 30	THU May 1	FRI 2	SAT 3
Sunday School Helps in Worship 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice 11am Wild Walks 2pm Music Recital 3:45pm Girl Scouts	8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball	8am Mission Quilting 11am Ministerial Text Study	6:30pm Confirmation	11:30am Ministerial Meeting	6pm Level Up Friday Grades 7-12	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6th Graders Receive Bibles 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice 10:15am Gospel of Mark Class	8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball 6:30pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Lion's Board Meeting	8am Mission Quilting 11am Ministerial Text Study	6:30pm Confirmation	Cannon River Conference		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Mother's Day 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice	8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball	11am Ministerial Text Study 6:30pm Building and Grounds Mee	Confirmation Mentor Night 6:30pm Confirmation	7pm Council Meeting	6pm Level Up Friday Grades 3-6	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Senior Quilt Sunday 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice 11am Wild Walks 5:30pm Girl Scouts	8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball 6:30pm Cub Scouts	11am Ministerial Text Study		9am Cancer Support Group		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice	Church Office Closed 8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball	11am Ministerial Text Study			Synod Assembly	