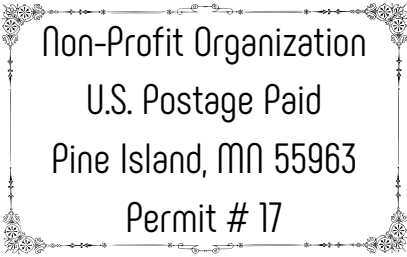


Saint Paul Lutheran Church
PO Box 357
Pine Island, MN 55963-0357

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Faith Formation & Lent Project

A Word From Your Pastor



Lent is just around the corner & we are bringing back the change round up this year! Sunday School & Confirmation kids will compete for who can raise the most money! Prize(s) to be determined. This year, the money raised will be going to the Ministerial Fund. This is money gathered by local churches that helps cover requests for gas and food and other emergency needs. This one fund serves the community of Pine Island.

Two large water bottles labeled Sunday School and Confirmation will be placed in the narthex during Lent. Faith Formation kids are asking for your help to place your change (cash & checks welcome too!) into the bottles to see our progress toward the \$1,500 goal! This challenge begins Ash Wednesday and runs through Easter. Stay tuned for results and thank you for supporting our kids at Saint Paul!



In 2024 we had one baptism at Saint Paul Lutheran. In 2025 there are three scheduled already. As disciples of Jesus, we love to celebrate and witness the sacrament of Baptism, because watching the parents and young children being touch by God changes us as well as the family. With the younger children, we look at each other just-in-case we get to see the cross put each of us in Baptism. It is that Baptismal Cross we now consider.

The Baptismal Cross is created at Baptism and trace of many times throughout, our life. Those not taking the sacrament of Holy Communion can have their Baptismal cross traced, at confirmation it is traced as we call the Holy Spirit into the life of the one being confirmed, and on Ash Wednesday everyone can have their cross traced in ashes, while hearing *remember you are dust and to dust you will return.* Ash Wednesday is our solemn entry into the 40 days of Lent.

Why write about Lent and Ashes when March fifth is a month away? Because we are trying something new this coming year and we want to give you and families with Sunday School students plenty of time to prepare. On March fifth as the people of God in this place, we will receive Holy Communion and ashes as one community of believers and separately we will hear Gospel proclaimed; the children will have Ash Wednesday School and the rest of us will have a sermon and scripture readings. (no Sunday School 32.25)

Come join God's people as we begin the journey through Lent that ends with the celebration of God's love made manifest on Easter Sunday.

Shalom Pastor Marie

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21

The treasure of great worth, found in the Christian church is all of us joined together in worship, service, fellowship and education.

February Newsletter 2025

Our Mission

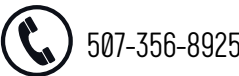
*"Guided by God's love, we are called to welcome, love, and work for God's people
.....here, there, and every where."*

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



Important Dates

February

First Communion Class.....February 2 @ 10:15am
First Communion.....February 16
Confirmation Mentor Night.....February 26

March

Ash Wednesday.....March 5
Lenten Supper.....March 5 @ 5:45pm
Ash Wednesday Lenten Service.....March 5 @ 6:45pm
New Member Orientation.....March 9 @ 10:15am
Lenten Supper.....March 12 @ 5:45pm
Lenten Service.....March 12 @ 6:45pm
Confirmation Mentor Night Option 1.....March 12
Lenten Supper.....March 12 @ 5:45pm
Lenten Service.....March 12 @ 6:45pm
New Member Sunday.....March 16
Lenten Supper.....March 19 @ 5:45pm
Lenten Service.....March 19 @ 6:45pm
No Sunday School.....March 23
Lenten Supper.....March 26 @ 5:45pm
Lenten Service.....March 26 @ 6:45pm
Confirmation Mentor Night Option 2.....March 26
No Sunday School.....March 30

April

Lenten Supper.....April 2 @ 5:45pm
Lenten Service.....April 2 @ 6:45pm
Lenten Supper.....April 9 @ 5:45pm
Lenten Service.....April 9 @ 6:45pm
Palm Sunday.....April 13
Maundy Thursday Service.....April 17 @ 6:45pm
Good Friday Service.....April 18 @ 6:65pm
Easter Sunday Services.....April 20 @ 9am & 10:30am
Church Office Closed.....April 21



A Word From Our New Youth Director: Stephanie Raj



Dear Saint Paul Lutheran Church Community,

I am beyond excited to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Youth Director here at Saint Paul Lutheran Church. My name is Stephanie Raj, and I am thrilled to be joining this wonderful church family as we embark on a journey of faith, growth, and connection with our youth.

A Bit About Me: I was adopted from Guatemala. My parents have been involved in missions their entire life. I spent the most formative part of my teenage years growing up in Russia during the late 90s and early 2000s. I grew up as a PK and an MK (pastor's kid and missionary kid). It was an amazing opportunity and struggle, and I can remember the mental, emotional, and even spiritual battles I faced throughout my teenage years and early adulthood. I remember being a teenager and questioning my faith in God, my purpose, and calling in this big massive world countless times. Even though my parents were heavily involved in missions, I realized as I got older—no matter how involved our parents might be in church—the choice is our own. We have to make the relationship and the faith our own. I've seen God work in some amazing ways—not always BIG ways, but still amazing ways. This has brought me to something I believe in my core and remind myself daily: God can use the imperfect. In fact, He doesn't ask for perfection—He asks for us just the way we are- to come as we are and to love and let Him love us.

Fast forward to today, I am married, just celebrated 12 years of marriage in December to my amazing husband, Vino Shelumiel Raj. I am a mom of three kiddos who keep me on my toes and always laughing. Whether it's answering endless scientific questions thanks to Google or finding dinosaurs in the laundry, parenting is never dull. They remind me daily what a privilege it is to be a parent—even when the coffee goes cold. Parenting has its challenges, but it's also the most beautiful responsibility as we guide these curious little humans into teenagehood and adulthood. My family and I feel incredibly blessed to be part of the Pine Island community. We moved here three years ago and have enjoyed every moment of calling this place home.

Leveling Up Our Youth: As we look forward to the coming months, I'm excited to help create a space where youth can connect, grow, and have fun while diving into their faith. Think sports, movement, meaningful discussions, and devotional time—all with a good dose of laughter and friendship.

Recently, we hosted our first youth event—a community pickleball and game day—which, though small in attendance, was meaningful for those who came. It was heartwarming to see a dad and daughter spend time together and a dedicated young man participate with enthusiasm. Moments like these remind me of the importance of building strong relationships and creating spaces where youth can thrive.

Looking ahead, we've got some awesome events in the works, including a Youth Super Bowl Watch Party, fun hangouts, gatherings, and even an exciting Youth Camp on the horizon. So bring your energy, your questions, and your friends—we can't wait to see you there!

Parents, if you have ideas, questions, or simply want to connect, please don't hesitate to reach out. I want to be there for you just as much as the youth and see how we can help grow together. - Thank you all for this immense honor.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Youth Super Bowl Watch Party | Sunday Feb 9th. | Saint Paul Lutheran Church | 5PM till End Game | Food, Games, Fun, Prizes.



News and Announcements

Youth Super Bowl Viewing Party



A Word From Your President

Hello members of Saint Paul.

I am so excited to start my term as your council president. I was born and raised in Pine Island and other than a two-year residential change to Kasson I have remained in Pine Island. I have two adult children who were both confirmed at Saint Paul. Chase and his wife Sami live in Oronoco with my two grand fur-babies. Chelsey continues to live with my fiancé Jason and I. (no date set) We also share a home with my Mom and sister... embracing multi-generational living. I have been a member of Saint Paul for 22 years and prior to that was a member of Stordahl Lutheran in Roscoe. I sincerely enjoy being a confirmation small group leader. The middle school kids bring me joy! I can't wait to get to know Saint Paul members even better and continue the great work of continuing to build up the ever-evolving church family. Please stop me for a conversation and share your hopes for our amazing congregation.

In hope and peace,

Kirby

Weather/Cancellation Policy

Saint Paul Lutheran's policy for worship cancellation (to be made by 3 members of the executive committee):

- The decision will be made by noon for a weekday worship service.
- The decision will be made by 6:00 pm on Saturday for Sunday worship.
- If school and/or activities are canceled due to weather:
 - All evening activities are also canceled, including confirmation
 - Call the office to see if the building is open
 - Cancellations and building closures will be posted on:
 - Local channel 7 TV station
 - Our Facebook page
 - The 2 Rochester TV stations (KTTC and Fox 47)



Faith Formation

Sunday School

On Sunday, February 2nd, our Sunday school kids fulfilled their 2nd service project and joined Pine Haven residents for multiple rounds of Bingo! These special projects we are able to partake in teach so much to our kids. Giving our time to others, bringing joy, helping others, kindness & caring. I cannot say enough good things about how our Sunday school kids displayed all of these traits and more on this day. They had conversation with residents, they helped residents who needed assistance with the bingo cards, spoke loud and clear when needed and they announced the winning Bingo cards. 2-3 kids are placed at each table of residents - some went home with a new friend! Our Sunday school families also provided the bingo prizes for this day & Pine Haven keeps whatever is left for future bingo sessions. Thank you families for allowing your kid(s) to join us for this day!



Confirmation

Confirmation is back in full swing, and students were even able to meet with their mentors already in the New Year. Next mentor night will be February 26th!



February

SUN 26	MON 27	TUE 28	WED 29	THU 30	FRI 31	SAT Feb 1
Ryker Hausladen Baptism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Annual Meeting 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice 11am Potluck 4pm Youth/Parent Community Picl 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Mission Quilting 11am Ministerial Text Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Confirmation 			
2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice 10:30am First Communion Class 1:15pm First Communion Cup Maki 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball 6:30pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Lion's Board Meeting 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Mission Quilting 11am Ministerial Text Study 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Confirmation 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30am Ministerial Meeting 		
9 Youth Super Bowl Party <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice 5:30pm Girl Scouts 	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball 	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Mission Quilting 11am Ministerial Text Study 6:30pm Building and Grounds Mee 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Confirmation 	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Cannon River Conference 		
16 First Communion Jackson Gadiant Baptism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice 	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Red Cross Blood Drive 6:30pm Cub Scouts 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Mission Quilting 11am Ministerial Text Study 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Confirmation 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Council Meeting 		
23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Handbell Practice 	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Loose Threads Quilting 1pm Chair Volleyball 	25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Mission Quilting 11am Ministerial Text Study 	26 Confirmation Mentor Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Confirmation 	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Cancer Support Group 		Mar 1