

April
2026

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

CREATES AND SHARES GOD'S LOVE AND COMPASSION

727 South Second Avenue
Alpena, Michigan 49707

A Stephen Ministry Congregation



*2026 Theme:
Be Our Vision Lord*

**Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Outreach**



Phone: 989-356-1658

www.stpaul.org

Facebook Page: St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church - Alpena

YouTube: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Alpena, Michigan

April 2026

Special points of interest:

- "I introduced myself and over these past 7 years we have grown to know each other and grown together in spite of various challenges."
- "The people of St. Paul, brought hope to the hopeless, joy to the suffering, and care to the lost."
- Continue to proclaim your hopes and dreams for St. Paul, for "I Can Only Imagine," how you will continue to serve and change the world.

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St. Paul Epistle

I Can Only Imagine

People of God at St. Paul,

When I arrived here 7 years ago I wrote these words in my first newsletter. "I Can Only Imagine," are the opening words and the title of a song by the Christian Group, "Mercy Me." I reflected on



the ministry journey of St. Paul that began in 1871 (148 years ago) and the various leaders and parishioners who have worshipped here throughout that time. I also reflected on my journey that brought me to this congregation, and the many miles travelled (over 6,000) to ensure that this was where God was leading us. "I can only imagine."

I introduced myself and over these past 7 years we have grown to know each other and grown together in spite of various challenges. I was amazed at the number of views we had on Facebook in a

months time...Over 177,000 views. I celebrate that 7 people are currently exploring ordained ministry. I rejoice that our number reached 179 people on average in worship during the last year (2026) with over 150 people joining our congregation in the last 3 years. Who could have imagined a new electronic sign; the stained glass being repaired; new carpet, the renovation of the sacristy; the repair of the pews; and the growth in every small group ministry and outreach ministry event, a spectacular 150 anniversary celebration and having an intern for the first time in so many years. I pray that you will continue to imagine what God can accomplish through people working together.

In my first days here in Alpena, I walked upstairs in our church building to the third floor and I discovered the area was inaccessible. I went and

found a key and I started exploring what was locked away from view. I found a picture of a cross with a plant growing over it, painted on the wall. There were names written in proclamation (and possibly celebration) that they were part of the church of God at St. Paul. Joe, Tom, Jessica, Brandon, Grant were the first names read...and then I started to imagine who these young men and women were, and where are they now? Kristine, Justine and Joe were read next, and I wondered why they painted the picture and signed their work? Was it for posterity to remember and celebrate that they were part of Christ Jesus? Was it a symbol proclaiming that nothing would ever separate them from the love of God? "I Can Only Imagine."

As I walk through the community of Alpena, I see the tremendous ministry opportunities we met with outreach to schools, community, state and synodical leaders, businesses,



I Can Only Imagine Continued

troops, college students and our hospital. Two shining moments that will always linger with me. First was our response during COVID and how we had drive-through ministry events until we reopened (the only church in the synod). The second shining moment was during

the worst storm in recent history when we stood strong and proclaimed a message of hope in worship and community service. The people of St. Paul, brought hope to the hopeless, joy to the suffering, and care to the lost. As you reflect on your life, and your hopes for St. Paul Lutheran, let us remember

the cross of Christ, God’s loving sacrifice, as we reach out in faith to bring hope, joy and love to a community that desperately needs to experience it. Continue to proclaim your hopes and dreams for St. Paul, for “I Can Only Imagine,” how you will continue to serve and change the world.

Pastor John



CHURCH COUNCIL

- Jessica O’Neil - President (Education)
- Andrea Dutcher - Vice-President (Personnel)
- Donna Kensa - Secretary (Property)
- Bernadine Wagner - Treasurer
- Scott Brooks (Outreach)
- Dawn Grzeskowiak
- Cathy Kieliszewski (Worship)
- Danielle McDonald (Small Group Ministry - Women)
- Scott Parkham (Property)
- Phil Wickstrom (Small Group Ministry - Men)
- Cayden Smith—Youth Member

Their area of responsibility is in parentheses.

Church Council monthly reports are available in the office.



People of God at St. Paul, I am reminded of the letter of Paul to Phillipi the 4th chapter, verses 6 & 7; “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

When you consider change it may be reflected in a time of uneasiness and your peace may be shaken. Change, whether it's



for good/something positive like a wedding or it may be it is difficult, found in the loss of a job. Either way, change is always stress-

ful. We are looking forward and we see that our future will not include Pastor John and Miss Nena. Through these changing times I ask that all of us look to the Lord and pray. Let your prayer be for strength, guidance, faith and patience with each other. Let Jesus be the center of our calling and our journey.

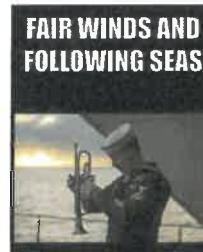
I believe that all of us are the Lord’s children and should act and treat

each other as such. We all have different talents and inter-

ests. As the mission and ministry continues at St. Paul we need to show up and step up in these trying times and do what we are

called to, in Christ Jesus: Love, welcome, inspire, listen and pray.

I served 20 years in the Navy, and I have forgiven Pastor John for his service in the Air Force. In the Navy, when there was a change in leadership or someone was moving forward into a new mission, we shared



words (similar to a prayer): Pastor and Miss Nena, may you all have fair winds and following seas wherever your next adventure takes you. God bless you both.

Submitted by Scott Brooks – Council Member





Adam's Advice Hub (AHH)

I'd love to spend time talking with you about any questions, concerns, or issues you may have. To make this easier, I now offer a simple way to schedule an appointment.

You can make an appointment by scanning the QR code or visiting this link:

<https://calendar.app.google/8Q5D7YojNuxLwcDF6>

Just choose a time that works for you. It's that easy! Only available times will appear, so you won't have to worry about scheduling conflicts.



If you prefer, you are always welcome to email me at media@stpaul.org or call the church office to set up a time.

Scheduling appointments helps me give you my full attention.



Many concerns take more than a quick fix, and I want to take the time to explain things clearly and help prevent future problems.



lems.

Appointments also help me balance my time, so I can assist everyone while keeping up with other responsibilities around the church. As our St. Paul family continues to grow, this becomes increasingly important.

I look forward to meeting with you and helping in any way I can. Please don't hesitate to reach out and set up a time that works for you!

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Numbers 6:24-26

Jackie's Jump Start

Spring is truly my favorite time of year. Everything that was dormant is coming to life again. God is amazing, and his work is truly evident all around us.



The Holy Week/Easter schedule is posted in this newsletter, page 5, and there are also trifold in the Narthex. We invite you to join us for as many services as you can.

I want to remind you that the church office will be closing at 11:00 a.m. on Good Friday, April 3rd, and will remain closed through Easter Monday, April 6th.

Of course, at Easter, I'm so thankful for the new life Jesus Christ offers to me and all of us. His love and sacrifice are so unimaginable... and I am so grateful! Of course, the same God that offers us salvation will be with Pastor John and Nena as they start their next chapter. It is with a grateful heart

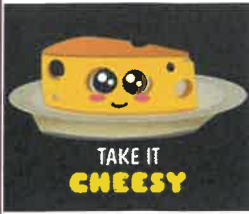
that I reflect on their tireless, selfless ministry that has helped strengthen our church family. Working beside them both has been a true blessing. It is also, with an expectant heart that I look ahead to what God will continue to do through us, at St. Paul Lutheran Church. All for HIS glory!

I hope you all have a blessed Easter.

If you have any questions, contact me via email, jackie@stpaul.org, or call me at the office (989) 356-1658.



Miss Cheesy's Corner



Things are going rather smooth up here in the office. It was great meeting people during the Lenten lunch and giving out tickets for the Potato Bar and the Mexican dinner events while I transition to being on

my own. There are a lot of things I'm still learning and can improve on. I love this position, as each day reveals more information in which to serve. Everyone at St. Paul is amazing, from volunteers, staff, and the entire congrega-

tion, and for that I want to say, "Thank you!" And of course I want to say, "Thank You," to Pastor John and Nena for their efforts to inform, help and inspire. I'm anxious to see where the next months will lead us here in the office!



Welcome Lindsay

Lindsay Robert's was hired as our new financial bookkeeper. She started February 26th. Please welcome her and keep her in prayer.



Women's Tea - "Run for the Roses"



Dust off your tea party hat! The Women's Tea will be held from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 2nd. Please RSVP to Patti at

989-335-0336. More information and an online registration will be available soon. Mark your calendars now and invite a friend.



Informational Session

We will only have one service on the weekend of April 11/12. It will be on Sunday, April 12th at 9:00 a.m. Following the service there will be an informational

session with Scott Torkko, Assistant to the Bishop, from the Synod Office. If you have any questions, contact Jessica



O'Neil at 989-278-9633 or jonel7478@gmail.com.

Friendship Room

The Friendship Room is currently in need of volunteers. You will need a background check. Please call Christina Kihn if interested at 989-884-1060. The Friendship Room is a soup kitchen in Alpena where one can receive a meal and a warm welcoming environment of friendship where all are welcome at the table to be nourished in both body and soul.



Thank You

Thank you to the people of God at St. Paul for the cards, gifts and smiles that were given during our celebration of ministry party on March 22nd. We were blessed by you and we give glory to God.

Pastor John and Nena





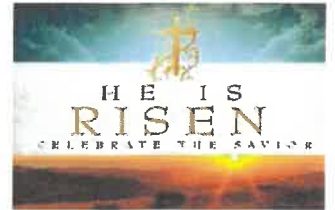
Holy Week Worship Schedule



Palm Sunday, March 28/29th - We will have our three regular weekend worship services.



Good Friday—April 3rd - Service at 6:00 p.m. "Jesus Conquers the Dust" The service will be followed by the movie "The Passion" at 7:00 p.m.



Easter Sunday Services - April 5th:

- Sunrise Service 6:30
- Liturgical Service 9:00
- Contemporary Service 10:30



Maundy Thursday—April 2nd - Service at 6:00 p.m.- "Dust & Love," with a Soup Supper at 5:00 p.m.

St. Paul Lutheran will also participate in the Good Friday Tre Ore service on April 3rd that will be hosted by First Presbyterian Church, from 12:00 noon—3:00 p.m.



Easter Breakfast

There will be an Easter Breakfast right after the Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday. Everyone is invited. Come join us!



Final Day

Pastor John's final day is Friday the 10th of April. The week after Easter, Pastor John will be packing up his office and ensuring the transition will be smooth. No appointments or meeting will happen that week.



Easter Egg Hunt

On Saturday, April 4th, the Adventure Club will again have an Easter Egg hunt for our community within our building.

This will be another event to celebrate Christ in our community. Come and join the adventure.



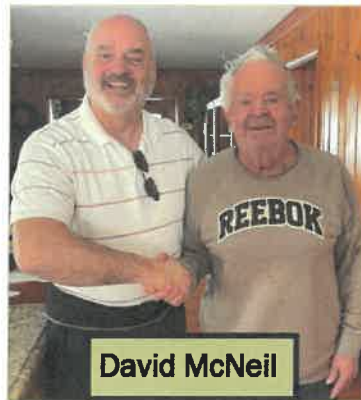
Church Office Closed

Please note: The church office will close at 11:00 a.m. on Good Friday, April 3rd. We will also be closed all day on Easter Monday, April 6th.



"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die." John 11:25

March Servant Leaders



Our Servant Leaders for the month of March are Rickie Kindt and David McNeil. Thank you for your efforts to make the Church/our community better. They were presented a coin in celebration of their efforts.



May Video Educational Experience

For May, we will be watching the movie “Sound of Hope, The Story of Possum Trot”

It will be shown on May 6th at 6:00 p.m.

A Meal is provided and

discussion. All are invited. Please come join us!



Ray of Sunshine

Do you have a few minutes to brighten someone else’s day? Do you have a desire to share God’s love? Please consider being part of the

“Ray of Sunshine Ministry” team. We send out encouraging notes, make phone calls or a personal visit to those in need of fellow-

ship/connection. Please contact the office to become part of this important ministry.



Potato Bake Supper Thank You

We would like to thank everyone who, donated raffle items, made the tickets and posters, helped in the kitchen with cooking, set-up, and

clean up for the Potato Bake Supper. It was a HUGE success.

Without the participation of all who attended it would

not have been possible. See you next year!



Scholarship Applications

The Scholarship Committee will be awarding a scholarship to a 2026 graduating senior or current college student. Applications are available in the church office, start-

ing April 1st and must be submitted by April 30.



Mark Your Calendar

Bishop Julie E. Schneider-Thomas is coming to visit on June 18th–21st. Be sure to mark your calendar!





Rummage Sale

The Church Rummage Sale dates are set for June 11th - 13th! You may start bringing in your items in stackable sealed boxes, and leave them on

the right side of the storage area off the dining room. Please leave bigger stuff until the week of the rummage sale. We will again be accepting

clean used clothing and shoes for our sale. If you have any questions, please call Andrea Dutcher at 989-354-3651.

Engage Your Enthusiasm



E.Y.E. (Engage Your Enthusiasm) ministry - Everyone has a vision for the ministry at St. Paul. I hope you will share the events of the church through your

eyes. Please appoint an E.Y.E. representative for each event so nothing will be missed and your event will be promoted on our various digital

sites (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) If you submit 5 photos you will be given a tee shirt.

April Service Activity



The April Service Activity is Wilson Elementary School.

Items needed: pocket folders, clip boards, poster boards (any color),

Clorox wipes, Kleenex, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, lined filler paper, individually wrapped snacks.

Please leave items on the altar.

Thank you for your generosity.



Hope Shores Alliance



Hope Shores Alliance is an agency in Alpena that helps in our community, supporting of people who have experienced violence

in their homes or lives. St. Paul Lutheran has opened our doors to be a drop off point for this organization (on the third floor).

Thanks to everyone who is part of this important ministry.

Cemetery Care

During the Stroll through the Cemetery last fall, the care for headstones was discussed. Sue Robb mentioned her method of keeping them looking nice. Wet down the stone with water, use a soft scrubber with bleach and a softer plastic scrub brush to get build up off. For more difficult spots, scrub with comet

and a popsicle stick (not metal as it will scar the stone), rinse and repeat if necessary. When the tombstone is clean, spray with car wax for a protective coat. When dry, buff with a soft cloth.



April Birthdays



April Anniversaries



Children's Church



During the Contemporary, 10:30 service we have Children's Church (another name for Sunday School). Parents and children are invited to the 10:30 service and after a prayer and a song, the children will go with the Children's Church leaders for Children's Church. This learning opportunity is a time of learning, celebration, and fun while allowing parents to worship. The children will meet for about 40 minutes and then return to the 10:30 Service for the final song. Please pray for this ministry and support this outreach effort with your time and effort and by sharing it with your friends and family.

Kid's Korner



Children's Church was a celebration. The kids were having a "hopping" good time making adorable paper bag bunnies!



Ministry Highlight—Outreach

Outreach Ministries are very important at St. Paul Lutheran Church and are Inspired by our mission statement which is: "...to be an expression of God's compassion in our community and beyond." With that mission statement in mind, we are blessed to have service leaders who reach out to our church family, to our community and beyond in ways that inspire us to help build the Kingdom of God here on Earth. We do this through the following Outreach Ministries:

- ◆ Gratitude Lunches: saying thank you to organizations within our community by providing them with a lunch at their place of service.

- ◆ Dinner on a Doorknob: Since 2015, Dinner on a Door-knob has been providing a light nourishing meal to those finding themselves experiencing extenuating circumstances or the acknowledgement of a joyous occasion on a monthly basis.

- ◆ Another Outreach Ministry involves packing bags of food for Feeding the Kids. Sunset School is the site for this Outreach project. This

ministry functions like an assembly line of fun for adults and children packing bags with food items to sustain children through the weekend. It may be the only food some children get during the weekend. Food insufficiency is rather high in our area...imagine that in this day and age!

- ◆ We also collect snack items for the Cancer Center. Those interested in this Outreach Ministry keep in touch with MyMichigan to determine the needs, collect what is needed and deliver the items to the hospital for cancer patients. Some patients are at the hospital for extended periods of time getting treatments for their disease. Maybe you would

like to collect and deliver snacks to the Cancer Center on a regular basis and possibly explore other

means of assisting these patients who are going through a significant struggle.

- ◆ During the Christmas Season, St. Paul Lutheran works with the Christmas Wish list. This Outreach Ministry provides clothing



and items to those in need via a list from the United Way. Many organizations in our area, including our church, shop for the items on a list for individuals or families and presents the items requested for people in need to make Christmas a little brighter for those individuals/

families. Would you like to coordinate and brighten the Christmas of people within our own community...

especially those who are less fortunate? We know that God is calling on someone to coordinate the Christmas wish list with the United Way! Please pray about where God might be calling you to assist Him as a disciple on Earth to share God's Love and Light. New members, Long-time members, please ask God what He is calling you to do. Not only will you be helping others in their struggle but you will find fulfillment in your heart by being in service to others... God is calling YOU!





Small Group - Women



The Breakfast Belles meet each week at JJ's. All women are invited to be at JJ's, on Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. Remember the first breakfast is free!

"The Forget Me Nots" (Women 70 and older) will be meeting on Tuesday, April 7 at

noon in the church dining hall. Please bring your own lunch. Coffee, tea and water will be provided. We hope to see you there.

Please call Ann Hardesty at (989-590-2055), if you have any questions.

"The Soul Sisters" (Women 50-70) will meet soon. Please watch your bulletin and Facebook for details.

"SALT" Sisters Adoring Light and Truth (Women 18-45) will meet soon. Please watch your bulletin and Facebook for details.

Come and be inspired, share your ideas and be open to God's possibilities.



SMALL GROUPS
Sharing Life, Living Christ's Love

Small Group—Men



The Men of St. Paul and friends are still meeting at JJ's at 7:00 a.m. This has been a great time of discussion and celebration of God at work in the church. Come and be part of this gospel expression.

Band of Brothers is currently meeting quarterly.

This is for men who are 18-45. We are looking to connect and strengthen the faith of young men through activities



and studies that will be a beacon of hope.

BoB (Band of Brothers) will meet soon. Please watch your bulletin and Facebook for details.

Come and be inspired, share your ideas and be open to God's possibilities.

Singles



S@SP (Singles At St. Paul) usually meet the first Thursday of every

month, however they will not meet in April. See you May 7th at 5:30 p.m. at Thunder Bowl Lanes.



Fellowship

The Fellowship for the 5:30 Saturday night service meets at 4:30 for drinks and baked goods until 5:20. Fellowship for the 9:00

service and the 10:30 service will occur in-between the service times. Come and share your life with the people with whom you worship. This minis-

try is a celebration and I ask that you help by leading a fellowship time.



Adopt a Highway

We will resume the ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY program with a kick off of our MDOT clean up on

Sunday, April 12th. We will meet at the church at 12:00 p.m. to view a video before venturing

out for the clean up. Hope to see you there.



Spring Spruce-Up

We will have a "Spring Spruce Up" on Saturday, April 25th from 9 a.m. thru noon.



Come and help us spruce up the building for spring. RSVP to the church office. Lunch will be provided.



Vision Gala

Options Pregnancy Center is hosting our Vision Gala on Saturday, April 18th, at the APlex! We invite you to come and

see what the Lord is doing through Options and our region and how you can partner with us. If you are interested in hosting a table or attending, please

contact Lori at 989-354-6089 for more information.



Growing

Growing the church in the 21st century is unique, and I want to challenge everyone in our congregation to reach out to family, friends and acquaintances to follow us on Facebook or on

our Website. Increasing our digital footprint through word of mouth (through technology) may expand the connection with God this those you know and love.



Digital Newsletter

We send out the newsletter digitally each month. With the cost of postage going up, this little step can really help make a difference in

the church office budget. So, if you would like to have it emailed to you, please let us know. Send your request to

jackie@stpaul.org. Thank you.



Synod Assembly

The 2026 North/West Lower Michigan Synod Assembly will be held in-person on May 15-16, 2026, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Portage, MI under the theme "CONNECTED" which is based on the message John provided in Revelation 5:13;

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

We are thrilled to announce that we will be hosting Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry this year at assembly! Bishop Curry will be giving the keynote address on Friday, preside at worship on Saturday and make a presentation during the business session

on Saturday.

Please be in prayer for this event and for Sue Robb and Jared Bicker who will be attending from our church.

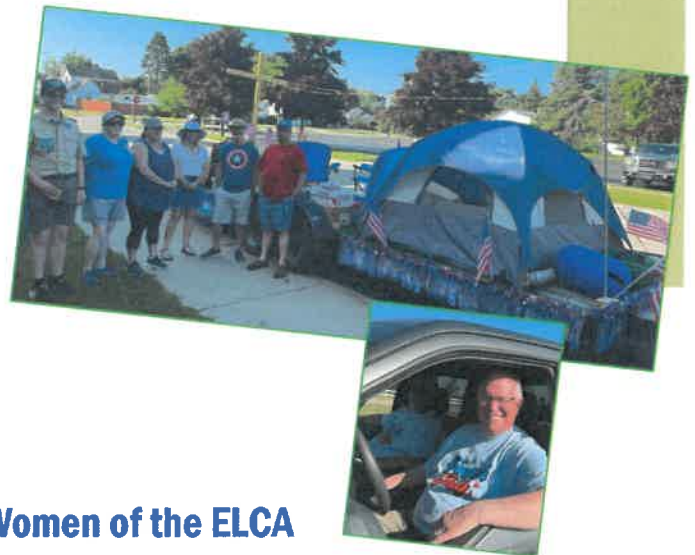


Church Float

We are looking for a team to help with the 4th of July Parade float this year. Each year our float is wonderful and this year can be even more so. Please contact the church office if you would like to be part of this ministry vision/

outreach.

Past leaders are available for questions and support. They are Patti Byce, Joanne Huggler, Mike or Linda Collins.



Spring Gathering for the NW Lower Michigan Women of the ELCA

Time for a road trip!
Come join us for an uplifting Bible study, fellowship, craft break out and lunch from delightful Danish ladies.

When: Saturday, April 18, 2026 from 10 a.m.—3 p.m.
(Registration opens at 9:30 a.m.)

Where: St. Paul Lutheran Church, 9844 S.W. Greenville Road, Greenville, Michigan

Cost: \$10.00—per person.

Theme: "For God so Loved the World."

We look forward to this time of fellowship and renewing of friendships between churches in our region.

Call Roxy Montague for more information at 231-872-0032

Also, registration forms are available in the church office.



APRIL SERVICE SCHEDULE

Date & Service	Assisting Ministers	Lectors	Ushers	Fellowship Volunteer	Children's Church and Little's Worship Workers
APRIL 4 & 5					
5:30 p.m.	No Saturday Service (April 4) – Join us on Sunday at 6:30, 9:00, or 10:30 a.m.				Children's Church: None – Easter Sunday Little's Worship: None – Easter Sunday
9:00 a.m.	Dawn Grzeskowiak	Danielle McDonald	Kathy Burton Tim Moggie Ryan Panknin Barb Szczesniak	Joanne Huggler Rita Chase	
10:30 a.m.			Janet Freeman		
APRIL 11 & 12					
	Only one service this weekend. Join us at the 9:00 a.m. service and stay for the Informational Session with Scott Torkko after.				Children's Church: None Little's Worship: None
9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones	Shirley Jones	Dennis Dziesinski Roy Wekwert Jesse & Jessica O'Neil	Carla Steinke	
10:30 a.m.					
APRIL 18 & 19					
5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur	Sue Keyes	Dennis & Sherry McDonald	Patti Byce Myra Gapske	Children's Church: Joanne Huggler, Rita Chase, Ashley Reed, Cathy Kieliszewski Little's Worship: Andrea Dutcher Evie Bicker
9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak	Barb Szczesniak	Owen Werth Paul Kieliszewski Cathy Kieliszewski Ryan Panknin	Janice Boboltz	
10:30 a.m.			Karen Wekwert		
APRIL 25 & 26					
5:30 p.m.	Dawn Grzeskowiak	Phil Wickstrom		Anita Laub	Children's Church: Jessica O'Neil Jesse O'Neil, Bonnie Duby Little's Worship: Ophelia Steinke Ashley Reed
9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham	Scott Parkham	Dennis Dziesinski Roy Wekwert Tim Moggie Kathy Burton	Janice Boboltz	
10:30 a.m.			Connie Sims		

We are looking for Assisting Ministers and Lectors, Acolytes and Ushers for our worship services.

If you are interested in serving at either service, please contact the church office at (989) 356-1658.

Altar Care for the month of April – Sue Robb and Karen Hamann.





Celebrated that St. Paul Ev Lutheran Church is making a difference in our community. Today I visited Hinks School and presented them with school supplies, clothing, health supplies and boots which totaled over \$400 dollars. Thanks to Principal Stephanie Hitchcock for receiving these gifts.



The Baked Potato and Ice Cream Bar event at St. Paul is a celebration for the congregation to come together in fellowship and enjoy a delicious meal during the winter season. A great time was had by all.

The RACK M (Random Acts of Caring/Kindness Ministry) rejoices with Chris Lozen (top) as she celebrates 75 years, and Donna Scull (below) as she celebrates 85 years. Wish them a happy birthday. Thanks to Sue Robb for her leadership in this ministry.



Celebrated an awesome staff and their vision for ministry. They are a blessing.



Had a sacred meal with Paul Kieliszewski at Mangos. Please keep this man of God in your prayers. (Stock photo-missed the opportunity at lunch).



Thanks to Chris Lozen for making the beautiful stained glass work of art that made the celebration even more special.



The "Taste From Home," Ministry reached out to Amelia Berles, (top left) who is currently in Arizona for pilot training for the US Air Force. She stated, "Thank you so much for all the thoughtful care packages! They are a much-needed moral boost! They also reached out to Rachael Mayes, (left) who is currently serving in our nations defense. Please keep all of our service members and this dynamic ministry program in prayer.



The Veterans of Alpena gathered and we shared stories and enjoyed our time in community. If you are a veteran, please come and join us on the Fourth Thursday of every month, at 9:00 a.m. in the Art of the Loft.



Celebrated with Dawn and Mike. Please keep them in prayer as they continue on the road toward marriage.

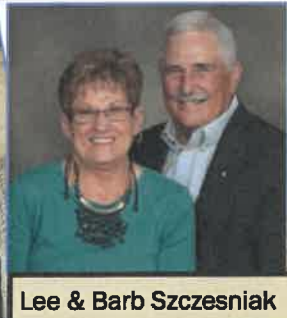


The Mexican Dinner was a celebration. Thanks to the Stewardship Committee and the other servant leaders who served as well as everyone who came to partake in this special meal.

I had a wonderful time visiting with members recently and sharing sacred moments. Please continue to pray for them as they grow in strength and courage.



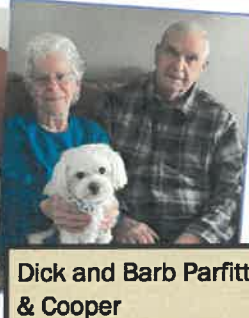
June Sylvester



Lee & Barb Szczesniak



Bunny Kelm



Dick and Barb Parfitt & Cooper



Dorothy Carr



Ryan Panknin



Celebrated with Fred and Carolynne. Wonderful conversation about life, faith, friendship and the challenges ahead.



The Trust and Endowment Fund gathered to consider support for our community, our nation, our world and the ELCA. Their leadership is vital, I ask that you keep these servant leaders in your prayers.



Confirmation classes continues. Aiden, Conner and Rob made the educational process a celebration.



Had a wonderful conversation with Esther Kindt about ordained ministry. She is considering the diaconal ministry and seeking God's blessing as she moves forward in this calling.



Our teen Girl Scouts had a guest speaker Cristi Johnson. She owns the SkellaFit Gym in Alpena. She is a personal trainer and spoke with the girls about the importance of exercise, setting goals in life, stretching, hydration etc. The girls are working on two Sports Badges and Christi's time with us was helpful and inspiring.



A huge shout out to Dennis Werner for his help with the financial process at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church - Alpena. He completed our annual audit. His efforts/instruction will help guide us in this important area of ministry.



Ryan stopped by for his daily visit. We visited his mother's gravesite at Evergreen Cemetery. We shared in a prayer of love for Dana.



Had a sacred visit with Mike and Linda Collins. Great people of God. They are checking the defibrillators.



The "Taste From Home," ministry group came together to offer hope to our service members from Alpena serving around the world by sharing special treats from Alpena. Please be in prayer for all who serve(d).



Celebrating 7 years of ecumenical ministry with Robin and Pastor Bill Rayment and a wonderful friendship. Great evening out at the Court Yard restaurant.



The S@SP (Singles at St Paul) gathered at the Thunder Bowl to eat and to share our own stories about the last seven years at St Paul.



Rob Elder stopped by with a wonderful gift. It is part of my Lenten discipline to read 2-3 books a week. I am thankful for this new opportunity/author.



Sue was working diligently to assemble eggs for the Easter egg hunt on the 4th of April.



Jimmy and Dennis were here to set the remaining clocks ahead and fix some other items on their list. Please thank and celebrate them for their service.



The Lenten Soup Luncheon was wonderful, and I celebrate everyone who prepared the meal and all those who were able to take advantage of this very special gift.



The DOD (Dinner on a Doorknob) gathered and prepared a special meal and delivered this meal to others in need. Thanks to everyone who blessed others this day.



The Newsletter Team gathered on Friday to prepare and send out the church newsletter at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church.



The church council met to discuss the issues facing the church. Please keep these elected leaders in your prayers.



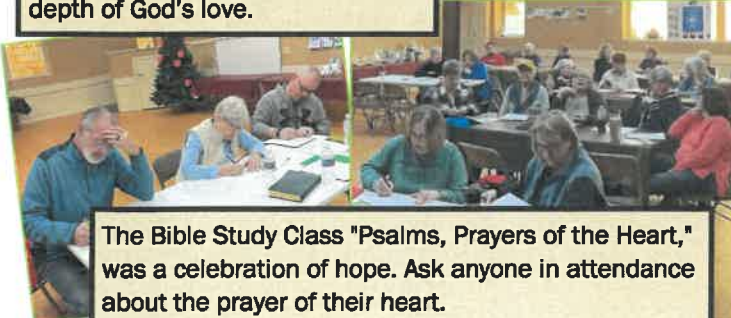
The Breakfast Belles celebrated as they showed up in force. What a wonderful conversation about the depth of God's love.



The 3M (Men in Motion for Ministry) gathered together for breakfast. They talked about how God calls us all to share our testimony. We also spoke about the future.



The Education Committee met to discuss this important ministry within our community. Thanks this whole ministry team for their leadership and vision.



The Bible Study Class "Psalms, Prayers of the Heart," was a celebration of hope. Ask anyone in attendance about the prayer of their heart.



Met with Sandra and reminded her of God's love through this gift.



Miss Nena's class was filled with wonderful conversation, laughter and the Gospel this evening.

**St. Paul Lutheran Church
727 S. Second Ave.
Alpena, Michigan 49707**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



APRIL 2026



ST. PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

727 S. SECOND AVE.
ALPENA, MICHIGAN
(OFFICE) (989) 356-1658

SATURDAY EVENING TRADITIONAL WORSHIP AT 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY LITURGICAL WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

SUNDAY CONTEMPORARY SERVICE AT 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY ◊ 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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