

# St. Paul's Epistle— March 2024



## Church Council Meeting—February 1, 2024

Those in attendance: Pastor Quast, Tim Anderson, Tony Lucek, Neil Manninen, Richard Christie, Leonard Morrison, Leanna Hasbargen, George Aitchison and Sally Batdorf

The opening devotion was given by Pastor Quast. The Minutes were approved as read. The treasurer's report was reviewed, one correction was given on the LCEF balance. Motion carried

Briefs: 1) The Elders and Pastor reported on the forum that was held in Bemidji discussing the shortage of Pastors in our district. 2) The roof project is on hold until spring. 3) Gutters will be installed this spring. 4) It was decided to put funds into a 7 month CD at Border Bank. 5) Ash Wednesday service was discussed. 6) Collection of hygiene items for Lutheran World Relief will take place during Lent.

Membership changes were printed.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by ~Sally Batdorf, Secretary

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## Annual Voters Meeting—January 28, 2024

Chairman Tim Anderson called the meeting to order. Pastor Quast gave the opening prayer.

Briefs: 1) It was noted that financial giving was up, thank you to everyone. 2) The stains on the ceiling in the front entryway were painted. 3) A proposed meeting for April will be held for Pastors and Elders from I. Falls, Baudette and Warroad and how to handle Pastor shortages in our district. 4) Sunday School savings account was closed and combined with the checking account due to inactivity. 5) Pastor Quast suggested a celebratory dinner to be held once the roof is finished. 6) Gary Buffington, Tim Anderson and George Aitchison volunteered to audit the treasurers books. 7) The 2024 Budget was reviewed. It was noted that monies were included for investigation into the basement leak and summer vicar. 8) Joint Parish Council met on January 9, 2024. 9) LWML will be holding a meeting in Brainerd June 3-5, 2024. All LWML members are encouraged to attend. 10) Our commitment to the MN North District was paid in full for 2023.

Membership changes for the year were printed. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by ~ Sally Batdorf, Secretary

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## Lent, Holy Week and Easter Services

March 6 & 20th 7 p.m. Lenten Services at Church of the Lutheran Hour, Fort Frances

March 13th—St. Paul Lutheran

**Maundy Thursday:** 5 p.m. Worship

**Good Friday:** 7 p.m. Worship

**Easter Sunday—March 31st:** 9:30 a.m. Breakfast 11 a.m. Worship



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## Sunday School News:

Our Sunday morning classes are going great, thank you for bringing your children! We are singing in church on Easter Sunday. The kids have been practicing on Sunday mornings, if you need the words to the song, they are available in the Sunday School room. There is no class on Easter Sunday. Our last day of class for the summer is May 12th, we'll be having an end of the year party that day.

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**My Savior Lives, Northland** is a weekly half hour televised ministry produced in Duluth, MN.

We bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to you, wherever you're at. Services are led by Pastors of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod from throughout the Arrowhead Region of Northeastern Minnesota. The services are televised on KBJR 6—TV on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Upcoming services: March 3—led by Pastor Marty Mably

March 10— Pastor Matt Kohl

March 17- Pastor Caleb Wright

March 24- Palm Sunday—Pastor Tim Ludwig

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**Lutheran World Relief Hygiene Kit** collection continues through March.

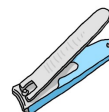
March 3 Item: Sturdy Combs

March 10 Item: Nail Clippers

March 17 Item: Lightweight Dark Towels

March 24 Item: Bars of soap.

*The kits will be packed in early April, watch your bulletin for details!*



Happy birthday is wished to these members celebrating in March!

3rd: Ralph Christie, Richard Christie & John Clark

23rd: Gary Buffington

4th: Cheryl Toth

24th: Lori Boquist

7th: William Bacon

27th: Dave Swenson

8th: Nissa Wright

9th: Chad Bacon & Robbie Leerssen

## From Pastor Quast.....

Greetings, People Loved by God, in Jesus' name!

I wanted to thank all of you for your continued prayers and patience as I have prayerfully considered the Call extended to me by Lutheran Church Canada to serve as the Director of Domestic Missions. This Call has been unlike any other that I have ever received. My family and I have prayed about this unceasingly, asked for advice from trusted friends and colleagues, and have been blessed to hear from many of you in our parish.

While we know that the Lord of the Church is behind every Call, and that He will use me to be a blessing to His church in any capacity, yet this was one of the most difficult decisions I have ever had to make. It has been my great joy and privilege to serve you with the Lord's Word and Sacrament these many years. We have laughed and cried together. We have rejoiced in our reception of the Lord's gifts together, strengthening our faith. It is therefore with a heavy heart that I must inform you of my decision to accept the Call from Synod.

I know that this will bring certain challenges for us all, yet I remain confident in the love and mercy of our Lord for us. He is your Good Shepherd! He has made promises to sustain you with His Word and provide for your every need. He blessed me to be able to serve you for so many years--and for this I will always be deeply grateful.

The love we have shared together as pastor and people has been a tremendous encouragement to me, and a witness to others of the way that Christ brings His people together in love and unity for the proclamation of His Word. It has been my privilege and honour to partner with you for the sake of our Lord's Gospel.

My prayers will always be with you.

Love, Pastor Quast and Jolene

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### ***A Devotion For Palm Sunday***



*Psalm 22:19,21 "But You, O LORD, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me. Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen."*

For centuries this has been known as "Palm Sunday" (in Latin, Palmarum). Praise the Lord!" is the "hosanna" cry this day.

Hosanna is not a word used all that often in everyday conversation! Today you saw palm branches waving in joy, recalling the palm branches spread on the ground so that the "one who comes in the name of the Lord" would not be walking on mere dirt. Palm Sunday is a day to rejoice and to remember why the Lord came in the first place. He came to take the punishment we deserved because of our sins.

The psalm for today is a cry for God to "be not far off." Not far off in our distance is the cross. See, the Lord is not far off-you can almost "see" Him on that lonely hill called Calvary. The "strength" of God-the Son of God-gave it all up for us to save us from our sins. Our cries of praise-Hosanna!-take on special meaning when we see that lonely hill in the distance. As you look to that hill, praise the Lord because He came to make the journey to that cross for you.

