



Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran
Church

1950 125th Street NW
Rice, MN 56367
Phone: 393-4295

Email: office@sotpministries.com
Church Website: sotpministries.com

2023

Dear friends in Christ,

Some of my strongest and fondest memories from my childhood have to do with Lent. Back then it was one of my favorite times of the year. It still is.

Now I say that knowing full well as a pastor that the season of Lent brings with it extra work. One message (sermon) a week becomes two a week. Add another worship service to put together each week. Then, throw in Holy Week with three messages to prepare and three services to prepare. Please know that I'm not looking to set up a pity party for myself. I'm just trying to explain why it might seem a bit strange for me to so like Lent in order to highlight how much I do like Lent!

Here's something I remember from Lent when I was a kid which I wish was still true today. At my home church (St. Paul's Lutheran in Prior Lake, Rev. Marcus T. Strohschein, pastor) when it came to the midweek Lenten services, the congregation had to have two services because one service couldn't hold them all. So I remember a church that was full, gathered to again remember our Savior's journey to the cross.

I also remember this from those times of worship. The hymns. The songs of Lent. So powerful. So moving. I love those songs and hymns. I was blessed by the music of Lent.

And, Lent always meant the approach of spring, longer days, and the Minnesota Boys State High School Basketball tournament. Those three days of High School basketball played in Williams arena found me glued to the television set (channel 9 and Frank Buetel doing the play by play) with a dream that someday I would play on the floor and in the tournament. (A dream never realized.)

What are your memories of Lent?

I invite you to create some new memories with me. Come and join in our midweek service each Wednesday as we gather around the theme: "Understanding the Cross: This is why He came!" And before the service, come and join in some delicious soup/supper and Christian fellowship...and create some more memories of time with friends and church family.

Thankful for the old memories and looking forward to the new memories!

Pastor Dave

BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY MEETING
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2023
PENDING APPROVAL MINUTES

Members Present: Kyle Hackett, Joanny Ramey, Ron McKeever, Dave Perleberg, Deb Erdmann, Paul Tschida, Colleen Woods, Pastor Dave Stroschein, Julie Kiraly. Keith Peterson Properties. Absent Bev Gerads.

Kyle Hackett called meeting to order at 7:15pm. Colleen opened with prayer.

Mission Statement was read by Dave Perleberg.

Treasurer's report was reviewed. Paul made a motion to accept the treasurer's report followed by a second from Joanny. Motion approved.

Properties Report: Keith Peterson reported that there would be a Spring Cleaning of the sanctuary before Easter. The parking lot has never been salted before but after the winter we have had with ice, salt will be added when it's plowed. Salt runs about \$200 a ton and we would use about ¼ ton each time. Still waiting on the bid from Astech for the parking lot. The next big project will be new carpet in the sanctuary. Also new windows will be installed this summer, in the 2 rooms down the hall from Pastors office.

Secretary's Report: The report was reviewed. An amendment was made to correct a spelling error. Motion to accept the minutes as amended by Colleen and seconded by Dave. Motion approved.

Pastoral Activity Report: Kyle presented Pastor's report.

Old Business:

* **Call Process:** President Finnern presented a new list of Pastors to consider for a call. The Board decided to have a congregational meeting to allow the congregation to decide whether we consider a Seminarian or proceed with the list provided. The congregational meeting will take place on March 5th after service.

* **Open Positions... Service Team Leader and altar guild.**

* **Easter Schedule.** Lenten Services Wednesday's February 22nd – March 29th 6:30...soup suppers 5-6:15. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Service at 6:30. Easter Sunday services at 7am & 9:30am with breakfast served from 8-9:15am. Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday at 8th .

* **Confirmation Sunday** April 30th .

* Pastor Dave will be out of the office March 6th –March 13th . Pastor Paul Cloeter will fill in for the Wednesday and Sunday services.

New Business:

*Worship schedule reviewed. Next meeting will be Thursday March 16th 7pm.

* The Little Fall Circuit sent out a letter regarding funds for the 2024 LCMS Synodical Convention. We will follow their request for \$3.65 per communicant member reported in 2021.

* **New Member Class** will be March 18th 9-11am with daycare and treats provided.

*Keith Peterson will fill out the request for Insurance Questionnaire.

* The Board had some discussion on the use and rental of the fellowship hall. There will be a revised rental contract drawn up.

Leaders Comments: Colleen commented on the need for a handicap accessible drop off spot when doing the parking lot project. Kyle reported that MN Adult & Teen Challenge would be at church May 7th Brunch-Potluck to follow.

Paul made a motion to adjourn the meeting followed by a second from Deb. Motion carried at 8:30pm. Pastor Dave closed with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by Deb Erdmann Acting Secretary



Education / Small Group Team

Happy March!

This month is the month of the clover (St. Patrick's day) but I like to think of it as the month for the Trinity...the 3 in 1 to celebrate! Makes me pause and think of this great design from God we live in that has "3" to complete it, Like an egg has 3 parts, the family is 3 part, the church is 3 part. Do you see the Trinity around you??? Pause this month and just see what surrounds YOU to remind you of the Trinity!

Sunday School is going great and the attendance remains consistent. BUT...if your child has a friend that would like to come, by all means try to help make that happen! The teachers and subs are doing a great job! Thank you for being dedicated to the children!!

We will begin meeting for VBS this month. March 8th will be a team meeting at 6:30pm in the BOLM meeting room. If your heart desires to join the planning team for VBS you are welcome to join us that night. The more hands makes the work lighter! This year's theme is "Stellar" and "Let Jesus light shine!"

The Easter breakfast will be between Easter sunrise service and Normal Service. Please note the change of serving time and that it will be only during this time and not following the 2nd service of the day. The sign-up sheets for food donations and helpers are on the counter in the Narthex. All proceeds will go to VBS 2023!

Take time this season to reflect all that Jesus did and does for you...He gave His life so we could live! Have a blessed month friends!

Serving for the King

Brenda Hackett

Education Team Leader



Thank you to all who donated and helped serve the Sweetheart Breakfast! You are a fabulous group to work with! We raised \$650 which we will use to attend Fall Fling at Camp Shamineau in October. **All SOTP students in 6th-12th grade are welcome to join our youth group activities!** Contact Sarah Anderson (320-267-2628) for more information.

March 8th we will serve the Lenten Soup Supper. The sign up for food donations is on the counter in the church narthex for this service event. We look forward to seeing you all and we know you love helping in the kitchen!

March 10th-11th is the Youth Group Lock In at church. We'll start with a taco supper together at 5:30pm. Taco meat and shells will be provided; everyone should bring a taco ingredient. We'll continue the night with movies, games and other fun activities. You are encouraged to bring a movie or game to share with the group that night. Don't forget to bring a sleeping bag so that if you need to you can get a few winks. We'll finish by making breakfast and have the areas of the church we used cleaned up by 9am on Saturday.

If you haven't done so already, let Brenda Hackett know if you are able to help with VBS in June!

Josh & Sarah Anderson

Youth Group Leaders



Greetings to you Brothers and Sisters In Christ!

We will be having Minnesota Teen & Adult Challenge her on May 7th for Service. We will have a brunch potluck after service Please stay tuned for more information or reach out to me with questions.

Serving for Him,
Keith Hackett
Worship Team Leader

2023 Worship Team Schedule

March	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	USHERS	WORSHIP LEADERS	
	03/05/23	9:00am	Shelley Pintok	Mackenzie Ramey	Jerry Nelson	Brian & Heather Statz	Jerry Nelson
	03/12/23	9:00am	Charlie & Nancy Anderson	Sarah Anderson	Peg Manea	Lenarz Family	Paul Tschida
	03/19/23	9:00am	Brenda & Keith Hackett	Dennis Arntson	Ron Woods	Keith & Roxanne Peterson	Steve Ree
	03/26/23	9:00am	Scott & Peg Manea	Levi Brenny	Richael Weinand	Brenda & Keith Hackett	Keith Hackett
April	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	USHERS	WORSHIP LEADERS	
	04/02/23	9:00am	Barb Zapzalka	Cynthia Ollman	Ruth Brucher	Deb Erdmann & Grandchildren	Brenda Hackett
	Palm Sunday						
	04/09/23	9:30am	Ron & Barb McKeever	Julie Kiraly	Paul Tschida	Keith & Roxanne Peterson	Jerry Nelson
	Easter						
	04/16/23	9:00am	Bruce & Sandie Resch	Denise Leahy	Dennis Arntson	Ron & Barb McKeever	Steve Ree
	04/23/23	9:00am	Jen & Tom Ollman	Cal Ollman	Jane Nelson	Jeremy & Candace Dingmann	Dennis Arntson
	04/30/23	9:00am	Yet to be scheduled				

Looking for volunteers for Easter Service at
 7am, also help with donations and serving
 Easter Breakfast.
 Sign-up on the Narthex counter.

MARCH NOISY OFFERING!



We will be taking up our noisy offering on **Sunday, March 19th**, for the **Rice Area Food Shelf**. Thank you for your support and your generous donations!

January's Church Income Statement

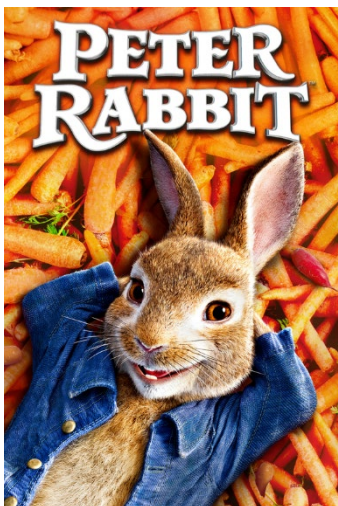
	January	Year-to-Date
Contributions	\$22,659	\$22,659
Expenses	(\$12,990)	(\$12,990)
Over/(Shortfall)	\$9,668	\$9,668

Rice Area Food Shelf

March Distribution is
Thursday, March 9th
from 3:00-5:30pm
at the Old Village Hall!

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Apply for Thrivent Choice Dollars during February by phone at 1-800-847-4836 or online at Thrivent.com. Fill out the form in the Church Entrance to indicate how you would like your choice dollars designated, and give the form to Curt or Church Secretary Julie. Members should apply for their Choice Dollars before March 31st, 2023.



Movie Night @ SOTP!
Join us on March 17th for "Peter Rabbit". Come in Pjs, bring a blanket, and snacks if you would like. Some snack available to share as well.

Worship Team

Lent Services Scriptures

March 1 st –Ash Wed.	Psalms 6 Romans 5:1-8 Luke 9:18-22
March 8 th –	Psalms 38 Philippians 2:1-8 Luke 9:44-50
March 15 th –	Psalms 32 1 Peter 2:21-25 Luke 9:28-36
March 22 nd –	Psalms 51 Galatians 3:1-14 Luke 9:51-62
March 29 th –	Psalms 130 Colossians 1:15-23 John 12:1-8



Lenten Worship Schedule

[Ash Wednesday Service-6:30pm](#)
March 1st

[Lenten Services – 6:30pm](#)
March 8th -March 29th

[Maundy Thursday Service 6:30pm](#)
April 6th

[Good Friday Service 6:30pm](#)
April 7th

[Easter Egg Hunt](#)
Saturday, April 8th at 10am

[Easter Sunday Services](#)
April 9th, 7:00am & 9:30am
Easter Breakfast 8am-9:15am

There will be a special congregational meeting on March 5th after service to vote on how to proceed with the call process. The congregation will vote either to proceed with the list of Pastors from the district, or to call a candidate from seminary to be the pastor of Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church.

Lenten Soup Supper

Join us March 1st for our Ash Wednesday and Lent Service March 8th-March 29th for Lenten Suppers

Supper will be served from 5-6:15pm before 6:30 Lent Services.

Freewill offering will be given to the ministry of the server's choice



March Birthdays

Raquel	Alstrup	March 05
Carter	Hovland	March 06
Gabriella	Seppelt	March 06
Ron	Bulthuis	March 06
Jen	Ollman	March 07
Amos	Ostendorf	March 08
Mary	Bulthuis	March 10
Steve	Ree	March 10
Jerry	Nelson	March 12
Kira	Brouns	March 12
Brenda	Hackett	March 13
Nancy	Forer	March 13
Savanna	Cole	March 14
Brenda	Pressnall	March 14
Noah	Ellefson	March 15
Abigail	Seppelt	March 19
Ann	Hovland	March 19
Judy	Anderson	March 20
Austin	Petron	March 21
Robin	Hemple	March 23
Joyce	Saldana	March 24
Colton	Popp	March 25
Edward	Salzburn	March 25
Roxanne	Peterson	March 26
Julie	Kiraly	March 27
Jessica	Brenny	March 29
Macey	Mickelson	March 30

New Members Class

Join us March 18th 9-11am

Topics will include

- *The Bible as the Word of God
- *The person and work of Jesus
- *The means of Grace and the work of the Holy Spirit
- *Prayer
- *God Our Creator
- *Living a life of faith

This class is for those interested in becoming a member at SOTP or current members as a study refresher for their faith

Day care will be available for those who are in need of that service.

Join us for our free
Easter Egg Hunt!

April 8th @ 10am

Join us for



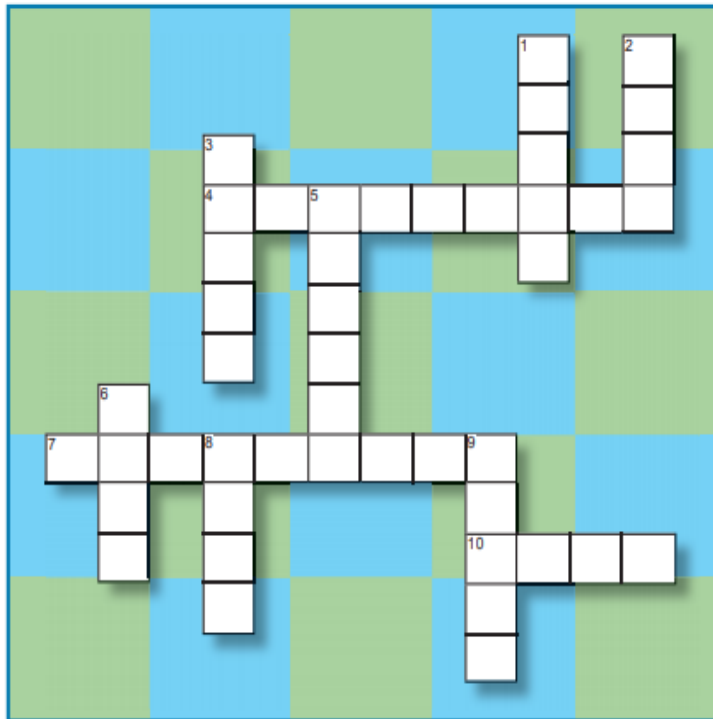
Easter Breakfast

**April 9th
8-9:15am**

March Anniversaries

David and Joni	Hoeft	March 07
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Jesus Calmed the Storm Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 4. Feeling of wonder or awe
- 7. These people went with Jesus.
- 10. Follow commands

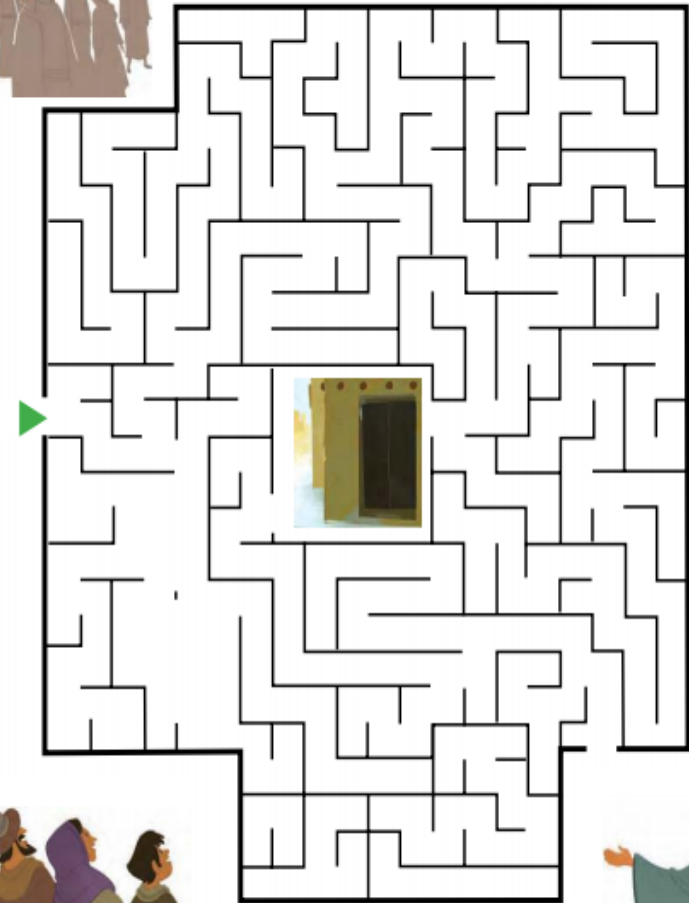
DOWN

- 1. A lake is full of this.
- 2. They rode across the lake on this.

- 3. Jesus asked "Where is your _____?"
- 5. Jesus was _____ when the windstorm hit.
- 6. Blowing air
- 8. Not stormy
- 9. Bad weather

Maze for Jesus Began the Church

Find your way through the church to Peter.



Worship Shepherds

Wed. March 1	Dave Perleberg
Sun. March 5	Joanny Ramey
Wed. March 8	Ron McKeever
Sun. March 12	Colleen Woods
Wed. March 15	Ron McKeever
Sun. March 19	Kyle Hackett
Wed. March 22	Deb Erdmann
Sun. March 26	Dave Perleberg
Wed. March 29	Joanny Ramey



March 5	9AM	Shelley Pintok
March 12	9AM	Charlie & Nancy Anderson
March 19	9AM	Brenda & Keith Hackett
March 26	9AM	Scott & Peg Manea



March 5	9AM	Mackenzie Ramey
March 12	9AM	Sarah Anderson
March 19	9AM	Dennis Arntson
March 26	9AM	Levi Brenny



PROJECTIONIST

March 5	9AM	Jerry Nelson
March 12	9AM	Peg Manea
March 19	9AM	Ron Woods
March 26	9AM	Richael Weinand



READERS

March 5	9AM	Brian & Heather Statz
March 12	9AM	The Lenarz Family
March 19	9AM	Keith & Roxanne Peterson
March 2	9AM	Brenda & Keith Hackett



USHERS

March 5	Jerry Nelson
March 12	Paul Tschida
March 19	Steve Ree
March 26	Keith Hackett



Worship Leaders



We have been praying for our church families each week as we go through our church directory from A to Z. As you go about your daily tasks lift a prayer for the family of the week as the Lord brings them to mind. **In March we will be praying for:**

March 5-	Karen Ellefson
March 12-	John & Annette Elliott
March 19	Adam & Clare Elyea Children: Brielle & Donovan
March 26-	Erica Erdmann

UPDATE TO FELLOWSHIP!!

Here is the Spring Fellowship schedule. We ask that if you can't serve the Sunday that you are scheduled, please find a group to switch with. Each group is to bring in treats, serve, and clean up. Thank You!



- March 5th**
S. Pressnall, C. Walberg, D. Cairns
- March 12th**
M. Barringer, L. Saldana, K. Peterson
- March 19th**
B. Jasmer & A. Ostendorf
- March 26th**
J. Elliott, K. Maleska, K. Huhne/Popp
- April 2nd**
J. Amundson, K. Ellefson, B. Statz
- April 9th**
Easter Breakfast
- April 16th**
A. Gerads, S. Manea, R. Weinand
- April 23rd**
D. Arntson, R. Woods, T. Ollman
- April 30th**
J. Ramey, M. Kiraly, J. Alstrup, G. Welle

Musicians

March 5	Heather Statz
March 12	Lyric Videos
March 19	Praise Team
March 26	Lyric Videos



OFFERING COUNTERS

MARCH
 Barb McKeever & Juli Popp



ALTAR GUILD

MARCH
 Roxanne Peterson, Juli Popp
 & Joanny Ramey

March 5th
 Genesis 12:1-9
 Romans 4:1-8, 13-17
 John 3:1-17



Scripture Readings

March 12th
 Exodus 17:1-7
 Romans 5:1-8
 John 4:5-6

March 19th
 Psalm 142
 Ephesians 5:8-14
 John 9:1-7,13-17,34-39

March 26th
 Psalm 130
 Romans 8:1-11
 John 11:17-27,38-53



Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church
 1950 125th Street NW, Rice, MN 56367
 Church Office: (320) 393-4295



March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Heavenly Father, during this Lenten season, give me a new and expanded vision for my life. Help me to live full of faith. Teach me to find hope in the face of adversity.			1	2	3	4
			 9:30 Bible Study 5-6:15 Supper 6:00 Confirmation 6:30 Ash Wednesday Service			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Music: Heather 9:00 Worship 10:00 Special Congregational Voters Meeting 10:20 Sunday School/Youth Group 10:30 Adult Bible Study	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	9:00 Quilters 5:30 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	9:30 Bible Study 5-6:15 Supper 6:00 Confirmation 6:30 Lent Service	9:00 Quilters	Youth Group Lock in	 Youth Group Lock in
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Music: Lyric Videos 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Sunday School/Youth Group 10:30 Adult Bible Study	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	9:00 Quilters 5:30 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	9:30 Bible Study 5-6:15 Supper 6:00 Confirmation 6:30 Lent Service	9:00 Quilters 6:30 Elder's Meeting 7:00 BOLM Meeting	 Movie Night 6:30pm	New Membership Class 9-11
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Noisy Offering Rice Foodshelf Music: Praise Team 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Sunday School/Youth Group 10:30 Adult Bible Study	 7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	9:00 Quilters 5:30 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	9:30 Bible Study 5-6:15 Supper 6:00 Confirmation 6:30 Lent Service	9:00 Quilters		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Music: Lyric Videos 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Sunday School/Youth Group 10:30 Adult Bible Study	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	9:00 Quilters 5:30 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	9:30 Bible Study 5-6:15 Supper 6:00 Confirmation 6:30 Lent Service	9:00 Quilters	Website: sotpministries.com Email: office@sotpministries.com Monday - Friday 9:00-3:00	

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



Shepherd of the Pines

Lutheran Church

1950 125th St. NW
Rice, MN 56367

Jesus brings joy to...

Church Phone: 393-4295

Email: office@sotpministries.com

Church Website: *sotpministries.com*

SOTP BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY/ELDERS

Kyle Hackett, President 266-1700; David Perleberg, Vice President 360-5147; Bev Gerads, Secretary 761-1894; Joan Ramey 217-4431; Ron McKeever Treas. 393-2524; Colleen Woods 685-4389; Deb Erdmann, 249-4804; Paul Tschida 360-5241

Keith Peterson, Church Properties 292-4007

EXECUTIVE MINISTRY TEAM

Keith Hackett - Worship Team Leader, Open Position Service Team Leader, Brenda Hackett – Education & Colleen Woods Small Group Team

In case of church cancellation due to bad weather listen to, 98 COUNTRY 98.1, SPIRIT 92.9, KCLD 104.7, WJON 1240, or call the church office and listen to the message.

Shepherd of the Pines Mission Statement: Connecting People to God...To Others...and To Service

The purpose of this congregation is mandated for us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as found in the words of the Great Commission (Matthew 28), namely first of all to Go. To leave our walls of refuge, going into all the world, comprising of our families and neighbors. We plan to achieve our purpose by identifying persons with whom we are particularly well-equipped to serve and reach with the challenge of becoming Disciples of Christ.

Second, to Make Disciples or in the words of St Paul, “To equip the saints” (Ephesians 4:12). This is to be understood as helping people to live the Christian life here on earth. Preparing and encouraging young and old alike to find and to use their God given gifts and abilities for the extension of His Kingdom, and to grow in fervent love for God and for others.

Thirdly, to Baptize as commanded by Jesus Himself. As God reaches down to mankind with His means of grace, He would have us baptize His people, bringing them into His family and Kingdom, granting to them life, forgiveness of sins, and eternal salvation.

And lastly, to continue steadfast in His Word, Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. A continued zeal for the study of His Word, the Bible, is necessary for the growth of any Christian congregation. Thus, the Word of God will be taught and studied in full measure and His Word shall be the rule and norm of this congregation’s faith and life.

To that end, our every effort and energy will be used in motivating, training, and putting to use our time, and talents and treasures to Make Disciples.