



Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church

1950 125th Street NW

Rice, MN 56367

Phone: 393-4295

Email: office@sotpministries.com

Church Website: sotpministries.com

2022

Dear members of SOTP,

This is something Karen and I have been praying for. It has to do with our grandchildren, none of whom are of "marrying age" yet. Nonetheless, we are praying for their future spouses, asking that our Lord prepare each of our grandchildren for their future spouse as well as prepare their future spouse for them. It's something we did for each of our now-married children as well. And it was such a joy on each of their wedding days to say this to our now 2 sons-in-laws and our 1 daughter-in-law: "You are the answer to our prayers!"

Here's why I share this with you. It's to invite you to join together to pray for your future pastor. I've been praying that the Lord prepares you for him. And I've been praying that the Lord prepares him for you. He's out there right now, serving in another congregation even as you are already here as a congregation, serving the Lord. At the right time, He (the Lord) will bring the two of you together.

So, will you join with me in asking the Lord to prepare SOTP for your new pastor? And, will you join with me in also asking the Lord to prepare your new pastor for SOTP?

I know He will both hear and answer our prayers. And won't it be great that on the day of his installation we will be able to approach him and say, "You are the answer to our prayers!"

In the meantime, please know that I am truly enjoying being your "interim" or "vacancy" pastor. I am truly blessed to be with you. My commitment to you is to serve you as best as I can until our Lord answers our prayers for a new pastor for SOTP.

In Christ,

Pastor Dave

SOTP Church Directory

At our last BOLM meeting we decided it is time to update our Church Directory. Since many families attend Services and Easter Breakfast, it was decided that we should take as many photos as possible that day. It would be very helpful for us if you would indicate your desire to have your photo taken between services on Easter Sunday or after the 9:30 service that day.

Josh will be available Wednesday April 6th during the supper and Sundays in April, Colleen will also be available on Wednesday afternoons 12:30pm thru 6:30pm, April 20 and 27, as well as May 4. You can contact the office or put your name down on the signup sheet on the narthex counter. Please indicate the time you and your family will want to get your picture taken.

We are also accepting a photo you bring in or you can indicate your desire for us to use the photo of your family in the current directory.

If you have any questions, please contact Colleen Woods at 320-685-4389 or colleenwds@yahoo.com. Or Josh Anderson at 320-260-0808

Thank you!

Colleen Woods & Josh Anderson



Church office will be closed Friday April 15th and Monday April 18th for Good Friday and Easter

BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY MEETING

PENDING APPROVAL MINUTES

MARCH 17, 2022

Members present: Kyle Hackett, Colleen Woods, Deb Erdmann, Joan Ramey, Garry Loidolt, Bev Gerads, Dave Perleberg, Ron McKeever, Pastor Dave Stroschein.

Meeting Called to Order at 7:05 P.M. by Kyle Hackett. Pastor Dave opened with prayer. Mission Statement read by Dave Perleberg.

Treasures Report: Ron McKeever presented the report. Gas and heat were higher than normal due to weather conditions. All bills were paid. Motion by Deb Erdmann, second by Joan Ramey to accept this report, motion carried.

Properties Report: In Keith Peterson's absence a report was presented **explaining that** 2 exterior doors were replaced in the sanctuary and the fellowship area by D&D Construction at a cost of \$3,600.

Secretaries Report: The report was reviewed. Ron McKeever made the motion and Bev Gerads second. Motion carried.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Dave was on vacation. During this time he called congregation members and did confirmation class via zoom.

Old Business: Church camera is purchased. There will be training regarding its proper use and check out/in protocol. There are several church activities already noted that the camera will be in use.

Old Laptop has been cleared and a price has been quoted for its worth.

Open Positions: Wedding Coordinator. There are 4 weddings for the 2022 season and 1 thus far for next year. This is a paid position per wedding.

New Business: The worship schedule for 2022 was reviewed. Our next BOLM meeting will be an EMT/Joint meeting on Thursday, April 21 at 7P.M.

Annual District Convention: Bruce Resch will be attending as a lay delegate and Josh Anderson, alternate.

Annual Report to District: We reviewed the reporting of Lay Leaders

We have \$541.69 left from Pastor Edges parents donation for the **Nursery Room**. In discussion the balance will be used to upgrade and use for necessary work as needed to this room.

A motion was made by Garry and second by Bev to purchase a computer to replace the one in the Treasurer's office from existing funding. An upgrade is definitely needed.

71st National Day of Prayer: May 5 at SOTP. A committee was formed. A meal will be provided at 5 P.M. - 6:15 P.M. with free will offering. The program will include prayer from and for various area local organizations with representation. The program will begin at 6:30 P.M. The theme is "Exalt The Lord, Who Has Established Us" Everyone is welcome. More information on this event will be provided in the coming weeks.

District President Fondow will be here at SOTP on April 7, at 7 P.M. to meet with us regarding the start of a Call Process. You are invited to attend.

Adjourn: Joan made a motion to adjourn, Deb second. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M Pastor Dave closed with Prayer..

Respectfully Submitted, Bev Gerads Secretary



Education / Small Group Team

Greetings and Happy Easter (almost)!

I cannot believe it is April!!! Easter is almost upon us and we celebrate our Risen Lord!!! We will be having the Easter breakfast served from 8:00 a.m.- 9:15 a.m. this year. It is a shorter serving time but we will be serving! Services will be at 7:00 a.m. (sunrise) and 9:30 a.m. Come celebrate and enjoy the breakfast! It will be a freewill offering with proceeds going towards VBS 2022! We do have a few items left on the donation sheet and we are in need of volunteers to help cook/serve/prep the food. Please check it out!

Only 4 more Sundays of Sunday School for this year! Oh my how time went fast!!! We will **not** have class on **Easter Sunday** and our last day is the first Sunday of May. Again...a HUGE "THANK YOU" to the teachers who stepped up to help our children! You are so very much appreciated!

VBS is on the move!!! We received a very gracious donation from the Rice Lions Club again this year! Their hearts are set to serve the community and children are a huge part in their mission. We have most of the items ordered and some of the food purchased (not knowing if it would be available in June) as we watch the grocery shelves get lower and lower. A sign up sheet will be going out mid April to start looking for volunteers for the 5 days! It is a great time with the kids! We will need about 30 guides, a games 2 person team, helping hands in the Pre-school room (age 4), and so much more. Please watch for the sheets coming soon! If you want to help assemble and decorate, those hands are needed too. We have a wedding at the church on the day before kickoff Sunday, so Saturday afternoon hands would be SO much appreciated. We don't want to put items out for the wedding ;).

Please watch for First Communion Class, Confirmation Sunday & Membership Class dates. We don't want to miss anyone! A big "THANK YOU" to Pastor Dave for all he has done for the education ministry at SOTP! We are very appreciative for all he has done!

In closing, may the risen Lord bless each of your days and may the Holy Spirit fill your hearts to full!

Happy Easter,
Brenda Hackett
Education Team Leader



Proverbs 16:3 NLT "Commit your actions to the lord, and your plans will succeed."

We're looking forward to Easter! Sign up to volunteer for the Easter Egg Hunt on the sheet on the counter in the narthex. Our current Sunday morning study is "Why Easter Matters", and we would love to see all of you for that study at 10:15am in the Youth Room on Sunday mornings!

There is a sign-up sheet on the counter in the narthex for youth and adults to volunteer to help set up and work during the garage sale. The garage sale will be held on Thursday May 19th through Saturday May 21st. We will set up on May 15th directly following fellowship, May 17th 5-8pm and May 18th 5-8 pm. Please contact Sarah Anderson (320-267-2628) with questions. Donations can be brought to the Youth Room any time after May 1st.

We're excited for our trip to SD with Pastor Dave in August! Let me know if you have any questions. Please watch your email for meeting dates.

Sarah Anderson
Youth Group Leader

Rice Area Community VBS

Register today!



sotpministries.com/events



Join us for a
howlin' good time!

June 5th - 9th
6:30-8:30PM

[Click Here to Register Your child/children](#)

[Click Here to Volunteer](#)

[Click Here to Update your Background Check](#)

April Anniversaries		
Lloyd & Ronita	Walburn	April 11
Lloyd & Deb	Erdmann	April 27
Chris & Shaunna	Johnson	April 27
Ronald & Colleen	Woods	April 27
Richard & Robin	Hemple	April 28
Tom & Jen	Ollman	April 28
Steve & Brenda	Pressnall	April 28
Dave & Dannette	Brannen	April 29
Brian & Tonya	Soltis	April 29
Scott & Kris	Schlichting	April 30

Join us for our free VBS. This is for all who are age 4 through 5th grade.

Note: Update on VBS 2022! It is scheduled for June 5-9 for children ages 4- 5th grade. If your child is 4 yrs. old through the completion of 5th grade 2022, we look forward to seeing you! There are a couple requests we ask of the parents. First, we are asking for as much pre-registration as possible so we can see the numbers we are looking at. We have enough to facilitate 130 children (max of 24 four year old's) so we will go on a first come first serve basis. Second, Covid has caused a lot of issues and church numbers are still down all around so that means volunteers are also down. We need 50 volunteers to make this a success for a safe, smooth flowing time, PLEASE volunteer!!! Let's give the children a week of the Holy Spirit filled with laughter, fun, food, that we ALL so need!!! Contact church 393-4295, Brenda @ 267-6472, or online at the church website! Blessings on your day!

April Birthdays		
Ron	Folkerts	April 01
Heather	Ostendorf	April 01
Travis	Lenarz	April 03
Jodi	Dumonceaux	April 04
Anthony	Omann	April 04
Lilyana	Gerjets	April 05
DelRoy	Shane	April 06
Roxann	Ree	April 08
Jeffrey	Loidolt	April 09
Spencer	Novitzki	April 09
Ronita	Walburn	April 09
Dane	Morgan	April 11
Wyatt	Efraimson	April 13
Wendy	Hicks	April 13
Arthur	Betker	April 15
Howard	Forer	April 15
Scott	Manea	April 18
Helen	Rotar	April 19
Erica	Erdmann	April 21
Kallan	Hackett	April 22
Wyatt	Johnson	April 22
Jenna	Gangl	April 23
Colleen	Peterson	April 23
Jessica	Mickelson	April 24
Keith	Craft	April 26
Denise	Leahy	April 26
Barb	McKeever	April 26
Sophie	Gangl	April 29



Worship Team

2022 Worship Team Schedule

Welcome spring and also welcome to Pastor Dave as he is returning from time spent in Arizona. Worship has continued to grow in numbers and we are want to thank those who are attending. We are working on our Easter season and look forward to seeing you. The worship services will be :

Wednesday Lent, Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Services Scriptures

April 6th – Psalm 130
Luke 22:63-23:33

April 14th – Exodus 12:1-14
1 Corinthians 11:23-32
Luke 22:7-20

April 15th – Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9
John 19:17-30

Lenten Worship Schedule

Lenten Services – 6:30pm

April 6th 6:30pm

Maundy Thursday Service

April 14th, 6:30pm

Good Friday Service

April 15th, 6:30pm

Easter Sunday Services

April 17th, 7:00am, 9:30am

***Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 16th at 10am

*** Easter Breakfast 8am-9:15am

We have gotten a few new volunteers and want to thank those that are helping out. We are always looking for additional help.

We also ask that you reach out and introduce yourself to those that are visitors or anyone that you don't know. This will help us all know each other and build a closer family here at SOTP.

Keith Hackett

April	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	USHERS	WORSHIP LEADERS
04/03/22	9:00am	Barb Zapzalka	Isabelle Cairns	Peg Manea		Brenda Hackett
04/10/22 Palm Sunday	9:00am	Ron & Barb McKeever	Dennis Arntson	Jane Nelson		Jerry Nelson
04/17/22 Easter	9:00am	Bruce & Sandie Resch	Cal Ollman	Janet Maleska		Steve Ree
04/24/22	9:30am	Jen & Tom Ollman	Cynthia Ollman	Richael Weinand		Dennis Arntson

MAY	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	USHERS	WORSHIP LEADERS
5/1/2022	9:00am	Keith & Kathy Craft	Julie Kiraly	Dennis Arntson		Dennis Arntson
05/08/22	9:00am	Ron & Barb McKeever	Ian Cairns	Jane Nelson		Jane Nelson
05/15/22	9:00am	Jeff & Joan Ramey	Levi Brenny	Janet Maleska		Steve Ree
05/22/22	9:00am	Garry Loidolt	Sarah Anderson	Peg Manea		Jerry Nelson
05/29/22	9:00am	Ronita Walburn	Denise Leahy	Celeste Ollman		Keith Hackett

February's Church Income Statement

	February	Year-to-Date
Contributions	\$20,232	\$40,818
Expenses	(\$20,058)	(\$40,253)
Over/(Shortfall)	\$862	\$565

APRIL NOISY OFFERING!



We will be taking up our noisy offering on **Sunday, April 17th**, for the **Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity**. Thank you for your support and your generous donations!

Rice Area Food Shelf

April Distribution is
Thursday, April 7th
from 3:00-5:30pm
at the Old Village Hall!

Rice Area Community Spring Blood Drive



**American
Red Cross**

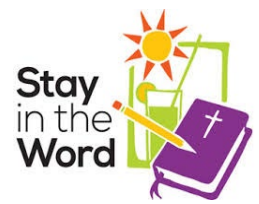
As you may have heard or read there is a great blood shortage. Sign up and donate blood on **Monday, April 11, 1:00 – 5:45** at Shepherd of the Pines Church, Rice. The Red Cross follows the highest standards of safety and infection control. In accordance with CDC guidelines, **all donors are required to wear a face mask regardless of vaccination**. Appointments are highly recommended as we may not be able to accept walk ins if all appointments are filled, which we hope they will be. Sign up by going to the Red Cross

website <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html> and enter 56367 or call Lora at 320-393-2701.



Movie Night @ SOTP! Join us on April 22nd for Encanto. Come in Pjs, bring a blanket, and snacks if you would like. Some snack available to share as well.

Bible Studies



† Sunday Morning we have a Bible study for Parent from 10:20-11:00 The Power of a Praying Parent Please Join us!

† Sunday Evening Starting March 6th at 7PM "The God I Never Knew: How Real Friendship with The Holy Spirit can Change your Life" All are welcome .

† If you are interested in starting a study or joining one in progress contact Colleen Woods 320-685-4389.



† Women have begun to study "The Power of Praying for Your Adult Children" on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11am. There is a small group meeting in homes on Monday evenings, and another group meets to study Joyce Meyers "The Parables of Jesus".

† Men's Bible Study Sunday's evenings at 7:00pm.



A powerful way to connect with others is through triads- choose 2 others to meet regularly preferable each week to lift each other up in prayers. For more information on triads contact Jeff Ramey.



Help is needed for Easter Egg Hunt & Breakfast! Please sign-up on the narthex counter. If you can help in any way.



Mandy Groce '16

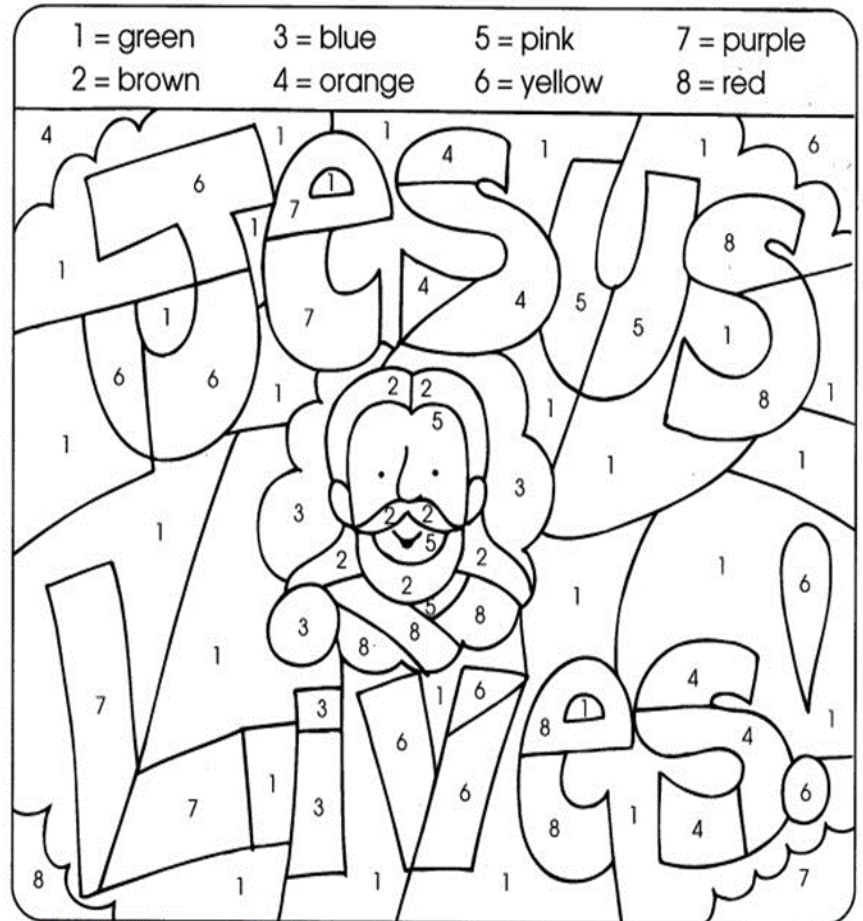
ministry-to-children.com

Jesus Is Alive!

(John 20)

At the empty tomb, Mary Magdalene talked to a man. She thought he was a gardener. But then she saw that the man was really Jesus! He had risen from the dead and was alive again!

Color the picture using the code. Cut it out and tape it up so you can be reminded of this wonderful truth!



Worship Shepherds

Sun. April 3	Deb Erdmann
Wed. April 6	Bev Gerads
Sun. April 10	Ron McKeever
Thur April 14	Joanny Ramey
Fri April 15	Dave Perleberg
Sun. April 17	7AM Bev Gerads 9:30AM Deb Erdman
Sun. April 24	Kyle Hackett



April 3	9AM	Jane Nelson	
April 10	9AM	Jane Nelson	
April 17	9:30AM	Janet Maleska	
April 24	9AM	Richael Weinand	
April 3	9AM	Barb Zapzalka	
April 10	9AM	Ron & Barb McKeever	
April 17	9:30 AM	Bruce & Sandie Resch	
April 24	9AM	Tom & Jen Ollman	

APRIL

Ron McKeever & Wayne Anderson



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 April we will be praying for:**

April 3	Duane & Darlene Albrecht
April 10-	John & Raquel Alstrup Child: Wyatt
April 17 -	Jim & Ardelle Amundson
April 24-	Charlie & Nancy Anderson

APRIL



Roxanne Peterson, Juli Popp & Joanny Ramey

April 3th

Isaiah 43:16-21
Philippians 3:8-14
Luke 20:9-20



April 17th EASTER

Job 19:23-27
1 Corinthians 15:51-57
Luke 24:1-12

April 10th

Deuteronomy 32:36-39
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 19:29-40

April 24th

Acts 5:12-20
Revelation 1:4-18
John 20:19-31

UPDATE TO FELLOWSHIP!!

Here is the schedule for this Spring for Fellowship. 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!



April 3rd

J. Hanebuth, S. Wood, B. Novitzki

April 10th

K. Kirchner, R. Brutcher, P. Tschida, G. Hendrickson

April 17th

Easter Breakfast

April 24th

J. Clasen, R. Hemple, T. Hovland

May 1st

S. Pressnall, C. Walberg, D. Cairns

May 8th

M. Barringer, D. Skajewski, K. Peterson

May 15th

B. Jasmer, H. Jasmer, L. Saldana, A. Ostendorf

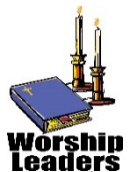
May 22nd

J. Elliott, K. Maleska, K. Huhne/Popp

May 29th

K. Kichner, R. Brutcher, P. Tschida, & G Hendrickson

April 3	9AM	Brenda Hackett
April 10	9AM	Jerry Nelson
April 17	9:30AM	Steve Ree
April 24	9AM	Dennis Arnston



Musicians

April 3	9AM	Heather Statz
April 10	9AM	Bethany Mears
April 17	9:30Am	Praise Team
April 24	9AM	Gabby Dingmann



PROJECTIONONISTS

April 3	9AM	Isabelle Cairns
April 10	9AM	Dennis Arntson
April 17	9:30AM	Cal Ollman
April 24	9AM	Cynthia Ollman



PORTALS of PRAYER
are available on the
narthex counter!



Orphan Grain Train

Collection of New Socks and Undies

All congregations in the Minnesota North District are invited to collect New Socks and Undies for Orphan Grain Train to bring to MN North District-LCMS 24th Convention



These items will be taken to Texas border missions and other places including Ukraine where new items are allowed. **All sizes of undies and socks (for men, women, and children) are being collected**, but children's socks (for age 3 to 6th grade) are very much needed, as children in Mexico cannot go to school without socks and shoes.

Please send **New** socks and undies with your pastor when he attends the MN North District-LCMS 24th Convention on May 9th-11th, 2022 at Madden's Resort, Brainerd, MN. Drop Off Point: Orphan Grain Train Booth

Money to help with shipping costs is also welcome.

Monetary donations can be mailed to Orphan Grain Train, PO Box 61, Morris, MN 56267, or brought to the OGT Booth. Questions? Contact Gene Pasche, Chairman of MN North, Orphan Grain Train, at 320-589-2796.



CELEBRATE Miracles
One step at a time.

Walk for Life
Saturday, April 30th

Walk starts and ends at Downtown clinic
(located at 305 5th Avenue South, #170)

Check-in/Registration begins at 9:00am
Walk begins at 10:00am

Register Today:
ONLINE: www.PregHelpFriends.com
CALL: 320-253-5333
STOP IN: Weekdays 10-5 pm

Pre-registration requested no later than April 24th.

Your prayers, support, and fundraising allow Pregnancy Resource Center to provide services **FREE** of charge.

- Pregnancy and STD Testing
- Ultrasounds
- Education Classes
- Post-Abortive Support

Email: office@sotpministries.com

Website: sotpministries.com

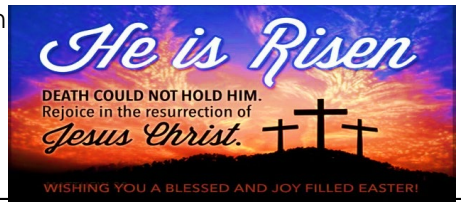
Monday - Friday 9:00-3:00

Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church

1950 125th Street NW, Rice, MN 56367

Church Office: (320) 393-4295

April 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					9-noon Membership Class Daycare available and Lunch following the class	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p>Music: Heather</p> <p>9:00 Worship</p> <p>10:00 Fellowship</p> <p>10:15 Sunday School/Youth Group</p> <p>10:20 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 /Bible Study</p>	<p>7:30 Praise Team</p> <p>7:30 Small Group</p>	<p>9:00 Quilters</p> <p>5:30 Quilters</p> <p>6:00 Al-Anon</p>	<p>9:30-11:00 Woman Bible Study</p> <p>5-6:15 Supper</p> <p>6:00 Confirmation</p> <p>6:30 Lenten Service</p>	<p>9:00 Quilters</p> <p>6-7:30pm First Communion class</p>		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>Music: Volunteer Needed</p> <p>9:00 Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>10:00 Fellowship</p> <p>10:15 Sunday School/Youth Group</p> <p>10:20 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 Bible Study</p>	 <p>American Red Cross</p> <p>1-5:45 Rice Area Blood Drive</p> <p>7:30 Praise Team</p> <p>7:30 Small Group</p>	<p>9:00 Quilters</p> <p>5:30 Quilters</p> <p>6:00 Al-Anon</p>	<p>9:30-11:00 Woman Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 Confirmation</p>	<p>9:00 National Day of Prayer Meeting</p> <p>9:00 Quilters</p> <p>MAUNDY Thursday</p>  <p>6:30 Maundy Thursday Service/First Communion</p>	<p>Office Closed</p> <p>GOOD Friday</p>  <p>6:30pm Good Friday Service</p>	 <p>10:00AM Easter Egg Hunt</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
 <p>NOISY OFFERING: Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity</p> <p>Music: Praise Team</p> <p>9:00 Worship</p> <p>10:00 Fellowship</p> <p>10:15 Sunday School/Youth Group</p> <p>10:20 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>Office Closed</p> <p>7:30 Praise Team</p> <p>7:30 Small Group</p>	<p>9:00 Quilters</p> <p>5:30 Quilters</p> <p>6:00 Al-Anon</p>	<p>9:30-11:00 Woman Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 Confirmation</p>	<p>9:00 Quilters</p> <p>6:30 Elder's Meeting</p> <p>7:00 Joint EMT/BOLM Meeting</p>	 <p>Movie Night 6:30pm</p>	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<p>Music: Gabby</p> <p>9:00 Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>10:00 Fellowship</p> <p>10:15 Sunday School/Youth Group</p> <p>10:20 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>7:30 Praise Team</p> <p>7:30 Small Group</p>	<p>9:00 Quilters</p> <p>6:00 Al-Anon</p>	<p>9:30-11:00 Woman Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 Confirmation</p>	<p>9:00 Quilters</p>		

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



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Lutheran Church

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Jesus died for...

Church Phone: 393-4295

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SOTP BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY/ELDERS

Kyle Hackett, President 266-1700; David Perleberg, Vice President 360-5147; Bev Gerads, Secretary 761-1894; Joan Ramey 393-3342; Ron McKeever Treas. 393-2524; Colleen Woods 685-4389; Deb Erdmann, 249-4804; Garry Loidolt 393-2097

Keith Peterson, Church Properties 292-4007

EXECUTIVE MINISTRY TEAM

Keith Hackett - Worship Team Leader, Jen Ollman- 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.