



2023

1950 125th Street NW

Rice, MN 56367

Phone: 393-4295

Email: office@sotpministries.com

Church Website: sotpministries.com

Dear friends in Christ,

So, how would you describe your faith?

That's the last project/assignment for the 4 young people who are currently in our 7th and 8th grade Confirmation class. Confirmation will be on April 30, and while we have only one 8th grade student being confirmed, our three 7th grade students will share their faith statements that day as well. They will tell the stories of their faith.

How about you? How would you describe your faith? How would you tell the story of your faith to someone? Maybe the following will help you get started. Think of these one-liners as faith-story starters.

This is what is important to my faith...

What has God promised to me? He has promised...

These Bible passages help me to tell the story of my faith...

This is what I believe about God and why...

How does God desire to use me?

As I live my faith, this will be helpful to me to...

This is a story from the Bible that describes my faith...

Now, while each of our faith stories is unique and special, this much is certain. Each of our faith stories will have the same great ending, concluding on a "happily ever after note." And that will be due to this one fact which is at the heart and core of our faith in Jesus.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Pastor Dave

Church office will be closed Friday April 7th and Monday April 10th for Good Friday and Easter



Education / Small Group Team

Hello, and He has risen!!!!

It sure doesn't seem like we are in the full mode of Spring but here we are, celebrating our risen Lord and spring! We are bringing things to a close this month and yet ramping up for VBS! The last day for Sunday School class time will be April 30th and on May 7 we will have a Sunday-Sundae fellowship for the kids. I truly appreciate ALL the teachers and subs for this great year of Sunday School! Without you, our children would not be able to have the great tools to know the Lord!

We will be having work nights for VBS starting in April! They will be from 6:30 to 8:00. These are the days : April 12 & 26th, May 17, 24, 31, and June 1, 3 (Saturday) and we begin June 4th! I cannot believe we are just a couple short months away for fun!!! Look for the sign-up sheets on the counter in the Narthex as to how you could lend a hand. We also have some snack needs and they too will be on a sign-up sheet. God has blessed us so much through this ministry and it is great to see all the smiles that week!

The Easter breakfast still has some needs for food and helping hands! Both are needed to have a successful breakfast! Please consider helping out!

God is good and HE blesses each day, may His blessings fill your hearts and days as we look to the new life beginning all around us!

Happy Easter,
Brenda Hackett
Education Team Leader



April 8th is the Easter Egg Hunt. Please mark your calendars to help with this annual event. This is a great event to reach out to the younger kiddos in our community.

April 19th will be a regular Youth Group meeting at SOTP at 7:30pm.

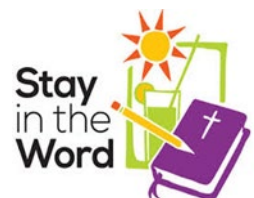
If you've been collecting things for the Youth Group Garage Sale in May, items can be brought to the church starting April 24th. Garage Sale items should be placed in the first Sunday school room off the fellowship hall at that time. The garage sale will be May 11-12-13 and set up will start on May 7th after worship service. If you have any questions about the garage sale, please contact Sarah at 320-267-2628.

Josh & Sarah Anderson
Youth Group Leaders

Bible Studies

Snowbirds, welcome back!!!

Wednesday Morning Bible Studies continue at
9:30am at church.



Rice Area Community VBS



www.sotpministries.com

June 4th -8th
6:30 to 8:30pm

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

Note: Update on VBS 2023! It is scheduled for June 4-8 for children ages 4- 5th grade. If your child is 4 yrs. old through the completion of 5th grade in 2023, 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, VBS can't happen without you! 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!

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

[Click Here to Volunteer](#)

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

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Services Scriptures

- April 6th – Exodus 12:1-4
Hebrews 9:11-12
John 13:1-17
- April 7th – Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9
John 19:17-30



Lenten Worship Schedule

Maundy Thursday Service

April 6th, 6:30pm

Good Friday Service

April 7th, 6:30pm

Easter Sunday Services

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

***Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 8th at 10am

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

Join us for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

- Easter Story
- Egg Hunt (Weather Permitting)
- Snack
- Photo Booth

(If there is still a lot of snow or mud we will give the kids eggs to take home and have a hunt at home)

Membership Class has been rescheduled to
Thursday April 13th from 7-9pm

This class is for anyone interested in becoming a member of SOTP. Topics will include what we believe about:

- † 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 as our Creator
- † Living a life of faith.

We will offer Daycare during the class for those who would like to attend and need daycare during that time.

Current members are also invited to join this study as a refresher for their faith.

A poster for a New Members Class. It features a blue background with a white cross on a building roof. The text reads: "New Members Class", "Join us April 13th 7-9pm", "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", and "Day care will be available for those who are in need of that service."/>

New Members Class

Join us April 13th 7-9pm

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.

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

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



2023 Worship Team Schedule

We are always looking for additional help for Sunday Service. Volunteers, if you are interested please reach out to myself or Julie in the office.

Keith Hackett

April	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	USHERS	WORSHIP LEADERS
04/02/23 Palm Sunday	9:00am	Keith Hackett	Cynthia Ollman	Ruth Brutcher	Deb Erdmann & Grandchildren	Brenda Hackett
04/09/23 Easter	9:00am	Ron & Barb McKeever	Julie Kiraly	Paul Tschida	Keith & Roxanne Peterson	Jerry Nelson
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
4/30/2023	9:00am	PauletteDahl	Keith Hackett	Janet Maleska	Mike & Julie Kiraly	Jane Nelson

MAY	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	USHERS	WORSHIP LEADERS
5/7/2023	9:00am	Keith & Kathy Craft	Julie Kiraly	Dennis Arntson	Bev & Al Gerads	Dennis Arntson
05/14/23	9:00am	Ron & Barb McKeever	Keith Hackett	Jane Nelson	Keith & Brenda Hackett	Jane Nelson
05/21/23	9:00am	Jeff & Joan Ramey	Levi Brenny	Janet Maleska	Jeremy & Candace Dingmann	Steve Ree
05/28/23	9:00am	Garry Loidolt	Sarah Anderson	Peg Manea	Brian & Heather Statz	Jerry Nelson

February's Church Income Statement

	February	Year-to-Date
Contributions	\$19,722	\$42,381
Expenses	(\$14,244)	(\$27,234)
Over/(Shortfall)	\$5,478	\$15,147

APRIL NOISY OFFERING!



We will be taking up our noisy offering on **Sunday, April 16th**, 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 6th
from 3:00-5:30pm
at the Old Village Hall!

Rice Area Community



**American
Red Cross**

Spring Blood Drive

The spring Rice Area blood drive is coming up on **Monday, April 24, 1:00 – 6:45** at Shepherd of the Pines Church, Rice. The Red Cross follows the highest standards of safety and infection control in accordance with CDC guidelines. 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

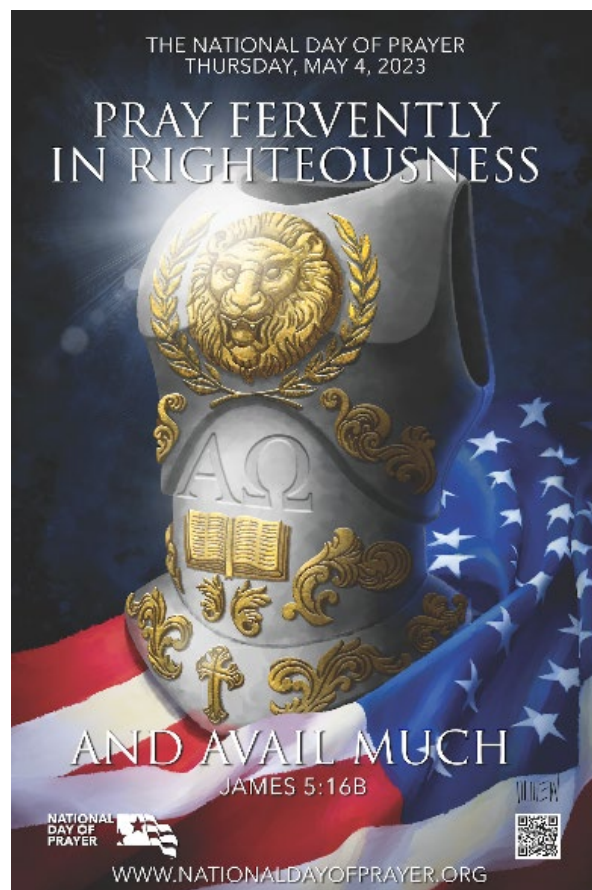


Mn Adult & Teen Challenge
— CHOIR —

In times of uncertainty, addiction doesn't disappear. In fact, recent studies show that drug use can increase over 50% amid stress, loss of income, and/or family and social disconnection. The need has never been greater for [@mnadultteenchallenge](https://www.mnadultteenchallenge.org) Join us **Sunday, May 7th** to learn how we can partner with this ministry and their community in these uncertain times.



Movie Night @ SOTP! Join us on April 21st for Rio. Come in Pjs, bring a blanket, and snacks if you would like. Some snacks available to share as well.



The 72nd Annual National Day of Prayer will take place Thursday, May 4th. Millions will unite in prayer as thousands of events will take place from coast to coast. Our theme for the 2023 National Day of Prayer is "**Pray Fervently in Righteousness and Avail Much**" The theme comes from the words of James in James 5:16 "The effective fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." [Please join us on Thursday, May 4th, at SOTP for the Rice National Day of Prayer.](https://www.nationaldayofprayer.org) We will have supper from 5:00-6:15pm. If you feel the tugging of the Holy Spirit to be involved with others in praying for God to move and work in our Community, you are invited!



Mandy Groce '16

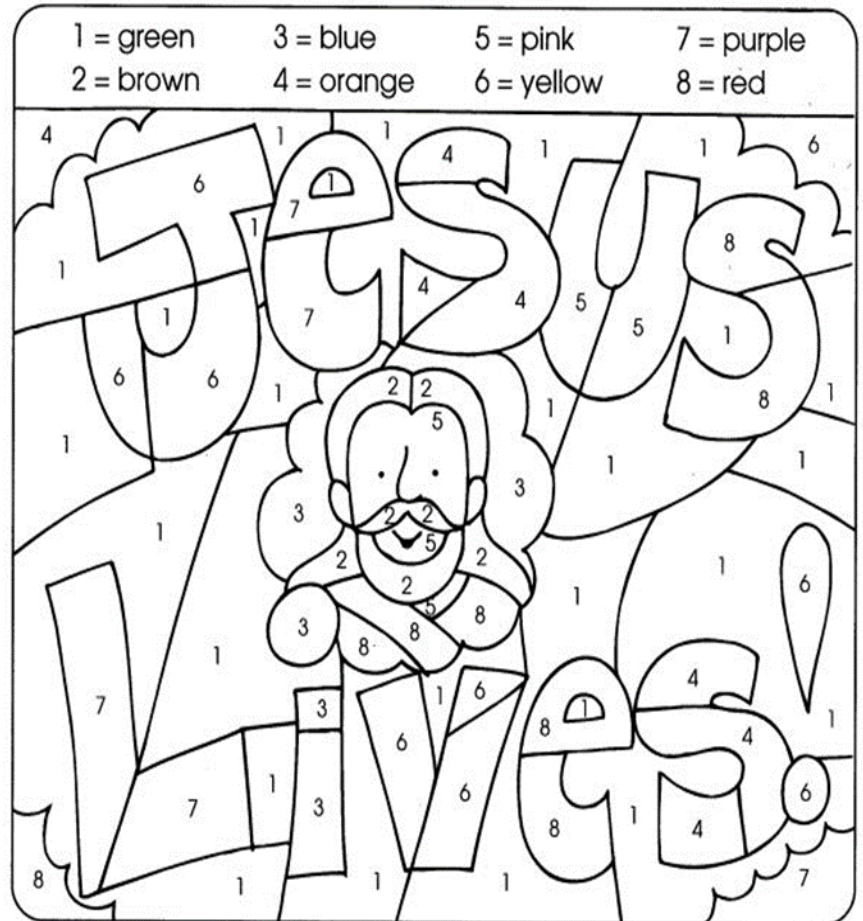
ministry-to-children.com

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 2		Ron McKeever
Thur. April 6		Colleen Woods
Fri. April 7		Paul Tschida
Sun. April 9	7AM	Bev Gerads
Sun. April 9	9:30AM	Kyle Hackett
April 16		Deb Erdmann
April 23		Dave Perleberg
April 30		Joanny Ramey


April 2		Keith Hackett
April 9	9:30am	Ron & Barb McKeever
April 16		Bruce & Sandi Resch
April 23		Jen & Tom Ollman
April 30		Paulette Dahl

April 2		Cynthia Ollman
April 9	9:30am	Julie Kiraly
April 16		Denise Leahy
April 23		Cal Ollman
April 30		Keith Hackett

April 2		Ruth Brutcher
April 9	9:30am	Paul Tschida
April 16		Dennis Arntson
April 23		Jane Nelson
April 30		Janet Maleska

April 2	Deb Erdmann & Grandchildren	
April 9	9:30am Keith & Roxanne Peterson	
April 16	Ron & Barb McKeever	
April 23	Jeremy & Candance Dingmann	
April 30	Mike & Julie Kiraly	

April 2		Brenda Hackett
April 9	9:30am	Jerry Nelson
April 16		Steve Ree
April 23		Dennis Arntson
April 30		Jane Nelson

FAMILY

 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 2nd—Lloyd & Deb Erdmann
- April 9th—Michael Erdmann & Amanda Brousseau
- April 16th Thomas & Mary Estes
- April 23rd Ken & Peggy Feia
- April 30th Ron & Jean Folkerts


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!



- 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
- May 7th**
Ke. Hackett, Ky. Hackett, J. Hackett
- May 14th**
R. McKeever, J. Nelson, L. Popp
- May 21st**
P. Dahl, S. Wood, B. Novitzki
- May 28th**

Musicians

April 2	Heather	
April 9	Heather	
April 16	Praise Team	
April 23	Lyric Videos	
April 30	Lyric Videos	

APRIL

Ron McKeever & Wayne Anderson

APRIL

Deb Erdmann, Gloria Hendrickson & Joanny Ramey



OFFERING
 ALTAR GUILD

April 2nd
 Isaiah 50:4-9
 Philippians 2:5-11
 John 12:12-19

April 16th
 Psalm 148
 1 Peter 1:3-9
 John 20:19-31

April 30th
 Psalm 23
 1 Peter 2:19-25
 John 10:1-10

April 9th
 Psalm 16
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
 John 20:1-18

April 23rd
 Psalm 116:1-14
 1 Peter 1:17-25
 Luke 24:13-35



Scripture Readings

PORTALS of PRAYER
 are available on
 the narthex counter



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 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<p>Music: Heather 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Sunday School/Youth Group 10:30 Adult Bible Study</p>	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	9:00 Quilters 5:30 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	9:30-11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	<p>9:00 Quilting 6:30 Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion</p>	<p>Office Closed</p> <p>6:30pm Good Friday Service</p>	<p>10:00AM Easter Egg Hunt</p>
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<p>Music: 7am Heather 9:30 Heather 7:00am Worship with Holy Communion & 9:30 Worship with Holy Communion 8-9:15 Easter Breakfast NO Sunday School/Bible Study</p>	Office Closed 7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	9:00 Quilters 5:30 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	9:30-11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	9:00 Quilters New Membership class 7-9pm		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<p>NOISY OFFERING: Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity</p> <p>Music: Praise Team 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Sunday School/Youth Group 10:30 Adult Bible Study 1pm Fellowship Hall reserved.</p>	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	9:00 Quilters 5:30 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	9:30-11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	9:00 Quilters 6:30 Elder's Meeting 7:00 Joint EMT/BOLM Meeting	<p>Movie Night 6:30pm</p>	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<p>Music: Lyric Videos 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Sunday School/Youth Group 10:30 Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>American Red Cross 1-6:45 Rice Area Blood Drive 7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group</p>	9:00 Quilters 5:30 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	9:30-11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	9:00 Quilters		
30						
<p>Noisy Offering Christian Education Fund</p> <p>Music: Lyric Videos 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Sunday School/Youth Group 10:30 Adult Bible Study</p>						

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



Shepherd of the Pines

Lutheran Church

1950 125th St. NW
Rice, MN 56367

Jesus died for...

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; Ron McKeever
Treas. 393-2524; Joan Ramey 217-4431; 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, Leader, Brenda Hackett – Education & Colleen Woods Small Group Team,
Open Position Service Team Leader

*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.