



Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church

1950 125th Street NW

Rice, MN 56367

Phone: 393-4295

Email: office@sotpministries.com

Church Website: sotpministries.com

Dear friends in Christ,

It has long been one of my favorite holidays...the 4th of July! I have a ton of memories of past family celebrations of the day which we always spent in Annandale. Watching the parade from my Grandma's front yard. Taking in the carnival. Family time at the cabin on Pleasant Lake. And of course, the fireworks! I'm sure you have a similar list. After all, it is the 4th ... a great American tradition!

So, let's pause for a moment to focus on what the 4th is all about. It's all about The Declaration of Independence. It's about the birth of our nation. It's about who we are..."one nation, under God..."

I know from listening to many of you that there are a lot of genuine and well-founded concerns about where things are at in the U.S.A. today, especially with regards to being a nation "under God." I share those concerns.

So, what can we do about our concerns? I have two suggestions to make and one word of assurance to offer. Neither the suggestions or the word of assurance are anything new. You've heard them before. It may be well to hear them again.

Suggestion #1. Pray. Be a person of prayer, one who daily includes your concerns for our country in your prayers. "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good and pleases God our Savior." (1 Timothy 2:1-3)

Suggestion #2. Be involved. Speak up. Speak out. Vote. Be the salt for and in our society and nation. Be the light. "You are the salt of the earth...You are the light of the world...In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:13, 14, 16)

And the word of assurance? God's got this! He is still in control. He is still God and Lord over all, including our country...even when as a country we are a far cry from acknowledging it.

Listen to these words from Psalm 11. They speak volumes to the time and place in which you and I find ourselves living. "When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do? (cf. Suggestions 1 and 2) The Lord is in His holy temple; the Lord is on His heavenly throne." (Psalm 11: 3-4)

In Christ,

Pastor Dave

CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED JULY 4th FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY MEETING

Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7: P.M.

Present: Kyle Hackett, Colleen Woods, Paul Tschida, Ron McKeever, Deb Erdmann, Bev Gerads, Joan Ramey.
Absent Dave Perleberg. Others present: Keith Hackett, Julie Kiraly

Call meeting to order: President Kyle Hackett called the meeting to order at 7P.M. Paul Tschida opened with Prayer. Kyle Hackett read the mission statement.

Treasurers Report: Ron McKeever reported we are paying our bills. Paul Tschida made the motion to accept the report as read and discussed, Deb Erdmann 2nd.

Property Report: Keith Peterson reported the cement ramp is complete. Two portable air conditioners were installed. Thermostat keys were ordered. There has been a long time issue with the stats the way they were. Spraying was done for mosquitoes. There is a sign up sheet for clean up day. No date has been set.

Secretaries Report: The report was reviewed and approved. Ron McKeever made the motion to approve, Joan Ramey second.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Dave was unable to give his report but included an activity report. Confirmation, special services, regular worship, meetings, official acts, visitation hospital and home visits were reported.

Old Business:

Call Process is on going. The committee has met several times, diligent in their duties, having contact with pastors.

Open Positions: Service Team Leader/Events Coordinator. This position you will take charge of events and groups. Altar Guild is seeking more servants.

The **National Day of Prayer** was held May 4th. There was a "free will offering" meal and several presentations. There were 66 in attendance. Thank you to all who organized and worked at this event.

Graduation Sunday: Held on May 21st and June 11.

New Business:

The Worship Shepherd Schedule was reviewed. We report any changes to Julie. Next Board meeting will be June 15 at 7 P.M.

We voted in new members, Kyle & Jennifer Cecil, child Mason, Dan & Eli Reginek and children Kayden, Hudson and Landon, Misty Sauer, children Skylar & Teegan, John Brenny, and Mary Panek. Motion made by Ron McKeever, second by Deb Erdmann accepting new members.

There was a discussion and viewing of samples about gifts for Sunday School kids Bible Bags, Water Bottles for youth going on trips. Paul Tschida made a motion to accept and Ron McKeever second.

Mn. Adult and Teen Challenge was held at SOTP. A wonderful choir presentation and testimonies were shared with our congregation along with a pot luck meal.

The Military Bible Stick noisy offering will be in June instead of October.

Right Now Media was discussed. We learned about different capabilities available.

An account with Sysco was opened. There is no cost for this account membership.

There will be an upcoming Mom & Son event at SOTP. Check with Church Office on the date and any details.

Ron McKeever closed with prayer. Paul Tschida made a motion to adjourn, Bev Gerads second. Adjourned at 9:06 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bev Gerads BOLM Secretary

BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY MEETING

Date: June 15, 2023 7:00 P.M.

Present: Kyle Hackett, Ron McKeever, Paul Tschida, Colleen Woods, Deb Erdman, Bev Gerads, Joan Ramey, Dave Perleberg on Zoom, Pastor Dave Strohschein Also present Keith Peterson, Julie Kiraly

Call Meeting to Order: 7:10 P.M. President Kyle Hackett called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. Pastor Strohschein opened with prayer. Kyle Hackett read the Mission Statement.

Treasurers Report: Ron McKeever reported we are paying our bills and collection lower due to summer attendance. Paul Tschida made a motion to accept the treasurers report as presented, Bev Gerads second.

Property Report: Keith Peterson reported that our sprinkler system needs some work. A new line will be run. Parking lot will be resealed at any time. Grout needs to be cleaned in the 4 bathrooms. Fellowship carpet needs to be cleaned as well as other carpeted areas. Clean up Day to be determined by those individuals who sign up but must be completed by August 15. Tasks will be set up for volunteers to choose.

Secretary's Report: We reviewed the report. Deb Erdmann made a motion to accept and Ron McKeever second.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Dave presented a report on Activity of worship, education, regular meetings, official acts, visitations. A Grandparent Summit will be held at Calvary Baptist Church. More information see Pastor. The first two Sundays in July Pastor Dave will be gone. Pastors Cloeter and Kirsch will fill in these Sundays.

Old Business: Call Committee has shared on going information with the Congregation. Currently we are accessing two Pastors of which we were presented the zoom interviews at a church meeting on June 13 evening. Rev. Henry Biar, Skokie, IL. and Rev. David Ficken, Plover, WI.

Open Positions: We had a discussion on the Service Team Leader position/Event Coordinator. Further information to be shared. Altar Guild seeking more altar servants. See Joan Ramey.

Graduation Sunday was June 11. Beautiful quilts are gifted to the graduates as they share their future plans with the congregation.

The Mother/Son event will be held in September. Day to be determined.

New Business: Worship schedule was reviewed and changes are shared with Julie Kiraly. Next BOLM meeting will be July 20th at 7:00 P.M. Ron McKeever made the motion to adjourn, Paul Tschida second. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 P.M. Paul Tschida closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bev Gerads BOLM Secretary

Greetings...Happy Summer, and Happy Independence Day to you all!

I cannot believe we have 1 month of summer done! My how fast time seems to move!!! want to share with you all some numbers from VBS 2023 "Stellar"! We had 94 children registered and averaged 74 each night except the last night, we were down some, BUT we had "74" young hearts each night learning about Jesus! There were 13 churches represented there and of the 94 kids, 22 of them had no church home! My heart is over the moon that those children got to hear about the great things God does for us for 5 straight nights!!! We had 58 volunteers (amazing!!) and the hands were so very helpful compared to other years! I cannot thank the hands enough in games, bible story, snack, music, imagination station, preschool, registration and floaters for all that they did for 5 whole days! It was calling in the recruits for help with the larger groups in a couple areas, a nurse, and floaters that jumped in johnnie on the spot for helping hands! Roxanne, Julie, Peg, Jami, and Judy...thank you for ALL the pre-VBS prep and set-up, your hands are always open to help!!! If you have never done VBS, you would have loved to be a church mouse this year to see the amazing job each one put into it to make it run smooth and be a success! I was also given a beautiful flower, a card, and a monetary gift, which I am overwhelmed by...grateful for...and blessed by! Thank You all ever so much! This church holds a special gift called the Holy Spirit, and it touches so very many lives...God is Good!

As we move forward into summer we need to begin to think about the Sunday School program! I know it seems as though we just finished, (we kind of did) but if God is moving your heart to teach the children, please give me a jingle at 267-6472 and I would love to tell you all about the program!

Have a blessed month brothers and sisters and may His grace shine in your hearts for all to see!

Sincerely,
Brenda Hackett
Education Team Coordinator



Psalm 107:1 Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

Thank you to all who volunteered at the garage sale! With the help of the congregation we raised \$3003.50! This surpasses the total we will need to attend Camp Shamineau's Fall Fling October 6-8th, so we will use biblical principles to spend, save & give. At our next meeting will be deciding what ministries we will support with some of the funds. We will ask for a commitment from each student who wants to attend Fall Fling so that we can firm up our reservations. Commitments will be due at the end of July and we will talk about this at our July meetings, so plan to attend!

Thank you to everyone who helped with VBS! It was a Stellar week! Your interactions with the younger kids make a lasting impression on them and show how God works in your lives!

A HUGE THANK YOU to Pastor Dave and Karen for hosting the youth group meeting at their house on June 21st. We had an awesome time and really enjoyed your hand made ice cream!

As part of our service to the congregation, we will do the annual cleaning in the sanctuary. Please watch your email for the date and time we will do cleaning. Many hands make light work (just as we saw with the garage sale set up and tear down).

Put these future meeting dates on your calendar: July 5th & 19th, August 2nd & 16th will be regular Youth Group meetings at SOTP at 6:30pm. All youth 6-12th grade are welcome to join us for any of our activities.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call or text Sarah at 320-267-2628.



Worship Team

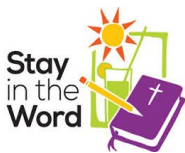
2023 Worship Team Schedule

Greetings,

If you are interested or available for any of the Service volunteer slots we would be happy to add you to the volunteer list come Fall. Please reach out to me or Julie in the office. Blessing, Keith Hackett

JULY	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	USHERS	WORSHIP LEADERS
07/02/23	9:00am	Shelley Pintok	Keith Hackett	Peg Manea	Al & Bev Gerads	Dennis Arntson
07/09/23	9:00am	Paulette Dahl	Mackenzie Ramey	Mary Bulthuis	Kevin & Janet Maleska	Jane Nelson
07/16/23	9:00am	Bruce & Sandie Resch	Levi Brenny	Janet Maleska	Keith & Kathy Craft	Steve Ree
07/23/23	9:00am	Keith & Brenda Hackett	Denise Leahy	Dennis Arntson	Keith & Brenda Hackett	Dennis Arntson
07/30/23	9:00am	Deb Erdmann	Julie Kiraly	Paul Tschida	Steve & Roxann Ree	Paul Tschida
AUGUST	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	USHERS	WORSHIP LEADERS
08/06/23	9:00am	Ron & Barb McKeever	Dennis Arntson	Richael Weinand	Ron & Barb McKeever	Jerry Nelson
08/13/23	9:00am	Jeff & Joan Ramey	Sarah Anderson	Ron Bulthuis	Bonnie Gottwalt & Cheryl Walberg	Ron Bulthuis
08/20/23	9:00am	Evie Kirchner	Julie Kiraly	Lois Perleberg	Bruce & Sandy Resch	Steve Ree
08/27/23	9:00am	Garry Loidolt	Cynthia Ollman	Ron Woods	Brian & Heather Statz	Keith Hackett

SMALL GROUPS / RIGHT NOW MEDIA:



I would like to encourage you to stay connected to each other and to the Lord over the summer by forming a triad or small group for prayer, praise or Bible Study.

We have an excellent resource for small group study at Right Now Media. Many in our congregation have been using this resource for years and enjoy the large selection available. We are in the process of customizing our SOTP account to feature a few select items in the categories of "Kids", "Youth", "Men" and "Women" to help speed your search.



If you need help connecting to this site, contact the church office.

In the meantime, enjoy the beauty of God's creation and the Blessings of family and friends this summer!

Colleen Woods

Have you asked yourself, "How can I have a variety of inspiring Bible based information or teaching on many topics & issues for no charge; for kids, for teens, and adults"? All of that is available on RightNow Media.

[Just Click here to set it up.](#) and you will be able to use all this wonderful stuff to help you grow in your faith!

You can refer your friends and family members too! Add the app to smartphone, I-Pad, TV, computer, etc."

Shepherd of the Pines offers this free to you and your family!

May's Church Income Statement

	May	Year-to-Date
Contributions	\$ 19,542	\$108,641
Expenses	(\$ 12,563)	(\$ 70,350)
Over/(Shortfall)	\$ 6,979	\$ 38,291

We will have 2 July NOISY OFFERING!



We will be taking up our noisy offering on **Sunday, July 16th**, for the **Helping Hands** and **Sunday, July 30th**, for our **Christian Education Fund**. Thank you for your support and your generous donations!

Rice Area Food Shelf

April Distribution is
Thursday, July 6th
from 3:00-5:30pm
at the Old Village Hall!



**New Portals of Prayer
are available on the
Narthex counter.**

Looking for anyone who would be interested in heading up or being involved in **Operation Christmas Child** this year at SOTP. Please reach out to the church office. Thank you!



We will have a Event Team Meeting on July 6th

There will be no Quilting on July 4th

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Jan	Klinker	July 01
Kyle	Billmeyer	July 02
Ruth	Brutcher	July 02
Logan	Hackett	July 02
Marjorie	Oltz	July 03
Alex	Blommer	July 04
Christine	Blommer Gertken	July 04
Jan	Johnson	July 06
Ardelle	Amundson	July 07
Drake	Cole	July 07
Wayne	Larson	July 09
Summer	Hagensick	July 10
Colleen	Woods	July 11
Tammy	Mattson	July 12
Cole	Morgan	July 13
Olivia	Morgan	July 13
Keith	Peterson	July 14
Brent	Betker	July 15
Ian	Cairns	July 15
Isabelle	Cairns	July 15
Tana	Dirks	July 15
Jeremy (JJ)	Manea	July 15
Cecilia	Kiraly	July 15
Kye	Roelofs	July 15
Awbrilynne	Manea	July 16
Patrick	Hicks	July 16
Annette	Elliott	July 18
Mary	Panek	July 21
Lakelynn	Struffert	July 21
Elli	Reginek	July 22
Aaron	Betker	July 23
Don	Klinker	July 23
Kelly	Merten	July 26
Nancy	Anderson	July 28
Donovan	Elyea	July 28

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Bruce & Sandie	Resch	July 07
Troy & Ann	Hovland	July 10
Doug & Kris	Foss	July 11
David & Connie	Efraimson	July 12
Amos & Heather	Ostendorf	July 14
George & Marlys	Welle	July 15
Keith & Evelyn	Kirchner	July 18
Kevin & Janet	Maleska	July 18
Don & Lori	Dubbin	July 22
Don & Bonnie	Gottwalt	July 24
Drew & Jessica	Efraimson	July 27

Worship Shepherds

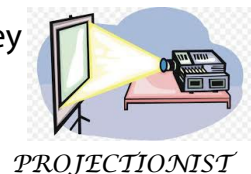
July 2nd Colleen Woods
 July 9th Ron McKeever
 July 16th Bev Gerads
 July 23rd Paul Tschida
 July 30th Kyle Hackett



July 2nd Shelley Pintok
 July 9th Paulette Dahl
 July 16th Bruce & Sandi Resch
 July 23rd Kiraly Family
 July 30th Deb Erdmann



July 2nd Keith Hackett
 July 9th Mackenzie Ramey
 July 16th Levi Brenny
 July 23rd Denise Leahy
 July 30th Julie Kiraly



July 2nd Peg Manea
 July 9th Mary Bulthuis
 July 16th Janet Maleska
 July 23rd Dennis Arntson
 July 30th Paul Tschida



July 2nd Al & Bev Gerads
 July 9th Kevin & Janet Maleska
 July 16th Keith & Kathy Craft
 July 23rd Keith & Brenda Hackett
 July 30th Steve & Roxann Ree



July 2nd Dennis Arntson
 July 9th Jane Nelson
 July 16th Steve Ree
 July 23rd Dennis Arntson
 July 30th Paul Tschida



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 July we will be praying for:**

July 2nd Judy Gehrking Family
 July 9th Al & Bev Gerads Family
 July 16th Glen & Christine Gertken-Blommer
 Children: Alex, Gabe, Sebastian, & Trinity
 July 23rd Jordan & Michele Giambrone Son: Reid
 July 30th Dean & Karie Giese son: Nathan

UPDATE TO FELLOWSHIP!!

Here is the summer 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!



July 2nd

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

July 9th

B. Jasmer & A. Ostendorf

July 16th

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

July 23rd

J. Amundson, K. Ellefson, B. Statz

July 30th

A. Gerads, S. Manea, R. Weinand

August 6th

D. Arntson, R. Woods, T. Ollman

August 13th

J. Ramey, M. Kiraly, J. Alstrup, G. Welle

July 18th

Ke. Hackett, Ky. Hackett, J. Hackett

August 27th

R. McKeever, J. Nelson, L. Popp

Musicians

July 2nd Heather
 July 9th Lyric Videos
 July 16th Praise Team
 July 23rd Bethany Mears
 July 30th Gabby Dingmann



JULY

Barb McKeever & Juli Popp

JULY

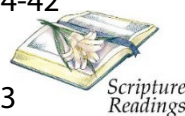
Mary Bulthuis & Joan Ramey



July 2nd
 Jeremiah 28:5-9
 Romans 7:1-13
 Matthew 10:34-42

July 9th
 Zechariah 9:9-12
 Romans 7:14-25
 Matthew 11:25-30

July 16th
 Isaiah 55:10-13
 Romans 8:12-17
 Matthew 13:1-9,18-23



July 23rd
 Psalm 119:57-64
 Romans 8:18-27
 Matthew 13:44-52

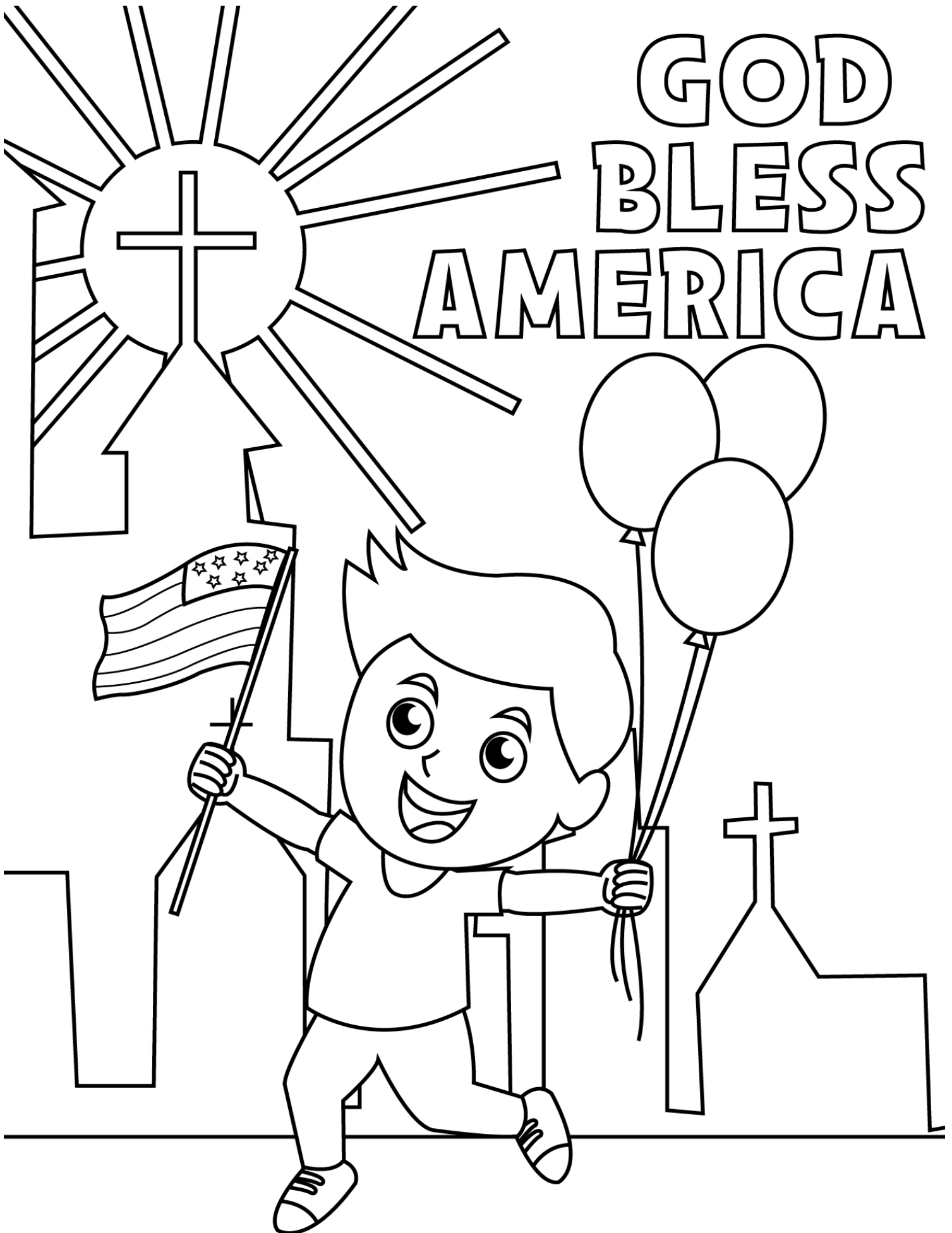
July 30th
 Psalm 125
 Romans 8:28-39
 Matthew 13:44-52



The Lord
will do what
he says.

Isaiah 38:7

GOD BLESS AMERICA





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



July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13</p>						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Pastor Paul Cloeter Music: Heather 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship	7:30 Small Group	 OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 Al-Anon	Youth Group 6:30	9:00 Quilters 7:00 AA 7:00 Event Team Meeting		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Pastor Don Kirsch Music: Lyric Videos 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Fellowship 11:00-4:00 Fellowship Reserved	Julie out of the office.					
	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group Study	9:00 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon		9:00 Quilters 7:00 AA		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Noisy Offering Helping Hands Music: Praise Team 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship	7:30 Small Group Study	9:00 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	6:30 Youth Group	9:00 Quilters 6:30 Elder's Meeting 7:00 Joint BOLM/EMT Meeting 7:00 AA		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Music: Bethany 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Fellowship	7:30 Small Group Study	9:00 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon		9:00 Quilters 7:00 AA		
30	31	Email: office@sotpministries.com Website: sotpministries.com Monday - Friday 9:00-3:00				
Music: Gabby 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:00 Praying/Anointing with Oil						

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



Shepherd of the Pines

Lutheran Church

1950 125th St. NW
Rice, MN 56367

Jesus gives hope 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; 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.