

March 2024

Newsletter of the Good Neighbor Parish

Hebron Lutheran and St Paul Lutheran
Churches



Hebron News

What's Coming Up?

Lenten Lunch & Worship at St Paul's
Wed. Mar. 6, Mar. 13, Mar. 20, 12:00 PM

Daylight Savings Time begins March 10.

Hebron Church Council Monday, Mar. 18,
7:00 PM

Hebron WELCA Thursday, Mar. 21, 2:00 PM

Maundy Thursday worship service at St
Paul's Thurs. Mar. 28, 7:00 PM

Good Friday worship service at Hebron Fri.
Mar. 29, 7:00 PM

Prayer Concerns.....

Alex Brooks, Kyle Peterson, Leigh
Sizemore, Katie Haverkamp & Baby,
Phyllis Haefner, Linda Huntington, Bruce
Hedstrom, Glen Knuth, Tom Cain, Bob
Novak, Kinsley Shoup, Lisa Hanschu,
Randy Mai, Pastor Bill & Judy Peterson

Homebound: Roger Peterson, Jewell
Swinney, Hallie Novak, Maxine Barton



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



- 4 Eric Peterson
- 17 Terry Nelson
- 25 Rachele Ecklund
- 27 Patricia Schild
- 29 Scott Peterson
- 31 Kodey Johnson

Happy Anniversary

Andy and Ashley Carlson 9
Steve and Pat Schild 11



2024 HEBRON COUNCIL

Tana Riffel - President -	-258-0131
Amber Peterson - Secretary	-366-6721
Connie Johnson - Treasurer	-466-6465
Carol Riffel - Finance Sec -	983-4363
Andy Carlson -	466-6571

Service Men & Women: Joe Towey, Brett
Talkington, Braden Pagenkopf

We pray for all men & women in the
armed forces serving our country
throughout the world.

Hebron WELCA met on Feb. 15, at the home of Dollye Novak. Those attending were Delores Fisher, Nancy Hanson, Gloria Martin, Dollye Novak, and Carol Riffel.

Carol gave the opening devotion. Gloria gave an overview of the Jan. bible study "Scripture and nature: Teachers of faith – Weather". The study centered on the understanding that climate change is happening and is human caused. The Bible tells us about the ways God has mended, challenged and blessed this world and continues to call us to live differently in the world. We are all impacted by the changing climate and scripture calls for us to respond.

Carol presented the second session on Creatures – We read scripture of Adam and Eve in the garden and the part the snake played in their lives. We read the story of Noah and the Ark and how that legacy lives on. We humans are animals living in kinship with all the other critters created by God and scripture reminds us that all creatures are created good and loved for their own sakes.

Carol read the minutes of the last meeting in November. Delores shared the treasurer's report.

Thank you's were read for our gifts to the shut-ins at Christmas and for our donation to Mosaic. Letters were read and donations received for serving lunch for the Jean Ecklund family and the Paul Lueker family after their burials in the Hebron cemetery.

We served coffee and cookies for the Naomi Nelson family after her burial on Jan. 2.

Plans were made for 2024. We will continue to meet each month except Aug. and Dec. We will donate \$200 to Camp Tomah Shinga as our project. Father's Day Brunch on June 16. We will continue our donation to Mosaic. Church decorating for Advent/Christmas will be Nov. 24 with a pizza lunch. We will continue our prayer chain text and have a special outing on July 18.

We are now assigned to the Central Kansas Cluster and there will be a cluster meeting in Lindsborg in October.

Hebron will serve the noon lunch for the Lenten Lunch and Worship on Feb. 28. Everyone volunteered to provide food.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be Mar. 21, at the home of Carol Riffel and Gloria will lead the bible study.

Lenten Prayer Services are at noon at St Paul on the remaining Wednesdays in Lent. The theme is "Celebrating the Season of Forgiveness." We are having a light lunch after each Wednesday noon service. Invite your friends- all are welcome!

We will not have Wednesday evening Lenten services.

New Members Class Eight people joined Pastor last Sunday afternoon to get questions answered and hear basics of our Lutheran faith and St. Paul church. We will be receiving new members into the congregation on Palm Sunday.

From the Pastor

Pretzels.

Probably not what you expected me to be writing about this month. Probably something you've only thought of as that salty treat you might occasionally pick up in a bag from the grocery store, or something you pour in a bowl to serve to your friends along with some beer while watching the game.

But did you know that pretzels started out as a Lent-only food? That's right—in the beginning, pretzels would show up in bakeries every year on Ash Wednesday, and they would all be gone by Good Friday. And, in keeping with their Lenten origins, they were made as simply as possible: just some flour, water, and a little salt, and nothing else. They provided something to snack on for those who had given up sweets for Lent.

But they served other purposes than just that. Pretzels were first made in Europe, and we know they date back to at least the fifth century AD, because there's a manuscript still in existence that shows the shape of a Lenten pretzel. And the shape of the pretzel itself was meant to be educational, or at least, a reminder. It's that "knot" shape that you can still find even to this day. When pretzels first began to be made, they were meant to represent a person praying, their arms crossed in prayer. In Latin, they were called "bracellae," a word which means "little arms." In Germany, a pretzel loving country if there ever was one, this word was translated as "bretzel." Which eventually led to our "pretzel."

Again, seemingly a strange topic for a pastor to be writing about. But may I remind you that this month we find ourselves deep in the heart of Lent. Easter will show up on the very last day of the month, and it seems a little early to start writing about that, so let me share the

pretzel's call with you—the call to prayer. Because praying is a healthy part of every Lenten season. And God wants us to pray—not because he needs our prayers, but because prayer is so good for us. So let's listen to the call and be about what we're supposed to be about! Grab your Bible, a favorite prayer book, your copy of *Christ in Our Home*, or simply find a comfortable spot or take a walk and get praying! It's one of the things Lent was made for!

And, just in case you need another reminder...

Pretzel Recipe

1 tablespoon honey or sugar
1½ cups lukewarm water (100-110° F.)
1 envelope active dry yeast
1 teaspoon salt
4 cups flour
1 egg, beaten
Coarse or kosher salt

Add honey to the water; sprinkle in the yeast and stir until dissolved. Add 1 teaspoon salt. Blend in the flour and knead the dough until smooth.

Cut the dough into pieces. Roll them into ropes and twist into pretzel shapes. You can make small pretzels with thin ropes, or large ones with fat ropes, but remember that to cook at the same rate, your pretzels need to be all the same size.

Place the pretzels on lightly greased cookie sheets. Brush them with beaten egg.

Sprinkle with coarse salt.

Bake at 425° for 12 to 15 minutes, until the pretzels are golden brown.

(recipe courtesy of Evelyn Birge Vitz in [Lent Sourcebook](#))

God bless you this March!

Pastor Jim

"STOP GIVING - We Have More Than Enough": Unpacking the craziest fundraising story in the Bible

The church councils from St. Paul and Hebron met jointly with the consultant, Pastor Peter Rehwaldt, on Sunday, February 18, 2024. One topic regarded stewardship: our responsibility to maintain and wisely use the gifts that God has given us. How are we using our time, talents and money?

Over the next few months, a series of scriptures from the book of Exodus will be published with questions for consideration and discussion. The title of our series is "STOP GIVING - We Have More Than Enough": Unpacking the craziest fundraising story in the Bible. The first installment is Exodus 14: 21-23, 28-31, and 15: 20-21.

Exodus 14:21-23, 28-31, 15:20-21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. . . . The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. . . . Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Where have you seen God's power at work at St. Paul and Hebron?

Our turn again-



St Paul volunteers will deliver meals on Feb 26th- March 1st and March 25th- March 28th.

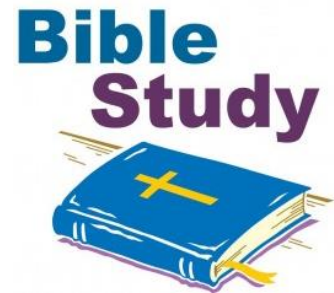
We are always looking for more help if you could spare an hour or so every four weeks.

Congratulations to Tanner and Cinta Becker who were blessed with a beautiful baby boy on February 2, 2024 at 5:14 a.m. Grandparents from St. Paul are Jason and Angie Becker. "Children are a gift from God." Psalm 127:3

Prayer Concerns: Gracen (Mark & Annette Wilcox's granddaughter) Elizabeth, (Dory Olsen's niece) Rita Gehrke, Evelyn Edmonson, Megan Mein, Karolyn Schlesener, Shirley Oldham, Linda Huntington, Beth Diepenbrock, Jason Moore, Aleda Koepke, Alice Peterson, Les Weller, Bill and Judy Peterson, Bob and Hallie Novak, Mildred Gehrke, Jill Granzow, Delores Granzow, and all of our homebound.

The Adult Bible Study Class

meets every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. to study God's word. More voices in the discussion would be more than welcomed. Please join us.



\$

Treasurer's Report

January 2024

Budgeted Contributions

\$14,046.92

Actual Contributions

\$8,363.14

Expenses Budgeted

\$14,046.92

Actual Expenses

\$13,774.56

\$

Gold Pot Offering



The Gold pot offering in February was designated as a donation to the Herington Hearts program.

This is a local organization that helps families pull themselves out of poverty.



Spring Break in area schools

March 9-15th.



<i>St Paul Council</i>	
Megan Mein	913-209-2065
Julie Albrecht	785-258-0047
Debbie Wendt	785-258-0144
Roger Engle	785-258-2548
Dede Patterson	785-221-5586
Jennie Wilson	785-366-3540
Corkie Dunlap	785-512-7763
T.J. Barnes	785-512-9132

Mike Carlson	1
Brianna Hill	1
Jason Gentz	3
Rebecca Beames	3
Leo Schlesener	4
Craig Granzow	4
Corkie Dunlap	13
Amelia Friedli	17
Hunter Demanett	18
Jami Monnington	19
Pat Mills	20
Conne Gentz	21
Dawn Wilson	21
Shannon Granzow	22
Angie Becker	22
Madden Mein	22
Fred Olsen	25
Gary Schubert	25
Deb Urbanek	26
Annette Wilcox	26
Lincoln Barnes	28
Clarence Gehrke	29

Burying the Alleluia

During the season of Lent, the declaration of "Alleluia" is omitted from all liturgies, only to re-emerge at Easter, when the resurrection is proclaimed. Many congregations "bury the Alleluia" (as Pastor did with the St. Paul children) as a symbolic gesture at the beginning of Lent, marking the solemnity of the season about to begin.

Ash Wednesday

St. Paul hosted 49 people for Ash Wednesday services. Lenten services will continue each Wednesday at noon during Lent, followed by a light lunch. Please join us.

Matthew 4: 9-10

"All of this I will give you," the devil said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

Jesus said to him "Away from me Satan! For it is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only."



Brett & Lisa Beye	20
Justin & Megan Mein	24
Tim and B. Federle Erway	31

Dan Nelson, outgoing Council President, called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

Dan read the minutes of the October 24, 2023 semi-annual meeting. Corkie Dunlap made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Dale Kleinschmidt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dan encouraged attendees to read the various reports included in the meeting packet. He checked with Pastor Peters, Marcia Mathias, Connie Gentz, and Phyllis Perry to see if they wanted to add anything to their reports and they did not.

Dan thanked Dave and Denise Anderson for their 23 years of service in providing for, setting up and cleaning up the fellowship table in the Narthex. Unfortunately, this expense had to be eliminated from the 2024 budget. The Anderson's were recognized for their service with a small gift basket presented by Dede Patterson.

Dan also thanked Gary Schubert for his work on the church lawn this year. And he thanked Megan and Justin Mein for their years of service as church custodians.

Next Dan requested that Dede Patterson come forward to present information. Dede updated the congregation about our work with the consultant Pastor Rehwaldt. She said that she contacted Dave Whetter from the Synod and he informed her that St. Paul Lutheran needed to continue the work with the consultant as we move forward in the call process. Dede then contacted Pastor Rehwaldt and he re-committed to the responsibilities outlined in his consultancy agreement. This includes bi-monthly meetings with the church council presidents from both congregations and continued work with the Ministry Site Profile. Finally, Dede read a letter from Pastor Rehwaldt to the Good Neighbor Parish.

Next Dede explained the 2024 budget and highlighted some of the changes from the 2023 budget.

- Benevolence – The 2024 budget is \$5,000 less than the 2023 budget and \$1,000 less than 2023 actual. This includes 5% to the Central States Synod (CSS) compared to 10% from years past.
- Personnel – Dede encouraged the congregation to review the CSS compensation guidelines for pastors. Currently, the parish is not paying Pastor Peters insurance which was a standard expense in the past for our ministers. The parish has a \$3,600 commitment to Pastor Rehwaldt and custodian expense has been reduced with limited hours required.
- Property Insurance – To contain costs, the deductible was raised from \$2,500 to \$7,500.
- Maintenance and Repair – The 2024 budget is \$5,000 less than the 2023 budget.
- Programming – The 2024 budget has been reduced by \$3,900 from the 2023 budget.

There were no questions. Dallas Friedli motioned to approve the 2024 budget as presented. Tonya Utech seconded. Motion passed.

Dan reminded the congregation that we will need congregational delegates to attend the in-person Synod Assembly in Olathe on June 8, 2024. Interested parties should please talk to a council member or let Marcia Mathias know.

Dan asked Pastor Peters to come forward and say a prayer. Before doing so, Pastor Peters asked the congregation two questions:

1. Would we want him to have a mid-day Ash Wednesday service at Hebron at noon?
2. Would we want him to have mid-week Lenten services at noon on Wednesdays with light lunches provided by members of the congregation?

He asks for feedback from the congregation.

Pastor closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm. –Notes provided by Andrea Nelson

Minutes of the St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Meeting

01/16/2024

Members Present: Julie Albrecht, Roger Engle, Dede Patterson, Pastor Jim Peters, Debbie Wendt, Jennifer Wilson

Not present: TJ Barnes, Corkie Dunlap, Megan Mein

Vice President Julie Albrecht called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

The meeting was opened with devotions provided by Julie.

The minutes of the 11/28/2023 council meeting were read. Jennifer motioned for approval; Roger seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

Financials – Debbie discussed the financial reports as of 11/30/2023 and 12/31/2023. We owe Hebron \$2,278.97 and that was paid in January 2024. While funeral expenses appear high, we collected \$2,500 which offset some of the unbudgeted funeral expenses.

Pastor's Report – Thanks to the council and congregation for the Advent season and Christmas. Pastor mentioned a memorial service, a baptism, and a wedding. An update was provided regarding the Tombstone Talks scheduled in April. Pastor would like to stay for the first part of Hebron's annual meeting and may be a few minutes late to start service on January 28.

Unfinished Business Carpet/Tile Cleaning – Julie contacted I-serve but no update regarding estimate. Shampooer may work to deep clean the carpet. The tile is still pending.

New Business

Selection of Officers – Need to fill the president, vice-president, and secretary position. Julie made a motion for President – Dede Patterson, Vice-President – Corkie Dunlap, and Secretary – Julie Albrecht. Jenny seconded. Motion passed.

2024 Budget – Stewardship was discussed. There will be more discussion at the February meeting. Specific line items were discussed. Expenses reduced based on council discussions include Custodian, Fellowship Expense, Vacation Bible School, ELCA benevolence, and other benevolence.

Custodian Update – Julie reported we have a potential candidate for the custodian position. The council proposes the position would require three (3) hours per week. Roger motioned to hire a custodian for \$15/hour. Jennifer seconded. Motion passed.

Church Profile – The council determined follow up is required with the Synod regarding Pastor Rehwaldt's remaining contract for the consultant position and Pastor Peters' covenant that expired 12/31/2023. Dede will contact Dave Whetter.

Committees – Marcia offered to update the Committees Directory. Discussion was held regarding a possible need for a property committee, a stewardship committee, an audit committee and a budget committee.

The next council meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM. Pastor will provide devotions. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Voting Members to the Central States Synod Assembly June 6-8, 2024

The Synod Assembly is the highest legislative authority of the Synod and is charged with electing members to the Synod Council, Synod committees, and Churchwide voting members when needed, as well as voting on a budget and other resolutions that are presented to the assembly.

- At least 60% shall be laypersons who are voting members of a congregation in the synod.

- **A minimum of two lay members shall be elected or appointed by each congregation** as voting members. Additional lay voting members from congregations shall be based on the number of baptized members. (See the chart below) No more than 50 percent of the voting members from a congregation shall be of the same gender.

- In the event a congregation needs to send two lay voting members who are both men or both women* they must request a waiver, which must be filled out and sent to the synod office by March 8 for approval by the Synod Council. Please note that in order to ensure that at least 45% of the lay voting members are women and at least 45% are men, the synod council may not approve all waivers. (A waiver is not required if only one lay voting member is able to attend.) * Congregations with 500-1500 baptized members must complete a waiver if sending three voting members who are male or three who are female

- Congregations may send additional voting members provided that the person is a person of color or whose primary language is other than English or the person is a youth under the age of 18 at the time of their election.

- Authorized worshipping communities shall have only one lay member as a voting member at the assembly.

- All rostered ministers under call on the roster of the synod and Deacons shall be voting members.

- Retired rostered ministers and those who are on leave from call may be voting members as long as 60% of the assembly voting members remain lay persons.

- Parish Ministry Associates serving as lay pastoral leaders for congregations by the authority of the bishop shall be voting members of the assembly.






- Officers of the synod, as well as Synod Council members who are not serving as lay voting members of their congregations, shall be voting members of the assembly.



MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship Services Every Sunday: Hebron 9:30 a.m. St Paul 11:00 a.m. Adult Bible Discussion Sundays at St Paul 9:30 a.m.						
		Meals on Wheels	Meals on Wheels	Meals on Wheels	1 Meals on Wheels	2
3 9:30 Hebron worship 11:00 St Paul worship	4	5 2:00 Quilters 5:30 Choir	6 12:00 Lenten Prayer Service and Lunch	7	8	9 Clocks spring forward one hour at bedtime
10 9:30 Hebron worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 St Paul worship	11 Spring Break this week	12 Spring Break 2:00 Quilters 5:30 Choir	13 Spring Break 12:00 Lenten Prayer Service and Lunch 5:30 Choir	14 Spring Break 2:00 WELCA at Hebron	15 Spring Break 	16
17 9:30 Hebron worship 11:00 St Paul worship	18 7:00 Hebron Council	19 2: Quilters 5:30 Choir 6:30 St. Paul Council 1st day of spring	20 12:00 Lenten Prayer Service and Lunch	21 2:00 WELCA at Hebron	22	23
24 Noon Pot Luck 9:30 Hebron Worship 9:45 St Paul Sun School 11:00 New Member Recognition	25 Meals on Wheels	26 Meals on Wheels 2:00 Quilters 5:30 Choir	27 Meals on Wheels 12:00 Lenten Prayer Service and Lunch	28 Meals on Wheels 7:00 pm Maundy Services at St. Paul	29 7:00 p.m. Good Friday services at Hebron	30
31 Easter						

March Servant Schedule 2024

2023	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24 Palm Sunday	March 28 Maundy Thursday	March 31 Easter
Communion Assistant	Bre Fry	Corkie Dunlap	Dale Kleinschmidt	Vanessa LAWrenz	Marcia Mathias	Pastor Andrea Nelson Dede Patterson
Acolyte	LINCOLN Barnes	Hadley Friedli	Ella Nelson	Raquel Lawrenz	ushers	Henry Nelson Star Haynes
Communion Station #2						Corkie Dunlap Dale Kleinschmidt Marcia Mathias
Greeters	Debbie Wendt Larry & Dallas Friedli	Henry and Dan Nelson Dede Patterson	Craig Wendt Marcia Mathias Peggy Hilliard	Rodney & Dawn Wilson Will Bernhardt	Craig Wendt Marcia Mathias	Dan and Henry Nelson Larry & Dallas Friedli
Reader	Cindy Roberts	Corkie Dunlap	Henry Nelson	Gary Schubert	Karen Donahue	Dede
Counters	Debbie Wendt Larry & Dallas Friedli	Keith & Julie Albrecht Dede Ptterson	Craig Wendt Marcia Mathias Dave and Rita Gehrke	Will Bernhardt Rodney & Dawn Wilson	Craig Wendt Marcia Mathias	Keith & Julie Albrecht Debbie Wendt
Song Leader	Dory Olsen	Bre Fry	Dory Olsen	Bre Fry	Dory	Bre Fry
Altar Guild	Keith & Julie Albrecht	Keith & Julie Albrecht	Keith & Julie Albrecht	Keith & Julie Albrecht	Keith & Julie Albrecht	Keith & Julie Albrecht
Sound Crew	Tanner Becker Dale Diepenbrock	Tanner Becker Jennie Wilson	Cinta and Tanner Becker	Angie Becker Tanner Becker	Jennifer Wilson Rodney Wilson	Tanner Becker Henry Nelson

Notice for Lay Servants: If you can't serve as scheduled please find someone on the schedule that would trade with you. Then, please call the church office to let Marcia know you have changed and with whom. If you know you are going to be gone a month or more in advance, let Marcia know and she will not schedule you for that time period you are gone. Thanks for keeping me informed.

Good Neighbor Parish
114 North 8th Street
Herington, KS 67449
(785-258-3430)

Non-Profit Organization

MARCH 2024

Sundays		
Hebron	9:30 am	Worship
St. Paul =	9:30 am	Adult Ed
	11:00 am	Worship

