



MARCH 2025 HAPPENINGS

Pastor Paul Thompson Cell: 507-273-8504 Email: pthomp821@gmail.com

Office Hours: 9:00 am–Noon (Monday & Thursday ... or by appointment) **Websites:** eaststolaf.org ...OR.... weststolaf.org

Gina Moser, Secretary: Office: 365-8222 - Cell: 507-951-4964 Emails: eastwest@kmtel.com AND certainty@kmtel.com



March Schedule

EAST has 9:00 am worship (*coffee always after church*)

BOTH have **JAM classes** 10:00 am at West church

WEST has 11 :00 am worship (*coffee before church at 10:00 am*)

West coffee 10am on March 23 is in recognition of 2025 graduate, Lenora Bamlet

OFFERINGS: Our congregational councils ask you to prayerfully continue your financial support for your church. Please be sure to make your check out to “West St. Olaf Lutheran Church” or “East St. Olaf Lutheran Church” and mail to...

West members mail to: Dave Peterson 25378 720th St., Hayfield, MN 55940

East members mail to: Bryan DeCook at 7583 80th Ave. SW, Stewartville, MN 55976

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,



Lent is late in arriving this year, but on March 5 we will begin our journey to Easter. I'm sorry I wasn't able to be with you last year, but the topic I've chosen for this year is the one I was planning on for last year. We will take a look at the so-called “Writings”. The ancient Hebrews divided their Bible into three main parts, the Torah, the Prophets, and the Writings. The Torah is the first part of the Hebrew Bible, Genesis through Deuteronomy. The second part is the Prophets, which are divided into the Former Prophets (Joshua through 2 Kings), and the Latter Prophets (Isaiah through Malachi). The third part is a group of books we put in the middle, the Writings. They include worship material (the Psalms), historical material (1 Chronicles through Esther) and wisdom books (Proverbs and Ecclesiastes).

My focus will be on that third category. They rarely show up in our 3-year lectionary, only 14 times in those 156 weeks. But they are in our Bible, therefore, they are worthy of our attention. We will talk about how the Psalms fit worship into our daily life, how the Proverbs help us get along with each other and avoid trouble, how Job and Ecclesiastes help us deal with loss and disappointment, and how the Song of Solomon helps us celebrate love.

I look forward to enjoying good food and the Good Book each Wednesday starting with Ash Wednesday, March 5 at East. May this season bring us renewal, growth in our faith, and closeness to our Loving God.

In God's peace,
Pastor Paul Thompson

Membership Updates, WELCA News and More

MEMBERSHIP INFO

Entered Eternal Life

Dale Boelter (East member)
 Passed away February 21, 2025.
 Christian service February 28, 2025
 at East St. Olaf Lutheran. Rev. Krista
 Anderson officiated. *Blessed be his
 memory.*

EAST WELCA & EVENTS

EAST March Worship 9:00 am
 >> Lent begins in March.

Mar. 4 (Tues.)

10:00 am Quilting
 Noon: Circle 4 meeting & lunch at
 church
 6:00 pm JOINT Council Meeting
 at EAST

Mar. 5 (Wed.)

7:00 pm Ash Wednesday at East

Mar. 8 (Sat.)

10:00 am WELCA Meeting at church

Mar. 11 (Tue.)

10:00 am Quilting/Sack Lunch

Mar. 12 (Wed.)

6:00 pm Lenten meal at WEST
 7:00 pm Lenten worship at WEST

Mar. 18 (Tue.)

10:00 am Quilting/Sack Lunch

Mar. 19 (Wed.)

6:00 pm Lenten meal at EAST
Circle 4 serves meal

7:00 pm Lenten service at EAST

Mar. 25 (Tue.)

10:00 am Quilting/Sack Lunch

Mar. 26 (Wed.)

6:00 pm Lenten meal at WEST
 7:00 pm Lenten worship at WEST

WEST WELCA NEWS

We begin the Lenten season with
 Ash Wednesday on March 5 at 7 PM
 at East St. Olaf. On March 12 a
 supper will be served at 6 PM with
 the service at 7 PM at West. Hope
 you will mark the Lenten services on
 your calendar each Wednesday.

Also mark March 23 on your calen-
 dar as we will honor Nora Bamlet for
 her high school graduation. We will
 have a special coffee in her honor at
 10 AM that Sunday.

WEST WELCA CONTINUED...

The 2025 WELCA calendar has been
 printed so please pick up your copy
 in the chapel. It not only lists most of
 our special activities in WELCA but
 gives other important information for
 our church.

The Zumbro River Spring conference
 will be held at Zion Lutheran in Stew-
 artville on Saturday, April 5.
 Please let Sharon or Nancy P. know
 by March 15 if you would like to
 attend. The registration fee is \$15.
 which is paid at the door. Lunch is
 provided.

WELCA is responsible to serve
 coffee the third Sunday of each
 month. The church will furnish the
 cookies but we need a worker to
 make coffee and get everything set
 up. Please inform Sharon or Nancy if
 you are able to help in this capacity.

Our March chairperson is Sheryl
 Wohlers and altar guild women are
 Mary and Sandy.

Thank you to our February chairper-
 son, Sue Hyland and altar guild
 women Sheryl and Jane.

We will quilt on March 11 & 12 with
 WELCA at 1 PM on the 12th. Dawn
 Steinfadt is our hostess and Pastor
 Paul will lead us in our new Bible
 study. Please join us. Our final quilt-
 ing until fall will be March 25 & 26.

Think Spring!
 Sharon and Nancy



SERVING SCHEDULES

WEST—March

Ushers: Pete D. organizes

Deacon: Sue Hyland

Altar Guild: Mary Brandt and
 Sandy Iverson

Stewardship:

1st Sun. – Luther League

2nd Sun. – Board of Ed.

3rd Sun. – WELCA

4th Sun. – Council

5th Sun. – Council

Acolytes: *None at chapel.*

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EAST—March

Acolytes: Ushers covering

Altar Guild: Darlene M., and
 Sonya M.

Deacon: Terry Zieman

**Typical Weekly Servers for
 East Coffee & Fellowship:**

1st Sunday — *Quilting Sisters*

2nd Sunday — *Sarah Circle*

3rd Sunday — *OPEN*

4th Sunday — *Circle 4*

5^h Sunday — *SS group during
 school year, Church
 council in summer*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Students who completed
 the communion classes, will
 receive First Holy Communion
April 6th at West St. Olaf.



Ash Wednesday, & Lenten Services in March

Mar. 5 at EAST – (NO soup supper Ash Wed.) 7:00 pm Ash Wed service with Communion.

Mar. 12 at WEST – 6:00 pm Soup Supper (*JAM hosting*) and 7:00 pm Lenten service

Mar. 19 at EAST – 6:00 pm Soup Supper (*Circle 4 hosting*) and 7:00 pm Lenten service

Mar. 26 at WEST – 6:00 pm Soup Supper (*LL hosting*) and 7:00 pm Lenten service

EVERYONE FROM EAST & WEST ARE INVITED TO “SPRING DINNER” NEXT MONTH on Palm Sunday, April 13 (*Hosted by East St Olaf—Save the date!*)



Please come and join us at East St Olaf as Circle 4 hosts a Scalloped Potatoes and Ham Dinner for all who would like to join us. Sides and desserts will be offered as well. *Free will donation is a fundraiser for Circle 4.*

Palm Sunday worship time is 11:00 AM at East, the DINNER is served at 12:00 PM.

We would LOVE to have you come and share a meal with us! No reservations needed unless you are bringing 10 or more people. Please contact Marilyn if that is the case, at marylincarlson@gmail.com

WOMEN OF EAST WELCA FEBRUARY MEETING



The Women of East St Olaf met on Saturday, February 8, 2025. Marilyn opened with devotions and a prayer. Secretary’s Report was read and approved. Diane Severson provided updates on finances after the distribution of Year End Funds from January were taken out.

Balance in Checking: \$ 51,029.32 and Balance in Savings: \$ 14,340.50.

*A thank you note from the Church Council was received for the \$7,500 end of year donation.

We finalized the calendar for the year. The Women of East Yearly Booklet will be mailed out to members between the last week of February and the first week of March. All upcoming dates will be on it. Officer elections took place, and those holding current offices were re-upped for another term. Next year we will be calling members to consider holding an office, as some positions can only be held for two terms. Next month we will focus on ordering items for the upcoming celebrations, and planning for our big events for the year. Next meeting is Saturday, March 8, 10:00AM in the East Dining Room.

EAST: READERS WANTED! We need you on Sunday mornings!



The Deacons are looking for members to volunteer for reading scriptures during regular worship services. This is an excellent way to share the gospel with others, and support the worship service. Reading in front of people can be quite frightening, but the more you do it, the stronger you become as a speaker. East St Olaf has three deacons who are always looking for volunteers. If reading is your thing, feel free contact them and let them know which Sunday works for you, or if you are up to volunteering once a month, we would certainly welcome that as well! God blessed you with a voice! You may never know what has been done for the Kingdom’s work when you share the Gospel. **But God Knows!**

BOTH: ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Copies of the annual meeting minutes and 2025 completed ballots for list of church leaders, are available to pick up on the table in the entryway. *These minutes will be approved at the next annual meeting.*

BOTH: THRIVENT “CHOICE DOLLARS” from 2024 can still be directed until March 31, by calling **800-847-4836**. When prompted, say “Thrivent Choice”. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars. *A representative will work with you to direct your Choice Dollars (or you may designate online at Thrivent.com website)*

BOTH: SYNOD SPRING EVENT for EAST & WEST WOMEN

The Zumbro River Conference Spring Event will be Saturday, APRIL 5 at Zion Lutheran Church (400 5th Ave NE, Stewartville, MN 55976). REGISTRATION DEADLINE is March 15—Fee is \$15 each, you pay at the door.

9:30 am Registration & Displays

10:30 am Welcome & Program

Speaker: Rev. Emily Carson from SE MN Synod Office. Special Guest: Rev. Martha Kitiu from Tanzania

12:00 pm Lunch served



West St. Olaf Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$500 to Good Earth Village. Your participation in our ministry helps embolden Christians in their faith, and to reassure them they are loved beyond measure. Thank you for your investment!

Dianna M. Parks, Executive Director Good Earth Village

West St. Olaf Church,

Thank you so much for your \$150 donation. We appreciate your partnership!

Pastor Jenna L. Couch, Campus Pastor, Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry

West St. Olaf Church,

We are so grateful for your generous donation to the Dodge County Food Shelf of \$200 and 9 pounds of food. Thank you for being an important part of our work!

Jennier Hengel, Executive Director SEMCAC

West WELCA,

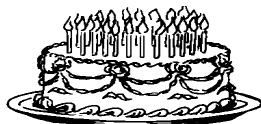
Thank you for your donation of \$200 in December. We appreciate it so much!

Kristin Quenzer, Executive Director, Families First Rochester

March Birthdays East

- 1 Kathleen Herness
- 1 Rachel Pyfferoen
- 1 Ryley Pyfferoen
- 5 Jerome Nelson
- 11 Brandi Bakken
- 12 Laural Bauer
- 16 April Nemechek
- 17 Pat Cahill
- 19 Landon DeCook
- 20 Julie Quinn
- 25 Lawrence Brandt
- 27 Elizabeth Carstensen

Happy Birthday!



March Birthdays West

- 1 Benjamin Alrick
- 3 Aloma Eastlee
- 4 Robert Christopherson
- 5 Heather Bamlet
- 5 Linnea Borland
- 9 Cynthia Stoppel
- 9 Erin Olson
- 10 Ralph Kylo
- 11 Lillian Gulbransen
- 11 Elijah Gulbransen
- 21 Mary Bamlet
- 22 Brandon Schuck
- 22 Wilson Cahill
- 23 Diane Mittelstadt
- 24 McCayla Thoe
- 24 Katrina Thoe
- 25 Riley Phenix
- 27 Lana Martin
- 27 Lenora Bamlet
- 28 Jessica Lechnir
- 30 Denise Kylo
- 30 Lindsay Johnson
- 31 Jane Estby

St. Olaf Kid's Corner: March

Who is St. Patrick?

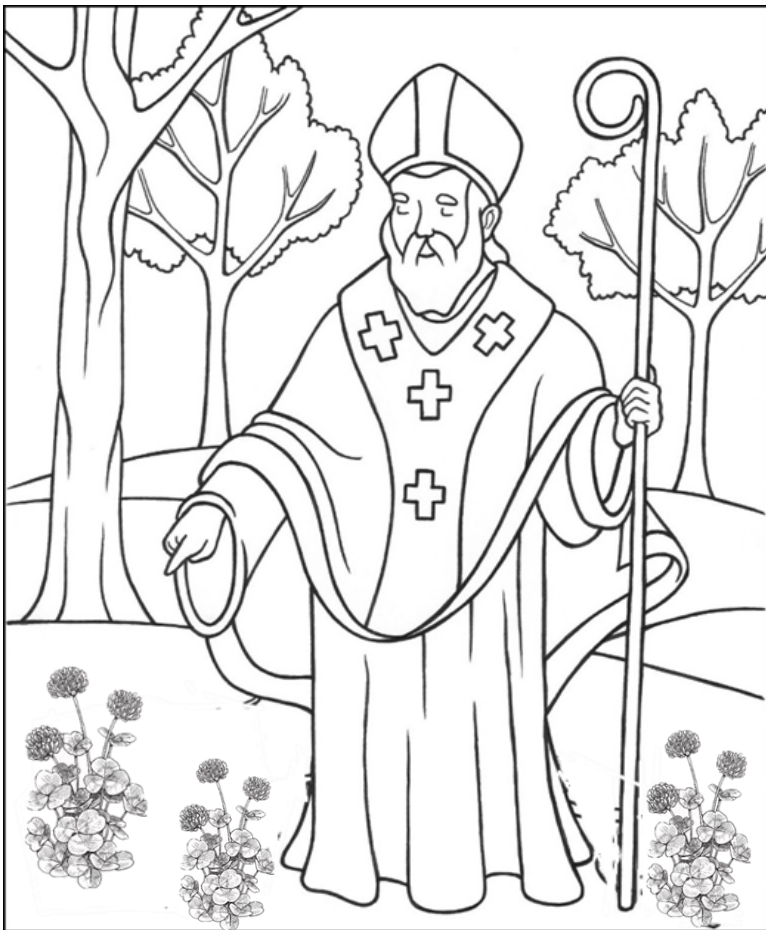
Happy St. Patrick's Day! Have you heard those words? Was there really a St. Patrick? The answer is yes! About 1,600 years ago, a boy was born in England. His name was Maewyn Succat (May-win Suu-cot). His dad worked in the local church. Maewyn went to school and church.

When he was 16 years old, he was playing with some friends along the beach, and watching some ships come in. The ships had pirates on them. The pirates rowed a small boat up to the beach, and grabbed Maewyn and his friends. They were taken to Ireland, and sold as slaves. A farmer bought Maewyn from the pirates and he worked for the farmer for 6 years. As he worked, he prayed to God about going home. One day, God told him in a dream that it was time to go.

Maewyn ran away from the farmer. He ran all the way to a town next to the ocean. There was a ship in the harbor, and he got a ride on the boat back to England. He was returned to his family. They were all very happy to see him!

Maewyn felt like God was with him. He prayed, and followed God's laws. He decided to become a priest (preest). His name was changed to Patrick. He taught people about God. He became a bishop. Then God called him to go back to Ireland and tell the people there about God.

He was scared. He didn't want to go back, but God was with him.



Bible Verse

"Come and hear, all you who fear God, let me tell you what He has done for me."

Psalm 66:16

Daily Prayer

Dear Lord,

If someone asks me about You, give me the right words to tell them about You, God the Almighty, who loves his people, and who listens when we pray.

Amen



Patrick left England and went to Ireland. He told people there about God and His love for them. He explained the Holy Trinity by using 3 leaf clovers. One leaf was for God, one leaf was for the Son, and one leaf was for the Holy Spirit, and they all made one plant. Just like God works in threes. God the creator, God who is Jesus' father, and the Holy Spirit, which helps us to believe in Him.

Many people became Christians because of Patrick. When he died on March 17, the church gave him the name Saint Patrick.

MARCH

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
WEST worship is at the chapel for all of March worship & Lenten services Confirmation students should attend ALL mid-week services at both the East and West churches.						1
2 9:00 am EAST Worship/Comm... (coffee after church) 10:00 am JAM at West West coffee 11:00 am WEST Worship/Comm.	3 9:00am-Noon Pastor office	4 10:00 am East Quilting, then at NOON—Circle 4 Meeting & lunch <u>JOINT COUNCIL meeting at EAST</u> 6:00 pm Individual meetings 7:00 pm JOINT meeting	5 7:00 pm BOTH @ EAST Ash Wednesday worship & Comm 7:30 pm Deadline for bulletin info	6 9:00am-Noon Pastor office	7 Pastor: day-off	8 10:00 am East WELCA meeting at church, in the basement
9 <u>Daylight Saving Time Begins</u> 9:00 am EAST Worship (coffee after church) 10:00 am JAM at West West coffee 11:00 am WEST Worship	10 9:00am-Noon Pastor office	11 9:00 am West Quilting/sack lunch 10:00 am East Quilting/sack lunch	12 9:00 am West Quilting/sack lunch 1:00 pm West WELCA meeting Host: Dawn S. Study: Pastor Paul 6:00 pm BOTH @ WEST Lenten supper 7:00 pm Lenten service 7:30 pm Deadline for bulletin info	13 10:00 am Pastor- Kasson Ministerial Mtg.	14 Pastor day-off	15
16 9:00 am EAST Worship (coffee after church) 10:00 am JAM at West West coffee 11:00 am WEST Worship	17 9:00am-Noon Pastor office	18 10:00 am East Quilting/sack lunch 5:00 pm <u>DEADLINE to submit info for next newsletter</u>	19 6:00 pm BOTH @ EAST Lenten supper 7:00 pm Lenten service 7:30 pm Deadline for bulletin info	20 9:00am-Noon Pastor office	21 Pastor day-off	22
23 9:00 am EAST Worship/Comm... (coffee after church) 10:00 am JAM at West West coffee to honor Nora Bamlet—2025 graduate 11:00 am WEST Worship/Comm.	24 9:00am-Noon Pastor office	25 9:00 am West Quilting/sack lunch 10:00 am East Quilting/sack lunch	26 9:00 am West Quilting/sack lunch 6:00 pm BOTH @ WEST Lenten supper 7:00 pm Lenten service 7:30 pm Deadline for bulletin info	27 9:00am-Noon Pastor office <u>NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEER DAY for printing</u> March issue 9:10 am print 9:20 am fold 9:30 am collate/tape	28 Pastor day-off	
30 9:00 am EAST Worship (coffee after church) 10:00 am JAM at West West coffee 11:00 am WEST Worship	31 <u>DEADLINE to Submit your THRIVENT CHOICE designations</u>	SAVE THE DATES: Apr. 13: Palm Sunday Dinner at East St. Olaf—BOTH Invited! Apr. 20: Easter Worship!!! 8:30 am at West, 10am at East Apr. 25: Pizza & BINGO at East St. Olaf for ALL Friends & Families of East and West churches				



*All East & West families & friends
are invited to East St. Olaf Lutheran
Church for*

PIZZA AND

★
☆ **BINGO** ☆
★
★ **NIGHT!** ☆

Next Month: Fri, April 25

Drop in 5:30 – 7:30PM

Family Fun!

No Money Needed

(Free Will Donation for Pizza is Welcomed)

Come and Eat Dinner with us.

Decorate your own cookie for dessert.

Then play BINGO!

East St. Olaf at 6200 CR3 SW Byron, MN



East Offering:

(02/02/2025) Current \$9,188.34

(02/09/2025) Current \$1,574 (*with 500 being from the Quilting Sisters of East St. Olaf*), and
In-memory of Vicky Boelter \$20 Undesignated.

(02/16/2025) Current \$818.

(02/23/2025) Current \$1,015.

East Council Minutes: February 4, 2025 (6:00 pm)

Call to Order: President Randy Robinson called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Pastor Paul Thompson, Randy Robinson, Gary Kearns, Jane Williams, Mary Madson, Meghan Ohman, Terry Zieman, Danny Zieman.

Devotions: Pastor Paul read from Psalms and provided an opening prayer.

Pastor's Report: Pastor's report was read and approved. He will work with President Robinson to create an agenda for the March Joint Meeting.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the January meeting will be postponed till next month. Jane will read the minutes from both January and February then.

Financial Sec. Report: The statement from January was read and approved. It was noted that the weather cancellation of church on Jan. 19 meant no donations that day.

A donation from the Campbell Trust for \$2,500 and a donation from WELCA for \$7,500 were sent in. Plus \$768.34 from the Palooza fundraiser came in as well. Jane will send a thank you note from the council to both groups.

Treasurer's Report: The month of January was read and approved. Larger expenditures this month included the yearly payment for sanitation service, FICA payment, and the yearly Synod Benevolence of \$2,6550. The Council voted to stay at the same Synod Pledge for 2025.

Deacon's Report: The Deacons met last Sunday. Meghan has the binder. Meghan is ordering the Palms for Palm Sunday. Mary was the Deacon for January.

Trustees Report: Danny replaced some fluorescent bulbs in the basement. Randy has the outlet for the kitchen but needs to talk with the ladies to see if it will work for them. A piece of siding came off the west side of the church and Danny will contact Pete and Tracy Smith to replace or repair it. There is a bulb out in the chandelier.

Old Business: Gina needed a new laptop and the folding machine needed servicing. Will Laxen headed that up and worked with both councils to purchase a computer for Gina, and help her get everything running. Our church should be receiving a bill for half of those expenses.

New Business: What should be done with the Parsonage? The Council shared thoughts, and President Robinson will bring it up at the Joint Meeting in March.

The request to purchase land from East St. Olaf by the Heritage Committee was also discussed. Last year a Committee was formed to work together and find out if we could parcel out the land, the amount it would be, and how the finances would be handled. Randy will talk to Will Laxen about revisiting that committee.

Kenny Schimek does the snowplowing, and President Robinson will be the one who contacts him for special events.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is a JOINT meeting hosted by EAST on Tuesday, March 4: 6:00pm individual meeting, and 7:00pm JOINT meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Williams, Council Secretary.

EAST Council & Committees

President: 2 yrs., 1 term limit

Randy Robinson 1yr. of 2 yr. term

Secretary: 2 yrs., 2 term limit

Jane Williams

Treasurer: 1 yr., unlimited terms

Gary Kearns (for 1 yr. term)

Financial Secretary: 1 yr., unlimited terms

Bryan DeCook (for 1 yr. term)

Board of Deacons: 2 yrs., 2 term limit

Mary Madson (2ND yr. of 1st term)

Megan Ohman (1st year of 1st term)

Terry Zieman (1st year of 1st term)

Board of Trustees: 2 yrs., 2 term limit

Danny Zieman (1st yr. of 2nd term)

Dan Williams (2nd year of 2nd term)

Pete Exe (1st year of 1st term)

Education Committee: 2 yrs., 2 term limit

Meghan Ohman (1st yr. of 2nd term)

Kelly Pyfferoen (1st yr. of 2nd term)

Parsonage Committee: 2 yrs., unlimited terms

Bruce Peterson (1st yr. of term)

Mel Schultz (1st yr. of term)

Dan Zieman (2nd yr. of term)

Cemetery Committee: 3 yrs., unlimited terms

Mike Senjem (3rd yr. of term)

Chris Yennie (1st yr. of 2nd term)

Doyle Jorgenson (2nd yr. of 2nd term)

Audit Committee: 2 yrs., unlimited terms

Pat Nelson (1st yr. of 2nd term)

Diane Severson (2nd yr. of term)

Nominating Committee:

(OPEN)

(OPEN)

Synod Assembly:

Mike Senjem

Sue Senjem

Synod Assembly - Alternates:

Pat Cahill-Alternate

(OPEN) (Alternate)

Good Earth Village Representative:

Vote for 3

Mary Madsen

(OPEN)



WEATHER-RELATED CANCELATIONS

To verify if there is a cancelation for a church service or church activity, **please check: KTTC TV (channel 10), or online at www.kttc.com and click on the tab for WEATHER - then click on Closings and Delays** or check parsonage answering machine 365-8222. Decisions made by council presidents/pastor.

Corrected West Council Minutes: January 13, 2025

Attendance (P = Present, A = Absent)

Pastor Paul	P	Dave Peterson	P	Deb Schuck	P	Ben Horejsi	
Will Laxen	P	Sheryl Wohlers	P	Clay Hazelmann		Billie Jean Smetana	
Hans Estby	P	Mary Brandt	P	Greg Brandt	P		
Cindy Stoppel	P	Sandy Iverson	P	Chad Thompson	P		
Jenny Twaddle	P	Carma Bjornson	P	Del Senjem	P		

Meeting called to order by Will Laxen. Devotions lead by Pastor Paul.

Agenda approval: Motion made to approve agenda by Sheryl and seconded by Hans, motion carried

Secretary's Report: Report read, motion made to approve by Deb and seconded by Sandy motion carried

Pastor's Report: Pastor reviewed his report of pastoral acts for December 2024.

Financial Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Reports reviewed and discussed. Motion made to approve both reports by Hans and seconded by Cindy, motion carried

Boad of Education Report: Christmas programs went well considering there were a few weeks of no practice prior to the West program. Regular lesson schedule has returned. JAM will be baking with the kids in a couple weeks and hold a bake sale the week of the annual meeting. JAM & Luther League will be hosting Lenten Suppers in March. Luther League Christmas party and wrapping had about a dozen people attend. January's outing was seeing the movie "Mufasa" in Rochester and about 9 kids attended.

Deacon's Report: Thinking of You cards sent to Diane Himle & Jim Kylo; Sympathy cards sent to Billie Jean Smetana and family for the passing of her mother. Mervis Keckhafer sends a big thank you for the cards and well wishes on her 100th birthday. Thank you JAM students and staff, the Christmas program on January 5 was a beautiful message and enjoyed very much. Thank you all that helped undecorate the chapel and the church, a good work crew makes work lighter and more enjoyable. Church services begin in the Chapel on Sunday, January 19th. Annual church meeting February 2nd, will there be coffee hour? No, the meeting will be held right after church at 10am with potluck after the meeting. Lenten supper schedule is March 12 - JAM, March 26 – Luther League, and April 9 – WELCA. It has been requested to have the graduation recognition for Nora Bamlet early on March 30. Thank you to Deb for being December's deacon and Mary is the deacon for January.

Trustees Report: A larger TV will be purchased and set up in the chapel for Sunday services.

Old Business: None

New Business: Disbursement of Benevolence Funds needs to be decided. Last year's donations were reported, discussion and decisions made. The 2024 Year-end pastoral rites report was reviewed, the need for one correction was identified, a wedding needs to be removed (Will to notify Gina), motion made to approve the pastoral rites report by Greg and seconded by Mary, motion carried. Carma made a motion to approve Heather Bamlet's request to use the chapel, seconded by Deb, motion carried. First communion classes were brought up to Pastor, he will get a schedule and notify the parents. Sheryl told the trustees about water that was discovered in the basement quilting room. This occurred sometime between Thanksgiving and now. Greg will look into this and try to determine the cause.

Motion to adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Carma, seconded by Deb, motion carried. Closed with the Lord's prayer.

Submitted by: Cindy Stoppel, West St. Olaf council secretary

Next Meeting: Next meeting will be on Mon., Feb. 10 at 7 pm.

West Council Minutes: February 10, 2025

Attendance (P = Present, A = Absent)

Pastor Paul	P	Dave Peterson	P	Deb Schuck	P	Ben Horejsi	P
Will Laxen	P	Sheryl Wohlers	P	Clay Hazelmann		Billie Jean Smetana	
Hans Estby	P	Mary Brandt		Greg Brandt		Sue Hyland	P
Cindy Stoppel	P	Carma Bjornson	P	Chad Thompson	P		
Jenny Twaddle		Sandy Iverson	P	Del Senjem	P		

Meeting called to order by Will Laxen. Devotions lead by Pastor Paul.

Agenda approval: Motion made to approve agenda by Sandy and seconded by Hans, motion carried

Secretary's Report: Report read; it was noted that the January meeting minutes in the newsletter is not the same as what I read. Cindy will check with Gina about a correction. Motion made to approve minutes as read (from computer) by Sheryl and seconded by Deb, motion carried.

Financial Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Reports reviewed and discussed. Motion made to approve both reports by Deb and seconded by Cindy, motion carried

Board of Education Report: JAM cookie sale was a success. The kids had a lot of fun making cookies and pretzels. We sold out almost everything. We are beginning to think about and plan for VBS in the summer. Luther League's original February outing of snowtubing fell through due to the unusual weather. Working on a new plan, possibly an Escape Room. If East has the lutefisk dinner, we are planning to have Luther League help. We have been in contact with Jane at East but plans for the dinner are not made yet.

Deacon's Report: Cards sent: Thinking of you sent to Jerry Nelson and Susie Thoe; 90th Birthday to Pete Danielson and Wilma Kylo; and Wedding to Beth (Taylor) and Jacob Iverson (February 20). Thank you to Sue Hyland who volunteered to fill the open Deacon position. The Deacon calendar is complete with Sue covering March. Thank you to all who brought food and helped in the kitchen for Pete's appreciation coffee and the annual meeting. Senior graduation recognition coffee will be held March 23, 2025. Bible has been ordered. First Communion classes have begun and the Sunday service for the First Communion is being planned. Council to serve on February 23rd coffee hour. Thank you to Deb and Carma for being Deacons in January & February.

Trustees Report: Odor in chapel basement has been addressed.

Old Business: Installation of Church Officers set for Sunday February 23, 2025.

New Business: Ideas brought up at the annual meeting were discussed. Carma made a motion to start passing the offering plate during the church service again, seconded by Deb, motion carried. It was mentioned that a thermostat that is easier to program is needed for the chapel. Will is looking further into options for electronic donation options and he plans to have details to discuss at next month's meeting. He will probably bring it up at the joint meeting to see if East is interested as well.

Motion to adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Carma, seconded by Dave, motion carried. Closed with the Lord's prayer.

Submitted by: Cindy Stoppel, West St. Olaf council secretary

Next Meeting: Next meeting will be at East on Tuesday March 4, 2025, at 6pm with joint meeting to follow.

>>> EXTRA WEST NOTE (NOT FROM COUNCIL MINUTES): NEW ON CHURCH COUNCIL & ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Ballot copies available at chapel to see all of council members and committees. Sue Hyland is joining the Board of Deacons to replace Sandy Iverson. Jana Hiam is joining Board of Education and replacing Sharon Gulbranson as an Auditor.



WEATHER-RELATED CANCELATIONS

To verify if there is a cancelation for a church service or church activity, **please check: KTTC TV (channel 10), or online at www.kttc.com** and click on the tab for *WEATHER* - then click on *Closings and Delays* or check parsonage answering machine 365-8222. Decisions made by council presidents/pastor.

East & West St. Olaf Lutheran



6200 County Road 3 SW
Byron, MN 55920

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Pastor Paul Thompson

Cell: 507-273-8504 Email: pthomp821@gmail.com

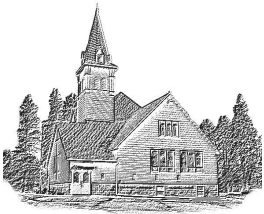
Church Office Hours: 9:00 am - Noon

Mon. and Thur. or by appointment

Office: 507-365-8222 Secretary: eastwest@kmtel.com

Websites: eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org

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HAPPENINGS



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