

# The Messenger – June 2024

## Save the Date!

**Midsommar is  
Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>.**  
Sign-ups will be out  
by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Quilting Opportunities!

**The Afternoon Quilters**  
will meet at 1:00 pm  
on Thursday, June 13th

**The Baby Quilt Ministry**  
will meet at 7:00 pm  
on Monday, June 17th.



## Book Chatter

will meet on  
Thursday, July 11th, at 7:00 pm,  
at the home of Carol Anderson.  
They will be discussing  
The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell  
by Robert Dugoni.



**June 9th**  
Outdoor Worship Service

**June 23rd**  
Outdoor Worship Service and  
Midsommar Celebration

**June 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Outdoor Worship Service

\*Services will be moved indoors  
during inclement weather.

## Summer Worship Update

**Beginning June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Communion Worship Services** will be held  
indoors on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month.

**Beginning June 9<sup>th</sup>, Outdoor Worship Services** will be held on  
the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month.

There will not be PowerPoints shown on the front display  
during the summer months. It's time to dust off those hymnals  
and Bibles and put them to use!

The indoor services will continue to be available live on Zoom  
and will be recorded and then uploaded to the Spring Garden  
YouTube channel.

## Did you miss the photography sessions in April for the new church directory?

That's okay, you can supply a photo for the directory. How, you say?

1. There is a \$15.00 fee to include photos not taken by the United Church Directory photographers. Please make a check payable to Spring Garden Lutheran Church and deliver it to Heidi Anderson at church;
2. Email a photo to [heiditimanderson@icloud.com](mailto:heiditimanderson@icloud.com).
3. Include the following information in the email along with your photo:
  - In the Subject field, please indicate: Photo for church directory + your name;
  - In the body of the email, provide the names of all of the members pictured in the photo. Please be clear about who each individual is pictured.
4. Photos should be portrait style, meaning, we want pictures of you close up, mid-arm and up, as shown below.



**Correct!**



**Incorrect.**

## Thank You

The Spring Garden Cemetery Association would like to thank the Confirmation Students and Guides and Randy Benson for raking leaves, picking up sticks, and trimming and removing branches in the Spring Garden Cemetery.  
Your hard work is appreciated!  
Job well done!



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## From the Pastor...

Sisters and Brothers,

"Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."(Matthew 6:34) During a recent daily devotion I came across this passage. Sometimes with all our plans and dreams for the future it is hard for us to live in the moment that God has given us. This is one area in which we can learn from the wisdom of children. For the most part, children live in the moment, especially younger children.

Living in the present moment is not a mysterious endeavor; all it involves is putting less attention on worries, concerns, regrets, mistakes, the future, and the past. Living in the present simply means living life now, not allowing your mind to carry you away to experiences removed from the moment. When you do this, you enjoy the moment, and you also bring out your best performance and creativity because you are less distracted by wants, needs, and concerns. "Now" is the place where happiness can be found. "Now" is a time filled with God's grace. All of us are affected by and need to learn from the past. We also need to plan for tomorrow, but our most effective and positive energy is the energy of today. Often when I am bothered or upset it's usually over something that is over or something that is yet to come.

Children seem to understand that life is lived in the present moment. They experience each moment wholly and each moment is important. The present event and people with them receive a child's full attention. One incident years ago brought this to my attention. Bette and I were going out for the evening. While we were waiting for Bette to arrive with the sitter, Allison and I were playing a game with her dolls. In the midst of our game Bette and the sitter arrived. As I began to leave Allison started to cry saying, "I want Daddy to stay and play with me!" Allison cried and yelled; "I want to go with you!" Shortly after our "escape" I decided to peek inside and see how things were going. Looking through the window I saw Allison playing with her sitter. Allison was filled with laughter and smiles. She was absorbed in her present moment. Allison had let go of the past, even though the past was only moments ago. Allison was living what Jesus was talking about, living for today.

Being able to immerse yourself in the present moment is a gift from God. When we do this, we experience the ordinary in an extraordinary fashion. In living this way, we will spend less time being bothered by life and more time enjoying life. We will spend less time looking for a better experience and more time enjoying the gift of "now" that God has given us. Jesus knew that often our best teachers are the little ones around us. As Jesus proclaims in Matthew 18:4-5 (NRSV): "Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."

May we have the courage to live in the NOW with Christ.

In Jesus' love,  
*Pastor Tim*

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## Mission Endowment Fund Committee Update

### International Association for Refugees Visit

International Association for Refugees is an interdenominational Christian organization. Josh Levin will be speaking to our congregation during the Sunday morning service on **June 9, 2024**. Josh serves as program manager for Jonathan House, which offers asylum seekers shelter, hope, and healing. Spring Garden's Mission Endowment Fund Committee has provided funding to Josh's organization for several years and are happy to have Josh come talk to us about how God works through their organization.

### July Market and Economic Update presented by Thrivent *(Virtual Event)*

Are the current markets making you wonder how to best navigate your financial strategy? Join us for a livestream of Thrivent's Market and Economic Update, presented by Thrivent leaders. Don't miss the opportunity to hear Thrivent's perspective and what the latest trends may mean for you. Please register to attend the event or indicate you'd like to receive a recording.

To Register: <https://www.thrivent.com/member-network/southeast/events>.

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Preschool - 5th Grade  
**FREE!**

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**JUNE 10-12**  
5:30-8:00

At Spring Garden Lutheran Church -  
10239 County 1 Blvd

COME EMBARK ON AN ADVENTURE THROUGH THE BIBLE! JOIN US FOR THREE EVENINGS FILLED WITH FAITH, FUN AND DISCOVERY AS WE EXPLORE SOME OF THE GREATEST STORIES EVER TOLD.

Hosted by Spring Garden Lutheran Church and Umland Lutheran Church

**Vacation Bible School is June 10, 11, & 12** at Spring Garden Lutheran Church!  
Come embark on an adventure through the Bible! Join us for three evenings filled with faith, fun and discovery as we explore some of the greatest stories ever told. Vacation Bible School is hosted by Spring Garden Lutheran Church and Umland Lutheran Church for ages Preschool - 5th grade.

**Supper 5:30 pm-6:00 pm**

Monday – Sandwiches, Tuesday- Sloppy Joes, Wednesday - Hot Dogs

**Vacation Bible School 6:00 pm-8:00 pm**

We understand there may be schedule conflicts as this time of year is busy. Only able to attend 1 or 2 nights? That's ok!

We would love to see you either way!

Registration is on the Sunday School Facebook page. You can also email Maggie at [maggiesjoquist@gmail.com](mailto:maggiesjoquist@gmail.com) to sign up!



"Only by Giving are you able to Receive more than you already have."  
~ Jim Rohn

**Financial facts for April 2024:**

Checkbook balance as of 4/30/24: \$40,374.11 (previous \$45,950.16)

**Spring Garden Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting Minutes – 4/21/2024**

The meeting was called to order by President Bjorn Olson at 11:18 am in the church social hall.

A quorum was established with a total of 58 voting members present.

The opening prayer was given by Pastor Tim.

**Secretary's Report from the January 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting:** Stan Lundell gave a condensed report of the minutes of the January 28<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. President Bjorn asked for any corrections or additions to the Secretary's report. A motion was made by Larry Olson, seconded by Paul Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the January 28<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Stan Lundell gave Rob's Treasurer's report. He reported that the checkbook balance as of March 31<sup>st</sup> was \$45,950.16. A motion was made by Marie McLain, seconded by Stephanie McLain and carried to approve the Treasurer's report.

**Election: Nominees for Council, Mission Endowment Fund Committee, and Nominating Committee:**

- Vice-president—*Paul Olson*
- Secretary—*Jay Olson*
- Stewardship Board—*Lynnette Sjoquist*
- Properties Board—*Steve Haggstrom*
- 1 Mission Endowment Committee Member—*Jessica Gird*
- Nominating Committee—1 member to serve along with the Executive Committee—*Sandy Hanson*

Tim Anderson made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot. Patty Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried. There was no old or new business.

**Adjournment of Meeting:** A motion was made by David Roinas, seconded by Paul Olson and carried to adjourn at 11:27 a.m.

Stan Lundell, Secretary

*Subject to Congregational Approval*

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## Spring Garden Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes May 19, 2024

**In Attendance:** Bjorn Olson, Becky Haugen, Stan Lundell, Heidi Anderson, Ruthie Sjoblom, Maggie Wilson, Scott Hanson, Christy Collins, Randy Benson, Pastor Tim, and Financial Secretary–Pam Davis; newly *elected members* – *Paul Olson, Jay Olson, Lynnette Sjoquist, and Steve Haggstrom* were also in attendance

**Call to Order:** President Bjorn called the meeting to order at 11:19 a.m. in the church social hall. Opening devotions were given by Pastor Tim.

**Secretary's Report:** A motion was made by Scott, seconded by Maggie, and carried to approve the minutes of the April 14<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

**Financial Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports:** Pam's report showed a total of \$54,919.41 in pledges year-to-date. Rob's report showed that the checkbook balance on April 30<sup>th</sup> was \$40,374.11. A motion was made by Ruthie, seconded by Scott, and carried to approve the financial reports.

### **Pastor Tim's Report:**

**May 26<sup>th</sup>:** Due to my vacation, we need a council member to make the announcements on this Sunday.

**Church Council:** Welcome to our new church council members: Steve Haggstrom, Jay Olson, Paul Olson, and Lynnette Sjoquist. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming years. Thank you too: Randy Benson, Scott Hanson, Stan Lundell, and Bjorn Olson for their years of service during the difficult time of transition.

**Worship:** starting in June, we will have outdoor services on the second and fourth Sunday and indoor services with communion on the first and third Sunday.

**Sunday School, Confirmation, & Youth:** On April 6<sup>th</sup>, we had our Seder meal and first communion class. It was a wonderful event and I enjoyed spending the time with the families are the fifth-grade students. On May 8<sup>th</sup>, I had a wonderful opportunity of hearing our ninth graders give their sermons. Dylan Gird, Lucy Lindahl, and Lukas Olson all did a wonderful presentation. Their sermons we're well thought out and filled with God's love and grace. On May 9<sup>th</sup>, we had our first joint VBS meeting with Urland Lutheran VBS this year will be June 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>. Our topics will be Journeys Through the Bible. I'm waiting to hear from Pastor Nancy at Urland to finalize the topics. Our choices are Journeying With Abraham and Sarah, Journeying With the Exodus People, Journeying With Joseph Mary and Jesus, or Journeying With Paul. On Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, we had our baccalaureate at first English Lutheran Church. I had the opportunity to preach. It was a wonderful service. Congratulations to our seniors Dylan Anderson, Emma LeVesque, and Kendahl Zimmerman.

**Adult Education:** We continue our study of the book of Luke and Acts. We will continue the class through summer except for when I am away on vacation.

**Sunday Dialogue:** We've not had anybody stay for the Sunday dialogue so at this point, I'm assuming this is not something we want to do.

**Cannon River Conference Christian Perspective on Cultural Issues that Matter:** On Thursday, we will have our first of these events. I will report on it at our meeting.

**Continuing Education:** I spent Monday-Thursday on-line at the Festival of Homiletics. This was a continuing education event for preachers. I attend this event every year either in person or on-line.

**Pastoral Calls:** In April, I made 9 pastoral calls.

**Reminder Pastor 2024 Vacation Dates:** July 9<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, August 7<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, December 26<sup>th</sup>-December 31<sup>st</sup> (Back to the office January 3<sup>rd</sup>)

### **Action Items:**

- 1) ***Mission Endowment Approved Requests:*** A motion was made by Randy, seconded by Scott and carried to approve the following Mission Endowment Committee's approved funding requests:
  - Scholarships – \$2500.00 total: \$500.00 each for 3 high school and 2 medical scholarships to SGLC students
  - Gustavus Adolphus partnership support – \$750.00
  - Support for the Midsommar Festival – \$1500.00
- 2) ***Rest Stop Planning for the MS Ride Across Minnesota Cycling Event on Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>:*** Rob is the primary contact person to the church for the event. He was informed by the contact person for the event that they take care of their trash. We will be receiving more details about what to expect when we get closer to the day of the event. Ruthie Sjoblom and Stan Lundell will be volunteers that will be present to cover the period from 6:30 – 10:00 am for the rest stop.
- 3) ***Midsommar Planning:*** Heidi will have a sign-up for volunteers by the end of the month. There was discussion about whether we needed live music for the event, or if recorded music in the background would be okay. There were no objections to just having recorded background music. Heidi will look into it further.
- 4) ***QR Code for Giving:*** Pastor Tim asked if we should set up a way of giving by using a QR code that could be included in the bulletin each week. Pam will reach out to Vanco to ask for additional information from them about setting up QR code giving.
- 5) ***Pam's Helper List & Volunteer List for Summer Opening of the Church:*** Sign-up sheets were passed around for those two lists. Members of the council signed-up for those duties for a specific month or date.

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- 6) **Thrivent – Change of Agent and Office:** Paul Olson informed the council that due to the retirement of the Thrivent agent that the Mission Endowment Committee has traditionally worked with from the Pine Island agency for their investments, Thrivent has moved them to an agency in Eagan. Paul expressed the desire to remain with a local agent and office. He will contact the Pine Island office and request that Spring Garden’s accounts stay with that office.
- 7) **Pulpit Supply May 26<sup>th</sup> – Someone to Greet and Assist Rev. Bob Kaul:** Someone is needed to greet and assist Rev. Bob Kaul on that day. Maggie will ask Mark Sjoquist if he will do that.
- 8) **Trucks Using Parking Lot:** Randy noted that there has seemed to be an increase in the number of trucks that use our parking lot as a rest stop. He noted that the asphalt is not as thick on the side lot that goes over to the shelter, and it is more susceptible to damage by heavy trucks. Randy will look into possibly using portable signs to restrict truck parking in that section of the parking lot.

### **Board and Committee Reports**

**Worship & Music–Ruthie Sjoblom:** The Worship & Music Board met on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

The PowerPoints for indoor and outdoor services will be discontinued through the summer months.

There will be no canter in the summer months. The liturgy will be spoken using the ELW for indoor services and WOV for outdoor services.

We are asking the ushers and greeters to arrive at 9:30 to help with the outdoor set up for the church services. They will also help to clean up following the service. Acolytes will be asked to help also.

The assigned sound person will bring out the keyboard and sound system for the service.

Church council members will sign up for the opening of the church during the summer months.

Training of the 6<sup>th</sup> graders to be acolytes was completed on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Megan Nerison will update the sign-up genius to include June to September and going forward for the rest of 2024/2025.

Ruthie will remain as the Worship & Music chair through April 2025 with the voting for a new chair to take place in May 2025.

Pulpit Supply on May 26<sup>th</sup> is Rev. Bob Kaul.

**Faith Formation–Maggie Wilson:** The last day of Sunday School was May 5<sup>th</sup>. We celebrated with outside playtime and ice cream sundaes.

Confirmation wrapped up in May with games and a bonfire. We will be meeting in June to begin planning next year's Confirmation. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, we recognized the graduating seniors and all of the scholarship recipients.

Vacation Bible School is June 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>. We are partnering with Urland. Spring Garden is hosting this year.

**Parish Life & Outreach–Heidi Anderson:** Our board was busy in April with signing people up for the new church directory, before and after Sunday worship services and at the Wednesday evening Lenten services. We hosted the appointments for pictures by United Church Directory (UCD) 4/25-4/27. We had approximately 90 appointments out of 99 available. UCD was pleased/impressed with our turnout. Thank you to everyone who scheduled and attended their appointments. For those unable to get their picture taken while UCD was here, directions will be provided on how to submit a photo. Help will be needed to help create the directory - pictures of our staff, activities around church, etc. This stage will be tabled until after Midsommar. Next up - Midsommar!

**Church Property–Randy Benson:** The new flagpole was erected. Other projects will be worked on this summer.

**Stewardship–Scott Hanson:** With help from the council, they hosted the “Gratitude Meal” preceding the congregational meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Missions Board–Christy Collins:** Nothing new to report.

**Executive Committee:** Nothing new to report.

**Archives Committee:** Nothing new to report.

**Mission Endowment Fund Committee:** They are making plans for an “Estate Planning Seminar” in September. They approved the funding requests that the council gave approval for above in these minutes.

**Church Calendar Review:** June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Church Cleaning Day; June 9<sup>th</sup> – Council Meeting @ 11:00 a.m.; July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Rest Stop for MS Ride Cycling Event

### **Announcements:**

- Next council meeting: June 9<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 a.m.
- Closing prayer next month: Ruthie
- Pam’s Helper: May – Becky; June – Ruthie; July – Becky

**Adjournment:** The closing prayer was given by Becky. A motion was made by Scott, seconded by Ruthie, and carried to adjourn at 12:07 p.m.

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**The Messenger**  
**Spring Garden Lutheran Church**  
**June 2024**

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*"Building a Rural Family in Christ"*



**Church Council Members & Staff**

Pastor Tim Maybee		608-381-9661 revtmaybe@gmail.com
President	Becky Haugen	507-421-2964
Vice-President	Paul Olson	612-437-6619
Secretary	Jay Olson	651-442-8123
Treasurer	Rob Lorentz	507-291-0645
Financial Secretary	Pam Davis	507-263-5657
Worship & Music	Ruthie Sjoblom	651-428-6171
Faith Formation	Maggie Wilson	651-380-4913
Parish Life & Outreach	Heidi Anderson	507-298-5691
Church Property	Steve Haggstrom	507-319-5651
Stewardship	Lynnette Sjoquist	651-245-6619
Missions Board	Christy Collins	507-202-5993
Music Director	David Roinas	
Custodian	Jim Hoffman	
Administrative Asst.	Rachel Benson	507-263-5532

**Spring Garden Lutheran Church**

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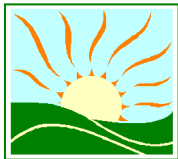
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**June 2024**



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