

There will not be
Sunday School
on Sunday, March 22nd.

Spring Garden Lutheran Church

The Messenger

March 2025



Remember to set
your clocks ahead before
you go to bed on
Saturday, March 7th!

Wednesday Lenten Services:

Please plan to join us Wednesday evenings on March 4, 11, 18, and 25 for
a meal, brief message, Table Talk with the CrossTrainers,
and the Holden Evening Prayer Service.

Wednesday Lenten Service Schedule:

6:00-7:00 pm -- Supper (served by various groups)

7:00-7:40 pm – Message and Table Talk

7:40 - 8:00 pm – Holden Evening Prayer



April Congregational Election Meeting

The April Election
Meeting will be held on
April 12, 2026
immediately following
the worship service.

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

March 29th: 10:00 am Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

April 2nd: 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service

April 3rd: 7:00 pm Good Friday Service

April 5th Easter Worship Services:

6:30 am Easter Sunrise Service

10:00 am Easter Celebration Service



From the Pastor...

Sisters and Brothers,

The theme for our Mid-Week Lent this year will be The Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and The Lord's Supper. We will be using Luther's Small Catechism as our guide in the study.

Below is our 2026 Wednesday night schedule:

February 25-The Introduction, first petition, and second petition:

1. Our father in heaven.
2. Hallowed be your name.
3. Your kingdom come.

March 4-The third, fourth, and fifth petitions:

1. Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
2. Give us today our daily bread.
3. Forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

March 11-The six and seventh petition, conclusion, and the amen:

1. Save us from the time of trial.
2. And deliver us from evil.
3. For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours now and forever.
4. Amen.

March 18-The sacrament of holy baptism:

1. What is baptism? What is this word of God?"
2. What gifts or benefits does baptism grant? What are the words and promises of God?
3. How can water do such a great thing?
4. What is the significance of such a baptism with water? Where is this written?



Continued next page...

Pastor's article continued...

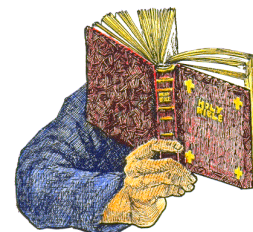
March 25-The sacrament of the altar:

1. What is the sacrament of the altar? Where is it written?
2. What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?
3. How can bodily eating and drinking do such a great thing?
4. Who is worthy to receive the sacrament?

In his Small Catechism, Luther encourages us to live a life of prayer (not only discussing the Lord's prayer, which is our thanksgiving prayer for salvation) morning and evening. Luther also gives us morning and evening prayers, and a meal prayer which is a very important part of the Christian life. It connects us to God. I like to say that prayer is like talking to your father; lift up your concerns, your joys, and your thanksgiving.

This Lent we will learn about prayer/communicating with God which includes listening. We will also discuss our two sacraments: baptism and the Lord's supper. If you would like to download Luther's small catechism to your phone or tablet, instructions will be in this newsletter. I hope to see you on Wednesday nights.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Tim



Luther's Small Catechism App

To add the Luther's Small Catechism app to your phone or tablet:

Safari for Apple iOS

- Use Safari with an Apple iOS device to add the app's icon to your home screen. This will give you easy access to Luther's Small Catechism.
- Open the Safari app.
- Open catechism.augsburgfortress.org.
- Click the Share Menu icon
- Select "Add to Home Screen" and follow the instructions given.

Google Chrome for Android

- Use Google Chrome with an Android device. When you visit catechism.augsburgfortress.org on a phone or tablet for the first time, you should be prompted to add it to your home screen. Click the prompt to add the app's icon. This will give you easy access to Luther's Small Catechism.
- If you do not get this prompt using Chrome, follow these instructions.
Note: These instructions will only work on Android. For an iOS device, please use the Safari instructions above.
 - Open the Chrome app.
 - Open catechism.augsburgfortress.org.
 - Tap the menu icon and tap "Install app."



Checkbook Balances

December 31, 2025: \$40,444.60
January 31, 2026: \$38,889.27

As we "march" into another month, I am reminded of my father's favorite saying regarding March 4. Every year he would proudly proclaim "March 4th the most commanding day of the year!"

What is your heart and faith commanding you to do this time of year? The expression of your faith is revealed in the use of your 3T's – Time, Talent and Treasures.

Remember to share your time with us at Lenten services as we prepare for Easter.

Just a reminder: The Congregational Election Meeting and Gratitude Meal will be April 12.

QUILTING OPPORTUNITIES



The Afternoon Quilters will meet
at 1:00 pm on
Thursday, March 12th.

The Baby Quilt Ministry will meet
at 7:00 pm on
Monday, March 16th.



Book Chatter

The next meeting is on
Thursday, March 12th, at 7:00 pm,
at the home of Roxanne Sauter.

They will be discussing
The Thursday Murder Club - Book 1
by Richard Osman.

FYI from the Celebration Committee:

March has arrived and so has the first of the four major celebrations honoring the 150-year-old Spring Garden church building! **March 1st** will be a celebration of when the first agreement was written to design and build the solid foundation upon which the sturdy walls of the church will rest. That agreement will be shared during a skit to be performed during the Sunday church service. The Celebration Committee members will be wearing items of clothing representing various decades. Following the service, parishioners will be offered a treat of egg coffee and homemade doughnuts.



Planning ahead, the Celebration Committee has decided that on Sunday, May 24th, we will re-dedicate the completed foundation and then read a second agreement concerning the framework construction of the church building. These activities will be followed by an old-fashioned pie and ice cream social.

On October 1st, we honor the walls of this worship center and those who provided their time, talent, and financing to complete the building 150 years ago. On that Sunday, worshipping members will be given an opportunity on their way to communion to strike a nail into a prepared timber, symbolizing the last nail pounded into the completed framework of the church. Earlier on that Sunday, the youth of the church will have an opportunity to paint a bird house with an attached cross symbolizing our church. Those completed bird houses will be placed on display in the narthex.

The Celebration Committee finishes their yearlong planning by sharing a final event on Christmas Eve, 2026. It was on Christmas Eve in 1876 when the church building had been furnished with pews, altar, pulpit, and clear glass windows and the first service was held.

During the yearlong celebration, a mural will be painted on the elevator room walls. This mural is meant to represent the various stages of church development, starting when Swedish emigrants first arrived here until the present time. Watch for progress during the summer months.

Make plans now to join us at those special events; and invite family and friends to join us too. Also take a tour of the display in the Archive Room - a candy treat is provided for those who visit!

Spring Garden Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2026

In Attendance: Marcia Dicke, Jay Olson, Pastor Tim Maybee, Ruthie Sjoblom, Kaity Sjoblom, Steve Haggstrom, Lynnette Sjoquist, Christy Collins, Financial Secretary – Pam Davis, and Treasurer – Rob Lorentz

Call to Order: Vice President Marcia Dicke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the church social hall. Opening devotions were given by Pastor Tim.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Kaity, seconded by Steve, and carried to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2026, council meeting.

Financial Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports: Pam's report showed a total of \$13,940.00 in pledges through January 31, 2026. Rob's report showed that the checkbook balance on January 31, 2025, was \$38,889.27. A motion was made by Lynnette, seconded by Ruthie, and carried to approve the financial reports.

Pastor's Report:

Cottage Meeting: Attached to my report is a list of dates I am available for cottage meetings. We need a council member to "host" the meeting with me. We will give people the opportunity to sign-up at the annual meeting. I tried using Doodle but now I think I set it up wrong.

Reminder Council as Leaders Synod Retreat: Who: This event is open to council members, church staff, lay leaders,

continued...

and rostered ministers. When: Saturday, March 14, 2026 Time: 9 AM to 3:30 PM Where: St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Austin Cost: \$20 per person (non-refundable) Focused on equipping church councils, this event includes a wide range of workshops from which to choose so that all participants can personalize the experience in a way that is useful for their current context and needs. Learn more at SEMNSynod.org/CAL

Worship: Upcoming important dates:

1. February 18 Ash Wednesday
2. February 25 Start of Mid-Week Let Study. This year we will continue our study of Luther's Small Catechism. We will look at the parts on the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and Communion.

Adult Education: In our Letters of Paul Bible study, we had our first session of 1 Corinthians. Our remaining books are First Corinthians, Second Corinthians, Romans, Philippians, and Philemon.

Confirmation: On February 22 from 2:00-4:00 we will be going Snow Tubing at Steeplechase Snow Tubing 59468 423rd Ave, Mazeppa. We need drivers and chaperones if anyone would like to join us.

Goals for 2026: As I look at the five goals, I set out my 2024 Annual Report I think we did a good job

1. Growing together in our understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus in our church and home life. - I think our cottage meetings will help us grow in this area.
2. Growing in our outreach into the world with the love of Christ so that others may experience God's grace. - We are doing a great job with our outreach into the world. This will remain a goal
3. Growing in our stewardship or the sharing of our Time, Talent, & Treasure (T3) so that we can fulfill the mission and ministry to which God has called us. - I think we did wonderful with this but It will remain a key goal
4. To continue to focus on adult education. - I would like to see more involvement in this area.
5. Complete "Every" Member Cottage meetings.

Pastoral Acts & Calls: In January I made 11 pastoral calls.

Pastor 2026 Vacation Dates: February 17, 19, 20, and 24, 2026, and December 26-31

Action Items:

1) *Upgrading the Sound System:* Steve Haggstrom and Randy Benson informed the council that they met with Tom Benson about upgrading the present sound system. Randy stated that they are presently looking at making three upgrades to the sound system in the sanctuary: 1) replacing the failing Lexicon box that is used to send sound from the audio system to the laptop computer for Zoom meetings; 2) replacing the "picture-in-picture" box that is used to put words with the image displayed on the monitors (replacing this box would permit greater flexibility with the sizing and location of words on or around the image); and 3) an Auracast Bluetooth transmitter that will broadcast audio to people with hearing aids. Receiving

devices will need to have Bluetooth LE compatibility. The Auracast system works with Android devices, and some hearing aid companies have developed their own app to allow you to pick up the Auracast transmission. It will also work with some headphones and earbuds. It does not presently work on iPhone or other Apple products. Randy said that he expects that the system will eventually work on Apple devices.

After their meeting, Tom provided Randy with proposed equipment and rough price quotes. Randy informed the council that Tom found an audio/video bridge link box that will be able to perform the first and second tasks identified above for approximately \$2,500.00. Tom also informed Randy that the Auracast device will cost approximately \$2,100.00. These prices do not include the cost of shipping, installation, and other incidental costs.

A motion was made by Kaity, seconded by Lynnette, and carried to authorize the expenditure of approximately \$4,900 to purchase and install an Auracast transmitter and an audio/video bridge link box for the sound system in the sanctuary.

2) *Set date for Midsommar:* The council agreed to set June 28, 2026, as the date for Midsommar.

3) *Mural for elevator room:* Ruthie said that representatives of the 150th celebration committee met with Kendall Zimmerman about ideas for the mural in the elevator room.

4) *Approval of the Mission Endowment Fund Committee's recommended donation of \$2000 to the Good Samaritan Fund:* A motion was made by Jay, seconded by Lynnette, and carried to approve the recommended donation of \$2,000 to the Good Samaritan Fund.

5) *Review Annual Meeting:* Pastor Tim stated that he liked having representatives of the boards and committees give a verbal report. Everyone agreed that the process went well.

Board and Committee Reports:

Worship & Music—Ruthie Sjoblom:

- The Worship and Music Board met on Sunday, February 1, 2026.
- The lay schedule for February 1 through May 3, 2026, has been completed.
- During Sunday services between Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday, there will be changes with music with the Kyrie, before and after prayers and singing The Lord's Prayer.

2/10/26 Council minutes continued...

- Lenten Services will begin February 25 through March 25. The Worship and Music Board will be serving at the March 4 Lenten service.
 - 6:00 - 7:00 pm -- Supper
 - 7:00 - 7:40 pm -- Message & Table Talk
 - 7:40 - 8:00 pm -- Holden Evening Prayer
- Readers have been confirmed for Gospel readings on March 8, 15 and 22. We also have readers confirmed for the Good Friday service.
- We have several new volunteers who have expressed an interest in running the sound system during the church services. Once the new sound system is in place, we will provide training for past and new volunteers.
- Summer schedule: Communion will be on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. The third Sunday of the month will be an indoor service. All other services will be outdoor services. In June, we talked about communion on the 1st and 4th Sundays and having the service indoors on June 28 due to setting up for the Midsommar, however, we may revisit and discuss the need for any changes at a future meeting.

Faith Formation—*Maggie Wilson*: Confirmation youth will go snow tubing on February 22nd. They will also participate in the Lent Message and Table Talk services beginning February 25th.

Parish Life & Outreach—*Kaity Schroeder*: Kaity reminded the boards to sign up to serve Lenten meals.

Church Property—*Steve Haggstrom*: Pastor Tim, Randy Benson and I met with Tom Benson after church this past Sunday. We discussed upgrading our present system with newer technology and incorporating a device so members can hear the service through their hearing aids. We also discussed a permanent system for the shelter. He will get back to us on actual numbers.

Stewardship—*Lynnette Sjoquist*: Nothing new to report

Missions Board—*Christy Collins*: We are planning some fundraising for the CF Food Shelf for March FoodShare month. We have signed up to serve the Lenten Meal on 3/25.

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee met on February 10, 2026, to discuss church income and the various funds.

Archives Committee: Don and Dorothy Anderson and Ruthie met with Kendahl Zimmerman on Friday, January 30 to discuss the upcoming mural in the elevator room. Kendahl is excited to have been asked to draw and paint the mural. She will work on developing a rough draft to share with us. Along with the draft, she will also provide an estimated cost for the project. Once we have these details, we will submit the proposal to the Council for their review and approval.

The Celebration Committee is working on a skit to commemorate a very special day in our church's history on Sunday, March 1st, as this is the date when the vote was taken to build our church back in 1876. We will be serving egg coffee and homemade donuts following the service.

Mission Endowment Fund Committee: Mission Endowment met online on February 4, 2026, and recommended that \$2000 be donated to the Good Samaritan Fund. Rob also mentioned that they are still looking for funding requests.

A motion was made by Steve, seconded by Lynnette, and carried to approve the foregoing board and committee reports.

Church Calendar Review: April 12, 2026 – Congregational Meeting/Gratitude Meal

Agenda for Next Meeting:

1. Nominations for April congregational meeting
2. Congregation council serving the March 18th Lenten meal.

Announcements:

- Next council meeting: March 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
- Closing prayer in March: Christy
- Pam's Helper: February – Jay; March – Christy

Adjournment: The closing prayer was given by Jay. A motion was made by Ruthie, seconded by Steve, and carried to adjourn at 8:11 p.m.

Jay Olson, Secretary

Subject to Approval

March 2026



"Building a Rural Family in Christ"



Church Council Members & Staff

Pastor Tim Maybee

608-381-9661

revtmaybee@gmail.com

President

Paul Olson

Vice-President

Marcia Dicke

Secretary

Jay Olson

Treasurer

Rob Lorentz

Financial Secretary

Pam Davis

Worship & Music

Ruthie Sjoblom

Faith Formation

Maggie Wilson

Parish Life & Outreach

Kaity Schroeder

Church Property

Steve Haggstrom

Stewardship

Lynnette Sjoquist

Missions Board

Christy Collins

Music Director

David Roinas

Custodian

Jim Hoffman

Administrative Assistant

Rachel Benson

Spring Garden Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 237

Cannon Falls, MN 55009

Phone: 507-263-5532

E-mail: springgardenlutheran@gmail.com

Website: www.spring-garden.org

US POSTAGE PAID

Permit #69

Nonprofit Standard Mail

Cannon Falls, MN

55009



March 2026

Address Service Requested