



Spring Garden Lutheran Church

The Messenger – May 2026



The Afternoon Quilters will meet at 1 pm on Thursday, May 14th.

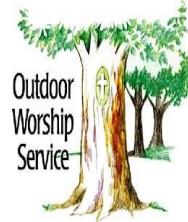
The Baby Quilt Ministry will meet at 7 pm on Monday, May 18th.

June/July Newsletter

The June and July newsletters will be combined into one newsletter again this year.

The deadline for the June/July newsletter is Monday, May 18th. Please plan ahead!

Summer Worship Schedule



Beginning May 24th, we will have **Worship Services outside on the 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays and indoors on the 3rd Sunday this summer**, with communion on the first and third Sundays of each month.

The Last day of Sunday School is May 3rd!

Confirmation youth will join us for Outdoor Clean-Up Day that Sunday. Working together to care for our church reminds us that we all play a part in serving God and our community. We'll celebrate the end of a great year with TREATS and teamwork while sprucing up our church grounds!

Wishing you all a great summer!

-Maggie



150th Celebration Committee Invitation – Pie and Ice Cream Social

May 24th is an important date in the history of Spring Garden. On that date in 1876 (actually May 20th), the foundation of our church was to be completed according to the agreement made between G. Olson and O. Anderson and the church committee.

At our church service on May 24th, we will re-dedicate the solid foundation of our church building. We will also read the second agreement made with Sever Petterson to complete the church building – outside frame and inside woodwork.

To celebrate this event, the Celebration Committee will provide a hot dog and chip meal along with a pie and ice cream social following the service. Please join us at this Sunday service when we will also honor our war Veterans who are buried in the Spring Garden Cemetery.

More information is coming soon about how you can share your favorite homemade or purchased pie with everyone!



We will be recognizing our High School Seniors and awarding scholarships on Sunday, May 17th during the 10 am Worship Service.

Congratulations to our Seniors who are graduating from High School!

Kaden Anderson
Sophia Nerison
Noah Sjoblom
Josie Sjoquist



Congratulations to the High School Scholarship recipients!

Sophia Nerison
Josie Sjoquist

Congratulations to the Spring Garden Medical Scholarship recipients!

Josephine Collins Makenna Collins
Sophia Nerison Sophie Sjoquist

Congratulations to the Spring Garden ELCA College Scholarship recipient!

Kendahl Zimmerman

From the Pastor...

Dear Friends in Christ,

"Therefore, 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 of our plans and dreams for the future it is hard for us to live in the moment that God has given us. 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 actually 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, of now. When we are bothered or upset, it's usually over something that is over or something that is yet to come.

Many children do a great job of living for today. At a couple of my former congregations my office window looked out on a garden with flowers and rocks of all sizes. As it is here my computer was set up so that when I'm working, I'm looking out the window towards the garden. I have observed that almost all children under six will either climb on the rocks or go look at the flowers. Almost every time there is a grown-up calling out to them, trying to get the child to move along. The adult has a future destination in mind that they need or want to get to...Now! But the child is finding joy in the moment.

I considered it a great day when the adult would stop and sit on a rock with the child or, as I saw a few times, a mom or dad would kneel on the grass and take a picture of the pretty flower the child pointed out--to the obvious delight of the child! These are moments spent in the present that bring joy, love, and grace. In our life, we have a lot of opportunities to sit on rocks and to look at the pretty flowers. We just have to set aside our future worries and past regrets and live in the moment.

Being able to immerse yourself in the present moment is a gift from God, giving us the opportunity to experience the ordinary in an extraordinary fashion. I think that this is what Jesus was talking about in Luke 18:17, "Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it."

Taking time to be in the moment, to just be in the present, is a kingdom moment.

God's Peace be with you,
Pastor Tim



There will be a New Member Orientation Class at 8:30 am on May 10th. Please contact Pastor Tim (608-381-9661, revtmaybe@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending.



Financial Facts:

Checkbook Balances

February 28, 2026:

\$33,814.39

March 31, 2026:

\$34,525.82

Our Gratitude Meal on April 12 was provided as a symbol of our gratitude for everything we share as far as God's blessings. It also represents how grateful the Stewardship Committee and Church Council are for your support emotionally, spiritually, and financially for this church and its ministry both locally and globally.

We are grateful for the efforts of the Celebration Committee and their plans to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the church building. We look forward to the upcoming events!

We, of course, are eternally grateful for the vision and hard work of the founders of Spring Garden who took on the task of building this church!

TACK SA MYCKET

Mission Endowment Fund Committee

Help Send Your Kids to Summer Camp!

Summer is just around the corner, and with it comes the opportunity for kids to grow in faith, build friendships, and create lasting memories at church camp. Mission trips also offer a powerful way for youth to live out their faith. These experiences can be life-changing, helping young people grow both spiritually and personally.

Spring Garden Lutheran Church is here to help make that possible. Through the Mission Endowment Committee, financial assistance is available to support families sending their children to church-related summer camps, mission trips, and faith-based leadership experiences.

These funds are available as scholarships or grants to members of our congregation, with the goal of helping our youth grow in their Christian faith and service to others.

If your child is planning to attend a church camp or participate in a mission trip this summer, we encourage you to apply. The application process is simple and can be completed directly through the church website. We believe every child should have the opportunity to experience the impact of camp and service—don't let cost be a barrier.

Spring Garden Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Committee

Spring Garden Cemetery Association

The Spring Garden Cemetery Board met on April 14th in the church shelter. Members present were John Christensen, Dallas Miller, Jeff Erickson, and Randy Benson. New officers were elected. Dallas Miller, Chairman; John Christensen, Secretary; and Randy Benson will continue as Treasurer. Duties of the Association were reviewed as well as duties of the officers. The Treasurer's report was given and accepted, subject to audit.

The bid from Anderson Lawn Care was reviewed and accepted for the 2026 season. It was decided to also obtain a bid from Anderson to apply crabgrass preventer. Other ground maintenance items that need to be addressed included trimming the branches on the back row of pine trees that are encroaching the back row of graves. This will be done during the May 3rd cleanup day, along with other tree branch trimming as needed. We also inspected the iron fence along the road and it needs attention. It needs paint for sure and some of the anchors have come loose. Bids will be obtained for this maintenance. Several graves are settling and leaning, we will contact some grave maintenance companies to get bids for this work. We will also do some repair to the back drive by adding some gravel and widening the road to accommodate the tractor parade better.

It was decided to try to get all members' cemetery binders up to date. We will check with the member that started an electronic copy of the cemetery map so that we will be able to print new pages and update binders. Currently, the secretary's binder is the only one pretty much up to date (as of 3 weeks ago).

The last items we discussed were about giving back to the church. Every year, the cemetery board donates to various church projects. In the recent past they have contributed to replacing sidewalks, the new flag pole, playground equipment, and youth campers if there are any. This year we voted to provide the extra porta-potty for Midsommar and provide the ice cream machine for Midsommar as well. We will wait on other gifts based on the cost of the other planned cemetery maintenance items.

As always, if you see something that needs attention, please reach out to one of us and let us know.



Spring Garden Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2026

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

Call to Order: President Paul Olson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the church social hall. Opening devotions were given by Pastor Tim.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Lynnette, seconded by Ruthie, and carried to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026, council meeting.

Financial Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports: Pam's report showed a total of \$44,078.00 in pledges through March 31, 2026. Rob's report showed that the checkbook balance on March 31, 2026, was \$34,525.82. A motion was made by Steve, seconded by Maggie, and carried to approve the financial reports.

Pastor's Report:

Cottage Meetings: Attached to my report is a list of dates I am available in May for cottage meetings. We need a council member to "host" the meeting with me. Unfortunately, sign-up still has not been that active. Do we take this as a declaration of uninterest?

Worship: Upcoming Sunday Dates:

1. May 3 last day of Sunday school Picnic after worship and cemetery clean-up.
2. May 10 Mother's Day
3. May 17 Recognition of Seniors.
4. May 24 Memorial Day service. Building 150 Ice Cream social. Outside service.
5. June Through Labor Day Weekend – Outside service on first, second, and fourth Sunday.

Education: Our last day of Confirmation is Wednesday April 29. On May 3 after worship the confirmands will help clean up the cemetery grounds. Our last day of Sunday school is May 3 with a picnic after worship. In our Letters of Paul, we are still in the book of 1 Corinthians. Our remaining books are Second Corinthians, Romans, Philippians, and Philemon.

Holy Week: I want to say how wonderful the holy week services were. The bells and Choir, David's fantastic leadership, all the readers, and those who served in other ways did a fantastic job. I've never received so many compliments about worship than what I received in the last week! Also, the interaction between the adults and the students during midweek Lenten services was fantastic!

Funerals: Roger Anderson April 11, 2026.

Pastoral Acts & Calls: In March I made 17 pastoral calls.

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

Action Items:

1) *Determining how the gift from Sharon Nelson shall be used by Spring Garden:* The congregation recently received a \$50,000 gift from Sharon Nelson. Pursuant the Congregational Gift Policy, \$9,000.00 of the gift will be deposited into the mission endowment fund. The Congregational Gift Policy also mandates that 10% of the gift be tithed to one or more 501(c)(3) charity organizations outside of the congregation. After consideration of several organizations and their needs, a motion was made by Marcia, seconded by Ruthie, and carried to give the following charities the listed amounts:

Good Earth Village: \$2,000.00

International Association of Refugees (Jonathan House): \$2,000.00

Community Churches Interaction Council: \$500.00

ELCA World Hunger: \$500.00

The disposition of the remaining \$36,000 was tabled until the May 2026 council meeting.

2) *Set church cleanup date:* The council agreed to set June 14, 2026, as the church cleanup date.

Board and Committee Reports:

Worship & Music–Ruthie Sjoblom:

- * We are excited to have Glenda Lindell join the Worship and Music Board. Welcome, Glenda, and thank you!
- * Cindy Sjoquist, Linda Lundell, Glenda Lindell and I met to prepare the next lay schedule which will cover May 3 through August 2, 2026.
- * The Worship and Music Board will meet on Sunday, April 26 following the service to work on the summer service plans.
- * A special thank you to Cindy Sjoquist for inviting all our readers to participate in the Gospel readings throughout March and during the Good Friday Tenebrae Service. And, of course, a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated readers who shared their voices and talents with us!

Faith Formation—*Maggie Wilson*: Last day of Confirmation is Wednesday April 29th. May 3rd is the last day of Sunday school. Sunday school kids and confirmands will help clean-up the cemetery grounds. We will also have picnic after worship that day.

May 17 is Recognition of Seniors

Parish Life & Outreach—*Kaitly Schroeder*: No update from Parish Life & Outreach.

Church Property—*Steve Haggstrom*: The pump for the elevator was not shutting off. Repair man was called and replaced a contactor that was stuck. He also replaced two batteries that should be replaced every 5 years.

A number of people have been asked where the restrooms are during funerals and so forth. Rachel ordered new signs with arrows and Randy installed them. Thank you both for doing that.

There was concern that the dishwasher was not getting plates clean during one of the Lenten meals. I checked for good water supply, proper water temp, and no clogged screens. All checked out. It has been used a few times since and seems like it works well. When pre-rinsing, both front and back need to be rinsed. It might be a good idea to have a sign up for that.

We had talked about acoustic panels in the basement for quite some time. Paul and Mary Olson responded and ran with it. They did the research, the design, ordered the supplies, and assembled them. This will be a trial to see if it works. If it does, we can do more, if not we'll try something different. Thank You Paul and Mary.

There was a question asked if we could use more picnic tables in the shelter, we can discuss this more.

Stewardship—*Lynnette Sjoquist*: The Gratitude Meal was served on Sunday, April 12 in conjunction with the Congregational Meeting. The Congregational Meeting was held in the sanctuary beginning at 11am following the 10am service. The Gratitude Meal was served downstairs beginning at 11:15.

Thanks to Rob Lorentz who sourced supplies for our meal which included Swedish Meatballs and gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, bread and butter, pickles, coffee and milk.

Rob, once again, made the meatballs, this time hand mixed the ingredients and “balled” them. He purchased supplies for an estimated 80 people. We used the same timeline he created last year to be on time and on task.

Thanks to our kitchen crew made up of 11 Stewardship and Council members and some special spouses, we were ready and waiting by the time the meeting concluded at 11:15. We served only 65 people this year so there was plenty of leftovers to distribute. Our crew not only did great prep work and cleanup but also provided a delicious assortment of bars.

Specific quantities of items and timeline will be recorded and kept in the Stewardship 3 ring binder.

Special thanks to Max, Breck and Mason Wilson for their dedication to bussing dishes!

Feedback regarding the meal is welcome!

Missions Board—*Christy Collins*: No update from Missions.

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee took written action without a meeting to accept an unrestricted cash gift from a member of the congregation.

Archives Committee: The Archive Room has been set up with historic items to celebrate the 150th Anniversary and we have had many visitors already - the display will be up throughout 2026.

The Celebration Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, April 15 to prepare for our second event on May 24th - pie and ice cream social!

Mission Endowment Fund Committee: The Mission Endowment Fund Committee met on April 14, 2026, but not funding recommendations were made at the meeting.

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

Church Calendar Review: April 29, 2026 – Last day of Confirmation; May 3, 2026 – Last day of Sunday School/Confirmation and cleanup party; May 17, 2026 – Recognition of Seniors; May 24, 2026 – Memorial Day Service and pie and ice cream social (outside); June 14, 2026 – church cleanup day; June 28, 2026 – Midsommar; June through Labor Day Weekend – Outside service on first, second, and fourth Sunday.

Agenda for Next Meeting:

1. Allocation of the remaining portion of the gift from Sharon Nelson
- 2.

Announcements:

- Next council meeting: May 5, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
- Closing prayer in May: Ruthie
- Pam’s Helper: April – Paul; May – Maggie

Adjournment: The closing prayer was given by Paul. A motion was made by Marcia seconded by Ruthie, and carried to adjourn at 8:29 p.m.

Jay Olson, Secretary

Subject to Approval

The Messenger
Spring Garden Lutheran Church
May 2026

"Building a Rural Family in Christ"



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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 Asst.	Rachel Benson

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