Parish Newsletter

"If we can just communicate, Together we'll walk thru Heaven's Gate"



ST. WENDELIN'S - LUXEMBURG, MN * April 27, 2025 - 663rd Edition

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THANK YOU

Thank you to all of the uplifting voices that make up our choir. We are soooo blessed to have them grace our church. Along with all of the parishioners singing along with them, it's hard not to get into the spirit. The Easter Mass brought many chills as those voices hit all time highs causing not only smiles, but tears, as it was very moving. Be extremely proud of what you do for the parish. The Lord is beaming with joy.

Blessings to all of you!!!!

Anonymous

NEXT NEWSLETTER

May 25, 2025 DEADLINE for News: Monday May 19, 2025

If you can get your items in earlier,

it would appreciated.

Get your articles to Sheila Albers 7876 Ahles Road St. Cloud, MN Phone 320-251-7116

Or e-mail: alberssheila@gmail.com

MARKETPLACE NEWS

April showers bring May donations; Marketplace donations bring tax deductions;

Tax deductions bring happiness; Therefore, your donations to the Marketplace bring you happiness! Donate today!









Thanks, Mary and Marla

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

The next Parish Life Committee meeting will be held on **Thursday**, **May 8**th **at 6:30 p.m.** in the entry of Mary Hall.

The meeting IS open to Parish Members.

If anyone has cares, concerns or ideas for our parish, please let one of our members know or plan to attend the meeting.

The current Members are:
Tracy Dombrovski - Chair
Kathy Watrin—Co-chair
Char Volkmuth
Keith Koltes
Virginia Meyer
Geralyn Hurrle



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FINANCE COUNCIL MINUTES Thursday, March 20, 2025

Unapproved Minutes

St. Wendelin's Finance Council held its meeting on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Wendelin's library.

Opened with a prayer led by Kelly Knier.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeanne Lommel, Todd Hurrle, Lisa Lichte, Kelly Knier, new member, Lisa Gerken, and Trustee Joe Watrin. Absent (Excused): Trustee Erin Lommel. Guest: Kathy Watrin.

REVIEW OF AGENDA:

The meeting agenda was reviewed. A motion to approve the agenda as written was made by Todd, seconded by Lisa L, and carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2025, meeting was made by Todd, seconded by Joe, and carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The council briefly reviewed the financial reports. Weekly collections are under budget this fiscal year; however, this is offset by the festival exceeding budget expectations. Expenses are over budget due to several factors, including the replacement of the dual-unit furnace system in the church in January. Despite this, the checking account maintains a healthy balance, and two short-term CDs were purchased in February. A motion to approve the financial reports was made by Kelly, seconded by Todd, and carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The Long-range plan was reviewed. No major expenses are expected in the near future. However, painting and new flooring projects are planned once the diocese lifts its current pause.

The Rec Club will make a donation to the Endowment Fund for part of the cost of the driveway sealing.

The endowments performed well in 2024. A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Todd, to distribute \$300 each to the two students and one adult chaperone parishioners attending the

Steubenville conference this summer. At the May meeting, the council will review and vote on the distribution for students from St. Wendelin's families enrolled in the school.

<u>Action Item:</u> Kelly will complete and submit the form for the Steubenville donation.

Action Item: Jeanne will contact Bonnie to estimate the number of students from registered St. Wendelin's families expected to enroll next year.

OLD BUSINESS:

The council decided to pause on an additional donation to the Faith Formation program this late in the season. St. Mary's Help of Christians has informed the other parishes that beginning next year, they will charge \$200 per parish per month during the school year for renting the school space for Faith Formation.

NEW BUSINESS:

Expenses for parish breakfasts have increased over the years, while ticket prices have remained stable. Other local churches have increased their adult ticket prices to \$12. For consistency, the council recommends setting the price for all St. Wendelin's group breakfast ticket prices at \$12 for adults while keeping children's tickets at \$5.

<u>Action Item:</u> Jeanne will contact group leaders to inform them of the recommended pricing.

The council reviewed the preliminary budget in depth. The budget is balanced, though minor adjustments were suggested to individual line items for accuracy. The final budget will be voted on at the May meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m. with a closing prayer lead by Todd.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Kelly Knier

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PRESCHOOL NEWS

April has been a busy month! We spent quite a bit of time on the Sorrowful Mysteries, the Stations of the Cross, and all that goes along with Jesus' Passion. They made palms and welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem for Palm Sunday, and on Holy Thursday, we gathered as a whole school for a Seder Meal.

At the beginning of the school year we had some students who struggled to see over the pew while kneeling. As proof of how much they've grown this year, we only have two students left who peek around the side of the pew. If that isn't enough, one student is learning to write their name in cursive.

We wish you a blessed Eastertide.

Mrs. Haselkamp & Mrs. Gruenes

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

We have had a fruitful Lent thus far. The students have developed an understanding of why we focus on prayer, almsgiving and fasting. We are in the midst of Holy Week and learning about Jesus' Passion. There is a Lent Challenge being presented on Hallow, and we are watching Jonathan Roumie from "The Chosen" take us on a virtual walk through Jerusalem to see all the actual places Jesus would have been during Holy Week.

We have also focused on learning about some amazing saints! I think the students' favorites were St. Patrick and Saint Damien.

I taught the students how to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet after they all received a bookmark with the Divine Mercy image.

I'd like to give a shout out to Ron and Sheila Albers for their gift of time and bulbs so our students can do some spring planting!

Mrs. Matchinsky

1ST & 2ND GRADE NEWS

Happy Easter to all of our wonderful parishioners. The First and Second graders are hoping you are having a beautiful Lenten season. This month our students studied the Sorrowful Mysteries and learned how to be a witness to the suffering of Jesus. The children also studied the stations of the cross, I want to share with you the stations the First and Second graders were witnesses to.

Cambria E. - "Jesus is Condemned to Death."

Brynnley P. - "Jesus takes up the Cross."

Josie M.- "Jesus Falls the First Time."

Jayda L.- "Jesus Meets his Mother."

Isaac W.- "Simon Helps Jesus."

Nora R.- "Veronica Wipes the face of Jesus."

Kenzie B.- "Jesus Falls the Second Time."

Caleb H.- "Jesus Speaks to the Women."

Teddy G.- "Jesus Falls the Third Time."

Hawkins V.- "Jesus was stripped of his clothes."

Logan S.- "Jesus is Nailed to the Cross."

Lincoln M.- "Jesus Dies on the Cross."

Shay V.- "Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross."

Ayla V.- "Jesus is Buried in the Tomb."

Ayla V. - "The Resurrection."

Blessings and a happy Easter,

Rebecca Rebstock

3RD & 4TH GRADE NEWS

April was filled with Holy Week preparations and Easter celebrations. We enjoyed a beautiful Seder Meal together on Holy Thursday with some special guests, delicious food, and beautiful music. Students made a color coordinated timeline and corresponding map of the last 24 hours of Jesus' life to help better understand where he all went and what was happening at the time. We watched video clips of "Holy Week in the Holy Land" on the Hallow app so that students could see what these places look like now.

In science we are learning about clouds and weather. As the spring rain rolls through our area students have been observing clouds and making weather predictions. We made a small version of our atmosphere in a jar with hot water on the bottom and cold ice cubes on top so that we could see a cloud forming in the open air between the hot and cold.

Students continue to improve their math, reading, and writing skills as we head into our last month of school. Thank you for your continued prayers.

Mrs. Deering

LUXEMBURG 4-H

Luxemburg 4-H met at Mary Hall on Monday April 14. We had a demonstration about how glaciers left rocks in Minnesota and formed the landscape. Ice cream was used to demonstrate the glacier. Then we ate the ice cream.

Special guest Leah Kuechle showed her collection of agate rocks she has found in the area.

Our next meeting will be Monday May 12 at 6:30. We will decorate birdhouses, talk about service projects and learn how to exhibit at the county fair.

Reported by: Natalie V., club member

5TH & 6TH GRADE NEWS

April was a busy month for the 5th and 6th graders. Participating in various Lent activities such as daily chaplet prayer, stations of the cross, creating various art for Lent, and assisting with the Seder Meal. For the meal, our class had the privilege to make the unleavened bread and lead the prayers and music for the day.

We have started with a poetry unit, students are learning about different ways to write poetry and will create some of their own poems. In social studies, we've been discussing various aspects of industrialization and historical facts within Minnesota. We are also continuing with our planting and learning about soil health.

Thank you and blessings,

Mr. Walls

A person without a sense of humor is like a wagon without springs. It's jolted by every pebble on the road.

A smile is an inexpensive way to change your looks.

Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.

If there were no difficulties there would be no success; if there were nothing to struggle for, there would be nothing to be achieved.

Do not just seek happiness for yourself. Seek happiness for all. Through kindness. Through mercy.

CHURCH CLEANING MAY 2025 GROUP 4 8:00 A.M.

MAY 3

Dot Bartell Cyntia Lommel
Janet Lommel Denise Brannan
Jackie Eich Pam Koshiol

MAY 10

Mickie Schriml Sandy Leach Eileen Kunkel Kristy harren Tammy Salzbrun-Boese

MAY 17

Pat Salzbrun Patti Brunner
JoAnn Massmann Kathy Massmann
Bonnie Edelbrock

MAY 24

Jodi Albers Angela Sieben Sue Massmann Cindy Phillippi Christine Greenwald Mary Backes

MAY 31

Emily Salzbrun Michelle Fruth
Mary Jo Klaverkamp Joey Kiffmeyer
Jacqueline Harren

If you are unable to work your shift, please find your own replacement or switch with another member on a different Saturday. Everyone is needed to help clean God's House.

LEARN FROM OTHERS

Bring to mind the kindest people in your life. Think about how they act with others and try to emulate their behavior. It will soon become a natural habit for you, too.

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RECIPE CORNER

Ron Albers

STRAWBERRY RHUBARB SLUMP

1 pint strawberries, green tops removed, cut into large pieces

2 cups cut-up rhubarb

½ cup sugar ½ cup water

1 cup all purpose flour, sifted

2 tsp. baking powder

¼ tsp. salt ½ cup milk

Lightly sweetened whipped cream

In a saucepan with a tight-fitting lid, combine the strawberries, rhubarb, sugar and 1/2 cup water. Cook over medium heat at a simmer for about 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a bowl, stir together the flour, baking powder and salt. Add the milk and quickly combine. Drop the batter by spoonfuls onto the surface of the slightly simmering fruit. Cook for 10 minutes uncovered, then place a lid on and cook another 10 minutes.

Serve in shallow bowls, topped with whipped cream.

A slump is in the family of cooked or stewed fruit with raised dough on top. Some are golden brown baked pastry over seasonal fruits like cobblers and some are simmered on the stove like a slump. So this is more like a big boiled dumpling over cooked fruit, which slumps when you put it on the plate.

Beginning today, treat everyone you meet as if they were going to be dead by midnight. Extend to them all the care, kindness and understanding you can muster, and do it with no thought of any reward. Your life will never be the same again.

MINUTES FROM ST ANNE'S CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S MEETING - APRIL 8, 2025

St. Anne's Christian Women met Tuesday, April 8, 2025 in Mary Hall beginning with fellowship at 6:30 pm. President Karen DesAutels called the business meeting to order at 6:45 pm with opening prayer and pledge of allegiance. Twenty members were present.

Minutes from the December 10, 2024 meeting were read, motion was made to approve the minutes, motion was seconded and passed; also read was the Treasurer's report showing a balance of \$6,599.54 in savings and \$1,953.67 in checking for a total of \$8,553.21. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report, motion was seconded and passed.

A. OLD BUSINESS

1. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DONATIONS

Members present discussed various places to be given a monetary donation. The following motions were made, seconded and passed:

\$100 Orphanage in Haiti (will be matched by one of our members)	\$200 St. Scholastica	\$300 Poor Clare's
\$500 MCCL	\$250 St. Wendelin's Quilters	\$500 Quiet Oakes
\$200 Faith Formation	\$300 Elevate	
\$200 (divided) Thomas Dockendorf	\$200 Jack Massmann	\$300 Steubenville
(\$100 Easter, \$100 Christmas)	(divided)	Participants
	(\$100 Easter, \$100	(3 participants at \$100
	Christmas)	each)

Additional donations may be discussed at future meetings.

2. REMINDER OF FAITH FORMATION MEAL

Members were reminded of our commitment to serve a meal to the Faith Formation participants on April 9, 2025. Five members will be taking care of this ministry.

3. REMINDER OF THE WEST CENTRAL DEANERY GENERAL GATHERING

The West Central Deanery General Gathering will take place on May 6, 2025. Our Christian Women's group is responsible for the centerpieces and for providing desserts that evening. The centerpieces have been made and seven members volunteered to bring desserts to Karen's home for that event.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. ROSARY AT MAY MASSES (AS PER OUR BY-LAWS)

Our group will be leading the rosary at the May Masses. Lisa Lichte provided a sign up to be placed in the back of church. Members were encouraged to arrive at church a little early to assist in leading the rosary.

2. EASTER CARD WRITING MINISTRY

A list of recipients has been created. Four members will be sending out approximately thirty cards. This card writing project will take place on Saturday, April 12, 2025 at 1:00 pm at Mary Neidermeier's home.

ST. WENDELIN CHRISTIAN WOMEN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

3. GRADUATES' MASS

Kelly Knier will be planning the Graduates' Mass this year (May 18th). She asked those present if they know of any college graduates that should be included in the celebration of the Mass. Kelly stated that she will be placing a notice in the bulletin asking for names of graduating students to be sure all graduates are included.

Our group will be sending congratulatory cards to our amazing graduates.

C. COMMISSION REPORT

Char gave a brief update on the current activities of the Pro-Life Movement. She thanked our group, again, for donating to MCCL and explained how every dollar donated is used in promoting the Pro-Life Movement.

D. HALO

Halos were given to Lenny Brunn, Millie Brunn and Char Volkmuth for their dedication to the Pro-Life Movement this past year. Congratulations to these three individuals who indeed make a difference!

E. PRAYER EXCHANGE

The prayer exchange took place with each member receiving someone's name. Members were asked to pray for that individual and for her personal intention.

F. DOOR PRIZE

Julie Kraemer was awarded the "Hopping, Popping" door prize for the evening.

Respectfully Submitted, **Jean Schabel**, Vice President

DAILY PRAYERS ARE "HEAVEN'S STAIRS"

The "Stairway" rises "Heaven high"---The "steps" are dark and steep,
In weariness we climb them As we stumble, fall, and weep. . .
And many times we falter Along the "path of prayer"
Wondering if You hear us And if You really care . . .
Oh, give us some assurance, Restore our faith anew,
So we can keep on climbing The "Stairs of Prayer" to You--For we are weak and wavering, Uncertain and unsure,
And only meeting You in prayer Can help us to endure
All life's trials and troubles Its sickness, pain, and sorrow,
And give us strength and courage To face and meet tomorrow!

THANK YOU AND A SINCERE APOLOGY

Alleluia! Thank you so much, Father Erik, for another inspiring and wonderful Easter Sunday celebration! We also extend our deep gratitude to the many others who contributed to the planning and preparation for this holy day, in particular to the choir for the beautiful liturgical music which honored our Lord and to the decorating committee and special helpers who elegantly adorned His house. Furthermore, we had very good attendance again this year, and in our efforts to accommodate the large numbers, we arranged to have the Mass streamed to Mary Hall. We greatly appreciate those who attended this initial overflow event, as well as sincerely apologize for the technical difficulties we experienced during it. Know that we are committed to upgrading these capabilities and improving the quality to give those who attend future Masses at Mary Hall during overflow situations a more thoroughly satisfying and fulfilling experience. We thank the facilitators for their work, along with the extra Eucharistic Ministers and ushers who filled in on short notice. Finally, thank you once more to Father Erik—who always seems to go above and beyond—for sprinting over to Mary Hall during the sprinkling with Holy Water to include those attendees in the Easter blessing. All were very appreciative of your efforts! May God continue to sprinkle you with athletic health, along with His many blessings, for which we also pray for our entire Catholic Church family. Alleluia!

In the effort to fulfill our commitment to update our parish technology, we would appreciate any donations to help us upgrade our hardware and add supporting applications to enhance our spiritual experience through the Mass as well as continue streaming special services in Mary Hall. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this specific need. You can drop your donation in the Saint Wendelin's weekend collection basket marked "Saint Wendelin Parish Technology". Thank you and God Bless!

THANK YOU!

Our most sincere gratitude to everyone who donated to the Easter Decorations and Easter Flower funds!

St. Wendelin's parish is extremely thankful for and appreciative of the generous donations that were used to beautify

God's House for the Easter Celebration Mass!

God bless each and every one of you!

Please keep these individuals/families as well as all the generous donors in your prayers:

Michael Bloch, Jim Mueller, Todd Kunkel, Dave Volkmuth, Ryan
Volkmuth, John Notch, Joseph Kiffmeyer, DuWayne Brunner, Larry
Hennen, Sister Francella, Peanut Hoyt, Vern Luebesmier, Rick
Kuschel, Cyril Heid, Jim Schindler, LaVerne Winter, Katie Gohman,
Nic, Betty, and Ken Spanier, Marietta and Jeremy Schneider, Alice
and Ron Heid, Marilyn and Francis Hurrle, Mike and Bea
Schmidtbauer, Ken and Hermie Albers, Ralph and MaryAnn Vogel,
John and Muriel Walters, Alfred and Emma Voit, Louis and Sally
Klaverkamp, Johnnie and Sylvia Harren, Fritz and Elaine Kuhlman,
Stephen and Marv Mareck, Joe and Fran Blommel, Herb & Bernadine
Hennen, Ben and Eleanor Harren and Family

HOW TO USE BLESSED SALT AT HOME

For many generations, blessed salt served several purposes. You can use blessed salt in the following ways:

1. Create a spiritual barrier of protection in your homes to ward off evil spirits

You can use Blessed Salt to consecrate the living space your children are raised in unto God. Just as the Passover lamb was not magic blood, so should Blessed Salt not be diminished as magic salt. Rather, it shows outward expression of one's faith and a way to invoke God's grace.

You can sprinkle Blessed Salt in doorways, entrances, under the bed, cabinets, mirrors, window sills and corners of the room. You can also place it in a small container and then put in your bag or pockets.

2. Bless those under your charge

The father is the head of the family. In the Catholic Church's teaching, he is also the domestic priest. What does this mean? It means he has the power to bless and curse the people under his household.

To exercise spiritual authority over his family, home and properties, he can say the following prayers:

Prayer for Blessing a House with Salt
The Archdiocese of Manila Office of
Exorcism shared a simple prayer to say when
using Blessed Salt to bless a home. The head
of the family will exercise spiritual authority
over the property in using Blessed Salt with
this prayer:

"I seal this (room or home) in the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

3. When building a new home, sprinkle on the foundations of the house.

You can sprinkle a generous amount of blessed salt on the slab of your homes before construction commences.

What a creative way to create a spiritual barrier that can never be carried off by winds or foot traffic!

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4. As food seasoning, blessed salt can be used in cooking or baking

Instead of an ordinary salt, use a blessed salt when cooking or baking.

Even if not used with food, you can consume blessed salt before you go outside your homes to ask for protection and blessings.

5. Use it as spiritual protection while traveling.

Blessed Salt may also be used in cars and hotels where you and your family may be staying.

Thank You to Fred Walz for contributing the following article on How to use Blessed Salt

ATTENTION GRADUATES HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE

We would love to hear from you! Please take some time to write a short autobiography and submit a photo for our next Newsletter on May 25th. You can e-mail them to me at alberssheila@gmail.com, mail them to my house at 7876 Ahles Road St. Cloud, MN 56301, put them in the collection basket or get them to the parents in charge of the Graduation Mass. THE DEADLINE IS MAY 11TH, no exceptions. We would really appreciate your effort in letting us know a little bit about yourselves, your achievements, some fun things you do, and what your plans are for your future. Thanks in Advance!

Sheila Albers - Editor

We would like to put the photos in the newsletter in color. Anyone interested in helping pay for the cost please let me know otherwise they will be put in black and white. The cost is \$25 per page. Thanks!



Luxemburg Lions



Memorial Weekend Hamburger Sale!

Under the big tents in the St. Wendelin's School parking lot across from the Hayloft Bar & Grill, the Luxemburg Lions will be grilling the best flame grilled burgers around on Friday May 23rd from 10am-6pm.

Choose from a single or double burger. Make it a deluxe by adding cheese, raw or fried onions, and pickles at no extra cost. Make it a full meal by adding chips, pop, or water.

There is plenty of room for parking campers and boats of any size. Take your burger on the go or sit and relax in our picnic area.

Please place your larger orders in advance

Call John Honer @ 320-266-0337

Thank You for Your Support!

Proceeds go to Benefit our Local Community

Bring your old eyeglasses and hearing aids for repurposing







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