



Parish Newsletter

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



ST. WENDELIN'S - LUXEMBURG, MN * June 29, 2025 - 665th Edition

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MARKETPLACE NEWS

A list of America's Top
Lifetime Philanthropists

#3 Bill and Melinda Gates
(\$47.7 billion)

#2 Warren Buffet Family
(\$62 billion)

#1 Luxemburg Festival Marketplace
Donors
(PRICELESS)

Thank you,
Mary and Marla

When you talk to those who matter most, open the door to your heart. The wider it is, the easier it will be for things like compassion and understanding to come inside. And it just naturally follows...the more wonderful visitors you have the more your life will shine.

Never be in a hurry;
do everything quietly and in a calm spirit.
Do not lose your inward peace
for anything whatsoever,
even if your whole world seems upset.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

August 3, 2025

DEADLINE for News:

Monday July 28, 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

PARISH FESTIVAL 2025

Just 4 Weeks Away

SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025!!!!

Plans are finalized; all is in place!
Bring your family and friends!

Be sure to read the message
This NEWSLETTER from our leaders
Dan Salzbrun and John Ludwig

Looking forward to seeing one and all
at our St. Wendelin Parish Get Together
SUNDAY, JULY 27!

Blessings and Congratulations

to Father Ed Kraemer who is
celebrating 70 years as a priest.

He was Pastor at St. Wendelin's
from 1969-1983.

His address:

**Father Ed Kraemer
Speltz House
308 3rd Street South
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379**

Each morning we are born again.
What we do today is what matters most.

2025 PARISH FESTIVAL UPDATE

ST. WENDELIN PARISH FESTIVAL is now only 4 weeks away and these remaining weeks will go by quickly. At this time, we are on schedule with all the venues.

GAMES are looking for cookie donations. Corey Gerads informed us that any brand cookie is good but stay away from chocolate covered cookies, as they have a tendency to melt in hot weather. Also, new to slightly used stuffed animals are always a big hit with the kids. Place donations in the designated bin in the church's south entrance.

LUCKY STRAW... Sue informed us that you can pick up 50 cent to one dollar items at the local Dollar Store; also Crazy Days, Clearance and garage sales. Items are needed for both kids and adults and should be new please. Place donations in the designated bin in the north or south entrance.

MARKETPLACE... Hope all you gardeners and crafters are keeping the Marketplace in mind. Fresh garden produce, jams and jellies along with crafts items are always great sellers.. Also keep in mind the stand's Silent Auction Baskets; deadline for baskets is July 20th. Donation tote is in the church's north entrance or drop items off at the Hayloft. For more info, contact Marla Honer, 320-266-0336 or Mary Schaefer, 320-250-1650.

INFLATABLES... We'll have 3 inflatables to make it an exciting and fun filled day for the kids, plus the BB Gun and Archery Shoot.

CAKE SPIN... Don't forget this stand enjoyed so much by little and big kids alike. Hint! Kids like cupcakes topped with sprinkles or M & M candies.

RAFFLE... Have you seen the great list of items? It's time to be selling those chances for over \$15,000.00 worth of cash and prizes!

BANDS... New this year will be the **NITE OWLS** from Sauk Centre. Back again will be the **OLD TYME COUNTRY BAND**. Both will put on a good show that gets your foot stomping to good old Country Music.

The **CHICKEN DINNER** has been ordered and will be catered by Custom Catering by the Short Stop. Tickets will be sold in the school entrance.

Finally, the **QUILT AUCTION** is at 3:00 pm. The ladies from our Quilting Group have once again come up with a beautiful assortment of quilts. Be there to bid on some of the nicest quilts money can buy.

Lastly, the **WEATHER** is under the guidance of Father Erik Lundgren. With that, we know it will be a wonderful day.

WORK YOUR SHIFT AND HAVE A FUN FILLED TIME AT OUR PARISH FESTIVAL!
REMEMBER, this Festival will be a success because YOU made it a success.

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE
Dan Salzbrun 320-980-1558
John Ludwig 320-259-8136
and Committee Members

FINANCE COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, May 22, 2025

Unapproved Minutes

St. Wendelin's Finance Council met on Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the St. Wendelin's library. This meeting was rescheduled from May 15.

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Kelly Knier.

Members Present: Jeanne Lommel, Todd Hurre, Kelly Knier, and Trustee Joe Watrin.
Absent (Excused): Lisa Lichte, Lisa Gerken, and Trustee Erin Lommel.
Guest: Keith Koltes.

Review of Agenda:

The agenda was reviewed. A motion to approve it as written was made by Todd, seconded by Kelly, and carried unanimously.

Review of previous Minutes:

The minutes from the March 20, 2025, meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes with two clarifications was made by Todd, seconded by Jeanne, and carried unanimously.

Action Item: Kelly will make the changes and email the updated version to Shelly and Lana.

Financial Reports:

The council briefly reviewed the financial reports. While expenses remain over budget, this is mostly offset by the success of last year's Parish Festival. There are no concerns at this time. A motion to approve the financial reports was made by Kelly, seconded by Joe, and carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Keith Koltes presented updates on maintenance projects. An estimate was provided for sealing, crack filling, and striping the parking lot. After discussion, it was decided to delay the maintenance, considering the timeline of the previous work.

It was noted that St. Wendelin's School will gain additional students next year due to the closing of SMHOC School at the end of this school year. An additional teacher may be needed. As the school is nearing capacity, a few options for expanding space were discussed.

The Liturgy Committee has requested funds for a new laptop for the projector used during Masses, new albs for servers, and repairs to water damage on the large Divine Mercy picture. These expenses were approved.

Old Business:

The council discussed possibly moving funds from the Building Fund investments to cover higher-than-budgeted maintenance costs. It was decided this is not necessary at this time but will be reconsidered before the end of the fiscal year.

A discussion was held on the Endowment distribution to assist with tuition for St. Wendelin's registered parishioners with children attending the school. A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Joe, to distribute the same amount as last year:

- \$250 for each of the first two students per family
- \$125 for the third child

This is estimated to support 16 students.

Action Item: Jeanne will obtain signatures on the disbursement form and submit it.

The 2025–2026 parish budget was reviewed. With the anticipated increase in students, the council decided to slightly increase the school subsidy and reduce expenses elsewhere.

Action Item: Jeanne will revise the budget and initiate approval via email.

New Business:

Concerns were raised by some parishioners about the suggested offering for small votive candles being increased to \$1. The council decided to reduce the suggested offering to 50 cents.

Action Item: Jeanne will create new signs reflecting the change.

The council typically meets on the third Thursday of each month. It was decided to move future meetings to the last Thursday of the month to allow members more time to review financial documents beforehand.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM with a closing prayer lead by Todd.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, Sept 25th 2025, at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted: **Kelly Knier**

**CHURCH CLEANING
JULY 2025
GROUP 1
8:30 A.M.**

JULY 5

Roger & Terri Jochim
Scott & Rochelle Mercer
James & Julie Nistler
Michael & Joan Schlangen
Jeffrey & Nicole Schmitz
Gene & Jane Szczech
Kevin & Mary Vanderwerf
Brian & Victoria Weisen

JULY 12

Lenny & Mille Brunn
Scott & Marlene Ergen
Joe & Jeanne Harren
Sue Henkel
Randy & Kay Kortlever
Ron & Cheryl Kraemer
Hannah Ehlinger
Mick & Rose Marsyla

JULY 19

Phillip & Robin Bautch
Mark & Lori Buettner
Robert & Judy Fandel
Kelly & Shannon Heisick
Jeannie Hennen
Keith Koltes
Ralph & Margaret Kremers
Michael & Jeanne Lommel
Derrik & Nicole Orth

JULY 26

Randy & Brenda Dingmann
Ron & Jeanette Greener
Henry & Pam Hayenga
Wayne & Sue Hiemenz
Bruce Koshiol
Floyd & Bev Lehnert
Gary & Cynthia Zwilling

Group One Members: This listing is for Saturdays but if it works better for you to clean on Friday, please feel free to do so. Also, there is a check off sheet posted on the bulletin board in back of church so when a task is complete, just check it off. Thank you so very much!

RECIPE CORNER

Ron Albers

7-LAYER FLAG DIP

2 cups (16 ounces) sour cream, divided
1 ounce package Taco Seasoning Mix
1 ½ cups grape tomatoes, sliced in half, lengthwise
16 ounce can fat-free refried beans
16 ounce container guacamole
16 ounce jar salsa, drained
1 ¼ cups (5 oz) shredded Monterey Jack cheese
½ cup crushed blue tortilla chips

Combine 1 ¾ cups of sour cream with taco seasoning mix. Reserve remaining ¼ cup of sour cream for later use.

Slice grape tomatoes in half, lengthwise. Spread refried beans on bottom of 9 x 13-inch dish. Top with guacamole, drained salsa and sour cream mixed with taco seasoning mix.

Mark an area at the top left of the sour cream layer approximately 5 ¼-inches by 4 ½-inches. This area is for the star layer. Place a single layer of sliced grape tomatoes, lengthwise at the long-end of the bottom of dish. Place a second layer approximately 1 ½-inches from the first layer. Place the third and fourth layer of sliced tomatoes up to the area marked off for the star layer, each 1 ½-inches apart.

Place shredded Monterey Jack cheese between the tomato layers for the white stripes.

In the top left area that was marked off, sprinkle on crushed blue tortilla chips. Place remaining ¼ cup of sour cream in piping bag fitted with 1M star tip. Pipe white stars on the crushed blue tortilla chips.

Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve. Serve with tri-colored tortilla chips.

Yield: 12 servings

ATTENTION ALL GROUP MEMBERS

To ALL Group Members: The group leaders met to discuss the weekly church cleaning. Listed below are the changes agreed upon.

1. As of January 2026, groups will have the same months to clean:

GROUP ONE will clean in January, May, and September;

GROUP TWO will clean in February, June and October;

GROUP THREE will clean in March, July and November.

GROUP FOUR will clean in April, August and December.

2. Spring cleaning (March) and Fall cleaning (September) will no longer be a group responsibility, but an ALL PARISH responsibility.

There will be a note in the bulletin indicating the dates. A list of items to be done will be posted in the vacuum closet.

3. The Weekly Church Cleaning Guide has been changed!!! Simply do four things: **vacuum, dust, and remove the garbage** in the sacristy and church. Also, please **clean the front glass door** of the church. Just a reminder, the guide is posted on the bulletin board in the back of church with a check off sheet when a task is completed. The check off sheet helps group cleaners know what has already been done.

4. The choir members will be taking care of the choir loft (their names will be removed from the groups' monthly lists).

5. Volunteers who will be taking care of the books being straightened, candles being replenished, holy water bowls being cleaned and watering the plants.

POPE LEO'S PARTIAL ADDRESS TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Real community matters . . . Real friendships. Pope Leo urged us to rediscover one another in authentic, human connections.

God's love is unearned, unconditional, and unshakable. We don't have to perform for it. It's already ours.

Be a light. Even in dark times we are called to carry and reflect the light of Christ. That's not an option; it's a mission.

Pope Leo XIV spoke via video June 14th from the Vatican at a Chicago White Sox baseball game. (Source: Relevant Radio)

GRILLED CHICKEN THIGHS WITH MAPLE-MUSTARD MARINADE

½ cup pure maple syrup
¼ cup olive oil
¼ cup Dijon mustard
2 tablespoons whole-grain mustard
½ teaspoon kosher salt
¼ teaspoon ground allspice
3 pounds bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs (about 8 thighs)

Whisk together maple syrup, oil, mustards, salt, and allspice in a small bowl. Measure 1/2 cup sauce into a large ziplock plastic bag. Cover and store remaining sauce in bowl (about 1/2 cup) in refrigerator until ready to use or up to 5 days. Add chicken to sauce in ziplock bag; seal bag, and turn to coat chicken in sauce. Let marinate in refrigerator at least 1 hour or up to 24 hours.

Preheat a gas grill to high (450°F to 500°F) on one side. Remove chicken thighs from marinade; discard marinade. Place chicken on oiled grates over unlit side of grill. Grill, covered, turning occasionally, until chicken is browned and a thermometer inserted in thickest portion of meat registers 165°F, about 30 minutes. Transfer chicken to a platter. Serve alongside reserved 1/2 cup sauce and a green salad.

Alternatively, to bake the chicken: Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil, and grease with oil. Arrange marinated chicken thighs, skin side up, on prepared baking sheet. Bake at 400°F until chicken is browned and a thermometer inserted in thickest portion of meat registers 165°F, 20 to 25 minutes.

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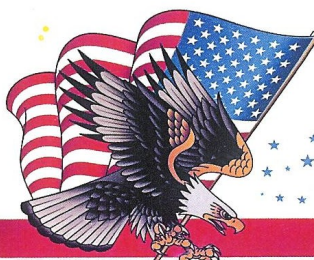
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