

Church with a View

Union Prairie Lutheran Church
31872 State Highway 16, Lanesboro, Minnesota 55949

When Salem Lutheran Church in Wooster, Ohio, reversed the direction of its sanctuary in the 1960s, it placed a large wooden façade over what had been the rear of the church, so that people would not be distracted by the large window. For a quarter of a century, this wooden veil remained over the window, until, only a few years ago when new improvements were being made, a carpenter removed the wooden facade, and suddenly the congregation experienced a bold, new sense of light as they looked toward the altar. Rather than distract the worshippers, the stained-glass window added radiance, a reflection of the glory for whom they gather.

According to Paul, the carpenter removed the veil of the old covenant, and so transformed the worship experience for the heart of the believer. So much of our worship resembles the mundane, regular, ordinary life we live in Monday through Saturday. We build our own versions of that wooden façade, blocking out the truly glorious light of our God's presence in our world. Gathering as God's people allows us to put aside the façade and know God is real, and God's work is real.

Pastor Cathy Venkatesh visited a man hospitalized after cancer surgery, and learned that his wife was being treated on another floor with heart arrhythmias. When she entered her room bearing reassuring news about her husband, some friends from the couple's church were with her singing hymns. She joined them for a hymn, and then they held hands and prayed. After she left, a nurse at the station outside the woman's room flagged her down. "What did you DO in there?" she asked. The woman had been on a heart monitor, and while Cathy was with her, her irregular heartbeat had calmed to normal rhythms. The nurse had been watching the readout at her desk and was astounded by what she saw. Cathy was amused and a bit chagrined that someone working in a religious institution was surprised that prayer could make a difference, but all too often such are the ways of modern medicine.

Prayer, the reading of scripture, and the singing of hymns heals, uplifts, guides, and helps our lives in every way. Join us this summer, and feel the real presence of a real God.

May the joy and promise of the resurrection be with you,

Pastor Paul Thompson



WELCA NEWS

WELCA held its meeting on April 17th. We opened in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. No Secretary's report. The treasurer's report was given by Phyllis—report was placed on file.

Mission and Action—Senior quilts are done and Phyllis will present them to the graduates. Old Business: Thank you to Steve and Ruth, Dwight and Luanne and Eric and Micki for serving the Easter Breakfast.

Senior recognition Sunday is April 24th. Cindy will get rolls and Sara will get the juice for fellowship.

New Business: We are giving Lanesboro and Fillmore Central \$15.00 for Post Prom. Root River Spring Gathering — we will donate \$20.00 for expenses. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Cindy Holmen, Acting Secretary

The next meeting will be June 5th, after Worship.

Our Good Gifts Gala will once again be held at the Rochester Golf and Country Club, on Thursday, October 20th. The evening's festivities include Silent and Live Auction, dinner and program at the Banquet Hall. Reservations are Required (\$85.00 per person) and part of your ticket is a donation. Tables of 8-10 will be available for larger groups so we invite you to bring your friends and family. Tickets will be sold online. Your lovely quilts, crafts and other unique handmade items for the Auctions should be submitted no later than September 1st.



Join us for:

Fellowship on May 15th, and June 19th for coffee and treats after Church Services.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

May Birthdays

May 11	Phyllis Storelee
May 14	Kyle Koch
May 15	Kathryn Kinneberg
May 18	Madalyn Kinneberg
May 23	Carol Brogan
May 28	Peyton Breitsprecher

June Birthdays

June 4	Dwight Storelee
June 5	Sara Schultz
June 19	Jordan Holst
June 21	Ruth Garnatz
	Norin Storelee
June 24	Melissa Simonson
June 25	Hailey Pickett-Hanson
June 27	Luanne Storelee

June Anniversaries

June 9	Dale and Becky Koch
June 19	Eric and Micki Breitsprecher
June 25	Dwight & Luanne Storelee
June 30	Orrin and Marcia Olson

Pastor Paul's cell phone number is 507-273-8504 and his email is pthomp821@hotmail.com.

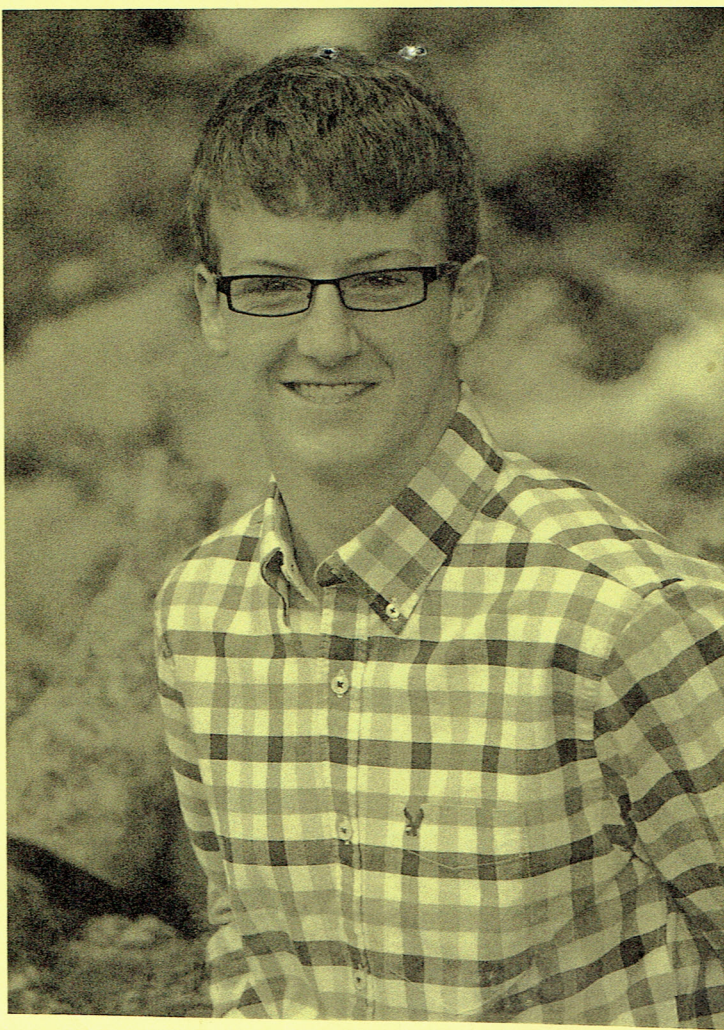
Our Congregation was blessed with an anonymous donation in the amount of \$10,000.00 that was put in Thrivent decided by the Council.

Senior Peyton Milo Breitsprecher son of Eric and Micki Breitsprecher has been accepted to Rochester Community College. He plans to attend there for two years to earn a degree in Criminal Justice. Peyton will be looking at moving to Rochester, MN with a friend this summer as well as securing a job there.

Peyton currently works at Scheevel Farms as a milk hand. In high school he is active in choir and assists the technology director with media needs in the district. He enjoys traveling as he recently, within the past three months, has returned from trips including Washington DC, New York City, Orlando, and Los Angeles. He is currently planning trips in June to return to Washington DC and also visit St. Louis.

Peyton's favorite pastimes include listening to music, watching movies and playing online video games. Peyton appreciates one on one conversation with people as he enjoys listening to their life stories.





Hi, my name is Korby Koch. I'm a senior at Fillmore Central High School. I participate in wrestling, football, track, band, art, photography club, and SADD. I was also elected into the homecoming royalty. Throughout the school year I work at the Branding Iron and during the summer I work at Bakke Cement and Masonry. I plan on doing all of this again in the summer of 2016 while working more hours and saving money for college. I will be attending RCTC in the fall and after my two years there I will transfer over to Winona. I'm thinking about doing something in the Medical field but I don't know for sure yet.

