

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church & School



*For God so loved
the world that he
gave his one and
only Son....*

JOHN 3:16, NIV

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 9th & 10th, 2024

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TUNE IN TO “THE LUTHERAN HOUR” TODAY

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler ~ “All Bets Are Off”

Jesus engages his opponents in a battle of wits and wins—for us.
(Mark 11)

Sundays on: KSUM - 11 am • WCCO - 6 am • KBEW - 8:30 am

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS with today’s order of service and LSB Large Print Hymnals are available on the ushers’ cabinets (or ask an usher for assistance). Please return the LSB Hymnals to the ushers’ cabinets or an usher after the service.

THIS MONTH’S BIBLE REFERENCES are in memory of husband Arno Norman’s birthday which was March 20th, sponsored by Karen Norman & family. **Now accepting sponsors.** Available months: Aug. 2024; Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., June, July, Aug., Oct., Nov., and Dec. 2025. Cost is \$40, payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church. Contact the church office at splcoffice@splfairmont.org or 238-9491, ext. 101.

OUR SUNDAY BROADCAST at 10:00 a.m. over KSUM is sponsored by Bonnie Taplin & Lowell Spee in recognition of World Down Syndrome Day on March 21st, and for God’s blessings upon all families. **Sponsors needed!** Contact the church office to reserve a broadcast date at splcoffice@splfairmont.org or 238-9491, ext. 101. **2024 dates are:** Apr. 7; May 12; June 2, 9; July 14, 28; Aug. 4, 18; Sept. 1, 29; Oct. 6, 13; Nov. 3, 24; Dec. 1, 8. The cost is \$40, payable to LWML.

THE LORD’S SUPPER is being celebrated in our service today. In love, we ask anyone who is not a communicant member in good standing of an LCMS congregation to speak with the pastor before attending the Lord’s Supper. Attendance/communion registration forms are available in the pews. Complete the Member or Visitor side of the form and put it in the collection plate when it is passed by you. Check the box next to your name if you are communing.

IN OUR PRAYERS: ill—Duane Petrowiak (Eileen Boesch’s father), Richard Johnson, Linda Bicknase, Marianne Hagen, Richard Wolner, Beth Malo, Steph Johnson (daughter-in-law of Richard & Shirley Johnson), Esther Lund, Nicholas Moeller, Roger & Helen Lueck, Larissa Hagen & Angela Leiding (Dennis & Marianne Hagen’s daughters), Gerald Meyer; **recovering**—Barb Hagen, Kenneth Matthews, Gregg Lemke, Roger Fritz; **having/recovering from surgery**—Arls Malo, Deb DeBoer, Lois Olson, Dan Yahnke, LaVon Rippentrop, Dolores Baarts; **in hospice**—Bev Brinkman, Sandra Petrowiak (Eileen Boesch’s mother); for the calling of a Director of Music.

THE MLHS CALL COMMITTEE requests your continued prayers for God’s blessing and guidance as they continue to look for a new principal.

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church & School

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

211 Budd Street, Fairmont, MN • 507-238-9491

www.splfairmont.org

Confession and Absolution — Page 203

Hymn of Invocation: Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

LSB 904

Stand

Invocation, Confession and Absolution: Page 203

Service of the Word — Page 204

Introit: Psalm 27:3-5; antiphon: v. 1



P: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?
Though an army encamp against me, my heart | shall not fear;*
though war arise against me, yet I will be | confident.

C: **One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:***
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to
gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his | temple.

P: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;*
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high
up- | on a rock.

All: **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

Kyrie: Page 204

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Mixed Choir: “Here I Am, Lord”

Epistle: Ephesians 2:1-10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel: John 3:14-21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed: Page 207

Sit

Hymn of the Day: God Loved the World So That He Gave

LSB 571

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Service of the Sacrament — Page 208

Preface: Page 208

Sanctus: Page 208

Prayer of Thanksgiving: Page 209

Lord's Prayer: Page 209

The Words of Our Lord: Page 209

Pax Domini: Page 209

Agnus Dei: Page 210

Sit

Distribution Hymns:

By Grace I'm Saved

LSB 566

Amazing Grace

LSB 744

Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer (Or Closing Hymn)

LSB 918

Stand

Nunc Dimitis: Page 211

Thanksgiving: Page 200

Post-Communion Collect: Page 212

Benedicamus and Benediction: Page 212

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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Preacher: Rev. Michael Holmen

Liturgist: Rev. Anthony T. Bertram

Organists: Richard Eyerly

PHILIPPIANS is the current study in the Adult Bible Class on Sundays. You are invited to attend.

DEAR 2ND GRADERS, Thank you for the pretty cards you made and sent to me on my February birthday. I loved reading them. God bless you all. Thank you, *Sharon Reiter*

THANK YOU TO THE SPL STUDENTS who sent cards for my 82nd birthday. They were beautiful, and very much appreciated! God's blessings, *Beverly Schleininger*

CAMP OMEGA CAMPERSHIPS: The St. Paul Lutheran LWML is offering \$50.00 toward the cost of summer camp at Camp Omega. This is available to any child who is a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church or who attends St. Paul Lutheran School and has not previously received a campership. Applications are available at the Welcome Center or from the school office and must be returned by May 1st.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY:

If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it's time for your struggle to end — starting today. Join our *Financial Peace University* class at St. Paul Lutheran Church (211 Budd St., Fairmont) starting on **Thursday, April 4th, 2024 at 6 p.m.**, and learn how you can pay off debt, save more money, and build wealth. Visit <https://www.fpu.com/DC6BCA> to sign up!

Amy Anders (848-0615) and Pam Carlson (236-5347) will be leading this nine-week class. If you have any questions, please contact one of us. Depending on need, there may be childcare available. Please let us know by 3/1/24.

Member workbooks are available at the SPL church office; payment can be made there with Lisa. Or if you register online, we can take payment the first night of class and give you the book then if you prefer. Checks should be made out to St. Paul Lutheran Church, please.

Cost is \$80 and includes:

- **Financial Peace University access code** (12 months of access, delivered physically)
- Member **Workbook** (hardcover and PDF)
- The premium version of **EveryDollar** (3 months of access)
- Live Group **Financial Coaching**

RENATA PEPERKORN, whom we have designated for a call as Director of Music and Teacher in our congregation and school, is visiting (Thursday evening until Sunday afternoon). Renata will be graduating from Concordia University—Nebraska in May and will be eligible for a call then.

THE ST. PAUL LUTHERAN YOUTH GROUP would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to our wonderful congregation members! Your generosity does not go unnoticed! We sincerely appreciate you! Thank you for your constant support!

“FOR WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10) Even the good we do in this world is a gift from God, prepared beforehand for us to do. And this too is a gift! For isn't doing good also a good thing for the one who does it? So from first to last, from the Lord's free salvation given to us to the good works He's prepared for us, everything is a gift of God's grace.

UPCOMING LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES & SUPPERS: (Suppers begin at approximately 5:00 p.m.) WED., MAR. 13: Supper: Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Green Beans, Ice Cream, Served by Parish Ministries; 6:30 p.m. Lenten Service. WED., MAR. 20: Supper by PTL; 6:30 p.m. Lenten Service.

CLARA CIRCLE will be meeting for lunch at Tami's on the Ave on Wednesday, March 13th at 11:30 a.m. in the back room. Lunch will be followed by Bible study, “Five Stones for Service” from the Lutheran Women's Winter Quarterly, page 22, and a short meeting.

HELP! CHARITY CLUB NEEDS WOMEN WHO LIKE TO SEW to come and help put quilts together. This does not require any commitment or joining of Charity Club (though that would be welcomed). Come and join us on Tuesday morning, March 12th, in the church basement at around 8:30 or 9:00 a.m.

THE ANNUAL SPL ONLINE BASKET AUCTION is quickly approaching! The auction will run from March 17th to March 22nd. If you would like to donate a basket to the auction, please deliver it to the SPL School office or any SPL teacher. As the auction approaches we will make sure to share the website and links. Also, make sure to follow along on the SPL School Facebook page! Along with the basket auction, we will host a bake sale the weekend of March 16-17. Last year, the bake sale brought in over \$1,700! Wow! If you are interested in bringing a goodie to add to the bake sale, let Kathy Eyerly or Erin Simpson know. Goodies need to be brought to the school on Friday, March 15th. There is also a Sign-up Genius link posted on the SPL School Facebook page. Thank you for your continued support of our awesome St. Paul Lutheran School!

NEED HELP WITH SOME MINOR FIX-UPS? If a church member needs help fixing a leaky faucet, clogged drain, door off hinges, faulty light switch, minor repairs in your home, call Doug Closs (507-456-1917) or Jeff Eversman (507-236-9140) and they will try to help you out.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: LCEF *Take Heart Scholarship* is developed for high school seniors who will soon be entering higher education. Students who have an LCEF Young Investors Steward Account have the opportunity of financial support through the scholarship. Three awards of \$3,000, \$1,000, and \$500 will be granted. The application window closes May 1, 2024 and winners will be announced May 31, 2024. Read more about it at www.lcef.org/scholarship.

SAGES (Saints Alive, Growing, Ever Serving) GATHERING XXXIV will be held May 6 & 7, 2024 at Country Inns and Suites, Mankato, MN. **Hotel registrations** are due by Saturday, April 6th and must be made by individuals directly with Country Inn and Suites, 507-388-8555 (the block of rooms is under the name S.A.G.E.S.) **The S.A.G.E.S. registration deadline** is April 15, 2024. Forms with pricing, registration, and additional information are available at the Welcome Center or online at <https://www.mnsdistrict.org/sages>. Featured presenter will be Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy. There will be three presentations, seven workshop choices, music, fellowship, and a banquet with entertainment by the Benson Family Singers. *Presented by S.A.G.E.S., Minnesota South LCMS Older Adult Ministry*

MLHS NEWS:

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; **Phone:** 507-436-5249.

Plan to come to the Fairmont Pizza Ranch Monday, March 11th, from 5:00-8:30 p.m. and support the Martin Luther National Honor Society. They'll be working for tips and welcome your support to continue their work for their school and community.

The MLHS Knights 4 Life are collecting travel-size personal care items to help those who currently have no place to call home, including soap, shampoo, conditioner, small packets of tissues, disinfectant wipes, toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, etc.; also gallon-size bags for packaging or cash donations. Collection ends Friday, March 15th.

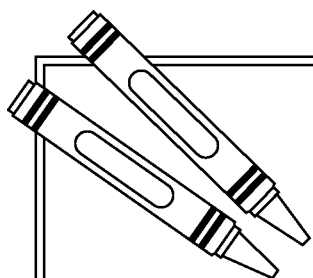
A Soup & Sandwich Lunch will be held at MLHS on Sunday, March 17th from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. A variety of soups, sandwiches, and desserts will be available. Cost is a freewill donation to benefit the Student Tuition Aid Fund.

The MLHS Association Delegate Meeting will be held Sunday, March 17, 1:00 p.m., in the Music Room. The 2024-2025 budget will be up for approval. All delegates, pastors, and interested parties are welcome to attend.

The Spring Rummage & Bake Sale will be held at MLHS on April 11 to 13. Setup begins on April 6th. Volunteers are much appreciated. Donations of spring and summer clothing in good condition, shoes, furniture, household items, books, toys, misc. items and baked goods are welcome from Saturday until Tuesday prior to the opening of the sale. Hours are Thurs, 4-8 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m.-noon.

The Oh! What a Knight Dinner Auction celebrating the 40th anniversary of MLHS will be held Saturday, April 20th. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. for social hour, hors d'oeuvres, and auction preview. Hundreds of new and handmade items, gift certificates, services, and interesting baskets will be on the Silent & Live Auction. Everyone is invited to wear red in recognition of the Ruby anniversary of MLHS. In addition to appetizers, a catered dinner of bacon-wrapped chicken breast, garlic mashed potatoes, cashew lettuce salad, honey-glazed carrots, roll & butter, and Michelle's cupcakes will be served at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$30/person.

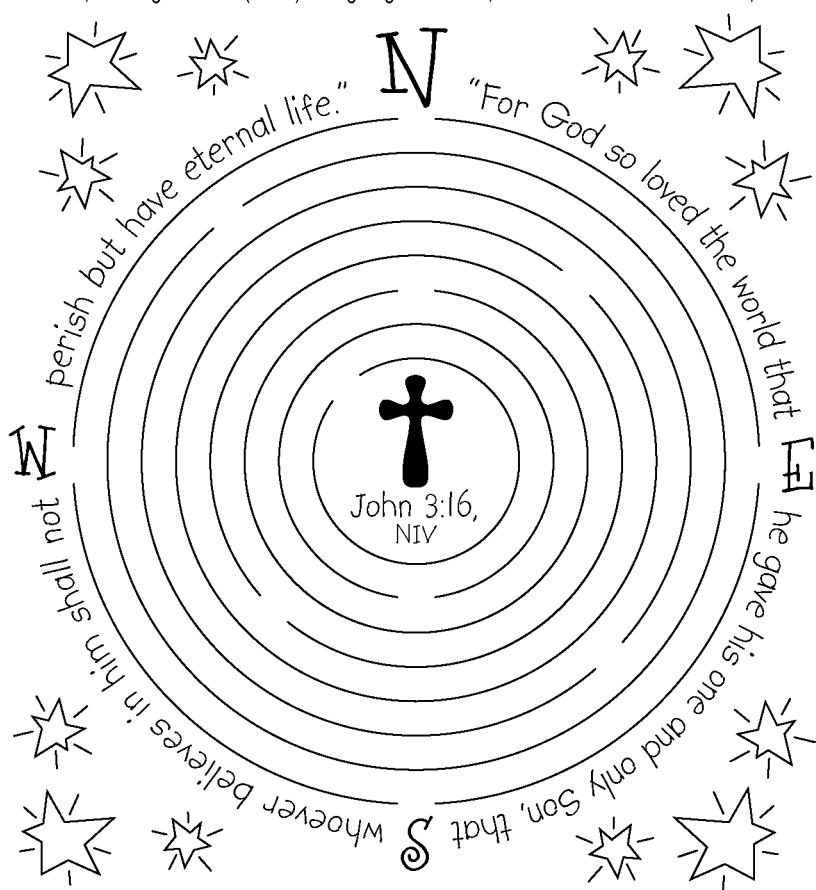
This is Most Certainly Brew Gourmet Coffee is available at MLHS or in the SPL church office. For more information, call MLHS.



Just for **KIDS**

For everyone

Every day we should be thankful for God's love and for the gift of his Son, Jesus. Complete the maze below to help people from all directions hear about this good news. Then, starting at the N (north) and going clockwise, read the words to John 3:16, NIV.



Easter Flowers



Again this year members have the opportunity to purchase plants for our Easter celebration in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving of an event or person.

If you wish to have a plant(s) placed for you, return this form with payment to the church office **before noon on Friday, March 15th.** (Sorry, no late orders can be accepted.) **Please take note of the pricing for each plant. Make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church.** You may take your plant home after services on Easter.

Qty.	Description	Price Ea.	Total
	Lily	\$18	
	Cyclamen	\$18	
	Calendiva	\$18	
	Hydrangea	\$40	
		Total	
		Enclosed	

Your name(s) _____

in memory of _____

in recognition of _____

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for This Week

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the catechism and Hymn of the Week.

INVOCATION: "In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Let all say, "AMEN!"

CONFESS the Apostles' Creed

RECITE the Verse of the Week: Hebrews 11:3—By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

PRAY the Psalm of the Week: Psalm 22:1-10

READ from Small Catechism—The Ten Commandments and Conclusion (without meaning)—(Pre+) You shall have no other gods. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not cover your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. (1st+) *What does God say about all these commandments?* He says: "I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments."

READ from God's Word:

MonJoshua 10:1-11

TuesJoshua 23:1-16

WedJoshua 24:1-13

ThursJoshua 24:14-28

FriJudges 2:6-15

SatNumbers 21:4-9

SunJohn 3:14-21

THE COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

DAILY THEMES FOR PRAYER

Pray for...

S: the joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word.

M: faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; your calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for government; and for peace.

T: deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; and those struggling with besetting sins.

W: marriage and family, living together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; those adults who must rear their children alone; and godly schools, especially St. Paul Lutheran and Martin Luther.

Th: the church and her pastors; for missionaries; fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's body and blood.

F: the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; its spread throughout the whole world and our community; the persecuted.

S: faithfulness to the end; the dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.

OUR PRAYERS at St. Paul's (see bulletin).

PRAY the Lord's Prayer.

PRAY Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer from the Small Catechism.

SPEAK OR SING the Hymn of the Week:

LSB 561

The tree of life with ev'ry good
In Eden's holy orchard stood,
And of its fruit so pure and sweet
God let the man and woman eat.
Yet in this garden also grew
Another tree, of which they knew;
Its lovely limbs with fruit adorned
Against whose eating God had warned.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:	Amount Needed Monthly for Budget... \$105,857.92
Last Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Svc: 82	Amount Needed Weekly for Budget..... \$24,428.75
Last Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Svc: 191	January 31, 2024 Deficit \$53,382.81
Wed., Mar. 6, 6:30 p.m. Svc: 113	Children's Noisy Offering (Last weekend).... \$13.27

MEMORIALS: Eldon Hovick—\$10.00, Church Endowment Fund. **Dennis Koch**—\$30.00, School Endowment Fund; \$25.00, Church Video Equipment Fund.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PART OF GOD'S KINGDOM
(Subject to change)

Sunday:		<i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service broadcast on KSUM
	10:15 a.m.	SS, ABC, YBC, YFBS
Monday:	8:25 a.m.	School Chapel Pastors' Day Off
	5:30 p.m.	LWML Blue Earth Zone Delegate Board Meeting, SPL Fairmont
Tuesday:	8:25 a.m.	School Chapel Charity Club Activity Day <i>No Stewardship Meeting</i>
Wednesday:	8:25 a.m.	School Chapel Charity Club Activity Day
	11:30 a.m.	Clara, Tami's on the Ave (Back Room)
	3:30 p.m.	Weekday Catechism
	5:00 p.m.	Lenten Supper
	5:30 p.m.	Bells
	6:30 p.m.	Lenten Service
	After Service	B&F, FR
	After Service	Choir
Thursday:	8:25 a.m.	School Chapel
	9:00 a.m.	Messenger Deadline
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Pastors' Circuit Meeting, Blue Earth</i>
Friday:	8:25 a.m.	School Chapel
	12:00 p.m.	<i>Deadline to order Easter Plants</i>
Saturday:	12:00 p.m.	Worship Service on Local Cable Access Channel 12
	5:30 p.m.	Worship Service
Next Sunday:	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service broadcast on KSUM
	10:15 a.m.	SS, ABC, YBC, YFBS
		<i>SPLS Online Basket Auction Begins (Mar. 17-22)</i>
	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	<i>MLHS Soup & Sandwich Lunch for Student Tuition Aid</i>
	1:00 p.m.	<i>MLHS Delegate Meeting</i> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>