



## Northland Lutheran Church

### Messenger

February 2024

#### **From the desk of Pastor Bill**

As a pastor, I have had the privilege of officiating a good number of weddings. One of the questions that I often ask during my pre-marriage meetings with the couple is, “Why do you want to get married?” More often than not, the answer is the same. “Because we love each other.” Unfortunately, what that usually means to each of the individuals is that they like the way this other person makes them feel. Without saying it what that can mean is, “I am entering into this relationship because of what I can get out of it.” Now that’s not entirely wrong but it definitely does not fit the definition of Biblical love.

Most of us have read or heard the Apostle Paul’s description of God’s kind of love in 1 Corinthians 13. We usually hear it at weddings. Paul writes,

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.”

God’s kind of love is not about how another person makes us feel. It is a decision we make to seek the best for others and to act towards them the way God acts towards us. Look at that list again. What if the goal in each of our relationships was to live out that kind of love? What a difference it would make.

Although I do realize that some situations we face in our relationships are very complex, I have a two-verse prescription I often give to couples having struggles. This too, comes from the Apostle Paul in Philippians 2:3,4. Here Paul writes,

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

Imagine what our world would look like if each of us would apply those verses to our relationship with our spouse, our kids, our parents, our coworkers, our siblings, our



neighbors... Imagine too, the difference it would make if when we said, "I love you" it meant that we were fully dedicated to the best of the other person.



**FEBRUARY**  
BIRTHDAYS

1<sup>st</sup> Katie Moen  
3<sup>rd</sup> Kristi Dippel  
9<sup>th</sup> Kali Finch, Mark Finch, Carl Thompson  
11<sup>th</sup> Tracey Allred,  
13<sup>th</sup> Brody Fisher, John Lashua, Jack Lashua, Mark Moen  
15<sup>th</sup> Kristin Allred, Ryan Finch  
17<sup>th</sup> Gerald Witkowski  
18<sup>th</sup> Peter Timdal  
21<sup>st</sup> Patricia Melum  
22<sup>nd</sup> Morgan Hahn  
24<sup>th</sup> Randall Peterson  
25<sup>th</sup> Chase Timdal  
27<sup>th</sup> Stuart Wogsland  
28<sup>th</sup> Lisa Nerlien

**FEBRUARY 2024 AT A GLANCE**

ALTAR GUILD:

AA MEETING: Every Thursday at 7:00 PM in the church basement.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE February 14 at 7:00 PM

COUNCIL MEETING: Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> following Worship.

MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>

MEN'S MINISTRY: Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> following Worship.

WEDDING BLESSING: Sunday February 11 with Spaghetti Dinner to follow  
SERVICE

TUESDAY QUILTER'S: February 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

INSTALLATION: Pastor Bill Sunday February 25<sup>th</sup> Dinner to follow service

USHER: Confirmation Students



**PROJECTORS:**

February 5<sup>th</sup> Kevin D.    February 12<sup>th</sup> Craig A.    February 14<sup>th</sup> Bruse M.  
February 19<sup>th</sup> Carl T.                      February 22<sup>nd</sup> Kevin D.

**LENTEN SERVICE**

For 2024 the only Lenten services will be Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday            **Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 PM February 14, 2024**  
Only one offering will be taken on these days for Operation Backpack, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday, also 2 offering will be taken March 3<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> . 1<sup>st</sup> one for church 2<sup>nd</sup> Offering for Operation Backpack.

**NORTHLAND LADIES**

The Northland Ladies Group will be meeting every 3 months.  
Third Wednesday quarterly  
January take Christmas tree and decorations down & Meeting on Saturday  
April Meeting  
July Meeting  
October Meeting  
December Christmas decorations up and Tree & Meeting on Saturday

**WEDDING BLESSING**

February 11, Wedding Blessing during Sunday Service, with Spaghetti Dinner following service.

**INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR PASTOR BILL**

February 25 will be Pastor Bills installation at Northland Church.  
There will be dinner following the service.  
Please bring a salad to pass.