

# Rose and Spruce Church Newsletter

PARISH NEWSLETTER

## Alphanumeric Codes and Conundrums

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You are probably wondering what is going on with the blanks and numbers above. Why would Pastor Todd put up a coded message? Yes, it is a coded message. A week or so ago at Young Explorers I decided to put a couple truths and a question about our Bible lesson on a worksheet. The code was an alphanumeric code with the key being A=2; B=3; C=4 and so on. The Young Explorers took the challenge and deciphered the coded statements and question. They correctly found out that Naaman, the Syrian General mentioned in 2 Kings chapter 5, was healed of leprosy when Elisha told him to dip himself in the Jordan River seven times.

I know that the Bible is God's inerrant, infallible, God-breathed Holy Word. It is not written in code, but I challenge you to decipher the coded message above using the same alphanumeric code I gave the Young Explorers. Decipher and put it into practice.

That leads me to conundrums. Yes, that's a crazy sounding word. It means....a confusing or difficult problem or question, a dilemma. There are many problems and questions that go round and round in one's mind at times. Questions like...why do so many confirmation students and their families quit coming to church after confirmation? and...who truly is a member of a congregation and what determines that? and...why do so many people know the truth about Jesus yet do not truly believe in Him? I could go on and on and drive myself crazy with trying to figure out the perfect answer to each question, but what it comes down to for you and me is to simply trust in Jesus and know that God has called us to live our lives out in faith in the One who lived, died, and rose again for you and me. James 2:22 states it well...*Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.*

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Todd

# Rose News

## Ministries

### Women

- **WMF Bible Studies** at Rose on *Monday, March 11*
  - Dorcas Group - 2:00 pm
  - Ruth Group - 7:00pm
    - Hostess: Debbie Erickson
    - Bible Study Leader: Shirley Mitterling
- **Closer Than Your Next Breath Bible Study** at Rose on Mondays, March 4 & 18 at 6:30 pm
- **WMF Program & Meeting** at Rose on Thursday, March 21. 7:00 pm
  - Hostess & Program: Sue Rudebusch, Anna Mekash & Elaine Borneman

### Men

#### **Men's Fellowship Breakfast**

*Wednesday, March 6, 7:00 am*  
at Messiah Lutheran Church

**Guy's CFB** Wednesdays, March 13, 20, & 27; 7:00-8:00 am at Rose;  
All guys are welcome to come for CFB--coffee, food, & Bible

## Worship

SERVICE TIME

10:30 AM



### Coffee Fellowship Servers

Sunday, March 3, 9:30am

Jean Pederson, Clark Majer,  
Lorris Vatnsdal & Ashley  
Vatnsdal families



### Fellowship Meal Servers

Sunday, March 17

John Gaukerud, Jeremy Anderson,  
Brent Olson & Linda Johnson  
families



### Special Music Organizer

Anna Mekash



### Ushers

\*Les Mitterling  
Jeremy Anderson  
Pat Kvien

# *The Scene at Spruce*

## *Worship*

SERVICE TIME

9:00 AM



## Fellowship Brunch Servers

Beth Karol & Karen Beito



## Church Cleaning

Dennis Smedsmo & Mark Karol  
families



## Birthdays

5: Gracie Drown  
14: Ryan Erickson  
15: Tim Erickson  
15: Haley Schumann  
15: Levi Erickson  
17: Katharine Grahn  
21: Darlene Arneson  
24: Daryle Dahl

## *Ministries*

### **Youth**

**Youth Group** at Osweiler's on  
Sunday's at 6:30pm.

### **Women**

**Spruce Mission Aid & Bible  
Study**

Wednesday, March 13, 2pm  
Hostess: Beth Karol

### **Men**

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast**

Wednesday, March 6, 7:00 am  
at Messiah Lutheran Church

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13, 20, & 27; 7:00-8:00 am at Rose;  
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CFB--coffee, food, & Bible





# *Meeting Minutes*

## Spruce & Rose Parish Council Unapproved Meeting Minutes February 27, 2024

Meeting was called to order by President Scott Bellefy at 7 PM.

Devotion: Scott read from 1 John V 4-8 and led us in prayer.

Those present were: Scot Bellefy, Dennis Smedsmo, Mike and Sue Rudebusch, Buddy Erickson, Mark Karol, Pastor Todd Erikson, Tim Fugleberg, Kurt Osweiler, Ben Huener and Jean Pederson

Secretary's Report was read from February 2023 and November 2023. No correction so will be placed on file.

Treasurer's Report from Buddy Erickson was a written report handed out to each member. Motion made by Mark Karol to approve and second by Tim Fugleberg.

### Old Business:

Discussion on a fire pit at the Parsonage was brought up and Tim Fugleberg is working on this. Leaf Guards were also discussed and will wait until fall. Deck on front of Parsonage will be looked into to be updated or left as the same footprint in the next couple of months. Lawn Mower was talked about and Keith Peppel is looking into that.

### New Business:

Water Softener has been delivered to the Parsonage and is ready to be hooked up as soon as the plumber can get there.

Pastor Todd read the council a letter from the Free Lutheran Bible College & Seminary (FLBCS) thanking congregations for the support, informing them that the new billing for FLBCS students reflects more accurately the actual costs and available aid, and encouraging congregations to take another look at the amount they give for scholarships for students.

Church Night at the Fair will only be Church Night without all the other awards.

Pastor's Report: Discussion on the Church Directory and church membership was held. Annual Conference will be June 12-15 in the cities. Missionary John Lee will be at the WMF Rally at Rose on April 13, and will speak at our Sunday Services on the 14th. Pre-Teen Bible Camp will be June 23-27 and a speaker is still needed. May 5th will be Confirmation. May 2nd is the National Day of Prayer observance at the Roseau Court House steps. April 6th is Men Alive.

Election of 2024 Parish Officers: Scot Bellefy – President; Mike Rudebusch – Vice President; Buddy Erickson – Treasurer; Jean Pederson – Secretary. Motion to accept by Mark Karol and 2nd by Dennis.

As there was no further business for the Council, meeting adjourned with motion by Dennis Smedsmo, second by Kurt Osweiler with the Lord's Prayer.

Jean Pederson – Parish Secretary