

JANUARY 2025 - ISSUE 1

# *Rose and Spruce Church Newsletter*

PARISH NEWSLETTER

## “KISS”

**Greet one another with a holy kiss.**

Rom. 16:16; 1 Cor. 16:20; 2 Cor. 13:12; 1 Thess. 5:26; 1 Peter 5:14

The year 2025 will start just after midnight December 31, 2024. Many will start the New Year by giving a kiss or a hug to someone nearby when the clock strikes 12. In the Bible you see this phrase to “greet one another with a holy kiss” used a number of times by the Apostles Paul and Peter. What do they mean? And why don’t we greet with “holy kisses” in our churches today?

I believe we can get caught up trying to figure out or theologically explain what they meant. We either get going down a “rabbit hole” or we try to merely dismiss it as the culture of the day. The importance of this is in “GREETING” one another. As believers we are called to gather together and encourage one another in fellowship, all the more as we see The Day (Christ’s second coming) approaching. It is a big part of what it means to live in this world. We know this world is not our ultimate eternal home, but it is where we will live our physical lives here on earth. And we are to GREET one another.

How do we greet one another today? It may be a handshake, wave, hug, “hello”, “how are you doing?”, or maybe even a high five, a smile, or a hand on the shoulder. Whatever we do, I want you to note it is to be a “holy” greeting. Holy means it should honor God and place a value on that person such as God does. He sees each person as a precious soul that He loves dearly and desires to know and have a personal relationship with.

I want to encourage you to greet people well this coming year. Greet them in a holy manner no matter who they are. Oh, you don’t have to give them a “holy kiss,” but greet them as a precious soul and dear person as they truly are that to God.

Have a blessed New Year in Jesus Christ!

Pastor Todd

# Rose News

## Ministries

### Women

- **WMF** is trialing combining the Ruth and Dorcas Bible Study groups together with WMF meetings at 2:00 pm on the second Thursday of each month (except December which is a Christmas potluck). This month's meeting will be on January 9. The program will be going over Lesson 1 of *Seeing the Light of God in the Face of Christ* WMF Bible study, a very short meeting if needed, and lunch.
- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study** will resume on January 8 at 9:30 am at Rose; *Contact: Debbie Erickson*
- **Monday Evening Bible Study:** *John LifeChange* Bible Study will resume on January 13 at 7:00 pm at Rose; *Contact: Joyce Erickson*

### Men

**Men's Community Fellowship Breakfast** at First United Lutheran Church Wednesday, January 8, 7:00 am

**Guy's CFB** Wednesdays, January 15, 22, and 29; 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, January 5, 9:30am

John Gaukerud, Brent Olson,  
Douglas Erickson & Mike Hass  
families



### Fellowship Meal Servers

Sunday, January 19

Carol Holland, Aaron Magnusson, Tim  
Wysocki & Josh Wiskow families



### Special Music Organizer

Gracia Nelson



### Ushers

\*Douglas Erickson  
Robert Mekash  
Isaac Erickson

# *The Scene at Spruce*

## *Worship*

SERVICE TIME

9:00 AM



## Fellowship Brunch Servers

Connie Nelson & Kellie Roth



## Birthdays

3: Wyatt Kramarczyk

6: Ron Thramer

24: Ryker Kramarczyk

25: Charlotte Erickson

## *Ministries*

### **Youth**

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

### **Women**

#### **January Spruce Mission Aid**

Wednesday, January 8, 2:00 pm

Hostess: Connie Nelson

#### **Monday Evening Bible Study** John

LifeChange Bible Study Monday,

January 13; Contact: Joyce Erickson if you're interested in joining

### **Men**

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**Breakfast** at First United on

Wednesday, January 8, 7:00 am

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22, and 29; 7:00-8:00 am at Rose; All

guys are welcome to come for CFB--  
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# News & Events

## Annual Meetings

**Spruce: Sunday, January 12**

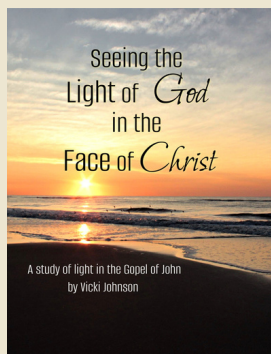
**Rose: Sunday, January 19\***

\*Reports requested before Wednesday, January 15

**Our Church Directory will be updated in January. Please contact the Church Office, 463-1243, with new pictures or changes to your contact information.**

### 2025 WMF Bible Study Books are in

Get your copy at Rose (\$15). Extras are available. The first Bible Study will be **Thursday, January 9, 2:00 pm** at Rose (Dorcas & Ruth Groups combined; lunch following




NW MN 2025 Mid-Winter Bible Conference

**SWORDS, SCROLLS, SANCTUARIES:**

HOW GOD'S PREVAILING WORD SHAPED THE EARLY CHURCH

Westaker Free Lutheran Church  
321 Minnesota Ave, Newfolden  
January 31-February 1



Presenter: Pastor Andrew Kneeland  
Phd. Candidate at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO, focusing on Historical Theology

**Friday, January 31st**  
7 pm- **Swords:** The Word Upholds those Suffering

**Saturday, February 1st**  
9 am- **Scrolls:** The Word Forms a Confession of Faith in Response to Heresy  
10:45- **Sanctuaries:** The Word's Power in the Times of Ease

Lunch to follow



**Proverbs Parish Bible Study Resumes Wednesday, January 8, 7:14 pm at Rose**

## Quilting Begins

**Tuesdays, 9:30 am at Rose beginning January 14**