

MAY 2025 - ISSUE 5

Rose and Spruce Church Newsletter

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Why We're Here

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled by men. You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. **Matthew 5:13-16**

These verses got me to thinking about a couple of stories I've heard throughout my life. You see sometimes I forget why I'm here and what Jesus has done for me. Coming off a blessed Lent and Easter season may these two stories comfort us in who we are in Christ and challenge us to live out our lives for Him. May they also encourage us to share the story of Jesus Christ's love for us and for our fellow man.

Story #1—There was a dangerous seacoast where shipwrecks often occurred. Some residents of the area erected a small life-saving station. The few devoted people who manned it had only one boat, but they kept a constant watch over the sea. They saved many lives, and the little place soon became widely known. Other people joined the local residents and gave of their time and money to expand the operation. Soon a beautiful new building was erected. Later, when a large shipwreck occurred, survivors were brought into the attractive new building, which had become a clubhouse. The place became dirty, and some of the plush furniture was soiled. At the next meeting many of the members felt that the life-saving activities were becoming a hindrance to the social life of the organization. Those who disagreed were told to begin another station down the beach, so they did. The years passed, and history repeated itself. In time the seacoast had a number of exclusive clubs dotting the shore, but they had forgotten their original purpose.

This is a parable. A church must never lose its life-saving mission. It's so easy to become sidetracked and self-serving. Let's be faithful in our witness lest our churches neglect their calling to rescue the lost.

Story #2—Mark and Alice Westlind and their family were missionaries with the Evangelical Covenant church in Colombia. Here is an excerpt from one of their prayer letters years ago.... "Driving through Christmas traffic, fighting the drizzle rain, I chanced on a 4-year-old little girl. She was wet and cold and shaking. Her clothes were ragged, her hair was matted, and her nose was running. She walked between the cars at the stoplight, washing headlights because she was too short to wash windshields. A few gave her coins, others honked at her to get away from their vehicles." You may admire the honesty of their next sentence in the letter.... "As I drove away only some 50 cents poorer, I raged at God for the situation. 'God, how could You just stand by, helpless?' The missionary concluded, "Later that evening, God came to me softly with that still small voice and responded not in like kind to my rage, but with tenderness, 'I have done something. I created you.'"

Jesus came as light to our sin-darkened, cruel, unfair world. As we respond with compassion and goodness to suffering people, we proclaim His life-changing power. We can't solve all the world's problems, but we can bear witness to the Light and bring glory to the Father. Jesus encouraged and challenged us to do so as we read in Matthew 5:13-16. May we be faithful and live for Jesus, for that's what really matters.

God Bless! ~ Pastor Todd

Rose News

Ministries

Women

- **WMF Bible Study Meeting & lunch:**
May 8 at 2:00 pm at Rose. Bible Study: *Seeing the Light of God in the Face of Christ* Lesson 5.
Hostess/Program: Carol Holland, Rachal Erickson & Val Johnson
- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study**
Finishing current book on the first Wednesday in May; Contact: Debbie Erickson for joining a future study
- **Monday Evening Bible Study:** John Bible Study just finished; Contact: Joyce Erickson for joining a future study

Men

Men's Community Fellowship Breakfast at First Baptist Church on Wednesday, May 7, 7:00 am

Guy's CFB Wednesdays, May 14, 21, and 28; 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, May 4, 9:30am

Val Johnson, Julie Fugleberg, Tim Wysocki & Kurt Osweiler families



Fellowship Meal Servers

Sunday, May 18

Bill Erickson, Amy Erickson, Brian DeMars & Jon Johnson families



Special Music Organizer

Carmen Przekwas



Ushers

*Ushers needed; contact Ben Huener if you can fill in May

The Scene at Spruce

Worship

SERVICE TIME

9:00 AM



Fellowship Brunch Servers

Brenda Dahl & Joan Dahl



Church Cleaning*

Dennis Smedsmo & Mark Karol families

*Our hired cleaning person, Sue Suess, will be cleaning the church every other month. When it is your assigned month if there is something that you see that needs to be done, please take care of it or put it down on the list on the bulletin board in the kitchen.



Birthdays

11: Joan Dahl

14: Mary Ann Olafson

16: Walter Hellquist

21: Harrison (Harry) Roth

28: Connie Nelson

Ministries

Youth

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

Women

May Spruce Mission Aid

Wednesday, May 14 , 2:00 pm

Hostess: Karen Beito

Men

Men's Community Fellowship

Breakfast at First Baptist Church on Wednesday, May 7, 7:00 am

Guy's CFB Wednesdays, May 14, 21, and 28; 7:00-8:00 am at Rose; All guys are welcome to come for CFB-- coffee, food, & Bible





Meeting Minutes

Rose Free Lutheran Church Council Meeting-March 25, 2025

Attendance: Tim Fugleberg, Pastor Todd Erickson, Kurt Osweiler, Cody Schumann, Jerry Skoglund, Jeremy Anderson, Anna Mekash

Called to Order: Meeting called to order by Tim Fugleberg.

Devotions by Pastor Todd taken from Matthew 6:26. Shared with council how “God the Father watches over us all”, and how valuable we are to God.

Minutes from October 2024 were read, reviewed and carried. Motioned to accept by Kurt Osweiler and seconded by Jeremy Anderson.

Treasurer's Report: A typed report by Sue Rudebusch for Jan/Feb reported by Tim F. Accepted by council. Primavera project raised \$21,628.03. Motions to carry: Cody Schumann and followed by Jeremy Anderson.

Old Business:

-Intern: Alex will start early to mid May and move here after graduation. Information shared by Pastor Todd for internship in the AFLC and agreement terms form. Tim reviewed current costs of intern as discussed with Buddy Erickson. Actual costs for housing and medical insurance need evaluation.

-Survey: A survey will be presented to parishioners after council members review first. A comments section will be added for thoughts/suggestions.

-FLY: About 20 students attending FLY this July-about 50 students for the district. Easter brunch will be a fund-raiser event to help with transportation costs. The initial registration is refunded after the student attends FLY. The church usually pays for full registration but the cost of transportation is the attendees responsibility. Motion by Cody and seconded.

-Sunday School students sent shut-in cards. Thank you notes were shared.

New Business:

-Spring Cleaning project for the grounds needs to be discussed with Moe/Rose cemetery committee.

-Scholarship FLBC cost evaluated per student. Currently \$2000.00 per semester for a total of \$8000.00 depending on number of applicants. Funds presented September and January.

Pastor's Report:

-Andrew Olson asking for donations to “They need the Bible”. The Deacons donated \$300.00 as a one-time donation before committing to a scheduled payment. Motion by Kurt and seconded by Cody.

-Background checks for Christian Education Committee.

-Annual Conference is June 11th-June 14th; Pastor Todd will be attending a Corporation meeting; Joyce will be attending the WMF meeting.

-RetreatCenter donation given by congregation.

-Bible Camps starting in June. No church services June 22nd-Invited to attend camp service.

-Pastor Todd will be on vacation first week of June. Intern will be giving sermon.

-Ryan and Seth have upcoming weddings. Health Insurance needed at some point. Five funerals in the past year.

-Family service for Tony Gust

-Planning for intern to speak once a month among other activities/seminarian obligations.

Meeting adjourned and closed with Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Anna Mekash, Council Secretary

Minutes approved April 22nd.

News & Events



ROSE SPRING CLEAN-UP

**WEDNESDAY
MAY 21, 5-7 PM
SUPPER SERVED**

Come one, come all!
Sunday school families are
encouraged to make this a
family service project.
Please bring yard work
supplies--gloves, rakes, etc.
If you know of something to
add to the cleaning list,
contact the church office
218-463-1243

News & Events

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

MAY 4, 2025

ROSE FREE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Abram Huener

Addy Lussier

Grant Olson

Brenna Pearson

Brody Wiskow

Please continue to keep the confirmands in your prayers.

All are invited to join them and their families for a luncheon at Rose following the Confirmation Service.

2025 GRADUATES' SUNDAY

MAY 18, 2025

ROSE FREE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*You are invited to celebrate
with the graduates:*

Isak Anderson

May 23, 4-8 pm, 43100 270th St., Roseau

McKenzi Curry

May 24, 2-5 pm, Wannaska Community Center,
18035 Highway 89, Wannaska

Jaden Kukowski

May 17, 2-4 pm, Badger Community Hall,
183 N. Main St., Badger

Mia Neville

May 23, 5-8 pm, Old Eagles Building,
208 15th Ave. NW, Roseau

Join us for our potluck fellowship meal following the service. Please keep these graduates in your prayers as they discern their future steps and keep Jesus at the center.

Galilee Bible Camps 2025

<https://galileebiblecampmn.org/summer-camps/>



Teen Camp*

June 17-22

Preteen Camp*

June 22-26

Family Camp

July 9-12

*Early Registration Deadline: June 5

Bible Camp Sunday**

June 22, 10:45 am

Dinner following

**No Services at Spruce of Rose