



Mabel First Lutheran Church Scheie Lutheran Church



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ENGAGING IN MINISTRY TOGETHER

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CHURCH INFORMATION

Office Phone:
507-493-5293

Email:
office@mabelfirst.org

Website:
mabelfirst.org

Facebook Page:
Mabel First Lutheran
Scheie Lutheran Church



MARCH/APRIL 2024 NEWS

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE-MARCH

MARCH 3, 10, 17, 31

8AM Worship at Scheie—Coffee & fellowship following-1st Sun. only
9AM Sunday School (Mabel First/Scheie at Mabel First)
No Sunday School March 31

9:30AM Worship at Henrytown
11AM Worship at Mabel First—Coffee & fellowship prior

MARCH 24—PALM SUNDAY

9:30AM Worship at Henrytown
10:30AM Sunday School (Mabel First/Scheie at MFL)
11AM Worship (Mabel First/Scheie at Mabel First)—Coffee prior
Sunday School processes with palms and sings

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE-APRIL

8AM Worship at Mabel First Lutheran—Coffee/fellowship following
9:30AM Worship at Henrytown
11AM Worship at Scheie—Coffee & Fellowship prior-1st Sunday only

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated during worship at Henrytown, Mabel First and Scheie on March 3, 10, & 31 and April 7 & 14.

March Ushers (MFL): Mike (chairman), Heather and Dawson Kleiboer
April Ushers (MFL): Jerry (chairman), Justin and Daylon Jacobsen

LENTEN SERVICES

Mar. 6 5PM Lenten Supper; 6:30PM Holden Evening Prayer at Scheie
Mar. 13 5PM Lenten Supper; 6:30PM Holden Evening Prayer at Henrytown
Mar. 20 5PM Lenten Supper; 6:30PM Holden Evening Prayer at Mabel First
Mar. 28 5PM Lenten Supper; 6:30PM Maundy Thursday Service at Scheie
Mar. 29 3PM Good Friday Service at Mabel UMC
6:30PM Good Friday Service at Henrytown

Easter Breakfast

will be served at
Mabel First Lutheran
March 31

by our
youth and families
prior to 11 AM Worship
Time to be Announced
All Welcome

Persons providing
Easter Lilies and Flowers
for Easter Worship
in memory or honor of
family or friends
must have the information to
Deb Marsden (Scheie) or
the Church Office
by March 24
for information to be included
in the church bulletin

CONGREGATION INFORMATION

**PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR CARLA at #507-493-5293 or pastor@mabelfirst.org
for PASTORAL CARE**

PASTORAL ACTS

JANUARY & FEBRUARY

Baptisms: None

Funerals: Carroll Danielson (Henrytown)
Rick Staggemeier (Henrytown)
Gerald Haagenson (Mabel First)

PRAYER CONCERNS

BEREAVEMENT

Family & friends of

Carroll Danielson, Gerald Haagenson,
Matt Jackson, Rick Staggemeier,
Kathleen Storlie, Callie Tweten. Lyle Tripp

IMMEDIATE HEALTH CONCERNS

Rick Bjertness, LeeAnn Howard, Lynell
Niemitz, Adam Olson, Lynn Sollien, Laura
Vatland

LONG-TERM HEALTH CONCERNS/CARE

Gary Adams, Gwen Allen, Leona Amdahl,
Dean Garness, Carol Geving, Keith
Halverson, Shelly Henry, Ella Mae Johnson,
Lois Johnson, Rosemary Ketchum, Helen
Larson, Ryan Lee, Les Myhre, Violet
Pederson, Penniann Ramirez, Dacia Sorum,
Janice Spande, Bob Stoskopf

SERVICE MEMBERS

Anna Erickson, Brady Erickson, Gregery
Johnson, Luke Johnson, Adam L Johnson,
Benjamin Lee, Jeannie Vick

ONGOING PRAYERS

Mabel First Lutheran, Scheie Lutheran,
Henrytown Lutheran, MFL Prayer Box, Mabel
Area Food Shelf, Ukraine



MFL CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Steve Darrington	563-735-5816
Brian Johnson	493-5658
Michael Kowalsky	493-5192
Jolyn Mikesh	507-208-8816
Janet Sanden	493-5078
Deanna Larson	493-5206
Lori Schutte	493-5670
Rodney Tollefsrud	493-5570
<i>Position Open</i>	

SCHEIE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Laurie Bigalk	507-459-3165
Dick Engrav	493-5021
DeeAnn Erickson	493-5233
Nancy Engrav	493-5021
Trudy Horihan	493-5749
Deb Marsden	493-5651
Gerald Peter	493-5026
Adam Olson	507-450-6066
Carolyn White	493-5111

Thank you to Jean Blagsvedt, Tyler Mikesh, Lynn Sollien, and Lance Rasmussen who have completed terms on their respective congregation councils. Welcome to Michael Kowalsky, Jolyn Mikesh, and Laurie Bigalk who were elected to serve at their respective annual meetings. The Councils will be electing officers at their March meetings.

Pastor's Sabbath: Monday

Pastor's Office Hours: (*barring emergency*)

Tuesday 10AM-12PM (*except 2nd Tuesday*)

Wednesday 10AM-12PM (*see calendar for location*)
2-4PM (*see calendar for location*)

Friday 10AM-12PM (*except 4th Friday*)

Please note Wednesday location changes due to Lent.

JOINT INFORMATION

In January, the Executive Committees of the Henrytown, Mabel First and Scheie congregations finalized a formal Parish Agreement to establish a three-point parish. This agreement was shared with the members of all three congregations and approved at their respective Annual Meetings. Next steps will include establishing a parish council and proceeding to work together to enhance the ministries of all involved.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School students will be singing during worship on Palm Sunday. This will be a joint service at 11 AM at Mabel First. This will be the last day of Sunday School for the season.

Thank you to the teachers, helpers, and parents for helping our young people learn about our faith and to the students for their enthusiasm.

A special thank you to JoAnne Aasum and Sheila Sand for developing and coordinating the Sunday School program again this year. You are greatly appreciated.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Formal classes have been suspended during Lent while students attend and participate in midweek Lenten services.

Classes will resume on April 3. Eighth grade students will meet at 4pm on the first and third Wednesday of the month and seventh grade students will meet at 4pm on the second and fourth Wednesday. Classes meet at Mabel First on the first and second Wednesday and at Henrytown on the third and fourth Wednesday.

SOUTHEASTERN MINNESOTA SYNOD INFORMATION

The synod office has moved to St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Northfield. The mailing address is: 418 Sumner St E, Suite 200, Northfield, MN 55057. Telephone: 507-280-9457
Email: office@semnsynod.org.

The **SEMNSynod Assembly** will be held on Sat., **May 11, 2024** at Mayo Clinic Event Center in Mankato. Each congregation is entitled to two lay delegates in addition to the pastor. Delegates have not been identified for either congregation. Contact Pastor Carla or a council member if interested in serving as a delegate.



MABEL FIRST LUTHERAN INFORMATION

CONGREGATION LIFE

Additional **ushers and communion servers** are needed for worship services. Please contact Rodney Tollefsrud or the church office if you or your family are willing to serve our church in this way during one month of the year.

Readers of lessons during worship are also needed. Please sign up on the sheet posted on the doors to the sanctuary or contact the church office to help out.

WELCA

MFL has **Meals on Wheels** March 11-15 (Rachel Circle) and April 8-12 (Lydia Circle).

Next **WELCA meeting** will be **April 4** at 9AM and will be followed by a Do-Day and potluck lunch.

Ruth Circle is responsible for coffee and cookies in March and Lydia Circle is responsible for coffee, cookies and altar flowers in April.

SCHEIE LUTHERAN INFORMATION

Scheie has **Meals on Wheels** March 18-22 and April 15-19.

Readers of Lessons during worship are needed. Please contact Carolyn White if you are able to do this. Persons willing to serve as ushers or assist with communion are needed. Please contact a council member if you are willing to assist in this way.

SCHEIE COUNCIL

Scheie Council Meeting Highlights

Greetings Scheie members and friends. Doesn't seem possible but we are already in our 3rd month of the year and Lent season is upon us.

I guess we can start off with our annual meeting which was held Feb 4th. Thanks to WELCA for the lunch that was provided before the meeting. Thanks to all for preparing their annual reports and to those individuals that completed their term on the council and other boards and to those that have accepted to be on a board and/or council.

**** Please make note and correct your copy **ERROR in the annual report of the COUNCIL MEMBERS (Deacons and Trustees)**

Deacon:

Lance Rasumussen completed his 3 years. 2023

Trudy Horihan 2024

Adam Olson 2025

Nominee: Dick Engrav (replacing Nominee Liz) 2026

Trustee:

Dick Engrav completed his 3 years. 2023

Gerald Peter 2024

Carolyn White 2025

Nominee: Laurie Bigalk 2026

Thank you to all the Deacons and Trustees who have served and continue to serve.. President and Vice President will be voted on amongst the Deacons and Trustees at our March meeting.

Thanks to:

Nancy Engrav as Financial Secretary continues her 2 year term 2025.

Dee Erickson as Treasurer continues her 2 year term 2025.

Deb Marsden as Secretary continues her annual term 2024.

Thanks to Elaine Johnson and Shelia Sand for continuing their many years on the Area Council of Churches. We welcome and thank Kendra Spalla, Molly Sikkink, and Stephanie Folstad for accepting to be on the Education Board.

Thanks to the Cemetery Board: Ozzie Landsom completed his term 2023

Harold Sand 2024

Steve Amdahl 2024

Neil Halverson 2025

Lois Halverson 2025

Nominee: Ozzie Landsom 2026

No volunteers or nominations for a Nominating Committee for 2024. If interested in volunteering, please contact a council member. We need 3 people.

The Conference Assembly was held at Faith Lutheran in St. Charles February 18th.

The Synod Conference will be held in Mankato May 11th; if interested to attend, please contact Pastor Carla or a council member. We can have 2 delegates.

The Parish Agreement between MFL, Henrytown and Scheie was discussed. Agreement will be reviewed annually by the Parish Board. The vote to accept the Agreement was done by a hand vote and was unanimous.

A call committee will be formed with members from the three churches. If interested on being on the committee, please contact one of the council members asap.

The account that we used for purchasing KWIK Trip cards will be closed and put into a CD at this time. It will be decided at a later date to what account it will go to...ie general fund or cemetery. We will no longer sell cards.

Thinking ahead.....We have not discussed the possibility of having an ice cream social this year or not. If there are individuals interested in planning and working the event, please contact the council.

The council welcomes thoughts, ideas, and concerns from our members. We welcome members to offer their assistance with church services such as reading, serving communion and ushering. Also delivering meals on wheels. Please feel free to contact anyone of us. Council meets the 2nd Sunday of the month after church services. Church service is at 8am in March, 9:30 in April and 11 in May. Rotation continues with these 3 times throughout the year. Communion is the first and second Sunday of each month. Coffee is the first Sunday of each month; after church services for 8 and 9:30; before 11am service. Supper will be served before Lent service. This will rotate between the 3 churches. See schedule.

To ensure it is listed in the bulletin for Easter Sunday, please contact Deb Marsden by Palm Sunday if you are donating an Easter Lily or other flower in memory of or in honor of a loved one.

Prayers continue for Adam Olson who had surgery with complications post op. May he continue to recover and regain his strength.

MABEL FIRST LUTHERAN COUNCIL

January 3, 2024 Meeting Highlights

- Executive Committees from the three congregations will meet on Jan. 7 to finalize the parish agreement so it can be brought to a vote at the upcoming annual meetings.
- Property and Management: The elevator inspection has been completed with no issues noted. The outside lights above the west steps are not working and need to be replaced.
- Youth & Education: The Sunday School Christmas program went well and was well-attended.
- Proposals for service contracts and replacement of the current printer were obtained after contact with companies requesting consideration of their services at the end of our contract term. **M/S/P to** retain the current printer and continue the contract with Tri-State Business Machines. A request will be made to change from a monthly base rate for copies to a quarterly rate.
- No update on modifications in the Food Shelf area.
- M/S/P to accept three photos of the church building donated by Andy Sollien.
- Consensus provided for school personnel to use the library for a short period of time for 1-1 instruction.
- February council meeting changed to Feb. 1 to allow necessary actions before the annual meeting.

February 1, 2024 Meeting Highlights

- The 2024 Mission budget was presented for discussion. M/S/P to accept the budget as presented and recommend approval at the Annual Meeting.
- Youth and Education: Plans are for a joint worship service with Scheie at 11 AM on Palm Sunday with the Sunday School students singing during the service. The seventh and eighth grade confirmation students will be meeting separately with each class meeting twice a month when classes resume after Easter.
- Property and Management: They are waiting for replacement lights. A new lock has been installed on the west door of the education building.
- M/S/P to recommend approval of the Parish Agreement at the Annual Meeting.
- Mabel Telephone will be upgrading service to the church in the immediate future and has made some recommendations for changes as part of that process. M/S/P to discontinue the FAX line, rent an internet router from the telephone company, and install an extender in the Sunday School room. There will be some savings as a result of the changes.
- Since a decision regarding the Steam Engine Days food stand needs to be made soon to be fair to everyone impacted, the council recommends there will be no food stand this year if volunteer leaders are not identified by the Annual Meeting.
- March Council meeting changed to February 28 following Lenten services at Mabel First Lutheran.

February 4, 2024 Annual Meeting Highlights

- The proposed Parish Agreement was approved.
- M/S/P to forego the Steam Engine Days Food Stand in 2024 due to lack of leadership/workers.
- Jolyn Mikesh and Michael Kowalsky were elected to the congregation council. One council position was not filled.
- Members are still needed to serve as Memorial Secretary and on the Nominating and Audit Committees.
- Up to two delegates are needed for the Synod Assembly in May.

OTHER

March is Minnesota FoodShare month and the **Mabel Area Food Shelf** is able to receive additional funding for their program based on the amount of donations received between Feb. 26 and April 6. As a result, the Food Shelf has scheduled a **Drive-up Food Drive on Saturday, March 30**. Food, household staples, personal care items and monetary donations will be accepted at that time—or at any time during the month if that is not convenient. The calendar provided for the Reverse Lent activity can provide suggestions for needed items. Persons participating in the Reverse Lent activity can drop their items off that day or at their church throughout the month.

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR:

4 I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: ⁴ there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

¹¹ He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. (Ephesians 4:1-6, 11-14 NRSVue)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from God our heavenly Father and Jesus Christ the Lord and Savior. Amen.

Congratulations in this exciting point in your congregational life. All three congregations passed the Parish Agreement at their respective annual meetings. We now step forward onto the next leg of our journey together. Like all things new and different, it will have moments of excitement and moments of anxiety. It is okay to be both excited and apprehensive. We haven't done it this way before. We are heading into uncharted territory – that is both exhilarating and angst-ridden.

We remember we are part of a larger journey. While we are beginning a new leg of our journey, this journey was begun by others thousands of years ago. It is also a journey that will continue until the second coming of Christ. Many have journeyed prior to us. Many will journey after us. All of those journeys join together into a broader journey. "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." (1 Corinthians 12:12) We all serve the common purpose of making disciples.

We also remember that God is in control. The prophet Isaiah delivered this promise the exiles, "I will lead the blind by a road they do not know; by paths they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I will do, and I will not forsake them." (Isaiah 42:16) God makes that same promise to this new parish. Our prayer that 'God's will be done' applies just as much to our ministry together as it does in our individual lives or the world.

Recently someone was describing ropes she had strung throughout their home when her husband lost his sight. These ropes helped guide him and remember where he was and how to get where he was going. They gave him a sense of independence and confidence. In many ways, God gives us ropes to grasp when we feel like we are unsure or apprehensive about where we are or where we are going. The most obvious examples of those ropes are the Holy Spirit, community, and God's Word. Together we are guided by God along this journey.

We also remember that we are blessed to be a blessing. All three congregations have been blessed for the purpose "to equip the larger body for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ." All of the individuals within the three congregations have been blessed for that same purpose. God blesses us with ropes to guide us. God gives us the strength and courage to follow where God leads us. God fills us with the Holy Spirit. God feeds and nourishes us all as we journey together. Together we proclaim Christ's love and hope.

The grace and peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

JOURNEY
OF
Faith

In Christ,
Pastor Carla

March 2024

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Office Hours at M
8A	Worship (S)	Pastor's Sabbath	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Office Hours at M	5-7P Food Shelf	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Office Hours at M
9A	Sunday School (M/S at M)	6P Quilters' Therapy at H	2-4P Office Hours at H	2-4P Office Hours at H	7:30P AA (Closed Mtg.)		
9:30A	Worship (H)		5-6:15P Lenten Supper (H/M/S at S)				
10A	Fellowship (M)		6:30P Holden Evening Prayer (H/M/S at S)				
11A	Worship (M)						
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Daylight Savings Time10		11	12	13	14	15	16
8A	Worship (S)	Pastor's Sabbath	9:30A Root River Conf	10A-12P Office Hours at M	9A Rebecca Circle	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Food Shelf
9A	Cong. Council (S)	9A Stitch & Chat Quilters (S)	Pastors' Meeting	11:15A MOW (M—Rachel Circle)	11:15 MOW (M—Rachel Circle)	11:15 MOW (M—Rachel Circle)	11:15A MOW (M—Rachel Circle)
9A	Sunday School (M/S at M)	11:15A MOW (M—Rachel Circle)	2-4P Office Hours at H	2-4P Office Hours at H	5-7P Food Shelf		
9:30A	Worship (H)		5-6:15P Lenten Supper (H/M/S at H)		7:30P AA (Closed Mtg.)		
10A	Fellowship (M)		6:30P Holden Evening Prayer (H/M/S at H)				
11A	Worship (M)						
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8A	Worship (S)	Pastor's Sabbath	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Office Hours at M	9A WELCA/Bible Study (S)	10A Worship at Green	9A Quilters' Therapy at H
9A	Sunday School (M/S at M)	11:15A MOW (S)	11:15A MOW (S)	2-4P Office Hours at H	11:15A MOW (S)	Lea Sr Living	
9:30A	Worship (H)		2-4P Office Hours at H	5-6:15P Lenten Supper (H/M/S at M)	1P Food Shelf Delivery	11:15A MOW (S)	
10A	Fellowship (M)		6:30P Holden Evening Prayer (H/M/S at M)				
11A	Worship (M)						
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	PALM SUNDAY				MAUNDY THURS.	GOOD FRIDAY	
9:30A	Worship (H)	Pastor's Sabbath	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A Interim	10A-12P Office Hours at M	SEE APRIL CALENDAR FOR MARCH 31
10:30A	Sunday School (M/S at M)		2-4P Office Hours at H	2-4P Office Hours at H	Pastors' Mtg. 5-6:15P Lenten Supper (H/M/S at S)	3P Good Friday Service at Mabel UMC	EASTER SUNDAY
10A	Fellowship (M)				6:30P Maundy Thurs. Service (H/M/S at S)	6:30P Good Friday Service at H	
11A	Worship (M/S at M)				Food Shelf CLOSED		
					7:30P AA (Closed Mtg.)		

April 2024

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	EASTER SUNDAY 31						
8A	Worship (S)	Pastor's Sabbath	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Office Hours at H	9A WELCA mtg/DoDay Potluck Lunch (M)	10A-12P Office Hours at M	
9:30A	Basement Res. (S)		2-4P Office Hours at M	2-4P Office Hours at M	5-7P Food Shelf		
9:30A	Worship (H)		4-6P 8 th Grade Conf. (H/M/S at M)	7:30P AA (Closed Mtg.)			
TBD	Easter Breakfast (M)		7P Cong Council (M)				
11A	Worship (M)						
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8A	Worship (M)	Pastor's Sabbath	9:30A Root River Conf. Pastors' Meeting	10A-12P Office Hours at H	9A Rebecca Circle Quilting (S)	10A-12P Office Hours at M	
9:30A	Worship (S)	9A Stitch & Chat Quilters (S)	11:15A MOW (M—Lydia Circle)	11:15A MOW (M—Lydia Circle)	11:15A MOW (M—Lydia Circle)	11:15A MOW (M—Lydia Circle)	
11A	Worship (H)	11:15A MOW (M—Lydia Circle)	2-4P Office Hours at M	2-4P Office Hours at M	5-7P Food Shelf		
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8A	Worship (M)	Pastor's Sabbath	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Office Hours at M	9A WELCA Bible Study(S)	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Food Shelf
9:30A	Worship (S)	11:15A MOW (S)	11:15A MOW (S)	11:15A MOW (S)	11:15A MOW (S)	11:15A MOW (S)	Open
10:30A	Cong. Council (S)		7P Mabel Area Council of Churches at S	2-4P Office Hours at H	1P Food Shelf Delivery		
11A	Worship (H)		4-6P 8 th Grade Conf. (H/M/S at H)	4-6P 8 th Grade Conf. (H/M/S at H)	7:30P AA (Closed Mtg.)		
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8A	Worship (M)	Pastor's Sabbath	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A Interim Pastors' Meeting	10A Worship at Green Lea Sr. Living	9A Quilters' Therapy at H
9:30A	Worship (S)		11:15A MOW (S)	11:15A MOW (S)	5-7P Food Shelf		
11A	Worship (H)		2-4P Office Hours at H	2-4P Office Hours at H	7:30P AA (Closed Mtg.)		
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8A	Worship (M)	Pastor's Sabbath	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A-12P Office Hours at M	10A Interim Pastors' Meeting	10A Worship at Green Lea Sr. Living	9A Quilters' Therapy at H
9:30A	Worship (S)		11:15A MOW (S)	11:15A MOW (S)	5-7P Food Shelf		
11A	Worship (H)		2-4P Office Hours at H	2-4P Office Hours at H	7:30P AA (Closed Mtg.)		
	28	29	30				
8A	Worship (M)	Pastor's Sabbath	10A-12P Office Hours at M				
9:30A	Worship (S)						
11A	Worship (H)						