



# Mabel First Lutheran Church Scheie Lutheran Church



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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

## MAY/JUNE 2024 NEWS

### SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE-MAY

8AM Worship at Henrytown  
9:30AM Worship at Mabel First—Coffee & fellowship following  
11AM Worship at Scheie —Coffee & fellowship at 10AM-1st & 3rd Sun.

### SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE-JUNE

8AM Worship at Scheie—Coffee & Fellowship following-1st Sun. only  
9:30AM Worship at Henrytown

11AM Worship at Mabel First Lutheran—Coffee/fellowship prior

*The Lord's Supper/Holy Communion will be celebrated during worship at Henrytown, Mabel First and Scheie on May 5 & 12 and June 2 & 9.*

May Ushers (MFL): Bob Schutte (chairman), Richard & Vonda Budde

June Ushers (MFL): Arden Vang (chairman)

5th & 6th grade students will attend a class with Pastor Carla at 3:30 PM on Thursday, May 2 in preparation for their **First Communion on Sunday, May 5**. Congratulations to these young people on this step in their life of faith.

### Senior Recognition



Graduating seniors will be recognized at all three churches during worship on May 19. Please notify the office by May 12 whether or not you will be able to attend so the appropriate arrangements can be made.

Baccalaureate services will be held at Mabel First Lutheran Church at 4:30PM on May 19. This service and the reception that follows is sponsored by the Area Council of Churches. Members are welcome to attend and support our young people as they reach this milestone goal and prepare for the next step in their future..

### Congratulations graduates!

Mabel First High School Graduates: Izabella Gerleman Kayden Ingvalson Emma Schmelzer  
Scheie High School Graduates: Ethan Crouch Colton Tollefsrud

*(Please notify the office if we have missed someone so we can clarify our records and honor them.)*

# CONGREGATION INFORMATION

**PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR CARLA at #507-493-5293 or [pastor@mabelfirst.org](mailto:pastor@mabelfirst.org) for PASTORAL CARE**

## PASTORAL ACTS

### MARCH & APRIL

**Baptisms:** None

**Committal:** Milton Sherberne (non-member)

**Transfer Out:** Chelsey Ardinger (Scheie)

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### IMMEDIATE HEALTH CONCERNS

Rick Bjertness, LeeAnn Howard,  
Lynell Nemitz, 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, Ellen 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,  
Jeannie Vick

### ONGOING PRAYERS

Mabel First Lutheran, Scheie Lutheran,  
Henrytown Lutheran, MFL Prayer Box, Mabel  
Area Food Shelf, Ukraine  
Graduating seniors and their families:  
Izabella, Kayden, Emma, Ethan, and Colton

Pastor's Sabbath: Monday (Tuesday on May 28)

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

### **May Changes noted in Calendar**

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

**Wednesday** 10AM-12PM  
(*1st & 2nd at Henrytown*)  
(*3rd, 4th, 5th at Mabel*)

**Wednesday** 2-4PM  
(*1st & 2nd at Mabel*)  
(*3rd, 4th, 5th at Henrytown*)

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

## MFL CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

\*Steve Darrington, treas. 563-735-5816  
Brian Johnson 493-5658  
Michael Kowalski 493-5192  
Jolyn Mikesh 507-208-8816  
\*Janet Sanden, sec. 493-5078  
\*Deanna Larson, v.pres. 493-5206  
\*Lori Schutte, pres. 493-5670  
Rodney Tollefsrud 493-5570  
*Position Open*

## SCHEIE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Laurie Bigalk 507-459-3165  
\*Dick Engrav, v.pres. 493-5021  
\*DeeAnn Erickson, treas. 493-5233  
Nancy Engrav 493-5021  
Trudy Horihan 493-5749  
\*Deb Marsden, sec. 493-5651  
\*Gerald Peter, pres. 493-5026  
Adam Olson 507-450-6066  
Carolyn White 493-5111

## PARISH BOARD

Following the approval of the Parish Agreement by the Henrytown, Mabel First and Scheie congregations, a Parish Board was established. The Parish Board consists of the Executive Committees of each congregation. Members from Mabel First and Scheie are marked with an asterisk above and are joined by Brock Bergey (president), Jen Dowling (vice president), Rochelle Middendorf (secretary), and Fay Garness (treasurer) from Henrytown.

The Parish Board will meet to make decisions affecting the parish as a whole while the congregation councils will continue to make decisions affecting their individual congregations.



## PARISH BOARD AND CALL COMMITTEE

The Parish Board and Call Committee met with Pastor Barb Streed, Assistant to the Bishop and Pastor Carla on April 28 following worship at Henrytown. The Area Council of Churches, of which all three congregations are members, has approved a request from the Canton Day-Off committee to arrange a 9am Ecumenical Worship service similar to the Steam Engine Days one on August 18. The Parish Board decided to participate in that service in lieu of individual services on that date.

The Call Committee consists of Rochelle Middendorf and Joey Recio from Henrytown, Dorothy Coons and Steven Darrington from Mabel First (*as of 5-1-24*), and Gerald Peter and Dick Engrav from Scheie. Their first task will be to begin the self-study process and complete individual and joint Ministry Site profiles.

Next meeting of the two committees will be on May 5 following worship at Scheie.

## JOINT INFORMATION

### CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Formal classes have concluded for this term. Students can still earn necessary credits by taking sermon notes, reading lessons, or running the PowerPoint during worship services.

They will be cleaning ditches followed by pizza after school on May 8.

Several students assisted with changes made at the Mabel Food Shelf this past month, Their work was greatly appreciated.

### CONGREGATION LIFE

Additional **ushers and communion servers** are needed for worship services. Please contact Rodney Tollefsrud or the church office (MFL) or a council member (Scheie) if you or your family are willing to serve our church in this way.

**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 (MFL) or contact Carolyn White (Scheie) if you are willing to help out.

### 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.

### COMMUNITY LIFE

Mabel First has Meals on Wheels May 6-10 (Phoebe Circle), June 3-7 (Ruth Circle), and July 1-5 (Rachel Circle).

Scheie has Meals on Wheels May 13-17 and June 10-14.

Women's Day at Good Earth Village will be held on June 29. Watch bulletins and flyers for more information.

## MABEL FIRST LUTHERAN INFORMATION

### WELCA



Thank you to members who donated and helped with the Brunch, which will have been held before you receive this.

Thank you also to all who donate cookies and/or time to provide the coffee and fellowship time on Sunday mornings.

Salad Luncheon will be held on July 11.

### PRAYER BOX

I have been asked several times recently why certain individuals are not on our prayer list. Some people are more private and prefer not to be publicly named. Out of respect, no one is listed without permission from the individual or a close family member. You can still pray for them if you are aware of their situation.

Our Prayer Box was created as an additional source for community prayer especially when health or other situations warrant. Anyone is welcome to write a brief prayer of request or thanksgiving for themselves or someone else and place it in the prayer box. When we pray for the prayer box, our prayers are added to the individual prayers even if we are not specifically aware of the requests.

Louise

## SCHEIE LUTHERAN INFORMATION

## CEMETERY BOARD

**Please read** and respond:

The cemetery board has been looking into adding a Columbarium to Scheie. We have been in contact with LaCrosse Memorials. An idea is to put the Columbarium on the park side. We are filling up on grave sites on the church side. We also have a 1 acre area that was donated from Bob and Dode that is currently being farmed. LaCrosse has a 32 Niche Columbarium with an all granite interior, double sided in stock for \$16,505. It is a Canadian mahogany cabinet with black doors. Then we would need to price the cement work. Each niche can hold 2 cremains, increasing the capacity to 64 cremains. We are just looking right now and want to know if any of the congregation has an interest. Each niche could roughly cost \$650 to \$750 at the breakeven price, which that price would be offered to Scheie members. Non-Scheie members would pay more. If anyone has an interest or ideas on a Columbarium, please contact Neil and Lois Halverson at 507-459-1055 or 507-459-2198.

## SCHEIE COUNCIL

Happy spring to all of you. Updates from the council.

A meeting of the call committee/ executive committee was held at Henrytown with Pastor Barb Streed in attendance. Scheie's 2 representatives on the call committee are Gerald Peter and Dick Engrav with Nancy Engrav as alternate. Members of the executive committee from each church are the president, vice president secretary, and treasurer.

We will be having a raffle once again. If anyone wants to donate prize money please contact Trudy as soon as possible.

Upcoming events in May are: 11am services. Meals on wheels May 13- 17th and June 10th - 14th.

May 5th 1st Communion 5th and 6th graders of 2023/24 year.

May 11th Synod Conference

May 12th Interment Dode Stoskopf

May 19th honoring our high school graduates: Ethan Crouch and Colton Tollefsrud. Coffee in honor of the graduates will be at 10 am.

Baccalaureate @ MFL later in afternoon.

No Council meeting in May. Next mtg will be June 10th.

Respectfully submitted, Debbie Marsden



## MABEL FIRST LUTHERAN COUNCIL

### March Meeting Highlights (held on February 28, 2024 following Lenten Service)

- Officers elected were Lori Schutte, president; Deanna Larson, vice president; Janet Sanden, secretary; and Steven Darrington, treasurer.
- One additional member is needed for the Congregation Council.
- Two members from the congregation are needed to serve on the parish call committee as well as one youth at large. Members will reach out to others to secure our representatives.
- Executive Committee: The next meeting of the Parish Board will be on April 28 with the Call Committee and Pastor Barb Streed from the Synod Office.
- Property and Management: Committee will be reaching out to other insurance companies for quotes.
- Youth & Education: Youth will go bowling on March 8. Sunday School children will sing at a joint service on Palm Sunday, which will conclude their classes for this season. Bibles will be given to third and fourth grade students that day. Confirmation students and parents will serve Easter breakfast again.
- The Synod Assembly is May 11 in Mankato. Mabel First is allowed two delegates in addition to Pastor Carla. No one has been identified yet.
- The telephone and internet updates have been completed by Mabel COOP Telephone.
- Committee members were established: Memorial Committee—Jolyn Mikesh, Michael Kowalsky; Property and Management Committee—Brian Johnson, Rodney Tollefsrud, Robert Peterson; Youth and Education Committee—Janet Sanden, Deanna Larson; Music and Worship—Lori Schutte, Janet Sanden.

### April 3, 2024 Meeting Highlights

- There is still one vacancy on the congregation council and call committee members are still needed. Call committee needs to be established before the April 28 meeting of the parish board.
- Youth and Education: Palm Sunday worship and class concluded the Sunday School session for this year. Bibles were presented to third and fourth grade students that day. Melissa Wicklund is reserving the MooMobile for Steam Engine Days so youth and their parents will be expected to work at that fundraiser.
- Property and Management: The parsonage furnace has been replaced after malfunctioning and being determined not worth repairing.
- Music and Worship: The pianos have been tuned.
- Steve was authorized to vote on behalf of the church for the Mabel COOP Telephone meeting.
- The Food Shelf Committee was authorized to remove the divider in the center of the large room they occupy with the understanding it will be disposed of. Old metal shelving will be removed from the food shelf area to make room for more usable shelves. Authorization was given to place it in one of the rooms on the second level to be used for church storage.
- Area Council of Churches representatives will meet at Scheie on April 16. Baccalaureate will be held at 4:30pm on May 19 at Mabel First with Mabel First as the official host. *(ACC members will provide workers and refreshments.)*

## OTHER

The **Mabel Area Food Shelf** Committee is very grateful for the space in the church education wing and the ongoing community support of their mission. They especially want to thank those who participated in the Lenten "Give vs. Giving-up" idea. We thank all the area churches that promoted this for their support and generosity. Individuals and groups who are able to share with us are greatly appreciated.

Food Shelf volunteers have been working diligently this past month to clean, reorganize, and restructure the area. The seventh and eighth grade confirmation students assisted and helped to make our transition relatively smooth. We thank them for this help. Obviously, it is still a work in progress. Many of the changes were needed to maintain the integrity of the food stored in the area and others were to enhance the experience of volunteers and patrons. Most of the changes were possible as the result of two grants we applied for and received. As always, donations are appreciated as well as volunteers and patrons.

## FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR:



15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:1-5)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

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

I like gardening imagery and metaphors. Plants need roots and a stem/vine, to support leaves/fruit. Faith can be compared to a plant. We rely on God's nourishment and the connection Christ has instituted in our lives. We abide in Christ and Christ abides in us. We are bound together. Jesus is our lifeline. We are fed with God's word and nourished by the Holy Spirit. As the outer growth of the plant, we rely on the nourishment and energy infused in us through the roots and stem.

The image also works for the church as both local expressions of the Body of Christ and the Church universal. All those outer branches and leaves are interconnected and stem from one vine. All expressions of Christ's church are fed by the Holy Spirit. Individually, each leaf may seem miniscule, but together they form a canopy. Likewise, each believer is integrated into the larger Body of Christ and together we form a canopy of blessing to the world.

Plants have life cycles. Spring brings new life – budding trees, blooming bulbs, sprouting seeds – all around us. It is also a reminder of the new life God gives us in Jesus Christ. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!" (2 Corinthians 5:17) This also rings true for both individuals and communities alike.

You are in Christ. You are a new creation. This transformation occurs over and over throughout your life as a disciple. God is always forgiving and raising you up to new life. It is in that new life that we move forward, always trusting the power and mercy of God present and active in our own lives and in our communities. You are rooted in the love of God – now and forever. Amen.

In Christ's peace  
Pastor Carla

