



## DRINKING FROM MY SAUCER

By John Paul Moore

I've never made a fortune and it's probably too late now. But I don't worry about that much, I'm happy anyhow. And as I go along life's way, I'm reaping better than I sowed. I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed. I don't have a lot of riches, and sometimes the going's tough. But I've got loved ones around me, and that makes me rich enough. I thank God for his blessings, and the mercies He's bestowed. I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed. I remember times when things went wrong, my faith wore somewhat thin. But all at once the dark clouds broke, and the sun peeped through again. So God, help me not to grip about the tough rows that I've hoed. I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed. If God gives me strength and courage, when the way grows steep and rough. I'll not ask for other blessings, I'm already blessed enough. And may I never be too busy, to help others bear their loads. Then I'll keep drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.

Poem submitted by Lynnette Stevens

## Lent



This year, Lent begins on Wednesday, March 2 with Ash Wednesday and ends on Thursday, April 14 with Maundy Thursday.

During Lent, believers typically fast, give something up or commit to certain acts of kindness for the 40 days between when Lent starts and ends. However, it's sometimes difficult to decide what to give up for Lent — after all, you can only give up chocolate so many times before it gets repetitive. Here are a few suggestions to help you decide what things you would like to try and change about yourself during the Lent season to bring you closer to God:

1. Stop using your phone at the dinner table.
2. Offer forgiveness to someone who has hurt you.
3. Try replacing fast food with healthier options.
4. Give up video games.
5. Donate three things each day to someone in need.
6. Spend 30 minutes each day reading a devotional or your Bible.
7. Write a letter of gratitude each day.
8. Give up on any negativity.
9. Exercise more
10. Spend more time in Prayer.

For more ideas visit [goodhousekeeping.com](http://goodhousekeeping.com)

## The Beat

February 2022– Volume 33– Issue 2

Gothenburg First United Methodist Church

### FACTS AND FIGURES

General Giving Thru Jan 24  
Actual: \$16,300 Budgeted: \$15,259  
Percent of Budgeted: 107%

General Expenses Thru Jan 24  
Actual \$6,489  
Budgeted \$15,250  
Percent of Budgeted 42.5%

Paid Apportionments Thru Jan 24  
Actual: \$1,490 Budgeted: \$1,490  
Percent of Budgeted: 100%

Budgeted Checking Balance \$19,975



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It is time to begin thinking about Vacation Bible School. Four of the past 5 years, we have partnered with the American Lutheran Church. It has been held at the Lutheran Church each of those years. Any thoughts? Any ideas? Anyone want to plan it?

### THANKS!!

A big thanks goes out to the Memorial Committee and to Devin Brundage from the Family Matters group. We needed a new laptop for our younger kids' class. Devin provided us with the laptop, and the Memorial Committee paid for it. Technological frustrations were solved so easily.

### Fellowship Time

Fellowship Coffee following the worship service has been a great success. As a result, several people have indicated that they would like to see it continue. This is strictly done as a result of people volunteering to make coffee and furnish a light refreshment. A sign up sheet will be in the narthex if you would like to be a part of this. We will continue as long as people are willing to be a part of this event. BIG thanks to all who have generously provided the wonderful refreshments. It has been a blessing to be able to fellowship together!



### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY'S

1– Kadie Anderson, Savanna Porter	27– Ashley Abramson
2– Braeden Sabin	28– Mike Anderson, Linda Bowman
7– Ali Bartels	
10– Kelly McCoy	
13– Brian Weaver	
14– Judy Vincent, Lois Johnson	
15– McKinley McCoy	
16– Hailey O'Keefe, Trey Bartels	
17– John Jensen, Steven Windrum	
18– Cora Bosch, Kathryn Bartruff, Justin Sabin	
20– Kim Humphrey, Sharon Sukraw	
21– Carol Bartels	
24– Brian Brede	





# From the Pastor's Desk

February greetings,

I hope your year 2022 is off to a good start and that you are enjoying these nice weather days this winter. A couple people inquired if there were changes in a certain committee and it got me thinking that some members of our congregation may not know when changes in leadership happen. So, I am including here a list of our church leaders for 2022. A star indicates a new addition. I am aware that there are many of our members who serve this church in big ways and whose names are not on this list. We appreciate you all for the ways you support the ministries of our church, through your prayers, finances, time, gifts and talents. God knows your contribution! Together we can do even more for God.

Take a moment and pray the following prayer or your own, giving God thanks for all who serve God through our church, and include yourself.

Prayer: God thank you for those who have answered your call to serve in our church. God, guide the leadership teams of our church to seek out your wisdom -Isaiah 2:3. God, teach us to work together and support one another - 2 Chronicles 15:7. God, we pray that new people will answer your call in their lives- 1 Samuel 3:10. God, teach us new ways to create community and share our witness. God, help us balance time between service to the church, to family, to work and to personal spiritual fulfillment- Psalm 18:36. God, grant me joy in serving you. God bless the ministries of our congregation. Amen.

**SPRC:** Matt Sell (Chair), Devin Brundage, \*Amber Burge, Jodi Hinds, and Robin Stevens (Lay Leader)

**Trustees:** Todd Larson (Chair) Page Peterson, Randy Burge, \*Jami Brundage, Anne Anderson, and \*Archer Jensen

**Finance:** \*Carmen Ackerman (Treasurer), Anne Anderson (Financial Secretary), Kris Loostrom, Gary Fritch, SPRC Chair, Lay Leader

**Endowment:** Duane Sukraw (Chair) Dick Ristine, Joan Windrum, Todd Larson (Trustee Representative), and Treasurer.

**Programming:** Amanda Jensen (Adult's Program Coordinator)

Lynnette Stevens (Youth and Children's Program Coordinator)

**Worship Committee:** Pastor Grace Gichuru, Karla Bartruff, Wendy Ristine, Claire Edson, Anne Anderson, Duane Sukraw, \*Carol VanOverbeke

**Memorial Committee:** Caron VanOverbeke (Chair) Connie Larson, Lorri Weiss, Linda Houborg

**Daycare-Preschool Liaison:** Pastor, Robin Stevens (Lay Leader), Carmen Ackerman (Finance Rep), \*Randy Burge (Trustee), Jodi Hinds (Leadership Board Chair), Casey Madsen (Daycare) and Jordan Aden (Preschool)

**Membership Coordinator:** Anne Anderson

**Lay Member to Annual Conference:** Robin Stevens

**Nominations:** Pastor Grace (Chair) Sharon Sukraw, Laron Peters, \*Wendy Bartels, Robin Stevens (Lay Leader)

**Leadership Board:** Jodi Hinds (Chair), Chairs of committees listed above and other appointed committee representatives, Dennis VanOverbeke (At Large)



## Retired Persons Lunch Bunch

We will be gathering February 2, 2022 in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30 am. We will decide together whether or not the Ground Hog sees his shadow. Either way we will have a good time with a pot luck lunch along with some Valentine’s Day trivia. Hope to see you there!!

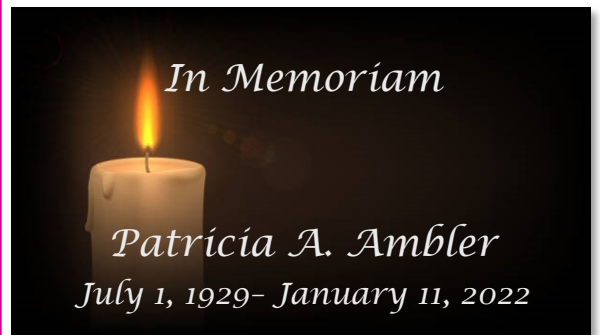


*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

*~1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

## NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The Memorial Committee met after a lengthy absence. We look forward to meeting every other month. We prayerfully consider every request made to the group and decide which ones to purchase. Over the years, several projects were accomplished, thanks to memorials honoring loved ones. Included were, remodeling of the chapel, re-upholstering of pews in the Fellowship Hall, centerpieces for the tables, and communion banners. If you are on a committee and see a need for something please let a member of the Memorial Committee know and we will take in under consideration. Also, please consider giving memorials to our church in memory of your loved ones.



## FAMILY MATTERS STILL MATTER

After a long layoff with 2 Wednesday evenings of bad weather and 2 Wednesday evenings of Christmas vacation, we are BACK!! We average between 30-35 adults and youth each evening. We are thankful for friends of friends attending our meals and activities and classes. Come and join us!!

## SUNDAY MORNING HELPERS

If you are interested in helping out on Sunday mornings during worship, please let Becky know. There are many opportunities, and hopefully one perfect for you. Looking for Greeters, scripture readers, and communion servers. Children's' Time leaders is one that we would like as well, this is a hard one to fill. Please consider this opportunity as well, there are lots of good ideas for Children’s Sermons on line. We plan to put a rotation “schedule” together soon.

