

## In Memoriam

**St. Pauli has lost another servant  
whose zest for life never diminished.**



Patricia Rae Torkelson Swanson was born on October 14, 1937 in Thief River Falls to Anton and Ellen (Johnson) Torkelson. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Pauli Lutheran Church. Patricia attended public school at Knox Elementary and graduated in 1955 from Lincoln High School. Following high school Patricia went on to work for four different superintendents as the secretary for the superintendents office at Lincoln High School.

On August 25, 1956, Patricia was united in marriage to Oliver "Skip" Swanson at Calvary Lutheran Church in St. Hilaire. The couple made their home in the Thief River Falls area their entire lives, where they raised their children, Kevin and Brad.

Patricia was also employed by Union State Bank, the Pennington County Motor Vehicle License Office, the Treasurer's Office, and was the Executive Secretary for the Special Ed Co-op (RIC). Patricia and Skip were partners in their business, Swanson Construction, and from 1984-2001 Patricia owned and operated Swanson Travel.

Patricia over the years enjoyed many activities, including gardening, traveling, and bird watching. She was very passionate about dogs and horses – especially Morgans, which she raised. She was a volunteer at the Pennington County Humane Society, and was active in starting the Kevin Swanson Memorial Garden there. Patricia served as Vice President of the Pennington County Historical Society, was a member of the Hazelnut Homemakers Club, a leader of the Happy Acres 4-H, and a member of the Pennington County Fair Board. Her love of flowers encouraged her to become a member of the Garden Club. She was an active member of St. Pauli and WELCA.

She was preceded in death by her son, Kevin; her parents; and twin sisters in infancy. Patricia Swanson died on Thursday, March 8, 2012 at her home in rural Thief River Falls at the age of 74 years, 4 months and 23 days. May her memory be blessed.

### **Funeral Service**

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Monday, March 12, 2012 10:30 AM  
Rev. Mark Helgeland, Officiating Clergy  
Faye Auchenpaugh, Accompanist

### **Special Music During The Funeral**

Joel Kezar ~ "Go Rest High On That Mountain"  
Wade Benson ~ "Amazing Grace," "The Lord's Prayer," "Goin' Home"

### **Special Music Prior To Funeral**

Rev. Terri Cuppett, Greg Dally, Joel & Laura Rude

### **Congregational Hymns**

"How Great Thou Art" & "He Leadeth Me"

### **Casketbearers**

Charissa Larson, Jerod Haugen, Jason Haugen, Alicia Smrekar  
Darren Torkelson, Brett Torkelson, Trevor Swanson, Corey Bugge

### **Honorary Casketbearers**

All of Patricia's Lincoln High School Classmates – Class of 1955

### **Interment**

St. Pauli Cemetery

*In honor of Patricia, the bell was rung at St. Pauli Church en route to the St. Pauli Cemetery*  
Memorials preferred to the Pennington County Humane Society or The American Cancer Society



# Minutes of the Church Council

MARCH 15, 2012

The St. Pauli Church Council held its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 15, 2012 at St. Pauli Church. Members present: Sharon Bergerson, Arlo Rude, Wahna Smith, Jodie Torkelson and Pastor Carl Hansen. The meeting was called to order by Council President Rude at 7:10 pm. Pr. Hansen opened the meeting with prayer.

## Secretary's Report

Torkelson distributed the minutes of the February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. After they were reviewed, Smith made a motion to approve; Bergerson seconded; motion carried.

## Treasurer's Report

Bergerson presented the treasurer's report. Expenditures for February 2012 were \$2,444.51 and Income was \$2,923.00. Checking account balance as of February 29 was \$15,813.35; savings account balance was \$20,365.62. The Memorial Fund balance was \$21,668.68 and the Cemetery Association balance was \$2,513.93. Bergerson noted that St. Pauli received a refund for the Worker's Compensation that is no longer needed. Torkelson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Smith seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

## Pastor's Report

- Pastor Hansen thanked the council and congregation for the expressions of compassion on the recent death of his mother. He said the flowers from the congregation were a beautiful match for her casket spray.
- He also reported that he has enjoyed participating in the round robin Wednesday Lenten Services and noted that most of the other congregations are using the Holden Evening Prayer Liturgy for those services. Torkelson offered to order a copy from Augsburg and bring to the next council meeting for further discussion.
- The Northwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly is May 11-12 at Concordia College. Pastor Hansen indicated he would be willing to attend on St. Pauli's behalf. The council approved reimbursement for his \$175 registration fee and Rude will announce the Assembly at the next worship services to see if anyone else from the congregation is interested in attending.
- The Synod is holding stewardship training at Redeemer on April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2pm-4pm. Bergerson will contact Sharon Bugge and Sally Torkelson, WELCA's stewardship chairs, to see if they plan to attend.
- Pastor Hansen asked if the congregation would be interested in doing the dramatic reading of the Passion Gospel on Palm Sunday. It is an approximately 15 minute reading requiring 9 people. Other than the narrator and the person portraying Jesus, everyone else can read their parts from their pew. The council approved and Torkelson offered to order 10 copies.
- The dedication date for the new ELW hymnals will be discussed further at the next meeting. By that time, the order will have been submitted and a delivery date should be known. Pr. Hansen suggested we consider bookmarks to mark liturgy and hymns for each service.
- Pastor Hansen also informed the Council that he would be available to lead worship all of April except the 29<sup>th</sup>. Rude has lined up Frank Ehling for that date.

## Organizational Reports

Rude suggested that the various church groups provide the council with periodic short updates of their activities so that the council is aware of what is taking place. Their presidents/chairs will be contacted about this.

- WELCA - Bergerson reported that WELCA is discussing new carpeting and painting the downstairs paneling. Fall Supper participants will need to be trained on proper food handling procedures. David Lee will conduct the training.
- Men's Bible Study - Rude reported that the men's group will have a different discussion topic each month. Jim Strandlie will lead the next discussion on the differences between Muslims and Christians.
- Board of Education – Torkelson and Smith reported that Sunday School continues every other Sunday.

## Old Business

- Status of Sound Systems – Rude reported that the sound system upstairs is working well. He also installed a speaker system downstairs. This could also be used for overflow situations.
- Electrical Wiring Changes – Rude installed new switches to make it easier to turn on the lights on the wreaths, Christmas tree, and cross. He is also rewiring the furnace room so cords no longer are hanging over the sump pump hole. Council again thanked him for all of his hard work in improving the church building.
- Pulpit Base – Don Schindler completed work on the base. The estimate was \$300 but actual was \$275.
- Partnering with Zion Church - Rude reported on the follow-up meeting that was held with Zion in February. They would like us to sign an agreement. Rude said they were told we needed a little more time to discuss the changes this would mean to our church, in particular the changes in worship time. There are concerns about what an 11:30am worship service would mean to attendance.

## New Business

- Memorials – discussion was held on whether or not there is a formal acceptance policy in place for memorials. Rude offered to research policies in other congregations and bring that information back to the next meeting.
- Vacant Council Position – the Council discussed the vacancy that exists with the recent death of Patricia Swanson. Under our constitution, the congregation will need to vote to fill the vacancy. The council discussed potential candidates to bring forward to a special council meeting for approval. Rude will approach them about their interest in serving on the council.
- Task Force Report's Outstanding Items – Rude handed out a master list of items from the Task Force that included the status of the item and who is the lead person. Council members will review the list in the next few weeks and, at the next council meeting, discuss the process for reaching closure on these items.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jodie Torkelson, Church Council Secretary

## Historic Minutes of the St. Pauli Congregation

**28 December 1898**

The annual meeting of the St. Pauli Norwegian-Evangelical Lutheran congregation was held in the Braaten schoolhouse on December 28th 1898.

The meeting was opened with song and prayer by Pastor I. T. Aastad as chairman. Thereafter the report of the secretary was read and accepted without changes.

Jorgen Thvetin and Ole Hestekind were admitted as consultant members during the meeting.

Election of officials:

- Odegaard was re-elected as trustee for the congregation for 3 years.
- Halvor Thorstveit was re-elected as treasurer of the congregation for 1 year
- Peder Simonson was re-elected as secretary of the congregation for 1 year.

The grave-place committee:

Leader of the committee:

- I. A. A. Odegaard,
- II. Hans Amundson,
- III. Peter Thune

The proposition was supported that Halvor Thorstveit shall take up a collection to cover the expenses for the grave-place of the congregation.

Sunday school teachers: John Sjerva is put forward and supported as Sunday school teacher. Ole Hestekind is put forward and supported as assistant teacher. A. Odegaard is put forward and supported as Sunday school teacher. Jacob Amundson is put forward and supported as assistant teacher. Accepted.

It was proposed and supported that the secretary shall collect a subscription towards the pastor's salary. The subscription amounted to \$ 46.00.

It was proposed and supported that the secretary shall write to the chairman of the Mission's committee and ask the Mission for support to the pastor's salary.

Upon proposal the meeting was ended.

Officials of the congregation:

Trustees:

Tollef Erickson until 1899

Pete Nilson until 1900

A. A. Odegaard until 1901

Halvor Thorstveit, treasurer 1 year

Peder Simonson, secretary 1 year

Peder Simonson, secretary of the congregation

Copied by Pete Simonson

**Editor's note:** From time to time, you may notice spellings of member names in the historic minutes that differ from current spellings. This may be due to Americanizations, errors, or possibly to variants of those names originating in the various parts of Norway in which St. Pauli's officers had been born and raised.

Perhaps a bit of history on Norwegian education might be interesting here...

Until the middle of the 1700s, just like everywhere else, most Norwegians were illiterate. Only a few could read and write.

The church thought it was important for people to be able to read the Bible. Therefore, in 1739, Norway got its first Education Act. (This could have had something to do with its being controlled by Denmark which had established 240 "cavalry schools" throughout Denmark in 1721.) At school, children learned reading and about Christianity.

In 1827, writing, mathematics and singing were introduced. All children started school when they were 7 years old and they finished when they were around 14 years old and were confirmed in the church.

This explains why U.S. census records from the 1800s invariably show most Norwegian immigrants as being able to read and write.

Contrast this timeline with public education in the U.S.:

The Puritans were the first in this country to point out the need for some kind of public education. They, too, established schools to teach not just the essentials – reading, writing and math – but also to reinforce their core values.

After the American Revolution, Thomas Jefferson argued that the newly independent nation needed an educational system, and he suggested that tax dollars be used to fund it. His please were ignored, however, and the idea for a public school system languished for nearly a century.

By the 1840s, a smattering of public schools had popped up around the country in communities that could afford them. Educators like Horace Mann of Massachusetts and Henry Barnard of Connecticut began calling for free, compulsory school for every child in the nation. Massachusetts passed the first compulsory school laws in 1852. New York followed the next year, and by 1918 all American children were required to attend at least elementary school, nearly 200 years after Norway had introduced public education for all.

**“LIFE WITHOUT GOD IS LIKE AN  
UNSHARPENED PENCIL –  
IT HAS NO POINT.”**

# St. Pauli News in Detail



## Good Friday Worship

April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

Our liturgy will be a *Tenebrae* service, an ancient liturgy which originated in monasteries. *Tenebrae*, which means "Service of Darkness," consists of lessons and hymns focusing on the passion of Jesus. Seven lighted candles are placed on the altar, and these are extinguished one by one during the liturgy. At the end of the service, the last candle is removed from the sanctuary; a loud noise is made as a remembrance of the earthquake and the rending of the Temple curtain following Jesus' death. The lighted candle is then brought back into the sanctuary and placed on the altar as a foreshadowing of the resurrection.

*Tenebrae* is a quietly dramatic and moving service.

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## Greeting and Ushering

April 1	Jodie Torkelson
April 8	Wallace Torkelson
April 15	Chad Torstveit
April 22	Valerie Torstveit
April 29	"Wing-It" ushering duties

### Sunday Service:

- Light altar candles before service and put out flames after church.
- Act as Greeters and hand out bulletins.
- Usher for offering and communion.
- Tidy up pews after church to make it ready for the next Sunday's services.

**Altar Preparation:** Jodie Torkelson

## Easter Worship

Sunrise Services  
April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 am

Please join us in celebrating the resurrection and life of our Risen Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the worship service.

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## April Milestones

### Birthdays

April 3 Eunice Grove

### Anniversaries

(None that we know of)

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## Mystery Solved!

Our mystery plowman has been identified. It was Craig Folkedah! We thank him, and we also thank others in our congregation who make extraordinary contributions of their time, money and talents toward making St. Pauli a wonderful place in which to worship in fellowship and to serve the world.

## 50 Kits!

This Lenten season, St. Pauli congregation took part in Lutheran World Relief's *Baskets of Promise* appeal. Each Sunday, we collected items to form Personal Care Kits that help impoverished people stay healthy in life's most challenging situations.

We met our goal of assembling 50 kits! Thank you to everyone who donated so generously.

# One Good Man



ut GOD was watching.

**(Genesis 6:9 – 7:10)**

He saw what a terrible place the world had become.

He saw that everyone was lying, and cheating, and killing. He saw that no one cared about doing what was good and right anymore. And God knew that in their hearts all they wanted to do was evil and bad.

But... God saw one good man.

His name was Noah.

Noah still cared about God. He listened to God, and he always tried to do what God said. And God was pleased with Noah.

God said to Noah, "Noah, I have decided to put an end to this mess people have made of my world, and start all over."

So God said to Noah, "I want you to build an ark."

"What's an ark?" Noah asked.

"It's a box to keep special things safe in," God said. "But your ark is going to be a boat too!"

"What's a boat?"

"You'll see!" God said. It was going to be a very BIG boat. God told Noah exactly how to make it. It was going to be longer than a football field, and higher than a three story house. It was going to have one door, and a window all around beneath the roof.

God called the boat an "ark."

This was going to be a big job for a 500 year old man!

That's how old Noah was when God gave him his little project to do. Now, Noah might have thought, "This job is too big, and I am too old!" And he didn't even have any power tools out back in his shed. But he did have God, and with God on your side, anything is possible.

So Noah went right to work. He did everything just as God had told him to.

His neighbors must have thought he was crazy. While they were spending all their time doing wicked things just to please themselves, Noah was hard at work, pleasing God. Noah kept on working, day after day, year after year. And day after day, year after year, people laughed at him.

And then one day Noah put down his hammer.

The ark was finished.

There it was, this giant boat, resting on dry land - and no lake in sight!

What was God thinking?

He was thinking he had another job for Noah!

A really BIG job.

God said to Noah, "Now I want you to find two of every kind of animal, a male and a female, and bring them into the ark. And bring enough food for them all too." (God also told Noah to bring extra pairs of some animals, some for food, and some for sacrifices.)

Just think what a noise that must have been. Cows mooing. Lions roaring. Dogs barking. Elephants trumpeting - all at once. What a noise!

And what a mess! (It must have smelled pretty bad too.)

And how do you keep the tigers from eating the little lambs?

Still, with God's help, Noah did it all, just as God told him to.

Until finally there was just one more animal to get up onto the ark.

Noah was pushing on the wrinkly behind of a big grumpy elephant - an elephant who really didn't want to go on a cruise - when Noah felt a drop of rain hit his head.

**NEXT TIME:  
"THE GREAT FLOOD"**



# The Resume of Jesus Christ

Address: Ephesians 1:20  
Phone: Romans 10:13  
Website: The Bible.  
Keywords: Christ, Lord, Savior and Jesus

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## Objective

My name is Jesus – The Christ. Many call me Lord! I've sent you my resume because I'm seeking the top management position in your heart. Please consider my accomplishments as set forth in my resume.

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## Qualifications

I founded the earth and established the heavens, (See Proverbs 3:19)  
I formed man from the dust of the ground, (See Genesis 2:7)  
I breathed into man the breath of life, (See Genesis 2:7)  
I redeemed man from the curse of the law, (See Galatians 3:13)  
The blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant comes upon your life through me, (See Galatians 3:14)

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## Occupational Background

I've only had one employer, (See Luke 2:49)  
I've never been tardy, absent, disobedient, slothful or disrespectful.  
My employer has nothing but rave reviews for me, (See Matthew 3:15-17)

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## Skills Work Experiences

Some of my skills and work experiences include:  
empowering the poor to be poor no more, healing the brokenhearted, setting the captives free, healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind and setting at liberty them that are bruised, (See Luke 4:18),  
I am a Wonderful Counselor, (See Isaiah 9:6),  
People who listen to me shall dwell safely and shall not fear evil, (See Proverbs 1:33),  
Most importantly, I have the authority, ability and power to cleanse you of your sins. (See I John 1:7-9)

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## Educational Background

I encompass the entire breadth and length of knowledge, wisdom and understanding, (See Proverbs 2:6).  
In me are hidden all of the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, (See Colossians 2:3).  
My Word is so powerful; it has been described as being a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path, (See Psalms 119:105).  
I can even tell you all of the secrets of your heart, (See Psalms 44:21).

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## Major Accomplishments

I was an active participant in the greatest Summit Meeting of all times, (See Genesis 1:26)  
I laid down my life so that you may live, (See II Corinthians 5:15)  
I defeated the arch enemy of God and mankind and made a show of them openly, (See Colossians 2:15)  
I've miraculously fed the poor, healed the sick and raised the dead!  
There are many more major accomplishments, too many to mention here. You can read them on my website, which is located at: [www dot - the BIBLE](http://www.dot-theBIBLE.com). You don't need an Internet connection or computer to access my website.

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## References

Believers and followers worldwide will testify to my divine healing, salvation, deliverance, miracles, restoration and supernatural guidance.

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## In Summation

Now that you've read my resume, I'm confident that I'm the only candidate uniquely qualified to fill this vital position in your heart. In summation, I will properly direct your paths (See Proverbs 3:5-6), and lead you into everlasting life (See John 6:47). When can I start? Time is of the essence, (See Hebrews 3:15).

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# Hymnal Donations

We have had outstanding responses and donations from current and former St. Pauli members for the new ELW hymnals. A total of 79 regular and 5 large print books have been donated and the following is a listing of donations received as of March 30, 2012. It does not indicate the number of hymnals given by each donor.

## DONOR

1. Melba & Erling Lundeen
2. Larry & JoAnn Hurst
  
3. Kari Torkelson
  
4. Valerie Torstveit
5. Bruce & Shelley Mathson
  
6. Marisa Benson
  
7. Kamin & Michelle Johnson
  
8. Arlo Rude
9. Damita Underwood
  
10. Barbara Smith
11. Walt & Elinor Wiskow
  
12. Gary Iverson
13. Jodie Torkelson
  
14. Wallace Torkelson
15. Shirley Johnson
  
16. Edna Rondorf
17. Meribeth Dicken  
Staci Reay  
Craig Folkedahl
18. Sharon Bergerson
  
19. Sharon Bugge
20. Jana Johnson

## IN MEMORY OF / IN HONOR OF (H)

- Gust & Marie Gustafson  
Irving & Dorothy Iverson  
Guy & Nadine Hurst  
Carol Larson
- Melvin & Helen Torkelson  
Adolph & Harda Hagen  
Delores (Dodie) Torkelson  
(H) Wallace Torkelson
- Melvin & Thelma Torstveit  
Delores (Dodie) Torkelson  
Martin & Alma Mathson  
Melvin & Helen Torkelson  
(H) Rachel Kleber - St. Pauli soloist  
(H) Michelle Forness - St. Pauli organist
- Helen Torkelson  
Pat Culkins
- (H) Faye Auchenpaugh  
(H) Evie & Jim Johnson  
Herman & Beatrice Rude  
Oliver Auchenpaugh  
Helen Torkelson  
Melvin Torkelson
- Doug Smith  
Marie Gustafson  
Gust Gustafson  
Harley Iverson  
Delores (Dodie) Torkelson  
(H) Wallace Torkelson  
Delores (Dodie) Torkelson  
Clara & Anton Johnson  
Marlene & Curtis Johnson  
Eugene Rondorf  
Bonnie Folkedahl
- Rodney Bergerson  
Chris Bergerson  
Kate & George Swanson  
Clara Carlson

# The Back Page

## THE "U IN JESUS

Before U were thought of or time had begun,  
God even stuck U in the name of His Son.  
And each time U pray, you'll see it's true  
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,  
For U, He was born; that's why He came.  
And His great love for U is the reason He died.  
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand  
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan.  
The stones split away, the gold trUmper blew,  
and this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension,  
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.  
Go into the world and tell them it's true  
That I love them all - just like I love U.

So many great people are spelled with a U,  
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?  
It all depends now on what U will do,  
He'd like them to know  
But it all starts with U.

Author Unknown

