

St. Pauli News in Detail



Greeting and Ushering

May 5 Ivette Garrett
May 12 Bryan Grove
May 19 Jerod Haugen
May 26 Marc Haugen

Cleaning: Clean *prior* to your Sunday to usher.

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: Virginia Anderson

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May Milestones

Birthdays

May 3 Barb Smith
May 8 Inez Mathson
May 8 Shelley Mathson
May 15 Tammy Haugen
May 18 Becky Stickler
May 21 Virginia Anderson
May 28 Ivette Garrett



Anniversaries:

May 7 Craig and Sally Torkelson

Are we missing your anniversary or birthday? If so, please contact Faye at auchenpaugh@gmail.com.

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SPRING CLEANING!!

Monday, May 6

6:00 pm

Every year we ask that all able-bodied members come to help out for this critical cleaning. We had to postpone it by almost a month this year due to our cold and wet spring.

Please come prepared to do any of the many tasks that are listed on the work sheets: wash windows, wash basement ceiling lights, clean all of the pews, clean and wash the sanctuary floor, dust the entire altar piece, clean out closets, drawers, etc.

Coffee and treats are served around 8:30.

It's a big job, but if we have lots of working hands it takes much less time. If you can't come on Monday night, the list is on the serving counter and you can come another time that you're free to see what remains to be finished and check off the task you have completed.

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Meet the Bishop Election Pre-Nominees

May 16

7:00 pm

This is your opportunity to hear from the 6 pre-nominees in preparation for the Synod Assembly.

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Last Day of Sunday School Until Fall Is May 12th



In Memoriam

Sylvia Lokken

Sylvia Lokken, 85, formerly of Thief River Falls, passed away on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at White Pines Assisted Living, Fridley, MN.

Sylvia May Lokken was born in Thief River Falls on December 8, 1933, the daughter of Louie and Cora (Finkle) Lokken. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Pauli Lutheran Church and her wishes were to have her funeral there.

In Minneapolis Sylvia was a member of Central Lutheran Church and served as a regular Sunday usher. In her early years, Sylvia worked as a teller at a bank in Grand Forks, and also in Fargo, ND. She then decided to move to Minneapolis, where she would be closer to her family. In Minneapolis she worked for Presbyterian Homes Inc. until her retirement.

Sylvia enjoyed spending time at her sisters' homes, especially during the holidays (she loved good home cooking). Her favorite holiday was Christmas. She enjoyed everything about Christmas, but especially enjoyed the message of our Savior's birth.

Sylvia had a very outgoing personality, and loved talking to just about anybody. She was always ambitious and kept herself very busy, especially with her church. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

Survivors include sisters Carol (Lloyd) Halvorson of Ham Lake, Carmen (Stuart) Solem of Grand Rapids and Joyce Jensen of Minneapolis; sister-in-law LoAnne Lokken of Minneapolis; nieces Linda Halvorson, Nancy Halvorson, Cindy (Nick) Schafer, Lori (Mike) Lucht and Kashina Brooks; nephews Randy (Susie) Dahle, Larry (Jayme) Halvorson, Mark Halvorson, Mike (Debra) Solem, Darryl (Kathy) Solem, Dr. Craig Solem, Rick (Mary) Bjorgaard; as well as several special great and great-great nieces and nephews.

Sylvia is preceded in death by her parents, infant sister, sisters Sharon Lokken, Emily Lokken, Marge Dahle; brother Leo Lokken; nephew Terry Dahle and brothers-in-law Reuben Dahle and Fred Jensen.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 11:30 AM at St. Pauli Lutheran Church rural Thief River Falls, MN with Reverend Carl Hansen officiating. Burial will be held at St. Pauli Church Cemetery.

Visitation was held one hour prior to the service on Saturday May 4, 2019 at the church.



Sylvia was confirmed at St. Pauli on June 22, 1947 by Rev. Casper T. Fjelstul.

**Front row: Rev. Fjelstul, Ruby Alberg (Engelstad), Sylvia Lokken,
Geraldine Torkelson (Guerard)**

**Back row: Reuben Finstad, Curtis Johnson, Orville Nelson,
Dale Netteland, Jim Gilbertson**

In Memoriam

Gladys Vigen

Gladys (Vigen) Hallstrom was baptized by Pastor Dahle on July 20, 1931. She was a first cousin to Helen (Wiken) Torkelson and Clayton Mathson. Her parents and family were members of St. Pauli Church until 1934.



Gladys Hilma Irene Vigen was born July 11, 1931 to Edward and Martha (Moe) Vigen in Thief River Falls. Pastor Dahle of St. Pauli Church baptized her on July 20, 1931. At the age of 3, her family transferred to Zion Lutheran Church where she was confirmed in 1945 and active in Luther League and Bible Camp. She attended Knox Elementary School and Lincoln Junior/Senior High School, graduating in 1949. She kept house for her brother, Bert, on the farm for two years and then attended Augsburg College in Minneapolis.

Gladys married Wilbur Alfred Hallstrom on June 27, 1953 at Zion. They lived on the Hallstrom family farm west of St. Hilaire (listed as a Century Farm in 1992). To this union four children were born: Gregory Alfred, Anita Mae, Marya Louise and Daniel Edward. Wilbur died November 2, 1994.

Gladys was an active member at Zion where she served on the worship board, sang in the choir, was secretary of the church council, taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, was active in ZLCW circles as well as president, secretary and education secretary of the LCW and served a term as secretary for the Conference LCW. She also helped organize Leisure Fellowship in the early 1970's.

She was an active 4-H member for ten years and an adult leader for twelve years, being recognized for her service with the Pennington County 4-H Alumni award. She was a member of the 4-H Hall of Fame.

Gladys was a stay-at-home Mom until 1970 when she went to work with the Minnesota Crop Reporting Service for three years, then six years as the baker at Lon's Restaurant, next as a demo person for Piggly Wiggly in 1978 and later at Hugo's when they opened in 1988 - working mainly for Cass Clay Creamery - and finally (before retiring), over three years for Jane Mattson Catering in charge of the ground floor lunchroom at Digi-Key.

She was active with Wilbur in the operation of the farm, especially with their registered Milking Shorthorn cattle (her part was the calves - naming them and feeding them). They were active in the Milking Shorthorn Assn. at the local, district, state and national levels; she served as secretary for the state association for twelve years. She was named Farm Woman of the Year for Pennington County in 1985 and received the Farmer/Homemaker award together with Wilbur in 1990 at the Red River Valley Winter Shows. She was also active in Homemakers; served as president of the Home Council; served on the Board of Directors for the American Cancer Society; Board of Directors for the Area Ag Center; treasurer of Black

River Township; election judge; and worked with the Minnesota Make It With Wool Assn. on the local, district and state level (chaperoning one state winner to the National Convention in Oregon). Gladys was appointed director from Pennington County on the Red River Valley Development Assn. in 1994 and was also appointed to the local Extension Committee in 1996 (retiring from both of these positions in recent years).

In 2014 Gladys sold the family farm to her son, Greg, and moved into Thief River Falls, first to Skylite Apartments and most recently residing at Oakland Park Communities.

She is survived by four children: Gregory (special friend, Katherine Duray), Thief River Falls; Anita (Mark) Udager, North Oaks, MN; Marya (Greg) Leach, Sioux Falls, SD; and Daniel, Owasso, OK; nine grandchildren: Heather (Joe) Bregier, St. Hilaire; Michael (Stephanie) Hallstrom, Boise, ID; Bryce Hallstrom with the US Air Force; Andrea (Scott) Collins, Blaine, MN; Aaron (Kara) Udager, Ann Arbor, MI; Matthew (fiancé, Stacey Pritchard) Leach, Minneapolis, MN; Kelli (Lee) Nori, Rockwall, TX; Krista (special friend, Paul Hawkins) Leach, Stillwater, MN; and Kaila (Dave) DiNallo, Wyoming, MI; also 13 great-grandchildren: Evan and Lilly Bregier; Annaleigh, Charlotte, Eilsa and Harald Collins; Alex, Ryan and Johanna Udager; Elyse Leach; Audette Nori; Tyler and Corie DiNallo as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins. Gladys was preceded in death by husband Wilbur; parents, Edward and Martha Vigen; infant brother and sister; brothers: Oscar, Bert and Melvin Vigen; sisters-in-law: Lois Vigen, Jolyn Vigen, and Marge Vigen; and nieces: Angela and Jennifer Vigen.

Gladys Hallstrom passed away on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at Sanford Hospital, Thief River Falls, MN.

Funeral services were held Saturday, April 6, 2019, at Zion Lutheran Church in Thief River Falls with Reverends John Golv and Ale Tulu officiating. Burial followed at Greenwood Cemetery in Thief River Falls. Visitation was held Friday, April 5, 2019, 5-7pm with a prayer service at 6:30 pm at Zion Lutheran Church. Visitation was also held Saturday, 9:30-10:30 am at Zion Lutheran Church.

Minutes of the Church Council

March 18, 2019

The St. Pauli Church Council Met on Thursday March 18, 2019 at 7:00pm at St. Pauli Church. Board Members Present: Virginia Anderson, Ivette Garrett, Gary Iverson, Erin Rondorf, Arlo Rude and Pastor Carl Hanson.

The meeting was called to order by President Garrett. Pastor Carl opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as submitted.

Secretary's Report: **M/S/C** (Rude/Anderson) to approve the February 21, 2019 secretary's report.

Treasurer's Report: **M/S/C** (Iverson/Garrett) to approve the report as presented for the month of February.

Checking Account as of 1/31/19	\$ 20,637.80
Income	\$ 2,385.00
Expenses	\$ (6,426.31)
Checking Account as of 2/28/19	\$ 16,596.49
Investor Savings	\$ 36,263.94
Certificates of Deposit	\$ 20,000.00
Edward D. Jones Investments	\$ 47,054.86
Memorial Fund Savings & CD	\$ 10,913.47
Mission Grant Fund Balance	\$ 4,040.97
Education Fund Balance	\$ 516.87
Total Church Funds as of 2/28/19:	\$ 135,386.60

Pastor Carl's Report:

1. The last month has been challenging weather wise. An all-time record for cancelled services this winter.
2. The Synod Assembly will meet at Concordia College on June 7, 8, & 9. We will be electing a new synod bishop to serve a six-year term, which begins on Sept. 1.
3. Pastor Carl will be attending the Assembly. His registration fee is \$85. St. Pauli is also entitled to 1 or 2 delegates. Faye and Ivette have volunteered to go.

4. Pastor Carl does not currently have travel plans for the summer. He will be preaching at Trinity's 9am service on July 14, July 21, August 18 and August 25 while Pastor Voelker is on vacation. If Pastor Carl is absent, Pastor Voelker is available for pastoral services.

Reports of members in sickness or distress: Prayers were given for various members experiencing sickness.

New Members or interested in membership: No report given.

Reports

- a. WELCA: Have been quilting. Made approximate 15 quilts.
- b. Board of Education: Sunday School plans to sing in church sometime this spring.
- c. Other: Virginia Anderson attended the ELCA Conference meeting. The speaker from Pathways was enthusiastic and bright. Additional information given on the upcoming election on the new bishop.

Old Business

- a. Constitution/Bylaws timelines: April meeting- bring meeting time suggestions
- b. 125th Anniversary timelines: bring meeting timeline suggestions to April meeting
- c. Modem: Sjoberg's internet
- d. Attendance

New Business

- a. Meeting on Maundy Thursday
- b. 2019 Congregational Information to MWMN Synod
- c. Building a Bigger Table
- d. Cross: Dress for Easter

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer. **M/S/C** (Garrett/Rude) to adjourn.

Erin Rondorf, Secretary

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Minutes of the Women of the ELCA

February 21, 2019

The St. Pauli Women of the ELCA met February 21, 2019 following two days of quilting: February 20 and 21 from 10:00 – 4:00. Fourteen quilts were made to add to the 8 made in January. Six members were present.

President Janet opened with devotions: Romans 8:28 talked about how we question "Was it God again?" when things happen in our lives. Followed by prayer.

Secretary's report was read and approved. Treasurer's report was read by Faye and approved.

Checking balance December 31, 2018:	\$ 669.31
January income: WELCA offering	37.00
January expenses: Print 2019 handbook	(50.00)
Century Link	(22.01)
Total Expenses:	\$ 72.01
Checking balance January 31, 2019:	\$ 634.30
Savings Interest	.37
Savings balance January 31, 2019:	\$ 868.11

Virginia gave the stewardship report. She used Ron Anderson's Thrivent card of \$250 to purchase quilt batting and flannel for baby care kits.

Old Business: Discussions on making new altar cloths and whether to use plexiglass or glass on top of them. Ivette made motion to use plexiglass on altar (\$60) and glass on table (\$35). Cindy seconded. Motion carried.

Faye talked about installation of modem in storage closet in back of church basement (top shelf). Everyone agreed this was fine. Church council will take care of this.

Thank you letters from Violence Intervention Project, TRF Area Community Fund, Salvation Army, NW MN Synod, NL Rescue, and Project 24 were read.

There was discussion on needing more tables for the dining area. It was decided we have the tables; they just need to be set up.

Discussion on more members needing to know where to find the keys for chair lift, etc. and how to operate it.

There will be no WELCA meeting in March due to Lent. We will be collecting items for personal care kits during Lent. Ash Wednesday is March 6. The schedule for serving coffee after Lenten services was discussed.

WELCA will serve rolls, juice and coffee after the 8:00 am Easter serving on April 21. Janet and Virginia will bring rolls.

Spring cleaning is April 15. Next meeting is April 24. We will be working on stewardship projects. April 28 is Blanket Sunday.

Janet has attended a meeting where Lutheran Social Service provided a program on respite care that was very informative. Ivette will contact them when we need pulpit fill in.

Lydia Circle is in charge of the May program.

Offering taken. Prayer partners exchanged and Lord's Prayer prayed. Meeting adjourned.

Sharon Bugge, Secretary

BLANKET SUNDAY

The WELCA ladies quilted four days in January and February and made a total of 25 quilts during those four days. One quilt was donated by a member, making a total of **26 quilts**.

The WELCA ladies also gathered or donated items to make a total of **12 Baby Care Kits**.

Through our collections during Lent, 30 Personal Care Kits were assembled. Sunday School children made another 5 kits and a monetary donation made possible another 3 kits—for a total of **38 Personal Care Kits**.



Tomte & the Troll



Tomtes and Trolls are as old as the dawn of Scandinavia... and are sworn enemies. So how is it possible that a *Tomte* and a *Troll* become friends? Hear the stories, straight from the fairytale characters themselves. Josette Antomarchi and David Braddock will take you back to ancient beliefs of Scandinavia in a charming and enchanted adventure on **Sunday, May 12, 3:00 pm, Methodist Church.**

For over 15 years, David, Rose Arrowsmith DeCoux, and now Josette have worked their high-energy, interactive brand of magic at the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis, The Hjemkomst festival of Fargo/Moorhead & The Norsk Høstfest of Minot as well as countless schools in Minnesota and North Dakota.

David Braddock has over 40 years of experience creating, developing, directing and performing seasonal, ethnic, acclaimed and special characters. David's primary training is in the Art of Mime and Theatrical Stage Movement, having studied with Marcel Marceau, Margolis Brown and other Movement Arts teachers and schools.

Josette Antomarchi, a French native joined the Trolleri Players in 2011. She started her career touring Europe as a professional actress. Josette then came to the States as a founding member of Theatre de la Jeune Lune. Since that time, Josette has been active with many theater companies, storytelling leagues, and as a co-creator and host of TV shows for the Children's Hospitals of Minneapolis & St. Paul.

Odd S. Lovoll has spent his career chronicling the stories of Norwegian immigrants to the United States and Canada.

He, too, was an immigrant at a young age, and like many international migrants returned to his homeland for a period during his young adult life before settling permanently in the United States. This personal connection has long informed his work, and now he has turned his academic's eye to his own story.

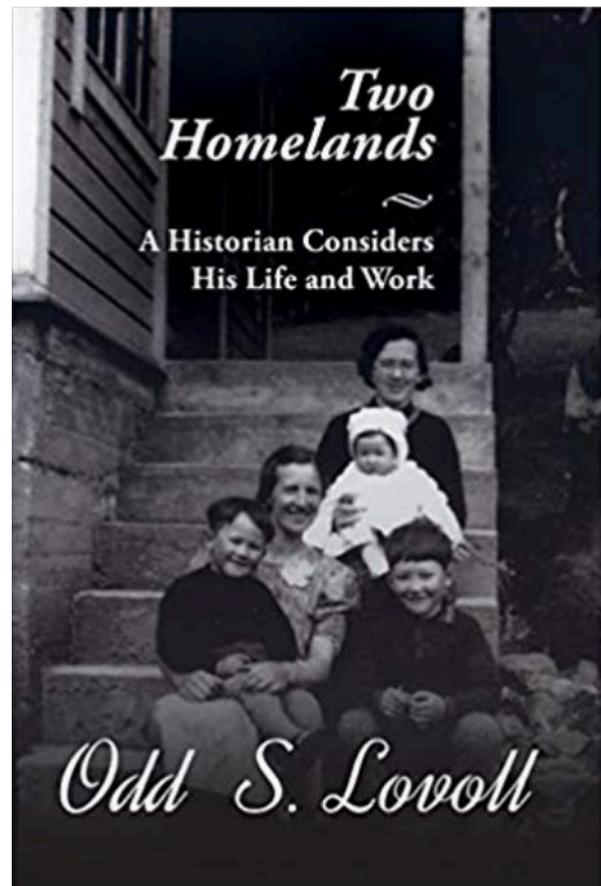
In his book talk based on his memoirs, *Two Homelands*, Lovoll narrates the full arc of his life, beginning with memories of hardship during World War II, while his father was separated from the family, followed later by the devastating loss of his older brother in a sailing accident.

He considers language and cultural barriers faced as an immigrant to the United States and then as an outsider when he returned to Norway.

He traces his early years as a teacher in Norway, his marriage and family life, and on through his scholarly work and extensive career as a researcher, writer, and professor in the United States.

Through autobiographical tales interwoven with details of his research, Lovoll links his experience with that of other immigrants and points to intriguing intersections in his professional and personal lives.

Saturday, May 18, 10:30 am at the TRF Public Library.
Free admission. Coffee and cookies will be served.





“Dear unforgettable brother Knut A. Stavig . . . America is good for everyone,” wrote Lars Stavig in 1881 from Minnesota to his half-brother in Norway. Five years earlier, in 1876, Lars, his wife Maren, and their three young sons had rowed 30 miles down a fjord on the coast of Norway to reach an ocean steamer leaving for America. Lars said goodbye to his half-brother Knut, who stayed behind in Romsdal Norway.

They would not see each other again.

Lars and Knut exchanged more than 150 letters over five decades, giving voice to the immigrant experience. Woven through the letters are the dreams and aspirations, the joys and griefs of two brothers, one who came to the prairie and one who stayed by the sea.

Both families kept their letters and these treasures finally came together in the late 20th century to provide a first-hand look at the immigrant experience.

Lars' letters from America offer a first-person perspective of the arrival of the railroads on the prairie, changes in agriculture, the advent of aviation, World War I, and the Great Depression. Knudt's letters from Norway tell of the state of the Norwegian economy, the dangers of traditional fishing practices of the period, and changes in Norwegian culture.

The rare back-and-forth record covering more than fifty years has left side-by-side portraits of the American immigrant and the life he left behind in the old country. “This is the most unique collection in Norway,” says scholar Rasmus Sunde about the Stavig letters. “We have lots of letters from America to Norway, but we have very few from both sides of the Atlantic, and only for a few years.”

The correspondence was uncovered by Lars's grandson, Harold Torness, who heard about the letters while visiting relatives in Norway, and then discovered the other half stored in a garage in California. After having them translated (all were written in Norwegian), Torness believed he had something special, something that could resonate with other people. And it did.

What started as just one family's story has grown into a readers' theater performed over fifty times in three states and a documentary (both supported by the South Dakota Humanities Council), a house museum, a book in Norwegian, and another from the South Dakota State Historical Society Press. South Dakota Public Broadcasting Television's production of “The Stavig Letters” earned an Emmy® Award in 2011 for their Historical Documentary.

Norwegian Heritage Week is proud to have “The Stavig Letters” readers' theater performed by great-granddaughter Jane Torness Rasmussen as narrator, her husband John as Knut, and Curtis Dahl as Lars, at the NCTC Auditorium in Thief River Falls on Tuesday, May 14, at 7:00 p.m. Freewill admission.

Lars settled in South Dakota. His homestead grew, as did his family, and he listed his acquisitions proudly to his brother, reporting that he had thirty cows, fourteen horses, and twenty-six chickens at one point. Knut asked, “What use is the milk you get from so many cows?”

Lars often had advice for his brother, telling him to come to America or to settle down. “Don't let the devil rule over you. Find yourself a woman, Knut Stavig,” he wrote. Knut offered his own wisdom: “Don't let the Savior's blood run in vain for us,” he urged his brother, frequently concerned for Lars's soul.

The possibilities and progress of farming in America thrilled Lars. When new threshing machines came into use, he told Knut that threshing time was “like a big wedding except we don't use whiskey.” Lars lived to see electricity, indoor plumbing, and cars become standard amenities, and to see world politics hit the prairie. “What sad times we are living in,” he wrote in 1917. “A large company of soldiers left from our town. They are our young sons. We follow them to the train as if we are a funeral procession. Then we old people are left behind.”

Lars's experience makes for a classic immigrant story. He establishes a successful farm, his children go off and become educated and then find spouses and their own successes: The three oldest sons come to own the largest general store in the upper Midwest. The American Stavigs are so affluent they send money to help their Norwegian relative during hard times following Knut's wife's death.

America is good to Lars, until 1908 when his own wife dies. He moves into his son's house in town, and there becomes despondent and lonely. “Everything is going well, and then Lars suffers from being human,” says Wayne Knutson, a retired professor of English and theater at the University of South Dakota, who crafted the readers' theater adaptation. Knutson culled through the letters, setting ground rules to ensure authenticity, but allowing himself the freedom to skip around chronologically and pick and choose the parts of the letters that worked best dramatically.

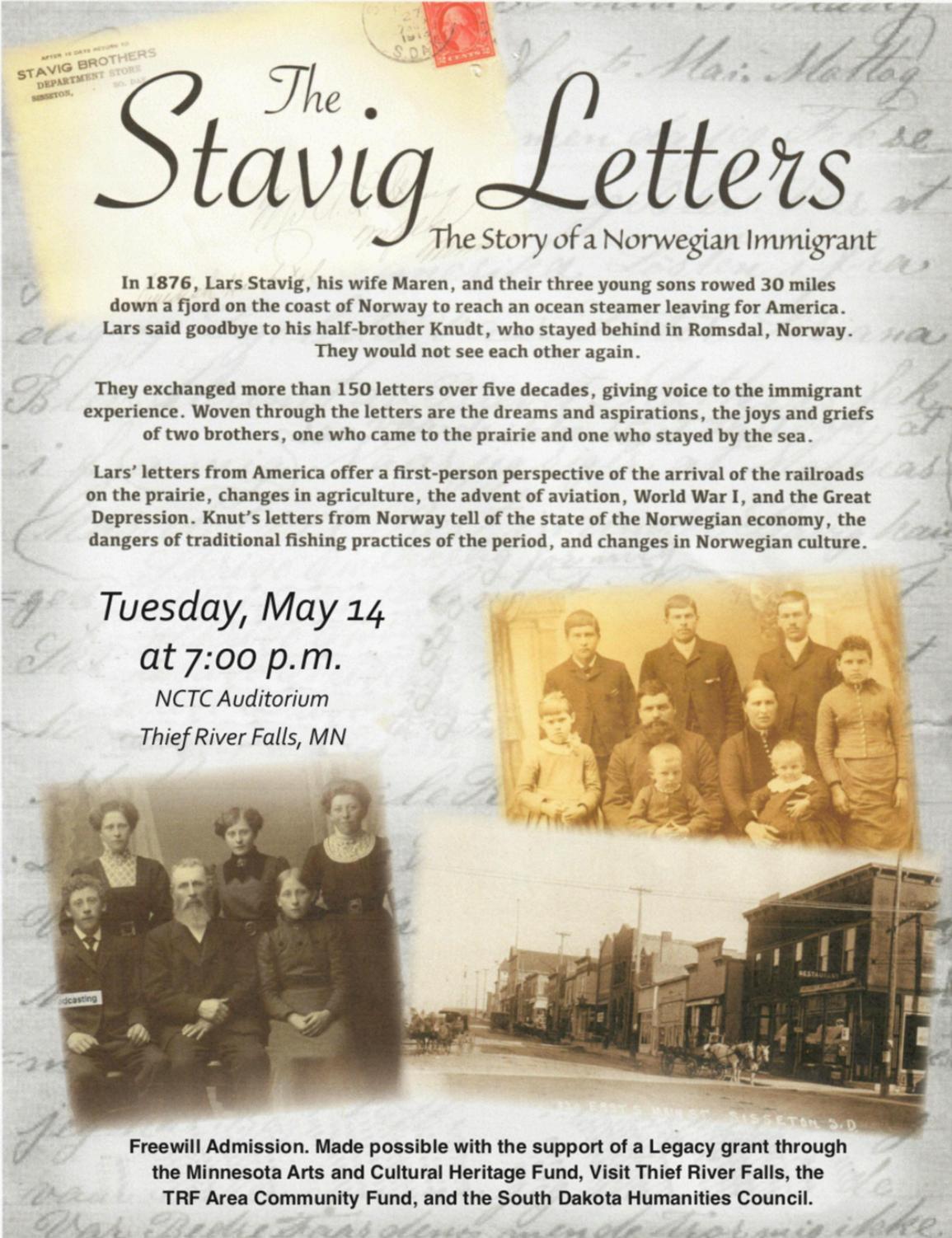
“The dramatic issue,” says Knutson, “is that suddenly, after all the successes and celebration of being in this country, he finds himself over sixty, his wife has died, the children have all left,

and he's alone. Where he loved his language, the Norwegian language, the grandchildren are no longer speaking it. An alienation sets in." Lars, who had once announced, "I am now a stranger to all things at home in Norway," soon finds himself writing, "Memories of my childhood and youth will follow me to the grave."

In our mind's eye, we can see the older Lars, living in a room of his son Peter's house, looking out an ice-encrusted window onto the prairie. If you squint, you're not sure if it is grass or ocean swells undulating in the wind. Perhaps Lars was reminded of the similarity when he wrote, "I don't believe anyone can

understand me. The world reminds me of a frothing sea, which can turn us in any direction."

Lars died in 1933, at the age of ninety; Knut lived until he was ninety-nine, passing away in 1950. Because of their letters, their descendants—such as Lars's grandson who portrays him in the film and great-granddaughter Jane Rasmussen, who plays the narrator on stage—have an insight into the lives of these men and their universal stories. When Knutson played Lars on stage for many years, he would ask audiences afterward to look for their own families' letters, and to "put something to paper. There is nothing quite so lasting as these old letters. We owe it to the next generation."



The Stavig Letters
The Story of a Norwegian Immigrant

In 1876, Lars Stavig, his wife Maren, and their three young sons rowed 30 miles down a fjord on the coast of Norway to reach an ocean steamer leaving for America. Lars said goodbye to his half-brother Knudt, who stayed behind in Romsdal, Norway. They would not see each other again.

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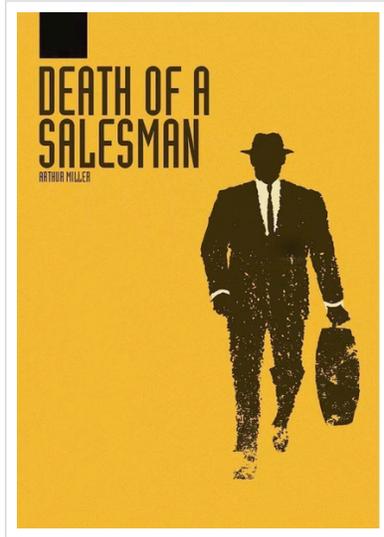
Tuesday, May 14
at 7:00 p.m.
NCTC Auditorium
Thief River Falls, MN

Freewill Admission. Made possible with the support of a Legacy grant through the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, Visit Thief River Falls, the TRF Area Community Fund, and the South Dakota Humanities Council.

The Thief River Falls Area Community Theater presents

SUMMER THEATER

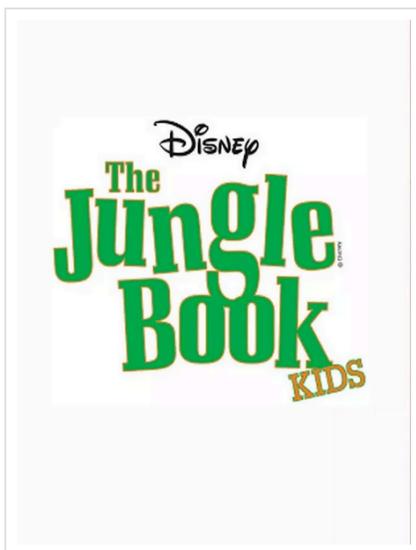
Death of a Salesman — May 22-24



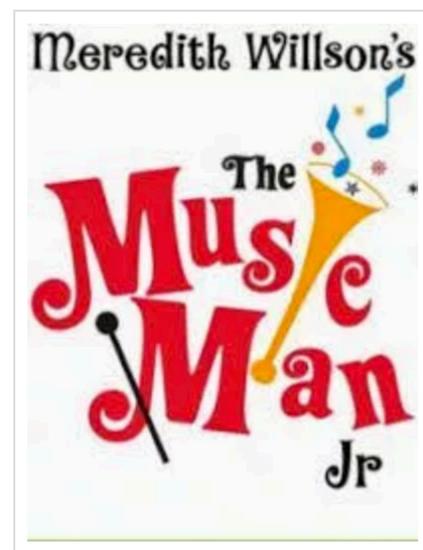
Cabaret — June 25-29



Jungle Book KIDS — July 10-12



The Music Man — July 24-26, 31 and Aug 1-2



All performances will begin at **7:00 PM** and are performed at the Northland Community and Technical College theater.



TRFACT is very excited to sell tickets **online** for its upcoming shows this season. Tickets are **also** available for sale at Digi-Key's East Entrance, as well as at the door the evenings of the performances (subject to availability). Go to trfact.org and click on "Brown Paper Tickets." Click on the show in the calendar to order tickets.



The Back Page

To Those Who Bring Small Children to Church

There you are at church. Your baby or toddler is restless. Perhaps even a little boisterous. You try to silence them, and nothing. You try to pacify them with food or toys, and nothing. Eventually, you resort to the last thing you wanted to do: you pick them up, and before a watching audience, you make the march out of the church. All the while you're a little embarrassed, maybe a little frustrated too. You might even think to yourself, "There's no point in coming to church. I get nothing out of it because I have to constantly care for my child."

I want you—mothers and/or fathers—to know just how encouraging you are to so many. The elderly woman who often feels alone beams with a smile at the sight of you wrestling with your little one. She's been there before. She knows how hard it can be, but she smiles because to hear that brings back precious memories. Seeing young parents and their small children brighten her day; she may have just received bad news about her health but seeing the vitality of young ones removes—if but for a moment—her fears.

The older man who always seems to be grouchy notices you, too. He's always talking about how children in this day have no respect or sense of goodness. But he sees you—a young family—in church every week. Like clockwork, he can depend on the sight of you and your young family. You give him hope that maybe the Church isn't doomed after all, because there are still young parents who love God enough to bring their restless children to church.

Bring your children to church! If we don't hear crying, the church is dying. As hard as it might be for you as a parent who's half asleep, keep on doing what you're doing.

You are an encouragement, and you're starting off your children's lives as you should.

~ Author unknown

