

St. Pauli News in Detail



Greeting and Ushering

March 5	Wade Benson
March 12	Corey Berg
March 19	Neil Bugge
March 26	Ken Cedergren

Altar Preparation: Roxane Rondorf

Communion on April 23rd

Pastor Joy Grainger from East Grand Forks will be conducting services on Sunday, April 23, at which time we will also receive communion.

Kevin Reich will serve as lay pastor the first three Sundays of March and April. The Gideons will be here on the last Sunday in March, as will Jody Horntvedt, Lutheran Social Services representative, to congratulate us on our "Servant of Christ" award and thank us for our service to the community and the world.

March Milestones

Birthdays

Mar. 4	Ken Cedergren
Mar. 10	Laurie Nelson
Mar. 13	Gabe Haugen
Mar. 15	Sue Kotz
Mar. 26	Staci Reay



Anniversaries

Mar. 12	Neil and Sharon Bugge
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No Longer Collecting Pill Bottles

The St. Hilaire Lions Club is no longer collecting pill bottles. The cost of shipping them was simply too high.

Thank You for Leading Services

We did not have pulpit supply for February 26th, so several members stepped up to conduct portions of the service. Thanks go to Jim Strandlie, Cindy Cedergren, Bruce Mathson, Faye Auchenpaugh, Marisa Benson and Jan Strandlie.



In his letter to congregations, Bishop Bill Tesch encouraged congregations to donate to the Northwestern Minnesota Synod on Giving Hearts Day, because our contributions would be generously matched through a \$25,000 gift from the Offutt Family Foundation.

Our treasurer, Marisa Benson, read that letter and made our Synod contributions that day to take advantage of those matching funds.

Journey with LWR this Lent!



We will again take part in collecting items for Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief.

- March 5 – (2) Bars of soap (4 or 5 oz in original wrapper)
- March 12 – Bath towel (sturdy, max size 27" x 52", dark color preferred)
- March 19 – Toothbrush (adult size, in original package)
- March 26 – Sturdy comb (wide-tooth preferred)
- April 2 – Nail Clipper (metal, attached file optional)

Minutes of the Church Council

January 12, 2023

The St. Pauli Church Council held its monthly meeting on Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 7 p.m. at St. Pauli Church. Members present: Pastor Carl Hansen, Jim Strandlie, Cindy Cedergren, Marisa Benson, Myles Alberg, and Tammy Haugen. The meeting was called to order by Council President Strandlie.

Pastor Hansen opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was amended and approved.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the November 17, 2022 meeting were approved as presented. M/S/C (Benson/Haugen). The Council did not meet in December.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's reports for November and December were approved. M/S/C (Alberg/Cedergren). Marisa Benson reported that Skip Swanson and Ron Anderson are currently serving as the Audit Committee for the financial records.

November Report:

Checking Account Balance End of Oct 2022:	\$ 17,475.05
Nov 2022 Revenue:	2,824.00
Nov 2022 Expenses:	<u>(2,095.25)</u>
Checking Account Balance End of Nov 2022:	\$ 18,203.80
Other Account Balances End of Nov 2022:	
Education Fund	\$ 1,404.50
Edward Jones	72,175.82
Memorial Fund	9,975.17
Mission Grant	5,450.08
Savings	<u>36,762.96</u>
Total St. Pauli Balances End of Nov 2022:	\$143,972.33

December Report:

Checking Account Balance End of Nov 2022	\$ 18,203.80
Dec 2022 Revenue:	5,117.00
Dec 2022 Expenses:	<u>(6,205.93)</u>
Checking Account Balance End of Dec 2022:	\$ 17,114.87
Other Account Balances End of Dec 2022:	
Education Fund	\$ 1,405.93
Edward Jones	72,212.89
Memorial Fund	10,136.20
Mission Grant	5,455.63
Savings	<u>36,806.67</u>
Total St. Pauli Balances End of Dec 2022:	\$143,132.19

Pastor's Report: Pastor Hansen reported he enjoyed his trip to Texas after Christmas. He reported that we will have another baptism on January 22, when Eli Torkelson, son of Darren and Cassandra Torkelson, will be baptized. He stated that he has thoroughly enjoyed serving at St. Pauli, but is looking forward to his retirement.

Reports of Members in sickness or distress: No report.

New Members or Interest in Membership: The Council discussed interest from a couple of individuals.

Other Reports:

- 1) WELCA: Cindy Cedergren reported that WELCA will hold 2-days of quilting on Jan. 17-18.
- 2) Sunday School Committee: The Sunday School provided a great Christmas program on December 18.

Old Business:

- 1) Building Projects:
Front Entrance Door: There is an issue with the weather stripping. Myles Alberg is working on remedying the problem.
- 2) Video System Update: Marisa Benson reported that Aaron Fagerstrom plans to install the video component of the new system the week of January 23. After that, the only piece left will be to purchase an I-Pad to control the system.
- 3) Cleaning Service: Discussion was held and it was decided to include \$1,000 in the budget for periodic cleaning services for the year. This topic will also be a discussion item at the Annual Meeting.

New Business:

- 1) Retirement of Pastor Carl: Jim Strandlie and other Council members thanked Pastor Carl for the years he has served St. Pauli Church. It has been a blessing for us to have his leadership for nearly 11 years, following his first retirement from ministry. He will truly be missed. Jim reported that Kevin Reich has agreed to preach the first three Sundays in February, and an ordained minister will be arranged to preach and serve Communion the last Sunday in February. A Call Committee will be established at the Annual Meeting. Jim is in contact with the Synod office on how they will assist in the process of finding a permanent replacement.
Note: Following the meeting, and after Pastor Carl had left the meeting, the Council discussed and decided to spend \$500 on a retirement gift for Pastor Carl. Jim will make the purchase.
Based on a request for an increase, the Council agreed to increase Kevin Reich's pulpit supply compensation from \$150 to \$200 per Sunday, and will be included in the 2023 budget, as well as mileage reimbursement.
- 2) Memorial Fund Expenditure Request: Marisa Benson reported on a request from Ivette Garrett's family to secure an artist to install another stained-glass window in the Narthex, using memorial funds received from Ivette's funeral. Discussion was held, the Council was in favor, and this topic will be discussed at the Annual Meeting.
- 3) Nominating Committee: Arlo Rude, Gary Iverson, and Faye Auchenpaugh were asked to serve as the Nominating Committee for the Annual Meeting election.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Next regular meeting date: Thursday, February 16, 2023.

Cindy Cedergren, St. Pauli Church Council Secretary

Minutes of the Church Council

February 9, 2023

The St. Pauli Church Council held its monthly meeting on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 7 p.m. at St. Pauli Church. Members present: Jim Strandlie, Cindy Cedergren, Marisa Benson, and Myles Alberg.

Council President Jim Strandlie called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was amended and approved.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the January 12, 2023 meeting were approved as presented. M/S/C (Alberg/Strandlie).

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report for January was approved. M/S/C (Alberg/Strandlie)

Marisa Benson reported that \$2,000 is yet to be paid out for the video system.

Checking Account Balance End of Dec 2022	\$ 17,114.87
Jan 2023 Revenue:	4,111.00
Jan 2023 Expenses:	(2,772.34)
Checking Account Balance End of Jan 2023:	\$ 18,453.53

Other Account Balances End of Jan 2023:	
Education Fund	\$ 1,407.55
Edward Jones	74,517.47
Memorial Fund	10,173.71
Mission Grant	5,461.90
Savings	36,855.22
Total Account Balances End of Jan 2023	\$146,869.38

Reports of Members in sickness or distress: No report.

New Members or Interest in Membership: No report.

Other Reports:

- 1) WELCA: Cindy Cedergren reported that WELCA finished eight quilts on Jan. 17-18. They will be conducting a new stewardship project in February (homemade soup/deliveries to neighbors).
- 2) Sunday School Committee: No report.

Old Business:

- 1) Comments on Annual Meeting: All agreed the meeting went well.
- 2) Correspondence from Synod office: Marisa will complete the annual congregational form and submit them to the Synod office.
- 3) Cleaning Contract: Cindy Cedergren shared a list of potential cleaners in the area. Marisa stated that \$35/hour is the going rate at this time. This topic was tabled for now, and WELCA officers will be asked to determine when and what needs to be done for the spring season.

New Business:

- 1) Call Committee Report: Faye Auchenpaugh reported that the committee will meet with a Synod representative on Feb. 20 at 5 p.m. at the church. Faye distributed a copy of the Synod's pulpit supply list.
- 2) Snow Plowing: Myles Alberg reported that Corey Berg will not be available to plow snow on a regular basis next year.
- 3) AED Grant: A \$600 grant toward the purchase of an automated defibrillator device was approved by CPR Savers. Cindy Cedergren asked the Council to consider applying for an Operation Round-Up Grant from the Red Lake Electric Trust for the balance of the purchase of the AED and a wall cabinet in which to store it. The Council gave Cindy the go ahead to apply for the remaining funds. We will revisit this at the next meeting, at which time we will know if the RLE Trust grant is denied or approved.
- 4) Pulpit Supply: Kevin Reich has agreed to preside at three Sundays each month, until further notice. We are in need of pulpit supply for the Feb. 26 service, as well as Ash Wednesday. Jim Strandlie will use the pulpit supply list to secure an ordained pastor for Ash Wednesday in order to distribute Communion. A representative from Gideons International will provide the sermon on March 26. For other Lenten services, we may utilize past sermons of Pastor Carl's if needed, as well as ECLA.org resources. We will continue to use the Holden Evening Prayer for music at Lenten services.
- 5) Stained Glass Window Project: Marisa Benson will move forward on contacting a designer/installer for the stained-glass window, which was approved at the Annual Meeting, utilizing Memorial funds received in memory of Ivette Garrett.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next regular meeting date: Thursday, April 20, 2023. It was determined that the Council will not meet in March, due to schedule conflicts.

Cindy Cedergren, St. Pauli Church Council Secretary

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March is Food Shelf Month

March is Food Shelf Month at St. Pauli, and the Food Shelf receives some matching funds for donations we make this month. A basket for the donations is located in the narthex.

Minutes of the St. Pauli Cemetery Association

January 12, 2023

The St. Pauli Cemetery Association Board of Directors met on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 8:20 pm. Present: Myles Alberg, Faye Auchenpaugh, Marisa Benson, Tammy Haugen, Arlo Rude.

President Rude called the meeting to order.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. M/S/C (Haugen/Benson)

Treasurer's Report: Benson presented the check register for entire year. The Edward Jones investment lost \$2,800 over the course of year. Income for the year was \$4,596.00, with several donations given in memory of Ivette Garrett. If checks are made to St. Pauli church, it goes in the church's memorial fund; if made to the St. Pauli Cemetery Association, it goes to SPCA. The \$1,925 for maintenance includes mowing at \$700/year and landscaping, which includes tree and stump removal. Do we want to increase our maintenance budget for 2023? Income for plot reservations totaled \$5,480. Expenses included postage and envelopes. Everyone responded except Justin and Chantry Folkedahl. At year end, we are up \$4,800 from 2021 due largely to plot reservations. Total Assets as of 12/31/2022: \$60,748.60.

M/S/C (Haugen/Alberg) to approve the report and put \$30,000 from checking in CD at Edward Jones.

Old Business:

1. No committees reporting. No mail.
2. Greg Hestekind makes an annual donation. We should get his address for sending a thank you card and also add him to the church newsletter mailing list.

New Business:

1. Proposed 2023 budget: Considerations include landscaping and a new 50-gallon water tank. We don't need the large size of our current tank and the water gets cruddy in a transparent tank. Cost: \$500 plus \$250 for a base.
2. Annual cemetery cleaning day is the Saturday before Memorial weekend from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Brush and trees have been taken care of. B&K did a nice job of finishing stump removal.
3. Johnson Funeral Service has a new grave digger, Troy Mercel, and Bruce says he is fabulous. He wants to meet sexton at the cemetery and contacts you when he leaves town, so no time is wasted.
4. Landscape committee: Will discuss establishing at annual meeting.
5. Insurance: Church Mutual provides insurance for cemeteries. Arlo tried to get in touch with them when he was treasurer, would leave messages, the guy was going to call, but never did. Arlo will try to get in touch again.
6. Arlo presented a schedule of terms for the Board. Tammy and Faye are up for election this year at the annual meeting.
7. Bruce asked if we could set up a co-sextant for when he might be out of town and asked if Gary would serve. Gary agreed to do so and will contact Johnson Funeral Service to let them know.
8. It is difficult to find the exact location for a burial when we have as much snow as we have had this year. We will measure every 10 graves or so and put in pins that can then be detected by a metal detector.

Our annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 12:30 pm.

Faye Auchenpaugh, SPCA Secretary

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Minutes of the Women of the ELCA

January 18, 2023

The St. Pauli Women of the ELCA met at the church on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 4:00 pm with six members present following a day of quilting.

President Kathy opened with devotions titled "Becoming a Brave Believer" based on Numbers 6:26.

Secretary's Report: Accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report: Balances as of 12/31/22: Checking \$2,417.04; Savings \$575.47, CD \$6,258.88. Fall Event donations total: \$2,775 from offerings and pie sales.

Stewardship: Virginia sent in the Synod tally sheet which lists all of our stewardship and other projects, plus donations. Now that she is no longer Stewardship chair, someone needs to watch for that tally sheet coming in the mail. We quilted

Tuesday and Wednesday of this week from 10:00 – 4:00 and finished eight quilts.

Council report: Cindy said we have another baptism this Sunday, which makes three in the past three months. We have new candles and they have been placed in the baptismal font. We still have 29 baptismal cloths. A candle, cloth and certificate are given to each baptized person. Videos and cameras will be installed next week for our sound system.

Council approved church cleaning up to four times/year and has included \$1,000 or \$1,200 in the proposed budget for that. If you have any recommendations or are interested in doing this yourself, let us know. Final decisions will be up to the congregation at our annual meeting. Kevin Reich has

agreed to provide pulpit supply three Sundays/month and we will look for an ordained pastor to provide communion once/month. Council approved giving a gift of \$500 to Pastor Carl for his retirement.

Communications: Thank you letters received from Prowler Pantry, Lutheran Social Services, and Northland Rescue Mission. Even though we had the underwear drive for a short period of time, we donated 124 pair of men's and women's underwear, a pair of work gloves, 2 men's hats, a long-sleeved shirt, 2 lightweight gloves for men, 2 long-sleeved cuddle duds, 1 pr black jeans and 1 turtleneck for women, 1 pr of women's socks, and a toothbrush. Well done, St. Pauli!

Old Business: Multiple thank you's go to: Ron and Virginia for getting Xmas tree from LeRoy and Carol Stumpf, Cindy, Kenny and Sharon for decorating, Kathy for the tabletop decorations, and Cindy and Sharon for taking the tree down; Everyone who served and brought food for Lyle Bjorge's funeral; Cindy, Jan and Faye for doing the 2023 handbook, and Faye for doing the newsletter. We love it. Cindy sent a thank you to Carol and LeRoy on our St. Pauli Christmas card for their donation of the Christmas tree. Faye sent them a copy of the December newsletter that included their photo.

New Business: The Board has decided we're going to have just two groups now for serving: Lydia and Mary. We will provide a ham for the annual meeting potluck and a cake for Pastor Carl's retirement.

Communion prep for February is Tammy Haugen. We will quilt again on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 14-15. The last Sunday in February is WELCA's "Being Bold" day. This year, we will honor that by making soup for people in our community and delivering it to their doors. Sue and Virginia will make cookies, Jan will make the dumplings, Kathy will look for Valentine fabric for lid covers. Cindy thinks she has enough jars, but all of us should try to save appropriate pint or quart jars.

Lydia Circle meets Saturday, February 11, at 9:30am at Faye's house.

Sharon will start doing the activity bags again.

Thank you to Kathy and Jan for serving lunch for these two quilting days.

Offering was taken, prayer partners shared, and the Lord's Prayer prayed.

Faye Auchenpaugh, Secretary

On March 1, 1872, Yellowstone National Park was signed into law by President Ulysses S. Grant (after being established by congress) as the first national park in the world.

On March 1, 1932, Hoover Dam was completed.

Eli Torkelson is Baptized



Eli Torkelson, son of Darren and Cassandra Torkelson, was baptized on Sunday, January 22nd. His sponsors were his uncle and aunt, Brett and Danita Torkelson.

Grandparents and Craig and Sally Torkelson and Jeff and Kim Gilbert.



Eli's family L to R: Craig Torkelson, Brett Torkelson, Sally Torkelson, Danita Torkelson, Jeff and Kim Gilbert, Cassandra and Darren Torkelson, and sister Lydia to the right of Eli.

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Thank You from Area Food Shelf

We wish to thank you for your kind and generous donation this past quarter. Because of your donation, we are able to provide much-needed food to many families in the surrounding area. Our mission, "Extinguish Hunger, Ignite Hope," depends so much on the support of donations like yours.

Your kindness and generosity help us deliver the very best nutritional foods to those in need throughout the communities we serve. We are currently open two days each week: Tuesdays from 10 am to 1 pm and Thursdays from 3 pm to 6 pm. These hours enable anyone, depending on their schedule, to access our facility. We strive to make food accessible to anyone in need.

Alecia Hunt, Executive Director

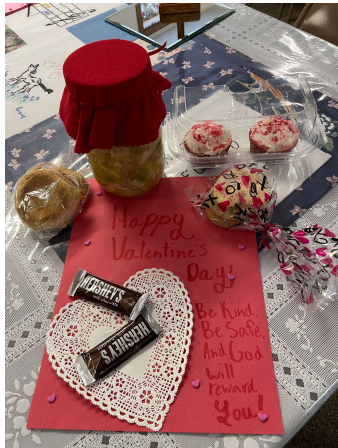
Bold Women Sunday

This year, in recognition of Bold Women Sunday, the WELCA ladies decided to make soup for people in the neighborhood. Since Valentine's Day coincided with our February quilting day, we decided that would be the perfect time. Our Sunday School children made Valentines the prior Sunday. The ladies began quilting at 10 am and also chopped, stirred, and made dumplings. When we stopped quilting at 4:00, we divided ourselves into four teams and delivered boxes to 17 households. Fourteen of these were single packages and three were for two persons.



Each person received a quart of soup, two garlic toast, two cookies, and two cupcakes – plus a beautiful valentine's card with candy from a Sunday School student.

Ladies making soup and quilts that day: Faye Auchenpaugh, Deb Mostrom, Kathy Alberg, Sharon Bugge, Virginia Hallstrom, Sally Torkelson and Jan Strandlie.



We're Running Out of Room!

First, Kathy Alberg got stuck coming to the church early for our second day of February quilting. Fortunately, a knight in shining armor, er...white pickup truck came to help. Ken Geske!



He

had

to remove just a bit of snow...



And now we're running out of room!



AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

The 91-year-old ticketmaster at Ralph Engelstad Arena in GF... is Barb Nelson's sister!

Ticketmaster Ruth Roos says she does it to be with the people.



91-year-old Ruth Roos scans the ticket of a fan attending a consolation game of the high school boys' hockey tournament at the Ralph Engelstad Arena Friday, Feb. 23.

GRAND FORKS — She has a very prestigious position at the Ralph Engelstad Arena. She's the one who lets you in the gate.

Ruth Roos never holds the hottest ticket in town. She scans it.

"Just meeting people, little ones coming in, they are so happy to come, it's just a fun time," Roos said. She's too busy to sneak over to the action on the ice.

"You have people coming in all through the game, like a UND game, they'll even come in the third period," said Roos.

The retired insurance agent and school lunchroom monitor started working at the Ralph shortly after it opened in 2001 following the death of her husband.

"I want to be around people. I'm not a homebody and I don't have a lot of hobbies," said Roos.

Roos just turned 91 on Monday. Her shift usually requires her to stand for five hours so she makes sure to work out each morning at the YMCA.

"I feel like I could continue forever," she said.

Roos admits she is thinking of turning off the ticket scanner for good after the circus at the Ralph this spring. "I have said I am done this year. The weather has gotten to me a little bit," Roos said. "It's been too cold, too windy, too miserable."

However, she can't throw out pulling a Tom Brady. She has un-retired the past several seasons.

If the ticket scanner does go silent for good, she won't disappear from the Ralph but will return to watch the games with her family — something she's only been able to do a few times. "It's fun if you've got a good seat to sit and watch it. I enjoy it immensely. Taking tickets is wonderful because you meet so many people," said Roos.

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Norway's Military Attache to the U.S. Visits Thief River Falls

Our very own Bruce Mathson gave Col. Eric Kelley and his wife Dr. Lina Linnestad a tour of the countryside in his Polaris Ranger. They stopped at St. Pauli Church and Eric and Lina were impressed with the Norwegian table grace hanging on the wall. Bruce also gave a demonstration on how he makes his coyote hats and presented Eric with one as a gift. He was so pleased and said he will be the envy of his son who lives in the far north of Norway near the Russian border. Faye is pictured with Eric and Lina at her house.



Homeowners Honor Their Family

Your editor feels strange putting an article about herself in the newsletter, but several people have told her she needs to – so here goes. She hopes that those of you who remember Melvin and Helen Torkelson will appreciate the article and photos.

By Dave Hill, *The Times*, August 17, 2022

The Pennington Soil and Water Conservation District has selected Wade and Marisa Benson and Faye Auchenpaugh as the 2022 Rural Beautification winners.

Located in Smiley Township, the farm and extensive gardens they have created are a tribute to Melvin and Helen Torkelson, who purchased the property in the mid-1940s for back taxes. Wade and Marisa Benson are the third generation to live on what Marisa and her cousins call "Grandpa's Farm."

Wade said he was just the head groundskeeper. His wife Marisa and Faye have created the gardens. Marisa said the overall concept should be attributed to Faye. A description of the farm had been provided by Faye to the SWCD to give them a better understanding of the background.

The history of a garden isn't always important in the telling of a story but in this case, it is.

Faye shared that before moving to the farm, Melvin and Helen Torkelson drilled a well and built the barn and chicken coop. They would later move their house, the former Whiteway Inn, one and one-half miles to the west where they had been living across from Melvin's parents. At one time, the house had also stood where the Thief River Falls liquor store stands today.

In the summer of 1948, electricity arrived and Melvin made sure the barn and well pump had electricity, and a new electric yard light was installed before they moved.



The long shadows of our past often shape our future.

Moving was no simple task, either. The cows were milked that morning, then driven as a herd to their new barn. They were then milked that night. The horses pulled wagons loaded with crated chickens, the cream separator, household goods, farm machinery, several children, and the dogs and cats.

Melvin and Helen were partners. They had both been raised on farms and were experienced hands. And they both loved gardening. Of course, like many farm families, their vegetable gardens were large and the produce was canned and preserved for the family. They planted a grove of fruit trees and shrubs close to the very long raspberry and strawberry rows. And while many of these trees have since perished,

Melvin and Helen's raspberry canes that were planted over 60 years ago are the direct ancestors of today's raspberry patch.

Life on the farm was hard. Life on the farm was good. Nine children and 29 grandchildren visited often, roaming through the pastures and wandering through the greenhouse. Helen planted large perennial flower gardens around the house and lined the driveways with peonies, lilacs, and new beds of annuals. Toddlers hid in the hollyhocks; teenagers were tasked with picking berries.

Faye was one of those children, and she spent many enjoyable hours there in early spring, raising flowers and vegetables with Melvin from seed. These were planted along the driveway and Helen watered and tended them all summer.

When Faye and her husband Oliver bought the farm in 1996, it was evident that the

house and farm buildings could not be saved. The barn had collapsed, the granaries had blown off their foundations and their leaking roofs had rotted the floors,



Son Wally and Helen in flower beds, c 1948-49. Note all the elm trees and the fencing to keep chickens from scratching in the flower beds!

and the house's main floor beam had broken. All of the majestic elm trees that once graced the farmstead had died from Dutch elm disease, leaving 17 stumps within the driveway alone.



Where the barn once stood, although set back a few feet, is a new home built with a double-hipped roof that resembles a traditional barn. The courtyard's center planter holds the hoops from Helen's rain barrel she used to catch water for washing clothes. (They didn't have indoor plumbing until 1957.) The old well pump now stands as a lawn sculpture in front of the smaller home taking the place of the old chicken coop. Pass through the hollyhocks to a pebbled pathway down to a patio that sits on the concrete foundation where Melvin's machine shed

once stood. Take a look at the dangling bits of rusted metal bits and pieces that continue to rise out of this ground.



Move to the southeast and notice the foundation slabs of the old granary where Melvin inscribed the names of family members present on the day he began building those granaries. What the family now calls the pavilion is a

screened-in gathering place where the old house once stood; its pergola is the footprint of the kitchen; and the front steps are the originals. And the schoolhouse where Melvin and Helen, all of the aunts and uncles, and all the children went to school, was moved here in 2015 and completely renovated.

Planting trees, shrubs and making new flower beds are ongoing projects. In fact, 2022's project is the shade bed next to the grove on the west side of the houses. It is only half finished. The posts rising out of the ground are old telephone posts and the structure will become "Faye's Folly," inspired by follies in old English estates but with a rural twist.

Auchenpaugh wrote that "Even the gardens have Melvin and Helen's fingerprints. Some of the hardy plants that survived years of neglect and have been transplanted into the new gardens are hollyhocks, peonies, irises, mallow, Golden Glow, poppies, lilies, etc. As a nod to our Norwegian heritage,



we wanted to name the farm. Melvin came from Pontedalen in Norway, Helen from Storviken."

Faye noted that many Norwegian farms have names. They ruminated on

what to name their farm and realized that their favorite time of day for reflection is when the sun is setting and casting shadows, long shadows across the lawn. Thus, they decided to name it "Longshadow."

"We often wonder what they would think if they could see the place now," said Faye. "We hope that as we continue in their footsteps that we are doing justice to their dreams and hard work."



The Back Page

How's this for a challenging turn lane?

