

St. Pauli News in Detail



Greeting and Ushering

Nov. 3 Jim Kotz (sub)
Nov. 10 Craig Folkedahl
Nov. 17 Bryan Grove
Nov. 24 Jerod Haugen

Altar Preparation: Kathy Alberg

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Thanksgiving Services

**Wednesday
November 27th**

7:00 pm

**Redeemer Lutheran
TRF**



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November Milestones

Birthdays

Nov. 7 Blaine Torstveit
Nov. 15 Marc Haugen
Nov. 16 Barb Nelson
Nov. 16 Jonathan (JD) Torstveit
Nov. 17 Larry Hurst
Nov. 25 Wade Benson

Anniversaries

Nov. 26 Dennis and Sharon McCollough

Marv Torkelson Memorial Service

**Sunday, November 3rd
12:00 noon**

Visitation with family will take place after the service during the dinner served in our basement.

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WELCA

**Wednesday, November 20th
7:00 pm**

Each year at our November WELCA meeting, we decide which charities should receive the proceeds from our Fall Event donations. It is also our annual Thankoffering Program.

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Fall Event

**Sunday, October 27th
3:00 pm**

The Overtones from Roseau are providing the entertainment and a light supper featuring homemade chicken soup with dumplings will be served after.

This event takes the place of our Fall Supper, so we are asking members to donate generously.



In Memorium

Marvin Harlan Torkelson

June 30, 1937 – October 10, 2024

Marvin Harlan Torkelson was born at home in rural Thief River Falls on June 30, 1937, the fifth of nine children born to Melvin and Helen (Wiken) Torkelson.

Marv (as he preferred being called) attended Washington District 221 country school and was one of very few who went to “town school” for one year when the country school temporarily closed. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1955 and left soon after for South

Milwaukee, Wisconsin where his older brothers and sister were living. He was hired at Bucyrus Erie and stayed with his sister, Geraldine, and her husband Ted until he had sufficient funds to move into an apartment of his own.

In the 1950s, “BE” machines performed work on every continent, and the company eventually became the world’s largest construction and mining machine supplier. For years, the South Milwaukee plant operated three shifts around the clock to support what the machine industry labeled “The Longest Line” of construction, mining, lifting, and material moving equipment in the world. At one point, Bucyrus employed more than 2,400 people in South Milwaukee.

Marv worked the swing shift (3:00 – 11:00 pm) and rapidly worked his way up to becoming a machinist. During the 1957-58 recession, he was laid off and moved back to Thief River Falls where he worked at Dow-Key Co., a manufacturer of transmit-receive switches and RF components. He was called back to Bucyrus Erie after a few months and worked there for 44 years until his retirement on May 1, 1999.

Like his other brothers and sisters, Marv spent many summer vacations back in Thief River Falls where – like his brothers and brothers-in-law – he would work on farm machinery, pop the hood on any recent car purchases to talk about the engines, and play cards late into the evenings. To his nieces and nephews, “Uncle Marvy” was particularly interesting because he had remained a bachelor longer than his brothers and seemed to have more spare time to laugh, tell stories, and create a marvelous and swirling upsweep of hair that gave him a rakish Elvis-like appearance.

Marv met Dorothy Hass, a widow with seven children, and they were married on the youngest daughter Lori’s third birthday: April 8, 1972. Marv adopted four of Dorothy’s children: Robert, Sophya Sandrajean, Nancy Lynn and LoriKay. As they said, “He may have adopted just four of us, but he took care of all seven of us.” Marv loved tending to the house and yard and made sure the vehicles were always in tiptop shape. He and Dorothy went dancing often and they really came alive on the dance floor. They were beautiful, talented dancers, and there was such chemistry between them in that context as if a perfect match!



Marv was a lover of country western music and had an extensive collection of western shirts and belt buckles. Even his formal suit had a western style to it. He and Dorothy purchased an RV and made numerous family trips over the years to Minnesota, North Dakota and beyond. Dorothy died from cancer on July 20, 1994.

Marv married Darlene A. Laing from Milwaukee, WI on March 21, 1998 in Las Vegas, Nevada. And when he “retired” the next year he took a part-time job at Midwest Airlines and also drove a delivery van for Croissants, Etc. The family well remembers Marv telling the story of a wild turkey once flying into the van. He called his boss to report the damage, saying “A turkey just hit the van!” and his boss, thinking Marv was referring to a stupid motorist, replied, “Did you get his name and insurance info?”

Darlene died on November 7, 2018 from complications due to diabetes. And not long after that, Marv slipped and fell on his icy driveway while trying to unclog a downspout. He hit his head on the concrete and fractured three vertebrae, making it impossible for him to live alone. After much discussion with his family, he decided to move back to Thief River to be closer to his siblings. He lived at Greenleaf Assisted Living until he fell and broke his hip in June 2022. Following surgery in Fargo, he was moved to SMP Health Maryhill in Enderlin, ND. In September 2023, he moved to Autumn Cottages in Alexandria, MN where he was given outstanding care and lived until his death.

Marv was a quiet and gentle soul who was always kind to others. As one of his nephews said, “He always treated me like gold and was interested in how I was doing.”

Marv is survived by his children: Robert (Mary) Hass, Jr., Sophya Sandrajean Rose, Nancy (Scott) Wranovsky, and LoriKay Glowinski; his stepchildren: Fredrick (Selena) Hass, Barbara (Gordon) Schultz, and Susan (Thomas) Paasch; one brother, Wallace Torkelson, and two sisters, Faye Auchenpaugh, and Pamela (Kevin) Kittridge; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Melvin and Helen Torkelson, his wives Dorothy and Darlene, brothers Francis Marion Torkelson and Willis Torkelson, sisters Geraldine (Theodore) Guerard, Wahna Smith and Ivette Garrett.

Marv died on Thursday, October 10, 2024 at Autumn Cottages in Alexandria, MN, at the age of 87 years, 3 months, and 10 days. Memorial services will be held at St. Pauli Church on Sunday, November 3rd with burial at St. Pauli Cemetery.

Well done, thou good and faithful servant!

In Memorium

Elsie Conely

September 16, 1921 ~ October 1, 2024

Elsie was an aunt of Sally (Conely) Torkelson.



Elsie Conely, 103 years and 15 days, of Warren, MN, passed away on Tuesday morning, October 1, 2024 at North Star Manor in Warren.

Elsie Helen (Botko) Conely was born September 16, 1921, the daughter of George Sr. and Ella (Kahanovsky) Botko. She was baptized and confirmed at Tabor Lutheran Church, Tabor, MN. She grew up in Farley Township, attended Farley School and graduated from Warren High School in the class of 1939.

After high school she did some childcare and housekeeping and when the war started Elsie went to Minneapolis and worked at Northern Pump Company (making navy ship guns) where she painted parts for ten hours a day. Elsie then went to Richmond, CA and worked at Kaiser Shipyards as an American Bureau of Shipping certified welder ("Rosie the Riveter") during World War II. When the war ended, Elsie returned to Minnesota.

Elsie was united in marriage to Dennie Conely on May 11, 1946 at Zion Lutheran Church, Warren, MN. They made their home in Warren. Elsie was an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary (since 1951), First Lutheran Church, Home and Hospital Auxiliary, and the Senior Center. Elsie was also crowned Queen during National Nursing Home week in 2016 at the North Star Manor, which had been her home since November 2015.

Elsie loved her flower gardens and loved sharing her flowers with family and friends. She was also known for sharing flower bouquets weekly with the Senior Center. She loved attending activities around town and at the school and continued that love by attending as many activities as possible at the nursing home. Elsie was very active with the sewing group and the making of quilts at her church. Elsie was also known for her donuts (she had to have country sour cream) and for her homemade chicken soup with homemade noodles. She also enjoyed listening to Old Time Polka music (especially Cathy's Polka Cast) and had a love for playing cards and bingo.

Elsie is survived by sons, Duane of Sun City, CA and David (Betty) Conely of Warren, MN, daughter-in-law Julie Conely of East Grand Forks, MN; grandchildren: Paul (Sherry) Conely, Chris (Staci) Conely and Ashley (John) Thompson; and great-grandchildren: Jacob, Patrick, Emily & Ethan, sister, Agnes Sinn of Warren, MN and several nieces and nephews.

Elsie is preceded in death by her husband, Dennie in 1996, son Darrell, great-granddaughter Addison, her parents, daughter-in-law Joanne Conely, sister Mary and brothers George Jr., Emil, Thomas, Frank, Albert and Clarence.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 am on Monday, October 14, 2024 at First Lutheran Church in Warren, MN, with visitation one hour before services. Interment was next to her husband, Dennie, in Greenwood Cemetery, Warren, MN.

God Bless the Memory of Elsie Conely



"Built on a Rock the Church Doth Stand"

Marv Torkelson's last gift to St. Pauli Church was to pay for the engraving on the rock by our front door.

Minutes of the Church Council

October council meeting was canceled, so no approved September minutes available.

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WELCA Minutes

September 18, 2024

The St. Pauli Women of the ELCA met on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 7:00 pm at Skylight Apartments, with seven members present. Preceding the meeting, Heidi Nelson gave us an overview of how Skylight Apartments operates.

President Jan Strandlie opened the meeting with devotions entitled "One Unique Life" and prayer.

Cindy Cedergren read the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for August. The minutes were approved as read.

For the period of August 29 – September 18, 2024:

Expenses	\$303.31
Income	\$289.00
Balances as of 9/18/24:	
Checkbook	\$1,472.16
Savings	\$595.38
CD	\$6,500.41

CD matured on 8/25/24; earned \$177.12 interest in 7 months; interest rate remains the same at 4.89% for next seven months.

Stewardship Report: Kathy Alberg reported that purchasing of school kit items is still in progress, and 24 diapers were sewn at the August meeting.

Council Report: Northwest Electric has been selected to handle the lighting project, but no start or completion date is known at this time.

Old Business:

Wall hanging for Heritage Center: Jan Strandlie and Virginia Anderson will make arrangements to go to Grand Forks to check on framing options.

Synod Convention: Sept. 20-21 in Moorhead; no members are planning to attend this convention this year. President Strandlie proposed we increase our offerings to Northwest Minnesota Synod Conventions. A motion was made by Virginia Anderson to increase the conference offerings we donate to the following: Increase unit offering from \$25 to \$40 and increase gathering fee from \$10 to \$20. Motion seconded by Sue Kotz. Motion carried. This change will be updated in the next St. Pauli Handbook.

New Business:

Fall Event: Set for Sunday, October 27 at 3 p.m., with The Overtones presenting a one-hour program. Thrivent funds will be used to partially cover the cost of hiring this group. Virginia Anderson offered one Thrivent card. Others may be asked to

utilize their Thrivent cards. It was decided to serve chicken vegetable soup with dumplings, French bread or roll, bars, coffee, and lemonade for a light supper for all attendees. We will plan food for 100 people. Eight pans of bars should be sufficient. We will seek volunteers to provide bars, as well as volunteers to help before and during the event. A soup making day was set for Friday, Oct. 25. Sue Kotz will purchase paper plates and bowls from Sam's Club. Current supplies will be checked to ensure proper quantities. Jan Strandlie will develop a flyer/poster and arrange for various free advertising options.

Lydia Circle will meet at Kathy Alberg's home on Wednesday, October 9 at 7 p.m.

Next WELCA Meeting: Originally scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, but later changed to Wednesday, October 18 to allow for finalizing the LWR kits, and finalizing fall event details. Hostess – Faye Auchenpaugh.

The meeting concluded with prayer partners, offering, the Lord's Prayer, and Table Grace. Jan Strandlie served as hostess.

Cindy Cedergren, Acting WELCA Secretary

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To laugh often and much;
to win the respect of intelligent people
and the affection of children;
to earn the appreciation of honest critics and
endure the betrayal of false friends;
to appreciate the beauty;
to find the best in others;
to leave the world a bit better,
whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a
redeemed social condition;
to know even one life has breathed easier
because you have lived.

This is to have succeeded!

~Ralph Waldo Emerson

It's a day that Minnesota State Trooper Zach Gruver won't soon forget.



On Sept. 17, Gruver was on patrol when he heard a call that an 18-year-old driver had lost control of his Honda Pilot. The car malfunctioned, continuing to accelerate despite attempts to turn it off, brake, put it in neutral, or use an emergency brake. Behind the wheel, the driver reached speeds over 100 mph as he called 911.

Gruver knew he was running out of options. Up ahead several miles, there was a dead end. "It goes from your safety, to, am I going to watch this 18-year-old kid go into a farm field at 113 mph?" Gruver said. "I didn't think about my own safety or how bad it could have ended, but I was pretty certain if we didn't get him stopped, it would have either been great bodily harm, or death."

Gruver overtook the car – and this time, hit his own brakes. The Honda Pilot's crash detection technology kicked in – slowing the car to nearly 50 mph, before it hit Gruver, who was going slightly slower. Gruver's plan was a success – he stopped the speeding car. Since then, word has spread, and fast. "Plenty of phone calls, texts, Facebook messages, people reaching out," he said. "There's been the word 'hero' thrown out. I don't think – I'm just a normal guy, I did what any of my partners would in that situation. My car just happened to be faster than theirs, I was able to get up in front of him and slow him down."

Sam and Catherine Dutcher met with Trooper Zach Gruver days after Gruver risked his life to stop the out-of-control car Sam Dutcher was driving, with the incident unfolding first in Minnesota and then in North Dakota.

"It was incredible to get a chance to meet the officer that saved my son. And to think about him risking his life to save my son was just, it was amazing," Catherine Dutcher told "Good Morning America."

Catherine Dutcher had made the 911 call that Tuesday when she was following her son in another car but realized the car he was driving, a 2022 white Honda Pilot, had somehow malfunctioned.

"My son is driving the car currently 'cause I'm in the loaner car and he is going down County 17 and can't get the car to slow down or stop," Catherine Dutcher said in an audio recording of the 911 call released by the Cass County Sheriff's Office.

Sam Dutcher told "GMA" he tried everything he could to stop the car during the harrowing incident, which lasted approximately 20 minutes. The teen said it "felt like an eternity" and added that he didn't think he would survive.

"I don't think this is going to stop. I'm going to hit the end of the road and I'm going to die," Sam Dutcher recalled thinking.

The high-speed rescue was caught on body camera footage shared by the Minnesota State Patrol and Clay County Sheriff's Office. Gruver was one of the responding officers at the time.

"Over the radio, it was there that he was doing 80 to 90 miles an hour. And when I caught up to him, I hit my radar and he was at 113," Gruver told Good Morning America.

When Gruver caught up to Sam Dutcher, he knew the road would soon split and there wasn't enough time to disable the malfunctioning car's tires. So he made the quick decision to speed up in front of the Honda Pilot to take the impact of the ensuing crash.

"It was kind of just, get in front of him and try to get him stopped. It was definitely a big relief," Gruver said. "If we wouldn't have been able to get it stopped, I don't think Sam would be here to talk about it."

To see a video of the speeding car, go to:

<https://www.officer.com/vehicles-fleet/vehicles-equipment/in-car-video/video/55232834/watch-minn-trooper-stop-high-speed-runaway-car>



Minnesota State Trooper Zach Gruver reunited with Sam Dutcher, 18, days after Gruver risked his life to save Dutcher's life.

Where there's a will, there's a way

On June 21, 1955, Sam Gray, David Rutford and Fred Hallberg began their cruise down the Mississippi river from St. Paul, Minnesota on a homemade raft.

The raft was built of barrels and planks. Power for the propeller was provided by a 1939 Chevrolet they had paid \$15 for. The car had 172,000 miles on it. The rear wheels of the car ran against another set of wheels which turned the propeller. The car's steering wheel turned the raft's rudder.

In St. Louis, Missouri the men had a delay as the Chevy's valves needed to be ground.

Outside of Memphis, Tennessee, a bearing on the propeller shaft burned out, but the men were able to repair it with tools borrowed from a barge crew.

The men ran low on food as they discovered a stowaway was eating their food. The stowaway was a rat. The men tried fishing for food but caught nothing the entire trip.

Other problems encountered included mosquitoes, driftwood in the river and backwash from passing barges.

On July 25, 1955, the trio reached New Orleans. They planned to drive the Chevrolet back to Minnesota. The three men made it back to St. Paul in 49 hours driving the Chevrolet. The car used five gallons of oil for the return drive.



Photo Ramsey County Historical Society



XP070601P-7/6/55-ST. LOUIS: University of Minnesota youths stop here 7/5 en-route to New Orleans from St. Paul, Minn., to fix their automobile driven raft. The raft's power source, a \$15 1939 Chevrolet sedan, is mounted on the raft and the rear end of another automobile is mounted under it with a propeller attached. The two sets of rear wheels make contact with each other turning the propeller shaft. The youths are from (L): Fred Hallberg, David Rutford and Donald (Sam) Gray.

UNITED PRESS TELEPHOTO 1a

And not to be outdone by the men...

In 1883, eighteen-year-old Elizabeth Cochrane was living in Pittsburgh when the local newspaper published an article titled "What Girls are Good For" (having babies and keeping house was the answer, according to the article). The article displeased Elizabeth enough that she wrote an anonymous rebuttal, which in turned so impressed the paper's editor that he ran an ad, asking the writer to identify herself.

When Elizabeth contacted him, he hired her on the spot. It was customary at the time for female reporters to use pen names, so the editor gave her one that he took from a Stephen Foster song. It was the name under which she would become famous—Nellie Bly.

Bly's passion was investigative reporting, but the paper usually assigned her to more "feminine" subjects—such as theater and fashion. After writing a controversial series of articles exposing the working conditions of female factory workers, and after again being relegated to reporting on society functions and women's hobbies, at age 21 Bly left for Mexico on a dangerous and unprecedented (for a woman) assignment to report on the conditions of the working class people there. After her reporting got her in trouble with the local authorities, she fled the country and later published her dispatches into a popular book.

At age 23, having established a reputation as a daring and provocative reporter, Bly was hired by Joseph Pulitzer's *New York World* and there she began the undercover project that made her famous. In order to investigate the conditions inside New York's "Women's Lunatic Asylum," Bly took on a fake identity, checked into a women's boarding house, and faked insanity—so convincingly that she soon found herself committed to the asylum. The report she published of her ten days there was a sensation and led to important reforms in the treatment of the mentally ill.

The following year, Bly undertook her most sensational assignment yet: a solo trip around the world inspired by Jules Verne's "Around the World in 80 Days." With only two days' notice, Bly set out on November 14, 1889, carrying a travel bag with her toiletries and a change of underwear, and her purse tied around her neck. Pulitzer's competitor, the *New York Cosmopolitan*, immediately sent out one of its reporters—Elizabeth Bisland—to race Bly, traveling in the opposite direction. As Pulitzer had hoped, the stunt was a publicity bonanza, as readers eagerly followed news on Bly's journey and the paper sponsored a contest for readers to guess the exact time of Bly's return (with the correct guess winning an expense-paid trip to Europe).

Seventy-two days later, Bly made her triumphant return (four and half days ahead of Bisland), having circumnavigated the globe, traveling alone almost the entire time. It was the fastest any human had ever made the journey. Nellie Bly was an international celebrity.

At age 31, Bly married industrialist Robert Seaman, a 73-year-old millionaire, leaving behind her journalism career and her pen name. As Elizabeth Cochrane Seaman, she helped run the family business. She patented two inventions during her time as an industrialist, but business was not really in her skill set and under her leadership the company went

bankrupt. When World War I broke out, she returned to journalism, becoming one of the first women reporters to work in an active war zone.

Nellie Bly's remarkable life ended on January 27, 1922, one hundred three years ago this coming January, when she died of pneumonia in New York at age 57.

The photos below were a publicity shot taken before departing on her round-the-world trip and a photo taken a couple of years later, before her marriage.



Being Thankful



*Be thankful for the clothes that fit a little too snug,
because it means you have enough to eat.*

*Be thankful for the mess you clean up after a party,
because it means you have been surrounded by friends.*

*Be thankful for the taxes you pay,
because it means that you're employed.*

*Be thankful for household chores,
because it means you have a home.*

*Be thankful for your heating bill,
because it means you are warm.*

*Be thankful for the far away parking spot,
because it means you can walk.*

*Be thankful for the early morning alarm clock,
because it means you're alive.*

Happy Happy Thanksgiving!

Around the Neighborhood



Walt and Elinor Wiskow celebrated their
65th Wedding Anniversary!



and they're still looking great!



Steve, Sue, Elinor, Walt, Sara

Elinor is wearing the dress she sewed for her "going-away" outfit. Do you remember when brides used to have those?



**And here are the Wiskow kids,
Steve, Sue and Sara,
with their families.**



**Last, but not least, Wally Torkelson celebrated his
93rd birthday in September!**



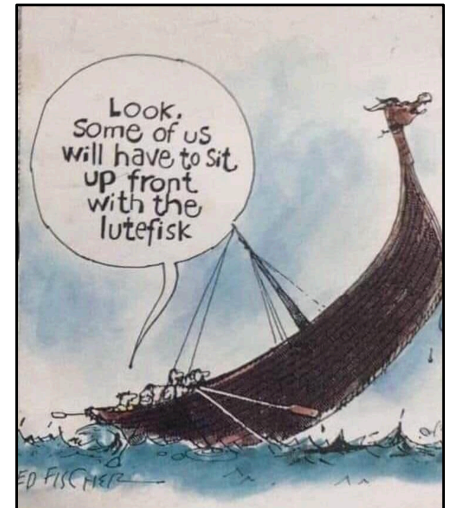
The Back Page



For a more organized home, make sure everything has a place



Sometimes you have to do it yourself if you want it done



How to get out of potlucks for the rest of your life

