### **Church Directory** Staples

7:30 p.m.

Ocupied
Staples
Staples Alliance 1512 8th St. NE, Staples218-894-2891 Pastor Bob Hepokoski, Paul Johnson
Sunday Worship9:30 a.m. Sunday School11:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY
AWANA6:15 p.m.
Assembly of God 914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081 Pastor Roy Miles Youth Pastor Julie Boone
Discipleship Class 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Sonlight & Youth6:30 p.m.
Church of Christ 27343 490th St., Staples218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein Website: www.stapleschurchofchrist.ora
Bible School (youth and adult)9.30 a.m. Sunday Worship10:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY:
Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study6:30 p.m.  Congregational Church, UCC
204 5th St. NE, Staples
Fellowship, refreshments following service  Faith Lutheran
430 12th Street. NE., Staples 218-894-1546 Pastor Stephen Sveom
Sunday Worship First Service8:30 a.m. Second Service10:45 a.m.
Sunday School
Sacred Heart Church 310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church
Coordinator: Monica J. Simmons218-414-0081 cell/text
MASS: Thursday and Friday
Seventh Day Adventist 421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples 218-894-0033
Jeff Scoggins, Pastor Saturday Worship9:30 am. Sabbath School10:45 a.m.

S	Area C
	Trinity Lutheran 1000 4th St., NE, Staples218-894-2372 Rev. Robin Collins Sunday Divine Service9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class10:15 a.m.
	United Methodist 310 5th St. NE, Staples218-894-2248 Pastor Greg Ciesluk Sunday Worship10:30 a.m. (Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)
	Aldrich
	Congregational, UCC One block S. of Hwy. 10, Aldrich Pastor Dave Seaton218-445-5831 Sunday Worship,9:30 a.m. Communion1st Sunday of Month
	Balsamlund Lutheran 19550 490th Street, Aldrich Pastor Rachel Stout
	Cushing
	Bethany Lutheran 25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN 320-749-2140 www.bethanylutherancushing.com. Rev. Jean M. Megorden Lay Pastor Bob Mueller Sunday Worship9:00 a.m
	Lincoln Evangelical Free 1354 320th St., Cushing218-575-2449 www.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free Senior Pastor: Pastor Dan Crocker

Julion I asion. I asion Dull Clot	KUI
Visitation Pastor: Pastor Jim Bi	rown
Youth Coordinator: Stacey Mini	on
Sunday School for all Ages	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship	
WEDNESDAY	
Kids' Club	6.00 p.m.
Jr./Sr. Forge Youth Group	6:30 p.m.
Men's Bible Study	6.00 p m
Praise & Prayer	
,	
Cushing Baptist	
26298 Bear Rd., Cushing	
www.cushingbaptistchurch.org	
Pastor Dan Holmes	.320-749-2583
Sunday School	
Worship	10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY	

Leaf Rive	er Township
The Old Cou	ntry Church
Leaf River Twp.	, Wadena County Rd. 6
Info #	218-837-569

Bible study.

Open by arrangement

> 9:45 a.m. ...11:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

..218-894-3923

Thomastown Covenant

15940 251st Ave., Staples.. Pastor Nathan Hillman

Sunday School ... Sunday Worship. WEDNESDAY ......

Leader	
Swan Valley Luth	eran
Leader	218-397-2470

Sunday Worship	11:00 a.m
Maple Hill Luther Pastor David Stevens	an

Pastor David Stevens

Pastot Dav	/ia Sieveiis		
Leader	218-397-2470	(Rural Pine Rive	r)
Worship	and Sunday Scho	ool9:00 a.r	'n.

### Motley

<b>Motley Free Met</b>	hodist
33 Wellwood St. E	
Motley 56466	218-352-6888
Pastor Jim Johnson	
<b>Assistant Pastor Richard</b>	Broberg
Sunday Worship	
Sunday School	10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY	•
AWANA	6:00 p.m.
Sunday Bible Study	6 :00 p.m.

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1st St. and Birch, Motley .	218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Joe Korf	
MASS:	
Tuesday	6:30 p.m
Wednesday	8:30 a.m
Saturday	7:00 p.m
Sunday	10:30 a.m

United Methodist
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley218-352-6466
Rev. Greg Ciesluk
www.motleyumc.org
Monday AA meeting8:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship Service9:00 a.m.

Oyien
Oylen Alliance
Cty. Rds, 7 and 9, Oylen
218-472-3440 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday School
Sunday Worship

### Pillager

First Lutheran Church	
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN	
218-746-3775	
Pastor Hector Merced	
Sunday Worship	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	8:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m. .11:00 a.m

Sunday School	
Casino Assembly of C Pastor Dan Johnson	God
N of Motley Hwy 64 F on Cty 34 to	n Ctv 104

N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on	Cty 34 to Cty. 104.
Phone	218-746-3839
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship	7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	7:00 p.m.

903 River Street South	ı, Pillager
Pastor Paul Johnson	,
218-746-3768	
Sunday School	9:00 a.m
Sunday Worship	10:30 a.m
TUESDAÝ	
Bible Study/Prayer	11:00 a.m
WEDNESDAY	

.6:15 p.m.

.6:15 p.m.

AWANA 2yrs-5th grade...

#### Homitt

Adult Classes..

**First Baptist** 

Church of the	
114 Front Street, P.O.	Box 146
Hewitt, MN 56453	
218-924-2028	
Pastor Wayne Hoffert	
Sunday School	9:30 a.n
	10:45 a.m./6 p.m
WEDNESDAY	
Prayer	7:00 p.m
,	

#### Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale.
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Associate Pastor Fred Hartley IV
Sunday Worship9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classses
11-11:45 a.m.
Hope Chapel Alliance

18126 County Road /, Verna		
218-445-5643 or 218-472-33	316	
Pastor Neal Malcore		
Sunday Worship	9:00	a.r
Sunday School	10:30	a.n
WEDNESDAY		
Family Night	5.30	n n

Family Night	5:30 p.m.
Family Life Church 402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale	
Church	218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com	
Pastor Amos Self	. 218-371-7189
Childrens' Pastor Kenneth Kjel	
Sunday School - Worship	
Coffee Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
Prayer & Praise	6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	
6:15 - 7:30 p.m Boys ar	nd Girls Ministry
6:15 - 7:30 p.m C.R.E.W	
6:15 - 7:30 p.m Adı	

	<b>Verndale United Methodist</b>
1	10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale
	218-445-5108
	Pastor Jill Pawlowski
	Sunday Worship9:00 a

Central	United	Methodist
5 miles N on	Ctv Rd 26	(Nimrod tar)
Pastor Chuck		
218-639-422		

10-037-4223	
Sunday Worship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	

# Meth, clergy abuse, and Jesus

Pastor Nathan Hillman, Thomastown Covenant Church

I have been deeply encouraged by the recent articles, in this newspaper, about folks who were addicted to meth until finding freedom through the power of the good news about Jesus. All those who walk with Jesus know, from personal experience, this same transforming power that is available against any sin and for all those who seek Him!

I have been deeply discouraged by the recent ads, also in this newspaper, seeking information about pastors that have used and abused people who came to them seeking the love of God. Unfortunately, too many of us (across all church denominations) have experienced the failures and abuses of those that were supposed to be our spiritual leaders.

This story is actually an old one. People who were "sinners" became friends of God. And people who were "godly" set themselves against God. The contrast of these two mirror opposites illustrates a truth that Jesus made very clear during his time on earth. So the last will be first, and the first will be last. (Matthew 20:16) In other words, God has a very different understanding of greatness than what we humans have. We tend to look at the outer surface. We see the respectable clothes, the professional resume, the smart words, the life that appears put-together.

But God sees the heart. That's why Jesus warned the religious people of His day, Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. (Matthew 21:31) This simply means that nobody can coast - nobody can presume to have God wrapped around their finger. It means that pastors like myself, and "church people", ought to be the first to humbly come before God, dig deep and seek both His forgiveness for our sins and His power to live transformed lives. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. (Matthew 23:12) It means that everybody, no matter who they are or where they're from or what they've done, can choose to follow Jesus today and begin to live in victory! That's good news for meth users and clergy...and you!

## The Staples Area Church Directory is sponsored by these area businesses:

#### **Central Building** Supply

Bob Reeck, Manager Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN

### Longbella Drug Store

"The Prescription Store" 2nd Ave., Staples • 218-894-2242 Motley and Pillager

#### **Ernie's Food Market**

Groceries - Gas - Convenience - more Staples, MN 218-894-1072

**Staples World** Your community newspaper since 1890 224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN 218-894-1112

#### **Staples Veterinary Clinic**

## "Complete Animal Care"

Staples, MN 218-894-1775

**Tower Pizza** 

Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches

Staples, MN 218-894-3299

**Savings Bank** Fully Insured to \$250,000 Staples, MN 218-894-3900

**Mid-Central Federal** 

#### **Staples True Value** "Just Ask Rental"

Open 7 days a week Staples, MN 218-894-3263