

# Brain Waves

AUGUST 2025



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## Contact us ...

We are a ministry of  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
730 County Road PPP  
Sheboygan Falls  
(920) 627-6847  
Email: [tgp@stpaulfalls.com](mailto:tgp@stpaulfalls.com)  
Web: [memorymattersmost.com](http://memorymattersmost.com)

 Follow Us!

## Quote of The Month ...

*"We hold the memories for people who can no longer hold them for themselves."*

~ Unknown

## Leah's Notes ...



Leah Zehel, Director

VVolunteer - The Heart of The Gathering Place! Recently I overheard one of our volunteers talking to a family member, telling them about their loved one's day. And I could not help but have a happy heart because this simple conversation was what it was all about. Our volunteers here do a lot in a day, we get to do a lot of fun things, play games, do art, listen and be entertained by great musicians. During these regular activities their job is to engage your loved one while

doing that activity. But when you think about it, it is SO much more than that!!! See it was not necessarily that volunteer's job to tell that family about their day, but they did, and they did it with joy and true happiness because they are truly happy for your loved when, they are invested, they care, they want them to have the best day possible!

Things are not always easy and all fun and games, see our volunteers are the ones that sit with the individual that is feeling uneasy, and they quietly adapt, telling them it will be okay they are there for them. They wipe away fears while keeping their dignity, they calm their anxiousness. See our volunteers know

the participants story they listen to them. Our volunteers hold memories for those who can no longer hold them themselves.

So, my point is they are not just volunteers they are the hearts of TGP. While there is a lot of joy, laughter, and fun, there is also a deep care, concern and desire for the participants to feel purposeful, safe, and loved. So, thank you! Thank you volunteers who consistently show up every week and pour your heart into helping individuals with memory loss.

*"It's not for money; it's not for fame. It's not for personal gain. It's not just love of fellowman. It's not just a helping hand. It's something you cannot buy with wealth. It's not a medal won*

*continued on page 4 ...*



### The Gathering Place Brat Fry and Car Show

**Don't cook at home!!!! Monday August 25th is do not cook at home day!** Sounds like everyone will have to head over to The Gathering Place brat fry, brats, burgers, chips, and new menu items, German Potato Salad, and Baked Beans!!!! The perfect way to end a Monday!

There will be plenty of seating, great cars to check out and music with DJ Rob Peterson. This fundraiser is a great way to support The Gathering Place and Memory Matters activity programming.

Nicole and her youth group gang will also be there with great ice cream treats for dessert. A great way to support two amazing missions of the church!

If interested in showing your car, please contact Leah at The Gathering Place at 920-627-6847. ■

**SAVE THE DATE**

**BRAT FRY & CAR SHOW**

**AUGUST 25 • 5:00 TO 7:00 PM**

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**730 COUNTY ROAD PPP • SHEBOYGAN FALLS**

**BRAT FRY, CAR SHOW AND DJ!**  
**You do not want to miss it!**

All proceeds for this event will benefit The Gathering Place and Memory Matters programming!

engaging hearts...enriching minds  
The Gathering Place Memory Matters



# Memory Minute

By Leah Zehel

This month in Memory Matters we had some deep conversations about what it feels like to have memory loss and to know you have memory loss. These conversations sometimes were hard but I felt it was important to share the overwhelming feelings of not being accepted anymore. I heard comments like, "I feel pushed to the side." "I can hear and pick up on when people are talking about me." "I am still capable of many things, let me do them." "My heart has not changed."

We get close in Memory Matters and I am thankful everyone felt comfortable sharing, it feels good to talk about it. And when you realize everyone is going through something we can lean on each other for support. I wanted to share a poem written by one of our members, not to make people feel bad but to remind people to be kind. 😊

## Outside Looking In:

*I may look fine from  
The outside looking in-  
But unless you know me  
well, you do not know  
my private hell,  
The days that fly by  
Without my mind  
Marking their passing,  
The memories now  
Whitewashed by time-  
The struggle to cope,  
To maintain.  
But I am glad few can  
see the real me,  
For that allows me  
To retain my dignity,*

*My confidence and  
Self-esteem, the  
Things I need while my  
mind is running  
Amok  
So please be kind  
When I occasionally  
Slip and my mask  
Falls away-  
Just tell me "Its ok"  
So that I may believe it  
too.*

- Linda McAlpine

## Memory Matters Calendar

**August 7** Music with Dan Ognevic

**August 14** Game Day!

**August 21** Art with Claire

**August 28** History with Linda







## TGP Special Events & Activities

*Families always welcome to our Entertainment Events!*

- August 4** Music with Rob Peterson  
**August 6** Music with Jim Rosetti  
**August 7** Music with Jim Olschmidt  
**August 11** You be the Judge  
**August 13** Outing to Marsh Duck Banding Tour and lunch  
**August 14** Quilt Show  
**August 18** Music with George Possley  
**August 20** • SPARKS  
• Music with Dan Ognevic  
**August 21** • History with Linda  
• Music with Bob Welsch  
**August 27** Piano Music with Brittney

*Leah's Notes continued from pg.1*

*with pride. Its for that feeling deep inside. Its that reward down in your heart. Its that feeling that you have been apart of helping others far and near that makes you be a volunteer."*

- Author Unknown. ■

