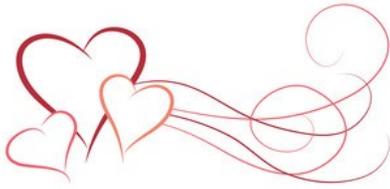


February 2019



St. Paul's Epistle

Church Council Minutes—January 3, 2019

Those present: Richard Christie, Leanna Hasbargen, Tony Lucek, Leonard Morrison, Steve Rutkowski, Ken Leerssen, Dave Wright and Sally Batdorf

Chairman Richard Christie called the meeting to order. Steve Rutkowski gave the opening prayer. There were no changes to the agenda. The Minutes and Treasurer's reports were reviewed and approved.

Briefs: 1) Elders schedule for 2019 was completed. 2) The stairs to the church basement will be getting new treads. 3) Joint parish meeting with the Church of the Lutheran Hour will be taking place January 21 at 4 p.m. in Fort Frances. 4) New copy machine that is being leased has been delivered. 5) Installation of officers for the year 2019 will take place during worship on January 6th. 6) Annual meeting is scheduled for January 20th. 7) Proposed budget for 2019 was reviewed and discussed. The council will present it at the annual meeting.

New member through Adult Confirmation: Jeanmarie Morrison on December 23, 2108.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by~ Sally Batdorf, Secretary

Annual Meeting Minutes—January 20, 2019

Chairman Richard Christie called the meeting to order. The opening prayer was given by Pastor Quast. Roll call was per signage. The minutes from the previous quarterly meeting were presented and approved.

Briefs: 1) Pastor Quast reported Sunday morning Bible Study is going well. There is one individual attending adult instruction classes. 2) The treasurer's report was reviewed, discussed and approved. 3) The financial secretary's report was approved. 4) There will be annual inspections on our chairlift, roofs and fire extinguishers. 5) The flat roof on the church will need to be replaced in 2020. 6) Our endowment fund continues to earn 5% through the Lutheran Church Extension Fund. Individuals are also able to invest. Forms are available for anyone interested. 7) Aluminum cans are still being collected with the proceeds donated to the Sunday School. The collection box is located next to the parsonage back door. 8) 4 members volunteered to our annual financial review. 9) The 2019 budget was discussed and noted that expenses continue to rise. Cuts were made to the budget before approval. 10) Steve Rutkowski volunteered to be the money counter for 2019. 11) We will again be collecting hygiene items during Lent. 12) Ash Wednesday is March 6th. Services will be held at both churches. 13) It was approved to request a Summer Vicar if The Church of the Lutheran Hour agrees.

Membership changes were printed.

Dave Wright motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ray Gorder. The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by~ Sally Batdorf, Secretary

Those Serving Our Church—February, March, April 2019

February- Elders: Tony Lucek and Leonard Morrison Altar: RaNae Whitbeck

Greeters: 3rd—George and Jeanette Aitchison 10th: Dave and Catherine Crawford 17th: Richard and Roberta Christie 24th: Roger and Leanna Hasbargen

March—Elders: Tony Lucek and Leonard Morrison Altar: Susan Lucek and Michelle Hopkins

Greeters: 3rd: Josh and Shelley Koenig 10th: Jean Houska 17th: Kyle and Jeanmarie Morrison 24th: Steve Rutkowsky 31st: Jenica Whitbeck

April—Elders: All Altar: Heidi Swenson and Lori Boquist

Greeters: 7th: Zelpha Crawford 14th: Rita Anderson and Doris Schattschneider 21st: Steve and Mary Bacon 28th: Harry & Sally Batdorf



Sunday School Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Sunday, February 17th

9:30 a.m.

Come enjoy a delicious pancake breakfast and help raise funds for our Sunday School to send to mission projects around the world.



ACH GIVING

Did you know that you can give your offering even when you're not able to attend worship on Sunday? ACH (Automated Clearing House) Giving is available. You may designate how often your offering is given, and what account (general, mission, improvements) you'd like your offering to go to. Forms are available in the church office.



February Birthdays

Happy Birthday to.....

8th: Ken Leerssen

9th: Stephanie Morrison

10th: Shirley Larson

11th: Michelle Hopkins

12th: Jim Hartje

13th: Jeanette Aitchison

19th: Kathy Gorden & Bev Moorhead

20th: Marc Gorden & Dave Wright

21st: Jean Houska

22nd: George Aitchison & Paige Wold

23rd: Amy Hart

24th: LeRoy Kelly

26th: Rita Anderson & Roberta Christie





Please send contributions c/o
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
2012 East Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55812

MAIN STREET LIVING is a locally produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North, Minnesota South and North Dakota Districts of our LCMS, along with a 30 minute remastered program called "This is the Life" from Lutheran Hour Ministries. It airs on Sunday Mornings throughout the state of Minnesota

"MAIN STREET LIVING NORTHLAND" is broadcast every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Central time on KBJR Channel 6 NBC and cable and satellite systems carrying these stations. Thank you for your support!

January/ February Program Notes:

January 27th: Pastor Tim Ludwig – Peace in Christ Lutheran Church, Hermantown.

February 3rd: Pastor Matthew Kohl—Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cloquet, MN

February 10th: Pastor John Bonk— Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church, Two Harbors, MN

February 17th: Pastor Kevin Richter— Peace in Christ Lutheran Church, Hermantown, MN



"Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow" ~ Psalm 51:7



Lutheran Island Camp and Christ Serve Ranch Winter Calendar

Winter Escape—ART BAR 39 Christ Serve Ranch | January 19, 2019 | \$45/person Experience the creativity of our Creator with a winter afternoon adventure. Includes a canvas painting lesson and appetizers followed by a sleigh ride tour of winter ecology. Please bring your own beverage. Register at: www.christserveranch.org

Men of Christ Men's Retreat at Lutheran Island Camp | February 15-17, 2019 | \$125 Registration (\$90 commuter rate) Presenter: Rev. Jeff Hemmer, Fairview Heights, IL - Pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church and Author of "Man Up!", CPH Register at: www.islandcamp.org

SUNKEN CITIES OF EGYPT EXHIBITION @ Minneapolis Institute of Art February 16, 2019 | Bus Tour departing LIC at 7:00 am | \$80/person Register at: www.christserveranch.org



Polar Plunge Weekend - March 1-3, 2019 The Polar Plunge is set for Saturday, March 2nd at 2:00 pm! Come for the retreat or just the plunge. Learn more at: www.islandcamp.org Bible Study led by Dr. James Lamb from Lutherans for Life

Laced with Grace Women's Retreat 2019 | April 5-7, 2019 | \$125 Registration Fee (\$90 for Saturday only) Featuring Guest Speaker: Jane Wilke Learn more at: www.islandcamp.org

A message from prospective summer Vicar, Joshua Dub

(At our Annual Meeting we voted to pursue a vicar for Summer 2019)

Hello Rev. Quast,

My name is Joshua Dub and I am currently a first year seminarian at CTSFW. Dr. Pless forwarded your information to me about your summer vicarage opportunity in International Falls. I am very interested in this and have heard great things from Martin Hill!

A little about myself: I grew up in a Lutheran military family. My dad served in the Army for 22 years, and so we moved around a bit. I was born in Texas, moved to Minnesota, moved back to Texas, moved to Washington state, and finally moved back to Minnesota when my dad retired. My mom was born and raised in Minnesota and her family still lives in Minnesota, primarily in southern Minnesota; Owatonna, Albert Lea, Rochester, and Emmons mostly. I have two younger brothers, Jake who is a freshmen at Northwestern in St. Paul and Joey who is a freshmen at Owatonna High School. My mom works in Owatonna at the Law Enforcement Center, and my dad is retired.

I attended Augustana University in Sioux Falls, SD where I studied Classics and German. I was heavily involved in chapel life and music while I was there. I also had the opportunity to travel a bit while in school, visiting China, Germany, and much of the U.S. After college, I spent a year in Germany working with a Lutheran boy's boarding choir teaching English and Latin. Now, I am back in the states, this time in Indiana, while I pursue my M.Div and eventual ordination to serve God's Church.

A message from Pastor Quast.....

Beloved in Christ, this year we are blessed to enjoy an extended Epiphany season in the church year, right into February! We will continue to ponder the blessings the Lord gives to us in the revelation of His Son Jesus to the world for the forgiveness of sins. Yet many people do not know who Jesus is or what He has done to save them. Too often we see people distracted by the cares and worries of this life, so much so that they may not ever really think about their own sin and their judgement before a holy and righteous God. Things like the government shutdown intrude into our lives and preoccupy our thoughts and minds.

What a blessing it is, therefore, to be able to come to church each week, surrounded by fellow believers and hear the Word of God proclaimed into our ears, hearts, and minds. Our lives are transformed by the power of God's Word as we hear of Jesus, the Savior from sin, death, and the devil. As St. Paul says in Romans 1:16, the Gospel "is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes..." Indeed, the Scriptures help us to keep our focus on what matters most—our faith in Jesus Christ—and our living out of that faith in love toward our neighbor (part of which means praying and supporting our neighbors in every need—like those affected by the government shutdown).

As part of our mission in reaching out to the lost, it was noted at our January Voter's Meeting that we will again apply for a summer vicar. What does this have to do with reaching out with the Gospel of Jesus to the lost? A great deal. For we recognize the importance of having called servants of the Word to shepherd God's people and to proclaim the Gospel in our communities. Jesus said to His disciples in Matthew 9:37-38, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." So join me in praying for a seminarian to accept our summer vicarage application. It is a wonderful joy and privilege to be able to help the church in forming servants for Jesus' sake. We provide an incredible opportunity for seminarians to learn and grow in their understanding and practice of the pastoral ministry.

Continued on next page →

This will aid them tremendously in their future ministry as God's undershepherds. And we are all aware of the great blessings that each of our previous summer vicars brought to us in our congregation and community.

Beloved, this is an exciting time to be a Christian. Surely, there are challenges and threats that are coming our way, but we face them confidently in the love and mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He has promised to hold us in His hands so that not even the devil can snatch us away from Him. In the mean time, let us take every opportunity to grow in our faith through Christian worship (making good and regular use of God's Holy Word and Sacraments), Bible study and devotional opportunities (whether it is the Ladies study, or Sunday morning, or our reading through the great stories of the Bible devotional guide), and fellowship times with our brothers and sisters in Christ (keep a sharp eye for the Sunday School sponsored breakfast that will take place in February!).

We are truly blessed to be a part of a faithful congregation that looks to God and His Word for truth and comfort and peace. Therefore, as Hebrews 10:24-25 exhorts us, "... let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

Dear friends, what a great joy and privilege it is to meet together and encourage one another in the faith and exhort one another toward good works to our neighbor. God has richly blessed us with many gifts of time, talents, and treasures, and we are moved by God's Spirit to use each of them in service to Him and His kingdom. We give generously to support the church, not because we NEED to in order to earn God's favor, but rather because God's grace moves us to RESPOND to His free salvation in this way. And it is a joy! A joy to support the church in various ways so that not only we ourselves are uplifted by God's gifts, but that our children, neighbors, and strangers alike, may also be served in this way for many years to come.

"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it." (1 Thessalonians 5:23-34). Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Thanks be to God in Christ Jesus. Amen.



CREATE IN ME A
Clean heart, O GOD,
AND RENEW A RIGHT SPIRIT
WITHIN ME. PSALM 51:10 ESV