

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

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Lay Minister Jeremy Wolfe
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563-258-2936

Established 1900

VOLUME 1

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Established 1893

In the Shadow of the Cross

We've all heard and have seen the passion and resurrection story many times. We all know about Pontius Pilate and other details, but there are some characters in the background who don't get enough credit. We can learn from their faith.

Peter denied Jesus three times and the other apostles were mostly scattered. Scared, low on faith, and feeling like their shepherd was being taken from them forever. He told them what would happen ahead of time. Why did they struggle so much? Why did it take so long for them to come around? My best guess is that they were "shell shocked". It's one thing to know that a punch is coming. It's another thing to take that punch and absorb it.



While the apostles were generally out of commission at this time there were some who kept moving forward. The women who followed Jesus were there. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and many others were standing from afar (Matthew 27:55-56, Mark 15:40-41, Luke 23:49). This is impressive because to follow Jesus at this time was a risk. Here is what is even more impressive. The women were there at the tomb. They weren't just there in his darkest hour, they were there even after he had died and everyone else had scattered. They were the first ones to discover the empty tomb, and most did not believe them except for Peter who was starting to make his way back to restoration in faith (Luke 24:11-12).

The women who were there at the cross and at the empty tomb weren't all named. The apostle John was there at the crucifixion and was instructed to take the mother of Jesus as his own (John 19:26-27). Right after the events at Calvary two men stepped up. One was Nicodemus. Nicodemus stood up for Jesus at his midnight trial (John 7:50-51) and also anointed and wrapped him in linen for burial (John 19:39-40). Joseph of Arimathea was like Nicodemus. As a leader in Israel he put his reputation at risk and stood for Jesus by giving him his tomb (Matthew 27:57-58).

What can we learn from Mary and the other women, Nicodemus, the Apostle John, Joseph of Arimathea and others who honored Jesus during and after the resurrection? These folks held onto their faith even when things were uncertain. They simply kept moving forward in faith. We all go through seasons where things might not feel good or are very uncertain. In times like that the best course of action is to hold onto your faith and keep moving forward. God will never disappoint you. Just as the women at the tomb were the first to learn of the resurrection God rewards exceptional faith. So even though they are in the background, these folks who held their faith give us a great example to follow.

Easter blessings to you,

Jeremy
jeremy.wolfe@csuglobal.edu
563-258-2936



FARMERSBURG NEWS

COMMUNION

The church council has agreed to go back to regular Communion (by Continuous Serve) beginning on **April 3rd**.

If you would rather take “pew” communion, it will still be available. Ask an usher when you arrive.

We will need two ushers to help with serving the Continuous Serve Communion. If you are scheduled to usher and are unable to usher, please find a substitute on Communion Sundays.

FARMERSBURG

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pres: Tammy Muller (23)

V. Pres: Ryan Moon (24)

Sec: Loretta Weipert (23)

Treas: Lindelle Scherf (22)

Council Members:

Tracey Phillips (22) Zach Radloff (22)

CHURCH SECRETARY:

Kelly Shaw

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES:

Kelly Shaw & Brenda Hoth

OUTSIDE JANITOR:

Loren Scherf

INSIDE JANITOR:

Mary Beth Tielbar

WELCA:

Pres: Shirley Marmann

V. Pres: Velma Kuehl

Sec: Nancy Moon

Treas: Becky Fuelling

Mission Action: Bev Moon,

Nancy Moon, Marlene Glawe

MEN'S GROUP:

Pres: Jason Klinge

V. Pres: Brad Hoth

Sec/Treas: Don Bossard

ALTAR GUILD:

Directress: Cheryl Bossard

Sec: Loretta Weipert

Treas: Velma Kuehl

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY YOUTH

Pres: Logan Engelhardt

V. Pres: Braden Landt

Sec: Ashley Shaw

Treas: Ethan Goltz

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Tammy Muller (24)

Secretary: Vicki Baade (24)

Members: Theresa Rodas (22)

Janelle Smith (22)

Luke Steege (23)

Jason Klinge (23)

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

Cheryl Bossard & Tammy Muller

Church Website:

<http://www.stjohn-farmersburg.org>

Remember to like St. John Facebook Page.

When you are garage sell shopping, remember to look for items for the Layette Kits. Our supply of items is gone. We need the following:

Bar Soap, Socks,

Small Dark colored Hand Towels

Cotton T-shirts or Onesies

Long or Short sleeve Gowns or Sleepers

Receiving Blankets

Cloth Diapers

Baby Cap

Jacket, Sweater or Sweatshirts

Diaper Pins

Clothes should be **size 6– 24 Months**

Thank you—Marlene, Nancy & Bev

Thank You

Thank you so much for the gift cards! What a nice Surprise! I sincerely appreciate the gas card since the cost is going up. I am excited to go to White Springs! I haven't been there since it re-opened. It was one of my favorite places to eat, back in the day—almost 50 years ago!

Thanks again for thinking of me!

Theresa



KNOWN April BAPTISMS

4 – Ryan Moon

6 – Becky Fuelling

8 – William Robert Scherf V

10 – Zachary Radloff

13 – Cierra Weipert

15 - Emery Jean Rodas

15 – Wyatt, Martyn, Jay Geick

19 – Dominic Schoulte

20 – Kris Wikner

ST. JOHN FARMERSBURG COUNCIL MINUTES

Present: Lindelle Scherf, Tammy Muller, Loretta Weipert, Ken Erickson, Ryan Moon, Jeremy Wolfe.

Absent: Zachery Radloff and Tracey Phillips

Meeting called to order by President Tammy Muller at 7:23 pm. Opening devotions given by Jeremy Wolfe. Lindelle moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ryan. Motioned carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of 2/9/2022 meeting made by Loretta, second by Lindelle. Motion carried.

Ryan moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Ken. Motion carried.

Lay Minister Report: Talked about recent Rural Ministry Conference at Wartburg. Currently taking 2 classes. Reviewed shut in list for calls/visits.

Ongoing Business:

- *Discussed COVID restrictions. Ryan made motion to start on April 3rd with continuous serve communion with option of taking communion in pew. Lindelle second motion. Motion carried. Discussed ways to serve communion with infection control measures in place. Will keep current offering practices in place.
- *Internet speed increased, has been working well and is faster.
- *Photo Directory-contact to try to find an individual that would be interested in putting together photo directory. On hold at this time.
- *New church sign - discussed possible designs for new church sign. Lindelle brought sample of sign material and a few ideas.
- *Basement Piano - Recently serviced, there is designated funds for bill.
- *Council meeting dates/times during Lent - agreed next meeting to be April 14 after Maundy Thursday Services around 7:30 pm.

New Business:

- *Private Baptism - March 26 for child of Laney Gardner Van Hauen. If possible have a council member present. Kurt Kessler interested in getting child baptized, no date set at this time.
- *Membership transfer for Declan Wolfe from Epworth Methodist church. Lindelle made motion, 2nd by Loretta. Motion carried.
- *Palms for Palm Sunday- Was decided that Worship/Music funds will cover cost of palms instead of WELCA.
- *Need to find 3 volunteers to set up cross during Maundy Thursday service.
- *Email from Kathy Little that 2021 Congregation Report (Form A & C) were due by March 1, 2022. Jeremy & Kelly working on reports.
- *Highlights of February 17th Ministry team meeting at Farmersburg - Discussed photo directory, Joint worships continue for Fair and Labor Day weekend. Considering joint services for Christmas Day (Luana) and New Years Day (Farmersburg). Outdoor services.

Committee Reports:

- *Evangelism- no report
- *Parish Education- May 1st Confirmation
- *Property- Bell tower & schoolhouse, Jamie Tielbar contacted and will be discussing details further with Zach.
- *Stewardship- NO report
- *Worship- Committee meeting set for March 23
- *Memorial-No report
- *Youth Group-May have a few students going to gathering in Minneapolis.
- *Mens Group - No report
- *Womens Group - Quilts made during Do Days will be put on back of pews during Lent service.

Motion to adjourn by Lindelle, second by Ken. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Loretta Weipert, secretary

FARMERSBURG NEWS

February, 2022 – Treasurer's Report

Income:

1197.00
2025.00
250.00
760.00

Rental income:

Missions:

NE Iowa Synod: 265.00
SOTH: 215.00
EWALU: 35.00
St. Pt. Home: 60.00
LSI: 50.00
Food Shelf: 100.00

Staff Compensation:

Pastor: 1184.20 (Sal)+ 305.20(mileage + ½ books)
Portico:
Secretary: 200.00 GC KS & Casey's
Inside Cust.: 209.22
Outside Cust.: 120.05
Organists: 110.82

Expenses:

Church Mutual 582.00 (work comp pkg, full yr.)
Black Hills (gas): 588.22
Alliant (elec): 268.58
NEIT: 79.56
Quill 169.01
1517 Media 24.15 (Celebrant's host)
Merlyn Finley 130.00 (Church piano)
Interchurch council 50.00 (mission-2022)

Total Income: 4232.00
Total Expenses: 4746.01

General Checking Balance – February 1, 2022 7324.48
February 28, 2022 6810.47

Lindelle Scherf, Treasurer





Thank you to Jason Klinge and Deb Tidwell for sharing altar flowers in memory of Deb's Mother.

Thank you to the Tielbar family for sharing funeral flowers .

Thank you to Nancy Moon and Ethel Lenth for sharing the Altar and organ arrangements.



February Worship Attendance	
6	35
14	36
20	29
27	26

FARMERSBURG NEWS

USHERS

April 3, April 10 Palm Sunday &
 April 14 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday
 Captain Jeff Klinge Martyn Geick
 Larry Friedlein John Fuelling

April 17 9:00 am Easter & April 24 10:30 am
 Captain Rod Stagman John Suhr
 Ken Erickson Mike Reardon

ACOLYTES

April 3	10:30 AM	Kaylee Hoth
April 6 (Lent service)	6:30 PM	Adrianna Schoulte
April 10	10:30 AM	Brayden Hoth
April 14 (Maundy Thursday)	6:30 PM	Olivia Kirby
April 17 Easter	9:00 AM	Landon Goltz
April 24	10:30 AM	Kaylee Hoth

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

April 3 Zach Radloff
 April 14 Lindelle Scherf Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm
 April 17 Loretta Weipert Easter (9:00 am)

GREETERS

April
 3 Brianna, Kaylee, Brayden & Rylan Hoth
 10 Tootie Kessler & Shirley Marmann
 14 Gloria Tayek & Heather Crogan
 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday
 17 Mindy Clubb & Ethel Lenth 9:00 am Easter
 24 Rod Stagman & John Klinge

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Shirley Marmann & Velma Kuehl



Altar Guild
 Tracey Phillips
 Loretta Weipert
 Julie Kurth



Scripture Readers are needed for the month of April. Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board or contact Jeremy Wolfe if you would like to read on a Sunday. The only Sunday that has a reader is:
 April 24 Becky Fuelling

April

15 Kenneth & Velma Kuehl
 23 Mark & Beth Bries

- April 1 Lyvea Krambeer
- 2 Lee Klinkenberg
 Jamie Scott Tielbar
- 4 Gerald Jennings
- 5 Shirley Henkes
- 6 Mallory (Thornton) Randall
- 7 Ryan Pritchard
 Dalton Isaacs
- 8 Dillon Hope
 Deb Tidwell
 Rita Pritchard
 Addison Burgess
- 9 Breanna Hope
- 10 Garrett Lnenicka
 Kennedy Schmidt
- 11 Jerel Palas
- 14 Jamie Tielbar
- 18 Carol Lenth
- 19 Lucy Kessler
- 20 Steven Henning
- 22 Elissa Gardner
- 25 Jeffery Palas
- 27 Majil Gardner
 Jeanette Vogt
- 28 John Klinge
 Lori Schoenfeldt
- 30 Layne Tielbar



Our Sympathy to the family and friends of Rose Mary Tielbar who passed away on March 2, 2022. Her services were held on March 12, 2022 @ St. John Farmersburg.



LENTEN MEAL 5:15-6:15pm

April 6th @ Farmersburg

Group 1 Serving
 Tator Tot Casserole
 Salads and Desserts
 Coffee and Milk

LUANA

CHURCH SECRETARY & FINANCIAL TREAS.: Karla Schrader

CHURCH COUNCIL:

President: Jim Meyer (23)

V. Pres: Duaine Davis (23)

Sec: Mel Lenth (24)

Cur. Treas: Mary Schroeder(22)

Bene. Treas: Sherri Johnson (24)

Financial Counters: Council

DEACONS:

Erv Bugenhagen (22)

Janelle Smith (22)

Doug Schrader (23)

TRUSTEES:

Mary Schroeder (22)

Duaine Davis (23)

Jim Meyer (23)

Sherri Johnson (24)

Mel Lenth (24)

Neil Landt (24)

WELCA:

Leaders:

January—March Vicky Baade

April—June Lisa Meyer

July—September Mel Lenth

Oct.—December Karla Schrader

ALTAR GUILD:

Pres: Sherri Johnson (23)

Sec: Darci Engelhardt (23)

Banners/Linens/Candles:

Mary Schroeder (24)

Lisa Meyer (22)

Special Services/Flowers:

Betty Handke (24)

Diane Kraus (22)

Bapt./Comm.:

Sherri Johnson

Darci Engelhardt

Seasonal Banners:

Altar Guild

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY YOUTH:

Pres: Logan Engelhardt

V. Pres: Braden Landt

Sec: Ashley Shaw

Treas: Ethan Goltz

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Tammy Muller(24)

Secretary: Vicki Baade (24)

Members: Theresa Rodas (22)

Janelle Smith (22)

Luke Steege (23)

Jason Klinge (23)

St. John's Luana website

www.stjohn-luana.org

LUANA NEWS

APRIL VOLUNTEERS:



Greeters: Luke & Kim Steege

Read Lessons & Prayers: Apr. 3 – Karla Schrader
Apr. 10 – Keith Johnson
Apr. 17 – Mary Schroeder
Apr. 24 – Duaine Davis

Acolyte: Apr. 3 - Emme Wikner
Apr. 10 - Josh Schierholz
Apr. 17 - Dayne Anderson (7:00 Sunrise Service)
Apr. 24 - Tyce Wikner

Communion Servers: Apr. 3 – Erv Bugenhagen and Duaine Davis
Apr. 17 – Doug Schrader and Neil Landt (Sunrise Service)

Altar Guild: Sherri Johnson

Flowers: Karla Schrader



Luana Do-Days

April 19 and April 26 beginning at
8:30 am.



1 – Sherri Johnson
4 – Jean Wolter
5 – Connie Schlein
14 – Janelle Smith
19 – Avrey Smith
Steve Pape
28 - Myah Davis



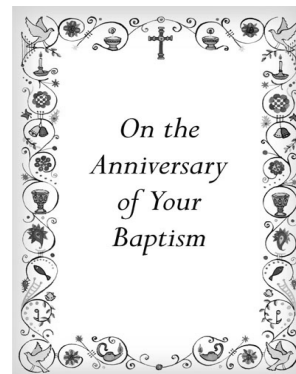
April

19 – Robert & Betty Handke

20 – Jim & Lisa Meyer

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	Att.	Comm
Feb. 27	35	
Mar. 2	46	46
Mar. 6	54	51
Mar. 13	35	
Mar. 16	38	—
TOTAL	208	97



*On the
Anniversary
of Your
Baptism*

2 – Keisha Formanek
4 – Amber Moeller
6 - Erma Swenson
7 – Tristan Meyer
13 – Jay Schroeder
18 – Candice Schlein
22 – Connie Schlein
25 – Sherri Johnson
29 – LuNida Landt

LUANA NEWS

FEBRUARY REPORT

EXPENSES

Black Hills Utilities –Nat. Gas	637.79
Alliant - Electricity	495.25
Karla Schrader –Secretary	330.91
Cindy Landt – Custodian	307.83
NEITEL	118.50
Jeremy Wolfe	1,184.20
Jeremy Wolfe (Jan. miles, Blue Tooth	668.24
Jeremy Wolfe (Feb. miles,conf, book)	359.70
IRS	297.87
Monona Computer	50.88
Plunketts- (exterminator)	55.64
Fisk Farm & Home – custodial	212.63
Schiller Law – W-2's	<u>30.32</u>
	4,749.76

INCOME

Feb. 6	1,125.00
Feb. 13	1,612.00
Feb. 20	667.00
Feb. 27	<u>962.00</u>
	4,366.00
Bal. Jan. 31, 2022	7,871.08
Income	<u>4,366.00</u>
	12,237.08
Less Expenses	<u>4,749.76</u>
Bal. Feb. 28, 2022	7,487.32

SPECIAL FUNDS

Ruby Breitsprecher CD	5,317.44
St John Scholarship Fund CD	40,672.40
Willard & Anne Kamin CD	4,276.79

FURNACE/RENT/REPAIR FUND

Bal. Jan. 31, 2022	\$ 51,908.17
Rent	500.00
Interest	<u>45.35</u>
Bal. Feb. 28, 2022	\$ 52,453.52

CURRENT FUND

	Envelopes	Plate	Initial	Total
Feb. 6	1,095.00	5.00	25.00	1,125.00
Feb. 13	1,607.00	5.00		1,612.00
Feb. 20	642.00	20.00	5.00	667.00
Feb. 27	<u>902.00</u>	<u>60.00</u>		<u>962.00</u>
	4,246.00	90.00	30.00	4,366.00



BENEVOLENCE REPORT

INCOME

Feb. 6	Offering	117.00
	Food Shelf	50.00
Feb. 13	Offering	25.00
	Food Shelf	10.00
	Souper Bowl	211.39
Feb. 20	Offering	40.00
Feb. 27	Offering	35.00
	Food Shelf	<u>10.00</u>
		498.39

EXPENSES

Food Shelf	281.39
SOTH	130.00
NEIA Synod	<u>87.00</u>
	498.39

LUANA NEWS

Meeting called to order by President Jim Meyer at 7:48 AM. (3/13/2022)

Present: Lay Pastor Jeremy Wolfe, Jim Meyer, Duane Davis, Janelle Smith, Doug Schrader, Ervin Bugenhagen, Neil Landt, Melanie Lenth, Mary Schroeder and Karla Schrader.

Absent: Sherri Johnson.

Devotions/Justify were lead by Jeremy.

Secretary's Report: Report was read. Motion made by Mary with the corrected times of Lenten services at 6:30pm. Seconded by Janelle. Motion carried.

Treasurer's & Financial Reports: Reports reviewed. Melanie made the motion to accept the reports. Doug seconded. Motion carried.

No Committee's to report.

Old Business: Council agreed to the amount paid for Jeremy's CPE class would be sufficient for the Scholarship Fund. This Fund will be reviewed in 2023. Janelle made the motion to add the Scholarship Fund to be designated into next year's budget. Mary seconded. Motion approved.

Ervin opened the discussion of selling the Parsonage, which was contemplated at the annual meeting. Jim will present this information to the congregation during today's service. Jim will contact the renter on our intentions. The Building Committee will meet and make the recommendations to the Council.

New Business: Karla presented the contract for Greenlawn Services/Ossian for 2022. If prepaid by March 31st, we would receive a 5% discount. This includes the Church lawn and Cemetery. The Cemetery will reimburse the Church for their share. Neil made the motion to accept payment of \$878.62 before the discount. Janelle seconded. Motion approved.

Monona Computer will discontinue the Church's Anti Virus and Back-Up service due to their insurance.

Jeremy will investigate several options for a new service and will present it at the next Council meeting. Janelle made the motion to have Jeremy recommend new services and seconded by Doug. Motion approved.

Jeremy and along with Janelle/Ministry Team discussed the proposals for 2022 Church Holiday Services. Christmas & New Year's Day land both on Sunday and to provide only one service. It was agreed by Council after Janelle motioned to have a split service and seconded by Mary, for Christmas Day service to be held at St. John/Luana @9:00 AM. New Year's Day service to be held at St. John/Farmersburg @10:30 AM. Also, considering a Joint Pictorial Directory and a combined outdoor worship service in 2023.

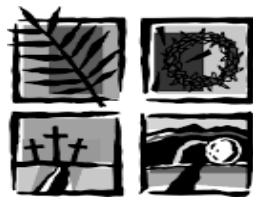
Jeremy will announce in today's service that monetary donations will be accepted for a Ukraine Relief through March. A basket will be placed in the Narthex.

Adjournment @8:48 AM. Concluded/Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by,
Melanie Lenth/Secretary

BOTH CHURCHES NEWS

PALM SUNDAY April 10, 2022
9:00 am @ Luana
10:30 am @ Farmersburg



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday April 14, 2022 6:30 pm
@ Farmersburg No Meal
Worship with Communion
Stripping of Altar and Building the Cross

Good Friday April 15, 2022 6:30 pm
@ Luana No Meal



GOOD FRIDAY



SUNRISE SERVICE

Easter April 17, 2022 7:00 am
@ Luana with Communion
Breakfast following serving
Rolls, Fruit, Coffee, Juice & Milk

April 17, 2022 9:00 am @ Farmersburg
With Communion



Easter Sunday

Women of the ELCA - Little Flock Cluster B

The Spring Gathering will be held Saturday, *April 23, 2022*

St. Peter Lutheran Church, 307 N Adams, Garnavillo (the brick church)

The theme is **"I will deliver you from the wilderness and take you to a land flowing with milk and honey..." Exodus 3:17**

Registration: 9-9:30am (refreshments served) Guest Speaker: Bill Johnson speaking on

"Nutrition and Purity" He and his wife, Louise, operate Johnson Honey Farm, Guttenberg.

They will have honey products available for sale. No meal will be served.

Bring in-kind donations for Clayton County Food Shelf **RSVP by April 13, 2022.**

Connect Betty Handke or Shirley Marmann if you would like to attend.

Thank you



BOTH CHURCHES NEWS

Ukraine Fund Drive

St. John, Farmersburg and St. John Luana are collecting funds for Lutheran World Relief to help the families of Ukraine. Since conflict began in late February, more than 3 million people have fled Ukraine, with hundreds of thousands more in dire need within their country. We can help our sisters and brothers from Ukraine with financial support. Lutheran World Relief is committing \$3 million to respond to this crisis and are on the ground working with partners in and around Ukraine to rapidly develop programming plans based on short- and long-term needs. As part of this response, we are providing emergency funds to Ukrainian refugee families in Poland. Cash will be distributed at Lutheran churches throughout southwest Poland. To help Ukrainian families who have fled to safety, Lutheran World Relief is air-lifting Personal Care Kits and Mission Quilts that were pre-positioned in our Dubai warehouse as part of our first response. We are grateful for the thousands of Lutherans across the United States whose care and generosity have made it possible for us to respond immediately. **At this time, financial gifts are the number one need to assist refugees on the move.**

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Melanie Cahoon, Bruce Anderson, Shaun Mohs, Norman Mueller, Joy David, Rick Conley, Keith Lee, Dawson Spiker, Greg & Lisa Snitker, *Dallas Tielbar, Luke Baade, Shelby Preston, Mickey Phillips, Jeff Klinge, Shaun Mohs and Jerry Jennings.*

MILITARY: Avrey Smith, Alex & Ali (Crogan) Moran, Andrew Rodas & Beth Rodas

STONE BROOK VILLAGE: Elaine Gehring

ELKADER CARE CENTER: LuNida Landt, Nadyne Reardon

STRAWBERRY POINT: Russ Pate

GARDEN VIEW PLACE: Shirley Henkes

GOOD SAMARITIAN SOCIEY: Juanita Mohs

GREAT RIVER CENTER MCGREGOR: Mae Mueller

OELWEIN HEALTH CARE CENTER: Jim Fuelling

ASSISTED LIVING ROCHESTER, MN 55901: Dorothy Kluth

BICKFORD ASSISTED LIVING GURNEE, ILL 60031: Imogene Ihlenfeldt

HOMEBOUND: Mary Russett, JoAnn Meyer, Illa Mae Mueller, Glenda Henkes, Lee Klinkenberg, Jeanette Krambeer, Gordon Peterson, Lendall Schievelbein



Happy Easter

*May your Easter be happy,
May your day be bright,
May you enjoy the treats,
And sweet delights.*

*But remember the meaning,
Remember God's gift,
Remember the resurrection,
May your soul uplift.*

BOTH CHURCHES NEWS



April 2022, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

According to the most recent Iowa Department of Human Services data, 10,539 Iowa children were subject to abuse or neglect. The most common forms of abuse included denial of critical care, physical injury, exposure to illegal drugs or dangerous substance, and sexual abuse.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) helps combat child abuse through prevention, safety, and stability services, as well as mental and behavioral health care.

Through regular in-home visits to families, LSI Early Childhood Services prevent child abuse by giving parents the support, education, and resources they need to build a healthy, stable home for their children. In 2021, our Early Childhood programs provided more than 11,000 of these in-home visits to families.

LSI Family Centered Services help children and families already involved in a crisis or abuse situation to become safer and more stable, and LSI's Bremwood Residential Treatment Center serves many children and youth who have experienced trauma from past abuse or neglect.

You can make a direct impact on these children and families through your support of LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Creating Bright Futures

When Makenzey found out she was pregnant, she felt nervous and overwhelmed at the thought of being a first-time mom. She didn't know what to expect, but she wanted to create the best life for her child. While she was pregnant, Makenzey enrolled in a local service that provides free housing to expecting moms. Through the organization, she learned about LSI Early Childhood Services. With support and guidance from her LSI Parent Educator, Hannah, Makenzey prepared for a healthy birth and transition into motherhood.

"Being a new mom was really scary for me. I had no idea what I was doing," Makenzey says. "I needed to learn the basics."

Since Makenzey welcomed her daughter, Maleigha, she has since found a job she loves and saved enough money to find a home for her new family. Through it all, Hannah provided check-ins with Makenzey, introducing her to important resources, educational materials, and age-appropriate toys and activities to ensure Maleigha hit all her developmental milestones.

"Especially when you're a first-time mom, you'll have a lot of questions. I don't have a ton of support right now, but Hannah helped me and answered every question I had about being a mom," Makenzey says. "LSI has been a really helpful service."



Shepherd of the Hills Ministries NEWSLETTER - APR 2022



SOTH CONFERENCE NEWS

With a bit of sadness, I have resigned my position here at Shepherd of the Hills! March 30th will be my last working day. I have accepted a position elsewhere! I want to thank all of the Churches, Businesses, Individuals & Organizations that support the Mission here at Shepherd! Thank you for a wonderful 5+ years! ~ Heather

The Board of Directors has begun the hiring process. They will be looking for an individual to help manage the day to day operations & the Administrative/Office work. The day to day operation of the Clothing Center may be affected. However, rest assured, the **Administrative/Office work will not be affected. Crisis Funding, communications, mail, receiving your monetary donations will continue as normal!** The best form of communication during this transition will be email. Phone messages will be checked regularly as well. We ask for patience and time for the Board to select a replacement during this transition!

Shepherd operates on the generosity of the communities that support us! Your missions will continue to pay for operating expenses along with emergency funding for our clients/families we serve! We cannot say *Thank You enough for the continued support of this ministry the last 54 years!*

In other news, we extend Our Blessings to Rev Lynn Noel, St Paul Lutheran, Postville on his Ordination Anniversary on April 11th!

Conference Assembly Notes

The Assembly met on February 20th by Zoom. We had 16 of our 24 churches in attendance, with 8 pastors, 38 delegates, 7 Board Members, some visitors, along with Heather C, Director & Bishop Kevin Jones of the Northeastern Iowa Synod.

Pastor Lynn Noel, outgoing SOTH Board President, led us in devotions. Business was conducted, including reviewing Year End Reports, Approving the End of Year fiscal Budgets, along with the Proposed 2022 Budgets. Delegates approved by unanimous ballot the 4 positions of Board of Directors for the next 2 years. Nominations were taken from the floor to complete the Synod Nominations Ballot and approved by unanimous ballot.

Bishop Kevin Jones updated the assembly on what has been happening at the Synod in the past year, along with upcoming events/happenings leading up to the Synod Assembly, which will be an INPERSON event, **June 11th weekend!**

A special Thank You to all of Conference Churches for the continued support of Shepherd of the Hills & our Mission. We are a unique Conference, sharing many of our gifts with our local Communities!

Shepherd of the Hill's Needs:

The **Operating Fund** pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies, salaries and Lawn/Snow Care.

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities.

Please utilize the **MEMO LINE** on your check to specify **Crisis** or **Operating Fund!**

IMPORTANT DATES:

April 15th
Good Friday - CLOSED

May 26th
Ascension Day

Any event may be subject to change

Shepherd of the Hills

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