

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

208 E. Washington St.
Farmersburg, Iowa 52047
PHONE: 563-536-2800
E-MAIL: stjohn87@neitel.net

307 Church Street
Luana, Iowa 52156
PHONE: 563-539-2321
stjohnluana@neitel.net



Vicar Jeremy Wolfe
vicarjeremywolfe@gmail.com
563-258-2936

Established 1900

VOLUME 1 MAY 2024 ISSUE 66

Established 1893

It's May and graduations are coming around. It's a time of great joy and accomplishment for our young people. Some are graduating from high school, some from college, and some from post graduate school. As for me, I graduate from Wartburg on May 12th. St. John Farmersburg is hosting the high school interchurch baccalaureate service on May 15th at 7 PM followed by fellowship. We look forward to that opportunity to celebrate and bless our young people.

Many folks attend graduation parties, celebrate, and we think back on our own graduation. Graduations are a celebration of passing a milestone. The student put the work in. Sometimes the class is easy and joyful because it's something in our wheelhouse, and sometimes it's hard because it's a subject that's beyond us. Graduations are bittersweet because although we can continue those friendships of youth some will drift away and change as time marches on.

While it's fun to throw a graduation cap into the air, we don't just have one moment like this in life. Our lives as Christians are all about learning, building us up, and molding us more and more into the image of Christ. It's not really about a degree and more about lifelong learning. So in life we have one final graduation, but in between now and then we have lots of little ones. Every time you enter a new phase in life, that's a graduation. Every time you conquer a challenge with God at your side, that's a graduation. Every time you grow in Christ it's a graduation. Are you going through a tough class in the school of life right now? If so, Peter has some thoughts for you:

12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. (1st Peter 4:12-13 NRSV)

God uses every trial and ordeal for our good. He's in every challenge and using it to build you up. Are you tired of your current trial? Do you want to move to the next level? Peter has some advice on that as well.

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. 10 And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. (1st Peter 5:6-7, 10 NRSV).

Bring him into your trials and your toughest classes. He's getting us ready little by little for the ultimate graduation day. We all want to hear "well done my good and faithful servant" one day and the best way to do that is to invite him into all aspects of your life, especially the tough ones! Cast all of your anxiety on him because he cares for you! So much so that he gave his only son for you. Happy graduation day to all but this is just the beginning. God is always calling us to the next degree in our walk with him.

-Jeremy

FARMERSBURG NEWS

FARMERSBURG

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pres: Bill Scherf III. (25)
V. Pres: Bruce Glawe (25)
Sec: Loretta Weipert (26)
Treas: Ryan Moon (24)
Council Members: Ken Erickson (24),
 Dave Hageman (25) & Linda Schoulte (26)

CHURCH SECRETARY:

Kelly Shaw

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Kelly Shaw

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:
V. Pres:
Sec: Ashley Shaw
Treas: Ethan Goltz

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Tammy Muller (24)
Secretary: Vicki Baade (24)
Members: Janelle Smith (25)
 Becky Fuelling (25)
 Aaron Smith (26)
 Linda Schoulte (26)

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

Cheryl Bossard & Tammy Muller

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

Remember to like St. John Facebook Page.



The following will be confirmed on Sunday, May 5th.
 Claire Goltz, Lucy Kessler, Kaylee King & Olivia Kirby.

MFL MarMac Graduate Ethan Goltz will be honored during worship services on May 12th. He is the son of Matt & Amanda Goltz. Please join Ethan and his Family for a reception in the church basement following the worship service.



WELCA Group 2 serves.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

March

3	38
10	23
17	66
24	72
31	43



Thank You to Ryan & Nancy Moon for redoing our mailboxes in the narthex. Your mailbox will be in a different place. Please check your mailboxes for mail. You can stop at the church at anytime.

Thank You for providing Easter Lilies for our worship service.
 Ethel Lenth in memory of Brad Lenth & Loved Ones
 Steege Family in memory of Rev. & Mrs. R.H. Steege & their son Richard
 Julie Kurth & family in memory of Larry Kurth, Dale and Isabel Kurth & Loved Ones
 Rod Stagman in memory of Sonya Stagman & Loved Ones
 Shirley Marmann in memory of Don Marmann & Loved Ones
 Marlene Glawe in memory of Verdine Glawe & Loved Ones
 Lendall Schievelbein & Family in memory of Fern Schievelbein, Family & Friends
 Bill Scherf Jr. in memory of Lafonda Scherf & Loved Ones
 Zach Radloff & Autumn Schuety in memory of Gracelynn Radloff
 Ken & Heather Crogan & Family in memory of Cheryl Howard and Mary Tielbar
 Clark & Kris Wikner & Family in memory of Brad Wikner & Loved Ones

FARMERSBURG NEWS

USHERS

May 5 & May 12
Captain Matt Goltz Brad Hoth
Alan Feldman Brian Glawe

May 19 & May 26
Captain Don Bossard Ben Wikner
Jim Lenth Dan Moon

MAY GREETERS

5 Brad & Brenda Hoth
12 Marlene Glawe & Megan Klink
19 Mindy Clubb & Ethel Lenth
26 Bev Moon & Theresa Feldman

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

May 5 Dave Hageman
May 19 Ryan Moon

ACOLYTES

May
5 Olivia Kirby
12 Lucy Kessler
19 Claire Goltz
26 Carsen Kirby

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

May: Diana Miller



As you work on your spring cleaning and go to garage sales, keep us in mind for your extra sheets, pillow cases, curtains, or new fabric. We are able to use most anything. If you have doubts, bring it to us and we will sort through it. We use it for tops, middles, and backs. Even though sheets may not be perfect, we can still cut

squares from them. We appreciate any and all donations that we receive. Thanks.

Thank you to all who purchased quilts from us this year. We will use the proceeds for supplies for next years quilting days.

ALTAR GUILD

Deb Tidwell
Julie Kurth



2024 WELCA CALENDAR

May

- 4 Lutheran World Relief Truck—Decorah 7:30 –10:30 am
Elgin & Highland Lutheran
- 4 Good Will Truck—Monona 8:00 am—11:00 am
Monona Methodist
- 5 Confirmation
- 9 Ascension Day Service Ceres Church
- 12 Senior Recognition Sunday Group 2 serves
- 15 Baccalaureate Host @ Farmersburg
6:30 Refreshments & 7:00 pm Program
- 19 MFL MarMac Graduation

- May
- 4 John Isaacs
 - 5 Kahlei Schmitt
 - 10 Amy Klinge
Christopher Pate
 - 13 Kevin Radloff
Jade Gerndt
 - 14 Clark Wikner
Nolan Lerch
Weston Fuelling
 - 16 Tessa Tielbar
Kellian Kluth
 - 17 Kaden Lindner
 - 19 Heather Taylor
 - 21 Pat Suhr
Axel Rodas
Alyssa Schmitt
 - 22 Dacia Schoulte
Zachary Schlake
Nicole Hall
 - 23 Shirley Marmann
 - 24 Linda Schoulte
Larry Friedlein
 - 26 Lindelle Scherf
 - 28 Susan Glawe
 - 30 James Muller
 - 31 Dylan Scherf



With
Deepest
Sympathy...

Mary Ann Kleve was called home to heaven on April 5, 2024. Her funeral services were on April 15, 2024 at St. Paul Lutheran Church Postville, IA. Our sympathy to her family and friends. Megan (Josh) Schoulte is her daughter.

Our Sympathy to the family and friends of Reverend Bruce L. Hanson who passed away on April 13, 2024. His services were held on April 22, 2024 at St. John Lutheran Church Guttenberg, Iowa.

Angie (Hanson) Primrose address is
848 N 11th St. Rochelle, IL 61068



ST. JOHN FARMERSBURG COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: April 14, 2024

Present: Linda Schoulte, Loretta Weipert, Ken Erickson, Ryan Moon, Bruce Glawe, Dave Hageman, Bill Scherf and Jeremy Wolfe.

*Meeting called to order by President Bill at 11:20 am. Opening devotions given by Jeremy Wolfe.

*Linda moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Bruce. Motion Carried.

*Loretta reviewed corrections to be made to 3/17/24 meeting notes as follows, Approved for the 2 grants Jeremy applied for through the Synod under the Ride Against Hunger Ministry grants. Motion to approve the minutes of the 3/17/24 meeting as amended made by Ryan, second by Linda. Motioned carried.

*Bruce moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Dave. Motion carried.

Victor's Report:

*Discussed upcoming confirmation. There will be 4 students being confirmed which are Olivia Kirby, Claire Goltz, Kaylee King and Lucy Kessler. Council approved for the 4 students to be confirmed. 3 of the 4 students need to do extra sermon notes off of the videos on Facebook and write a paper to make up for only completing 1 year of confirmation. For next year council members agreed to update policy to state confirmation students need to complete 2 years after this year.

Ongoing Business:

*Ryan is still in the process of setting up a new money market account at Luana Savings Bank.

New Business:

*Jeremy's ordination - Jeremy's first call meeting has been completed. The next steps are to meet with Wartburg and Synod for review of essay and approval. Synod stated that anytime after May 20th the congregation can meet to vote to call Jeremy. Bishop set aside 2 dates for ordination, Saturday July 27th or Sunday July 28th. Event will be hosted in Farmersburg. Council agreed on the ordination being on Sunday July 28th at 2 pm, there will be no morning church service. It was discussed having a community choir and getting all 4 of the organist involved in the ordination service.

Committee Reports:

*Evangelism - Linda mentioned some ideas that she has for the shut ins.

*Parish Education - No Sunday School next week related to worship only in Luana for Game Day. April 28th bowling with Sunday School, confirmation and congregation. Loretta will contact confirmation students about completing stoles.

*Property - Ken sprayed for box elder bugs, effective.

*Stewardship - No report

*Worship - Next worship meeting is May 1st. They will review confirmation liturgy. Baccalaureate service hosted by St. John in Farmersburg on May 15 at 7 pm. Fellowship will follow.

*Memorial - Recently received 3 donations for lift fund.

*Mens Group - Will be meeting soon.

*Womens Group - No report.

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

Next meeting May 19th after worship service.

Respectively submitted by Loretta Weipert, secretary



Council Minutes

FARMERSBURG NEWS

March, 2024 – Treasurer's Report

Income:

49.86	CD Interest
566.00	
1280.00	
1679.00	
365.00	

Missions:

NE Iowa Synod:	270.00
SOTH:	232.00
Food Shelf:	122.00
St. Pt. Home:	35.00
LSI:	50.00
EWALU:	35.00

Staff Compensation:

Pastor:	1184.41+ 752.10 Jan. & Feb. Mileage
Inside Cust.:	215.48
Outside Cust.:	126.98
Organists:	196.61

Expenses:

Black Hills (gas):	281.83	
Alliant (elec):	205.54	
NEIT:	116.25	
Marco	481.78	Copier Contract
1517 Media	184.42	Communion, Communion Cups, Gluten Free Communion
Inter Church Council	50.00	Dues
Blooming Branches	65.00	Flowers Pastor McMillin Funeral
Sports World	42.20	Engraving for First Communion

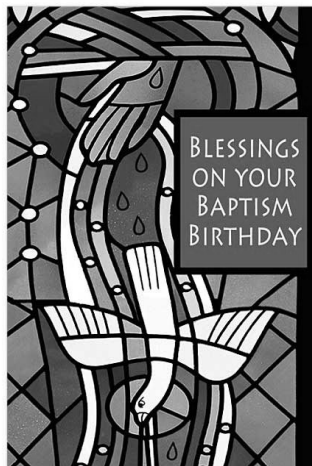
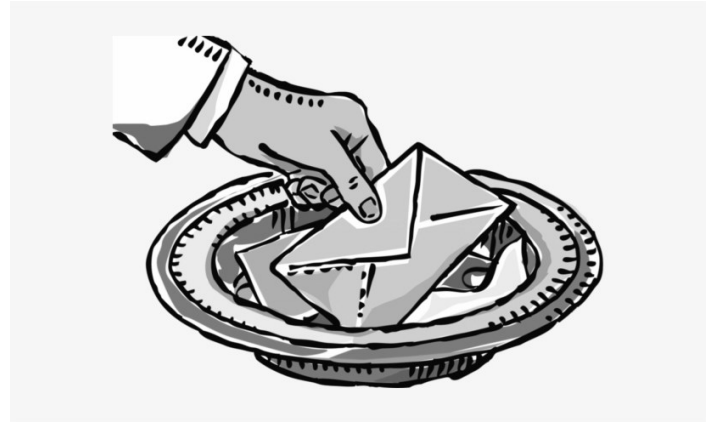
Total Income: 3939.86

Total Expenses: 4646.60

General Checking Balance – March 1, 2024: 8395.09

March 31, 2024: 7688.35

Submitted by Kelly Shaw, Treasurer



KNOWN MAY BAPTISMS

- 1 - Makenzie Corlett
- 4 - Christina Klinge
- 7 - Dorothy Kluth
- 8 - Emily Palmersheim
Erica Scherf
- 14 - Elizabeth Crogan
Dalton Isaacs
Wayne Wyatt Glawe
- 16 - Kaylee Hoth
- 24 - Jacob Morley
- 26 - Jamie Scott Tielbar
- 28 - Brooklyn Scherf
- 30 - William Scherf Jr.

LUANA

CHURCH SECRETARY & FINANCIAL TREAS.: Karla Schrader

CHURCH COUNCIL:

President: Neil Landt (24)

V. Pres: Aaron Smith (25)

Sec: Mel Lenth (24)

Cur. Treas: Diane Kraus (25)

Bene. Treas: Sherri Johnson (24)

Financial Counters: Council

DEACONS:

Neil Landt (24)

Jerry Schroeder (26)

Tim Donlon (26)

TRUSTEES:

Sherri Johnson (24)

Mel Lenth (24)

Diane Kraus (25)

Aaron Smith (25)

Heath Landt (26)

WELCA:

Leaders:

January—March Vicky Baade

April—June Lisa Meyer

July—September Mel Lenth

Oct.—December Karla Schrader

ALTAR GUILD:

Pres: Sherri Johnson (26)

Sec: Darci Engelhardt (26)

Banners/Linens/Candles:

Mary Schroeder (24)

Lisa Meyer (25)

Special Services/Flowers:

Betty Handke (24)

Diane Kraus (25)

Bapt./Comm.:

Sherri Johnson

Darci Engelhardt

Seasonal Banners:

Altar Guild

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY YOUTH:

Pres:

V. Pres:

Sec: Ashley Shaw

Treas: Ethan Goltz

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Tammy Muller(24)

Secretary: Vicki Baade (24)

Members: Janelle Smith (25)

Becky Fuelling (25)

Aaron Smith (26)

Linda Schoulte (26)

St. John's Luana website

www.stjohn-luana.org

LUANA NEWS

Confirmation students getting Confirmed on May 5th are

Karsten Mikkel Steege, son of Luke and Kim Steege

Tyce Edward Wikner, son of Neal and Stephanie Wikner



Congratulations



Class of 2024

St John, Luana will be honoring our MFL MarMac graduate, Cayl Anderson, with fellowship following worship service on May 12. Cayl Anderson is the son of Christopher Anderson and Sonya Anderson. Cayl plans on attending SW Wisc. Tech for Lineman.

Please plan to join him, his family and our St John family for fellowship and to extend our congratulations and God's blessings for the future.

MAY VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Jerry & Mary Schroeder

Read Lessons & Prayers: May 5 - Mel Lenth

May 12 - Luke Steege

May 19 - Vicky Baade

May 26 - Loren Lenth

Acolyte:

May 5 - Josh Schierholz

May 12 - Tyce Wikner

May 19 - Dayne Anderson

May 26 - Karsten Steege

Communion Servers: May 5 - Neil Landt and Mel Lenth - Confirmation

May 10 - Tim Donlon and Heath Landt

Altar Guild: Betty Handke

Flowers: Diane Kraus



Thank you to the following that donated Easter Lilies:
Goettler Family In Memory of Ozzie and Loved Ones
Robert & Betty Handke in Memory of Loved Ones
Diane Kraus in Memory of Loved Ones
Loren & Mel Lenth in Memory of Loved Ones
Doug & Karla Schrader in Memory of Loved Ones
Lonnie & Vicky Baade in Memory of Loved Ones

Thank you to all the Raked and Cleaned up around the outside of Church.

Known Baptismal Birthdays

1 - Ervin Bugenhagen

3 - Emeilia Wikner

5 - Cheryl Wagner

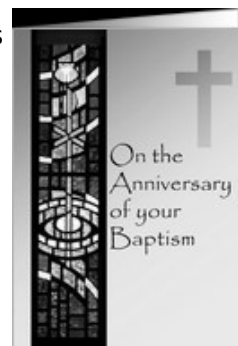
12 - Janelle Smith

25 - Braden Landt

22 - Connie Schlein

27 - Kyle Tilson

30 - Luke Steege



LUANA NEWS



MAY

- 1 – Doug & Connie Schlein
- 16 - Loren & Mel Lenth
- 21 – Adam & Jennifer Smith

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>		
	Att.	Comm
Mar. 24.	36	
Mar. 29	34	
Mar. 31	50	47
Apr. 7	42	<u>40</u>
Apr. 14	<u>65</u>	
	227	87



- 4 – Betty Handke
- 5 – Cayl Anderson
- 6 – Luke Steege
- 8 - Susan Mohs
- 16 - Laverne Landt
JoAnn Meyer
- 18 - Travis Landt
- 20 - Dayne Anderson
- 23 – Chad Moeller
- 25 – Doug Schlein
- 27 – Heath Landt

Luana Church Council Minutes April 14, 2024

Devotions: Led by Vicar Jeremy - Philippians chapter 3.

The council minutes from the previous meeting were read by Melanie. Jerry motioned to approve the minutes and seconded by Diane. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Reviewed and motioned by Sherri to accept the report and seconded by Stan. Motion carried.

Old Business: Melanie is currently working on an outdoor church sign. Baptismal font repair is being looked at by Tim. Jeremy researched new fonts with the price tag anywhere from \$3,000.00 - \$6,500.00.

***Jeremy discussed the preparation of the purposed Christmas meal in regard to time, place, caterer, number of volunteers and service to the community. Jeremy will continue with this discussion going forward.

***A reminder of combine worship service in Luana at 10:00am next Sunday/21st, with a potluck, fellowship and games to follow. Walking tacos will be served that were donated by Heath and Chris Landt.

New Business: Tyce Wikner and Karsten Steege will be confirmed on Sunday, May 5th.

***Senior recognition for Cayl Anderson is Sunday, May 12th. Fellowship in church basement following service to honor our only senior.

***Seeding the lawn on the west and south of the church was debated and it was purposed to complete the project after church today.

***Vicar Jeremy presented to the council potential dates for his ordination and installation either July 27th or 28th.

His "call to ministry" will be set up after May 20th

Next meeting: May 12, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 8:07am, concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectively submitted by Melanie Lenth, council secretary.

LUANA NEWS

MARCH REPORT

Submitted by Karla Schrader

EXPENSES

Black Hills Utilities –Nat. Gas	243.37
Alliant - Electricity	520.50
Karla Schrader –Secretary	500.24
Cindy Landt – Custodian	461.50
NEITEL	119.37
Jeremy Wolfe- salary	1,234.40
IRS	480.45
Jeremy Wolfe – Jan/Fe. Mileage	1,705.90
City of Luana -w/s/g	295.87
Church Budget – envelopes	186.80
Green Lawn – spraying cem,church	887.78
Access Systems – maintenance	166.74
Concordia – P&P	87.63
Interchurch Council – dues	50.00
Schiller Law – W-2 prep	30.64
Farm & Home – supplies	<u>21.85</u>
	6,990.04

SPECIAL FUNDS

Ruby Breitsprecher CD	5,500.44
St John Scholarship Fund CD	40,895.06
Willard & Anne Kamin CD	4,499.38

CURRENT FUND

	Envelopes	Plate	Total
Mar. 3	1,170.00	30.00	1,200.00
Mar. 10	902.00	25.00	927.00
Mar. 17	827.00	5.00	832.00
Mar. 24	597.00	6.00	603.00
Mar. 31	<u>557.00</u>	<u>120.00</u>	<u>677.00</u>
	4,053.00	186.00	4,239.00

INCOME

Mar. 3	1,200.00
Mar. 10	927.00
Mar. 18	832.00
Mar. 24	603.00
Mar. 31	677.00
	4,239.00
Thrivent dep	<u>29.00</u>
	4,268.00
Bal. Feb. 29. 2024	3,688.95
Income	<u>4,268.00</u>
	7,956.95
Less Expense	<u>6,900.04</u>
Bal. Mar. 31	966.11

RENT/REPAIR FUND

Bal. 2/29/2024	\$ 26,927.02
3-4 Dep.	500.00
3-14 Dep. (Grant)	750.00
Interest	<u>63.61</u>
Bal. 3-31-24	\$28,240.63

THRIVENT BALANCE

Bal. Mar. 31 2024	\$293,356.51
-------------------	--------------

BENEVOLENCE REPORT (Lent Carry Over) \$649.00

INCOME

Mar. 3	Offering	30.00	Easter	<u>495.00</u>
	Food Shelf	50.00		1,920.00 + 649= 2,569.00
Mar. 6	Lent	150.00		
Mar. 10	Offering	95.00		
	Food Shelf	10.00		
Mar. 13	Lent	200.00		
Mar. 17	Offering	80.00		
	Food Shelf	10.00		
Mar. 24	Lent	130.00		
	Offering	30.00		
Mar. 24	SOTH Oper.	100.00		
Mar. 29	M.Thurs/Good Fri	350.00		
	Food Shelf	10.00		
Mar. 31	Offering	80.00		
	Food Shelf	100.00		

EXPENSE

SOTH	\$1,217.00
Food Shelf	\$1,167.00
Synod	<u>\$ 185.00</u>
	\$ 2,569.00

Both Churches News



5:30 pm May 9th Ascension Day worship will have Pastor Mike Erickson preaching at Ceres Church. It will be a German-English service (you do NOT need to know any German) with potluck to follow at St. Peter's in Garnavillo.

Of all the special joys in life...
A mother's love and
tenderness
Is the greatest of them all.
—Unknown





May 15 7:00 pm
Baccalaureate Service
will be held at St. John
Farmersburg. A
reception will follow in
the Church basement.
Hosted by Interchurch
Council.

*Baccalaureate
Service*

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Sue Grotegut, Stacy DeSotel, Carolyn Middendorf, Tom Meuleman, Mary Zittergruen, Linda Hughes, Larry Doerring, Missy Adams, Julie Mohs, Ryne Landt, Charlie Post, Lonnie Baade, Joy David, Rick Conley, *Dallas Tielbar, Shelby Preston, Bram Byroade, Robert Pate, Melody Pate, Jim Fuelling, Rick Kirby, Mike Reardon, Joel Moran, Ron Tayek*

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

ELKADER CARE CENTER: LuNida Landt, Grace Doerring

GARDEN VIEW PLACE: Juanita Mohs, Darlene Moon

TOWER LIVING CENTER: *Lendall Schievelbein*

ASSISTED LIVING ROCHESTER, MN 55901: *Dorothy Kluth*

KENSINGTON ASSISTED LIVING: Mary Russett

HOMEBOUND: JoAnn Meyer, *Glenda Henkes, Lee Klinkenberg, Jeanette Krambeer, Jim Fuelling, Shirley Wagner*



May 2024 – Give a Gift to LSI: Support Mothers across Iowa Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12. Did you know LSI brings hope and healing to mothers in each of our service lines? Here are just a few examples: The Child Care Business Development program in our Immigrant and Refugee Community Services prepares women, often mothers, to run an in-home childcare business. This small business opportunity allows them to provide for their family and ensure their children receive culturally appropriate care. Many mothers benefit from our Foster Care and Adoption services, whether they be mothers who are blessed with a child through adoption or foster mothers who provide love and guidance to children from all paths of life.

Early Childhood Services prepares mothers-to-be for birth and raising a child. Additionally, home visitation programs help ensure a strong support system for young parents across the state. These are just three examples of how LSI serves mothers in Iowa. This Mother's Day, we encourage you to give a gift in honor of your mother or motherly figure to ensure mothers around the state receive the care and support they deserve. Donate online at lsiowa.org/donate or send a check to Lutheran Services in Iowa, PO Box 848, Waverly, IA 50677-0848. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065. Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa

Both Churches News

Thank you St. John Lutheran, Farmersburg for the arrangement of fresh cut flowers for Pastor Harold's Funeral.

Also greatly appreciated the memorials, cards, phone calls, text messages and prayers from members of Luana & Farmersburg during this Journey we travel. Pastor Harold's ministry was not finished but with God's Guidance, we pray it will continue within the churches and communities.

Pastor had several celebrations throughout the year – 50th Ordination celebrated @ St. Peter with a full house – 50th Ordination class gathering @ Wartburg Seminary – 60th year Class Reunion on 4th of July in Garnavillo. Then also shared in the "Mayhem Christmas" theme at Vernon Lutheran Church in Williams, IA where a live donkey entered the church to see the Baby Jesus.

Then there was the sudden Diagnosis of Merkel Cell Carcinoma Cancer in September with Immunotherapy started in October at Mayo every three weeks, receiving a report of it in Remission in January. Then his last visit with the Dermatologist February 28th showing another bump, but was to have his treatment the following Tuesday at Mayo. First and only time both of us getting Covid Monday, November 6th with his hanging on a little longer but recuperated in time for the scheduled treatment.

His theme for Lent – you are acquainted with was "Behold the Tree" – Can you see the Cross through the branches of the Tree (this was done at Luana and Farmersburg as well) - he was not able to finish but Peace and St. Peter wanted to finish his series each Wednesday with – tree beside the babbling brook, Jonah's withered plant and Zacchaeus' Sycamore tree - as the Laity read his sermons prepared for the last three Wednesdays of Lent.

Special unforgettable memory this year was on Sunday, February 11th when he wore shorts, Hawaiian Shirt with the Alb and Sandals to lead the Sunday services. A special day of gathering burying the Alleluias in the Coffins he made and collecting food for the Food Shelf for Souper Bowl Sunday. A memory unforgettable to see him leading Worship in shorts!

These memories of his ministry in life is what helps to get through each day. Thank you for your continued prayers.

Linda McMillin

Denise (Kyle) Shaffer – Zach, Nate, Kayla Shaffer

Tim McMillin & Seth Robb

Kevin Steele – Elizabeth & Kaleb Steele

Scott Steele – Reid Steele

We send our prayers in your loss of another Pastor who has served St. John, Farmersburg – Pastor Bruce Hanson. Another special Pastor in the ministry of the church we remember with many great memories.

Linda McMillin

272 Grand Ridge Rim Way

Garnavillo, Iowa 52049

Home: 563-252-3006

Linda Cell: 563-880-5899



Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – MAY 2024



We are still working on the SOTH website. Please continue to stay patient with us as we want to make it user friendly for everyone. Jeremy Wolfe has put a lot of effort and time making this for us for our conference to stay connected and informed. I will keep you informed when we will be launching it live.

Our Back to School event will be here before we know it. Please consider donating or using your Thrivent cards to support this project. There is such a big need in the community so all of the extra help is greatly appreciated. The best investment in a child's future is the foundations of education. We will do our best to see that the children have what they need to be successful at school. This starts with school supplies.

Just a reminder: Shepherd of the Hills is a separate entity from the Clayton County Food Shelf. Even though we are in the same building and at times support the same clients and projects, we are separate. If you are sending donations, please send them to the correct addresses below.

Both agencies appreciate your kindness and your support.

Shepherd of the Hills

PO Box 36
St. Olaf, Iowa 52072

Clayton County Food Shelf

PO Box 48
St. Olaf, Iowa 52072

Clothing Center Updates:

We are currently in the spring/summer season of donations. (No winter items accepted) We appreciate all those who have scheduled their donations. This allows us to keep the store clean, safe and inventory rotated. When you call to schedule a donation, it reserves that day for your items to be accepted.

I will be posting on Facebook when I will be open on Saturday's. Please follow us on our Facebook page to stay updated on when we will be open and special sales.

Shepherd Conference News:

Ascension Day Service will be held on May 9th, 2024 @ Ceres Pioneer Rock Church (Hwy 52- between Garnavillo and Guttenberg). Service will start at 5:30pm. You are also invited to a potluck fellowship at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Garnavillo following the service. Please bring a dish to pass and all are welcome.

My apologies to Pastor Susan Friedrich of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Maynard as I missed announcing her anniversary of her Ordination date which was March 9, 2013, Congratulations Pastor Susan!

Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Pastor Bruce Hanson who passed away unexpectedly. He was the pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Clayton Center.

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 and our sponsored events throughout the year

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

Please indicate what church you are from as well to provide better bookkeeping.

IMPORTANT EVENTS/DATES:

Ascension Day Service:
May 9th @ 5:30 pm

Back to School:
August 7th
(Time to be determined)

*Any event may be subject to change

Shepherd of the Hills:

Heather Hageman
100 W. Hill Street, PO Box 36,
St. Olaf, IA 52072

Telephone: 563-783-2409

Fax: 563-783-2428

E-mail: shephill@netel.net

Business Hours: Monday-Friday
9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm

Both Churches News



As long as humans have existed, there has been mental illness. Each year 20% of all adults live with a mental health issue. In biblical times, mental illness was often misunderstood and thought to be caused by demonic possession. In modern times, we have learned much more about brain chemistry. Although the stigma around mental illnesses has decreased, we still have a long way to go, and our faith communities can help.

Mental Health: A Devotional Study and Conversation Wednesday, May 15 7:00 p.m. @ St. Paul Lutheran, Maynard Looking particularly at biblical people and passages that relate to living with mental illness, we will be reminded of Jesus' compassionate care for those who struggle. Together, we'll consider how congregations can become "stigma-free" zones, welcome and support those with mental health issues and their loved ones and provide opportunities to learn more about a topic that affects us all.

We will be using the devotional written by Elise Seyfried, published in the May/June issue of Gather magazine. Bring a Bible if you have one. Resources from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will be available, along with representatives from NAMI Northeast Iowa. 160 6th St N, Maynard IA Website: stpaulmaynard.co



SPRING Word Search



Search for the twelve Spring themed words below.

Y	L	E	E	V	K	C	Y	E	I	B	T	M	Y	N	N	U	B
R	R	Q	W	N	Z	W	F	S	I	U	G	J	W	Y	I	U	O
E	C	M	Y	A	K	H	O	Z	M	T	Q	G	J	D	H	U	G
W	J	A	X	U	L	J	B	S	F	T	B	N	X	H	W	S	M
F	H	Y	T	Q	C	F	T	U	G	E	W	I	W	J	F	B	G
X	L	K	I	J	L	U	X	N	K	R	R	O	O	T	W	I	U
M	J	O	H	C	I	U	I	S	E	F	S	D	B	L	D	Q	E
M	D	Q	P	I	R	R	Q	H	Q	L	U	T	N	E	E	M	E
F	R	C	D	Y	P	L	D	I	T	Y	U	Z	I	G	Z	O	O
X	G	A	K	S	A	Q	N	N	I	W	Q	R	A	U	H	M	S
B	H	H	W	U	R	Q	A	E	Y	N	D	R	R	M	O	I	S
H	O	E	U	K	O	P	S	P	D	H	D	X	L	O	S	R	G
H	B	I	U	V	V	K	Y	L	V	E	A	Q	L	O	E	Q	L
H	N	P	X	I	H	Z	M	N	N	I	B	B	T	W	E	P	V
N	W	Z	Q	T	E	K	S	F	N	I	E	Z	O	W	T	P	G
R	S	C	Y	V	E	Q	U	T	R	B	R	L	N	A	X	T	T
F	P	A	G	K	C	R	R	D	X	C	F	R	P	O	J	Y	A
A	X	M	V	U	S	I	S	M	S	R	Z	A	B	F	I	X	N

APRIL
BIRDS
BLOOM
BUNNY

BUTTERFLY
FLOWERS
GARDEN
MAY

RAINBOW
SPRING
SUNSHINE
WARM