

Wanamingo Lutheran Church

March 2017 Newsletter

January's Finances

Income	\$6,291.56
Monthly expenses	\$7,982.63
Year to date Income	\$9,548.56
From Building Fund	\$8,000.00
Mildred Erlanson Memorial	\$10,000.00
Year to date Expenses Paid	<u>\$19,748.69</u>
Difference	\$ 7,799.87

Pastor's Office Hours

Thursdays 1:00 – 3:00pm

At Trinity

Tuesdays 2:00 – 5:00pm

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Wednesdays 9:00 – 11:00am

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month we begin our 40 day journey with Christ through Lent. Traditionally, in addition to prayer, fasting and almsgiving, Christians have either given something up or, decided to do something extra as one of their Lenten disciplines. Why? After his baptism, Jesus spent 40 days in the desert fasting and praying. During that time he was faced with several temptations from Satan. One of those tests was to satisfy His own need for food by turning stones into bread. In response to this test Jesus remarked, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Jesus was setting the record straight. All good things come from God and we are to worship and obey only Him.

Throughout the centuries Christians have used Lent as a time to focus more intentionally on their lives. How are they living? Are they obeying the Lord

and His commands? Are they appreciating all that they have as a gracious gift from God? How are they using those gifts? Does the way we live our daily lives reflect that we are God's children or, have we strayed from the path the Lord has set put for us to follow?

Fasting from something (TV, snacks, gossip, bad habits, etc.) is one way we can show the Lord that we are grateful for all of his blessings and are trying to live as his children in the world. Others choose to do something extra to show their appreciation to God for all that He has first done for us. They may choose to pray more in Lent. They may choose to volunteer to help the poor and needy in our midst. They might go and visit our members who live in nursing homes. Going "above and beyond" what they would normally do is one way Christians have tried to express their gratitude to God for His amazing grace and the salvation that is ours through Christ Jesus.

So, what's your plan for Lent 2017? Will you be giving something up? Or- will you choose to do something extra to help your neighbor? The choice is yours. Whatever choice you make, may the Lord bless your Lenten observance.

Pastor Christopher Culuris

Wanamingo Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Feb. 9th, 2017

Present: Pastor Culuris, Ron Flotterud, Jean Rugg, Therine Gudknecht, Brad Hegseth, Gary Windhorst

Absent: Teresa Gullickson, Birdeen Thoreson

Pastor opened meeting with a prayer

Pastor's Report: Read by Pastor Culuris

Secretary's Report: Read by Brad, Motion to approve by Therine, 2nd by Pastor Culuris, passed 6-0

Treasurer's Report: Read by Jean Rugg, Motion to approve by Therine, 2nd by Gary, passed 6-0

Memorial Fund \$9,148.49(Dec 8th balance) update at next meeting on all fund balances

Building Fund \$28,550.10(Dec 8th balance)

Mission Investment Fund CD \$43,243.22(Dec 8th balance)

Old Business:

New furnaces and on demand water heater have been installed, and new electrical needed for that has also been completed.

Jason Bauer gave the council a bid of \$2,750 to remove the chimney below the roof line, and repairing the roof as needed. Work to be completed in 2017

New Business:

Jean Rugg was approved as WLC's new treasurer. Thank You to Paul Rugg for the work he did as our previous treasurer.

Ron will look into web site costs and report back to council.

Cost to add ceiling lights in furnace room. Brad will ask for a quote from Shane electric and report back to council.

Communion Servers: March 1st Ash Wednesday: 4pm service Ron Flotterud, 7pm service Brad Hegseth

March 5th service Gary Windhorst, March 19th service Jean Rugg

Motion to Adjourn by Brad, 2nd by Therine passed 6-0

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Brad Hegseth

WELCA

will meet on Thursday, March 2nd, 2:00pm at Heritage Hill. The ladies of WLC are providing hospitality.

Church Council

will meet Thursday March 9th at 6:30pm.



2nd Annual GrandCamp at Good Earth Village - July 5-7

Now is the time to make memories with grandkids! All combinations and ages of grandparents and grandchildren thrive in this two-night summer camp adventure. Summer counselors are ready to mentor, share their faith, and keep up with your energetic loved ones! More information at GoodEarthvillage.org/grandcamp or call (507) 346-2494 to register.



First Holy Communion Classes

Classes will be held for all students in 5th Grade and above who have not yet received their First Holy Communion on Sunday nights, at 7:00pm, in Trinity's basement- March 12, 19 and 26. NOTE: a parent must accompany their child to these classes. Questions-please contact Pastor Chris at Trinity: 824-2155; or at WLC: 824-2457.

This year the Sunday School will gather food for the Kenyon Food Shelf for their **Lenten Project**. Please bring in nonperishable food items that are not expired and place them in the tote under the coat rack anytime now

2017 Easter Garden Order Form

_____ Single Easter Lily	\$13.00
_____ Double Easter Lily	\$32.00
_____ Triple Easter Lily	\$38.00
_____ Mums	\$16.00
_____ Tulips	\$13.00
_____ Hyacinths	\$13.00
_____ Azalea	\$24.00
_____ Hydrangea	\$26.00

Please submit order by April 2, 2017. Place order form with payment (cash or a check payable to Wanamingo Lutheran Church) in offering plate or Sue Flotterud's mailbox at church by April 2nd.

In Memory of

In Memory of

In Memory of

In Honor of

Recent recipients of the religious emblems, are Noah Wallaker (WEBELO) of Wanamingo Lutheran, Benjamin Dierks (Bear) and Timothy Culuris (Tiger) of Trinity Lutheran. Great job scouts and family!



Mini Summer Camp

For packed summer schedules, Good Earth Village has created new half-week programs. These mini-camps make their debut August 6-9 and cover the classic camp programs. Settlers, Pathfinders, Pioneers & Explorers engage grades 2-9. Find more information at <http://goodearthvillage.org/summer> or call 507-346-2494.





Schedule for lent 2017

Ash Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion: **March 1st- 4pm and 7pm at WLC**

Mid-week Series Based on Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*.

March 8th: 6pm Supper; 7pm Worship at **Trinity**. Focus: The Ten Commandments

March 15th: 6pm Supper; 7pm Worship at **WLC**. Focus: The Apostles' Creed

March 22nd: 6pm Supper; 7pm Worship at **Trinity**. Focus: The Lord's Prayer

March 29th: 6pm Supper; 7pm Worship at **WLC**. Focus: Holy Baptism

April 5th: 6pm Supper; 7pm Worship at **Trinity**. Focus: Holy Communion



Palm Sunday: April 9th – Worship at 9:00am (**WLC**); 10:30am (**Trinity**)

Maundy Thursday: April 13th – Worship with Holy Communion- 7:00pm
at **WLC**

Good Friday: April 14th – Worship- 7:00pm at **Trinity**

Easter Sunday: April 16th – 7:00am Worship followed by breakfast at
WLC; 9-10am breakfast followed by Worship at 10:30am at **Trinity**.

First Holy Communion Sunday: April 23rd during WLC's 9am service.



THE BRIDGE

A Monthly Resource from the Southeastern Minnesota Synod



The Faith Formation Network: What is it?

By Rev. Emily Carson

carson@semnsynod.org

One of the ways the Southeastern Minnesota Synod develops leaders and equips congregations is through the Faith Formation Network. The Faith Formation Network is a group of individuals who support the spiritual development of children, youth, and families. Through its monthly gatherings, social media platforms, and annual retreat, the network aims to provide educational opportunities for people of various levels of volunteer and professional experience to become more equipped faith formation leaders. More information about the network and their monthly gathering calendar is available online at <http://semnsynod.org/cyf>.

The network began back in the 1990s when youth directors would gather periodically to connect and plan synod-wide events for young people. While the group has changed names several times over the last twenty years, the core mission has continued: to create a supportive space for those whose calling is to nurture the faith development of children, youth, and families. Network activities are planned and facilitated by members of the Faith Formation Table. The table was formed in 2016 for the purpose of supporting the synod's mission of developing leaders and equipping congregations.

Anna Wencl serves as Family Faith Formation Ministry Director at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Mankato, and she participates in the Faith Formation Network. About the network's overall goals, Wencl shared, "We provide spaces both in person and online to share ideas, challenges, and dreams for the faith development of our children, youth and families...Our community provides a safe space to challenge each other to think about the possibilities for ministry in a changing world."

The important role of volunteers and staff in empowering and supporting children, youth, and families is crucial. As network member Julie Klock, Children & Family Faith Formation leader at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Northfield described, "Children, youth, and family (CYF) professionals advocate for families within the church. We support families, and we build support systems between families and the church." The leadership of faith formation volunteers and staff is a powerful force in connecting individuals and families to the life-giving relationships that exist within their local communities and congregations. The synod's Faith Formation Network exists to provide support and encouragement for all who are called to this important work.

The monthly network gatherings are open to everyone. They take place in a different congregation in the synod each month and run from 11AM-1:30PM. Participants bring their own lunch and begin with a time of open conversation. The monthly gatherings are a time for connecting with others in the field and also a time to learn. The topic for each gathering changes monthly, so attendees can expect something new every time they attend. Wencl shared "Whatever your experience, you're welcome in our network."

Two other ways you can connect with the network are (1) through their Facebook group and (2) through their weekly resource posted in the synod's digital newsletter, RCWeekly. The name of the network's Facebook group is Southeastern Minnesota Synod Family Ministry. To add your name to the RCWeekly mailing list, please visit

<http://bitly.com/semnsynodsignup>. Members of the synod's Faith Formation Network rejoice in opportunities to welcome new participants. Please share this issue of The Bridge with anyone who might like to take part in this important ministry of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod.

