

# Wanamingo Lutheran Church

## April 2018 Newsletter

### February's Finances

Income	\$5,012.00
Monthly expenses	\$7,117.46
YTD TOTALS	
Year to date Income	\$18,273.00
Year to date Expenses Paid	<u>\$16,371.11</u>
Difference	\$ 1,901.89

### Pastor's Office Hours

Thursdays 1:00 – 3:00pm

At Trinity

Tuesdays 2:00 – 5:00pm

&

Wednesdays 9:00 – 11:00am

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Greetings,

This year Easter Sunday falls on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Now, some might think this timing is rather unfortunate. I, however, think this is a marvelous development. Why? Yes, April 1<sup>st</sup> is widely known as "April Fool's Day." I remember my grandma pulling subtle "April Fool's Day" pranks on me as a child. I would come downstairs before school still rubbing the sleep out of my eyes and she would say something along the lines of "I just saw a robin out in the backyard." I, of course, would go running to the window hoping to catch a glimpse of spring's arrival only to hear my grandma say: "April Fools." Grandma always knew how to pull the perfect "April Fools" joke on me in ways that were silly and clever.

This year's April 1<sup>st</sup> will be a different story.

Yes, I'm sure that folks will still try to trick their neighbor but, there is a much deeper meaning to "April Fool's Day" this year. Here is what I mean. On Good Friday, when Jesus breathed his last on the cross and surrendered his spirit into our Heavenly Father's keeping, the devil thought that he had won. Jesus the Messiah, the Christ, God's Anointed One was dead- and the devil thought he had won. But his victory was short-lived. Three days later on Easter Sunday morning, God raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus went on to visit with the disciples, "appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God." (Acts 1:3) The grave could not contain Jesus. The power that it seemed evil had did not last. Jesus lives! And so, while the devil thought he had defeated God, in reality, God got the last laugh. God made the devil into the ultimate fool because "Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!" Therefore on April 1<sup>st</sup>, celebrate the fact that Jesus lives and, because Jesus lives, "we believe that we will also live with him." (Romans 6:8) Yes, we will live and laugh and celebrate the gift of eternal life through Christ Jesus Our Lord. Amen!

A blessed Easter to you all,

Pastor Christopher Culuris



## Wanamingo Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2018

Present: Pastor Chris Culuris, Matt Thoreson, Sue Flotterud, Gary Windhorst, Therine Gudknecht, Karissa Wood

Absent: Teresa Gulllickson, Jean Rugg

Pastor opened the meeting with devotion

Pastor's Report: Read by Pastor Chris

Secretary's Report: Read by Karissa, Motion to approve by Sue, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary, passed 5-0

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Pastor Chris as Jean was absent, Motion to approve by Gary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt, passed 5-0

Memorial Fund: 7,169.42 (Feb 8<sup>th</sup> balance)

Building Fund: 1698.89 (Feb 8<sup>th</sup> balance)

Mission Investment Fund: 44,875.36 (Feb 8<sup>th</sup> balance)

### Old Business:

1. We are waiting for Jason to complete the work to take down the Chimney and repair the roof- this will be completed in the spring
2. Curt and Sharon Thoreson are taking care of custodial duties until a permanent replacement is found, there has been interest in the position and the council is considering candidates, as well as purchases of new cleaning equipment.
3. Karissa Wood and Donna Hegseth will attend the synod assembly on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> as Wanamingo Lutheran's delegates
4. A new church directory will be assembled fall of 2018 in preparation for our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in 2019. We will form a small committee to help with this, as it can be a big project.

### New Business:

1. A special offering for companion synods will be taken on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> and will be presented at the synod assembly
2. Judy Davis attended the Kenyon Senior Living Annual Meeting and reported to council the recommended monthly donation. Any change in the amount giving by Wanamingo Lutheran will have to be considered for next year's budget as this year's budget is already set.
3. Minnesota Teen Challenge will visit our church in 2019. We are waiting for them to respond with dates they are available
4. Communion Servers: March 18<sup>th</sup> Matt, April 8<sup>th</sup> Sue, April 22<sup>nd</sup> Gary

Motion to Adjourn by Gary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sue, passed 5-0

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted by Karissa Wood



**Palm Sunday: March 25<sup>th</sup>** – Worship at 9:00am (**WLC**); 10:30am (**Trinity**)

**Maundy Thursday: March 29<sup>th</sup>** – Worship with Holy Communion- 7:00pm at **Trinity**.

**Good Friday: March 30<sup>th</sup>** – Worship- 7:00pm at **WLC**.

**Easter Sunday: April 1<sup>st</sup>** – 7:00am Worship followed by breakfast at **WLC**; 9-10am breakfast followed by Worship at 10:30am at **Trinity**.

## *Easter Breakfast*



Join us for our Easter Morning Breakfast  
following our

**Easter Worship service at 7:00am**

on Easter Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board of things needed for Easter Breakfast. If you could help and/or bring some supplies, please sign up. The youth will be serving Easter Breakfast at 8:00am. Your free-will donations are appreciated.

## Council Meeting

On April 12 we have our Church Council meeting at 6:30pm and then, right after it's done, we will have our Joint Parish Committee meeting at WLC at 7:30pm.





Our 5<sup>th</sup> Graders will celebrate their First Holy Communion on Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup> during our 10:30am worship service. Come and celebrate with them as they receive the

Body & Blood of Our Lord!

Congratulations to Amber Lorfald, Aurelia McBroom, Magnus Swanson and Noah Wallaker as they receive their First Holy Communion!

God Bless You!

April 15th is the last day of **Sunday School**. We all would like to extend a huge



to **Teresa Gullickson, Callie VanDeWalker** and **Sherree VanDeWalker** for their awesome job of leading Sunday School this past year- well done ladies!



In preparation for our 150th Anniversary celebration next summer, we will be putting a new church directory together this Fall. We will need to organize a committee to head up this project. Anyone who is willing to help should contact Therine Gudknecht.

## WELCA

will meet on Thursday April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm at Heritage Hill.

### PRAYER SHAWL

**WILL MEET ON TUESDAY APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>, 7:00PM AT IRENE REE'S HOME.**

### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



**The Monthly Book Club will meet at Holden at 7:00pm on Thursday April 19<sup>th</sup>. Due to having to cancel in February because of the weather, we will be discussing "Between Heaven and the Real World" by Stephen Curtis Chapman in April. And this will be the last book club meeting.**



**We will be receiving a special offering on April 22 & 29 to support our companion synods in Colombia, Tanzania and South Sudan. Karissa Wood and Donna Hegseth will bring this offering to our synod assembly in May. Members can either write out a check or, place their offering in a white envelope at church.**



# Confirmation

**Reminder that we will have Confirmation Classes at 4:30pm in Trinity's basement on the following Wednesdays: April 4, 11 and 18. On April 25<sup>th</sup> we will meet at Trinity and then carpool up together to work at "Feed My Starving Children." In May, we will have Confirmation Class on May 2 and 9. May 9 will be our last class for the 2017-2018 School Year.**



**Come join the youth from Trinity at this year's Easter Egg Hunt. We will meet at 10:00am at Riverside Park in Wanamingo on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. In case of bad weather, we will meet inside of Trinity Lutheran Church. Please spread the word!**



**THE CANNON RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING WELCA GATHERING WILL BE MEETING AT HOLDEN ON SATURDAY APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>.**

**REGISTRATION GOES FROM 8:00 - 9:00AM.  
PROGRAM BEGINS AT 9:00AM.**

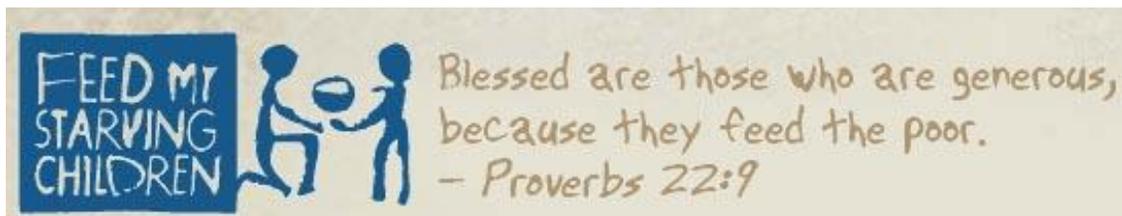
**SAM DAILY WILL BE DOING A PRESENTATION ON HIS WORK WITH THE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION "BELIEVET" WHICH TRAINS SERVICE DOGS TO HELP DISABLED VETERANS.**

**LUNCH FOLLOWS AT 11:00AM.**

**THE OFFERING WILL GO TOWARDS WOMEN OF THE ELCA, SOLE HOPE, ABAN AND HOPE COALITION.**

**PLEASE CONTACT CORA LEE MONROE AT [CORALEEMONROE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CORALEEMONROE@GMAIL.COM) OR CALL HER AT 612-756-4687 TO SIGN-UP IN ADVANCE.**

**LADIES PAY THE DAY OF THE EVENT AT HOLDEN.  
COST IS \$12 WHICH INCLUDES PROGRAM AND LUNCH.**



Confirmation students are to meet at Trinity by 4:30pm on April 25th. Then we will carpool up to FMSC in Eagan. We have 13 confirmation students going plus Pastor Chris. So, we will still have 11 slots that can be filled with volunteers from our congregations. This is a wonderful event. We learn about the mission of FMSC, work for an hour, pray over the food and those who will receive it, and then we get to find out how much food we packed and where it will be going. Definitely an awesome way to spend a few hours!



# THE BRIDGE

*A Monthly Resource from the Southeastern Minnesota Synod*



## **An Interview with Burton and Nancy Svendsen, Synod Assembly Co-Managers**

Burton and Nancy Svendsen are members of Trinity Fellowship in Rushford. They are serving as the co-managers of this year's 2018 Synod Assembly. The assembly theme is "Celebrating Our Global Congregation." To learn more about assembly, visit <http://semnsynod.org/assembly2018>. The event is being held in a new location this year – the Verizon Center in Mankato. The Svendsens play key leadership roles in bringing this engaging, life-giving event into reality! The preparations for assembly last all year round. We give great thanks for their willingness to serve in this important way!

### **How long have you been serving as the assembly co-chairs?**

2018 will be our fifth assembly as co-managers.

### **How did you first feel the Spirit's nudge to explore this leadership opportunity?**

We had been on the implementation committee for a couple of years. We knew that the previous manager was retiring. We work well together. We know how to organize. We believe in giving back to the Lord.

### **What do you most enjoy about the Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly?**

Being/working with other people of faith. Seeing a bigger picture of our church. The worship and the music. Being with the people. Being part of the leadership team. Seeing and hearing all the positive things going on in our corner of the world. **What advice would you give to someone who was considering attending assembly as a voting member for his/her congregation?**

Be open to seeing/hearing the new and different ways God is at work. Be willing to talk to strangers. Yes, the business really has to be done.

### **What might surprise the 121,000 people of our synod about the behind-the-scenes aspects of assembly?**

The number of people, from staff, AV, catering, technology, maintenance, presenters, speakers, musicians, who all come together like a well oiled machine to make the magic of a smooth assembly happen.



