

Wanamingo Lutheran Church

May 2018 Newsletter

March's Finances

Income	\$3,484.00
Monthly expenses	\$6,245.10
YTD TOTALS	
Year to date Income	\$21,757.00
Year to date Expenses Paid	<u>\$22,616.21</u>
Difference	\$ -859.21

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,

May is a month that is packed full! This month we will celebrate Mother's Day. We will honor our seniors who are graduating from High School. Plus, we will also remember those who gave their all in the defense of our country.

To all of our Mothers: Happy Mother's Day! A mother's care and love for her children is a huge blessing! I think back on the ways my mom cared for me and I thank God that I had her "in my corner" watching over me and doing the best she could to raise me well. I watch Heather care for Sophia and Timothy and I realize how best they are to have her as their mother. Each of you has your own memories of your mother and of caring for those you love. God bless you for the many ways you share God's love with us!

To all of our Graduating Seniors: Congratulations! All your many years of hard work in school have paid off!

I pray this will be a time of blessing for you. A time to look back and remember what you have learned in the classroom, as well as a time to reflect on the lessons that life has taught you. Recall all the ways that your teachers, your family and your community have given of themselves to help you reach this achievement. I hope that you will look forward to your futures with excitement. Dream big dreams and remember who you are and whose you are. You are a beloved child of God! God loves you! We will be honoring our graduates during our services on May 20th- Wanamingo at 9:00am and Trinity at 10:30am.

In memory of all those men and women who gave their lives in the defense of this nation: Thank You, Lord, for these your servants who have shown by their actions that, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13) In thanksgiving to God, we remember and honor all those who have died for our nation. May God hold them in his loving arms and may God's peace be with those who mourn their loss.

God bless you all this month,

Pastor Christopher Culuris



Wanamingo Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2018

Present: Pastor Culuris, Matt Thoreson, Jean Rugg, Gary Windhorst, Therine Gudknecht, Sue Flotterud

Absent: Karissa Wood, Teresa Gullickson

Pastor opened the meeting with devotion

Pastor's Report: Read by Pastor Chris

Secretary's Report: Read by Sue, Motion approved by Matt, 2nd by Gary Passed 5-0

Treasurer's Report: Presented Jean. Motion to approve by Gary, 2nd by Sue Passed 5-0

Memorial Fund: 7,170.58

Building Fund: 1,699.31

Mission Investment Fund: 44,875.36

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 when weather permits and ground is firm.
2. Tarla Hesse will be contacted to see if with Gary Windhorst's help with the custodial duties a working arrangement can be made. Gary is willing to try this on a 2-month trial basis
3. Tricia Bauer has agreed to be in charge of arrangements for the church directory pictures. A tentative date has been submitted to the company for early November.

New Business;

1. Cannon Pest Management offered spring and fall treatments. This was tabled until next month for Matt to follow up on the need and options for this.
2. Simple Giving is an option for automated giving. Other possible options were discussed.
3. We will check with the cemetery board as to tools or equipment that may be needed for the Cemetery Work Day-Saturday, May 19th.
4. Necessary work on improvement to the church (painting trim on the front of the church, replacing exterior carpet with new cement section, fixing plaster that fell in the bell tower and some ceiling work in various areas) will be discussed with Brad or Ron about previous information collected on these improvements.
5. Communion Servers: April 22-Matt May 6-Gary May 20- Jean
6. Motion to Adjourn by Sue, 2nd by Jean, passed 5-0

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted by Sue Flotterud



SYTTENDE MAI WAFFLES & BERRIES

Our Syttende Mai, or Seventeenth of May, Constitution Day celebration will be held May 12 in Wanamingo.

**Wanamingo Lutheran Church will serve the public:
WAFFLES, BERRIES AND POLSA,
SATURDAY MAY 12, 10:30 am-1 pm.**

Members please sign up on the bulletin board to donate food items and to help in the kitchen.

The recipe for waffles will be posted also. Thank you.

Questions: call Judy D 507-259-9806

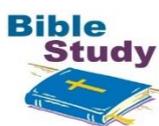
Baccalaureate Service

This year's KW High School Baccalaureate Service will be held on May 16th at 8:00pm at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Senior Recognition

will be during our service, Sunday, May 20th at 9:00am.

Congratulations to Riley Bauer and Kayleigh Jackson!



WELCA Bible Study

will be Thursday, May 3rd, at 2:00pm at Heritage Hill. All women of the church are welcome!



Prayer Shawl

will meet at 7:00pm on Tuesday, May 8th.

Confirmation Classes

Will wrap up for this school year on Wed. May 9. We'll meet at 7:00pm for kickball with Holden & Dale at Riverside Park.



Our SE MN Synod

Assembly will be on Friday,

May 4th and Saturday, May 5th at the Verizon Event

Center in Mankato. Please keep Donna Hegseth, Karissa Wood and Pastor Chris in your prayers as they participate in this two-day event to represent Wanamingo Lutheran at our Synod Assembly.

Council Meeting

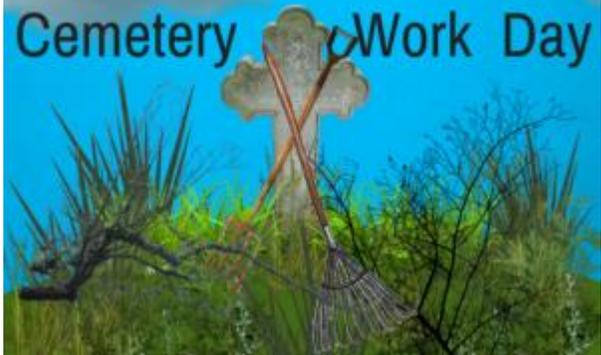
Will be held on Thursday, May 10th at 6:30pm.

Summer Worship Schedule:

June 3 - July 15 Worship is at 9:00am at Wanamingo Lutheran

July 22 - September 2 Worship is at 9:00am at Trinity

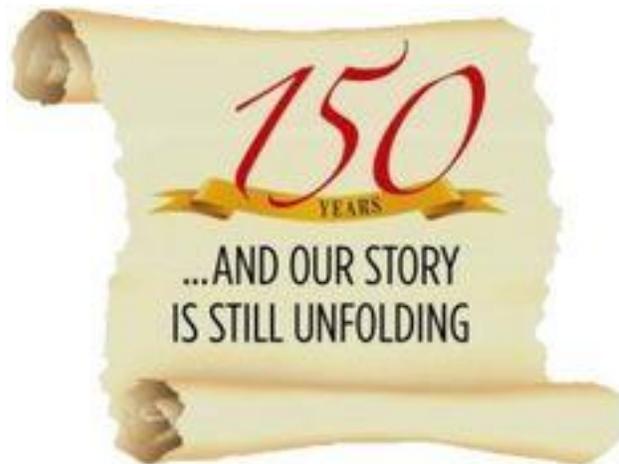
Your Help is Needed
Cemetery Work Day



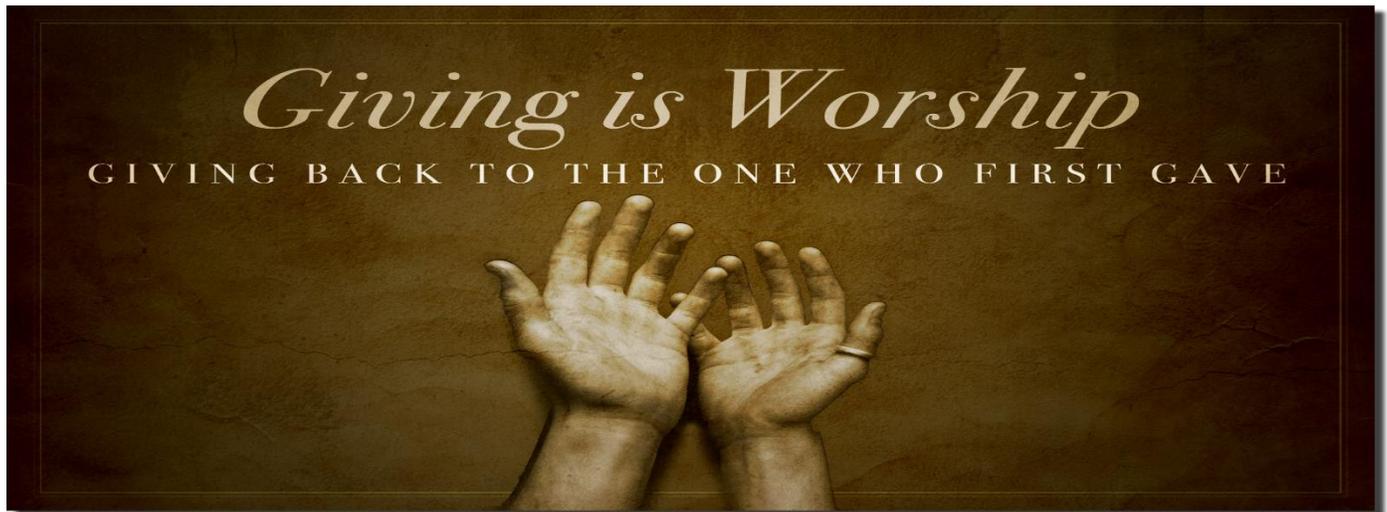
A work Day is planned for Saturday, May 19th at Wanamingo Lutheran Church's Cemetery. Please meet at the cemetery at 9:00am. Bring work gloves. For more specifics, please contact a member of the cemetery association.

While Pastor Chris is away on vacation from May 25 - June 7, Pastor Paul Graham of Dennison & Vang Lutheran Churches will be covering emergencies. He can be reached on his cell phone: 507-581-2484.

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 Tricia Bauer.



Lifetouch will take pictures for the directory on Wednesday Nov. 7th and Thursday Nov. 8th from 2pm - 9pm at Wanamingo Lutheran Church. Please keep this in mind when making your plans.



Wanamingo Lutheran Church Council has been discussing ways that our members may choose to give to support the ongoing work of our congregation. The most common way our members do this is through their regular offerings that we gratefully receive on Sunday mornings during worship. Another way some members may choose to support their congregation is through automated giving. For example, Thrivent members may choose to use the "Simply Giving" program that Thrivent offers. Others may choose to contact their bank or, financial institution, and ask them if they can arrange to make automated donations to our church. This is completely optional. It is being offered as an idea that is completely up to our members to decide if they want to do this, or not. The choice is theirs to make.



THE BRIDGE

A Monthly Resource from the Southeastern Minnesota Synod



An Interview with Bishop Atahualpa Hernandez of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO)

Bishop Atahualpa Hernandez will be one of the special guests at the 2018 Synod Assembly where the theme is “One Global Congregation.” He is the current bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO) which is one of our global church companions.

What would you like the people of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA to know about life and ministry in Colombia?

The church in Colombia is 82 years old. It was founded by missionaries, including missionaries from Minnesota. Our history of being church together is long! IELCO is present in 13 cities across Colombia divided into 4 regions (similar to the synods of the ELCA), made up by 22 churches. There are currently 19 pastors, of whom 6 are women, there are also 3 others who are currently serving congregations in the process of ordination.

Since when IELCO started, it has been committed to the betterment of the society, especially including children, youth, women, small family farmers, and the elderly. Currently, IELCO, on the national level is made up of 6 ministries: Pastoral, Evangelism, Women, Youth, Education, and Diakonia. Their projects all have a focus in human rights from the perspective of the faith in the construction of peace. There are also four Lutheran Schools with education from pre-school through high school. With the current situation of Colombia, we are putting a lot of focus, from all the ministries of the church, in the construction of peace. Colombia is living in a historical moment since the peace agreement was signed in November of 2016.

What do you find most fulfilling and joyful about your role as bishop?

After a difficult time for IELCO including 2 years of crisis for the church, it is an honor and a privilege to

be part of the team of people working towards the reparation of relationships, healing for the church, and living into the mission of God in Colombia. I find joy in being with the people of the churches, learning from them, and seeing all that is happening in each congregation. I am hopeful that the IELCO is advancing towards mutual understanding and growth in the communities.

When did you first sense a call to ministry?

I grew up in a Christian family from a young age. I had many good examples of pastors from my church and they inspired me to follow in their footsteps. From that time, I have felt the desire to serve in the church. Even though I had a strong calling to serve in the church, I started at the university studying chemistry. However, in about the middle of my studies I could not deny my calling and I started studying theology. After I finished my Bachelor's degree, I served my internship in a rural community in the plains of Colombia and continued there for another year after the internship completed. I went on to study for my Master's degree in hermeneutics. I love the interpretation of the Bible and studying the various ways the messages in the Bible can be transmitted. After completing my Master's degree, I became the director of the Lutheran School of Theology in Colombia. It was from that position that I, reluctantly, accepted the position of bishop.

Why do you think it is important to nurture and develop our global partnerships?

As it is written in Luke 24:13-35 in the story “On the Road to Emmaus” we are called to walk together to listen to each other. The model of accompaniment that I see in this story shows us how to cultivate our relationships. It doesn't matter if it starts from joy or sorrow, but we begin to walk together in the promise of the resurrected Jesus. We join our strengths together; and at the same time, when one of the partners is suffering, being together makes the other strong.

During the difficult crisis of IELCO, we knew we were accompanied by the Southeastern Minnesota Synod. This accompaniment was through visits, prayer, presence in our assemblies, and sometimes, the most powerful was simply to just be listened to. We give thanks to you for the long history of accompaniment and pray for the future of our mutual accompaniment!