

Wanamingo Lutheran Church

January 2016 Newsletter

November's Budget

Monthly expenses	\$4,584.59
Income	\$4,862.00
Year to date Expenses Paid	\$57,454.42
Year to date Income (offering & other)	\$48,033.78
Borrowed from Building Fund	
<u>\$3,000.00</u>	
Difference	\$-6,420.64

In an effort to try to keep our church records as up to date as possible, please notify Tarla with any changes to yours or a family member's address, phone number, or email address. You can contact Tarla by phone at 507-298-1258 or by email at wanamingolutheran@yahoo.com

Thanks for your help!!

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy New Year! As we begin a new year I would like to say, "Thank You!" Thank you for all of the ways you give and help to support Trinity and Wanamingo Lutheran Churches. Our congregations would not be the wonderful places of worship, study, service and fun that they are without your presence and participation. Thank you for all that you do- coming to worship, donating to support our ongoing ministries, giving of your time and talents by serving on our various boards, committees, councils, Sunday Schools and youth group. Thank you for praying for one another in the good times as well as in times of sickness, loss and sorrow. Thank you for looking for ways to serve others in our community, nation and world in Jesus' name. Thank you for the support you give to me on a daily basis and for praying for me as your pastor. I appreciate all your thoughts and prayers! Thank you also to those who gave me gifts during pastor appreciation month in October and for the person(s) who made that great wooden sign that now sits in my office at Trinity- that was awesome! So, "Thank You" for all that you do for the Lord, for our churches, for our members and for me personally- you are sincerely appreciated!

God Bless you all,

Pastor Christopher Culuris

Wanamingo Lutheran Church Council Minutes

December 10th, 2015

Present: Pastor Culuris, Paul Rugg, Birdeen Thoreson, Larry VanDeWalker, Ron Flotterud, Brad Hegseth

Absent: Bryan Blakstad, Teresa Gullickson

Opened with a message and prayer by Pastor Culuris

Pastor Report presented by Pastor Culuris

Secretary Report was read by Brad, Motion to approve by Paul, 2nd by Ron, motion passed 6-0

Treasures Report was read by Paul, Motion to approve by Birdeen, 2nd by Brad, motion passed 6-0

Memorial Fund: \$5,147.83

Building Fund: \$25,893.29

Sterling CD: \$42,787.66

Old Business:

Discussion on Articles of incorporation: Brad will contact Jon Reppe to see if he is interested with helping us complete this process with the state.

Area Youth Worker- We are still looking for a liaison from Wanamingo Lutheran to serve between the area youth worker and the Church

New Business:

Sunday the 12th the Church will be used for the Eagle Scout Banquet

2016 Nominations: were discussed, remaining open positions will be nominated from the floor at the annual meeting.

2016 Budget: The 2016 budget was finalized

Communion Servers: Jan 3rd Brad Hegseth, Jan 17th Birdeen Thoreson

Closed with the Lords Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Brad Hegseth

Our Cannon River Conference Assembly will meet at 2pm on Sunday, Feb. 14th at Spring Garden Lutheran Church in Cannon Falls. If interested in attending as a representative of WLC, please see Pastor Chris.

Continuing Education

Pastor Chris will be gone from January 11th through January 17th for continuing education. If there are any emergencies during this time, please call Pastor Heather Culuris at home. Her number is 507-824-2410.

Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend

START 2016 WITH A JOY-FILLED RELATIONSHIP!

You and your spouse will both receive the gift of enhanced communication skills on a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekend is Feb 12 - 14, 2016 at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel in Brooklyn Center, MN. Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org, or contact Peter & Phyllis McMahon at mcmahonp@comcast.net or 763-561-1575 for more information. Pre-registration is required – don't miss out!

Confirmation Class will resume on Wed., Jan. 6th- 4:30pm at Trinity. There will be no class on Jan. 13th. We will meet again on Jan. 20th and 27th.

WELCA will have their Bible study on Thursday, Jan. 14th at 2:00pm. The ladies will meet while Pastor Chris is away on continuing education.

Church Council will meet that same night, Jan. 14th, at 6:30pm.



Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting will take place on Sunday, February 14th. Worship will be at 10:30am that morning and will be followed by a potluck luncheon and our Annual Meeting.

Please have your annual reports in to Tarla by Thursday January 21st.

“Christians Hooked with Love”

Christians Hooked with Love prayer shawl ministries was organized in September 2007 and has members from several surrounding churches. We meet once a month, on the second Tuesday, at 7 pm at Wanamingo Lutheran Church. The evening is spent prayerfully working on our shawls, discussing who received the shawls and fellowship. The shawls are mostly knit or crocheted. Shawls are given to those who are grieving or ill. To date we have made and given out 174 shawls. We have heard many positive responses from those who received a shawl. We have also reached out to others by making over 350 items such as: toe-warmers, hand-warmers, burial buntings and chemo caps for the Rochester Auxiliary to distribute to those in need. Several mini-shawls have been made and given to the victims of human trafficking to be included in their care packages. Thank you to everyone who has given of their time and talent to make this ministry a success. Any questions- call Irene Ree at 824-2102. Anyone who is interested in joining the group is encouraged and welcome to come.

Our next meeting will be on January 12th at 7:00pm.

High School Youth Night
with the St. Olaf Outreach Team



Come for games and devotions and music!

Saturday February 20, 2016 from 6-10pm

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church in Wanamingo

Who: 8th-12th graders of Trinity/Wanamingo/Holden/Dale and their friends

Bring a snack to share!!!

Please sign up with Pastor Heather or Pastor Chris so we know how many youth will be attending!!

824-2410 or heatherculuris@yahoo.com

******Confirmation students are expected to attend either this event or the event on March 5th******

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH EVENT

WITH THE ST. OLAF OUTREACH TEAM

COME FOR GAMES AND DEVOTIONS AND MUSIC!

SATURDAY MARCH 5 FROM 6-10PM

WHERE: HOLDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

WHO: 5TH-9TH GRADERS OF TRINITY/WANAMINGO/HOLDEN/DALE
AND THEIR FRIENDS

BRING A SNACK TO SHARE!!!

PLEASE SIGN UP WITH PASTOR HEATHER OR PASTOR CHRIS SO WE
KNOW HOW MANY YOUTH WILL BE ATTENDING!!

824-2410 OR HEATHERCULURIS@YAHOO.COM



***CONFIRMATION STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND EITHER
THIS EVENT OR THE EVENT ON FEBRUARY 20TH***



THE BRIDGE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR CONGREGATIONS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN
MINNESOTA SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



Vitalizing Call Process

by Bishop Steven Delzer

Our synod participated in a feasibility study in the spring of 2015. Feedback was gathered from church members and rostered leaders throughout the synod on a wide range of topics. One area of significant feedback related to call process. Call process refers to the steps involved in a rostered leader coming to serve in a new context.

Many participants in the synod's recent feasibility study expressed concern about the call process in the Southeastern Minnesota Synod. In response, the Executive Committee of the Synod Council gave approval for a comprehensive review of the call process. Rev. Peter Soli of Dialog Works conducted a review of the process through interviews and surveys with pastors, congregational leaders, and synod staff who had participated in the call process in the last few years.

Rev. Soli's Comprehensive Report and his Summary of Findings identified both areas of satisfaction and opportunities for improvement in the call process. He also identified four significant polarities that need to be acknowledged and a list of problems to be solved.

In response to the report, the Vitalizing Call Process Task Force was formed comprised of pastors, lay leaders, Assistant to the Bishop Rev. Peter Reuss and Bishop Steven Delzer. The team was asked to review this report and make recommendations. These recommendations are available online in the Vitalizing Call Process Task Force Final Summary (<http://semnsynod.org/vitalizingcallprocess>).

The following quote from their report demonstrates the crucial role that the call process plays in the life of a congregation:

"The calling of a new pastor to share in the faith and life of a congregation is a sacred time within a congregation. It can be filled with hope, tension, apprehension, and uncertainty. The synod (Office of the Bishop) is committed to walking along side congregations through this process and providing Spirit filled guidance and support."

One recommendation from the Task Force that is already being implemented is the deeper involvement of interim pastors in guiding the call process in the congregations where they are serving. They will be fully trained in the call process and will work to maintain regular communication between the Call Committee, the congregation, and the staff in the Office of the Bishop. Another recommendation from the Task Force is developing a call process that is flexible enough to be customized to the needs of each congregation. Assistant to the Bishop Rev. Susan Miller and Call Process Administrator Cheryse Brenno-Sloan are already at work revising and simplifying the Call Process Manual to make that information more accessible. Rev. Miller, together with Bishop Delzer and other members of the staff in the Office of the Bishop, will also meet with congregations and Call Committees for dialogue about their Ministry Site Profile (MSP) to better understand each congregation's current situation and leadership needs.

Together we will continue to move toward implementing the recommendations of the Task Force. We are striving to make our call process as effective and helpful as possible, and we appreciate the gracious, thoughtful input of the people of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod.