

Wanamingo Lutheran Church

July 2016 Newsletter

May's Budget

Income	\$5,745.50
Building Fund	\$2,000.00
Monthly expenses	\$4,293.86
Year to date Income (offering & other)	\$39,311.40
Year to date Expenses Paid	<u>\$38,877.11</u>
Difference	\$434.29

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,

I am writing this newsletter article three days after the largest mass shooting in our nation's history. From news accounts of what happened in Orlando, Florida- 49 people were killed and 53 other individuals were shot and injured. This is a very sad and tragic time for those who lost loved ones, for the families of these individuals and, for our nation as a whole. The Fifth Commandment says this: "You shall not murder." (Exodus 20:13) God gave us this commandment so that we will respect life- all life. When sin rears its ugly head and hate fills our hearts, then horrible things happen as a consequence. I think God is the first person to cry when His children die needlessly, as in this tragic case. We, too, weep for those who have died and for those who mourn their loss.

In the days ahead, as God's children, let us focus on being people of peace and reconciliation. To help us to do this, I encourage us to pray this prayer, attributed to St. Francis of Assisi. Let us pray...*Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; or, to be loved, as to*

love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen. May God grant us all His peace and comfort in these sad and disturbing days.

Sincerely yours in Christ's service,

Pastor Christopher Culuris

Summer Joint Worship at Trinity will begin July 17th and continue through September 4th. Worship is at 9:00am. Come and join us in praising the Lord!!

Wanamingo Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

June 9th, 2016

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

Absent: Bryan Blakstad, Teresa Gullickson, Therine Gudknecht

Pastor's Report: read by Pastor Culuris

Secretary's Report: read by Brad, motion to approve by Birdeen, 2nd by Paul passed 5-0

Treasure's Report: read by Paul, motion to approve by Brad, 2nd by Chris passed 5-0

Memorial Fund: \$6,315.59

Building Fund: \$27,522.62

Sterling CD: \$43,162.33

Old Business:

1. July 3rd service in the park - we are to provide communion assistant (Ron Flotterud) and communion for approximately 150 people. Minneola to provide ushers. Trinity to provide sound system. Trinity and Minneola to provide cookies for fellowship following service. WELCA to help serve coffee following service. Fellowship offering going toward our parish VBS.
2. 4th of July Silent Auction: Contact Sue Windhorst or Sue Flotterud to collect items for auction and secure tent rental. Proceeds from the auction will be divided equally and donated to the Kenyon and Zumbrota food shelves.
3. Sterling CD is up for renewal Aug 6th. Paul will check on rates with other banks and come back with a recommendation on where to invest the money.
4. Tarla is working on updating the Wanamingo Lutheran Church's Web Site.
5. Jean Rugg is taking care of placing an ad in the News Record for the upcoming July 3rd Service in the Park.
6. Birdeen looked at the exterior of the church, and noticed some repair on the chimney is needed. Brad will get a quote on tuck pointing and bring bid back to council.
7. Food shelf continues to look for a volunteer to serve on the Food Shelf Board of Directors. Anyone willing to serve should contact Pastor or a Council member.

New Business:

1. Brad will talk to Prigge's Flooring to get a quote for new carpet for the offices, hall ways, entry and stairs, and bring their estimate back to council.
2. Brad will talk to heating contractors about our heating system, to see what improvements can be made. We're trying to help eliminate our large electrical bill each month, as its felt the electric heat in the entry is very expensive, and bring estimates back to council.

Motion to Adjourn by Paul, 2nd by Birdeen, passed 5-0

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted by Brad Hegseth

Pastor Chris will be away July 5th- July 18th.
Please contact these Pastors for emergencies
while he is gone.

For emergencies July 5-10 call Pastor Hannah
Bergstrom de Leon (c) 952-564-7002

For emergencies July 11-18 call Pastor Luther
Matheson (o) 507-789-5261

Council Meeting

Will be held on Thursday
July 14th at 6:30pm.

WELCA Bible Study

will be Thursday, July 14th,
at 2:00pm. All women of the
church are welcome!

SILENT AUCTION

4th of July Silent Auction

Come to the 4th of July Silent Auction Fundraiser from 10am – 4:30pm! There are plenty of opportunities to participate!! We accept your Time, Talents and Donations! Bring a basket of goods to the auction, do some baking, donate extra sports tickets, etc. Use your imagination! Clean out your closets! Donations from everyone are welcome. Help is needed to set up tables at 9am, and to work from 10am – 4:30pm on the 4th. Please call Sue Windhorst at 824-2505, let her know what you can bring and what a good starting bid would be. Bring items to bus garage on 4th of July by 9am. Proceeds will be split between the Zumbrota and Kenyon Food Shelves.

We all know how busy Summer can get and we hope that you all are out enjoying God's beautiful creation while the weather is nice! While many of us are out and about this Summer please also remember to support Wanamingo Lutheran Church as our church's expenses and financial commitments are ongoing- whether we are present at worship or not. Recently we have had to borrow \$2,000 from the Building Fund to cover our expenses. Thank You for your prayerful and faithful support of Wanamingo Lutheran Church!



VBS is being planned for July 24th -28th, 5:30pm-8pm, with supper being served. This year's theme, "Cavequest", is from Group. Program will be on Thursday, July 28th, 7pm at Trinity. We will be asking families and groups from the congregations to donate food for the meals. Please let us know if you'd like to help. Please contact Tricia 824-2052, if you have any questions.

WLC WELCA SUMMER SERVER LIST:

July 3 - Sherree VanDeWalker, Ashley VanDeWalker, Callie VanDeWalker, Kelly Steberg. ***NOTE* This service will be at Riverside Park in Wanamingo.**

July 10 - Linda Thoreson, Irene Ree, Tami Thoreson, Meredith McBroom

REMINDERS: If you are unable to serve on assigned date, it is your responsibility to exchange with someone on the list; also remember more beverages and treats are needed due to hosting joint services with Trinity; for questions call Judy Davis' cell: 507-259-9806. Thanks to all who are helping serve this summer!



Thank you to everyone who filled out and turned in the new contract information sheet that was sent out. We have been working hard to keep everyone's information as up to date as possible. If you haven't already returned your form please do it as soon as possible, even if you think it is up to date we would still like to just confirm everything. We are compiling a complete as list of everyone's name, address, phone #'s, and email. We are planning on distributing a list to all of WLC's members and friends so everyone can keep in contact. If for some reason you wish to be left off the list, please send an email to wanamingolutheran@yahoo.com to make your wishes known. If you wish to receive the contact list, we can either email it to you or, put a copy in your mailbox at church. Please call and let Tarla know what your preference is. She can be reached at 507-298-1258. We hope to have the list done by the beginning of July and will get it out soon thereafter. Thanks for all your help with this!

Songs of Hope

On **Thursday, July 14** of this summer, we're bringing "**Songs of Hope**" back to Zumbrot's East Park and State Theatre!

If you're not familiar with this group, let me just say that it's one of the best cultural events we've held.

The kids come from all over the world, spend a couple of weeks at the St Paul base learning the music and movement, and then tour SE Minnesota. I think this is our 7th year with them!

I'll paste a link to the group's website below and encourage you to take a moment to peruse it.

It's an amazing and heartfelt concert and folks are often moved deeply by these children and young adults. It's not just a 'kid concert' - I'd expected it to be cute but it is much more than that.

<https://www.soundsofhope.org/>



Looking Ahead....On August 28th, Cherry Grove Airport will again be having its yearly fly-in. Dale Lutheran will also be having a Corn Feed from 11am to 1pm at church that day with corn and pulled chicken sandwiches. You are invited to join us!



THE BRIDGE

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



OUR CULTURE OF CALL

By Rev. Paul Baglyos,

Region 3 Coordinator for Ministry Leadership

Lutheran Christians understand God's call to public ministry leadership in the church to involve two essential dimensions: internal and external. The internal dimension of God's call involves a person's own discernment that "God is calling me to this." The external dimension of God's call involves the discernment of others regarding that person—"God is calling you to this."

Raising up leaders for the church requires that the whole church participate in the external dimension of God's call. Some of the most common stories people tell when they begin to prepare for ministry leadership in the church are stories about other people encouraging them to do so. "Have you ever thought about seminary? "You would make a good minister." "I can see you as a leader in the church." Those sorts of promptings from ministry leaders and other church members, from family and friends, are common to the stories of people who become ministers of Word and Sacrament or Word and Service in the church.

Evidence suggests that our shared participation in the external dimension of God's call to ministry leadership is becoming less vigorous than it has been in the past, even the recent past. For example, over the twelve-year period from the 2004-2005 academic year to the current academic year (2015-2016) the total enrollment of students in Master of Divinity degree programs (the preparatory degree for pastors) at the eight seminaries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has decreased from 1,252 to 735, or 41%. No single factor by itself accounts for that decrease, but it is reasonable to believe that one contributing factor is a neglected commitment to identify people with demonstrated gifts for ministry leadership and to encourage such people to step forward in preparation for leadership.

The ELCA's Model Constitution for Congregations stipulates that one of the responsibilities of congregation councils is to "seek out and encourage qualified persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel." Integral to this report, therefore, are these questions to all who will read it:

How vigorously does your congregation attend to its responsibility to "seek out and encourage" gifted people to prepare for leadership as ministers of Word and Sacrament or Word and Service?

How many members of your congregation have been or are enrolled in seminary to prepare for such leadership?

Who are the people in your congregation that you can envision as effective ministry leaders?

The members of your synod who serve on your synod's candidacy committee work with the people who come forward from your congregations, your outdoor ministries, your campus ministries and other contexts of discernment and call to prepare for public ministry leadership in the ELCA. Your candidacy committees accompany those people in formation for leadership, helping them further to discern both their gifts and their growth areas pertaining to leadership, guiding them in their seminary programs, assessing their learning in field experience, and, when they are ready, approving them for ministry leadership in the ELCA under congregational call.

To learn more about the work of your synod's candidacy committee and the people currently preparing for ministry leadership under the care of your synod's candidacy committee, speak with any member of the committee, Bishop Delzer, Rev. Susan Miller, or Cheryse Brenno-Sloan. The work that we do together in the formation of leaders for the ELCA is made possible by the mission support your congregation gives to the synod and by the mission support your synod shares with the larger ELCA.