

Wanamingo Lutheran Church

March 2016 Newsletter

January's Budget	
Income	\$4,331.00
Monthly expenses	\$7,767.58
Year to date Income (offering & other)	\$15,425.00
Year to date Expenses Paid	<u>\$15,845.93</u>
Difference	\$-420.93

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,

Are you feeling stressed? Is there just too much to do in your day? Do you want to get away from it all for a while? If the answer to these questions is "Yes, please!" then we have some wonderful opportunities scheduled for you to do that this month. During March I would like to invite you to come to church and relax. Join us for a time just to be yourself, hang out with friends, eat some good food and worship the Lord!

During March we will gather for Supper at 6:00pm and Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00pm. We rotate back-and-forth between Trinity and Wanamingo Lutheran Church. Here are the locations for our Wednesday night gatherings in Lent: March 2 (WLC); March 9 (Trinity) and; March 16 (WLC).

Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday- March 20th- will take us all the way from Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem through His death on the cross done for our

salvation. If you can, I would also encourage you to join us as we celebrate our Lord's institution of Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday- March 24th- 7:00pm at Trinity. AND- please join us as we reflect upon the supreme sacrifice our Lord made for our sake on the cross on Good Friday- March 25th, 7:00pm, at WLC.

As you have heard me say many times in the last 5 years- "Death does not get the last word. God does!" I can say this with confidence because God got the last word on Easter Sunday. So, we invite you to join us for worship and breakfast on Sunday- March 27th. WLC will worship at 7:00am and then join together for breakfast. Trinity will serve breakfast from 9-10am and have worship at 10:30am.

Please mark these opportunities down and join us for worship and fellowship, food and conversation and, a time just to be as we escape the winter blues and celebrate our gracious and amazing God!

Pastor Christopher Culuris

Wanamingo Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

February 11th, 2016

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

Absent: Bryan Blakstad

Opened the meeting with a prayer by Pastor Culuris

Pastors report: presented by Pastor Culuris

Secretary Report: read by Brad, Motion to approve by Chris, 2nd by Birdeen, motion passed 7-0

Treasure Report: read by Paul, Motion to approve by Birdeen, 2nd by Teresa, motion passed 7-0

Memorial Fund \$5,253.71, Building Fund \$30,502.71, Sterling CD \$42,787.66

Old Business:

Jon Reppe is working on the incorporation, Brad will keep in contact with him, and report back to Council on progress.

New Business:

1. We will advertise the upcoming Easter services in the Kenyon Leader and the News Record.
2. Free will offering at the Lenten Wednesday night meals will go to the youth, the offering at the Lenten services will be split between the Zumbrota and Kenyon Food Shelves.
3. "Lent for Kids" will take place only at the Trinity services this year.
4. Painting needs to be completed in the kitchen (where the wall was repaired). Larry will ask Kevin VanDeWalker if he is interested in painting the walls.
5. Discussion was had on how cluttered the furnace room has become. We will ask members at the annual meeting if they are interested in any of these items. If not claimed, the remaining items will be thrown away.

Communion Servers: Feb 21st Paul Rugg, March 6th Brad Hegseth, March 20th Ron Flotterud

Motion to adjourn by Brad, 2nd by Paul

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Brad Hegseth



SCHEDULE FOR LENT 2016

“Biblical Stories of Faith and Courage”

March 2nd- 6pm Supper, 7pm Holden Evening Prayer at **WLC**-

“The Story of Esther”

March 9th- 6pm Supper, 7pm Holden Evening Prayer at **Trinity**-

“David and Goliath”

March 16th- 6pm Supper, 7pm Holden Evening Prayer at **WLC**-

“The Story of Ruth”



Palm Sunday: March 20th- Worship w/ Holy Communion- 9:00am (WLC); 10:30am (Trinity)

Maundy Thursday: March 24th- Worship w/ Holy Communion- 7:00pm at Trinity

Good Friday: March 25th- Worship- 7:00pm at WLC

Easter Sunday: March 27th -7:00am Worship followed by breakfast at WLC.

9-10am Breakfast, with Worship at 10:30am at Trinity.

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Installation of Council Members

We will install our Church Council members during the 9:00am
Worship service on March 13th.

Please come to pray for and support our leaders!

Youth news



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH EVENT WITH THE ST. OLAF OUTREACH TEAM

COME FOR GAMES AND DEVOTIONS AND MUSIC!

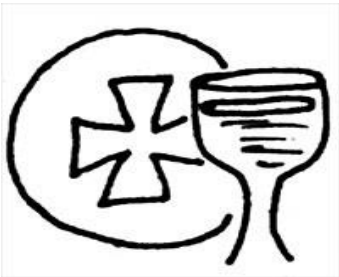
SATURDAY MARCH 5 FROM 6-10PM

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



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 6:00pm, in Trinity's basement- March 6, 13 and 20. NOTE: a parent must accompany their child to these classes. Questions- please contact Pastor Chris. (Trinity) 824-2155; (WLC) 824-2457

Confirmation Students

All the confirmation students are asked to help in the kitchen for the Lenten suppers each Wednesday throughout the Lenten Season. Sue Beulke will be mailing out letters to your families letting you know the details. We will also ask our Confirmation students to help usher, acolyte and read the lessons during our Wednesday services in Lent. Thank you for your help!!



Sunday School Project for Lent

This Lent, our Sunday School children have decided to collect items for Lutheran World Relief's "Baskets of Promise" project. Items can be brought in and left by the blue tub under the coat rack. Thank you!

Feb. 14 - bars of soap (4-5 ounces)

Feb. 21 - light-weight bath towels (max size 52"x27")

Feb. 28 - toothbrushes

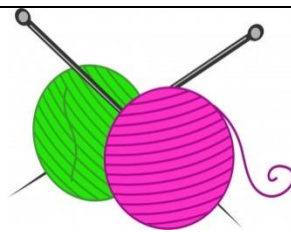
Mar. 6 - combs

Mar. 13 - nail clippers

Mar. 20 - bars of soap

Youth Group

For 8-12 Graders will meet next at 7:00pm on Sunday, March 20th at Trinity. Come for devotions and fun. Spread the word and invite a friend to join you!



The next Prayer Shawl Meeting will be Tuesday March 8th at 7:00pm. Come join us!!

WELCA

Will have their bible study at 2:00pm On Thursday march 10th.

Church Council

Will meet next on Thursday March 10th at 6:30pm.

Lenten Offerings

Offerings received during our Lenten Services will be split evenly between the Kenyon & Zumbrota Food Shelves.

Proceeds from our Lenten suppers will go to support our youth groups.

2016 Concordia Choir Tour is coming to Owatonna

The Concordia Choir of Concordia College (ELCA) Moorhead, Minnesota under the direction of Rene Clausen will be performing in Owatonna on Saturday, March 5, 2016 at 7:30pm at St. John Lutheran Church, 1301 Lincoln Ave S. Of special note is our collaboration with the Owatonna High School Choir. For more information you can visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/482373911923840/> You can order your tickets at [Concordia Tickets.com](http://ConcordiaTickets.com).



THE BRIDGE

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



Annual Reviews & Continuing Education

By Bishop Steven Delzer

The importance of annual pastoral reviews and continuing education are two topics I've been thinking about a lot lately, both on my own and with other bishops. These themes connect well with our priorities of "Developing Leaders" and "Equipping Congregations."

In my vision for our synod, I would like to see every congregation of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod engage in an annual review with their pastor. I would also like for there to be a priority placed on continuing education for the pastor. The strategy could work like this:

1. Decide which group from the congregation will engage in the review with the pastor. The most likely group in most congregations will be one of these three: the Executive Committee of the Church Council, the Personnel Committee, or the Mutual Ministry/Pastoral Support Committee.
2. The pastor and the review team agree together on the date and time to engage in the first part of the review.
3. In the first meeting the pastor and the review team have conversation around questions such as the following (these are just some examples):
 - A. In the past year what has given you the most joy and sense of fulfillment in your ministry?
 - B. What do think you are really good at in your role as pastor?
 - C. What do you like best about the congregation?
 - D. With what do you struggle most in serving in this congregation?
 - E. What do you think has been our greatest accomplishment as a congregation in the past year?
 - F. As we look to the coming year (or years), and the ways in which we sense God calling us to grow in our shared ministry, in what part of your role as a pastor do you want/need to grow to most effectively lead us?
 - G. For that growth to occur what skills do you need to develop, what experiences do you need to have, what knowledge do you need to gain?

4. That last question is what then leads to discussion about possibilities for continuing education. The review team directs the pastor to find two or three possible continuing education opportunities that would lead to the growth that is needed for the coming year (or years). The pastor and the review team agree on a time and date for a second meeting at which together they will agree about which continuing education opportunity (opportunities) the pastor will participate in.
5. In the second meeting the pastor and the review team discuss the merits of each of the possible Continuing Education opportunities and how each will contribute to the growth that is desired. They then decide together which opportunity (opportunities) the pastor will participate in. The pastor and the review team then sign a continuing education covenant that includes the name, date, location, cost, and desired outcomes of the continuing education agreed upon.

I'd now like to share why I am advocating this approach.

The most important reason for a pastor and congregational leaders to engage in an annual review is to have the conversation about where we've been in the past year(s), and where we sense God calling us in the coming year(s) in our shared ministry. The commitment to an annual review/conversation keeps us accountable to one another and to the ministry that has been entrusted to us, both as pastors, and as congregational leaders.

Another significant reason for a pastor and congregational leaders to engage in an annual review is to give careful consideration to the continuing education that will help the pastor to develop the skills, to have the experiences, and to gain the knowledge that will help her/him to most effectively lead the congregation into the future to which they sense God calling them. As you have these conversations,

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

May the Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace.