**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

Another year has passed and we are facing a new year. This year I would like to see the different groups in our church bring more information to the newsletter so we can share the great works your groups do with the congregation. Each month we publish this newsletter to keep our congregation informed on events of our church. A monthly summary from each group containing schedules and future events would be great! Tell us what your group is doing. We need to bring some more Church wide news to our newsletter and I cannot do this unless I hear from your groups. There is so much that goes on in our church but it seems to not make it to the newsletter. I do the best with the information I am given. Hopefully with better planning, your groups future events can be published in the newsletter and not just the bulletin. Looking forward to getting a monthly summary before newsletter deadline!! Thank you. Laura Krogwold

**SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR SERVING, USHERING, MONEY COUNTING AND ALTAR ARE LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX. PLEASE SIGN-UP TO HELP!!**

**FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR DAN**

1 Peter 5:1-11

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: [2] Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers--not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; [3] not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. [4] And when the Great Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

[5] Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because,

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

[6] Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. [7] Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

[8] Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. [9] Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

[10] And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. [11] To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

The apostle Peter wrote this letter to encourage who would likely face trials and persecution under Emperor Nero. During most of the first century, Christians were not hunted down and killed throughout the Roman Empire. They could, however, expect social, religious, and economic persecution from three main sources: the Romans, the Jews, and unbelieving family members. These three groups generally misunderstood the Christians in their midst; some would be harassed; some would be tortured and put to death. Peter is writing this letter as a source of encouragement and hope to people living in a transitional and dangerous time in history.

Adding to this dangerous situation was the question of legal status of Christians in the Roman Empire. Many Romans still thought of Christians as members of a Jewish sect, and because the Jewish religion was legal, they considered Christianity legal also---as long as Christians complied with the empire’s laws. However, they became the target of persecution when they refused to worship the emperor as a god, refused to worship at pagan temples, and exposed and rejected the horrific immorality of pagan culture.

Peter wrote to the Christian who were going through persecution because of their faith. He wrote to comfort them with the hope of eternal life and to challenge them to keep living holy lives. Those who suffer for being Christians become partners with Christ in His suffering. As we suffer, we need to remember that Christ is both our hope in the midst of suffering and our example of how to endure suffering in faith and trust.

1 Peter 5:6-7

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. [7] Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. The words of Peter to the people he watches over are powerful word. These words have the power to give life and courage to those at their wits end, and those overcome with fear. We are guided by Peter to face reality. The reality is that there is a God and we are not Him. In times of fear and uncertainty we need to realize the God is the only one who can help us. We need to come to the end of our strength and anxiety fueled chaos, so that we see our true situation. We submit to God and admit that He is the only path to peace and sanity by submitting to Him, under His mighty hand so that He would lift us up in due time. And cast all our anxiety upon Him because He cares for us. This is the path to peace.

Pastor Dan

**BAD WEATHER**

If there is bad weather on Sunday mornings, during the winter months, listen to WDUX 92.7 FM or AM 800 for church cancellations.

**2019 ANNUAL MEETING**

It’s the second most wonderful time of year, our church’s Annual Meeting! This year the meeting will happen on January 26th after Worship. What does this mean for you?

* If you handle the finances for your group in our church, your financial statements are due by Saturday, January 16th.
* The nominating committee might be calling asking if you would like to be on council.

**CHILI LUNCH**

Following Worship on January 26th, there will be a chili lunch, provided by the Northland Church Council in the basement.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

There is no council meeting in the month of January because of the Annual Meeting. The next council meeting will be February 9th. If you are unable to attend the meeting or have any concerns please contact Bill Hahn

**NORTHLAND CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES**

November 10, 2019 Northland Church Council Meeting

Member Present Bill Hahn, Daniele Oligney, Debbie Thompson , Roger Olson, Marilyn Mitchell, Craig Anderson, Kevin Dahle, Sandy Witkowski, Greg Krogwold, Pastor Dan, Dianne Erickson.,

Bill Hahn opened meeting.  Pastor Dan opened with a prayer.

Secretary’s report read and approved, accepted.

Treasures report read Checking balance $3,103.47 and Memorial Fund balance $25,695.55 approved and accepted.

Pastors reported Catechism going well.

Old Business

How to get more people to come to church.

Building and Grounds

Ice Scraper needed for front door.

Storm windows needed to be put back on.

Narthex needs programable thermostat about $200.00

New Business Nothing Today

Motion to adjourn Roger O. 2nd Sandy W. approved.

Northland Council Meeting

December 8, 2019

Members present Roger Olson, Daniele Oligney, Marilyn Mitchell, Kevin Dahle, Bill Hahn, Sandy Witkowski, Craig Anderson, Pastor Dan Somers, Greg Krogwold, Dianne Erickson. Guest Laura Krogwold.

Bill called meeting to order.

Pastor Dan opened with a prayer.

Secretaries report was read. Motion made to accept by Kevin D. 2nd by Marilyn M. Motion carried.

Treasure report checkbook bal. $8400.72  Memorial Fund bal. $25,825.77 approved.

Pastors report Pastor reported he is feeling much better now.  He would like to start Bible Studies again, if anyone would have any suggestions please contact him.

New Business

Mya and Maci Heschke asked if there was any Scholarships available for them to attend Winter Youth Camp at Silver Birch.  With a written explanation as to why they want to go to this camp and after will tell the Congregation what they enjoyed the most, they will be considered. Motion made by Kevin D. 2nd Roger O.

A Seder Supper was discussed for April 9, 2020.

Parking lot plowing will take to Town of Harrison meeting.

Old Business

Annual Meeting date January 26,2020 with light lunch.

No Council meeting in January 2020

April council meeting changed to the April 19,2020

Benevolence for 2019 payments were discussed, it was brought up that any monies borrowed from Memorial Fund must be repaid (this will be looked into).  If this is correct then a motion was made to  1st keep a $3,000.00 balance in checking acct. so no service charges are taken from acct by Bank   2nd  pay back Memorial Fund and   3rd pay African Inland Mission (Blooms), Agape Center, and LCMC (General Fund) by #1 Greg K 2nd by Marilyn M.   #2   1st Kevin D. 2nd Greg K.   3rd  1st Greg K. 2nd Craig A. Motion carried

Motion made to adjourn by Roger O. 2nd Kevin D.  Carried

Closed with Lord’s Prayer

These minutes have not been approved.  Secretary Dianne Erickson

**END OF THE YEAR DONATIONS**

Forgot your offering or want to give more to church? You still have time. For your donations to be counted on the 2019 tax year they need to be in the church mail box, N9880 State Hwy 49, Iola, WI 54945, by Saturday, December 28th. Thank you

**BUDGET SHORTFALL**

An Update on Our Financial Situation

For 2019, we operated in the red for about half of the months (January, February, March, May, July, and September). However, our year-to-date numbers ran in the red clear through to the end of November when the Lutefisk Supper helped to get us into the black.

We borrowed from the Memorial Fund to help cover shortfalls and have paid that back.

We’ve met all of our fixed expenses, but we may not have enough to meet our benevolence budget. Council decided at its December meeting to give priority to three line items in the benevolence budget that we can probably cover. These include (in order of priority):

1. Phil and E.J. Blohm’s African Inland Mission
2. Waupaca’s Agape Center
3. LCMC General Funds

If additional monies are collected, then the other line items in the benevolence budget could be fulfilled for 2019.

As it stands, we are projected to bring in less than we did last year. We will be addressing this at length at the Annual Meeting, January 26. You can expect to see a detailed letter addressing our situation about 1-2 weeks before the meeting. We’ll be emailing it to all those who have an email address, as well as having paper copies available at church.

Until then, please pray for the general direction and health of our church.

Thank you for your continued dedication.

Bill Hahn

Council President

Northland Lutheran Church

**COUNCIL MEMBER INSTALLATION**

The Northland Church Council will be installed during the Worship service on February 2nd.

**TUESDAY QUILTERS**

Like to sew? Like to Socialize? Then the Tuesday Quilters might be right for you. This is a group of ladies from the area that enjoy the art of quilting. They meet in the Church basement from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Tuesday, January 21st. If you have questions please contact Dianne Erickson at 715-677-4683.

**MEMORIAL CROSS**

Northland has a Memorial Cross in the Narthex. The Memorial Cross has plaques with the names of people who have given money in memory of their loved ones. Each plaque is a minimum of $100 with the money going to the Building Improvement Fund of Northland Church. If you are interested in having a plaque put on the cross in memory of your loved one please contact Laura Krogwold 715-445-2956.

**CATECHISM CLASS**

We will be having Catechism Class on the following Dates January 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. If you have questions please call Pastor Dan at 715-321-2198.

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

**2nd** Susan Voie

**3rd** John Peterson

**4th** Dausen Anderson

**5th** Dorothy Kernen

**10th** Patricia Olson

**12th** Debra Bergen, Daniel Zeinert

**13th** Cole Smith, Anna Wogsland

**16th** Jordan Lashua

**18th** Debra Thompson

**20th** Janice Lee

**21st** Dennis Miller

**22nd** Jackson Hahn

**25th** Keaven Olson

**27th** Briggs Wogsland

**31st** Richard Peterson

If you have not seen your birthday listed in the newsletter please call or email the church office at (715) 445-2956.

**JANUARY 2020 AT A GLANCE**

JANUARY ALTAR GUILD: Dawn Lashua

JANUARY USHER: Roy & Sally Van Epern

JANUARY OFFERING COUNTERS: None

JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING: None, due to our annual meeting.

AA MEETING: Every Thursday at 7:00 PM in the church basement.

TUESDAY QUILTER’S: January 21st from

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Thursday, January 16th.

PROJECTOR OPERATORS:

January 5th Dale T.

January 12th Craig A.

January 19th Krogwold

January 26th Bruce M.

AFTER WORSHIP SERVERS:

January 5th Krogwold Family

January 12th Heschke Family

January 19th Hahn Family

January 26th Weber/Olson Family

**FEBRUARY 2020 LOOK AHEAD**

FEBRUARY ALTAR GUILD:

FEBRUARY USHER:

FEBRUARY OFFERING COUNTERS: None

FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING: February 9th

AA MEETING: Every Thursday at 7:00 PM in the church basement.

TUESDAY QUILTER’S: February 18th from

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Thursday, February 12th.

PROJECTOR OPERATORS:

February 2nd Carl T.

February 9th Kevin D.

February 16th Craig A.

February 23rd Bruce M.

AFTER WORSHIP SERVERS:

February 2nd Timdal Family

February 9th Pagel Family

February 16th Lashua Family

February 23rd Stencel Family