

## ST. JOHNS MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

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Luana, Iowa 52156  
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[stjohnluana@neitel.net](mailto:stjohnluana@neitel.net)

Synodical Authorized Minister  
**Jeremy Wolfe**  
[jeremy.wolfe@csuglobal.edu](mailto:jeremy.wolfe@csuglobal.edu)  
563-258-2936



*Established 1900*

**VOLUME 1 DECEMBER 2020 ISSUE 25**

*Established 1893*



Advent is a wonderful time of year. We're preparing our minds and hearts for the advent of Jesus Christ. He humbled himself and lived as one of us so we could have eternal life. Advent is about preparation and expectation. At this time we are also waiting for our nation and our world to get a little bit brighter. It's coming! A vaccine is on it's way and the other things will clear up in time and our country will move forward. We will move forward as a church as well. In the meantime we're going to keep using our little radio antennae for those who don't yet feel comfortable coming inside the church. We'll keep looking for ways to stay connected so that we're stronger on the other side of this thing. In the meantime, have a blessed advent and a happy holiday season.

Jeremy Wolfe  
[jeremy.wolfe@csuglobal.edu](mailto:jeremy.wolfe@csuglobal.edu)  
563-258-2936

### December Office hours for Jeremy

**Tuesday** 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at Luana

Wednesday 9:00am to 5:00 pm at Farmersburg

**Thursday** 9 :00 am to 1:00 pm at Luana,  
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Farmersburg



## FARMERSBURG

### CHURCH COUNCIL

**Pres:** John Fuelling (20)

**V. Pres:** Brad Hoth (21)

**Sec:** Tammy Muller (20)

**Treas:** Lindelle Scherf (22)

**Council Members:** Jeff Klinge (21)

Tracey Phillips (22) & Zach Radloff (22)

### CHURCH SECRETARY:

Kelly Shaw

### FINANCIAL SECRETARIES:

Kelly Shaw & Brenda Hoth

### OUTSIDE JANITOR:

Loren Scherf

### INSIDE JANITOR:

Mary Beth Tielbar

### WELCA:

**Pres:** Shirley Marmann

**V. Pres:** Velma Kuehl

**Sec:** Nancy Moon

**Treas:** Becky Fuelling

**Mission Action:** Bev Moon,

Nancy Moon, Marlene Glawe

### MEN'S GROUP:

**Pres:** Jason Klinge

**V. Pres:** Brad Hoth

**Sec/Treas:** Don Bossard

### ALTAR GUILD:

**Directress:** Cheryl Bossard

**Sec:** Loretta Weipert

**Treas:** Velma Kuehl

### ST. JOHNS MINISTRY YOUTH

**Pres:** Logan Engelhardt

**V. Pres:** Braden Landt

**Sec:** Ashley Shaw

**Treas:** Ethan Goltz

### ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

**Pres.** Tammy Muller (21)

**Sec.** Sherri Johnson (20)

**Members:** Brenda Hoth (20)

Vicki Baade (21)

Theresa Rodas (22)

Janelle Smith (22)

### NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

Cheryl Bossard & Tammy Muller

Church Website:

<http://www.stjohn-farmersburg.org/>

Remember to like St. John Facebook Page.

## FARMERSBURG NEWS

### December 6

Worship with

Communion

@ 10:30 am.

Following worship  
volunteers are  
needed to Decorate  
Christmas Tree.



### December 20

9:15 am Sunday School

10:30 am Sunday School

Program and Communion

St. John Farmersburg  
Christmas Eve worship will be  
**December 24 @ 8:00 pm.**  
Anyone who would like to contribute  
special music to the service  
should contact the church  
office or Jeremy Wolfe.



*Christmas Eve  
Communion*

### December Baptismal Birthdays

1 - Ethel Lenth

6 - Adam Lnenicka  
Andrea Lnenicka  
Amanda Goltz

8 - Jeff Wiedenman

9 - LuVerne Krambeer

11 - Annabelle Palmersheim

13 - Glenda Henkes



December

27 - John & Kathy Klinge

28 - Jeff & Deb Tidwell

## FARMERSBURG NEWS

As we continue to worship we will again utilize the usher, greeter and communion assistant lists but in a different way. You are asked to be worship helpers. There will be no greeting or ushering, but you are asked to wear masks and hand out bulletins and communion. Your attendance is important to carry out these tasks as we attempt to worship both inside and out. If you can not or do not want to help please call the church office.

### DECEMBER WORSHIP HELPERS ARE:

December 6 & December 13

Captain Bill Scherf III, Verdean Schlake, Don Bossard, Jamie Tielbar  
6 Jamie & Brandijo Tielbar & Jeff Klinge

13 Linda Schoulte & Heather Crogan

December 20 December 24 (Christmas Eve 8:00 pm) & December 27

Captain Brad Hoth, Lyn Tielbar, Jim Lenth, & Ben Schlake

20 Jim & Carol Lenth and Tammy Muller

24 Bill & Michelle Scherf III. Christmas Eve & Zach Radloff

27 Brad & Brenda Hoth



### ALTAR GUILD DECEMBER

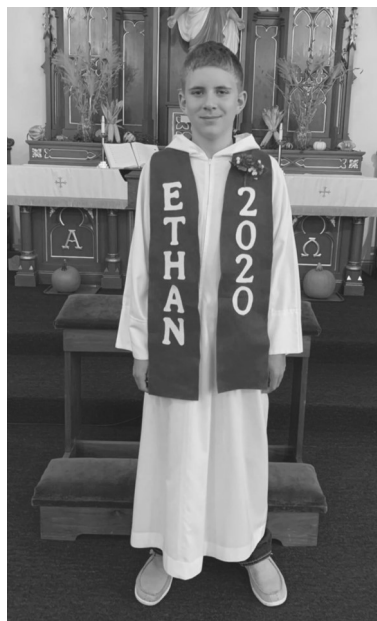
Shirley Marmann  
Tracey Philips

### DECEMBER SCRIPTURE READERS

6 Becky Fuelling  
13 Heather Crogan  
20 Volunteer Needed  
24 Volunteer Needed  
27 Volunteer Needed

### ACOLYTES

December 6 Isabelle Kirby  
December 13 Landon Goltz  
December 20 Kaylee Hoth  
December 24 (8:00 PM) Adrianna Schoulte  
December 27 Autumn Shaw



Congratulations to Ethan Goltz  
who was confirmed on  
November 8, 2020.

### "My Faith"

God is with us every day and when there are bad times, I ask for God's help. During Confirmation class and my faith journey, I learned there are millions of unanswered questions. Like, does heaven exist and is God real? I have also learned that all the unanswered questions that I have is called faith. Faith is my complete trust or confidence in someone or something, including God. My journey has not ended yet, but will continue throughout my lifetime. A Bible verse that I will always remember is John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but may have eternal life." I believe there is life after death.

I am still learning about my faith each and every day. I do believe in God and that he is present in good times and bad. Though sometimes it might seem difficult to believe with all the war, illness, and poverty in the world. As I grow older, I will continue on my faith journey with the love of my family, friends, and God.

By Ethan Goltz

# **St. John Farmersburg Council Minutes**

**November 11, 2020**

Present at meeting: John Fuelling, Brad Hoth Tammy Muller, Jeff Klinge, Zachary Radloff, and Jeremy Wolfe. Absent: Lindelle Scherf and Tracey Phillips

Meeting called to order by President John Fuelling at 6:31 PM. Opening devotions from Philippians 4 by Jeremy.

Zach moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Brad. Motion carried. Motion to approve the minutes of October 7, 2020 meeting made by Zach, seconded by Brad. Motion Carried. Zach moved to table the treasurer's report due to absence of treasurer. Motion seconded by Jeff. Motion carried.

**Lay Minister Report:** Jeremey will be starting his classes in January. Council discussion of continuing with worship services due to the increases number of COVID cases. Consensus to continue offering inside services and radio transmission. Social distancing, hand sanitizer and face coverings guidelines will be enforced.

## **Old Business:**

Harvest Meal on October 25 went well. Served 214 and ran out of food. Income so far is \$3785. Still waiting for advertising costs.

## **New Business:**

Christmas tree will be put up on December 6 following worship services. Need volunteers to help.

Annual meeting is set for February 7, 2021. Budget Committee (John, Brad, Tammy, Lindelle & Bill Scherf III) and Nomination Committee (John, Tammy, Marlene Glawe, John Suhr, & Rod Stagman) need to meet in December. Audit Committee (Ron Tayek, Brenda Hoth & Cheryl Bossard) meets in January.

## **Committee Reports:**

Ministry team- The November 12 meeting has been postponed until December 3.

Parish Education – Started Sunday School classes.

Property – part of the floor in the old schoolhouse is rotten. Apparently, a few critters have found their way in. Jeff has trapped & released a rabbit and possum so far. John has some plywood to repair the floor.

Worship Committee – St. John is having a Thanksgiving Eve service on November 25 at 7 pm. Collecting items for the food shelf.

Women's group -cancelled all events through the end of the year

No reports from Evangelism, Stewardship, Memorial, Youth group, and Men's group

Motion to adjourn by Tammy at 7:05 pm. Seconded by Brad. Motion carried.

# FARMERSBURG NEWS

## ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

THANK YOU to everyone who has cooperated each year in getting these reports ready for the Annual meeting. The following is a list of committees and groups that were active this past year and from whom we would like to receive a report. Any other committee or group that would like to submit a report and inform us of 2020 happenings, please feel free to turn in a written report. All reports can be emailed to the church office (stjohn87@neitel.net) or given to Kelly Shaw.

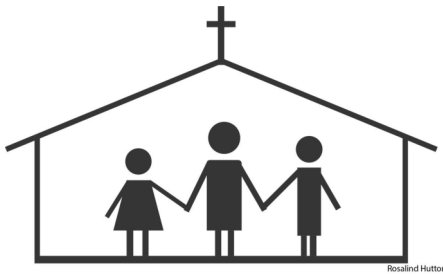
### DEADLINE FOR THE REPORTS IS JANUARY 10th 2021

Pastor's Report	Jeremy Wolfe
President's Report	John Fuelling
Treasurer's Report	Lindelle Scherf
Auditing Committee	Ron Tayek/Brenda Hoth/Cheryl Bossard
Nominating Committee	John Fuelling/Tammy Muller/Marlene Glawe/ John Suhr/Rod Stagman
Budget Committee	Lindelle Scherf/John Fuelling/Brad Hoth/ Tammy Muller/Bill Scherf III.
Stewardship Committee	Jeff Klinge/Tammy Muller
Evangelism Committee/Caring Spirits	Lindelle Scherf
Worship Committee	Tammy Muller
Property Committee	Brad Hoth/Jeff Klinge
Memorial Committee	Loretta Weipert/Tracey Phillips/Heather Crogan
Parish Education Committee	Tracey Phillips
Video Tape Ministry	Ryan Moon
Women of the ELCA	Shirley Marmann/Nancy Moon
Men of St. John	Jason Klinge/Don Bossard
Youth	Logan Engelhardt/Ethan Goltz
Altar Guild	Cheryl Bossard/Velma Kuehl
Fascher Scholarship Fund	Tammy Muller/Lindelle Scherf
Probert Scholarship Committee	Tammy Muller/Lindelle Scherf
Schoenfeldt Scholarship	Tammy Muller/Lindelle Scherf
Banner Committee	Marlene Glawe
Strawberry Point Lutheran Home	Clark & Kris Wikner/Deb Tidwell & Jeff Klinge
EWALU Ambassadors	Shirley Marmann/Ethel Lenth
Interchurch Council	Becky Fuelling/Nancy Moon/Marlene Glawe
Prayer Shawl Project	Marlene Glawe
Shepherd of the Hills	Heather Crogan
Clayton County Food Shelf	Utonia Ruff

#### Chapter 9 Bylaws

B9.01 All committees and organizations handling funds within the congregation shall include as a part of their annual report to the congregation a financial report in writing which shall be included in the congregation's written annual report.

# FARMERSBURG NEWS



## Worship Attendance

October

4 — 69

11 — 20

18 — 28

25 — 28

## Merry Christmas Word Search

M S A B H I G Z W A C S D B V  
S E A E Z Z Y T U A P R O P C  
T P H M H P E S O J L F A E S  
A J P E T N E M E S I W N U Q  
R C G W L S J O E H V S S J S  
L S X F V H I T N S U E W D N  
Q D M F L F T R S S J I R S Y  
N X R J K B G E H D K E E L H  
R E H L R A H G B C H X M E R  
G O A G B G W G Q P D O N G A  
V E I R S H R I E M S E V N I  
J U I V T F Q H D M M C L A X  
L E P R A T S T Y K Y R A M Q  
L G I X G S G F Y V W V D L U  
E B A A N V X H D M G I B H Q

Angels  
Bethlehem  
Birth  
Census  
Christmas

Gabriel  
Jesus  
Joseph  
Mary

Savior  
Shepherds  
Star  
Wise Men

[www.hideandseekministries.com](http://www.hideandseekministries.com)



## December

- 2 Randy Scherf
- 3 Glenda Henkes  
Derek Radloff  
Cora Fuelling  
Cassidy Penrod
- 4 Marlene Glawe  
Eugene Dreier Jr.
- 5 Lisa (Howard) Pavlovac  
Jill Jennings
- 8 Connie Rohde
- 11 Ivan Meisner  
Amanda Richard
- 12 Aaron Heck  
Loren (Barney) Scherf
- 13 Brian Henning  
Dallas Lee Tielbar
- 14 Andrew Rodas  
Kurt Hauschild  
Melvin Walleser
- 15 Ethan Goltz
- 16 Lori Tielbar  
Marcella (Tootie) Kessler
- 18 Scott Peterson  
Briella Schmidt
- 19 Derek Leuchtenmacher
- 22 Cory Pritchard
- 23 Amy Suhr  
Michael Klinge  
Madelyn Lnenicka  
Isabelle Kirby
- 24 Matthew Scherf
- 25 Alan Feldmann
- 26 Randy Muller  
Robert Bossard
- 29 Velma Kuehl
- 31 Don Bossard

**2021**  
Happy New Year

## **LUANA**

### **CHURCH SECRETARY & FINANCIAL TREAS.:**

Karla Schrader

### **CHURCH COUNCIL:**

**President:** Keith Johnson (20)

**V. Pres:** Luke Steege (20)

**Sec:** Sonya Anderson (21)

**Cur. Treas:** Linda Davis (20)

**Bene. Treas:** Cindy Landt (21)

**Financial Counters:** Council

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Loren Lenth (20),

Duaine Palas (20),

Doug Schlein (21),

Janelle Smith (22),

Ervin Bugenhagen

Mary Schroeder (22) &

Cayl Anderson (Youth) (20)

### **CUSTODIAN:**

### **WELCA:**

**Pres:** Betty Handke (20)

**V. Pres:** Anna Schroeder (20)

**Sec:** Marj Schrader

**Treas:** Linda Davis

**Mission Action:** Carol Goettler

### **ALTAR GUILD:**

**Pres:** Sherri Johnson (2020)

**Sec:** Darci Engelhardt (2020)

#### **Banners/Linens/Candles:**

Mary Schroeder (2021)

Jeanne Miller (2022)

#### **Special Services/Flowers:**

Betty Handke (2021)

Diane Kraus (2022)

#### **Bapt./Comm.:**

Sherri Johnson

Darci Engelhardt

#### **Seasonal Banners:**

Jeff Krambeer

### **ST. JOHNS MINISTRY YOUTH:**

**Pres:** Logan Engelhardt

**V. Pres:** Braden Landt

**Sec:** Ashley Shaw

**Treas:** Ethan Goltz

### **ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM**

**Pres.** Tammy Muller (21)

**Sec.** Sherri Johnson (20)

**Members:** Brenda Hoth (20)

Vicki Baade (21)

Theresa Rodas (22)

Janelle Smith (22)

## **LUANA NEWS**



December:

**Greeters:** Loren & Mel Lenth

**Scripture Readers:** Dec. 6 – Vicky Baade

Dec. 13 – Jerry Schroeder

Dec. 20 – Linda Davis

Dec. 27 – Mel Lenth

**Prayer Readers:** Dec. 6 – Luke Steege

Dec. 13 – Karla Schrader

Dec. 20 – Keith Johnson

Dec. 27 – Mary Schroeder

**Acolyte/Psalm:** Dec. 6 – Elena/Josh Schierholz

Dec. 13 – Cayl

Dec. 20 – Kyle Tilson

Dec. 24 – Ushers

Dec. 27 – Elena/Josh Schierholz

**Alter Guild:** Darci Engelhardt

**Flowers:** Susie Mohs



St. John Luana

6:30 pm Worship

With Communion

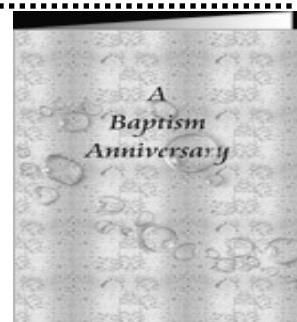
**Known Baptismal Anniversary**

December

15- Lonnie Baade

17- Marjorie Schrader

26- Oswald Goettler



# ST. JOHN LUANA COUNCIL MEETING

November 8, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 7:53 am by President Keith Johnson.

Jeremy led the council in devotion and prayers from Philippians.

Present: Luke Steege, Loren Lenth, Linda Davis, Janelle Smith, Keith Johnson, Cindy Landt, Doug Schlein, Karla Schrader, and Jeremy Wolfe

Absent: Cayl Anderson, Sonya Anderson, Duaine Palas, Mary Schroeder, and Ervin Bugenhagen

Luke shared the secretary report. Doug moved and Linda second to approve the report. Motion carried.

The financial report was reviewed. Cindy moved and Doug second to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

Parsonage Roof- Ervin was looking into the matter and would speak with Moss roofing. It was determined there would be a \$5000 deductible. No action was taken.

Furnace- Kurt thought he could repair the units and they were not old by furnace standards. Luke moved to have Kurt try to fix the furnaces prior to considering replacements. Loren second the motion and it was approved.

Insurance- We would need to have a special meeting to hear a presentation on changing insurance. No action was taken.

Endowment fund- Discussion was held on establishing an endowment fund. Keith will speak with the attorney about our options. Discussion centered on whether this was necessary given the people on the endowment fund board would most likely be council members. No action was taken.

Elevator- still on hold. Jeremy will get information when we are ready to discuss.

Interested in painting lines on the new pavement. Luke will speak with Jeff at next city council meeting to get information.

Jeremy brought up school in January. The synod is trying to get school cost covered. Brackett asked what the churches are providing towards Jeremy's education. Jeremy will forward emails from the synod. Church has budgeted a line item for books in the current budget.

Christmas service will be discussed at the next ministry meeting. Thanksgiving will be held in Farmersburg.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:43 am.

Submitted by Luke Steege

*the*  
**MINUTES**



# LUANA NEWS

## OCTOBER TREASURER'S REPORT – 2020

*Submitted by Karla Schrader*

CURRENT FUND:

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE, Sept. 30, 2020</b>	<b>1,572.55</b>
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## INCOME

Oct. 4	885.00
Oct. 11	907.00
Oct. 18	560.00
Oct. 25	833.00
	3,235.00

**3,235.00**

<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>4.807.55</b>
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## EXPENSES

Black Hills Utilities –Nat. Gas	37.24
Alliant - Electricity	227.06
Karla Schrader –Secretary	307.83
NEITEL	118.29
IRS	237.61

Jeremy Wolfe- Oct.	1,151.33
Jeremy Wolfe – Oct. mileage	495.77

Jeremy Wolfe – custodian	307.83
Access System – maint.agrmt	136.98
Main St. Checks	<u>78.57</u>
	3,098.51

**TOTAL EXPENSES----- 3.098.51**

ENDING BALANCE Oct. 31, 2020	<u>1,709.04</u>
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## SPECIAL FUNDS

Ruby Breitsprecher CD	5,299.74
St John Scholarship Fund CD	40,076.87
Willard & Anne Kamin CD	4,211.05

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**FURNACE/RENT/REPAIR FUND**

Bal. Sept. 30, 2020	\$78,235.39
Interest	<u>77.16</u>
Bal. Oct. 31, 2020	\$78,312.55

BENEVOLENCE REPORT *Submitted by Cindy Landt*

## INCOME

## EXPENSES

Oct. 4	Offering	57.00	Food Shelf	75.00
	Crisis	100.00	SOTH	130.00
Oct. 11	Offering	24.00	SOTH Crisis	100.00
	Food Shelf	20.00	NE Synod	<u>71.00</u>
Oct. 18	Offering	35.00		376.00
	Food Shelf	20.00		
Oct. 25	Offering	60.00		
	Food Shelf	35.00		
	Operating	<u>25.00</u>		
		376.00		



December

11- LaRee Berger  
13- Stephanie Wikner  
14- Wayne DeSotel  
15- Robert Handke  
17- Diane Doerring  
18- Carol Goettler  
Kimberly Kraus  
19- Burke Schrader  
24- Tom Harnack  
26- Darin Schlein  
29- Becky Harnack



December

- 5- Larry & Cindy Riveland
- 9- Jerry & Mary Schroeder
- 31- Reggie & Sarah Freilinger

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	Att.	Comm
Oct. 25	49	49
Nov. 1	29	29
Nov. 8	32	
Nov. 15	28	28
Nov. 22	<u>26</u>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>56</b>

## BOTH CHURCHES NEWS

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Betty Belloma, Rick Conley, Curt Kraus, Sharon Larson, Claudia Anderson, Kevin Krambeer, Bunny Fox, Misty Hughes, Keith Lee, Dawson Spiker, Tom Meuleman, Greg Snitker, Dallas Tielbar, Dallas Thompson, Luke Baade, Olga Tidwell, RoseMary Tielbar, Angie Gerndt, Joan Oelke, Imogene Ihlenfeldt & Pastor Bruce Hanson

**MILITARY:** Avrey Smith, Ali Crogan, Andrew Rodas & Beth Rodas

**POSTVILLE GOOD SAM:** Ellenore Doerring

**STONE BROOK VILLAGE:** Elaine Gehring

**EAGLE RIDGE INDEP. & ASSISTED LIVING:** Lawrence Linderbaum

**ELKADER CARE CENTER:** Vila Schroeder

**STRAWBERRY POINT:** Russ Pate

**GARDEN VIEW PLACE:** Sharon DeSotel, Nadyne Reardon, Shirley Henkes

**PRAIRIE MAISON:** Imogene Ihlenfeldt

**ASSISTED LIVING ROCHESTER, MN 55901:** Dorothy Kluth

**HOMEBOUND:** Mary Russett, Mae Mueller, JoAnn Meyer, LuNida Landt, Glenda Henkes, Isabel Kurth & Lee Klinkenberg



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### Clayton County Womenade

Do you want to show your thanks for your many blessings?

Giving to Clayton County Womenade is your opportunity to do it!! Any donation is accepted. This money goes entirely to the support of struggling families referred by agencies in Clayton County.

Due to the current pandemic guidelines Clayton County Womenade will NOT hold a gathering this month, but **still need donations.**

Donations may be made at or mailed to Peoples State Bank, 15 Goethe St., PO Box 430, Guttenberg, IA 52052.

We can now also accept donations PayPal!

To use PayPal, sign into your PayPal account. Choose to send Money to Friends or Family.

Enter [womenade@alpinecom.net](mailto:womenade@alpinecom.net) as the recipient. There are no fees charged to either you or Womenade if you use monies in your PayPal account, or withdrawn from your bank account. There is a fee if you use a credit card.

If you have an email address, please send it to [bsheas@alpinecom.net](mailto:bsheas@alpinecom.net).



Condolences to the families of Marlin Dettman who passed away on November 10, 2020. Private graveside services were held.

Condolences to Chad, Melissa Moeller and family on the loss of his mother, Linda Moeller. Linda passed away November 14, 2020 and private graveside services were held.

**Congratulations** to Kelsey Johnson and Dario McHaney on their September 6<sup>th</sup> wedding. Kelsey is the daughter of Keith and Sherri Johnson and Granddaughter of Dixie Johnson.

**Congratulations** to Ashley Bente and Jeremiah Schoenfeldt on their wedding on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Ashley is the daughter of Chad and Annette Davis and Granddaughter of Duaine and Linda Davis. Jeremiah is the son of David and Lori Schoenfeldt.



Congratulations to Andrew and Beth Roads on their daughter Ellie Mae on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Ellie Mae is the Granddaughter of Theresa Rodas and the Great Granddaughter of Shirley Marmann.

Congratulation to Joshua and Keisha Formanek of the birth of their daughter Haddie Renee on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Granddaughter #6 to Paul and Jeanne Miller and Great Granddaughter of Shirley Henkes.

# Shepherd of the Hills Ministries NEWSLETTER - DEC 2020



## Christmas Just 4 Kids Project

As I am writing the newsletter, we are within 3 weeks of Set-Up & Giveaway Days! We are in need of Volunteers for all of the days. Volunteers can reach out to Heather in the office to schedule a date and time to volunteer for the event! Volunteers can be assured, plans are in place to follow current guidelines and safety procedures, with masks & social distancing.

Giveaway Days are Dec 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>. Plans were put in place in late September to have families set up appointment times for picking up their gift bags, which allows for the safety of both clients & volunteers, instead of the traditional shopping method. Families are asked to wear masks & social distance while checking in and picking up. Families can be assured we will be following all recommended guidelines set forth by the Iowa Department of Public Health!

All items for the Christmas Project *NEED TO BE NEW* and can be dropped off at the auditorium Dec 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. Monetary Donations may be mailed to Shepherd of the Hills, PO Box 36, St. Olaf, IA 52072. Please reach out to the office with any questions or concerns! As always, THANK YOU for supporting this wonderful project!

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service 2021

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Service will be held virtually during the week of January 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Directors met by Zoom Video Conference on November 17, with a unanimous vote to host the event virtually for the safety and well-being of everyone. Bethany Lutheran Church, Elkader was set to host the event in 2021. More information will follow in coming weeks for this Ecumenical Service in Clayton County and outlying areas!

## Annual Meeting 2021

The Annual Meeting will be held on February 21, 2021 at 2:00pm. The Board of Directors, along with myself, are planning to hold the event virtually, like many other events this year. We will be finalizing plans for the meeting in coming weeks. Conference churches and delegates can expect to receive meeting information, guidelines and procedures, by the end of December or beginning of January! Assembly Booklets will be printed and mailed to the Conference Churches within a few weeks of the meeting date. As with everything this year, covid has presented challenges. We ask for your patience & understanding during these most uncertain times.

## CLOTHING CENTER UPDATES

At the time of this writing, the **CENTER** remains **CLOSED**! Clients & Families are able to utilize **ALL SERVICES**, even with the Center Closed!

The Office remains OPEN regular business hours, as posted below. Heather is able to pack up household or clothing items families are in need of for winter!

### Shepherd of the Hill's Needs:

The **Operating Fund** pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies and salary for the Director, Lawn/Snow Care.

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families in need with rent, utilities or fuel assistance.

Please utilize the **MEMO LINE** on your check to specify **Crisis** or **Operating Fund**!

### IMPORTANT DATES:

December 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas 4 Kids Project  
Setup days - Auditorium

December 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>  
Giveaway Days – Auditorium

December 24<sup>th</sup> – January 3<sup>rd</sup>  
CLOSED for the Holidays

*\*Any event may be subject to change\**

### Shepherd of the Hills

100 W. Hill Street, PO Box 36,  
Saint Olaf, IA 52072

Telephone: 563-783-2409

Fax: 563-783-2428

E-mail: [shephill@neitel.net](mailto:shephill@neitel.net)

**Business Hours: Monday-Friday**

**9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm**

*Heather Crogan ~Director*

# BOTH CHURCHES NEWS

## **December 2020, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story**

### **Merry Christmas from LSI!**

*“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” — John 1:5*

As Christmas approaches, we give thanks to you! This year has been challenging for all of us, and we are grateful for the Iowans who have stepped up just for the sake of giving and helping LSI in 2020. Thank you for bringing the light of Christ to your neighbors who rely on these important services!

At LSI, we know many people experiencing deep darkness. We know parents who feel hopeless, with little resources to raise their young children. We know adults with disabilities who feel voiceless, with no support system or connection to their community. We know teens who are aging out of foster care, who fear they will never have a forever family to love them.

The holidays can be an especially difficult time for our neighbors who are so often overlooked in our society. In the spirit of giving, the spirit of love, and the spirit of working together, let us stand with them and lift them up this Christmas season. If you would like to learn more about how you can support Iowa children and families, contact Deb Whitford, LSI's director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563.676.2065 or [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org). LSI is also available to provide a customized virtual shared ministry opportunity for your congregation. If you would like to share the message of LSI with your community, please contact our Waverly office at 319.352.2630 to get started.

### **Wishing you a blessed and Merry Christmas from LSI!**

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [www.LSIowa.org](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

### **Continuum of Care**

As she prepared to celebrate her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, Sam was also preparing to age out of foster care. She had lived with her foster mom, Marty, for years and Marty wanted to ensure Sam had a smooth transition into adulthood. That's when they signed up for LSI's Host Homes program.

Provided through LSI's Services for People with Disabilities, Host Homes provides personalized care for Iowans with disabilities who find greater success living in a private family home instead of a busier community living environment with roommates. Individuals are carefully matched with a Host Homes mentor and live with them in their home, where they can build strong relationships and become better engaged with their communities.

Marty became a Host Homes mentor so Sam could continue living in her home and receive the same care and support she was used to. Sam is thriving and Marty gets to continue walking alongside her as she builds a bright future full of independence. They work on Sam's goals every day, including cooking and planning meals. Marty especially loves fishing and going on picnics with Sam and as a Host Homes mentor, she can continue serving as a foster parent to other Iowa teens