

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

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Established 1900

VOLUME 1 NOVEMBER 2023 ISSUE 60

Established 1893

When you read this we'll be past Reformation Sunday but I wanted to point you towards something that I'm working on. I've put together a sermon series and set of videos called The Essentials. What are the essentials? Well in my opinion the most distinctive thing about Lutheran theology in comparison to others is that we do a really good job of getting to the most essential and important aspects of life with God. For example, the church that Lutherans sprang from was of course the Roman Catholic church. How many sacraments do they have? 7. How many do we have? 2. Why? It's because those two (Baptism and the Lord's Supper) were commanded by Christ himself. I think Lutherans do a good job of this in all things. Speaking of the Lord's Supper we do a good job of not overthinking or overexplaining how the Lord's Supper can be the body and blood of Christ. For us, Christ is simply present in the Eucharist. I like that.

When Martin Luther was a monk he tormented himself because of sin. He desperately wanted to be perfect before God. He also tormented the Priest who was taking his confession! Martin would talk for hours about his sinfulness and when he thought he had reached the bottom of the barrel he would find more. It took him a while but he ultimately figured out the point. We can't be holy on our own. The law and obedience to the law can't save you because who can follow the law perfectly? Only one person did that and we crucified him.

As Martin broke away from the Catholic Church he discovered for himself and rediscovered for the entire body of Christ the most important truths. What are those truths? Well he uncovered quite a bit but I'll try to cover a few. We can't save ourselves. We can't be sinless on our own. Law and Gospel are two separate things. Law is good, but the Gospel is better. It's the good news that Jesus has us covered. His sacrifice on the cross does what we could never do on our own. It covers our sin and now when God sees us he doesn't see a sinner who should be a saint. He sees a saint that is becoming more like Christ every single day. What is our part? Faith is our contribution to the mix. Believe! Believe in the one who he sent to redeem us and trust in the grace that Jesus earned on our behalf. We trust in God's word as the highest authority in our lives. It's pretty simple stuff and thank God for that. Have faith, rely on God's grace, trust his word for it is good. Reformation never stops in the life of a Christian. As we are knocking on the door of Advent, get ready for that season by revisiting the most basic truths of our faith. Those truths are very good!

Blessings to you,

Jeremy

vicarjeremywolfe@gmail.com

563-258-2936

FARMERSBURG

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pres: Tammy Muller (23)
V. Pres: Bill Scherf III. (25)
Sec: Loretta Weipert (23)
Treas: Ryan Moon (24)
Council Members: Ken Erickson (24),
 Dave Hageman (25) & Bruce Glawe (25)

CHURCH SECRETARY:

Kelly Shaw

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Kelly Shaw

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:
V. Pres:
Sec: Ashley Shaw
Treas: Ethan Goltz

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Tammy Muller (24)
Secretary: Vicki Baade (24)
Members: Luke Steege (23)
 Jason Klinge (23)
 Janelle Smith (25)
 Becky Fuelling (25)

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

Cheryl Bossard & Tammy Muller

Church Website:

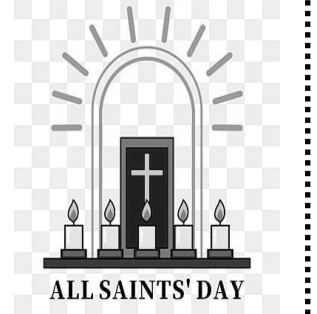
<http://www.stjohn-farmersburg.org>

Remember to like St. John Facebook Page.

FARMERSBURG NEWS

Sunday, November 5th the following Saints will be remembered by a family member lighting a candle.

Nadyne Reardon	12/25/2022
Grant Alvin Miller	08/02/2023
Dorothy Ann Jennings	08/13/2023
Gary Lee Pritchard	08/19/2023
Richard Steege	08/24/2023



Thank you to everyone who made the 2023 Harvest Meal a success! Special thanks to those who donated food and prepared the meal. The fall decorations were awesome. Finally a Big Thank You to those who came for the meal or purchased a carry out. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The flowers on the Altar were in memory of Grant Miller given by the Family. Thank you for sharing.

Thank you to Nancy Moon & Ethel for the fall arrangements to enhance our worship services.

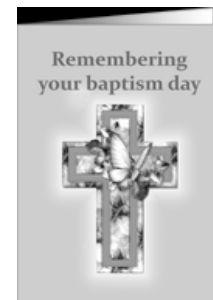
To Heather Hageman and Ethel Lenth for the harvest banners for our worship services.



October 8th was Commissioning of acolytes. Welcome our newest acolytes-Carson and Connor Kirby. Also renewing their acolyte Commission was Brayden Hoth & Olivia Kirby.

Known Baptismal Birthdays November

7- Emma Phillips
 13 -Brad Hoth
 Theresa Rodas
 14 – Megan Glawe
 20 – Taylor White
 26 – Beth Bries
 27 – Rod Stagman
 29 – William Wikner



FARMERSBURG NEWS



USHERS

November 5 & November 12

Captain Ben Wikner Dave Hageman
Mike Reardon Jamie Tielbar

November 19 & November 26

Captain Don Bossard Jeremy Howard
Matt Goltz Brian Glawe

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE
Shirley Marmann &
Velma Kuehl

ACOLYTES

November 5 Connor Kirby
November 12 Brayden Hoth
November 19 Olivia Kirby
November 26 Lucy Kessler

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

November 5 Loretta Weipert
November 19 Ken Erickson

GREETERS

November
5 Dave & Heather Hageman
12 Diana Miller
19 Bill & Michelle Scherf III
26 Julie Kurth & Valerie Kurth



ALTAR GUILD

November Meeting: November 4 9:30 am
Tracey Phillips All Saints Sunday Nov. 5
Loretta Weipert Harvest Display 12, 19 & 26

2023 WELCA CALENDAR

November

4 Lutheran World Relief Truck Decorah 7:30-10:30 am
19 WELCA Thankoffering Service
22 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Ecumenical Worship @ Luana
26 Decorate basement Christmas Tree—Group 1



Thankofferings are a long standing custom among Lutheran women. We give in thanksgiving for blessings received—and we do receive so many blessings, don't we? And we are so grateful. That's why we give Thankofferings. There are envelopes in the Narthex for you to pick up and put your Thankofferings in. Thankoffering Sunday is November 19th.



Happy Anniversary

November

14 Steve & Lisa Pavlovec
29 Jeremy & Melissa Wolfe

NOVEMBER

1 Mark Glawe
Justin Fuelling
2 Stacy Fuelling
Maverick Lee Palmersheim
3 Josh Lenth
Beth Bries
4 Kari (Hope) Waterman
5 April (Koopman) Peringer
Danny Leuchtenmacher
Todd Walleser
8 Jeremiah Schoenfeldt
9 Kenneth Kuehl
Rick Muller
10 Ryan Moon
Olivia Kirby
11 Pastor Jenny Edinger
Ethel Lenth
Erin (Scherf) Vens
Beverly Moon
Amanda (Lnenicka) Goltz
12 Rodney Stagman
14 Pastor Bob Edwards
15 Jim Lenth
Randy Looby
17 Steve Trumblee
Duncan VanHauen
19 David Radloff
20 Craig Rodas
Autumn Shaw
Wyatt Geick
Jay Geick
Martyn Geick
Joel E. Moran
21 Vernice Moon
Megan Schoulte
22 Nixon Moon
24 Kris Edwards
28 Diane Kluth
Ben Erickson



happy thanksgiving

St. John Farmersburg Council Minutes For October 8, 2023

*Present: Tammy Muller, Loretta Weipert, Ken Erickson, Dave Hageman, Ryan Moon and Jeremy Wolfe.

Absent: Bruce Glawe and Bill Scherf.

*Meeting called to order by President Tammy Muller at 1135. Opening devotions given by Jeremy.

*Loretta moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Dave. Motion carried.

*Motion to approve the minutes of September 10, 2023 meeting made by Ryan, second by Loretta. Motion carried. Dave moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Loretta. Motion carried.

Vicar's Report:

*Overview of Meeting with Bishop at St Peters in Garnavillo last month. Plan to continue ongoing meetings to discuss resources that could be shared amongst congregations. About 46 people attended.

*Extended deadline for directories. Orders are continuing to come in.

*Confirmation expectations and a new book for each student put together with covered materials.

A few students need First Communion, discussed options to complete First Communion.

*Potential Security Issue- no concerns at this time.

Ongoing Business:

*A \$100 donation was made to tower repair. Ryan made a motion to give

\$100 to Justin Fuelling for his assistance with tower repair, Loretta second motion.

*Discuss Harvest Meal. Have 3 \$250 Thrivent cards for Turkey, paper products and advertisements. Reviewed sign up sheets for donations.

Jeremy volunteered to pick up some needed items at Sam's Club, Loretta will get a Thrivent card for him to help pay for expenses.

Loretta volunteered to order turkey gravy for 250 people from Johnsons.

New Business: No new business

Committee Reports:

*Evangelism - No report

*Parish Education - Sunday School: need to figure out 2nd graders catechisms and 3rd graders that need bibles. 4 students for First Communion, will choose a Sunday in November to have First Communion.

*Property- The plan is for Turkey River Construction to work on the Schoolhouse at the end of November.

*Stewardship - Decided no wreath sales this year, no group is interested in taking over sales. Will ask Heather Hageman at SOTH if there is a family available to be adopted for Christmas.

*Worship - Started Red book 3rd setting. First time was rough, so need to review it by next Sunday. All Saint Sunday will be November 5.

*Memorial - No report.

*Men's Group - Meeting next Sunday.


*Women's Group - No Report

Motion to adjourn by Ryan, second by Dave. Motion carried.

Next meeting November 12 after worship service.

Loretta Weipert, Secretary



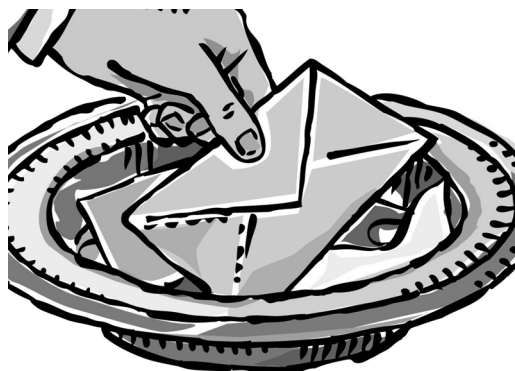
	September Attendance	
	10	-33
	17	-24
	24	-31

FARMERSBURG NEWS

September, 2023 – Treasurer's Report

Income:

50.41	CD Interest
1800.00	
428.00	
1005.00	



Missions:

NE Iowa Synod:	270.00
SOTH:	220.00
Food Shelf:	110.00
St. Pt. Home:	60.00
LSI:	50.00
EWALU:	35.00

Staff Compensation:

Pastor:	1102.59 + 763.88
Inside Cust.:	209.22
Outside Cust.:	120.05
Organists:	83.11

Expenses:

Black Hills (gas):	39.54	
Alliant (elec):	372.05	
NEIT:	115.69	
Marco	371.37	(Copier Contract)
1517 Media	77.50	(Devotionals)
Dubuque Fire Equip	64.20	
Church Mutual	613.33	(Insurance)

Total Income: 3283.41

Total Expenses: 4677.53

General Checking Balance – September 1, 2023: 3197.61
September 30, 2023: 1803.49

Kelly Shaw, Treasurer



It is time to order poinsettias for the Church worship services.

The cost is \$11.00. Please pay when ordering.

Contact Cheryl Bossard, Heather Crogan or Shirley Marmann.

Deadline is **December 3rd.**

LUANA

CHURCH SECRETARY & FINANCIAL TREAS.:

Karla Schrader

CHURCH COUNCIL:

President: Jim Meyer (23)

V. Pres: Duaine Davis (23)

Sec: Mel Lenth (24)

Cur. Treas: Diane Kraus (24)

Bene. Treas: Sherri Johnson (24)

Financial Counters: Council

DEACONS:

Doug Schrader (23)

Neil Landt (24)

Stan Dull (25)

TRUSTEES:

Duaine Davis (23)

Jim Meyer (23)

Sherri Johnson (24)

Mel Lenth (24)

Diane Kraus (25)

Aaron Smith (25)

WELCA:

Leaders:

January—March Vicky Baade

April—June Lisa Meyer

July—September Mel Lenth

Oct.—December Karla Schrader

ALTAR GUILD:

Pres: Sherri Johnson (23)

Sec: Darci Engelhardt (23)

Banners/Linens/Candles:

Mary Schroeder (24)

Lisa Meyer (25)

Special Services/Flowers:

Betty Handke (24)

Diane Kraus (25)

Bapt./Comm.:

Sherri Johnson

Darci Engelhardt

Seasonal Banners:

Altar Guild

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY YOUTH:

Pres:

V. Pres:

Sec: Ashley Shaw

Treas: Ethan Goltz

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Tammy Muller(24)

Secretary: Vicki Baade (24)

Members: Luke Steege (23)

Jason Klinge (23)

Janelle Smith (25)

Becky Fuelling (25)

St. John's Luana website

www.stjohn-luana.org

LUANA NEWS



NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Jeff & Janelle Smith

Read Lessons & Prayers:	Nov. 5	- Mary Schroeder
	Nov. 12	- Neal Wikner
	Nov. 19	- Duaine Davis
	Nov. 26	- Vicky Baade

Acolyte:	Nov. 5	- Josh Schierholtz
	Nov. 12	- Karsten Steege
	Nov. 19	- Emme Wikner
Thanksgiving Eve	Nov.22	- Ty Wikner
	Nov. 26	- Dayne Anderson

Communion Servers: Nov. 5 - Neil Landt & Sherri Johnson
Nov. 19 - Doug Schrader & Mel Lenth

Altar Guild: Betty Handke

Flowers: Karla Schrader



Happy 90th Birthday to Marjorie Schrader

Cards may be sent to Marj at: 418 Davis St. Monona, IA 52159

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	Att.	Comm
Sept. 24	31	
Oct. 1	34	33
Oct. 8	30	
Oct. 15	37	37
	132	70



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 - Kylee Landt
9 - LuNida Landt
12 - Megan Johnson
21 - Sonya Anderson
23 - Lonnie Baade
29 - Oswald Goettler

With Heartfelt
Sympathy



Our Sympathy to Loren & Mel Lenth and families on the death of Loren's Uncle Lee Allen Lenth.

Our sympathy to Melissa and Chad Moeller and families on the death of Melissa's Uncle Gregory Lee Steffans.

LUANA NEWS

SEPTEMBER REPORT

EXPENSES

Black Hills Utilities –Nat. Gas	37.75
Alliant - Electricity	257.78
Karla Schrader –Secretary	423.26
Cindy Landt – Custodian	400.18
NEITEL	118.59
Jeremy Wolfe- salary	1,102.59
Jeremy Wolfe – Froelich exp	250.00
IRS	439.81
Moser Family - music.	150.00
Access Systems - copier	181.31
Concordia – P & P	79.77
Clayton Co. Taxes – yr prop tax	<u>1,432.25</u>
	4,873.29

INCOME

Sept. 3	1,067.00
Sept. 10	547.00
Sept. 17	447.00
Sept. 24	<u>627.00</u>
	2,688.00
Bal. 8-30-23	3,123.38
Income	<u>2,688.00</u>
	5,811.38
Less Expenses	<u>4,873.29</u>
Bal. 9-30-23	938.09

SPECIAL FUNDS

Ruby Breitsprecher CD	5,413.79
St John Scholarship Fund CD	40,086.73
Willard & Anne Kamin CD	4,316.50

RENT/REPAIR FUND

Bal. 8-31-23	\$ 37,454.73
Rent	2,000.00
Interest	<u>87.93</u>
Bal. 9-30-23	\$ 39,542.66

CURRENT FUND

	Envelopes	Plate	Total
Sept. 3	1,050.00	17.00	1,067.00
Sept. 10	502.00	45.00	547.00
Sept. 17	427.00	20.00	447.00
Sept. 24	<u>617.00</u>	<u>10.00</u>	<u>627.00</u>
	2,596.00	92.00	2,688.00

THRIVENT BALANCE

Bal. Sept. 30, 2023	\$261,699.76
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BENEVOLENCE REPORT

INCOME

Sept. 3	Offering	75.00
Sept. 10	Offering	19.00
	Food Shelf	10.00
	Crisis	50.00
Sept. 17	Offering	20.00
Sept. 24	Offering	69.00
	Food Shelf	150.00
	Crisis	<u>50.00</u>
		393.00

EXPENSES

SOTH	180.00
Food Shelf	160.00
Synod	<u>53.00</u>
	393.00

LUANA NEWS

St. John/Luana Church Council Minutes October 15, 2023



Meeting was called to order by Melanie Lenth @ 7:32am prior to Jim's arrival.

Present: Melanie Lenth, Sherri Johnson, Diane Krause, Stan Dull, Neil Landt, Vicar Jeremy Wolfe, Doug Schrader, Jim Meyer, Duaine Davis and Aaron Smith. Also, in attendance Karla Schrader, Church Secretary.

Devotions: Led by Vicar Jeremy praying for peace overseas.

Minutes from the September 10, 17 and 24, 2023 were read by Melanie. Motion made by Neil & 2nd by Diane to accept all the minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Reviewed by council. Motion by Stan and 2nd by Doug to accept report. Motion carried.

Old Business: Rent is current.

****The bid from Bacon Concrete was approved by council from 24th September meeting for \$4,050.00 to replace the sidewalk on the south side of the church. Jim informed Bacon Concrete of this. Plans are to have it completed before winter sets in.**

New Business: Jeremy informed the council that he will be attending a theological conference in Cedar Rapids on Monday, October 16th.

****A short discussion was held on perhaps having a youth member join our council in the future.**

****Jeremy reported to the council on the meeting that was held in Garnavillo last month in working with area churches & shared ministries. A future website for SOTH is one possibility to help to stay informed with other churches.**

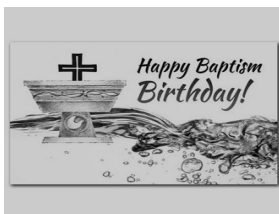
****Interchurch Council will be meeting on October 30th in Garnavillo.**

****Thanksgiving Eve service will be held at St. John's Luana on November 22nd @7:00pm.**

Next meeting: November 12, 2023 @7:30am.

Adjournment @8:19am by Duaine and 2nd by Sherri. Approved. Concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Melanie, council secretary.



6 - Mary Schroeder
9- Jerry Schroeder
Miracle Harnack
11 - David Schultz
Jeff Smith
13 - Cyrus Landt
18 - Karla Schrader
22 - Matthew Baade
27 - Tim Donlon
Neal Wikner

Thanksgiving

The year has turned its circle,
The seasons come and go.
The harvest is all gathered in
And chilly north winds blow.

Orchards have shared their treasures,
The fields, their yellow grain.
So open wide the doorway-
Thanksgiving comes again!



Happy Anniversary

4 - Neil & Cindy Landt

28 - Jeff & Janelle Smith

Both Churches News

FALL BACK
Daylight Savings Time Ends



Remember to turn your
clocks back one hour
on November 4th.

Clayton County Food Shelf Thanksgiving food
giveaway November 20, 21 & 22.

Remember food collection Sunday for the
churches is on **November 5th.**

Items needed for the giveaway include a lb.
of Butter, Dinner Rolls, 5 lbs. Potatoes,
Stuffing Mix and Canned Vegetables.

Hello. I have been meeting with our Lay Internship
Committee for a while now. How were they
chosen? Well I got lucky with a couple of volunteers
and from there I asked people who are not currently
on council who are good at being honest but fair. If
you are interested in this process, want to learn more
about it, or offer feedback into the process we'd like
you to come on **November 6th at 6 PM in
Farmersburg.** We'll talk about the process, answer
questions and listen to anything you have to say.

Blessing and thanks. Jeremy

NOVEMBER 22

7:00 pm
**Thanksgiving
Worship
@ Luana**



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Tom Meuleman, Mary Zittergruen, Lisa Seitz, Linda Bacon, Linda
Hughes, Larry Doerring, Missy Adams, Julie Mohs, Ryne Landt, Charlie Post, Lonnie Baade,
Joy David, Rick Conley, Keith Lee, *Dallas Tielbar, Shelby Preston, Shirley Wagner, Bram Byroade,*
Robert Pate, Melody Pate, Ron Tayek, Jim Fuelling, Kailee Thomae

MILITARY: Avrey Smith, Alex & Ali (Crogan) Moran, Andrew Rodas & Beth Rodas

STONE BROOK VILLAGE: Elaine Gehring

ELKADER CARE CENTER: LuNida Landt, Grace Doerring

GARDEN VIEW PLACE: Juanita Mohs, Darlene Moon

STRAWBERRY POINT LUTHERAN HOME: Shirley Henkes

TOWER LIVING CENTER: Lendall Schievelbein

ASSISTED LIVING ROCHESTER, MN 55901: Dorothy Kluth

KENSINGTON ASSISTED LIVING: Mary Russett

HOMEBOUND: JoAnn Meyer, Glenda Henkes, Lee Klinkenberg, Jeanette Krambeer, Jim Fuelling



National Adoption Month LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

November is National Adoption Month, a time to honor families who have opened their hearts and homes to children and teens. This month at LSI, we celebrate the families we support through Foster Care and Adoption and raise awareness for the hundreds of Iowa children needing a safe, healthy home.

Iowa foster families, like the Smiths*, raise the bar by opening their loving households to children and teens in need of a place to call home. At LSI, we understand the importance of keeping youth in their communities to help maintain connections and stability during times of transition. So, when our staff received a referral for a teenage girl needing foster care placement, they looked inward toward the community. At the time, homes in the area were either full or not open to accepting teenage placements. Coincidentally, the Smiths were present at a meeting the same night the referral came in. When they heard about Rebecca's* situation, they immediately knew who the child was and wanted to help in any way they could.

The Smiths were already over their licensing capacity, having been granted a variance to accept a sibling group. To be able to bring Rebecca into their home, they would need to be given another variance, which was almost unheard of. "It was by chance, or the grace of God, that the Smiths were able to accept another child, and give Rebecca a stable placement with a family in her community," said Dawn Luetje, LSI Director of Resource Family Licensing and Support, working in conjunction with Four Oaks Family Connections.

Thanks to the combined support of the Smiths, LSI staff, and the community, Rebecca was placed in the foster home, where she could maintain her daily activities with the teachers, coaches, and friends she was comfortable with. Rebecca continues to thrive in a stable, loving foster home environment and a caring community.

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2023



Thank you all for your continued support of our Annual Hog Roast. I am in awe of the generous donations we received from businesses, churches and individuals. This is our biggest opportunity to raise money for the crisis fund and we as a team, knocked it out of the park!

Christmas for Kids is scheduled for December 13-14, 2023. Last year we blessed over 400 children with toys for Christmas. We are looking for donations of toys and or money for this event. If your church or business would like to do a collection drive, please let me know. All ages from NB-18 are eligible to participate as long as they have a referral. All of our events we have hosted this year has had a big increase of need so hopefully we can get enough donations to support the increase. All donations can be brought to the office at SOTH or to the auditorium now until December 6th. We will be setting up in the auditorium on December 7, 8 and 11th. If you would like to volunteer, please let me know. We can do great things if we all work together.

Clothing center updates

The construction project is done. It is beautiful and so inviting. If you are in the area, please take a look at it. Unfortunately, winter is knocking on our doors. With that in mind, I am only accepting fall and winter clothing. Please schedule your donation as this allows me to staff accordingly and to have the room for your donation. Without an appointment, I may not be able to accept your donation.

Shepherd Conference News

We would like to recognize and congratulate Pastor Frank Johnson from EWALU on the celebration of his Ordination date of November 4, 2011.

Shepherd of the Hill's Needs:

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

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities and our sponsored events throughout the year

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

IMPORTANT DATES:

*Christmas for Kids:
Dec 14-15, 2023*

Any event may be subject to change

Shepherd of the Hills

Heather Hageman

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

Telephone: 563-783-2409

Fax: 563-783-2428

E-mail: shephill@neitel.net

**Business Hours: Monday-Friday
9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm**