

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

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Established 1900

VOLUME 1 JANUARY 2024 ISSUE 62

Established 1893

To start the New Year I wanted to get on my soapbox and take a moment to address something that I get from time to time and for some reason it's been coming up more and more these days.

As you probably know I have a technology background and I'm not shy about using it. My hope is that this is a blessing to the church but from time to time people view it as less than a blessing. My goal is to enhance ministry with technology, not to replace it or to change it. That being said I am sometimes surprised by the idea that the use of technology for outreach takes away from anything. The way that I like to use technology is as one more avenue to reach people. Another door into the church, especially for those who can't be there due to distance, mobility, etc. I make videos, livestream, and use Facebook to create and promote events and other such things. It's a valuable tool for connecting and sharing info. That being said, we meet in person in a sanctuary every week. We have face to face meetings, not Zoom ones. We print things in the church bulletin and announce them verbally in church. We have a newsletter and calendar that's physically mailed. For those who don't use the internet we broadcast our services on cable access. People can call me. I call them. I've never turned down a face to face meeting. I keep office hours. I visit people face to face. What you are reading now is a slightly rewritten Facebook post. So what you are reading exists in the digital world and on paper, as it should.

We have a foot in both the old school world and the new one I think. I can't bring back the world as it was before the pandemic. I can't bring back the world as it was before the internet. I can't force someone who doesn't use much technology to embrace it. What I can do is to try and face the world we have now and to create as many doors and windows into the church as possible. Some of those doors are physical, some are not.

Whether someone has a rotary phone or the latest smartphone I think we do a good job of trying to reach everyone where they are at and give them a way to connect. God calls us to use our talents to help the church. My major in college was communications so social media is naturally something that I'm going to use. I have several IT certifications and so naturally I'm going to use those talents. If you don't have a smart phone or use social media I envy you! It's a double edged sword. It's a great way to connect but it can also take over your life.

Recently we observed All Saints Day and lit candles for the recently departed. Not everyone can make it to a Christmas service. I wonder how many loved ones who couldn't be there physically were able to connect to those services through a livestream or television broadcast? I hope a few.

I have spent time in churches where technology has taken over. This isn't us and it isn't what I aim for. I aim for reaching as many people with the gospel as possible. Blessings to you in the New Year.

-Jeremy

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.



Sunday School Program held on December 10th.

First row: Liam Scherf, Jameson Palmersheim, Maverick Palmersheim
not pictured Josiah Scherf

Middle row: Dominic Schoulte, Rylan Hoth, Annabelle Palmersheim,
Scarlett Scherf

Back row: Bradyn Hoth, Kaylee King, Lucy Kessler

On January 7 we will celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord. It is a fitting
time to remember our baptism and the baptism of all Christians.
Baptism declares that you are a follower of Jesus Christ and a
member of God's family. During worship services we will be honoring
our brothers and sisters in Christ who were baptized in 2023.

January 1 - Vivien Ione Scherf

March 26 - Duncan Jake VanHauen

May 14 - Wayne Wyatt Glawe

July 2 - Sophia Rose Dubberke

November 1 - Rylan James Hoth



January 2024 WECLA NEWS

8, 9, & 10 Do-Days 9:00 am-3:00 pm

17 9:30 am Meeting of all officers and group leaders to
plan 2024-2025 yearbook in the Resource Room.

This includes Shirley Marmann, Velma Kuehl, Nancy
Moon, Becky Fuelling, Lindelle Scherf, Amanda Goltz,
Bev Moon, Stacy Fuelling, Linda Friedlein, Kelly Shaw,
Tammy Muller and Cheryl Bossard.

If unable to attend please call Shirley Marmann or a
WELCA officer with your comments or suggestions.



FARMERSBURG NEWS

St. John Lutheran Church Council December 10, 2023

Present: Tammy Muller, Ryan Moon, Ken Erickson, Bill Scherf, Loretta Weipert, Dave Hageman, Jeremy Wolfe. Absent: Bruce Glawe.

President Tammy Muller called the meeting to order at 1100. Devotions led by Jeremy.

Motion by Bill, second by Dave to approve agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Ken, second by Bill to approve November meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Loretta motioned to approve the October 2023 treasure report, second by Ken. Tabled November treasurer's report to clarify with Kelly Hoth the CD interest listed at \$2039.18.

Vicar Report *Jeremy shared the final directories.

*Reminded of movie night in Luana this Wednesday night. Continues to work on Israel video.

*Mid point evaluation completed. Internship ends in May.

Unfinished Business:

*Nominating committee agreed to meet Monday December 18 at 6 pm.

*Budget Committee meeting January 3 at 7:30 pm.

New Business:

*Tammy shared an email that she received about Northeastern Iowa Synod Lay ministry training program fund appeal. Jeremy explained the program. Council members agreed that we need more information prior to agreeing to give a donation or not.

*Annual meeting reports due by January 7th.

*Annual meeting February 4th. Following meeting will be a potluck and play games.

Items to discuss at Annual meeting: *Parsonage

*Decide what to do with CD

*2025 - 125th anniversary, form a committee to plan an event.

Evangelism - Christmas cards mailed to shut-ins.

Parish Education - Need a list of 2nd graders for catechisms and 3rd graders for bibles.

Discussing when to have First Communion, considering Maundy Thursday. First Communion Class will Be taught during Sunday School class. Discussed requirements for confirmation students to become Confirmed.

Property - Schoolhouse repairs will most likely wait until Spring when warmer. Brad Hoth agreed to Continue snow removal.

Stewardship - No report.

Worship - Next meeting January 17, 2024 at 8 pm after Confirmation Class.

Memorial - No report.

Men's Group - No report.

Women's Group - No report.

Next meeting January 14 after worship.

Motion to adjourn by Ryan, second by Dave.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Loretta Weipert, secretary



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 2023 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 7, 2024

Pastor's Report	Jeremy Wolfe
President's Report	Tammy Muller
Treasurer's Report	Kelly Shaw/Ryan Moon
Auditing Committee	Bill Scherf III./Nancy Moon/Becky Fuelling
Nominating Committee	Tammy Muller/Loretta Weipert/Linda Schoulte/ Brad Hoth/Kenny Kuehl
Budget Committee	Kelly Shaw/Tammy Muller/Ryan Moon/ Brad Hoth
Congregational Statistical Report	Kelly Shaw/Jeremy Wolfe
Stewardship Committee	Tammy Muller
Evangelism Committee/Caring Spirits	Bill Scherf III.
Worship Committee	Ryan Moon/Tammy Muller
Property Committee	Ken Erickson
Memorial Committee	Loretta Weipert/Tracey Phillips/Lindelle Scherf
Parish Education Committee	Loretta Weipert
St. John Ministry Team	Tammy Muller/Jason Klinge/Becky Fuelling
Women of the ELCA	Shirley Marmann/Becky Fuelling
Men of St. John	Jason Klinge/Don Bossard
Youth	Ashley Shaw/Ethan Goltz
Altar Guild	Cheryl Bossard/Velma Kuehl
Fascher Scholarship Fund	Tammy Muller/Kelly Shaw
Probert Scholarship Committee	Tammy Muller/Kelly Shaw
Schoenfeldt Scholarship	Tammy Muller/Kelly Shaw
Banner Committee	Marlene Glawe
Strawberry Point Lutheran Home	Loretta Weipert/Velma Kuehl
EWALU Ambassadors	Shirley Marmann/Ethel Lenth
Interchurch Council	Becky Fuelling/Linda Schoulte/Linda Friedlein
Prayer Shawl Project	Marlene Glawe
Shepherd of the Hills	Heather Hageman
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

CHURCH YEARBOOKS

It is time to put together the yearbook. Maybe you want to be added to a committee or want a different month or other changes. Please contact Tammy Muller or Cheryl Bossard before January 21st. Thank You!



COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

January 7 Bill Scherf III.
January 21 Loretta Weipert

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Cheryl & Don Bossard

ACOLYTES

January
7 Lucy Kessler
14 Claire Goltz
21 Carsen Kirby
27 Connor Kirby

USHERS

January 7 & January 14
Captain Brad Hoth Derek Radloff
Gilbert Brainard Brian Glawe

January 21 & January 28
Captain Lyn Tielbar Don Bossard
Jim Lenth Sheldon Stotmeister

GREETERS

JANUARY

7 Shirley Marmann & Tracey Phillips
14 Clark & Kris Wikner
21 Don & Cheryl Bossard
28 Kenny & Velma Kuehl

ALTAR GUILD

Deb Tidwell & Marlene Glawe
January 13 9:30 am Meeting



January 1 Emily Peterson
Heith Kessler
Samantha (Howard) Kirby
6 Jeff Klinge
7 Katie (Feldmann) Vaske
8 Chad Hoth
11 Hudson Robert Radloff
13 Tammy Muller
14 Scott Henkes
15 Lisa (Tielbar) Geick
Tracey Phillips
16 Diana Miller
22 Valerie Kurth
Scarlett Joy Scherf
Skylar Kessler
25 Cody Radloff
Tait Wilker
27 Brenda Hoth
Makenzie Corlett
28 Maycale Trumblee
29 Heather Hageman
30 Jason Klinge
Andy Suhr
31 Brian Glawe
Bruce Glawe
Kathy (Kutzbach) Wagner

Highlights of the December WELCA Meeting

- *received a Thank You from Womenade for the monetary donation
- *9 layette kits sent to LWR
- *6 lap quilts were taken to Peace Church and they were then forwarded to Iowa City
- *101 quilts made in 2023
 - the EWALU quilt brought \$300
 - 20 donated to RISE
 - 20 purchased by church members (funds used to purchase more supplies)
 - 15 donated to LWR
 - 1 graduation
 - 1 donated to after prom
 - remainder donated to SOTH Holiday Shop
- *donated offering to NEI Food Bank

We held our Christmas Party with 13 ladies present. We played Christmas BINGO and had many good treats and prizes!
Thanks to all who participated in the fun!!

Thank You For Sharing Poinsettias

The White Poinsettias

In memory of Cheryl Howard, Mary Tielbar & Loved Ones given by Ken & Heather Crogan & family

Red Poinsettias

In memory of Eugene, LuNida & Grant Miller given by Brian & Lori Pate & family
In memory of Russ & Virginia Pate given by Brian & Lori Pate & family
In memory of Brad Lenth & Loved Ones given by Ethel Lenth
In memory of Rev. & Mrs. R.H. Steege and their son Richard given by the Steege family
In memory of Loved Ones given by the Bill & Michelle Scherf III. & family
In memory of Verdine Glawe & Loved Ones by Marlene Glawe
In memory of Sonya Stagman & Loved Ones given by Rod Stagman
In memory of Don Marmann & Loved Ones given by Shirley Marman
In memory of Loved Ones given by Kenny & Velma Kuehl
In memory of Brad Wikner & Loved Ones given by Clark & Kris Wikner & family
In memory of Larry, Dale & Isabel Kurth & Loved Ones given by Julie Kurth & family
In memory of Dawn Novak, Ronnie Miller & Leo & Diane Hageman given by Dave & Heather Hageman

The wreaths on the church doors are given in memory of Sonya Stagman & Loved Ones by Rod Stagman and given in memory of John & Dorothy Bossard and Arlyn & MaryAnn Gray & Loved ones by Don & Cheryl Bossard & Family

FARMERSBURG NEWS

October, 2023 – Treasurer's Report

Income:

950.00
 813.00
 420.00
 1330.00
 3240.00 (Harvest Meal)



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 + 858.84
 Inside Cust.: 209.22
 Outside Cust.: 220.05
 Organists: 138.52

Expenses:

City of Farmersburg:	225.40	Quarter 3 utilities
Black Hills (gas):	39.97	
Alliant (elec):	242.55	
NEIT:	115.69	
SOTH:	500.00	Donation for Cement

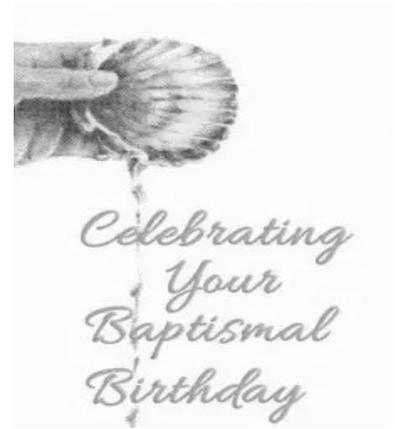
Total Income: 6753.00

Total Expenses: 4397.83

General Checking Balance – October 1, 2023: 1803.49

October 31, 2023: 4158.66

Kelly Shaw Treasurer



Known January Baptisms

- 1 - Vivien Ione Scherf
- 4 - Dallas Tielbar
- 18 - Diane Kluth
- 27 - Hudson Robert Radloff
- 30 - Joel Moran

Worship Attendance

November	
5	45
12	29
19	33
26	21

The Church Christmas tree will be undecorated on Sunday, January 7th following worship service. Many hands makes the job go faster.



January is the first month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars. Its length is 31 days. It is, on average, the coldest month of the year within most of the Northern Hemisphere and the warmest month of the year within most of the Southern Hemisphere .

Both the modern and traditional birthstone for January is garnet.

January has two birth flowers—the carnation and the snowdrop. Carnations are one of the most common commercial flowers used in weddings, on corsages, and in mixed arrangements.

St. John Lutheran Church, Farmersburg will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, February 4th following the 10:30 am worship service. Potluck and games will follow meeting.

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

POINSETTIAS GIVEN BY:



Lonnie & Vicky Baade in Memory of Loved Ones

Duaine & Linda Davis in Memory of Loved Ones

Diane Kraus in Memory of Loved Ones

Loren & Mel Lenth in Memory of Loved Ones

Doug & Connie Schlein in Memory of Loved Ones

Doug & Karla Schrader in Memory of Loved Ones

THANK YOU FOR SHARING!

St. John Luana will hold their annual meeting on

January 14th following 8:30 am worship.

Council meeting will follow. Mark your calendars.



JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Loren & Mel Lenth

Read Lessons & Prayers:

Jan. 7 - Duaine Davis

Jan. 14 - Vicky Baade

Jan. 21 - Jerry Schroeder

Jan. 28 - Luke Steege

Acolyte:

Jan. 7 - Dayne Anderson

Jan. 14 - Josh Schierholz

Jan. 21 - Emme Wikner

Jan. 28 - Karsten Steege

Communion Servers: Jan. 7 - Jim Meyer & Duaine Davis

Jan. 21 - Neil Landt & Sherri Johnson

Altar Guild: Darci Engelhardt

Flowers: Cindy Landt



My heartfelt gratitude for your prayers this past year through my quest against cancer.

Knowing you all were with me in spirit was such a blessing.

With love, Julie Mohs

Known January Baptisms

JANUARY

10 - Megan Johnson

Kimberly Kraus

13 - Paul Miller

15 - Burke Schrader

28 - Lisa Meyer

29 - Carol Goettler

31 - Adam Smith



LUANA NEWS

St. John/Luana Church Council Minutes December 10, 2023

Meeting called to order by Vice President Duaine Davis @ 7:34am

Present: Duaine Davis, Sherri Johnson, Diane Kraus, Vicar Jeremy Wolfe, Stan Dull, Melanie Lenth, Doug Schrader and Neil Landt. Aaron Smith joined the meeting at 7:50am. Absent: President Jim Meyer. Also, in attendance Karla Schrader, church secretary.

Devotions: Vicar Jeremy touched base with Council on the confirmation class nativity discussion and also a reading from John.

Previous minutes from November 12th were read by Melanie. Motion made by Stan and 2nd by Doug to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Reviewed and discussed the church expenses. Men's basement toilet needed repair and the expense of 1517 Media-Sunday & Seasons are the church bulletins. Motion made by Diane and 2nd by Sherri to accept the report. Motion carried.

Old Business: Matt Baade will donate his time & expense to the church for snow removal. Thank you, Matt.

New Business: The proposed 2024 Budget was reviewed and discussed. Increases to be determined at the Annual Meeting in January 2024 are: Wages for Vicar Jeremy, Custodian & Secretary/Treasurer. Property Insurance, Altar/Worship supplies and Mileage to be increased too. Stan made the motion to approve the Proposed 2024 Budget, Diane 2nd and motion carried. Annual Meeting-January 14, 2024.

Vicar Jeremy excused himself from the meeting at 8:15am

***Neil made the motion to split the Church Christmas Offering ½ - Food Shelf & ½ to Crisis Fund and 2nd by Sherri. Motion carried.

***The memorial fund will be used to purchase a new stand in the vestibule, motion was made by Sherri and 2nd by Stan. Motion carried. Sherri will work with Karla to purchase this item.

***Karla will examine the inactive membership list and will make changes accordingly before the annual meeting.

***Due to time constraints the proposed Lenten Schedule will be discussed at the January council meeting.

Next meeting: January 14, 2024 after the annual meeting.

Adjournment @8:33am motion made by Diane and 2nd by Sherri. Motion carried.

Concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectively submitted by Melanie Lenth, council secretary



January

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Lisa Meyer
- 8 – Brynleigh McHaney
- 13 – Julie Mohs
- 15 – Darci Engelhardt
- 19 – Jeanne Miller
- 21 – Josephine Schlitter
- Adam Smith
- 22 - Loren Lenth
- Stephanie Steele
- 27 - Erma Swenson
- 28 - Linda Davis
- 29 - Amber Moeller

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	Att.	Comm.
Nov. 19	35	33
Nov. 26	28	
Dec. 3	26	26
Dec. 10	29	
Dec. 17	<u>31</u>	<u>31</u>
	149	90



January
20 – Duaine & Linda Davis
31 – Dwain & Jean Wolter

LUANA NEWS

NOVEMBER REPORT

Submitted by Karla Schrader

EXPENSES

Black Hills Utilities –Nat. Gas	69.42
Alliant - Electricity	175.58
Karla Schrader –Secretary	423.26
Cindy Landt – Custodian	400.18
NEITEL	119.35
Jeremy Wolfe- salary	1,102.59
IRS	439.81
Jeremy Wolfe -Oct. mileage	524.56
1517 Media – Sundays & Seasons	339.00
Farm & Home – supplies	61.84
Silver Birch – worship supplies	114.21
CCLI - copyright license	158.00
Bacon Concrete – sidewalk	4,050.00
Kurt’s Plg & Htg – fix stool	<u>140.96</u>
	8,118.76

INCOME

Nov. 5	1,145.00
Nov. 12	852.00
Nov. 19	801.00
Nov. 26	657.00
	3,455.00
From repair fund	<u>4,050.00</u>
	7,505.00
Bal. 10-31-23	3,220.85
Income	<u>7,505.00</u>
	10,725.85
Less Expenses	<u>8,118.76</u>
Bal. 11-30-23	2,607.09

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. 10-31-23	\$ 39,630.12
Interest	87.46
To current fund	<u>4,050.00</u>
Bal. 11-30-23	\$ 35,669.69
\$500 deposited 12-1-23 for Nov.	

CURRENT FUND

	Envelopes	Plate	Total
Nov. 5	1,075.00	70.00	1,144.00
Nov. 12	842.00	10.00	852.00
Nov. 19	765.00	36.00	801.00
Nov. 26	<u>657.00</u>		<u>657.00</u>

THRIVENT BALANCE

Bal. Oct. 31, 2023	\$255,718.95
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BENEVOLENCE REPORT

INCOME

Nov. 6	Offering	97.00
	Food Shelf	50.00
Nov. 12	Offering	25.00
	Food Shelf	160.00
	Xmas 4 Kids	175.00
Nov. 19	Offering	30.00
	Food Shelf	60.00
Nov. 24	Thanksgiving	597.00
Nov. 26	Offering	20.00
	Crisis	<u>50.00</u>
		1,264.00

EXPENSE

Thanksgiving	597.00
SOTH	355.00
Food Shelf	270.00
Synod	<u>42.00</u>
	1,264.00



Both Churches News

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Carolyn Middendorf, Rev. Karl Goodfellow, 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, Lee Zurcher*

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

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*



January 2024, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Amplifying the Voices of Iowa Children and Families

Individuals struggle without access to critical healthcare and family support services. Human service providers are overworked and underpaid. Former refugees and immigrants strive to build new lives in the U.S.

These are all issues faced by Iowans from all different walks of life. Join Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) to advocate for our community members at Lutheran Day on the Hill (LDH) on **Monday, February 19, 2024**. In partnership with the three Iowa synods of the ELCA, LDH is LSI's biggest day of advocacy. Over 150 participants gather at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church in Des Moines to learn about critical issues Iowa children, adults, and families are facing. You'll learn more about the legislative process, the issues impacting your neighbors, and your role as a citizen in helping to amplify their voices.

After learning how to advocate for our neighbors, the group heads to the Iowa State Capitol to talk directly with legislators.

For more information and to register for this year's Lutheran Day on the Hill, visit LSIowa.org/LDH.

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 LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

EPIPHANY



I don't know about you but... I love Christmas! One of the beautiful things about the church calendar is that the celebration of Christmas doesn't end on December 25th. On January 6th we celebrate the epiphany. The arrival of the magi or wise men. These mysterious kings came with gifts to pay respect to the king of kings. While we don't know too much about them we know that they loved God and followed him. They followed his star and they followed his instruction when he told them in a dream to stay away from Herod on their way home. So even though Advent has passed and Christmas Day has come and gone, spend some time with the wise men if you can!

-Jeremy

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2024



“And that is a wrap”! Christmas for Kids was a huge event. We expected over 500 children and we were able to serve 491. Between Toys for Tots and our communities, we were able to fulfill the task of providing Christmas for kids in need. It was such a blessing to see the generosity of the churches, businesses and individuals this year.

This is one of the largest tasks that I have as a job requirement. Months of organizing, buying pajamas (which by the way, I hope I don't look at for a while), getting volunteers lined up and focusing on donations.

A huge thank you goes to my hard-working elves! Those volunteers were so dedicated, eager and helpful. So many laughs, stories, great food and of course toys, toys, and more toys! I cannot lie... I may have played with a few along the way.

Our region in Iowa is considered a very poverty-stricken area, but from what I just witnessed, we have the biggest heart! The feedback that I have received is that the clients were VERY appreciative, impressed and over-whelmed with the gifts they received. Thank you goes out to everyone as it takes a village to make this event a success.

Clothing Center Updates:

The clothing center will be closed from December 25-January 1, 2024. We have been blessed that people choose to bring their items here, but we have to have organization for this process. Therefore, we will be enforcing the policy of having a scheduled appointed day for drop offs. Having this appointment allows us to schedule a volunteer to help sort so we can continue to accept donations all week long. This also allows me to schedule my time to get other duties such as preparing my special projects, book work and conference duties done. I am beyond grateful for everyone that has visited and donated as we do want this to be your one stop local thrift store shop!

Shepherd Conference News:

Our annual Conference Assembly will be February 18th, 2024.

The meeting will take place at St. John's in Guttenberg starting at 2:00 pm.

Alternative weather date will be February 25, 2024.

Please make sure you have your church delegates in attendance.

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:

**Conference Assembly
February 18th, 2024
St. John's- Guttenberg**

Any event may be subject to change

Shepherd of the Hills

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WINTER



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

blizzard	frostbite	igloo	skating	snowman
December	frozen	jacket	skiing	snowshoes
February	gloves	January	sleigh	solstice
fireplace	hockey	longjohns	slippery	sweater
flannel	holidays	mitts	snowballs	toboggan
flurries	hot chocolate	scarf	snowboarding	whiteout
frigid	icicle	shovel	snowflakes	wintertime

