

St. John's Church
13372 Nature Avenue
Hutchinson, MN 55350
(320) 587-5104



St. John's Messenger

May, June, July 2018

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REFLECTIONS

Children In Church



Jesus' Dad's Name

A Sunday school teacher asked her class, "What was Jesus' mother's name?" One child answered, "Mary."

The teacher then asked, "Who knows what Jesus' father's name was?" A little kid said, "Verge."

Confused, the teacher asked, "Where did you get that?"

The kid said, "Well, you know, they are always talking about Verge n' Mary."

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

I had been teaching my three-year old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer.

Finally, she decided to go solo I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us from E-mail - - -".

Submitted by Lea Ette

Pastor's Notes



⁷ *“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. Matthew 7:7,8*

As many of you know, for the past four years the building expansion committee has been looking for ways to add space to address a number of needs. The greatest of those needs has been for Sunday School space. It's pretty amazing that for the life of our church, we have not had specific classroom spaces. Classes have met in corners of the basement; in the kitchen, in the back of the church; in the front of the church, etc.

Our first attempt at laying out several very attractive but expensive plans proved to be too ambitious and potentially too divisive, so those plans were tabled and we moved on. That was a disappointing moment in the search for a plan that would improve our situation and for a number of months the whole issue was put on hold. And yet we continued to pray and seek God for a more affordable solution.

In recent months, with the help of Lifestyle Homes in Litchfield, the building expansion committee put together a plan, utilizing a manufactured home to attach an addition to the north side of our existing facility that would not only provide needed classroom space but an additional gathering area, an upstairs kitchen and a handicapped accessible restroom and it was affordable. Enthusiastically, the council and congregation embraced this plan and with God's help and the generosity of the members and friends of St. John's the necessary funds were raised. Everything appeared to be on track and the Lord even provided the furnishings for the new addition by way of the closing of Helen Baker Elementary School in Glencoe. In the providence of God, we now have everything needed to furnish the new building with age appropriate tables and chairs, etc. Again, much reason to praise God for His leading and His gracious provision.

The approval process with the county appeared to be going smoothly, until a state engineer was asked to review the plan. That individual would not give his blessing on our plan to use a building that was designed for “use” as a home for a different purpose. Again, a disappointing turn of events. But many of us kept praying and seeking God for a solution to a very real need in the life of our congregation. And now, again with the help of Lifestyle Homes in Litchfield, it appears that using a modular home plan, very much like the plan we had been working on before, it appears the state engineer would be willing to sign off on such a plan. The layout of the building will essentially be the same, except that instead of sitting on piers the building will sit on a concrete foundation. We are still waiting on the final approval of our plan but it appears that the approval will come soon. The cost of the modular home is slightly higher than the original plan but we do have the necessary funds on hand.

I wanted to reflect on the journey that has brought us to this moment because those who *ask* and keep on *asking*, who *seek* and keep on *seeking*, who *knock* and keep on *knocking* will find that the God we worship and serve is faithful in providing His children not only what they need but what they are persistent in seeking from Him who is the giver of every good and perfect gift.

Pastor Bob

Council Minutes

February 7, 2018

Council Members Present: All council members and Pastor Bob were present, plus Brenda Schaefer. The council is organized as follows: Dave Huebert, President; Dave Sanken, Vice President; Randy Knick, Financial Secretary; Robyn Field, Building Fund; Mandy Grack, Treasurer; and Celine Swift, Secretary.

Dave Huebert called the meeting to order.

Pastor Bob opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional.

Pastor's Report:

- Visitation: Maynard Rannow, Mavis Mielke, Dick Swift, Joyce Karl, Nadine Forbes, Kari and Jason Eischens, Lillian Nemitz, Duane and Gloria Wigern, Joel and Barb Buckentin.
- Mileage: Traveled 1080 miles, 4 Sundays and 5 Wednesdays.
- Toner cartridge and communion wafers were purchased.
- Lenten Services begin Wednesday February 14.
- Lenten Fair will be Sunday March 4th, with a potluck.

Secretary's minutes were approved from January 21st meeting.

Brenda gave the treasurer's report.

- Beginning balance - \$6,388.96
- Ending balance - \$8596.53.
- Designated Funds - \$6,404.59
 - Memorial - \$3,513.40
 - Benevolence - \$913.15
 - Choir - \$721.04
 - Cemetery Fund - \$570.00
 - Sunday School / VBS - \$177.00
 - Pastoral Fund - \$510.00
- General Fund - \$2191.94

Robyn reported that the Hutchinson Coop account balance is \$128,620.83. The Vanguard statement was not available yet to report.

All financial reports were approved as given.

Old Business:

- Dave Sanken is looking into getting LED bulbs for the back of the church and getting a rebate from the McLeod Coop.
- Readdressed last month's decision to make monthly transfers to building fund. M/S/A to go back to making transfers when the balance in the building fund warrants the transfer, and to let the general fund continue to pay regular building associated invoices as this is how they were budgeted.
- The Annual meeting went well. The following suggestions were made for next year:
 - Have each of the report readers face the congregation and use microphones.
 - Assemble the annual report pages to be in the same order as the agenda.

- Provide the agenda with the annual report to the congregation.

New Business:

- Discussed the new lighted digital sign being researched. Some large memorial donations have already been promised toward this project. Council suggests having the sign completely funded by memorial donations.
- Robyn volunteered to bring monthly deposits to Citizen's Bank. Robyn will also help get the necessary bank paperwork to get Mandy access to the account.
- The fundraiser for the building addition has raised \$24,108, which surpassed the goal. The progress chart has been removed from the entry. Thanks to all who donated so generously!
- Mary Huebert will be on vacation for March 4 and March 7 services. Grace Garoutte will play.

Task List for February:

- Cleanout files – done
- Review usher/guild/custodial lists – these are pretty well filled in.
- Enact Pastor contract – signed after the annual meeting.
- Update call list – done by Randy.

There were no suggestions in the suggestion box.

Next council meeting date Tuesday March 13th at 7pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Celine Swift / Secretary

March 13, 2018

Council Members Present: All council members and Pastor Bob were present.

Dave Huebert called the meeting to order. Pastor Bob opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional.

Pastor's Report:

- Visitation: Jerry Mickolichuk, Joyce Karl, Maynard Rannow, Nadine Forbes, Dick Swift, Lillian Nemitz.
- Mileage: Traveled 820 miles, 3 Sundays and 4 Wednesdays.
- Good Friday Service: March 30th, 7:00pm, with Communion.

Secretary's minutes from February 7, 2018 meeting were approved.

Mandy Grack gave the treasurer's report.

- Beginning balance - \$8596.53
- Ending balance - \$15,204.89
 - Designated Funds - \$13,859.34
 - Memorial - \$3,513.40
 - Benevolence - \$1263.15

- Building - \$6,795.00
- Choir - \$721.04
- Cemetery Fund - \$800.00
- Sunday School / VBS - \$236.75
- Youth Fund - \$20.00
- Pastoral Fund - \$510.00
- General Fund - \$1345.55

Robyn Field reported that the Building Fund has a balance of \$185,152.63. (Hutchinson Coop \$128,818.31, Vanguard \$6237.19, and Citizen's bank \$50,097.13)

Financial reports were approved as given.

Old Business:

- Chandler Swift and Grace Garoutte played March 4 and 7 while Mary Huebert was on vacation.
- Dave Sanken has donated and installed LED bulbs in the fixtures in the back of the church. The area is much better and brighter now. Thanks Dave! We may want to consider upgrading bulbs in the sanctuary in the future.

New Business:

- Over \$500 was collected and is being sent to the Gideons.
- Dave Huebert got some estimates for the possibility of moving the power pole and its guy-wire to open up the visibility of the potential new church sign. The total cost would be about \$2000 (\$450 base fee, \$150 permit fee, \$4/ft cable for 100ft, \$10/ft to bore 50-60ft)., plus we will have to move the security light. Ideally, this would be completed before the Sunday School building addition happens, as that project would need to tie into the power here. Due to cost, the idea was tabled.
- Update on Sunday School building addition: The building committee has received and accepted the final prints for the ramp, passageway and the plumbing. The lighting prints are being finalized by the house manufacturer in preparation for submittal to the county for obtaining a land use permit.
- There was a suggestion that now is the right time to replace the well pump before the new addition is put in place, as the house will sit right on top of the existing aging copper line. Also the increased potential water demand with the new building addition will add strain to the already compromised water pressure. Cost to add this onto the building addition project is about \$2000. M/S/A to replace the old line and install the new well pump.
- Dave Swift and Brian Alsleben reported that there is a leak in the water heater. The heater is likely over 35 years old. Dave Sanken will ask Michael Sanken to quote installing a new tankless heater. M/S/A to proceed with the installation of a tankless heater if project cost is <\$5000. Michael will also look into repairing the drippy kitchen faucet.
- There was a suggestion to consider making a mailbox structure for getting newsletters, etc to church families. After some discussion the council decided to encourage more electronic communication instead.
- Received a request for donation from the McLeod County Sheriff's office. The request was forwarded to the Benevolence Committee.

Task List for March:

- Update memorial plaque and book - Mandy will check records to establish what needs to be done.
- Adjust clocks and steeple timer. Clocks have been adjusted, and it was decided to forgo adjusting the steeple timer as there was concern that it might cause a failure.
- Test elevator phone – done.

Next council meeting date Wednesday April 11, 2018 at 7pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Celine Swift / Secretary

April 11, 2018

Council Members Present: All council members and Pastor Bob were present.

Dave Huebert called the meeting to order. Pastor Bob opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional.

David Swift, Jerry Wright and Brian Alsleben presented an update to the council about the Sunday School addition project. The house design that was being pursued was not approved by the State. To meet the State's requirements, a few changes need to be made. The house needs to be a modular building instead of a HUD building, and to be put on a block foundation instead of piers. The rest of the house design remains virtually unchanged. The changes will increase the cost of the project by about \$20,000. When the final prints are approved and the permit is attained, the committee will present the changes to the congregation and request a budget increase for the project. M/S/A to schedule a congregational meeting for Sunday 4/29, with May 13 as a backup date. The council will not pursue a formal fundraiser for this increased cost, but additional donations are welcome.

Pastor's Report:

- Visitation: Maynard Rannow, Joyce Karl, Nadine Forbes, Lillian Nemitz, Dave and Mary Huebert, Don Huebert, Jerry Mickolichuk, Doug, Rachel and Holden Meyer, Duane and Gloria Wigern, Marge Block
- Three students will be confirmed on May 6th: Makayla Wigern, Madison Anderson, Carley Eischens. Pastor Bob will purchase a gift and card for each confirmand from the church.
- Two students will be graduation from high school: Jessica Alsleben and Oakley Streeter. Graduates will be recognized during the service on Sunday June 10th. Pastor Bob will purchase a gift and card for each graduate from the church.
- The Ice Cream Social Committee has had its first meeting. The Social will be shortened to end at 7pm, and the 2nd shift will be asked to stay to help cleanup. Scheduling of people to work has become an increasingly difficult part of the event. This year the plan is to have job lists go out to church members by May 15th. Members will be encouraged to respond by May 31 to indicate "yes", "no", or "yes, but would like to change the job assignment".

Secretary's minutes from March 13, 2018 meeting were approved.

Mandy Grack gave the treasurer's report.

- Beginning balance - \$15,204.89
- Ending balance - \$19,810.80
 - Designated Funds - \$14,825.84
 - Memorial - \$3,513.40
 - Benevolence - \$1486.15
 - Building - \$7227.00
 - Choir - \$721.04
 - Cemetery Fund - \$1000.00

- Sunday School / VBS - \$328.25
- Youth Fund - \$40.00
- Pastoral Fund - \$510.00
- General Fund - \$1072.19

Robyn Field reported that the Building Fund has a balance of \$184,165.02.
Hutchinson Coop \$129,037.30, Vanguard \$6176.09, and Citizen's bank \$48,951.63

Financial reports were approved as given.

Old Business:

- A new water heater was installed for \$854.52. The heater is not tankless as was originally proposed, because that was cost-prohibitive. However, since this is a higher efficiency heater, the council proposes the water heater remain on 24/7 so hot water is always available. A note to that effect will be put on the tank and on the breaker. Thank you Michael and David Sanken!
- Update memorial plaque and book – ongoing by Mandy Grack.
- Update website and visitor's brochure – reviewed and decided not needed.

New Business:

- The council was asked if we have (or should have) an emergency plan in the event of sudden illness or injury. Decision was made to forgo a written plan. In case of emergency, call 911 and let them guide us through the emergency.
- Dave Huebert discussed the McLeod County's proposed plan to replace the gravel on Cty Rd 62 near the church with a process called Cement Stabilization with Chip Seal surface. There is concern about the quality and durability of this project, based on the similar product previously applied on Tagus Ave. The county is holding an open house about the project on Wed April 18th. A few council members will try to attend the open house to represent our interests.
- M/S/A to use Memorial money to purchase replacement confirmation gowns, 3 each of small, medium, and large. – Celine Swift

Task List for April:

- Church and grounds assessments -outside areas were deemed to be in good shape, and we will wait for the building project to be completed before doing assessment inside.
- Get burning permit – Dave Huebert
- Pay 1st half taxes – Robyn Field
- Change furnace filters – Dave Huebert
- Call Foster to check air conditioner – Dave Sanken, wait for warmer weather
- Teacher recognition – Pastor Bob will recognize the Sunday School teachers on May 20th, the last day of Sunday School for 2017/2018
- Test elevator phone – done.
- Check suggestion box – none.

Next council meeting date Wednesday May 9, 2018 at 7pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Celine Swift / Secretary

Sunday School Happenings:



"Muffins & Movie Sunday"



Fun for all!

Last Sunday for Sunday School is May 20th!

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE



St John's Youth Page

What we've been doing:

- February 19th we planned to go snow tubing but the weather didn't cooperate for that so we went bowling in Hutch instead.
- March 4th was the Lenten Fair organized by the youth group. There was a pot lunch following church then many craft activities enjoyed by members of all ages.
- March 25th the youth group served Palm Sunday breakfast to the congregation.
- April we started our regular monthly schedule again after Lent.

Looking Ahead:

- April 28th Joe Blackbird has made arrangements for our youth group to have a trap shooting day at the Winthrop Range. We will meet there at 10AM for some trap shooting, a dog training demo, and more trap shooting. Lunch will be provided.
- May 2nd will be flower delivery day. We will meet at Swifts at 6PM. We will eat dinner and then help sort and load flowers as needed. We should be done at 8 so you can take the flowers you sold and deliver them. We will also recognize our graduates Jessisa Alsleben and Oakley Streeter.
- May 16th will be our last Bible study for this school year. We will finish the movie Heaven is for Real.
- Additional summer activities to be scheduled. More information at a later date. Group texts will be sent. If you are not on the text list and wish to be please let us know.

For more information about the youth group contact: Andrea Wigern at 320-234-6454 or Roxanne Sladek at 320-455-7218.

Lenten Fair:





Lenten Fair



Palm Sunday Breakfast



Palm Sunday Breakfast;



Church Happenings:



Our Choir



Men's group sing for us; Brian, Dave, Adam, Isaac and Jerry, what an AWESOME group!!!



Jessica got some of GSL choir members to come and sing for us on Palm Sunday. They are Jessica Alsleben, Morgan Dahlke, Abby Gronlund, Maren Warner, Nathan Warner, Issac Swift, Brayden Goebel, and Adam Garoutte. They sang "Mercy Tree".



Some more of our talented young members, Jessica, Adam, Isaac, and Dylan



*Jessica, Grace and Ashley
Adam, Isaac and Dylan*



Mary with her little nursery friends during worship time!

Thank You to all who donated grocery items or money to the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf. Thirty one pounds of food and \$85.00 was given from St. John's Church.

Reminder! Please mark June 14th on your calendar for our annual Ice Cream Social. We hope you will be available to help and enjoy the fellowship.

Raffle Tickets are ready for the Ice Cream Social. Tickets are \$1.00 per ticket and in packets of 10. An afghan and misc. items will again be included in the raffle. More tickets are sold in advance, so let's try and exceed last years sales of \$696.00.

Tickets and a sign-out sheet are on the back table. Thank you for your help.

Mark your Calendars:

Confirmation Sunday is May 6th

Those being confirmed are; Madison Anderson, Carly Eischens and Makayla Wigern

May 13th, following worship a quick congregational meeting to give the building committee permission for the funds to complete building project.

Last Sunday for Sunday School will be May 20th!

Summer Hours begin on Sunday, May 27th Worship 9:30 a.m.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL Thursday, JUNE 14TH!!!!

There will be a motorcycle ride again this summer. Stay tuned for the announcement!!!

Remember these members with a card or note;

**Kari Eischens Birthday 4/11
P. O. Box 36
Silver Lake, MN. 55381**

**Joel Buckentin Birthday 12/23
235 Grant St.
Glencoe, MN. 55336**

**Joyce Karl Birthday 11/15
Harmony River Living Center -Room 225 Phone # 320-552-2171
1555 Sherwood St. S.E.
Hutchinson, MN. 55350**

**Jerry Micholichuk Birthday 8/27
448 California St. N.W. #49
Hutchinson, MN. 55350**

**Maynard Rannow Birthday 11/5
Cedar Crest of Silver Lake #114
1401 Main St. W.
Silver Lake, MN. 55381**

**Theresa Vacek Birthday 1/15
313 8th Ave. S. P.O. Box 63
Brownton, MN. 55**

CHURCH LEADERS FOR 2018

PASTOR

Rev. Bob Taylor 763-420-6800

Cell: 612-644-0628

COUNCIL

President: David Huebert864-4724

V. Pres. David Sanken.. 320-583-7777

Treasurer: Mandy Grack

Secretary: Celine Swift.....

Fin. Sec. Randy Knick.. 320-296-5649

Bldg.Fund Robyn Field

WOMEN'S GUILD 2018

President Lea Ette Peters....864-3282

Vice Pres Julie Karl.....587-7702

Sec. Susie Blackbird.....583-1025

Treasurer Brenda Schaefer...864-6745

Sunshine Chr:Elaine Carrigan864-3330

CEMETERY BOARD

Jeremy Field 320-582-0319

Jerome Karl 320-587-7702

Warren Kaufmann 320-587-5676

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

Julie Karl587-7702

Robyn Field 320-234-6872

Elaine Carrigan...864-3330

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS & SUBSTITUTES 2017- 2018

Preschool-Kindergarten

Dawn Huebert, Grace Garoutte,

Jessica Alsleben, Kim Martin

1st-2nd grade

Jodi Sanken, Mary Taylor

3rd-5th

Brenda Garoutte, Andrea Wigern

6th-8th grade

Bridget Block, June Knick

Young Adult Class

Michelle Alsleben, Kathy Trimbo

Substitute List

Ashley Alsleben, Stephanie Mielke

YOUTH GROUP LEADERS

Roxanne Sladek 320-455-7218

Andrea Wigern.....320-234-6454

CHURCH SECRETARY & RECORDS UPKEEP

Records Upkeep: Karen Konerza 320-864-4554

Job Sign-ups 2018

ALTAR GUILD

January.....Sladek
February Swift
MarchSanken.
April..... Knick
May.....
June ... Elaine C. & Mavis M.
July
AugustLea Ette & Nita
September..... Alsleben
October Garoutte
NovemberBlock
December 2nd
9th
16th
23rd
24th Christmas Eve
30th.....
January 2019 Sladek

CUSTODIAN

January..... Sladek
February..... Swift
March.....Wright
April..... Knick
May Senske
June Elaine C. & Mavis M.
July
August..... Sanken
September Alsleben
October Garoutte
November Block
December 2nd.....
9th
16th
23rd
24th Christmas Eve.....
30th
January 2019..... Sladek

USHER/GREETER

JanuarySladek
FebruarySwift
March Wright
AprilKnick
May
JuneKonerza
July
August.....
SeptemberAlsleben
October..... Garoutte
November..... Block
December 2nd
9th
16th
23rd
24th Christmas Eve.....
30th
January 2019Sladek

NEED HELP FOR MAY AND JULY, USHERS, ALTAR AND CUSTODIANS!!!

UNANSWERED PRAYER

The preacher's 5 year-old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day, she asked him why.

"Well, Honey," he began, proud that his daughter was so observant of his messages. "I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon."

"How come He doesn't answer it?" she asked.

Submitted by Jerry Block

May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Joe B.	3 Bridget B.	4	5 Don P.
6 Confirmation & Communion Sarah F. Kim M. Mariyah S.	7	8	9	10 Bonnie K.	11	12 Sue R.
13	14	15 Pastor Bob	16 Dave Sanken	17 Eli S.	18	19 Dennis S. Angela U.
20 last Sunday for Sunday School Cody & Cory R.	21	22	23	24 Rachel M Marion P.	25 Jessica A.	26
27 Summer hours begin-Worship 9:30 a.m.	28 Mary Ann F. June K. Rachel S.	29	30	31		

June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion Cory G.	4	5	6	7 Mary H. Nita von W.	8 Cameron M.	9
10 Outdoor Service. Lillian N.	11 Alan K.	12	13 Chandler S. Dave Swift	14 Ice Cream Social	15	16
17 Oakley S.	18	19	20	21 Gary F.	22	23 Ashley A.
24	25 Jon B.	26	27	28 Charlee B. Dave H. Alex S. Danielle M.	29	30

July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion	2	3 Kyle W.	4	5	6 Laura S.	7
8 Outdoor Service Dawn N.	9	10	11	12 Connor M.	13 Owen R.	14
15	16	17	18 Alan M.	19	20	21 Jeremy F.
22 Tom S.	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Andy M.	30	31				

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Information for the next newsletter will be due July 25th you can bring your input to me at the church, or mail it to me (821 Baxter Ave, Glencoe) or email me at chubbers67@gmail.com *Karen Konerza*

Church Bloopers: *given to me by Jerry Wright*

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24th in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.