

St. John's Church  
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## St. John's Messenger

*May, June & July 2019*

<i>Reflections .....</i>	<i>1-2</i>
<i>Pastor's Notes .....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Council Meeting &amp; Congregational Meeting .....</i>	<i>4-11</i>
<i>Sunday School Happenings .....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Youth Group &amp; Lenten Fair &amp; Palm Sunday Breakfast.....</i>	<i>13-16</i>
<i>Church Happenings &amp; Dedication &amp; Mark Your Calendars.....</i>	<i>17-25</i>
<i>Remember the Shut-Ins &amp; Who's Who .....</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Job Sign Up .....</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>Calendar of Events .....</i>	<i>28-29</i>

## REFLECTIONS

HE DIDN'T TELL IT BY WAY OF COMPLAINT; IN FACT, EVERY OTHER SENTENCE WAS FAITH IS NOT ABOUT EVERYTHING TURNING OUT OK; IT'S ABOUT BEING OK NO MATTER HOW THINGS TURN OUT.

OUR HOUSE WAS DIRECTLY ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE CLINIC ENTRANCE OF JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL IN BALTIMORE. WE LIVED DOWNSTAIRS AND RENTED THE UPSTAIRS ROOMS TO OUT-PATIENTS AT THE CLINIC.

ONE SUMMER EVENING AS I WAS FIXING SUPPER, THERE WAS A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. I OPENED IT TO SEE A TRULY AWFUL LOOKING MAN. "WHY, HE'S HARDLY TALLER THAN MY 8-YEAR-OLD," I THOUGHT AS I STARED AT THE STOOPED, SHRIVELED BODY. BUT THE APPALLING THING WAS HIS FACE, LOPSIDED FROM SWELLING, RED AND RAW."

YET HIS VOICE WAS PLEASANT AS HE SAID, "GOOD EVENING. I'VE COME TO SEE IF YOU'VE A ROOM FOR JUST ONE NIGHT. I CAME FOR A TREATMENT THIS MORNING FROM THE EASTERN SHORE, AND THERE'S NO BUS 'TIL MORNING."

HE TOLD ME HE'D BEEN HUNTING FOR A ROOM SINCE NOON BUT WITH NO SUCCESS, NO ONE SEEMED TO HAVE A ROOM. "I GUESS IT'S MY FACE... I KNOW IT LOOKS TERRIBLE, BUT MY DOCTOR SAYS WITH A FEW MORE TREATMENTS..."

FOR A MOMENT I HESITATED, BUT HIS NEXT WORDS CONVINCED ME: "I COULD SLEEP IN THIS ROCKING CHAIR ON THE PORCH. MY BUS LEAVES EARLY IN THE MORNING."

I TOLD HIM WE WOULD FIND HIM A BED, BUT TO REST ON THE PORCH... I WENT INSIDE AND FINISHED GETTING SUPPER. WHEN WE WERE READY, I ASKED THE OLD MAN IF HE WOULD JOIN US. "NO, THANK YOU. I HAVE PLENTY." AND HE HELD UP A BROWN PAPER BAG.

WHEN I HAD FINISHED THE DISHES, I WENT OUT ON THE PORCH TO TALK WITH HIM A FEW MINUTES. IT DIDN'T TAKE A LONG TIME TO SEE THAT THIS OLD MAN HAD AN OVERSIZED HEART CROWDED INTO THAT TINY BODY. HE TOLD ME HE FISHED FOR A LIVING TO SUPPORT HIS DAUGHTER, HER 5 CHILDREN, AND HER HUSBAND, WHO WAS HOPELESSLY CRIPPLED FROM A BACK INJURY.

PREFACE WITH A THANKS TO GOD FOR A BLESSING. HE WAS GRATEFUL THAT NO PAIN ACCOMPANIED HIS DISEASE, WHICH WAS APPARENTLY A FORM OF SKIN CANCER. HE THANKED GOD FOR GIVING HIM THE STRENGTH TO KEEP GOING... AT BEDTIME, WE PUT A CAMP COT IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM FOR HIM. WHEN I GOT UP IN THE MORNING, THE BED LINENS WERE NEATLY FOLDED AND THE LITTLE MAN WAS OUT ON THE PORCH.

HE REFUSED BREAKFAST, BUT JUST BEFORE HE LEFT FOR HIS BUS, HALTINGLY, AS IF ASKING A GREAT FAVOR, HE SAID, "COULD I PLEASE COME BACK AND STAY THE NEXT TIME I HAVE A TREATMENT? I WON'T PUT YOU OUT A BIT. I CAN SLEEP FINE IN A CHAIR." HE PAUSED A MOMENT AND THEN ADDED, "YOUR CHILDREN MADE ME FEEL AT HOME. GROWNUPS ARE BOTHERED BY MY FACE, BUT CHILDREN DON'T SEEM TO MIND."

I TOLD HIM HE WAS WELCOME TO COME AGAIN.

AND, ON HIS NEXT TRIP, HE ARRIVED A LITTLE AFTER 7 IN THE MORNING. AS A GIFT, HE BROUGHT A BIG FISH AND A QUART OF THE LARGEST OYSTERS I HAD EVER SEEN! HE SAID HE HAD SHUCKED THEM THAT MORNING BEFORE HE LEFT SO THAT THEY'D BE NICE AND FRESH. I KNEW HIS BUS LEFT AT 4:00 A.M. AND I WONDERED WHAT TIME HE HAD TO GET UP IN ORDER TO DO THIS FOR US.

IN THE YEARS HE CAME TO STAY OVERNIGHT WITH US, THERE WAS NEVER A TIME THAT HE DID NOT BRING US FISH OR OYSTERS OR VEGETABLES FROM HIS GARDEN. OTHER TIMES WE RECEIVED PACKAGES IN THE MAIL, ALWAYS BY SPECIAL DELIVERY; FISH AND OYSTERS PACKED IN A BOX OF FRESH YOUNG SPINACH OR

**KALE, EVERY LEAF CAREFULLY WASHED. KNOWING THAT HE MUST WALK 3 MILES TO MAIL THESE, AND KNOWING HOW LITTLE MONEY HE HAD MADE THE GIFTS DOUBLY PRECIOUS.**

**WHEN I RECEIVED THESE LITTLE REMEMBRANCES, I OFTEN THOUGHT OF A COMMENT OUR NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOR MADE AFTER HE LEFT THAT FIRST MORNING. "DID YOU KEEP THAT AWFUL LOOKING MAN LAST NIGHT? I TURNED HIM AWAY! YOU CAN LOSE ROOMERS BY PUTTING UP SUCH PEOPLE!"**

**MAYBE WE DID LOSE ROOMERS ONCE OR TWICE. BUT, OH!, IF ONLY THEY COULD HAVE KNOWN HIM, PERHAPS THEIR ILLNESSES WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER TO BEAR. I KNOW OUR FAMILY ALWAYS WILL BE GRATEFUL TO HAVE KNOWN HIM; FROM HIM WE LEARNED WHAT IT WAS TO ACCEPT THE BAD WITHOUT COMPLAINT AND THE GOOD WITH GRATITUDE TO GOD.**

**RECENTLY WHILE VISITING A FRIEND, WHO HAS A GREENHOUSE, AS SHE SHOWED ME HER FLOWERS, WE CAME TO THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ONE OF ALL, A GOLDEN CHRYSANTHEMUM, BURSTING WITH BLOOMS. BUT TO MY GREAT SURPRISE, IT WAS GROWING IN AN OLD DENTED, RUSTY BUCKET. I THOUGHT TO MYSELF, "IF THIS WERE MY PLANT, I'D PUT IT IN THE LOVELIEST CONTAINER I HAD!"**

**MY FRIEND CHANGED MY MIND. "I RAN SHORT OF FLOWER POTS," SHE EXPLAINED, "AND KNOWING HOW BEAUTIFUL THIS ONE WOULD BE, I THOUGHT IT WOULDN'T MIND STARTING OUT IN THIS OLD PAIL. IT'S JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE, TILL I CAN PUT IT OUT IN THE GARDEN."**

**SHE MUST HAVE WONDERED WHY I LAUGHED SO DELIGHTEDLY, BUT I WAS IMAGINING JUST SUCH A SCENE IN HEAVEN.**

**"HERE'S AN ESPECIALLY BEAUTIFUL ONE," GOD MIGHT HAVE SAID WHEN HE CAME TO THE SOUL OF THE SWEET OLD FISHERMAN. "HE WON'T MIND STARTING IN THIS SMALL BODY."**

**ALL THIS HAPPENED LONG AGO - AND NOW, IN GOD'S GARDEN, HOW TALL THIS LOVELY SOUL MUST STAND. THE LORD DOES NOT LOOK AT THE THINGS MAN LOOKS AT. MAN LOOKS AT THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE, BUT THE LORD LOOKS AT THE HEART." (1 SAMUEL 16:7B)**

**FRIENDS ARE VERY SPECIAL. THEY MAKE YOU SMILE AND ENCOURAGE YOU TO SUCCEED. THEY LEND AN EAR AND THEY SHARE A WORD OF PRAISE.**

**SHOW YOUR FRIENDS HOW MUCH YOU CARE. BRIGHTEN SOMEONE'S DAY. IF YOU DO PASS [THIS](#) ON; SOMEONE MIGHT SMILE (BECAUSE OF YOU).**

**"I BELIEVE IN THE SUN EVEN IF IT ISN'T SHINING. I BELIEVE IN LOVE EVEN IF I AM ALONE. I BELIEVE IN GOD EVEN WHEN HE IS SILENT."**

## Pastor's Notes



*1 Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being,  
praise His holy name.  
2 Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all  
his benefits—  
3 who forgives all your sins and heals all  
your diseases. (Psalm 103:1-3)*

In light of the recent event at the Mall of America, where a man intent on hurting or killing someone, threw a five-year-old, named Landen, over the third-floor railing to the stone floor below. It is reported that the mother immediately began to cry out, *pray, pray!*

As believers we need to face every crisis, every difficulty, every heartache, every decision with the same cry of this distraught mother: *pray, pray!* No matter what the situation, we need the Savior's help, wisdom, strength and yes, healing,

While driving the other morning, I heard an update on little Landen's condition by a pastor at Living Word Church in Brooklyn Park. Landen still has a long way to go, but it appears that he will make a full recovery from his injuries. One doctor told the family that his injuries were consistent with a child who has fallen off a bike, not a child who fell some forty feet to a stone floor. How in the world could that be? *Prayer!* God answers the prayers of his children. He does not always bring such dramatic intervention as in Landen's case, but he does always answer our prayers. Landen's situation is just the most current and dramatic reminder of the reality of the message of Psalm 103 above. He *forgives all our sins and heals all our diseases*. In many cases, that healing of our diseases finds its fulfillment in heaven after we have received our new imperishable bodies, but often healing does take place in this world in response to the prayers of his children.

So, what is the bottom line? *Pray, pray, pray giving thanks to God in everything*, as Paul encourages us to do in I Thessalonians chapter 5, verses 16,17.

<sup>16</sup> *Rejoice always,* <sup>17</sup> *pray continually,* <sup>18</sup> *give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

As we continually offer up to God our praise and our prayers and our thanksgiving for all things we can be confident that he will be at work for our good and His glory as is the case in little Landen's life and yours and mine!

Pastor Bob

# Council Minutes

**February 13, 2019**

**Council Members Present:** With the exception of Dave Sanken, all council members and Pastor Bob were present. The council is organized as follows: Dave Huebert, President; Dave Sanken, Vice President; Cory Garoutte, Financial Secretary; Robyn Field, Building Fund; Karen Konerza, 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: Margie Block, Maynard Rannow, Joyce Karl, Nadine Forbes, Marion and Don Padrnos, Randy Knick, Brenda Garoutte, Dick Swift
- Lenten Services begin Wednesday March 6.
- Lenten Fair will be Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Pastor Bob expressed his appreciation to all who worked so hard to make the Faith Center a reality, and for the wonderful crowd for the dedication, in spite of very wintry weather.

Secretary's minutes from last month's meeting were approved.

Karen Konerza and Mandy Grack gave the treasurer's report.

- Beginning balance - \$ 16,674.11
- Ending balance - \$ 23,688.51
- Designated Funds - \$ 10,805.68
  - Memorial - \$ 6,369.49
  - Benevolence - \$ 896.15
  - Building - \$ 1,310.00
  - Choir - \$ 726.04
  - Cemetery Fund - \$ 1305.00
  - Sunday School / VBS - \$ 199
  - Pastoral Fund - \$ 0
- General Fund - \$12,822.83

Robyn Field reported that the Building Fund has a balance of \$ 37,281.25  
Citizen's Bank: \$30,931.42, Vanguard: \$6349.83

Financial reports were approved as given.

## **Old Business:**

- Welcome new members Karen Konerza and Cory Garoutte
- Changes at the annual meeting to let the congregation read many of the financial reports (instead of them being read out loud) seemed to be well received.

**New Business:**

- Pastor Bob will talk to Sunday School teachers about the idea of changing service times to have Worship at 9:30 and Sunday School to follow. What would be the effect on kids singing during church, attendance, congregational meetings, etc.?
- Thanks to the many helpers for the final work days of cleaning the FAITH Center and bring in the furniture.
- The Sunday School teachers will be meeting over the next couple of weeks to go through all the Sunday School supplies in the basement and find a home for them in the FAITH Center.
- Dave Huebert communicated with the property insurance company that the addition is complete. There were separate policies for the addition and the church building until the addition was put in place, but they are now merged to make one policy.
- Check supplies for Lenten meals – Dave Sanken
- Dave Huebert and Glen Sladek will take care of tree trimming.
- Dave Huebert will look into getting a couple of bids to remove the north row of pine trees for the council to consider at next month's meeting.
- The stub wall by the steps near the elevator needs to be patched and repainted. Gene Konerza volunteered to do it.
- Discussed getting quotes to clean carpets and the red chairs. Decided to wait for after the Ice Cream Social.
- Dave Swift will dispose of the old brown chairs that have been stored at his work office.
- Motion/Second/Approval to allow Robin Swift to practice the church organ.
- Elevator parts need replacement, but they are not critical to be done immediately. M/S/A to wait for the regularly scheduled maintenance to avoid an extra trip charge.

**Task List for February:**

- Cleanout files – done
- Review usher/guild/custodial lists – done
- Enact Pastor contract – Done
- Update call list – done.
- Check Suggestion box –*None*
- Test elevator phone. *Phone line is being repaired.*

Next council meeting date Tuesday March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Celine Swift, Secretary

**March 12, 2019**

**Council Members Present:** All council members were present.

Dave Huebert called the meeting to order.

Pastor Bob opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional.

**Pastor's Report:**

- Visitation: Margie Block, Maynard Rannow, Joyce Karl, Nadine Forbes, Marion Padrnos, Randy Knick, Dick Swift, Lillian Nemitz, Betty Benjamin, Marge Block, Duane & Gloria Wigern
- Mileage report – 760 miles (3 Sundays and 3 Wednesdays)
- The Youth Group would like to schedule another outreach on July 14<sup>th</sup>, featuring the Gould Brothers. Grace Bible Church will co-sponsor the event. Pastor Bob will connect with Michelle Alsleben to let her know that there are no known conflicts with the proposed date, and ask her to let the council know if any assistance (financial, volunteer help, etc.) is needed from the church.

Secretary's minutes from last month's meeting were approved.

Karen Konerza gave the treasurer's report.

- Beginning balance - \$ 23,688.51
- Ending balance - \$ 21,928.98
- Designated Funds - \$ 12,068.68
  - Memorial - \$ 6,369.49
  - Benevolence - \$ 1,221.15
  - Building - \$ 1,735.00
  - Choir - \$ 726.04
  - Cemetery Fund - \$ 1,720.00
  - Sunday School / VBS - \$ 277.00
  - Youth Fund - \$ 20.00
- General Fund - \$ 9,860.30

Robyn Field reported that the Building Fund has a balance of \$ 44,746.42

Citizen's Bank: \$38,363.54, Vanguard: \$6,382.88

Financial reports were approved as given.

**Old Business:**

- Lenten supplies were checked and are in good order.
- The stub wall near steps has not been painted yet, but Gene Konerza will take care of it.
- Dave Huebert and Glen Sladek will take care of trimming low branches of trees this spring and will ask for help as needed.
- The phone line has been fixed.

**New Business:**

- The bill from Life Style Homes for FAITH Center has been submitted, and includes landscaping costs that will happen this spring. Life Style absorbed the majority of cost overages except for upgrades that we requested (window in breezeway, hauling away tree stumps, additional lights, installing drinking

fountain, etc.) The remaining due is \$24,341.50, and they have asked that we pay 70% now, and the rest after their landscaping work is complete. M/S/A to pay as requested. Robyn Field will make the payment.

- The well failed and caused the pump to quit working due to magnesium rocks plugging the orifice. LTP was called and cleared the pump and has it working again for now, but repeat failures are expected. A new well was quoted by LTP to be around \$8000. Dave Sanken will pursue a 2<sup>nd</sup> quote. Congregational meeting is scheduled for 3/24/19 to get approval to replace the well.
- The water softener has also failed because of the well issues. Softener replacement is also being quoted. Current plan is to hold off on replacing the softener until the well is replaced. Dave Huebert will follow up with Rainy to see if there is anything we can do (like adding a strainer upstream) that might help the softener to limp along until the well can be replaced.
- Dave Huebert got a quote for taking down the north row of pines. \$6900 to remove and clean up after the 23 trees. Due to all the recent and near-future large project expenditures, the tree removal project is tabled indefinitely.
- Dostal Electronics submitted a bid of \$479.50 for installing speakers in both the 3:16 and JAM rooms in the Faith Center and tying them into the church sound system. M/S/A to proceed.
- M/S/A to change the Building and Property Use Policy to increase prices for non-member rentals to the following: \$350 for Upper level including Faith Center, \$150 for Basement/Kitchen, \$50 for Custodial. In addition, a \$200 refundable deposit will be required to ensure the property is left in good clean condition. Celine Swift will update the policy accordingly.
- The door leading into the Faith Center is to remain closed whenever the building is not in use. This is to control heating costs. Celine Swift will update the Custodian Duties accordingly. Celine will also ask Dave Swift to generate a label to put on the door reminding us to keep the door closed. The Custodian Duties will also be updated to include cleaning the Faith Center.
- Our insurance company has requested a copy of Certificate of Occupancy. Celine Swift will ask Dave Swift to follow up on that for the council.
- Gene Konerza gave an update on the electronic sign. After finding out that the ongoing cost for electricity and internet would be \$65/month, the committee is no longer pursuing the purchase of a digital sign.
- Pastor Bob requested an electronic copy of St. John's letterhead. Celine Swift will send him one.
- Dave Huebert handed out a draft of a division of council roles. The goal is to make it easier for new council members to know what tasks are expected of them. Each council member is to review the draft and bring back any suggested modifications to be discussed at next month's council meeting.

### **Task List for March:**

- Update memorial plaque/book – *Karen Konerza will do.*
- Update visitors brochure/website – *up to date*
- Adjust clocks - *Done*
- Review who needs background check – *push to July so can be complete when expires in Sept.*
- Check altar/usher/custodian coverage for next month - *OK*
- Check Suggestion box –*None*
- Test elevator phone - *Done*

Next council meeting date Tuesday April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Celine Swift, Secretary



## **Congregational Meeting on New Well**

### **3/24/19**

Dave Huebert opened the meeting and Pastor Bob led us in prayer.

Dave Huebert brought the congregation up to speed on the well situation. When the new addition was built, a submersible pump was installed in the well. The previous pump used suction to pull the water from the well, which is no longer legal. The problem with a suction pump is that since it pulls a vacuum, it could pull in contaminated surface water if the copper pipe ever had a leak. However, when the submersible pump was installed, it had dirty water problems. It could only be put down 100 feet, since the well had filled with sand and mud due to the degradation of the old well casing. To minimize the impact of this problem, the pump was restricted to a lower flowrate. In spite of that restriction, about 3 weeks ago the pump failed when the orifice became plugged with magnesium rocks, so there was no water at all at the church. LTP Well Drilling company came out right away, and for \$200 cleaned out the pump and started it up again. This failure could happen again at any moment, or we could limp along for a few months. Therefore, the council is pursuing drilling a new well. Two bids have been received, one for \$10,785, the other for 11,883 for a new well up to 230 feet deep. There will be an additional cost of about \$750 to cap the old well. The bid also includes electrical work required to upgrade to a 220v pump.

The council has learned that we may qualify for a grant through the Clean Water Act that could reimburse up to half the cost of drilling the new well and capping the old well. We are working with the State to apply for that grant. It is a first-come first-served system, so if there is no money left to be granted to us this month, we can apply for the September/October grant timeframe. However, if we want to take advantage of the grant, no construction of the new well can begin until after a contract with the State has been signed. We are at risk in that our current well may not last until then. An additional condition of the grant is that we must have annual well inspections, which will be done by the state at no charge. Also, we will be required to pay for the entire project up front, then will get reimbursed for however much of the grant we qualified.

The county may also cover up to 50% of the cost of capping the old well, so if we also get 50% from the State, that part of the project (\$750) may be fully paid for.

The well failure has also damaged the water softener. The bid to replace the softener came in at \$1230. The State grant will not cover any of this cost.

Q: How deep is the current well.

A: The pump is down 100 feet, but the well was likely dug significantly deeper than that. Below 100 feet is full of sand, etc. The water is probably being drawn from 30 feet, which is likely why our water is so poor.

Q: What is the cost if the well needs to go more than the quoted 230 feet?

A: We will be charged \$18.50 per foot deeper than 230 feet.

Q: What is our financial position?

A: We have enough in our building fund to cover the well project, as well as remaining amount due for the final landscaping, gutters, etc for the Faith Center. However, if you missed out on the opportunity to help pay for the Faith Center, please prayerfully consider making contribution to the building fund to help rebuild our financial reserves.

Q: Can we muddle along with the current well and softener until September/October if we miss the March grant?

A: The old well could fail completely at any moment, but the goal is to limp along until we have a signed contract with the State for the new well. We could know as early as mid-April if we have qualified for the grant. If we don't get the grant then, we can reapply for the September/October deadline. That will get more complicated if we need to wait until then as the well could fail permanently at any time.

Q: Who quoted the two well bids?

A: LTP and Matthews

Austin Field commented that there may be a way to replace the softener now with a system that has upstream filters to protect it from the bad well water.

Glen Schaefer commented that there may be an opportunity for the well drilling company to provide a system with a temporary tank of water to carry us until the new well can be drilled.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the council to pursue the well project and the state grant. Motion carried. It is understood that if the well fails before we get a signed contract with the state, that the council will have to move ahead with drilling the well without any state funding. The council will try to keep the softener limping along and replace it when the well is replaced.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Celine Swift, Secretary

***. A Praise Item!! We recently heard that our church has been approved for state assistance for the digging of a new well and the sealing of the old well. The grants will cover 50% of the cost of each! If you would like to contribute to this project please designate "well" on your check or envelope.***

## **April 9, 2019**

Dave Huebert called the meeting to order.

**Council Members Present:** All council members were present

Pastor Bob opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional.

### **Pastor's Report:**

- Visitation: Marge Block, Maynard Rannow, Joyce Karl, Nadine Forbes, Marion & Don Padrnos, Dick Swift, Lillian Nemitz, Betty Benjamin, Rachel & Doug Meyer, Kari & Jason Eischens
- The funeral for Marion Padrnos was held at the church on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. She died on Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Upcoming special Sundays:
  - April 28 – Gideon's representative to speak
  - May 5 – Confirmation of Cameron Mielke, Carter Reiland, Holden Meyer
  - May 19 – Last day of Sunday School
  - June 9 – Recognition of 3 high school graduates: Adam Garoutte, Isaac Swift, Noah Eischens
  - July 28-31 - VBS
- Pastor Bob proposed a Wednesday evening adult bible study in June & July.

Secretary's minutes from last month's meeting were approved.

Karen Konerza gave the treasurer's report.

- Beginning balance - \$ 21,928.98
- Ending balance - \$ 20,891.94
- Designated Funds - \$ 13,280.68
  - Memorial - \$ 6,369.49
  - Benevolence - \$ 1,556.15
  - Building - \$ 2,330.00
  - Choir - \$ 726.04
  - Cemetery Fund - \$ 1,935.00
  - Sunday School / VBS - \$ 334.00
  - Youth Fund - \$ 30.00
- General Fund - \$ 8,648.30

Robyn Field reported that the Building Fund has a balance of \$ 27,009.64

Citizen's Bank: \$20,498.87, Vanguard: \$6,510.77

Financial reports were approved as given.

### **Old Business:**

- The grant application for the well was completed and turned into the State. It requests up to \$6293. Any action on the well or water softener are on hold until we hear back from the State about the grant.
- The county approved paying \$340 toward plugging the old well when we dig the new one.
- We received a letter that our well is not in compliances and we need to get in compliance within 30 days. Dave Huebert will confirm with Joyce (from the State) to verify our grant application for the new well is sufficient for us to be considered in compliance for the time being.
- Dave Huebert reported that David Swift submitted information requested by our insurance company regarding a certificate of occupancy.

- Division of Council Roles: The council reviewed and updated a list of council roles, and the list will be added to the resources section of the policy book. A new task will be added to the Annual Task Calendar for reviewing the “Division of Council Roles” each February. – Celine Swift
- Materials needed to install speakers in the JAM and 3:16 rooms have been ordered.
- The stub wall near the elevator has been patched and repainted. Thanks Gene Konerza! We request that chairs be stacked in parallel to the wall to avoid making marks on the walls with the chair legs. One row of chairs can be stacked where the copier used to be.
- Updating the “Custodian Duties” to include cleaning the Faith Center is ongoing. – Celine Swift

### **New Business:**

- Gerry Wright asked if we might want a piano for the 3:16 room. The council decided to stick with the electronic keyboard instead.
- The council is still looking for space for the banners, which are currently being stored at LeaEtte Peter’s place. Dave Huebert will looking into the possibility of redesigning some of the cabinet space, perhaps above the altar cloth storage area.
- The Sunday School has moved. The council will wait a few more months for things to settle, and then plan a storage cleanout.
- Additional larger confirmation gowns have been ordered.
- Celine Swift proposed an option for the adult bible study group to have its class in the basement. Celine will talk to Susie and Joe Blackbird to see if they’d be willing to switch locations. If they are willing, Pastor Bob will bring the idea to the adult bible study group to consider.
- Brian Vacek built and installed a cabinet in the Faith Center bathroom. It looks amazing! Thanks Brian!
- Dave Mackenthun patched a spot of ceiling in the basement.

### **Task List for March:**

- Church grounds assessment: there may need to be repairs to the parking lot due to frost boils.
- Burn Permit – *Dave Huebert*
- Pay 1<sup>st</sup> half of property taxes – *Robyn Field*
- Change furnace filters – *Joe Blackbird*
- Foster Mechanical to check air conditions – *Dave Sanken*. Dave will also ask if it is reasonable task to raise the AC units so landscaping can be raised, allowing shorter ramp to the Faith Center’s east door.
- Check altar/usher/custodian coverage for next month - *OK*
- Check Suggestion box –*None*
- Test elevator phone - *Done*

e meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Celine Swift, Secretary

**Note from the Digital Church Sign committee:** After much consideration and due to the high cost of rural electricity plus monthly cost of internet it has been decided to discontinue the digital sign project. It was also determined that in 10 years down the road the lead panels would also have to be replaced, which is also costly. Thank you. Any questions or concerns contact, Gene Lea Ette or Randy.

## Sunday School Happenings

This year, the Preschool through 1st grade class have been learning about redemption and have also started learning the books of the bible. Since the New Year, there have been additional changes. First, we are enjoying our new "JAM" (Jesus And Me) room in the faith center. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Second, we are learning how to play bells. On April 7, Joshua showed off some of those skills as he played *God is so Good* with his older brothers (Carter & Alex) during the church service!



**Jam Room (Jesus and Me)**



**Grace (God Reaches All Children)**



**Bible (Basic Information Before  
Leaving Earth)**



**John 3:16**

**New Class rooms!!**

# St John's Youth

## Lenten Fair



From Lower level to the Faith Center



## Palm Sunday Breakfast



Preparing for the crowd



The cooks have started!



Some of the help are checking it out!



Some of the people enjoying the breakfast



**Very good food and comapnay!**

### **What we've been doing:**

- February 6<sup>th</sup> the youth prepared for the Lenten Fair.
- March and April there were no monthly meetings so we could attend Lenten services.
- March 17 the youth group hosted the Lenten Fair.
- April 14<sup>th</sup> we served 75 people at our Palm Sunday Breakfast. Thanks to all who attended and the 14 youth that served breakfast!



### Looking Ahead:

- May 1<sup>st</sup> will be our flower distribution and also a celebration for our HS seniors! Youth should plan to be at Swifts at 5PM. We will have dinner and then sort and load flowers.
- May 15<sup>th</sup> we will package food for Feed the Starving Children. This will be at Bethlehem Church in Hutchinson at 4:30.
- July 14<sup>th</sup> will be Shotgun Blast cohosted by St. Johns Church and Grace Bible Church. There will be an exhibition shooting demo by Aaron Gould, a dog training demo, food, games and activities. Our youth group will help serve food, run games, as well as enjoy this amazing show! Also looking for musicians to provide background music during lunch and games. Let us know if you are able to provide some background music.

Mark your calendars!

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

## Church Happenings:

It's finally HAPPENING!!!



Putting tables together!



Kids, this "BIG KID"  
found a "HIDING" Spot!!



Here come the chairs!

**Getting moved in continued:**



**Let's get scrubbing!**



**Cleaning crew, Pastor Bob, Jerry, Dave H, and Sandy!**



**The full crew; Mary & Dave, Brenda S. Karen & Gene, Susie & Joe, Sandy & Jerry, and Dick!**

### **Class Rooms**



## **Class rooms**



**A real working drinking fountain!!**

**Helen Baker School donated a wonderful asset for our new Sunday School addition, the tables, chairs, white boards, area rugs (and more!) have been put in place and are now in use. We even installed one of the old style water fountains, and it looks and works great!**



**It's finally HOME and is now the Faith Center!**  
***(It stands for: Forward All Issues to Heaven)***  
***The FAITH Center looks like it's always belonged there!***  
**Each class room has a special name too:**  
**JAM (Jesus and Me)**  
**GRACE (God Reaches All Children Everywhere)**  
**BIBLE (Basic Information Before Leaving Earth)**

## **Beginning Dedication Service**

**February 10, 2019**



**Sunday School**



**Dedication continued:**



**Pastor Bob Blessing the door to the Faith Center with Holy Water**



**Faith Center is now Open!!**

**Dedication continued:**



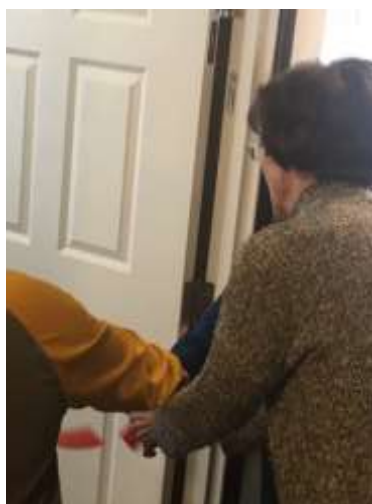
**Pastor Bob Blessing the Jam Room with Holy Water**



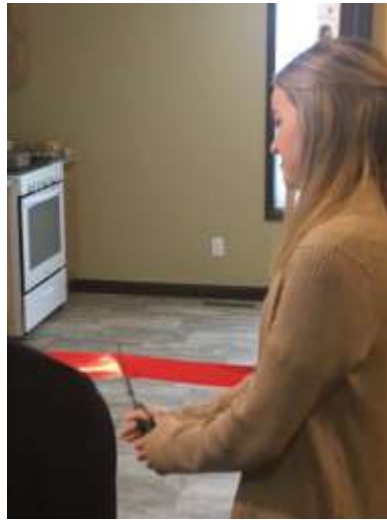
**Pastor Bob Blessing the GRACE room with Holy Water**



**Pastor Bob Blessing the BIBLE room with Holy water**



**Pastor Bob Blessing the John 3:16 room with Holy Water**



**We're not in the basement anymore!!**

**Easter Service with special music from Mary and the "Praise Band"**



**Grace Garouette, Ashley Alsleben, Hannah Wigern, Adam Garoute, Isaac Swift, Dylan Wigern and Jessica Alsleben. Great job!**





**Pastor Bob, shaving during  
the children's sermon!**



**Easter worship service**

### **Mark your Calendars:**

**May 5<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Sunday, those being confirmed are Holden Meyer, Cameron Mielke, and Carter Reiland**

**May 19<sup>th</sup> Last Sunday of Sunday School**

**May 26<sup>th</sup> we start our Summer hours: 9:30 a.m.**

**June 9<sup>th</sup> Recognition of 3 high school graduates, Adam Garoutte, Isaac Swift, and Noah Eischens**

**June 13<sup>th</sup> Ice Cream Social--If you would like to help sell raffle tickets, they are in the back of the church. Many awesome miscellaneous items will be given away. Tickets are in packets of 10 and \$1.00 each. Thanks to many volunteers in 2018, the Women's Guild took in \$1052.00!! We appreciate your help.**

**July 14<sup>th</sup>** Join us on for an afternoon of food, games for the kids, a hunting dog demonstration, by Joe Blackbird and a trick shooting entertainment show by Aaron Gould. The Gould Brothers have performed all over the United States and have a great testimony to share. This is a free event sponsored by St. John's Church of Biscay and Grace Bible Church of Silver Lake. Invite your friends and family! All ages are welcome! Please bring a lawn chair along!

**Wanted:** Musicians to provide background music during lunch and games! Also need youth to volunteer to run games and serve food.

**July 28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>**

Vacation Bible School, "ROAR We are Wild about God" 6-8:15 p.m.

**June 9<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup>, Are outdoor services unless bad weather,  
August 11<sup>th</sup>, outdoor service at HEATWOLE**

**Remember these members in prayer or with a card or note;**

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

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

**Joyce Karl Birthday 11/15  
Harmony River Living Center -Room 125 Phone # 320-552-2171  
1555 Sherwood St. S.E.  
Hutchinson, MN. 55350**

**Randy Knick Birthday 11/28  
1388 Bradford St.  
Hutchinson, MN. 55350**

**Donald Padrnos Birthday 5/05  
1181 Oakwood CT. N.W  
Hutchinson, MN. 55350**

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

Paul Volker Birthday 9/07 (Brenda Garoutte's Dad)  
113 Walnut St. S.E.  
Sleepy Eye, MN. 56085

Duane Wigern Birthday 10/30  
425 Grant St.  
Glencoe, MN. 55350

Mark Wigern Birthday 2/25  
1620 Adams St. S.  
Hutchinson, MN. 55350

### ***CHURCH LEADERS FOR 2019***

#### **PASTOR**

Rev. Bob Taylor ..... 763-420-6800  
Cell: ..... 612-644-0628

#### **COUNCIL**

President: David Huebert ....864-4724  
V. Pres. David Sanken.. 320-583-7777  
Treasurer:Karen Konerza. ....864-4554  
Secretary: Celine Swift.....864-6188  
Fin. Sec. Cory Garoutte 320-583-1475  
Bldg.Fund Robyn Field 320-582-0356

#### **WOMEN'S GUILD 2018 -2019**

President Julie Karl .....587-7702  
Vice Pres Lea Ette Peters ....864-3282  
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 Karl .....587-7702  
Robyn Field ..... 320-234-6872  
Elaine Carrigan... .....864-3330

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS & SUBSTITUTES 2018- 2019**

##### **Preschool-Grade 1**

Dawn Huebert, Barb Buckentin,

##### **2<sup>nd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Jodi Sanken, Mary Taylor

##### **5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>**

June Knick, Andrea Wigern

##### **7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Joe & Susan Blackbird

##### **Young Adult Class**

Michelle Alsleben, Robyn Field

**Substitute List:** Ashley Alsleben Grace Garoutte

#### **YOUTH GROUP LEADERS**

Roxanne Sladek ..... 320-455-7218

Andrea Wigern..... 320-552-1292

#### **CHURCH SECRETARY & RECORDS UPKEEP**

Karen Konerza..... 320-864-4554

## **Job Sign-ups 2019**

### **COMMUNION & ALTAR PREP**

January.....Sladek  
February .....Swift  
March .....Blackbird  
April.....Knick  
May.....Schaefer  
June .....Elaine C.  
July .....Konerza  
August .....Sanken  
September.B & M Alsleben  
October .....Garoutte  
November .....Block  
December 2<sup>nd</sup> Nita & Lea Ette  
9<sup>th</sup> .....  
16<sup>th</sup> .....  
23<sup>rd</sup> .....  
**24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve .....**  
30<sup>th</sup>.....  
January 2020 .....Sladek

### **CUSTODIAN**

January.....Sladek  
February.....Swift  
March.....Blackbird  
April.....Knick  
May.....Schaefer  
June.....Wright  
July .....Konerza  
August.....Sanken  
September .B & M Alsleben  
October .....Garoutte  
November .....Block  
December 2nd.....  
9<sup>th</sup> .....  
16<sup>th</sup> .....  
23<sup>rd</sup> .....  
**24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve.....**  
30<sup>th</sup> .....  
January 2020.....Sladek

### **USHER/GREETER**

January .....Sladek  
February .....Swift  
March .....Blackbird  
April .....W & J Alsleben  
May .....Schaefer  
June .....Wright  
July .....Konerza  
August.....  
September B & M Alsleben  
October.....Garoutte  
November.....Block  
December 1st .....  
8<sup>th</sup> .....  
15<sup>th</sup> .....  
22nd.....  
**24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve.....**  
29<sup>th</sup> .....  
January 2020 .....Sladek

Please check the bulletin board for openings to serve as usher, custodian, or altar guild.

## May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Joe B.	3 Bridget B.	4
5 Communion & Confirmation Don P.	6 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 Cody & Cory R.	21	22	23	24 Rachel M.	25 Jessica A.
26	27	28 Mary Ann F. June K. Rachel S.	29	30	31	

## June 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Communion	3 Cory G.	4	5	6	7 Mary H. Nita vW.	8 Cameron M.
9 Recognition of H.S. Graduates	10 Lillian N.	11 Alan K.	12	13 Chandler S. David Swift	14	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 2019*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Kyle W.	4	5	6 Laura Streeter
7 Communion	8 Dawn N.	9	10	11	12 Connor M.	13 Owen R.
14	15	16	17	18 Alan M.	19	20
21 Jeremy F.	22 Eric R. Tom S.	23	24	25	26	27
28 VBS 6:00-8:15 p.m.	29 Andy M. VBS 6:00 -8:15 p.m.	30 VBS 6:00-8:15 p.m.	31 VBS 6:00-8:15 p.m.			

### **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](mailto:chubbers67@gmail.com)

*Karen Konerza*