



Parish Pulse

VOL. 28 ISSUE 1

† *United In Christ*
JANUARY 2024

Council Meetings

9TH-C 7PM

18TH-PARISH BOARD 9AM

*See worship schedule on
last page for annual
meeting dates**

Build an Altar

Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your descendants." And Abram built an altar there and dedicated it to the Lord, who had appeared to him. -Genesis 12:7

We have to let go of the old to lay hold of the new. We have to leave what's comfortable if we want to experience God as our provider, our defender, and our way-maker. God called Abram away from everything he knew to a land God had not yet revealed. But God's promise to Abram far outweighed his need to know every detail about the journey ahead. It's the same for you and me. We are pilgrims, traveling to a most holy city. And God's promise over us far outweighs our need to control every twist and turn. We're on a need-to-know basis, and when we need to know, God will let us know! But this we do know: The land ahead is a good land. And our good God will ensure we make it to our new home safely. Will you pause today and build an altar of remembrance? Before you take another step, remember His faithfulness. Remember his goodness. It'll strengthen you for the road ahead.

Read: Genesis 12:1-9

Pray: *You are here with me. I pause today to remember Your presence in my life. Thank you, Lord.*

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Larson, Susie. *Prevail*. Bloomington, MN. Bethany House Publishers. 2020

JANUARY 2024

Concordia Worship Participants

Thank you for serving in this capacity!
If you are unable to serve on the Sunday listed
please exchange with someone on the list and
notify the church office.

Altar Guild:
Kerri Solie
Shelley Rice

9:30 a.m. Worship

JANUARY 7

Ushers: Chris & Caiden Swenby
Greeters: Brandon & Laura DeLage
Lector: Justin Burke
Acolytes: Eve Revier & Owen Jensrud
Communion Assistants:
Elaine & Larry Erdahl; Cindy Leiser

JANUARY 14

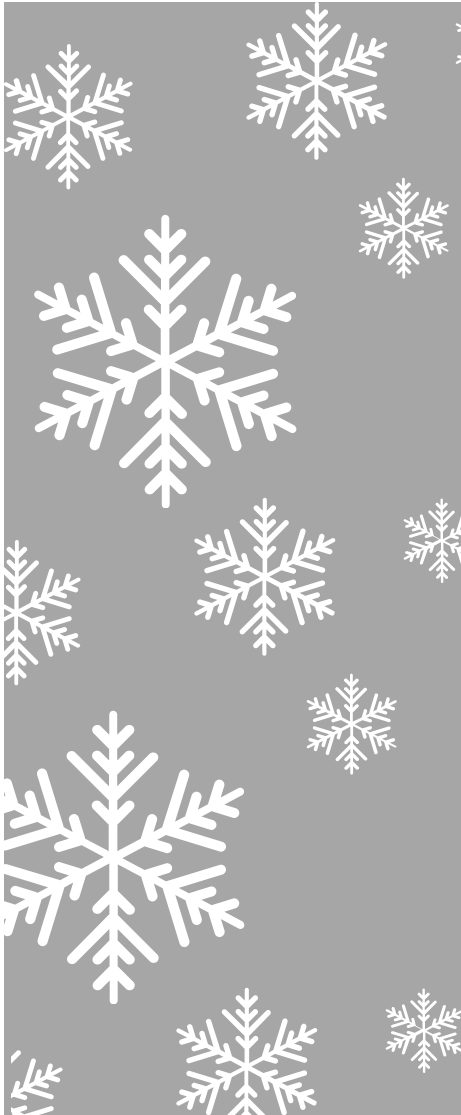
Ushers: Jeff & Connor Haaven
Assisting Minister: Tim Sykes
Greeters: Reid Jensrud & family
Lector: Brandon Neibauer-Adams
Acolytes: Koa Larson & Owen Jensrud
Communion Assistants:
Loren & Bonnie Abel; Cindy Abrahamson

JANUARY 21

Ushers: Chris Solie & Nick Solie
Greeters: Natty & Bjorn Messick
Assisting Minister: Carol Petersen
Lector: Pam Blaeser
Acolytes: Koa Larson & Owen Jensrud
Communion Assistants:
Natty & Lori Messick; Carol Swenby

JANUARY 28

Ushers: Tyler Christianson &
Justin Burke
Greeters: Jeff & Heidi Haaven
Lector: Larry Erdahl
Acolytes:
Communion Assistants:
Ron & Lori Sannes; Heidi Haaven



CONCORDIA NEW MEMBER SUNDAY- JANUARY 7, 2024



BLAST FROM THE PAST:

Egg Coffee

• 40 cups water • 2 cups coffee • 1 egg • water

Bring 40 cups of water to a boil.
Mix coffee, egg and enough water to moisten grounds.
Add to boiling water and boil maybe 5 minutes.
Check the color and taste.

=Welcome=



Concordia Lutheran Church Council Meeting

December 12, 2023

President Taylor Sannes called to order Concordia's Church Council meeting @ 7:03 pm on December 12th, 2023. Those present were Taylor Sannes, Pastor Dan Morton, Tina Sandberg, Mackinzie Burk, Lori Walters, Salome Hansen, Carol Petersen, Karl Tollefson, Nick Neibauer, Liz Lisburg, and Sue Lindberg.

-Devotions were given by Taylor from Ruth 1:16.

-Secretaries Report: The secretary's report was emailed, reviewed and accepted as reported. (Karl/Tina) M/S/A.

-Pastor's Report: Dan reported pulpit supply is covered through January with Pastor Dan and Pastor Darrell increasing their pulpit supply.

-Committee Reports:

-Daycare: (Lori) Nothing new was reported.

-Home & church Life: (Liz) There will be plans for another fun event for the church this coming January. Details to follow.

-Outreach (Mackinzie) A new member Sunday will be January 7th with 4 families joining. Concordia will again participate in the Giving Tree this Christmas involving 22 families and 65 children. The community has been great in responding to this need. Thanks to all those who are so generous in giving for our community.

-Education: (Tina) The blinds for the Education Unit and Daycare Center are mostly installed. The white boards are in the process of being installed. The Sunday School Christmas Program will be held December 17th @ 9:30 during church services with refreshments served afterwards. We are fortunate to have 60 students involved in this program.

-Worship: (Carol) New microphones have been ordered for the PA system.

-Management & Finance: (Nick) Nick reviewed the preliminary 2024 budget with discussions from each committee member. The revised proposed budget will be reviewed at the January meeting before the annual meeting.

-Treasurer's Report: Karl and Salome are working with Todd to complete the end of year necessities. Todd has expressed that he wants to be done with his position by the end of the year. We want to thank Todd for all his work this past year. A motion was made and the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented (Nick/Carol) M/S/A. A motion was made and passed nominating Taylor Sannes as the new Financial Treasurer for Concordia church. (Karl/Carol) M/S/A.

-Old Business: The parsonage committee continues obtaining quotes, including quotes for new cabinets for the kitchen. The nominating committee will be contacting individuals willing to be on the 2024 ballot for the needed council positions and we ask that you prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve.

New Business: A motion was made to donate \$2,000 to the ELCA World Hunger Fund (Tina/Sue) M/S/A. There are matching funds up to \$165,000 for any donations given by December 31st. Individual memorials have been given to world hunger and will be included in this donation totaling \$2000. We encourage others to donate to this worthy cause as well.

The next meeting will be January 9th, 2024. A motion to adjourn was made @ 9:20 pm. M/S/A (Nick/Carol). The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Sue Lindberg, Secretary

Little Norway January Anniversaries & Birthdays

Anniversaries

05-Cody & Hailee Benson

Birthdays

03-Jennifer Larson

17-Lynne Gullickson

04-Barbara Schulstad

19-Lionel Sandness

05-Soren Larson

21-Lucy Fuglseth

07-Kim Andersen

22-Dean Kronschnabel

12-Sara Preusser

30-Kristen Larson

13-Irene Vidden

January Deacon-Kim Larson **Janitor**-Jim Larson

Altar Guild & Communion Prep

Sara Preusser, Heidi Benson, & Lynne Gullickson

Esther/Mary Circle- Jan. 4th, 2:00 pm at church

Dorcas Circle- Jan. 8th- 7:00 pm at church

Jan. Readers- **Jan 7**-Kathy Christensen **Jan 14**-Ernie Christensen

Jan 21-Kim Larson **Jan 28**-Stacy Kronschnabel

*Wishing
you a
Blessed
New Year!*

LITTLE NORWAY COUNCIL

December 6, 2023

Members present: Mark Benson, Heidi Benson, Kim Larson, Jim Larson, John Gullickson, Kristen Larson, Colleen Kaste and Jamie Morvig

Mark called the meeting to order.

Heidi gave devotions.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Dan absent- at Call Meeting

Secretary report: Jamie read the minutes from the November 1st meeting, Heidi motioned to approve, John second passed.

Treasurer's report: Colleen reported that Terry Johnson will be co-treasurer starting in January 2024. Water to Thrive, Little Norway donated \$2,005 for the project; \$1000 in our annual charities and \$1005 from the congregation. The Vanco- electronic offering is charging \$11.40 per month. Discussion with other Churches to go on a direct deposit set up with RRSB. There would be no charge to our Church or member. Jamie motioned to move away from Vanco for electronic offering and move to the online service provided by RRSB starting in 2024, Jim second/Passed.

Vice President's report: John gave Parish update; December Parish support will be waived. There are 14 students from the Parish going on the youth gathering in New Orleans summer of 2024. The parish has approved the budget for 2024. Next Leadership meeting will be Jan. 10th.

Deacon's: Mission dinner was held after tree decorating.

Trustees: Grove Heating will be called in to check on the new heating system.

Education: Christmas program will be on December 10th starting at 9:00am. January Church hours will be 11, so Sunday school will meet prior.

Unfinished Business:

- a) Church insurance for the 1099 employees will be in place January 1st.
- b) Church cleaning, Heidi Larson will be increasing her fee for 2024. Council asked Kim Larson if she would be willing to clean directly hired by Little Norway. Kim is currently cleaning for Heidi and doing a nice job. She would be covered under insurance for the 1099 employees. Contract will be drawn up.
- c) Council discussed the Financial Help for Youth activities; this was approved at the LN annual meeting back in 2010. The church will pay ½ of the registration fee, providing the youth give a final report after the activity. Kate Larson is signed up from Little Norway to attend the Youth Conference summer of 2024 in New Orleans. Jamie motioned to give Kate Larson \$300.00 for her registration fee with the understanding that Kate will give a report to the church after her trip, Kristen second/passed.

New Business:

- a) January annual meeting date will be set for January 14th. Church will be at 11, with a potluck before the meeting. Service group 2 will be in charge.
- b) Board reports need to be in the Church office by January 5th.
- c) Committee for new Council has met and will be ready for annual meeting.
- d) Jan 17, 2024, Parish council has requested that all the Church councils meet at Concordia. We would have a report from the Parish board and Pastor's report. Then meet separately so each council can discuss their agenda. The annual meeting being set for the 14th we will not meet until February. The joint meetings would make it easier for the Pastor to give his report to each council and lessen his number of meetings. It was suggested we try this for a month. Discussion was held regarding this change, nothing determined at this time.
- e) Parish Leadership meeting January 10, 2024; 6pm supper with meeting to follow. The council discussed the need for additional meetings. We have a Call Committee that will be going forward. Attendance from Little Norway will be down and majority felt that they would not be in attendance.
- f) Mark handed out a copy of the Wedding and Funeral Policies. We have this if inquiries are made.

Next meeting: Annual Meeting January 14, 2024

Devotions: **Lunch: Potluck**

Adjourn with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Jamie Morvig

Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office will be open

Monday-Thursday 8:30a.m.- 4:00 p.m.; Fridays 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

If at any time you need a Pastor, you may reach Pastor Dan at 320-260-6955.

Thank you.



Faaberg Announcements

The Faaberg WELCA will meet Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. with Peggy Ystenes leading the devotions. We will spend the day taking down the Christmas decorations and quilting, so bring a lunch.

We will continue quilting Friday morning, January 5. Additional quilting days may be set up as needed.

The Afternoon Bible Study will be held Monday, January 8, at 1:30 p.m. with a group led lesson.

Faaberg Council Meeting December 13, 2023

The council met at the church Wednesday December 13, 2023. Attending were Peggy Ystenes, Roz Sannes, Sue Knutson, Jeff Gullickson, Brad Hanson, Tony Grieve, Steve & Georgia Gullickson, Vickie Thronson, Scott Van Den Einde and Darla McWilliam. Scott called the meeting to order at 7pm.

The agenda was amended to move the treasurer's report to New Business with the Budget. Motion by Peggy, second by Steve to approve the agenda, carried.

Vickie read the secretaries report. Motion by Roz, second by Jeff to approve, carried.

Scott relayed some information from Pastor Dan Morton. Discussion at Parish Council meeting about having Parish Council and Church Councils meet on the same night. Discussion by Parish Council about pulpit supply.

Old Business: Brad has tried contacting a couple different contractors about doing the soffit and fascia replacement. No response from the contractors.

At the special congregational meeting held on October 15, Sarah Iverson was elected to represent Faaberg on the Call Committee.

The Wi-Fi is working and appreciated.

The acoustic ceiling tiles are up in the basement and comments are favorable that they help.

New Business: Sue asked about updating/refreshing the furnace room and men's bathroom areas. She will look into some options and cost estimates.

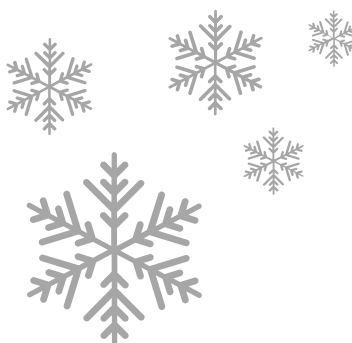
Peggy gave the treasurer's report and went thru the actual 2023 income and expenses to date. The checkbook balance is \$2,519.92 Cemetery balance is \$1,224.44 No money was withdrawn from the savings account this year. We reviewed the budget and Sue made a motion, second by Georgia to propose \$109,655.00 for 2024, carried.

We prayed the Lord's Prayer together.

Having no further business Steve made a motion to adjourn, second by Jeff, carried.

Secretary,

Vickie Thronson



Full parking lot...church fully decorated...welcoming smiles...visiting...music playing in the background..."aren't they cute"...a crying baby...then, a live baby Jesus!...singing... Bethlehem Bells...jingle bells with kazoos...Bell Choir...piano solo...instrumental solos...Praise!

A heartfelt thank you to the Sunday school students and teachers for an outstanding Christmas program! Jesus' birth was celebrated loud and strong! Now we continue to proclaim the good news into the New Year!

God has provided for all our needs this past year in our congregation and parish. We are thankful for the Pastors and Kelsey who have been leading worship and also the pianists and organists who have filled in during Anne's recovery period. We are grateful! We look forward to 2024 knowing God has us in His care.

January 15th is the date to turn in your sewing kits if you took one home! We will be quilting again during the winter months and welcome anyone who likes to sew, tie or just visit! Thanks to those who make the all important quilt tops – you are tops! If you would like more information regarding dates and times call Kathy Swanson at 218-574-2710.

January 21st – Annual meeting date. Worship at 9:00; meeting at 10:00 with a potluck lunch to follow. Leaders are encouraged to turn your reports into the office by January 8th. Thank you.

Greeters and custodians for January are Dale and Linda Berhow.

Thanks to greeters in December, Jody and Denise Gudvangen and girls – I forgot to include them in the last newsletter – sorry! They did a nice job and I hope you had a chance to buy stock from Hailey Gudvangen who will be attending the national youth gathering next summer.

And so, we start the New Year with boldness and confidence in our mission to connect with others, care for others, and share with all the good news of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer! Happy New Year!

Submitted by: Marlene Block



Maple Lake Church Council Minutes

Date: December 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Attending: John Swanson, Pastor Dan, Brenda Langved, Marlene Block, & MaryBeth Swanson.

Devotions: Prayer

Secretary's Report: MM/S by Marlene Block/Brenda Langved to accept minutes as submitted. MC.

Treasurer's Report: MM/S by Marlene Block/John Swanson to accept report as submitted. MC.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Phil Blom has covid (no church last Sunday). His transitional ministry contract will be ending in January. His role around the parish after January is still To Be Determined. The main pastors in the pulpit will be Dan and Darrel and others as needed. The call committee has met. There will be a meeting January 10th for all parish members to meet and share what they are looking for in our next pastor. Ash Wednesday will be 2/14. Services will be held at Concordia this year. Jr/Sr High youth will be serving soup and sandwiches before services.

Parish Board Report: No Report

Deacon's Report: No Report

Trustees' Report: No Report

Old Business:

1. We will need to continue to pray for options for an organist. Marlene is currently working to find pianists/organists for upcoming Sundays. The council approved an increase in payment for 2024.
2. Water Softener is not working. Marlene has tried contacting Maynard's Plumbing, to come to the church and check on the softener and leave some literature/manuals on how to operate it. Still waiting on a response.

New Business:

1. 2024 proposed budget review
 - a. The council discussed each line item on the proposed 2024 budget. LSS, Pioneer Memorial Care, postage, and synod convention items were reduced. Insurance, organist, parish support and heating fuel were all increased. The remainder line items remained unchanged.
 - b. MM/S by Brenda Langved/Marlene Block to present the budget as discussed to the annual meeting on January 21st, 2024. MC.
2. Reports for the Annual Meeting need to be turned into the office by January 8th.
3. There were some electrical issues in the entry way. The breakers were hot, and there was bad relay that needed to be replaced. Mid Valley Electric was here and did some work, but a new timer has been ordered as well.

Adjourn: MM/S to adjourn by Brenda Langved/Marlene Block. MC. Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:20 p.m.

Next council meeting: The annual meeting will be Sunday January 21st, 2024 following the 9 a.m. church service.

Trinity Lutheran Church Council

December 20, 2023

President Sharon Lenz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Sharon, Joni Page, Jolene Billing, Dean Smith, Mark Langved and Kristy Langved.

Sharon opened with prayer.

Kristy read the secretary's report. The proposed budget total was changed to \$52,432. Mark made a motion to accept it with that correction, seconded by Dean and carried.

Jolene gave the treasurer's report. Mark made a motion to file for audit, seconded by Joni and carried.

There was no pastor's report or other reports.

Old business: Sharon had talked with Heidi Larson and gotten some clarifications about donating to the Fair Meadow Foundation and Giving Hearts Day. Dean made a motion to give \$500 to Fair Meadow Foundation to come out of the special funds account. Mark seconded and it carried. Joni made a motion to give \$250 to Care and Share and \$250 to Grand Forks Mission, to come out of the special funds account. Mark seconded and it carried.

New business: Dean made a motion that Joni be in charge of the Sunday School funds and distribution thereof. Seconded by Mark and carried.

The proposed budget was discussed and amended for presentation at the annual meeting.

Dean made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark. We adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristy Langved
Secretary, Trinity Lutheran Church Council



The call committee would like your input!

You are invited to join us on Wednesday, January 10th at 6:00pm for a light supper, followed by an informational meeting from 6:30-8:00pm

The time is timely!! It's time for all to gather and make a difference, to literally "MAKE THE CALL!" We need your voice to help the Parish Leadership and Call Committee prepare the way.

Key roles- what are they? What do YOU want in our pastors?
We won't know if you are not there to share. Your input counts.

We will also continue the caring and creative considerations of our five core values.

- ~United (In community)
- ~Caring Community (Hospitality)
- ~Vibrant Youth
- ~Wednesday Worship
- ~Education

Especially the consideration of Wednesday ministry opportunities. This wonderful parish and community have demonstrated its prayer filled care filled ways. Let's continue as we tend and nurture a faithful future!

See you then!

Pastor "RePhil"

And blessed to be.

 Together We Can! 

UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE 2024

Youth Group Leaders- Chad Christianson & Angie Petry
1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month

January 3 rd , 2024	3:30-4:30 Jr. High snack served 6:00-7:30 Sr. High supper served
January 17 th , 2024	3:30-4:30 Jr. High snack served 6:00-7:30 Sr. High supper served
February 7 th , 2024	3:30-4:30 Jr. High snack served 6:00-7:30 Sr. High supper served
SUNDAY, February 11 th	Taste of New Orleans Meal & Jazz Music
February 21 st , 2024	3:30-4:30 Jr. High snack served 5:45-6:45 Sr. High SERVE PARISH LENTEN SOUP SUPPER Lenten services begin at 7:00
March 6 th , 2024	3:30-4:30 Jr. High snack served 5:45-6:45 Sr. High SERVE PARISH LENTEN SOUP SUPPER Lenten services begin at 7:00
March 20 th , 2024	3:30-4:30 Jr. High snack served 5:45-6:45 Sr. High SERVE PARISH LENTEN SOUP SUPPER Lenten services begin at 7:00
April 3 rd , 2024	3:30-4:30 Jr. High snack served 6:00-7:30 Sr. High supper served
April 17 th , 2024	3:30-4:30 Jr. High snack served 6:00-7:30 Sr. High supper served
May 1 st , 2024	3:30-4:30 Jr. High snack served 6:00-7:30 Sr. High supper served
May 15 th , 2024	3:30-4:30 Jr. High snack served 6:00-7:30 Sr. High supper served

NEWSLETTER OF THE CONCORDIA, LITTLE NORWAY,
 MAPLE LAKE, TRINITY, AND FAABERG
 CONGREGATIONS OF THE UNITED IN CHRIST
 LUTHERAN PARISH, ELCA

Daniel Morton: Associate Pastor 320-260-6955
 email: pastordan_uclp@gvtel.com
 Phil Blom: Transition Pastor
 email: philipblom@icloud.com
 Youth Group Leaders E-mail:
 Angie Petry: petryfame@outlook.com
 Chad Christianson: vballcechrist@gmail.com
 Office Managers: Lori Sannes and Jennifer Larson
 email: office_uclp@gvtel.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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 Telephone: 218-945-6696
 website: www.unitedinchristlutheranparish.org

<div> <div>**NOTE: Our pulpit fill may be subject to change.</div> <div> <div>Worship Schedule</div> <div>JANUARY 2024</div> </div> </div>				
NOTE: Our pulpit fill may be subject to change:				
	January 7	January 14	January 21	January 28
F				
8:15 am	Pr. Blom	Pr. Dan	Pr. Dan	Pr. Darrell
C				
9:30am	Pr. Blom	Pr. Dan	Pr. Dan	Pr. Darrell
T				
11:00am	Pr. Blom	Pr. Dan	Pr. Dan	Pr. Darrell
ML				
9:00am	Pr. Dan	Pr. Blom	Pr. Darrell	Pr. Dan
LN				
11:00am	Pr. Dan	Pr. Blom	Pr. Darrell	Pr. Dan

*NOTE: Worship time change

ANNUAL MEETINGS DATES: Little Norway-January 14
 Faaberg- January 21
 Maple Lake- January 21
 Concordia- January 28
 Trinity- January 28