**First EDITION**

**JANUARY 2024**

“We are called by God to grow in faith together, sharing Christ’s love with each other and our community.”

Many gifts….

**Nativity of Jesus**

The crib, or manger, represents the birth of Christ. The “X” and the “P” when used together are called the “Chi Rho: and is the abbreviation of the Greek word for Christ. The divine nature of Christ is expressed with the Star of Bethlehem, with the rays and the aureole over the crib. The sic-pointed star is the Creator’s Star. The three crowns symbolize the visit of the wiseman.



In Memory of:

Mrs. Wesley Halverson

**…. Many Thanks**

**The Noisy Offering for JANUARY goes for**

**The Blessing Box.**

**Prayer Concerns and Sympathy** ~Craig Moline (son of Sharol Huggett), Steve Dazenski (brother of Kathy Thompson), John Seegebarth, David Shober, Larry Edin, Jerry Shober, Bradley Fairbanks, Lana Jensen, Yvonne Guptill, and MarshaSkoog (friend of Patty Sweeny).

**Care facility member** ~Dorothy Svendsen.

**For firefighters, EMT’s, those who serve to protect Policemen and women and military.**

**For world peace**. **For our companion synods.**

**For our missionaries:** Jacqueline and Patrick Bencke.

 

**Women’s ongoing mission project-**

We ask members to join us and bring **SOCKS** during the month of **January** for the homeless.

Please put them in the basket marked “Homeless Packets” in the cabinet in the Narthex.

*****Just a note to let you know, that offering envelopes for giving are always out on the bulletin table. If you need a bigger amount, please contact Kathy Thompson. Also giving statements will be available to pick up around the fifteenth of January.*

*Kathy Thompson - Financial Secretary*



Please Join us for the Community Meal

5-6 pm on Tuesday, January 2nd.

(Tom and Donna Wachsmuth and Paul Shober)



***PLEASE HELP US take down the christmas decoration on***

***JANUARY 7TH AFTER WORSHIP.***



 **Annual Report time is approaching fast.**

**Sunday, January 21st.**

If you are the chairman of a board, a committee, or the Church Council, please select someone to prepare your report for the

Annual Meeting**.**

**The Deadline for Annual Reports is 9 am Tuesday, January 2nd,** so they will be ready before the Annual meeting. Please return your reports to me print ready or email to me at: secretary@flchinckley.onmicrosoft.com



WOMEN’S 4 PM RUTH BIBLE STUDY

 MONDAY, JANUARY 8TH



**Out to Lunch Bunch January 18th is at the Whistle Stop in Hinckley.**



The Faith Community Nurse will be doing blood pressures for anyone who would like one, Sunday, January 21st during Coffee Fellowship.



**The February Newsletter Deadline needs to be in by 9 am on Monday, January 22nd.**

***SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY***

***Remember if you cannot serve, to please find your***

 ***own substitute. Thank You.***

 ***Acolytes***

*Sunday, January 7- Jaeden Blesener*

 *-*

 *Sunday, January 14- Brooklyn Storlie*

 *- ava Blowers*

 *Sunday, January 21-*

 *-*

 *Sunday, January 28-Brooklyn Storlie*

 *- Ava Blowers*

***Wednesday Confirmation Parent Assist***

 *Wednesday, January 3- –*

 *-*

 *Wednesday, January 10-*

 *-*

*Wednesday, January 17-*

 *-*

*Wednesday, January 24-*

*

*Wednesday, January 31-*

 *-*

***Lectors***

*Sunday, January 7-Carole Lahti*

*Sunday, January 14-Christie Dunkley*

*Sunday, January 21-Paul Olson*

*Sunday, January 28-Donna Wachsmuth*

 ***Kitchen Cleaning*-** *Gail Wells*

***Ushers*-***Dennis Volden and Virgil Seegebarth*

***Altar-*** *N/A*

*January Birthday's*

**1/1 Troy Tvedt**

 **Susan Youngblom ✝**

**1/2 Judy Koste**

 **Parker Leppanen**

**1/4 Vonnie Vayder**

**1/12 Delaney Olson**

**1/13 David Kadous ✝**

 **Aquene Klapel**

 **Rebecca Martin**

**1/14 Marianne Mans**

**1/15 Paul Cabak**

**1/16 Anthony Hadlock**

**1/18 Don Grice**

**1/19 Jacob Grice**

**1/20 Bonnie Bostrom**

 **Shanon Thompson**

**1/21 Fred Lyon**

**1/22 Jacob Rensvold**

**1/23 Chad Klar**

 **Christopher Pardun**

 **Harlow Patrick**

 **Benjamin Strauch**

**1/24 Greta Zaudtke**

**1/25 Emalee Alexander**

 **Jeremiah Johnson**

 **Amy Tvedt**

 **Jase Fisher**

**1/26 Brian Bernhardt**

**1/27 Allen Rensvold**

**1/28 Madeleine Pardun**

✝ **Octogenarians**

**Please let us know if there are any corrections or additions.**

**Thank You!**





**Women’s Bible Study’s** **ongoing mission project**.

We ask members to join us and bring a **granola bars** during the month of **May** for homeless packets. Please put them in the basket marked “Homeless Packets” in the cabinet in Narthex.

Thank You.



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| --- |
| Image result for Seasonal Clip Art Free Winter **January 2024**   \*\*Subject to Change\*\* **Worship Service is available Live on Facebbok, You Tube, and Website.****Wednesday Night Youth Schedule (see below)** |
| **SUN**  | **MON** | **TUES** | **WED** | **THURS** | **FRI** | **SAT** |
|  | 1 **New Year’s** **Day**  | **2**9:30 am Women’s Bible Study | **3**11 am Staff mtg**.**6:30 pm Worship/HC | **4**7 am Men’s CoffeeFellowship7:30 am Men’s Tex Study | 5 | 68 pm AA mtg. |
| 78:30 pm Coffee Fellowship9:30 am Worship/HC | 84 pm Women’s Ruth Bible Study5:30 pm All Boards | 99:30 am Women’s Bible Study | 109 am Library6:30 pm Worship/HC | 117 am Men’s CoffeeFellowship7:30 am Men’s Tex Study9 am Quilting | 12 | 138 pm AA mtg. |
| 148:30 pm Coffee Fellowship9:30 am Worship/HCChurch Council | 15 8:30 am-3 pmYouth Service Fun DayMN Wild Game 3 pm | 169:30 am Women’s Bible Study | 176:30 pm Worship/HC | 18 7 am Men’s CoffeeFellowship7:30 am Men’s Tex Study ELCA Youth Extravaganza Jan. 18-22 | 19 | 20 8 pm AA mtg. |
| 21 8:30 pm Coffee Fellowship9:30 am First Word Worship/HCAnnual mtg.3 pm Welcome & Reconciling Host-FellowshipHallELCA Youth Extravaganza Jan. 18-22 | 22 **February****Newsletter****Deadline** |  | 246:30 pm Worship/HCMission TripMtg. after Worship | 257 am Men’s CoffeeFellowship7:30 am Men’s Tex Study | 26 | 278 pm AA mtg. |
| 288:30 pm Coffee Fellowship9:30 am Worship/HC | 29 | 309:30 am Women’s Bible Study | 316:30 pm Worship/HC | **Wednesday Night Youth Schedule** 4:30 pm FiA Choir (k-6) starts Jan. 17th.5-6:30 pm FiAFiA & Youth Jan. 31st Ice Skating5:30 -6 pm Confirmation Dinner6 pm Large Group Confirmation 6:30 pm Worship/HC7 pm Small Group Confirmation7:30 pm Youth Group |

Youth and Family News!

All your children shall be taught by the LORD, and great shall be the peace of your children.

 ***Isaiah 54:13***

**Faith in Action:** All Wednesday night activities start back up on January 10th after Christmas break. Reminder that Faith in Action will be every Wednesday night from 5:00 – 6:30 YOUTH GROUP will be from 7:00 – 8:00 for 7th -12th graders and will follow the same schedule as FiA – bring a gift for a gift game and Epiphany lesson for youth group.

**Youth Service and Fun and Lock In! Grades 6th -12th** - is being planned for February – details are still being worked out and permission forms and packets will be handed out at FiA and confirmation.

**Jan 15th - Youth service and fun day -** Feed my starving children and sky zone - cost $10 (plus socks if you don’t have them) meet at church at 8:30 and return at 3 pm.

**Jan 17th –** we will be starting back to informal youth choir on Wednesday nights at 4:30 before FiA – Youth choir will sing during Sunday and Wednesday worship once a month – open to k -6th graders.

**Mission trip meeting – January 24th after worship:** Mission trip bible study and meeting for all youth and adults going on the trip. Snacks, bible study lesson and games. There will be monthly meetings from now until July.

**Youth and FiA Ice Skating and sledding at the pit - Wednesday January 31st.**

Bring your warm clothes, skates and or sleds. We will start with dinner then walk to the pit for a night of outdoor winter fun followed by hot chocolate and cookies.

****

**MN Wild - tickets $50 – Jan 15th limited spots available.**

We will make a meal to drop off to A Place for You on our way to the game. Meet at church at 3 pm.

**Council Minutes November 19th, 2023**

**Those present:** Rick Bicking, Rick Dunkley, Nancy Stephenson, Kevin Stephenson, Robin Hendrix, Tom Wachsmuth, Dwaine Palmer, Paul Shober.

**Call to Order:** 10:40 AM. We were led in devotions by Kevin.

**Secretary Minutes:** motion to accept the minutes made by Dwaine, second by Tom, motion carried.

**Financial Secretary’s Report:** motion to accept made by Kevin, second by Paul, motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Rick B. talked about Mindy’s credit card. He was thinking that she should have a Sam’s Club card which receives 3% back on regular purchases and 5% back on gas purchases. We can order supplies from there. Rick will check to see if the rules are the same for organizations. Mindy also needs a higher credit limit for things like youth gathering fees. Motion to increase her limit to $5000, and to get a card with rewards, made by Paul, second by Robin, motion carried. Rick B. also mentioned that the building fund is negative. We will decide how to balance it at the December meeting. We are also behind on the retirement payments for Pastor because Portico forgot to bill us. We will have to rectify this before Pastor leaves. Motion to accept Treasurer’s report made by Tom, second by Paul, motion carried.

**Board Reports:** Motion to accept made by Nancy, second by Tom, motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Update on creation of an Audio/Visual Team:** Kevin met with Lisa Blowers for a bit. There isn’t much interest.

**Handicap Door Update:** motion to go ahead and install the handicap door in the front of the church, taking 1/3 of the cost from the Kofoed fund and the remainder from the Edwin fund, made by Tom, second by Robin, motion carried. Kevin will contact Live Wire to get a quote on the electrical.

**Garbage Disposal:** Tom and Kevin feel they can install a new one.

**Tim Davis’ Property, the tree and the fencing:** Rick D. said he will cut the tree and Scott Jensen said he would bring in equipment to pull it out. Rick D. will speak with Tim Davis about our plans of installing a fence on the property line. Tim, as the property owner, can then sign off that he is in agreement with the fence. Last spring there was an agreement that the camper would be removed. We need to remind Tim about this as it has not been moved. So far we have received one fencing installation estimate from Deutschlander Fencing for $3996. We would like to get another estimate from another company. Motion made to try to get the fencing installed this year if possible, with 1/3 of the funds coming from the Kofoed account and the remainder from the Edwin account, made by Kevin, second by Tom, motion carried.

**Our Bylaws and Constitution:** Pastor and Rick D. spent a lot of time looking at these and comparing them to the Synod’s model. Our bylaws will now be separated from our constitution. Rick D. will email the copies to us that have highlighted areas with proposed changes. We can then vote on it and in January present it to the congregation at the annual meeting. After that we can send it to our synod to look at.

**LGBTQ Meeting:** will be held at our church on January 20th. It will be open to all of the churches in our synod. Robin will check to see if we are supposed to provide a lunch.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Thanksgiving/Christmas Offering designations:** our Thanksgiving Offering with go to Lutheran World Relief, and our Christmas Offering will go to the Family Pathways food shelf in Sandstone. Motion to do this made by Robin, second by Kevin, motion carried.

**Counting Procedures and Deposits:** after discussion we have decide that it is fine to have the counting done during the week so that Kathy can do it, and deposited during the week when the staff has time. Rick D. will discuss this change with the pastor. Motion made by Tom, second by Paul, motion carried.

**Church Christmas Tree:** Rick D. will speak with Jim Frye to see if his tree farm will still offer us a free tree.

**Decorating of the Church:** this will take place December 1st at 10 AM.

**Church Lawn Service:** A larger mower has been donated. Motion made to hire a teen or adult next year to mow if out insurance will allow this, made by Tom, second by Paul, motion carried. We will call to cancel our other service.

**Snowplowing:** Tom will hire Jamie Johnson and find out what his price will be.

**Annual Meeting:** will take place on the third Sunday in January, which is January 21st, 2024.

**Filling Elaine Garaghty’s remaining council term:** Elaine has moved to a church closer to her home. Her term runs through Jan. 2025. Donna Wachsmuth has graciously offered to fill her position. Motion to accept made by Dwaine, second by Paul, motion carried.

**Corn and Clover Carnival Participation:** many feel that organizing and running the church booth at the carnival is too much work for the funds collected. We will sell the surplus equipment and keep whatever the church can still use. Motion made by Tom, second by Paul, motion carried.

**Community Meal Donations:** Half the donations were going towards the Pastor’s discretionary fund, which now has a balance of over $900. Motion made to put all of the donations back into funding the community meal made by Robin, second by Dwaine, motion carried.

**Parish Nurse Report:** Robin said she has been busy with phone calls setting up rides for a member’s son to go to the cities for several cancer treatments. She also answered questions about medications and the use of a sling and made several home visits.

**Director of Youth and Family Ministries Report:** Mindy is attending the NEMN Synod Youth Gathering, please see her report.

**Interim’s Report:** Pastor Steve is at Fish Creek Nature Preserve today for the dedication of a bench and plaque and native prairie restoration in honor of his son Sam who died while working there. Please see Pastor’s report.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45.

**These notes respectfully submitted by Nancy Stephenson.**

**Treasurer’s Report**

Financial Report for November 2023

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Budget** | **YTD actual** | **Last Year** |
| **YTD Income** | **$194,517** | **$130,136** | **$123,413** |
| **YTD Expenses** | **$171,329** | **$164,326** | **$169,562** |

**Office Hours:**

Mindy Johnson, Director of Youth, Family and Education-call 320-384-6393

youthdirector@flchinckley.onmicrosoft.com

Donna Martin, Church Secretary:

Tuesday-Thursday 9-3

secretary@flchinckley.onmicorsoft.com

Kathy Thompson, Financial Secretary: Wednesday & Thursday 9-3

fincancialsecretary@flchinckley.onmicrosoft.com

Rick Bicking, Treasurer: Tues. or call 320-384-6393

treasurer@flchinckley.onmicrosoft.com

 First Lutheran Church Non-Profit Organization

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 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED