

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



St. John's Messenger *May, June, July, 2016*

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REFLECTIONS

Why go to Church?

*If you're **spiritually alive**, you're going to love this!
If you're **spiritually dead**, you won't want to read it.
If you're **spiritually curious**, there is still hope!*

Why Go To Church?

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!" When you are DOWN to nothing..... God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

*"When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, "**Jesus, could you get that for me?**"*

Pastor's Notes



Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us... Ephesians 3:20

As many of you know, at the annual meeting we voted to expand our parking utilizing an acre of land south of the existing parking lot and tree line. We also decided the most cost effective way to do that was to seed the area rather than using gravel. The cost of doing so was much lower than gravel, plus it will give us a nice green area for our kids to play on and will be a wonderful help during our VBS program, and give us much need additional parking for the annual ice cream social and other events.

But as with all church projects, we are very much dependent on volunteers to put together a plan, do the due diligence, secure the right contractors, and execute the plan in a timely fashion. Again, in the providence of God, the job is done and the timing could not have been more perfect. The individual doing the grading had us first on his list this Spring; we arrived at the best mix between hydro-seeding and planting a portion of the seed ourselves.

Thanks to Dave Swift for expertly overseeing the whole process, for getting bids and lining up the necessary help on various parts of the project, as well as doing a portion of the seeding using his own equipment. We could not have completed the hydro-seeding without the help of David Huebert in providing the use of his water cart. Jerry Wright volunteered to put up a rope barrier around the portion of the lot where people may be inclined to drive onto the new grass. This may prevent unwanted damage until the grass gets established. Thanks to Curt Bussler who completed the hydro-seeding on Friday just in time for the rain!

Just a reminder that when you are seeking to do God's will and do everything you can to make it happen, God in His providence, will make it all come together. And He did again as He has done on so many projects here at St. John's over the past number of years. To God be the glory! And many thanks to those of you who participated in the process.

Pastor Bob

Council Minutes:

February 3, 2016

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

Dave called the meeting to order.

Pastor Bob opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional.

The council welcomed Dave Huebert as our new council person. All current council positions will remain the same with Dave H. being the new Vice President.

Pastor's Report:

** Visitation: Maynard Rannow, Joyce Karl, Lillian Nemitz, Jerry Mickolichuk, Duane and Gloria Wigern, Dale and LeaEtte Peters, Alice Kaufman, Dick Swift, and Dean and Deb Froemming.

** Called on inactive members and gave the council an update.

** Recommend that Dean and Deb Froemming be received into membership. Council will discuss under new business.

The secretary's minutes were approved from the January meeting.

Brenda gave the treasurer's report which showed a beginning balance of \$16,882.42 and an ending balance of \$16,773.36. This report was approved as given.

- Designated Funds - \$8,366.50
 - Benevolence - \$1792.15
 - Building - \$265.00
 - Choir - \$1,037.87
 - Memorial - \$4,417.23
 - Pastoral - \$500.00
 - Sunday School/VBS - \$134.25
 - Youth Group - \$80.00
 - Cemetery Fund - \$140.00
 - Women's Guild Fund - \$0.00
- General Fund - \$8,406.86

Gene reported that the ending balance in the building fund is \$74,720.74. This report was approved as given.

Old Business:

-- *Building Investigation Committee* – Committee met with contractor for Lester Builders and sent out a print to a modular builder for evaluation.

-- *Same Sex Marriage Committee* – Will be meeting Sunday morning @ 8:00.

-- The hymnal statement of faith/creeds are done and updated in all hymnals. Thank you Celine!!

-- Dave talked to Brian Vacek regarding a storage container for the communion cups. He will see what he can come up with and will make something for them.

-- The carpet and floor cleaning is done. David Trimbo did an awesome job!

-- Thank you to Brian Alsleben for fixing the florescent light downstairs!

New Business:

- Dave S. will be meeting with an accountant to clean up some tax questions. He also has had discussions with a lawyer on church bylaws and taxes.

- Consideration and discussion was made on memorial purchases. M/S/A to purchase a new flat screen TV/DVD/Car for under \$1,200.00 contingent on talking to the Sankens who donated the current one. This will fill the need for Sunday School purposes as well as Adult Bible Study and various other needs.
- The council was approached regarding making weekly deposits vs. monthly ones. There was concern of the deposits being taken or destroyed by fire, etc. The council discussed and will check with the Treasurer's insurance company as well as the churches. Discussion will be made again at the next meeting. After doing this month's deposit it was brought to our attention that we really don't have a lot of cash on any given deposit...mostly checks.
- A member of the council was also approached on considering other investment options. Discussion was made and at this time we will continue with what we have. For future use, new money may be invested with Hutch Co-Op or other options.
- M/S/A to accept Dean and Deb Froemming into membership by letter of transfer.

Task list for February:

- Clean out files - Done
- Review and update policies - Done
- New snow call list – Randy will print out new one
- Review memorials – Brenda will take a look at
- Sign Pastor's contract - Done

There were no suggestions in the box.

Because of Lent, our next council meeting will be Tuesday, March 8th @ 7:00.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Martin /Secretary

March 8, 2016

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

Dave called the meeting to order.

Pastor Bob opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional.

Pastor's Report:

** Visitation: Maynard Rannow, Joyce Karl, Lillian Nemitz, Jerry Mickolichcek, Duane and Gloria Wigern, Dale and LeaEtte Peters, Alice Kaufman, and Margie Block

** David and Sharon Dawson would like another opportunity to share their ministry with our congregation.

Council will discuss under new business.

The secretary's minutes were approved from the February meeting.

Brenda gave the treasurer's report which showed a beginning balance of \$16,773.36 and an ending balance of \$16,864.41. This report was approved as given.

- Designated Funds - \$8,484.31
 - Benevolence - \$2017.15
 - Building - \$940.00
 - Choir - \$1,037.87

- Memorial - \$3,341.04
- Pastoral - \$510.00
- Sunday School/VBS - \$198.25
- Youth Group - \$120.00
- Cemetery Fund - \$320.00
- Women's Guild Fund - \$0.00
- General Fund - \$8,380.10

Gene reported the land rent was deposited which left an ending balance in the building fund of \$85,561.44. This report was approved as given.

Old Business:

- *Building Investigation Committee* – Received the proposal from the contractor at Lester Builders and it was comparable to what we had before. They will continue to search other options. Dave reported that Kenny Polifka was ready to do the preparation that is needed for the seeding of the parking lot extension. We are checking into options of someone to seed it as our previous lawn person is not with us anymore.
- *Same Sex Marriage Committee* – Will be meeting again after Easter.
- Brian Vacek is working on a storage container for our new communion cups.
- The new TV/DVD/Stand which was purchased with memorial funds is in place. We will post in the bulletin to see if anyone has interest in the old TV with the stand for free or will see to it that it is removed.
- Dave has had contact with a lawyer regarding our bylaws/constitution/taxes. He will meet with our tax person and stay on top of getting everything updated as needed.
- The council made some changes to the task list and Pam will update the sheet as well as the policy book.
- Dave contacted our insurance company and found out that our church offerings/deposits are covered under our policy. We will keep doing monthly deposits.
- A big thank-you to Dave and Mary Huebert for taking care of having our piano tuned!!

New Business:

- Discussion was made on the ditch cleaning and tiling of our land. Dave Huebert didn't think we would get anywhere with the ditch cleaning but Gene will talk to Dave Sanken to line up someone to do the tiling. He will get costs and bring them to the council for approval.
- The Dawsons wanted another opportunity to share their ministry with our church. The best date that worked for them was April 3rd. The council approved this date and Pastor Bob said he would do the offering and communion. A motion was made and approved to give them the loose offering from the plate as well as the supply pastor fee and to have a special offering plate passed around for their ministry.

Task list for March:

- Memorial plaque – Brenda & Dave working on.
- Visitor's Brochure – Dave will make sure it is current and have updated if needed.
- Adjust clocks and steeple timer – Will be done.
- Check bait stations – Will be done.

There were no suggestions in the box.

Our next council meeting will be April 13th @ 7:00.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Martin /Secretary

April 13, 2016

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

Dave called the meeting to order.

Pastor Bob opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional.

Pastor's Report:

** Visitation: Maynard Rannow, Joyce Karl, Lillian Nemitz, Jerry Mickolichuk, Duane and Gloria Wigern, LeaEtte Peters, and Dick Swift

** Confirmation Sunday is scheduled for May 1st. Grace Garoutte and Shelby Shoen will be confirmed. I purchased a small gift and card for each confirmand on behalf of the church.

The secretary's minutes were approved from the March meeting.

Brenda gave the treasurer's report which showed a beginning balance of \$16,864.41 and an ending balance of \$21,026.63. This report was approved as given.

- Designated Funds - \$9,404.40
 - Benevolence - \$2,417.15
 - Building - \$1,240.00
 - Choir - \$933.96
 - Memorial - \$3,343.54
 - Pastoral - \$510.00
 - Sunday School/VBS - \$284.75
 - Youth Group - \$160.00
 - Cemetery Fund - \$515.00
 - Women's Guild Fund - \$0.00
- General Fund - \$11,622.23

Gene reported that the 1st half property taxes were paid and the ending balance in the building fund is \$85,769.65. This report was approved as given.

Old Business:

-- *Building Investigation Committee* – Parking lot work is underway. Kenny Polifka was here and leveled the area. Two thirds will be seeded by drill by church members and one third will be hydro-seeded.

-- *Same Sex Marriage Committee* – Will be meeting Sunday after church.

-- Brian Vacek did an amazing job on the communion cup storage box and also built a divided section for storage of the choir's music folders. Thanks Brian!!

-- 150th sign was given to VBS to use.

-- Old TV/DVD/Stand is gone.

-- Bait stations have been checked & filled.

-- Dawson's did a nice job with their service on the 3rd.

-- Visitor's brochure has been reviewed and updated.

-- LeaEtte is updating the memorial book and the plaques are also done and will be put on the memorial board.

New Business:

- Pastor Bob will look into getting new vinyl lettering for our church sign.
- The Cemetery board is looking to replace our lawn mowing job as the previous mower no longer does it.
- M/S/A to approve an invoice to Ron McGraw for \$600 for his legal service and advice on our Constitution and 501c3 issues.
- Discussion was made on doing another photo directory. Andrea Wigern volunteered to look into it.

- The council discussed the need to clean out some of the various storage areas in the church. They will take on the task at their monthly meetings to see if there are items that can be sold, thrown or organized.
- Dave will talk to the cemetery board to see if they have ideas for spraying for weeds/mosquitos.
- M/S/A to move \$5,000 from the general fund to the Van Guard account in the building fund.

Task list for April:

- Church/grounds assessment – Council doing at next meeting
- Burning permit - done
- Pay 1st half property taxes - done
- Change out furnace filters. (Brenda will check with Glen to see if he can get more for us.)

There were no suggestions in the box.

Our next council meeting will be Wednesday, May 11th @ 6:00 to assess church/grounds.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Martin /Secretary

Thank You:

A special "Thank You" to all of our friends at St. John's for the love and support you shared with our family during the hardest time in our lives. We appreciate your willingness to help in so many ways to make the funeral service of Dale Peters special. Lea Ette, John, Kelly & Emma, & James Peters.

Thank you to all who donated food or gave a monetary gift to the McLeod County Food Shelf. A total of 43 lbs. of food was given and \$75.00. Your giving to the less fortunate is much appreciated.

Sunday School Happenings

The Preschool/Kindergarten class has enjoyed studying about Seeing and Delighting in God's glory.

For since the creation of the world. God's invisible qualities - His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. Romans 1:20

Creation - Everything that we see, hear, touch, taste and smell is declaring God's glory.





Young Adult class



Sunday School kids singing at the close of classes.

Dates to Remember:

***May 22- Last day of Sunday school and Kids sing**

***July 24 at 6:00- Work night for VBS**

***July 31-Aug. 4- Vacation Bible School- 6:00-8:15**

Vacation Bible School “CAVE QUEST”: Following Jesus the Light of the World, is set for another year! Kids will explore the rock-solid foundation of Jesus’ Love. The Quest program is filled with Bible stories, games, incredible music, lip-smacking snacks and surprising adventures. Look for a sign-up soon on the back bulletin board. If you have any questions, contact Andrea or Jodi.

St John's Youth Page

What we've been doing:

- February 6th Alsebens hosted a pot luck Super Bowl party.
- February 12 -13 we went to the Holiday Inn, Elk River. We were invited to Pastor Bob and Mary's where we enjoyed a nice visit and lunch. Then we went to Cabella's before coming home.

Looking Ahead :

- Bible Study will resume on April 13th at church.
- May 4th Gertens flowers and plants will be delivered. Youth will meet at Swifts at 6PM for dinner and then we will sort and load flowers. Orders should be picked up at 7 PM.
- May 6-7th Progressive Dinner and Lock-in. We will start at Alsebens at 6PM. We will go to Fields and the bowling alley before going to church. Please note we will conclude the lock in at 2AM this time due to activities that many of our youth will be involved in on Saturday.
- Bible study will conclude this year on May 25th.

For more information about the youth group contact: Robyn Field at 320-582-0356 or Roxanne Sladek at 320-455-7218. For information about Youth Bible Study you can talk to Casey Blackbird.

Church Happenings...

Sunday School children during worship service on Palm Sunday



Palm Sunday Continued



Sunday Children's Sermon!
"Toothpaste race"

Mark your calendar!

May 22nd, Last Sunday of Sunday School

May 29th, Summer Hours begin, 9:30 a.m.

June 9th, ICE CREAM SOCIAL

July 24th, Work night for VBS

July 31st-Aug. 4th, VBS 6:00p.m.-8:15 p.m.

Let's remember these members with a card or note;

Joyce Karl Birthday 11/15

Harmony River Living Center -Room 229 Phone # 320-552-2171

1555 Sherwood St. S.E.

Hutchinson, MN. 55350

Jerry Micholichek 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

Jean Taylor Birthday 5/28

5657 Radford Ave.

Otsego, MN. 55374

Duane Wigern Birthday 10/30

425 Grant St.

Glencoe, MN.55336

ATHC is in partnership with the Recycling Association of Minnesota to recycle Holiday lights. Working and non working lights are accepted. Recycling your old lights provides employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities at ATHC. The light bulbs will be removed from the wire strands and then the wire will be sold to a local recycler. Thank you for helping ATHC promote this new recycling effort. There is a box in the entrance that you can put the lights in. Any questions talk to Elaine Carrigan.
Good Clean Fun

Are you interested in having some good, clean fun? There is a group of ladies who get together periodically to make laundry soap. We also make bars of hand soap from time to time. The soap is wonderful and the fun and fellowship are the best! We would love to have others join us. If you are interested, contact Mary Huebert.

CHURCH LEADERS FOR 2016

PASTOR

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

COUNCIL

President: David Swift..... 864-6188
 V. Pres. David Huebert..... 864-4724
 Secretary: Pam Martin..... 320-510-0493
 Treas. Brenda Schaefer..... 864-6745
 Fin. Sec. Randy Knick..... 320-296-5649
 Bldg. Fund Gene Konerza 320-510-2180

WOMEN'S GUILD 2014-2015

President Lea Ette Peters 864-3282
 Vice Pres. Julie Karl 587-7702
 Sec. Susie Blackbird..... 583-1025
 Treasurer: Mavis Mielke 587-8722
 Sunshine Chairman: Elaine Carrigan .. 864-333

CEMETERY BOARD

Jon Block 320-296-4417
 Jeremy Field 320-582-0319
 Jerome Karl 320-587-7702

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

Julie Karl 587-7702
 Jon Block..... 320-296-4417
 Elaine Carrigan..... 864-3330

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS & SUBSTITUTES 2015-2016

Preschool-1st

Dawn Huebert, Brenda Garoutte

K-2nd grade

Jodi Sanken, Andrea Wigern

3rd-5th

Bridget Block, June Knick

6th-8th grade

Susie Blackbird

Young Adult Class

Michelle Alsleben, Kathy Trimbo

Substitute List

Roxanne Sladek 320-455-7218
 Celine Swift 320-864-6188

YOUTH GROUP LEADERS

Roxanne Sladek 320-455-7218
 Robyn Field 320-234-6872

CHURCH SECRETARY & RECORDS UPKEEP

Records Upkeep: Karen Konerza 864-4554

Job Sign-ups 2016

CUSTODIANS

January.....Sladeks
 February..... Swift
 March..... Mavis M.
 April..... Blackbird
 May..... Block
 June Elaine & Mavis
 July.....
 August.....
 September Alsleben
 October Garoutte
 November Knick
 December 4th..... Trimbo
 11th..... Trimbo
 18th.....
 24thChristmas Eve
 25th.....
 JANUARY 2017..... Sladek

USHERS

January..... Sladek
 February..... Swift
 March..... Mavis M.
 April..... Blackbird
 May..... Block
 June..... Konerza
 July.....
 August..... Alsleben
 September Blocks
 October Garoutte
 November Huebert
 December 4th..... Trimbo
 11th..... Trimbo
 18th.....
 24th Christmas Eve.....
 25th.....
 JANUARY 2017..... Sladek

ALTAR GUILD

January..... Sladek
 February..... Swift
 March Mavis M.
 April Blackbird
 May.....Block
 June..... Elaine & Mavis
 July.....
 August.....
 September LeaEtte Peters
 October Garoutte
 November
 December 4tht Trimbo
 11th..... Trimbo
 18th.....
 24th Christmas Eve.....
 25th.....
 JANUARY 2017 Sladek

May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Confirmation	2 Joe B.	3 Bridget B.	4	5 Don P.	6 Sarah F. Kim M. Marilyn 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 Last Sunday of Sunday School	23	24 Rachel M. Marion P.	25 Jessica A.	26	27	28 Mary Ann F. June K. Rachel S. Jean T.
29 Summer hours begin 9:30 a.m.	30	31				

June 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Cory G.	4
5 Communion	6	7 Mary H. Nita v W.	8 Cameron M.	9 ICE CREAM SOCIAL	10 Lillian N.	11 Alan K.
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 Charlie B. Dave H. Alex S. Danielle S.	29	30			

July 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion Kyle W.	4	5	6 Laura S.	7	8 Dawn H.	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 VBS begins 6:00-8:15 p.m.	VBS GOES THROUGH Aug. 4th					

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 secretary@stjohnscccc.org or chubbers67@gmail.com Karen Konerza