

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



St. John's Messenger
November, December, 2016 & January, 2017

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REFLECTIONS

Lord's Prayer

By a 15-year-old school kid who got an A+ for this entry (TOTALLY AWESOME)!

The Lord's Prayer is not allowed in most U.S. Public schools any more. A kid in Minnesota, wrote the following:

**Now I sit me down in school
Where praying is against the rule
For this great nation under God
Finds mention of Him very odd.**

**If scripture now the class recites,
It violates the Bill of Rights.
And anytime my head I bow
Becomes a Federal matter now.**

**Our hair can be purple, orange or green,
That's no offense; it's a freedom scene..
The law is specific, the law is precise.
Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.**

**For praying in a public hall
Might offend someone with no faith at all..
In silence alone we must meditate,
God's name is prohibited by the State.**

**We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,
And pierce our noses, tongues and cheeks..
They've outlawed guns, but FIRST the Bible.
To quote the Good Book makes me liable.**

**We can elect a pregnant Senior Queen,
And the 'unwed daddy,' our Senior King.
It's 'inappropriate' to teach right from wrong,
We're taught that such 'judgments' do not belong..**

**We can get our condoms and birth controls,
Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles...
But the Ten Commandments are not allowed,
No word of God must reach this crowd.**

**It's scary here I must confess,
When chaos reigns the school's a mess.
So, Lord, this silent plea I make:
Should I be shot; My soul please take! Amen**

PASTOR'S NOTES



On November 20, 2016, a congregational meeting has been called for the purpose of adopting proposed changes to our constitution and articles of incorporation. New language concerning the church's position on same sex marriage and other sexual orientation issues will also be included reflecting the clear teachings of the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments on these issues.

Below are the key changes to the Constitution that are being proposed (changes in italics):

Under Article IV: Faith and Covenant, 1. Faith: we are recommending that the following wording be added to this section of the Amended Constitution and Bylaws of St. John's Church:

This church acknowledges that God has established marriage as a lifelong, exclusive relationship between one man and one woman and that all intimate sexual activity outside the marriage relationship, whether heterosexual, homosexual, or otherwise, is immoral and therefore sin (Genesis 2:24-25; Exodus 20:14,17,22, 22:19; Leviticus 18:22-23, 20:13, 15-16; Matthew 19:4-6,9; Romans 1:18-31; I Corinthians 6:9-10, 15-20; I Timothy 1:8-11; Jude 7). It believes that God created the human race male and female and that all conduct with the intent to adopt a gender other than one's birth gender is immoral and therefore sin (Genesis 1:27; Deuteronomy 22:5).

2. Statement of Faith: This congregation also accepts reciting other statements of faith, such as the Nicene or Apostolic Creeds, providing they in no way contradict out Statement of Faith *and the clear testimony of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.*

3. Covenant: We covenant one with another to seek and respond to the Word and the will of God *as revealed in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.*

Article V. Membership: 2. *Members shall affirm the Faith and Covenant as described in Article IV*

6. If a member or members persistently breach their responsibilities as members of this congregation as outlined in Article V, *Sections 2 and 3*

Article VI. Governing Body: A quorum shall consist of twenty percent (20%) of the members *unless the Laws of the State of Minnesota are more restrictive.*

5. (new) *The pastoral candidate shall affirm the Faith and Covenant as described in Article IV*

Article XII. Amendment: 2. Previous known versions of this document were adopted on September 14, 1951, January 16, 1972, January 21, 2001 *and October 5, 2003*

That a special meeting was duly called to review the proposed, revised amended Constitution and Articles of Incorporation of St. John's Church, located in Hassan Valley Township, County of McLeod, State of Minnesota. The meeting was held on *insert date.*

That a quorum (eliminate the words "of twenty percent (20%)") of the members assembled at the church for the purpose of approving the above revised amendments, Constitution, and Articles of Incorporation.

Other policies such as building use and personnel will also be changing to reflect these changes to our constitution and articles of incorporation.

In the coming weeks, each member will receive a mailing with these proposed changes. Also a copy of these proposed changes will be posted at the church.

We would certainly encourage your presence and participation at this congregational meeting to be held immediately following the worship service on November 20, 2016.
Pastor Bob

Council Minutes:

August 9, 2016

Council Members Present: All council members and Pastor Bob were present with the exception of Brenda Schaefer.

Dave S. called the meeting to order.

Pastor Bob opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional.

Pastor's Report:

** Visitation: Maynard Rannow, Duane Wigern, Jerry and Jettie Mickolichek, Mike and Dawn Norrbom, Lillian Nemitz, Joyce Karl, and Dick Swift.

** Participated in VBS activities.

** Confirmation begins September 14th –This year’s classes will include Eli Sladek, Makalah Wigern, Dylan Wigern, and Madison Anderson.

The secretary’s minutes were approved from the July 11th meeting.

Dave gave the treasurer’s report in Brenda’s absence which showed a beginning balance of \$19,046.14 and an ending balance of \$27,725.93. This report was approved as given.

- Designated Funds - \$13,524.90
 - Benevolence - \$3,842.15
 - Building - \$2,465.00
 - Choir - \$943.96
 - Memorial - \$3,493.54
 - Pastoral - \$530.00
 - Sunday School/VBS - \$595.25
 - Youth Group - \$270.00
 - Cemetery Fund - \$1,265.00
 - Women’s Guild Fund - \$120.00
- General Fund - \$14,201.03

Gene reported that the building fund has a balance of \$95,034.07. This report was approved as given.

Old Business:

-- *Building Investigation Committee* – (Doug, Jerry, Andrea, Brian, Dave) Will be meeting to discuss modular buildings for sale.

-- *Same Sex Marriage Committee* – (Bob, Glen, Gene, Celine) Council reviewed the latest changes to the Constitution. Dave will have the lawyer review to make sure all is in order. Kudos to the committee members on their nice job of incorporating this in our Constitution!! We will have a congregational meeting on October 9th to vote on the Constitution changes with a potluck to follow.

-- Preparation was done for the Heatwole service on Sunday, August 14th.

-- Dave will contact Dave Trimbo again for the floor cleaning of the church. He will let the council know when he is coming and when help is needed to move furniture, etc.

-- Dave met with the Women’s Guild to discuss a variety of topics. Questions were answered and items needing attention will be taken care of.

-- “Handyman” tasks were discussed. Volunteers have either taken care of or are working on getting them done.

-- Cleaning day will be August 27th @ 9:00. Dave will contact a member from each group to see if they can either attend or find a replacement.

New Business:

- Over the past month we have had several toilet issues. Glen Sladek has resolved – thanks Glen!!
- Several more handyman tasks were brought to our attention. Again, several volunteered to take care of.
- The council filled out a Donation Receipt for Pastor Barry Marchant for the projector/screen/etc. Pam will send it along with a thank you.
- M/S/A to transfer \$5,000 from the general fund the building fund.

Task list for August:

- Review stock options – Reviewed and will continue as is
- Update newspapers for winter hours – Karen K. will take care of
- Change the church sign for hours – Will get changed
- Review Heatwole checklist – done
- Review supply list – Dave H. will go through/will also add air fresheners to the list.

There were no suggestions in the box.

Our next council meeting will be Wednesday, September 14th @ 7:00

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Martin /Secretary

September 14, 2016

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

Dave Swift 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, Dick Swift, Deb and Denny Schwanke, Dave and Laura Streeter and Cory Rosales.

** There will be a potluck after church on October 9th, followed by the movie "Miracles from Heaven" along with yummy popcorn!!

** Request that the youth group be removed from my job description. I will get involved when I can but the youth group is in good hands. Roxanne Sladek is joined by Andrea Wigern this year and Jessica Alsleben will lead the youth bible study. Council approved this request.

The secretary's minutes were approved from the August 9th meeting.

Brenda gave the treasurer's report. The beginning balance was \$27,725.93 and the ending balance was \$26,801.15. This report was approved as given.

- Designated Funds - \$14,179.90
 - Benevolence - \$4,052.15
 - Building - \$2,575.00
 - Choir - \$943.96
 - Memorial - \$3,493.54
 - Pastoral - \$530.00
 - Sunday School/VBS - \$755.25
 - Youth Group - \$280.00
 - Cemetery Fund - \$1,410.00
 - Women's Guild Fund - \$140.00
- General Fund - \$12,621.25

Gene reported that the building fund has a balance of \$94,512.96. This report was approved as given.

Old Business:

-- *Building Investigation Committee* – (Doug, Jerry, Andrea, Brian, Dave) Researching modular options.

-- *Same Sex Marriage Committee* – (Bob, Glen, Gene, Celine) The lawyer reviewed the proposed Constitution. The congregational meeting will now be November 13th instead of October 9th to make sure that we get copies of the proposed Constitution out to our members two weeks prior to the meeting.

-- Heatwole had a nice turnout. The person in charge of Heatwole expressed his gratitude for our Church having its service out there each year.

-- Dave thanks those that helped with moving things around to get the floors cleaned. Heard positive comments about how the floors looked.

-- Susie Blackbird volunteered to be our librarian! Thanks, Susie!! ☺

-- M/S/A to have Dave Mackenthun buy the paint and do the touch up as needed in the entry way as well as in the kitchen. Dave S. will contact him and costs should not be over \$200.00.

-- The front steps have been resurfaced but seem to be slippery when wet. A suggestion was made to use the mats for now and Dave will talk to Ken Bauer to see what can be done.

-- Several of the other tasks that were on the list have been completed or are near completion

-- Cleaning out of storage and cupboards was a success. Thank you to everyone involved!

Dave will see to it that signage is made so everyone will know whose supplies are in each one.

New Business:

- M/S/A to transfer an additional \$5,000.00 from the general fund to the building fund.
- Andrea Wigern expressed interest in heading up and organizing the process needed for getting a new Church directory done yet this year. Council thought it was a great idea as we have had several new members join our church!! Thanks Andrea!

Task list for September:

- Pay 2nd half taxes – Gene will do
- Snow removal bids – Dave H. will contact Curt Bussler
- Spray for Japanese beetles – Will wait to see if needed
- Spray lawn weeds – Dave S. will take care of

There were no suggestions in the box.

Our next council meeting will be Wednesday, October 12th @ 7:00

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Martin /Secretary

October 12, 2016

Council Members Present: All council members and Pastor Bob were present with the exception of Randy Knick.

Dave Swift 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, Dick Swift, Deb and Dean Froemming, Joel and Barb Buckentin and Jake Roquette.

** The Gideons would like to be part of one of our worship services. Pastor Bob will discuss dates with them.

** October 30th will be the baptism of Keith, Michelle, and Laylah Taylor along with the dedication of Landin Taylor.

The secretary's minutes were approved from the September 14th meeting.

Brenda gave the treasurer's report. The beginning balance was \$26,801.15 and after the transfer of \$10,000.00 to the building fund and miscellaneous expenses, the ending balance was \$19,739.34. This report was approved as given.

- Designated Funds - \$15,071.40
 - Benevolence - \$4,333.15
 - Building - \$2,830.00
 - Choir - \$943.96
 - Memorial - \$3,484.04
 - Pastoral - \$530.00

- Sunday School/VBS - \$779.25
- Youth Group - \$290.00
- Cemetery Fund - \$1,741.00
- Women's Guild Fund - \$140.00
- General Fund - \$4,667.94

Gene reported that after the second half taxes and the insurance paid the building fund had a balance of \$99,294.65. This report was approved as given.

Old Business:

-- *Building Investigation Committee* – (Doug, Jerry, Andrea, Brian, Dave) No actions taken this month.

-- *Same Sex Marriage Committee* – (Bob, Glen, Gene, Celine) An outline of the changes to the Constitution and corresponding policy changes will be mailed out to all members. **The Congregational meeting date has been changed from November 13th to November 20th!!** The Women's Guild will be having their Fall Festival on the 13th.

- M/S/A to have Curt Bussler do the snow removal at the same price as last year.
- Most of the “handyman” tasks have been taken care of from last month. Those that haven't are being worked on.
- Dave S. took care of spraying for Japanese beetles – thanks Dave!!
- Mats are to be used on the front steps – especially when wet throughout the winter.
- Touch-up painting has been completed and invoice given to Brenda.

New Business:

- St. Johns was issued a new MN Tax ID #. This new number is to be used when making tax exempt purchases. Dave handed out the letter to all council members and will share with other groups as well.

Task list for October:

- Adjust clocks/steeple timer – Dave S.
- Check bait stations – Dave S.
- Accept snow removal bid – Done
- Change furnace filters – Dave S.

There were no suggestions in the box.

Our next council meeting will be Wednesday, November 9th @ 7:00

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Martin /Secretary

Sunday School Happenings

Sunday school news: November 13- Sunday school starts at 9:00 (due to Christmas program practice.) Also, on November 20, 27, December 4, 11. On December 11, we will have our dress rehearsal and Birthday party for Jesus after church.

The Sunday School Christmas program will be on December 18 at 10:30. There will be NO Sunday School on December 25 and January 1. We will start back up on January 8.

First Sunday of Sunday School, Sept. 11th



Sunday School Sept. 18th



Zachary receiving his Bible during worship service



Children singing during worship service

- *November 27- Pictures of all groups after church for the new directory*
- *December 11- Dress Rehearsal and Birthday party for Jesus after church.*
- * December 18- Christmas program*
- *January 8- Sunday school resumes*

St John's Youth Page

What we've been doing:

- August River rentals
- September 7th our regular monthly meetings started again.

We said thank you to Robyn for helping to lead the youth group for the last few years. I really appreciate everything she has done for us!!! Thanks Robyn!



We also welcomed Andrea Wigern and thank her for her willingness to take on this leadership role.

- September 21st was our first monthly Youth Group Bible study lead by Jessica Alsleben.
- October 8th we went to St. Clair and helped with community clean up after the recent flooding. We emptied sand bags much of the day.



Looking Ahead:

- October 30 we plan to go for Pizza after church and deliver treats to as many of our shut-ins and elderly from our church as we can.
- November 2nd we will pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. If you would like to help with this project you may donate new small stuffed toys, other small toys, hard candies, wash clothes, bars of soap, tooth brushes, tooth paste, etc. or money towards shipping (\$7 per box). Last year we packed 30 shoeboxes. We hope to do that many again this year.
- December meeting details to come.

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

Church Happenings...



Potluck on Sunday October 9th, before the movie "Miracles from Heaven"

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

The Sunday School would like to invite the congregation to write what they are "Thankful for" on a leaf for Thanksgiving. The leaves will be attached to a vine to display in the front of church. When finished you may lay them on the back table or give to Susie. Would like back by Nov. 6th

St. John's "Fall Harvest Festival" will be Sunday, November 13th with a potluck dinner and program to follow. We had such a great program last year being blest with talent from within our church, we decided to do it again. Please share your talents of singing, reading, playing an instrument or piano etc.-any age can take part.

Contact Lea Ette 864-3282 or Susie 583-1025 if you are willing to be part of a fun time.

Congregational Meeting, Sunday November 20th after worship service, for voting on the changes made to the constitution. There were changes made at this time when we had to get a new constitution after the break in at the church and the safe was taken.

Picture Time! Save the date! ---John Graupmann (Creekview Images) will be taking our photos for the next church directory on Saturday, November 26, Sunday, November 27 and Monday, November 28 (here at St. John's.) You will be able to sign up for appointment times (about 15 -30 minutes depending on the size of family) after November 14 either on his online calendar creekviewimages.com or by phone (320)-238-2662 . He will photograph our church groups (Choir, Council, Guild, Cemetery Board, Youth Group, Sunday School, etc) on Sunday, November 27 after morning worship. 😊 Smile!

Saturday, November 26, 9 am-4 pm Church Directory Photos

Sunday, November 27, 11:45 (church group photos) 2-6 pm -
Church Directory Photos

Monday, November 28 9 am -2 pm and 4-8 pm Church Directory Photos

Sunday School will be starting at 9:00 a.m. from November 13th-December 11th, in preparing for the Sunday School Christmas program. On December 11th they will have their dress rehearsal and Birthday party for Jesus after church.

Sunday School Christmas program is Sunday, Dec. 18th at 10:30 a.m.

There will be NO Sunday School on December 25th or January 1st. Sunday School will start again on January 8th at 9:15 a.m.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP, Thursday, Nov. 24th 9:30 a.m.

Reminder We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Sat., Dec. 3, at 9:00 a.m. All ages are welcome. Please come and lend a helping hand.

Christmas Eve Service is Dec. 24th 5:00 p.m.

Annual Meeting reports will be needed by Jan.11th.

Annual Meeting is Sunday, Jan.15th, following worship. Potluck will follow meeting.

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**

**David Streeter Birthday 2/01
14508 Pheasant Rd.
Hutchinson, MN. 55350**

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 2015-2016

President Lea Ette Peters864-3282
Vice Pres. Julie Karl587-7702
Sec. Susie Blackbird.....583-1025
Treasurer Mavis Mielke587-8722
Sunshine Chairman: Elaine Carrigan 864-3330

CEMETERY BOARD

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

Job Sign-ups 2016

CUSTODIANS

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

USHERS

January..... Sladek
February..... Swift
March..... Mavis M.
April..... Blackbird
May..... Block
June Konerza
July 10th & 31st Knicks
July 17th.....
July 24th.....
August.....
September Alsleben
October Garoutte
November Huebert
December 4th..... Trimbo
11th Trimbo
18th
24th Christmas Eve..... Wrights
25th
January 2017 Saldek

ALTAR GUILD

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

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

Julie Karl587-7702
Jon Block..... 320-296-4417
Elaine Carrigan.....864-3330

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS & SUBSTITUTES 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
Andrea Wigern 320-234-6454

CHURCH SECRETARY & RECORDS UPKEEP

Records Upkeep: Karen Konerza864-4554

November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Richard S.	2 Nic R.	3	4	5 Maynard R.
6 Communion Michelle A.	7	8 Autumn B.	9 Carter R.	10	11	12 Leif B.
13 Family Fall Festival Potluck & program Sunday School 9:00a.m.	14	15 Jason E. Joyce K.	16 Chase S.	17 Orrie B. Kevin F.	18 Warren K.	19
20 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting	21 Carol B.	22 Melissa F. Mandy G.	23	24 Thanksgiving Service 9:30 a.m.	25	26 <u>Pictures</u>
27 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. <u>Pictures-all groups</u>	28 Ethan B. Randy K. <u>Pictures</u>	29	30			

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Laura S.	3
4 Communion Michael S. Sunday School 9:00a.m.	5	6	7	8	9 Roger T.	10
11 Dave M. Sunday School 9:00a.m.	12	13 Summer B.	14 Betty B.	15	16 Julie K.	17
18 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Program 10:30 a.m.	19	20	21	22	23 Joel B.	24 Christmas Eve Service 5:00 p.m.
25 No Sunday School- Worship Service 9:30 a.m.	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion No Sunday School	2	3	4	5 Susie B. Holly W.	6 James P. Jerry W.	7
8 Sunday School begins 9:15 a.m.	9	10	11 Annual Mtg. reports due	12 Barb B.	13 McKayla W.	14
15 Annual Mtg. Theresa V.	16	17 Doug B.	18	19 Loren M.	20	21
22 Brian A.	23	24	25	26	27 Glen S.	28
29	30	31 Myla F.				

***“It's better to belong to a little church that is real,
then belong to a big church that is artificial.”***

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Information for the next newsletter will be due January 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

