

ENGLISH - NEWS - ST LUKE

OUR CHURCH IN OUR COMMUNITIES



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

January 2022

English Lutheran

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ANNUAL MEETING



English Lutheran Church

January 23, 2022

following 11 am worship



Our Mission:

Called to be shepherds, doing God's work, daily.

Epiphany Reflections

"Even the darkest night will end and the sun will rise." Victor Hugo, *Les Misérables*

January always seems like the darkest month to me. The days are short and long cold nights of winter stretch out before us. Unlike November and December there aren't gatherings to prepare for, friends and family to gather with. Winter in North Dakota in January seems to drag on and on and spring feels far away.

Of course it isn't true that January is the darkest month. The longest night of the year is December 21st, so in January the light is gaining strength every day. Each day is a little longer and each night a little shorter. This is the good news we need when the dark threatens to overtake us. It's a good time to remember what is written in the Gospel of John, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

In January when the light is gaining strength every day we also encounter Epiphany and the season following. Epiphany always falls on January 6th, thirteen days after Christmas. It is the official end of the Christmas season in the church. Epiphany commemorates the coming of the Magi as the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. It is the day we celebrate that the light has come, not just for the people of Israel, but for all people. As the prophet Isaiah promised, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined."

As we face the long cold days of January, may we find the season of Epiphany a comfort and a source of hope. A reminder that Jesus continues to reveal himself to us. A reminder that the light has come into the world, and the darkness will not overcome it. Perhaps Epiphany and the season after are not just a time of encouragement when the days are cold and dark but whenever we are discouraged by the realities of this world that seem insurmountable. When we are lonely, sick, fearful, tired or discouraged may we be encouraged by the light of Christ. The light that comes into the world to banish the darkness and offer us the light of hope, forgiveness, and at the last resurrection.

Blessings,
Pastor Susan Haukaas

Discernment Process among South Central North Dakota ELCA Congregations

The focus of the first meeting of the Area Ministry Planning Team was building a foundation for working together. This included introductions of team members, a review of the situation(s) that bring individual congregations into the process, what a successful project might look and feel like, and sharing those critical things within individual congregations that help hold the community together.

Pr. Peter Soli from Dialog Works, with assistance from the Rev. Dr. Scott Olson, facilitated the meeting. Pr. Keith Zeh, interim Director of Evangelical Mission for the EAND Synod, brought a greeting offered the opening devotion. He spoke to having two groups in the meeting, the selected congregational representatives and several pastors and pastoral leaders. Pr. Soli explained that the group would make decisions using a consensus-building process rather than voting. He indicated that the role of pastors and leaders would be limited to observation and as a source of information. Otherwise, they would not be full participants in the discussions.

The team was introduced to an online tool called MURAL. This tool will be used throughout the process and allow team members to participate between meetings and review the group's work from previous meetings.

Making decisions was not a primary goal of this first meeting, instead of for the group to engage in positive and encouraging ways.

Team members began to identify the situation in their congregations and what brought them to the table. Individual congregations lifted up some of the following as the project's "Givens."

- staffing challenges and the challenge of securing pastoral leadership
- being in transition
- transitioning out of COVID
- people worshipping online and what that means
- we are aging and finding children's ministry a blessing and challenge
- we are already working together and have a shared future
- we serve the community—a vital ministry

The team will develop a list of commitments they want to make and the process. They will also begin to identify areas for action, exploration, and, given their situation, where they want to focus their energy.

Planning Team Members:

Phillip Hoffman and Bryan Behm – English Lutheran

Brett Thielges and Char Freeberg – St. John's Lutheran

Joni Zink and Bob Toso – Trinity Lutheran

Plus 10 others from Zion (Kulm), Christ the King (Ellendale), Emmanuel (Gackle), Atonement (Jamestown), and Immanuel (Jamestown)

Blessings, Pastor Kristi

December Happenings @ English

Caroling on December 12th



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Sunday School Christmas Program

December 19, 2021

The Nazareth Evening News



Thank you to
Madison Hofmann
(singing)

&

Kennedy Behm
(playing piano)

For sharing your
musical talents





Thank you to the
Sunday School classes
&
Teachers
for the wonderful program



English Lutheran Church Council Meeting minutes – 12/1/2021

Members Present: Karen Heinle, Kurt Hayes, Lynda Mayher, Phillip Hofmann, and Pastor Kristi Weber

Members absent: Michelle Lytle, Brenda Guthmiller and Austin Dockter

Pastor Report:

-Pastor Kristi began the meeting with a devotion.

-St. John Council would like to know how much time has been spent at English from September-November. They would like this information by their December 13 meeting.

*November minutes were read. Kurt moved to approve the minutes. Karen seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Lynda motioned to accept the treasure's report. Kurt seconded, motion carried.

Old Business:

-Parsonage: The floor will be replaced in the parsonage this month. There is a door handle missing on a basement door. There is moisture under the panel in the upstairs bathroom.

-No change with Maranatha. No bid from Dakota Sound.

-Steeple: Westward will complete by June.

-The compressor is shot on the kitchen fridge. Money has been donated to purchase a new fridge. Karen motioned to give up to \$1,000 to purchase a fridge/freezer. The remaining funds from the donation will go towards the steeple. Kurt seconded, motion carried.

-The accounts will transfer to Dakota Heritage when they open.

-100 year anniversary committee met November 21. A bid was received for the meal and invites will be going out.

-Cleaning services: continue with volunteer rotation until a person is hired.

-Snow removal in the parking lot will be done by Randy Everding.

-Painting will be done this spring behind the boxes on the new LED lights on the outside of the fellowship hall.

-Discernment Process: A meeting was held on November 30, with 8 area churches participating. An update will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

New Business:

-Annual meeting to be held on January 23, 2022. Council member terms that expire are Austin Dockter and Lynda Mayher.

Meeting ended with the Lords Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Mayher

ANNUAL MEETING

English Lutheran annual meeting will be held January 23, 2022 following our 11:00 am worship service.

All reports due to Parish Secretary by January 14, 2022.

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THANK YOU

< Leona Reuer for your donation to the purchase of a new refrigerator for our kitchen.

<and to Julie Opp for taking care of the purchase of the fridge and getting it delivered to English and to Pat Everding for being at the church when it got delivered.

<to the Altar Guild, Joe & Sherry Schmidt, Ron & Sharon Otto, Kurt & Jen Hayes and Wayne & Sue Reardon for sharing their poinsettias with English this holiday season.

<to Ben & Patrice Juelfs for the donation of a portable oven for our use.

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Winter Weather Plan

<Pastors are scheduled to lead worship each Sunday at 11:00 am

< If there are Sundays when I-94 is closed or when travel is not advised, please plan to participate in worship through one of the radio or online worship services.

8:30 am from Trinity Lutheran AM 1400 or FM 107.1

9:00 am from St. John's Lutheran AM 600 or online st-johnslutheran.org

10:45 am from Trinity Lutheran online trinityjamestown.com

Either of the online worship services can also be accessed throughout the following week at the same website as above.

BIRTHDAYS

January

Rory Hoffmann	Jan 6
Haven Gefroh	Jan 9
Katy Reis Ruff	Jan 10
Julie Opp	Jan 12
Dwight Hofmann	Jan 13
Tim Olson	Jan 14
JoAnn Wieland	Jan 19
Jacob Hofmann	Jan 19
Kennedy Behm	Jan 19
Ethel Heinle	Jan 26
Jacob Juelfs	Jan 26
Ryan Andres	Jan 27
Daryl Olson	Jan 28
Bonnie Hofmann	Jan 28
Katie Schmidt	Jan 30

February

Brenda Guthmiller	Feb 4
Aurora Hayes	Feb 4
Melissa Dockter	Feb 5
Ally Greer	Feb 7
Justin Dewald	Feb 7
Dacotah Dockter	Feb 11
Jenny Hieb Opsahl	Feb 12
Katie Dewald	Feb 13
Kim Hoffmann	Feb 13
Trinity Opp	Feb 13
Madisyn Kleven	Feb 16
Madison Hofmann	Feb 17
Tammy Reis	Feb 17
Jaranah Liebold	Feb 19
Kyle Andres	Feb 20
Jordon Spitzer	Feb 22
Scott Dockter	Feb 23
Kylee Hofmann	Feb 26
Jeff Morlock	Feb 26
Bryan Behm	Feb 26
Logan Lytle	Feb 28
Logan Hoffmann	Feb 29

Celebrating Jan/Feb Anniversaries

Brent & Missy Kleven	Jan 5, 1998
Gil & Pat Everding	Jan 7, 1961
Jeremy & Shannon Ford	Jan 14, 2017
Randy & Sherry Everding	Jan 26, 2008
Arlynn & Sourey Schmidt	Jan 30, 1964
Scott & Melissa Dockter	Feb 3, 1989
Jahleel & Ashley Opp	Feb 14, 2009