

English Lutheran News

OUR CHURCH IN OUR COMMUNITIES



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

January 2023



English Lutheran

210 Water Street—Box 515
Medina, ND 58467
701-486-3112

Pastor Stephanie Gossett
701-320-7856
pastorststephanie@ndchristiansact.org

Phillip Hofmann
English Council President
(701-320-9029)

Ethel Heinle
Parish Secretary
msp.sec.church@gmail.com

www.medinastreeterparish.org



ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

January 29, 2023

@

English Lutheran Church
(following 11 am worship)

Our Mission:

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

Greetings from Pastor Gossett

Howdy! It is so exciting to join the English and St. John communities, and I am looking forward to getting to know you! You just may be curious about me as well, so this first newsletter blurb is going to be less about faith and the church, and more of an introduction to your new Associate Pastor. As we live in the age of BuzzFeed, instead of writing long wordy paragraphs I decided to write, in no particular order, a list of “25 Things About Pastor Stephanie”:

1. I attended Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN, and graduated December 2021 with my Master of Divinity with a concentration in Congregational Mission and Leadership.
2. Even though I am from Texas, this is not my first time living in the midwest. I lived in Minnesota from 2016-2021 for seminary, and actually prefer the climate up north.
3. Autumn is my favorite time of year, and Lent is my favorite church season.
4. I am a classically trained vocalist and play summer camp level guitar.
5. My favorite sports to watch are football and basketball, but I'll go see whatever event you have extra tickets for! I plan to attend all kinds of local games for hockey, baseball, dance, etc. Email me those game schedules as you get them!
6. It will take me forever to learn your name, but it's not because I don't want to. Name tags and repeated introductions are both extremely helpful.
7. I love theatre and really all performing arts performances! Support the arts!
8. I'm a foodie! My favorite foods are potatoes, cheese, sushi, and Blue Bell ice cream. I do not enjoy raw tomatoes or onions, olives, or most pickled things.
9. My kitchen is the best equipped room in my house; I am an excellent cook and okay baker.
10. I am an only child, and have a relatively small family.
11. My auditory processing is slow, so speak loud and clear, but also give me time to think before expecting a response.
12. I love camp and camping, and look forward to summer camp and retreat opportunities at Park River and Red Willow, and exploring the parks in ND!
13. I enjoy crafting and creating, especially with other people! My most recent project is a mandala afghan from Annie's Crochet Club.
14. All the colors are my favorite! If I had to choose, it would be a jewel tone.
15. I absolutely love both cats and dogs, but I am (mildly) allergic to pet dander. Hopefully I will be getting an allergy-friendly schnauzer or doodle next year!

By the Leading of a Star

“O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.” Prayer of the Day for Epiphany of Our Lord ELW page 21

Each year, 13 days after Christmas Day, Epiphany comes on January 6th. On this day we remember the journey of wise men from the east who came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” At the beginning of the Season of Epiphany these travelers come to show us that the birth of this child is not just a local matter. The coming of the Messiah to Bethlehem is not just news for the people of Israel. This baby, recognized by foreign dignitaries and heralded by the very stars in the heavens will be a savior for the whole world.

All through the season after Epiphany more and more is revealed about Jesus. Who is he? How will his coming change the World? How will his coming change our relationship with one another? How will his coming change our relationship with God? How will his coming fulfill the prophecies of old and fulfill the promise made to Abraham and his descendants? Epiphany invites us to ponder these age old questions.

Epiphany and the season after invite us to let our faith lead us. We are invited to “come and see” who Jesus is and be changed by what we find. We are invited to be overwhelmed with joy, as the wise men were, when we encounter Jesus. We are invited to discover the great gift of love, forgiveness, and redemption that Christ’s coming brings. We are invited to let God reveal his Son to us and let him change our lives. Then we are invited to go out into the world and share this good news with everyone we meet!

Epiphany Blessings,

Pr. Susan Haukaas

December Happenings @ English

DECORATING OF CHURCH AND CAROLING—December 4th



**Unapproved minutes and are subject to change.*

English Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes – December 8th, 2022 –

Members Present: Phillip Hofmann, Kurt Hayes, Michelle Lytle, Brenda Guthmiller, Karen Heinle, Pastor Stephanie Gossett and Pastor Erik Weber

Members Absent:

Pastor Report

-Pastor Erik led with a devotion.

-Welcome Pastor Stephanie! She gave an update on her first two weeks here.

Past Minutes

-November 2nd Council minutes were read.

-Karen moved to approve the minutes. Kurt seconded. motion carried.

Treasure's Report

-November's Reports were reviewed and discussed.

-Karen moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Brenda seconded. motion carried.

Old Business

-New sign is completed along the road coming into Medina. Thank you Gene and Brenda Guthmiller for getting that done.

-Church Constitution revision first vote was held on December 4th, 2022. It unanimously passed to accept the revisions. The 2nd vote for accepting the revised Constitution will be at the annual meeting on January 29th, 2023

-Sunday School Christmas program will be Sunday, December 18th—Soup, Sandwiches and Social to follow.

-Parsonage: The east garage door needs to be fixed. Joey Kramlich will be blowing out the driveway when there is a sizeable amount for \$40 a time.

-Plan to hire one full-time Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries to coordinate events for all youth of the seven participating congregations. The job is now posted.

-Seminary Internship for one congregation in the Christians in Action. The primary site has not been chosen.

-Usher lists: reinstate a rotation

New Business

-There will be 3 open council member positions that will expire this year. Seeking new members.

-Online giving will be available on our website soon and those contributions will come directly to the church account. The Information Security Policy will be signed yearly by the council president and kept filed in the church office.

-Dakota Heritage has donated \$250 for the Food Pantry

(con't next page)

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
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
Tilman Dockter	Feb 11
Jenny Hieb Opsahl	Feb 12
Katie Dewald	Feb 13
Kim Hoffmann	Feb 13
Trinity Opp	Feb 13
Pr. Kristi Weber	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 January/February 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

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

& POTLUCK—December 18th

