



September 20, 2021

Dear people of God at English Lutheran,

This past seventeen months have taught me a great deal about myself and the world around me. One of the greatest lessons I have come to realize is the need to have family close by. While you have been like a huge extended family to me, the reality is my wife and I need to be nearer to our parents, brothers, sisters, and nieces. I have spent the last summer in discernment about my gifts in ministry and how God might use them to serve God's kingdom.

I have accepted a call position near Hudson, WI, 30 minutes away from both of our families.

At the same time, I am grieving the end of my ministry at English Lutheran and St. John's Lutheran Church and serving the people of God here. St. Johns was my first call. Together, you have taught me how to be a pastor and for that I will always be grateful. I have come to love each of you and I will miss my "family" here.

My last Sunday at English will be October 17<sup>th</sup> and my last day in the office will be October 25<sup>th</sup> 2021. It has been my privilege to serve as your pastor for the past nine months.

Following the Holy Spirit is not easy! Change is challenging but it creates opportunities to grow and find new ways in which we experience Jesus Christ. You will be in my prayers through this transition and excited to think of the amazing opportunities that will be created through the season of shared gifts and talents in the new partnerships of Medina, Trinity, and with various churches in the surrounding community of Jamestown.

When I first started here, many people asked me why I came. I gave them the vague answer of being placed here as a new pastor would. Through you I was fed by the Holy Spirit, given the grace of God to nurture my gifts, and found this as a safe place to make mistakes. For these reasons and many more I will forever be thankful. You all have the ability to change others people's lives, the same way you have changed mine. "May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as (you have done for me.)" 1 Thessalonians 3:12.

Blessings,

Pr 

Pastor Lucas and Rachel Holsten



**Youth Happenings @ English Lutheran**



**Confirmation class on September 8, 2021. The lesson was on Communion. The students were able to share in Communion.**



**Chaperones**

**Serving the lunch @ the Medina Fall Festival after the worship service on September 12th.**



**A Youth Retreat was held @ English on Sept 25 for youth from English, St. John's and Trinity.**



**Pastor Lucas blessed the kids school backpacks at worship on Sept 26. Each child received a tag to put on their backpack to remind them that they are loved, to be kind and to be you.**

\*Unapproved minutes and are subject to change after the next meeting\*

## **English Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes 9-08-2021**

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

Members absent: Brenda Guthmiller, Austin Dockter

Guest: Ethel Heinle

Pastor Kristi began the meeting with a devotion.

### **Pastor Report:**

-no formal report, Pastor Kristi will review topics during old and new business

\*August minutes were read. Kurt moved to approve the minutes. Lynda seconded, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Karen motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Lynda seconded, motion carried.

### **Old Business:**

-new flooring will be replaced in the parsonage this fall.

-new sign is in the works

-Maranatha came up with a bid for \$8,000-10,000 for a live feed for the fellowship hall to include screen and ability to stream online. Looking for a second bid from Dakota Sound.

-Steeple: waiting on Westward

-kitchen fridge needs to be checked and possibly replaced with the fridge in the hall by the food pantry

-communion: individually packaged cups are being ordered again as an option

-Fall Festival: Jahleel will bring his sound system over to the Legion Hall, all 4 pastors will be here throughout the weekend at different events

-The accounts are still at Choice Financial as of this month. Will move to Gate City.

-The food pantry is not being used. It will continue to be cleaned out as things expire.

-Starr Koble is going to spearhead the Fall Festival float

-Ethel suggested that if someone donates to the church, to make sure we send out a thank you card.

-Ethel is working on cleaning up the list for Lutheran Living magazine that the church pays for those signed up, there is a credit on this account and it will be used for ordering bibles.

-100 year anniversary committee needs to be formed for the celebration in June 2022. A potluck will be October 10<sup>th</sup> after church to hear ideas and how our congregation can help plan this celebration.



