



PIONEER LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022

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PIONEER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 4, 2022

All members of Pioneer Lutheran Church Council met after Sunday service on December 4, 2022.

President Valerie Hicks called the meeting to order at 11:15 AM.

Kevin Quail offered devotions.

The Secretary's report was read and approved with a motion by Bill Powers and seconded by Laura Quail

The Treasurer's report was offered by Julie Peterson, then approved with a motion by Laura and seconded by Kevin.

OLD BUSINESS

The new directory received favorable comments and is available in the foyer. Val will work on digitizing past records for safe keeping at the church. Call Committee meets at 5 PM on Dec 7, 2022.

Dana Crooks estimated the cost of painting the church siding at \$2000.00

Outreach Committee reminded Council about caroling on Dec 11, 2022, at 5:00 PM with a follow up gathering at Arlene Madsen's home – potluck style. On January 14, 2023, the study of Women of the Bible will continue at 9:30 AM with Mary, Mother of Jesus. Of the 4 YAMA packages, 2 were hand delivered, 2 were mailed.

Steve Hicks will glue the laminate trim on the center island of the kitchen.

Fellowship Hall sound panels had no new progress.

Ekern Plumbing & Heating will contact the Council with an appointment date for checking the geo thermal system.

NEW BUSINESS

Christmas Eve service will be held at 5 PM on the 24th of December with Jim Hansen supplying sermon.

Pastor Teri reported that Confirmation is going well and that she has outreached to those from the congregation with health issues.

The Annual Meeting will be held January 22, 2023, after church service, potluck following. Alternate date is Jan 29th. All committees should report their year's activities. Two seats

on the Council will be vacated at the end of the year. If interested in serving, contact the nominating committee of Dana Crooks or Mike Thompson or Charlotte Mickelson.

Council decided to continue gifting organist and pastor for Christmas.

Council reviewed the budget used in 2022 and made recommendations for the 2023 budget.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM with the Lord's Prayer prayed by all.

Respectfully submitted, Secretary Charlotte Mickelson

Pioneer Lutheran Financial Report	
NOVEMBER 30,2022	
General Fund	\$ 26,710.70
Memorial Fund	\$ <u>1,489.88</u>
Fund In Checking	\$ 28,200.58
EXPENSES	
Sioux Valley Energy electricity	\$ 198.29
ITC - phone and internet	\$ 95.34
BDRW water	\$ 39.00
Square One Production prepaid copies	\$ 200.00
Crossroads candles	\$ 15.95
MJ Powers calendars	\$ 25.74
Julie Petersen wine	\$ 19.34
HyVee cake	\$ 67.08
Teri Johnson Salary	\$ 2,225.00
	\$ 2,885.74
SUNDAY OFFERINGS	
Nov 6,2022	\$ 980.00
Nov 13,2022	\$ 765.00

Nov 20,2022	\$ 1,260.00
Nov 27,2022	\$ 800.00
	\$ 3,805.00
MISC INCOME	
Hamlin Reform Church offering	\$ 350.00
Pioneer Lutheran Cemetery Assoc	\$ <u>1,350.00</u>
	\$ 1,700.00
MISC EXPENSE	
	-
Hamlin Reform Church donation	\$ 1,350.00
	\$ 1,350.00

Printed Directories are printed on the table in the Narthex. If you would like a copy emailed to you, please let Julie know.

jmpete@itctel.com



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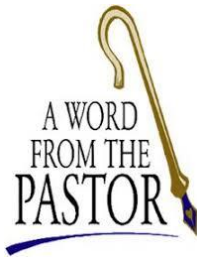
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 5PM CANDLELIGHT SERVICE WITH COMMUNION



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The videos from the 2022 LCMC annual gathering in Lakeville, MN are now available online. They can be found here:

<https://subsplash.com/lcmc/media/ms/+vjgvp75>



Dear Friends in Christ,

I love the holy season of Advent. I love that the church begins its new year when the days grow darker. I love that the season is not about shallow sentimentality and forced cheer. I love that the gospel readings are not about swaddling clothes, bright stars, and fluffy lambs. Rather the readings are about the world as it really is, here and now.

Gorgeous, fragile and sometimes falling apart.

Advent offers honest searching.

Advent is an invitation to yearn. When it's alright to say we are spiritually hungry, lonely, empty or unfinished. We sit in darkness waiting for light.

During Advent, our desire for God strains towards God's desire for us.

Advent is an invitation to wait. During Advent, we live in the quiet anticipation of "not yet". We remember that things worth waiting for begin in the dark. In this season, we strive not to find perfection, but possibility.

Advent is an invitation to notice. The gospel readings challenge us to be attentive to the details as we become aware of the tiny movements of our souls and spirits. The God who showed up in Mary's womb can show up anywhere!

Advent cuts to the chase. It insists on the truth. It lays us bare. Advent invites us to dwell richly in the here and now precisely because the here and now is where God dwells. Deep in the gathering darkness of Advent, something tender is growing. Yearn for it, wait for it, notice it, and imagine it. Something beautiful...something for the world's saving...waits to be born. We must stay awake and not let our hearts be weighed down by the world's news. Yes, the world can be a scary place, but we must not let our hearts be troubled. Jesus came to overcome the world. So we wait in the midst of it all, just before the dawn, for in the midst of the night there are strange and redeeming events afoot. Lift up your heads! Be on guard! Look and notice for a miracle is coming.

Blessed Advent and Christmas Peace Upon You,
Teri



Pioneer Lutheran Annual meeting will be held January 22 following church services. January 29th will be the backup date. Potluck dinner following meeting.

Reports for the Annual meeting will be due to Julie Petersen by Sunday, January 15th.

If you are interested in being on the church council, contact a nominating committee member. Charlotte, Dana or Mike T.



Please join us in the New Year 2023 as we continue to explore the “Women of the Bible.”

Bible study will begin **Saturday, January 14, 2023 at 9:30 am to 11 am** at Pioneer Lutheran. All are welcome! Study guides will be provided at no cost. You are welcome to come to one or all of the lessons below:

January 14	Mary, Mother of Jesus	Moving from Comfort to Courage
January 28	Mary Magdalene	Transforming from Outcast to Follower
February 11	Mary of Bethany	Putting Our Faith into Action
February 25	Martha	Finding Our Identity in Jesus
March 11	The Woman at the Well	Turning Our Messes into Messages
March 25	The Syrophenician Woman	Approaching God with Persistency and Boldness

For more information contact Laura Quail (605) 690-9104 or Charlotte Mickelson (870) 416-4208



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INCLEMENT WEATHER

Church cancelations will be made on the Pioneer Lutheran Church Facebook page, as well as emailed to newsletter list. Typically, decision to cancel is made Saturday evening (when possible). In case of questions, contact any council member.

Thanksgiving has just recently passed. Christmas is on the way. A little more than 150 years ago, the Civil War raged. It was to last four bloody years, resulting in the death of about ten percent of the US male population. One in thirteen enlisted men became amputees. More men died in the Civil War than in all the subsequent wars through Vietnam. Lincoln regarded the Civil War as a punishment from God. He said in his second inaugural address:

Fondly do we hope ~ fervently do we pray ~ that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash, shall be paid by another drawn with the sword as was said three thousand years ago so still it must be said 'the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.'

It was in the midst of this national tragedy from which none could escape, that he issued the Thanksgiving Proclamation, establishing the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving to God, and the remembrance of all those who had suffered and are suffering as a result of that “lamentable civil strife.”

Not far from the Capital another person mourned as well: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. His son had been seriously wounded in the war. As he reflected on this national wound, its interminable suffering and strife, he sought hope, and penned this well-known poem: Christmas Bells.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
 Their old, familiar carols play,
 And wild and sweet
 The words repeat
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
 And thought how, as the day had come,
 The belfries of all Christendom
 Had rolled along
 The unbroken song
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
 Till ringing, singing on its way,
 The world revolved from night to day,
 A voice, a chime,

A chant sublime
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
 Then from each black, accursed mouth
 The cannon thundered in the South,
 And with the sound
 The carols drowned
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
 It was as if an earthquake rent
 The hearth-stones of a continent,
 And made forlorn
 The households born
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
 And in despair I bowed my head;
 "There is no peace on earth," I said;
 "For hate is strong,
 And mocks the song
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"
 Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
 "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
 The Wrong shall fail,
 The Right prevail,
 With peace on earth, good-will to men."
 May we, too, in the midst of inescapable and
 interminable trouble that is spawned on earth find
 Thanksgiving for our benevolent Father and Hope
 in the Coming of this Child in a Manger. Amen.



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YAMA packages were sent out to Lacey Quail, Breanna Nupen, Riley Nupen and Matt Holler. Praying for them as they prepare for their tests this semester.



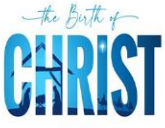
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **December 11 Life in the Spirit meeting following services**
- **December 11 Christmas Caroling 5pm bring a potluck item to share after caroling @ Arlene Madsen's 301 1st E in White, oysters stew furnished**
- **December 24 Christmas Eve services 5pm**
- **Jan 1 newsletter articles to Julie jmpete@itctel.com**
- **Jan 4 Church Council @ 6pm**
- **Jan 15 Reports for Annual meeting due to Julie**
- **Jan 22 Annual Meeting**
- **We need Monthly Cleaners, Readers, and coffee servers**
We continue to collect Hy-Vee receipts, so remember to bring yours.
- **Please remember to bring your donations for the Brookings Food Pantry. Your contributions are a blessing to others**



DECEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM WORSHIP/HOLY COMMUNION	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM PRAISE WORSHIP Life in the spirit Caroling 5pm	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 9AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP	19	20	21	22	23	24 5PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
25 NO SERVICES  <small>WALKER 2:1 gg140621342 GivGraph.com</small>	25	27	28	29	30	31
1 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM WORSHIP/HOLY COMMUNION	2	3	4 6 PM CHURCH COUNCIL		READER: DECEMBER: JIM	CLEANERS: DECEMBER: CHARLOTTE

**PIONEER LUTHERAN CHURCH
BOX 6
WHITE, SD 57276**