



PIONEER LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2023

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PIONEER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 8, 2023

President Valerie Hicks called the meeting to order at 11:06 AM after Sunday service on January 8, 2023, with all members present.

Devotions offered by Charlotte Mickelson.

Secretary's report of the last meeting was read, then approved with a motion by Kevin Quail and seconded by Laura Quail.

Treasurer's Report was distributed with questions answered by Treasurer, Julie Peterson. Report approved with a motion by Bill Powers and seconded by Laura.

OLD BUSINESS

Council reviewed, then made final adjustments to the budget proposal for 2023. The budget will be introduced and offered for approval at the Annual Meeting held on January 22, 2023.

A few items listed had no action: painting of siding, kitchen counter laminate trim, fellowship hall sound panels, review of December Caroling event.

Call Committee met as requested by Council to update information.

Val reported that digitizing of past records had progressed.

Kevin updated the service on the geo thermal system: Preferred Mechanical of Brookings spent an hour and a half looking at the system, Kevin ordered a case of filters but no call or bill has yet been received. Kevin volunteered to be the maintenance person for the system.

NEW BUSINESS

Outreach Committee will resume its study of Women of the Bible on Saturdays at 9:30 AM starting January 14, 2023, with January 28th being the 2nd Saturday date. Game night was suggested for a winter outreach event.

The use of envelopes for offerings will be included in the newsletter: possible need to reorder.

SD Dept of Ag and Natural Resources is offering a suicide prevention class in Sioux Falls on April 25, 2023, beginning at 9:00 AM at the Pavilion.

February 22, 2023 is Ash Wednesday which begins the season of Lent. Council agreed that Wed soup supper/service will continue. Pastor

Teri, Julie and Charlotte will plan the service/music.

Pastor Teri reported on Confirmation class and outreach to church members.

Next meeting is February 5, 2023, after church service.

At 12:23 PM Kevin moved; Laura seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Members prayed the Lord's Prayer in closing.

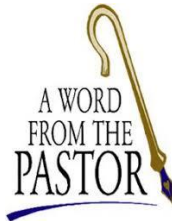
Respectfully submitted, Secretary Charlotte Mickelson

Pioneer Lutheran Financial Report	
31-Dec-22	
General Fund	\$ 23,733.78
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,489.88
Fund In Checking	\$ 25,223.66
EXPENSES	
Sioux Valley Energy electricity	\$ 320.16
ITC - phone and internet	\$ 95.34
BDRW water	\$ 42.60
Lewis Drug stamps	\$ 60.00
Laura Quail postage for YAMA	\$ 20.80
Postmaster box rental	\$ 58.00
Cash Pastor Christmas gift	\$ 150.00
HyVee cake. /Christmas gift	\$ 105.28
Teri Johnson Salary	\$ 2,225.00
Guide One Insurance	\$ 3,249.00
Jon Petersen snow removal 3x	\$ 180.00
	\$ 6,506.18
SUNDAY OFFERINGS	
Dec 4,2022	\$ 1,061.00
Dec 11,2022	\$ 720.00
Dec 18,2022	\$ 830.00
Dec 24,2022	\$ 774.00
	\$ 3,385.00
MISC INCOME	
ITC Refund	\$ 144.36
James Harris donation	\$ 500.00
	\$ 644.36
MISC EXPENSE	
Pioneer Cemetery Harris donation	\$ 500.00
	\$ 500.00



**In need of your input
Those of you that use offering
envelopes still wanting to use
them. Please contact Julie if you
are interested so she can
purchase them. Thank you**





Dear Friends in Christ,

Many of us were introduced to Epiphany through the familiar silhouetted-image of Three Wise Men bearing gifts as they followed the Great Star by night. This month we celebrate the season of Epiphany. The word *epiphany* means *appearance* or *manifestation*. Society conjures images of having a light bulb turned on, or of being able to see something that was once hidden from view. Our readings for the Sundays in Epiphany tell the many ways that people came to understand who Jesus was, through his baptism and many miracles.

What can we learn from the Wise Men this season?

First, the Wise Men began their journey because of their beliefs. It was a common belief that when a world leader like a king was born that a special stellar phenomenon would appear in the sky. The Wise Men saw something that convinced them that they had seen the long-awaited sign. Historians tell us that the Jews, the Romans, and the Persians were all watching the skies about that time, looking for signs of the birth of an extraordinary king. A few years before, around 11 BC, Halley's Comet had been seen. There were other stellar phenomena, including a bright star, Sirius, which appeared brightly in the daytime instead of at night. The Wise Men saw the star and began their journey. **May God give us all inspiration for this year's journey.**

Second, the Wise Men were willing to follow what they had seen into unknown territory. Their

journey took them outside their country and their comfort zone. The Wise Men risked the consequences of disobeying Herod, who was known to behave violently and ruthlessly when provoked and returned to their country by another way. **The Christian journey is often an off-road excursion.**

Third, the Wise Men were committed to the journey...wherever the star might lead. The Wise Men set out to find a newborn King by following a star and ended up in finding a baby born to young, relatively poor parents! Not exactly what they expected. **In this coming year, may we look to heaven for guidance and comfort and may we accept God's blessings in whatever forms we find them, just as the Wise Men accepted that their long, expensive journey led them to a baby born to young, inexperienced parents who lived on the poor side of town.**

Finally, the Wise Men brought gifts. **In this season of Epiphany, may we think of the gift we will offer to God in the coming year. The gift of time? The gift of our talents? The gift of our service to our community? The gift of our witness and testimony? The gift of undying love and devotion to Jesus?**

Star of wonder; star of light. Star with royal beauty bright. Westward leading, still proceeding. Guide us to thy perfect light.

May the guiding light of Jesus' birth and love guide and guard us in the New Year.

Pastor 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.

The Pioneer Cemetery Association, rural White, SD, will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, January 22, 2023, following worship services at Pioneer Lutheran Church. Worship begins at 10:00 AM.



Augustana District News

- Augustana District monthly newsletter is available at <https://augustanadistrict.org/resources/archives-documents/>
- Annual Theological Conference will be held February 5th through 7th in Bloomington, MN. Dr. Robert Kolb and Dr. Steven Paulson will discuss law and gospel. There is a streaming option. More information and registration can be found here: <https://augustanadistrict.org/2023-theological-conference/>
- There will be a Confirmation Retreat March 3rd through March 5th. More information can be found at <https://augustanadistrict.org/2023-confirmation-retreat/>



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 Persistence and Boldness

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

Robert Southwell (1561-1595) was an English-born Catholic who left his homeland while a young man to enter the Jesuit priesthood. Upon taking holy orders, he requested to return to his home country to minister during the tumultuous and violent years that followed the English Reformation. At that time, doing so had been declared by the monarchy to be an act of treason. Southwell expected he would become a martyr. Indeed, after several years of underground ministry, he was betrayed and arrested. He spent three years imprisoned, undergoing horrific torture multiple times. Finally, in 1595, he was tried for treason, found guilty, and given the customary sentence for Catholics and other dissenters: he was carried in a cart to the gibbet where he was hanged and disemboweled. His body was quartered and his head held aloft to the watching crowd.

He wrote the following poem while imprisoned.

The Burning Babe

As I in hoary winter's night stood shivering in the snow,
Surpris'd I was with sudden heat which made my heart to glow;
And lifting up a fearful eye to view what fire was near,
A pretty Babe all burning bright did in the air appear;
Who, scorched with excessive heat, such floods of tears did shed
As though his floods should quench his flames which with his tears were fed.
"Alas!" quoth he, "but newly born, in fiery heats I fry,
Yet none approach to warm their hearts or feel my fire but I!
My faultless breast the furnace is, the fuel wounding thorns,
Love is the fire, and sighs the smoke, the ashes shame and scorns;
The fuel Justice layeth on, and Mercy blows the coals,
The metal in this furnace wrought are men's defiled souls,
For which, as now on fire I am to work them to their good,
So will I melt into a bath to wash them in my blood."
With this he vanish'd out of sight and swiftly shrunk away,
And straight I called unto mind that it was Christmas day.

There is also a musical rendition of the poem by Sting here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTxuSVdhwX0>

And a discussion of the poem here:

<https://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2022/12/86532/>,



Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the Christmas greeting and gift. I am blessed with the opportunity to serve you as we learn and grow together in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ our newborn King.


Pastor Teri

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **Jan 14 Women of the Bible Study 9:30am-11am**
- **Jan 15 Reports for Annual meeting due to Julie**
- **Jan 22 Annual Meeting following service Potluck to follow meeting**
- **Jan 28 Women of the Bible Study 9:30am-11am**
- **Jan 29 Annual meeting back up date**
- **Feb 1 Newsletter articles to Julie jmpete@itctel.com**
- **Feb 5 Church Council following services**
- **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**



JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM WORSHIP	2	3	4	5	 <small>00131519621 GoGraph.com</small>	7
8 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM WORSHIP/HOLY COMMUNION Church Council	9	10	11	12	13	14 WOMEN OF THE BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM-11AM
15 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM PRAISE WORSHIP Life in the spirit	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 9AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP	23	24	25	26	27	28 WOMEN OF THE BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM-11AM
29 9AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP	30	31	1	2	3	4
5 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM WORSHIP/HOLY COMMUNION CHURCH COUNCIL					READER: JANUARY-LAURA FEBRUARY-DANA	CLEANERS: JANUARY-LAURA FEBRUARY-VAL

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