

# THE MESSENGER



***From the Pastor's desk...***



March 2017

Mid-Week Lenten Series "With Awe and Love" – Martin Luther's Legacy of Grace

How much do you know about Martin Luther? That he nailed the 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church at Witteberg? That he was a monk, but that he later got married? Do you know much else? Me neither, not really. This year is the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reformation event that started this whole reform of the church called Lutheranism. During our midweek Lenten services, we will be exploring more about Martin Luther the man, as well as his legacy of the doctrine of salvation by grace through faith alone. We will be contemplating Luther's Small Catechism along with scenes from Luther's life. Our Confirmation students will be helping with the worship services. Please plan to join us!

March 8 – The Ten Commandments

March 15 – The Creed

March 22 – The Lord's Prayer

March 29 – Holy Baptism

April 5 – Holy Communion

March 8 – International Women's Day

Women have great potential to bring lasting change to their communities. Yet women around the world are not afforded the same access to education due to social and political structures. You have the opportunity to change that. Every year on March 8, people around the world commemorate International Women's Day, a day dedicated to celebrating women's achievements throughout history and across nations. On this day, members of the ELCA celebrate by supporting and lifting up the International Women Leaders initiative – one of 10 priorities part of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*. For more information go to [www.elca.org/InternationalLeaders](http://www.elca.org/InternationalLeaders).

Valley Memorial Homes Chaplaincy Special Offering

Valley Memorial Homes provides care to hundreds of elderly and special needs individuals at Tufto Manor, 4000 Valley Square, and Valley Eldercare. Chaplaincy is an important part of the ministry of Valley Memorial Homes. The chaplains provide worship, Bible study, and individual pastoral care to residents and families. I have personally witnessed their caring ministry, especially when a resident is in end of life care and for the family at the time of death. This ministry is completely supported by offerings from the member congregations and private donations. Fisher and Bygland are both member congregations of Valley Memorial Homes. We will have a special offering for this wonderful ministry through the month of March. Please make your check payable to Fisher or Bygland with Valley Memorial Homes Chaplaincy written in the memo line. Thanks for your support!

~Pastor Karen

# PARISH NEWS



What does Chaplaincy Ministry provide for the residents of Valley Memorial Homes? Valley Memorial Homes provides for the physical, emotional and spiritual care of our residents. Spiritual care is provided through partnerships with your congregation as well as having two chaplains dedicated to serving residents, families and staff. They are Chaplain Gwenn Bazajou and Chaplain Suzi Grote. Worship services are offered throughout the week as well as on Sunday. Bible studies, one-on-one visits and spiritual assessments are all an important part of spiritual care at Valley Memorial Homes. We want to thank you for all your prayers and financial support to our Chaplaincy Ministry Program.

## Pathways

Pathways brochures have arrived and are in the narthex in both churches. Get your kids registered before March 17th for the Early Bird Discount



spark Magazines are in both church Narthex's— please feel Free to take one!

## Bach's "Ein feste Burg" and Music of Early Lutheran Masters

Presented by the National Lutheran Choir  
Friday, March 17, 2017— 7:00 PM  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Moohead, MN



# BYGLAND MINITUES

## Bygland Lutheran Church

We are God's work in progress, with hearts lifted to God in trust and praise and with hands extended to serve in Jesus' name.

**Unofficial/Unapproved  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2016 7:30pm**

**Members present:** Roger Moe, Marsha Ketring, Alan Halvorson, Karen Ebertowski, Ronnie Thorson, Haley Thorson, Eric Egeland, Randy Moe, Sheila Wurden and Pastor Karen

**Members absent:** Pam Robertson and Troy Pecka

### Call to Order

The council meeting was called to order by Council President Roger Moe at 7:30pm and Pastor Karen led devotions focused on Leymah Gbowee, a Lutheran from Liberia who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011.

## **Open Council Positions from 2017**

It was learned before the Annual Meeting that a suspension of the Constitution to allow for consecutive terms of service would not be allowed. Since there weren't any nominations from the floor at the annual meeting for the 2 open council terms and the Secretary's position, the council has the authority to appoint members to fill those vacancies until the next annual meeting.

*A motion was made to appoint Haley Thorson as Secretary and Troy Pecka and Eric Egeland as Council members was made by Karen and seconded by Randy. All were in favor, motion carried.*

*A motion was made by Randy and seconded by Ronnie to appoint the following members to the following positions:*

Patty Pecka-Synod Assembly Voting Member

Duane Waller, Steve Flaas, and Mark Egeland- Co-Head Ushers

Kathy Flaas- Altar Committee

Cathy Krostue and Ginger Bestland- Nominating Committee

*All were in favor, motion carried.*

## **Secretary's Report**

Haley provided a copy of the January minutes. A correction was made where it was indicated that Pam had made the motion to accept the treasurer's report when she was not present. ( A carry-over error from the previous set of minutes.)

*A motion to approve the secretary's report as amended was made by Eric and seconded by Karen E. All were in favor, motion carried.*

## **Treasurer's Report**

Randy provided a balance sheet for January. There was nothing of significance to note.

*A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Haley and seconded by Ronnie. All were in favor, motion carried.*

## **Pastor's Report**

Pastor Karen provided a statistical report for January. There were no baptisms, weddings, or new members. The funeral of Norma Egeland was held on January 30th. She highlighted some regular pastoral activity as well as many upcoming events, including Conference Assembly on 2/19 and the Equipping Congregations training on 2/18 or 2/25. She will be taking vacation 2/13-2/18. She also shared that Haley, Roger and Jeff Millar have volunteered to participate in the Constitution Review that was mentioned at the Annual Meeting. They will meet in later February to begin looking at the required changes and possible updates.

## *Old Business*

### **Church Maintenance**

Jamie Brundin has secured a bid from Sterling Carpet One for the replacement of the front doors. The bid including installation was \$5300. ( The congregation voted at the annual meeting to utilize lutefish monies from 2015 and 2016 as well as undesignated memorials if needed up to \$10000 for this project.) The council will work on getting a photo of the doors in the Sterling bid. Eric has a connection with someone at PS Doors and will look at a second bid for comparison. Alan reported that 2 furnaces in the church would need professional assessment. Randy will call Hastings as they assisted with the furnaces most recently and were able to secure a replacement and little to no cost .

### **Organist**

We are still looking for an organist for 2/19. Jane T has indicated that she is unavailable for much of March. The music and worship committees will be utilizing call lists to hopefully secure through March.

## *New Business*

### **Committee Chairs**

The council assigned chair people to committees and asked that the chair people ask their membership if they would like to continue with the committee work. The goal would be to finalize the Committee List by next month's meeting.

### **Parsonage Vacancy**

True Home Property Management was secured to manage the property and tenants at the parsonage. The new family has already moved in.

### **Family Fellowship**

A discussion ensued on the origination and current practice of Family Fellowship. Items typically purchased with the funds and the members responsible were also discussed. The group began to discuss potential dates for upcoming Family Fellowship and found it to be difficult with other church activities occurring etc. The creation of a family fellowship committee was discussed to alleviate the duties from just one individual.

*A motion to establish a Family Fellowship committee was made by Eric and seconded by Haley. All were in favor, motion carried.*

**Next Meeting Date: March 8th, following Lenten service**

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### **Adjourn**

*A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ronnie and seconded by Randy . All were in favor, the motion carried.*

# BYGLAND NEWS

## BOOK CLUB NEWS

March 27th at 7PM we will discuss THE GOLDFINCH (Donna Tartt).

New members are always Welcome!!!



# FISHER NEWS

March 6 & 7- Quilting at 9:00 AM

March 15- Bible Study at 9:00 AM

March 20 & 21- Quilting at 9:00 AM



**Fisher Lutheran's Italian Dinner has been moved to April 7th—**

Tickets are \$25 each and Dinner includes your choice of spaghetti and meatballs or chicken alfredo.

*Proceeds going towards the youth group trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX, July 2018*



## Upcoming classes

### CREATIVE COOKING ON A BUDGET

WHEN: 2/22, 3/1, 3/22, 3/29 FROM 5:00-6:30PM

WHERE: CARE AND SHARE OF CROOKSTON

220 E 3<sup>RD</sup> ST. CROOKSTON, MN 56716

TOPICS COVERED:

- MAKING YOUR DOLLAR STRETCH
- AFFORDABLE HEALTHY MEALS
- COMMON INGREDIENT COOKING

PLEASE CALL BOBBIE, ANITA OR SUE BY FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup> AT 218-281-2644 TO RSVP.

### FOUR CORNERSTONES

### OF FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP

WHEN: FEBRUARY 22, 2017 FROM 1-4PM

WHERE: CARE AND SHARE OF CROOKSTON

220 E 3<sup>RD</sup> ST. CROOKSTON, MN

TOPICS COVERED:

- BUDGETING TO CREATE SAVINGS
- DEBT REDUCTION AND ASSET BUILDING
- BUILDING GOOD CREDIT
- CONSUMER PROTECTION AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

PLEASE CALL BOBBIE, ANITA OR SUE AT 218-281-2644 TO RSVP BY



### CALMING AN ANGRY CHILD

When: 2/20, 2/27, 3/20, and 3/27 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Where: Care and Share of Crookston

220 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St Crookston, MN 56716

Participants will learn:

how to recognize excessive anger in their children and how to change their own and their child's behavior in order to defuse it and to use their anger in a healthy way

the 10 characteristics of an angry child

how to develop a greater understanding of their own and their child's anger, and how the two affect each other common goals of arguments, tactics to avoid during arguments and 10 steps to problem solving with children

Please call Bobbie, Anita or Sue by February 15<sup>th</sup> at 218-281-2644 to RSVP



# FISHER MINUTES



## 2-1-2017 Fisher Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Members Present- Pastor Karen, Pres. Ken Miller, Vice Pres. Reed Tinkham, Travis Schwarz, Darryl Quern, Chad Knutson, Gail Kasowski, Sheryl Tinkham, Kelly Bakken, Amanda Holte.

Call to order at 7:43 pm by President Ken Miller.

Secretary's Report- January minutes read by Chad Knutson. Motion to Approve: Reed Tinkham, Second: Darryl Quern.

Treasurer's Report- Kelly Bakken stated the Ottertail Power bill was up \$120 from the previous month, possible from the cold weather. Financial report was read by Kelly. Motion to Approve: Travis Schwarz, Second: Chad Knutson.

Pastor's Report- In January there was 1 Baptism. New members are Travis Schwarz and Aaron, Michael, Ean, and Isaac Egeland. New Associate Member is Jami Egeland. Pastor Karen mentioned that all Sundays of Lent and Easter (March-May) will have Holy Communion every Week.

Upcoming activities- Adult Bible study February 6 at Bylgland, February 27 in Fisher. There is a Conference Assembly on February 19, and Equipping Congregation days February 18 and February 25. Pastor Karen will be on vacation February 13-18.

Special Offerings for 2017- February: Global Mission Offering. March: Valley Memorial Homes Chaplaincy Special Offer-

The Constitution Review Committee is President Ken Miller, Bruce Newhouse, Jon Ross, and Curt Knutson.

Committee Reports- Parsonage Committee: \$1,000 for the first months rent and \$1,000 deposit have been paid for the Pasonage rental. Gail Kasowski will be the contact for Fisher Lutheran for TruHome Property Solutions (owner Derek Nolte), which is the property management company for the Pasonage.

Technology committee: Will be moving ahead with the audio system that had been bid by HB Sound & Light.

Old Business- Ken Miller sprayed for worms around the front doors. The Property Committee will talk to Joanne Baird about buying rugs for the Church. Kelly Bakken will call G&K Services about cancelling the rug service.

New Business- Council discussed committee assignments. Reed Tinkham is doing research on the accounting package of the Icon church software. The Wilma Tinkham Scholarship Fund is tabled for a later date.

Motion to adjourn at 9:55 pm by Travis Schwarz, Second: Darryl Quern.

Next Meeting March 1, 2017

Worship at 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday

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On behalf of the board of directors, staff and residents of Care and Share of Crookston, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support, prayers, and encouragement. With assistance from our donors, Care and Share has provided emergency shelter and services to individuals and families in northwestern Minnesota for over 30 years. We have worked to provide an environment where people could feel safe, regain their sense of self-worth, and focus on improving their life circumstances.

Over the course of the last year, our shelter served over 11,700 meals to residents and others in the community. In 2016, we provided a temporary home to 49 children and 187 adults, which equated to 10,454 shelter nights. Multiply that number times 30 years, and the numbers are staggering. Approximately 70% of our clients that sought housing last year were housed when they left our shelter. About 70% also left shelter with some form of income in place.

Access to medical and behavioral health care has been very important for our clients. Many clients have entered shelter with significant and sometimes very urgent healthcare needs. The number of clients who have medical services in place at exit is quadruple the number who enter shelter with services.

Beyond the healing of the body and mind is the healing of the spirit. As our client heal, we begin to see demeanors change. The client's stature changes. The person who wouldn't make eye contact looks you in the eye. They smile. They make conversation about normal, everyday topics. They talk about their futures. They talk about guilt, forgiveness, and sobriety. They talk to staff and to each other about their hopes, fears and frustrations. They start to encourage each other. They are no longer just existing. They are living.

This is powerful stuff. It is good work, happening in a little shelter, in a small town, every day. I know, beyond any doubt, that what we do is powerful and good. We help a lot of people get to a much better place in life. Helping someone find an apartment is quantifiable. Restoring hope is not as easy to document, but is priceless in terms of value. We see positive change every day.

The reality of our situation, however, is that there are costs associated with what we do. We need the support of donors, and we need more donors. We need your help NOW to continue our work. I do not ask this lightly. Please consider supporting us with a donation, so that we can keep helping people change their lives for the better. If I can be so bold, I would also ask you to consider ongoing donations. Come and visit the shelter. Ask questions. Serve. Join the board. We invite you to join us in doing good things for others.

Sincerely,

Sue Shirek, Executive Director

Care and Share of Crookston, Inc.

**Fisher Bygland Lutheran Parish**

Pastor Karen Young Trenne

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