

**December
2018**

The Eagle



St. John Lutheran Church

2888 W Houghton Lake Dr
Houghton Lake, MI 48629
Volume 18-12

SUNDAY .. DECEMBER 16 ..9:15am

Special Voters Meeting to extend Pastor Voll's call monthly until the installation of our new Pastor.

SUNDAY .. DECEMBER 23 ..9:30am .. ONE SERVICE ONLY

Lord willing, some very special things will be happening on **Sunday, December 23**. First, our 2 services will be combined into **One Service at 9:30 am** with Holy Communion. There will be **special music by our Kidz Church children**, the Holiday Choir, and the Praise Team. **New members will be received** by adult confirmation and baptism. Following the service, there will be a brunch in the fellowship hall and we invite everyone to stay and welcome our new members! After brunch, around noon, everyone is invited to join in as we go Christmas Caroling to some of the homebound members of our Congregation. *Come and join our worship of Jesus, our Savior!*

Special Holiday Worship Services



Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Worship – 7:00pm



*Dec 25 - Christmas Day Worship – 9:30 am
with Holy Communion*



*Dec 31 – New Year's Eve Worship – 7:00 pm
with Holy Communion*



In This Issue

Around the Church Calendar of Events Community Events	9 6
Programs Kidz Church Outreach Team	3 3
Minutes: Board of Directors Ladies Aid / LWML Treasurer's Report	10 8 12
Serving you this month Birthdays Anniversaries	7 7 7
From the Pastor's Desk	2
Synod News Good News for Families Missionary Information	4 14
Upcoming Events Coming Attractions	16

Church Contact Information

Office: 989-366-5164
Fax: 989-366-4420

Website - www.stjohnhl.com

E-mail-

stjohncms@houghtonlakemich.com

Office Hours: Mon - Fri: 8-12

From the Pastor's Desk...

“But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son” (Galatians 4:4)

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus.

What is often called “The Giving Season” is quickly approaching. People will search the internet and scurry through stores and spend and shop for gifts to give their loved ones. This is a fine custom. Have you ever wondered how it all got started?

“Christmas giving” began when people wanted to share the joy that they knew because of God’s gift of His Son. Because God had opened heaven to send His Son, people who had received the free and undeserved gift of forgiveness and eternal life through Christ wanted to share that joy and love with others. This is also, by the way, why St. Nicholas did what he did!

Please take a moment to consider just how and what it was that God gave in Christ. God gave, not to His relatives and friends, or to those who had been nice, not naughty, but to those whom sin had made His enemies. “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8.)” God did not give to the deserving, or to those who could give back to Him in return. Secondly, God gave His all, His whole self, what He loved most, His sinless Son, to come to earth, die for us, and then conquer death to open a way for us to be forgiven and freed to live forever in heaven. How far God’s giving exceeds our attempts to be generous!

It’s a season of giving, and that’s great! But please remember that it’s not our giving that makes Christmas, it’s God’s giving of His Son that we celebrate. Whether we give or receive a lot of gifts, it’s still a “great Christmas” when we remember God’s gift to us. That’s what we’re celebrating, and that’s what moves us to be generous, not just to friends and relatives and those who can repay us with a gift, but to those who need our love and support. It’s also what moves us to come to worship and receive His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation!

May the Lord bless our celebration of the gift of Jesus’ God’s Son!

In Him,

Pastor Ted Voll
Intentional Interim



2019 Offering Envelopes will be placed in your church mailbox this month. PLEASE do not use your new Offering Envelopes until January!

Opportunities to share the Word –

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Meets in the Luther Room at 11:00 Sunday mornings and is led by Pastor Voll.

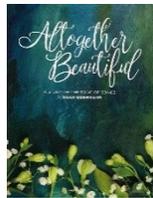


Thursday Morning Adult Bible Study

Meets in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00am and is led by Pastor Voll. This small group is a great opportunity to ask questions and spend time in The Word.

Ladies Bible Study Group

Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday evenings and will resume after the holidays on January 10, 2019. Our new study, *Altogether Beautiful*, is an in-depth Bible-based study on the Song of Songs. All ladies are welcome to join us!



Kidz Church Sunday School

Meets in the Education Wing during the 9:30 Divine Service begins at 9:45am. As this year's Christmas offering, the children will be participating during the Divine Service on **December 16**.

Puppet Ministry



Our puppets will be presenting a special Christmas play, "Christmas on Red Rock Ridge" at both services on **December 16**. Come

and hear the Christmas Gospel presented in such a joy-filled way!

LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL TIME -

It's that time of year again for anyone who wishes to receive the Lutheran Witness magazine to let the office know. Subscriptions are \$11.60/yr if paid before **Dec. 15**, \$13.60/yr after that date



Outreach Team -

Submitted by Carolyn Wood

There will be **NO** Outreach meeting during the month of December. Meetings will resume in the new year taking place the first Wednesday evening of each month. The next Community Meal, a Pancake Supper, will be held **January 9, 2019** beginning at 5:00pm.



Board of Evangelism -

Submitted by Jane Radulski

Gas tank ... wallet ... refrigerator..
Empty or full?



We spend a lot of time working to fill things that are empty. People who don't know our Lord try to fill their lives and hearts with *things* rather than His love, and we continue to try to help them find the real truth. It is my privilege to serve as your Evangelism Board member, and part of the Outreach Team. We work especially hard at this time of year to help fill those needs.

Our Community meal in November was wonderful! Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal of turkey ala king, and for the first time, when I got a break and went to eat my dinner, all the seats were full! Such a great "problem"! Those who came in with empty tummies went out with them full - and a lot of carry-out meals to help fill the next day's dinner plans. A pancake supper is already planned for January 9, 2019 - come join us!



Sharon Meinecke and I received a Thrivent grant and went shopping - we filled the empty refrigerators for



several families! It's hard for us to remember that, while we have so much, there are others with empty refrigerators. Hopefully, the food filled their tables on Thanksgiving and even created leftovers for the next few days.

And the Sharing Tree ... again, we have no idea how some people are forced to live because their wallets are empty. Your generosity - and you are the most generous congregation I have



ever seen! - plus a Thrivent grant, FILLED my truck to overflowing several times! Now all those gifts can fill the lives of the people we are trying to reach.



It must be hard for people to feel Christ's love when tummies and homes are empty. Now that we have made a start at filling those needs, we can work on sharing His love to truly fill their lives!

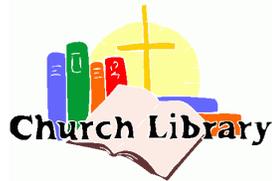
Thank you for all you have given. ~Jane

Other Church News...

Devotions Anyone? ...

Submitted by Gloria Owaski

The church library has a large collection of devotional books including 10 that are daily devotionals. These books can be taken home for all of 2019. Beginning the first week of December the books will be placed in the Parish Hall in easy access for you to look at and take home. The daily devotionals are:



Abundant Gifts A Daybook of Grace-Filled Devotions, by Diane Eble, 1999.

Christ in Our Home volume II, 2005, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Publication.

Every Day with the Savior by Rudolph F. Norden, large print 2004, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans publication.

Feed My Lambs Devotions (or Bible Study) for parents to share with children, by Henry T. Vriesen, 1950.

God's Purpose A book of 365 Daily Sermonettes for Home Worship by 366 Eminent Clergymen of the English Speaking World, 1939.

Grace For The Moment Volume II, by Max Lucado, 2006.

Luther's Family Devotions Gathered from the writings of Dr. Martin Luther, 1530, 1880, 1997 AD

Luther for the busy man Daily devotions from Luther's sermons on the Standard Gospels, translated and compiled by P.D. Pahl, 1974.

My Utmost For His Highest by Oswald Chambers, 1935 (1963).

Together with Jesus by Richard E. Lauersdorf, 2003, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans publication.

The library also has a nice selection of easy Christmas time novels and a few children's books for the Advent season. Take a few minutes to browse what we have to offer and then relax with a good book.

Those Who Serve...

Please submit names of those you know who are currently serving so we can include them in our prayers during 2019

For Today's Families

Author: Dcs. Jennifer L. Miller

Happy Noise

December 2018

Children are loud.

There, I said it. Having recently welcomed our third child into our home, I've noticed the noise level rise at least another decibel. Sometimes that noise is crying or whining, but most of the time – thankfully – it's happy noise. It's singing, giggles, and chatter. We welcome the happy noise. And slowly, my husband and I are coming to terms with the reality that children are just a bit louder than adults, and that can be okay.

A similar thing happened to Jesus as He rode triumphantly into Jerusalem. His biggest fans just couldn't contain themselves, and the result was lots of joyful noise.

As He was drawing near – already on the way down the Mount of Olives – the whole multitude of His disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out." (Luke 19:37-40)



We shouldn't be surprised – our Lord had performed miracles and taught truth unlike anything these people had ever seen, so of course they were shouting! This happy noise full of praise, honor, and worship was like nails on a chalkboard to the Pharisees, because they were used to their quiet, law-filled lives. This was a bit too much Gospel for them.

Instead of rebuking His disciples, however, Jesus declared to the Pharisees that there was simply no way to quiet this praise. The joy of the Gospel, of Jesus Himself, just is not a quiet endeavor. The noise is going to happen.

We also see this taking place in our own worship, don't we? Children tend to make plenty of happy noise during the Divine Service, and we can't help but encourage that. Let's see it as joy, wonder, and excitement rather than noise. Let's take a cue from our children and let the shout-worthy Gospel give answer to our quiet, law-filled lives.

As we go about the business of helping our children learn how we show reverence and respect during worship, let's help teach them how to channel that energy and put their happy noise to good use. Let's give them the right words to use and fill them up with the language of Scripture and the liturgy. We can pour into them the same phrases and vocabulary used by the "multitude of His disciples" who were praising Christ as He prepared for the most important week in history.

At home, read books with young children that explain the different happenings of the Divine Service. Engage in morning or evening devotions or Scripture readings with children of all ages to load them up with God's very words. Of course, some of the happiest of all noise is in the singing of the hymns, so why not teach a new hymn at home once a week, perhaps one that coordinates with the season of the Church Year?

Before you know it, the children in your life will proclaim – yes, noisily – the truths of the Gospel with words so eloquent that it will be music to your ears. The quiet will be replaced with overflowing joy that spills over from their life to yours. And hey, if you can't beat 'em, join 'em. 

Scripture quotations from the ESV Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version©), copyright ©2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Praying for those in Mission

St. John Lutheran Church supports various Missionaries around the world. As newsletters are received from them we will pass them along.



The Mahlburg Family – currently serving in Sri Lanka. A current newsletter will be published when received.



Note from the Office – we have been asked to not publish specific information pertaining to those serving under Global Lutheran Outreach online. If you would like a copy of newsletters received from either the Heiney Family or the Talsmas, please let the church office know and a copy will be placed in your church mailbox. Thank you

The Heiney's - serving in Africa through Global Lutheran Outreach

The Talsmas - also serving in Africa through Global Lutheran Outreach



The Naumans - serving in Lac Brochet, Manitoba, Canada through LAMP



The Orozco Family - Latino Mission Society currently in St. Johns, Michigan.

And also for all who are serving in the military!

Not sure what to do with all those manufacturer coupons? Remember those



serving overseas! Soldiers and their families are able to use coupons up to 6 months after the expiration date and appreciate the savings! Just put your coupons in the box under the mailboxes!

Founded in 2009, Coupons To Troops was created to help spread awareness that US military families who are stationed overseas can use coupons, up to 6 months past their expiration date.



A Note from ...

Received from Kelly Remer, ARC Account Manager

*Together, we can save a life*

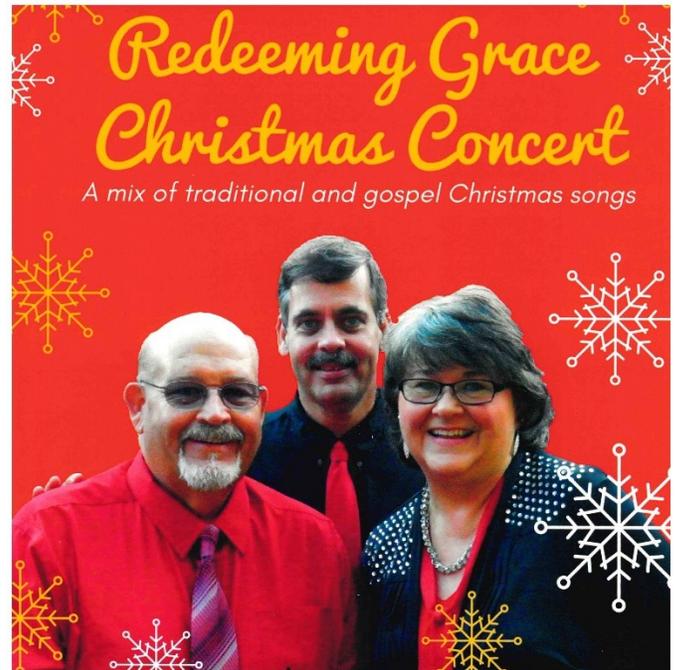
Do Our Blood Drives Really Make a Difference?

St. John Lutheran Church has been sponsoring blood drives with the American Red Cross for many years and for that we are eternally grateful! From the volunteers who help set up the hall, our blood drive coordinators and donors, who make it all possible. We appreciate all that this congregation and the community does to help supply a safe and stable blood supply, not only in your community but the national blood supply. **Records dating back to 2005 show that 3,923 pints of life saving products have been collected at St. John Lutheran Church!** The true impact of this is that each pint collected gets separated into three products; platelets, plasma and red cells. By donating you have the unique opportunity to impact up to three lives by a single donation! **Your community has potentially touched 11,769 lives!**

Your blood is needed more than you may think. Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. Giving blood is a selfless act. The hour it takes to give the gift of life can mean a lifetime to a patient with a serious medical need. The blood drive held at St. John Lutheran has collected over the years beyond 3,923 pints, each one of those making a significant impact on the lives of others.

Every day, patients throughout our community and across the country rely on volunteer blood donors when receiving medical care. Cancer patients, trauma victims, organ transplant recipients, premature babies, sickle cell disease patients and others may need blood products.

Thank you for being part of our Red Cross family and supporting our life saving mission!

**Community Musical Events ...***Abundant Grace 989 368 9244***Location:** 903 W. West Branch Rd (M-55)
Prudenville**Date:** Friday, Dec. 14 **Time:** 7:00 P.M.

Roscommon County Christian Choir

PRESENTS

The Glory of *Christmas*

Celebrating Christ's Birth

By Lloyd LARSON

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
MRS. CANDYCE PETERSON

SUNDAY, 4:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 16, 2018

HOUGHTON LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Celebrating This Month...



Celebrating Anniversaries:

Dec 2	Fred & Kay Kleinert	46 yrs
Dec 15	Bill & Janet Wilton	56 yrs
Dec 22	Jim & Mona Previch	62 yrs
Dec 27	Jim & Karen Krupansky	38 yrs
Dec 28	Jim & Pat Zabel	55 yrs
Dec 29	George & Alice Mandley	51 yrs



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Dec 2	Cooper Friend – 13 yrs
Dec 5	Ricky Joles Gloria Owaski
Dec 6	Debra Tate
Dec 8	Nicole Outman Erich Springer
Dec 12	Lynn Tate
Dec 15	Richard Mitchell
Dec 17	Ruth Serniuk
Dec 18	Amber Hawkins
Dec 19	Gerald Rzepka Bill Schmidt
Dec 21	Aaron Palmerton
Dec 23	Nicholas Peer – 16 yrs
Dec 24	Carol Newman
Dec 27	Roxey Petras
Dec 28	Bill Jammer
Dec 29	Melinda Nagy Dave Rickwalt Josephine Wolf



Please remember we are in need of Fellowship Hour Hosts & Hostesses. Sign up on the sheet posted in the kitchen. ~Thank You.



Serving During Worship Services

ELDERS

8:00 am Peter Daellenbach, & Jim Leedy
4th Sunday Jim Leedy & Erich Springer

9:30

Dec 2 – Scott Bockelman & Kirk Koupal
Dec 9 – Erich Springer & Bob Tarvis
Dec 16 – Bob Greger & Rick Joles
Dec 23 – Scott Bockelman & Mike Mike
Dec 30 – Rick Joles & Kirk Koupal

Midweek Services

Dec 5 – Peter Dallenbach
Dec 12 – Jim Leedy
Dec 19 – Bill Serniuk

Christmas Eve Service

Dec 24 – Dan Nagy & Bill Serniuk

Christmas Day Service

Dec 25 –

New Year's Eve Service

Dec 31 – Erich Springer & Bob Tarvis

READERS

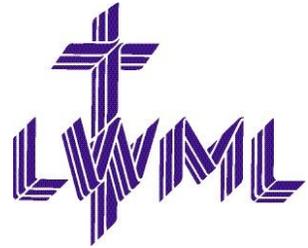
Dec 2 – Monika Pfannes
Dec 9 – Sandra Arnold
Dec 16 – Darleen Arnold
Dec 23 – Sonya Springer
Dec 30 – Lynn Tate

ORGANISTS

Dec 2 – Jane Radulski
Dec 5 – Carol Newman
Dec 9 – Sandy Akin
Dec 12 – Jane Radulski
Dec 16 – Jane Radulski
Dec 19 – Carol Newman
Dec 23 – Sandy Akin
Dec 24 – Jane Radulski
Dec 25 – Sandy Akin
Dec 30 – Carol Newman

PRAISE TEAM

Cheryl Daellenbach - keyboard, vocals;
Chris Lauria - vocals;
Jim Leedy- guitar & vocals;
Dale Mollard - bass guitar;
Judy Winter - keyboard, vocals;
Pastor Winter - guitar, vocals.



LADIES AID/LWML MEETING, NOVEMBER 1, 2018

Pastor Voll led us in prayer prior to our soup luncheon following which we heard from our guest speaker for the day, Carla, from the River House Shelter.

Thank you to Margaret Rickwalt and Carolyn Wood for making soup and to Elsa Hatt, Denise Reda, Ruth Serniuk and Arlene Shull for the desserts for this luncheon today.

Roll Call was taken with 14 members present.

Treasurer's Report – for October - Beginning balance \$4,876.50, Income \$1,335.25, Expenses \$509.17, Ending balance \$5,702.58, Petty cash \$2.70, CEF \$3,236.12.

Congregational and anniversary cards were made for the month of November by Erma Stevens and the month of December will be done by Eleanor Rabideau.

Happy November Birthday to Eleanor Rabideau.

OLD BUSINESS

Ladies Aid/ LWML Rummage/Bake Sale – Rummage sale \$700.25, Bake Sale \$380.00, Pickles \$105, Jam \$36.00. Total income \$1221.25.

NEW BUSINESS

Bake Sale - A motion was made to hold a bake sale on Sunday, December 9, by Denise Reda and seconded by Erma Stevens. Motion passed.

Our Christmas Party – will be held on Thursday, December 6 with finger foods to enjoy.

Donation – A motion was made by Denise Reda and seconded by Eleanor Rabideau to donate \$100 to the River House Shelter. Motion passed.

Advent Service – “Candles Tell the Story”, will be held Sunday December 2 at 6:00 P.M.

Food Pantry – A motion was made by Ruth Serniuk and seconded by Erma Stevens to donate turkeys or ham to the Food Pantry for Thanksgiving. Motion passed.

LWML

Treasurer's report – Beginning balance \$905.82, income \$491.35, expenses \$172.00, ending balance \$1,225.17.

Bakers – for LWML Sunday on November 18 will be Carol Andrews, Shirley Gensley, and Erma Stevens. Hostesses for the day will be Betty DeWitt, Barb Duwe and Shirley Gensley.

Quilting Day – will be Wednesday, November 14, from 9:00 – 12:00.

Speaker – from the River House Shelter, Carla, shared with us the many responsibilities of that shelter and the great things they are doing. She was very thankful for the fleece blankets we made for the shelter. There will be an in-gathering for them for the month of November.

Our next meeting will be on December 6 and will be our Christmas party.

Respectfully submitted.

Carol Andrews

Minutes subject to approval.

2018

December



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Midweek Service Sermon Topics Dec. 5 - <i>Mary's Song - the Magnificat</i> Dec. 12 - <i>Zechariah's Song - The Benedictus</i> Dec. 19 - <i>Simeon's Song - The Nunc Dimittis</i></p>	<p>1 10 - AA 1pm - Decorating the Church</p>	<p>2 8a - Blended 9:30 - Divine with HC 6:00 pm - <i>Candles Tell The Story</i></p>	<p>3 6:00 pm - Puppets</p>	<p>4 10a - AA</p>	<p>5 9a - Trustees 5:30 - Advent Supper 6:15 - Holiday Choir 7:00 - Midweek Service</p>	<p>6 10:00 - Bible Study 12:00 - Ladies Aid/LWML 6:00 - Confirmation Praise Team 7:00 - Elders</p>
<p>7 8a - Blended with HC 9:30 - Divine Ladies Aid Bake Sale</p>	<p>8 6:00 pm - Puppets</p>	<p>9 10a - AA</p>	<p>10 6:00 pm - Puppets</p>	<p>11 10a - AA</p>	<p>12 9a - Trustees 5:30 - Advent Supper 6:15 - Holiday Choir 7:00 - Midweek Service 8:00 - Board Meeting</p>	<p>13 10:00 - Bible Study 6:00 - Confirmation 6:30 - Ladies Group</p>
<p>16 8a - Blended 9:15 - Special VOTERS' MEETING 9:30 - Divine with HC</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 10a - AA</p>	<p>19 9a - Trustees 5:30 - Advent Supper 6:15 - Holiday Choir 7:00 - Midweek Service</p>	<p>20 10:00 - Bible Study 6:00 - Confirmation Praise Team</p>	<p>21 </p>	<p>22 10 - AA</p>
<p>23 ONE SERVICE "Why Bethlehem?" 9:30 - Divine with HC Receiving of New Members Brunch & Caroling to follow</p>	<p>24 7:00 - Christmas Eve Worship Service "The Gift in the Manger"</p>	<p>25 10a - AA 9:30 Service with HC "The Angels' Song"</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 NO BIBLE STUDY CLASS OR JUNIOR CONFIRMATION</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 10 - AA</p>
<p>30 8a - Blended 9:30 - Divine Service - No Communion - Guest Speaker: Mike Michaelson</p>	<p>31 7:00 - New Year's Eve Srv With Communion "Our Hope, Our Home, and Our Home"</p>					

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:

President - Jim Mueller
Vice-President - Jeff Krentz
Treasurer - Jim French
Secretary - Monika Pfannes
Board of Christian Ed - Mike Michaelson
Board of Elders - Peter Daellenbach
Board of Evangelism - Jane Radulski
Board of Social Welfare - Sharon Meinecke
Board of Stewardship - Erma Stevens
Board of Trustees - Marlin Shull
Spiritual Leadership - Pastor Voll

ABSENT:**VISITORS: None Present**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Jim Mueller at 7:13pm

OPENING: Pastor Voll opened the meeting with a responsive devotion "The Month of Thanksgiving".

SECRETARY'S REPORT: After review of the minutes from the October 10, 2018, Board of Directors meeting, a motion was made by Erma Stevens, second by Jeff Krentz, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jim French reported that the Treasurer Report reflects several items paid under Property Repairs - Trees were removed, 5600 sq. ft. of carpet cleaned in the church building, furnaces were cleaned. After review of the October 2018 Treasurers Report, a motion was made by Jeff Krentz, second by Jane Radulski, to accept the report as presented. Motion carried. A motion was then made by Jeff Krentz, second by Erma Stevens, to approve disbursement of Christmas Bonuses as done in 2017. Motion carried.

BOARD REPORTS:

Board of Christian Education: Mike Michaelson gave the following update:

Sunday School: The Christmas Program will be part of the December 16, Divine Service. No other report.

Board of Elders: Peter Daellenbach reported the following:

New Member: The Board of Elders recommends that Leo Stack be reinstated as a member of St. John Lutheran Church - Houghton Lake. Carried.

New Year's Eve: The Elders are discussing holding a New Year's Eve party again this year, open to the congregation, and including a ceremony to properly dispose of any unusable Bibles.

Circuit Delegate: Pastor Voll announced that Peter Daellenbach will be the circuit delegate to next year's Synod Conference in Florida and Pastor Dent will be the circuit Pastor.

Board of Evangelism: Jane Radulski reported:

Sharing Tree: Items are already being donated and the first load has been delivered to St. Vincents. They are so grateful for the generosity of our members.

Alternative Ed: The Alternative Education Department is in need of monetary donations to purchase Gift Cards for their students. Discussion followed, and the money will be distributed from the Local & Miscellaneous Charity line items. A motion was made by Erma Stevens, second by Jeff Krentz, to donate \$200 to the Alternative Education Department to purchase Christmas Gift Cards. Motion carried.

Board of Stewardship: Erma Stevens had no report.

Board of Social Welfare: Sharon Meinecke reported that a request was received today from a family for assistance with rent to avoid eviction. They are \$836 in arrears, have \$500 of their own funds, and a promise from St. Vincent's for \$200 if they can raise the \$136 left. A motion was made by Sharon Meinecke, second by Jane Radulski, that a one-time gift in the amount of \$136, payable to the landlord, be made to make up the balance needed to avoid eviction. Motion carried.

Board of Trustees: Marlin Shull updated on the following:

Furnace: Tim Swales has begun installation of the first of two new units.

Plow Bids: Bids were received for this year's plowing. Better Yards is again our best choice and will plow the parking lot for the same price as last year. One change has been made to their cost. When salt is used, the cost of the plowing will be higher as the cost of salt has doubled from last year due to a shortage. Marlin reported that salt will be used at the discretion of Better Yards and will be monitored by him.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Voll reported the following:

Sunday, Dec. 30, 2018: Pastor will be off this Sunday and Mike Michaelson will cover for him. There will be no communion at either service.

Extension of Interim Contract: A brief voter's meeting needs to be held in order to extend Pastor's contract to serve as the Intentional Interim. Pastor presented the following resolution:

Resolved - A Voter's Meeting shall be held on December 16, 2018, at 9:15am, to extend the call to Pastor Voll as Interim Pastor to St. John Luther Church monthly until a new pastor is installed. A motion was made by Jeff Krentz, second by Erma Stevens, to accept the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

Intentional Interim Ministry Program: Jim Mueller reported an e-mail has been received that indicated a call list should be received the first part of December. An invitation will be extended to the Transition Team members, via e-mail, to attend meetings to review potential candidates. Once the list is received, Jim Mueller will compose the e-mail and it will be sent out by the Church Office. The Board of Directors has been asked to begin thinking of what day & time during the week works best to hold these meetings, which may be lengthy. By consensus, the Board of Directors will start holding call list review meetings the beginning of January 2019.

OLD BUSINESS:

Parsonage - A letter has been sent to the renter, copy provided to each board member, enacting Section 1(b) of the January 26, 2018 lease agreement. This letter was reviewed by the board and a motion was made by Jane Radulski, second by Jim French, to accept the October 24, 2018 letter formalizing Extension of the Lease on a month-to-month basis.

NEW BUSINESS: No New Business Items presented.

VISITOR REMARKS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

MISCELLANEOUS: No report.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Jeff Krentz, second by Sharon Meinecke, to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 with the Lord's Prayer. Motion carried and the meeting was so closed.

Respectfully submitted by,

Monika Pfannes, Secretary

Minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting

St. John Lutheran Church
Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019
Treasurer's Report
Month Ending October 31, 2018

SALARIES

	Previous Balance	THIS MONTH	Year to Date	Budget
Pastor's Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Pastor's Housing Subsidy	-		-	
Pastor's Retirement & Ins.	-		-	
Pastor's Social Security	-		-	
Car Displacement	1,200.00	400.00	1,600.00	\$ 4,800.00
Car Expense	-		-	
Employees Social Security	589.02	611.73	1,200.75	\$ 3,050.00
Organists	1,523.52	431.05	1,954.57	\$ 7,980.00
Office Manager	3,906.09	1,793.88	5,699.97	\$ 16,435.00
Custodian	2,352.30	1,106.06	3,458.36	\$ 9,430.00
Guest Preachers	377.04		377.04	\$ 1,000.00
Interim Pastor(s)	7,500.00	2,500.00	10,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Mich Dist LCMS - IIMP (10%)	750.00	250.00	1,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Total Salaries	\$ 18,197.97	\$ 7,092.72	\$ 25,290.69	\$ 75,695.00

PROPERTY

Disposal	\$ 394.34	\$ 131.46	\$ 525.80	\$ 1,300.00
Equipment Purchases	244.96		244.96	\$ 3,000.00
Insurance	-		-	\$ 5,000.00
Reserve Rd. Expense/Improvement	84.28	77.91	162.19	\$ 1,000.00
Sewer Usage	198.00	198.00	396.00	\$ 800.00
Supplies Lawn & Repairs & Snow plowing	1,578.05	1,977.74	3,555.79	\$ 7,000.00
Utilities - Electricity	1,397.57	489.75	1,887.32	\$ 5,500.00
Utilities - Fuel-DTE Gas	804.00	268.00	1,072.00	\$ 4,750.00
Utilities - Telephone	492.75	164.07	656.82	\$ 2,200.00
Total Property	\$ 5,193.95	\$ 3,306.93	\$ 8,500.88	\$ 30,550.00

Charities

Community Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Katie Conference Endowment Fund	-		-	\$ 200.00
L.A.M.P.	-		-	\$ 500.00
Local Charities	100.00		100.00	\$ 500.00
Lutheran Home & Family Services	-		-	\$ 500.00
Lutheran Hour Ministries	-		-	\$ 500.00
Lutheran World Relief	500.00		500.00	\$ 500.00
Lutherans for Life	-	500.00	500.00	\$ 500.00
Miscellaneous Charities	-		-	\$ 500.00
Northern Michigan Children's Assess Ctr	-		-	\$ 500.00
Social Welfare	400.00		400.00	\$ 1,000.00
Sowers Fund	500.00		500.00	\$ 500.00
Synod's Work	2,400.00	800.00	3,200.00	\$ 9,600.00
T.I.M. (Sri Lanka/Pastor Mahlburg)	750.00	750.00	1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
Veterans of the Cross	-		-	\$ 500.00
Total Charities	\$ 4,650.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 6,700.00	\$ 19,000.00

CHURCH SUPPLIES

Altar Guild	\$ 28.04	\$ 359.35	\$ 387.39	\$ 2,000.00
Bulletins & Worship Aids	553.53	693.32	1,246.85	\$ 4,800.00
Confirmation Materials	-		-	\$ 600.00
Office - Supplies	1,371.28	935.95	2,307.23	\$ 5,500.00
Office - Technology Expenses	1,863.71	1,221.56	3,085.27	\$ 7,000.00
Portals of Prayer	216.00		216.00	\$ 900.00
Postage	14.76		14.76	\$ 750.00
Praise Team	-		-	\$ 600.00
Puppet Ministry	94.53		94.53	\$ 500.00
Sunday School & VBS	503.19	69.75	572.94	\$ 3,000.00
Total Church Supplies	\$ 4,645.04	\$ 3,279.93	\$ 7,924.97	\$ 25,650.00

St. John Lutheran Church
 Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019
 Treasurer's Report
 Month Ending October 31, 2018

Special Projects	Previous Balance	THIS MONTH	Year to Date	Budget
Major Repairs	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	\$ 16,000.00
Total Special Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,000.00

MISCELLANEOUS	Previous Balance	THIS MONTH	Year to Date	Budget
Centershot Ministries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100.00
Coffee & Donuts	386.03	155.81	541.84	\$ 2,400.00
Conferences	-	-	-	\$ 2,000.00
Evangelism	224.40	61.20	285.60	\$ 1,000.00
Outreach	589.49	75.91	665.40	\$ 1,500.00
Other Miscellaneous	799.22	161.71	960.93	\$ 6,000.00
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 1,999.14	\$ 454.63	\$ 2,453.77	\$ 14,000.00
TOTALS - MONTH / YEAR TO DATE / BUDGET	\$ 34,686.10	\$ 16,184.21	\$ 50,870.31	\$ 180,895.00

INCOME SUMMARY	Previous Balance	Income	Expenditures	Balance	Income / Expense Comparison
Worship Services	\$ 55,372.53	\$ 14,601.21	\$ 69,973.74		Current Month
Coffee & Donuts	451.41	94.25	545.66		\$688.75
Interest	-	-	-		Year To Date
Donations	-	-	-		\$21,687.92
Miscellaneous	1,238.83	800.00	2,038.83		
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 57,062.77	\$ 15,495.46	\$ 72,558.23		

CHECKING ACCOUNT	Previous Balance	Income	Expenditures	Balance
General Fund	\$ 49,565.35	\$ 15,495.46	\$ 16,184.21	\$ 48,876.60

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS	Previous Balance	Income	Expenditures	Balance
General Fund Savings	\$ 4,043.23	\$ 2.94		\$ 4,046.17
Bell Choir Fund	2,316.84	0.34		\$ 2,317.18
Building Fund	6,063.69	0.90		\$ 6,064.59
Centershot Ministries	843.64	0.12		\$ 843.76
Choir Fund	553.23	0.08		\$ 553.31
Flower Fund	144.86	35.02		\$ 179.88
Improvement Fund	7,105.95	86.05		\$ 7,192.00
Kidz Church/VBS	260.74	0.04		\$ 260.78
Memorial Fund	10,883.69	1.61		\$ 10,885.30
Outreach Team	1,078.06	0.16		\$ 1,078.22
Parsonage	29,509.41	1,084.36		\$ 30,593.77
Praise Team Fund	180.68	0.03		\$ 180.71
School Bldg. Fund	2,524.08	0.37		\$ 2,524.45
Teddy Bear Fund	2,485.73	0.37		\$ 2,486.10
Thrivent Choice Funds	5,381.24	0.80		\$ 5,382.04
Together In Mission (T.I.M.)	1,793.64	0.26		\$ 1,793.90
Univ/Sem Ed Fund	2,391.71	0.35		\$ 2,392.06
Youth Fund	5,095.46	3.08		\$ 5,098.54
Total Special Accounts	\$ 82,655.88	\$ 1,216.88	\$ -	\$ 83,872.76

CEFs	Previous Balance	Income	Expenditures	Balance
CEF - One Year Fixed Rate Note	\$ 1,426.03	\$ 1.87		\$ 1,427.90
CEF - One Year Fixed Rate Note	\$ 16,684.38			\$ 16,684.38
CEF - One Year Fixed Rate Note	\$ 24,193.93			\$ 24,193.93
CEF - One Year Fixed Rate Note	\$ 50,702.52	\$ 198.09		\$ 50,900.61
CEF - Two Year Fixed Rate Note	\$ 50,135.57	\$ 157.96		\$ 50,293.53
Chemical Bank - 17 mo. CD	\$ 75,000.00			\$ 75,000.00
Credit Union Savings Account	\$ 2,117.42	\$ 0.55		\$ 2,117.97



Dear St. John Lutheran

Jesus said, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation." Mark 16:15

First I give thanks to God that I can serve Him and be a part of His mission work here in Sri Lanka. My heart is filled with joy as I tell people here about Jesus Christ and what He has done. I am thankful for the work God is doing with our partner church, the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church.

This past Sunday, I visited Good Shepherd Lutheran Church located in the mountains of Sri Lanka where tea is grown. This congregation had been estranged from the rest of the church for several. We spent many months in discussion with the leaders of Good Shepherd. We prayed about this situation and asked for God's wisdom. At one point, I believed we had reached an impasse. By the God's grace, I was wrong and now, Good Shepherd has returned to the fold.

Copyright © 2018 Mahlnews, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you signed up at one of our presentations or have partnered with us by supporting us financially. We apologize if we have mistakenly added you to our list, and ask that you follow the instructions to unsubscribe rather than reporting this as spam.

I was glad to go there and preach. I was happy to be with these brothers and sisters in Christ, gathered around Jesus Christ. My heart overflowed as one of the elders asked that I baptize his infant son.

I returned to our apartment in Colombo by train. The train ride is 7 ½ hours, mainly due to slowly winding through the mountains. The views are beautiful, but the train ride gives me opportunity to meet others. I struck up a conversation with a retired school teacher. He was Buddhist, like 70% of Sri Lanka. When I told him that I was a Christian missionary, he became quite curious. He asked me many questions and told me a little about his beliefs. I was happy to be able to talk to a Buddhist about Jesus.

So first I thank God that I am a part of His mission work in Sri Lanka. Second, I thank God for you. You are every bit a part of God's mission work in Sri Lanka as I am. These stories I shared with you are not my stories. They are our stories. We are in this together.

Third, I thank you personally. Your partnership in God's mission work has brought us to this beautiful island nation off the southern coast of India to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. God has used your prayers and financial support to bring us here 16 months ago. God will use your ongoing partnership to continue this work here.

During this season of Thanksgiving, I ask that you continue your partnership with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to participate in His mission work in Sri Lanka. I ask that you pray and consider increasing your financial support. Pray and consider sending a special gift during this Thanksgiving-Advent-Christmas season.

You may write a check to: **The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod**

Please mark checks: **Support of Mahlborg-Sri Lanka**

Mail to: **The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod**

P.O. Box 66861

St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

You may give online at lcms.org/mahlburg scroll to the bottom and click on [Give Now](#).

If you have any questions or if congregations would like partner with us please call: **888-930-4438** or send an email to: mission.giving@lcms.org.

Together in Jesus' Service,
Pastor Steven Mahlborg
Serving the Lord in Sri Lanka

Our mailing address is:

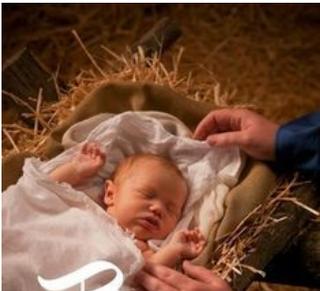
Mahlnews
5160 Green Acre Dr.
Frederic, MI 49733



Coming Attractions....

(Times can be found on the Calendar)

- Dec 01 – Decorating the Church for Christmas
- Dec 02 – Advent Program – *Candles Tell The Story*
- Dec 05 – Midweek Advent Potluck & Worship Service
- Dec 06 – Ladies Aid / LWML Christmas Fellowship
- Dec 06 – Elders Meeting
- Dec 09 – Ladies Aid Bake Sale
- Dec 12 – Midweek Advent Supper & Worship Service
- Dec 12 – Board of Directors' Meeting
- Dec 13 – Ladies Group Christmas Fellowship
- Dec 16 – Special Voters' Meeting at 9:15am
- Dec 19 – Midweek Advent Supper & Worship Service
- Dec 21 – January Newsletter Deadline
- Dec 23 – ONE WORSHIP SERVICE with Children's Program
Reception of New Members & Christmas Caroling
- Dec 24 – Christmas Eve Worship Service
- Dec 25 – Christmas Day Worship Service
- Dec 31 – New Year's Eve Worship Service



MIDWEEK SERVICES ...

*Beginning Wednesday, **December 5, 2018**, we will be holding our Midweek Advent Services preparing our hearts for Christmas. Our Advent Theme is "**Songs of the Savior**". Bring your family to this special worship time. These special midweek evenings will begin with a Fellowship Supper at 5:30. See note above regarding menu! After supper we gather in the sanctuary for special worship services created just for Advent.*

*Midweek Advent #1 – "**Mary's Song – the Magnificat**",*

*Midweek Advent #2 – "**Zechariah's Song – The Benedictus**",*

*Midweek Advent #3 – "**Simeon's Song – The Nunc Dimittis**",*

*Christmas Day – "**The Angels' Song – The Gloria in Excelsis**".*