

Raise the Roof!

We are planning a *ROOF FUNDRAISER* in August.

Date To Be Determined

Events to include:

~~**Raffle** (1/2 a beef and other items)

~~**Kickball tournament**

~~**Concessions**

**This event will be open to the public and we need your help to
let your friends and family know! STAY TUNED...**

Summertime Thanksgiving

Now that summertime activities are in full swing, I want to pause for a moment to give thanks to God for some very important people who serve our nation at home and abroad. As we prepare once again for the celebration of our nation's official Independence Day, I give thanks to God for the men and women of our military forces who stand at a moment's notice to defend our freedom.

In recent weeks, the threat of war in the Middle East weighs heavy on the families of those who must drop everything and deploy to areas of conflict. No one wants to be put in harm's way or to have loved ones put in harm's way. They want to celebrate with their families just like you and I do. So, thanks be to God and for the men and women of our military forces who willing step forward at a moment's notice to defend our nation's Independence Day Celebrations.

I also want to give thanks to God during our summertime activities of vacations, fishing trips, baseball games, swimming, summer community bands, etc., for our farmers. They are as busy as bees and hard working as ants to put up hay between the showers, and attend to the growing crops so that at harvest they can store them up for the winter for cattle, milk cows, chickens, hogs, etc.; so that we have food on our tables all year long.

I like to think of the work that our farmers do as the second line of defense that preserves our freedom. Without their commitment, devotion, dedication, and work ethic,

who would provide the food we pick up at the grocery store to delight in our favorite recipes? I remember growing up on a dairy farm in Central Minnesota; and having to make hay on the 4th of July and milk cows morning and evening, and then enjoy some fireworks. So, thanks be to God for our farmers who grow the crops and tend and care for the animals so we can eat and celebrate our nation's Independence Day.

Therefore, as you celebrate the Fourth of July, remember to give thanks to God for the men and women of the military, AND give thanks to God for the men and women who are our farmers, our second line of defense. Better yet, if you see a farmer or a military person, say "Thank You" to them as well.

Fill your minds with those things that are good and deserve praise; things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honorable. Put into practice what you learned and received from me, both from my words and from my actions. And the God who gives us peace will be with you. (Philippians 4:8-9)

Pr. Ahles

Lines from LaVerne... When something in your life makes you anxious, come to Jesus and talk to Him. You can say "Thank you, Jesus, for this opportunity to trust you more." Sometimes the lessons of trust come wrapped in difficulties, but the benefits far outweigh the cost. Well developed trust will bring you many blessings. One of these blessings is peace. Jesus has promised to keep us in perfect peace if we trust him. The world has it backward, teaching that peace is the result of having money, possessions, insurance and security systems. Even if you lose everything else, if you gain my peace you are rich indeed. Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all. Every problem can teach you something. Psalm 46:1-3 says, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging." How reassuring to have a God that can make all things right. Have a great summer and stay safe!

**Council
Meeting is
Tuesday, July 2
at 7 p.m.**

Your Lay Minister,
LaVerne

June 4, 2019 Congregational Council Meeting (Unapproved)

Meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by President Jim Odness. Members present were Jim Odness, Keith Nelson, Linda Odness, Bruce Thompson, Pastor Ahles, Stephanie Rumstick, Becky Rongstad, Cedric Anderson, Tom Johnson and Tim Radaatz

Pastor led us in prayer and devotion with a reading from Romans Chapter 12; which directs us to recognize the personal attributes we have been gifted by God. We are encouraged to remain humble regarding our attributes as to not put others down. Pastor reminds us as members of the church council that we need to build up the gifts of all members so they can

and will want to contribute to our congregation. He also wants us to offer recognition to those who are sharing their skills with our Church family to continue in our mission and growth.

Secretary's report for the May's Congregational Council Meeting was read by Linda; motion to approve minutes as read by Tim, Cedric seconded; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was not present as Brandi needed to leave for family reasons and will provide updated information at the July meeting.

May

- Checking Account - Building Fund Checking -
- 2050 General Fund - Memorial Fund -
- Church Savings- 13 mo. CD -

Pastor's Report

- Pastor conducted 4 worship services, attended 4 text studies, and hosted members of the Shoemaker Family before Graveside Service on May 18. He made 4 home visits, provided communion for 7 shut-ins. He provided baptism preparation with Sam Clark & Marta Rusten for their son Oscar Olaf baptism on June 30.
- Pastor's tentative plans regarding Continuing Ed & Vacation are as follows:
Continuing Ed. - August 15 – 21 (7 days including 1 Sunday)
Vacation – August 22 – September 1 (11 days including 2 Sundays)
- Pastor reminds us of the upcoming VBS and encourages us all to attend:
VBS- Intergenerational – Once/month Wednesday Evening Gathering
June 12, July 10 and August 14

WELCA

- SPLASH" – Faith Formation" program for our newest members children (birth-three) have been addressed and appropriate sections sent to children currently participating.
- Ladies will be donating up to \$10,000.00 for replacement of the roof if needed.
- Ladies will not be having a booth at the Lake Marth Day's event
- The quilts for the High School Graduates for 2019, have been distributed.

Parish Secretary Update

- No report

Janitor

- No report

Sunday School

- Jim shared that he has spoken to Trisha Lyngen and others on the Sunday School board and a meeting will be held soon to discuss space needs and make the appropriate changes/arrangements to help reduce the crowding issues prior to the fall start of classes.

Parish Council

- Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at Immanuel in Strum starting at 6:30.

Old Business

1. Ben Aiona has installed the air conditioner at the parsonage not sure if we have received a bill yet.
2. At the special congregational meeting on Sunday June 2, 2019 by unanimous vote Bjorkstrand roofing was approved to replace the roof and the color selected was Cyprus (red with black).
3. Trees are growing on the mound system, this will need to be taken care of. Jim will contact Leonard Robinson to see if he might have a brush hog that could be used.
4. Becky shared that the organ speaker is making noise again, Keith looked at it, but it continues to happen. Jim will get a piece of carpet and place this under it. Seems it only happens when playing the low G and Becky feels it is related to the organ. We did have this looked at in the fall of 2018 and may have to have it looked at again.
5. Discussion regarding the appropriateness/legality of employees, (janitor, church secretary and organist) being paid as a 1099 vs. W-2. Linda will contact Hawkness Tax Service to determine the legality of 1099 vs W-2 for the

- following employee's janitor, church secretary and organist and share information at the next meeting.
6. Discussion regarding music for "Church in the Barn Service" as well as a possible speaker. Tom shared that Crystal is looking into this with information forthcoming.
 7. Jim provided information about having our offering envelopes printed locally rather than using a company. Pastor shared that Strum prints their offering envelopes and perhaps contacting Michelle Peaslee to see if some arrangements could be made with them

New Business

1. Jim contacted Bjorkstrand roofing and confirmed the amount due for project at \$29,200.00 as well as the color. Mr. Bjorkstrand shared that we will need to pay 30% (8760) of the bill prior to starting the project, another 30% (8760) when the project begins and the remaining balance at the completion of the project. Once down payment and necessary paperwork is received it will be approximately 6 weeks before the project would begin. Discussion held regarding which fund to take it from and whether or not money offered by the ladies would be needed. Keith made a motion to take the first 30% (\$8760.00) payment from the church savings account, second by Becky, motion carried. Regarding the money offered by the ladies it looks like that will be needed, with plan for payment yet to be determined.
2. Pastor shared that there is some damage to the rain gutter above the air conditioner as a result of the winter weather. He was wondering about the tractor tire and the light in the front yard of the parsonage.
3. Brad contacted Keith and Brad is resigning his position as Janitor for the church as of July 31, 2019, he has been the janitor since he was 17 so over 20 years. Brad would like to continue to mow grass at the church. We are currently looking for a janitor. If interested please contact a council member or member of the Personnel Committee which include Tim Radaatz, Linda Odness and Brandi Berg.
4. The elevator has been inspected and passed.
5. We will begin printing the amount of money received through Thrivent Choice Dollar delegation by those members who have that option. No names will be printed, just the amount so we can all see the benefit this option provides the church.
6. Some of the landscaping at the front of the church needs to be removed and replaced, Jim is checking with Smith Landscaping for recommendations, with future plans for completing this project
7. Jerriann Thronson has requested transfer of her membership to Saving Grace Lutheran Church in Eau Claire. Council has directed Pastor to proceed with this request.
8. The on demand hot water heater needs repairing with a cost of at least \$500.00. Discussion held and it was decided to table the repairs for now, turn on the big hot water heater all the time and see how that works.
9. Due to the church being locked a few times over the past few months additional keys for the front door are now available if needed. The following individuals have a key should you need access in the event the church is locked: Current President (Jim Odness), Bonnie Johnson, Brad Johnson, Pastor Ahles and Becky Rongstad.
10. The side entry door lock by the bathroom addition is also being replaced.
11. We received a letter from Trempealeau County regarding an inspection of the parsonage septic tank. Jim will contact Chimney Rock Septic to complete the necessary paperwork and send to the county.

Motion to adjourn made by Keith 2nd by Linda, motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:26, we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Odness, Recording Secretary.

June 2, 2019 Special Congregational Meeting

Meeting was called to order after service by President Jim Odness. It was determined that 35 members were present so a quorum was confirmed. Discussion was held regarding color options and the final price of the project which is \$29,200.00 with a credit of \$1300 if we would place a sign for Bjorkstrand Roof in the yard. There are also some areas on the roof that are leading, near the steeple and on the south east side so these will need to be fixed at the time of the replacement, so this may increase the cost. Mike Nelson made a motion to replace the roof using Bjorkstrand Roofing and the council should spend whatever it cost to have it done correctly, seconded by Jan Berg, motion carried. Each member was provided with a paper ballot and the proposal was approved unanimously and the color selected was red.

Motion to recess was made by Tammy Danenberg, seconded by Stephanie, and motion approved.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Odness, Recording Secretary.



Our first ~~VBS~~ in June was a MAJOR success!!

Thank you to everyone that was a part of that day...

Everyone is invited to attend our next session on

Wednesday, July 10 from 5-7 pm

Supper from 5-5:30 with activities, lessons, crafts and dancing to follow!

ALL AGES – young and old – will appreciate our inter-generational time together.