

February 2017

Country Spire



Long Lake Lutheran Church

Christ Centered Purpose Balanced Mission Driven

3921 277th Ave NW Isanti, MN 55040 Ph 763-444-5315 Fax 763-444-8066

www.longlakeluth.org

C o n t a c t U s

Pastor	Matt Flom	651-485-6968	mattflom@longlakesluth.org
Student Pastor	Mary Fiel	507-525-3909	maryfiel@longlakesluth.org
Dir. Youth & Family	Eric Nelson	605-651-4267	ericnelson@longlakesluth.org
Church Office		763-444-5315	
Business Administrator	Lisa Lynn	763-370-4053	lisalynn@longlakesluth.org
Administrative Assistant	Jennifer Sonterre	763-354-9574	jensonterre@longlakesluth.org
Custodian	Troy Engstrom	612-750-3768	
Choir Director	Donna Larsen	763-350-8209	
Organist	Kristy Anderson	763-300-0167	
Wedding Coordinator	Carol Perrin	952-220-2684	

Council

Chairperson	Dave Eberhardt	763-444-3690	dseberhardt@aol.com
Congregational Life	Margaret McBride	763-413-1531	rodgmargmc@aol.com
Education	Jennifer Sonterre	763-354-9574	jensonterre@longlakesluth.org
Finance	Marsha Weidner	763-753-8844	mmweidner60@msn.com-
Missions	Jim Werronen	320-983-2954	werronji@hotmail.com
Property	Matt Lundeen	612-817-3372	bmt_cambridge@q.com
Stewardship	Claudia Hanson	763-753-1392	jcshanson@live.com
Worship & Music	Stephanie Matson	970-691-7493	parkersteph@hotmail.com
Youth	Tiffanie Niemi	763-753-5548	danandtiff98@gmail.com

NEW WEBSITE

Our new website has officially launched! While it has been revamped
the address is still the same: www.longlakesluth.org

Visit us and view the new options available

M i s s i o n s

**Jim Werronen**

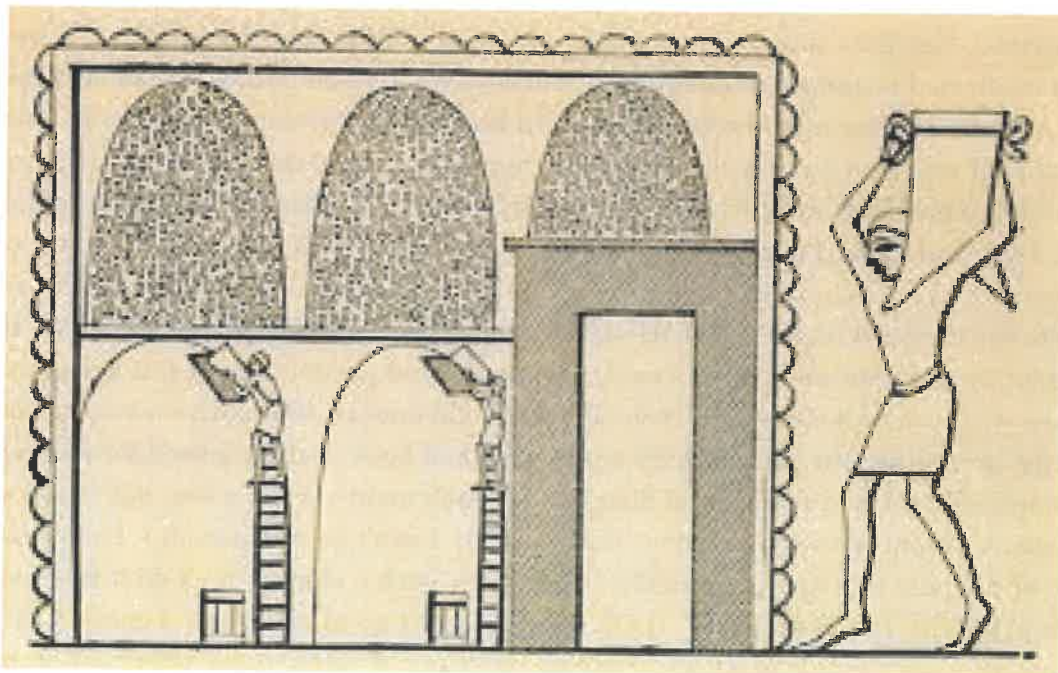
The Missions Team met on January 1, 2017. Attending were Karyn Hansen, Gerald Anderson, Joe Buck, Jim and Betsy Vincent and Jim Werronen.

We talked about the Mission of the Month for February it could either be for the youth trip or possibly for support of Doctors Without Borders I will check into both options.

Joe Buck brought up the possibility of supporting the Pregnancy Resource Center with items from Joseph's Granary, or possibly The Refuge, which helps those who are threatened with domestic violence. Joe also mentioned 600 pounds of food has been received for Joseph's Granary!

God bless!

Jim Werronen



S t e w a r d s h i p



Claudia Hanson

How God Speaks

The Bible tells of many ways that God communicates with his people. By His voice, through dreams, visions, angel messengers, and other signs. So often we think of this as only happening in biblical times, but God is alive and in communication with us daily. The problem we seem to experience is that we either aren't aware, or we choose to ignore his prompts. I have found over my lifetime that I am much quicker to ask than to listen; want than to do. In spite of my own shortcomings, I have learned that God's blessings, beckoning, and directions will arrive whether I think it is possible, or if I think am capable.

Many years ago, John and I had difficulty beginning our family. It was eight and half years until our bundle of joy arrived. Needless to say, it was a long and lesson filled time. Strangely, the weekend our pregnancy was confirmed began an unimaginable journey. We arrived at our church very early, and were met by the then youth director and another greeter. In hushed voices, they told us there was a young woman in the chapel who was terribly distressed having just suffered the loss of an early pregnancy. The youth director said to me "You must go in to her and help her." I remember looking at him, stunned, and saying "I can't, I just found out I'm pregnant." (LOL - I can't go to Nineveh.) His response was what I thought to be weak logic, "You're the only gal here." John nodded to me, and shrugging in response I turned to go into the chapel without a clue of what to say or do. I spent a tearful two hours in there with her. Once completely cried out and prayers said, we hugged and parted ways. I felt her pain, sadness, and burden even with our own current miracle. It seems odd enough that such an occurrence happened, but a few months preceding, our church Spire equivalent had been posting a need for someone to lead a small group on infertility. I had read it and dismissed it each month. I felt a tug, but really - I had no experience. I wasn't prepared to be "a leader". (LOL - Nah, I can't go to Nineveh.) Following the news of my pregnancy, and seeing this again, I quickly dismissed it with a sigh. "I can't do it now even if I wanted to - I'm pregnant. It's *impossible*." (LOL - Nope! I can't go to Nineveh.) I cruised through the



first trimester yet each time I saw the advertisement, it jumped off the page to my eyes - I felt - a tug. I think I was in my 6th month when I finally, and audibly said "Okay! I'll call her.... but really, it's ridiculous God."

I called and spoke with the church counselor, telling her my story in brief, including my current pregnancy situation. Undaunted, she said "Let's set up a time to meet later this week." "Really? Okay...", I said thinking and wondering - WHY? While we met, I couldn't believe the direction our conversation took. She kept smiling and nodding, and finished by inviting me to meet the women who were currently in the group. She assured me it would be a good match, and despite my misgivings of how my pregnancy would affect them; she felt it would be a sign of hope and encouragement to them. So, I agreed - with eyebrows raised, and no clue of what to say or do. (LOL - Well, I don't *really* think I should go to Nineveh...)

Entering a group of people who already know each other often feels awkward, but seeing that same young woman from the chapel helped that sense dissipate quickly. I was soon invited to be their "new leader" and would meet with them at their next scheduled time. (LOL - Nineveh here I come...I guess.)

Well, our group of 6-7 gals, and at one point 1 guy, lasted in spite of my cluelessness. We shared feelings, cried, prayed, and laughed. It was a wonderful and amazing happening. We continued as a group until one by one, pregnancies occurred, and our circle was made smaller. It was a sort of bitter sweetness for sure.

There was one person in the group with whom I connected more deeply, and she with me. It seemed that in her case, God would be calling her to do something quite different than the others. Adoption would be the pathway for her and her husband to start their family. We became a group of two. Over the next years, we bonded to say the least. We laughed, cried, questioned, and prayed. Finally, victory was had, and we rejoiced at the arrival and adoption of their first! God had not only seen us through a very long and difficult journey, but had blessed us with a wonderful friendship that continued to grow. It was just a few years later they welcomed two twin beauties into their home. What a joy to bring our families closer together forever as they asked us be godparents to these little girls! (LOL - Imagine - What a blessing from Nineveh!)

Isn't God amazing? He brings us to places we cannot imagine - to be part of something we can't believe we can do. God blesses us so much even if we start slowly, saying we can't.

HE CAN.

With Love in Christ,

Claudia Hanson

P.S. What is Christ calling you to do? If you'd like to have coffee give Pastor Matt or me a call!



Y o u t h D i r e c t o r



Eric Nelson

We are already a full month into 2017!! Here is what is coming up in February for youth and education.

If you are ever interested in more information or would like to get involved with youth programs, don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for prayers and support for our youth!

Eric Nelson

Church: 763-444-5315

Cell: 605-651-4267

E-mail:

ericnelson@longlaketluth.org

Wednesday, February 1st:

5:30- Community Meal

6:00-7:00- Children's Church

6:00-7:15- Confirmation

6:00- Youth Committee Meeting

7:17- Worship

8:00-9:00- High school youth group

Sunday, February 5th: Education meeting postponed due to annual meeting

9:30- Sunday school

Wednesday, February 8th:

5:30- Community Meal

6:00-7:00- Children's Church

6:00-7:15- Confirmation

7:17- Worship

8:00-9:00- High school youth group

Saturday, February 11th: Sweetheart Dinner

3:00-5:00- Youth set up for the evening

5:00- Youth meal break

6:00- Dinner is served

9:00- Youth head home after clean up

Sunday, February 12th:

9:30- Sunday school

10:45- Education Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 15th:

5:30- Community Meal

6:00-7:00- Children's Church

6:00-7:15- Confirmation

7:17- Worship

8:00-9:00- High school youth group

Sunday, February 19th: 9:30- Sunday school

Monday, February 20th:

9am-5pm- Youth ski/snowboard trip (Register in advance)

Wednesday, February 22nd:

5:30- Community Meal

6:00-7:00- Children's Church

6:00-7:15- Confirmation

7:17- Worship

8:00-9:00- High school youth group

Sunday, February 26th: 9:30- Sunday school

Education and Activities for Every Age

Toddler-Grade 5- Sunday school runs on Sunday morning beginning in the 9:30 worship service. Children's Church runs on Wednesday nights from 6-7pm in the basement of the Cornerstone.

Grades 6-8- Confirmation class runs from 6-7:15pm on Wednesday nights in the upper level of the Cornerstone.

Grades 9-12- High School Youth Group meets on Wednesday nights from 8-9pm right after the worship service in Eric's office.



First Communion

We are preparing for first communion for our 5th graders along with some older youth. If you are older than 5th grade and haven't had first communion, contact Eric or Pastor Matt to take part this year.

Important dates:

Sunday, March 26th- Class (1-3pm)

Sunday, April 9th- Class (1-3:30pm)

Wednesday, April 12th- Seder Meal

Thursday, April 13th- Maundy Thursday- First Communion



Sweetheart Dinner



Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 11th. We will be having our annual Sweetheart Dinner at church. Please sign up by Sunday, February 5th.

Cost- \$18 per person \$36 per couple

Childcare provided with free-will donation. RSVP children when you sign up so we can plan accordingly and have food for them as well.

2017 Mission Trip: St. Paul

We are staying close to home this year, because God's mission is everywhere, including right here. Our goal is to see God's mission and work right here in Minnesota and have some fun in the process as well.

Dates: July 9-14

Cost: \$300 (eligible for full scholarship with work at 1 fundraiser)

Forms: In Eric's office

Deadline has passed, but check with Eric to see if a spot is still available



G r i e f S h a r e

"The finality of death is hard to accept, and that's what a grief group is about...getting you to accept that reality...so that you can go on with your life"

It may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. If you've lost a spouse, child, family member or friend, you've probably found that there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. That's the reason for GriefShare. A special seminar and support group for people grieving the loss of someone close. This group is sponsored by people who want to offer you comfort and encouragement during this difficult time.

GriefShare is a nondenominational group and features biblical teaching on grief and recovery topics. Please join us for the next GriefShare session Wednesday evening 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the conference room.



Cost: None

Child Care: No

Questions: Call Sharon Sudeith 763-444-4483



PROPERTY FIX IT DAY

COME LEND A HAND

SATURDAY FEB 25TH

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

The Property Team will be taking care of some necessary smaller projects around the church. Please help if you are able. Contact Matt Lundeen or the office for more information. Thank you!

A . A . - S t e p B y S t e p

STEP TWO

Came to believe a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

The Second Step is about home, a Higher Power and dealing with reality. Working the step is a process. First take the first three words— “came to believe.” We came physically to AA or another Twelve Step program. We “came to” out of our drug induced, alcoholic fog. Finally, we “came to believe” in a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

For some newcomers, this step raises an issue that is a big problem for them. God. They jump to the conclusion that the group is bent on converting them. Step Two asks us only to believe in a Power greater than ourselves. That’s all. This Step introduces the idea that we are not God—that there is a Power greater than we are. It is a humbling thought. That is its purpose.

What we need to know about God is there is one and we are not it.

The Second Step suggests our behavior has been more than unmanageable - it has been insane. Insanity, it has been said, is doing the same thing over and over, but expecting different results. Each of us has our own version of insanity. It is a Power greater than ourselves that arranges the restoration to sanity. Recovery is based on acceptance of that spiritual face. God as we understand him, working with us and through us, can restore us to sanity.

Another reality is that addiction is a spiritual disease which requires a spiritual awakening. That awakening also is already underway. By surrendering in the First Step and accepting that a Power greater than ourselves could and would restore us to sanity in the Second Step, we opened the door to that spiritual awakening. And to a restoration to sanity.

Whenever life appears too difficult or our problem too big to handle alone, we can return to the Second Step for the reassurance that a Power greater than ourselves can help us. It all seems so simple to do but in the beginning, it is huge. That is why we try one day at a time. One Step at a time.

- * AA Big Book
- * How It Works

Change...comes a little bit at a time.



5th Annual Long Lake Lutheran Ice Fishing Contest

Sunday, February 12th 1-4PM at Long Lake (12' deep spot)

- Trophies
 - 1st place largest fish
 - 2nd place 2nd largest fish
 - 3rd prize smallest fish
- Prizes will also be given out
- Drilled holes provided
- Some extra fishing gear will be available if you don't have your own.
- Grilled hot dogs and warm drinks provided
- Hope to have several warming houses on site.

Contacts: Pastor Matt 651-485-6968 or Bruce Riebe 612-384-9109



Dear Long Lake Lutheran Church

Fish Lake Lutheran Church is excited to be celebrating our 150 Year Anniversary in 2017, and we would like to cordially invite you and your congregation members to be part of this celebration with us as our Sister Church in our area.

There will be three events that we would like to invite you and your congregation to attend if you are able.

On February 19, 2017 we will be having a Rededication Ceremony with a Swedish Themed Potluck Luncheon.

Our Big Kickoff Anniversary Celebration will be held on June 25, 2017. There will be a lot of celebration events happening on that day, starting with a Special Worship Service at 10:00AM. Bishop Lull will be in attendance along with several of our past Pastors. We will also have a Catered Luncheon along with Old Time Games, Youth Activities, a New Congregation Photo, many displays of the history of our church, and a New 150th Anniversary Book available.

Our final event will be held on October 1, 2017. This celebration will be our annual day with the Men's Swedish Choir. There will be an Ice Cream Social after the service as the choir always enjoys traditionally with us each year.

So as you can see, we are planning GREAT CELEBRATION for our church and members and we would really love to have you come and be part of all this with us!

An invitation with times of all the events will be sent out to all our members along with all our Sister Churches very shortly.

We hope to see many of you to share in this celebration and excitement.

Cordially

Fish Lake Lutheran Anniversary Committee

Christian Movies Coming to GTI Theatres



“The Resurrection of Gavin Stone” Opening Friday January, 20th

A washed-up former child star, forced to do community service at a local megachurch, pretends to be a Christian to land the part of Jesus in their annual Passion Play, only to discover that the most important role of his life is far from Hollywood.



“The Shack” Opening Friday March, 3RD

After the abduction and assumed death of Mackenzie Allen Phillip's youngest daughter, Missy, Mack receives a letter and has the suspicion it's from God asking him to return to The Shack where Missy may have been murdered. After contemplating it, he leaves his home to go to The Shack for the first time since Missy's accident and encounters what will change his life forever.

**Showings can be arranged
for you to come during
regular business hours –
no group size is too small
or big!**

*Contact Ashley Lind at 763-689-2900 or Ashley.ann.lind@gmail.com
to schedule your showing at the Cambridge Theatre today!*

February 2017

Date Birthdays

1 Jay Anderson
William Peterson
Amelia Sonterre
2 Edward Rouen
Samantha Titus
3 Abigail Fournier
4 Ann Merkouris
5 Donna Larsen
7 Emily Hennen
10 Dennis Stanius
10 Sharon Stanius
11 Kenneth Miller
12 Lynn Perrin
Sofie Behm
13 Taylor Bender
Adeline Jamnick
14 Kylee Staff
Brody Brown
15 Jason Dryden
16 Claudette Oberg
Noah Garrison
Lillah Boettcher
19 Edward Sanford
Kareen Englund
James Hanson
20 Ruth Sweet
Stephanie Dryden
21 Sharon Sudeith
22 Jakob Engler
Clara Johnson
24 Elaine Mellin
Bruce Riebe
26 Grace Fournier
Parker Matson
28 Riley Puck

Date Baptisms

1 John Hass
Daniel Manion
Wyatt Herbst
3 Trevor Hill
4 Kendra Beckensten
11 Lynn Perrin
12 Sofie Behm
17 Robert Johnson
Martin Lynn
Madeline Jaques
18 Kelsey Lynn
19 Logan Orr
22 James Werronen
Layton Gilbert
24 Cody Gustafson
Lucas Gustafson
Travis Gustafson
26 Ted Erickson
27 Geralyn Fournier
28 Brooklyn Browen

Date Anniversaries

14 Tom & Judy Nelson

Pastoral Acts in January

Weddings

Baptisms

22 Declan Michael Nelson

Memorials

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
<p>Annual Meeting</p> <p>8 am - Worship</p> <p>9 am - Missions Team</p> <p>9:30am - Adult Forum</p> <p>9:30am - Sunday School</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Education Team</p>	<p>6:30pm - 4-H Stoeckel</p>	<p>10am - Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir</p> <p>6:30pm - Worship & Music</p> <p>7pm - AA</p>	<p>5:30pm - Community Meal</p> <p>6pm - Children's Church</p> <p>6pm - Confirmation</p> <p>6pm - Grief Share</p> <p>6pm - Study with Pastor</p> <p>6pm - Worship Team</p> <p>6pm - Youth Team</p> <p>7:17pm - Worship</p>	<p>9:30am - Prayer Team</p>	<p>4pm - Spaghetti Dinner</p>	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<p>8 am - Worship</p> <p>9:30am - Adult Forum</p> <p>9:30am - Sunday School</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Congregational</p> <p>1pm - Ice Fishing Contest</p>	<p>6:30pm - 4-H Lakeside</p> <p>6:30pm - Friends of Ruth</p>	<p>10am - Bible Study</p> <p>1pm - Sunshine Circle</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir</p> <p>7pm - AA</p> <p>7pm - Finance Team</p>	<p>5:30pm - Community Meal</p> <p>6pm - Children's Church</p> <p>6pm - Confirmation</p> <p>6pm - Grief Share</p> <p>6pm - Study with Pastor</p> <p>6pm - Worship Team</p> <p>7:17pm - Worship</p> <p>8pm - High School Youth</p>	<p>9:30am - Prayer Team</p> <p>1pm - Senior Game Day</p> <p>6:30pm - Council Meeting</p>		<p>11am - Private Party</p> <p>6pm - Sweetheart Dinner</p>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<p>8 am - Worship</p> <p>9:30am - Adult Forum</p> <p>9:30am - Sunday School</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Congregational</p> <p>1pm - Ice Fishing Contest</p>	<p>6:30pm - 4-H Lakeside</p> <p>6:30pm - Friends of Ruth</p>	<p>10am - Bible Study</p> <p>1pm - Sunshine Circle</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir</p> <p>7pm - AA</p> <p>7pm - Finance Team</p>	<p>5:30pm - Community Meal</p> <p>6pm - Children's Church</p> <p>6pm - Confirmation</p> <p>6pm - Grief Share</p> <p>6pm - Study with Pastor</p> <p>6pm - Worship Team</p> <p>7:17pm - Worship</p> <p>8pm - High School Youth</p>	<p>9:30am - Prayer Team</p> <p>1pm - Welca</p> <p>6:30pm - Vision Team</p>		<p>Gruber wedding</p>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<p>8 am - Worship</p> <p>9:30am - Adult Forum</p> <p>9:30am - Sunday School</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Rachel's Flock</p>	<p>9 am - Youth Ski Trip</p> <p>1pm - Ice Fishing Contest</p> <p>6:30pm - 4-H Stoeckel</p>	<p>10am - Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir</p> <p>7pm - AA</p> <p>7pm - Property</p>	<p>5:30pm - Community Meal</p> <p>6pm - Children's Church</p> <p>6pm - Confirmation</p> <p>6pm - Grief Share</p> <p>6pm - Study with Pastor</p> <p>6pm - Worship Team</p> <p>7:17pm - Worship</p> <p>8pm - High School Youth</p>	<p>9:30am - Prayer Team</p> <p>1pm - Senior Game Day</p>		
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
<p>8 am - Worship</p> <p>9:30am - Adult Forum</p> <p>9:30am - Sunday School</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p>	<p>11:30am - Lunch Ladies</p>	<p>10am - Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir</p> <p>7pm - AA</p>	<p>5:30pm - Community Meal</p> <p>6pm - Children's Church</p> <p>6pm - Confirmation</p> <p>6pm - Grief Share</p> <p>6pm - Study with Pastor</p> <p>6pm - Worship Team</p> <p>7:17pm - Worship</p> <p>8pm - High School Youth</p>			

2nd Annual

WILD GAME FEED

Saturday, February 25

5:00-7:00 p.m.

DOOR
PRIZES!

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Highway 65 & 237th Avenue NE

East Bethel (Cooper's Corner)

763-300-9110

www.standreweb.org

Our guest speaker will be
Jared Wiklund from Pheasants Forever.

On the menu:

Elk, Bear, Deer, Fish,
Pheasant, Duck and others

Plus a fantastic dessert table!

Spaghetti Dinner

Come Enjoy

All You Can Eat

*Spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread,
beverage and dessert*



When:
**Friday, February 3,
2017**
4pm - 7pm

Where:
Long Lake Lutheran Church
3921 277th Ave NW Isanti
**Hwy 47 and 277th (6 miles north of St.
Francis)**

Tickets:
Adults \$6 Children 6 - 12 yrs. \$3
Under 6 free

Long Lake Lutheran Church
3921-277th Ave NW
Isanti, MN 55040

Worship Community Service Evangelism Discipleship Stewardship Sabbath