

# Long Lake Lutheran Church

January 2020

## Country Spire

Happy new year and new decade!  
Lots of opportunities to get involved!

January 1st Office Closed-Happy New Year!

January 5th Activities Resume

9:00 am Missions Team Meeting

10:45 am Education Team Meeting

January 7th

6:30 pm Worship and Music

January 8th

7:00 pm Youth Team

January 12th

10:45 am Congregational Life Meeting

January 13th

6:30 pm Friends of Ruth

January 14th

1:30 pm Sunshine Circle

January 16th

1:00 pm WELCA

January 19th

10:45 am Stewardship Team Meeting

January 21st

5:00 pm Property Team Meeting

February 2nd

11:00 am Annual Meeting

Don't forget Bible study  
on Tuesdays at 10 am!  
**NEW**

Women's Book Study  
with Shawna begins  
January 20th, 7-8:30



Christ Centered

Purpose Balanced

Mission Driven

3921 277th Ave NW

Isanti, MN 55040

p 763-444-5315

Longlake.luth.org







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Director Youth & Family Ministries  
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*<sup>24</sup>And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup>not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.  
Hebrews 10:24-25*

## Staff

Choir Director	Donna Larsen	763-350-8209	donna@larsengardens.com
Organist	Kristy Anderson	763-300-0167	kristy.anderson@co.isanti.mn.us
Wedding Coordinator	Carol Perrin	952-220-2684	carol.perrin.cp@gmail.com
Custodian	Randy Lilleboe	612-222-7024	

## Council

Chairperson	Matt Lundeen	612-817-3372	bmt_cambridge@q.com
Congregational Life	Kara Hepp	763-350-0250	kara@larsengardens.com
Education	Jennifer Manion	763-302-9646	jmanion002@gmail.com
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Stewardship	Kathie Schleif	763-444-5246	born2farm4now@yahoo.com
Worship & Music	Rachel Maguire	701-330-3434	rachelmariemaguire@gmail.com
Youth	Tammy Dufek	651-442-0588	fancywaitress@yahoo.com





# PASTOR

## Sue Olson

From the desk of Pastor Sue...

**Have you ever wondered about these wise men? Were they wise men or kings? Why did they bring the gifts they did to Jesus? What did Joseph and Mary do with the gifts? And what are frankincense and myrrh, anyway?**

Matthew 2:1-12 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>2</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” <sup>3</sup> When

King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler

who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go

and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they

had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and

they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### We Three Kings of Orient Are

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense  
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and

gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,  
owns a de - i - ty night; prayer and prais - ing,  
life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -

moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star,  
ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain

Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;  
west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.  
Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891



Ideas about the origins and significance of the wise men developed over many centuries through writings of early theologians. Early Christians looked to Old Testament prophecies to see how they predicted events in Jesus' life. The interpretations and mystic visions became embellished through legends, plays, art and music over time.

At the time of Jesus' birth, certain priests watched for signs of the Messiah's arrival as prophesied in the Hebrew Bible, or Old Testament. Early texts of the New Testament, written in Greek described Jesus' visitors as *magi* or "Wise men". *Magi* were priestly magicians or philosophers who studied astrology and were believed to have occult powers. Matthew does not say how many magi there were, except we know that "magi" is a plural noun in Greek; the singular form is "magus". There may have been twelve, but because three gifts were offered, three *magi* have become the tradition.

An early Christian text gave the men names: Melchior, Balthasar, and Caspar. During the middle ages people began to interpret them as representing the three known parts of the world—Europe, Asia, and Africa—and eventually they came to represent all people. Artists portrayed the *magi* as differing in ethnicity and age: Melchior as an old man; Balthasar a middle-aged man, sometimes with a dark beard; Caspar frequently as an elegant black youth. By the tenth century they were portrayed as kings in regal robes and crowns.

They are said to have come from the East, so they may have come from Persia, India or Mesopotamia. They might have lived twelve days journey away, but some believe it may have been more like a year long journey, especially riding camels through the desert up to 1,400 miles. The art works depicting them at the nativity scene are most likely inaccurate.

At the time of Jesus' birth, frankincense and myrrh were as familiar as gold and just as rare and precious. In Jesus' time, one pound of gold was worth about six hundred dollars and frankincense only slightly less. But myrrh was worth four thousand dollars a pound. Frankincense and myrrh are fragrant gum resins that come from trees. A single tree can produce about ten pounds of resin a year. Frankincense was placed on smoldering charcoal and burned slowly, releasing an exotic fragrance. The aroma was thought to be pleasing to the gods, so incense smoke became a means of communication between human and divine worlds. Myrrh was believed to cure everything from diaper rash to baldness. It was used externally to heal wounds and internally for fevers, digestive problems, and poisoning. It is still found today in tooth and gum care products.

There are many ideas about the choice of gifts for baby Jesus. One was that gold was given to the virgin to relieve her poverty; frankincense to dispel the bad odor of the stable; and myrrh to drive away vermin, such as worms. Another idea was that Gold was given as a tribute to Jesus as a king, Frankincense as an offering to Jesus as God, and myrrh as a predictor of Jesus' death. You can form your own ideas.

It has been said that if the wise men had been wise women instead, they would have asked for directions and arrived on time. They would have helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, and made a casserole. The gifts would have been more practical like diapers, lotion, and baby wipes. And, there would have been Peace on Earth!

{much of this information came from the "Metropolitan Museum of Art" publication, "The gifts of the Magi." And [www.thinkaboutsuchthings.com](http://www.thinkaboutsuchthings.com)}



# 20 20 VISION

What does 2020 hold in store for us at Long Lake Lutheran Church? I have some thoughts, as I imagine you do too. But, the bigger question remains, “What does God have in store for us in 2020?” I pray that as we begin a new year, a new decade, wide open with ministry possibilities, that we prayerfully examine our identity, our mission, our vision and our values. Your council will take the lead on this beginning with a strategic alignment retreat in early January. Your previous visioning team will meet to discuss past ideas and a new visioning task force will begin by asking all of you what your hopes and dreams are for our ministry at LLLC.

We need to ask ourselves:

What have we done really well in the past? (Particularly focusing on the past 10 years as demographics of the community have changed dramatically.)

What is God calling us to do in the future?

How will we faithfully answer God’s call?

## VISIONING MEETINGS

Join us and give us your input  
about our future!

January 12 11:00 am-1:00 pm

January 19 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

January 26 3:00 pm-5:00 pm

# GREEN TEAM INITIATIVE

We encourage you to observe our Green Team recycling efforts by using the blue bins for paper, cardboard, and empty coffee cups. Please put aluminum cans in the bin by the Pop Stop. Save your cans at home and bring them, bagged, to our trailer beside the first garage. Think before you throw, “Is this recyclable?”

Tip from the [RecyclingPartnership.org](http://RecyclingPartnership.org)

Keep the planet in mind while wrapping your gifts. Purchase wrapping paper made with recycled materials and that will also be recyclable. Many cities and towns accept non-metallic/glitter wrapping paper. If yours does, toss that paper in the recycling cart after you open your gifts.



# DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY Shawna Berg



If I am honest with myself, I have a love/hate relationship with New Year's Resolutions and everything that goes along with them. As a mom, and as someone who works with kids, my year tends to align more with a school year than a calendar year. I try to set professional and personal goals for myself each summer. January is indeed a time when I can "check-in" on those goals and revise them if necessary or see how I am doing, and I often will do that. However, whenever the end of December starts to roll in you start to see and hear everyone talking about their New Year's Resolutions and I feel pressured to figure something out. Often times I will check in with my friends and we set goals that are so big, we feel like we have set ourselves up for failure – or we set goals that are attainable, but we don't set up a plan for how we are going to achieve those goals, so we end up failing at them. I recently heard about some friends who had ditched resolutions in favor of focusing on one word for the year and have decided to give that a try this year.

So... what's my word for the year? **Relationships** I don't think it an accident that we were created as relational beings, and that God's greatest desire for us is to be in relationship with us. When Jesus is asked what the greatest commandment is he replies "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and all your mind. And the second is like it 'Love your neighbor as yourself'". Jesus says the greatest commandment is about being in right relationship with God and with our neighbor. So in 2020 at home and here at Long Lake Lutheran I am going to focus in on relationships.

So how do we do it? How do we go about putting relationships first in the New Year? The answer is probably a little different for everyone, but here is how I'm going to try and flesh this out for me.

Prioritize People over Pixels - It is so easy just to text these days or email, we can forget the power of a face to face interaction with people. My goal is to write out real mail and make actual phone calls to friends and family members that I don't see often. In addition, I will make time to cultivate relationships that are important to me.

Make family dinners a priority – powerful connections happen around the family table when you pray together, share about your day and stay connected.

Practice radical hospitality – We will open our home to friends and family – understanding our family and friends do not require perfection in our home, but only desire our presence!

What are your goals for the New Year? I'll be praying for each and every one of you as we look forward to a New Year full of promise and exciting new opportunities!



# BOOK CLUB

## WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY

Join Shawna on Monday nights from 7:00-8:30 p.m. beginning on January 20th for a five week book study on the book "Of Mess and Moxie" by Jen Hatmaker. In this book New York Times bestselling author Jen Hatmaker, with playful hilarity, shameless honesty, and refreshing insight, assures readers they have all the pluck they need for vibrant, courageous, grace-filled lives. Jen gives great insight about life, balancing young families and work, faith and living in community. Let Shawna know if you are interested in this opportunity and she can order you a book (or put it on your Christmas list!).

Cost to participate is \$12 to purchase a book!



Have you heard about the international mission trip we are planning for next summer?

It is the youth mission trip, but we think its going to be so fun that we are inviting the whole congregation to come with us!

This is a wonderful opportunity to see how Feed My Starving Children works on the distribution side of the operation and to see how poverty affects adults and children. We will also be working with local orphanages and the children that live there.

There is a huge disparity between the wealthy tourist areas and the rural areas of the Dominican Republic.

Here are some facts about poverty in the Dominican Republic:

Only 30% of Dominican children finish primary school

1/2 of the country doesn't have access to clean water or sanitary toilets

1/3 of the Dominican population lives on less than \$1.25/day



# Council Minutes 12/12/2019

In Attendance: Susan Olson, Shawna Berg, Matt Lundeen, Kara Hepp, Jennifer Manion, Marsha Weidner, Kathie Schleif, Rachel Maguire, Tammy Dufleck and Paul Gruber

The Meeting was called to Order at 6:30 p.m.

The Christ Candle was lit and Tammy Dufleck offered the Opening Devotions.

Jennifer Manion made a motion to approve the agenda, amending the Spire Article due date to December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Kara seconded. Agenda was approved

Kara Hepp made a motion to approve the November minutes. Rachel seconded. Minutes were approved

Marsha proposed that the council appoint Paul Gruber to fulfill the vacant property council seat. A formal vote by the congregation will happen at the annual meeting.

Tammy seconded. Paul was approved as the new property chair.

Staff reports and most team reports were reviewed online prior to the meeting. It was noted that Shawna's email was incorrect on some of the email threads, so council should check the email thread they are responding too.

A brief report on Live Nativity was given – it was a great success with the most attendees recorded in the last six years (318 on Saturday plus Sunday morning). \$828 was collected for Harbor House. The money collected Sunday morning will be used for seed money for next year's Live Nativity.

We are still looking for people to fill the positions on

Youth, Education and Finance

Council brainstormed names and decided that having several people approach potential candidates would be a good strategy.

Stephens Ministry was discussed. Marcy Stoeckel has volunteered to sponsor up to four people to be trained to become trainers to bring this ministry to Long Lake Lutheran. This would help Pastor Sue with visitation and in supporting members of the congregation. Shawna has agreed to be trained with Marcy, and so far, we haven't found any other interested people. Tammy D. might be interested.

Kara Hepp talked about the Strategic Alignment session on January 4<sup>th</sup> that will help us better understand what different ministry areas are doing and how they should be aligned. Kara will be sending out some prework that should be completed before this session.

Staff reviews will be completed by Wednesday 12/19 – after that point, the budget will be sent to council via e-mail to be approved.

The 2020 budget was reviewed and discussed.\*

A council retreat was scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup> to do some visioning for the next year.

Marsha W. agreed to serve as Council Rep for Christmas Day.

Tammy Dufleck noted that the youth meeting will be moved to 1/8 instead of 1/1 because of New Year's Day.

Marsha moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:52, the meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Jennifer M. seconded. The motion passed

- The budget was approved via e-mail on 12/18





# COUNCIL PRESIDENT Matt Lundeen

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happy New Year to all my Brothers and Sisters in Christ! Most of you know that 2019 presented many challenges to our congregation. I'm thrilled and thankful to say that with your patience, input, and help that we met and overcame many of our challenges.

2020 offers a lot of hope and promise. Our congregation has been steadily gaining momentum since fall and I'm excited to see how we utilize this momentum to continue to do God's work. As I've said many times before, there are so many options to get involved at Long Lake, I encourage all of you to try to find a new way to get further involved.

This coming year will be my final year as your council president, one of my goals for 2020 is to grow the involvement of our male members. Our young people learn so much from everyone that they see getting involved here. I'm asking (especially the men of our congregation) that they try to be a positive role model at church. Our young people are the future of Long Lake and these early lessons are so easily taught by good role models and leaders.

I pray that all of you have a safe and fun New Years! I wish you good health, safety, success, and strong faith for 2020! Thank you to all of you that make Long Lake Lutheran Church such a warm and welcoming place. Without your help, we wouldn't be so successful at sharing the love of Jesus!

God's Peace,

Matt

**GET  
INVOLVED**

**Stand out  
Speak up  
Make a difference**



# EDUCATION

## Jennifer Manion



Dear friends in Christ:

Thanks be to God for this joyous Christmas season! Sunday school and education committee has been collecting money for the food shelf for Birthday Bags. We made 20 bags to donate to the Food Shelf and we will continue to collect money in the bucket through January. Starting in February through the end of the Sunday School year we will be collecting money for Feed My Starving Children. Our Sunday school program was a big hit and we are so thankful for all our little superheroes. Sunday school will resume on January 5.

The Confirmation retreat for grades 6-8 will be February 21-23 at Camp Onomia. We are trying a new retreat this year, so we are excited to see how the Junior High Retreat program works. The cost is \$90 and scholarships to help subsidize the cost the retreat, just talk to Shawna!

As we transition to a new council, please welcome them. I thank you for all your support throughout these past three years.

Jennifer Manion

# STEWARDSHIP

## Kathie Schleif





# Long Lake Lutheran Church Life in Pictures



LLLC 2019 CHRISTMAS TREE





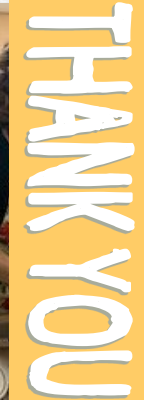
# Dinner Church



Pastor Sue's First Baptism!  
Torin Blaze Nash



Caroling, caroling through the snow



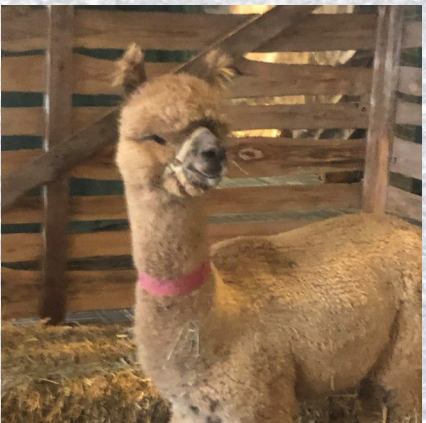




24TH ANNUAL



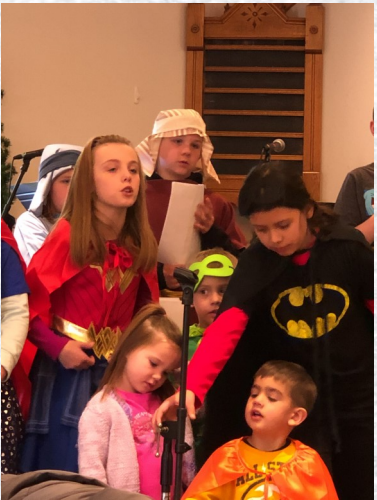
Thanks to all our  
volunteers and actors for  
another successful year!



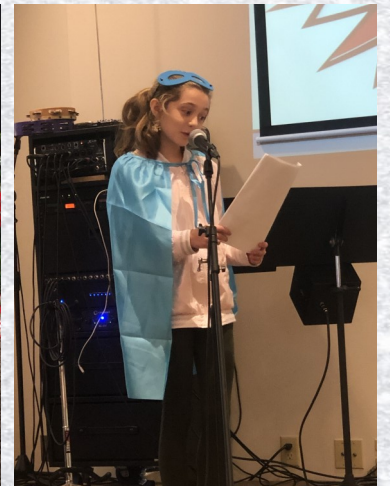
LIVENATIVIY 2019







Thank you to  
all the  
students and  
parents that  
helped to  
make our  
Super  
Christmas  
Program a  
success!







# YOUTH

## Tammy Dufeck

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"*

*2 Corinthians 5:17*

As brothers and sisters in Christ we are assured that we are new, fresh and forgiven- What a wonderful way to start a new year. A new year, another chance, a clean slate. 365 days ahead, filled with optimism for the future. What will you do with your clean slate? How will you fill it? What will you do with another chance? May your new year reflect your relationship with Christ, filled with love for your neighbor, compassion for those who are hurting and service to those in need.

Long Lake Lutheran Youth had a quiet December but we wrapped up November and the Pie Social and Silent auction on Thanksgiving Eve raising approximately \$2500 for the Youth Fund this year. What a wonderful statement of support from our congregation to our youth! Personally, my favorite part of the night was the hymn sing at service. Followed closely by the pie-in-face for Pastor Sue, Matt Lundeen and Shawna! What good sports they were- but hey, it's for a good cause, right?

The Youth Mission trip this summer will be through the organization Praying Pelican in the Dominican Republic. This mission trip is open to all members of the congregation. Shawna will be hosting an informational session in January for those who might be interested in this trip- keep your eyes open for an announcement in the bulletin.

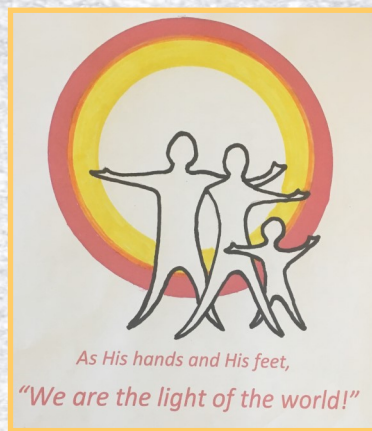
My term as Youth Council Rep is coming to end this month. Thank you to all who have supported me in this role and thank you to those who have completed countless hours of volunteer service by setting up tables and meals and trunks and auction items, for the chaperones who have stayed up all night- I don't know how you do it!, for the teachers who teach and model God's love, for those who answer questions and wrestle with tough issues facing our teens and kids and for the prayer warriors who have lifted us all up in prayer to Him. I have thoroughly enjoyed this role and am grateful to our Lord and Savior. We have been given new life in Him! The old has gone, the new has come!

Peace and Joy,

Tammy Dufeck

Youth





# Kara Hepp

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

We had a wonderful December! We were very busy and what a blessing that is!! After the hustle and bustle of the Live Nativity, many strong men from our congregation went to AMP Tree Farm, chopped, hauled and set up an 18-foot Christmas Tree! The next night, many showed up to help decorate not only that tree, but the entire church. As I drove away that night, with Christmas music playing on my radio, it brought a tear to my eye seeing how the lit tree illuminated the windows of our church, our home. It was a memory that I

will not forget and am so moved by the people who make up this congregation! Additionally, thank you to all who attended the LifeTouch event! We're anxiously awaiting our much needed, updated directory. From all of us, we wish you a very merry Christmas and look forward to all that 2020 has to come!

Kara Hepp

# PROPERTY

## Paul Gruber



Another year is gone and new one starting. Last year saw a lot of changes at Long Lake Lutheran. Of course the biggest change is we have a new Pastor. I think I speak for everyone when I say we are so happy and grateful to have Pastor Sue as our new leader. She has visions for our church being a spiritual being as well as an activity center for the surrounding community. From a Property point of view, that means we (the Property Committee) need to make our church a welcoming and comfortable place for our congregation and especially visitors to come to for spiritual guidance and to have an enjoyable experience while here. The Property Committee will strive to keep the church and the property in good condition and make improvements to make it better.

We always welcome suggestions for changes and improvements. There are "Fix It" forms by the office. Fill them out and leave them in my box.

We welcome new faces on our Property Committee. We meet just once per month on the third Tuesday of the month in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your ideas and your enthusiasm. The meetings are under an hour long and if you should volunteer to help out, most of the projects take only an hour or two of your time.

We pray that God will bless our church and give us the wisdom and resources to keep Long Lake Lutheran a great place to gather for worship and many other activities.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Gruber



# WORSHIP and MUSIC

## Rachel Maguire



What a wonderful Advent season we had. Thank you to everyone who provided special music and helped with the readings and lighting of the advent candles! It is much appreciated!

We also had a group of 12 people do some caroling around the area. It was a lot of fun and I hope we can do it again next year!

We are looking for volunteers to help on Sunday mornings. Would you like to do the readings, light the candles, be an usher, ring the bell? Let Shawna, Pastor Sue, or myself know! If you don't know exactly what to do, don't worry, we will help you!

If you have any ideas for special music or ideas for worship, let me know or come to our next meeting which is January 7 at 6:30.

## WELCA

The women of Long Lake Lutheran have been busy the past few weeks!

Our December meeting was a Christmas party held at Becky Agranoff's house on December 12th. We all had a great time with delicious food and wonderful fellowship.

We had great success with Grandma's Attic during Live Nativity. Thanks to all those who donated or purchased items from us during this annual event!

We purchased 12 pew Bibles to add to the growing collection.

Sunshine Circle and WELCA also donated money to the Youth Mission trip to help out the youth who are hoping to attend the trip!

If you would like to be a part of the Women's Ministry at Long Lake, stop by on the third Thursday of every month and see what WELCA is all about!





Our Thursday evening GriefShare program has been suspended until Spring. Please contact Pastor Sue if you are in need of any help or grief counseling.

2019 has been a great year with the Friends of Ruth, highlighted by:

- The Spring Luncheon - with a record attendance of 45, we listened to Shawna as she shared her amazing and inspiring story, enjoyed a lovely lunch, and laughed at our great puppeteers.
- Serving root beer floats on Father's Day.
- Planning for and then having to reschedule the Christmas Tea due to the weather, which will now take place on Sunday, January 5 as the Epiphany Tea.
- Bringing treats and helping out at the Long Lake Family Christmas Decorating event.



And we are always accepting donations for baby kits, and refurbishing children's' worship bags in the spring and fall.

This year, the Mission Quilters met for a total of six sessions: March, April, May and then again September, October, November. We made a total of 91 quilts!

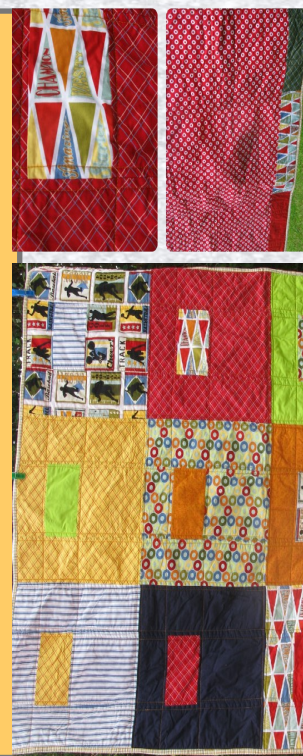
We would like to thank our faithful volunteers who make quilt tops, the "Behind the Scenes" group who make quilt backs and those who come to Mission Quilting sessions and help put the quilts together and finish them. These people selflessly volunteer their time and talent to make this mission an ongoing success.

We would also like to thank those of you who have contributed in other ways such as donations of fabric and monetary donations.

We will probably never know the circumstances under which people across the world receive these quilts, nor how the lives of those receiving them are affected. We pray that they feel as blessed to receive them as we are to be able to make them.

Thank you.

Co-leaders Connie Anderson, Janelle Pelika, Glenna Sorenson





# LONG LAKE Legacies



When visitors come to our church for the first time, they often remark on the mural we have hanging in the Fellowship Hall. They wonder about the history and significance of the paintings that hang in such a prominent space in the church. This legacy of Long Lake was a gift from our former Pastor Paul Hammar.

Our congregation participated in a pastoral exchange in 1982 that sent our pastor, Paul Hammar, to Sweden and brought Pastor Stig Demker back here to preside at Long Lake. It was during his time in Sweden that Pastor Hammar and his wife, Carolyn, became friends with a well-renowned Swedish artist named Sven-Bertil Svensson and his wife, Anna. The two couples became fast friends and Pastor Hammar commissioned Svensson to paint something for his home church back in Isanti, Minnesota.

Long Lake was fortunate to receive this gift of three panels which depict Jesus, the Virgin Mary, and John the Baptist. Svensson's particular style of artwork has origins in the first century of the church. In these panels, Svensson focuses attention on the faces of Jesus, Mary, and John the Baptist. Other significant features of the panels include The Bible Jesus holds in one hand, which is open to Matthew 11:28. *Come unto Me, all ye who are weak and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.* Other symbols include "IC" and "XC", which are early Christian depictions of "Ichthus", the fish or the church. In the four corners of the panels you can find the four living creatures of Revelation; the lion, the ox, the man, and the eagle. Svensson includes many small but important Christian ideas and symbols throughout the three panels.

These panels are a treasured gift from a former pastor. They have hung in the Fellowship Hall since it was built in 2000 and will continue to be remembered and revered.



<b>Date</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Baptism Anniversaries</b>
1	Richard Hansen Tina Anderson Tucker Kolb Samuel White	24	John Hass Jacob Anderson Matthew O'Keefe	1	Jace Goedel James Hanson Dylan Monroe Bailey Snidarich
2	Caleb Johnson	25	Shawna Berg Susan Netzer		Evan Micek
3	Rhonda Hechsel Sherry Beckensten	26	Benjamin Hysten	4	Megan Yurich
4	Karen Hardie Madeline Jaques Justin Hooker Trygve Townswick	27	Dorothy Larsen Sharon Johnson Lana Bergman	5	Thomas Fornberg
5	Jessica Manion	29	Gerry Stock Aaron Anderson	7	Melissa Browen Jennifer Rowe
6	Robert Johnson Kayl Griego		Jenna Goslinga	11	Wanda Strike Samuel White
7	Clarence Anderson Greg Rambow Cory Greene Brice Anderson		Kody Puck Kyle Renner Madison Eisenbraun	12	Dale Hechsel Taylor Overby
8	Judy Sarazin Dawn Berven	30	Aubrey Bell	12	Gregory Anderson
11	Wanda Strike Geraldyn Fournier MacKenzie Goedel	31	Victoria Zupancich William Zupancich	14	Candy McColley
12	Loretta Fornberg Jacqueline Gruber			15	Megan Larsen
14	Sam Berg Linda Mikush Annabella Schulze Oaklyn Anderson			16	Jonah Johnson
17	Rose Hass			18	Lisa Gustafson
18	Carole Larson			19	Karen Anderson
19	Joanne Eittrheim Brian Netzer James Brown			21	Declan Nelson
20	Michelle Chinook Andrew Jaques Deliah Anderson			22	Kayl Griego
21	Theodore Erickson			27	Mikki Hanson
22	Curtis Strand Vicki Theede Jarret Gemmill			29	Collen Evenson Abigail Fournier
				31	Reed Jensen
		<b>Date</b>	<b>Baptism Anniversaries</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Anniversaries</b>
		1	Barb Erickson Marvel Dahl Douglas Larson Sharon Sudeith Marion Jernell Linda Monroe Linda Mikush Ron Selix Bruce Hooker Renaee Hooker Linda Rouen Cindy Hanson Ronda Fenlon Lesley Rowe David Snidarich Rachel Maguire Joshua Budnick James Brown	1	Rusty & Char Jacobson
				14	Monica & David Ahlman
				24	Linda & Edward Rouen Carissa & Joshua Hass

Birthdays, Baptism Anniversaries, Wedding Anniversaries





# A.A. Step By Step Step One

## **STEP ONE**

***“Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.”***

The results of a spiritual awakening are dramatic, although they may take place over a long period of time. They indicate changed perception, attitudes and behaviors. There are many definitions of a spiritual awakening. With each person the important meaning of it is that he has now become able to do, feel and believe that which he could not do before on his own strength. He finds himself in possession of a degree of peace of mind, honesty, tolerance and love he felt incapable of before. What he has received is a free gift. This gift lies in the practice of “ALL” the Twelve Steps in the program.

In the beginning of AA, Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob felt the only way they would stay “safe” was to “get active” and work with other alcoholics. They felt they must carry AA’s message. That was the main reason the fellowship existed. AA is more than a set of principles; it is a society of recovered alcoholics in action. Twelfth Step work is one of the actions we take to stay in recovery. Our own faith is strengthened when we help another. Our message is one of hope, love, comfort, health. A better way of life. How can anyone argue with that? It works! How do we carry it out? In subtle, but powerful ways. We do our own recovery work and become living demonstrations of hope, self-love, comfort and health. These quiet behaviors send a powerful message. Our Higher Power will guide our actions to where we need to be to spread the message. If another person is helped, it is by the grace of God and not by what we say or do. And finally we strengthen our own faith and sobriety by doing Twelve Step work.

Action is the key word. We experience a kind of giving that asks no rewards. We begin to practice all Twelve Steps of the program in our daily lives to find emotional sobriety. This offers us a kind of love that has no price tag. Working with other alcoholics will insure immunity from drinking. This is what Bill Wilson realized when he founded AA; that nothing kept alcoholics sober better than another alcoholic. That is Twelve Step Work! Twelve Step Work is essential to keeping the AA Fellowship going. Twelve Step Work means to carry the message to those that still suffer.

Am I carrying the message by example or just giving advice?  
Have I experienced a spiritual awakening?  
How can I carry the message to my family members?

How it Works, Paths to Recovery, Touchstone, Hazelden Foundation Series



# JANUARY CALENDAR

Long Lake Lutheran Church

Jan 2020 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>29</div> <p>8 am - Worship 9:30 am - Adult Forum 9:30 am - Sunday School 9:30 am - Worship</p>	<div>30</div> <p>10 am - Fellowship Cafe 11:30 am - No Lunch Ladies</p>	<div>31</div> <p>7 pm - AA</p>	<div>1</div> <p><b>NEW YEAR'S DAY-OFFICE</b> 10 am - No Fellowship Cafe 6 pm - Worship</p>	<div>2</div> <p>9 am - Prayer Team</p>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div>
<div>5</div> <p>8 am - Worship 9 am - Missions Team 9:30 am - Adult Forum 9:30 am - Sunday School 9:30 am - Worship 10:30 am - Education Team</p>	<div>6</div> <p>9 am - JoAnne Eitrem's 10 am - Fellowship Cafe 6:30 pm - 4-H Stoeckel</p>	<div>7</div> <p>10 am - Bible Study 6 pm - Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm - Worship and 7 pm - AA</p>	<div>8</div> <p>10 am - Fellowship Cafe 5 pm - Community Meal 6 pm - Children's Church 6 pm - Confirmation 6 pm - Worship 7 pm - Youth Team</p>	<div>9</div> <p>9 am - Prayer Team 1 pm - Senior Game Day 6:30 pm - Council Meeting</p>	<div>10</div> <p>4-H Overnight</p>	<div>11</div>
<div>12</div> <p>8 am - Worship 9:30 am - Adult Forum 9:30 am - Sunday School 9:30 am - Worship 10:45 am - Cong. Life Mtg</p>	<div>13</div> <p>10 am - Fellowship Cafe 6:30 pm - Friends of Ruth</p>	<div>14</div> <p>10 am - Bible Study 1 pm - Sunshine Circle 6 pm - Choir Rehearsal 7 pm - AA</p>	<div>15</div> <p>10 am - Fellowship Cafe 5 pm - Community Meal 6 pm - Children's Church 6 pm - Confirmation 6 pm - Worship</p>	<div>16</div> <p>9 am - Prayer Team 1 pm - Welca</p>	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div>
<div>19</div> <p>8 am - Worship 9:30 am - Adult Forum 9:30 am - Sunday School 9:30 am - Worship 10:45 am - Stewardship</p>	<div>20</div> <p>10 am - Fellowship Cafe 6:30 pm - 4-H Stoeckel 7 pm - Women's Bible Study</p>	<div>21</div> <p>10 am - Bible Study 5 pm - Property 6 pm - Choir Rehearsal 7 pm - AA</p>	<div>22</div> <p>10 am - Fellowship Cafe 5 pm - Community Meal 6 pm - Children's Church 6 pm - Confirmation 6 pm - Worship</p>	<div>23</div> <p>9 am - Prayer Team 1 pm - Senior Game Day</p>	<div>24</div> <p>4-H Stoeckel??</p>	<div>25</div>
<div>26</div> <p>8 am - Worship 9:30 am - Adult Forum 9:30 am - Sunday School 9:30 am - Worship</p>	<div>27</div> <p>10 am - Fellowship Cafe 11:30 am - Lunch Ladies 7 pm - Women's Bible Study</p>	<div>28</div> <p>10 am - Bible Study 6 pm - Choir Rehearsal 7 pm - AA</p>	<div>29</div> <p>10 am - Fellowship Cafe 5 pm - Community Meal 6 pm - Children's Church 6 pm - Confirmation 6 pm - Worship</p>	<div>30</div> <p>9 am - Prayer Team</p>	<div>31</div>	<div>1</div>



# JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

## *Volunteers Schedule for January 2020*

### January 5, 2020

#### **8:00 am**

Greeter: Dale and Wanda Strike  
Usher: Connie and Gerald Anderson  
Lector: Ronda Fenlon

#### **9:30 am**

Greeter: Angie O'Keefe  
Usher: Dennis & Karen Hardie  
Lector: Monica Ahlman

### January 12, 2020

#### **8:00 am**

Greeter: Will Remus  
Usher: Dave & Karen Baker  
Lector: John Hass

#### **9:30 am**

Greeter: John & Julie Splettstoesser  
Usher: Chris & Kara Hepp  
Lector: Dennis Hardie

### Bread Maker

Ruth Sweet

### January 19, 2020

#### **8:00 am**

Greeter: Marcy Stoeckel  
Usher: Ronda Fenlon  
Lector: Kelsey Hooker

#### **9:30 am**

Greeter: Jennifer Sonterre  
Usher: Linda & Carlee Oliver  
Lector: Margaret McBride

### January 26, 2020

#### **8:00 am**

Greeter: Harley & Madge Lillemoen  
Usher: Bruce & Renae Hooker  
Lector: Joanne Eittreim

#### **9:30 am**

Greeter: Lillian Reetz  
Usher: Sharon Johnson  
Lector: Melissa Sorenson

### Council Rep

**8:00 am** Ronda Fenlon

**9:30 am** Jennifer Manion

**6:00 pm** Tamm Dufeck

### Altar Guild


January 5 & 12 Bergman/Stock

January 19 & 26 Stoeckel/Niemi

Thank you to all our volunteers! Our worship services don't work without your help and support! Greeters welcome people into our church home, ushers help to hand out bulletins and move people around the church, lectors read the Word from the Bible. The jobs are easy to learn and we could use your help (even confirmation students could help)!

If you are interested in helping out as an usher, lector, or greeter on Sunday mornings find Pastor Sue, Shawna, Jen, Kara Hepp, or ask any of our other volunteers!





*<sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made  
it my own but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies  
behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,  
<sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly  
call of God in Christ Jesus.*

*Philippians 3:13-14*

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