# **CORNERSTONE CONNECTION**

# **November Newsletter**

11-1-2023

Our mission: Called by God to love and serve our neighbors, Long Lake Lutheran Church will proclaim the joy of salvation by teaching, preaching, and providing sacraments to our congregation and to our neighbors.

We are Christ Centered, Purpose Driven & Mission Focused!



3921 277th Ave NW

Isanti, MN 55040

www.longlakeluth.org

(763) 444-5315

# NOVEMBER



1	1:00 GriefShare 5:00 1st Wed. Dinner	12	8:30 Traditional Worship 9:15 Sunday School 9:30 Adult Education	20	<b>6:00</b> 4-H Long Lake Leaders Meeting
	<b>6:00</b> Confirmation <b>6:30</b> Visioning Meeting		9:30 Mission Team  Meeting  10:30 Contemporary	21	9:30 Fellowship Café 7:00 AA
4	<b>4:00</b> Movie Night/Parents Night Out		Worship	22	1:00 Grief Share 6:00 Thanksgiving Eve
	G	14	9:30 Fellowship Café 1:00 Sunshine Circle		Worship & Pie Social
5	8:30 Traditional Worship w/Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School		<b>4:00</b> Finance Meeting <b>7:00</b> AA	23	Happy Thanksgiving Office Closed
	9:30 Stewardship Meeting 9:45 Property Team	15	1:00 Grief Share 6:00 Confirmation	24	Office Closed
	Meeting			26	8:30 Traditional Worship
	10:30 Contemporary Worship w/Holy Communion	16	9:00 Prayer Group 10:30 Bible/book Study		<ul><li>9:15 Sunday School</li><li>9:30 Adult Education</li><li>10:30 Contemporary Worship</li></ul>
7	<b>9:30</b> Fellowship Café <b>7:00</b> AA		1:00 WELCA 6:00 Council Meeting		2:00 Friends of Ruth Christmas Tea
8	1:00 Grief Share 6:00 Confirmation	18	5:00 5Course Meal Event	28	9:00 Mission Quilting 9:30 Fellowship Café
	<b>7:30</b> Youth & Ed. Meeting	19	<b>8:30</b> Traditional Worship Service w/Holy Communion		<b>7:00</b> AA
9	9:00 Prayer Group 10:30 Bible/Book study 12:00 Senior Cards		9:15 Sunday School 9:30 Adult Education 9:45 Cong. Life Meeting	29	<b>11:30</b> Lunch Ladies <b>6:00</b> Confirmation
	1:00 Worship & Music		10:30 Contemporary Worship	30	Live Nativity set-up 9:00 Prayer Group
11	HAPPY VETERANS DAY!		Service w/Holy Communion		10:30 Bible/Book study
1					



### From the desk of Pastor Sue:



Here's what Ole told Lena the other day. "You know, Lena, you've always so anxious to get rid of stuff, especially the unwanted and unused stuff. So, yesterday, when the nursing home called asking for donations, I gave 'em your parents!"

Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

We become Christians through God's unmerited grace, not as the result of any effort, ability, intelligent choice, or act of service on our part. However, out of gratitude for this free gift, we desire to help and serve others with kindness and goodness. We don't do this because God needs our good works. We do this, as Luther once said, "because our neighbors do."

We do a lot of good ministry here on our corner of Hwy 47 and 277<sup>th</sup> Av. NW. In addition to our worship services, sacramental ministries, and educational opportunities, we help people with food insecurity, County Market gas cards, and sometimes even eggs and milk! We are sharing our gifts and talents when we perform our Live Nativity, when we serve meals and soup suppers, when our musical groups and individuals sing or play instruments, even when someone has to delime the dishwasher or carry out the garbage! We share our time when some of our volunteers work at the Shalom gift shop (we are up to 5 now...and need 3 more). We invite the community to our events like Trunk -n- Treat, Easter Egg Hunt, and Looney Lutherans. In case you haven't noticed, we are a very busy church!

I am so grateful for all of the times people say, "yes" when asked to do something for the church, for our community, and for our world. I am so grateful for the money that is contributed for the ministries we do here at Long Lake. I am so grateful for the people who continue to show up to offer their time, talent and treasure. Your good works matter. What you do for God matters.

We are always busy around here, but we are about to REALLY get busy! Our Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas seasons are filled with activities. Thanksgiving is celebrated here with PIE! And I love pie! I love how we celebrate with Thanksgiving all that has first been given to us. Thanksgiving Eve service will be on Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm with our pie social and silent auction to follow. I have never in my life seen pies get auctioned off for so much money! This is all to benefit our youth and education programs and it is so much fun! Dinner church will be held on the following 4 Wednesdays during Advent. The theme is "Light of the World". Live Nativity set up begins on Thursday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> and our performances are Saturday and Sunday December 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>.

On Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, **you are ordered by royal decree (invited)** to register your family in Bethlehem. Dinner will begin at 5 and will consist of the foods you bring to share! You are invited to bring figs, dates, olives, feta and goat cheese, nuts, squash, pomegranates, grapes, apples, oranges, Naan and Pita bread, hummus, tzatziki, falafel, baklava... anything that might be enjoyed in ancient Bethlehem! I will provide fish, lentil soup and halva. There is a sign up sheet on the Welcome Desk. You are welcome to dress the part. After dinner and worship, we will decorate our church for the Christmas season!



Please keep Bethlehem, the people of Israel, the people of Palestine in your prayers during their difficult time. The history of this "land" for God's chosen people is deep and rife with conflict. Take time to watch some of the documentaries portraying the strife caused by the U.N.'s decision to create a nation for the Jewish people in 1948. May God bring peace through us.



The holidays are fast approaching! Help us help others: on Sunday, November 12, 11:30-1:30pm, we will be packing food for LifeRice. Their food this year is going to help the people in Ukraine who so desperately need help. You can make a real, concrete difference by:

Signing up to help at the event. Contact church at <a href="mailto:admin@longlakeluth.org">admin@longlakeluth.org</a>

Donating! It costs money to provide and ship the food. We plan to have 100 people packing, which will cost LifeRice \$5000. We are half way to our goal!

If you are unable to be here in person or provide financial support, please pray for this important and literally life-saving ministry.

Questions? Contact the church office or Kari Osmek

The annual Pie Social and Silent Auction will be held on Wednesday night, November 22 following worship. We are seeking donations for pies and auction items. Please note: new or like new items accepted. Please hold your garage sale items for the W.E.L.C.A garage sale in the spring.

**THANK YOU** so much to all of the people that have supported our busy weekend of events:

Trunk or Treat: for people who created trunks (tables), donated candy; Pr. Sue and Denise Sunderland who served in the kitchen; Lisa Gustafson who picked up and set up the bounce house; the Isanti Fire Department; and Nate Dufeck with Custom Catering with his food truck!

The confirmands and their families: congratulations to Chesney Bell, Mackenzie Larsen, Joshua Myers, Julia Myers, and Archie Spike for Affirming your Baptism on October 29.

It's already time to start thinking about the Children's Christmas program! This year we will share our program on the afternoon of December 17 at 4:00pm. Join us as our children share the story of "Angel Whispers".

### **Long Lake Lutheran Church Council Meeting**

### **September 21, 2023**

### Opening

Present: Margaret Bauer, Pastor Sue, Julie Nielsen, Mike Schlegel, Denise Sunderland, Joanne Eittreim, John Hass, Monica Pe-

tersen

Absent: Ronda Fenlon, Amanda Saelens

Margaret called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

Devotions were led by Margaret - II Corinthians 5:7 "For we walk by faith, and not by sight."

Prayer was led by Pastor Sue.

Joanne verified the Virtual Meeting Minutes.

Approval of September agenda – Mike motioned to approve, Joanne seconded, motion carried.

### Report Questions – Staff, Executive Team, Council Teams

Amanda – Council agreed to give her the grace to get through her new job training.

### Staffing

Associate Minister Call (Bruce Yurich) – Starting second interviews with two candidates.

Technology (Kent) – Mike motioned we get the correct IT solution with a cap of \$750/month with Kent's recommendation and a virtual Council vote.

#### **Old Business**

Constitution Review – is in research mode for the bylaws that are in question.

Bell Wire - Cost should be no more than \$2500.

Preferred Vendor (Technology) – See Technology under Staffing.

Master Calendar - was reviewed and updated.

Playground – As of 8/31/23, \$39,500 has been raised, plus a \$10,000 pledge. So far 49 bricks have been sold and three more fundraisers are planned.

2024 Council Member Nominees – A couple of people have expressed interest in running for Council along with some additional names that were discussed.

Web Design – Brenda has now been trained on this. Other people, too?

Visioning Team – is meeting Wednesday, October 4, 5:00 supper, 6:30 meeting.

Insurance Claim – The Cornerstone is covered. Insurance owes us \$84,000 or a roof. Mike moved we send a letter to Church Mutual stating this from Ronda, Denise seconded, motion carried.

**September Finance Report** – The end of August General Fund balance was \$45,172.84.

AHAs - The Screens! YAY!

### **New Business**

Oral Histories – Need a church historian to gather these from our olde/more seasoned members.

Wonder Box – Pastor Sue will remind Rose Hass to make these.

Council Future Look/Org Chart – Pastor Sue reviewed with Council, recommended "noodling" on it and bring to the next meeting.

Chairs/Tables Management – Document will be made for next meeting.

Mutual Ministry Team – The need exists for a Team that supports our Pastor(s).

Christian Daycare/School – Council agreed to meet with a potential group for this.

Cemetery Board – Bob Johnson and Greg Anderson are to meet with the Executive Team to make sure we are all on the same page.

### Strategic Planning

1 Year: Landscaping, **Remove Playground**, <u>Call Associate Pastor</u>, <u>Build Playground</u>, **Food Shelf**, Service Project, <u>Parents Night Out</u>, Strategic Planning Team, **Contemporary Service**, **Two services on Sunday** 

3 Year: Additional Staffing, pay staff at Synod Guidelines, HR policies/procedures, Youth Director, Host 6 Community Events and 2 Service Projects/year

5 Year: Move into new Building

Council member assignments and meetings schedule was reviewed.

### Closing

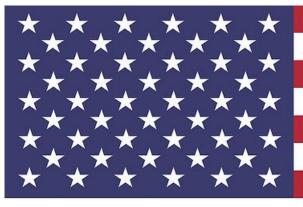
Meeting Adjourned at 8:05

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

October attendance:					
October 8	<b>8:30</b> – 88				
	<b>10:30</b> - 32				
October 15	<b>8:30</b> – 89				
	<b>10:30</b> - 35				
October 22	<b>8:30</b> – 84				
	<b>10:30</b> – 30				
October 29	<b>8:30</b> – 90				
	<b>10:30</b> - 75				

### **HAPPY VETERANS DAY**





"I pledge allegiance to the Flag

of the United States of America,

and to the Republic for which it stands,

one Nation under God,

indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

WEINSTOCKART

I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag, and to the Savior for whose Kingdom it stands; one Savior, crucified, risen, and coming again with life and liberty to all who believe.



### **Call Committee Update**

The Synod is still working to gather the next round of candidates for the Call Committee to consider. The Committee is prepared to move quickly into interviews once we receive names. Keep those prayers coming that we will find our candidate soon!

Bruce Yurich
LLLC Call Committee Chair

### **RACHEL'S FLOCK**

There is no meeting in November.

Next meeting will be on Sunday December 10th at 9:45.

### **VISIONING/STRATEGIC PLANNING**

November 15th at 6:00 pm

Anne Gerrietts of VANMAN architects and builders will join us to dream!



### **FRIENDS OF RUTH**

THANK YOU for your generous donations of baby items for our baby care kits that we assemble and send to Lutheran World Relief. At our next meeting, we will be putting the kits together. While garage sale season is pretty much over, if you see items at thrift stores or other sales, we are always collecting items. This is an ongoing project for us and at this point we could still use more: Sleepers, jackets, receiving blankets and bars of soap (any gentle soap like Ivory). Thanks again for supporting our baby care kit project.

Friends of Ruth

### FRIENDS OF RUTH CHRISTMAS TEA Nov. 26th at 2 pm.

"Migration Stories" Featured speaker: Melissa Melnick Gonzalez, pastor/developer, Tapestry Ministries.

Melissa Melnick Gonzalez is a church planter and pastor of Tapestry, a multicultural and bilingual ministry of the MAS of the ELCA in Richfield. She began Tapestry with the help of some friends in 2014 by going out to the neighborhood with cookies and lemonade and asking people to share their stories. In 2017, Melissa's older son Chris was lost in the Mississippi River for ten days, and in his memory she biked from Minneapolis to the Gulf of Mexico. Pastora Melissa is currently writing a memoir about her own migration story.

Tapestry is a vibrant and growing congregation as they welcome migrants from around Latin America to worship in Spanish and English, language classes, community meals, collaborations with immigration attorneys and community organizations, as they share the love of Jesus through food, music and education. They build bridges and provide opportunities for people who are different from one another to cross them.

Join us at Long Lake Lutheran Church to hear more about these migration stories of sorrow and loss and how hope, love, joy, light and life shape our personal lives and the ministry.

### November Worship Helpers

# More faithful than the rising sun

# God has never failed us!

November 5, 2023

Greeter: Lisa Gustafson

Usher: Dale & Kathy Findell

Lector: Morgan Engren

Kitchen: Margaret Bauer

**November 12, 2023** 

Mike & Manda Hanson Greeter:

Usher: Merwyn Larsen, Mackenzi,

Cierra, & Megan Larsen

Ronda Fenlon Lector:

Kitchen: Connie Anderson **November 19, 2023** 

Greeter: Rick & Jessica Larsen

Usher: Barry Smith & Margaret

**Mc**Bride

John Hass Lector:

Kitchen: Joanne Eittreim

**November 26, 2023** 

Greeter: **Matt Lundeen** 

John & Rose Hass Usher:

Chris Hepp Lector:

Kitchen: Denise Sunderland

Not even once!

### **STEWARDSHIP**

I am always grateful for all God has provided, but particularly during this season where I am reminded of God's goodness, God's provision in the harvest of abundant food, and God's protection over me. I am reminded of God's gift of salvation through Jesus Christ and am humbly in awe of that gift for which I could never repay. I am richly blessed and incredibly grateful. "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift." Therefore, I give back to God what was first God's. God is not so much concerned with how much you give back, but the attitude from which you give. Do you give with an attitude of generosity in response to God's abundant gifts? Or do you give out of fear that there will never be enough?

2 Corinthians 9:7-15 (NIV)

<sup>7</sup> "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup> And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. <sup>9</sup> As it is written:

"They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."

<sup>10</sup> Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup> You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in

thanksgiving to God.

<sup>12</sup> This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. <sup>13</sup> Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. <sup>14</sup> And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. <sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"







### **Looking for:**

- A person skilled in or willing to learn video production including audio and video switching, camera control and production software. This is for the worship service broadcast using multiple cameras.
- 2. People who are talented musically to plan and play for a contemporary worship service.
- 3. Congregation & Youth Historian

Faithful Friends is a program developed while Shawna was still here. It is our hope that Faithful Friends will supplement the Pastoral Care Ministry of Long Lake Lutheran Church with Lay Ministers who are trained and equipped to provide home, hospital and care center visits, communion and spiritual friendship to people of our congregation. If you are in need of this service or know someone who is, please contact Pastor

Sue, Brenda, Pat Weiss-Meyer or Marcy Stoeckel (651-338-8986).



### **Breakfast Club: Attention All High School Students**

Please come and join us every 1st and 3rd Sunday at 9:00am in the Cornerstone. We will have waffles, juice, and

great conversation! Sometimes we'll have donuts and play games— you never know!
Bring a friend, too— All are welcome! Please contact Marcy



if you have questions. 651-338-8986

#### **SAVE THE DATES**

- Sunday, November 12th LifeRice
- Saturday, November 18th Five Course Meal Event
- Wednesday, November 22nd Annual Pie Social and Silent Auction
- Sunday, November, 26 Friends of Ruth Christmas Tea at 2:00
- Thursday, November 30th –Live Nativity Set-up
- Friday, December 1st- Live Nativity rehearsal
- December 2nd and 3rd Live Nativity
- Saturday, December 16th Sunday School Christmas Program Practice
- Sunday, December 17th Sunday
   School Christmas Program at 4:00 PM



### PRAYER CONCERNS (Let us know how we can pray for you.)

Pray for healing for: Kate Allison (Hospice), Sharon Johnson, Wanda Strike's cousin Marie and friend Gene, Marcy Stoeckel's niece Erin, Karen Baker's mom Floy and niece Angie, Kent and Joanne Eittreim's friends Katie and Natalie, Sharon Stanius' sister-in-law Jackie and her grandson Hayden, Lisa Gustafson's brother Eric and her friend Brenda, Aaron's dad Harlan, John (Rose) Hass' nephew Kevin, Lisa and Martin Lynn's daughter Kelsey, Linda Rouen's aunt Evelyn, Matt (Angie) Hylen's dad Mike, Paul & Jackie Gruber's grandson Payton, Les & Chris Rowe's sister-in-law Nicole, Jan Tusler's brother Chris and her Brother-in-law Donnie, Linda Oliver's grandson Kristopher, Carol Vogtlin's nephew Andrew, Becky Agranoff's friends Jimmy and Rick, Karen and John Bartz' nephew Jacob, Dylan Monroe's grandma Charlotte, Colleen Evenson, Mer Larsen, Kathie and Ken Schleiff's grandson Kade, Sheryl and Kim Maher's son Chris, Kelsey Hooker.

Pray for comfort for all who grieve: Ronda Fenlon's cousin Tracy's husband passed away unexpectedly.

Please update the office staff about people placed in the prayers.







# Long Lake Lutheran Church

3921 277th Ave NW, Isanti

Saturday, November 18th 5:00 Social Hour 6:00 Dinner Begins **Childcare Provided** 

# Tickets \$50 All proceeds go to the church's MEAL EVENT future playground

# FIVE COURSE



**Ann River Winery will be** onsite with beer and wine beverages available for purchase

first course - pork dumplings, meat and cheese and olive skewers

second course - chicken wild rice soup

third course - caprese salad fourth course - steak or 1/4 chicken, mashed potatoes, roasted carrots, and bun fifth course - mini pies

**Catered by Brent and Jacquie Goedel** 

To purchase a ticket, please contact church office @ 763.444.5315 by Nov. 2nd

## Friends of Ruth

# Christmas Tea

Sunday, November 26 2:00pm

With Guest Speaker

Pastor Melissa Gonzalez

of Tapestry Church, Richfield MN



- Goodies
- . Tea
- . Coffee
- . Apple Cider
- Hot Chocolate
- . Prizes

Please sign up in the narthex.

# FREE EVENT!

### Long Lake Lutheran Church Presents: A Live Nativity



# "One Night in Bethlehem"

On Saturday, December 2, 2023, performances of One Night in Bethlehem will occur approximately every half hour around the top and bottom of the hour starting at 3:00 P.M., with the last group leaving at approximately 6:30 p.m. A slower paced group will leave at 2:00 p.m. geared for those with special needs such as mobility or sensory issues which we anticipate to be a smaller group.

On Sunday, December 3, 2023, there will be a performance during the 9:00 Sunday Worship service.

On Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> Long Lake Lutheran Church will be transformed into the town of Bethlehem. You can meet the angel Gabriel, who saw it all.

Meet Mary & Joseph who heard and believed.

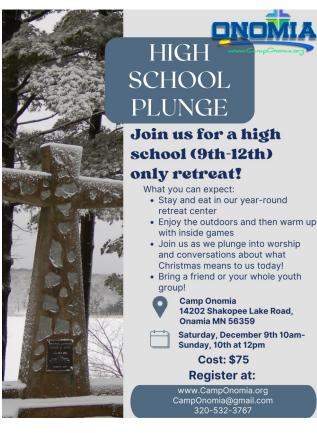
Meet the innkeeper's wife, the shepherds, and the wise men.

You can smell the straw and you can see the live animals.

See the beautiful baby Jesus and come away with the true meaning of Christmas in your heart.

Bring your camera for picture opportunities. After your visit to Bethlehem join us in the fellowship hall for a **chili and chicken wild rice soup supper.** Free will offering donated to local charities. Special funding from THRIVENT.

Long Lake Lutheran Church 3921 277<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW Isanti, MN 55040 763-444-5315 www.longlakeluth.org





# **Elementary Winter Chil** January 26th-28th, 2024

Friday 7pm-Sunday 11am

Come chill with us during this weekend retreat at Camp Onomia just for those in 3rd-6th grade!

We'll stay warm in our retreat center, play some awesome games, and learn more about God's love.

Costs \$120 perperson

Sign up individually or as a group on our website. One adult attends for free with every 7 youth from your church. Please bring your own bedding and toiletries. Registerat: www.CampOnomia.org Questions? CampOnomia@gmail.com

320-532-3767



bedding and toiletries to stay in our

www.CampOnomia.org

320-532-3767

CampOnomia@gmail.com

year round, retreat center.

Located on Lake Shakopee, Camp Onomia provides a yearround experience where all people are welcome to encounter Christ through Creation and Community



- NOVEMBER 3RD-5TH: WOMEN'S REFRESH (A **WEEKEND AWAY JUST FOR THE LADIES)** • DECEMBER 9TH-10TH: PLUNGE (HIGH SCHOOL
  - RETREAT)



 JANUARY 26TH-28TH: ELEMENTARY CHILL (GRADES 3-6 RETREAT)



 MARCH TBD: BIBLE & BREW (BREWS AND BIBLE) TALKS WITH THE BISHOP)

 APRIL 8TH-9TH: CHURCH OFFICE WORKERS RETREAT



CampOnomia@gmail.com 🔀 320-532-3767

