

"There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind."

—C.S. Lewis

Jan 2024
VOL 3 #1

Hainesville Crossroads

Hainesville Lutheran Church ELCA Sturgeon Bay, WI

JANUARY 2024

"There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.' 'I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. (Matthew 21:28-31)

TALK IS CHEAP

One Sunday morning years ago, a man came out of church, shook the minister's hand, and commented on the sermon. "Thank you, Pastor, for that wonderful message," he said. "My wife needed to hear every word of it." Thankfully, he was kidding! But I suspect that there are times when we are tempted to forget that words of warning also apply to us: "That was a fine message. I sure hope so-and-so was paying attention." "I wish such-and-such had been able to hear what was said." "I'm so glad the pastor finally brought up those sins today."

We all fall into that trap. We want to apply God's Word to everybody else before we apply it to ourselves.

The Pharisees seemed like such good people. They gave generously to the church. They did good things in the community. They lived self-controlled, outwardly righteous lives. They said all the right things. But their hearts were lost in the darkness of sin. That's why Jesus told the parable of the two sons. The second son in Jesus' parable was so nice to his father. He offered a cheerful response to his father's request to go and work in his vineyard. "I'll go, sir!" he said. But then he didn't go.

"Which of the two did what his father wanted?" Jesus asked. The answer was clear. True obedience isn't just mouthing the right words. It's not just saying whatever you think somebody wants to hear. It's doing the right things. Without repentance and faith, talk is cheap.

Take Jesus' words to heart. Your time in worship is not a time to think about how everybody else should be doing better. It's not a time to be critical of your husband or your wife. No, it's a time to examine your own life and confess your own sins. It's a time to meditate on Christ's death and rededicate yourself to living for him. And then—even if at one point in your life you said no to the Lord—say yes to his will in a spirit of repentance and joy in his gracious forgiveness.

Lord Jesus, teach me humility so that my heart always yearns for the forgiveness you earned for me. Amen

THIS MONTH

- **Sunday morning worship at 9:30 is also being livestreamed via YouTube.**
- **UN-decorate the church on Saturday Jan 6th beginning at 9:00 AM**
- **Saturday January 13 9:30 AM Family Choir**
- **Church Council Monday January 15th at 6:00 PM**
- **Men's Bible study meets Wednesdays at 8 AM at church**
- **Book club meets January 2nd at noon**
- **Quilting group on 4th & 5th Tuesday of the month starting at 9 AM.**



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Christmas Concert was a HUGE success!!! Thank you so much to Mama J and the Praise Hounds for their beautiful music. We were delighted and surprised that Elliott and Luke Brown played a lovely duet. This great event was attended by 100 people many of whom are not members of our Hainesville Church family. We were able to raise close to \$4,000.00 that day for our Stained-glass window fund. Thanks to all who participated on our first Christmas Concert.



Secret Santa Results

Once again, Hainesville helped others in time of need for Christmas. A total of almost \$1,600.00 was collected from the members of the congregation for these families. Gifts were purchased, wrapped, and delivered to the local families. The family that is out of state were given gift cards. Thank you for your generosity! A special thank you to all who donated funds, did the shopping, wrapped gifts, delivered the gifts, or helped in any other way. This Secret Santa Project greatly helps those among us that are less fortunate than others. This fun Project has hopefully made a more Joyful Season for these families!!!! Thanks again and God Bless!!!!

JANUARY Birthdays

Birthdays for January

Jan 1st	Ed Stawikowski
Jan 2nd	Becky Brown
Jan 4th	Elsie Wagner
Jan 9th	Bob Packniak
Jan 12th	Vicki Hannemann
	Roberta Roalkvan
Jan 18th	Mathilde Hannemann
Jan 20th	Becca Anderson
	Nolan Schultz
Jan 22nd	Sharon Albert
Jan 27th	Bob Petersen
Jan 30th	Greg Adlon
	Marla Vogel

JANUARY Anniversaries

Anniversaries for January

None on record this month



In Our Prayers!

Families, Friends & Neighbors....

Bill (Albert), Matt (Albert), Tom (Angermeier), Devin (Bartos), Lyle (Berndt), Karen & Del (Brewer), Elaine & Jim (C), Eugene (Clark), Mike & Rina (Clumpner), Allan & Betty (D), Danielle (Davis), Pat (Fenrich), Emery (Freiberg), Ruth (Grainger), Mathilde & Richard (Hannemann), Cindy (Knapp), Shari (Krueger), Ellie (Krull), Joe (May), Ken (Overland), Matthew (Roque), Alice (Roque-Angermeier), Lexi & Laci (S), Lori (Snyder), Eric (Thorson), Charlotte, Dave, Erik, Joe, and the family of Mary Bosben.

HAINESVILLE LUTHERAN APPROVED COUNCIL MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 20

Present: Joanne Adlon, Ellen Klister, Marie Weber, Linda Monahan, John Melland, Gordon Hughes, Gene LaPlante, George Sincock, Pastor Mary Lou Plummer, & Sue Nusbaum

Absent: Heather Haese

Meeting was opened at 6:03 pm, by Joanne Adlon, with the Council Prayer.

Motion to accept the agenda by Ellen & 2nd by Linda. Motion accepted.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Pastor Report: (Pastor Mary Lou Plummer)

- Discussion on Pastoral hours, Pastor felt she was shortening her hours per contract with Hainesville. But after considering her additional time she has put in, (i.e. Bible study, shut-in visits, etc.) it was agreed Pastors hours were up to date.
- Pastor has visited with many of our shut-ins. She has been accompanied by Alice Angermeier.
- Pastor has a friend who makes “prayer rocks”. She will contact the friend about having these for Hainesville.
- The Advent services, December 6, 13th, & 21st, will rotate between Hainesville, Tanum-Forest, & Bay View Church.
- Christmas Eve service, December 24. Also, we will set up luminaria, tea lite-lit white bags, outside of church for the service.
- There is a wind damage issue with the southside entrance door off of the parking lot. Pastor will check professionals in order to correct this problem & reduce any further damage to the door.
- Nordic Heritage Grant Project: After participation at the Lonsdale, Minnesota session, the project leaders still need to contact us about the next steps we need to take to continue with the Grant requirements. (i.e. volunteer hours, etc.)

Worship, Music, Arts: (Gordy Hughes)

- Jim Hanstad & Gordy have put a lot of time into the Advent Concert music, December 10
- Gordy has received a \$250.00 card from Thrivent & this will help cover the costs of snacks & beverages for after the concert. He has also received 25 T-shirts from Thrivent. Advertising for the event will be through WDOR radio, Marie will call the station and handle this for advertising. E-mails will be sent out to the Sturgeon Bay churches and posters will be tacked up at the grocery stores, etc. The banners & the candles inside the sanctuary will be changed for the concert.
- Gordy will arrange for the Christmas Poinsettias, for purchase, to decorate the sanctuary. The cost per plant will not exceed \$10.
- Acolyte training will be held on Jan 21.
- Christmas decorating for the sanctuary will be December 2, at 9:00 am.
- Gordy has begun plans for the “Car Show”

Social Ministry: (Marie Weber)

- The gardens around the Church were weeded after the rain-out of “God’s Work Our Hands”, in September.
- “Thanks” to Dave Grunwald for cleaning the ditches.

Evangelism: (Linda Monahan)

- Our advertisement in the “Pulse” has been canceled, per previous Council decision. Before the ad runs out, Linda will include a message regarding the Christmas Eve service.

Property: (John Melland/Gene LaPlante)

- Gene will contact a representative from De Leers on how to repair the North window frame, (in preparation for the stained glasses)
- Discussion about possible future alternative grass mowing company: this item was tabled.
- John Melland will cut the grass for the 2024 season.
- Gerald Gutschow will be doing the maintenance for the lawnmower this year.
- John Melland will check with Rass Excavating for an estimate to roll the lawn for the Church property, this will make mowing much easier.
- In the sanctuary the carpeting between the railing & the wall needs stretching. John will check with April Mascorro, to see if her husband can fix this safety hazard.
- Gene LaPlante met with the fire inspector regarding the Church. One of the “exit signs” was faulty. Gene replaced the faulty one & replaced the batteries in the other signs.

Education: (Heather Haese)

- George stated that Heather has asked him to build a “manger” for the Children’s program for the Christmas service. The children will have a short program, as well as, sing Christmas carols.

CHURCH OFFICERS REPORTS:

President: (Joanne Adlon)

- No report
- Joanne is still planning on getting signage for the Church events in the Spring.

Vice President: (George Sincock)

- New bricks for the Memorial Wall will be installed in the Spring when the temperature is above 65 degrees.

Treasurer: (Ellen Klister)

- Ellen reported that the Stained-Glass Window fund was just \$15,000 short of our goal.
- Motion to accept the Treasurer's report for October, made by Gene and 2nd by Gordy. Motion passed.

Secretary: (Sue Nusbaum)

- Motion to accept the Secretaries report for October made by Marie & 2nd by Ellen. Motion passed.

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS: (WEDDINGS, FUNERALS, BAPTISMS, etc.)

- Advent services: December 6,13, 21
- Advent Concert: December 10th, 4 pm.
- Church Christmas decorating: December 2, at 9 am.
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: December 24

- Church decoration removal: January 6, 9am.
Acolyte training: January 21.

Old Business:
No report

New Business:

- Linda Monahan reports that she has been reviewing Jean Hovik's "Church Records". A decision needs to be made as to what will be saved and how to save these items. Linda will request congregants to submit copies of their family church records. Records will be scanned & kept on a computer by a "Church Historian".

- We need to post a description of the jobs of people coming off of the Council.

Tabled Items:

Joanne will explore signage for Church pavilion events in the Spring.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Gene, 2nd by George. Motion accepted. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm

Closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: December 18, 6 pm.



The beginning of December the church office received this email in the office inbox. I just wanted to pass it on to you as a congregation. You need to know that we together are making a difference in the world around us.

Hello,

A few weeks ago I found myself looking for an ELCA church in the area. It was 8:30 and somehow I found your church. It would take about 25min to get there, but I got the toddler ready and told my partner to get out of the deer stand, we were headed to church. He thought I was crazy but he obliged. I know there's no better way to feel God's presence than in His creation, but I was drawn to your congregation. You see, we were visiting my in-laws and within 24 hours of each other my grandmother had a heart attack and my partner's grandmother had a stroke. I needed something, so we hastily got ready and headed to the service. We arrived a few minutes late and it was very clear we had not worshipped with you before, we had no idea where the door even was! You all met us with such kindness and hospitality, it was just what we needed. Our home congregation has little busy bags and when we sat down, our two year old kept asking (very loudly) for "my other toys." I was a little annoyed he wasn't being grateful of the trucks and animals I had put together, and was worried he would soon break out in hysterics. Just what we needed, to show up late through the front door with a screaming toddler.. Luckily, someone brought us one of your bags and he was content.

The pastor who was preaching that day then referenced his daughters who lived in the Minneapolis/St Paul area. We live in that area and call that area home so I knew we were in the right place.

At the end of the service, we were given a wonderful loaf of chocolate chip banana bread and invited downstairs for fellowship. It was a very welcome invitation I wish I could have accepted. God led us to your congregation and it was exactly what we needed that day.

My grandmother has since recovered and made it home, while my partner's grandmother has passed away. I hope to be able to visit you guys again. It was so incredibly wonderful to feel so welcome. I'm not sure what else I expected from a group of Lutherans in Wisconsin, but it felt just like home. I think the only thing missing was a Christmas Lefse sale in the bulletin.

Thank you for your kindness, hospitality, and grace.

Madelyn, Trevor, and Francis

Decorating the church was accomplished by many, many hands



AND THE
FINISHED PRODUCT!!!!!!



From the Stained Glass Window
Committee

An anonymous couple has pledged to match up to \$5,000.00 in additional funds raised for our Stained-Glass Windows. If we can reach this goal we will be very close to the amount needed to complete this project. All donations are confidential. If you wish to contribute to this fund please indicate on your contribution that it is to go for the windows. Please contact Linda Monahan, Bill Albert, Jim Vogel, Evelyn Breider, or any Council member with any questions.



Prayer Requests: Starting with the new year we will be reinstating the prayer request policy of the past. This means that your prayer request will be on the list for 3 months unless you state otherwise. You can re-request to keep them on the list or put them back on. Prayer request forms are found on the back of each pew on colorful card stock. Please fill them out and place them in the offering plate or on the desk in the office area. Thank you for your co-operation with this worthwhile ministry for those who are struggling among us.

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gift of the Door County Gift Certificates. It was most unexpected and very surprising—just more evidence of our faith family’s big heart in action.

Thank you also for the opportunity to serve Christ together.

May we all have a blessed Christmas and New Year both communally and individually.

Love,
Mary Lou Plummer

Children's Christmas Program told the story of our Savior's Birth



CHRISTMAS PARTY



January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Book Club Noon	3 8 AM Men's Breakfast/ Bible Study	4	5	6 9:00 Un- decorate church
7 9:30 AM Worship/ Communion <i>Confirmation class after worship A-K</i>	8	9 Bible Study 9:30	10 8 AM Men's Breakfast/ Bible Study	11	12	13 9:30 Family choir Rehearsal
14 9:30 AM Worship/ New Member <i>Confirmation class after worship Council Pro- vides meal</i>	15 6 PM Church Council	16	17 8 AM Men's Breakfast/ Bible Study	18	19 <i>Annual meet- ing book printed</i>	20
21 9:30 AM Worship/ Communion <i>Confirmation class after worship L-Z</i>	22	23 9 AM Quilting for missions	24 8 AM Men's Breakfast/ Bible Study	25	26	27
28 9:30 AM Worship <i>Confirmation class after worship A-K</i>	29	30 9 AM Quilting for missions	31 8 AM Men's Breakfast/ Bible Study			
<div style="border: 2px solid #add8e6; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p>ANNUAL MEETING IS SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4TH FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.</p> </div>						

January Newsletter



Hainesville Lutheran Church –ELCA

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*Hainesville
Lutheran is a
fellowship of
Christians,
empowered by
the Gospel,
who share
their faith
through
witness,
service and
hospitality*

Weather Cancellation Information

*In the event of weather related closings at church—
please listen to WDOR or Channel 2 for cancellation notices and check our
Facebook page*

New member Sunday will be help on January 14, 2024!!! This is a celebration to welcome new members to our family of faith. The Church Council will be providing the meal following the service this Sunday as well. Come and welcome our newest members.!!!!

