



SPIRE

JUNE 2023

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 17
DEVILS LAKE, NORTH DAKOTA

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Olaf Lutheran Church

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Devils Lake, ND 58301-2525

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Email: stolaf@gondtc.com

www.stolfchurchdevilslake.com

Pastor Lori Pankratz
Email: lorip@gondtc.com

Darci Gilbertson
Office & Financial Secretary

Kirk Sweeney, Custodian

Dan Nybo, Organist

Kelly Longden
Youth Ministry Coordinator
Email: stolafymc@gmail.com



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ONE MORE DAY FOR DIRECTORY PICTURES

Monday, June 12th

**If you missed having
your picture taken
for the new directory
in May -
Call the
church office
at 662-4911
or go online to
www.ucdir.com**



*We need
everyone
in the new
directory!*



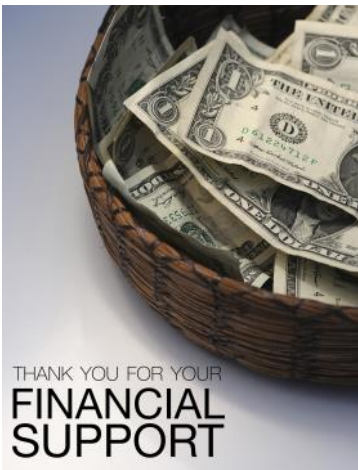
April General Fund Expenses

Adult Ed Exp	13.46
Auto Exp (Mileage)	291.52
BCBS Exp	839.74
Bulletin Exp	123.34
Church Supplies.....	312.89
Custodian HIR Exp	250.00
Electricity Exp (Ottertail)	918.00
Envelope Giving Exp (EFT)	36.68
Gas (MDU) Exp	668.00
Maintenance Exp.	863.09
Snow removal: 730.65	
Ace Hard: 61.75	
Mac's: 35.44	
LaMotte's: 35.25	
Office Equip.	397.73
Office Supplies.....	365.42
Miscellaneous Exp	25.73
Pastor Housing Allowance	1,200.00
Pastor SS Allowance	397.84
Payroll Exp.....	652.63
Pension/Ins	3,922.84
Postage Exp.....	346.71
Sewer & Water Exp	132.86
Sunday School Exp.....	59.48
Telephone/Internet/Surveillance	464.07
Vocal Director Exp	225.00
Wages.....	13,327.78
Worship Supplies	70.16
Youth Activity Exp	411.54

Total Expenses..... \$25,525.91
Income \$32,179.35

Retreat Center Fund April Expenses

Greater Ramsey Water...	35.00
Guide One Insurance...	150.00
Nodak	42.00
MDU	64.89



June Mission of the Month ELCA Youth Gathering

The clear box at the back of the sanctuary (entrance) is set up at each worship service to bring awareness to missions that we want to support with our donations. Each month we will highlight the mission of the month. The mission of the month for June is the ELCA Youth Gathering & Young Adult Gathering in New Orleans, LA—July 16-20, 2024. The donations from the box will go directly to the Youth Gathering. There are other ways to support St. Olaf youth that are going.

The Gathering's mission of faith formation in young people is the hub from which all things come for the Gathering. The goal is to create environments and opportunities for faith formation through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service and fellowship. While some of the experiences can be replicated at home, some are unique and special to the Gathering because of the size and scope of this ministry. There are five core goals that are for this ministry: 1. affirmed & challenged in the faith 2. experience new perspectives 3. ponder their vocation 4. bond with their congregational group 5. learn more about the ELCA and our partners.

Memorials

GENERAL FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

Sharlene Anderson from Mike & Sherry Boehmer
LeRoy Lunde from Dennis & Karen Riggan, Dennis & Jean Aardahl
Duane Davidson from Dennis & Jean Aardahl
Jean Ivesdal from Dennis & Jean Aardahl

AUDIO/VISUAL PROJECT

Given in MEMORY of:

Kenneth Unger from Dale & Loretta Giedd
Andy Horner from Myrna Unger

NORWAY CEMETERY FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

Harland & Marilyn Pederson from Myrna Unger
Robert "Bob" Bryn from Gary Bryn

RADIO FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

Brad Orwick from Marlyns Sollin

YOUTH FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

Harland & Marilyn Pederson from Myrna Unger

BUILDING FUND (Elevator)

Given in MEMORY of:

Deborah Neis from Clarine Anderson, Gloria Bracken
Gary Pankratz from Gary Bryn
Duane Davidson from Dennis & Karen Riggan
Jean Ivesdal from Leo & Lillian Bittner
Yvonne Knutson from Knutson Family
Sharlene Anderson from Larry & Betty Nygren
Clayton Krueger from Karen Krueger

Given in HONOR of:

Cleo Deplazes' 100th Birthday from Larry & Betty Nygren

Elevator Update

Donations & Memorials

Received as of

May 30, 2023:

\$480.00

General Fund Envelope Giving & Memorials & Designated Funds

SUNDAY		General Fund:	General Fund:	Designated Funds:
Date	9:30 a.m.	<u>Envelope Giving</u>	<u>Gifts & Memorials</u>	<u>Memorials/Donations</u>
April 30	132	\$2,545.00	\$100.00	\$856.00
May 7	93	\$4,907.00		\$86.00
May 14	91	\$3,670.00	\$40.00	\$1,935.00
May 21	106	\$2,245.00		\$420.25

Electronic Giving for APRIL (28 Households): \$3,600.00

FAITH MATTERS;

~ Pastor Lori ~

Suicide is a leading cause of death in the U.S., and suicide rates have increased in almost every state since 1999 (some by more than 30 percent), according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Suicide occurs among all demographics, including all religious groups. And behind these statistics are individuals—people who live in our families, communities and congregations and whose stories and relationships are unique and important.

With the knowledge of the statistics regarding suicide and being mindful of the lives affected, the ELCA Church Council adopted “Suicide Prevention” in 1999, a social message that calls on members, congregations and leaders to learn more about suicide prevention and what they can do to help. The social message calls us to this work as people of faith saying, “We who lean on God’s love to live are called to ‘bear one another’s burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ’ (Galatians 6:2). Our efforts to prevent suicide grow out of our obligation to protect and promote life, our hope in God amid suffering and adversity, and our love for our troubled neighbor.”

In 2012, the ELCA Church Council adopted the social message “The Body of Christ and Mental Illness,” which seeks to raise awareness of the challenges of mental illness, offer reflection and direction, and inspire action. At the 2016 Churchwide Assembly, a social policy resolution advocating for suicide prevention research was adopted.

Below is a list of resources members, congregations and faith leaders can use to learn

more about suicide and how to prevent it.

Lutheran Suicide Prevention Ministry: With an inclusive and interfaith mission, the Lutheran Suicide Prevention Ministry’s goal is zero suicides for all people, regardless of beliefs. The website includes resources for congregations, clergy and leaders, including lists of trusted faith-based mental health organizations.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: The Lifeline provides free, 24/7, confidential support for people in distress and advice for professionals. (800-273-8255)

National Alliance on Mental Illness: The nation’s largest grassroots mental health organization provides information on warning signs and risk factors for suicide and resources for helping people with mental illnesses.

ELCA video message on suicide prevention: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton shares a message of hope, saying, “Suicide can be prevented. We are never beyond God’s mercy and compassion.”

(This article was used with permission from the ELCA website and publication Living Lutheran) Our congregation and community can help stop the stigma and silence about suicide and mental illness. Say something if you or someone you know is struggling with harmful thoughts, it’s ok to ask them. Call 211. There is always HOPE and HELP!!!

God’s Peace, Pastor Lori

Elevator Update

The council decided at our May meeting that we will be starting a fund to help raise money to update the elevator. It will be set up just like the A/V fund so you can make special donations to a specific fund that will only be used to fund the elevator update. I have talked to a few other companies about elevator repairs and upkeep. Most of them do not have the time or are not willing to travel up to Devils Lake to complete maintenance or repairs. After getting the correct number to call, I decided to go with Otis for maintenance and updating. They answer when I call and show up that day or the day following. As I stated at the special meeting on April 30th, our elevator needs an ADA update to be tied to smoke alarms so no one gets stuck in the elevator and add other safety features that are out of date and could fail without the ability to repair. We have not signed any purchase agreements or anything like that. We are just starting to fund raise. The quote we had will be good for 90 days. Thank you.

Council President, Michael Kitsch

Baptisms

**Casey Lee Legacie
Kaia Ann Legacie
Khloe Mae Legacie**
Children of Joanne Legacie

Funerals

**Duane Davidson
Gene Davidson
Jean Ivesdal**



**Alyssa Schall
Chad & Amanda Engen
SSgt. Sherri Read &
SSgt. Barry Read
Cpl. Jeffrey J. Olson
Sgt. Jesse S. Olson
Grant Thompson
Justin & Jill Johnson
Derrick Owens
Jonathan Pearson
Matthew Martin
Sgt. Major Brian Soper
Nevon Heisler
Brian Pederson
Cory Schall
Brent Schall
Amy & Cory Everson
Austin Dammen
Ryan Mertens
Gregory Fritz
Spc. Jade Baker
Major Miranda Iverson
SSgt. Billyjo Sandberg
1st Lt. Cassidy Wilkins
Kaitlyn Thompson
Matthew Alexander
Trentin Ystaas**

If you know of someone serving in the military, please let the church office (662-4911) know.



VBS DAY CAMP AT RUGER PARK

July 10-14
9am-3pm

St. Olaf &
Our Savior's
Lutheran
Churches

CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Please visit with
Kelly before
registering.
He has some
registration codes
and instructions
that you will
need.

Visit
www.redwillowministries.com
to register today!



Youth News Nexus

The Scoop on Events and Happenings at St. Olaf for Children, Youth, Parents, and the Youth Ministry Minded

JUST NEEDED to breathe,

June is here with nicer weather and summer changes to the schedule at St. Olaf. This includes our summer worship schedule, summer camps for all ages, and VBS.

Our summer worship schedule begins on Sunday, June 4th, with an 8:30am service at the Retreat Center and an 11am service at St. Olaf. Each service still includes things for the kids to do such as the children's message and noisy offering. I hope to see kids and youth still present at our services.

Summer camp registration is open at all of our ELCA outdoor camps, Red Willow, Park River, and Metigoshe. As a church, we support these camps in different ways, because as a church in the Easter North Dakota Synod of the ELCA they are ours. We are a part of these camps as they are a part of us. I have all kinds of information and helpful items if you and your youths or kids are interested in going this summer. I know summers are busy, but hopefully time can be made for having fun at camp. For me, I will be helping out at Red Willow for a week in June and a week in July as their chaplain of the week. I have sent emails out in regards to these two camps in specific. My hope is that we can get a bunch of our youth and kids to camp this summer.

Summer also brings us our time at Vacation Bible School (VBS). This is going to be held in July from Monday the 10th to Thursday the 13th, from 9am-3pm. VBS is for all entering 1st through 6th grade students. The registration form is only online this year and a link can be found in our Facebook Group. Please let me know if you have any questions or are interested in sending your kids.

We read in Ephesians 4:11-12 that "Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors, and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." We are all the body of Christ and we can all be a part of it in some way. I hope that those that are continue to be and help bring more people in. I hope that those that are considering where to be can find a good spot within the ministry of the church. I hope for those that have thought it wasn't for them that they prayerfully consider what God has laid on their heart. I hope to see you all throughout the summer and God's blessings on your time.

JLY (Jesus Loves You),

Kelly Longden

St. Olaf Youth Ministry Coordinator
701-662-4911
stolafymc@gmail.com



May Church Council Meeting Minutes

The St. Olaf Lutheran Church council met on May 9, 2023.

Present: Michael Kitsch, Colette Boehmer, Mike Boehmer, Daria Miller, Louise Oleson, Jeri Steffan, Pastor Lori Pankratz, Kelly Longden, Darci Gilbertson.

Absent: Kristi Trottier, Evonne Geigle, Crystal Eversvik. Guests:

Glenn Crowe, Riley Laber

President Michael Kitsch called the meeting to order at 7 pm. Pastor Lori opened with a thought provoking exercise based on Luke 4:21. We were asked to wonder about and notice the words in this verse. Pastor Lori also led us in prayer.

The minutes of the April church council meeting were reviewed. Mike moved to accept the minutes. Daria seconded. The minutes were approved.

Mike presented the Treasurer's report. Balances as of April 30, 2023: Designated Funds: \$107,381.42; Building Fund: 23,550.94; General Fund: \$1,250.16. Mike reported that the Audio/Visual project has been paid in full.

Monthly reports from Pastor Lori and Kelly were reviewed. The council was excited to hear about the increased number of baptisms happening at St. Olaf in 2023.

Church Properties: Michael reported that Karin Blanchfield has inquired about a date for outdoor cleaning at the Retreat Center. Follow up will be with Evonne Geigle and Allan Mosbaek.

Life in Ministry & Mission: Louise reported that following the special congregational vote the boards of Congregational Life, Lay Ministry, and Outreach & Evangelism will be combined to become the Board of Life in Ministry & Mission (LMM).

Worship & Music: Daria reported that this board met and has made some changes to their list of duties. Action was tabled until the next council meeting. They are preparing with Pastor Lori on music for summer services at the Retreat Center.

No reports from Christian Education, Stewardship, Youth & Family Ministry.

Unfinished Business: Michael reported on a bid from Associated Crafts & Willet Hauser Architectural Glass to repair the stained glass windows. As he indicated at the special congregational meeting the project cost is estimated at \$128,000, with 25% down to lock in this price and to guarantee a spot in line. Michael has been speaking with a representative from the Otis Elevator company to update and repair the elevator. The estimated cost to update the elevator would be \$78,000, with a 50% down payment. Mike made a motion to create an elevator fund to raise money to complete the necessary safety upgrades and repairs. Jeri seconded. Following discussion, the council approved the motion. Michael will include a report in the Spire about the elevator fund as approved by the council. Pastor Lori, Louise, and Colette will review the changes made to the St. Olaf constitution as voted on by the congregation. Following review the information will be given to Darci to make the changes to the constitution. Discussion on the St. Olaf website update will be tabled until the next council meeting.

New Business: Starting Sunday June 4 the services will be as follows:
Retreat Center 8:30 and St. Olaf 11:00. Please sign up for the new church directory pictures - May 23,24,25.

The meeting was adjourned. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Colette Boehmer

Faith & Care Group #6—June 2023

Heath & Annie Alexander, Brandon, Rachel
Gary & Cynthia Axtman, Danica
Duainne & Paula Bourcy
Janice Carlson
Ben & Erin Erickstad, Payton
Kenneth & Sandy Forsberg, Lisa & Lucas
Michael & Lisa Grafsgaard, Jaydon,
Nathaniel, Jennica
Rhonda Greicar
Jeff & Diane Halverson
Jason & Monica Halverson, Collyns
Armen & Connie Hanson
Deloise Haugen
Al Herda
Francis & Delores Johanson
Jeff & Shelley Kenner
Jessica & Mike Kraft
David & Angie Larson, Paige & Benjamin
Jeri Larson
LeRoy Lunde
Danae & Catlan Lysne, Landan
Evan & Joy Markestad Jace, Evelyne
Brian & Natalie Miller, Anthony

Jerry & Daria Miller
Betty Ness
Betty Petska
Brian & Rachel Quam, Grace, Grant, Grady
Rory & Charlotte Riggan
Michael & Lisa Rodriguez, Caleb, Mya,
Aunica
Mike & Laurie Rodriguez, Sr.
Jon Saastad, Colton, Nathan
Dustin & Ashley Samuelson, Gregor, Raya
Erik & Kayla Samuelson
Brent & Natasha Schall, Evan, Natalie, Bella,
Mercadeez, Sandra
Ilene Schemioneck
Reuben & Marilyn Schnaidt
Deanne Sogge, Michael
Tanner & Alexis Sotvik, Benson, Hattie
Cheryl Stack, Shawn
Jeri Steffan
Richard & Jan Thompson
Diane Togstad
Lynn & Deb Toso, Kaylee
Jane Vang

Faith & Care Group #7—July 2023

Duane A. & Pam Armstrong
Adam & Sara Bachmeier, Lane, Brooke, Britany
Pam Bartlett
Sarah Bergeron
Karin & Kyle Blanchfield, Warren, Landen
Rudi & Dianne Bloomquist
Michael & Sherry Boehmer
Paul & Karen Clementich, Sean, Blair, Erin
Bill & Angie DeWall, Jacquelyn, Janessa & Jady
Frans & Brittany Du Plessis, Ian, Jenner
Aaron & Bethany Elshaug, Sophie
Norris & Renae Elshaug, Marti & Hannah
Idelle Foss
Richard & Rita Foss
Roger & Michelle Fritz, Gregory, Rachel
Perry & Denise Garske
Scott Gerrells, Kody, Robyn, Stevie
Monice Goodman
Bryan & Janet Hannesson, Benjamin,
Logan

Gary Johnson
Connie Jorgenson
Steven & Becky Juntunen, Tenneil
Karen Krueger
Kristy Laber, Mason, Reiley, Tyler
Amy Lee, Austin & Brady
Brady & Jeani Legacie, Finleigh
Dustin & Ashley Legacie, Braxton, Declan
Joanne Legacie
Newton & Karen Lindseth
Heather MacDonald, Aubrey, Burkley
Judy MacDonald
Karen Meier
Keith & Cynthia Myhre
Cathy Odendaal
Mark & Eva Olson
Sharon Peterson
Angie Ralston, Lexi
Florene Rogne
Harris & Dianne Saele
Marlys Sollin
Allen & Peggy Tabor

June 2023

June 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Communion Sundays: June 11 & 18 Worship at 8:30am at Retreat Center Coffee Fellowship at 9:30am at Retreat Center Coffee Fellowship at 10:00am at St. Olaf Worship at 11:00am at St. Olaf 				Jun 1 1:00pm Brain Injury Support Group 1:30pm WELCA Mtg.	2	3 Synod Assembly (Fargo)
4 Synod Assembly 8:30am Worship @RC 9:30am Coffee @RC 10:00am Coffee 11:00am Worship	5	6 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Text Study	7 10:30am Staff meeting	8	9 5:30pm Wedding Rehearsal	10 4:00pm Heisler/Flaagen Wedding
11 8:30am Worship @RC 9:30am Coffee @RC 10:00am Coffee @SO 11:00am Worship @SO	12 2:00pm Pictures	13 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Text Study 7:00pm Council Mtg.	14 10:30am Staff meeting	15	16	17
18 8:30am Worship @RC 9:30am Coffee @RC 10:00am Coffee @SO 11:00am Worship @SO	19	20 9:00am Quilting	21 10:30am Staff meeting	22	23 4:00pm Spire Deadline	24
25 8:30am Worship @RC 9:30am Coffee @RC 10:00am Coffee & FC7 Mtg. 11:00am Worship @SO	26	27 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Text Study	28 10:30am Staff meeting	29	30	