



SPIRE

APRIL 2020

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Olaf Lutheran Church

601 6th Street NE
Devils Lake, ND 58301-2525

Phone: 701-662-4911
FAX: 701-662-4820
Email: stolaf@gondtc.com

www.stolfchurchdevilslake.com

Pastor Jim Paulson
Email: stolafprjim@gondtc.com

Darci Gilbertson
Office & Financial Secretary

Kirk Sweeney, Custodian

Dan Nybo, Organist

Marisa Smith
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Dear friends in Christ,

I think you would all agree that to say we live in unusual times is a great understatement. Unless we were around in 1918, this experience of a pandemic is totally new to us. I am writing to you because we are a couple weeks away from celebrating a holy day, Easter Sunday. Our celebration of Easter in the Church year is a constant reminder of the victory of Jesus over death. It is a big deal to think of Mary reaching the empty tomb and the miracle of Christ rising above human sinfulness. In the midst of the craziness and sadness of the coronavirus pandemic, we grieve our losses and the fears that have diminished our happiness. It is in such times that we as a congregation can consider how the celebration of Holy Communion be relied upon as an important part of our faith practices, especially when we are not able to assemble in person for worship on Easter Sunday.

As your spiritual leader we have taken a bold step to find a way for our members to celebrate Holy Communion in our homes. Our denomination has given congregations the freedom to explore different



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

Continued on page 3

April Mission of the Month:

ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving



- 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
- 2d Lt. Cassidy Pearson
- Lt. Col. John Boynton
- Kaitlyn Thompson
- Matthew Alexander
- Trentin Ystaas

Each month we will highlight the mission of the month. With closing for the time being, we will send the donations collected in April to the ELCA World Hunger—40 Days of Giving, along with February and March.

Lent is a time of reflection and repentance, of sacrifice and self-examination. But Lent is also a season of hope — hope in the work God is doing in the world, even in the most challenging times.

*Safety and stability for refugees and migrants. The renewal of the earth. Sufficient livelihood for all. These are just a few of the things of which we dream, fueled by the Holy Spirit. This Lent, you're invited to join together with fellow supporters to study, pray and give during ELCA World Hunger's **40 Days of Giving**. Accompany us as we journey with our neighbors in hope for a just world where all are fed.*

February General Fund Expenses

Auto Exp (Mileage)	140.80	Pension/Ins Exp	1,655.36
BCBS Exp	848.50	Postage Exp	128.69
Church Supplies	105.86	Retreat Ctr. Exp. (Guide One Ins)	150.00
Confirmation Exp	34.29	City of Devils Lake	174.00
Custodian HIR Exp.....	280.00	Special Assessments	384.85:
Otter Tail Power Co.....	826.00	Retreat Ctr.—5.33	St. Olaf—379.52
Envelope Giving Exp (EFT)	36.72	Special Gifts—Out (Gideons)	197.00
Gas (MDU) Exp	522.00	NDTC (tele./internet/security) ...	372.33
Insurance Exp.....	533.58	Wedding Exp. (Darling/Hall)	300.00
Maintenance Exp	397.49	Wages	9,825.33
Dakota Wash Master—392.50 (snow)			
Other—4.99			
Missions:		Total Expenses	\$21,255.23
EaND Synod (2% Jan.)	\$310.00	Total Income:	17,520.70
Office Equip. (Lease)	665.42	Retreat Center Fund	
Office Supplies	394.13	Expenses	
Miscellaneous Exp	63.58	Guide One In. (Jan. & Feb.)	\$300.00
Pastor Housing Allowance.....	2,000.00	Nodak	54.00
Pastor Soc. Sec. Allowance	385.76		
Payroll Exp	523.54		

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



Weekly Attendance & Envelope Giving

Date	Attendance		General Fund
	Wednesdays	Sundays	
February 26	83		\$621.00
March 1		123	\$3,860.00
March 5	48		\$315.00
March 8		104	\$2,260.00
March 11	57		\$320.00
March 15		82	\$1,540.00
Mail & Drop Off—March 31			\$6,290.00

Electronic Giving for FEBRUARY (28 Households):

\$3,645.00

From the Pastor Continued from page 1

approaches to celebrating Holy Communion in this stressful time. I take full responsibility for the approach I am outlining. We have ordered from a church supply company a large quantity of

safely sealed communion cups that contain a wafer and some juice. The communion cups will be consecrated in the church during the Live Stream service on Palm Sunday. The consecrat-

ed cups will be placed in one or more baskets just inside the south entrance of the church. YOU are INVITED to stop by the church after Palm Sunday to take one of these for yourself and one for each family member. We will provide a gluten free wafer in a separate sealed bag for those who need them. There will be some instructions given in a video beforehand and printed for you also. **We will use these communion cups to partake of the Holy Meal during the Live Stream service on Sunday, April 12th.**

March Council Meeting Minutes

St Olaf Council Meeting, Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Present: Pastor Jim, Darci Gilbertson, Dan Ness, Jim Wang, Cindy Brown, Mike Boehmer, Sherry Boehmer, Dale Giedd, Marisa Smith, Evan Markestad, and Dona Kraehler.

Absent: Crystal Eversvik, Daria Miller and Jeri Steffan.

Pastor Jim opened the meeting with a prayer.

A motion was made by Sherry to approve last month's meeting minutes and 2nd by Dale. Motion carried.

Mike Boehmer presented the Treasurer's Report. We have \$57,665.65 in the Designated Fund, \$20,545.00 in the Building Fund and a balance in the General Fund of \$18,116.41 as of February 28, 2020.

Reports were reviewed from Pastor Jim and the various committees.

Pastor Jim: Planned worship, pastoral visits, weekly staff meetings, coordination, rehearsal & wedding for Darling/Hall. Held Ash Wednesday service, final confirmation sessions, new member orientations, participated in the Royal Breakfast as well as attended other staff meetings and local events.

Youth Ministry: Marisa Smith hosted the Royal Breakfast on February 29th. Attended various church meetings. Is planning vacation bible school & met with Megan from Our Saviors. Is actively working with the Sunday School program. Conducted Sunday School singing in service on March 8th. Marisa also announced Bingo at the Good Samaritan.

Christian Ed: Cindy presented the report. The last meeting was held on March 5th. Dan Ness was a special guest. The committee is looking at having Sunday students sing at services once a month. Vacation Bible School will be held July 13-17th.

Church Properties: Dale presented the property report. The group is actively maintaining the building properties. Projects include finding someone to touch up the mural in the sanctuary,

painting in the basement, replacing the cement in the NW parking lot entrance, SW front door lock has been replaced, insulation under front steps, repair to SW section of roof. At the Retreat Center the committee is looking at selling the lawn tractor, installing a light pole, repairing the front steps, rock recovery, spring yard clean up, etc. Committee is looking at holding a picnic at the Retreat Center.

Congregational Life: Sherry was present. No report. Looking at planning the next orientation of new members.

Youth and Family: Lenten suppers had been planned. The Royal Breakfast was a success. Marisa is setting up an informational meeting to see the interest in the Youth Gathering. Marisa will be working on replenishing the busy bags for children during services.

Worship and Music: No report. The committee is looking at having a meeting to focus on lent & Easter.

Stewardship: No report. The offering is stable. The box for charitable contributions for 2 months are going to the ELCA World Hunger.

WELCA: Will no longer submit a report to council. They will submit a report directly to the Spire.

Lay Ministry: No report.

Unfinished Business: Evan is still looking into the alert system. The coronavirus pandemic is an example of how a system would be important to our church members. Council had more questions on how it would work. Evan will get answers to those questions.

New Business: Marlys Johnson has made a generous donation of \$10,000 in memory of Marlene Tollefson. Marlys is trying to decide what project she would like to specify that donation for. Thank you, Marlys!!!

The stained-glass windows need to be addressed as they have needed maintenance for a few years. Darci will contact the contractor to reassess.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Dona Kraehler

I appeal to you to consider this innovative approach and accept it if you can. Martin Luther believed that there were certain aspects of our beliefs, he called it adiaphora which are neither right nor wrong. So, I believe that since we are not sure how long our social distancing will continue, you may want to receive the bread and the wine of Holy Communion in this way. It will be different to celebrate Holy Communion with a sealed wafer and juice, but I am hopeful it can help unite us spiritually as a community. I pray that you'll agree it is more important to nourish our faith through this Holy Communion than to fret over how we do it, which can be seen as adiaphora. May our members join me in receiving the blessing of our Lord Jesus through the Sacrament on Easter Sunday!

Serving Together in Christ,
Pastor Jim

SOIL
(St. Olaf Is Legit)

"Lord let my heart be good soil."
Matthew 13:23

Sr. High Youth Ministry

April:

- **1st:** Bible Syudy
- **3rd:** Bible Study
- **6th:** Bible Study
- **8th:** Bible Study
- **10th:** Bible Study
- **13th:** Bible Study
- **15th:** Bible Study
- **17th:** Bible Study
- **20th:** Bible Study
- **22nd:** Bible Study
- **24th:** Bible Study
- **27th:** Bible Study
- **29th:** Bible Study
- **30th:** Last day to sign up for 2021 Youth Gathering

Growing Together

St. Olaf's Youth & Family Ministry



Family Bible Study

What: A Bible Study to engage youth and their families while we are unable to meet in person

When: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10 am

Where: St. Olaf Lutheran Church Facebook page

Take Home Church Bags are Available for Pickup!

Some of the materials that are included in this bag are.....

- A Flat Jesus
- Meal and bedtime prayers
- Candy
- And so much more!!



These bags are available for pickup from 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The only thing we ask for you to do is to call before you pick them up!

Are You Interested in Attending the 2021 Youth Gathering?

STUDENTS WHO ARE ENTERING 9TH GRADE THROUGH STUDENTS WHO HAVE JUST GRADUATED AS OF JUNE 2021 ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING PLEASE CONTACT MARISA SMITH BY PHONE OR EMAIL: MSMITH17@OLEAUGIE.EDU.

THE YOUTH GATHERING IS HOSTED IN MINNEAPOLIS, MN IN JUNE 29- JULY 3, 2021. SIGN UP WILL BE OPEN UNTIL APRIL 30 AND THEN WE WILL START FUNDRAISING!

Faith & Care Group #3—April 2020

Duaine & Barb Ash
 Lisa Bachmeier
 Robert Banet, Bailee, Caleb
 Roxanne & Mike Barendt, Morgan, Hannah
 Orlanda Bendickson
 Rodney Bennes
 Terry & Beth Black, Molly, Elle, Charly
 Janice Breakey
 Jared & Deann Brown, Ellen
 Jon & Cindy Brown, Drew, Casey, Reagan, Bailey
 Gene & Melissa Burkhard, Brady, Toby
 Dennis & Paulette Clemenson
 Kermit & Glenna Garske
 Judy Hager
 Helen Hanson
 Norman Janzen
 Leonard Jemtrud
 Dona Krahler, Jady & Zachary
 Amber Lara, Clint, Kasyn, Esperanza
 Richard Mahoney
 Brandon & Kelsey Mertens, Holden, Leightyn, Gannon
 Don Mertens, Ryan
 Duane Moen
 Kent & Hayley Ness, Ty

Chuck & Barb Olson, Alex, Kelley, Mallo-
 ry
 Linda Olson
 Derrick & Holly Owens, Alexander
 Stella Papachek
 Jacqueline Peterson, Jesse
 Myrna Peterson
 Harry & Darlene Pflaum
 Mabel Rabadeaux
 Bonnie Rader, James
 Sharon Rance
 Anne Rasmusson, David, Blake
 Arvin & Jeanette Rohrer
 Marlene & Dana Salisbury
 Cory & Tobey Schall, Austin, Alyssa
 Shannon & Don Senger, Preston
 Valerie Sensiba
 Valerie Skadsem
 Gaylene & Lawrence Tollefson
 Kristie Tollefson
 Kristi Trottier & Travis Pflaum
 Nicole Tollefson, Austin
 Orville & Audrey Wang, Autumn, George
 Nancy Watt, Brandon
 Kristi Ystaas



**Carol Hoiberg
 Livonia Crane**

Memorials

General Fund

In MEMORY of
Artha Travers from Duainne & Paula Bourcy

In HONOR of
Harper Grace Larson from Carol & Rich Lybeck

College Fund

In MEMORY of
Carol Hoiberg from Dale Hoiberg & David Foster

Contingency Fund

In MEMORY of
Marlene Tollefson from Marlys Johnson

Radio Fund

In MEMORY of
LaRissa Unger from Myrna Unger, Betty Kalhagen, Sandie Nystrom
Carol Hoiberg from Robert & Caryll Ruten

Sunday School Fund

In MEMORY of
Terry Thomson from Basil & Lois Legacie

St. Olaf Foundation

In MEMORY of
Carol Hoiberg from Janice Thompson

Faith & Care Group #4—May 2020

Beth Berg
 Carly Braathen, Riley
 Wade & Rebecca Christianson, Cayden, Ethan
 Lisa Craddock, Charles
 Robert Dahl
 John & Kim Dahlen, Cassandra & Christopher
 Yvonne Erickstad
 Eric & Crystal Eversvik, Gannon, Bryer, Delainey, Amelia
 Tammy Fischer
 Steven & Evonne Geigle, Kade, Micah
 Dale Giedd & Loretta Bloomquist
 Lance & Becky Hawkins, Maria, Isabelle
 Jim & Candy Helgeson
 Rob Hendrickson
 Ken Hunt
 Jason & Amber Hunter, Gabriella, Ryder, Hudson
 Gerald, Jr. & Kristen Johnson, Chase
 Jan Johnson, Brittany & Kayla
 Jerry & Kara Johnson, Jeremiah

Josh & Nicole Kuntz, Hayden, Halle
 Mike & Kristina Kuntz, Jack & Mallory
 Kathy Lovseth
 Richard Lybeck
 Doris Michaels
 Vernon Moen
 Charles & Helen Nelson
 Louise Oleson
 Judy Ovre
 Mark & Kristel Peterson, Craig, Kelsey
 Betty Jane Rushfeldt
 Tyler & Emily Schiele, Kynlee, Tucker, Bo
 Sheldon Severtson
 Wayne & Helen Simon
 Kyle Sletteland
 Don & Barb Sowatzki
 Ray & Judy Strong
 Janel Taylor
 Janice Thompson
 Steve & Jan Visby, Adam & Alyssa
 Shirley Webster

APRIL 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>NO ACTIVITIES DUE TO THE NATION-WIDE VIRUS RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE UNTIL APRIL 30TH.</p>			<p>1</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p> <p>-10:30 Staff Meeting</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p>	<p>4</p>
			<p>5 9:30 Worship Service Livestreamed on Facebook and available on KDLR 1240 AM/ 99.7 FM Radio -Noon—Spirit Lake Conference Mtg.—Zoom</p>	<p>6</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p> <p>-1:00 Christian Ed Mtg—Zoom</p> <p>-5:30 Youth & Family Board Mtg. — Zoom</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p> <p>-10:30 Staff Meeting</p>
<p>12 EASTER</p> <p>9:30 Worship Service with communion Livestreamed on Facebook and available on KDLR 1240 AM/ 99.7 FM Radio</p>	<p>13</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p>	<p>14</p> <p>-Noon—Council Meeting—Zoom</p>	<p>15</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p> <p>-10:30 Staff Meeting</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p> <p>-4:00 Spire Deadline</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:30 Worship Service Livestreamed on Facebook and available on KDLR 1240 AM/ 99.7 FM Radio</p>	<p>20</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p> <p>-10:30 Staff Meeting</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:30 Worship Service Livestreamed on Facebook and available on KDLR 1240 AM/ 99.7 FM Radio</p>	<p>27</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>-10:00 Family Bible Study—Facebook live</p> <p>-10:30 Staff Meeting</p>	<p>30</p>		