



The

# Parish Visitor

A Publication of Bethlehem Lutheran Church • Askov, Minnesota

March 2020						
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## This month we take time to appreciate...



These three very active BLC members give so much of their time and talents that we wanted to thank them in this column this month and let them know how much they are appreciated.

**Tracy and John Zinter:** They participated in the first free Christmas Dinner as a family project and now it has become a yearly event thanks to the help of their family and other BLC members. Tracy has been an active member of Circle of Faith and currently serves as president, serves on our call committee and has served on church council. They both help to usher on Sundays and whenever they are needed or called upon. John and Tracy actively help with meal prep, shopping and delivery for our monthly community meals. Tracy has been instrumental in taking much of her time to contact area businesses, and securing numerous donations for our Labor Day fund raiser. They also make visits to the nursing home residents. Many thanks for all you do.

**Elaine Smith:** Elaine has served on many committees, i.e. church council, Circle of Faith and currently is a member of our call committee. She, for many years, has helped with preparation of dinners held at BLC and assists with taking tickets and handling money exchange at our Labor Day event and Christmas Craft Fair. Her many years as a resident of Askov and member of BLC makes her a great go-to person for history. She is a wonderful resource for recipes and has always been a willing personality whenever something is needed to get done, now and in the past.  
Elaine, never forget that you are a blessing!



Our March 2020 Noisy Offering will be going to the Family Pathways Food Shelf

The deadline for all bulletin announcements is Wednesday at Noon  
The newsletter deadline is the third Wednesday of the month



WORSHIP SCHEDULE for LENT

### Sunday Morning Worship

9:00 AM Faith Alive! (not on March 22<sup>nd</sup>)

10:00 AM Worship Service

11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship

### Wednesday Evenings

6:00 PM Soup Supper (5 pm March 25<sup>th</sup>)

7:00 PM Worship

Holy Communion March 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>



The April Action Group is Group 2



Led by Ginger Leach

Please help her fill in Sunday worship assistants and coffee servers when she calls!

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

The following people will be included in the

Prayers of the Church each week:

Millie Sorensen, Jan Ecklund, Lois Sahlen, Dorla Clark, Donna Norgaard, Ann Olson, Ardis Jensen, Jo Jessen, Tony Ecklund, Shirley Lund, Joyce Schaumburg, and their families.

**2020 Church Council Members**



Bill Jansen



Marilyn Krogh



Cheryl Kohner



Chuck Moon



JoEllyn Foss



Andy May



Heidi Moon



**COUNCIL MEETING**

**February 12, 2020  
Unapproved Minutes**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bill Jansen, Cheryl Kohner, Andy May, Marilyn Krogh, Chuck Moon, and Heidi Moon. Jo Foss was not present.

Bill called the meeting to order. Members checked in with each other. Bill offered prayer.

**APPROVE JANUARY MINUTES:**

Minutes were reviewed. Motion was made by Heidi, second by Andy to amend the January minutes to take Cheryl off as a check signer and keep Marilyn on. Motion by Heidi, second by Andy to accept the minutes with changes made. Motion carried.

**JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report was reviewed.

**MINISTRY REPORTS:**

- Property—Chuck reported there is nothing new at this time.
- Family Ministry—Bill reported the movie, "Sweetland" will be played on Thursday night, February 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Music and Worship—Bill reported that Linda Jensen is working on pulpit supply for April and Arla will be working on pulpit supply for May.

- Circle of Faith—Marilyn reported that soup supper is planned for the community dinner in February. They also talked about food safety.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Church Security—Chuck stated the security cameras are up and running.
- Call Process/Site profile/Call committee/Synod—Bill reported he was in touch with Deacon Brenda Tibbetts and Pastor Amy Odgren from NEMN Synod.
- Shut in visitation/communion distribution—Motion made by Chuck to table discussion, second by Marilyn, motion carried.
- Lenten worship and soup suppers—This is getting organized. A sign-up sheet for soup suppers is on the kiosk.
- Model constitution—Motion by Cheryl to table until next month, second by Heidi, motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 2020 Goal Setting—Bill suggested each council member come up with a goal to present at our next council meeting.
- Basement chair replacement—It was suggested that we check with Circle of Faith to see if they would be willing to be in charge of a chair drive to replace the chairs in the basement.
- Church usage request—Wedding request for use of the church on October 3, 2020 at 3:00 pm. Rehearsal October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Chuck made a motion to

approve the event, second by Marilyn, motion carried.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Bill will set up a meeting with the call committee members in the next 2 weeks.
- Each council member will come up with a goal to present at our next meeting.

A motion was made by Heidi, second by Andy to adjourn the meeting, meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 5:00 pm (note earlier time due to lent).

*Respectfully submitted,  
-Cheryl Kohner  
Council secretary*

**Soup Suppers begin Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Please see the sign-up sheet on the kiosk to bring soup, crackers, milk, or desserts.**  
**Volunteers are also needed to help setup and clean after each meal**

**NOTE:**  
 The BLC Church Council meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:00 PM (The March meeting will be at 5:00 pm)

**Unapproved Minutes from the BLC Annual Meeting February 9, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Bill Jansen with a quorum of 37 voting members present. Prayer was said by Bill.

The Agenda was approved with a motion by Bill S. and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul M.

Denny B. made a motion to move the slide show to #12 and bring the parsonage up to #11 on the agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck M., motion carried.

A motion was made by Bill J., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul M. to approve the minutes of the 2019 annual and quarterly meetings, motion carried.

The 2019 Treasurer's report was reviewed. The proposed 2020 Budget was approved with a motion by Marilyn K., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tracy Z., motion carried.

Ministry Reports were approved with a motion by Heidi M., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill J., motion carried.

Denny B. reported that a tree hanging over the church and parsonage needs attention. The cost to remove it is \$1000 not including the stump. Cost to trim branches would be \$500.

Denny gave a report about flooring for the church basement. He had Cloquet Interiors give a quote for 3 different options. Handouts were available with the quotes. The congregation decided to go with option #2, 2 x 2 carpet squares at

a cost of \$8,980. It was suggested we take \$1,000 from each of the following Dedicated Accounts to help cover the cost of the flooring project: Property, Non-designated memorials, Youth, Community Outreach, and Kitchen funds. Also included would be the funds from the current basement floor fund. Gerry and Mona K. offered to donate \$1,000 to cover the remaining cost for the floor. A motion for the above was made by Chuck M., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carolyn S., motion carried. It was also decided by consensus that Circle of Faith would determine the color of the carpet to be installed. No timeline was set. However, the property committee will see if the basement stays dry after the spring thaw before proceeding.

A suggestion was brought up to replace the chairs in the basement. Denny B. said the chairs he checked on were between \$30 and \$50 each, and we need about 100. A suggestion was made by Cookie N. to do a chair fundraiser and members could purchase chairs. No motions were made.

Cemetery Board presentation by Scott Peterson stating they have 4 bylaw changes:

1. Define the board, going from 5 members to 6 to separate the sexton from the president. Motion by Ovid J., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill J., motion carried.
2. Sexton presents quarterly report for the president. Motion by Scott

P., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill J., motion carried.

3. Effective January 2020 site cost is \$500 with 2<sup>nd</sup> internment at 50% of that. Every 5 years site cost will increase by \$100. Motion by Chuck M., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill J., motion carried.
4. All caskets must have a vault. Motion by Chuck M., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill J., motion carried.

Bill J. made a motion to send Mark and Yvette M. as delegates to the Synod Assembly on May 1-3, 2020, in Duluth, MN, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary J., motion carried.

Motion made by Bill J., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cookie N. to appoint Denny Birkholm, Arla Budd, Elaine Smith, Ron Foss, Mary Johnson and Tracy Zinter to the call committee, motion carried. Bill J. made a motion to appoint Emma Jansen to the call committee, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shawn J., motion carried.

Discussion held on the Food Safety class, as Marilyn K. is not renewing her certificate expiring in May 2020. The classes are offered monthly statewide. The first class is 8 hours, renewal is 4 hours. The cost of the class is \$165, which church will pay for. A book to keep is offered with the class. The certificate is good for 5 years. Shawn J. volunteered to take the class. The Council has already approved sending 2 people to the class.

*Minutes continued on page 4*



- Mona Pemberton—3<sup>rd</sup>
- Diane Peterson—3<sup>rd</sup>
- Gerry Vathne—3<sup>rd</sup>
- Tony Ecklund—4<sup>th</sup>
- Ginger Leach—6<sup>th</sup>
- Jenny Forsman 7<sup>th</sup>
- Dan Mortensen—7<sup>th</sup>
- Carolyn Steele—11<sup>th</sup>
- Tom Baker—12<sup>th</sup>
- Bob Johnson—13<sup>th</sup>
- Chase Moon—16<sup>th</sup>
- Randy Mortensen—18<sup>th</sup>
- Ann Olson—18<sup>th</sup>
- Matt Pemberton—19<sup>th</sup>
- Cheryl Kohner—19<sup>th</sup>
- Gene Krogh—27<sup>th</sup>



- Denny & Carol Birkholm—10<sup>th</sup>
- Tom & Lori Willie—27<sup>th</sup>

**Food Shelf**



The Family Ministry Team is providing cans to households for the purpose of collecting change for the food shelf throughout Lent. Bring in your cans by Easter, and thank you for your gifts.

Also, supplies will be available throughout the month during coffee and prior to worship services for anyone who wishes to help make Easter cards for those receiving Easter food bags in the community. Dozens of bags are donated, so any help is appreciated.

**Annual Meeting  
Unapproved Minutes  
continued**

Chris's Food Stand was discussed. It was suggested that a notice be placed in the church bulletin asking for someone to take charge of it this year. A suggestion was made by Cheryl K. to ask Jamie F. if she would be willing to do it this summer.

Church parsonage—Denny said he would get a packet together for the council to give out to members of the congregation. The Church Council can then call a special congregational meeting to present different options. Some of the options would be to sell; cost to keep with a pastor; cost to keep without a pastor; cost to maintain with a pastor;

cost to maintain without a pastor, and a financial allowance needed if no parsonage is available for a pastor. Denny B. had United Country Realty give a quote on what the parsonage could sell for. The list price would be \$157,000. Any decision to sell the parsonage will require a full congregational vote.

A slide show was shown with pictures from our 2019 Vacation Bible School and Labor Day Dinner.

Bill J. closed the meeting with The Lord's Prayer. Motion to adjourn meeting by Chuck M., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill J., motion carried.

*Respectfully submitted,  
-Cheryl Kohner,  
Council Secretary*



Circle of Faith met February 8, 2020 at 10:00 am with 6 members in attendance. Jo, VP called the meeting to order. Jo's devotional was thinking about how we sense the presence of Christians by their actions and use that observation

on thinking about how we can be more aware of our actions towards others. Secretary minutes from the January meeting were read by Mary. Motions by Carolyn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shawn approved. Treasure's report read by Mary, \$58.25 in checking and \$740.53 in savings. Old business: reviewed carpet samples from Cloquet Flooring. Preference was sample #2211 Renewal. Motion was made by Marilyn, Carolyn 2<sup>nd</sup> that when the Circle makes donations to some-

one that the name not be mentioned in the secretary notes, but will show in the treasurer's account, approved. Shawn is the point person for planning for the WELCA, tentative date is April 4, 2020. Jo Ellen volunteered to be the point person for the Community Meals, Ash Wednesday soup supper, February 26, 2020. A motion was made by Carolyn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shawn naming Jo as Vice President, approved. Bible study at Circle was tabled, Shawn mentioned that a Bible Study on Sunday

mornings before church could work out. New business: Community Meals, Ash Wednesday meal would be soup. Shawn and Cookie will make soups to be served along with crackers, rolls, ice cream and cookies. Motion to adjourn was made by Marilyn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cookie, meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting is March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.

*Respectfully submitted,  
-Mary Johnson, secretary*

# Lilies for Decorating our Church on Easter Sunday!

**Use this form for ordering your lilies**

*Please include your payment with your order—thank you!*



Donated By: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory or Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please specify so we know whether this is **or** isn't a memorial—unspecified orders will be "In Honor of"

*Make check payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church for \$10.00*

*Please return to the church no later than Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>*