

# THE GOOD NEWS

## THE NORTHWOOD-WASHINGTON LUTHERAN PARISH April 2024

**Washington Church Worship Ministers:**  
Ushers: Tom & Pam Mikelson

**Confirmation** classes start again on  
Wednesday April 10 at 4 pm.

**NELC Worship Ministers:**  
Ushers: Richard Ostlie, Jason Gader,  
Steve Broeren

Mark your calendars: Northwood  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church** will be  
celebrating our **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** this  
summer the weekend of June 22 & 23. If  
anyone is interested in sharing their musical  
talents on Saturday of the celebration,  
please call Deb at the church office at  
701-587-5381.

**Washington WELCA Business Meeting and  
Quilting**, 9 am, Thursday, April 4.

**NELC WELCA** will be asking  
for monetary donations to  
purchase items for Lutheran  
World Relief Personal Care  
Kits and School Kits. A post  
card will be sent out to remind  
everyone.



**NELC Council Meeting**, 12:30 pm, Sunday  
April 14.

**Joint Council Meeting** 1:30 pm Sunday,  
April 14.

We (both Washington & NELC) will be starting  
**noisy offering** on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each  
month. The children will collect change from  
all the members of the congregation. We will  
designate a cause each month. April's noisy  
offering will go to "Feed My Starving  
Children". Remember to bring your spare  
change to church next Sunday (April 7) for the  
noisy offering.

Our parish is participating in the "**Feed My  
Starving Children**" packaging of food from  
2:30 to 4:30 pm on Friday, April 26 in Grand  
Forks. If you would like to participate in this  
activity or would like more information, please  
call the church office at 701-587-5381.

**Bell Choir practice**  
Bell Choir I practices at 4 pm and  
Bell Choir II practices at 5 pm on  
Wednesday, April 3. Watch the  
Sunday bulletins for times of the  
Bell Choir I & II practices after April 3.



If you have an address change, please let  
the church office know. It costs \$.80 each  
time we get an address change. Thank you.



## From Intern Steve

### **Genesis 1: 29-31**

God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

### **Deuteronomy 11: 13-15**

"If you will only heed his every commandment<sup>[b]</sup> that I am commanding you today—loving the LORD your God and serving him with all your heart and with all your soul then he will give the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the later rain, and you will gather in your grain, your wine, and your oil, and he will give grass in your field for your livestock, and you will eat your fill.

### **Exodus 23: 10-11**

"Six years you shall sow your land and gather in its yield, but the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow so that the poor of your people may eat, and what they leave the wild animals may eat. You shall do the same with your vineyard and with your olive orchard.

The Bible is full of language about farming and caring for our land and animals, I've picked 3 of the many different examples of this. In the Gospels Jesus uses parables and teachings using farming and caring for crops quite often as well. It is very clear that God holds farmers in high regard, and with good reason. As we come out of winter and head into the spring planting season, we are reminded that the hard working and dedicated farm families in our church congregations will sacrifice time with their loved ones, social engagements, and even attendance at our churches so that all God's people can eat. This is a sacred and necessary calling that allows us to enjoy the lifestyles we've become so accustomed to. I often hear excuses about why people can't come to church, I never judge, and I know even I can't be here every single Sunday. I've heard it from farmers as well, and to them I would say that when they are in the field, tilling the earth, caring for God's creation, and making things grow, that they are performing a holy service to their creator. The work they are doing is a form of worship to God in itself. God revels in the love our farmers have for the land and living things. I have said before that church can be whatever you make it, because I believe that God is always with us no matter where we are. Church can just as easily be in the cab of a tractor or in a barn with the animals. Martin Luther once said that "God milks the cows through those whose vocation it is." We pray this spring season for our farmers, their families, and their loved ones. We pray for a successful season of planting and growing, and that God blesses your crops, your animals, and your farms. Amen

Vicar Steve



# NELC Church Council

## NELC Council Minutes

March 10, 2024

(unapproved)

Council Members Present: President Mark Engen, Dan Turner, Pete Antonson, Nancy Hall, Vicar Steve DeKrey, council members-elect Angela Lyste

The council discussed starting the meeting even though there weren't enough for quorum. The team decided to proceed to discuss items, but would be unable to vote or make any motions.

President Mark Engen called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Steve led the council in prayer.

**Secretary's report:** The minutes from the February 11, 2024 meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's report:** Nikki had left executive summary as of February 29, 2024. One of the CDs was deposited. Another will be deposited this month. Drew Suby will be getting back to Mark regarding snow removal.

Mark received a quote from Meland Lumber regarding the garage windows at the parsonage. They would charge \$150 for both pieces and the replacement window and they would come put them in. Mark will send out a text to council members to see if there are any concerns or any opposing moving ahead with this.

Mark shared that he had received an email from Deacon Laura about a grant through the Synod to cover internship costs. So far the church has paid \$1,500 so far. Steve thought the application would have a place where you state the amount requested. This would be a way to reimburse what we have already paid and help cover any costs that may arise.

Mark also received an invoice from David Sebekow for all the painting at the parsonage. The total cost was \$1,400. This payment was authorized and Nikki will send out the payment.

Jeff Meland has been working on updating the Church's website. The domain name costs \$45/year and hosting the website costs \$290/year. He waived the Website Development Fee.

Dan brought up having formal pictures taken to update the Directory. We may also want to hire someone to take pictures throughout the 150th

celebration this summer. Nikki Thorsgard, Debbie Korsmo, and Katie Armstrong were all mentioned. Dan will reach out to Katie and Pete will reach out to Debbie and Nikki to see if they would be interested and get an estimate of cost. Pete will also reach out to Robin Lloyd at Ebenezer to see who they used as a photographer for their Directory photos as these were done within the last 5 years.

Bob Bilden joined the meeting. With enough members, Dan motioned approval of February's Council Minutes. Nancy seconded the motion. Approved

Pete motioned for approval of the Treasury report. Nancy seconded the motion. Mark opened up for concerns. Dan questioned the church utilities. The parsonage continues to have a credit on the account. Even Monthly Payments will begin in May for the utility bill. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

### Pastor's Report

Lenten services have been well attended at both churches. There have also been a lot of kids showing up and helping out with the meal and bell choir. There have been lots of those coming together and helping out with these services. Last week WELCA served a large funeral and then the supper after. This was a lot of work and was much appreciated! Steve also attended the Rural Ministry Conference. Maundy Thursday service will be March 28 and will include First Communion for our 5th graders. Steve also shared that there will be an event, Feed My Starving Children, on April 25-27. He should be receiving more information soon, but would love to possibly take the youth to participate and possibly some church members.

Dan motioned to vote Angela Lyste as a council member (1-year term) as well as for the Secretary position. Second by Pete. Motion approved.

Next Joint Council Meeting April 14, 12:30 p.m.

Moved the next NELC Council meeting from May 12 (Mother's Day) to May 5th at 1:00 p.m.

President Mark declared the meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Angela Lyste, Secretary

## Washington Memorials

Gifts and Memorials given at Washington for the month of March:

### **Bev Suby**

To the Cemetery Fund: Tom & Pam Mikelson, Rodney & Gail Rham, Kathryn Offerdahl, Joel & Carolyn Tangen, Dave & Deb Aaland, Delvin & Doris Gylten, Craig & Shari Hanson, Ila Dahlen, Tom & Kathy Grefshiem, Karl & Mary Broeren, Dale & Jackie Hanson, Wanda Tufte, Jack & Pam Davidson, Marilyn Roch, Faye Swenson, Les & Judy Wheeler, Meridith Schulz

To the Washington Church: Micheal Loewen

### **Lola Mootz**

To the Cemetery Fund: Audrey Pederson, Richard & Yvonne Mandt

### **Andrea Jenson**

To the Cemetery Fund: Kathy Sleeper, Deb Aaland, Marilyn Roch, Gail Ducioame, Jodi Fugleberg, Toby & Tracy Handly, Brenda Hanson, June & Dean Kassa, Gary Carroll, Chad & Lori Verke, Kay Sundquist, Donald & Ericka Anderson, Delvin & Doris Gylten, Craig & Shari Hanson, Ila Dahlen, Tom & Pam Mikelson, Virgil & Marcia Sheggerud, Barbara Snyder, Kevin & Carol Grove, Audrey Pederson, Gary & Joyce Ketchumtrust

To the Washington Church: Michael Loewen, Rod & Sandy Gabrielson

### **Brian Wall**

To the Washington Church: Micheal Loewen

## NELC Memorials

Gifts and memorials given at Northwood for the month of March:

### **Jim Novotney**

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson

### **Jamie Everett**

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson

### **Aldene Meland**

To the General Fund: Willard Pedersen, Bill & Myrna Johnson

### **Matt Nesheim**

To the General Fund: Jim & Char Voigt

### **Bev Suby**

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson, John & Lonny Hutchison, Blanche Thingelstad, Scott & LuAnn Pedersen, Bill & Myrna Johnson, Robert & Stephanie Vaagene, James & Karen Tangen, Tom & Jane Engen, Jim & Char Voigt

To the Elevator Fund: Marie Christen

To the Organ Fund: Dennis & Barb Maristuen

### **Joe Evenstad**

To the Elevator Fund: Marie Christen

### **Andrea Jenson**

To the General Fund: Bill & Myran Johnson

## Pastoral Acts

### **N-Baptism**

Adley Morgan Bjerke  
3-17-2024

### **W-Funeral**

Beverly Suby  
3-6-2024

### **Transfer to NELC**

Aaron and Britny Bjerke & Ainsley

Northwood-Washington Lutheran Parish  
P.O. Box 394  
Northwood, ND 58267

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Permit No. 3

Address Service Requested



**STAFF OF NORTHWOOD-WASHINGTON LUTHERAN PARISH**

Intern Minister	Steve DeKrey	Custodians	Les & Judy Wheeler- Washington
	Office number 701-587-5300		
Parish Assistant	Deb Aaland		Deb Aaland-NELC
	Office number 701-587-5381		
Organists	Joan Huso-NELC	Church E-mail	nelc@polarcomm.com
	Diane Nelson-Washington		

Pastor's office hours: 8 am -2:30 pm, Monday & Tuesday; 8 am—5 pm Wednesday;  
8 am—3 pm Thursday

Parish Assistant's office hours: 8:30 am to 3 pm Monday thru Friday

Sunday Worship services at Washington Church start at 9 am

Sunday Worship services at Northwood Evangelical Lutheran Church start at 11 am

The worship service is livestreamed on our website: [www.northwoodwashingtonparish.org](http://www.northwoodwashingtonparish.org)

NELC Council Members: Pete Antonson, Bob Bilden, Wade Bilden, Ed Bina, Mark Engen, Nancy Hall, Nate Korsmo, Nicole Korsmo, Angela Lyste, Dan Turner

Washington Council Members: Mary Gravdahl, Craig Hanson, Michael Loewen, Chris Moore, David Mullet, Cecil Tinderholt