

THE GOOD NEWS

THE NORTHWOOD-WASHINGTON LUTHERAN PARISH November 2024

Washington WELCA Quilting, Business Meeting and Thankoffering followed by a potluck dinner, 9 am Monday, November 4.



NELC WELCA will be having their **Cookie Walk**, 4-6 pm, Friday, November 15. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Bethany Room.

Thank you to everyone who donated to **CVIC** in August and September. The items were delivered the first week of October. They were very grateful. Thank you for your donations.

NELC/Washington sent 40 school kits and 32 personal kits to **Lutheran World Relief** in October. Thank you everyone for your generosity.

Noisy offering for November will go to ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response for Hurricane's Helen and Milton. If you would like to give more, either indicate on your offering envelope or label an envelope and put in the offering plate on Sunday, November 3.



A BIG THANK YOU to those who helped with the fall clean-up and trimming of bushes around the church and parsonage. There are still some dead trees that need to come down behind the parsonage, and a couple of large bushes that need trimming. Helpers this year included Nancy Hall, Chris Hallanger, Gladys Peterson, Wade Bilden and Tom Engen. Many thanks go to Jimmy Mutchler for the use of his trailer for hauling branches, Mark Engen for dumping the loads of branches each day, and the group of 7th -12th grade school students who came on Wednesday morning to pick branches for 2 hours as part of a community service project. It certainly takes a team to get all of this done. Thanks again, Jane Engen

Joint Worship at Washington Church
Sunday, November 17 at 9 am.

The Youth will be serving a **pancake breakfast** that Sunday at 10 am following worship.

NO Sunday School at NELC on November 17.

Northwood is collecting items for the **Northwood Food Pantry** in November. Items needed: toilet paper, laundry detergent, dish soap, shampoo, body wash, pasta sauce, chili, bush beans, hamburger helper, Rice A Roni, juices, soap, cookies, peanut butter, spam, canned chicken, cold cereal, any and all canned goods(multiples of each is appreciated), (no pasta noodles or Ramen needed at this time). Keep in mind most of the clients need only small, single serving cans, not large family size.



The church offices will be closed on Thursday, November 28 for Thanksgiving. Deb will be in the office Friday, November 29.

No Confirmation or Youth Wednesday,
November 27

NELC Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 24
in NELC dining hall
12-2 pm
\$10 per meal

Meal includes: turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, corn, bun, and dessert.
To-go meal orders will be taken from November 1-22 by calling Ashley Engen at 763-244-7499 or Ginny Sebekow at 612-618-0824. Home delivery available upon request.



From Vicar Steve

Seeing as this is the newsletter for November, you are either reading this right before, during or after the election. No matter where you stand on politics in the United States these last few years, I would venture to guess that you are as tired of them as everyone else is. You may have noticed a weariness in the country in the last 10 or so years. I think coming out of the pandemic of 2020 it became so noticeable that we saw fundamental changes in life and the way organizations operate. We can't find volunteers as easily as we used to for anything. Businesses can't find people to fill jobs, and when they do, the people they hire aren't motivated. The stories are all out there and it seems to be a growing trend. Older generations attribute it to young people being "lazy," but I would push back on that a bit.

As a person in his early forties who works in ministry with people younger than I am quite often, I can tell you that the Millennials and Gen Alpha, as they are called, are not lazy. They are tired. They are tired of a world of constant noise. They are tired of people much older than them deciding things for them about the way the world should work. They are very tired of those people in older generations arguing and fighting about every issue instead of trying to find real solutions.

This is all tied into the political climate of the country and even the world. Imagine being put in a room and isolated and then having the same song played loudly on repeat for days on end. Eventually you learn to tune it out, and eventually you just disengage from reality to get away from it all. Talking heads on 24/7 news stations are sort of like this, and people have learned to just tune it all out and find things that bring them comfort. They retreat into these spaces, so they don't have to face a world that isn't listening to them and doesn't particularly care what they think outside of being a potential voter or a consumer of a product.

This is a cycle of sin that is sapping the very strength from people. Now I understand how strongly people can feel about a given issue, but have you let your strong feelings get in the way of relationships? Are there people you don't talk to anymore because you can't spend five minutes with them before an argument breaks out? Do you find yourself consumed by a constant stream of political or social discourse on your television? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then you might consider unplugging for a while. You also might consider that you are helping contribute to this cycle of sin that has caused people, especially our young people, to decide they don't want to be a part of anything anymore. If they can't find safe and affirming spaces outside their bubble, they will just retreat further inward.

As people of God, we believe that we were given life by one who delights in us. We are to use our gifts to enrich the world and bring the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone through our words and actions. Right now, I think that is one of the most solemn missions we have as the Christian church. I believe that the Gospel has the power to cut through all the noise and anger and division. I believe that we exist to bring hope and healing to the world and to people who feel like they don't have a place anymore.

Psalm 46 reminds us to "Be still and know that I am God". It may be time to lay down our arms against each other, accept the fact that everyone holds different beliefs, values and positions on issues, and remember that we are all children of God no matter who we are. We cannot let the forces of this world turn us against each other because God loves each and every one of us and the good news is for all God's people. I pray that the God of hope and healing can instill us with the energy of the holy spirit to shake off our tiredness and motivate us to serve and love our neighbors no matter who they are. Amen.

NELC CHUCH COUNCIL

NELC Council Minutes October 13, 2024 (unapproved)

Council Members Present: President Mark Engen, Dan Turner, Ed Bina, Angela Lyste, Nancy Hall, Pete Antonson, Wade Bilden, Nikki Korsmo, Nate Korsmo, and Vicar Steve DeKrey

President Mark Engen called the meeting to order at 12:21 p.m.

Secretary's report: Minutes from the September 8, 2024 meeting reviewed. Pete made a motion to approve the minutes. Wade second; minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was shared for both August and September. The operating balance went down \$4,500 from propane prepay. Pete made a motion to approve both reports as-is; Nancy second; These were approved.

Pastor's Report:

Vicar Steve shared that confirmation is off to a good start. Parents/adults from the congregations have been helping out. Church School is also going well. Deb had volunteered to take the younger group. The outdoor worship in September went really well. Church attendance has been steady. Steve attended his Internship Retreat and will be working on his classwork all of this week. He has his first call meeting in November and his approval meeting in December. Steve wanted everyone to just keep in mind that there are several things/programs/activities that are going on in within the churches that may need to be handed off to church members in January if he does leave. He would hate for some of these programs to end just because he leaves.

Committee Reports:

Property & Management:

Mark shared that they no longer make the paper towel rolls needed for our paper towel dispensers. We did receive all new paper towel dispensers for throughout the church, but they will need to be put up. Tree and bush trimming will be taking place this week. Jimmy is bringing a trailer and a high school group is coming on Wednesday. Deb ordered blackout curtains for the youth room upstairs and Steve's office. Mark and Jimmy will also be putting up heat tape on the roof.

Music & Worship: No report

Education: We will have Confirmation for the 9th grade group on October 27th.

Finance: No report

Old Business: Souvenirs are not up on the website yet but are still available.

Call committee will need to be formed. Deb will advertise this in the bulletin for next week as well November's newsletter. Washington has their 3 members chosen already. Pete checked and according to the by-laws and NELC will need 6 members. We will also bring this up in the Joint Council meeting later today. There should be a larger attendance for confirmation on Oct. 27, so keep in the bulletin for the next couple weeks. The committee should also have members of all ages. They just need to be confirmed, but could still be in high school. It would be valuable to have input and ideas for our members of all ages.

New Business:

Mark, Nate, and Dan's council terms will be up this year. This could also be put in the November newsletter. We have until January to decide. The budget will need to be reviewed at the November meeting.

Drew will not be doing snow removal this year so we will be going back to S & D Snow Removal. It was recommended that we get a written contract of expectations of clearing to be sure it gets done as it has been an issue in the past. Mark will contact Scott or Derek about the snow removal.

For the Good of the Parish:

There is a chili feed at NELC coming up on October 23rd. The Youth group will be helping with this. Confirmation/Youth Group will also be having a Halloween Party on October 30th during their class/youth group time.

Next NELC Council Meeting will be November 10, following church.

Next Joint Council Meeting will be November 10 following separate council meetings to go over budget.

President Mark declared the meeting adjourned at 1:04 p.m. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Angela Lyste, Secretary

JOINT CHUCH COUNCIL

Northwood-Washington Lutheran Parish Joint Council Meeting Minutes October 13, 2024 (unapproved)

Members Present: Mark Engen, Pete Antonson, Mike Loewen, Craig Hanson, David Mullet, Nancy Hall, Cecil Tinderholt, Mary Gravdahl, Ed Bina, Wade Bilden, Nate Korsmo, Nikki Korsmo, Dan Turner, Angela Lyste, and Vicar Steve DeKrey

NELC President Mark Engen called the meeting to order at 1:09 pm.

Steve opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approved the minutes from the last Joint Council Meeting from July 7, 2024; Pete motioned; Mike second; motion carried.

Treasurer's report was reviewed; NELC will be looking at their budget in November and finalized with the Budget Committee in November/December. Vicar Steve shared that Deb is in need of a new computer and this should be kept in mind when working on the budget. Several members recommended going through Raptor PCS. Mike Loewen is willing to help Deb clean up her current computer. He can also work with Deb to figure out what she would need in new computer.

Mark asked who Washington uses for snow removal as NELC was looking for options. Chris Moore's son did snow removal last year, but wouldn't have the equipment to do NELC. Wade will look into who they use for snow removal at the townhomes.

Call Committee- Washington has elected their 3 members. Cecil shared that the Synod would come out and meet with the committee twice before making the call. NELC will be putting it in the announcements and the newsletter. They hope to have members by the first week in November. Washington will have 3 members and NELC will have 6 members. There are no scheduled meetings yet, but as soon as we have a committee, the Synod will come down to meet with them.

Steve thanked the council for allowing him to take the week to work on his needed assignments. He reminded the council that his internship ends in January. He shared that he would like members to step up and take over the things that both churches have in place. He doesn't want to lose all the things that we have started and have them stop just because his internship is up.

Mark shared that he has had no contact with the Consensus Council, but will contact them to give them an update.

Steve has been using the grant money that was received to make care packages for our local farmers and they have been well received and very much appreciated. There was some money left over from the grant and Thrivent to use to cover the costs for the chili feed on the 23rd.

Parents of the NELC confirmation students have volunteered to do a potluck following the confirmation service on October 27th. The church will provide the cake. Washington is welcome to come and join NELC for the service and potluck to follow.

Steve will meet with Deb to discuss Advent during the week of October 21st. November 17th will be the pancake breakfast at Washington. There will only be one service at 9 am that week at Washington and the pancake breakfast will follow. November 24th is the plan to do the Thanksgiving Meal.

For the Good of the Parish

Annual meetings will be held: Washington- January 19th & NELC- January 26th. Pete shared an update from the NELC By-laws Committee. The NELC Committee consists of Pete, Beth Johnson, and John Hutchinson. They cleaned up some of the language and took out portions about tracking communion. They hope to be done in time to present at the Annual Meeting. Cecil reminded everyone that it is a 2-year process.

NELC Council will meet November 10 following church.

Washington Council will meet November 10 at 12:00.

The next joint council meeting will be held on November 10 following the regular council meetings to go over the budget.

NELC President Mark adjourned the meeting at 1:44 pm.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Angela Lyste, Secretary

Washington Church Council

Washington Church Council Meeting October 13, 2024 (unapproved)

The council meeting was called to order by President Cecil Tinderholt. Also present were Michael Loewen, Mary Gravdahl, Craig Hanson, church treasurer David Mullet.

Secretary's Report:

Craig handed out the previous meeting minutes and read. The motion to accept the minutes was made by Michael, 2nd by Mary. Motion passed.

Craig handed out the Congregational meeting minutes and read. The motion to accept the minutes was made by Michael, 2nd by Mary. Motion passed.

Treasure's Report:

David handed out and read the report. The motion to accept the report made by Michael, 2nd by Mary. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Michael reported that he had contacted Polar Communications and verified that we wanted them to install the cable phone hookup. Polar Communications will decide on the time it will be installed. A discussion was held to where the cable should be installed. It was suggested that we have it come into the church on the north side by the furnace room. We have power there for the interface box and Craig said he would get the cable run to that room that would make a connection to the other phones.

The music system was discussed, and Cecil said that the music box will be brought to Washington church and will be left there. He also mentioned that the system would be updated every 3 months with song choices. Craig has volunteered to be one of the congregation members to control the system on Sundays. It was suggested that we have at least 4 people to have the knowledge to run it.

Cecil mentioned that Melands gave us the name of two different contractors to contact to remodel the stairs in the back of the basement. They were both contracted and said that their schedules were filled up. Still checking on other sources to do the job.

New Business:

The question was asked when the new budget was to be done. Cecil mentioned that we should find out at the Joint Council meeting following our meeting would give us a time that we would need to have our budget set up by.

Meeting adjourned.

Craig Hanson, Secretary

Council Meetings

Joint Council Meeting, Sunday, November 10 following each church's council meeting.

NELC Council Meeting, 12 noon, Sunday, November 10.

Washington Council Meeting, 12 noon, Sunday, November 10.

Worship and Music Committee Meeting, 5 pm, Tuesday, November 19.



NELC needs 6 members for a call committee. If you are interested in being on this committee, please call Mark Engen at 701-330-3871.

Northwood needs 3 members to serve 3 yr terms on the church council, if you are in serving on the council, call Mark Engen at 701-330-3871.

Washington Memorials

Greg Johnson

To the Cemetery Fund: Nicole Blair, Ila Dahlen

Linda Tinderholt

To the Cemetery Fund: Delvin & Doris Gylten

Judy Wheeler

To the Cemetery Fund: Joyce Ketchum, Carol Grove, Virgil & Marcia Sheggerud, June Kassa, Ron & Marilyn Roch

NELC Memorials

Britney Hughes

To the General Fund: Dennis & Gloria Overby

Linda Tinderholt

To the General Fund: Carol Morrison, Dennis & Barb Maristuen, Blanche Thingelstad, Ronald & Ericka Anderson, Jane Tveit, Virgil & Marcai Sheggerud

Don Maristuen

To the General Fund: Dennis & Barb Maristuen, Lois Peterson

Larry Hanson

To the General: Scott & Shawnee Evanson, Rod & Sandy Gabrielson,

Thomas Swett

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson

Larry Tuntland

To the General Fund: Brian & Alane Jodock

Mary Haraldson

To the General Fund: Craig Haraldson, Sandra Johnson

Pastoral Acts

Confirmed at NELC 10-27-24

*Layla Castillo
Peyton Bumgardner
Zoey Jacobson
Shelby Mutchler
Lexus Olson
Talia Sheggerud
Dorothy Turner*

*Transferred to Washington
Tiffany & Emmaire Ezeb*

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

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STAFF OF NORTHWOOD-WASHINGTON LUTHERAN PARISH			
Intern Minister	Steve DeKrey	Custodians	Les Wheeler-Washington
Parish Assistant	Deb Aaland		Deb Aaland-NELC
	Office number 701-587-5381	Church E-mail	nelc@polarcomm.com
Organists	Joan Huso-NELC	Pastor's E-mail	
	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

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