

# THE GOOD NEWS

## THE NORTHWOOD-WASHINGTON LUTHERAN PARISH March 2024

### Washington Church Worship Ministers:

Ushers: Craig & Shari Hanson

### NELC Worship Ministers:

Ushers: Tim Mutchler, Robert Vaagene,  
Cody Bratlie

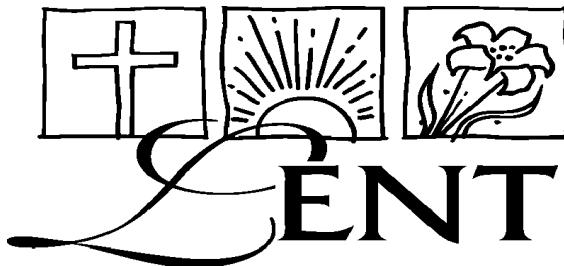
**Easter is Sunday, March 31.**  
Worship services are at the usual times: Washington at 9 am and Northwood at 11 am.



**Confirmation Students are required to attend Lent worship services.** There will be no confirmation classes during Lent. Classes will start again on Wednesday, April 3.

Let your families know that NELC will be celebrating our **150th Anniversary on** June 22 & 23, 2024.

Those students who took the **first communion** class in January will be having their first communion during worship at 7 pm on Maundy Thursday, March 28 at NELC.



The Lenten Season continues thru most of March. All Lenten services will be at 7 pm with a light lunch at the host church at 6 pm.

March 6 at Washington  
March 13 at NELC  
March 20 at Washington



**Palm Sunday** is March 24.



**Maundy Thursday** worship is at 7 pm on March 28 at NELC. The service will include first communion.

**Good Friday** worship is at 7 pm on March 29 at Washington Church.

## From Intern Steve

<sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” <sup>14</sup> I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup> For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

<sup>16</sup> They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat,

<sup>17</sup> for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Right now, I am working through the book of Revelation with a group of people from Washington and NELC (You are always welcome to join us!). It is important that before studying this often confusing and misunderstood book of the Bible, that we put it in perspective a bit. Many people have used this book throughout history to try to calculate the events and the dates of the end of the world, and as our group is discovering, this was not the purpose of this book. Revelation is a letter written by John of Patmos to 7 churches in the area of Turkey who are falling victim to Roman oppression and being tempted to adopt the ways of the world and empire that surrounds them. John is using apocalyptic language and poetry as satire and condemnation against the Romans. The language is very confusing because it's almost coded so that only he and his churches will understand what he is talking about. He is warning them of the judgements that may come against them if they stray from the Christian faith, and he is reminding them that the oppression they face is part of the struggle that Jesus alluded to when he spoke of the end times in the Gospels.

Revelation is a book of beautiful vivid imagery and poetry, and the central theme is summed up in the verses I chose to begin. The world is not perfect, living in it is not easy, and sometimes the wars and hardships we see make it seem like everything is coming to an end, but throughout all of it, God is faithful to us. We have been given the promise of salvation through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, and when we pass on from this world into the next, we will stand before the throne of God and there will be no more pain, tears, or loss. I encourage you to read Revelation through this lens of hope, and if you want to learn more, I have some great resources I can recommend that will open this scripture in new ways.

## BITS AND PIECES

### WASHINGTON WELCA

WELCA Quilting and Business Meeting,  
9 am, Thursday, March 7.

### NELC WELCA

We will be collecting items for the Northlands Rescue Mission in Grand Forks the month of March. Priority items: winter gloves, shampoo, body wash, towels, cooking utensils. Other items needed are: canned vegetables, cream of (anything) soup, spices (salt, pepper, garlic/onion power), noodles, toilet paper, tooth paste, wash cloths, shower curtains & liners, paper towels, shaving cream and razors.

There is a shopping cart in the entry at NELC for your donations. Thank you.



Mission Opportunities

### Easter Baskets

We will be collecting Easter candy (no nuts) to be put in Easter baskets for our residents at local nursing homes. Your candy can be brought to Deb's office.



**No Confirmation** until after Easter. Confirmands are required to attend Lenten Worship Services each week.

There will be **NO Sunday School** at either Washington or NELC on March 31 (Easter Sunday).

### Bell Choir

Bell Choir has started again at NELC. There are 2 groups playing. The first group, Bell Choir I is for Jr High and High school students. Their practice is on Wednesdays at 4 pm and Bell Choir II is for adults. Their practice is at 4:45 pm on Wednesdays. If you are interested in joining either of these groups, either show up at practice or call Marcia Sheggerud at 701-520-2614.

**NELC Council Meeting**, 12:30 pm, Sunday, March 10.

## Pastoral Acts

### Funerals at NELC

Aldene Meland  
1-26-24

Joe Evenstad  
2-9-24

**New Members at NELC**  
Angela Lyste, Rylee & Logan  
Kayla Evenstad  
Sherry Lyste

# Church Councils

## Washington Council Meeting Minutes February 11, 2024 (Unapproved)

The Washington council met at NELC at 12:30 before the joint parish church council meeting.

Present for the meeting was Cecil Tenderholt, Chris Moore, Mary Gravdahl, Craig Hanson, and Washington Church treasurer, David Mullet. Absent was Michael Lowen.

President Cecil Tenderholt called the meeting to order.

Secretary report was read and motion to approve by Chris and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary.

Treasure's report was read by David Mullet, motion to accept by Craig and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris.

### Old Business:

The phone system at Washington was discussed. It was suggested that a sign should be put on the elevator stating that the phone did not work in the elevator. Craig stated that Polar would install the fiber to the church, but it would be installed above ground level until the ground has thawed. The council recommended that we wait until the spring so the fiber could be installed properly. Until that time people are to depend on their cell phones to make calls.

### New Business:

Cecil handed out a report from Tom Mikelson which is the Congregational Report for the year ending December 31, 2023. The report shows statistics of the church membership, average weekly attendance, and congregation's financial stewardship, plus other information.

Chris stated that Doris Gylten has resigned as the church historian and needs to be filled. Cecil stated that 2032 is the church's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and it is important that we have photos and other records for the celebration. It was recommended that we ask during a church service that we announce that the church needs this position filled and look for volunteers. Chris stated that she will be asking a few people that she knows would be good for this position.

Motion to adjourn the meeting given by Chris and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary.

Meeting adjourned.

Craig Hanson  
Secretary

## Northwood-Washington Lutheran Parish Joint Council Meeting Minutes - February 11, 2024 (Unapproved)

Members Present: Mary Gravdahl, Chris Moore, Mark Engen, Dan Turner, Ed Bina, Pete Antonson, Nikki Korsmo, Wade Bilden, Nate Korsmo, Craig Hanson, Cecil Tinderholt, David Mullet, Beth Johnson, and Steve DeKrey

NELC President Mark Engen call the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

Approved the minutes of the November 13, 2023

Joint Council meetings; Pete moved; Chris second; motion carried.

Accepted the Treasurer's Report; Nate moved; Ed second; motion carried.

New Business: Counted the votes to approve the Interparish Budget voted on by paper ballot at Washington's and NELC's Annual Meetings; Yes-65, No-2; Interparish Budget approved.

Counted the votes to approve the Consensus Council's recommendation for Joint-Council Agreement included in the Annual Report and voted on by paper ballot at Washington's and NELC's Annual Meetings; Yes-58, No-2; Joint-Council Agreement approved.

Cecil reported that Washington revised their Constitution and Bylaws so that if Washington Church closes, all of the church assets will go to the Washington Cemetery.

Approved Jeff Meland as Northwood-Washington Lutheran Parish website manager for \$290/year; Dan moved; Chris second; motion carried. Steve will ask Deb to contact Jeff.

Mark reported that the parsonage garage has two broken windows. Aaron Johnson will get an estimate to fix and let Mark know.

For the Good of the Parish: Website will be up-to-date.

Next Joint-Council meeting is Sunday, April 14th at 1:30 p.m.

Mark declared the meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m. The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Beth Johnson, acting Secretary

# Church Councils

## NELC Council Minutes February 11, 2024 (unapproved)

Council Members Present: President Mark Engen, Beth Johnson, Nate Korsmo, Pete Antonson, Ed Bina, Treasurer Nikki Korsmo, Vicar Steve DeKrey, council members-elect Wade Bilden and Dan Turner.

President Mark Engen call the meeting to order at 12:22 p.m.

Steve led the Council in prayer.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes from the January 9, 2024 meeting were approved. Moved by Pete; second by Nate; motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Executive Summary from January 2024 was accepted. Moved by Beth; second by Pete; motion carried.

**Pastor's Report** Vicar Steve DeKrey reported that he took our high school confirmation class to Citywide Confirmation in Grand Forks and it was enjoyed by those who attended. Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday, February 14th. Our theme for Lenten services this year is "Together".

Steve's Internship Committee is Mark Engen, Ed Bina, Cecil Tinderholt and Chris Moore. He visited with the Council about the importance of Red Willow and Park River Bible Camps.

### Committee Reports:

**Property & Management** Beth reported that the main floor of the parsonage is painted and looks good. Congregational members have suggested we do some sprucing up the church before our anniversary. Ed will check with Paul Radke and Seversons about drywall fixing, and with Todd Thingelstad about what we can do to fix wrinkles in the carpet. Drew Suby showed interest in doing snow removal next season for the church, parsonage and parking lot. Mark will visit with him about specifics. Pete will check with Hunter Twete about continuing to do lawn mowing.

**Music & Worship** Vicar Steve reported that some members are trying to put a bell choir put together. Nate will check with insurance company to make sure the bells are included on our insurance policy.

**Education** Steve reported that the committee is meeting soon to plan VBS. Three confirmation students will be confirmed in May.

**Call Committee** No report.

**Finance** Nikki filed our annual report. Council approved getting an additional NELC credit card with Nikki's name on it as there are many things that she has to pay for online as church treasurer. Moved by Ed; second by Pete; motion carried. Council approved putting \$30,000 into a 5 month CD at 5.25% this month and \$30,000 next month to stagger maturity date. Moved by Pete; second by Nate; motion carried. Council approved disbursing \$4,590.34 from #521 Uglem Estate Fund (\$1,200 to fund #548 Worship/Livestream and \$3,390.34 to #513 Building/Elevator). Moved by Beth; second by Pete; motion carried.

**Interparish** There will be a Joint Council meeting after this meeting. Anyone wanting to walk through the parsonage can do so after the joint council meeting.

**New Business** Motion to accept Wade Bilden (2-year unexpired term), Dan Turner (1-year unexpired term), Bob Bilden (3-year term), and Nancy Hall (3-year term) to serve on the NELC Council. Moved by Pete; second by Ed; motion carried. 2-11-24 NELC Council minutes New Business continued There is a 3-year term still vacant. Pete nominated Mark for Council President. Mark nominated Pete for Council President Elect. Wade moved nominations cease and accept the slate presented; Dan seconded; motion carried.

### 2024 NELC Council and Committees:

**President:** Mark Engen  
**President Elect:** Pete Antonson  
**Secretary:**  
**Treasurer:** Nicole Korsmo

**Interparish:** Mark Engen, Nicole Korsmo, Ed Bina, Wade Bilden, Pete Antonson

**Finance:** Nicole Korsmo, Nate Korsmo, Pete Antonson

**Education:** Jenny Metz, Jennifer Mutchler, Heidi Gader, Vanessa Wallace

**Property & Management:** Nate Korsmo, Mark Engen, Aaron Johnson, Dan Turner

**Worship & Service:** Ginny Sebekow, Char Voigt, Deb Aaland, Nicole Korsmo, LuAnn Pedersen

**Membership:** All Council Members

**For the Good of the Parish** We are in the Lenten Season, our theme is Together, and all are encouraged to attend Wednesday supper and services at NELC and Washington.

The next meeting is Sunday, March 10 at 12:30 pm. President Mark declared the meeting adjourned at 1:29 p.m. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Beth Johnson, Secretary

# Washington Gifts and Memorials

Gift given at Washington Church in February:

## **Lola Mootz**

To the Cemetery Fund: Patty Beatty, Dale & Jackie Hanson, Delvin & Doris Gylten, Wanda Tufte, Les & Judy Wheeler

## **Matt Nesheim**

To the Cemetery Fund: Tom & Pam Mikelson, Les & Judy Wheeler, Larry & Diane Strom

# NELC Gifts and Memorials

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

## **Aldene Meland**

To the Elevator Fund: Marie Christen

## **Matt Nesheim**

To the Elevator Fund: Marie Christen

## **Shirley Berg**

To the General Fund: John & Lonny Hutchison

## **Maxine McCoy Njaas**

To the General Fund: Jane Tveit

## **Millie Landman Griffin**

To the General Fund: Jane Tveit

## **Joe Evenstad**

To the General Fund: Dave & Deb Aaland, Renee Johnson, Rod & Sandy Gabrielson, John & Lonny Hutchison, Virgil & Marcia Sheggerud, Wade & Karen Bilden, Mike & Denise Adams, Ed & Tracy Bina

To the Organ Fund: Dennis & Barb Maristuen, Kieth & Julie Schneller

## **Anne Halvorson**

To the General Fund: Mike & Denise Adams

## **Brenda Axline**

To the General Fund: Ed & Tracy Bina

## **Gary Rankin**

To the Elevator Fund: Marie Christen

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

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, Dan Turner

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