

# THE GOOD NEWS

## THE NORTHWOOD-WASHINGTON LUTHERAN PARISH July 2025

### Washington Church Worship Ministers:

July Ushers: Marilyn Roch  
Diane Strom

August Ushers: David Mullet  
Michael Loewen

### NELC Worship Ministers:

July Ushers: Brian Jodock  
Mark Engen

August Ushers: Karl Jodock  
Virgil Sheggerud



**Thank you** to everyone who helped with the Summer School meals. The children were polite and very thankful.

**Thank you** to everyone who donated to, helped set-up and pack away items for the NELC rummage sale in June.



**Thank you** to everyone who donated water to go to the Spirit Lake Reservation. Everything Helps.



**NELC WELCA Members**, if you haven't sent money to the church office for Lutheran World Relief kits it isn't too late, we are still accepting donations. Just send your donation to the church office, P.O. Box 394, Northwood. Thank you to everyone who has sent in money for the LWR Kits. The kits will be put together soon and sent out in

We will be having a joint worship service at **9 am on Sunday, July 6 at Washington Church** followed by potluck dinner (salads and desserts). Hamburgers, brats and hot dogs will be provided. Everyone is welcome to come!



**There will be NO August Newsletter.**

**Vacation Bible School** will be Monday through Thursday, July 14-17 at NELC. We are looking for adult helpers for that week. Call the church office at 701-587-5381 to volunteer. This summer we're heading deep into the wild for True North VBS, where campers will learn to **follow God's direction through every twist and turn of life. He's our True North!** For kids ages pre-k through 6th grade.

### Noisy Offering

July 6: Northwood Food Pantry  
August 3: Christus REX Lutheran Campus Center at UND.



**The Community Worship Service** on Old Fashioned Community Worship Weekend (July 27) will be at 10:30 am at the Fine Arts Auditorium Northwood School hosted by Community Bible Church.

Church office will be closed on Friday, July 4.



## From Pastor Steve

### Matthew 5:1-9

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:  
“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.  
“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.  
“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.  
“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.  
“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.  
“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

If you've listened to me for any amount of time, you know that I stand against violence of any kind. Like most of you, I've grown up with the specter of war and destruction looming over my head ever since I was a little kid. So, when people start lobbing rockets at each other and call it diplomacy, I tend to shrug my shoulders. It's just another day on earth.

We've gotten used to violence and death. That's probably not a good thing. People getting murdered and whole populations having their communities destroyed barely stays in the news for 24 hours anymore because they have to get on to the next tragedy, gotta keep those ratings up after all.

This is a sad way to live life, and it breaks my heart. I'm sure it breaks God's heart for us as well. When Jesus gave the sermon on the mount, he was offering people a new way to live in this world. He was specifically talking to people who feel like they don't have power to change things, people who are meek. He asked the people to have mercy and make peace. He said it is these things through which you will inherit the kingdom of God.

I understand that way of thinking isn't popular these days. We seem to have gotten stuck on an eye for an eye and making sure everyone knows how strong you are through your demonstrations of how boastful and violent you can be. All this does is destroy lives. Many people who say they are Christians seem to think that showing your power is what makes God favor you and will guarantee that you get a pass into heaven. I think Jesus might disagree.

I'm tired of war and I'm tired of death, and so I choose to live a different way. I choose to embody to the best of my ability the teachings of Jesus. I feed the hungry, I give to people in need, I attempt to bring calm and comfort to a world in chaos, and if that makes me seem odd or weak to some people, I would point them to our teacher Jesus who also said that if you live by the sword you will die by it. So, blessed be the peacemakers, and let us all continue to pray for an end to suffering of any kind in this world. Amen.

-Pastor Steve

# NELC Church Council

## NELC Council Minutes

Sunday, June 15, 2025

Council Members Present: President Pete Antonson, Karl Jodock, Pastor Steve DeKrey, Tim Mutchler, Ed Bina, Amy Sheggerud (via phone), Angela Lyste, Nikki Korsmo

President Pete Antonson called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Pastor Steve opened with a devotion.

**Secretary's report:** Minutes from the meeting on April 6, 2025 were reviewed. Ed made a motion to approve the minutes; Karl second; Minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's report** from April and May 2025 were reviewed. Nikki shared that the Neighbor with Neighbor account has been depleted and they are now taking out of account #335. CD will mature on the 26th. Nikki will send out rates to determine if we would like to renew it. Ed made a motion to approve the reports as is; Tim second; April and May reports approved.

### Committee Reports:

Property & Management: Sump pump at parsonage was replaced by Mark Engen.

Music & Worship: No Report

Education: VBS is coming up July 14-17 and volunteers are needed to help it run smoothly. There was a registration put out to hopefully get a rough estimate of how many kids will be attending but it is open to the community. The team did meet to talk about VBS and prepare for the session and how to make it successful.

Finance: No report.

Pastor's Report: Recently attended the Synod Assembly in Fargo. Ashley Engen reviewed in church. They discussed, when talking about the budget, making sure to talk about "Why is it important?". This will be helpful moving forward.

Splash Into Faith is coming up on June 26 from 9-4 and they are in need of volunteers.

We will also be collecting bottled water for Spirit Lake reservation who had their water supply contaminated and are in need. We will continue to collect through Friday, June 20 and Steve will find a way to get it delivered.

VBS is coming up on July 14 and we will be in need of volunteers. This year they would like to have one adult paired up with one teen to make sure that everything runs smoothly as well as having multiple volunteers available within the building. We will also be having a volunteer orientation prior to VBS to help out our volunteers.

Steve would also like to apply for the Holy Innovations Grant again. This year he would like to use it for a storytelling group to help share stories of faith within the church. This grant money would be used to purchase books for each of the members of the group as well as materials. Tim motioned to approve applying the Holy Innovations Grant for materials needed for the storytelling group. Ed seconded the motion. Motion was approved to take it to the Joint Council Meeting.

Steve also mentioned that Our Savior's Church in Larimore may need help with their confirmation/youth group this year and would like to reach out to the Bishop to see if this would be needed. The council agreed to take it to the Joint Council Meeting.

**Old Business:** Received a quote for curtains/blinds for the youth room— for around \$1,000. Tim is also going to check some options at Menards and see if it would be any cheaper and let the Council know.

**New Business:** Deb is still in need of a new computer. Nikki is going to order a new one from Amazon. This had been previously approved during a joint council meeting. If anything needs to be moved from her current computer, Nikki will be able to help her transfer it.

**For the Good of the Parish:** Next NELC Council meeting will be July 13th following Church.

Next Joint council meeting will be moved from July 6th to July 13th and will follow regular council meetings.

President Pete declared the meeting adjourned at 12:43 pm.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Angela Lyste, Secretary

## Washington Memorials

### **Joanne Barke**

To the Cemetery Fund: Richard & Yvonne Mandt

### **Marian Bjerke**

To the Cemetery Fund: Brian & Laurel Johnson

## NELC Memorials

### **Bill Johnson**

To the Elevator Fund: Marie Christen, Blanche Thingelstad

To the General Fund: Dawn Lawrence, Phil & Tina Start, Russell Anderson, Virgil & Marcia Sheggerud, Kathy Offerdahl, Phil & Tina Start, Russell Anderson, Ed & Tracy Bina, Carol Morrison, Jon & Carol Campbell, Scott & LuAnn Pedersen, Chad & Lori Verke, Rod & Sandy Gabrielson, Richard & Lynn Busia, John & Lonny Hutchison, Paul & Judy Korsmo, Dennis & Barb Maristuen, Scott & Shawnee Evanson, Dave & Deb Aaland, Craig & Shari Hanson, Dave & Jenn Ehlers, Rodney & Gladys Peterson, Jim & Karen Tangen, Steve & Noelle Broeren, Roger & Renae Gjellstad, Carol Luecke, Bill, Emily & Sarah Christianson, Brian & Alane Jodock, Richard & Janice Olson, Paul & Elaine Iverson, Willard Pedersen, Mike & Ginger Voglewede

To the Music Fund: Larry & Loretta Groth

### **Jim Doeden**

To the General Fund: John & Lonny Hutchison

### **Marvin Jemtrud**

To the Elevator Fund: Marie Christen

### **Marian Bjerke**

To the General Fund: Dennis & Barb Maristuen

### **Craig Knowles**

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson

### **Janice Grotte**

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson

### **Ellen Amb**

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson

### **Kathy Cranston**

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson

### **Judy Rusten**

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson

### **Jacquelyn Carlson-Gustafson**

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson

### **Richard Bjerke**

To the General Fund: Scott & Shawnee Evanson

### **Lewis John Thompson**

To the General Fund: Virgil & Marcia Sheggerud

Northwood-Washington Lutheran Parish  
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#### STAFF OF NORTHWOOD-WASHINGTON LUTHERAN PARISH

Minister	Steve DeKrey	Custodians	Les Wheeler & Deseree
Parish Assistant	Deb Aaland Office number 701-587-5381		McMillan-Washington Deb Aaland-NELC
Organists	Joan Huso-NELC Diane Nelson-Washington	Church 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, Nancy Hall, Karl Jodock, Nicole Korsmo, Angela Lyste, Tim Mutchler Jr, Amy Sheggerud

Washington Council Members: Annette Aird, Mary Gravdahl, Craig Hanson, Chris Moore, David Mullet, Cecil Tinderholt