



Family of God Lutheran Church
4097 Martin Road
Duluth, MN 55803

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MARCH 2024
“FAMILY NEWS”

from

Family of God Lutheran Church



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“Praising God, Strengthening Families, Serving the Community”



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Greetings and a Happy Lent to all!

Your Church Council and Call Committee have been very active in this interim period. The Council met several times with members of Kenwood Lutheran Church to discuss a possible future agreement. They also held several congregational meetings after church services to inform our members of where we are heading.

One option we have ahead of us is to meet with Kenwood Lutheran Church to discuss the possibility of entering into a two-point parish agreement with them. We have hired Pastor Mark Holman to provide pastoral leadership at Family of God. Pastor Holman will also preach several Sundays in the coming months and help to guide our teams toward a parish agreement or pastoral call.

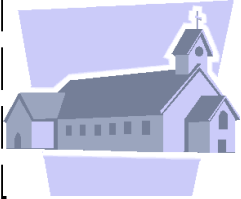
The Call Committee has met several times and elicited the help of Council to make progress on our Ministry Site Profile. (MSP). The MSP document will describe our congregation and our focus in ministry and is available to any pastors searching for new ministry call. We hope to have the MSP approved by the end of February. From there it will be sent to the Synod for approval and then published online.

We are grateful to the congregation for their continued prayers and support.

Church Council and Call Committee



"Welcome" to Family of God



WORSHIP HOUR

Posted on our Website www.fogduluth.org,
Family of God Facebook page and on YouTube
9 a.m. each Sunday

Print versions of the bulletin and sermon
are available for download on the website.

If you would like to receive a print copy in the mail, please contact the church office

Building Expense Fundraiser Update December 31, 2023

Update of monies received for this fundraiser.

March	\$1100
April	\$1870
May	\$7300.23
June	\$650
July	\$300
August	\$3080
September	\$200
October	\$7600
November	\$200
December	\$1150
Total	\$21,450.23

Woodland Gardens and Open Arms Senior Living Outreach March 2024

Our worship for residents at Woodland Gardens is planned for March 10 at 10:45 a.m. and Open Arms worship is planned for March 24 at 10:45 a.m. This will include replaying the morning church service in the community room and will include communion during the service and fellowship afterwards. We would like to continue this outreach on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. We are looking for a small crew of volunteers who are willing to be called on to help with setup and cleanup, communion and visiting with the residents. Please contact the church office or Greg Hansen for more information. Greg can be reached at (218)-349-0342 or by email ghansen5347@gmail.com).



With
Sya



March is almost here and the Minnesota March FoodShare Campaign will began February 26

It will continue until April 6. We want to thank you for your past support. Because of the efforts of groups like yours, the 2023 campaign raised \$91,630 and 69,188 pounds.

Our goal this year is to raise \$100,000 and 50,000 pounds of food to stock our shelves. We can achieve that success in this campaign with your help.

During 2023, the Food Shelf distributed 533,152 pounds of food to 15,781 people in Duluth. Our Food Shelf was a major source of each visiting families nutrition throughout the year. Together we are fulfilling our call to feed the hungry.

So what do we need? More money or more food? We need both! But the Food Shelf can do much more with money. As a member of Second Harvest Food Bank, our money goes much farther than it would shopping at Super One or Cub Foods. For every \$1 that gets donated, we can buy \$3 worth of food -- that is three times more!

CHUM often needs items like: Peanut butter (small 16 oz. jars); canned soup (non cream); canned fruit; vegetables; stew and pasta; fish; beans; pasta; rice; cereal. Specialty foods like olive oil, dressings or marinades can be helpful if they don't need to be refrigerated.

Additionally, CHUM accepts **NEW** personal care and household items since many families struggle to afford them and aren't covered by other food assistance programs.

CHUM **CANNOT** accept: items needing refrigeration; expired food; leftovers; food with packaging concerns (dented or damaged); baked goods.

A big "Thank You" to all who participated in the "Reverse Advent Calendar" to help provide support to those experiencing food insecurity. Things that we all take for granted.

The total weight for food delivered to the Food Shelf was 368 pounds and an additional 28 pounds of peanut butter.

This also included 48 pairs of socks, 27 hats, 32 mittens, four sets of pajamas and two blankets. What a blessing!

February Birthdays

- 2 Tammi Zantek
- 5 Austan Orvedahl
- 7 Leia Zehr
- 8 Quinn Hansen
- 12 Patti Alander
- 13 Michael Panual, Jr.
- 16 Sharon Mehrman
- 21 Greg Hansen
- 22 Legend Newberry
- 23 Jaydan Mueller
- 24 Diane Andrews
- 27 Claudia Bennett
Amanda Szybczynski
- 29 Kyle Renner



February Anniversaries

- 21 Panula, Jami & Michael, Sr.

March Birthdays

- 2 Jerry Alander
Mary Snedker
Stephanie Smith
- 3 Jay Ridgewell
- 9 Kathy Kilby
Alma Zimmerman
- 11 Nicole Albertson
- 15 Macy Sorby
- 17 David Anderson
Cameron Fleming
Noah Fleming
Brittany Szybczynski
- 20 Ella Arntsen
- 25 Jackie Perrault
- 29 Becky Moore
Bonita Wakefield
- 30 Mary Thomas
- 31 Randy Johnson

February Anniversaries

- 5 Mike & Geri Ann Dryke

**You Can Help Fund
our mission electronically**



Set it and Forget it

Please consider setting up an online donation. The system is simple, convenient and automatic so you never have to worry about writing (and remembering) that check again.

Set it all up on our website: fogduluth.org/give or contact the church office for an authorization form. You can choose your checking/saving account, or process your giving via credit/debit card.

Your consistent, uninterrupted support of the mission and ministry of Family of God makes a huge difference.. Thank you!

Quilters

Our quilters meet at 9 a.m. on Thursdays of each week. We need help to work on our quilts that we give away to people in need, to the hospitals and for other events. We received some quilt tops, so come help us finish them. Come join us, even if you don't sew. There are many non-sewing steps in the process. Hope to see you 9 a.m. on Thursdays!



Prayer Chain

Would you like to be part of our group of strong faithful prayers? Let Pam know and you will get on the email list.



Looking Ahead

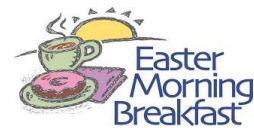
March Birthdays

Cupcakes! Let's celebrate March birthdays on Sunday March 10 with cupcakes. Please sign up to bring a dozen cupcakes of your choice. We will need at least 48 cupcakes.

Lenten Soup Supper and Worship

Wednesday, March 20. There is a sign up sheet on the kitchen window if you would like to bring soup or other items we have with our soup.

**Easter Breakfast
Sunday, March 31
7 - 8:30 a.m.
9 a.m. Worship**



Rummage and Bake Sale

Friday and Saturday
April 19 and 20
Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 12 noon
(bag sale starts at 11 a.m.)

Drop off times

Sunday April 14, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Monday - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Thursday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



**Sandwich Loaf/Salad Bar Luncheon
Silent Auction**

Saturday, May 11 at 12 noon

Cost is \$15, tickets available in April

Your help is needed on Friday, May 10 to assemble the sandwich loaves and set up tables. We also need items for the Silent Auction. Contact Maggie Alander with any questions.

**Classic Car Show
Wednesday, May 15**

Watch for more information to come



OTHER NEWS

Church Council

President: Jerry Alander
Vice-President: Ed Fuhs
Treasurer: Sandy Meints
Congregational
Secretary: Sharon LaTour



Other Members: Patti Alander, Neil Fredrickson, Becky Hansen, Krissy Stanny, and Sharon LaTour, Council Secretary.

Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month, at 6:30 p.m.

December 26, 2023. Minutes not approved.

PRESENT: Jerry Alander, Patti Alander, Neil Fredrickson, Ed Fuhs, Becky Hansen, Krissy Stanny, Sharon LaTour

ABSENT: Sandy Meints

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. opening with "A Prayer for Leaders".

REPORTS:

Secretary: Krissy made a motion to accept the minutes after a couple minor corrections. Becky seconded the motion. Carried.

The Council minutes have been included in the monthly newsletter prior to being approved. Pam needs to remove Pastor Tanner from the list and also note that these are draft minutes - not yet approved.

Treasurer: Ed. No report. Ed will contact Deb asking her to make sure she gets a financial report to the Council prior to the meeting each month.

LEADERSHIP TEAMS:

Praising God: Becky

- Last meeting was done by zoom.
- Services are covered through January.
- Do we want to do Ash Wednesday Service, Soup Supper, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday? It was decided to do Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- Caroling was well received at both Woodland Gardens and Open Arms.
- Audio Visual equipment has been tabled until a later date.
- Social Media is going well.
- Required copyright fees are due. \$338

- Squarespace web host renewal due. \$120.

Strengthening Families: No report.

Serving the Community: Patti

Cookies were delivered to 30 shut-ins plus a plate was brought to Woodland Gardens and Open Arms when we went there caroling.

Mental Health Training will be held on January 17th at 6 p.m. Joy from the Synod will be present Looking at Mental Health Through a Faith Lens. This event is open to the community and childcare will be provided.

Resource Development: Neil - Will be meeting January 6th to take the tree down.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Jerry - Deacon Williams has not been able to find a bridge pastor for us.

It was suggested to Jerry that Council members from Concordia, Kenwood and Family of God get together (without pastors) to talk. Jerry will contact them and suggest we meet at Family of God. He will give them a suggested time and a few dates to choose from and wait for them to get back to us.

If anyone is in need of pastoral care, Pam can contact Ed Fuhs and he will help them connect with someone who can help.

Krissy retyped up our property use form. It was suggested that a fee of \$50 be charged for non-church related activities plus a \$50 clean up deposit. If the building is cleaned and put back in order, the \$50 deposit will be returned. Ed made a motion seconded by Neil to adopt this new policy as discussed. Motion carried.

Prayer Requests:

Mary Snedker
Becky's friend, Cindy

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. We closed with Neil leading us in the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Sharon LaTour, Council Secretary

OTHER NEWS

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Other Members: Patti Alander, Neil Fredrickson, Becky Hansen, Krissy Stanny, and Sharon LaTour, Council Secretary.

Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month, at 6:30 p.m.

January 23, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm. Roll was taken.

Present: Jerry Alander, Patti Alander, Neil Fredrickson, Ed Fuhs, Becky Hansen, Sandy Meints, Krissy Stanny and Sharon LaTour, Council Secretary.

Guest: Pam Carroll

Neil led us in "A Prayer for Leaders."

REPORTS:

Secretary's: Neil made a motion to accept the minutes as printed. Seconded by Becky, approved.

Treasurer's: Sandy. We are doing well. We are above budget. Copies of financial reports were submitted to the Council. Motion to accept made by Becky, seconded by Krissy, approved.

LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS:

Praising God: Becky

Pulpit supply has been secured for February 4 and 11. Pulpit supply is needed for Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, Feb. 18 and 25. A Lenten soup supper will be held on March 20 at 6 p.m. Soup proved by the Council, Kathy and Maggie. Plan for service not yet decided. Easter breakfast is being planned by Geri Ann. Tal and Luke volunteered to do pancakes and French toast.

Neil made a motion seconded by Patti to approve the report. Motion carried.

Pam brought up the concern that she has received no articles for the February newsletter.

Strengthening Families: No Report.

Serving the Community: No report:

Patti: The mental health workshop went well. 10 people attended. Krissy will check on the possibility of having one more workshop that would be more in-depth. Motion to approve made by Neil, seconded by Sandy, approved.

Resource Development: Neil. Took the Christmas Tree down. Patched the boiler. No upcoming big projects in the future.

Pam reported on last year's bills compared to bills from the current year. Electricity and heat bills are down due to changes made in the heating system and unusually mild winter.

Report from Jerry

Deacon Williams has a possible bridge pastor candidate for us. We will meet with him on Wednesday, January 24 to see what dates is available for pulpit coverage and what needs he can help us with.

Jerry is still working through the synod on facilitating a meeting with other area churches.

Sandy requested a building use permit. Krissy will revise the form and get it to Sandy.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m. with Pam leading us in the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be February 27 at 6:30 p.m.

Sharon LaTour, Council Secretary



We continue to collect NEW socks to be donated to CHUM. Please drop off any socks and gloves for men, women and children. A basket will be available in the Narthex. Kindness can change a person's life.

Thank you!

Peanut Butter Church

We are still collecting peanut butter and other nut butters for CHUM. There