



# KLC NEWS

## NOVEMBER 2023



### “Before It’s Too Late”

Pastor Jeffrey Holter

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One of my favorite hymns is; “For the Beauty of the Earth.” You may want to check this hymn out to read the words or hum the tune. It is placed in the Praise and Thanksgiving section of the hymnal. Rightfully so, since this hymn always seems to transport me to a place where the beauty of God’s creation is on full display.

“For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies” As I am writing this article, I am very much aware of the changing seasons. It was 45 degrees when I woke up this morning and the forecast is for cooler weather this coming week. Thankfully, I’ve had the opportunity to check out the fall foliage the past few weeks. Still, we all know that soon the trees will be empty and the only colors we will enjoy will be white and more white, so take advantage of these few remaining weeks of fall colors.

“For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies.” It has always seemed to me that God’s love is most evident in the beauty of the earth. And yes, it is all around us. One of the reasons Joan and I have stayed here is Duluth has been natural beauty of the Northland. We drove up the North Shore a few weeks ago, just for fun. We stopped along the Scenic North Shore Drive and ate some snacks, and then as if nature were calling us to rest and relax, we put our car seats all the way back and watched the blue sky and clouds pass us by. We may have taken a cat nap, too!

Each verse of this hymn draws me closer to God. To a God that seems so elusive and yet is so visible and tangible when I just slow down and look around me. “For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night.” “For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild.” There is peace in these words and there is wonder. It’s the peace that comes when we consider God’s divine gift of love in Christ to us and for us.

Maybe it is time to take a moment and just look around to see what God is doing. Not a frightened look, but a look full of hopefulness. A look to link sense to sound and sight. A look to take stock of the day and to find the joy of ears and eyes, and the heart and mind and delight in all of it. To find the mystic harmony that links your life to the beauty of the earth. It is God’s gift to us.

I missed the Northern Lights display a few weeks ago. Sitting in my Lazy Boy chair I was exactly what it suggests, a “Lazy Boy,” and I didn’t get up to enjoy the splendor of the display. Oh well, God is always finding ways to surprise us with God’s good gifts. Anyway, keep your eyes and ears open, for we never know when earths beauty will amaze us; just try and catch it “before it’s too late.”

Blessings to Everyone!

Pastor Jeff



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the  
President's  
Message

Greetings Kenwood Sisters and Brothers!

There's lots going on at Kenwood! The spaghetti dinner was a success, the 2024 Stewardship Drive is in mid-swing as of this writing and will culminate with a potluck lunch on October 29<sup>th</sup> (which is also Reformation Sunday), an insurance adjuster will be coming to look at the water damage in the church, a structural engineer will be coming to look at the beams in Theresa's office and the center office, etc.

ICYMI (In Case You Missed It), here's a recap of the short informational meeting that was held after the service on October 15<sup>th</sup>:

- I gave a short recap of the October President's Message, for those who hadn't had a chance to read it. Please see that article for details.
- I've had several conversations with Deacon Bernu regarding the Vitality Survey and another issue. The Survey that was developed by the Churchwide ELCA has to be activated by Deacon Bernu, is online only, and we wouldn't get the results directly. Synod would get the results, interpret them, and then we would review them with Deacon Bernu. If congregants that don't have the capability to complete the survey online completed a printed version, that data would have to be entered by someone in the congregation and if the person responding to the survey skipped a question or missed one, their entire survey would have to be thrown out. I did find another Vitality Survey that was developed in a partnership between an organization called FaithX and the Episcopalian Church Foundation. After reviewing both the Synod survey and the FaithX survey, Council decided to develop our own (both surveys were 30+ questions/6 pages long), with the assistance of a member of the congregation that has experience writing surveys. This will be completed by the November council meeting, and in your hands shortly thereafter. The survey will be available in both digital and hard copy formats. The Exploration Team will be responsible for distributing it, compiling the data, and presenting the results to Council, whom will then present it to the congregation. Council hopes to have the results by the end of November.

- The other conversations I had with Deacon Bernu were regarding an apparent interest by not only Spirit of God to form some sort of agreement with Family of God, but Concordia also. Deacon Bernu was under the impression that we (Council) were aware of the Concordia interest. This subject had been broached by Pastor Jeff at council meetings in early Spring of 2022 and is in the Council minutes. At that time, Council agreed that it would be a good idea for the Executive Teams from all 3 churches to get together to see if we were all on the same page. I set up the meeting, and the day of the meeting certain events transpired that resulted in one of the Pastors forbidding their Council members to attend and I came off looking like a power-hungry not nice person. Deacon Bernu was given this history and will be working with Deacon Susan and Bishop Amy to set up a meeting with all 4 church Councils together, so that a “bidding war” doesn't ensue, there are no misunderstandings, and no hard feelings.

That's all for now, folks! As always, please feel free to contact me or any member of council with any questions you may have.

Have a Blessed month!



## Community Ministry



Cold weather clothing (new or gently used) donations can be dropped off in the box in the Messiah Room during October.

Join friends from KLC to help with set-up at Bentleyville on Wednesday evening, October 25, 5-8 pm. Volunteers must be 16 or older. Register at [BentleyvilleUSA.org](http://BentleyvilleUSA.org), or just show up that evening.

LSS Center for Changing Lives coin offering in September was \$58.67; \$594.21 so far in 2023.



Coming in late November: drop-off box for Salvation Army Toyland Express.

Subject: Lighten Our Mortgage Load – Let's Tackle That \$85,319!

Dear Kenwood Lutheran Church Family,

Guess what? We've got a little mortgage situation that needs some attention. Picture this: we're looking at an \$85,318 balance (as of 9/30) with monthly payments of \$3,759. Yep, it's like a persistent guest who doesn't want to leave!

But, no worries, we've got a plan, and we'd love your help with it:

**FINANCIAL DONATIONS:** Give us a hand by making a one-time or recurring donation to our campaign.

**PRAYER:** Keep our campaign and church in your prayers, so we can show that mortgage who's boss.

**SPREAD THE WORD:** Share our mission with friends and fellow church members. You can even tell the mortgage that its days are numbered!

Your involvement will help us take a big bite out of this mortgage monster. Join us in this exciting effort, and stay tuned for updates.

Thank you for your support, and let's show that mortgage who's boss! And a big **THANK YOU** to those of you who have already donated funds for this purpose in recent months.

Blessings and a dash of humor,  
Asset Management



If your birthday is not listed, call or email the church with your birthdate including the year!



- 1 - Doug Simensen  
    Julianna Barg
- 5 - Theresa Williams
- 7 - Kathie Severson
- 8 – Lauren Skar
- 9 - Tammy Kimball  
    Nancy Schumacher
- 10-Dawn Erickson  
    Heather Michelizzi
- 11-Barbara Teske  
    Darrell Witt
- 13-Wally Freitag  
    Jim Stein
- 15-Dolores Carlson
- 16-Daniel Klang
- 18-Savannah Reich  
    Jeffrey Blix
- 23-Ian Johnson
- 27-Liz Pearson  
    Molly Carlson
- 29-Diane Irving  
    Caden Kolari
- 30-Susan Muehlberger



## upcoming EVENTS

**Senior Luncheon**-the next Senior Luncheon will be Wednesday, November 1, 11:30 a.m. at Blackwoods on London Rd. A sign-up is posted in the Messiah Room. If you have signed up for the lunch but find you will not be able to come, please notify the church office so the reservation can be updated.

**Turkey Bingo**-Is on Thursday, November 16, from 6-9 p.m. More information will be available soon.

**Church Book Club**-will meet on Sunday, November 19 after worship. November's book is, "Where the Heart Is" by Billie Letts. Join us! Everyone is welcome.

**Silent Auction**-will be online again this year. Items will be displayed in the Messiah Room, and given a number. The auction will start the morning of Sunday, November 26 and run through 12:00 noon on Sunday, December 10. Donations will be accepted until Sunday, November 19.

**Christmas Bazaar & Gift Fair**-Our Christmas Bazaar & Gift Fair will be Saturday, December 2, 9-3. We will have the Cookie Walk, krumkake being made, handmade and homemade goods, books, quilt raffle, lunch, face painting for the kids...wow! This year, we're opening up the event to outside vendors of homemade/handmade items, so there should be quite a variety to see! We still have some vendor spots open, and will be seeking donations of books, jams, jellies, breads, and more as the time gets closer. Questions? Call the church office, 218-724-9291.

## Memorials Received

In memory of Travis Williams:  
Marcia Lunde  
Jerry & Brenda Uecker

*In  
Loving  
Memory  
of*

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

## ***Ronald McDonald House Charities***

*Community Ministry will be collecting for Ronald McDonald House Charities. We will be collecting donations through Sunday 19 November 2023. Reminder – Pop top donations to Ronald McDonald House are collected all year long.*

*Ronald McDonald House provides a warm and welcoming community of support and respite for families with seriously-ill or injured children.*

*Family-focused items they can use:*

- *Bottled Water*
- *Coffee Creamer*
- *Shelf-stable Individual Meals*
- *Individual Cereal*
- *Juice Boxes*
- *Salad Dressing*
- *Beef or Turkey Sticks/Jerky*
- *Pop Tarts*
- *Applesauce or fruit Cups*
- *Individual-sized Bags of Nuts*
- *Cake/Brownie/Cookie Mixes*
- *Chex Mix*
- *Pasta Sauces*
- *All-purpose cleaner without bleach*
- *Heavy Duty 10" Paper Plates*
- *20 oz. Paper Bowls*
- *Hot to-go Cups with Lids*
- *Napkins*
- *Disposable Forks and Spoons*
- *Ziploc Bags – all sizes*



## **Presentation of Bibles**

This Sunday, October 22, we'll once again be presenting Bibles to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. We are so appreciative to the Witt family for starting this wonderful and important ministry!

Students receiving their Bibles are:  
Julianna Barg  
Benjamin Johnson  
Brandon Reich



**COUNCIL MEETING - KENWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**September 14, 2023, via Zoom and in person**

Members Present: Lori Robison, Lynn Hegrenes, Martha Oswald, Pastor Jeff Holter, Susan Muehlberger, Barb Lucia, Scott Goutermont, and Cindy Peterson

Guest(s): Theresa Williams

1. The meeting was called to order by President Lori Robison at 7:34 p.m. with devotions and prayer led by Pastor Holter.

2. Minutes from the Council meeting held on August 10, 2023, were approved as corrected. Correction: Scott Goutermont's name was added to the 'Members Present' for the meeting. Minutes from the Special Council Meeting held on August 29, 2023, were approved as submitted.

3. Treasurer's report = \$3,143.80 balance in the checkbook at the end of August 2023. All bills are paid and current. Capital Improvement Fund = \$26,611.26; Long-Term Savings Account = \$12,339.26; Memorial Fund = \$17,978.71. The balance in the Capital Improvement Fund will be reduced as soon as the bills are paid for the purchase of the new refrigerator and new video equipment for the kitchen and basement commons area, respectively.

4. Action Items:

- **Charter development for Kenwood Exploration Team:** Discussion was held on this topic because of the church informational potluck meeting held after service on Sunday, August 27, and the Special Church Council meeting held on Tuesday, August 29. A Charter for this Team will be drafted after President Robison is in contact with Deacon Colleen Bernu from the NE MN ELCA Synod Office. Secretary Lynn Hegrenes will assist President Robison with this task.

5. Discussion Items:

- **Membership review** – Cindy Peterson reported that a few changes have been made to the membership review letter – read those changes. President Robison will review the letter before it is approved.
- **Access to Financial Giving Information** – Pastor Holter spoke via telephone to Financial Secretary Paul Glaesemann about this item. They will meet in person to discuss the current information.
- **Pew Pad use vs. Sign-in sheet** – Will continue to use the Pew Pad folders and make weekly announcements regarding completion of this form; discussed passing the offering plates among the pews again.
- **Second Service** – Need more structure in place before we begin another service, i.e., timing, music leaders, etc.
- **September Informational Potluck** – will be postponed. A congregation informational meeting will be held on Sunday, October 15, during the coffee hour after church.
- **October 1** – Paul Brown from Thrivent – will talk about Estate planning after the church service.
- **Trust Fund Committee** – Harold Nordin will be asked to serve as a replacement for Steve Greenfield.

6. Boards, Ministry Teams, Standing Committees:

a. Asset Management Board

- No report for this month.

b. Mutual Ministry Board

- Talked about results from Special Council Meeting.

- Talked about membership review letter to be sent out to a few congregation members.
  - Will require good communications about pastoral duties if we go to a parish covenant agreement.
- c. Stewardship Board
- Determined needed supplies for the upcoming breakfast event on September 24.
  - Discussed our theme – “Mission Impossible.”
  - Time & Talent Sheet - example from Gloria Dei Lutheran was distributed for members to review.
  - Time & Talent: Youth, the marginalized, neighbors – outreach, environment, and world outreach/citizenship.
- d. Personnel Support Board
- No report.
- e. Christian Education Ministry Team
- October 1 – start of Sunday School for the year.
  - Sunday School lessons - similar to last year’s curriculum.
- f. Community Ministry Team
- LSS Center for Changing Lives Coin Offering for August = \$66.36; YTD = \$535.54.
  - School Kits inventory to date – one hundred kits to date; need more notebooks; Thrivent Action Grant was gathered by Nadine Moeller.
  - CHUM – Golden Gala on October 17, at DECC, expect five hundred people to attend, tickets are \$100 each; silent auction going on at the same time; looking for eight people at a table from KLC; let Barb Lucia know if interested in attending.
  - October – cold weather clothing drive for Damiano Center – clothing to be turned in by October 26.
- g. Fellowship Ministry Team
- Stewardship Breakfast will be held on September 24; will assist in making and serving the breakfast; dining inside; light breakfast.
- h. Worship Ministry Team
- Adding items for Fall Season – ‘All Saints Sunday’ – votive candles to be set up in the church.
  - Adding coffee bar for Messiah Room. Thank you to the Harkins and Holter families for procuring these items.
  - October 29 – Reformation Sunday – Stewardship Board will take care of this Sunday’s events.
- i. Youth Ministry Team
- Working with Mary Rasch on items for this group. “Synod Journey” - five to six youth on their own journey.
  - Confirmation between the two youth groups - Family of God and Kenwood Lutheran.
  - October 4 = first meeting for new class of confirmands; will be including Family of God Church on these communications.
7. Pastor’s Report:
- CHUM Golden Gala, commemorating their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, celebration event to be held on October 17, for a fee of \$100 each. Pastor Jeff plans to attend.
  - Sunday, September 17 = CHUM Sunday – Pastor Loren Anderson-Bauer will preach the sermon.
  - Adult Bible Study – Gospel of Mark; ELCA Bible Study materials; eight-week course; dates to be determined.
  - Sunday, September 17 – leave for Fall Theological Conference through Tuesday.

- Distribute Bibles to third graders – need a date to be set for this event.

8. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m. with prayer and recitation of the Lord’s Prayer led by Pastor Holter.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn Hegrenes, Secretary



## November Worship Responsibilities at Kenwood Lutheran

	Altar Guild	Welcome Center Attendant	Communion Server	Hospitality	Acolyte	Scripture Reader	Ushers
<b>5</b>	Deb Jarvis	Barb Lucia	Barb Lucia	Quilters		Cindy Peterson	Eric & Tammy Saksa
<b>12</b>	Deb Jarvis	Deb Jarvis	Carol Kolari	Confirmation		Dennis Kolari	Tom & Susan Muehlberger
<b>19</b>	Deb Jarvis	Jo Cox	Craig Carlson	Council		Craig Carlson	Kathy Erholtz & Brad Kamphenkel
<b>26</b>	Deb Jarvis	Julianne Raymond	Need a Volunteer	Stewardship		Lori Spilde	Peggy Pruden & Sherry Goutermont



Kenwood Lutheran Church  
Thursday, November 16, 6:00 p.m.  
in the Fellowship Hall







## Silent Auction

The Silent Auction  
will run Sunday, November 26  
Through 12:00 noon,  
Sunday, December 10  
More information soon!



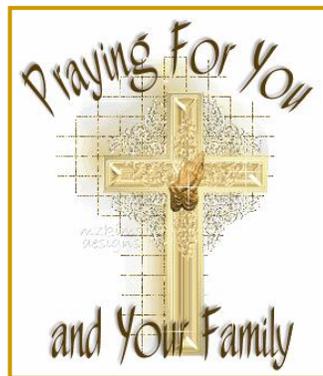


# NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 8:45am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 11:30am Senior Lunch 5:00pm Bell Choir 5:30pm A.A.	<b>2</b> 10:00am Quilters	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9:00am Sanctuary Worship 10:00am Hospitality 10:00am Sunday School 10:30am Confirmation	<b>6</b> 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>7</b> 8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 7:00pm Harbormasters	<b>8</b> 8:45am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:00pm Bell Choir 5:30pm A.A.	<b>9</b> 10:00am Quilters 6:30pm Boards and Teams 7:30pm Council Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:00am Sanctuary Worship 10:00am Hospitality 10:00am Sunday School 10:30am Confirmation	<b>13</b> 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>14</b> 8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 7:00pm Harbormasters	<b>15</b> 8:45am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:00pm Bell Choir 5:30pm A.A.	<b>16</b> 6:00 p.m. Turkey Bingo 10:00am Quilters	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Newsletter Deadline 9:00am Sanctuary Worship 10:00am Hospitality 10:00am Sunday School 10:30am Confirmation	<b>20</b> 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>21</b> 8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 7:00pm Harbormasters	<b>22</b> 8:45am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:00pm Bell Choir 5:30pm A.A.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:00am Sanctuary Worship 10:00am Hospitality Silent Auction Begins	<b>27</b> 9:00am Tai Chi 10:00am Needle Art Guild of Duluth	<b>28</b> 8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 7:00pm Harbormasters	<b>29</b> 8:45am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:00pm Bell Choir 5:30pm A.A.	<b>30</b> 9:00am Tai Chi 10:00am Quilters		

Please remember these folks in your prayers this month...

Wally & Evelyn Freitag  
Paul & Marie Glaesemann  
Scott & Sherry Goutermont  
Elsa Hagen  
Kenny & Charlene Harkins  
Judy Hay  
Jeff & Joan Holter  
Jayne Iverson  
Carol Johnson  
Brad & Lynn Kamphenkel  
Dennis & Carol Kolari  
Nancy & Clayton Koss



Bruce & Christine Gilbertson  
John Glendenning  
Steve Greenfield  
Bob & Diane Hansen  
Nancy Hassett  
Bruce & Lynn Hegrenes  
Josh & Logan Holter  
Deb, Sid & Dan Jarvis  
Ian, Christina, Benjamin & Emily Johnson  
Pat Kleimola  
Jim & Nora Korkalo