



KLC NEWS

DECEMBER 2024



Pastor Jeffrey Holter

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The Story

During Advent this year we return to the gospel of Luke, which, for me, is so refreshing. In Luke the story of Christmas takes flight with detail after detail that brings the story of Jesus' birth to life. We can't help but be taken in by stars that shine bright and shepherds that keep watch over their flocks by night. We also tune our ears to listen as Mary spills the news of her pregnancy to Elizabeth who is also expecting; and this, in her advanced years. The miracles just keep jumping off the page as the story unfolds and draws us in. What I most love is that this story has the power to transport me to a time when I was young boy, back to my childhood in Mt. Vernon South Dakota. Trinity Lutheran was where I first heard the story of Jesus. From his birth to the empty tomb this sanctuary of my youth planted the seeds that have fueled my curious heart all these many years. I wonder if this story hasn't been the story that most children and young adults turn to when they remember what sparked, too, their faith life.

So, what is it about this story that speaks so deeply to us? Maybe it is a couple of things. First of all, as children we are pretty impressionable, and this story is told from the vantage point of being a child. No matter how dysfunctional our family systems may be, the child in us longs to feel a love that ponders deeply in our parent's hearts about the blessing that we are to them. There is a sacredness to this story because it seems to reveal not only the hope of this sacred trust in the love of our parents, but it is like a testament to the love God (our creator) has for us. Bound by this love, pondering the movement of this story of the incarnation, we are led to believe that God, our heavenly parent, is even more gracious and in love with us that any earthy parent could be. Secondly, as the story unfolds it tells the truth about life. Life is hard and not everything goes according to plan. In real life and in real time we see how delicate life can be. Along come evil rulers and those who do their bidding. Children become pawns in their evil schemes and Mary and Joseph must flee to protect their family. Most people I have met can share a story of trying to find their way in an uncertain world.

What we are going to celebrate this Advent and Christmas is a story of hope. A conviction of things hoped for and a belief in things that are not easily seen. It should not surprise you that this season is a time to open your heart to faith. A faith that God cares about you, and holds you close. It will be a time to let the story speak to you and assure you that fears and doubts do not determine whether God will love you. God does, period. It is a part of the journey that out of our fears and doubts that faith is given an opportunity to grow. Grace is received by faith, so don't fear your fears, don't hide your doubts. Let it be ok to struggle and then hear how God comes to us in the flesh to embody this love of God in Jesus. Christmas is an experience, it draws us into the presence of a God who meets the challenges of life and love and gives the assurance that he is here. In the messiness and the questions and all that life throws at us, God refuses to abandon us. So...

Come Oh Come Emmanuel and Capture Captive Israel (a man seeing God)... 'Ys (Man) r'h (to see) 'el (God). This Christmas I want to see God.

Have a Blessed Christmas, Pastor Jeff



Hello my Sisters and Brothers of Kenwood Lutheran!

How's your fall going so far? Hope all is well and that it's not too eventful. There's been lots happening at Kenwood.

As I write this, Turkey Bingo is imminently looming, and will hopefully be a success. Christmas Bazaar is coming up as well.

When you come to church, you may have noticed that the sculpture on the wall in the Sanctuary has been cut and covered in plastic. This is to facilitate the beams that will be replaced in the center office and Theresa's office. A hole will be cut in that wall of the Sanctuary and the beams lifted into place through the hole. This was a much more cost-effective method than what was originally proposed. Construction is expected to take a couple weeks, and when finished the roof in those areas will be up to code with beams that have the proper span between them. That area will also have spray-foam insulation in the ceiling, which will bring the R-value up to approximately R-50!!! Toasty!! Hopefully this will help to mitigate any ice buildup, etc. Thanks to Scott Goutermont and team for being so proactive with this!!

President:

Lori Robison

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Speaking of cost-effectiveness, please come to church on November 24, as there will be a BIG announcement made regarding our financial situation. ☺

I would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to all who have served on boards, teams, committees this year. Without your invaluable efforts and dedication, Kenwood would be a sorry place. If you are interested in serving the church in some capacity, please prayerfully consider saying "YES!" when the Personnel Support Board (Martha Oswald and Deb Stokes) call regarding the Ballot for the Annual Meeting. We are still looking for someone to step up and be Congregational Council President next year.

Another note – Council would like the Food Truck Festival to be an annual event. Planning and execution of the event took about 10 hours of my time last year, including setting up the tables/chairs with Scott Goutermont's help. Will someone please come forward to chair this event, or even two people to co-chair? This is a wonderful opportunity to just get together and do something fun WITH the community, instead of focusing on fundraisers. I'll be available to be a resource to whomever decides to step up.

That's all for now, see you in church!!

Lori

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



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Shannon Borgeson
- 3 – Megan Adamek
- 4 - Marcia Lunde
Gary Niemi
- 5 - Mike Benko
- 6 - Anthony Reich
- 8 - Jim Caesar
Joy Wiecks
- 9 - Brad Butler
Carly Senich
- 10-Kris Dirksen
- 11-Emily Klang
Karen Mattson
- 13-Joy Michalicek
- 14-Paul Glaesemann
- 16-Martha Oswald
- 17-Erin Greenwalt
- 20-Craig Carlson
- 21-Samuel Michalicek
- 22-Sara Rheaume
Logan Carlson
- 26–Sandra Musil
- 29-Jennifer LaBelle
- 31-John Glendenning



UPCOMING EVENTS

Silent Auction- Our Silent Auction will run from Sunday, November 17 through 12:00 noon Sunday, December 1st. Items will be on display in the Messiah Room, and bidding will be done online. The website for bidding is myminiauction.com/kenwoodlutheranchurch.

You are invited- to a Parish Thanksgiving Service! Tuesday, Nov. 26, 6:30 p.m. at FOG. Bring a treat to share following the service. Cider, hot chocolate, and decaf coffee will be available.

Senior Luncheon-The December Senior Luncheon will be at Blackwoods on London Rd. on Wednesday, December 4, 11:30 a.m. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Messiah Room. If you sign up and then discover you are unable to attend, please get in touch with the church office.

Christmas Bazaar-will be Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9-2. Donations for the Bazaar (baked goods, canned goods, crafts, books) may be brought to the church Wed & Thurs Dec. 4 & 5 from 8-1, Fri. Dec. 6 from 3-5, or Sat. Dec. 7 from 7-8:30. **Please price your items!** We are also looking for **HELPERS** at the Bazaar. We need someone to help with the Cookie Walk, the Kenwood table of crafts, etc., help in the kitchen, and we'd LOVE to have a greeter for each door to welcome people when they come to our event. Contact Susan Muehlberger or the church office.

Calling All Cookie Bakers!-Each year, we bake some cookies at the church ahead of the Bazaar, and everyone is welcome to join in and help bake & decorate cookies. We'll be doing that this year on Sunday, December 1, following the worship service. You are still encouraged to bake cookies at home to donate. Those cookies may be brought to the church on Friday, Dec. 6th between 4-6 p.m. or Saturday Dec. 7th between 7-9 a.m.

Church Book Club-will meet on Sunday, December 15 at 9:30 a.m. The book for December is, "Hang the Moon" by Jeanette Walls. Join us!

Red Cross Blood Drive-Tuesday, December 17, 12-6 p.m. To make an appointment, go to redcrossblood.org and the Sponsor code is KLC.

Christmas Eve Worship-will be at 4:00 p.m. for Kenwood Lutheran Church. A sign-up sheet will be out soon to sign up for ushering, reading scripture, etc.

Our Annual Meeting-will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, January 26, 2025.

VLM Camps-registration is open! There are several discounts available, including one that ends on March 1. Go to vlmcamps.org for more info.

Community Ministry

Bell ringers still needed! Kenwood Lutheran will be ringing bells for Salvation Army red kettle donations on Friday, November 22nd, 3 shifts, 1-3 pm, 3-5 pm, 5-7 pm INSIDE at Kenwood Super One.

Toy donations for Salvation Army Toyland Express are now being collected. Leave unwrapped, new toys in the specially marked box in the Messiah Room. The final day to drop off toys is Sunday, December 15.

Coin offering for LSS Center for Changing Lives in October was \$74.38; \$590.97 for the year.

Thank you for generous donations of cold weather clothing for the Damiano Center in October.



STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

The Stewardship Board would like to thank everyone who participated in our annual Stewardship campaign for 2025.

The theme for the campaign is "Our Spirit Filled Journey in Stewardship" represented by a vintage bicycle (green and chrome) sitting in the church sanctuary representing the spiritual journey we are on in our daily Stewardship walk with Kenwood and in our community, as well as the two wheels representing the journey we took to become a two-point parish.

Commitment Sunday was on October 20th when we acknowledged our time and talent surveys and commitment cards with a special blessing from Pastor followed by a potluck. Thank you for those that took the time to fill out the time and talent surveys and commitment cards which allow us to budget for next year and plan for the many ways we can serve. If you haven't had a chance to fill either out yet, you still have time and if you misplaced yours just let the church office know and we would be glad to mail out another one to you. Additional copies are also available at church.

Thank you for all that you do in supporting Kenwood Lutheran ministries and we look forward to working together as we move forward on our Spirit Filled Journey in Christ.



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

Milton Cox
Crystal Dangers and Celeste, Savannah, Anthony & Brandon Reich
Alan & Kris Dirksen
Kathy Erholtz
Terry & Dawn Erickson
Betty Eskola
Perry & Linda Fellman
June Fiege
Sue Fleming
Wally & Evelyn Freitag
Bruce & Christine Gilbertson
Paul & Marie Glaesemann
John Glendenning
Scott & Sherril Goutermont

Steve Greenfield
Elsa Hagen
Bob & Diane Hansen
Wendy Hansen
Kenny & Charlene Harkins
Nancy Hassett
Judy Hay
Bruce & Lynn Hegrenes
Jeff & Joan Holter
Josh & Logan Holter
Jayne Iverson

COUNCIL MEETING - KENWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH
October 10, 2024, via Zoom and in person

Members Present: Lori Robison, Pastor Jeff Holter, Susan Muehlberger, Barb Lucia, Scott Goutermont, Cindy Peterson, and Joy Wiecks

Guest(s): Theresa Williams

1. The meeting was called to order by President Lori Robison at 7:35 p.m. with devotions and prayer led by Pastor Holter.

2. Minutes from the Council meeting held on September 12, 2024, were approved as submitted.
3. Treasurer's report = negative \$182.86 balance in the checkbook at the end of September 2024. Transferred \$3,000.00 from Long-Term Savings to pay bills. All bills paid and are current. Capital Improvement Fund = \$35,501.93; Long-Term Savings Account = \$25055.61; Memorial Fund = \$19,940.04; Mortgage balance at the end of August = approximately \$10,000.00.
4. Action Items:
 - Verbiage updates to Constitution, Bylaws, Continuing Resolutions- a **motion** was made by Susan Muehlberger and **seconded** by Barb Lucia to table until a special meeting is called for the purpose of doing the updates. Discussion followed. Motion **carried**.
5. Discussion Items:
 - **Food Truck Festival at KLC feedback** – President Robison asked for feedback on the Food Truck festival. Turnout was 80-100 people. Discussed having this as an annual event.
 - **Ministry Opportunities** – Discussed gifting differently this year for Christmas, i.e. ELCA Good Gifts catalog items.
 - **Pagination of Online Church PDFs**-will be discussed at the Constitution, Bylaws, Continuing Resolutions verbiage update meeting.
6. Boards, Ministry Teams, Standing Committees:
 - a. Asset Management Board
 - Turned on one of the boilers.
 - Programmable thermostats have been installed in the sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall.
 - JM Construction will start ceiling repair in early November. The insurance company is covering all repairs.
 - Turkey Bingo-Thursday, November 21. Permit application has been made. Looking for prize donations.
 - The church now has a Square card reader for taking credit and debit cards. A Venmo account is still being researched.
 - Inventory has been postponed until after the first of the year.
 - Second new projector has been installed in the sanctuary.
 - b. Mutual Ministry Board
 - Discussed Board description.
 - c. Stewardship Board
 - Time & Talent and Commitment Cards have been mailed.
 - Commitment Sunday October 20th, potluck to follow the worship service.
 - d. Personnel Support Board
 - No new report.
 - e. Christian Education Ministry Team
 - Looking to get registered for Youth Gathering November 22-24.
 - f. Community Ministry Team

- LSS Center for Changing Lives Coin Offering in September = \$60.16; YTD = \$516.59.
 - Ruby's Pantry, October 17, 4:00-7:00 p.m. – 16 volunteers signed up from KLC.
 - October – cold weather clothing donations will be collected for the Damiano Center; initial drop-off of coats to Damiano Center October 24.
 - Socks and Underwear – that were collected in September were very gratefully received by CHUM.
 - Lutheran Disaster Response/Hurricane Response-continue requesting donations through mid-November.
 - Looking into opportunities for bell ringing for Salvation Army.
 - Salvation Army Toyland Express-box ready by late November.
 - KLC By-laws and Continuing resolutions regarding descriptions for Community Ministry Team with proposed changes will go to Council.
- g. Fellowship Ministry Team
- Discussed a “Mortgage Burning Party” with a Sunday Dinner (no charge) and a mortgage burning at the firepit.
- h. Worship Ministry Team
- Discussed having a joint Worship Team meeting with FOG to plan Thanksgiving Eve service.
- i. Youth Ministry Team
- Email was sent to Confirmation students encouraging them to sign up to help out at Ruby's pantry. Some volunteers answered the call.
 - Confirmation Orientation-all Confirmands did not show up for orientation, need to have input from all to decide schedule.
7. Bridge of Faith Parish Council Updates:
- Next meeting Monday, October 28, 6:00 p.m. at Kenwood.
8. Pastor's Report:
- Fall Theological Conference was well-attended. Discussion was held around how Baptism moves us into action.
9. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. with prayer and recitation of the Lord's Prayer led by Pastor Holter.

Respectfully submitted,
Theresa Williams, acting Secretary

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - KENWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH
October 22, 2024, In Person and via Zoom

Members Present: Lori Robison, Lynn Hegrenes, Martha Oswald, Pastor Jeff Holter, Barb Lucia, Cindy Peterson, and Joy Wiecks

1. The meeting was called to order by President Lori Robison at 6:41 p.m. with prayer led by Pastor Holter.
2. Discussion/Action Items:

➤ **KLC Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions Proposed Amendments:**

• **Proposed Constitution Amendments:**

Addition in Chapter 3. Nature of the Church – C.3.02.

Addition in Chapter 18. Continuing Resolutions – C.18.03.

A **motion** was made by Barb Lucia and **seconded** to approve the proposed KLC Constitution Amendments as presented. Discussion followed. **Motion carried.**

• **Proposed Bylaws Amendments:**

Updates received from Mutual Ministry Board.

Updates received from Stewardship Board.

A **motion** was made by Pastor Jeff Holter and **seconded** to approve the proposed KLC Bylaws amendments presented from above Ministry Support Boards. Discussion followed. **Motion carried.**

Proposed Bylaws Amendment:

Personnel Support Board - Election procedure for members of the Parish Council from KLC.

A **motion** was made by Pastor Jeff Holter and **seconded** to approve the proposed KLC Bylaws amendment presented from this Ministry Support Board. Discussion followed. **Motion carried.**

• **Continuing Resolutions Amendments:**

Updates received from Community Ministry Team.

A **motion** was made by Martha Oswald and **seconded** to approve the proposed KLC Continuing Resolutions amendment presented from this Ministry Team. Discussion followed. **Motion carried.**

A copy of the Continuing Resolutions Amendment regarding the Stewardship Board, approved by the KLC Church Council on June 13, 2024, was distributed for informational purposes and will be added to the official version of the document on file along with the approved changes for the Community Ministry Team presented (attached to these minutes) and approved.

The proposed amendments to the KLC Constitution and Bylaws (attached to these minutes) will be presented to the congregation members for adoption, according to procedures outlined in the official church documents, at its Annual Meeting in January 2025.

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m. with recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Hegrenes, Secretary

Bible Presentation Sunday



Cecilia Barg
Henry Randall
Levi Rheaume

Welcome!

Gerald & Christine Sabol

David, Megan, Sawyer,
Graham & Willa Baldes



New
Members

December Worship Responsibilities at Kenwood Lutheran Church

	Altar Guild	Welcome Center Attendant	Communion Server	Hospitality	Acolyte	Scripture Reader	Ushers
1	Bobbie Lou Carlson	Deb Jarvis	Carol Kolari	Community Ministry	Lyvia Kamunen	Joy Wiecks	Tammy & Eric Saksa
8	Bobbie Lou Carlson	Darlene Roebke	Nadine Moeller	Worship Team	Logan Carlson	Barb Teske	Kathy Erholtz & Brad Kamphenkel
15	Bobbie Lou Carlson	Kenny Harkins	Barb Lucia	Sarah Circle	Sawyer Baldes	Charlene Harkins	Lori Robison & Sherry Goutermont
22	Bobbie Lou Carlson	Cindy Peterson	Cindy Peterson	Altar Guild	Natalie Rasch	Cindy Peterson	Nadine Moeller & Peggy Pruden
29	Bobbie Lou Carlson	Julianne Raymond	Craig Carlson	Fellowship Team	Carly Senich	Craig Carlson	Dennis & Carol Kolari

CHURCH MORTGAGE UPDATE

Your donations to the mortgage reduction are much appreciated and are certainly making a difference in reducing what is owed!

Each month, updates are given in the newsletter that show our beginning of 2024 mortgage balance and then what we currently owe.

January 2024 balance \$71,311.00

End of November 2024 balance \$4,819.58



Silent Auction



The Silent Auction will be online again this year, and will run Sunday, Nov. 17 through 12:00 noon, Sunday, Dec. 1

myminiauction.com/kenwoodlutheranchurch



KENWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR & GIFT FAIR

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH
9 AM-2 PM
2720 MYERS AVE., DULUTH

CRAFTS
GIFTS
LUNCH
BOOKS
QUILT RAFFLE
COOKIE WALK
LIVE KRUMKAKE MAKING



KENWOODLUTHERAN.ORG



**IF YOU'D LIKE TO HELP
OUT AT THE BAZAAR,
PLEASE LET THE
CHURCH OFFICE KNOW!**

**BRING DONATIONS
WED 12/4, 8-1
THURS 12/5, 8-1
FRI 12/6, 4-6**

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30am Hospitality 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Sanctuary Worship 12:00pm Silent Auction Ends	2 9:00am Tai Chi	3 8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 7:00pm Harbormasters	4 8:45am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 11:30am Senior Lunch 5:00pm Bell Choir 5:30pm A.A.	5 9:00am Tai Chi 10:00am Quilters	6	7 9:00am Christmas Bazaar & Gift Fair
8 9:30am Hospitality 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Sanctuary Worship 12:00pm Confirmation 6:00pm Fellowship Hall Reserved-CRU	9 9:00am Tai Chi	10 8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 7:00pm Harbormasters	11 8:45am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:00pm Bell Choir 5:30pm A.A.	12 9:00am Tai Chi 10:00am Quilters 6:30pm Boards and Teams 7:30pm Council Meeting	13	14
15 Newsletter Deadline 9:30am Hospitality 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Sanctuary Worship	16 9:00am Tai Chi	17 8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 12:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive 7:00pm Harbormasters	18 8:45am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:00pm Bell Choir 5:30pm A.A.	19 9:00am Tai Chi 10:00am Quilters	20	21
22 9:30am Hospitality 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Sanctuary Worship	23 9:00am Tai Chi	24 4:00pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 Church Office Closed	26 9:00am Tai Chi	27	28
29 9:30am Hospitality 10:30am Sanctuary Worship	30 9:00am Tai Chi	31 8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 7:00pm Harbormasters				



Kenwood Lutheran Church Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 26, 2025
immediately following worship.

Attend in-person or via Zoom.

Zoom information will be available in the
Messiah Room and also emailed later.

VLM Camps Registration is open!

Discounts available when registering:

- ❖ Sibling Discount
- ❖ Bring-A-Friend Discount
- ❖ and more!
- ❖ Financial assistance is also available

vlmcamps.org/registration

