



West Clermont Lutheran Church

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Office Hours: Monday thru Friday
8:30am-1:30pm

Council President

Jed Dean

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Vicar

Mike Erickson

Email: merickson99@yahoo.com
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November 2023 Newsletter



From Vicar Mike: November 2023

It's hard to believe that it is November already. Where did the year go?

As of November 1st, my internship is officially over. All of the paperwork has been submitted to Wartburg Seminary and the Synod Candidacy Committee. I have had a faculty interview at Wartburg Seminary. I have one or two more interviews before Christmas. Assuming that goes well, Pastor Brackett, from the Synod Office, will be back to help us through the call process that has to be completed before ordination. More information to follow on that topic in the coming weeks.

November is also the month that we celebrate Thanksgiving. I give thanks to God for my opportunity here at West Clermont. In Ephesians 5:20, it says "Give thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." As Paul instructs the Ephesians, we are charged with: Giving thanks always for all things unto God. As Christians, we have been given a very good deal by our God. No matter our earthly lot, we are saved by the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. He only asks that we actively acknowledge that fact in prayer and thanksgiving and in sharing his love with our neighbors.

God grant you and your family a warm and blessed Thanksgiving as we gather joyfully with family, friends, and God.

Peace,

Mike



West Clermont Lutheran Church Council Meeting- October 4, 2023

Present: Diane Butikofer, Randy Wiedenhoff, Wendy Steffens, Tasha Massman, Brant Schrader, Kyle Wander, Isaiah Ruckdashel, Vicar Mike Erickson

Brant called the meeting to order at 5:39p.m. Pastor Mike opened with prayer.

Motion made by Diane to approve the agenda. Isaiah second, motion carried.

Sept minutes were reviewed. Correction to the minutes, Tasha will make correction on the word Vicar Mike will be ordained. Motion made by Isaiah to approve. Tasha second, motion carried.

Kathy reviewed **treasurer report** from Sept. Isaiah made motion to change the name from Parsonage rental fund to Property Maintenance fund on general ledger. Any future painting fund donations will go into property maintenance category. Due to parsonage rental no longer. Brant second, motion carried. Brant reviewed the monthly bills. Motion made by Tasha to approve. \$530.05 from 3rd quarter noisy can will go into general fund. Isaiah second, motion carried.

Vicar's Report: Sound system has been ordered and purchase \$1307. Everything is in good working order with the new system. Isaiah made a motion to sell the old sound system on Facebook marketplace, Brant second, motion carried. Vicar is in his last month of internship, will have a meeting with the approval board and determining with the Bishop's schedule on timing when Vicar Mike can be ordained in Jan 2024. Vicar Mike attended the Shepard of the Hill meeting and brought back some ideas on ways to increase numbers attending.

Old Business:

Snow removal: Jim Matt will remove snow for Winter 2023-24.

4th quarter noisy can: Molly Holthaus, NFV teacher that was involved in accident at school will received for 4th quarter. Brant made a motion to have 1st quarter to Karen Guyer for her medical needs. Isaiah second, motion carried.

Fall Dinner: Will be held Oct. 22nd. Sign up is at the church for members to work & donate pies.

175th Clermont Celebration: Food booth for July 6th. Will table this more as event gets closer for details.

New Business:

Trunk or Treat: Will leave it open to individual groups to represent WCLC at the Clermont Park for this event.

Property Tax Exemption: Court house letter in regards to updating our records to show the church is tax exempt.

Announcements: Newsletter items due to office by **October 23rd.**

Electrical timers were fixed by Lectenbergh electric.

Book study: Continues on October 8th at 11 AM.

Funeral for Dean Johnson was held Sept 16th and Shirley Rowland was Sept 30th, and Rodney Guyer's Oct 7th.

Baptism for Bodie Johansen was Sept. 24th.

Transfer out- James Bickner for St. Paul's in Postville.

CCLI license for music streaming was renewed for another year.

Motion made by Brant to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. Diane second, motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.



WELCA Board Meeting Minutes **Wednesday October 4, 2023**

WELCA Board met on October 4, 2023 @ 1:00 pm. Those attending were: Linda Hyde, June Swenson, Mae Becker, Deb Guyer and Marcia Wiedenhoff.

Secretary's Report: Minutes read individually. Mae / June / Carried

Treasurer's Report: Checking balance: \$3666.18; Savings balance: \$2774.45;
Quilting fund: \$574.60 Motion to approve: Mae / June / Carried

Old Business:

1. **Rummage Sale:** Took in \$1,202. Suggestions for next one. (More advertising along main hwy, baby clothes and more produce.)
2. **Resealing of parking lot:** WELCA gave dollars raised from Tractorcade as seed money for resealing parking lot. Council came up with the rest. ALL DONE
3. **September 10th meal:** served 89. Good help and attendance.
4. **Trunk or Treat:** Marcia will do this.
5. **Little Flock Cluster B Fall Gathering:** October 28 in Littleport at 9:00 for refreshments and 9:30 program. Lunch served for \$5.00. RSVP by October 18 to LuAnn Hunt.
6. **Altar Cloth protector:** New vinyl replaced the old.
7. **WELCA booklets:** Deb and Marcia will help Deb Jacobsen with updates needed.
8. **Clermont 175th and Montauk 150th:** some discussion. Tabled.

New Business:

1. **Correspondence:** Global Health Ministries
2. **Ham Ball Dinner:** October 22. Clermont Opera House. Individually volunteer to help and supply pies.
3. **LWR Truck:** November 4. Marcia volunteered to deliver to Decorah. June will be a back-up.
4. **Thank Offering;** November 19. Suggested to send letters out to members like we did last year.
5. **Shepherd of the Hills Hog Roast Fundraiser:** October 1 (4:00 to 7:00) at St. Olaf Auditorium. Supplied 3 pies and 2 dozen cookies. Quilters donated a quilt to be given away for the drawing.
6. **Refrigerator in the hall way:** When it gets shut off due to being empty, moisture runs out the bottom. Motion to have Marcia check on new one. June/Deb/Carried. Marcia checked on a new Stainless-Steel Fridge/freezer from Andy Butikofer from his slightly dented inventory. \$1000. New Fridge only unit from John's Appliance would cost \$2359.00. She sent message out to board members requesting Alliant Energy taking the old Hallway Fridge out with a \$50 rebate. Purchase the Fridge/Freezer from Andy to put in the kitchen. Move the one in the kitchen into the hallway to use it for back-up storage. June / Linda / Carried.

Sunday coffee Schedule: *October* - Sarah *November* - Mary *December* - Ruth.

Coffee Hour Area (Yearly) : Mary **Kitchen (Yearly) :** Ruth

Altar Duties (September, October, November, and December): Ruth

Motion to Adjourn: 1:56pm Linda / Mae / Carried

Closing: The Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: November 1, 2023 @ 1:00

Submitted: *Marcia Wiedenhoff*, Board President/Secretary



November, 2023

DATE	READER	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION	BREAD
11/5*	Kathy Wander	Sutton Schrader	Carol Berg	Linda Hyde
11/12	Sarah Dean	Taylor Dean		
11/19	Brailyn Dirksen	Bella Dirksen		
11/22*	Mark Erickson	Ryan Dean	Marcia Wiedenhoff	Marcia Wiedenhoff
11/26*	Mark Nelson	Brailyn Dirksen	Denise Nelson	Denise Nelson

November Ushers: Lee West, Al Amundson, and Roger Berg



Birthdays This Month November

11/02 Nelson Denise
 11/06 Wiedenhoff Randy
 11/11 Bassett Natalie
 11/15 Ruckdashel Jamie
 11/16 West Lee
 11/19 Lerch Loxley
 11/22 West Logan
 11/27 Knutsen Marilyn
 11/30 Wescott Kevin

11/03 Grube Kyle
 11/07 Wagner Rodney
 11/12 Amundson Tyler
 11/16 Anderson Shane
 11/17 Dirksen Brailyn
 11/20 O'Dell Rebecca
 11/25 Shekleton Jennifer
 11/28 Becker Sam

11/06 Rowland Everett
 11/09 Anderson Jerry
 11/14 Phillips Juniper
 11/16 Steffens Delainee
 11/18 Miller David
 11/21 Erickson Mike
 11/26 Becker Terry
 11/28 Donnelly Alaina



Offerings: October 1 – October 15, 2023

Sunday, October 1, 2023

Loose: \$85.00
 Regular: \$1,170.00
 Noisy Can: \$34.04

Total General Fund: \$1,292.54

Memorial Fund: \$100.00 (IMO Marilyn Shipton)

Roof: \$180.00

Attendance: 61

Copies: \$3.50

Sunday, October 8, 2023

Loose: \$42.00
 Noisy Can: \$47.97

Total General Fund: \$3,149.97

Roof: \$90.00

Memorial Fund: \$20.00 IMO Rodney Guyer

Attendance: 65

Regular: \$3,060.00

Sunday, October 15, 2023

Loose: \$29.00 (includes book money)
 Regular: \$480.00

Total General Fund: \$548.58

Attendance: 54

Noisy Can: \$39.58

November 2023, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

National Adoption Month

November is National Adoption Month, a time to honor families who have opened their hearts and homes to children and teens. This month at LSI, we celebrate the families we support through Foster Care and Adoption and raise awareness for the hundreds of Iowa children needing a safe, healthy home.

Iowa foster families, like the Smiths*, raise the bar by opening their loving households to children and teens in need of a place to call home.

At LSI, we understand the importance of keeping youth in their communities to help maintain connections and stability during times of transition. So, when our staff received a referral for a teenage girl needing foster care placement, they looked inward toward the community.

At the time, homes in the area were either full or not open to accepting teenage placements. Coincidentally, the Smiths were present at a meeting the same night the referral came in. When they heard about Rebecca's* situation, they immediately knew who the child was and wanted to help in any way they could.

The Smiths were already over their licensing capacity, having been granted a variance to accept a sibling group. To be able to bring Rebecca into their home, they would need to be given another variance, which was almost unheard of.

"It was by chance, or the grace of God, that the Smiths were able to accept another child, and give Rebecca a stable placement with a family in her community," said Dawn Luetje, LSI Director of Resource Family Licensing and Support, working in conjunction with Four Oaks Family Connections.

Thanks to the combined support of the Smiths, LSI staff, and the community, Rebecca was placed in the foster home, where she could maintain her daily activities with the teachers, coaches, and friends she was comfortable with. Rebecca continues to thrive in a stable, loving foster home environment and a caring community.

Stories like these are possible through our many community partners and generous donors. To learn more about supporting Iowa children in foster care, visit LSIowa.org/Foster, or contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Senior Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at 563-676-2065 or

Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

**Names have been changed to protect client privacy.*



Prayer List

Requested: Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Don Erickson, Ken Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Lynzee Henrikson-Makowski, Karen Kohls, Ardell Fortune, Inez Oakland, Julie Albertson, Danice Cummings, LaVerne & Grace Swenson, Larry Kohls, Gabriel Byrnes, Bridgit Dundee & Elliot John Dundee.

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins: Millard Nelson, Betty Erickson, Gail Herman, John Yauslin, Marilyn Knutsen, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Judy Nelson.

In the Military: Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Major Stephanie Wilkins, Kennedy White.

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2023



Thank you all for your continued support of our Annual Hog Roast. I am in awe of the generous donations we received from businesses, churches and individuals. This is our biggest opportunity to raise money for the crisis fund and we as a team, knocked it out of the park!

Christmas for Kids is scheduled for December 13-14, 2023. Last year we blessed over 400 children with toys for Christmas. We are looking for donations of toys and or money for this event. If your church or business would like to do a collection drive, please let me know. All ages from NB-18 are eligible to participate as long as they have a referral. All of our events we have hosted this year has had a big increase of need so hopefully we can get enough donations to support the increase. All donations can be brought to the office at SOTH or to the auditorium now until December 6th. We will be setting up in the auditorium on December 7, 8 and 11th. If you would like to volunteer, please let me know. We can do great things if we all work together.

Clothing center updates

The construction project is done. It is beautiful and so inviting. If you are in the area, please take a look at it. Unfortunately, winter is knocking on our doors. With that in mind, I am only accepting fall and winter clothing. Please schedule your donation as this allows me to staff accordingly and to have the room for your donation. Without an appointment, I may not be able to accept your donation.

Shepherd Conference News

We would like to recognize and congratulate Pastor Frank Johnson from EWALU on the celebration of his Ordination date of November 4, 2011.

Shepherd of the Hill's Needs:

The **Operating Fund** pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies, salaries and Lawn/Snow Care.

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities and our sponsored events throughout the year

Please utilize the **MEMO LINE** on your check to specify Crisis or Operating Fund!

IMPORTANT DATES:

Christmas for Kids:
Dec 14-15, 2023

Any event may be subject to change

Shepherd of the Hills

Heather Hageman

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Business Hours: Monday-Friday
9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm

Women of West Clermont



Dear Women of West Clermont Lutheran Church,

On **November 19th**, we will be doing a special segment during our regular worship service, to present our **Thankofferings**. Please plan to attend as we will be called forward to place our envelopes (or some of you may have a pink paper pig from last year) in a basket. If you are not able to attend, **Thankofferings** may be dropped off at the Church office during regular hours.

What do our Thankoffering support?

The founders of Women of the ELCA decided back in 1988 that **Thankofferings** are to support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization. Our founders would be amazed to see what that covers these days!

Our ongoing ministries include our many online and printed communications channels our justice and advocacy work, training and development for elected leaders throughout the women's organization, our constant work in support of congregational and synodical women's organizations, the administration of our grants and scholarship programs, all that goes into our triennial convention and so much more.

How Thankofferings work:

Many women set aside small amounts at home throughout the year and then bring together their gifts with those of the other women in their circles at the end of the year.

******* A Personal Thank You to all that are involved with attending circle meetings, serving coffee hour, quilting, putting together personal health kits, baby kits, and school kits, helping with fund raising events, donating (salads, bars, etc.) for funerals and special events, sharing your time and doing everything that keeps our church running smoothly.**

We are blessed to have supporting women at West Clermont Lutheran Church. If any of you want to get more involved, please contact me or any of our women leaders.

*******Please contact** the office to update your contact information.

Cell # & Land-line #

Email


Physical & Mailing Address

We want to give everyone the opportunity to join us in doing **God's great work!**

Grace and Peace,

Marcia Wiedenhoff - WELCA President

CHURCH NEWS

 **Noisy Can Offering** for 4th Quarter (Oct.-Dec.) will go to Molly Holthaus to assist with extra costs associated with medical treatment. Molly was hit by a car in the NFV high school parking lot.



Quilting is on Tuesday's @ 9am. All are welcome! Come join the fun!



WELCA Circles will meet on Wednesday, November 15th: 9am-Sarah Circle; 1pm- Mary Circle; 2pm-Ruth Circle.



Senior Game Day is Wednesday, November 8th from 2-4pm @ West Clermont Lutheran. Please come for fellowship, snacks, cards, games, and FUN! Bring a friend!



Do not forget to set your clocks back an hour on November 5th.



St. Peter Lutheran in Eldorado is having a **Pancake Supper & Silent Quilt Auction** on, Wed., Nov. 1st from 5-7:30pm. Free will donation. Carry outs available.



Taste of St. Peter's is Saturday, Nov. 4th from 10:30am-1pm @ St. Peter's Catholic Church in Clermont. Adults: \$10. Children 10 and under: \$5. Come sample some favorite holiday recipes.



NORWEGIAN Meatball Dinner @ Elgin Lutheran is Sun., Nov 5th from 11am-1pm (or until gone). Drive thru only. Free will offering. Serving: Norwegian meatballs, mashed potatoes, salad, corn, buns & Norwegian delicacies.



Early Thanksgiving Family Style Dinner is at the Community Presbyterian Church in Postville on Sunday, Nov. 5th from 11am-1pm (or until gone). Serving: turkey, dressings, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, cranberry salad, rolls, and pumpkin pie. Adults: \$15. Age 10 & under: \$5. Preschoolers-free. Carryout available.



Handcrafted Christmas Craft Show is Saturday, November 11th, from 8am-2pm @ the Clermont Opera House.



Highland Lutheran Church Fall Soup Luncheon is Sunday, Nov. 12th from 11am-1pm @ the Elgin Legion. Dine In only. Serving: homemade chili, bean soup, chicken noodle soup, & potato soup, grilled cheese sandwiches, bars and beverage. Free will donation.



Christmas Giving Tree will be up by Sunday, November 19th. We are sponsoring 2 families again this year!



WELCA Thankoffering is Sunday, November 19th, during worship.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship @ West Clermont Lutheran is on Wed., November 22nd @ 7:00pm.



Vacation. Vicar Mike will be on vacation Thursday, Nov. 23rd thru Sunday, Nov. 26th.



Office Closed on Thurs., Nov. 23rd and Fri., Nov. 24th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



NEIA Synod Young Adult Gather Survey. We're interested in getting young adults from around the synod together at various events throughout the year! If you are between the ages of 18-35, please check out the link and take a moment to fill out the short form. <https://forms.gle/ZQ6xCMPF6P6u6Ybq6>
Questions? Email robin@threehouse.org.

TIME TO UPDATE

West Clermont is updating information for our permanent records and for the 2024 WELCA Directory. If you have a PO Box as your mailing address, please contact Deb Jacobsen via phone call, text, email, or in person with your physical address. If you have a cell phone, please let the office know your number. If you no longer have a land-line or you have moved, please contact Deb with your information. If you have not received emails, please let the office know your address or if you have changed your email, please update. Thank you for your timely responses.



Operation Christmas Child. It is that time of year when we start collecting items for Operation Christmas Child. Lists are hanging on the bulletin board for suggested items and a collection box is by the office. If you would like to fill a shoebox or two on your own; boxes are available that contain gift lists and packing instructions. Boxes will be put together on **Wed., November 15th, @ 6pm. Meal provided.** Pre-filled boxes are due on that date.



Operation Christmas Child Gift List



“Wow Gift”- Doll • Soccer ball and pump • Stuffed animal • Musical instrument • • Large toy truck or car • Other large toy

Personal Care Items- Comb or brush • Toothbrush • Washcloth • Fun adhesive bandages • Eating utensils • Nail clipper and file

School Items- Pencils and sharpener • Pencil case • Erasers • Pens • Crayons • Markers • Notebooks • Index cards • Calculator • Scissors • Ruler • Glue stick • Small adhesive tape

Clothing and Accessories- Clothing and undergarments • Flip-flops or shoes • Cold weather items • Sunglasses • Bags, backpacks, or purses • Hair accessories • Hats • Wristwatch or jewelry • Flashlight

Craft and Activities- • Puzzles • Binoculars • Compass • Chalkboard and chalk • Fishing kit • Jump rope • Coloring books or pads • Dry watercolor set • Playdough • Stickers • Craft kits or colorful rope/twine • Books or picture books

Toys - • Ball • Frisbee® • Building blocks • Finger puppets • Slinky® • Yo-yo • Magnets • Kaleidoscope • Toy cars • Interactive toys • Other small toys and figures

DO NOT INCLUDE • Food, candy, or gum • Toothpaste • Used or damaged items • Scary or war-related items • Wearable traditional camouflage • Seeds or organic matter • Liquids • Medication • Money • Breakable items • Matches, fire starters, or aerosols • Knife, saw, or razor blades

