

For more information, contact  
Sugar Creek at 608-734-3113  
or check their website at:  
[www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org](http://www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org)



## UPCOMING EVENTS at SUGAR CREEK

- \* **Feb 18, 2018** - Annual Meeting
- \* **Feb 22-25** - Crafter's Retreat
- \* **Mar 16-18** - 6th-8th Grade Retreat
- \* **Apr 9** - Yesterday's Youth
- \* **Apr 14-15** - 3rd-5th Grade Retreat

### **WINTER FUN DAYS FEBRUARY 11 AND 25, 2018 1:00PM-5:00PM**

Cost: \$7.00 per person with a \$30 immediate family max (includes lunch)

Come to camp for a Sunday afternoon of snow tubing, broom ball, snow shoeing, wagon rides, and more! We have the tubes and broom ball equipment. You can bring cross country skis and/or ice skates. Lunch at about 2:30pm.

### SCBC WISH LIST

*Please consider making a special donation to Sugar Creek for the following items which are needed to assist our various programs. Perhaps your Women's, Men's, Youth Group, or Sunday School would like to raise funds to meet one of these needs. Or, consider a Thrivent Action Team project. Both financial donations and gifts-in-kind are appreciated and are tax deductible.*

#### **Climbing Wall/Climbing Wall Equipment (High Priority)**

**Canvas** - Covered wagon canvas, flys for platform tents (**High Priority**)  
**Carpet for Koinonia Center and 2nd floor of Retreat Center** (**High Priority**)  
**New Countertops in the Retreat Center Kitchen** (**High Priority**)

**Archery equipment** - bows/arrows/wrist guards, etc.

**Kitchen supplies** - Miscellaneous pots/pans, Stock pots, etc.

#### **New bicycles**

**Vehicles in good condition** - Mini-vans, pick-ups, SUV's, tractor for mowing.

**4-wheeler with dump box** - Gator, Mule or Toro Workman

**Hay for horses; New Team of gentle and sturdy horses for our wagon rides**

**Appliances** - Commercial vacuums, Good condition washers/dryers, etc.

**Road Work** - Gravel, blacktop, or gifts to complete road projects

Dear Christians,

We have come to believe that God exists and that God is for us (and not against) us! But the understanding that God is on our side comes to us by various means.

One recent way, for me, was a recent editorial piece written by David Brooks in the New York Times about Jordan Peterson. In our current times, we are living in a period of public conversations among people who don't just calmly discuss a subject - they attack the other's ideas. The problem is our God given task of mutual listening. When we "Christ followers" ask the other for deeper explanations, listen, and express our positions in ways that are strong but leave us open to consider a different idea---the other that is mutual listening. God will enable us to express our beliefs to one another and hold one another accountable for what we believe.

God approached our first predecessors with God's laws for living. God's consequences were "If you live up to the good that I command, you shall live. But if not, you shall die." God is our judge, rightly calling us to be accountable to living as the people whom God has enabled to be mature and bear good fruit as we live. As people of God we know this to be true, and we also know that we have God to see us through successfully.

David Brooks pointed to a contemporary thinker who is attracting a host of young men to his lectures. Jordan Peterson is a Psychology professor at the University of Toronto. He creates lectures and posts them on YouTube. I don't know if he is a Christian or not but his lectures make the argument for the Jewish-Christian God. The main thrust of his public teaching is done in an interesting way, evoking the Bible and also Christian philosophers (including Kirkegaard, a Lutheran!). Peterson influences young men and women to have spiritual and psychological "rudder". He says "Don't just drift through life." Learn about who (or Whose) you are. Let your beliefs influence your principles and how you live your life. Have faith and contemplate why you're here.

David Brookes ended his article by describing the scene of an interview with Jordan Peterson conducted by a female talk show host. The host asked him to tell about his work but she did not listen to what he was saying. Instead, she attacked each of his ideas. As the interviewer

## **PASTOR'S PAGE CONTINUED**

responded aggressively, Peterson remained focused on what he had been asked to explain. He responded politely, calmly, and focused on his goal of expressing himself. To have a purpose, to engage the faith is a gift from God. We can receive it and exploring God is a delight to use in our lives every day.

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## **TRANSITION INFORMATION**

### **Review of Call Committee January, 2018**

**Call Committee Members:** Betty Pfaff, Chairperson; Lara Hines, Secretary; Crystal Sbraggia; Ivy Endris; Cathy Gabrielson and Jason Young.

- We are still waiting on names from the Synod of new candidates for us to interview.

We ask that you continue to pray for us as a committee and the call process for guidance, assurance, strength and faith as we continue on this journey of finding the best person for our congregations.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to a Call Committee member.

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### **Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® by March 31**

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until **March 31, 2018**, to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to let Thrivent know where you Choice Dollars should go. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more and find program terms and conditions. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

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### **PO Box 167, MINDORO WI 54644**

Please use the PO Box when sending correspondence to either church. This will insure that the mail will be delivered directly to the church and will arrive in a timely manner. The mail box at Lewis Valley's physical address is usually only picked up on Fridays, allowing the weather and possibly others to get to it first.

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**EVENTS AT THE FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY CENTER. VISIT [www.FSCenter.org](http://www.FSCenter.org) OR CALL 608-791-5295 FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

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### **Grief Circle**

February 6-27 (Tuesday, 10 a.m.-noon)

Facilitators: Lesley Stugelmayer and Jean Pagliaro

Investment: \$15 for entire 4-week series

Registration deadline: January 23

This group is for those who are grieving the death of someone they loved. It is a safe place to share your thoughts, feelings and concerns about what is happening to you. It is a place where you can talk about your loss with other people who understand, because they are also grieving. Sometimes, friends and family, although well-intentioned, may not understand the meaning of your loss and the depth of your pain. The support of others on the same journey can provide a great deal of comfort and healing.

*Lesley Stugelmayer has had an ongoing professional interest in grief and loss. She began her career as a psychiatric nurse and recently retired as director of counseling at Viterbo University, where she worked for 40 years. Jean Pagliaro is the program and retreat coordinator at the FSC.*

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### **Where Are You Now? A Retreat for the Grieving Heart**

March 9-10 (Friday, 7 p.m.-Saturday, 3 p.m.) Presenter: Anne Johnson

Investment: \* Full: \$145, includes overnight stay, all meals

\* Commuter: \$95, includes lunch on Saturday

Registration deadline: February 23

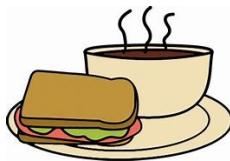
Finding one's way back to life after the death of a loved one is a sacred and intensely personal journey. This retreat provides time and space for us to be gently present with our grief alongside others walking the same path. By sharing our stories and contemplating together the unanswerable questions borne out of the death of our beloved (spouse, parent, child, friend), may we experience the profound mystery of being inspired by our own broken hearts.

*While Anne Johnson brings to this retreat professional and educational training in the area of grief and loss, her greatest teacher has been the death of her daughter Hannah in 2013. Anne believes the death of a beloved is one of the most painful yet precious portals into discovering the Sacred in life as it is. She draws on the practices and teachings of Buddhism to meet life's suffering and joy. Anne is a licensed clinical social worker and is certified in grief support from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.*

Register at [www.FSCenter.org](http://www.FSCenter.org) or 608-791-5295.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Before heading to the Carnival on Sunday, February 18, 2018, from 1:00pm-4:30pm, stop by **Mindoro Presbyterian's Soup & Sandwich Lunch**. Support our church neighbor and have a hearty meal to get you fueled up for a fun afternoon at the carnival. **The Soup & Sandwich Lunch will be from 10:30am-1:00pm at the Mindoro Town Hall.**



### **DOES YOUR HOME NEED REPAIRS? WOULD YOU LIKE TO PURCHASE A HOME?**

USDA Rural Development has funding available to purchase and repair homes in eligible rural communities. Interest rates range between 1-3.25%. Grants for repairs are also available to income eligible households over the age of 62. For more information, contact USDA Rural Development at 715-345-7611.

Additional information is also available at [www.rd.usda.gov/wi](http://www.rd.usda.gov/wi)  
USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

### **MOBILE FOOD PANTRY**



The new WAFFER Mobile Food Pantry now stops in front of the Mindoro Lutheran Church once a month from 10:00am-Noon. If you or someone you know needs some extra food to make it through the month, please come to the

Mobile Food Pantry. Look for upcoming dates and times at  
<http://waferlacrosse.org/get-help-now/food-programs/>

### **CHILDREN'S VISION INTERNATIONAL, INC. UPDATE**

CVII is in need of new combs and brushes, and new or gently used curling irons, dishes, and small appliances. Items can be dropped off in the box in the Narthex at both Lewis Valley and Mindoro.

Each Monday, a group of volunteers meets at the CVII warehouse in Bangor to sort and pack items. Cindy Tracey goes each Monday to volunteer. If you are interested, please contact Cindy for more information 857-3261.

### **BASIC NEEDS AT THE MELROSE-MINDORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Socks, deodorant, and boys underwear sizes 6-10 are needed and would be appreciated.

Give your donations to Mary Lynn Sinclair - the Wellness Coordinator at Melrose-Mindoro Schools or bring them to the church narthex or office.

## YOUR CONGREGATIONS AT WORK

### **Notice of ANNUAL MEETING**

MINDORO LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP & POTLUCK

### **FREE Community Dinner**

Wednesday, February 7, 2018, 4:00pm - 6:30pm

Cindy's Hall, Mindoro

All Are Welcome! Come and Bring your Neighbors!

*Sponsored by Mindoro Area Outreach*

### **The Carnival is Coming to Town!**

Sunday, February 18, 2018

Mindoro Lutheran Church Fundraiser  
at the Mindoro Elementary School

New this year: Cotton Candy, Adult Spelling Bee

Fun for the whole family!!

Mark Your Calendars!

Come and enjoy the afternoon!!

(Volunteers needed: sign up sheet in the MLC Narthex)



### **SAVE THE DATE:**

### **LEWIS VALLEY'S FIRST FISH FRY**

Friday, March 23, 2018

5:00pm-7:00pm

at Lewis Valley Church

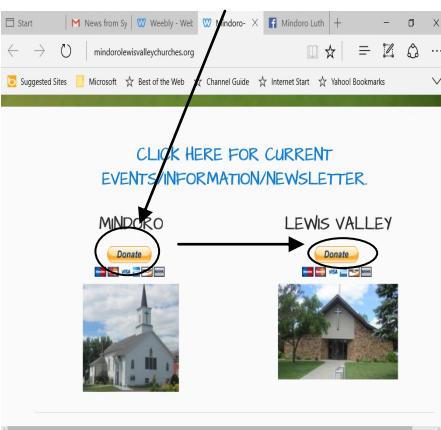


### **LOOKING AHEAD**

Please note: the date for Lewis Valley's Community Fall Festival has changed to the 1st Saturday in October, which is October 6th this year. Mark your calendars!

## YOUR CONGREGATIONS AT WORK CONT'D

We have **Donate buttons** on the main page of our website - one for Mindoro and one for Lewis Valley. Take a look and test them out.  
[mindorolewisvalleychurches.org](http://mindorolewisvalleychurches.org)



### HELP US GROW

Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church grow.

Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness, or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis.

Get started today! Ask for an authorization form in the church office or visit our church website and click on "Announcements".

### MINDORO AND LEWIS VALLEY OFFERING COUNTERS NEEDED

Mindoro AND Lewis Valley are in need of offering counters. Two members count the offering immediately after church each Sunday. Counters volunteer to count one Sunday a month. Time commitment is about 15 minutes per month. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

### Mindoro Lutheran Church Prayer Shawl Ministry.....cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace, and wrapped in love.

There are angels among us. They are quietly knitting and crocheting coverings of love for the unknown persons that may need them. **Who may receive a prayer shawl?** You or someone you know who would benefit from being wrapped in this sign of God's love and grace. **How does a person get a prayer shawl?** Simply ask for one. You may contact Pastor Kris Fahey, Church Secretary Mona Van Riper, or Prayer Shawl Coordinator Mary Sinclair.



## NEWS FROM OUR LA CROSSE AREA SYNOD

### Provide Ongoing Support

Join Monthly Partners and provide consistent, ongoing support for the ELCA churchwide ministries that mean the most to you. It's convenient, it's simple and it makes a big impact on the mission and ministry of our church.

#### How it works:

Your gift of at least \$10 per program will be automatically charged on the 15th of every month moving forward. (Please allow up to two weeks for your first gift to be processed.)

An annual, consolidated receipt will be mailed to your home in the first quarter (January-March) of every year. Your donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

You can cancel, change or update your automatic monthly donation at any time by calling 800-638-3522. Automatic Monthly Donation Forms are in the Narthex.

### BOOKS TO SUPPORT THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PERU

Our companion church, La Iglesia Luterana del Perú (IL-P) works to educate members and others in the Lutheran faith. IL-P leaders have asked if we might help them with the purchase of books. Please consider a gift to support this request, either personally or as a Sunday School, women's group or congregation. We have sent samples of books in Spanish from Augsburg Fortress to IL-P and they have said they are excited about the possibility of putting them all to use. Please make checks to "La Crosse Area Synod" marked "Books for Peru". ¡Gracias!

### HAVE YOU HEARD? ABOUT THE ELCA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION?

The ELCA Federal Credit Union, is located in the Lutheran Center Building in Chicago, and welcomes all ELCA members to take advantage of a portfolio of deposit accounts, loans and other services. This ELCA-sponsored credit union supports the ELCA's mission to promote responsible stewardship of members' and congregations' financial resources. Because this is a financial cooperative, credit union members will see more competitive rates on deposits and loans, fewer fees and enhanced services. Join a credit union that shares the values of its members - the members of the congregations, ministries and employees of the ELCA. Elcafcu.org.

**WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE LA CROSSE AREA SYNOD AND THE ELCA?** Go to [www.lacrosseareasynd.org](http://www.lacrosseareasynd.org) and [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org). You will find a wealth of information on these sites.

# Confirmation Students and High School Students



**June 27 – July 1, 2018 is the next ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX** at the NRS Stadium which was the site of the 2017 Superbowl.

The theme “This Changes Everything” is centered in Ephesians 2:8. “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”

Visit [Any questions, contact the church office or call Sharon Pfaff at 857-3346.](http://ELCA.org>YouthGathering</a> for more information.</p></div><div data-bbox=)

## College Students

### DO YOU KNOW A STUDENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION?

Lutheran Campus Ministry is on campus to help young adults as they attend colleges, trade schools and universities. Please share their name, contact information and which institution they will be attending with the church office or send it to the campus ministry at UW-Madison ([www.lccmadison.com](http://www.lccmadison.com)). The Lutheran Campus Ministry will distribute the names to the appropriate Wisconsin campus ministry. Email them to [director@lccmadison.com](mailto:director@lccmadison.com) or mail to 325 N. Mills, Madison, WI 53715.

**COUNCILS MEET TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018, AT MINDORO  
6:30PM JOINT COUNCIL;  
MINDORO & LEWIS VALLEY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING JOINT**

### MINDORO LUTHERAN CHURCH ROAD SIGNS

Two road signs pointing to Mindoro Lutheran (one pointing left and the other pointing right) have been down since the State Road 108 and County Road C transfer. The signs are no longer allowed on state or county property so a location on private property is needed for them. The new private property location will need county approval to put up the sign. We have a third road sign up at the County Roads D & M intersection. Would you be willing to have a sign on your property, especially members living toward Melrose or Bangor, to help others find our church? Please call the church office or talk to a council member if you will volunteer.

Please let Mona know in the church office if you have a  
**CHANGE OF ADDRESS, CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER AND/OR  
CHANGE OF E-MAIL ADDRESS.**

**REMEMBER TO CHECK WITH THE OFFICE MASTER CALENDAR BEFORE  
SCHEDULING OR SETTING UP ANY EVENTS.  
WE ARE A BUSY CHURCH!**

### TEAM LEADERS

**CHURCH COUNCILS:** Barb Anderson, Louie Christopherson, Ivy Endris, Jerome Nelson, Sharon Pfaff, Gary Wortman, Blake Young, Becky Berg, Jack Glennie, Josie Groth, Jim Hines, Mary Kastenschmidt, Andrew Pfaff, Cindy Tracey, Ginny Wegner

**CALL COMMITTEE:** Lara Hines, Betty Pfaff, Crystal Sbraggia, Ivy Endris, Cathy Gabrielson, Jason Young

**EDUCATION:** Becky Berg, Lara Hines, Beth McRae, Jenna Oefstedahl, Betty Pfaff, Nikki Christopherson, Rita Holley

**FINANCE:** Jim Hines, John McRae

**MUTUAL MINISTRY:** Alice Baumer, Ginny Wegner, Lillian Nordin, Gary Steele

**OUTREACH:** Mary Kastenschmidt, Cheryl Card, Cathy Gabrielson, Betty Kirchner, Barb Drogseth, Sandy Freng, Ginny Wegner

**PROPERTY:** Bill Cox, Luke Johnsrud, Jerome Nelson, Dennis Olson, Rich Sinclair, Gary Wortman

**STEWARSHIP:** Josie Groth, Debbie Peterson

**WORSHIP:** Ginny Wegner, Lillian Nordin, Sharon Pfaff, Debbie Peterson, Bethany Johnsrud

# Anniversaries

## Baptismal Anniversaries

Feb 1	Zachary Kastenschmidt
Feb 3	Kaitlyn Opland
Feb 4	Tucker Stuessel
Feb 5	Carol Taylor Scott Kirchner Emersynn Tracey
Feb 7	Jeremy Christianson
Feb 8	Louie Christopherson Devon Christopherson
Feb 14	Isaac Weindorfer
Feb 17	Cassidy Christianson
Feb 19	Debbie Salek
Feb 21	Karen Kirchner Casey Puent
Feb 22	Ron Moore Mark Roberts Jeff Hanson
Feb 24	Bill Timm Carol Euler Cindy Adamson Shelly Kunes
Feb 25	Joshua Kunes
Feb 26	Cindy Roberts Steven Spangler Montana Sbraggia
Feb 27	Eileen Collins Sandra Freng Jaden Page
Feb 28	Etta Jostad



## Wedding Anniversaries

Feb 6	David & Kay Pfaff
Feb 16	Ben & Laurie Gappa

Please let Mona in the church office know if a name or date is incorrect or if someone needs to be added. The information is from the church records and all records are not complete.  
Happy Days to all!!!

## Happy Birthday!!

Feb 1	Gary Goodenough Alexandra Krause
Feb 2	Mary Phillips
Feb 3	Luke Anderson Drew Knutson
Feb 4	Kerry Kneifl

## Confirmation Students and High School Students



6:00pm-7:30pm

First Sunday of Every Month **March 4**

Open to all in Grades 7-12

WORSHIP, FOOD, & FRIENDS

All Synod Youth Group Worship!

@ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, GALESVILLE

Vespers (Evening service of prayer) On Fleek (On Point) for and led by our young adult leaders in the Synod. We will worship in a contemporary praise worship service. On point and pointing to Christ. To encourage our young adult leaders as they grow in faith, and become leaders in our church, as we walk in faith TOGETHER!

Questions? Email-dhendrickson001@luthersem.edu

## COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

Barb Anderson to approve secretary's report - MMSP

**Treasurer Report** – Jodi reported Lewis Valley ended in the year in good standing. Motion made by Jerome Nelson, seconded by Karen Knutson to approve Treasurer's report – MMSP

**Finance:** The 2018 budget was reviewed, a motion was made by Jerome Nelson to increase the La Crosse Area Synod budget amount to \$1,000.00 with discussion and final approval at the annual meeting, seconded by Louie Christopherson. MMSP

**Property:** Church Road Signs – Jason Young is checking into areas to place signs and any authorizations that may be needed.

**Other Business:**

**Counter** – Louie Christopherson said he would assist with counting money on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

**Communion Servers**

Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> – Gary Wortman  
Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> – Jerome Nelson

Adjournment – Motion made to adjourn by Jerome Nelson, seconded by Louie Christopherson, MMSP

Submitted by:  
Karen Knutson  
Secretary

### VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.MINDOROLEWISVALLEYCHURCHES.ORG](http://WWW.MINDOROLEWISVALLEYCHURCHES.ORG)

At the website, you will find the latest newsletter, an up-to-date calendar, links to other sites, histories of each church, and W-ELCA information, - and if you call the church office for the password, the pictorial directory. :-)

### WANTED: PICTURES!

We would like pictures of church activities of all ages and kinds of events so we can use them on our social media. If you have pictures to share, please send them to the church email or bring them in to the church office.

### HOSPITAL REMINDERS

**When admitted to the hospital**, it is important that you, a family member, or a hospital chaplain contact the church office to notify us of your stay. The hospitals no longer give out information.



### Birthdays Continued

Feb 5	Karen Hanson Scott Bockenhauer
Feb 6	<b>Sara Pfaff</b> <b>Louie Christopherson</b> Melissa Bryhn Maya Sbraggia
Feb 8	Mary Olson
Feb 10	Charles Severson
Feb 11	Emma Ernsts
Feb 12	Angela Werner Brayden Wanis
Feb 13	Bailey Hines
Feb 14	Cindy Roberts
Feb 15	Dawn Tracey Andrew Pfaff
Feb 18	<b>Ray Beaser</b>
Feb 20	Barb Spangler Amanda Christianson
Feb 21	Maxton Sedevie
Feb 23	Anthony Berg
Feb 24	Kristin Jostad
Feb 25	Richard Kirchner Kaylee Haag
Feb 26	Gina Merrell Lila Weindorfer
Feb 27	Cody Johnsrud Ava Stayton
Feb 28	Richard Stuessel



### In Memoriam

Feb 1	Gale Timm
Feb 5	Walter Mahlum
Feb 9	Sylvan Severson
Feb 10	Lee Storandt
Feb 12	Karen Heidel
Feb 14	Milo Pohl
Feb 21	Willis Kastenschmidt
Feb 26	Kenneth Borchert

If a loved one is missing in the "In Memoriam", please contact Mona in the church office so she can add the information to the database.

**Bolded names** are members celebrating an 80th Birthday or above. Let's shower them with birthday cards on their special day.



## IN OUR PRAYERS

**PRAYED FOR IN JANUARY:** Sharon Ash, Audrey Baker, Betty Christopherson, Dorothy Christianson's sister Ruby Culpitt, Barb Anderson's cousin and Dorothy Ofstedahl's daughter & son-in-law Joan & Dave Beecken, Lori Hudson, Karen Indahl, Cindy Tracey's sister Tonda Johnson, Kathy Jostad, Mary Kastenschmidt, Dale Kirchner, Debbie Kirchner, Clayton Moe, Arlan Pfaff, Christina Pfaff, Alan Puent, Mary Sacia, Larry Seekamp, Roger Spangler, Steve Stetzer, Dale Sutherland, Mildred Timm, Howard Tracey, Kristen Waughtal, our military men & women, Family & family of Reuben Storandt, Friends & family of John Proft, Family & friends of Violet (Topel) Rediske, Family & friends of Violet Peterson, and Friends of Bob Anderson who passed away on 12/28/17.



**WE ALSO PRAYED FOR:** Carol Timm, Del Pohl, Delores Wang, Don Heidel, Shirley Hoff, Doris Long, Dorothy Ofstedahl, Eloise Thum, Grace Kastenschmidt, Helen Mikkelson, Ruby Knudson, Sara Pfaff, Merlin Severson, Pr Amanda Schultz & Immanuel Lutheran Cashton and Trinity Lutheran Cashton, Interim Pr Kris Fahey & Lewis Valley and Mindoro Lutheran, Pr Len Liptack & Faith Lutheran of Black Hammer, Pr Steve Meyer & Immanuel Lutheran, Pr Joanne Richmond & Our Savior's Lutheran La Crosse, Pr Yvonne Marshall & Good Shepherd Lutheran Viroqua, Pr Carrie Anderson & Lutheran Memorial Lutheran, Pr Anne Hokenstad & Bethel Lutheran La Crosse, Pr Wendy Ruetten & East Lemonweir Lutheran, Pr Bruce Iverson & Our Redeemer Lutheran, Pr Joel Oines & St Paul Evangelical Lutheran, the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, the Southwestern Washington Synod, the Northwest Washington Synod, the Northern Illinois Synod, the Central States Synod, and the Southwestern Minnesota Synod.

### **GOD'S WORD EACH WEEK**

You are encouraged to read the Bible each week.

Below are the Sunday readings for this month.

Set aside personal or family time to read each week.

02/04	Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11,20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39
02/11	2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9
02/18	Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15
02/25	Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

### **FOOD PANTRY ITEMS**

Just a reminder to check the expiration dates on items donated for the food pantry. Expired items cannot be accepted by/taken to the food pantry.

**Thank you for your continued generous donations.**

## COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

We had budget meeting and the budget won't change much for next year.

**Treasurer's Report** – We had generous giving at Christmas and ended up \$2,200 ahead. Also, we aren't paying mileage or medical for Pastor Fahey.

**President's Report** – none

### Team Reports

**Finance** – See Treasurer's Report

**Property** – Fire Department said we needed to fix a couple of our emergency exit signs. One just needed a bulb. Church road signs needed to be moved off 108. We're looking for two new spots for the two signs we have. Let a council member know if you have any ideas.

**Stewardship** – no report

**Other Business** – One of the services will be lay-led while Pastor Kris is gone January 28 and February 4. For the second one, we will have Sugar Creek come for a talk.

Communion helpers: February 11 Mary Kastenschmidt, February 18 Debbie Peterson

Jim Hines made motion to adjourn, seconded by Mary Kastenschmidt

Respectfully submitted by:  
Debbie Peterson, Secretary

### **Lewis Valley Council Minutes Jan. 9, 2018**

In Attendance: Jerome Nelson, Karen Knutson, Louie Christopherson, Gary Wortman, Barb Anderson, Jodi Anderson & Pastor Kris Fahey

Vice - President Gary Wortman called the meeting to order:

**Approval of Agenda** – Motion made by Jerome Nelson to approve agenda, seconded by Karen Knutson - MMSP

**Secretary Report** – Motion made by Jerome Nelson, seconded by

## COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

### **Other Joint Business:**

**Call Committee** – Betty Pfaff has talked with Asst. Bishop Libby Howe and there are no candidates to interview at this time, the synod office is still looking for candidates for us. The council asked Betty to contact Asst. Bishop Libby Howe to ask her to attend the Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> joint council meeting to explain what options are available to Mindoro & Lewis Valley. The old & new council members are asked to attend this meeting.

**Parsonage Rent** – Jim Hines made a motion to table increasing parsonage rent for 6 months until further information is received regarding a pastor, seconded by Mary Kastenschmidt. MMSP

**Staff Salaries** - Council discussed staff salaries for both churches. Deb Peterson made a motion to add two personal days to the Administrative Assistant's benefits rather than increase salary, seconded by Louis Christopherson, MMSP. Salaries for other staff will remain the same.

**Annual meeting** – Lewis Valley's meeting is Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>, and Mindoro's meeting is Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>. The annual meetings will continue to rotate dates each year.

Motion to adjourn made by Jim Hines, seconded by Debbie Peterson, MMSP.

Next meeting Feb. 13, 2018 at Mindoro

Submitted by: Karen Knutson  
Lewis Valley Secretary

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### **Mindoro Council Meeting Minutes Mindoro Lutheran Church December 12, 2017 at Lewis Valley**

**In Attendance:** President Betty Pfaff, VP Jim Hines, Secretary Debbie Peterson, Mary Kastenschmidt, Jodi Anderson, Pastor Fahey   **Absent:** Becky Berg, Jack Glennie, Josie Groth

**Approval of Agenda** – Motion made by Jim Hines, seconded by Mary Kastenschmidt to approve

**Secretary's Report** – Motion made by Jim Hines, seconded by Mary Kastenschmidt to approve

## THANK YOU

*Thank you to the Sunday School for the nice Christmas cards I received. ~Eloise Thum*



**Thank you so much for your prayers, thoughts and expressions of concern** during my recovery from my fall and my knee replacement surgery. It really means a lot to know that people care and are thinking of me. ~Howard Tracey

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**Lewis Valley W-ELCA,** *Thank you so much* for generously buying Christmas gifts for five of the residents who reside at Lakeview Health Center & Assisted Living. The residents will enjoy receiving those gifts.

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**Lewis Valley W-ELCA,** *God Bless you all* - I thank you for the lovely afghan I received at Christmas. It was very thoughtful. ~Shirley Hoff

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**Lewis Valley W-ELCA,** *On behalf of the Morrow Home Board, residents, and staff, I would like to thank you for your donation of beautiful crocheted blankets to the Morrow Home Community. Your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated.*

### **LEWIS VALLEY W-ELCA 2017 DONATIONS**

The LV W-ELCA gave the following to local and global missions from the Mission Fest 2017 proceeds:

\$100	Children's Vision International
\$50	Chileda
\$50	Coulee Region RSVP
\$200	ELCA Missionary Sponsorship
\$500	ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission
\$1,000	Hunger Task Force
\$100	La Crosse Warming Center
\$50	Lutheran Social Services
\$100	New Horizons
\$100	St. Clare Health Mission
\$50	Sugar Creek Bible Camp
\$350	The Salvation Army

Thank you to all who came to Mission Fest. Our total proceeds/giving from Mission Fest was \$2,650.00!

## **LEWIS VALLEY W-ELCA 2017 DONATION THANK YOU'S**

Each year we receive heartfelt thank you's from our Mission Donation recipients, many of them hand written. Here are just a few snippets:

Children's Vision International - "Thank you for all the prayers, kindness and donations this year. You have helped change many lives not only in Colombia and WI but around the world."

Chileda - "With your support, we are effectively reaching children with significant developmental and behavioral needs. For many of the families of these children and youth, Chileda is the only program suitable for their high degree of needs."

Coulee Region RSVP - "RSVP, through collaboration with area non profit organizations and agencies, provides volunteer services in our community at area schools, medical facilities, social service agencies, transportation services program, handcraft program, home repairs as well as community events to name just a few."

ELCA Missionary Sponsorship and ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission - "It's because of your generosity that we have been able to support 225 missionaries to serve alongside our companions in Christ in 2016 and send over 90 Young Adults in Global Mission into service in 2017."

Hunger Task Force - "We so appreciate your commitment in supporting our food programs."

La Crosse Warming Center - "Together, we are the hands and feet of Christ for our struggling brothers and sisters, and we greatly appreciate your support. God bless you."

St. Clare Health Mission - "With your support the Health Mission and its team of volunteers continue to provide free medical care to those in need. The mission serves individuals who are of low income and who do not have health insurance or qualify for medical assistance programs."

The Salvation Army - "Your gift will help us continue sheltering the homeless, feeding the hungry, and providing hope to those that need it the most."

Once again, thank you to all who came to Mission Fest.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **Joint Council Meeting Minutes Mindoro & Lewis Valley Lutheran Churches Jan. 9, 2018**

In Attendance: Jerome Nelson, Karen Knutson, Betty Pfaff, Louis Christopherson, Debbie Peterson, Mary Kastenschmidt, Gary Wortman, Jim Hines, Barb Anderson, Jodie Anderson, Pastor Fahey Lewis Valley Vice-President Gary Wortman called the meeting to order.

**Devotions:** Pastor Fahey opened with prayer.

**Approval of Agenda** – Mary Kastenschmidt made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Jerome Nelson. MMSP

**Secretary Report** – Jerome Nelson made motion to approve secretary report, seconded by Louie Christopherson, MMSP

**Pastor Report** – Pastor had visited a member in her home and visited home bound members. She worked with the confirmation class gift project. The confirmation class is studying the Apostle's Creed. Pastor will be away the week of Jan. 28-Feb. 4, 2018.

**Education** – Betty Pfaff reported the Sunday School Christmas Program went well. The Sunday School has had more supplies donated and organized. Sunday School is going well with an average attendance of 12 children.

**Outreach** – The Community Dinner will be Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:00p.m. - 6:30 pm. The focus this year will be "Heart Healthy". One of the Mindoro 1<sup>st</sup> Responders will be there to do blood pressures. Mary Kastenschmidt reported the Outreach committee has again requested the Outreach Funds be removed from each church's balance sheet as the Outreach funds are not part of the church's budgets. After much discussion, Karen Knutson made a motion to remove the Outreach Funds from the church's balance sheets as of January 2018, seconded by Jerome Nelson. MMSP. The Outreach funds will be treated the same as W-ELCA funds with a report being submitted in the annual reports for each church.

**Property** – Nothing.      **Stewardship** –Nothing

**Worship** – Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> service will be led by members of each congregation and Cindy Berg, a Mission Interpreter will give a temple talk.

Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> service will also be led by members of each congregation. Lizzie Pfaff will give a temple talk on World Hunger and there will also be a representative from Sugar Creek.

# *Mindoro Lutheran Church Carnival Fundraiser*



Sunday, Feb. 18th

1- 4:30 pm at Mindoro Elem.



**Events:** Basket Raffle, Cakewalk, Face Painting and games including: \*ring toss, \*corn hole, \*sack races, \*sucker pull and \*plinko \*duck pull \*spelling bee.

**Food:** Hot dogs and other refreshments will be sold.



**Feature of the day:** Kiddy Pedal Tractor Pull at 2:30pm, 90 lbs. or less, \$2 reg. fee from 2-2:30pm. Trophies, sponsored by local businesses, will be awarded to the top three places in each division.



## *Tell Your Family & Friends*

Questions?

Debbie Peterson at 608-857-3991

Jodi Anderson at 608-857-3550

**FREE**

## Community Dinner

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

4:00pm - 6:30pm

Cindy's Hall, Mindoro

Ham & Scalloped Potatoes, Corn, Beans, Cole Slaw, Buns, Bars

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**  
**COME AND BRING YOUR NEIGHBORS!**

Sponsored by Mindoro Area Outreach

## LEWIS VALLEY WORSHIP

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Lewis Valley Lutheran Church is committed to reaching toward God and each other, to grow in faith, fellowship and love. We offer opportunities for the community to experience the grace of God and respond in Christian commitment.

Date	Lector	Ushers	Acolyte	Coffee
02/04		Harland & Jean Gabrielson	Carson K.	Sharon Pfaff
02/11	Cathy Gabrielson	Brian Haag, Bill Timm	Ellayna C.	Dawn Pierce
02/18	Carol Taylor	Luke Anderson, Doug Ender	Kaitlynn S.	Marie Puent
02/25	Dave/Becky Whalen	Luke Anderson, Doug Ender	Kacy A.	Brenda Severson

If you are scheduled to serve in any capacity at worship, and cannot make it, please switch with someone else on that volunteer list.

FEBRUARY  
COMMUNION SET UP - Lillian Nordin, Carol Taylor  
  
ALTAR COLORS -  
Feb 4: Green  
Feb 11: White  
Feb 18, 25: Purple



THE LEWIS VALLEY W-ELCA WILL MEET on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, at 6:30pm, to prepare the 2018 W-ELCA Roster. All are welcome to attend.

### JANUARY FINANCIAL GIVING

Sunday Envelope Offering .....	\$4,267
Sunday Loose Offering .....	\$39
Simply Giving (electronic transfer).....	included above
Pay Pal Giving .....	included above
Total Giving.....	\$4,306

## MINDORO WORSHIP

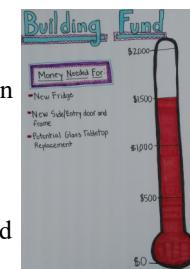
**MISSION STATEMENT:** Mindoro Lutheran Church is committed to reaching toward God and to each other, to grow together in faith, fellowship and love.

Date	Lector	Ushers	Acolyte	Coffee
02/04	Ginny Wegner	Scott & Shari Bockenhauer	Kyle O.	Potluck
02/11	Eileen Collins	Jeff Hanson, Neal Hanson	Maya S..	Lizzie Pfaff Ella Hafner
02/18	Michael Merrell	Jeff Hanson, Neal Hanson	Hunter L. and Mackenzie W.	Needed
02/25	Beth McRae	Michael Merrell, Madison Merrell	Peyton B.	Beth McRae

### WE HAVE A FUNDRAISER THERMOMETER AT MINDORO.

The “temperature” is rising to cover the cost of the new refrigerator, basement door, and other needed repairs.

Approximately \$2000, in addition to the regular offering, is needed. Just \$400 plus a few dollars are needed to reach the goal.



**MINDORO QUILTING**  
Mondays and Tuesdays each week starting at 9:00am  
Bring a sack lunch.  
Newcomers are always welcome.  
No experience necessary.

FEBRUARY  
COMMUNION SET UP - Nancy Kish, Patty Kastenschmidt  
  
ALTAR COLORS -  
Feb 4: Green  
Feb 11: White  
Feb 18, 25: Purple



### JANUARY FINANCIAL GIVING

Sunday Envelope Offering .....	\$5,185.00
Sunday Loose Offering .....	\$16.50
Simply Giving (electronic transfer).....	included above
Pay Pal Giving .....	included above
Total Giving .....	\$5,201.50