



The Voice

St. John's Lutheran Church Serving the Lord for 114 years

February 2019

No Greater Love!

¹³ Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends (*King James Version*)

Have you ever heard the phrase, "Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get."? This is a famous quote from a movie titled Forrest Gump, spoken by the lead character, Forrest Gump, played by Tom Hanks. In the month of February, I often think of this phrase when looking over the large selections of Valentine's Day boxes of assorted chocolates at Walmart, trying to pick one out at the last minute like many people. Though my intentions are good, I often wonder if this gift of chocolates will be a heart shaped reminder to my wife that reminds her of my love or will it be a gift that will only leave a bad taste in her mouth?

In the Gospel of John, chapter fifteen, Jesus tells the disciples about God's love by telling them how He is going to take the sins of the world on to himself to the cross and die. For many of the disciples, I could imagine this news from Jesus being accepted like a spouse receiving a last minute Valentine's Day present with the sarcastic phrase "Oh, how sweet of you!" Jesus telling them that the Heavenly Father sent Him to die, gave the disciples feelings of disbelief that death is a sign of God's love. Though this message may have seemed like a



bad tasting filling covered in chocolate, they learned shortly that this cross was not a last minute gift from the local Walmart, but a planned out gift from God since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden. The cross became a symbol of God's love to Christians and has lasted for over two thousand years and hangs in worship spaces where Christians meet throughout the world.

In the busy stress filled lives in which we live, it is easy to forget that God or anyone in this world loves us. Whether we are married, divorced, widowed or single, it is easy at times to feel alone and forgotten, but we must remember that in our baptism, we the church have been united to Christ. Life may be filled with the uncertainty as in a box of chocolates, but with Christ, we are given certainty that when He says to you that you are forgiven, you receive not a last second sign of love, but the forgiveness of our sins paid for on the Cross. That is a gift of our Heavenly Father's love for you from the beginning of time, now and forever! So may you, in this month of February, be filled with the love of Christ that is greater than any love!

Sincerely, *Pastor Ben Hollingsead*

TAX FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

Financial statements (in alphabetical order) are in the box next to Offering envelopes. If you do not see your name, please let Rachel know.

ESTIMATE OF GIVING AND SERVICE:

Sheets are on the table in the narthex. If you did not receive your sheets in the mail, please take the sheets, fill them out, put them in the attached envelope, and return to church as soon as possible.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE to contribute \$15 for our worship services, you may sign up on the flower chart in the narthex, indicating to whom the flowers are dedicated.

**BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS!!**

There are boxes of books in the narthex by the coat closet that are looking for a new home. If you are interested in any of them, please feel free to take whatever you would like. Any books that are remaining by the middle of February will be donated to Family Pathways.

**Feed My Starving Children Update**

Thank you to the 30 people who went to FMSC on January 19th. Your shift packed 49,032

meals. This will feed 134 children in Sierra Leone for a year. Awesome!

Mission Events Coming Soon

Red Cross Blood Drive at St. John's Lutheran on February 12th from 1:00 – 7:00 PM. Missions will team with Evangelism.

Mn Adult and Teen Challenge choir will be at St. John's Lutheran on February 17th, both services with lunch served to them following the 9:30 AM service. Missions will team with Outreach to host this event.

Minnesota Food Share (Pack the Pews) food drive in March.

Options for Women (baby bottle boomerang) in April.

Please look for additional information for each of these events at the Mission's display in the narthex, in upcoming issues of the Voice, and in future Sunday bulletins. Contact Harvey Berg at 651-462-1168 if you would like more information at this time.

**Brothers,
Breakfast and
Bible**

Calling men of St. John's! Our next morning men's breakfast

will be February 19th at 7:00 AM. It will be a great opportunity to share in fellowship while eating breakfast together at the Village Inn in Wyoming, MN. We will have a devotion to reflect on as a group. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Ben 651-323-3293.



**St. John's Lutheran Church
Financial Report December 2018**

Budget Offerings (5 Sundays)	\$ 17,600.00	
Actual Offerings Received	\$ 15,907.00	
Offering Budget Shortage	\$ - (1,693.00)	
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Office Expense	\$ 403.00	Worship
& Music	\$ 30.00	
Advertising/Evangelism	\$ 51.00	
Phone	\$ 80.00	
Computer Operations	\$ 125.00	
Payroll service Fees	\$ 51.00	
Administrative Exp.	\$ 740.00	
Excel Electric	\$ 437.00	
Excel Gas	\$ 232.00	
City Water & Trash	\$ 209.00	
Building Repair & Maint.	\$ 50.00	
Custodial Supplies, Misc.	\$ 173.00	
Building Expenses	\$ 1,101.00	
Employee Salaries	\$ 9,563.00	
Visiting Pastors	\$ 0.00	
Work Comp. Ins.	\$ 0.00	
Total Salaries	\$ 9,563.00	
Christian Outreach	\$ 0.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 11,404.00	
End of Month Total	\$ 4,503.00	
<small>(offerings minus expenses)</small>		
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Check Book Balance	\$ 142,629.00	
Liabilities	\$ 0.00	
Actual Cash Balance	\$ 142,629.00	
Dedicated Accts. Balance	\$ 126,041.00	
Church Acct. Balance	\$ 16,588.00	
N. Branch School Rental Balance	\$ 2,100.00	
Gen. Offering Bal.: Year to Date	(\$ - 39,773.00)	

If you have any questions regarding this report,
please call Patha Vue Treasurer at (651) 313-3165
Thank you!

FOOD PANTRY

Let us all remember to donate food items into our Food Pantry. Local food shelves are always in need of non-perishable food items to help the less fortunate. Also, don't forget paper needs like baby formula, diapers, soap, toilet paper, etc... are always needed. Buy one item for yourselves, but also buy one for the Pantry. Christian Outreach Committee will see that the items are delivered to the local food shelf.

WE WISH EACH ONE OF YOU A BLESSED DAY AND PRAY THAT GOD WILL BLESS YOU THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

FEBRUARY WILLING WORKERS FOR CHRIST



Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

8 AM SERVICES GREETERS

03 Dewaine & Joyce
Hischer
10 Ron & Marlene Chelberg
17 Dave & Kim Schmidt
24 Clark Kubat & Nancy
Antonson

READERS

03 Linda Miller
10 Kathy Spiczka
17 Teen Challenge
24 Bill Pohl

USHERS

03 Terry & Kirk Dahle
10 Anya & Bernadette
17 The Johnson's (James)
24

LAY-SHEPHERD

03 Corky Peterson
10 Linnea Kment
17 Teen Challenge
24 Evelyn Dockham

ACOLYTE 8 AM

03 Bella Johnson
10 Jillian Horfall
17 Nicole Robbins
24 Bella Johnson

9:30 SERVICES GREETERS

03 Georgia & Jerry Loscheider
10 Amber Hollingsead & Girls
17
24 Judy Curry

READERS

03 Bethany Hardy
10
17 Teen Challenge
24 Evelyn Dockham

USHERS

03
10 Georgia Melander
17 Teresa Humble & Nancy
Bernard
24

LAY-SHEPHERD

03 Linda Welch
10 Linda Welch
17 Teen Challenge
24 Linda Welch

ACOLYTE 9:30 AM

03 Emily Willing
10 Broox Gajeski
17 Raechel Abress
24 Evan Locke

FELLOWSHIP HOST

03 Evelyn Dockham
10 Kathy Spiczka
17 The Johnson's (James)
24 Humbles

ALTAR GUILD

Set Up

03 Cindy Johnson
17 None - Teen Challenge

Clean Up

Louise Wilner

Set Up


10 Cindy Johnson
24 Cindy Johnson

Clean Up

Sharon Jaworski
Louise Wilner

St. John's Lutheran Church

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Youth Super Bowl Pizza sale 8:00 & 9:30 Traditional Services	4	5 Master Key 7PM	6 School Board Meeting 6:30 PM GA 6:00 PM Faithweavers 6:30 PM	7 Quilting Bee 5:30 PM	8 Youth Scrap- booking	9 Youth Making Pizza Youth Scrapbooking
10 8:00 Traditional Service 9:30 Contemporary Service	11 Outreach 6PM Missions 7PM	12 Blood Drive 1:00 - 7:00PM Master Key 7PM	13 GA 6:00 PM Faithweavers 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM	14 Happy Valentine's Day! 	15	16
17 MN Adult and Teen Challenge 8:00 & 9:30 Service	18 Council Meeting 7PM	19 Master Key 7PM	20 GA 6:00 PM Faithweavers 6:30 PM	21 Quilting Bee 5:30 PM	22	23
24 8:00 & 9:30 Traditional services	25	26 Master Key 7PM	27 GA 6:00 PM Faithweavers 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM	28 Quilting Bee 5:30 PM		

Little Angel Preschool is in the midst of growth, change and transition. We are excited to explore expansion of our program and to further reach the community by offering classes in afternoons and evenings, helping families secure county/state tuition assistance and implementing a more user-friendly on-line enrollment and tuition system, just to name a few.



Little Angel Preschool has also been in the process of some serious restructuring in order to manage the growth of our school and continue to provide excellence to our students. We have spent many months now developing job descriptions for the School Board and its members, including specific duties for each officer on the School Board. We have revised all staff job descriptions, organizing the duties to the specific staff position, particularly specifying the duties of the Director in managing the Department of Human Services requirements. Our goal is to do a smoother, better job at educating our students in the context of the Christian faith to glorify God.

As a lot of you already know, Fritz Wheatley resigned as our Director, effective the end of 2018. She was our interim Director. We are very thankful that she has been part of our team and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

We also want to report that Deb Hoppe has turned in her resignation as preschool teacher, effective the end of the school year. We have accepted that, are very thankful she has been part of our team and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

The School Board has gone through the process of interviewing and hiring a new Director. We would like to welcome Makayla Wahlberg.

Through Makayla the Board will ensure that state licensing requirements, curriculum expectations, student/parent communications and staffing needs are being fulfilled. She is a great addition to our team.

As we plan for next school year, we will pursue a teacher of quality, so we are ready to go this fall. As we go through these transitions, please join us in prayer so we can continue the ministry that God has in mind for us.

Dayna Born
Chairperson
651-983-4467
Daynalpalmer@yahoo.com

- ◆ *Little Angel Preschool*
 - ◆ *Willing workers*
 - ◆ *Calendar*
 - ◆ *Events/Services*
 - ◆ *Pastor's Article*
- Inside This Issue:*

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Pastor Ben Hollingshead
Cell: 651-323-3293
Return Service Requested

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The Voice of St. John's

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