



What is the Bible?

On September 13th, we kicked off a new Sunday adult education hour with a study on what we, as Lutheran Christians, believe about the Bible. Below is some of what we covered at the study that might be fruitful for your faith.

First, as Lutheran Christians, we confess *Sola Scriptura*, which means that the Word of God in Holy Scripture is our final authority in the Church. We believe that the Word of God in Holy Scripture is God's breathed Word written down by His appointed Prophets and Apostles, that is the infallible authority for our faith and life. We believe that the Word of God has six unique attributes. The first key attribute of the Word of God is that it is inspired. The Apostle Paul says in 2nd Timothy 3:16-17: "¹⁶ *All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,* ¹⁷ *that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work*", meaning that the sixty-six books of Holy Scripture in the Bible is God's revealed Word.

Second, we, the Church, believe that the inspired Word of God is inerrant. Jesus our Lord and Savior prayed "⁷ *Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.*" in the Gospel of John, chapter 17, verse 17. What Christ was revealing to us is that the Word of God is truth because it comes from God, who is infallible.

Leading to our third belief of the Word of God, that it is infallible. The Word of God is infallible because of who this revealed Word is coming from. As Jesus said in the Gospel of John, the tenth chapter, verse thirty-five, "*If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken*". We believe that as Jesus said Scripture is without error because God does not lie and is without error.

Fourth, because we believe that the Word of God is inspired, inerrant, and infallible, we also believe that the Word of God is sufficient for our faith and moral living. The Apostle Paul said the following in Galatians chapter one, verse eight: “⁸ *But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed*”, warning the Church that we should not wander from God’s, Word whether it is His law or gospel because if we do, we will be led astray.

Fifth, we believe that the Word of God is clear. Being that God does not lie or seek to lead us astray, His Word is not to be understood with reason of our own but have faith that what God says is true and that it will do what it says it will do. As Psalm 119, verse 105 says, “*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*” God’s word is a clear light to guide His Church.

The sixth unique attribute to the Word of God is that it is efficacious. What this means is that the Word of God is powerful and it accomplishes what it says it will. For example, the Apostle Paul said in First Thessalonians, One, verse five, “*Because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.*”

In summary, the Word of God is as A.L Graebner writes in his Outlines of Doctrinal Theology that the Bible was given to convey the understanding of men the truths of Holy Writ, to convert the unregenerate, strengthen the faith the regenerate, rear them in holiness of life, afford comfort to the afflicted, furnish weapons of offense and defense to combat error, falsehood and conflict with God’s truth. All this for the glory of God and man’s eternal salvation.

Sincerely, Pastor Ben Hollingsead

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – LCMC

Church Council Minutes

Date: 8/17/2020

Present: Sue Lein, Hal Satter, Linda Dilts, Bethany Hardy, Derek Fitcher, Barb Peterson, Nicole Anderson, Harvey Berg (subbing for Roxann Berg), Pastor Ben, Linnea Kment, Linda Welch

Absent: Jim Johnson

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM by Linda Welch.

Pastor Ben opened with devotion and prayer.

Minutes Approved

Nicole Anderson motioned to approve the minutes from 7/20/20, Sue Lein seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial Report

July 2020 Financial Report was reviewed.

Pastor's Report

Burial for a member of the VFW

Mel White is doing better since his stroke.

The new Christ Candleholder is now in the sanctuary.

Community Service members have been in the church helping out recently.

Happy to have Lynn back playing on Sundays! Jeff will also continue to play on contemporary service days.

New Business

- Election of officers
 - ◇ **President**
 - Nicole Anderson nominated Derek Fitcher, Bethany Hardy second.
 - Hal Satter nominated Jim Johnson, Derek Fitcher second.
 - Majority vote for Derek Fitcher.
 - ◇ **Vice President**
 - Sue Lein nominated Nicole Anderson, Hal Satter second.
 - Linda Dilts nominated Jim Johnson, Nicole Anderson second.
 - Majority vote for Nicole Anderson.
 - ◇ **Secretary**
 - Bethany Hardy was nominated and approved by the congregation at the semi-annual meeting on 7/26/20.
 - ◇ **Treasurer**
 - Sue Lein nominated Linda Dilts, Bethany Hardy second.
 - No other nominations on the floor.
 - Majority vote for Linda Dilts.
- Constitutional Changes
 - ◇ A council term review committee will meet to potentially change the way the council terms are arranged. Contact Bethany Hardy if interested in being on this committee by September 15th.
- LCMC gathering
 - ◇ The gathering will be done online this year. The speakers are limited and Pastor Ben is not requesting to attend this year.

- North Branch Schools
 - ◇ Due to a different lease situation, the North Branch School will not be utilizing our building for their before and after school care program. Due to COVID, the school has leased out space in the Tanger Mall empty spaces so they will need to use that space instead.
 - Education Hour
 - ◇ Starts September 13th at 10:30. Committees are welcome to bring small items for goody bags for kids as a modified version of Rally Day.
 - Job Descriptions
 - ◇ Job descriptions need to be updated for some positions within the church as well as council officer positions.
 - Signers for the bank
 - ◇ We need to have a backup person as a signer for the checkbook. Currently, Patha is our only active signer.
 - ◇ Hal Satter made a motion to add Derek Fitcher, Nicole Anderson, and Linda Dilts to the church bank account at First Nation Bank of Wyoming, Sue Lein second. Motion carried.
 - Water Cooler
 - ◇ The water cooler motor is dying and the company will not maintain it any longer due to its age. The cooler will be replaced.
 - PPP Loan Update
 - ◇ Money has been spent and we are waiting for the bank to send the forgiveness application to come.
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Bethany Hardy motioned to adjourn at 9:11 PM, Hal Satter seconded, motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by,

Bethany Hardy, Council Secretary

St John's Lutheran Church Financial Report

August 2020

Budget Offerings (5 Sundays) \$17,589.70

Actual Offerings Received \$9,820.77

Offering Budget Shortage (\$7,768.93)

Postage	\$0.00
Phone	\$82.15
Advertising/Evangelism	\$27.50
Worship Supplies	\$215.20
Confirmation	\$0.00
Building Liability Insurance	\$0.00
Pastor's Discretion Exp. Acct	\$1,045.56
Computer Operations	\$125.00
Office Expense	\$408.25
Vanco Payment	\$17.69
Payroll Service Fees	\$41.72
Administrative Expenses	\$1,963.07

Excel Electric	\$461.87
Gas	\$72.10
City Water & Trash	\$321.75
Custodial Supplies-Misc.	\$90.00
Building Repair & Maint.	\$126.83
Building Expenses	\$1,072.55

<i>Employee Salaries</i>	\$9,771.68
<i>LAP Salaries & Tax</i>	\$757.86
<i>Payroll Tax</i>	\$214.59
<i>Visiting Pastors</i>	\$0.00
<i>Work comp Ins</i>	\$0.00
Total Salaries	\$10,744.13

Christian Outreach \$0.00

Total Expenses \$13,779.75

End of Month Total (\$3,958.98)
(offerings minus expenses)

Check Book Balance	\$86,917.55
Liabilities	\$14,150.00
<i>Actual Cash Balance</i>	\$72,767.55

Dedicated accounts balance:	\$96,085.09
Church Account Balance:	(\$23,317.54)

General Offering Balance: Year to Date:	(\$19,671.93)
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If you have any question regarding this report please see the church council.

Pastor Appreciation Sunday

Pastor appreciation Sunday will be held on **Sunday, October 11th, 2020** after 9:00 AM service.



PASTOR
APPRECIATION
DAY

This is a time to thank Pastor Ben and his family for their services at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Please remember to bring your cards, well wishes, gifts, and thank you's for our spiritual leader and family.

It is unfortunate that we will NOT be able to serve refreshments due to Covid-19.

Let's all show our appreciation for Pastor Ben's leadership for the last two and a half years.

Flea Market/Garage Sale

With Covid 19, all of the 2020 fundraisers for St John's were canceled.

We will be having a modified Flea Market/Garage Sale on October 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) 9 AM to 3 PM, rain or shine, all proceeds from this sale will be going to St. John's.



The set up will be in the parking lot using the parking spaces as our social distancing.

If there are any members who have items to sell, there will be spaces available. Remember all proceeds go to St. John's.

Members will be responsible for their own spaces, set up, tear down and selling of items. Members will need to supply their own tables, trailers, or the back of a pick-up truck. St. John's will not provide any tables.

If you have any questions or to reserve a spot, please call the church office. 651-462-5115

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed.

Confirmation

Sunday, October 25th at 9 AM, we will be confirming our four confirmands: Emily Willing, Jordan La Roux, Raechel Abress & Broox Gajeski, who were going to be confirmed in May but were not able to due to COVID-19.

Garden Maintenance

With fewer people available to help maintain the many flower gardens around St. John's, the Property Committee will be removing all flowers on the east side of the building next spring. We are asking anyone who would like the flowers to please come in and dig them up. The flower beds will be replaced with grass for easy upkeep for the few volunteers we have available to maintain the property.

The beds have been marked with **PINK** flags and **SIGNS** for easy identification. Please only take from these gardens.

Weather permitting, the flowers left will be removed by the end of October or in Spring of 2021. Any questions, please call the church office.



“COMING UP”

IMAGINARY COVID BAKE SALE!!

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1st

After 9 AM Church Service

A donation of your choice would be very much appreciated.



Thank you from the Outreach Committee

- We were blessed with a wonderful first month of school. We have 7 students on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday's and 10 students on Tuesday and Thursday.
- We have a few more students that might join us in October.
- Nakesha and Linnea are doing a wonderful job getting the students adjusted to being in school. We have a pretty young crowd this year and most are new to a school or daycare setting.
- **We are still looking for new members to join the school board. If you are interested, please let us know. You do not need to have an educational background.**

Thank you for your never ending support.

Lisa Loso

LAP Chairperson/Treasurer.

Christian Outreach

Next meeting is Monday,

October 12, 2020 at **2:00 PM.**

Please note the time has changed.

OCTOBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 FLEA MARKET	2 FLEA MARKET	3 FLEA MARKET
4 Education Hour— 10:30 AM	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Education Hour— 10:30 AM Pastor APPRECI- ATION Day	12 Christian Outreach – 2:00 PM	13 LAP School Board— 6:30 PM	14	15 MEA No School	16 MEA No School	17
18 Education Hour— 10:30 AM	19 Church Council— 7:00 PM	20	21	22	23	24
25 Education Hour— 10:30 AM CONFIRMATION –9 AM	26	27	28	29	30	31 HALLOWEEN

Sunday Service

**Reminder: MASKS ARE REQUIRED,
unless there is a medical reason.**

**We are holding Sunday Service at 9:00 AM.
Education Hour is at 10:30 AM**

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◆	<i>Financial Report</i>
◆	<i>Council Minutes</i>
◆	<i>Pastor's Article</i>
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Pastor Ben Hollingshead
Cell: 651-323-3293
Office Secretary: Lisa Loso

Return Service Requested

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Voice of St. John's

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