



October 2021

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**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church** *Serving the Lord for 117 Years*

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Getting to know the Church Council

Until the hiring of a new pastor and the return of the letter from the pastor, we will be featuring one member of the church council each month.

**Name:** Derek Fitcher

**Where do you live:** North Branch

**How long have you been a member of St. John's:** My family joined St. John's in 2014.

**What brought you here:** After moving to North Branch in 2014, we were looking for a church to baptize our youngest daughter.

**Tell us about your family:** My wife is named Ashley. Together we have 3 children, Danica, Alek, and Cara. We also have a 12 year old dog named Ginger that is part poodle, terrier, and shih tzu.

**Tell us about your hobbies:** Right now I spend most of my time bringing my kids to all of their after school activities. When I get time to myself, I typically golf or fish. Ashley and I enjoy going to see comedians and concerts together.

**What do you like most about going to church here:** While we were looking for a church to baptize Cara, we also wanted one that had a strong Sunday School program. We have been grateful for all of the teachers who have helped out with that program over the years. Our kids always have a good time and look forward to coming each Sunday. It was missed last year when we had to close it down. I have also enjoyed my time with the council and planning the community events, rally day, and all of the other events to bring people into the church or bring our congregation together.

**Explain your role on church council and any committees you are apart of:** I am a part of the Evangelism committee. This committee functions to advertise for St. John's in the community. We currently advertise in the Isanti-Chisago County Star paper and are members of the North Branch Chamber of Commerce. This committee also helps administer the church webpage and Facebook page with the help of Lisa in the office. I am currently the only member of this committee so if anyone would like to join me, you can let Lisa know or talk to me each Sunday as I am typically filming the Sunday service to stream on Facebook and running the sound-board.

I started on council in 2016 on a future planning committee. That committee broke up as the function was moved to all of the committees. I stayed on until there was an opening with Evangelism in 2018 and have been there ever since. I was elected the council president in 2020. This role keeps me up to date in all areas of St. John's to help in grow in the future.

Respectfully,

Derek Fitcher

# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – LCMC

## Church Council Minutes

**Date:** 08/16/2021

**Present:** Linda Dilts, Derek Fitcher, , Barb Peterson, Lisa Loso, Kim Schmidt, Della Antisdell, Linnea Kment, Jim Johnson, Grace Johnson, Hal Satter, Pastor Ben, Sue Lien, Lisa Loso, Cindy Johnson, Bethany Hardy

**Absent:** Nicole Anderson

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by Derek Fitcher.

Pastor Ben opened with a reading of "How to find a Lutheran" reading and prayer.

### **Minutes Approved**

Kim Schmidt motioned to approve the minutes from 07/19/21, Linda Dilts seconded. Motion carried.

### **Financial Report**

July 2021 Financial report was reviewed and discussed.

### **Constitution Committee**

Members - Bethany Hardy, Nicole Anderson, Derek Fitcher, Harvey Berg, Vickey Nelson, Pastor Ben

Bethany stated that they will get the committee started again and suggested that they work on Chapter 8.

Asked for other suggestions. Derek stated that they start with Chapter 1 and move forward.

### **Call Committee**

Volunteers that were interested on being on the committee – Jim Johnson, Grace Johnson, Della Antisdell, Bethany Hardy, Nancy Nelson, Lynne Graber, Kathy Spiczka, Linda Dilts, Karan Murphy, Lisa Loso, and Derek Fitcher.

Constitution Chapter 12 states that the call committee should contain 6 voting members from St. John's. It was decided that a ballot vote would be completed. Nine council members voted, and Derek Fitcher read the results.

Motion made by Kim Schmidt to accept the 6 members for the Call Committee, Linnea Kment second. Motion carried

Call Committee will consist of – Jim Johnson, Grace Johnson, Della Antisdell, Bethany Hardy, Nancy Nelson, Linda Dilts

Derek will attend the meetings for support and if needed a tie breaker.

There was a discussion if the call committee meetings should be held as closed meetings or open meetings. Pastor Ben handed out and read a letter that he created on confidentiality. The decision was made for the call committee to decide on how they wanted to handle the meetings. They will let Derek know their choice and an email vote will be conducted.

Derek will notify all that volunteered on the decision of the members.

### **Pastor's Report**

Thankful for his last 3.5 years here and all that have been involved.

Amber and Pastor Ben will have all the Sunday School lessons completed by end of week.

He will visit with the last of members that need communion. He will provide a list to Derek, Linnea, and Lisa.

Had the Locke memorial on 08/14 and will also have a memorial in Lindstrom on 08/21.

Will make sure that all passwords and account information be passed to Derek.

### **Committee Updates**

Evangelism – Derek will be helping with pulpit and visiting Pastors.

Pastor Fiske will help with services and visiting those that need it.

Pastor Stoutenberg offered to help with Confirmation classes and will do service on 08/29 & 09/12.

Christian Outreach – Sent out 8 cards last month. Calling on families in need.

Funeral lunch cost will be increased due to the increase of food cost.

Events – 8/28 Hischer memorial, 09/26 DIY Chili, 10/24 Bake Sale, 11/13 Craft/Vendor fair.

Elvis has retired. Working on other entertainment.

Education – Jim is working on getting Confirmation set up.

Youth – Youth will help with the craft/vendor fair.

They made \$130 on the community event selling slushes. Money will be used for new furniture for the youth room.

Worship & Music – It was suggested to hold the community event in the spring and to have a subcommittee that will oversee the event.

### **Property update**

Community Event made \$30 from the sales of the food truck.

Front gutters need to be replaced due to the gutters being plugged and bending.

Pastors' office window needs to be repaired or replaced. Trying to get parts for it.

There are 2 hot water heaters that need to be replaced. Suggested to replace the laundry room first and then the lower level. Motion made to spend \$1000 on the replacement of two water heaters by Linda Dilts and second by Linnea Kment. Motion carried.

Starting September, the work crew will meet weekly.

Little Angel Preschool update

10 students enrolled so far. There were several new tours.

Gina Scott started working and is working on curriculum. Depending on enrollment Gina may be the lead teacher.

Open house will be August 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM/

LAP will not be involved in St. John's community event unless more planning is made, and the event is changed.

They will focus on doing an event at Stacy Days.

Silent auction/raffle made \$2065 for the scholarship program.

Missions – Still working on Viking Vittles

Red Cross canceled due to no staff.

Trying to get a date for Feed my starving children.

Would like to come up with another plan for school supplies.

### **Other Business**

Sunday School/Rally Day – Sue Lien

September 12 – each committee will do a game and prizes. Set up time will be at 8:00 AM before service starts.

Sunday school will be held after services approximately at 10:20 to 11:00.

Looking for volunteers and helpers.

Worship and music – Sue Lien

Handed out Worship and Music Job description. Referred to # 5 that the committee is responsible for services. They would like to keep services consistent with the visiting Pastors to make things easier for Lynne and Lisa.

They will contact volunteers to help when needed. Cindy Johnson suggested to use the congregation members to help. Also suggested to use the willing worker forms that are sent out each year.

Employee Handbook –

Due to VBS and other things going on this has not been started but Linda and Lisa will work on this in the next month.

Weddings and Funerals –

It was brought to the attention that we do not have wedding or funeral polices. It was discussed that this should be added to our By-Laws. Derek will bring this to the Constitution and By-Laws committee to work on.

Coffee Bar Remodel

They have decided to keep the coffee area as is.

Grace Johnson motioned to adjourn at 9:00 pm, seconded, Kim Schmidt motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa Loso, Church Secretary

## St John's Lutheran Church Financial Report

August 2021

	Month End	YTD	Budget 2021
<b>Budget Offerings ( 5 Sundays)</b>	\$12,500.00	\$62,500.00	\$150,000.00
<b>Actual Offerings Received</b>	\$13,022.14	\$91,180.39	
<b>Offering Budget Shortage</b>	\$522.14	\$28,680.39	
<b>Debt Forgiveness/Grant</b>	\$0.00	\$14,150.00	
<b>From Dedicated Account</b>	\$0.00	\$4,619.32	
Postage	\$122.00	\$642.00	\$575.00
Phone	\$80.53	\$648.46	\$1,100.00
Advertising/Evangelism	\$95.25	\$1,069.37	\$350.00
Worship Supplies	\$0.00	\$263.29	\$500.00
Confirmation	\$0.00	\$565.17	\$0.00
Building Liability Insurance	\$0.00	\$5,881.75	\$7,300.00
Pastor's Discretion Exp. Acct.	\$175.00	\$4,027.53	\$0.00
Computer Operations	\$272.00	\$1,102.43	\$1,750.00
Office Expense	\$892.04	\$3,250.93	\$5,000.00
Vanco Payment	\$27.10	\$253.09	\$120.00
Payroll Service Fees	\$27.84	\$357.76	\$650.00
Worship and Music Flowers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$780.00
Worship & Music	\$0.00	\$471.39	\$0.00
Sunday School	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Offering Envelopes	\$0.00	\$331.39	\$400.00
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,691.76</b>	<b>\$18,864.56</b>	<b>\$18,525.00</b>
Excel Electric	\$606.33	\$3,307.42	\$7,000.00
Gas	\$64.58	\$2,665.02	\$3,850.00
City Water & Trash	\$83.15	\$1,298.53	\$2,500.00
Custodial Supplies-Misc.	\$119.04	\$1,364.10	\$1,500.00
Building Repair & Maint.	\$75.74	\$3,958.62	\$9,000.00
<b>Building Expenses</b>	<b>\$948.84</b>	<b>\$12,593.69</b>	<b>\$23,850.00</b>
Employee Salaries	\$9,086.93	\$72,396.13	\$113,020.00
LAP Salaries & Tax	(\$24.41)	(\$24.41)	\$0.00
Payroll Tax	\$185.16	\$1,466.00	\$2,526.00
Visiting Pastors	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$450.00
Work Comp. Ins.	\$0.00	\$1,127.18	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Salaries</b>	<b>\$9,422.68</b>	<b>\$75,139.90</b>	<b>\$116,996.00</b>
<b>Christian Outreach</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$42.16</b>	<b>\$1,800.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$12,063.28</b>	<b>\$106,640.31</b>	<b>\$161,171.00</b>
End of Month Total	\$958.86	\$3,309.40	
(offerings minus expenses)			
Check Book Balance	\$39,207.74		
Liabilities	\$0.00		
<b>Actual Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$39,207.74</b>		
Dedicated accounts balance:	\$48,796.66		
General Account Balance:	(\$9,588.92)		

If you have any question regarding this report please see the church council.

**Prayer Chain**

Christ calls us His Church to bear each others burdens. One way to do this is by praying for each other in good times and bad. If you would like to submit a prayer of concern or praise to be prayed for by our prayer chain daily and/or in weekly services, feel free to submit them to the church office via phone

(651) 462-5115 or email

([StJohns@midconetwork.com](mailto:StJohns@midconetwork.com)).

You can also submit them to our Lay Shepherd, Linnea Kment by phone (651) 464-7490.

**Call Committee**

**St. John's Call Committee will be holding an open forum on October 10th after the 9:00 AM service. An update will be given and any questions or comments will be answered.**

Call Committee: Jim Johnson (Chairperson), Bethany Hardy (Co-Chair), Linda Dilts, Della Antidel, Grace Johnson, and Nancy Nelson

If you have any questions or thoughts on what the committee should be looking for in a new pastor, you may ask any member of the committee or contact Derek Fitcher at (651) 398-3074 or

[dfitcher98@gmail.com](mailto:dfitcher98@gmail.com).

**OCTOBER MEETINGS:**

- **History Committee**  
To be determined
- **Bell Choir**  
Meets every Wednesday at 7PM
- **Missions**  
October 11th, 7:00 PM
- **Christian Outreach**  
October 11th , 2:00 PM
- **Little Angel Preschool Board**  
October 12th, 6:30 PM
- **Church Council**  
October 18th, 7:00 PM
- **Worship & Music**  
October 25th , 10:00 AM
- **Property/Work Crew**  
Meets every Tuesday at 8:30 AM



**All Saints Day**

November 7th is All Saints Day. Anyone wishing to light or have a candle lit for their loved one, please contact Lisa Loso in the

office (651-462-5115) or fill out a

form at the "What's Happening" table.

All need to be in by October 30th.

**Thank you chili buyers. We made \$299 on Sunday to put towards the kitchen stove.  
Christian Outreach**

**October Greeters**

October 3rd—	OPEN
October 10th—	OPEN
October 17th—	OPEN
October 24th—	OPEN
October 31st—	OPEN

Would you like to be a greeter?

We are looking for volunteers to greet at the 9:00 AM service. Greeters will need to be at church by 8:30 AM. Please call the church office or sign up at the "What's Happening" table if you are interested. 651-462-5115



Christian Outreach will be

holding a BAKE SALE in place of the Annual Farmer's Market on **October 24th, 2021**. All proceeds are going to a new stove.

Christian Outreach will be hosting Egg Bakes on November 7th. We hope that all can join to bring back some events that we have been missing.



Do you like to read?

We are looking for volunteers who would like to read stories to our Little Angel Preschool students. The time would be after their lunch at 11:45/12:00.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Lisa Loso.

651-462-5115



**Viking Vittles – Food Packing**

Please help pack bags of food each Sunday, starting October 10<sup>th</sup>, for the Viking Vittles food distribution program. Support the Youth and Missions in this charitable effort to help address food insecurity issues in our community. Each Sunday, starting October 10<sup>th</sup>, Youth and Missions will set up a food packing station at St. John's Lutheran and ask you to help fill bags that will be delivered in the following week to students in the Stacy community. We can't do it alone. We need your help. Look for more information at the Missions' display in the narthex and in Sunday bulletins.



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH STACY**

**8th ANNUAL CRAFT/VENDOR FAIR**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13th FROM 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM**

**GET YOUR CHRISTMAS**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**31075 GENESIS AVE**

**STACY, MN 55079**

**VENDOR &**



**FAIR**

**SHOPPING DONE EARLY**

**COFFEE & LUNCH AVAILABLE**

**BOOTH SPACE INFO CALL NANCY AT 651-257-1859**



# OCTOBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Service—9:00 AM Pastor Tony	4	5 Property 8:30 AM	6 Bell Practice 7:00 PM	7	8	9
10 Service—9:00 AM Pastor Paul	11 Outreach 2PM	12 LAP Board 6:30 PM	13 Bell Practice 7:00 PM	14	15	16
17 Service—9:00 AM Pastor Tony	18 Council 7PM	19 Property 8:30 AM	20 Bell Practice 7:00 PM	21	22	23
24 Service—9:00 AM Lay Shepherds Bake Sale	25 Worship & Music 10 AM	26 Property 8:30 AM	27 Bell Practice 7:00 PM	28	29	30
31 Pastor Tony Happy Halloween						



**St. John's currently holds service on Sundays at 9:00 AM.  
Fellowship is hosted by church committees following service.  
Sunday School at 10:15 AM.**

- ◆ *Announcements*
  - ◆ *Financial Report*
  - ◆ *Council Minutes*
  - ◆ *Council Article*
- Inside This Issue:*

*Church Office: 651-462-5115*  
*Office Secretary: Lisa Loso*  
*Email Address: stjohns@midconetwork.com*

**Return Service Requested**

**Stacy, MN 55079  
 1075 Genesis Ave.  
 PO Box 308**

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**The Voice of St. John's**

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