

THE MESSENGER



From the Pastor's desk...



So Much to Be Thankful For

The heartbreaking conversation never gets easier. Someone in a hospital bed will say to me, "Pastor, we have worked hard and saved our whole lives. Now the nursing home is going to get all of our money. There won't be anything left for our kids." This statement overlooks so much of the legacy that will be left to the next generation. The children and other family members of these people very often are not looking for an inheritance of money. Instead they have learned the same qualities from their parents and loved ones: hard work and frugal living. Most of the time the family is so much more concerned that their parents and loved ones are well cared for and comfortable. Usually a skilled nursing facility is the best place for that to happen.

Bygland and Fisher Lutheran are both Corporate Congregation owners of Valley Memorial Homes. We have elected Sheila Wurden from Bygland and Bruce Newhouse from Fisher to be on the board of directors. Bruce will be the Chairperson of the board for 2017-2018. Valley Memorial Homes has 25 corporate congregations, 300 youth and adult volunteers, 569 apartments/resident rooms, 800 employees on three campuses, cared for 1,100 residents last year, and has a budget of \$43 million dollars. Our mission statement is, "Valley Memorial Homes provides compassionate Christian care and service to enhance the quality of life for those we serve."

At our annual meeting our Chief Executive Officer, Garth Rydland, encouraged each corporate congregation to inform our members about how to be prepared for admission to a skilled nursing facility. These are the things he recommends that people do: prepare a healthcare advance directive, appoint a healthcare power of attorney, and appoint a financial power of attorney. You should make sure your family knows your wishes and knows where to find the documents that you have prepared. It is important to let your primary physician know what your wishes are as well.

Thinking about living in a skilled care facility isn't something we often think of as a cause for thanksgiving. But if the day should ever come when you or I might need skilled nursing care, here are some things to be thankful for. If we have worked hard and lived frugally, we can give thanks that we have the resources to pay for skilled nursing care. We have saved for a rainy day, now that it has come, we are ready. Almost all the staff who care for those in skilled nursing facilities are well trained, caring health care providers who want us to be comfortable and content. We can give thanks for their work and ministry. Most of the time we enter skilled nursing facilities in our 80's and 90's. We can give thanks for long lives. And finally, it is a privilege to have fine skilled nursing facilities in our communities, Valley Memorial Home, Good Samaritan Society, the Villa St. Vincent, to name a few.

We can give thanks for those who have gone before us who had the foresight to plan and build these wonderful, caring places to work and live.

~ Pastor Karen Young Trenne





What volunteer opportunities are available at Valley Memorial Homes?

Valley Memorial has over 300 volunteers throughout the year. Volunteers are very important to the residents and tenants who call Valley Memorial 'home'. They lend their hands and their hearts to assist with music, worship, Bible studies, activities, outings and the coffee shop. Volunteer needs at this time include one-on-one visits and assisting with holiday parties. If you are interested in any of these opportunities please contact Kaley at [701-787-7984](tel:701-787-7984) or klittlejohn@valleymemorial.org.

FISHER LUTHERAN NEWS



November 15th -
9:00 AM Bible Study at
Fisher

FISHER WELCA ~ Lutheran World Relief

Quilts- 154
School Kits- 59
Personal Care Kits- 7
Thankoffering- \$471.00

Fisher Presentation of Bibles On October 29th

3 year old students

Chandler Knutson
Lincoln Korynta
Chase Krostue
Riggin Schwarz
Mason Solheim
Kallen Speldrich
Kace Tinkham
Audra Haley



Au

5 year old Students

Isaac Egeland

3rd Graders

Kasey Conley
Luke Halvorson
Piper Kovarik
Avery Mathews
Jace Motl
Maddie Wallace



BYGLAND NEWS

QUILTING Nov. 1 and 8,
beginning at 9:00

BOOK CLUB NEWS

Book club members will meet for the last time this season to discuss **ETTA AND OTTO AND RUSSELL AND JAMES** (Emma Hooper). They will gather at the church on Nov. 20 at 7:00 PM. Happy reading!



SHOEBOX TIME!

As Christmas draws near, it's time to fill your shoebox for someone living at the Northland Rescue Mission. Any personal care items will do - things like shampoo, toothpaste, a toothbrush, dental floss, shower gel (no bar soap, please), a small notebook, pen or pencil, stamps, shaving cream, disposable shavers, hand towel, face cloth, socks, gloves, cough drops, or anything else you can think of which will be perfect. The items should be placed in a plastic tote which you can leave in the narthex of the Byglund church by Dec. 10. The boxes will be delivered the following week. **Share your blessings.**



Byglund Presentation of Bibles and Confirmation On October 29th

3rd graders:

Courtney Robert-
son

New

Students:

Mason Arnold

Preschoolers:

Sidney Brundin

Emma Traub

Neva Schaumburg

Confirmation

Gabriel Palmer Almlie



FISHER LUTHERAN MINUTES



10-22-17

Called to order at 7:33 pm.

Members Present- Pastor Karen, Pres. Ken Miller, Travis Schwarz, Amanda Holte, Reed Tinkham, Sheryl Tinkham, Dave Radi, Chad Knutson.

Devotions were led by Pastor Karen.

Secretary's Report- The Council reviewed the September minutes. A motion to approved the minutes from Reed T., Second by Sheryl T.

Treasurer's Report- The council reviewed the financials for the month of September. A motion to approve the minutes from Travis Schwarz, Second by Sheryl T.

Pastor's Report- There were no statistics to report for the month of September.

The NWMN Synod Mission Support giving for the year of 2017 as of 8-31-17 was \$640,844. That is up from the 2016 amount of \$625,440.

The Operating Deficit for the NWMN Synod for the year of 2017 as of 8-31-17 was \$71,701. That is down for the 2016 Deficit of \$178,301.

There will be a Joint Council meeting on November 15 at the Bygland Church.

On November 30 there is a Together In Ministry meeting at St. Paul's Church in Crookston.

Committee Reports

Property Committee- A Quote for a sidewalk ramp for the church parking lot was submitted from Elliot Knutson for \$3200. A motion was made from Reed T. to accept the bid for the concrete work, a second from Chad K. Motion Passed.

The Council discussed assembling a Funeral Committee.

Old Business- A letter was sent to Curtis Construction in an effort to get a copy of the church blueprints, the letter was returned to sender.

A grant has been submitted to get an AED for the church.

New Business- A motion was made by Sheryl T. to accept the Portico Gold Plus Health Insurance package for Pastor Karen for 2018, a second was made by Dave Radi. Motion passed.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 pm by Dave Radi, second by Chad K.

Next meeting November 1 at 7:30 pm.





We are God's work in progress, with hearts lifted to God in trust and praise and with hands extended to serve in Jesus' name.

**Unofficial/Unapproved
Council Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2017 7:30pm**

Members present: Roger Moe, Marsha Ketring, Karen Ebertowski, Haley Thorson, Randy Moe, Alan Halvorson, Sheila Wurden, Pam Robertson and Pastor Karen

Members absent: Eric Egeland, Ronnie Thorson and Troy Pecka

Call to Order

The council meeting was called to order by Council President Roger Moe at 7:30pm. Pastor Karen shared devotions related to Young Adults in Global Missions.

Secretary's Report

Haley provided a copy of the September minutes.

A motion to approve the secretary's report was made and seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Randy provided a balance sheet for September. The invoice for furnace replacement and repair was noted.

A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made and seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Karen provided a statistical report for September. There were no baptisms, weddings or funerals. Jay, Erin, Hannah and Gabriel Almlie were accepted as new members. She shared that it has been announced Bishop Wohlrabe will not be available for another term and a committee has been formed to consider successors. She also reported an increase in Synod-wide giving which was announced at the Theology for ministry Conference. She also shared that Amy Bigot has offered to provide training on

Memorial Planning. More to come on this as information is available.

Pastor Karen also requested the Council's approval for Gabriel Almlie's confirmation (Sunday, October 29th).

A motion to approve Gabriel Almlie's confirmation was made and seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

Old Business

Church Maintenance

Thank you to Troy Pecka for painting the new front doors. They have been installed and look great! Roger has talked with Paul Stratton to finish the trim and side-door painting. The two furnaces have been repaired and/or replaced.

New Business

Lutefisk Dinner

A December 3rd date was set. A planning meeting will be held in later October.

Portico Benefits

The council discussed the Portico packages levels and assess Pastor Karen's feedback on the Gold package she has been receiving the past several years. She agreed it has been adequate.

A motion to approve the Gold Portico Benefits package for Pastor Karen for 2018 was made and seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

BLC Farmland Lease/Rent

The drawing is typically held in November prior to the year of renewal, which would be January 2018. Proper notice will be sent to the BLC congregation for interest in participating in the drawing in November.

Technology Request

Pastor Karen requested that the Technology Committee assess the current AV equipment in the church as it has become outdated and no longer works properly. (Cannot show a DVD/video, possible need for a projector, screen, etc.)

Weekly Communion

Pastor Karen asked the Council for feedback on having Communion every Sunday. Haley suggested this be placed on the annual meeting agenda for discussion among the congregation as a whole. Weekly communion will continue until that time.

Next Meeting Date: November 8th , 7:30pm

Joint BLC/FLC Council, November 15th at Bygland

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. All were in favor, the motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Haley Thorson, BLC C

Marion Blumenthal Lazan

Fisher Public School



November 13, 2017

1:00 pm

Fisher Public School

We have read about History in our textbooks. We have “googled” topics on the Internet. We have even watched documentaries on the History channel. But there are very few opportunities in our lives to actually sit in the same room with someone who has survived and truly lived moments of History.

Marion Blumenthal Lazan will share a moving first-hand account of her family’s life in Germany from the events preceding Kristallnacht to imprisonment in concentration camps to liberation in April of 1945. Mrs. Lazan was just 11 years old when her family gained its freedom.

Join us at Fisher School to hear guest speaker Marion Blumenthal Lazan’s message of hope, courage and compassion.



Four Perfect Pebbles

A HOLOCAUST STORY

Order

Four Perfect Pebbles, A Holocaust Story

by Lila Perl & Marion Blumenthal Lazan from

Amazon or Barnes & Noble

6

A limited number of books will be available for purchase the day of the presentation.



Veterans Day 2017

Take a Veteran to School Day is a national program developed by HISTORY to link veterans with students nationwide. Fisher School will once again be participating in this program to invite veterans of all backgrounds to share their stories and receive thanks for their service. We encourage our Pre K – 12th grade children to invite a family member, friend or neighbor that has served our country to take part in this event.

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

on

Friday, November 10th

at

10:30 am

in the

Fisher Gymnasium

By inviting Veterans to come to the school to share their stories, we hope to connect generations while helping our young people learn about the past.

We ask that Veterans arrive at the school by 10:15 am so we can ready them for the ceremony which will honor them.

Fisher Bygland Lutheran Parish

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Fisher

Baptized this year

Theodore Jay Chapman 11-12-16

Elizabeth Grace Smith 11-12-16

Paul James Ness 11-13-16

Maclin Murray Goodwin 1-22-17

Otto Dean Moulds 4-16-17

Jordyn Michelle Rose Ibarra 5-7-17

Cortland Donald Schwarz 7-16-17

Ellie Darlene Getsman 8-24-17

Hank Orin Hanevold 10-29-17

Remembering the Saints

Dellas Hazel Peterson 12-16-16

Darlene E. Reinarz 12-15-16

Richard Vernon Kromschroeder 1-27-17

Bygland

Baptized this year

Waylon Jake Starkey 7-12-17

Joslyn Ann Starkey 7-12-17

Maddyn Kate Starkey 7-12-17

Cooper Scott Bredvik 10-15-17

Remembering the Saints

Kennith Neil Egeland 1-9-17

Norma Genevieve Egeland 1-26-17

Barbara Margaret Short 5-11-17

Osmund Bertel Moe 6-2-17

Great cloud of witnesses

All Saints Day

Holy Men and Women

Pray for us

Heavenly Kingdom

May their prayers bring us your forgiveness and love

Those that sit at the right hand of God

Martyrs

By The

virtuous *Grace of God*

Examples of righteousness

saints of god

