

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH
 N1230 Seven Corners Rd
 New Holstein, WI 53061
 Phone Number: 920-898-5333
 Email Address: gloriadeilcwi@gmail.com
 Web Site: <http://www.gloriadeilc.com>

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
 Monday 9:00 am To 2:00 pm
 Wednesday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
 Thursday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

THE DEILY NEWS

December 2020

Karen's Korner—December 2020

DATE TO REMEMBER

12/03/2020 6:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting
12/05/2020 10:30am **WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS COFFEE CLUTCH**
12/06/2020 Virtual worship on Facebook 9:00 AM—Second Sunday of Advent
12/08/2020 6:00 PM Church Council Meeting
12/13/2020 Virtual worship on Facebook 9:00 AM—Third Sunday of Advent
12/16/2020 6:00 PM Confirmation Class
12/20/2020 Virtual worship on Facebook 9:00 AM—Fourth Sunday of Advent
12/24/2020 Christmas Eve Service 5:45 PM – Parking Lot or Facebook
12/27/2020 Virtual worship on Facebook 9:00 AM

I will be the first to admit that I love everything about Christmas, the sacred and the secular. This year it seems a little harder. The news is full of political wrangling and this awful pandemic. People are polarized by what is right or wrong, and who is right or wrong. Most of us are feeling a little more housebound than usual and finding other ways to shop, socialize, and occupy our time. My house is quite this weekend, my men are off to the north woods. So, I have started playing Christmas music as I do the mundane and think how to make things

special for Christmas when my family will have limited contact. I love Christmas music. It helps. One of my favorite hymns is *It Came Upon A Midnight Clear*.

*It came upon the midnight clear, That Glorious song of old,
 From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
 "Peace on the earth, good will to men, From heaven's all gracious King!"
 The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.*

God is indeed gracious. He sent His son into a turbulent world to bring peace, good will, and love above all things. God and His Son still reign. Let us calm our hearts, look to the positive, and share our blessings with all God's children. Christmas all year round. Joyous Blessings to you and yours!

Council news:

The Nominating Committee has been formed and is at work. As we work to complete the call process this will be an important issue for the new council. Five new members are needed. Please pray about answering the call if contacted.

Thanks to Dick Welsch our new constitution has been finished, submitted, and accepted.

We will be addressing the way in which this year's annual meeting can be held. With the new constitution we will be able to inform the congregation by email as an either/or alternate to mailings. One of the problems is how to hold the meeting in person or virtual. Virtual presents a voting problem and in person means meeting the quorum issue and numbers currently allowed in the building.

Stay tuned.

Pastor and the Worship Team are looking at some creative ways for us to worship together for both Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Council knows that we really need a sense of community during these days. COME AND JOIN US IN THESE SPECIAL parking lot services.

Please read the weekly announcements and the entire newsletter when you receive them. Many things are still happening at Gloria Dei and we need you to be an active participant: example: Toys for Tots Drive now through DECEMBER 7th. Please share some Christmas Blessings with our community.

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From the Pastor

ONLY JESUS WOULD DO

Why did God send Jesus? This question is often asked at Christmas time. As we celebrate the birth of the babe of Bethlehem; the answer is very simple: only Jesus would do! To help us understand this consider the following practice at play during our Civil War.

The Union had instituted a draft system for soldiers to fill the army ranks. All young men were eligible for the draft and were required to serve if drafted. Unless...unless they could pay someone to take their place. The paid volunteer would do!

In the case of God's son Jesus only Jesus would do as the savior of the world. It was only Jesus who by his birth-crucifixion-and victory over death would provide the way to eternal life with God. No substitution was possible or allowed.

The birth of Jesus shows us how much God loves each of us. The birth of Jesus made clear the calling of his people -you and me- then and now.

Let us again celebrate with joy the birth of the Christ Child for no one else, nothing else would do.

Have a joyous Christmas for even now "God is with us"!

YEAR END OFFERING

Any offerings, Simply Giving, and special gifts of stocks, etc. that you want to be used as deductions for 2020 tax return must be to us or postmarked by December 31, 2020.

Remember you are able to give Gloria Dei dollars from IRA accounts without paying taxes on them if done the correct way. Always check with your accountant, Financial Planner etc. for up to date information.

Remember your offering and special gifts keep Gloria Dei's Christian Ministry going.

Winter Weather

If winter weather becomes a problem for church services or projects involving a number of people, closures and cancellations will be posted on WBAY 2 television. As always, even if there is no formal cancellation we urge you to use your own judgement for safe travel conditions.

Are you able to share your talents? Are you a leader or would like to become one? The Outreach Committee is looking for someone to Chair the Outreach Committee. No experience necessary! If you are interested or would like to know more, please either contact Mike Hetzner (mhetzner27@gmail.com) or Roxann Ruechel (rruechel@goresorters.com). Thank you.

Gloria Dei Church Council November 10, 2020 6 PM

Present: Karen Ebert, Julie Schaefer, Barb Spiegel, David Hoban, Roxie Ruechel, Ruth Camomilli, Bryce Larson, Nealey Janicek & Pastor Roald Harswick. **Guests:** Dough LeClair & Michael Hetzner

Call to Order & Opening Prayer –Karen opened the meeting with prayer at 6 pm.

Guest Speakers – Insurance representative Doug LeClair and Michael Hetzner with new Task Force recommendation

1-Doug LeClair of Church Mutual insurance presented a proposal for insurance. Q&A session followed. Doug LeClair left the meeting.

2- Michael Hetzner presented proposed changes to small group meeting number criteria. Task Force is recommending increasing size of small meeting in Sanctuary to 15, maintaining the Fellowship Hall at 10 and identifying the Fireside Room as space for a meeting of 4. This would allow worship with 15 individuals on a Sunday. Q&A session followed. Michael Hetzner left the meeting.

Approval of Agenda- Motion Bryce, second Barb to accept agenda. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report-Motion Julie, second Nealey to accept secretary's report as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Monthly Revenue 2020											
Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
9605	9605	12296	10526	9729	9435	1375 6	8107	8640	6681		
Monthly Expenses 2019											
8762	8603	8450	9685	8034	8476	9307	7077	9112	10577		
Checkbook Balance 2019											
22260	17372	20518	20908	2114 8	21270	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Capital Fund Balance 2019- YTD											
1115	1295	1995	2445	3900	4735	6260	6525	6960	7200		
Savings Account (Pentecostal rent) - YTD											
400(1600)	400(2000)	400(2400)	0(2400)								
Memorial Fund Balance 2019											
646	646	646	647	647	647	647	647	647	647		
In-Kind Giving Balance 2019											
10.35	20	60	0	0	0	33	14	0	125		

David provided an over view of the emailed report. Motion Barb, second Julie to accept Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report – Carol Field's funeral service will be next week in the Sippel funeral home. **1-**David met with Pastor regarding virtual Sunday School. No definite plan. **2-** Confirmation students and parents will meet this week at 7pm. Confirmation will be a mix of virtual, homework and in-person sessions. **3-**Discussion regarding the Annual Meeting; Zoom vs. face-to-face with social distancing. More discussion next month. **4-** Church Services update: Service will be at 9am using FB Live format, the service will also be broadcast to the parking. Thanksgiving Eve service will be at 5 pm.

5- Membership roster- Discussion regarding how to update membership roster. Karen will meet with Pastor to review prior to next month's meeting. This should be completed before the Annual meeting to ascertain the number needed for a quorum.

Committee Reports – as needed

Education-David reported that Crossways will not have counselors available to lead VBS next summer.

Property- Bryce report the contract with the painter has been terminated. The Property Committee will meet next year to develop a plan to complete the painting with either volunteers or a contractor.

Fellowship- (Roxie) Food Pantry donations were spectacular. Roxie purchased cereal with the cash donations. Karen & Al Ebert delivered the Food Pantry Collection.

Old Business

Constitution-(Karen) The updated constitution prepared by Dick Welsch and presented to the synod has been accepted.

Internet service- Mercurynet is now our internet and telephone provider.

Continued on page 4

Land survey markers- Surveyor placed pins and wood stakes to mark boundaries on field side of property. We know the definite boundary. In spring it will be marked with steel posts covered with PVC crosses.

Insurance action required- Extensive discussion regarding insurance carriers. David will review GuideOne policy and provide a comparison of the two plans before the next meeting. Motion Barb, second Nealey to table any action to next month's council meeting. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee- Jerry Jensen, Dianne Fett and Ruth Camomilli will seek 5 individuals to replace members leaving council.

New Business –

Current Task Force recommendation- Extensive discussion. Motion Bryce, second Nealey to table action to next month. Motion carried. We will continue to follow the guidelines accepted at last month's meeting.

Adjourn/Prayer Motion Nealey, second Julie to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting December 8, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Spiegel

Subject to approval at next council meeting



Christmas Eve Campfire – Parking Lot- Facebook Worship

O COME LET US ADORE HIM


It will be different! It will be Joyous! Come and celebrate Jesus' birth on Christmas Eve at 5:45 pm.

We will begin our celebration around a campfire at 5:45 pm. At 6:15 pm. We will move back into our cars for worship on the Radio tuning in to 89.1 FM and/or Facebook. Our worship will conclude with the singing of "Silent Night" using glowsticks, flashlights, and/or battery candles.

What should you do? First Come! Next drive by the entrance and pick up communion elements, bulletin, glowsticks, then park. Wear warm shoes/boots for being outside at the campfire. (Snow?)

We then will get back into our cars tuning to 89.1 FM and/or Gloria Dei on Facebook.

You are invited to decorate the inside of your care. Outside is ok also. Bring flashlights. Bring Battery candles. Glowsticks provided. Bring your Christmas spirit and joy as we celebrate God's love given to us in the babe Jesus.



Decorate The Tree: Gloria Dei has several large beautiful evergreen trees outside. Is there someone, a family, several families that would be willing to decorate, with lighting, one of these trees. It would be a wonderful sight to all who see it, especially those passing by on the highway. Call the Church Office and let us know if you are interested at 920-898-5333.

Worship Committee Meeting
Monday 6:00 pm October 26, 2020



Present: Barb Spiegel, Nealey Janicek and Pastor Roald Harswick.

Pastor Harswick opened with prayer.

1. Christmas Poinsettia order- By consensus we agreed not to order poinsettias for the sanctuary from Millhome Nursery.
2. Thanksgiving Eve Service- Parking lot service will be at 5pm. Communion will be available
3. Christmas Eve Parking Lot Service – Members will be invited to decorate the inside of their cars and light with battery operated lights or candles. Glow sticks will be provided. Luminaries will be placed along the driveway.
4. Advent- Pastor has an Advent Litany he will be using for the Advent service and candle lighting. Wednesday Advent services will be discussed at next meeting.
5. Drive through communion will be available on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in December as well as on Christmas Eve.

We continue to seek individuals to increase our recording team.

We thank those volunteering to sing during worship and always welcome more volunteers.

Next meeting:

Respectfully submitted:

Barb Spiegel

Crisis Respite Providers Needed

Manitowoc County Human Services Department is looking for qualified applicants who can provide respite (temporary care) to children ages 0-18 on an emergency basis at our crisis respite home located in Manitowoc, WI. Individuals and couples are welcome to apply. Candidates should be 18 years of age or older, have transportation, be flexible and have availability to provide care on an as-needed basis on nights and weekends. Training and compensation will be provided. Interested persons should send a cover letter and resume to:

Manitowoc County Human Services Department
Attn: Karen Zahn, Foster Care Coordinator
926 S. 8th Street P.O. Box 1177
Manitowoc, WI 54221-1177
Or email: karenzahn@co.manitowoc.wi.us
Phone: 920-683-4095 for more information

Piggly Wiggly Receipts

Your receipts from Piggly Wiggly from Kiel can be placed in the basket in the narthex. The Kiel Store allows us to turn in receipts to get the same non-profit donation as purchasing SCRIP gift cards. **Receipts from purchases using gift cards are not eligible.**



WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS COFFEE CLUTCH

This year's gathering will look different than it has in the past. At the current time we can gather in the church building in groups of up to ten. This year we will have a simple event – **Time Together**, something that has been hard to do over the last months. We will spend a simple time together over coffee and goodies, exchange white elephant gifts, and spend a short time packing up the toys given for Toys for Tots. At the current time it looks like December 5th at 10:30am works. If more than ten people are interested in getting together, we will gladly host more times of caring and sharing either on that date or another to be determined. **Looking forward to hearing from you soon at kebert@hughes.net!**

Celebrate the Blessings of Gloria Dei

As we celebrate the blessings of the Christmas seasons, let's also share those blessings with our community.

Toys for Tots Update: We have received an updated request from the Calumet County Salvation Army. There are more families in need than ever, and they are finding that **many parents are requesting clothing as well as/or in place of toys** on their wish lists. So, Gloria Dei is letting you know that any kind of winter wear in all sizes would be deeply appreciated along with/or in place of any toys you may wish to provide. Toys and clothing can be dropped off at church during office hours or left in the box outside when church is not open. As we have been blessed, so it is that we share those blessings with others.

Deadline for contributions will be December 7th. Questions: kebert@hughes.net **THANKS!**

2021 Commitment time

Now is the time to return for Commitment Cards and Time and Talent sheet. A big Thank You to all of you that have already returned your Commitment Cards and Time and Talent Sheets. If you need commitment cards or time and talent sheets call us and they will be sent to you.

Children's Chatter

This time of year most kids are scrambling for paper and pencil to write to Santa. Some children know they can write to God anytime.

Dear God,
Thanks for the baby brother. But what I asked for was a puppy.

Dear God,
How did you know you were God? Who told you?

Dear God,
My Grandpa says you were around when he was a little boy. How far back do you go?

Dear God,
Is Reverend Coe a friend of yours or do you just know him through the business?

Dear God,
I am doing the best I can. Really!!!

Worship Helpers: In the near future we will hopefully be reopening the doors at Gloria Dei for indoor worship. We will need a dedicated team for this to succeed. Some of the worship helper roles will change. We understand if you do not or will not feel comfortable worshipping indoors and respect your choice. We intend to have a "Facebook" live stream and well as the FM broadcast to the parking lot after moving back in the sanctuary.

Help Needed: Nealey and Barb would like to expand the number of individuals available to record and set-up the parking lot service. Detailed instructions have been developed and are in the laptop bag. They are also available as PDF's for review. Please contact Raeline, Nealey or Barb if you're willing to help.



In-Kind Donations

Please fill out the in-kind donation form, (You can request a form from the Church Administrative Assistant Ann Martin) or turn in any receipts for items purchased and donated to the church. This would include boxes of tissues, toilet paper, office supplies and any other items that would normally need to be purchased as part of the budget. Keeping track of all the items that are donated helps to ensure that our budget is accurate.

Treasurer - David Hoban.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS:
If you can help out with your Vocal talents for the recorded Sunday Worship Music. Please Contact Barb Spiegel email is bas1217@yahoo.com. This would be a great way to show your support and contributing to the Weekly Worship. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

