

# The Voice of Faith



**February 2022**  
*One in Faith Parish*

Hope ..... 8:30 a.m.  
St. Paul ..... 10:30 a.m.

*Pastor Margaret Yackel-Juleen*  
*Vicar Britany Barkus.*

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St. John ..... 8:30 a.m.  
St. Sebald ..... 10:30 a.m.

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## ***“Loving Outside the Lines”***

*Jesus said, “I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup>so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.” Matthew 5:44-45*

Our 4-year-old granddaughter Maggie loves to color and sometimes we color together. One thing we discovered not too long ago is that while Maggie loves to color she really doesn't like to color outside the lines.

Thinking about Maggie and coloring made me think about God and God's love for us through the person of Jesus and how Jesus was really teaching us to love “outside the lines.” Let me explain.

Now, while Maggie doesn't like to color outside the lines, as a little child, she finds it fairly easy to love outside the lines. I, on the other hand, find it easy to love only those who love me - my friends and my family (at least when things are going well between us). These are the people inside the boundaries I've set up, knowingly or unknowingly. But I don't usually like to go outside those boundaries and show love to those who are indifferent to me or are difficult to love.

Watching Jesus through the words of scripture I see him showing love and kindness, gentleness and healing to people that the rest of the world didn't love – not one little bit. I see Jesus loving people with leprosy, blindness and deafness, little children and slaves, people possessed by demons and even the people who were nailing him to a cross.

Dr Martin Luther King Jr. whom we celebrated this last week has left us with a legacy of Christian loving in his words and actions. Here's my favorite quote from him, *“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”*

As many of us have noticed, we're in a season in our country and our world of hate and division. People line up on sides of issues, along party lines, along lines of masking and not masking, getting vaccines and not getting vaccines. The division and the hatred are palpable. Perhaps as we near Valentines' Day our hearts and thoughts can turn to the kind of love that God has for each and every one of us (who, let's admit it, can be pretty unlovable some days)!

Beloved Community, as we celebrate this month of love – let's all remember to walk in Jesus' footsteps, coloring and loving “outside the lines!”



In God's amazing love,  
*Pastor Margaret*



## ANNUAL



**St. Sebald**  
**February 6th following**  
**10:30 am worship**

**St. Paul**  
**February 13, following**  
**10:30 am worship**

**Hope**  
**February 13, following**  
**8:30 am worship**



### **St. Sebald** **January 9, 2022**

Present: Bill Hunt, Vicar Brittany, Wayne Yelden, Nancy Yelden, Kris Morarend, and Tracy Kregel. Nancy opened the meeting at 11:20am, Kris motioned to approve the December council minutes, 2nd by Tracy, motion passed. Wayne reviewed the treasurer report. The 4th quarter ending balance was \$1735.66. Bill motioned to approve the quarterly report, 2nd by Kris, motion passed. The year to date ending balance will be reported at the annual meeting.

- \* Kris continues to send monthly educational packets to youth and the Christmas program went well.
- \* The elevator is not being consistent; Wayne is following up to get the elevator working properly.
- \* The annual meeting on February 6th will be immediately following the church service with soup and sandwiches provided.

- \* Bill will pull together an auditing committee to review the financials.

- \* The council discussed benevolence gift commitment for 2022. The council will recommend the following to the congregation at the annual meeting: each month - \$25 to Shepherd of the Hills, \$25 to Clayton County Food Shelf, \$75 to Lutheran Services in Iowa, and any other designated benevolence will be sent to ELCA. Lenten offering will be divided 50/50 between the Lutheran Home and EWALU, all designated gifts will be honored. Any deficit up to \$125 commitment will be covered by the church general fund. Bill motioned to approve the recommendation, 2nd by Kris, motion passed.

- \* Wayne motioned to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Tracy, meeting adjourned at 11:35am

Tracy Kregel, Secretary

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### **St. John** **January 11, 2022**

The regular meeting of the St. John Lutheran Church Council was held Tuesday, January 11th, 2022. Present were Doug Nus, Jeri Watson, Debbie Watson, Penny Handke, Kelli Knickerbocker, Cassie Gruman, Linda Adams, Pastor Margaret, and Tia Shaffer.

Jerry Watson called the meeting to order. Pastor Margaret led a devotion from 1st Corinthians focusing on where we can all use our talents. The secretary's report was reviewed. Penny motioned to approve the minutes as printed, and Linda seconded. Motion carried. The treasurer's report was given. Income reported at \$11,287.14 and expenses of \$5655.66. A miscellaneous donation of \$400.00 given by WELCA for EWALU camperships. Doug motioned to approve the treasurer's report, and Tia seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor Margaret gave highlights of her report. The Lenten worship theme is You are Here. There was one baptism in December. Pastor will continue her office hours at Embers on January 7th and 21st and Treats on January 14th. Great book discussion on Pastor Mark's book, Everyone Must Eat was held. All parish worship services will be held at the Arlington Community Event Center on Sunday, January 23rd.

A wonderful thank you note and an unrestricted gift donation of \$2000.00 was received from Jeanne Frederick Vanda to use at the church's discretion citing very fond memories from her childhood and how important Saint John's was to her parents.

Committee members are assigned as follows: Parish Ed - Linda Adams; Worship & Evangelism - Penny Handke; Building & Grounds - Doug Nus; Social Concerns - Debbie Watson; Stewardship - Cassie Gruman.

## **Committee Reports :**

**Evangelism:** Penny is working on the list for family ushers and readers. There are still a lot of empty dates

**Social Concerns:** There is a balance of \$1,661.08 in the QSS balance. Debbie Watson will be appointed the representative from St. John's.

**Stewardship:** Starmont staff held a food drive in December by wearing jeans and 5 boxes of food were donated to the food pantry.

## **Unfinished Business**

Track lighting is up and now functional above the organ. Special thanks to Craig Seedorff, Marsha and Doug Rueber. An anonymous thank you to the elves that put away the Christmas decorations prior to tonight's council meeting.

## **New Business**

*Snow removal:* Randy Brewer, Gary Reed, Matt Cook and Doug are all helpful with snow removal in winter months.

*Calling tree (flock) updates:* Debbie is working on a current shut-in list and updating the calling tree, used for church cancellations. Discussion was held on also developing a prayer chain. Debbie will work on this also and share out information when ready.

*EWALU camperships and Lutheran college scholarships:* The application process has begun. Please let the church know if there are any eligible students. Information will also be printed in the Broadcaster. An early discount deadline is listed as February 28th.

*Synod:* There is an upcoming synod treasurer meeting that Kellie will attend.

Our next meeting will be held on February 8, at 6:30 PM. Doug motioned to adjourn, seconded by Tia. Motion carried. Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Tia Shaffer, Secretary

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## **Hope Council January 18, 2022**

The Hope Council met Jan. 18 in the church fellowship room. Attending were: Pastor Margaret, Ron Kuehl, Joddy Roys, Lori Fannon, Richard Thurn and Joyce Thurn. President Richard called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Pastor Margaret read devotions from Nehemiah 8. We were reminded to live gladly.

Minutes of the previous meeting and treasurer's report were approved. Income for the month was \$7,558. Expenses were \$13,454, including payment for the parking lot project. Motion was made, seconded and carried to pay the insurance premium for the year.

Some excerpts from Pastor Margaret's report:

The youth going on the trip to South Dakota this summer will serve soup and sandwich meals before the Wednesday night Lenten services. For Lenten services we will be using the Holden Evening Prayer service as well as "You are Here," a worship exploring God's presence in the place where you are.

Pastor and Vicar Brittany are doing visits on Wednesdays.

The Christmas trees at the four churches in the Parish netted \$969.00 which was sent to the ELCA Good Gifts program.

Mark's book, "Everyone Must Eat," is now available for purchase.

Vicar Brittany will be starting her 18 month internship in March. An internship committee will be recruited.

## **Business:**

The 2022 budget was approved and will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting for approval. Installation of offices will be held Feb. 13.

Hope's auction will be held March 20 following 10:30 worship (note change of worship time.)

There will be no Valentine meal this year.

The next meeting will be Feb. 22 at 7:00 at the church.

The meeting adjourned, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Thurn, Secretary

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## **St. John WELCA**

**February 14th will be upon us soon.** With that thought it's time for St. John members to start collecting items for our shut-in Valentine bags. Think of items for those that are in their homes and those in nursing homes. We will fill and deliver them on Sunday the 13th after church service. Put your items in the red box in the kitchen. Thank-you for contributing to this project.

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## St. Sebald WELCA

The No Bake Bake Sale was (is) a terrific spirit lifter! St. Sebald's WELCA has been able to meet all of its ministry commitments for 2021 thanks to the generosity and thoughtfulness of the givers of gifts! The Portals of Prayer subscription has gone up but because of your gifts WELCA is able to continue to provide it for our members with a balance in the account that will allow for additional ministry. Thank you!

### Your Christmas Generosity Keeps Giving

Thanks to all the St. Sebald members that donated funds so we could purchase items from the "Winter Wish List" for the Navajo School at Rock Point, Arizona that we help support. Thru your generous donations we were able to send 2 boys winter coats, 2 girls winter coats, one set of queen size sheets, one set twin size sheets, 4 pillows and pillow protectors, 5 Diyin God Bizaad Bibles (in Navajo language), and a large slow cooker. These gifts are very much appreciated by the families the school serves.

### STRAWBERRY POINT LUTHERAN HOME ANNUAL MEETING

It would be an understatement to say that the past two-plus years have been a challenge for the Lutheran Home. We have had to place many of our plans on hold due to COVID, the derecho, and changing administrators.

As we look to the future, our staff, administration, and the Board are confident of discerning new ways to continue serving God in NE Iowa.

We will hold our **Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 20, 2022, at 2 pm in the meeting room which is the former dining room of the Lutheran Home.**

Please select your delegates for the meeting as soon as you can. We want nominations to serve on the Lutheran Home Board. We require three nominations this year. Please send any nominees to me at [ggh5297@icloud.com](mailto:ggh5297@icloud.com).

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting.

**Pastor Gary Hatcher**

### ONE IN FAITH PRAYER CHAIN

Dear One in Faith Parish,



When St. John met for its January Council meeting, it was voted that we start a Prayer Chain for OIF Parish and I volunteered to organize this. I would like to invite your assistance with this project.

I am looking for church members who would be willing to receive prayer requests and pass them onto the next person on a prayer chain and to pray

for the person who is in need of God's love. Sign up sheets will be available at our churches within the Parish February 1st through 20th. You may also contact me directly to volunteer to be on the Prayer Chain list. After February 20th, I will take the names of those who signed up or called, and create a list in the form of a chain. Your preferred contact method will be used (specify email, text or telephone call and phone number). The chain list would be sent to the members who signed up, as well as being published in the Voice of Faith newsletter each month. Anyone in the Parish could call Pastor Margaret, Vicar Brittany or any member of the chain to start a prayer request. We would respect the confidentiality of the person we would pray for by only sharing what we are given to share. We would not want to embellish or add to the story, avoiding it being a gossip chain.

Each person in the chain would have one person to contact, however, if they are unable to reach that contact, they should contact the next person on the chain to keep it moving.

Prayer Chain members can be added, paused or removed from the list at their request at any time by contacting me. Thanks for considering this opportunity and may God be Praised and we be blessed in this effort to care for each in Jesus name!

Debbie Watson  
6509 C Ave  
Arlington, IA 50606  
563-633-3995 home and fax  
563-380-9283 cell



## HOPE AUCTION



It's coming! What you've been waiting for! Hope's auction March 20 following 10:30 worship, with Dave Burrack as auctioneer. Hope people, put on your thinking caps and make your plans.



**Come and join BYOB  
"Everyone Must Eat" study,  
6:30 pm, St. John, February 27**

**Please continue to send** your financial gifts to your churches. We need your gifts to continue doing ministry within our churches and parish. Thank you so much!

- St John, 115 Park Ave., Arlington, IA50606
- St Paul, c/o Tracy Follon, Box 85 ,Volga IA 52077
- St Sebald, c/o Wayne Yelden, 14394 Drake Road, Strawberry Point IA 52076
- Hope, c/o Ron Kuehl, PO Box 365, Elkader, IA 52043

**Many thanks for the track lighting  
above the organ at St. John!**

Kris

## **YEAH! Good work everyone!**

As a parish, we collected \$969.00 for the ELCA Good Gifts Program. That's a lot of chickens, pigs, goats, honeybees, Bibles, and school supplies that will go to help lots of folks around the world. Thanks for your generosity!

*In your time  
of sorrow, my*  
**Thoughts  
ARE WITH YOU**

Word has been received of the death of Rev. Alwin Bergstrasser. Pastor Bergstrasser served the Hope-Immanuel Parish from 1962-1964. We extend our sympathy to the family of Harlan Meyer, uncle of LuAnn Hunt, and to the families of Rick Juleen, brother to Pastor Mark, Dean Puffett, Les Peterson and Danielle Pape.

Thank You to all of you for all the prayers, cards, calls, food and the prayer shawls we received while we both had Covid and Denny's illness.

He loved his blanket and received many compliments for it from the hospital staff and doctors. He covered himself with it every day and is still using it here at home while watching TV and resting. It all was greatly appreciated. He is doing really well. God bless all of you.  
Denny & Lorna Christeleit



## **Conference Assembly UPDATE**

Annual Conference Assembly is scheduled for February 20, 2022 at 2:00pm and will be held VIRTUALLY – BY ZOOM!

St Peter, Garnavillo has policies in place regarding outside events during this pandemic. The Council recently evaluated the State/County numbers, citing rising numbers within Clayton County and the policy limiting outside events at this time.

Our SOTH Board voted in November to hope for IN PERSON, however, will hold VIRTUALLY if needed.

Assembly Packets will be mailed to each of Conference Churches the first week of February. Delegates should plan to pick up the meeting information from their church. If a delegate has questions, please reach out to the office for further guidance.

## **News or Highlights within the Conference**

As a Conference, we would like to extend Blessings to our outgoing Board of Director Members in February: Rev Lynn Noel, St Paul Postville, President & Becky Fuelling, St John Farmersburg, Youth Chair. Both individuals have served 4 years (2 – 2yr terms), the maximum allowed as defined by our Conference By-Laws! The second term, was a challenge relating to the pandemic, however we want to say *THANK YOU*, as you have given us your time and commitment to continue the mission here at Shepherd!

We would also like to extend Blessings to 3 of our local Pastors moving on from their current calls: Rev Clark Baldwin has retired from EWALU. Rev Hillary Burns Kite, St Peter, Garnavillo, has accepted a new call with St Peter Lutheran Church in Prairie Du Chien, Wi as an Associate Pastor. Rev Susan Friedrichs' Call has ended at Bethany, Elkader and Emanuel, St. Point. *"We pray God will lead and guide each of you on the next journey of your life."*

Congratulations to Rev Mike Ashman, St. John & St. Paul, Guttenberg, on celebrating his 29<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary of January 3<sup>rd</sup>!

## **To One In Faith Parish**

Thank you for your generous donation to Shepherd of the Hills Ministry Christmas Just 4 Kids, Crisis, or Operating Funds this past holiday season!

Our hope is to make Christmas a little merrier for the families we serve throughout the year. Gifts like yours make it possible for Shepherd to continue the Ministry we feel is so very important right here in Clayton County.

Heather, Director

***Thanks be to God for His amazing grace in Jesus Christ, His son, our Lord***

## **HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY FROM LSI**

*"We love because He first loved us" 1 John 4:19*

Lutheran Services in Iowa's mission is about responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. We give thanks for all the ministry partners, both individuals and congregations, who help share this love for Iowa children, adults, and families.

We see this love in newly adopted children and their families; in teens who are overcoming years of trauma and building bright futures; in Iowans with disabilities who are growing their independence and confidence; in new parents who are raising strong and healthy families, and in so many other moments of joy. You can help carry out our mission of hope and healing by giving a gift and showing love to the Iowa families we serve. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org)



### Serving in February at Hope

Acolytes ..... Confirmation Students  
 Ushers:  
 Feb 6..... Nikki, Isabelle & Kristen Groth  
 Feb. 13..... Denny & Tina Nieland  
 Feb. 20..... Nikki, Isabelle & Kristen Groth  
 Feb. 27..... Denny & Tina Nieland  
 Communion Assistant..... Jamie Burgin  
 Altar Comm. ....Helen Rowell, Joyce Thurn,  
 ..... Lu Ann Hunt  
 Church Cleaning .....John & LuAnn Hunt  
 Special Offering.....SS Soup-R-Bowl

### Serving in February at St. Sebald

Acolyte..... Usher  
 Ushers:  
 Feb. 6..... Wayne & Nancy Yelden  
 Feb. 13.....Bill Hunt  
 Feb, 20..... Dave & Kris Morarend  
 Feb. 27 ..... Leah Preuss  
 Reader(s):  
 Feb 6..... Wayne & Nancy Yelden  
 Feb. 13.....Bill Hunt  
 Feb. 20..... Jessica Haynes  
 Feb. 27.....Kris Morarend  
 Church Cleaning Week of:  
 Feb 6..... Dave & Kris Morarend  
 Feb. 13..... Mace & Kristin Klingman  
 Feb. 20..... Vickie Moyle  
 Feb. 27..... Gary & Nancy Klingman  
 Flowers:  
 Feb. 6.....  
 Feb. 13.....  
 Feb. 20.....  
 Feb. 27.....

### Serving in February at St. Paul

Acolyte ..... Braden Taylor  
 Ushers: ..... John and Jan Moore

### Serving in February at St. John

Ushers..... Chuck & Jan Hamlett,  
 Tom & Karen Hamlett  
 Comm. Assist..... Tia Shaffer  
 Altar Guild..... Kim & Meri Ann Klocke  
 Flowers.....Meri Ann Klocke  
 Readers:  
 Feb 6 ..... Bonnie Nus  
 Feb. 13 ..... Tom Hamlett  
 Feb 20 ..... Judy Meisner  
 Feb. 27 ..... Debbie Watson



**Prayer Requests** may be phoned to (563) 633-3885/563-419-5329 or emailed to the One in Faith Office: [oneinfaith2005@gmail.com](mailto:oneinfaith2005@gmail.com)

**Please Hold in Pray:** David Andrae; Scot Jacobson; LuAnn Hunt; Zander Purman; Marvel Seeland; Verna Lenth; Keith Peuker; Lois Pierce; John Cunningham; Jim Turner; Warren Stoner; Connie Schaefer; Kelly Bolsinger; Kathy Pierce; Marilyn Shaffer; Elaine Peterson; Lynda Burgin;; Jeremy Walz; Mary Lou Coonfare; Greg Shaw; Pastor Jerome Godson; Jane Godson; Bob Blue, David Opperman, Luther Pugh, Joyce Erickson; Brenda Landis; Brian and Becky Meisgeier; Kent Klingman; Amanda Peterson; Barb Garms; Jim Miller; Wayne Coonfare; Luke Baade. **Prayers for the families of:** Danielle Pape, and Dean Puffett

**Service people:** Josef Von Handorf; Justin Minger; Patrick Pryer; Justin Pryer; Jesse Gossett; Tabitha Lambert; and other service men and women.



### St. John Birthdays

- Feb. 1.....Jeri Watson, Cheryl Northrop
- Feb. 2..... Hannah Evans
- Feb. 4..... Art Eckheart
- Feb. 5..... Jackie Myers, Marilyn Seedorff
- Feb. 8..... Karilyn Madden, Cody Myers
- Feb. 11..... Halicia Hamlett, Ericka Nus
- Feb. 12..... Jane Wells
- Feb. 15..... Natalie Hamlett
- Feb. 17..... LaVerne Thode
- Feb. 19..... Debbie Watson, Pastor Margaret
- Feb. 20..... Max Harkin
- Feb. 22..... Mark Hamlett, Henry Hamlett
- Feb. 28..... Trudi Schnell

### Hope Birthdays

- Feb. 1..... Tenley Meyer
- Feb. 3..... Justin Williams
- Feb. 4..... Bonnie Purman
- Feb. 8..... Paula Casper, Greg Shaw
- Feb. 10..... Carey DeGroot
- Feb. 13..... Steven Kuehl
- Feb. 14..... Emma Schroeder, Samantha Davis
- Feb. 16..... Brenda Weidner
- Feb. 17..... Taylor Amsden, Rhet Meyer
- Feb. 19..... Pastor Margaret
- Feb. 20..... Brittany Davis
- Feb. 22..... Rodney Sylvester
- Feb. 24..... Robyn Dahling
- Feb. 28..... Susan Sylvester

### St. Sebald & St. Paul Birthdays

- Feb. 4..... Tyler Trautman
- Feb. 5..... Joyce Erickson
- Feb. 6..... Barbara Hummel, Kathleen Olson
- Feb. 10..... Roger Bushkofsky, Diane Sarich
- Feb. 12..... Russell Frey, Rod Mohning
- Feb. 13..... Jennifer Stoner Zomchek
- Feb. 14..... Jessica Haynes, Jim Miller,  
.....Stanley Debes
- Feb. 18..... Rachael Coan
- Feb. 19..... Pastor Margaret
- Feb. 22..... Clayton Smith, Grace Smith
- Feb. 24..... Joseph Mohning
- Feb. 27..... Marilyn Zwanziger



### St. John Anniversaries

### Hope Anniversaries

- Feb. 4..... Kevin & Katie Kline
- Feb. 5..... Richard & Lisa Clinton
- Feb. 7..... Rodney & Jill Kulper
- Feb. 10..... Ron & Mary Kuehl
- Feb. 27..... Owen & Susan Sylvester

### St. Paul Anniversaries

- Feb. 4..... Joshua & Rebecca Everitt

St. John Lutheran Church  
115 Park Ave Arlington, IA 50606  
Arlington, IA 50606

*Office of One In Faith Parish*

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Happy  
Valentine's  
Day

