| The Carillon  |
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| Page 1  |  April, 2024 |

SPRING IS UPON US—THE PERFECT TIME TO

INTERVIEW CANDIDATES FOR PASTOR AT CVLC!

Remember how it has gone over the last few months…

September 2023, the council set up a contract with me to be the interim pastor.

October 2023, the council appointed a Transition Task Force to determine the Pastoral needs of the congregation.

November and December 2023 the Transition Task Force received input from the congregation through a survey, various meetings with groups and a town Hall meeting.

January 2024 The Ministry Site Profile (the forms used to introduce the congregation to candidates) was completed. The Call committee was elected.

February 2024 The Ministry Site Profile was approved by the Bishop and activated for viewing by candidates.

March 2024 The call committee had its initial organizational meeting with the Assistant to the Bishop.

And now the call committee begins interviewing. Here’s how it works:

**1.** Candidates looking for new calls read the Ministry Site Profile on the ELCA website.

**2.** If interested, they contact the Synod office.

**3.** The Synod office checks that the candidate is in good standing and passes the name to the call committee.

**4.** The call committee has an initial interview, usually, these days, by Zoom.

**5.** If both the candidate and the call committee are willing, there are usually 2 more interviews,

one of which includes visiting the church and community.

**6.** If things still look good, the President negotiates the financial package on behalf of the congregation.

**7.** If both parties come to agreement, the call committee will ask the council to call a

congregational meeting for the purpose of presenting and electing the candidate to be the pastor.

**8.** After the vote, if at least 2/3rds of those present vote “to extend the call,” the call committee chair or president reports the vote to the candidate.

**9.** The candidate, after hearing the exact vote, has two weeks to accept or decline.

**10.** If the candidate accepts, he or she will inform his or her present congregation, usually giving them 30 days notice of the intention to leave.

A very general rule of thumb is once the interviewing process starts, a call committee needs about 6 months to find the pastor for the congregation. As the call committee does the interviews, the rest of us, interim pastors included, have a very special work to do. We must stay focused on Jesus and serving him in this place. Our Lord is in control of the entire process of calling a pastor. Already, God is working in the heart of his next servant for Coon Valley. As we rejoice with one another in worship, share the faith with our children, do the work of this congregation let us hold fast to the words of Psalm 27; *“Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.”*

![MCj03226430000[1]]()FEBRUARY CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

**\*Treasurer’s Report:** The report was reviewed by Council. Report accepted.

**Finance Committee:** Finance Committee report was accepted.

\***Ministry Minutes:** Jamie, Becky and Ellie Brye are reviewing church active & inactive membership. Our constitution states that if members are inactive, they can still be married and/or buried here. They will bring recommendations for changes to the council. Bella Grethel will be representing our congregation at the National Youth Gathering. There will be a rummage sale on April 13 as a fundraiser for the gathering at Coon Valley Village Hall. Motion passed to use our Lenten Special Offering for the Synod water project. Synod Council Retreat is on Sat. Feb. 17 in West Salem for any Council member to attend. Transition Task Force, Church Council and Call Committee will meet Feb. 18th to approve the Ministry Site Profile. It will then be submitted to the Bishop for approval.

\*Education: Current Sunday school staff consist of 4 teachers and one substitute. More teachers are needed.

**\*High School Youth:** Feb. 25th meeting after church to brainstorm how to start a Youth Group. Anyone is welcome to join this group to help get a group going.

**\*Men’s Club:** Fish dinner on March 13

**\*Stewardship:** Currently only has two members. More members for this committee are needed.

**\*Worship:** Ron Moilien reported on the meeting on Jan. 19. Confirmation students will be helping with Lenten services. There will be two Easter services at 9 & 10:30am.

**New Business:** A motion was passed for the office to purchase Sundays and Seasons online for $429 for Jamie and the Pastor to use for worship services and bulletins.

Council members will continue to wash and use hand sanitizer before serving communion.

**\*The next meeting** will be March 21 at 6:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm followed by the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Laura Hofslien

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

The committee requests that all winter decorations to be removed by March 31st. This helps to keep our cemetery looking well kept. Thank you!



ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

New Orleans July 16-20. **Bella Grethel** will be participating! Anyone wishing to donate toward the cost of this trip please make a check to CVLC Youth, you may include a check or cash in the offering plate or bring to the office. You may also give online by visiting our website: [coonvalleylutheranchurch.org](http://www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org) please click the donate button and designate your donation to the Youth Fund. Thank you!

MAKE SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP your DESTINATION for SUMMER FUN and FRIENDSHIP

Sugar Creek Bible Camp, located near Ferryville, WI, offers 17 unique summer adventures for students, Grades K-12, Families of all shapes and sizes and summer employment opportunities! Visit: [www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org](http://www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org) or see Jamie for a Sugar Creek Bible Camp catalog! Let Jamie know if you are attending Bible Camp this Summer! Confidential Scholarships are available. If you would like to work in the beautiful Sugar Creek valley, contact the camp for more information.

FIRST COMMUNION

In our first communion class, we tell the kids communion is like a special time of prayer. The most important part of communion is what you think about as you are participating in the sacrament:

Before you leave your pew to receive the elements THINK about how much Jesus loves you.

As you are coming forward to receive the elements THINK about one of these 3 things:

1. Something you have done for which you need forgiveness,

2. Something you worried about, or

3. Someone you know who needs God’s care.

As you receive the elements THINK:

1. Ask Jesus for forgiveness,

2. Ask Jesus to care for the thing you are worried about, or

3. Ask Jesus to take care of the person you are thinking about.

As you return to your seat THINK:

1. Thank God for Jesus and his forgiveness,

2. Thank God for taking care of all your needs, or

3. Thank God for taking care of the person you were thinking about.

Let us remember in prayer those who will be receiving communion for the first time: ***Grace Strangstalien, Madeline Morey, Jocelyn Buros, Mia Rudie, Jacob Leisso, Adrianna Briggson, Ella Peters and Deanna Wichman****.*

Holy God, bless all those who receive their first communion in our church over the next few weeks. May they be assured of Jesus’ grace, love and forgiveness every time they receive the body and blood of their Savior through the Sacrament. Amen.

BISHOP FELIX MALPICA TO PREACH AT CVLC APRIL 21ST

Special Worship and Fellowship with Bishop Felix Malpica, La Crosse Area Synod.

Bishop Felix will Preach and lead worship.

There will be a special fellowship time following the worship service in his honor. He will lead a Q and A about the work of the synod, the call process and any other things on your mind. Join us for this special time of worship and fellowship!

8th GRADE AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

**On Sunday, April 28**, our 8th Grade Students will affirm their Baptisms in the Rite of Confirmation. Please join us in presence and prayer as we support and celebrate our Confirmands as they make affirmation of their Baptism. Our 8th Grade Confirmands are:

*Makenna Gartner*

*Isabella Grethel*

*Nevaeh Marsh*

*Caden Strangstalien*

*Haley Strangstalien*

*Evan Williamson*

BLOOD DRIVE

Our next scheduled Blood Drive is on Monday, May 20th from 1:00-6:00pm. You may schedule an appointment by visiting <redcrossblood.org> or by contacting Mike Lusk. If you are available to volunteer at the blood drive let Mike know.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE BLESSING

On **Sunday, May 19**, we will have an opportunity to recognize and bless our High School Seniors in worship! We will have one worship service this day at 9:00am. The office will be contacting the families and seniors about this service soon!



COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Please note that in the months of April & May our Communion schedule will be different that we are used to. Usually, we have Communion on the first and second Sunday of each month. Our Worship Committee has made some changes to our usual schedule for these months. We will have communion on April 7 & 28 and May 5.

THE PROBLEM OF LONELINESS

Below is a quote from our La Crosse Area Synod Update set out on March 20, 2024:

In the Sunday Tribune on May 21, 2023 there was an article entitled “America, The Lonely Nation” by Ted Anthony from the Associated Press. In this article he quoted the U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy saying that Loneliness is just as deadly as smoking on our U.S. Population. He continued that the “gradual withering of long-standing institutions, decreased engagement with churches, the fraying bonds of extended family. When you add recent stressors – rising of social media and virtual life, post- 9/11 polarization and the way COVID-19 interrupted existence – the challenge becomes even more stark.”

So, what is the church doing about this problem of loneliness in America?

One thing about our CVLC family: NO ONE should be lonely!

Our church offers many different ways to connect…WELCA circles, Men’s Group, LIFE youth program, quilters, Sunday School, Altar Guild, Singing in Worship.

The Council has been considering how CVLC might address this issue and others like it. As a result the council has re-established the Membership, Life and Growth Committee. You may remember this committee from the past. It was established many years ago to bring our members together and strengthen our ties to one another through our Christian faith.

Mike Lusk is leading the effort to draw us together as Christian brothers and sisters through the new Membership, Life and Growth committee. He is looking for people to join him and explore options to address loneliness and others issues that are affecting our church family. If interested, please contact the church office or Mike directly, his number is 608-397-3472.

During this year’s Season of Easter, let us keep our eyes open for those who may be experiencing loneliness. There is no greater joy than Christians caring for one another and growing together.

May the power of the Risen Christ bring you joy and peace this Easter Season. Blessings from the CVLC Staff; Pastor Jim, Jamie, Mary, Becky and Tracy.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Every generous act and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights; with Him there is no variation or shadow cast by turning.- James 1:17

WELCA NEWS

Our Thursday, March 21 meeting opened with coffee served by Nancy Ofte, assisted by Gloria Galstad. Paying Hostesses were: Amy Bjerkos, Judy Brose, Rhonda Brye, Amanda Buros, Kari Buros. After enjoying coffeecake, we turned to our business meeting.

Ellie brought several samples of coffee carafes and it was decided to order 20 51 oz. stainless steel carafes. We will also be ordering glassware to add to what we have on hand.

The La Crosse Area Synod WELCA Spring Convention will be held on Saturday, April 20 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in La Crosse. This year, the in-kind offering will go to our food pantries and to WAFER. We are asking you to bring non-perishable food items, feminine products and household cleaning supplies to our Thursday, April 18 meeting so they can be taken to the convention on April 20. The keynote speaker for the day will be Pastor Libby Howe and the afternoon speaker will be Chaplain Ann Wales from the La Crosse Jail Ministry. The Fall Conference will be in Prairie du Chien. Please see Ellie for details.

Judy Koula opened our program with devotions based on John 16: 16-20. The Ruth Circle furnished Easter cards and addresses for our shut ins, those living in nursing homes and assisted living facilities so we could send them a card and message. We wrote on 33 cards. Thank you, Ruth Circle, for the thoughtful program.

Next month we will hear from Emily Schendel who is the Community Engagement Coordinator from Couleecap. She will tell us about all the services they offer.



**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Thursday, April 18, 10am, WELCA – General Board presents program. Emily Schendel, Community Engagement Coordinator from Couleecap will be the speaker. Server: Jan Verse. Paying Hostesses: Kari Coaty, Karla Collins, Ardell Daffinrud, Daina Drath, Sue Dwyer.

Saturday, April 20, 8am-2:30pm – 2024 WELCA Spring Convention, Our Redeemers Lutheran Church, La Crosse.

Saturday, April 20 – Fund Raiser for Emily Helseth, Coon Valley American Legion Hall.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Thursday, May 16, 10am, WELCA – Naomi Circle presents program. “Velkommen to Syttende Mai.” Servers: Naomi Circle. Paying Hostesses: Virginia Dwyer, Alison Emmart, Amy Evenstad, Rita Erlandson, Jenny Fencl.

**SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE SERVERS**

Apr. 7 Gloria Galstad, Nancy Ofte

Apr. 14 Linda Stakston, Allison Williamson

Apr. 21 Kathy Schedivy, Karla Collins

Apr. 28 10th & 11th Grade Youth

May 5 Tracy Stellner, Sheri Berg

May 12 Men’s Club

May 19 No Coffee

May 26 No Coffee

**Morning Coffee will resume in September**

God Bless, Ellie Brye, President

Thank you to the Serving Committee for another outstanding Pancake Breakfast.

**ATTENDANCE & OFFERING**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2024** | **February** |  | **2024 YTD** |
| **Total Offerings** | $15,165.06 |   | $28,753.12 |
| **Expenses** | $22,000.88 |   | $40,697.99 |
| **Balance/Shortfall** | **$-6,835.82** |  | **-$11,944.8** |
| **Parsonage Int. Fund Transfer** | $0  |  | $0 |
| **Building Fund Transfer** | $0 |  | $0 |
| **Memorial Fund****Transfer** | $0 |  | $0 |

**2/28 – 7p:** 59; **Offering:** $607.00

**3/3 – 9a:** 85; **Offering:** $4,360.19

**3/6 – 7p:** 54; **Offering:** $339.00

**3/10 – 9a:** 96; **Offering:** $4,921.07

**3/13 – 7p:** 65; **Offering:** $512.00

**3/17 – 9a:** 95; **Offering:** $3,607.89

**\*\***Approximately **$4,438.00 a week** is needed to meet operating expenses.

**General Fund Balance:** 2/29/24: $17,692.03

**Memorial Fund Balance:**2/29/24: $55,940.31

**Building Fund Balance:** 2/29/24: $43,639.31

**CD Interest Balance:** 2/29/24: $18,381.39

**Shepherd Fund Balance:** 2/29/24: $1,497.82

Sunday School Attendance

**3/3**-14, **3/10**-20, **3/17**-23, **3/24**-19

MEMORIALS

**Richard Brose**

 Parking Lot Fund: $70.00

**Sandy Nelson**

WELCA Kitchen Fund: $1,000.00

 General Fund: $1,110.00

 Live-stream laptop-$500.00

 Youth Fund: $220.00

 Endowment Fund: $45.00

 Sunday School: 10.00

 Parking Lot: $30.00

 Shepherd Fund: $20.00

ONLINE GIVING

 There are several ways you may get your offerings to the church. You may simply mail it to the church office, P.O. Box 280. Or use one of our eGiving options. 1) You may go to our website and click the Donate button at the top. 2) Give through the mobile app Vanco Mobile. Please let Jamie know if you need assistance in any way with these options. Thank you for your support!

**YEAR-TO-DATE BALANCE**

PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group continues to pray for the church, the congregation and our extended family and friends.

**† *Our church staff***

**† *Our members*:** Corrine Appleman, Beverly Bagstad, Clifford Bakkum, Brian Berg, Herby Cornell, Jeanne Ebli, Kira Foster, Jeri Harbaugh, Bonnie Holey, Becky Ihle, Donna Ihle, Verlin Ihle, Todd King, Margaret Lee, Russell Lee, Aaron Leisso, Larry Lichtie, Aaron Marx, Bud Miyamoto, Mitzi Miyamoto, Marianne Mhyre, LuEtta Nelson, Romaine Nelson, Cathy Ofte, Eunice Quast, Jojo Satona, Mary Schultz, Billie Slater, LaVonne Stendahl, Krin (Dreves) Stendalen Joyce Temp, Teri Tomten.

**† *Our members who are currently in health care facilities & Assisted Living*:** Tip Bagstad, Inez Beck, Rachel Berg, Evelyn Dahlen, Joanne Fletcher, Betty Gilbertson, Erma Graupe, Lenore Henley, Carl Holte, Bob Moilien, Irene Nestingen, Annie Olson, Beatrice Olson (Alden), Jim Knutson, Betty Sanders.

**† *Those who grieve:*** Family and friends of Richard Brose & Sandy Nelson

**† *Family and friends of members***

**† *Local Military***

**† *All those affected by the COVID-19 virus***

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**WEEK OF APRIL 7**

**SUNDAY** Acts 4:32-35 The believers’ common live

 Psalm 133 How good it is to live in unity

 1 John 1:1—2:2 Walking in the light

 John 20:19-31 Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ

**MONDAY** Daniel 3:1-30 God saves the three men from the fire

**TUESDAY** Daniel 6:1-28 God saves Daniel from the lions

**WEDNESDAY** Mark 12:19-27 Jesus teaches about the resurrection

**THURSDAY** Isaiah 26:1-15 Song of victory

**FRIDAY** 1 John 2:3-17 A new commandment

**SATURDAY** Psalm 135 Praise to God

**WEEK OF APRIL 14**

**SUNDAY** Acts 3:12-19 Health and forgiveness through Jesus

 Psalm 4 The LORD does wonders for the faithful

 1 John 3:1-7 The revealing of the children of God

 Luke 24:36b-48 Eating with the risen Christ

**MONDAY** Jeremiah 30:1-11a God will save the people

**TUESDAY** Daniel 10:2-19 Daniels’ vision strengthens him

**WEDNESDAY** Mark 16:9-18 Jesus appears to the disciples

**THURSDAY** Hosea 5:15—6:6 Salvation on the third day

**FRIDAY** 1 John 3:7-15 Love one another

**SATURDAY** Psalm 150 Praise to God

**WEEK OF APRIL 21**

**SUNDAY** Acts 4:5-12 Salvation in the name of Jesus

 Psalm 23 The LORD is my shepherd

 1 John 3:16-24 Love in truth and action

 John 10:11-18 Christ, the shepherd

**MONDAY** Genesis 48:8-19 God has been my shepherd

**TUESDAY** 1 Chronicles 11:1-9 The shepherd David made king

**WEDNESDAY** Mark 14:26-31 Christ, the shepherd

**THURSDAY** Micah 7:8-20 God will shepherd the people

**FRIDAY** 1 Peter 5:1-5 Christ, the great shepherd

**SATURDAY** Psalm 95 We are the sheep of God’s hand

**WEEK OF APRIL 28**

 **SUNDAY** Acts 8:26-40 *Philip teaches and baptizes an Ethiopian*

Psalm 22:25-31 *All shall turn to the LORD*

 1 John 4:7-21 *Loving one another*

John 15:1-8 *Christ, the vine*

 **MONDAY** Isaiah 5:1-7 *The unfaithful vineyard*

 **TUESDAY** Isaiah 32:9-20 *A fruitful field*

 **WEDNESDAY** John 14:18-31 *Keeping God’s word*

 **THURSDAY** Isaiah 65:17-25 *God’s people like a tree*

 **FRIDAY** Galatians 5:16-26 *The fruits of the Spirit*

 **SATURDAY** Psalm 80 *Israel, the vine*

**Moving? New contact information? Please update the church office.**

**Thank you!**

Please use our correct mailing address when sending us mail.

P.O. Box 280

Thank you!

Visit our website: coonvalleylutheranchurch.org to sign-up to receive our newsletter via email!

 **THE CARILLON**

 VOL. 53 April 2024 No. 4

 Coon Valley Lutheran Church, ELCA 1005 Central Avenue, P.O. Box 280

 Coon Valley, WI 54623

 Office Phone (608)452-3772

 www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org

 Interim Pastor: Jim Scaife, 608-452-3772

Office Administrator: Jamie Thomas, jamiel@mwt.net, Office: 608-452-3772

Cell Phone: 608-317-0007

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Treasurer: Becky Lusk, treasurer1005@mwt.net

Organist: Mary Schultz

Indoor Custodian: Tracy Stellner

Church Council President: Steve Pauloski

Vice President: Mike Lusk; Secretary: Laura Hofslien

Paul Bahr, Janice Bender, Mark Hutson, Ron Moilien,

Amy Stakston-Wiedemann, Ray Williamson

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| April 2024  |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
|     |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|  Free Free Tulip Cliparts, Download Free Free Tulip Cliparts png images,  Free ClipArts on Clipart Library  | **1** **9:00a-**Naomi Circle | **2****10:00a-**Ruth Circle | **3** | **4****6:00-**Rebecca Circle | **5** | **6** |
| **7** **9:00 -**Worship with Holy Communionwith Pr. Barbara Bruneau**10:00a-**Sunday School, Coffee Fellowship**5:00p-**L.I.F.E Youth Gathering | **8** | **9** | **10** **9:00a-**Quilting | **11** | **12** | **13**  |
| **14****9:00a-**Worship**10:00a-**Sunday School, Coffee Fellowship | **15****Carillon Deadline** | **16** | **17** | **18****6:00p-**Church Council**10:00a-**WELCA | **19** | **20****8:00-2:30-**WELCA Spring Convention**4:00-9:00p-**Emily Helseth Benefit-C.V. Legion Hall |
| **21****9:00a-**Worship with Bishop Felix Malpica**10:00a-**Sunday School, Coffee Fellowship, Confirmation Rehearsal | **22** | **23****5:00-**Worship Committee | **24****9:00a-**Quilting |  **25**  | **26** | **27**  |
| **28****9:00a-**Worship; **Confirmation** with Holy Communion**10:00a-**Sunday School, Coffee Fellowship | **29** | **30** |  Shape  Description automatically generated with medium confidence |    |  |  |