

Dekorra Lutheran Church

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Pastor: Sterling Lynk

December 2023 Newsletter

God always does what he plans, and this is why he appointed Christ to choose us. [God] did this so we...would bring honor to him and...have hope because of him.

Christ chose some of us to be apostles, prophets, missionaries, pastors, and teachers, so his people would learn to serve and his body would grow strong. This will continue until we are united by our faith and by our understanding of the Son of God. Then we will be mature, just as Christ is, and we will be completely like him.

- **Ephesians 1:11-12, 4:11-13 (CEV)**

Then [Jesus] told them: Go preach the good news to everyone in the world.

- **Mark 16:15 (CEV)**

Hello You,

If you are a frequent reader of this letter, then you know I have been sharing the Rev. Matthew Short's research on the shifts the healthiest congregations have made in recent years.

Last week I had the opportunity to spend four days with Pastor Matthew at the Spirit of the Desert retreat center in Carefree, Arizona. I told him that I was sharing his work with you all. That earned me a humble laugh. He is a guide mentor and teacher, and I think it really touched his God-given purpose that someone was using his work.

I know I personally understand the church better and how to be your pastor better thanks to Pastor Matthew. If he was not here to share his wisdom, I believe we here at DLC would be worse off.

I would like you to imagine with me for a moment. Imagine that all of us were gathered in our building at the same time. That is every adult, every young adult, every kid, every minister and leader and volunteer, every frequent and infrequent worshiper, and even all of you who engage in our small online presence. All of us!

Now, imagine, the hand of God comes down scoops the building and parking lot, and land and people (and even our cemetery) all up, and takes us away to Heaven. The only thing left behind is a big crater. But, for whatever, God only scoops us up and leaves the rest of the world behind for now.

What would be different? How would the community be impacted with us gone? What would be missing in the world?

The answer to those questions tells us something about our God-given purpose. Just as Pastor Matthew has a “why”, Dekorra Lutheran Church has a “why”.

Of course, our Bible can tell us something about our “why”, our God-given purpose. Worship, human development, and sharing Jesus’ gospel promise are three things suggested in the quotes I opened this letter with. There is also what Isaiah says our purpose is (i.e. to free prisoners imprisoned unjustly, share our food, etc.).

Luther says in his Large Catechism that the point of the church is to 1) remind those of us who are “inside” of the church of the gospel promise and 2) share that same promise with folks “outside”.

We also have our statement of mission, which we hear at the opening of each worship service (i.e. we prepare and equip our neighbors and ourselves to respond to the Holy Spirit’s call...).

I keep going on about mission and purpose and “why” because next year we turn 155 years old. It will be a year of jubilee, a year of celebration. How good will that year of joy feel to you?

It will feel pretty good, God willing.

And, what will the mission ministry and life at Dekorra look like next year? What is our future?

What will be your participation in that life and future?

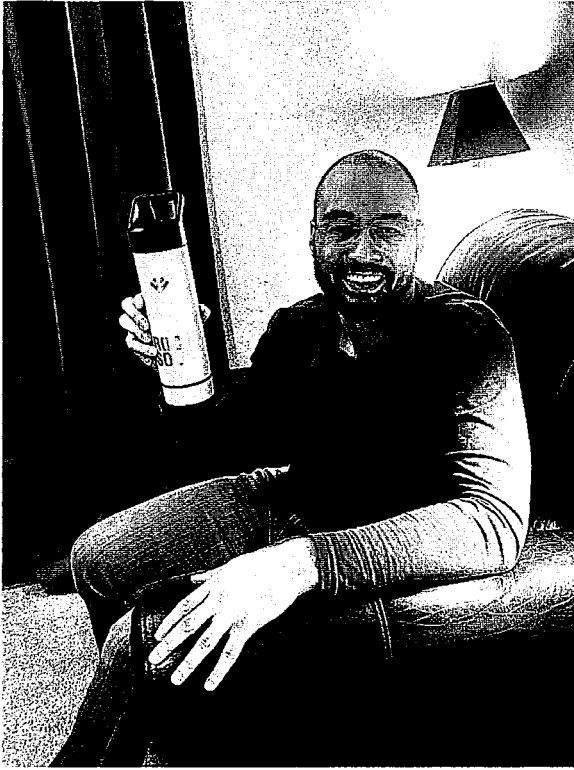
That last question about how you will help create life and mission and ministry and joy next year, all comes down to your “why”. How does that “why” connect to the way you are going to show up or serve or give next year?

Why is DLC important to you? Why will you be grateful for DLC at this same time next year? Why do you think Dekorra matters to the people here and around the world? These questions are answered by you.

Last month, I noted that “abiding each other” is hard. Showing up can be hard. Serving can be hard. Giving can be hard. It is so hard that Jesus showed up to show us how to do those things, to ask us to do those things in His name, to breathe and feed himself into us so we can do those things. Thanks to His Holy Spirit, we can do all those things and have a year of joy in 2024. That is a promise, from our Savior to you.

Peace,
+Sterling
November 21, 2023

P.S. – I forgot that my “ordinaversary” (the anniversary of my ordination) was last Tuesday. I was in the airport when Facebook reminded me that the 14th was the day. I forgot, but some of you didn’t and someone or someone’s left me a gift with a note that read “Here’s to 3 more years! Thanks for being here!” I don’t know who gave this gift because they didn’t sign the note. Thank you to whoever you are. Here is a pic of me with your fine gift! And, I would be so fortunate to have our God bless me with three more years with you great people. 😊



From Your Council President:

Are your outdoor lights up, the indoor seasonal decorations out, the tree decorated, cookies/fruit cake made, and the perfect gifts bought and wrapped? All preparation for the big Christmas celebration with family and friends. I pray that Jesus's birth somehow figures into your Christmas preparation. With December 25th falling on a Monday, it creates unique challenges for your church schedule. Christmas Eve (Sunday) services will be at 10:00am and celebrate the 4th Sunday in Advent. Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm will be the traditional Christmas Eve service, with Monday, Christmas Day service at 10:00am. Please find the time to celebrate the birth of our Lord by attending one of these worship services. Dekorra Lutheran is family to most of us, therefore come and enjoy worship with your extended church family.

If you missed the presentation from Tim Treck representing Lutheran World Relief you missed a very informative session. We had 19 disciples in attendance, which according to Tim, was a very good turnout. The main message he had was to pass on a simple "Thank You" for all the years Dekorra has participated in the quilt and kits mission. Over the past 25 years, LWR has provided 9 million quilts and 9.4 million kits to needy people in 95 countries. This includes people affected by natural disasters, political conflicts, and epidemics. Tim told of a village in the highlands of an African country that was witnessing growth stunting in 1 of 3 children. Research found that the stunting was a result of children being cold and the energy needed for growth was being consumed to keep the body warm. A simple quilt to provide warmth at night was making a difference in the long-term health of these children. I don't think we ever know the impact our missions here at Dekorra can have on our brothers and sisters around the world. Tim's plea was for us to keep the quilt and kit projects alive as the need continues to be great. Thank you to all of you who have made these missions possible. We can always use more quilters, there is no experience needed or any age or gender requirements!

It is never a fun topic when Church leadership has to discuss the finances of your church. But the reality is that it is a very important part to the existence of Dekorra as we know it. I assume we all like a well-kept facility? I assume we all like professional paid staff? And by the way, we have been blessed with Pastor Sterling, Ann, and Oleg. I assume we all expect the church to have insurance? I assume we all expect toilet paper in the restrooms? All these expectations have costs and the money to pay these bills comes from you through your donations. We have been operating on fumes for about a year now and that is not sustainable. If you can increase your financial support to the church, now would be a really good time to do that. The goal would be to have an average balance in our checkbook at \$30,000. Currently, it is \$10,000 and dropping. Current monthly expenses are about \$18,000. As we deliberately study our stewardship giving and try to formulate a realistic budget for 2024 I pray that your church can count on your continued support. Please attend the annual meeting, on Jan. 28th to discuss and approve the 2024 proposed budget. The outdoor report will be short this month. Deer season was so-so. I saw a fair amount of deer and lots of small bucks. As of this writing the Buckley farm has not harvested any deer. That could change as the season whines down! Fall is definitely ending and winter is soon to be upon us. I always think I'm ready, but the first snow will tell me if that's true. Whatever the season get out and enjoy God's creation.

Merry Christmas Everyone!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

God Bless You Always,
Bill Buckley

A Message from your Treasurer

I'm a "numbers guy" and it has been a worrisome year with our general checking balance below \$10,000 for the end of summer and all of the fall. The council voted in favor of using the Contingency Fund if the balance in general checking fell below \$10,000. We wanted to ensure we could continue to pay our payroll on time and take care of needed bills. So far, we have been able to go week by week and not take anything out of our contingency fund, but the balance remains under \$10,000. In fact, the current balance as of November 20th is \$9,031. This is a little better than our \$6,200 balance a week ago.

Please note the two charts that follow this message to see our General Checking balance 2022 stayed much more consistent than 2023. It was amazing when we were able to pay our bills whenever we wanted to during the month instead of waiting for each offering to come in to see which bills could be paid. Our office manager has done an amazing job of keeping our bills paid on time and not dipping into the contingency fund.

I have always been told by our congregational members that when we are in need we always come through. This has been evident to me as we were able to pay off our loan for the Screen Project early in 2022 and continue to support our youth as they plan for their big trip in 2024. It seems we do better as a congregation when we have a cause, outreach project, or special need in our midst.

It was also amazing when our congregation stepped up this summer to support not only two weeks for summer School snacks, but others donated to furnish a third week of snacks. No money from the general fund was used for this community service project and all donations were given above and beyond people's regular giving.

So, I'm calling on you to take on a plea from your treasurer, to raise our general checking fund to over \$20,000 by the end of 2023. This way we can go into the new year with your treasurer being less stressed and have a better foundation for the coming year.

Also remember, if you are over the age of 70 and ½ you can receive a tax break and give from one of your retirement funds directly to the church. It's worth a call to your financial advisor.

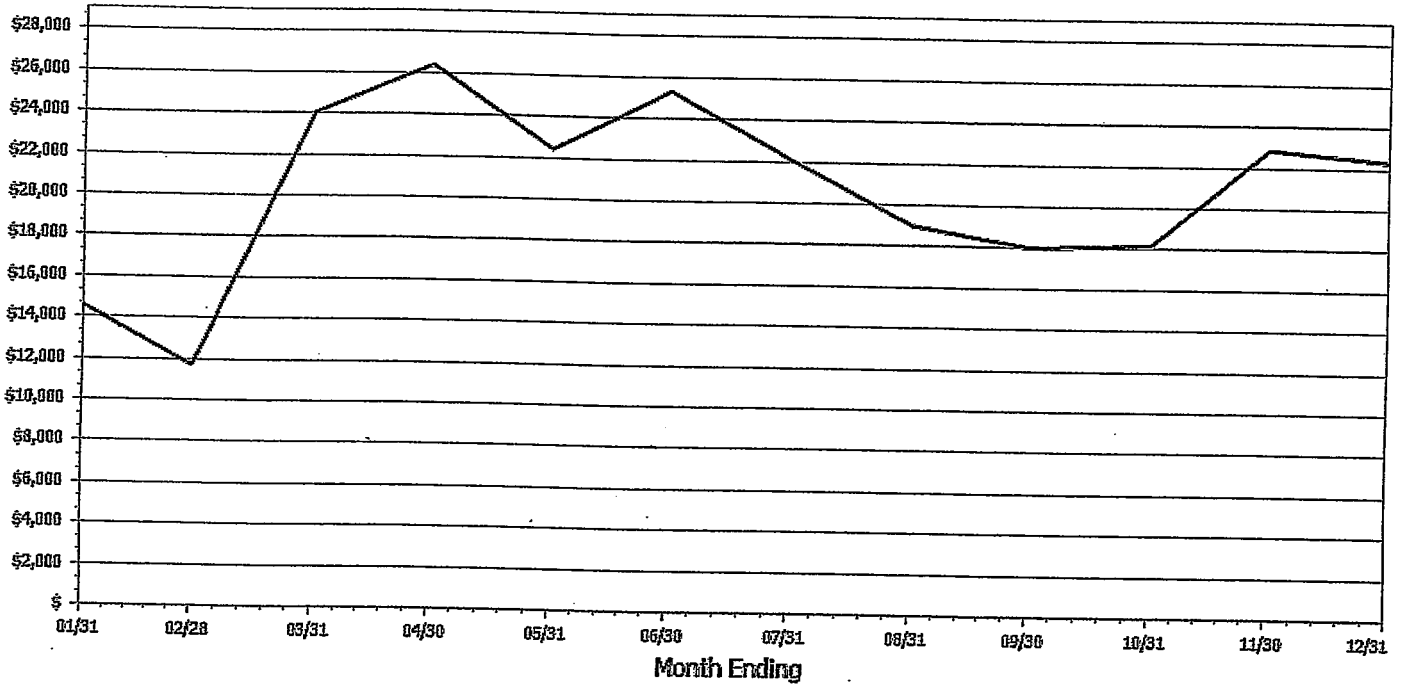
Thank you in advance for listening and taking on a new challenge for Dekorra Lutheran Church.

Merry Christmas,

Lyle Hendrickson, DLC Treasurer

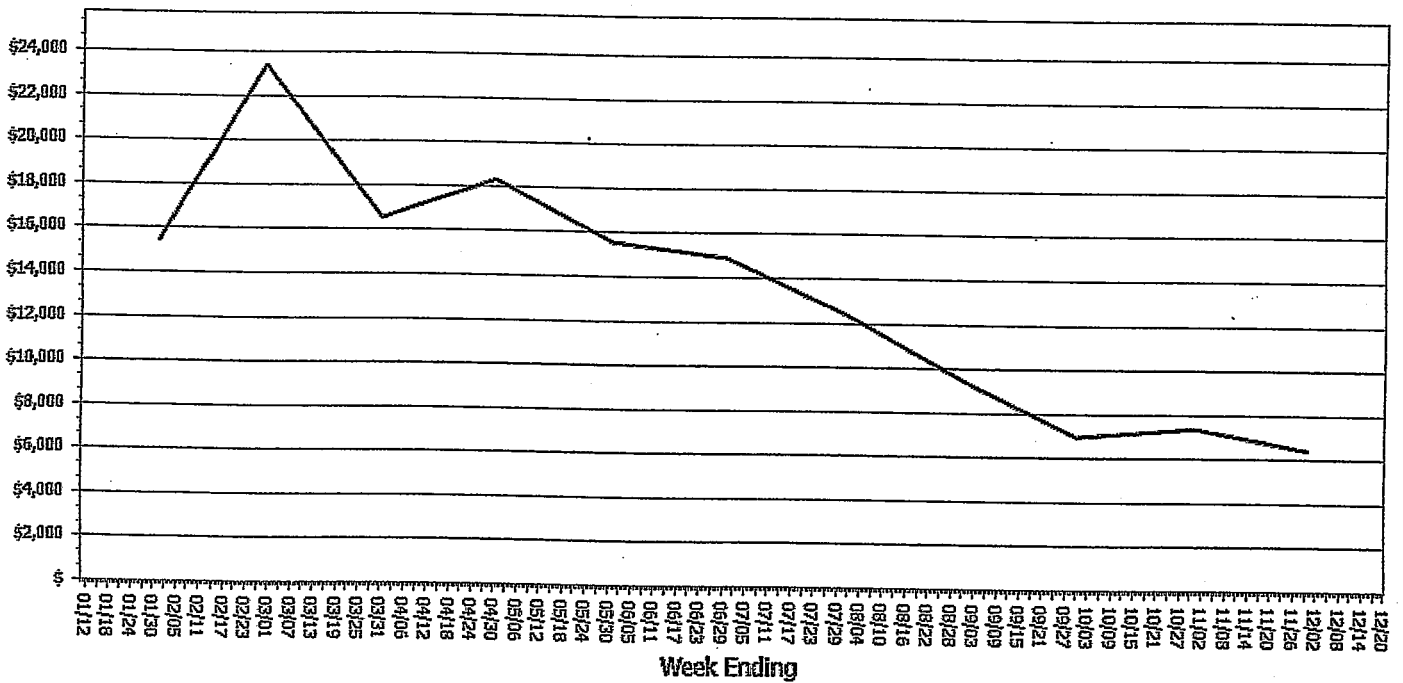
Monthly Balances
from 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2022

Gen checking - Hometown Bank Balance



Monthly Balances
from 01/01/2023 to 11/17/2023

Gen checking - Bank First Balance



Philippians 4:13 I can endure all these things through the power of the one gives me strength.

Please remember in your prayers... Diane Kamps (sister-in-law of Tom & Kathy Pederson), Donna Schwoch, Nancy Salenius, Hunter Joseph (infant grandson of Harry & Peggy Benson), Judy Buchanan, Ken Schmidt, Joan Ayers, Janet Hungerford, Craig Lorimer (brother-in-law of Ellen & Mike Keller and Darryl & Sherri Knuteson); Ayers family; Sharon Zeimet; Judy Schultz; Joanna Hall (daughter of Mary Dibble); Angie Satter (daughter of Bill & Jill Emmons), Carson Schmudlach 17year old who is battling cancer, 20-year-old Connor Martinson who is suffering from a stroke and a glioblastoma.

Prayers for those serving our country in the military...Nicholas Paske (great-nephew of June Fiske); Bill Warren (son of Cheryl Lytle); Quinten Case (great-nephew of June Fiske); Moira McCormack (granddaughter of Renate Lokotz).

DLC Book Club

Discussing + Listening + Contemplating

DLC Book Club – Wednesday, December 27th at 1:00

The Deal of a Lifetime by Fredrik Backman

What would you be prepared to sacrifice in order to save a life?

What footprints are you leaving in your life?

For what or how will you be remembered?

What is your legacy?

In true Backman style, this is an intricately woven story of an unlovable, complex, and flawed character whom we begin to understand and care about as he faces the end of his life. Written as the last message from father to son and told like a fairy tale for adults, it's a story of a legacy, ambition, and success at all costs, fear of failure, the meaning of life, the commodity of time, an accounting of one's life, and a father/son relationship.

Join us for fellowship and thought-provoking discussion to end the old year and look to the new!

The DLC Book Club is excited to begin its eighth year of discussion and fellowship with the following selections:

January 17 - *Abide With Me* by Elizabeth Strout

February 21 - *Plain Truth* by Jodi Picoult

March 20 - *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel

May 15 - Personal Picks Book Share

September 18 - *Inside the O'Briens* by Lisa Genova

October 16 - *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards

November 20 - *The Kitchen Front* by Jennifer Ryan

December 11 - *A Redbird Christmas* by Fannie Flag

BRUNCH AND A MOVIE

Who: Everyone is invited!

What: Brunch and watching *To Kill a Mockingbird*

(November's book club choice)

When: Sunday, January 21st after church

Where: Fellowship Hall

Why: Great food and great fellowship!

Sunday School On Dec 17, The Sunday school along with a few adult members of the congregation will present a Christmas skit, "*The Family Gathering*" written by Merry Seng.

Rehearsal will be at 10 AM on Dec 10. Participants should arrive at 9 AM on Dec 17 to get ready for the 10AM performance.

There will be NO Sunday School on Dec 24 and Dec 31.

The class will resume on January 7th, 2024

Faith Bible Study is canceled on December 20th. We will resume on January 17th at 9:30 am.

Youth/Family Activities: Please watch for Dekorra's youth selling quilt raffle tickets to help fund attending the ELCA 2024 Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Ticket sales started November 4 in conjunction with the ladies' bake/lefse sale, and will continue selling into December. A generous quilt donation made this raffle possible. It's a fun way to support our youth. HOPE YOU WIN! :)

Blood Drive Our next Blood Drive will be on December 11th starting at 12:00 Noon. Thank you for your participation!

Christmas Angels Social Ministry Committee will be displaying Christmas Angels in honor or in memory of loved ones. Suggested donation will be \$5.00 per Angel and monies will be sent to support a local and a global charity to be determined. The order forms can be left in the basket at the back of the Sanctuary or in the Church Office. *Forms will be due by December 3rd*. Matching funds will be requested from Thrivent Fund. Thanks!

Poinsettia Order The Altar Committee will take orders for Poinsettias. **Please Order Early!!!** The ordering form is at the back of the Bulletin. *The due date is on December 3rd*. Thank you!

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes: 35 Shoeboxes were delivered to the Baraboo to be shipped out for Operation Christmas Child! THANK YOU to those who supported this project! *Tom & Kathy Pederson.*

HELP WANTED It is time for the Worship Committee to update our list of people who serve during our worship service. We have not reached out for helpers since the sanctuary was reopened after Covid. We are looking for additional people to help during our weekly service as:

Assistant Minister, Reading Minister, Communion Minister, Greeter, Usher (both Sanctuary & Parking Lot), Video Minister – training will be provided if necessary.

If you would be interested in joining the "Worship Minister" at Dekorra in any or several of the above positions or have questions, contact **Sharon Kampen at kampensg@yahoo.com or 608-635-4745**. You can also contact any of the other Worship Committee members: Judy Brownrigg, Diane Buckley, Kathy Burhop, Ann Carncross, and Kathy Statz.

If you are already serving in any of the above positions also let Sharon know if you want to continue as a "Worship Minister" or be removed from the list.

Dekorra is also looking for people to join one of the many Committees that serve our congregation. If you would be interested in joining one of the following contact the chairperson for more information:

Altar Guild – Dee Sachtjen – dsachtjen4@gmail.com or 608-573-0345

Education - Sheila Gempeler – sdgemp1949@gmail.com or 608-592-6902

Endowment – Al Bilse – bilse2@gmail.com or 608-592-4076

Finance – Lyle Hendrickson – lwhendrick3@gmail.com or 608-592-5890

Hospitality – Mary Thompson – mathompson124@gmail.com or 608-592-4209

Human Resources – Karen Bender – bender4@centurytel.net or 608-575-1860

Memorial – Claudine Hanson- claudinemh@gmail.com or 608-635-4714

Mission of Hope - Bill Schleichert – williamschleichert@gmail.com – 608-697-4434

Property – Dennis Cunningham – d.cunninghamcom@yahoo.com or 608-843-8203

Quilters – Margo Holzman – mitesag@yahoo.com or 608-635-7772

Scholarship – Bill Schleichert – williamschleichert@gmail.com – 608-697-4434

Social Ministry – Natalie Westgard – natntut@hotmail.com or 608-284-0832

Stewardship – Sharon Kampen – kampensg@yahoo.com or 608-635-4745 - Our team is looking for 2 people to help count the Sunday offering.

Thrivent Choice - Bill Schleichert – williamschleichert@gmail.com – 608-697-4434

Worship – Sharon Kampen - kampensg@yahoo.com or 608-635-4745

Youth and Family – Brad Simplot – simplot@chater.net or 608-592-5167



OWLS Christmas Gathering Friday, December 15.

We will celebrate Christmas at the 43 North Bar and Grill on 118 S. Main Street in Lodi at 12 Noon. In response to the needs of Hope House, we are collecting the following items that day: shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, and body wash for both adults and children.

Please sign up on the kitchen bulletin board by Dec. 10 or call Mary at 608-592-4209 if plan to attend.

REMEMBER WE ARE ALL YOUNG AT HEART!!!!

WELCA NEWS

****QUILTERS***

We are in need of Quilters. Dekorra has been a contributor to this Lutheran project for many years but if we are to continue, now we are in need of help at our church. We meet every Thursday afternoon but that day is not set in stone. Tying quilts is easy and a wonderful fellowship. Please consider helping with this project.

****COFFEE HOUR SIGNUP***

We have begun serving coffee on the first Sunday of the month after the "Covid break". We are keeping it simple! There is a signup sheet on the kitchen bulletin board. Many servers are merely purchasing doughnuts from Kwik Trip or the Mobile Station (and reimbursed by donations) or you can make a batch of cookies if you prefer to do that.

****CHILI SUPPER***

In an effort to raise needed funds for our church, WELCA is planning a Chili Supper! The date we picked is Sunday, January 14, 2024! We will serve from 4:00-7:00 PM. A time for fellowship and an opportunity to raise some dollars for our church. More information to follow!

Poem From Former Pastor James Niederloh:

We make our plans and then it is all different
A loved one dies health which was whole- isn't
A job meant to fill the years doesn't
A relationship wanes and then it is all different

The program keeps getting interrupted
Christmas is about children and decorations
And gifts and food

But they are all a facade a simple party in the winter
Unless we sense that once and forever
God has interrupted life itself

Jesus quietly comes to be with us
To give himself for us and to promise
That through a hall that was, and is, and ever shall be
He will embrace us with His love and never let us go.

Dekorra Lutheran Church

November 2023 Committee Reports

Christian Education

Our next scheduled meeting will be Nov 30 at 9 AM

Committee Attendance: Julie Clark, Ardyce Piehl, Judy Brownrigg, Ellen Woodward, Ruth Kohlmeyer, Sheila Gempeler, Cheryl Pendleton.

DLC Book Club/Library

- ✓ We chose selections for 2024!!
 - January 17, *Abide with Me*, Elizabeth Strout, copies arriving soon
 - February 21, *Plain Truth* copies in the library
 - March 20, *Book of Lost Names*
 - May 15, Personal Picks book share
 - September 18, *Inside the O'Briens*, Lisa Genova
 - October 16, *The Memory Keepers Daughter*, Kim Edwards
 - There is a corresponding movie available
 - November 20, *Kitchen Front*, Jennifer Ryan
 - December 11, *A Redbird Christmas*, Fannie Flagg
- ✓ Book Club 2023 continues to meet at 1 PM on the following days.
 - November 15, *To Kill a Mockingbird* book discussion.
 - December 27, *The Deal of a Lifetime*. Copies on order.
 - **We'll show *To Kill a Mockingbird* movie and serve a brunch after church on Jan. 21.**
- ✓ Discussion on how to encourage men to attend – perhaps movies, authors, and or books that would appeal to them, and different meeting times. Suggestion to include "*Figure Eight, A Northern Lake Mystery*" by Jeff Nania a local author. We will research possibly having him speak.

Sunday School - 4K-5th grades.

- ✓ Setting service goal to collect water through Heifer International.
 - A new solar well is \$750.
 - Thrivent funds will be available.
- ✓ The teachers are Florence Schudlach, Morgan Loewenhagen, & Mandy Paskey, and singing with Merry Seng.
- ✓ Curriculum: November classes will be studying the Christmas story for 3 weeks in Nov. Beginning work on January 2024 curriculum. Mandy has chosen to teach the 10 commandments from Luther's Small Catechism for Kids. The younger classes will study Bible stories from the New Testament.
- ✓ Merry Seng is working on the Christmas skit for Dec 17, 2023.
- ✓ We currently have Al and Joen Bilse, and Mandy and Kyle Paskey as skit participants. We will be recruiting 2 confirmation students also.
- ✓ Sheila has sent a message to Sunday School families to determine how many children will participate.
- ✓ Merry and Sheila will collaborate with Pastor, Ann Carncross and the worship committee.

Middle and High School.

- ✓ Quilt Raffle tickets sold out on Nov 4-5th (with WELCA bake sale).
 - Kerri Lintl assisted in printing additional tickets.
- ✓ Lock-in activity on Dec 15th will include a raffle drawing.
- ✓ Looking forward to the Youth Convention in New Orleans – July 2024!

Adult Education

- ✓ **OWLS** has been having some interesting speakers for our older adults. Funeral Planning with Gunderson, Med Flight, and upcoming Hope House. Thanks to the organizers who acquired these speakers.
- ✓ We have acquired the DVD for the Chosen season 3 and the Chosen Christmas special CD. Plans are to hold group viewing and discussions in the fall. Dates to be determined.

Women's Retreat set for April 20, 2024

- ✓ Garden theme based on the devotional, "Playing in the Dirt" and utilizing *God's Word for Gardeners Bible*.
 - 15 copies of *Playing in the Dirt* have been obtained at half price.
 - Ardyce obtained notebooks to use as journals. Ellen will research ideas to decorate the cover as an activity during the retreat.
- ✓ **Continue Brainstorming notes:** activities, decorations, and timeline.
 - Time, 9 AM -2 PM, beginning with coffee, treat, and greet.
 - Possible speaker?
 - Will have 3-4 activities with participants involved in each (no breakout groups).
 - Discussed cost to participants—want to stay with \$20-\$25.
 - Menu suggestion: Lunch: Salad Bar, soup and dessert. We will also have a morning pastry selection with coffee.
- ✓ Garden theme decorations?? Edible gardens take home planter activity. Thoughts on speakers, music, centering prayer.
- ✓ Discuss Communication for Retreat?
 - Facebook, posters, newsletter

Worship

In attendance: Dee Sachtjen, Kathy Statz, Ann Carncross, Diane Buckley, Sharon Kampen, Sue Poznanski, Kathy Burhop

Absent: Judy Brownrigg, Marj Weingandt

We each received a copy of the worship committee resolution which we read and discussed. We made a few minor changes and corrections. Sharon will submit the amended version to Bill as he needs to have them by November 5th.

Sharon updated us on the business conducted at the last All Committee meeting. The following schedule has been adopted:

Thanksgiving service 11/22/23 6:00 pm

Blue Christmas 12/20/23 6:00 pm

Christmas Eve/4th Sunday of Advent 12/24/23 10:00 am & 4:00 pm

Christmas Day 12/25/23 10:00 am

(hymn sing & readings)

The children's Christmas program will take place on Sunday, 12/17/23. The service will take place at 10:00 am and the program itself should last about 30 minutes. Merry Seng has written a little skit for the children to perform. Ole and Lena are in the skit so it sounds like it will be really enjoyable. Sharon will check with Pastor Sterling to see if we will have communion at that service.

The first Sunday in January is Holy Family Sunday and the second Sunday is the Baptism of Jesus. Ann has the music for those services. Ann has the music licenses in place but they need to be renewed each year. We will check with Lyle at All Committee to see if the money for those licenses should come from Worship, Music, or General church funds. If Worship is responsible, our budget needs to be increased to accommodate them. With rising costs, our budget needs to be increased by at least \$100.

The 155th anniversary of our church will take place on August 25, 2024. We are suggesting that we celebrate our anniversary along with our church picnic. We will ask people to RSVP this year so we have an idea of how much meat is needed. We would also like to have a large cake for the anniversary. Bishop Joy will preach at our anniversary service. So far there is no separate committee handling this event.

Dee suggested we do something to commemorate Lorraine's years of service on the Altar Committee. We decided we could incorporate it into our January 7th coffee hour since she did not want a party. We will put an acknowledgment in the December newsletter. Dee will talk to Karen Ulrich to find out just how long Lorraine has been involved with the Altar Committee.

Our next meeting will be held on Friday, November 24th so we will assist Dee with decorating for Advent after our meeting. Dee will also check with Lorraine to see who is responsible for getting the church Christmas tree. The Christmas poinsettias will arrive on December 22 and the Advent decor will need to be changed for Christmas.

We recommend that we hold soup suppers Wednesdays through Lent except for Ash Wednesday starting at 5:30 with service following at 6:30. There would be 5 soup suppers in all with a different committee being responsible for the dinner each week. Pastor Sterling can still do something with the confirmands in the sanctuary before service begins at 6:30 if he chooses.

We are recommending that the Holden Service be used on Lenten Wednesdays. We will speak to Pastor Sterling to see how involved he wants the youth to be in these services. Dee handles the flowers for the large pots outside the front doors of the church. It was difficult keeping them watered this year. She would like to install a patio block on each side of the doors with a larger planter holding the flower planters inside.

Our next meeting will be held on Friday, November 24, 2023 at 9:00 AM.
Submitted by: Sue Poznanski

Hospitality

Hospitality Committee met Nov. 7, 2023

Attendees: Ruth Kohlmeyer, Joen Bilse, Barb Johnson, Jane Manke, and Mary Thompson. Absent: Jill Emmons

1. Gift bags and Nursery were checked.
2. It was decided to make Christmas Cheer Bags for those folks receiving home communion as we have done in the past.
3. In an effort to revitalize Sunday morning coffee hour two of our committee members will take November 12.
4. We will communicate with the committee involved with the 155th anniversary regarding monthly birthday celebrations at All Committee night.

Dekorra Lutheran Church - Poynette WI
Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2023

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
Assets		
Church Operating Funds		
100.001	Gen checking - Bank First	7,372.67
100.002	Money Market Savings-BOP(Restricted Asset)	68,545.58
	Total Check & Savings Assets	\$75,918.25
Organization Funds		
100.010	Dekorra Mission Endowment Fund(Restricted Asset)	87,517.36
100.040	Dekorra Men For Christ (Restricted Asset)	6,540.38
100.090	Mitchell Scholarship Fund (Restricted)	45,478.15
100.100	Dekorra Lutheran Youth Group(Restricted Asset)	2,461.57
115.080	Memorial Fund (Restricted Asset)	16,833.03
	Total Organization Accounts	\$158,830.49
	Total Assets	\$234,748.74
Liabilities		
200.010	Accounts Payable/Vendors	(41,174.60)
210.001	941 Taxes Payable	1,784.76
210.002	State Taxes Payable	367.04
210.003	Miscellaneous Deductions	214.42
210.005	Pastor's Portico deductions	490.44
	Total Liabilities	(\$38,317.94)
Fund Balances		
300.001	General Balance	85,569.51
300.002	Missions Balance	(30,904.70)
	General Operating Funds	\$54,664.81
320.001	Capital Improvement Balance(Restricted)	10,267.67
320.002	General Scholarship Balance(Restricted)	3,115.00
320.003	Building/Grounds Balance(Restricted)	7,915.54
320.004	Lowenhagen Scholarship Balance(Restricted)	1,243.34
320.005	Choir Balance(Restricted)	3,825.39
320.006	Thrivent Choice Dollars Balance(Restricted)	4,753.34
320.007	Misc. Contingency Balance(Partial Restriction)	13,059.81
332.011	Church Screens Fund Balance	1,880.11
332.013	Seminary Appeal Balance	20.22
	Money Market Funds	\$46,080.42
300.010	Dekorra Mission Endowment Fund Balance(Restricted)	87,517.36
300.040	Dekorra Men For Christ Balance(Restricted)	6,540.38
300.060	Dekorra Women of the ELCA Balance(Restricted)	1,256.86
300.070	Misssion of Hope Balance	3,098.29
300.090	Mitchell Scholarship Fund Balance	45,478.15
305.001	Youth Fund Balance(Restricted)	2,461.57
305.015	Youth & Family Fund Balance	9,190.81
315.001	Memorial Fund Balance(Restricted)	16,778.03
	Total Fund Balances	\$273,066.68
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$234,748.74

Dekorra Lutheran Church - Poynette WI
Consolidated Fund Activity Report for November 2023

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

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Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
300.010	Dekorra Mission Endowment Fund Balance(Restricted)	87,517.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	87,517.36
300.040	Dekorra Men For Christ Balance (Restricted)	6,540.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,540.38
300.060	Dekorra Women of the ELCA Balance (Restricted)	1,256.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,256.86
300.070	Mission of Hope Balance	3,098.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,098.29
300.090	Mitchell Scholarship Fund Balance	45,478.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,478.15
305.001	Youth Fund Balance(Restricted)	2,461.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,461.57
305.015	Youth & Family Fund Balance	9,190.81	10.00	0.00	0.00	9,200.81
315.001	Memorial Fund Balance(Restricted)	16,778.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,778.03
320.001	Capital Improvement Balance(Restricted)	10,267.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,267.67
320.002	General Scholarship Balance(Restricted)	3,115.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,115.00
320.003	Building/Grounds Balance(Restricted)	7,915.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,915.54
320.004	Lowenhagen Scholarship Balance (Restricted)	1,243.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,243.34
320.005	Choir Balance(Restricted)	3,825.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,825.39
320.006	Thrivent Choice Dollars Balance (Restricted)	4,753.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,753.34
320.007	Misc. Contingency Balance(Partial Restriction)	13,059.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,059.81
332.011	Church Screens Fund Balance	1,880.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,880.11
332.013	Seminary Appeal Balance	20.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.22
	Total	\$218,401.87	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$218,411.87

Dekorra Lutheran Church - Poynette WI
Summary of Cash Activity for 10/01/2023 thru 10/31/2023

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Page 1 of 1

Asset Account: 100.001 - Gen checking - Bank First

Cash Balance as of 10/01/2023(at the beginning of the day) **\$6,960.95**

Add Transactions From:

Income	\$0.00
Donations	\$19,098.63
Transfers (debit)	\$3,196.49
Journal Entries (debit)	\$0.00
AR Collections (debit)	\$0.00

Total Additions	\$22,295.12
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Subtract Transactions From:

Payments	\$10,617.10
Payroll	\$9,151.20
Transfers (credit)	\$2,101.50
Journal Entries (credit)	\$13.60

Total Subtractions	\$21,883.40
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Cash Balance as of 10/31/2023(at the end of the day) **\$7,372.67**

Serving our Lord December 2023

Date	Time	Assistant Minister	Reading Minister	Communion Minister	Greeters	Sanctuary Ushers	Parking Lot Ushers	Acolytes	Video Minister	
12/3	9:00 AM	Bill Schleichert	Dave Kinnunen	Karen Bender	Sharon Kampen & Ruth Kohlmeyer	Mike & Ellen Keller	None	Need Help	Paul Knuteson	
12/6	6:00 PM	TO BE SCHEDULED								
12/10	9:00 AM	Sue Poznanski	Marj Weingandt	At Altar Rail	Phil & Vicki Nugier	Jerry Carncross & Paul Knuteson	None	Need Help	Bill Buckley	
12/13	6:00 PM	TO BE SCHEDULED								
12/17	10:00 AM	Kristine Millard	None	None	Ken & Sharon Kuyper	Bill & Diane Buckley	None	Need Help	Shelley Roelke	
12/20	6:00 PM	Need Help Blue Christmas Service								
12/24	10:00 AM	Need Help	Need Help	Sara Simplot	Need Help	Darryl & Sherri Knuteson	None	Need Help	Brad Simplot	
12/24	4:00 PM	Al Bilse	Rose Holerud	Need Help	Need Help	Need Help	None	Need Help	Need Help	
12/25	10:00 AM	None	Need Help	None	None	Need Help	None	Need Help	Need Help	
12/27		NO SERVICE								
12/31	9:00 AM	Barb Beyer	Dennis Cunningham	Kristine Millard	Bob & Joyce Tomczak	Larry & Sheila Gempeler	None	Need Help	Jerry Carncross	
1/3	6:00 PM	TO BE SCHEDULED								
1/7	9:00 AM	Barb Verbitsky	Ellen Keller	Sharon Kampen	Diick & Carol Johnson	Bill Priske & Leroy Riedel	None	Need Help	Bill Schleichert	
1/10	6:00 PM	TO BE SCHEDULED								
Cantor/Music:		12/3 Bill Emmons; 12/6 Merry Seng; 12/10 Barb Verbitsky; 12/13 Merry Seng; 12/17 Kyle Knuteson; 12/20 TBS; 12/24 10:00 AM TBS; 12/24 4:00 PM Barb Verbitsky; 12/31 Merry Seng; 1/3 Merry Seng; 1/7 TBS; 1/10 Merry Seng								
Stewardship:		12/3 Sharon Kampen & Holly Priske; 12/10 Phil & Vicki Nugier; 12/17 Sherri Knuteson & Sheri Birchler; 12/24 10:00 AM Sherri Knuteson & Paul Knuteson; 12/24 4:00 PM Sharon Kampen & Holly Priske; 12/25 Sharon Kampen & Sherri Knuteson; 12/31 Phil & Vicki Nugier; 1/7 Sharon Kampen & Holly Priske								

Please Note: If there is a schedule conflict, PLEASE try to find your own replacement. If you are unable to find a replacement, THEN give Sharon Kampen a call at 608-635-4745. PLEASE notify the church office of any change to this schedule.

Thank you for your dedication and service. Your help in ministry is very important!



Christmas Angels

The beautiful angels on the bulletin board outside of the Sanctuary are symbols of love, caring, and sharing during this Christmas season.

Angels are \$5.00 each. Complete this form along with your check made payable to Dekorra Lutheran Church.
Due by December 3rd.

Name _____

My Christmas gift is \$ _____

I would like the bulletin and Angel to read:

In Loving Memory of _____

OR

In Honor of _____

Given by _____



Poinsettia Order Form

The Altar Committee will take orders for Poinsettias through Sunday, December 3rd. **PLACE ORDERS EARLY!** The poinsettia plants will cost \$18.00 each. Please complete the form below if you wish to provide flowers for the worship area. Make your check payable to Dekorra Lutheran Church. The flowers may be picked up after the Christmas morning worship service.

Name _____

I will provide _____ Poinsettia plant(s)

I would like the bulletin to read:

In Loving Memory of _____

OR

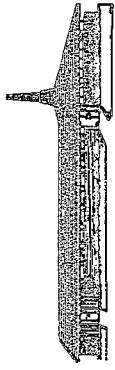
In Honor of _____

Given by _____



Wyatt Wipperfurth 12/01
 Sophia Ring 12/02
 Rebecca Priske 12/05
 Dana Wendt 12/05
 Kinzie Lintl 12/06
 Barbara Carpenter 12/07
 Lois Buckley 12/08
 Laura Kamps 12/08
 Bill Priske 12/08
 Sue Wilson 12/08
 Chuck Judd 12/09
 Barb Verbitsky 12/10
 Shaun Hoffmann 12/10
 Ben Simplot 12/11
 Nathan Lintl 12/16

Christine Rasmussen 12/17
 Todd Lederhaus 12/18
 Kyle Gregorich 12/19
 Lynn Hanson 12/20
 Emile Sile 12/20
 Tripp Theis 12/21
 Ann Carncross 12/22
 Brianna Lund 12/22
 Owen Wipperfurth 12/23
 Jeff Koch 12/24
 Kathy Statz 12/26
 Kathy Burhop 12/28
 Ardis Dolajeck 12/29
 Sheryl Hamann 12/30
 Samantha Rake 12/30



December 2023

Dekorra Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 9:00am Third Stewardship Worship 10:00am Sunday School	4 Pastor's Day Off	5 9:00am Endowment Fund Mtg 10:30am Hospitality Committee Mtg 6:30pm All Committee Mtg	6 6:00pm Worship &Community Time	7 1:00pm Quilting 2:00pm Stewardship Mtg	8 10:00am Pastoral Office Hours 8:00pm AA	9
10 9:00am Worship 10:00am Sunday School	11 Pastor's Day Off Noon Blood Drive	12 1:00pm Joy Circle	13 6:00pm Worship &Community Time	14 1:00pm Quilting 6:30pm Council Mtg	15 10:00am Pastoral Office Hours 12:00pm OWLS 6:00pm Youth Lock- in, Dance Party & Caroling 8:00pm AA	16
17 10:00pm Worship & Christmas Program	18 Pastor's Day Off <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>	19	20 NO Faith Bible Study 6:00pm Blue Christmas Worship	21 <u>Newsletter</u> <u>Mailing</u> 1:00pm Quilting	22 10:00am Pastoral Office Hours 8:00pm AA	23
24 CHRISTMAS EVE 10:00am Advent Worship 4:00pm Christmas Worship 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 9:00am Worship NO Sunday School	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00am Hymn Singing Worship (NO Communion)	26 <u>Office Closed</u>	27 <u>Office Closed</u> 1:00pm Book Club	28 <u>Office Closed</u> 9:00am Christian Ed Mtg 1:00pm Quilting	29 <u>Office Closed</u> NO Pastoral Office Hours 9:00am Worship Committee Mtg 8:00pm AA	30

Dekorra Lutheran Church
N3099 Smith Road
Poynette, WI 53955-9435

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
POYNETTE, WI 53955
PERMIT #5

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Dec 2	5:00pm	Poynette Christmas Parade
Dec 3	9:00am	Worship & Sunday School
Dec 6	6:00pm	Worship & Community Time
Dec 10	9:00am	Worship & Sunday School
Dec 11	Noon	Blood Drive
Dec 13	6:00pm	Worship & Community Time
Dec 17	10:00am	Worship & Christmas Program
Dec 20	6:00pm	Blue Christmas Worship
Dec 24	10:00am	Advent Worship
Dec 24	4:00pm	Christmas Worship
CHRISTMAS DAY		
Dec 25	10:00am	Hymn Singing Worship (No Communion)
NEW YEAR'S EVE		
Dec 31	9:00am	Worship (No Sunday School)