



December 2015



Little Cedar & Marshall Churchmouse



John 12:44-50

⁴⁴Then Jesus cried aloud: "Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me. ⁴⁵And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. ⁴⁶I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. ⁴⁷I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. ⁴⁸The one who rejects me and does not receive my word has a judge; on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge, ⁴⁹for I have not spoken on my own, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment about what to say and what to speak. ⁵⁰And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I speak, therefore, I speak just as the Father has told me."

Happy Advent Little Cedar and Marshall Lutheran Churches,

Christmas season is upon us! Shopping, presents, trees, lights, baking, and somewhere in the midst of Christmas, Jesus. But first before we can really get to Christmas, we need to first make our way through advent. Advent is a time when we prepare for Christmas, for Christ's birth, and consider what Christ's birth means for us. Martin Luther asked the question, "Why would the Lord of all the universe care enough about us mortals to take our flesh and share our woes?" It is probably not a question that we ask very often, but asking the question helps reveal for us a deeper meaning of the Christmas story.

Now, when it comes to faith and theology, living in a farming community is a gift. Farming can teach us quite a lot about God, our faith, and the world around us. There is something about the bond between farmers and their animals, especially those animals that carry special pride and become part of the family. A farmer takes great diligence in caring for his animals.

God cares for us, provides for us, and helps us to grow. In the same way that a farmer cares for his animals, God cares for us. But it is more than that. God is more than just our farmer. God is our creator. We are created in God's image. We belong to God, and because of this, our relationship with God is so great that God needed to enter into humanity. Needed to do more than just care for us, but needed to become a part of who we are to bring redemption, wholeness, and new life.

So here we are approaching Christmas. The truth of the wonders of the Christmas story is that God cares for us so much that God would take on our human flesh and feel our pain. That is the hope of this Christmas child we are waiting for. A God who doesn't just care for us, but a God who comes into humanity, becomes a part of who we are. Immanuel, God is with us!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas!!

Blessings! Pr. Jeremy



"Pa Rum Pa Pa Pum"

Important Dates

December 2nd
Marshall Council

December 13th
Marshall SS Program
Senior LYO

December 16th
Little Cedar Council

December 20th
Little Cedar SS Program
R.O.C. (Jr High LYO)

December 24th
Christmas Eve

Christmas Schedule

Sunday School Programs

Marshall ~ December 13th ~ 10:30am

Little Cedar ~ December 20th ~ 9:00am

There will not be communion at Little Cedar

Christmas Eve Worship ~

Thursday, December 24th

Little Cedar ~ 5:00pm Marshall ~ 7:30pm



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Prayers: Those known to have been hospitalized, ill or in need of prayers:

Parker Himebaugh ~ Gladys Morgan ~ Alice Hardecopf
Norma Larson ~ Dan Morgan ~ Arvis Gunderson
Raeann Kane ~ Stan Munson ~ Mary Smith



Funerals at Little Cedar: Ryan Holdgrafer

If you have a prayer request, please let the church office know.

Office Hours Are: Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 2:00pm

Sunday Worship:

Little Cedar 9:00am Marshall 10:30am

Sunday School:

September - May

Little Cedar 10:00am and Marshall 9:30am

Senior Pastor

Jeremy Johnson

pastorjermy@frontier.com

Office Administrator

Kathy Voigt

kathyvoigt@frontiernet.net

LC Education Director

Tara Mandt

tmandt@frontiernet.net

Youth Director

Tara Mandt

tmandt@frontiernet.net





Quilters meet at Little Cedar
 December 7th
 @ 1:00pm



If you would like to order a Poinsettia, please fill out the form in this issue (on page 6) of the Churchmouse and drop it off at the church office.
 Cost \$12.00
 Deadline will be December 13th.

Friends & Fellowship

Tuesday, December 8th @ Little Cedar
 Program @ 11:00am
 Meal @ Noon
 Cost \$5.00
 All are Welcome!

♪Marshall Caroling♪



December 6th we will be having a potluck dinner followed by Christmas Caroling.

Cause of the Month
Little Cedar & Marshall
December 2015

“Southland Food Shelf”

Daycare News!!!



November we worked on the letters g, h, and i. Numbers were 4 and 5. Brown was our color and rectangle was our shape. We didn't celebrate any birthdays but we celebrated Thanksgiving by baking cookies and making paper turkeys. The kids really enjoyed that. We will have the Christmas tree by Kathy's office again this year. We will put ornaments on it of what the kids would like for Christmas to stay at the daycare. Please feel free to take an ornament and donate the gift. If you choose to donate money, please give it to Kathy and she will put it in the daycare fund. Thanks and happy holidays to everyone!!



Please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program. The Senior LYO will be delivering them during their Christmas Party on December 13th. Please bring them to Little Cedar (anytime up until 3pm on the 13th) and Marshall (no later than church on the 13th). Thanks for considering!



Service Group #1

- Bryce & Kellie Nelson Family – Co Chairperson (325-4535)
- Shari Wagner -Co Chairperson (440-1458)
- Russell & Karen Anderson (433-4846)
- Brad & Beth Stadheim Family (433-3221)
- Steve & Pam Bamrick Family (582-7787)
- Sue Barnes Family (993-6022)
- Brian & Teresa Bergene Family (437-8663)
- Bruce & Mary Bergene Family (584-0908)
- Dorothy Bergene (582-3259)
- Ward & Lois Bergene (582-3523)
- Deb Fasbender Family (582-7848)
- Mary Finbraaten (582-3451)
- Marjorie Bartholmey (582-3614)
- Dorothy Triplett (582-3287)
- Kerry Webber Family(438-8625)
- Gayle & Lavonne Bergstrom(437-3009)
- Larry & Bev Bowers (440-1898)
- Kevin Kelly (434-7646)

December
December 2015
 Communion Clean-up
 Dec. 6th & 24th
 Coffee Hours
 Dec. 13th, 20th & 27th
 Deliver Meals on Wheels
 Dec. 28th – 31st
 Serve any funerals held

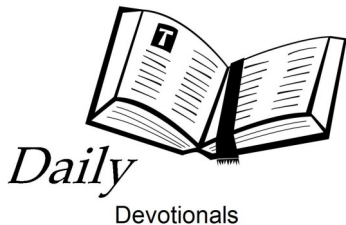
Your Chairperson or one of your
 Co-Chairpersons will contact you with
 information for your service group.

Head Usher for December
 John Jax
 507-582-7797



Christ in Our Home

Daily Devotionals are
 here please pick up your copy
 today!!!!



December Readers
 Dec 6th ~ June Wolf
 Dec 13th ~ Jacob Anderson & Cody Crumb
 Dec 20th ~ NO READER ~ Christmas Program
 Dec 27th ~ Carol Matheis

Youth and Education News



Senior LYO (9th through 12th Grade)

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, December 13th. It is our Christmas Party and delivering the toys to Toys for Tots. We will plan to leave Little Cedar at 4pm. Please bring a toy to donate and a gift for our Gift Exchange (no more than \$10 that can be for a boy or a girl). Let Tara know if you are coming so we have enough drivers.

R.O.C. (Junior High Students) - Our Christmas party will be on December 20th. Stay tuned for details!

Hey Kids! Come check out the new location of the Youth Room. It is really nice! There is more work to be done but feel free to stop in anytime the office is open to see what we have!



YOUTH IN WORSHIP

Little Cedar Youth-Led Sunday is December 13th
Ushers: Dakota Johnson and Noah Milks
Readers: Jacob Anderson and Cody Crumb

Little Cedar Communion Helpers
December 6—Chris Webber

Little Cedar Worship Assistants
*December 6—Gregory Crumb
*December 13—Khlover Schulz
*December 27—Chase Johnson



November Senior LYO Meeting Minutes
Our November meeting was at Bowlocity in Rochester. We bowled, watched the Vikings, played Laser Tag and had fun in the Arcade. We had supper at McDonald's. We had 15 kids in attendance. We had another great time together.
Vice-President, Colton Mandt



Little Cedar Sunday School News
We continue to practice for the Christmas Program! We will have practice on Sunday, December 6th and 13th. We may possible have a practice on Saturday, December 19th. Watch for costume details etc. via email. Our program is at 9am on Sunday, December 20th. Please plan to be here at 8:30am for practice and warm up!

There is NO Sunday School on December 27th or January 3rd!
We will see you back on January 10th.



December Coffee Hour
Lead Family: Mike, Lisa & Kelsie Lamp
Helper Families: Emily Conroy & Kylie Poshusta

If you are unable to be at church on your given Sunday, contact Tara ASAP.

Confirmation

We do **NOT** have Confirmation class on December 23rd or December 30th!
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Marshall Church Assistants

- *December 6—Haley Whipple
- *December 13—Kelsey Mensink
- *December 20—Tyler Hanson
- *December 27—Isaac Himebaugh

Little Cedar Church Assistants

- *December 6—U: Noah Milks G: Sara Conroy
- *Communion Family—Cade Sheehan
- *December 13—U: Carter Johnson G: Noah Lamp
- *December 27—U: Malina Luke G: Dawson Gilson

If you are unable to be at church on your given Sunday,
contact Tara ASAP so she can make a switch.



Confirmation Meals

December 2—Christine Wik
 December 9—Brad and Maria Johnson
 December 16—Jim and Tara Mandt



Poinsettia Order Form~2015



Little Cedar

Marshall

Please fill out and bring to the church office.

Given by _____

In Memory In Honor _____

I would like _____ Poinsettia/s (number you wish to order)

Cost is \$12.00 per plant. Please enclose money with your order form.

Make checks payable to Little Cedar Church. Deadline to order is December 13th.

♪Forte Milers ♪
Christmas Cabernet Concert

Sunday, December 6th at 3:00pm
at the Adams American Legion
2:00pm ~ Wine available, Cheese & Crackers
3:00pm ~ Forte Milers Christmas Chorus Concert
4:00pm ~ Desserts & Coffee



Free will donations
All proceeds go to
Adams American Legion

Happy 80th Birthday

Mavis A. Wermager



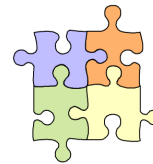
Mavis was born November 29, 1935 in Hayfield, MN to Thomas & Myrtle Gilderhus. She has 2 brothers Tom & Larry (deceased) 2 sisters, JoAnn and Diane. Mavis was baptized at Trinity Lutheran Church in Hayfield and confirmed at Little Cedar. Mavis graduated from Elkton High School.

In June 1954 Mavis married Kenny Wermager. Mavis & Kenny have 4 children Joe (Caryn) Little Canada, MN, Tim Hasting, MN, Rod (Jenny) Rogers, MN and Lisa (Jon) Dietrich Dexter, MN. 4 Grandchildren Tiffany, Travis, Chelsie and Ana. 4 great grandsons, Ryan, Josh, Merik & Declan.

Mavis retired in 1995 after 28 years at Farmers State Bank of Elkton. Kenny retired from Hormel's in 1986 after 38 years. Kenny passed away Dec. 9, 2008.

Her favorite hymns (there are several), one is "Just a Closer Walk with Thee,," Her favorite Bible verse is Psalm 13:6.

Mavis enjoys spending time golfing, reading, & doing puzzles.



Little Cedar needs: \$24,000 by the end of December to meet our expenses and give us a very small cushion to start the new year. Please give your prayerful consideration to this announcement.

"CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE! "

The Southland Food Shelf is having a Christmas food drive, now through Dec 7th.

Preferred items include:

Hams, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Canned corn/veggies, Canned Fruit, and Pudding. Items can be dropped off at any of the local churches. Cash or checks for perishable items can also be sent to the Little Cedar Church office.



Away in a manger no crib for his head. The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky look down where He lay. The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay!

Marshall Church Minutes November 4, 2015

The Marshall Church council met on Nov 4th, 2015. Members present were: Rhonda Hatle, Luvern Hanson, Larry Underdahl, Karina Mensink, Pastor Jeremy Johnson, Gus Johnson, Darrel Gordon, and Craig Hanson. Absent were: Jerry Sprau, Julie Hanson, Gary Kulow, and Sarah Sprau

Meeting was called to order by Larry Underdahl. Pastor led us in devotions.

The secretary's report from Oct was read. The total offering for Sept was \$3110 and \$176 was given for the Cause of the Month. Luvern gave the treasurer's and financial secretary's reports for Oct. A motion was made by Darrel to accept the reports as given, Craig seconded. The motion passed.

Old Business: Brandt Construction has completed the steeple. The total bill was about \$4000 more than the quote because they had to remove an additional layer of shingles and we had them fix the overhangs on the steeple. They have been paid in full. Southland Construction has started the main roof too. Southland construction will replace the siding on the front of the steeple while they are here. There are some large holes from where the cross was hanging that needed to be fixed. The church sign has also been removed to get ready for the new sign.

Pastor reported that the Final Match held at Little Cedar for all the high school kids went very well with about 82 kids attending. The new bible study is also going well. Pastor attended a conference on preaching in La Crosse last week. A new bible study will start next week for the men of the community.

New Business: Marshall Council is serving the evening meal at the Salvation Army next Tues. One of the Mission Investment Funds is due to be renewed. They are offering 6 years at 2.08% and Luvern will plan to go ahead and renew it. Central Lutheran trip is Nov 23rd if anyone is interested in going. There looks to be lots of items donated that will need to be delivered.

Meeting was adjourned by Craig and seconded by Gus. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karina Mensink



Little Cedar Church Council Minutes

The Little Cedar Church Council met on Wednesday, November 18, 2015. The meeting was called to order by chairperson, Tracy Smith. The mission statement was read in unison. Devotions were given by Mary Schmitz. Present: Karen Anderson, Pastor Jeremy Johnson, Jim Johnson, Joe Matheis, Tricia Milks, Bryce Nelson, Dixie Rose, Cathy Roser, Mary Schmitz, Nancy Smith, Tracy Smith, Nancy Thalberg, Millie Weness, Lani Wolff. Absent: Jan Weness and Shari Wagner.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Bryce Nelson, seconded by Lani Wolff that the minutes be accepted as printed. Motion carried.

Correspondence: (1) Thank you from the JJ Pick Up Band for use of the church for practice. (2) Thank you from Dorothy Bergene for help cleaning her yard. (3) Letter from LSS regarding congregational plan for support in 2016. Council will address request in the new year.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Mary Schmitz, seconded by Karen Anderson that the treasurer's report be accepted as printed. Motion carried. Millie reported that there was a \$50 increase in this year's income compared to last year's income for the lutefisk dinner. Expenses were almost the same as last year. We served 173 more than last year and there were 255 meatball only tickets sold.

Committee Reports:

Day Care: Will meet 11/24/15

Finance: Will meet 11/23/15

Life and Mission: A successful work day for God's Work Our Hands project held in October.

Personnel: Met about payroll payment schedule changes that will take effect January 1st.

Youth and Education: There has been good participation of the youth for fall activities. Religious release numbers were reported: High school 16, Middle School 38, Elementary 69

Pastor's Report:

(1) Colton Mandt's Eagle Scout project is near completion. The basketball poles will get reflective tape applied. Gerald Meier has purchased signs to slow traffic through the parking lot. (2) The Central Lutheran trip will be 11/23/15. A trailer will be used to transport clothing, etc. to Mpls. (3) The rooms that are being switched will be painted. (4) Pastor informed the council about a Synod project in South Sudan that we may want to consider in the future. (5) Pastor will be gone 11/29/15. (6) The Christmas Day service was discussed. Motion by Bryce Nelson, seconded by Jim Johnson, that we will not have a Christmas Day service as a result of a membership survey taken at the annual meeting in January 2015. Motion carried. (7) Pastor is working on a multi-age men's dinner with the Bishop in January.

Outstanding Business: None

New Business:

Motion by Joe Matheis, seconded by Tricia Milks to pay the Southland School District for the bus driver's fee and insurance while driving the bus for our religious release program. The driver is covered under the Southland Community Education program. Motion carried.

Motion by Tracy Smith, seconded by Joe Matheis to purchase new tables and shelving to replace our many school desks used during Lutefisk Dinner event for the amount of \$500, to be taken from the Glenda Osmundson memorial account. Motion carried.

Pastor volunteered to do December devotions. Cause of the Month for December will be the food shelf.

Karen Anderson volunteered to have the December meeting at her home beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Lani Wolff, seconded by Joe Matheis to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Nancy Thalberg, Acting Secretary



Little Cedar and Marshall Lutheran Churches

308 NW Lewison St.

PO Box 304

Adams MN, 55909



December

2015



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Bible E Study: If you would like to be included on the Online Bible E Study, please let the office know what your email address is and we will put you on the list to receive weekly

A great new way to listen to Little Cedar & Marshall Sunday worship is through a wonderful thing called podcast. Just go on your phone or computer and visit www.jeremyjohnson_1.podbean.com to listen to the latest sermon.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.