

Little Cedar and Marshall Lutheran Churches
308 NW Lewison St.
PO Box 304
Adams MN, 55909



2020



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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Little Cedar & Marshall Churchmouse



December 2020



Matthew 1:22-23

²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:
²³ "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"
which means, "God is with us."

Happy Advent Little Cedar and Marshall Lutheran Churches,

Normally I would say that the craziness of Christmas begins! Concerts, dinners, huge get togethers, and bustling events. This year's Christmas will likely look much different for many of us.

I am always amazed by the faithfulness of the virgin Mary. An Angel comes to her and tells her she is going to have a child. How crazy and scary all of that must have been to her.

Can you imagine having an angel appearing to you and declaring that you are going to give birth to the Son of God. If I was Mary, I think I would have probably laughed, or told the Angel he's crazy. But Mary responds with faith, saying, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

I'm not sure what this year's Christmas plans will look like, but I do know that they will look different. I do know that no matter what happens, we will remember the birth of Christ on Christmas morning. We will remember our Lord, the name above all names. We will remember Emmanuel, "God is with us." Through the joys and struggles of life, we will remember a God who came down and dwelled with us. A God who became one of us.

Whatever your Christmas looks like this year, I hope that it is filled with blessings, joy, hope, and peace. And remember the gift of God's love for us shown in the birth of God's one and only son Jesus Christ. Our Emmanuel. God is with us!

Wishing you a blessed, fun, fulfilling, safe, and healthy Holiday season this year!

In Christ, *Dr. Jeremy*



Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!



Important Dates

December 2nd
Marshall Council

December 13th
Drive Thru Live Nativity

December 16th
Little Cedar Council

December 24th & 25th
MERRY CHRISTMAS

DRIVE-THRU LIVE NATIVITY



Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas! With many of our usual holiday traditions needing to be cancelled, our local churches are coming together to plan an

Ecumenical Drive-Thru Live Nativity for
Sunday, December 13th from 4:30pm to 6:30pm.

The story will come to life with live costumed characters and animals, all while listening to Christmas carols.

A free-will offering will be taken at the entrance of the live nativity. It is here that you will be greeted, given a goody bag and program, and an opportunity to donate. All proceeds will go towards the United Way Backpack Program of Mower County.

December



To you **is born** this day in the city of David a **Savior**, who **is** the Messiah, the Lord.

Luke 2:11

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

Gus Johnson ~ Liam Kiefer ~ Brian Herbert ~ Curt Lewison ~ Rick Hinz
Tim Dahle ~ Lahoma Retterath ~ Jim Bustad ~ Sharon Osmundson
Wayne Underdahl ~ Larry Nerison ~ Pastor Wayne Quibell ~ Gloria Mallory
Mavis Klaudt ~ Mel Thome ~ Terry Emanuel ~ Alice Koball ~ Ramona Hanson
Sam Anderson (son of Valeta Anderson)

Funerals: LC
Donald Morgan
Doug Hill
Gloria Hill



COVID Office Hours Are: Monday ~Tuesday ~Thursday ~ Friday from 10:00am to 4:00pm

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	pastorjeremylcm@gmail.com
Office Administrator	Kathy Voigt	kathyvoigtlcm@gmail.com
Youth & Education Director	Tara Mandt	taramandt1cm@gmail.com
Day Care Director	Kate Wiste	lccdaycare14@gmail.com



We hope everyone had a wonderful and healthy Thanksgiving, even if you couldn't be around all of your loved ones. We had a birthday celebration on Thanksgiving Eve so we had a lot of fun! The kids made turkey hand and footprint crafts and paper headbands with feathers and wrote what they were thankful for. Some of the answers ranged from family and food to hugs and tractors! You can definitely tell we live in a farming community! During the month of November, we learned about the moon, opposites more and fewer and full and empty, Ruby the Rectangle, black bats, white geese and brown footballs. We read the story of David and Goliath when we were learning about the letter G and also made gumball machines. It was Veteran's Day this month so we made a little booklet about soldiers and why they are important. The country we learned about for our "around the globe" unit was Australia. We made koala bears that could move their legs and arms. I played music from a harp for the kids when we worked on the letter H. The craft projects were hummingbirds and a hippopotamus. For the letter I, we made igloos and ice skates. We have gotten outside quite a bit even if it is for a little while. The fresh air is needed for everyone! The children had fun making snowmen and having a snowball fight!

Kate Wiste ~ Little Cedar Daycare Director

► **Attention Thrivent Members** ~ This is a reminder that your "Choice Dollars" must be renewed each year. Please be sure to contact your representative soon.

Cause of the Month for December

Marshall

"Cancer Telethon"

Little Cedar

TBD

COVID NEWS

Here is an update on new changes that have been made to help keep our members and community safe.

1. There will be no "Coffee Hour" in December.
2. If in the building, you **must wear a mask**.
3. Worship is now Virtual

Rental of the Fellowship Hall for Showers, Reunions, Scouts and Girl Scouts, 4-H etc. will be required read and sign a **NEW** contract for using the building. **Masks must be worn at all times**. A fee of \$25 will be added for the extra sanitizing that will have to be done after your group leaves the building.



Fall Bible Study
"Where is God in difficult times?"

When we find ourselves in difficult times, it can be challenging to feel God's presence. We wonder where God is at or how could God let such a thing happen. For our Fall Bible Study, we will tackle the question, "Where is God in difficult times?" Pastor Jeremy will host a virtual Bible study on Fridays starting November 13th. A video will be posted to Facebook, YouTube, and church website, along with a study sheet to guide your own personal studies.

Worship with us from HOME

WE WILL CONTINUE WITH VIRTUAL WORSHIP UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

♥ **STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY**

Little Cedar Sunday School

Stay tuned to your email and our new Facebook page for Virtual Sunday School through December.

Confirmation News

Stay tuned to your email and text messages as we plan to continue with Zoom Confirmation in December.

Little Cedar & Marshall Senior High Youth Group

We miss being able to gather. Stay tuned to text messages for some Zoom options during December as well as a few volunteer opportunities.

**♪Away in a Manger♪**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.

The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.

I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And take us to heaven, to live with Thee there.

Minutes – respectfully submitted, Dawn Kiefer, Marshall Secretary

Topics
Meeting was called to order by Len Mensink, President.
<p><i>Pastor Jeremy updates:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Have been offering shut-in communion but was recently advised to defer for the next couple of weeks. Phone calls will be made for the next few weeks. ● There will be no in-person Thanksgiving Eve service at Little Cedar this year. As family gatherings will be taking place a virtual service will be planned instead. ● Confirmation still being held but not having evening meal. Will defer to public school policy if there should be changes. ● Christmas Eve services - consider multiple services, possibly 2 services at each parish, with sign up for each. Not sure exactly what this might mean yet and will revisit at the December meeting. ● If socks for 'Socks in the City' yet to be turned in need to be at church by Sunday, 11/8. ● Communion – continue twice per month as usual. Dale and Pastor to evaluate Sunday to Sunday with changes made (bread/wine) based on number of attendees.
<p>Secretary's and financial/treasurer's reports were reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Total offering for October \$1,250.00 /\$265.00 COM – Lutheran World Relief. ● November Cause of the Month offering will be for Gerard Academy. ● Boe Brother's repair to the tile line in the cemetery – paid for from the Cemetery Fund. <p>Motion to accept reports from Gary with second from Kevin. Motion carried.</p>
<p>Old Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No changes to current COVID action plan. ● St. John's has interim Pastor covering half time, contracted for a year – 11 months remaining. ● Tara and Pastor reached out to St. John's Pastor to invite single 6th grader to join LC/Marshall students for Confirmation. ● Pastor Jeremy submitted 'Intent to Apply' suggesting there might be a need/opportunity for an intern. Deadline for intern application is 2/1/2021.
<p>New Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Request for help with drive through nativity on Sunday, 12/13 for a couple of hours. (attachment) Pastor to announce on Sunday during services, 11/8. Free will offering for Mower County back-pack program. ● Pastor informs regarding Lilly grant endowment for sabbatical. Personnel committee endorsed application. Funds may be partially used to cover Pastoral duties while Pastor is away. Deadline to apply 4/2021 for summer 2022 Sabbatical. (attachment) ● Dinner at Salvation Army this coming Tuesday. Food items will be dropped and meals provided as drive through. <p>Expenses to be submitted to Dale for payment from the General Fund.</p>
Motion to adjourn from Gary with second from Rod. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.



The Little Cedar Lutheran Church council met on Wednesday, **November 18, 2020**, at 7:30 pm., in person and Zoom. Present: Becky Hartwig, John Jax, Pastor Jeremy Johnson, Lynn Johnson, Vicki Kiefer, Carol Matheis, Spencer Medgaarden, Chris Roser, Carrie Sorgatz, Jan Weness, Millie Weness. Absent: Mary Conroy. The meeting was called to order by chairperson, Carol Matheis. The Mission Statement was read in unison. Carol gave devotions.

Secretary's Report: Motion by Millie Weness, seconded by Becky Hartwig that the minutes be accepted as printed. Carried.

Correspondence: Thank you notes from Winona Campus Ministry for a contribution, LSS of Iowa thanking for a storm relief donation and Karen and Russell Anderson for the goodie bag.

Treasurer's Report: Millie reviewed the treasurer's report and reported on the meatball dinner. The net income from the meatball dinner will be around \$6600. There are still a few bills to pay. A motion by Jan Weness, seconded by Lynn Johnson to accept the report as printed. Carried.

Committee Reports:

Building: Pastor will contact Southland Construction to repair the door leading outdoors from the daycare.

Daycare: The daycare is doing well. There was discussion if we had to close again because of illness.

Finance: The committee is working on the 2021 budget.

Personnel: Tara is on jury duty and wanted clarification of pay if chosen for a jury and misses work.

Youth and Ed.: The Confirmation classes are now meeting by Zoom.

Worship and Music: Linda Logsdon has made two new altar cloths for LC. One is for Christmas and the other to be used when we need white. Motion by Becky Hartwig, seconded by John Jax to purchase plexi-glass for the top of the altar to protect the altar cloth from wine, etc. spills. The payment to come from the memorial fund. Carried.

Pastor's Report: Face to face visits are on hold for now, so Pastor will be calling and texting shut-ins.

Outstanding Business:

Sabbatical Committee: Two people from Marshall have volunteered to help Pastor write his sabbatical application. He's looking for two volunteers from Little Cedar. Suggestions were given.

New Business:

FYI: Five hand sanitizers and social distancing floor stickers have been installed in the building. The purchases were made with a COVID money shared by the City of Adams.

The staff and some council members are looking into the purchase of a new bookkeeping and records system. More study is needed.

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 16, at 7:30 p.m. Chris Roser will give devotions. The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, *Jan Weness*

To be approved at the next council meeting in December.

