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







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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.



#### Mark 4:1-8

Again he began to teach beside the sea. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. <sup>2</sup> He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: <sup>3</sup> "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. <sup>5</sup> Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup> And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. <sup>8</sup> Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold."

Greetings Little Cedar and Marshall Lutheran Churches!

I love Lent! Much of it has to do with the traditions. Many of us find comfort in routine and traditions. Unfortunately, some of our traditions will not happen this year for Lent, but I'm still looking forward to Lent. But maybe more than the traditions, it is because we take time to work our hearts, preparing them to hear God's Word. As Mark 4 says, and the "other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold."

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation class learned last week about the seasons of the church. During the lesson they made an interactive wheel of the seasons. I gave them all sorts of items that they were supposed to place in a circle representing the seasons of the church. When we got to Lent, I asked them "If you want to grow some seeds, what do you need to start with?" In his best farmers voice, one of the boys said, "You need good dirt!" So, they grabbed the bucket of dirt and placed it in its spot.

He was right. If you want to grow some seeds, you need good dirt. And if you want to grow some faith, you need good dirt as well. You need to prepare a heart to receive the word of grace. You need to work the heart. You need to remove the rocks of hatred, anger, and pride. You need to give it nourishment of by feeding it with patience and humility. So Lent is on its way, let's make some good dirt!

Peace, Pr. Jeremy can also go to Sonshine's website to find a listing of more bands that are going to be there. Enjoy! We are excited to be going on this fun trip with you guys! It will be a blast!! Lastly, if there is anyone that wants to go, but hasn't contacted us yet, please contact us asap; we will be finalizing plans soon

Peace and blessings! Pr. Jeremy



## **Important Dates**

February 3rd Marshall Council

February 10th Little Cedar Council

February 17th Ash Wednesday





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February 17, 2021 Little Cedar @ 7:00pm

Lent is just around the corner. Ash Wednesday is on February 17th. Unfortunately, some of our traditions will have to be changed. No soup and Holden Evening Prayer will need some changes as well. We are planning on holding an in-person Ash Wednesday service at Little Cedar at 7:00pm. The service will be recorded and posted online. Some changes will need to be made to make sure everyone stays safe. We are also working on figuring out the plans for the remainder of Lent. So, stay tuned for updates as Lent approaches! Thank you for your continued patience and support as we figure out how to be church in some new ways!



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

Liam Kiefer ~ Curt Lewison ~ Lahoma Retterath Wayne Underdahl ~ Judy Johnson ~ Jim Bustad Gloria Mallory ~ Terry Emanuel ~ Alice Koball Maverick Thalberg (Grandson of Nancy Thalberg) Larry Smith (Father of Tracy Smith)

Funerals @ Little Cedar Curt Hamilton

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

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

Sunday Worship: Sunday School: Little Cedar 9:00am September - May

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

Senior Pastor Office Administrator Youth & Education Director Day Care Director Jeremy Johnson Kathy Voigt Tara Mandt Kate Wiste pastorjeremylcm@gmail.com kathyvoigtlcm@gmail.com taramandtlcm@gmail.com lcdaycare14@gmail.com



The first month of the year is already in the books! We sang new songs, tried new foods and learned new letters and numbers for the new year! We celebrated with handmade headbands and signing. We learned about being closer or farther away and hot and cold and that they were opposites. Opal the Oval was our shape for the month, purple was our color. We talked about what a veterinarian does. All the kids decided that what they want to be when they grow up so they can play with puppies and kittens! We made a lollipop, lamb and ladybug for our L theme. Being a friend means to say sorry, love, help others, be kind, share and take care of others. We love to say, "sharing is caring." We also recognized Martin Luther King Jr. Day by coloring a picture of him, reading a book and how we can change the world in a positive way. M was for Moses, monkey and moon. We made fun crafts for those! 11 and 12 were our numbers that we got to pound on the table to. That got really loud! Mexico was the country we learned about. Sombreros were fun to decorate! Nest, the story of Noah's ark and necklace with noodles were for our N crafts. We made a puppet snowpal and have been able to make a few snowpals outside! We get out there every chance we can. So far we are staying pretty healthy. Hoping that will continue!

Kate Wiste ~ Little Cedar Daycare Director

## **COVID NEWS**

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

1. If in the building, you <u>must wear a</u> <u>mask.</u>



2. Worship is now Virtual

Rental of the Fellowship Hall for Showers, Reunions, Scouts and Girl Scouts, 4-H etc. will be required to read and sign a **NEW** contract for using the building. <u>Masks must be worn at all times.</u> A fee of \$25 will be added for the extra sanitizing

## Office Hours:

Monday & Tuesday 9am to 4pm Closed Wednesday Thursday & Friday 9am to 4pm





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# Youth & Education News

## Little Cedar Sunday School

We will continue to have virtual Sunday School through February.

# <u>Little Cedar & Marshall</u> <u>Senior High Youth Group</u>

We miss being able to gather as a group. Stay tuned to text messages for plans for February.

# **Confirmation News**

Stay tuned to your email and text messages for Confirmation updates. Things are constantly changing.

February 3rd's class will be via Zoom. We will stay in touch about February 10th.

Things are all different for Lent this year. Check your emails to stay up-to-date.

# First Communion

# We have our fingers crossed that First Communion Sunday will be March 28th.

All classes will be at Little Cedar at 5:30pm starting February 24th. Please check your emails for updates and changes due to Covid-19.

Little Cedar Students: Adeline Matheis, Taya Mergen, Addison Sathre & Audrey Stroup Marshall Student: Brandt Kellogg





The Little Cedar Lutheran Church council met by Zoom meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2021. Present: John Jax, Pastor Jeremy Johnson, Lynn Johnson, Vicki Kiefer, Carol Matheis, Chris Roser, Jan Weness, Millie Weness, Spencer Medgaarden. Absent: Mary Conroy, Carrie Sorgatz, Becky Hartwig.

The meeting was called to order by chairperson, Carol Matheis. The Mission Statement was read in unison and devotions were given by Lynn Johnson.

Secretary's Report: Motion by John Jax, seconded by Spencer Medgaarden to accept the report as printed. Carried.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u> Millie noted that we had a year end balance of a little over \$40,000, much of that due to the COVID grant from the government and generous giving by our faithful givers. We sent the proceeds of \$4,364.70 from the live nativity to the County food backpack program. She also reported that we were very close on income and budget for 2020. <u>Motion</u> by Jan Weness, <u>seconded</u> by Vicki Kiefer to accept the treasurer's report as printed. <u>Carried</u>.

## **Committee Reports:**

-Youth and Education: The Confirmation classes are again meeting in person as are the elementary religious release.

-Worship and Music: There were several compliments on the virtual Christmas Eve service.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor is making several phone calls to keep in touch with shut-ins until he is once again, allowed to make inperson visits.

## **Outstanding Business:**

-<u>St. John's Elkton:</u> <u>Motion</u> by Millie Weness, <u>seconded</u> by John Jax that the council recommend that we and Marshall Church, join with St. John's Lutheran Church, Elkton, in shared ministry with an intern and present recommendations for a vote at the annual meeting. {Proposed agreement attached.} <u>Carried</u>.

<u>-In-person Worship for Sunday and Lenten Services</u>: A council vote was taken and the majority voted to go back to in-person worship on Sunday, February 6, and to also have Lenten services in-person. COVID recommendations will be monitored and changes could be made according to health official recommendations.

-Outgoing Council: Thank you outgoing council members, Mary Conroy, Carrie Sorgatz and Becky Hartwig for your service on council.

## New Business:

There was discussion on a contract with a different copier company with better service and lower price. The staff will determine which copier would best serve their purposes.

February devotions will be given by Pastor Jeremy. The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10, at 7:30 p.m. by Zoom, one week earlier than usual because of Ash Wednesday services on regular date.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, Jan Weness

To be approved at the next council meeting in February.



## Topics Meeting was called to order by Len Mensink, President. Pastor Jeremy updates: Still not able to visit the nursing home. Facility is in transition and will become an Intensive Assisted Living • Virtual Service for Christmas went well. Reaching out to parish members needing Pastoral Care by phone. • Confirmation students to resume in person meetings next week without meal. • Secretary's and financial/treasurer's reports were reviewed. Total offering for December \$5,865.00/\$175.00—Cancer Telethon. • January Cause of the Month will be for The Salvation Army. Motion to accept reports from Gary with second from Kevin. Motion carried. Old Business: No changes to current COVID action plan. - Propose restarting church services in person without communion 1/24/2021 - Annual meeting in person without meal with offering virtual option if needed. • Drive Thru nativity on Sunday, 12/13 went well. Best guess 200+ cars went through. - Free will offering for Mower County back-pack program. Over \$4K raised for back pack program through free will offering + business contributions. St. John's, Marshall, Little Cedar meeting—St. John's would like to move forward with shared ministry. - Gary makes a motion to accept intent to plan with second from Chris. Motion carries and information will be shared with the congregation at the annual meeting . Council reviews information shared by the Synod allowing for meetings to be held virtually. Must be confirmed with 2/3 vote by council. Motion: to adopt the following continuing resolution. C10.08.A20 This congregation may hold meetins by remote communication, including electronically and by telephone conference, as long as there is an opportunity for simultaneous aural communication To the extent permitted by state law, notice of all meetings may be provided electronically to this congregation's by-laws. Gary moves to adopt Synod resolution as proposed with second from Kevin. Motion unanimously passes. **New Business:** 2021 budget drafted for presentation to congregation at annual meeting. Motion to adjourn from Gary with second from Andrew Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer. Dawn Kiefer-Secretary

Marshall Council