VOLUME LXIII

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From Our Pastor

My Dear Family in Christ,

As Geoffrey Chaucer, author of the famed *The Canterbury Tales*, written in Middle English between 1387 and 1400, once said: "Time and tide wait for no man", the old year of 2022 has passed and we're well into A.D. 2023 and the approach of Lent (Ash Wednesday is February 22nd with the solemn imposition of ashes and the Eucharist).

The first Sunday of May 2023 will mark the fifth year I've been privileged to serve as your Interim Pastor. I ask your continual prayers for our ministry together in this place and beseech Almighty God to grant us his Spirit that many may be brought to strong faith, deepened commitment and boldness to share the Good News of God to us in Jesus Christ.

I hope we may keep informed on, and liaison with the ministry of our Synod of Virginia (a new replacement will be elected at our June 2023 Assembly in Salem to succeed Bishop Humphrey) and its resources that may be helpful and beneficial for our planning and implementation of evangelism and outreach strategies.

Best to all of you with grace and peace in 2023,

Pastor Don+

February 12, 2023 is "Souper" Bowl Sunday. Who will be in it???

Who will win it???



On that Sunday place your "bet" (free will offering) into whichever soup pot represents the team you want to win.

In the Narthex, there will be one for each team.

Let's see if we pick the winner!

There will of course, be the Pity Pot for all of those who root for any one of the other 30 teams who didn't make it this year!

All monies collected will be donated to a local food bank here in Hampton Roads.



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service

OUR MISSION

We are a family
of Christ,
committed to serving,
teaching, welcoming
and loving
all God's people.

Celebrating
69 Years
of Ministry
in Ocean View
1953-2022



From Our Council President

Council continues to stay busy even during the rush of the holidays! Sue Bové and Patricia Kindred were elected to serve a 3 year term on council; Deb Midgett and Tara Taffe are serving a second term. Council officers for 2023:

President: Gail Davidson Vice President: Deb Midgett Secretary: Ellen Wilson

Financial Secretary: Karen Sutton

Treasurer: Carolyn Moran (our bookkeeper) agreed to serve as needed.

I appreciate council's confidence by re-electing officers.

We also passed the 2023 budget at our December Congregational Meeting.

Synod Rep Rebecca Walls met with Council at the January meeting to hear comments on where we are in the Call Process. She encouraged us to replace those who are no longer on the Call Committee and review our ministry site profile (MSP). We need three (3) additional members on the Call Committee. I stepped down as chair last spring when I realized I could not successfully handle this role in addition to Council President and Worship and Music Chair.

We completed the court process on the lawsuit filed by our former parsonage tenants. The civil court judge ordered us to refund them their \$600 security deposit and denied them a refund of school tuition from 2019. The parsonage has been sold, the funds placed in a special account (Capitol Improvement Account).

Council voted to designate September 17th as our 70th Anniversary Celebration. We need volunteers to work on this project.

The kitchen upgrade continues. Diakonia requested we place a new refrigerator high on the list. We appreciate Jim Ripley securing a temporary replacement. Ellen and her committee have met with contractors. We also have a quote on a new commercial size refrigerator.

Pat Kindred was elected as Council Rep to the school. The School Advisory Board meets the 4th Tuesday of each month.

The Boy Scouts have an event on February 24th and 25th in St. Matthias Hall. Judy Farmer continues to work with Troop 5191.

A 2023 goal is the re-energizing of committees. Council Reps have been assigned to each committee.

Council voted to create a Pastors Discretionary Fund to assist members and the community when basic needs are identified. Pastor will report on the number served and types of needs requesting assistance. This account is open to donations as designated memorials as well.

We plan to replace Pastor's microphone once COX installs WI-FI for the school and church office. Our synod rep informed us of grant opportunities for this type of need.

In February we celebrate Shrove Tuesday on the 19th after Worship with a meal of pancakes and sausage. Ash Wednesday Service is on the 22nd at 7:00 pm with the Imposition of Ashes. Our Lenten Soup and Bread will be held after Sunday Worship on February 26th, March 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th. Sign up sheets will be posted outside Pastor's Office.

After sending our revised constitution to the Synod, we learned the 2022 VA Assembly made changes to the constitution for VA congregations. The St. John Policy Committee met and reviewed the changes needed before our constitution can be ratified by the Synod. Our secretary will be asked to integrate these changes and resubmit to the synod office.

The church's insurance premiums doubled this year. Our bookkeeper is researching best plans and costs.

** Ushers: Please remember to give a count of worshippers each Sunday to the office. Respectfully submitted, Gail Davidson

Thankfully the sanctuary heat was repaired on schedule and we returned to the worship space before Christmas. The Christmas Eve Service at 3:00 pm was well attended. The combined Lessons and Carols with Mass was well received.

This month we enter the season of Lent as we walk with our Lord in contemplation of his Crucifixion and Rising again on Easter morning. Please plan to join us after Worship on Sundays for Soup and Bread beginning February 26th and ending March 26th. We celebrate Ash Wednesday on February 22nd with an evening service of the Imposition of Ashes.

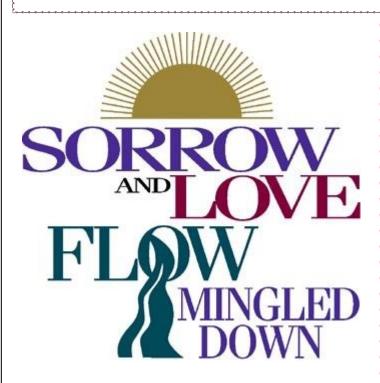


Altar Guild currently has only two teams. If interested in serving, training is available. Karen Sutton coordinates this group including scheduling all Worship Assistants. Lectors for Sunday Bible readings and Communion Assistants are also needed.

Margie Gish continues to coordinate Home Communion. Please leave a message with the Church Office with your desire for this ministry.

The choir continues to offer meaningful music each Sunday under Lee Hendricks leadership. Anyone interested in joining, please see Lee.

In Christ's Service, Gail Davidson Worship and Music Chair





The group will meet on February 15th at 11:30 am. Bring your own bag lunch and enjoy the fellowship. For further information please call Emily Kircheval.

Worship

Date	Congregation	Choir/Assistants	Nursery	Total
December 4, 2022	?	?	?	?
December 11, 2022	26	7	0	33
December 18, 2022	21	7	0	28
December 24, 2022	39	7	0	46

Council Minutes - November 13, 2022

ROLL CALL

Present: Deb Midgett, Tara Taffee, Gail Davidson, Maria Hoyt, Jackie Byers, Gerard Gebler, Ellen Wilson, Sheila Sanchez, Karen Sutton, Pastor Wilson, Carolyn Moran.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Nominating Committee: presentation of candidates and vote.

POC: Karen Sutton, Gerard Gebler, Ellen Wilson.

Council Candidates are: Patricia Kindred, Susan Bove, Jackie Byers, Tara Taffee and Deb Midgett.

- B. 70th Anniversary Planning Group
- C. Kitchen Upgrade. POC: Ellen Wilson
- D. Annual Meeting December 11th. Election of Council members. Vote on 2023 Budget.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Advent Open House November 27th with Soup and Bread following service. Council host.
- B. Advent Activities Soup and Bread after worship: Dec. 4th host? Dec. 11th host? Dec. 18th host?
- C. AED and DNR Should we have a list of those who do not want CPR?

RECOMMENDATIONS

None

Council Minutes - December 10, 2022

ROLL CALL

Present: Pastor Wilson, Deb Midgett, Gail Davidson, Ellen Wilson, Tara Taffee, Karen Sutton and Carolyn Moran. Absent: Maria Hoyt, Sheila Sanchez, Gerard Gebler.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Annual Meeting December 11, 2022 after Worship.
- B. Voting on Council Candidates: Deb Midgett, Tara Taffe, Jackie Byers, Susan Bove, and Patricia Kindred.
- C. Voting on 2023 Budget including CIA (Capitol Improvement Account). This account will have its own budget and line item. Any money for repairs or improvements will require Council to vote, also the congregation and at least one Trustee signature for approval.
- D. Report on church insurance. POC Carolyn Moran. The Guide One Insurance Company has increased the premium to \$17,474.00 (increased by \$8,282.00 per year).
- E. Update on Sanctuary Boiler installation. POC Deb Midgett. Should be ready by 12-18-2022.
- F. New microphone for Pastor. This will have to wait until the WiFi is installed and that should be around the end of January to early February 2023.
- G. Status on AED/DNR POC Ellen Wilson. Any church member who has a DNR should supply a copy to the office to keep on file in case of an event requiring CPR/AED.
- H. Kitchen upgrade POC Ellen Wilson. Waiting on the lights to be installed for \$1,700.00 plus labor and has another estimate from Bordeaux Construction Service for \$26,254.00 (which will go up the longer we wait). Also noticed was a water leak around new plaster area. Next will be estimates on a commercial refrigerator and dishwasher.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Epiphany Service January 1, 2023.
- B. Congregational meeting to approve Annual Reports from Committees 5th Sunday in January with Potluck.

RECOMMENDATIONS

None submitted

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Words cannot begin to express my gratitude for all the cards and especially prayers during the recent illness and passing of my mother. It was so appreciated during this time of stress and grief. Thank you for ALL you have done.

In Christ's Love, Anne

February
is being
designated as
Love Offering
month for
WELCA.





Our Lenten meal of soup and bread will be offered following the Sunday Worship Services during Lent.

Suppers

Sign up sheets for soup and bread will soon be posted. Please consider not only attending, but also supplying soup and/or bread for one or more of these meals.

The dates are: February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26



23 ~ Susan Bové

 $23 \sim Kelly\ Thurber$

25 ~ Sheila Sanchez



Budget Update – December 2022	
Monthly Revenues	\$10,198.82
Monthly Expenses	\$11,159.81
Year to date Revenues	\$185,819.10
Year to date Expenses	\$175,042.32
Year to date: Actual Revenue less Actual Expenses	\$10,776.78

Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH 1953 & 1978 SCHOOL

Celebrating 69 years of Ministry!

8918 Tidewater Drive Norfolk VA 23503

757/ 588-7381 Church 757/ 588-8227 School Email: churchoffice@stjohnnorfolk.org Website: www.stjohnnorfolk.org

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

President: Gail Davidson Vice President: Deborah Midgett Council Secretary: Ellen Wilson Financial Secretary: Karen Sutton Director of Music: W. Lee Hendricks School Director: Sheila Sanchez Parish Bookkeeper: Carolyn Moran Parish Secretary: Anne Combes

If your mailing information has changed, please notify the Church Office.

Thank you!



Shrove Guesday
Pancake Supper
will be held following the
Worship Service on
Sunday, February 19th
in St. Matthias Hall

Burning of the Palms to follow supper Bring your dried palms from last Palm Sunday

Look for the bulletin insert the next few weeks! Worship Service with Imposition of Ashes Wednesday, February 22nd 7:00 PM



Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.