

Parish The Thought

Volume 57 Issue 5 May 2024

BALTIC AND EAST NIDAROS LUTHERAN PARISH Two Churches - One Parish - Centered on the Cross



UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Wed May 1 | 6:30pm 8th Grade Confirmation Rehearsal |
| Wed May 1— | 8:30 am East Nidaros Quilting |
| Thu May 2 | |
| Sun May 5 | Senior Recognition at both Parishes
Confirmation at East Nidaros Only |
| Wed May 8 | 6:30-7:30pm Food Bank open |
| Sun May 12 | Confirmation at Baltic Only |
| Tue May 14 | 2:30 pm PQ at DNRC
6 pm Council Meetings and Joint Council at East |
| Mon May 20 | NEWSLETTER DEADLINE |
| Sat May 25 | 10:30-11:30am Food Bank Open |
| Mon May 27 | 10:30 am Memorial Day Program at East Nidaros |
| Thu May 30 | 9 am Newsletter Assembly |



May 2024 Pulpit Post

“The LORD bless you and keep you.”

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them, The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Numbers 6:22-26

We celebrate several endings in the month of May. We celebrate the accomplishments of the High School Seniors who graduate this year and move to their next stage in life. We celebrate our Confirmands who have received instruction in what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. We also celebrate the end of another year of Sunday School and give thanks for their teachers who have assisted in fulfilling student’s baptismal promises of providing instruction in the Christian faith. The month of May marks the end of many things, but it also marks the start of many new beginnings.

As the summer schedule and new routine begins, the Lord does not send you out alone. Throughout all of scripture, we are reminded that the Lord goes with his children wherever they go. When God’s chosen people were moving into a new stage of their lives, the Lord spoke to Moses who received a blessing who gave it to Aaron to speak to the people. These very same words have been passed on from generation to generation and we hear these words at the end of every service still today.

There are many changes that take place in the lives of the people in our parish in the month of May. The good news is that the Lord's blessings are for each of us every day. We give thanks to the Lord for this unending and unconditional blessing that is for you.

The Lord Bless you, Pastor Randall J. Questad

MAY NOISY CAN



Baltic: Northern Rim Youth Group
East: Call to Freedom



Mission:

Call to Freedom brings wholeness to all individuals impacted by sex and labor trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation by navigating a healing path through our continuum of care model.

BALTIC MARCH NOISY CAN:
\$ 325.23 Vacation Bible School
EAST MARCH NOISY CAN:
\$ 303.58 Baltic Community Garden



BALTIC COUNCIL MEETING

March 5, 2024

This monthly meeting of the Baltic Lutheran Church Council was held at Baltic Lutheran Church on March 5, 2024. Council members present were: Al Van Eck, Kelly LaValliere, Karen Sinding, Bryce Witzel, Terry Snow, Jeff Boldt, Wayne Gunderson, Brett Teveldal, and Pastor Randall Questad.

President Al VanEck called the meeting to order.

Motion to approve meeting minutes from January 28, 2024, by Wayne Gunderson. Second by Bryce Witzel. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report January and February reports reviewed.

Julius Allgier did receive payment for light bulbs.

Committee met to review active/inactive members. Key inventory completed. Al VanEck, Wayne Gunderson and Kaye Snow have yet to be approved for keys. Motion to approve Al VanEck, Wayne Gunderson and Kaye Snow to have keys to the church by Bryce Witzel. Second by Brett Teveldal. Motion carried.

Al VanEck to determine if president's key had been received from Trevor after he resigned his position as Rick Fiala never received it. Lisa Skelly would like Karen Sinding to have an office key. Motion to approve Karen Sinding for an office key by Bryce Witzel. Second by Terry Snow., Motion carried. Master keys currently locked in Church office. Lisa Skelly would like to get rid of the remaining 18 offering envelope books. These are available for anyone who wants one. Motion to approve January and February financial reports by Jeff Boldt. Second by Bryce Witzel. Motion carried.

Trustees' Report Organ tuned up for a total of \$860.

Noted during the repair that some of the keys are sticking. Art Aadland can do this for \$1150 if we are interested. Karen Sinding mentioned that the council should consider opening the organ fund again. Motion to approve opening the organ fund for maintenance by Bryce Witzel. Second by Kelly LaValliere. Motion carried. Al VanEck will inform congregation on Sunday, March 17, 2024.

Wasps continue to be problematic. Jeff Boldt will investigate cost of exterminator.

Baltic March Council Minutes (continued)

Deacons' Report Terry Snow approached Travis Jervik. He will consider a role as a deacon. Pastor Randall will meet with deacons to discuss role going forward.

Old Business Al VanEck spoke with Kendra Kappler who will not be available for VBS this year. Al VanEck continues to have difficulty reaching Brookings Methodist Church regarding QR code. Will investigate other churches using similar systems. Pastor Randall will speak with Pastor Jared at West Nidaros Lutheran Church regarding their electronic giving system. Karen Sinding presented coverage differences between State Farm quote and Grinnell quote. Brett Teveldal will have Jason Erickson look at current quotes as an unbiased review.

New Business Karen Sinding asked that the speaker in the Fellowship Hall/kitchen be fixed so that anyone working in the kitchen during services can hear the service. Trustees will investigate getting this fixed. Palm branches will be needed for Palm Sunday. Bryce Witzel and Al VanEck will investigate ordering.

Pastor's Report First communion will be done on Palm Sunday and Easter this year. Pastor has sent out a letter to the families. He should have 10 kids complete the class. Pastor Randall will be gone Thursday 3/7 to 3/9. He will be back for services on 3/10/24. He has been hearing wonderful things about both the meals and the services during Lent. Table Ministry will be the noisy can for April. Pastor Randall will reach out to Erica Varcoe to have her come explain to the congregation the purpose of this ministry. Pastor Randall discussed that during one of his recent meetings with area pastors, they discussed the different ways pastors can preach the Bible. The pastors currently use a 3-year Lectionary series where each year a different gospel is the focus. Another option would be for a narrative lectionary called "Deeply Rooted" and it would preach the full Bible in a year. Pastor would like some input as to whether we would be interested in pursuing this for one year.

**Baltic March Council Minutes
(continued)**

Next Council Meeting will be April 9, 2024.at 6:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Kelly LaValliere. Second by Wayne Gunderson. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.



**EAST COUNCIL MEETING
March 13, 2024**

A meeting of the East Nidaros Council was held on March 13, 2024, at East Nidaros Church. In attendance were Ron Krogstad, Rob Krogstad, Mark Brobjorg, Jim Vollan, Pastor Randall Questad, Melissa Daugaard, Deb Larson, Wayne Albers, and Rosalie Riswold-Brende. Not present was David Dyce.

Ron Krogstad called the meeting to order at 7:16 pm.

Secretary's Report The Minutes from the January 28, 2024, meeting was reviewed. On motion made by Rob Krogstad, seconded by Melissa Daugaard and carried by all, the Secretary's Report was accepted.

Treasurer's Report Deb Larson provided a Statement of Activity and Statement of Financial Position for review. Net revenue at the end of February was \$1,641.17. Funds in the savings account and Noisy Can offerings from 2022 and 2023 were reviewed. A memorial was recently received from Brian Karlson's family in the amount of \$1,125.00.

A letter was received from Baltic Post Prom asking for a donation. On motion made by Jim Vollan, seconded by Deb Larson and carried, a donation of \$200 will be sent to Baltic Post Prom.

Thank you's have been received from the Foster Network, Shetek and St. Dysmas for funds donated to them.

Old Business Financing the roof repairs was discussed. There are funds in the savings account from insurance proceeds for the roof damage claim. We do not necessarily need to have a pledge campaign but can possibly handle fundraising through postcards in addition to the presentation to the congregation. A special meeting will need to be called, providing two weeks' notice of the meeting. Rob Krogstad advised that he is getting more bids, two roofers being out in the last week. Different names for possible roofers were reviewed along with sites where roofs have been repaired. Highland Lutheran Church recently had a steel roof installed.

The concern with bats getting into the church needs to be addressed with work on the soffits as the roofing project is done. The windows in the Bell Tower will also need to be done. Steel roofing will cost more than asphalt, but the pricing isn't too bad when looking at the life of a steel roof compared to an asphalt roof. For the special meeting, we do not have to have exact bids. Samples will be available for the congregation to see. The meeting will be to inform the congregation of the repairs which are needed and to obtain approval to spend a range of money on the roof repairs. It was decided that the special meeting will be held on April 7, 2024, after church. Postcards will be sent out to the voting membership, along with having the notice in the bulletins and the newsletter.

The Synod Assembly is May 31-June 1. We need delegates to attend.

Upcoming noisy cans recipients were discussed and decided as follows -

April Noisy Can – CASA - May Noisy Can – Call to Freedom

--- on motion made by Rob Krogstad, seconded by Jimmie Vollan and carried.

June Noisy Can – Adam Thompson Foundation

--- on motion made by Deb Larson, seconded by Jimmie Vollan and carried.

Pastor's Report Pastor Randall commented there was good attendance this Lenten Season at services and the meals before service. Funds raised from the meals will be going toward confirmation camp at Okoboji which is July 21-26, 2024. Jax Vrchota and Brody Aspaas did early bird sign up to go. There was discussion about covering the balance of the registration fees.

First Communion classes are happening. There will be three students having First Communion on Palm Sunday at East Nidaros -- Jazlyn Vrchota, Ella Rick, and Tegan Levy.

There will be three baptisms on Palm Sunday for Tegan, Dylan, and Noah Levy.

For Palm Sunday and Easter, communion will be at the rail.

Kegan Smith is getting more comfortable as organist. He is interested in the full-time position with giving breaks for others to play. Other organists who play at East Nidaros have relayed how they love to come here. Grady Lamer will be the organist this coming Sunday.

On May 5, 2024, we will have Confirmation and Senior Recognition -The five Confirmands are Grant Endahl, Karis Harvey, Kaylee Siemonsma, Izabel Hammer and Julia Westerbur.

The Seniors are Keaton Harvey, Blake Hookie, Lexie Daugaard, Landon Petersen, and Jackson Westerbur.

East Nidaros March Council Minutes (continued)

A question was brought up as to why confirmation is in May over Reformation Sunday. Pastor Randall advised that parents are asked, and they prefer to have it in the spring. May also coincides with the end of the school year. Pastor Herb Wounded Head is looking at ways to do confirmation differently.

Melissa Daugaard expressed thoughts that the children of the church need to do more. Service projects and work can be done, which will help to get them more involved with the church.

VBS was discussed. A volunteer(s) is needed to head it up. Possibilities brought up were—

Shetek could be contacted. Their VBS usually consists of four days. We could inquire into a two-day VBS.

Does the Synod have some group/someone who goes around to the local churches to help with VBS?

Does the camp in Okoboji have something similar?

New Business Dog Days is August 9-11, 2024. Having a float in the parade and Sunday service in the park were discussed. We will see if VBS can be coordinated around Dog Days as in the past.

Pastor Randall reviewed how the church utilizes the Common Lectionary for the weekly services. The pastor at West Side Lutheran and Gloria Dei have started a read-through the Bible program and preach through the Bible during the year. The pastors from our surrounding churches are interested in utilizing -- starting Rally Sunday and ending in summer with a joint service. It may be interesting, and the idea is being kicked around. Ron Krogstad advised that he found in the ECLA Newsletter that the SD Synod has STAR Grants. "STAR" Grants are available for congregations and worshiping communities in small town and rural settings in the South Dakota Synod undergoing a leadership transition and/or for these congregations to be used for unforeseen and unbudgeted needs to sustain ministry. Congregations can apply for a "mini" grant of up to \$1500 or a regular grant of up to \$5000. Congregations are eligible to be awarded one STAR Grant per year.

Tuesday, May 14, 2024, will be the next Council Meeting and the Joint Council meeting. The Council Meetings will start at 6 pm and Joint Council at 7 pm.

Motion to adjourn was made by Rob Krogstad, seconded by Mark Brobjorg, and carried.

MARCH PARISH RECORD CHANGES

BALTIC

New Members: *No Changes*
Transfers Out: *No Changes*
Baptisms: *Lennox Elizabeth Kerkhove*
Weddings: *No Changes*
Deaths: *No Changes*

EAST

New Members: *No Changes*
Transfers Out: *No Changes*
Baptisms: *Noah Jacques Levy*
Dylan William Levy
Tegan Celeste Levy
Weddings: *No Changes*
Deaths: *No Changes*

Fellowship Coffee and Treats

Baltic

May 5 Pam & Dale Nesheim
 & 19 Karen & Garry Voelker

East Nidaros

May 12 Jean Hammer
 & 19 TBD Birthday Cake

Baltic

Jun 2 Lynda Johnson/Joann Moan
 & 9 Renae & Nathan Nelson

East Nidaros

May 26 Lyle & Ronnie Brobjorg
 & Jun 2 Jodee Westerbur

BALTIC GENERAL FUND 2024

Month	Monthly Income	Monthly Expenses	Year to Date Income	Year to Date Expenses
Jan	\$7,766.05	\$11,294.63	\$7,766.05	\$11,294.63
Feb	\$8,641.29	\$9,631.52	\$16,407.34	\$20,926.15
Mar	\$14,006.99	\$10,074.97	\$30,414.33	\$31,001.12

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEMORIAL DAY DINNER

Monday, May 27, 2024

East Nidaros Parish

10:45am Color guard

11:00am Memorial Day program

11:30am Lunch is served FREE WILL OFFERING



MEMBERS

Betty Jean Benjamin

Donna Lee Boyd - Rhoda Wold

Kelly LaValliere

Harry Laue—Jason Dykes

Randy Hartman

FRIENDS & FAMILY OF OUR MEMBERS

Dennis Riswold—Friend of the Community

Jay Vogt— Friend of the Community

Keith Fawcett—Kyla Fawcett's (Nesheim) father-in-law

Anita (Ana) Reategui—Friend of Jeff and Joan Boldt

Mattias Warne—Friend of the Community

Becky Berg—Sister-in-law of Dick Berg

Laurel Mader—Friend of Pastor Randall & Kim Questad

Marie Pazour— Mother of Karen Doom

Darrel Bonrud— Friend of the Community

Jerome Johnson—Cousin of Dale Erickson

Paul Thompson—Friend of Marc & Manda Sheaffer

Family of John Trapp—Grandfather of Lindsay Comes





FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Monetary Donations always Welcome!

Donations can be mailed to:

PO Box 244 Baltic SD 57003

- White Sugar
- Brown Sugar
- Ramen Noodles
- Boxed Potatoes
- Knorr Sides
(Pasta & Rice)
- Canned Pasta
- Boxed Pasta
- Spices
- Breakfast Bars
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Pudding
- Jelly
- Taco Seasoning
- Jello
- Canned Fruit
- Mac N Cheese
- Stuffing
- Juice
- Coffee
- Flour
- Oil
- Sloppy Joe
- Brownie Mix
- Pancake Mix
- Kleenex
- Laundry Soap
- Dish soap
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Toilet Paper

**NO OPENED,
PARTIALLY USED
OR
OUTDATED ITEMS
PLEASE**

Items may be dropped off at
City, Hall, Baltic School
District in the red box in the
Commons or in the Baltic
Narthex or
East Nidaros Fellowship Hall.

The Following Gifts Have Been Given As Memorials:

Baltic: In Memory of

Lorna Sunde Undesignated General Fund \$25.00

East: In Memory of

Carolyn Koopman East Nidaros Quilting Fund \$50.00



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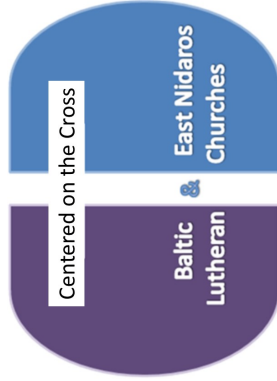
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