

## CHIMNEY ROCK LUTHERAN CHURCH -- APRIL NEWS

### Pastor David Sands Writes . . .

As many of you know, Norman Johnson passed away on March 19th. His passing is dominating my thoughts as I write this article, and the thought that strikes me as the most significant is this. Life is a cycle, more precisely a series of cycles, much like the cycles of weather we have been experiencing lately. Some days we have felt that Spring has arrived, and then Winter would return. For Norman, his health went through several cycles of crisis and recovery, and now he has completed the cycle of his earthly life. He was born, grew to be a man, got married, raised a family, and now has exited this life to start another life, which through his faith, will be in the presence of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Also, this is Holy Week, the period between Palm Sunday and Easter. The time we remember the completion of the earthly life of Jesus. He too was born and grew to be a man. He taught us many things about God and living according to the Father's will. He also died, but unlike Norman who slipped away peacefully, Jesus was abused, tortured, and suffered a cruel and agonizing death on Good Friday. Fortunately for us, there is more to the story of Jesus than the death of a good man. Jesus was also the Son of God, and when he died completely sinless, he was able to pay the penalty for the Sin of the whole world. Through this selfless act of Divine Love, he is able to grant eternal life to all who believe in Him. "Jesus said...I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:25 -26) So, this Easter, as you continue living out the cycles of your life, I suggest that as you experience the ups and the downs, the highs and the lows that life will bring, you hang onto Jesus' promise of eternal life. He paid the price, so you could have it as a gift.

### Bible Study Continues

Please join us for Bible Study. It will take place after worship most Sundays and be held from 10:45-11:30am. The discussion will involve a deeper study into the readings for that particular Sunday.

### Cemetery News

Please remove all winter wreaths and decorations from the cemetery by April 1st. Thank you.

### Dairyland Conference Morning of Renewal Scheduled

The 2024 W/ELCA Morning of Renewal is scheduled for Saturday, April 13, 2024 at Central Lutheran Church, Mondovi. Guest speakers will be Mercedes Falk, John Rosenow and Roberto Tecpile. John and Roberto were featured in the book, "Milked: How an American Crisis Brought Together Midwestern Dairy Farmers and Mexican Workers," by Wisconsin author Ruth Conniff. They were also featured in a segment by PBS Newshour in 2019 about immigrant farm laborers in Western Wisconsin. A registration fee of \$20 is due April 6. A registration form is available in the narthex and can be mailed to Karen Zuber, S12185 S. Oak Rd., Eleva, WI 54738. Contact Karen with questions at 715-287-4747 or zubergrl.kz@gmail.com.

### Drive-Thru Chicken Dinner Scheduled for April 28

**Contact People**—Forrest Nutter (715.695.3487) Barb McGee (715.695.3448) Barb Sylla (715.985.3496).

**Saturday, April 27, beginning at 9:30am**—we'll package buns, bars, and beans for the Sunday meal. Please bring bars by 10am. We're asking for 9 x 13 pans of bars that can easily be packaged (no cakes or refrigerator desserts, please). Please don't cut your bars; we'll do that on Saturday so they're all the same size.

**Sunday, April 28, at 9:30am—Worship Service.**

**Our Drive-Thru Chicken Dinner will be held from 10:30am till gone.** The menu will include 1/4 charcoaled chicken, bag of chips, beans, dinner rolls, bars and bottle of water at a cost of \$10 per meal.

**Monetary donations** would be appreciated to offset dinner expenses for food and supplies (chicken at \$45 per case, chips, charcoal, buns, paper products, etc. need to be purchased) Make checks payable to Chimney Rock Lutheran Church and place in the offering plate on Sunday or submit to Dan Solfest. Please note on your check/envelope that your donations are for "chicken dinner expenses." Because of your generosity in 2023, we cleared \$3,923.87!

**Workers Needed**—We had wonderful cooperation at our drive-thru dinners the last two years, with about 50 people helping in one capacity or another. Let's make sure that this year is a success, too! Please volunteer or say "yes" when asked to help. Thank you!

**Parking**—Because our dinner is a drive-thru, we can't park in the usual places on April 28. Please park north or south of the church or alongside the newest cemetery, leaving Church Road open for customers who will drive in the church driveway and go north past the hill cemetery and exit on Solfest Road.

### **Worship Assistants Needed**

Please check the green sheet in the narthex and sign up to read, greet, or usher on open dates in April. Also, if you're musically talented, contact Pastor Sands or Monica and volunteer your talents.

### **Coffee Is Being Served After Worship**

We sincerely appreciate everyone who has volunteered to bring goodies for coffee hour. Thank you to all who have been so generous! The sign-up sheet is on the narthex bulletin board. Beverages are provided. Just bring food for approximately 25 people. Anything is appreciated. It doesn't have to be homemade. Store bought is great, too! Or, if you would prefer to donate money, we'll pick up cookies, doughnuts, coffee cakes, etc. for you. The Sunday School and Confirmation students work up an appetite during their classes and appreciate a snack, so let's work together to keep coffee hour going!

### **We Welcome a New Member**

Kris Flury, who has been actively attending worship, serving coffee, and helping with our chicken dinners, recently transferred her membership from Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church to Chimney Rock. She was formally recognized as a member on March 3. Welcome, Kris!

### **Thank You for Sharing Flowers on Easter Sunday**

- ❖ Virginia Howard for two lilies given in memory of her husband Milton and daughter Julie.
- ❖ Bob and Barb Sylla for one lily given in memory of Lester and Betty Solfest, Art Sr. and Bernice Drangstveit, and Palmer and Mabel Solfest.

### **New Horizons Is Hiring**

New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers has been providing free and confidential safety, services, and empowerment to victims and survivors of domestic abuse, sexual violence, and human trafficking in the counties of La Crosse and Trempealeau for over 45 years. They are currently searching for individuals who desire a rewarding career working with trauma survivors. Starting pay is \$17 per hour. Part-time and full-time positions are available. Those interested in finding out more about open positions can visit the New Horizons website at [www.nhagainstabuse.org](http://www.nhagainstabuse.org) or send a resume to [programcoord@nhagainstabuse.org](mailto:programcoord@nhagainstabuse.org).

### **Synod Assembly Planned for June 7 and 8**

Since a new Bishop of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin will be elected this year, the Synod Assembly will be held at UW-Eau Claire from June 7 at 8am to June 8 at 5pm. If you are interested in being a delegate, please let us know! Registration is now open and all participants must register online, even if paying by check. More information is available at [nswi.org](http://nswi.org).

### **Luther Park Summer Camp Schedule Available**

Luther Park Summer Camp information is available online at [lutherpark.org](http://lutherpark.org). There's also a copy of the 2024 Summer Camp Schedule in the narthex. Programs run from mid-June until mid-August and are available to students in Pre-K, elementary, middle school (confirmation camp), as well as family camp. Our church made a commitment several years ago to pay \$100 towards the registration fee for confirmation students who wish to attend. Please notify the council if you have any questions. There are discounts available, such as early bird and first-time camper, so register early.

### **Please Inform Pastors of Illness & Hospitalizations**

If you hear that one of our members is hospitalized, please let Pastor Sands or Monica know. Because of HIPAA laws, hospitals no longer contact pastors when someone is admitted. Also, please contact them about illnesses—even when the member isn't hospitalized.

### **We Acknowledge the Following Memorials . . .**

- ❖ Dale, Roxie and Terry Erickson memorials to the Cemetery Fund given by Jerry Erickson.
- ❖ Lois Gunderson Jones memorial to the General Fund given by Ardis and Merlin Isaacson.
- ❖ Norman Johnson memorials to the General Fund given by June Johnson, Don and Cheryl Solfest, and Pat Brenn and Jeff Olson.
- ❖ Norman Johnson memorials to the Cemetery Fund given by Dan and Connie Solfest, Al and Michele Barneson, and Bob and Barb Sylla.

### **Membership**

If anyone is interested in becoming a member, please talk to Pastor David Sands or Synodically Authorized Minister (SAM) Monica Dejno. Their contact information is located on the calendar page and also in the weekly bulletins.

### **Church Offerings**

Please remember that our church needs your continued financial support. Jason has put a "donate" button on our church website ([www.chimneyrockchurch.org](http://www.chimneyrockchurch.org)) for those who wish to contribute electronically. E-Pay information is also included in this issue. Of course, checks are the preferred method of donation and should be made payable to Chimney Rock Lutheran Church. If you don't attend Sunday worship, your offering can be sent to one of the addresses listed below.

Chimney Rock Lutheran Church  
N43255 Church Rd.  
Strum, WI 54770

Daniel Solfest  
N43178 State Rd. 93  
Strum, WI 54770

### **E-Pay Available at Chimney Rock**

If anyone would like to send their contributions to the church electronically, please contact Treasurer Dan Solfest for the correct information. You will need the church's account name, account number, depository bank's name, and bank's Federal Reserve Bank routing number. You will also need to tell your bank the amount to send and frequency of remittance. Dan can be reached at 715.985.3242 or in church on Sundays. Thank you for your interest in supporting Chimney Rock Lutheran Church.

### **Newsletters**

For those who can't access the monthly newsletters electronically via email, our church website, or Facebook, please pick up a printed copy the last Sunday of each month for the next month's calendar and news. Newsletters will be mailed to those who don't have electronic access or aren't in church to pick up a copy. Any questions, please contact Barb Sylla at 715.985.3496 or [bbsylla8246@gmail.com](mailto:bbsylla8246@gmail.com). Information to be included in the newsletter should be submitted by the 20th of each month.

### **Our Vision Statement**

Be alive and well in ten years with healthy evangelism and vital family fellowship.

### **Our Mission Statement**

We, as a family of God, rooted in the strength and inspiration of God's Holy Spirit, are called forward facing challenges by the promises of God to reach out in love to our rural community, especially cherishing and welcoming children.

### **April Birthdays and Anniversaries**

1<sup>st</sup>--Tony Rustad  
2<sup>nd</sup>--Roger Kensmoe, Collin Koval  
4<sup>th</sup>--Alexandria Loewenhagen  
5<sup>th</sup>--Nathan Olson  
6<sup>th</sup>--Barb Sylla, Virginia Howard  
9<sup>th</sup>--Michele Barneson  
13<sup>th</sup>--Chuck Girtman  
14<sup>th</sup>--Mary Hermanson  
15<sup>th</sup>--Jackson McGee  
16<sup>th</sup>--Matt Olson  
21<sup>st</sup>--Pam Flikkeshaug, Arne Olson  
25<sup>th</sup>--Denise Loesel  
26<sup>th</sup>--Bob Kolve, M/M Randy Pederson  
27<sup>th</sup>--Jenessa Perry  
30<sup>th</sup>--Kris Flury

## Chimney Rock Congregational Council Minutes - March 18, 2024

**Call to Order**—Council President Randy Olson called the Wednesday, March 18, 2024 meeting to order at 6:30pm. Others present were Monica Dejno, Jerry Erickson, Richard Gunderson, Forrest Nutter (Memorial Secretary), Bev Paulsen, Pastor David Sands, Dan Solfest, Don Solfest, and Barb Sylla. Barb McGee was absent.

**Devotions**—Pastor Sands read from Mark, chapter 11, and discussion followed about Jesus not being the king people were expecting; Pastor Sands then led in prayer.

**Secretary's Report** was read by Barb S. Don and Forrest motioned to approve, and motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** was distributed by Dan. Richard and Jerry motioned to approve; motion carried.

### Business discussed:

- 1) **Chicken Dinner on April 28**—After checking prices, Forrest has ordered the chicken directly from Pilgrim's at \$45 per case. He also applied for a debit card from Thrivent to help with dinner expenses, which we have received, as well as Thrivent T-shirts to wear the day of the dinner. Bush's in Augusta have donated beans, as they did last year. The beginning of April, Barb McGee and Barb Sylla will send advertising to area churches, WHTL, and area newspapers; posters will be placed in area businesses. They will also contact workers for setup on April 27 and the dinner on April 28. They will be ordering and picking up supplies (chips, buns, paper products, water) as well.
- 2) **New Member**—the Council approved a recent transfer of membership for Kris Flury from Osseo Evangelical to Chimney Rock.
- 3) **Reimbursement**—the Council will reimburse Pastor Sands and Monica for children's sermon supplies.
- 4) **Ministry Team Contracts** were signed by Pastor Sands and Monica and will be placed on file. The term is from March 1 through December 31, 2024. Beginning in 2025, the contracts will run from January 1 through December 31, the calendar year.
- 5) **Rostered Leader and SAM Reports** are due.

**Next meeting** will be held at 6:30pm on Monday, April 22.

**Adjournment**—Don and Dan motioned to adjourn at 7:53pm. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barb Sylla, Council Secretary

### Council Members

Trustee	Randy Olson	715.985.3309 715.797.2988
Trustee	Richard Gunderson	715.797.3721
Trustee	Don Solfest	715.287.4562 715.797.3014
Deacon	Bev Paulsen	715.287.3323
Deacon	Barb McGee	715.695.3448
Deacon	Jerry Erickson	715.530.2079
Memorial Secretary	Forrest Nutter	715.695.3487 715.533.1720
Treasurer	Dan Solfest	715.985.3242
Secretary	Barb Sylla	715.985.3496 715.530.0338