

CHIMNEY ROCK LUTHERAN CHURCH -- JANUARY NEWS

Where from Here.....message from Pastor Tobiason

As you know, there are dire predictions about the future of our churches in our land. All churches are faced with great challenges. The pinch of lower attendance, less support, and a culture that often has disdain for us is taking a toll. So what should we do here and now in this parish? Should we sit back and let it happen since we might think there is nothing to do about it? We might think that since we have been here for 150 years we will likely be here for the next 150. All of that assures failure. NO! WE MUST STAND TALL AND SAY, "NOT AMONG US!" We ought to resolve, to resist the trend and do everything we can. Commit to regular worship. Volunteer, support, invite others and participate in the mission of the church. In more comfortable times we could let it ride. Not so now! This church belongs to our Lord Christ and since he lives forever, so the church, the people of God will live forever. But without the church, who will hear the Word that makes faith, and will our children have faith? LET'S DO THIS!

January Sunday School and Confirmation

Sunday School will resume at 9:30am on January 5. Confirmation will be held on January 15 (the third Wednesday) and January 29 (the fifth Wednesday).

Thank You to...

- Those who helped decorate the trees and the church
- The Sunday School for their program on December 15 and everyone who contributed food for the brunch that followed
- The Girtman Family for the poinsettia given in memory of Pete and Alpha
- The Solfest family for the poinsettia given in memory of Lester and Betty Solfest, Art Sr. and Bernice Drangstveit, and Palmer and Mabel Solfest
- Ione Jacobson Family for the poinsettia given in memory of George

Annual Meeting Scheduled for January 26

Our Annual Meeting will be held immediately after 10:30am worship on January 26. A potluck lunch will be served right after the meeting. **A few items on the agenda are: possibly changing worship time back to 9:30am, bell tower repairs, and voting on amendments to the constitution.** All reports to be included in the annual report should be audited and submitted to Barb for copying on or before Sunday, January 19. Nominating Committee members are Ione Jacobson, Brad Olson, Barb Sylla, Al Barneson (outgoing trustee), and Pastor Tobiason. Auditing Committee members are Forrest Nutter and Susan Solli. W/ELCA auditors are Mary Hermanson and Cheryl Solfest.

Chimney Rock Church Bell Tower and Church Eaves and Soffit

The Chimney Rock Council wants to update everyone on the condition of the bell tower. Bids sought for repair of either painting, covering, or replacing the arched louvered openings, upper windows and soffit. A bid from Liberty Exteriors on August 28, 2019 to replace the arched openings with custom-made vinyl inserts and wrapping the upper narrow windows on the bell tower; wrapping aluminum clad fascia on the church eaves and vented soffit. Bid price for this work at \$50,011.

At the time we got the bids from Liberty, we found some other concerns of repair we thought should be of higher priority than the peeling paint. Jason Bautch, Barb McGee, and Alan Barneson built a ladder in the bell tower to access the very top of the tower (where the cross sits). We found the bell tower metal roof (original 1936) is leaking in multiple spots. Water has been running down the inside of the bell tower. The leakage has caused the inside clay tile blocks in the bell tower to flake away causing the roof to sag and leak even more. Mold in the balcony along the ceiling/wall have been noticed.

A bid from Jurowski Construction to replace damaged blocks, repair the rotted roof portions and cover with a rubber roof, replace the louvered arches, scrape and paint upper windows, soffit and eaves and build a new roof hatch on the top of the tower. The breakdown for this bid is: roof--\$9,588, masonry work-\$8,116, tuck pointing exterior brick-\$13,120, new louvers-\$17,568, scrape and paint soffit & fascia-\$6,175, new roof hatch-\$1,850, for a total of \$56,417.

If we omit the soffit/eaves painting and new louvers (the non-essential work), the bid to repair the structural deficiency would come in at \$32,674.

Due to the masonry work needed, we should be looking for a repair time during the warmer months. The Council, to date, has not been able to get any more bids, as the masonry work and height of the bell tower has other construction people reluctant to want to work on it.

Chimney Rock Council President, Alan Barneson

Constitution

The 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly convening August 5-10 in Milwaukee, WI amended the Model Constitution for Congregations. Our synod forwarded this information to Pastor Tobiason and our Council, and electronic copies have been sent to all in our congregation who have email. At the recommendation of the Synod, we shared this document so you have ample time to read it before our Annual Meeting on January 26, 2020, when the amendments will be voted on. Those who don't have electronic access received a printed copy in your church mailboxes.

Mission Project 2020

On our (150th) anniversary, we would like to present a family from Malawi a farm. This is an unusual farm consisting of a cow, a goat, and some fowl. Each farm costs \$500. To do so we will have special processional offerings on the 3rd Sunday of each month leading up to our anniversary celebration. We are confident we can provide one farm, but if the response is great, we may produce more farms. Malawi, in Africa, is consistently challenged by hunger, drought, and crazy politics. Malawi is our NW Wisconsin Synod partner synod. A farm would enable a family to eat and send their children to school.

150 in 2020! Save the Date!

- Our 150th Anniversary celebration will be held on Sunday, September 20, 2020.
- The theme is "By His Grace—For His Glory," based on Romans 3:23-24.
- Pastor Tobiason has coordinated this with the Synod, and Bishop Laurie Scow-Anderson will be attending and assisting with the morning worship service that day.
- Pammy K's will be catering the meal following morning worship.
- Various people have been contacted to provide musical accompaniment/entertainment.
- Other highlights of the day are a silent auction, group photo, and opening of the time capsule. If anyone would like to donate a basket or an item for the silent auction, please contact a member of the committee.
- Please pass the word along to your family members and friends who have ties to Chimney Rock so that everyone marks their calendars for September 20, 2020.
- Mary Olson is heading up the 150th committee, and others who have volunteered are Cristal Kingsbury, Barb McGee, Bev Paulsen, Cheryl Solfest, and Barb Sylla, along with Pastor Paul.
- The next meeting will be held on January 12 after Sunday morning worship.

Prayer Concerns

Verlaine Averbeck, Dennis Dubiel, Sue Elvaker, Tanya Emerson, Dan Estenson, Judy Fuller, Dale Hangartner, Barb Heath, Clay Kolve, Levi Loesel, Bev Michels, Mackenzie Mueller, Mary Peterson, Clayton Steffenson Jr., Pastor Paul Tobiason

Memorials Gratefully Acknowledged

- Oliver and Agnes Hawkenson memorial to the Cemetery Association given by Daniel & Beverly Brey
- Gordon Twerberg memorial to the Cemetery Association given by Debra Twerberg
- Terry Erickson memorial to the Cemetery Association given by Billie & Vicky Loesel
- Terry Erickson memorial to the Memorial Fund given by Susan Solli
- Terry Erickson memorials to the General Fund given by Helen Nysven, Dick & Beverly Paulsen, Don & Cheryl Solfest
- Tim Bue memorial to the General Fund given by Don & Cheryl Solfest
- Dale, Roxie & Terry Erickson memorial to the Cemetery Association given by Jerald Erickson
- Rudolph and Lorraine Linberg memorial to the General Fund given by Clyde and Lorrie Linberg

Cemetery Association

Anyone interested in being on the Cemetery Association board should contact Alan Barneson at 715.287.3193.

Coffee Hour

Thank you in advance for participating in this fellowship and to those who have already served! There's a sheet on the narthex bulletin where volunteers may sign up to serve. Also included on that sign-up sheet are suggested amounts of food and beverages to bring.

Membership

If anyone is interested in becoming a member, please talk to Pastor Paul. His contact information is located on the calendar page and also in the weekly bulletins.

Newsletters

For those who can't access the monthly newsletters electronically via email, our church website, or Facebook, please pick up a printed copy located in your mailbox in the narthex. Check your mailboxes 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 bsylla@triwest.net. Information to be included in the newsletter should be submitted by the 20th of each month.

E-Pay Available at Chimney Rock

If anyone would like to send their contributions to the church electronically, please contact Treasurer Don 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. Don can be reached evenings at 715.287.4562 or in church on Sundays. Thank you for your interest in supporting Chimney Rock Lutheran Church.

January Birthdays and Anniversaries

2nd--M/M Brad Olson
5th--Monty Loomis
6th--Brayden Mueller, Connie Solfest
7th--George W. Jacobson, Keith Rustad
9th--Alexis Bohlinger
10th--Isael Rosales Jacobson
12th--Kyle Koval
14th--Zoey George, Thor Hermanson
16th--Dalton Solfest
17th--Lori Gullicksrud, Vanessa Gullicksrud
20th--April Olson
22nd--Emily Hovey
23rd--Becky Franck
25th--Ethan Bautch
26th--Alan Barneson, Levi Loesel
27th--Bob Kensmoe
30th--Kate Kensmoe, Joan Halverson
31st--Jason Bautch

Food for Thought...

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of the newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all." This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!" Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

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.

Chimney Rock Congregational Council Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2019

The Congregational Council of Chimney Rock Church was called to order at 6:13pm on Wednesday, December 11, 2019, by Council President Alan Barneson.

Members present: Alan Barneson, Mary Olson, Brooklynn Olson, Don Solfest, Barb McGee, and Pastor Paul Tobiason

Members Absent: Jason Bautch and Randy Olson

Pastor Report: first of the year Pastor will just be with us, he confirmed he is okay with his salary. Musical South Beef River Church at 4pm. Pastor will be gone on January 19th and will be out February 10th-17th.

Secretary's Report: was read and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Was read and approved.

Old Business:

1. 150th Anniversary celebration: next meeting will be January 12th. Special offering once a month was discussed again by council that would go towards the 150th Anniversary and will start on January 5th and will continue the first Sunday of the month. Pastor is going to talk to Kent Nelson about making some wood animals to put the offering plate by.
2. Step repair: no changes at this time. Now with the weather, repair is on hold.
3. Bell tower repair: council received an estimate for the bell tower. Council discussed starting a fundraiser for funds. Will talk at length at the annual meeting.
4. Basement Floor waxing: on hold for now till January after the holidays.
5. Rain gutters: Travis and Jason will clean the gutters but will be done in spring.
6. Changing service back to 9:30am, Al talked to Jennifer and she was okay with 9:30am. Council discussed putting in the newsletter about changing the time and then discussing at the Annual Meeting.

New Business:

1. Christmas Eve service will be at 5:30pm.
2. Barb made a motion to having goodie bags for next year Christmas program.
3. Annual meeting will be the last Sunday of January. Annual meeting will be January 26th and we will have it in the newsletter.

Don made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm.

Pastor Tobiason led all in the Lord's Prayer.

Next Congregational Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8th, at 6pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brooklynn Olson

Chimney Rock Council Members

President	Alan Barneson	715.287.3193
Trustee	Jason Bautch	715.985.2783 715.797.1887
Trustee	Mary Olson	715.694.2239 651.587.6126
Deacon		
Deacon	Randy Olson	715.985.3309 715.797.2988
Deacon	Barb McGee	715.695.3448 715.797.4928
Treasurer	Don Solfest	715.287.4562 715.797.3014
Secretary	Brooklynn Olson	715.533.0481