

CHIMNEY ROCK LUTHERAN CHURCH -- JANUARY NEWS

So What Have We Learned?

So all of us are learners. Sometimes we learn things that make us less of what we could be and other times we grow. 2020 has been a challenge. All of us became less complete for not being together much. So we became forced loners. We had our first council meeting in months. There was not much business to do, but we talked and joked until a meeting with no business lasted an hour and a half. It was so enjoyable and tells me this congregation is a chunk of my family. Jeanette stayed pretty much to home, except to make quick runs, dodging the maskless ones by a whole lot more than 6 feet. Our friendship and love just flourished. Our family became so much more to us, and we ached for times when we could see them. We knew grief. More people dying of an evil disease per day than in 9/11. More grief than we could get our hearts around. I can't think of other times when I talked with God more. And the economic suffering we hear about only on the news and we wonder how they even survive. Hopefully all of us learned how Jesus said he would never leave us or forsake us. So we go with hope and courage into the next year.

~~Pastor Tobiason~~

Sunday Worship Continues

Worship will be at 9:30am all Sundays. If things change due to COVID-19, we'll make every effort to let you know.

Annual Meeting Scheduled for January 31

Our Annual Meeting will be held immediately after 9:30am worship on January 31. We won't have a potluck lunch this year. All reports to be included in the annual report should be audited and submitted to Barb for copying on or before Sunday, January 24. **Auditing Committee** members are Tiffany Olson Hess and Susan Solli. **W/ELCA auditors** are Mary Hermanson and Cheryl Solfest.

Nominating Committee members are Alan Barneson, Brad Olson, Barb Sylla, Jason Bautch (outgoing trustee) and Randy Olson (outgoing deacon).

Thank you to . . .

- ❖ Dan & Jacob Solfest for getting the Christmas trees in place.
- ❖ Barb McGee for the beautiful job of decorating the sanctuary.
- ❖ Whoever placed the gorgeous wreaths on the pillars at the end of the sidewalk.
- ❖ Confirmation class and Pastor Tobiason for the snowflakes strung from the balcony.
- ❖ Georgia Severson and Sophia Severson from Switzerland for writing letters to some of our shut-in members during the pandemic. Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated and gives people something to look forward to when they can't be out and about. We hear that some are even sending letters back to you. Imagine that—pen pals!

Memorials Gratefully Acknowledged

- ❖ Clayton Steffenson Jr. memorials to the General Fund given by Family & Friends, Rebekah & Rickey Krumrie, Bob & Barb Sylla, Bev Paulsen, Barb McGee, Nate & Kyleigh Lecy, and Pete & Mary Marsolek
- ❖ Clayton Steffenson Jr. memorials to the Improvement Fund given by Family and Friends
- ❖ Clayton Steffenson Jr. memorials to the Cemetery Association given by Family & Friends, Steffenson Family Reunion Fund, and Mavis Erickson
- ❖ Clayton Steffenson Jr. memorials to W/ELCA and Altar Guild given by Family & Friends and Ione Jacobson
- ❖ Clayton Steffenson Jr. memorials to the Sunday School given by Family & Friends
- ❖ Elaine Colby memorials to the General Fund given by Family & Friends and Mavis Erickson
- ❖ Gerald Hawkenson memorial to the General Fund given by the Hawkenson Family

We Express Our Sympathy to . . . family and friends of Judy (Roden) Kendall, who passed away on November 6 at Atrium Post Acute Care in Chetek, Wisconsin.

150th Anniversary Church Trivets Available

Cheryl Solfest still has seven black and white church trivets for sale, but the colored ones have been sold. These were ordered for our 150th Anniversary celebration and are being sold for \$10 each and are available before or after Sunday worship. Call Cheryl at 715-287-4562 if you would like to buy one of these trivets or if you have any questions.

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) 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

Don Solfest
N44631 Edison Ln.
Eleva, WI 54738

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.

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 bbsylla@triwest.net. 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.

Chimney Rock Church Council

President	Jason Bautch	715.985.3783 715.797.1887
Trustee	Mary Olson	715.694.2239 651.587.6126
Trustee	Forrest Nutter	715.695.3487 715.533.1720
Deacon	Randy Olson	715.985.3309 715.797.2988
Deacon	Barb McGee	715.695.3448 715.797.4928
Deacon	Cristal Kingsbury	715.985.3783 715.505.5637
Treasurer	Don Solfest	715.287.4562 715.797.3014
Secretary	Brooklyn Olson	715.533.0481

Chimney Rock Congregational Council Meeting Minutes--December 22, 2020

The Congregational Council of Chimney Rock Church was called to order by Mary Olson at 6:08pm on Tuesday, December 22, 2020.

Members Present: Pastor Paul Tobiason, Don Solfest, Barb McGee, Forrest Nutter, Randy Olson, and Mary Olson.

Members Absent: Jason Bautch, Cristal Kingsbury and Brooklynn Olson

Pastors Report: Confirmation kids meeting with Pastor 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. Independence is not having services or confirmation kids meeting with Pastor.

The Secretary's Report: was read and approved. Last Council meeting was held on June 17, 2020.

The Treasurer's Report: was read and approved.

Old Business:

1. Jason working with Al Barneson on finding someone to do window louvre painting. No update.
2. 150th celebration cancelled in 2020.
3. Church services resumed on July 12, with masks and social distancing.

New Business:

1. Annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 31, 2021, immediately following services. Due to COVID, there will NOT be a gathering to eat after the meeting.
2. It was acknowledged by Council how fortunate we were to have gotten the bell tower repair work completed.

Mary moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:08pm.

Pastor Tobiason led all in the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 13 at 6:00pm, at Chimney Rock Church.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Olson

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

Safety Measures in Place for Attending Worship

- ❖ Wear a mask.
- ❖ Socially distance. Pews are taped off to assure 6 feet between us.
- ❖ When passing the peace, we remain in our seats and wave at fellow parishioners.
- ❖ Offering plates will not be passed, but will be placed in the narthex.