



# ALMA LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

February 2020

Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I was able to participate in the Ministers Conference at Carol Joy Holling. It was two days full of learning and growth. We dove into topics such as our emotional intelligence which is, “a set of emotional and social skills that collectively establish how we: perceive and express ourselves, express ourselves, develop and maintain social relationships, cope with challenges, and use emotional information in an effective and meaningful ways.” It’s not about being emotional, but being self aware. It’s this self awareness, which I think is so important to us as we go about living our lives in Christ.

At the foundation of the material, I could not help but feel that doing this work would help us live more fully into who we were created to be. We were wonderfully and fearfully made by our creator, and sometimes we let that inner voice alongside external forces push and pull us away from that. It happens to all of us. It’s unfortunate. Imagine life without this constant battle? Imagine finding peace and comfort as we live more fully with ourselves and in turn our neighbors. Wouldn’t that be quite the community? I think that is perhaps what the Kingdom of God here on earth looks like.

I believe deep down, this is the kind of work that God is calling us to do. It isn’t the most glamorous work; heck, it even might seem like mundane work...but it is needed nonetheless. If we neglect to listen and take this reflective introspective look, we neglect to admire God’s creation. We ignore the fact that we and others were created in God’s image. I know that I have plenty of room to improve, I still fall short of where I would like to be. Would you be willing to journey with God and one another in a concerted effort to live more fully into ourselves, warts and all? So that maybe, just maybe we can be a church for the sake of the world?

Yours in Christ, Pastor Quinlan.



50 Years of Ordained Women

With gratitude for those who have gone before and hope for the future, the ELCA gives thanks to God for the ministry of women. In 2019 and 2020 we celebrate 50 years of Lutheran women being ordained in the United States, 40 years of women of color being ordained, and 10 years of LGBTQIA+ individuals being able to serve freely.

As part of this anniversary year, we lament that women have been barred from serving and have been bullied, dismissed and excluded. We also

celebrate the gifts and service that women have brought to our church and our world as pastors.

“During my 98 years of life, I have seen God sweep aside barriers of ethnicity, gender and age to help me become a pastor of Christ’s beloved people. Each step of the way, this was not a calling I sought nor did it come about by my effort. It has all been God’s work from beginning to end.” —The Rev. Louisa Groce, 2017

“Intentional welcome to all people and families matters. As Lutherans, we believe every human being reflects the Divine image. Each of us is a beloved child of God, wonderfully made, just as we are. Our confidence in Christ Jesus calls us to work with all God’s people to transform our communities, so welcome can be a lived experience in our congregations and in the world.”

—Reconciling Works



## ACTIVITIES

**Children's Sunday School** - 9:30am every Sunday except the 1st Sunday of the month. Ages 3 years old through 8th grade. Meets in the basement of the church. Contact Moriah Nygren for more information.

**Adult Sunday School** - Meets at 9:30am every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month. Meets in the room behind the altar. Contact Doug Gustafson for more information.

**Youth Group** - For 7th grade through 12th grade. Contact Megan and Weston Engel for more information.

**Faith Circle (MGM)** - Meets the third Thursday at 1:30pm @ Bethlehem in Wahoo. Contact Angie Johnson for more information.

**Chat & Sew** - Meets the 1st Tuesday at 8:30am. Contact Sharon Hollst or Lana Krumpus for more information.

**Book Club** - Location and date varies. Contact Viki Miller for more information.

### **Choral and Bell Choirs** -

Practices are held on Wednesday evenings. Contact Angie Johnson to join.



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## BUDGET

### **As of 1/28/20**

Income: \$6,593.01

Expenses: \$5,666.02

Balance: \$926.99

World Hunger YTD: \$45.86

## Annual Meeting

The annual meeting report can be found on our website under What's Happening > Council Minutes.

**Alma Lutheran Church Council Members** following elections during the annual meeting:

James Nygren  
Angie Johnson  
Lynn Nygren  
Jake Richards  
Jason Felty  
Jack Munter  
Mike Couch  
Dale Nygren  
Don Treptow

## Nominating Committee

Tom Erickson  
Lana Krumpus  
Weston Engel

## Auditing Committee

Jay Hanson  
Leland Nygren  
Kim Thorson

## 2020 Synod Delegates

Ethan and Moriah Wellman  
*Marc and Angie Johnson (alternates)*

***Thank you to all who served this past year!***

thank  
you!

Thank you to Lynn Nygren, Alice Adams and everyone who made the potluck on January 12th a wonderfully special occasion!

## INFORMATION

**Pastor's Email**

**Pastor Quinlan Koch**  
quinlank57@gmail

**Secretary's Email**

almalutheran@gmail.com

**Website** - [almalutheran.com](http://almalutheran.com)

**Facebook** - Search for "Alma Lutheran Church" and "Alma Lutheran Educational Ministries"

## MISSION STATEMENT

Disciples by grace, Growing in faith, Living our hope, Sharing God's love.