

DECEMBER 2019

The North Bay Lutheran COMPASS

What's INSIDE

A publication of North Bay Lutheran Community Church

- 2 Staff & Council Members
- 2 From The President's Pen
- 3 From The V.P.
- 3 Treasurer's Report
- 4 Ministry Reports
- 6 Events and Happenings
- 6 Birthday's & Anniversaries
- 7 Calendar
- 8 The Secretary's Table

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A 1ST CENTURY
CHURCH-FOR THE
21ST CENTURY

The RGHT Project Is Underway!



Construction officially began in early November and the RGHT Project is underway. We thank God for His many blessings and we pray that he will watch over all who are working on remodeling His church. *Photos by G. Bralley*

NBLCC

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From The President's Pen by Janet Wright

COME HOLY SPIRIT COME
COME HOLY SPIRIT COME

Have you been ambushed lately?? It's a term that the men's bible study group sometimes uses. It means that they have been overwhelmed with an indescribable feeling or knowing – "with sighs too deep for words to explain."

The Holy Spirit has touched us when a tear escapes from the corner of our eye or when chill races up our spine for no reason or sounds refuse to come out of our open mouths.

From the beginning, the Holy Spirit was actively involved in creation in giving life and breath. Throughout the Old Testament, the Spirit revealed truth to people and empowered people to do God's will by speaking through the prophets. In the same way, the New Testament shows that the Spirit is at work in the hearts of *all* believers as the source of our life in faith. And as we experience Christmas 2019, we will be reminded how the Holy Spirit performed many important roles in the story of His birth.

Here at North Bay at the HUB, whenever Pastor Brian's words catch in his throat, when the choir lifts us up, when a brother or sister in Christ looks at you with love in their eyes we all know and feel the Holy Spirit in this place.

If you want to let the Holy Spirit lead your life and walk by the Spirit, it's a conscious choice we can make each and every day. Pray that the Lord will fill you with His Spirit. Pray that you would walk by the Spirit. Then throughout your day, watch and listen for opportunities to obey the Spirit's promptings.

When feelings overwhelm you or the sight of a sunrise makes you weep, please say, "*Hallelujah, I've been ambushed*" and thank our Lord for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Wishing joy, peace and health for you and yours this Christmas season and throughout the coming year.

Your sister in Christ

Come, Holy Spirit, I need you
Come, sweet Spirit, I pray
Come in your strength and your power
Come in your own gentle way

Just A Thought by Shari Stormo

It is so amazing that another year has gone by, here it is December already starting up and we will be celebrating the birthday of Jesus!

As I write this it is November 22, and today is my oldest daughter's fortieth birthday, I think about the Thanksgiving day that she was born on then and what a beautiful tiny baby she was. I think about all the perfect moments and the trials we went through and I think about the joy we share today. I know

Cont. on pg.3

From the V.P. by Carole Boyko

Merry Christmas Everyone!

“Patience: the capacity to accept or tolerate delay, trouble, or suffering without getting angry or upset.”

This time of year we are all so busy our patience can be sorely tested. It is difficult to wait on something or someone when we just know we could do it faster or better.

Our need to be in control and have things our way is very powerful. However, the Lord teaches us to trust in him.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him and he will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5

The RGHT project has been an excellent example of the need for patience. I have seen unlimited patience in Guy Bralley, Jan Gleich, and Janet Wright. Just when we thought everything was finally in order, there was an issue with needing an additional fire alarm system which of course had to be investigated taking more time. Then the financing became a problem. Then there was the contract with the contractor and getting it finalized. How many versions did you have Guy? I think there were eleven! Talk about patience!!

With lots and lots of prayer, our very helpful congregation, and God’s love and guidance all the problems have been solved and we are finally in the actual construction phase of this glorious project!

Let’s all give thanks to these three amazing people who have spent so much time and energy being sure this project is done according to God’s plan! They have kept the best interests of North Bay Lutheran in the forefront of their efforts at all times and we, the congregation, owe them a tremendous THANK YOU!!! But they are not done! We can be confident they will be watching out for us until the final paper is signed and the last dime is paid.

During the difficult times, Pastor Brian always told us to “Trust in God. He will provide.” We are indeed blessed here at North Bay Lutheran to have such shining examples of trusting in God at all times.

“In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.” Proverbs 16:9

At this time of celebrating the birth of Christ, remember to let the little things go, give to those in need, and trust in God at all times!



Financial Report as of Nov. 29 2019

NBLCC “General Fund End of Month Report

Monthly Budgeted income:
\$15,520

Actual income for the Nov.:
\$14,077

Total expenses for Nov.:
\$13,050

General Fund Balance:
\$5,988

Building Fund Balance:
\$602,406

Detailed financial reports are
available in the office.

Jan Gleich
Treasurer

Cont. from pg.2

that I am truly blessed. I wonder what

Mary thought about her beautiful tiny baby? She also must have had perfect moments and also trials, trying to understand her son. How hard it must have been for her sometimes, and yet neither of us, I am sure would trade any of those moments. Families are so very complicated, but there are usually moments of trouble and joy, let us celebrate the joy!

May you have a season full of joy and peace. God Bless and keep you until we meet again.

Fellowship

by Rosemary Wheaton

There are many places in the bible that speaks about fellowship, such as *"with whom at once enjoyed sweet fellowship at the house of God...Psalms 55:14.* To me fellowship is action: breaking bread with one another, being with people with similar beliefs and encouraging one another.

I have been involved in putting together fellowship events most of my adult life: mostly in churches in many areas of our great country. I have found that each area or group has their own idea of how fellowship should take place. I am fond of a church in Northern Minnesota where I was among many of my relatives enjoying "egg coffee." Today I find great joy in arranging events for my church family at North Bay Lutheran.

Mark your calendars for a few up-coming events: December 15th is the cantata and we are asking everyone to bring their favorite Christmas dessert/bread to share. And Christmas brunch will follow the Christmas day service, Wednesday December 25th.

Wishing you peace and joy



On Christmas day **Dennis and Bonnie O'Hanlon** along with **Rob Aaron**, will provide special Christmas music as part of our Service of Carols and Holy Communion. We are blessed

Discipleship by Kristian Schonberg

Discipleship (teaching and training) is one of the 5 purposes of our church. It means that once we are saved by the blood of Jesus and His death to cover our sins, we are able to be sanctified through the Holy Spirit, which involves a continual renewing of our mind studying Holy Scripture. To accomplish this in the church, we have Bible studies as well as the scripture readings and related sermons during Sunday worship service. I like to read some chapters in the Bible and meditate with prayer every morning. By attending the Tuesday study, my mind is reset with Proverbs and Ephesians as well as Bible reports on other books we have chosen. The Saturday men's study provides great insight into the formation of the early church and the spread of the Gospel by Paul. All of this combined leaves me well prepared for each day in work and opportunities to tell people my beliefs and reasons for my faith in God.

Worship by Pastor Brian

During the Season of Advent and Christmas we have several special worship services planned, and we hope you will make it a priority to attend as many as you can, if not all. We try to remind everyone, that attending worship is not only a blessing for them, but also for others who you may come in contact with. You may be that blessing in someone's life that day, and not even know it. When we worship together, we gain strength from each other and that builds up the body of Christ, which is His church on earth.

Here is a list of our upcoming December services. You will see announcements and flyers in this newsletter advertising our Special Services.

December 1st - 1st Sunday in Advent

December 8th - 2nd Sunday in Advent

December 15th - 3rd Sunday in Advent / Choir Christmas Cantata

December 22nd - 4th Sunday in Advent / Special Music

December 24th - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6:00PM

December 25th - Christmas Day / Service of Carols and Holy Communion

December 29th - 1st Sunday of Christmas

Again, we hope you make it a priority to attend these services as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

The women's monthly study meets on the 3rd Friday of each month studying the book of Philippians. The Men's Study covering Acts Chapter 18 and to the end with Pastor Gary will continue every Saturday from 8-9:30 AM. The location has will vary and be in the bulletin each week. Sue's Neighborhood Study will also continue at Grapeview in Kris Powell's residence on Okonek Road in Grapeview. It will be every Tuesday from 12:30 until 2:30. We are studying the book of Ephesians and hearing book reports that we made on a book of the Bible during the summer. Kidz Church will resume when we are meeting back in the church building after the remodel project is complete.

Come to as many studies as you can and your reward will be great! We take time to pray for each other. God will bless your life and you will also have great fellowship.

Evangelism by Dave Severeid

Merry Christmas to you all. Let us give thanks for Christ Jesus's birth celebrating with joy and song in our hearts.

Our temporary home at the HUB seems to be working well and several special events are scheduled. These include our Christmas Eve candlelight service at 6:00 pm followed by our Christmas Day Carols and Holy Communion service at 10:00 am. We also have a Christmas Tea scheduled for 1:00 pm on December 14. Help get the word out to your friends and the community. Local news outlets have been alerted. Also, remember to extend His joy to all who visit for these events and each Sunday.

Construction has started and we ask God for his help as we move forward on our remodel and expansion (RGHT) project.

We ask for safety for the workers and please stay off the construction site.

A couple Evangelism verses that caught my eye for this month:

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20, NIV).

"Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:15-16, NIV).



Outreach Ministry

by Carole Boyko

"The focus of North Bay Lutheran's Outreach program is to give 10% of our offering to faith-based, children oriented and local charities.

The following charities have been chosen to receive our donations this year:

LCMC	14%
Institute of Lutheran Theo.	11%
In Faith (Mission Work)	10%
The Salvation Army	10%
North Mason Food Bank	5%
Community Food Pantry	5%
N. Mason Coalition Church	15%
NW Children's Outreach	15%
Pastor's Discretionary	10%
Disaster Relief	3%
Outreach Misc	2%

In this time of giving, please remember them in your prayers and with your donations."



Inside the sanctuary after just a couple days of work. What a blessing. *Photos by G. Bralley*

The COMPASS - Events & Happenings



Frank Boyko	12/06
Patricia Worth-Dunlap	12/08
Mimi Gustavson	12/10
Richard Nehr	12/11
Daniel Griffey	12/15
Lewis Parkinson	12/16
Linda Schure	12/22
Rosemary Wheaton	12/22



Jacob & Andrea Smith	12/06
Bob & Becky Wheeler	12/08
Mark & Sheryl Karle	12/15
Joanne & Ron Wilkinson	12/17
Marv & Andrea Frye	12/18
Michael & Janet Wright	12/27
Howard & Jan Thoemke	12/28
Guy & Barb Bralley	12/28



Please join us for our annual Christmas Brunch following our worship service on **Wednesday, December 25th at 10:00AM**. This is a special time of fellowship as we gather to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*The scent of candied oranges, of cinnamon and pine...
Take a break and relax with the
North Bay Lutheran Women for*



**When: Saturday, December 14th
At 1:00 P.M.**

Where: The HUB

111 NE Old Belfair Hwy, Belfair

RSVP: By Dec 6th

505-710-2167

*Freewill
Offering*

Please Bring a donated item for those in need.

Share the Joys of Christmas through Music, Munchies and Memories



**Christmas
Treats
and
Goodies**



Sunday, December 15th

Following the Christmas Cantata we will have a special coffee fellowship, where we are asking everyone to bring their favorite Christmas treats or goodies to share.


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Advent 1 8:45 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship @ The HUB	2	3 12:45 PM Tuesday Bible Study	4 9:00 AM Staff Meeting	5 Pastor Brian on Vacation	6 Pastor Brian on Vacation	7 Pastor Brian on Vacation 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
8 Pastor Brian on Vacation 8:45 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship @ The HUB	9 Pastor Brian on Vacation	10 Pastor Brian on Vacation 12:45 PM Tuesday Bible Study	11 9:00 AM Staff Meeting	12	13	14 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 1:00 PM Christmas Tea
15 8:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship @ The HUB Christmas Cantata	16	17 12:45 PM Tuesday Bible Study	18 9:00 AM Staff Meeting	19 10:00 AM Council Meeting	20	21 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
22 8:45 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship @ The HUB	23	24 6:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE-LIGHT SERVICE	25 Christmas Day 10:00 AM CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE OF CAROLS 11:00 AM Christmas Brunch	26	27	28
29 8:45 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship @ The HUB	30	31	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4

For details on any of these events please visit our website northbaylutheran.org and click on 'Calendar' in the 'Latest Information' pulldown .

COME TO BELIEVE



COME TO BELONG



From The Secretary's Table by Judy Clark

I often search cooking magazines for new recipes to try. This one sounded really good, so I tried it. Although it is a bit on the sweet side for me, I have had many compliments on it. Try it for yourself!

PUMPKIN DROP CAKE

1 (15 oz) can pumpkin
1 (10 oz) can evaporated milk
1 C brown sugar
3 large eggs, beaten
3 tsp pumpkin pie spice
1 box yellow cake mix
1 C butter, melted
1 C coarsely chopped pecans or graham
cracker crumbs or toffee bits

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Spray 9" x 13" baking pan with non-stick cooking spray.

In a bowl combine pumpkin, milk, sugar, eggs & spice. Pour the pumpkin mixture into the prepared pan. Sprinkle slowly with dry cake mix, nuts, crumbs and/or toffee.

Drizzle with melted butter. Bake 45 minutes.

(I found Heath bar crumbs and used this for the toffee. It made a crispy crust on top.)