

April, 2024

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PASTORAL WORD FOR KRLC, *from Kris Garey, member of Sabbatical Committee.*

Dear Congregation-- Our KRLC sabbatical committee is surprised at how quickly the month of Pastor Susan's sabbatical has gone. While so glad she has had time of refreshment and relaxation, we are even more glad that she will soon be home with us. The solid constancy which God provides in her ministry is so obvious, but we are now especially noticing the fullness of her ministry, for when any question arises, we each start to say, "Well, just ask Pastor Susan. She'll know!" Questions can be large (what is on our horizon for Sundays come spring) or small (where the heck is the wireless mic)--the answer that pops to mind is the same: "ask Pastor Susan." Then we realize anew a sabbatical time value: allow our Pastor to set aside that multitude of roles and details, relax, and see new revelations of God's activity. And, give us all a fuller understanding of the many ways God calls us each, and together, within the ministries at Knife River.

Your sabbatical committee thanks all of you! You might think you haven't been involved, but you have! Communications (bulletins, newsletters, e-mails etc.), Lectio gatherings, leadership meetings, plannings for Palm Sunday Pancakes after worship, prayers for Pastor Susan and Phil, for the world, and one another—all continue. Sunday worship has been meaningful--our Synod Bishop, Amy Odgren, has lead worship; congregation members Tim Anderson, Nancy Hong, and myself have also helped in presiding and preaching; Sunday worship has been uplifted by wonderful musicianship. Kay Bloom and Randi Alreck (and others of KRL) have visited "at-home members." And our Sunday, after worship coffee-time continues to draw us all into deeper fellowship. Whew---it has been good to be adapting, each Sunday, each week, each (there is almost always something happening here). But--the comfort, constancy and heartfelt congregational care, along with Pastoral and Worship Leadership of Pastor Susan will be welcomed home with appreciation—and great joy! In February and March, we, with Christians across all the earth, have been in the Season of Lent. Now we all move toward Holy Week. Our Worship, readings, hymns, and prayers will recall Jesus' journey to the Cross. This can be a time of deep thought, even sorrow as we recognize that Jesus was in a time of dense treachery and cruelty: disciples desert, soldiers arrest, trials deride, crowds who cheered will jeer, nails pierce flesh and wood, abandonment and death descend. Jesus, Son of God, was *fully human*; his sorrow and pain were fully real. Yet, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Week, and the recognition of Jesus' determination for us, will also lead us toward Easter Sunday, the Resurrection of Our Lord Sunday on March 31st. Then we can pull out all the stops on organ, in music, in voices singing, and in hearts resounding with shouts of Allelulia--for Jesus has put death to death, and raises us, even as we live, into lives that more fully know, and show, the Greatest Love: God, in Jesus, Loving us so fully that we let ourselves more fully love God, God's creation, self, and **all** other human folks included. The Holy Spirit of God, will be, as always, tapping shoulders and hearts, so that we look out and see, God's Love is wildly and lavishly poured out. Thanks be to God!

--Pastor Kris Garey, Sabbatical Committee (along with Melanie McMillion, Pat Meyer, and Bill Meyer). We give a special thanks to Melanie, our very fine connecting point!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

The season of Easter extends through this month, with themes of resurrection, hope, and new life.

Sunday, April 7-A Sunday in Easter. We will celebrate Holy Communion at the altar, and there will be a Holy Baptism.

Sunday, April 14-A Sunday in Easter. We will celebrate Holy Communion by intinction, and there will be two Holy Baptisms.

Sunday, April 21-A Sunday in Easter. Sticks and Strings will lead our worship service, which includes Holy Communion by intinction.

Sunday, April 28-A Sunday in Easter. Our service will include a time for Healing Prayer, as well as Holy Communion by intinction.

April VOLUNTEERS

	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
<u>Ushers</u>	E. Lee J. Lee	S. Shelerud K/C/S Pollard	C. Skadberg A. Skadberg	C. Skadberg A. Skadberg
<u>Lector</u>	E. Lee	Sadie Pollard	A. Skadberg	L. Bujold
<u>Communion Asst</u>	V. Gorman	N. Dent	E. Lee	M. McMillion
<u>Altar Preparation</u>	R. Alreck	R. Alreck	R. Alreck	R. Alreck
<u>Offering Counters</u>	L. Olson M. von Goertz	K. Struve J. Lee	M. McMillion L. Anderson	K. Pollard M. Dent
<u>Coffee Fellowship</u>	Available	Available	Available	Available
<u>Live Streaming</u>	Tech Team	Tech Team	Tech Team	Tech Team
<u>Childrens Church/ Kids Connect</u>	A. Jaspersen D. Mattson	C. Smith O. Smith	L. Burkhard A. Hubbart	R. Alreck Gretta Ojard

GIFTS RECEIVED:

A gift to the general fund in honor of Audrey Carlson on her 100th birthday, from James Sandwick, Audrey's nephew.

A gift to the general fund in honor of Audrey Carlson on her 100th birthday, from Ann Jackson.

A gift to the general fun in celebration of Audrey Carlson's 100th birthday, from Tami Magnuson.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1	Susan Southard	14	Christin Carlson
2	Vicki Gorman	15	Ed Lee
6	JoLynn Bailey McKinley Carl	16	Lee Jensen Bujold
8	Jula Schutte	17	Maria & Katianna Haselbauer
12	Marge Johnson Connor Beardsley	19	Deb Allert
13	Bart Anderson	21	Alex Anderson
		24	Dick Sigel
		28	Andrew Berge

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 Richard & Kathleen Mattson
- 18 Dick & Sue Sigel
- 25 Michael & Nancy Dent

Council Buzz, by Helene Hedlund, Council President

The council has reaffirmed 3 major outcomes for their work during 2024

- Identify KRLC as “The Heart of The Community”
- Improve/expand communication
- Assess decisions to be certain they are accomplishing what was intended

What’s Happening

- Draft and implement archiving process - ongoing
- Review and update of Constitution and Bylaws. Making progress but ongoing
- Review Committee Structure processes – Special meeting schedule for April 7 to proceed with this topic
- The next stand up meeting is scheduled for April 7 for routine business and a special topic specific face to face meeting to immediately follow.
- The Building Use Agreement and the Harassment policy will undergo an annual review to identify issues (if any) and make modifications if needed.
- A task force has been established to research and review solar options that may benefit KRLC
- A shout out to all who volunteered their time and talents during Pastor Susan’s sabbatical. What a blessing they are to our community and especially our congregation

Thank you for your support of the 2024 Council

Outreach News by Ed Lee

Holy Cow Award

Each year, the Northeastern Minnesota ELCA Synod recognizes the congregation that has the highest per person giving to Lutheran Charities that feed the hungry. KRLC has been recognized as one of the top congregations in this endeavor and, as you know, we have taken home the trophy a number of years, but we aren’t counting are we. This is an excellent challenge to engage us in this very important mission, that of feeding the hungry throughout the world. I personally like the idea of making giving more fun!

In **2 Corinthians 9:7** (ESV): the verse reads:

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

As you consider your own personal outreach giving for 2024, please include either ELCA World Hunger or God’s Barnyard in your giving plans. They both qualify for the Holy Cow Award and more importantly, they do a tremendous job of feeding people in need throughout the world.

Vacation Bible School (VBS).

Parents! Grandparents! Children! **VBS** is scheduled for the week of **June 10th** this year. Activities, curriculum, days and times are under development by Jillian McCorison and will be announced once formalize

CHURCH MOUSE by Jan Swanson

Well, here's the 'Scoop' on the Men's Group... A little over four years ago Ed Lee suggested an idea from his old church about a men's group. A few guys liked it and started to meet weekly and slowly but surely it grew... then COVID hit and it was put on pause... then again, they gave it a try and are now running anywhere from 10 to 15 men weekly, with a record high of 18. At first, they had topics to discuss like "What was your first car". I might note when that was said they all started talking at once about their first car... I had all I could do to get them back on track. Definitely an icebreaker where men are concerned. They no longer need topics to start the conversation, although they try to avoid politics. They mentioned the word manure as one of the topics they talk a lot about... I'm thinking that's code for BS. I was told by one anonymous person he always brings, what I'll refer to as a 'Dad Joke' to share as they leave. It usually brings a lot of eye rolling & grins. When asked why they attended Men's Group, I heard words like comradery, conversation, therapy, support, and of course, Coffee, Cookies & Laughter are always on the agenda!

They are also a support to KRLC in many ways like, changing LED lights downstairs, painting the front porch entry, trimming trees and bushes. They also volunteered to host BBQ Picnics in the summer, the Palm Sunday pancake breakfast and our Scandinavian Dinner just to name a few.

Men's Group meets Thursday mornings at 8:30. It is open to the community, so please feel free to bring a friend.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

Thank you to all my friends and family that helped me celebrate my 100th birthday. The speeches and messages written in the guest book with all the good wishes and love is very heartwarming. Seeing everyone from church reminds me of all the fun and cherished memories I have of you and Knife River. Love Audrey

Thank you to the quiltmakers... It was so lovingly put together. I'll cherish it... it is now hanging on a wall for me to enjoy every day. Thank you again, Audrey

(see pictures posted downstairs)

Thank You's from *Salvation Army & Bethany Crisis Center LSS*...(See letters posted downstairs)

THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

That's what we become when we share our time and talents with and for other people, places and events throughout the area.

Our monthly indoor/outdoor community picnic will be held Wednesday, APRIL 17TH AT 5PM. This month WELCA will be hosting a Lasagna Feed. This is FREE to all and you are encouraged to invite a friend.

WANTED pictures of the KRLC congregation being a part of the community. I am especially looking for pictures of the Julebyen participants in costume to share on the Picture Wall I've started downstairs. You can either message me, my cell is in the directory or talk to me at church. Thank You. Jan Swanson

KRLC Treasurer's Report 2/29/2024

General Operations Summary	2024	2023
Income from donations	\$ 18,548.18	\$ 16,276.22
Expenses	\$ 24,995.87	\$ 21,274.72
Donations vs expenses	\$ (6,447.69)	\$ (4,998.50)

Under budget

Very close



Budget
\$ 24,372.50
\$ 24,372.50

Designated Account Summary	2024	2023
Designated Donations or revenue	\$ 2,818.92	\$ 2,971.00
Expenses from designated areas	\$ 2,611.64	\$ 2,642.63
Donations vs expenses	\$ 207.28	\$ 328.37

The Bottom Line	2024	2023
Total Income	\$ 21,367.10	\$ 19,247.22
Total expenses	\$ 27,607.51	\$ 23,917.35
Fund Balance change	\$ (6,240.41)	\$ (4,670.13)



Fund Balances	Balance
General Operations fund	\$ 3,552.31
Outreach	\$ (115.98)
Building and property fund	\$ 70,919.53
Memorial	\$ 14,126.74
Passthru	\$ (106.74)
Reserve	\$ 5,000.00
Primary account total	\$ 93,375.86



Other Fund Balances	Amount
Columbarium fund	\$ 20,074.20
Reserve required by State Law	\$ 4,500.00
Available after required reserve	\$ 15,574.20
Columbarium debt is fully paid	\$ -

Endowment fund	\$ 67,440.69
Principal amount	\$ 50,000.00

Total of all cash assets	\$ 180,890.75
Total of all debt/NO DEBT!	\$ -



Color Key

Income	Green
Expense/Debt	Red
Total	Blue
Change	Yellow
Balance	Lt Blue

February Highlights

January and February are usually the lowest donation months of the year and that is holding true in 2024. Expenses don't go down just because donations do, so we are \$6,240 behind after two months. This happens every year so we are not worried, but it would be nice if donations covered the expenses each month. This is the reason we changed the beginning account balance to \$10,000 for 2024. It takes \$12,186 per month to pay the bills. Please remember to designate your Outreach donations! Thank you for your continued financial support of KRLC!

APRIL 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 No Bell Practice	2 9 am Lectio Divina/ Dig Deeper 6:30 pm Choir Prac.	3 1 pm Quilters Meet	4 8:30 am Men Meet 8:30 am Dulcimers 5 pm Pop-up dinner at Earthwood Inn.	5	6
7 9 am Worship Childrens Church/Kids Connect 10 am Stand Up Council & By-law Review 10 am Coffee	8 2 pm Bells	9 9 am Lectio Divina/ Dig Deeper 6 pm WELCA 6:30 pm Choir Prac.	10 1 pm Quilters Meet	11 8:30 am Men Meet 8:30 am Dulcimers 5 pm Pop-up dinner at Earthwood Inn.	12	13
14 9 am Worship Childrens Church/Kids Connect 10 am Coffee 10 am Sticks & Strings Practices	15 2 pm Bells	16 9 am Lectio Divina/ Dig Deeper 10 am Planning Team 6:30 pm Choir Prac.	17 1 pm Quilters Meet 5 pm Lasagna Feed by WELCA 5:30 pm Sticks & Strings 6:30 pm Confirmation	18 8:30 am Men Meet 8:30 am Dulcimers 5 pm Pop-up dinner at Earthwood Inn.	19	20
21 9 am Worship Childrens Church/Kids Connect 10 am Coffee 2 pm Newsletter Deadline	22 2 pm Bells	23 9 am Lectio Divina/ Dig Deeper 10 am Worship Comm 6:30 pm Choir Prac.	24 1 pm Quilters Meet	25 8:30 am Men Meet 8:30 am Dulcimers 5 pm Pop-up dinner at Earthwood Inn.	26	27 SYNOD ASSEMBLY
28 9 am Worship Childrens Church/Kids Connect 10 am Coffee	29 2 pm Bells	30 9 am Lectio Divina/ Dig Deeper 6:30 pm Choir Prac.				