

Ripples

Stillwater Free Lutheran Church

“Sharing Jesus Christ with Our Neighbors”

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“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?” – Romans 8:31

Stillwater Youth Groupies

The Youth are committed to serve the community through our strength in Jesus Christ.

Greetings to all from the great month of March, without this month, I wouldn't be alive! I think there's maybe a little more to it than that, but I'm not sure how all the other stuff works. Now I'm not trying to throw that it's my birth month in here for free presents, if you would like to give something, please donate it to the youth group; they all wear size 11 men's shoes and are huge Steelers fans 😊. To go off that light topic though, I feel that a lot of us have had that phrase on our mind as of late, "what can I give?" or "what can I do?" The first step in this journey is a true attitude of selflessness, which if you're really asking these questions, and thinking of ways to help our brothers and sisters in the world, you probably already have this attitude, or an idea of it. In Paul's letter to the Philippians, he emphasizes this attitude and lifestyle throughout, first talking about, "to live is Christ, and to die is gain", and then going on to chapter two verses three and four, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." So, we've established that if we're going to help others, we have to honestly examine ourselves and be truly willing to put their interests over our own, but now what? We're selfless and we're ready to serve others, but what does it look like, where do we start, how do we do it? The Holy Spirit is omniscient and omnipresent, and has different plans for every different person, kind of like all our strengths and weakness are different, so I can't give you all specific answers, but I for sure know we can all start at one place, on our knees. Let us pray, pray for how we can serve, pray for others, pray for those who you want to serve, maybe that's the Lord's desire for you right now, as we read in 1 Thessalonians, pray without ceasing. In 1 John 5:14, we read, "And this

is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.” We don’t know God’s perfect plan, but we know that He’ll hear us, so let’s just ask God what we are to do, and continue to trust in Him!

Speaking of God’s faithfulness, our youth group has had a very busy February, but a very fruitful one, spiritually, relationally, and fiscally! Yes, I had to google those last three words, they were huge, and big words make me feel photosynthesis. Through the month of February our weekly gatherings had an average of 11, and we were able to have three regular youth groups! We missed one week because the youth leader was playing hooky, but that’ll just teach him to stop playing dodge sneeze with people. Stillwater hosted their first open gym on Friday, February 11th from 6-8 pm, and it went wonderfully! Fourteen people were in attendance, a few adults, but mostly youth, and we played everything from basketball to volleyball to dodgeball to “who brought an inhaler, I didn’t realize I was this old”. Praise God for the ability to host something like that and be able to invite the community; this new building is a huge blessing! The next day, February 12th to be exact, the youth volunteered at the church for seven hours preparing for our annual Valentines dinner fundraiser! A total of eight youth were able to make and serve the dinner as well as play Jeopardy, and host a silent and live auction for all those who were able to attend. Around thirty people came out to support us at the dinner itself, and sixteen different families generously donated items for our live and silent auction, which counted for over half of our donations. So a huge, ginormous thank you to everyone who came out to support the youth group and to everyone who donated their time, money, and items for the auction and fundraiser itself! In total, the youth raised \$1,455, which is only a couple hundred shy of last year’s dinner where we had exactly twice as many in attendance,

God is so good! In terms of upcoming events, the youth have their annual lock-in on Friday, March 4th, so please keep everyone in your prayers, especially for those who have to convince seventh grade boys that axe body spray is not an acceptable substitute for a shower. The church is also hosting their next open gym the next Friday on March 11th, and all are welcome, even if you don't play sports, the Minnesota Vikings would still hire you! If you have any questions about any of the upcoming youth events or any church events in general, please reach out and I'd love to help you out!

As the new month kicks off and we continue to march (heehee see what I did there) through winter, we remember that as a new season comes upon us physically, a new season can come upon us spiritually as well! Let's keep praying and keep growing together as we live our daily lives for Him! Have a great March everybody, thank you for your continued spiritual and financial support, take care!

God Bless,
Bryce Timmerman

Feeding the Flathead

Monday, February 28th, Danny and Sharon Wilhelm along with Vicky Wilhelm joined me in serving spaghetti and meatballs, macaroni and cheese, breadsticks, carrot sticks and cookies, on a wet and rainy day. God brought us 51 guests in need of a meal.

Thank you so much to the Wilhelms for being willing to come out in that weather to serve the Lord! It was a wonderful adventure, as many came up dripping wet, and yet they were so very thankful for anything we could give them.

A huge thank you also to Darryl and Rose, Ken and Lavonne, and the Stillwater Youth Group for all of the food that was so generously donated. It was greatly appreciated!

Our next service date is Monday, March 28th. Please always feel free to reach out to Lori or Sherri to find out what is needed. God is always working, so please continue to keep this ministry in your prayers.

God Bless,
Bryce and Rachel

*Cookbooks are still available!
See Rachel T to get yours
\$10.00 each and all proceeds go to the
Activity Center*

March Featured Recipe:

*C*OCOA DROP COOKIES

*½ Cup Shortening
1 Cup Sugar
1 Egg
¾ Cup Sour Milk*

*1 tsp Vanilla
1 ¾ Cups Flour
½ tsp Soda
½ Cup Cocoa*

Cream shortening & sugar. Add egg, sour milk & vanilla. Add dry ingredients. Drop onto cookie sheet. Bake at 400° for 8-10 minutes.

Hattie Stahlberg



Women's Missionary Federation

We met on February 17th in the Activity Center. There were ten ladies present. Lori opened with devotions from Ephesians 5:1-3. Sherri led us in our Bible study titled "Behold God Our Dwelling Place." Lesson 2. Our money this month goes to Home Missions. We have \$146.19 in the bank.

After our Bible Study we went over upcoming events and other business. We will be having a pancake breakfast on March 6th. Donations will go to the National WMF. We will have pancakes, sausage, eggs, and apple juice. It will be right after our Sunday service over in the Activity Center.

We discussed having a rummage sale either the 13th and 14th or the 20th and 21st of May. We will decide the official day at our next meeting on March 17th.

We will be having a ladies tea on Saturday, May 7th from 12:00 - 2:00.

Our next meeting will be March 17th, with Elaine as our host and Gayle as co-host. Rachel will lead our Bible study, and Neila will bring a devotion. We will be doing lesson 3 titled, "Behold God's Ways." Thank you, Gayle, for serving a delicious lunch! Our meeting adjourned at 1:00.

Submitted by,

Elaine Lessor: Secretary

Christian Ed Report



Your Christian Education Committee members continue to share God's word and His promises each Sunday morning for children in Kindergarten - 5th grade starting at 10:45 am.

As March begins, our Wednesday evening Kids Club! is winding down. We end our 2021-2022 sessions on March 16th, but we have three FABULOUS weeks of learning and fun left, so come on out! Dinner is served from 5:30-6:00 pm with opening, Bible Time and games conclude our evening together at 7:30 pm.

Watch this space next month for upcoming event details for -

- Easter Sunday, April 17
- Vacation Bible School 2022

Friday Fellowship Gathering

Nine congregation members met for a time of fellowship Friday February 25 in the Activity Center SW classroom at 9AM. Coffee, tea, and treats were available. There was no agenda, just casual conversation, and fellowship. We hope to continue this activity each Friday at 9 AM. Please contact Gayle Lantto (406) 607-0809 or Ed Van Scoten (503) 351-8523 with questions or inputs.

There were 10 in attendance Friday March 4. Although there is no set agenda the conversation for the first two sessions seemingly has become focused on Stillwater history and families that were here from the beginning, like Judy Karboski, Karen Berosik, Mike Horn, and Rick Prestbye. We hope you will come join us and invite your friends and family members also. Join in the conversation and fellowship!

After-School Program

The month of March has been a huge blessing for us in being able to see the fruits of teaching the children and training them in God's Word daily. They have done an absolutely amazing job learning John 3:16! Our youngest student is five years old, and he can rattle it off no problem, so it gives us even less of an excuse to not hide God's Word in our hearts. Everyday there are multiple children asking to pray before snack time and nearly all of the children have stayed at one point or another for either kid's club or youth group. God is so good and very obviously working through this program.

Thank you to all who have donated either time or resources to keep this program running. This last month we had a wonderful array of snacks for the children including apples, oranges, cheese sticks, Chex mix, veggie straws, pirate booty brownies, coconut tubes, Go-Gurts, lasagna, salad, BBQ pork sandwiches, granola bars, and cookies. The children loved it all!

March has already brought some rainy days, but we are so thankful for the Activity Center which makes being "cooped" up inside that much easier. We have a new memory verse and are excited to see how long it takes the children to get this one down.

As always, thank you so much to all of our willing and ready volunteers! Lavonne, Judy K, Linda H, Lori S, Karen B, & Linda M..

There is nothing more precious than souls trying to find Jesus, so please continue to keep the students, staff & this ministry in your prayers.

Sherri Scavo & Rachel Timmerman

Building Committee Report

Much of the information in this report was presented to the church council on February 17. Contractor's work is now completed in the kitchen apart from installing the top cover on the roll-up door. This cover is on order. I spoke with Jesse M. Green, RS, M. ED, Registered Sanitarian at Flathead County Health Department on March 7, and he said we do not need an inspection of the kitchen. It would be a rare occasion that we might have restrictions of some sort and if we have questions contact them. The dishwasher was operationally checked by Mike, Advanced Restaurant technician and in fact has been used by Bryce after the Valentine's Day dinner and the WMF Pancake Breakfast on March 6. Gayle Lantto has been leading the effort to furnish the kitchen. Most of the dishes, silverware, and other items have been moved from the basement kitchen to the activity center kitchen. Please contact Gayle as to kitchen needs.

Ken West has completed installation of wall carpet in the gymnasium. Thanks Ken – excellent job! Ken has also completed half of the floor at the North entryway. The SE classroom has been setup for Wednesday evening Kids Club, the After School Program and Friday Fellowship Time. Please use only dry erase markers on the whiteboard. Thanks to Rick and Judy Karboski for installing this board. The plan is to setup the SW classroom in the same manner. The tables and chairs should remain in these rooms. If they need to be used elsewhere, please ensure they are returned to the classrooms. Eventually we hope to furnish all rooms in the activity center so it will not be necessary to move tables and chairs back and forth from the church. There should be sufficient chairs and tables in the storage room to

accommodate large activities such as wedding receptions, congregation dinners and the like.

Matt hopes to resume work on the North Drive-Thru in the Spring as he can fit it into his present workload. Depending on available funds we also hope to install a fire alarm system. We are also reviewing a plan to improve acoustics in the activity center gymnasium. The wall carpet has helped but we will need to do more like add more soundboards and/or acoustical tile, especially on the ceiling.

God continues to bless this project in so many ways and we give thanks for those that provide support with their prayers and gifts which keep us moving forward. As of this writing the Building Fund balance is \$ 80,471.07. Approximately \$ 40K of this is allocated to Matt's remaining work to complete the North Drive-Thru Portico. This does not include Kalispell Electric estimate of \$ 5K for their part of this project phase. I am expecting Trent Neumann's estimate soon for completing the groundwork for burying the roof gutter drain lines, installing the drywell, and finishing the ditch along the North property line. I am also expecting Matt's estimate before the end of the month for constructing the roof over the patio.

Please contact me with questions regarding the building project!

A fellow servant in Christ,

Ed Van Scoten

Prayers for March

Please take this home and use it all week long.

"Whatever you ask in prayer with faith, you will receive." Matt 21:22

Church Work & Ministry

Sharing Jesus Christ with our Neighbors
Building Project
Church Leaders, Staff & Worship Team
Stillwater Youth Group
Stillwater & National WMF
Feeding the Flathead
After School Program
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship



General Prayers

Marriages and Families
Our Country and Leaders
Workers in the Harvest Field
Military and First Responders

- Andrew West
- Isaac Saenz
- David Bruyer (Askvig)
- Thomas Tow
- Aaron Burns

Health Concerns

Sylvan Herset
Joyce Banzet
Jeremy Hartle
Deb & Jonny (Timmerman)
Leo Gallis
Mike Horn
Stan Stroisch
Stephanie Reynolds: cancer (WGM Engineer)
Elaine: cancer (Meyer's neighbor)
Pastor Swanson
Shirley Poe
Michael Poston (Linda McGrew)
Margaret Triplett (Hersets)
Angie Krickeberg (John's Mom)
Bruce Hogan
Justin Gronley (Joel and Cody Bartholomew's son)