



## From Pastor Disney

In January we Minnesotans get down to the hard work of surviving the winter. This is where all of our coping skills are needed. Everybody has some kind of plan for what gets them through. If you do not have a plan yet, there are several things you might try. Many people get themselves through winter by giving themselves something to look forward to. A winter vacation, or something like it, can divide things up enough so that you won't go stir crazy. But of course some Minnesotans believe that it is bad luck to leave in winter. It's sort of like trying to walk out of the room while someone scolds you.

Another idea is to have a winter project. The idea is that you assign yourself a task that can only be accomplished by someone locked in solitary confinement. In this case either the task will occupy you for hours or the guilt of not doing it will chew away at you. Either way you will be occupied for the next three months.

**The best strategy for coping with winter...**

One hearty group will always try the denial method. These are the people who say things like, "it's not that bad out," or "it could be worse." Trying this will invariably lead to chipping ice off of your windshield in the Walmart parking lot while wearing just a sweater more suitable for a brisk day in May. I can not recommend this method.

One of the most effective techniques for making it through winter is complaining a lot. This is known to make you feel better and cut down on the number of friends or family members that hang around with you. Remember that if you try this technique you will be getting a lot of warm hats and mittens for Christmas next year.

By far, the best strategy for coping with winter is to come to church on a regular basis. There you will be surrounded with the warmth of others who

*(Continued on page 3)*

# St. John's Lutheran Church

302 NE 2nd Street  
PO Box 238  
Buffalo, MN 55313

Phone: 763-682-1883

Youth Line: 763-684-0460

Fax: 763-682-1936

Noah's Ark Pre-School: 763-682-1368

[info@stjohnsbuffalo.org](mailto:info@stjohnsbuffalo.org)

[www.stjohnsbuffalo.org](http://www.stjohnsbuffalo.org)

## Staff:

Rev. James Disney, Senior Pastor

[jdisney@stjohnsbuffalo.org](mailto:jdisney@stjohnsbuffalo.org)

Rev. Christian Bode, Assoc. Pastor

[cbode@stjohnsbuffalo.org](mailto:cbode@stjohnsbuffalo.org)

Rev. Roger Klemz, Visitation Pastor

[info@stjohnsbuffalo.org](mailto:info@stjohnsbuffalo.org)

Kelly Ohland, DCE, Youth Director

[kohland@stjohnsbuffalo.org](mailto:kohland@stjohnsbuffalo.org)

Zoe Eckblad, Office Administrator

[info@stjohnsbuffalo.org](mailto:info@stjohnsbuffalo.org)

Jim Chapa, Treasurer

Mary Peterson, Financial Secretary

Cheryl Olsen, Board Secretary

Dan & Jackie Korbel, Custodians

[korbel@stjohnsbuffalo.org](mailto:korbel@stjohnsbuffalo.org)

Mary Marty, Music Director

Nicky Haskins, Noah's Ark Preschool

[noahsark@stjohnsbuffalo.org](mailto:noahsark@stjohnsbuffalo.org)

## Worship Times:

Saturday 7:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 am

Sunday's Service Radio Broadcast on

KRWC 1360 AM

Sundays at 8:00 am

## Office Hours:

M-F 8:30-4:30

## Chairman of the Congregation

Bill Morris

## Board of Elders

[elders@stjohnsbuffalo.org](mailto:elders@stjohnsbuffalo.org)

Roger Strege, Head Elder

Gregg Beckman

Chris Froberg

Nyles Gentz

Ron Girard

Dan Green

Dave Haggerty

Dan Husom

Richard Marquette

Glen Ross

Lee Ryan

Randy Strege

## Board Chairs

Altar Guild: Dorothy Bowman

Education: Open

Evangelism: Roger Strege

Fellowship: Bill Cook

Kid's Club: Ken and Amy Hill

Library: Shala Holm

Memorial Endowment/Investment:

Janice Marschel

Project Compassion: Sandi Baert

Sanctuary Decorating: Shala Holm

Stewardship: Wayne & Karen Rebischke

Trustees: Justin Bonk

Women in Mission: Chris Husom

Worship: Pastor Disney

Youth & Family Ministry: Nate Randt

## Newsletter Deadline:

Deadline for the February newsletter is Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Join the Newsletter Mailing Group on Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

**Bulletin Deadline:** Tuesday at midnight

(Continued from page 1)

are just as desperate as you are to celebrate that another seven days have gone by. Getting up and getting in the cold car to come to church has been measured to be as satisfying as drinking schnapps in a lawn chair out on a frozen lake in your underwear. You will feel like you deserve a medal. As you leave you will want to roll down the window and scream, "Look at what I did!" Of course the most compelling reason to come to church is to plead with

God that if it might be His Will that He would bring winter to an end as soon as possible. God is far more sympathetic to those who pray this when shivering from the task of blowing out a foot of snow from the driveway before heading to church.

I hope to see you next Sunday; together we can get through this thing.

God's rich blessing,  
*Pastor Disney*

## Library News...

The library committee and the book club will not meet in January. Join us in February to discuss Chris Husom's book Murder In Winnebago County. Chris will join us for our book club discussion on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm. Copies of the book are available in the library.



Murder in Winnebago County focuses on two women. Alvie Eisner is a woman left bitter when her son died in prison. Corrine "Corky" Aleckson is a young sergeant with the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department. Their lives intersect when Eisner starts seeking revenge against those she holds responsible for her son's death. Sergeant Aleckson investigates the cases, enlisting the help of Detective Smoke Dawes. What she doesn't realize is that Eisner is keeping a close watch on her. Will justice prevail?

## From Pastor Bode

### All Things New

We humans are creatures of habit. We do the same things day in and day out. We get up. Get dressed. Eat breakfast. Go to work or school. Come home. Spend time with loved ones. Go to bed. Wake up and do it all over again. We even have our routines when it comes to church. We go to the same service time each week. We sit in the same pew. We like our routines. They give us a sense of security and comfort. And anyone or anything that disrupts our routine we find irritating.

God has built routine into all areas of His creation. The rising and setting of the sun we can predict with great precision. The change of seasons – times for planting and times for harvesting – these are things we've come to expect, because they've just always been there.

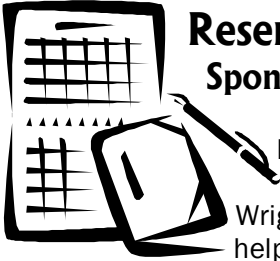
And there are things about God that we've come to expect. We expect that He'll always love us (Psalm 136:1). He'll always be faithful (Psalm 108:4). He'll never leave us or forsake us (Deuteronomy 31:6). He'll always take care of us (Matthew 6:33). These things are predictable.

But for everything that's predictable and routine in life, other things are constantly changing. New things are happening all the time. We just entered a new month and a new year. Every sunrise and sunset is new. It's not quite like any that has come before it. Every day new life is brought into the world.

And that's because we have a God who loves new things. We get many examples of this as we look at His Word.

- “Behold, I am making all things new!” (Revelation 21:5).
- God “has given us new birth” (1 Peter 1:3).
- The Bible says that God’s mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3:23).
- “If anyone is in Christ he is a new creation. The old has gone the new has come” (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- “We are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth” (2 Peter 3:13).
- God calls us to be “made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self...” (Ephesians 4:23-24).

As we begin this New Year, may we be thankful for the routines of our daily lives, but may we also welcome the new things that God is doing in us and in our world.



## Reserve Your 2010 dates now! Sponsors needed for Jan. 17, 24, & 31

Each Sunday at 8:00 am, KRWC 1360AM broadcasts our Worship Service throughout Wright County. We need broadcast sponsors to help cover the cost of this valuable service for our shut in members and also as an important outreach into the community. Sponsoring one of our broadcasts is also an opportunity to honor anniversaries and birthdays or make memorials. The Pastors will announce your name and dedication on air when they welcome the radio listeners. The cost to sponsor one broadcast and its promotional announcements is \$150.00. To reserve your date, call the church office at 763-682-1883. Checks can be left in the offering plate or church office with "KRWC" in the memo line.

## Warm Friends

Enjoy the warmth of good friends at PEP (People Enjoying People). PEP meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every month in room 110 across from Noah's Ark Preschool. We begin with a brief Bible study led by Pastor Klemz followed by a variety of activities which may include some joke telling, cards and games. In January we meet on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 11:30. Bring your own beverage; come whenever you can; stay as long as you want. There is no regular commitment. The more the merrier.



## Annual Voters' Meeting Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:10 am

Agenda Item: We must pass a Resolution to authorize St. John's to borrow money & mortgage real estate upon terms & conditions by Synod. This is necessary for refinancing to a Fixed Rate Ten-Year Mortgage.

# Ushers

## January

8:00 Jed Larson  
Earl Graham  
Greg Buttenhoff  
Brian Kenmir

10:30 Mike Bertsch  
Woody Klatt  
Bruce Rosine  
Trent Hulett

## February

8:00 Bill Cook  
Earl Dierks  
Brad Hoseck

10:30 Jon Boonstra  
John Kock  
Robin Kohn  
Greg Graham

# Your turn to serve coffee?

Coffee and treats won't happen on Sunday morning if folks like you don't volunteer. Serving instructions and sign up sheet are on the wall in the narthex by the kitchenette. Here are our upcoming coffee heroes:

1/3 Meyer's & Bremmer's  
1/10 Glen & Jackie Ross  
1/17 Dan & Jennifer Green  
1/24 The Handbell Choir  
1/31 The Youth

(Openings 2/14, 2/21)

# Nursery Volunteers

## Jan 3

9:00 Angela Bode  
10:15 Angela Bode

## Jan 10

9:00 Amy Hill  
10:15 Amy Hill

## Jan 17

9:00 Andrea Klatt  
10:15 Morynn Marx

## Jan 24

9:00 Morynn Marx  
10:15 Jennifer Green

## Jan 31

9:00 Tracy Madsen  
10:15 Tracy Madsen



## E-News

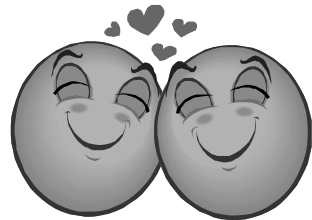
If you would like to receive this newsletter by email rather than snail mail, send an email to [info@stjohnsbuffalo.org](mailto:info@stjohnsbuffalo.org). You'll get the news faster plus save the church some money in postage and printing. We'll send the newsletter as a PDF document which downloads quicker and opens automatically in Adobe Reader. Most computers already have Adobe Reader, but if you do not, call Zoe in the office at 763-682-1883.

## Attention: Business Owners



We invite your participation in a St. John's Member Business Directory. Your ad will appear continuously on our website plus a printed version will be supplied to all St. John's members on a semi-annual basis. We will stress importance of searching out our member businesses first in an effort to help each other through these economic times and, more importantly, knowing you are working with a fellow Christian. Ads will cost \$1.00 per week/\$52.00 for a year. Ads placed now will run free for the remaining 2009. You will be billed annually beginning January 10, 2010. Proceeds of this project will go toward the St. John's website & office paper/printing expenses. All we need is your business card to set you up. Contact Janice Marschel @ 763-682-2833 for more information.

## Start Thinking Valentines



Say "I Love You" with a Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend. Get away from the everyday demands of the world so the two of you can really focus on each other. You'll spend two nights in a comfortable hotel and enjoy five delicious meals from Friday at 7:00 pm to Sunday at 5:00 pm. Four presenting couples, including a Lutheran clergy couple, give a series of presentations followed by questions the couples discuss in the privacy of their hotel room. There is no counseling and no group sharing. No one tries to change who you are. It's great for couples who already have a good marriage and want to enrich their relationship, but it also does wonders for those marriages that have lost their luster through years of child rearing and work obligations.

The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends in Minnesota are February 12-14 & March 19-21 in Brooklyn Center; April 16-18 in Duluth or April 30 - May 2 in Alexandria. Please register a month in advance. For more information, contact Dick & Judy Dehnel at 952-432-3105, Pete & Phyllis McMahon at 763-561-1575 or visit [www.godlovesmarriage.org](http://www.godlovesmarriage.org).

# Women In Mission

God has given us a new year. We have countless opportunities and ways to serve Him, using our talents and resources to spread the message of salvation. Many of us find ourselves involved in many things, perhaps even over-committed. But what is more important than teaching others about our triune God and the gift he offers to all believers?

Members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League work diligently in many areas to follow the Great Commission our Lord asks of us. For more on the organization, please check out [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org). The Women in Mission at St. John's follows their guidelines, supporting mission needs. We appreciate all the help and support you have given with our projects.

Thanks to everyone who helped make our annual Christmas party a special evening. The decorations, food and portrayal of Abraham by



*“In him was life,  
and that life was the light of men.  
The light shines in the darkness,  
but the darkness has not understood it.”  
John 1: 4, 5*

Wayne Rebeschke took us back in time to ancient Israel. We also had a nice discussion on Israel and items from the country on display.

We voted to approve the disbursements of the Country Fair funds. A list of the projects will be included in the annual report.

We are planning this year's calendar of events and meeting January 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss them. If you have ideas or requests, or would like to know what our organization is all about, please plan to attend the meeting. It would be a blessing to have more women join us. And the Bible studies are great!

Each Tuesday afternoon you have the opportunity to work on quilts and other projects in the Sewing Room, off the Fellowship Hall. We welcome you to come whenever you can.

Let us know of mission needs. Take a mite box and fill it for our mission projects. Please join us for our business meeting, monthly Bible study or for any of our projects as we Serve the Lord With Gladness!

## Upcoming Events

Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup>: Business Meeting at 5:00 to plan next year's calendar. Bible Study, "Heart Matters: A Look at Mary"--which talks about her relationship with Jesus--at 6:15.

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## Are You Expecting?

St. John's Cradle Roll Committee has materials for parents of newborns with suggestions and resources to help them with their child's spiritual growth from birth to age three. The materials include a Growth Calendar, several books, an audiocassette and newsletters that will be delivered on a regular basis throughout your child's first three years. We'd like to send the first newsletter, *The Miracle of Birth*, before the arrival of your child. So, if you are expecting, please call or e-mail your name, address and phone number to Theresa at 763-682-6305, [wmhenson@charter.net](mailto:wmhenson@charter.net) or to Sheree at 320-963-6625.



# Youth & Family Ministry



## Raise to Praise Fundraiser

Help support St. John's Youth Group by participating in the Raise to Praise fundraiser.

1. Visit the online Christian bookstore at [www.Shop.RaiseToPraise.com](http://www.Shop.RaiseToPraise.com) where you'll find a huge selection of Bibles, books, music, videos, jewelry, apparel, food items, decorations and toys. Our Youth will receive about 20-25% of everything you spend.



2. If you would like to make an additional cash donation to St. John's Youth, enter "fundraiser donation" or item number 704388 in the search box.



3. Once you're done shopping, go to your shopping cart and enter the coupon code, **StJohnsYouth** (without spaces). This will ensure that St. John's Youth Group gets credit for the sale.



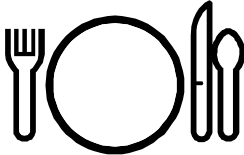
4. After you have entered the fundraiser code, select the **CHECKOUT NOW>>** button. Follow the directions to enter your shipping address, shipping method, and payment method.



5. Pat yourself on the back for the easy shopping and the support for St. John's Youth.

# Youth & Family Ministry

## Wednesday Night Family Supper



**Who:** Anyone and Everyone!

**When:** January 6th

**Time:** 5:15-6:15 pm

This free will donation meal is sponsored by St. John's Youth. It's offered to help families out on a busy Wednesday night giving people of all ages, activities and appetites an opportunity to gather together for a delicious meal.

Let us help make your Wednesday nights easier!

## Kids of the Kingdome Correction

Parents please note that the Kids of the Kingdome will be singing during the 10:30 service on January 24th instead of the 31st.

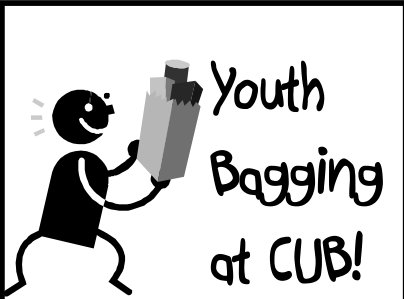
# GoodSearch

powered by **YAHOO!** SEARCH

**Generate money for St. John's Youth without spending a dime.**

Search the web with [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and every time you do, St. John's Youth will receive a penny. GoodSearch gives 50% of their earnings from advertising to charities. Just go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and enter "St. Johns Buffalo Church". Then add GoodSearch to your toolbar. Thanks!

# Youth & Family Ministry



Come and help St. Johns Youth raise funds for their trip to the National Youth Gathering. It's Super Bowl Sunday, so be sure to stop in for some pre-game snacks and get them bagged by St. Johns Youth. See you there!



**Sr. High  
Youth**

**Ski**

**Trip**

**to Powder Ridge**

**January 9th  
Meet at  
church  
@ 3:00 pm**



**Join us this afternoon  
for an adventure in the  
snowy outdoors. From  
Skiing, snowboarding  
and tubing, you don't  
want to miss the fun.**

**Costs:**

**Ticket - \$15.00**

**Ski Equipment Pkg. -  
\$15.00**

**Snowboard/ Boot Pkg. -  
\$20.00**

**Starter Ski/ Snowboard  
Lesson - \$5.00**

# Youth & Family Ministry

## Youth to Movie Premier

January 22nd

Details coming!

Come and join us as we view the movie, "To Save a Life." The movie's main character Jake Taylor has it all, friends, fame, a basketball scholarship and the hottest girl in school. What could be better? Enter Roger, Roger has no friends, no girls and no hope. Nothing but putdowns and getting pushed aside. These once best friends were pulled apart through the politics of high school and no, Roger doesn't fit into Jake's circle or anyone's, and he's had enough. Instead he walks the halls of school with a gun in his pocket and pain in His heart and makes a tragic move. The sudden tragedy rocks Jake's world and he becomes compelled to question everything. Most of all, he can't shake the questions, could I have saved Roger? In His quest for answers Jake reaches out to the geeks, losers and loners and finds it might cost him everything in his world. Is it worth the price to find the answer to his

ultimate question: What do I want my life to be about? To find out more, check out

[ToSaveALifeMovie.com](http://ToSaveALifeMovie.com)

**TO SAVE A LIFE**

SOME PEOPLE  
ARE JUST DYING TO BE HEARD



## Birthdays

Darla Hicks	1/1	Mina Loberg	1/10
Robert Luoma	1/1	Mark Luchsinger	1/10
Angela Steinmetz	1/1	Sophia Moy	1/10
Myrna Strenge	1/1	Holly Overcott	1/10
Janet Zeidler	1/1	Jasmine Tubbs	1/10
Mariah Beutow	1/2	Kelsie Bode	1/11
Molly Keifenheim	1/2	Travis Klatt	1/11
Isaiah Klatt	1/2	Kelly Ordorff	1/12
Kathy Raasch	1/2	Karen Spaude	1/12
Noelle Dahlheimer	1/3	Carson Thibodeau	1/12
Susan Hepp	1/3	Katie Tiemann	1/12
Sandy Jeske	1/3	Charles Beaudry	1/13
Nancy Lambrecht	1/3	Adam Boeddeker	1/13
Elizabeth Lusti	1/3	Laura Varner	1/14
Kelly Schimmele	1/3	Sandi Baert	1/15
McKenna Stachowski	1/3	Travis Bomstad	1/15
Gerry Pepple Jr.	1/4	Jeff Vergin	1/15
Kathryn Schauer	1/4	Evie Ashby	1/16
Brady Ellis	1/5	Alvin Elfmann	1/16
Charley Keifenheim	1/5	Chris Groenke	1/16
Gene Klatt	1/5	Brayden Mack	1/16
Alisa Korbel	1/5	Randy Mundle Jr.	1/16
Tom Hayes	1/6	Ruth Schwanke	1/16
Stephanie Peterson	1/6	Makenzi Stecker	1/16
Justine Piersiak	1/6	Tami Berg	1/17
Lynnette Smith	1/6	Deanna Jurgens	1/17
Earl Graham	1/8	Grayson Mills	1/17
Thomas Loberg	1/8	Brenda Moy	1/17
Kayl Nix	1/8	Landen Ordorff	1/17
Darrick VanHorne	1/8	Colton Smith	1/17
Jessica Workman	1/8	Anna Briesemeister	1/18
Rhonda Charlson	1/9	Graham Dahlheimer	1/18
Emma Forcier	1/9	Doug Holte	1/18
Rebecca Haggerty	1/9	Trent Hulett	1/18
Jim Kaufman	1/9	August Mussell	1/18
Rayna Kaufman	1/9	Rosemarie Workman	1/18
A.J. Murray	1/9	Kaye Berning	1/19
Linda Ordorff	1/9	Greg Graham	1/19
Justi Schwitalla	1/9	Elmer Kuseske	1/19
Erna Steenerson	1/9	Michael Larson	1/19

Janice Stevens	1/19	Trevor Zaffke	1/25
Ryan Tschudi	1/19	Amber Erickson	1/26
Sheila Bertsch	1/20	Julie Ficker	1/26
Reinhardt Goerke Sr.	1/20	Kara Froberg	1/26
Lindsey Hanson	1/20	Matthew Henson	1/26
Austin Hofstad	1/20	Peggy Hill	1/26
RaeAnn Brown	1/21	Allie Marx	1/26
Beth Evenson	1/21	Marlie Peter	1/26
Louie Clifton	1/22	Dan Berg	1/27
Lillian Kent	1/22	Jacob Klatt	1/27
Kelli Klatt	1/22	Heide Ludwig	1/27
Myron Uecker	1/22	RaVae Megaw	1/27
Bria Kula	1/23	Jon Boonstra	1/28
Floyd Smith	1/23	Daniel Elsen	1/28
Christopher Klatt	1/24	Doris Karie	1/28
Mackenzie Novacek	1/24	Eva Murray	1/29
Sierra Sabraski	1/24	Rachel Mussell	1/29
Britney Sahl	1/24	Heidi Seidenkranz	1/29
Teresa Ternes	1/24	JoAnn Wren-Balogh	1/29
Derek Annis	1/25	Stephen Anderson	1/30
Hunter Korbel	1/25	Kirsten Kaufman	1/30
Nolan Krull	1/25	Roger Klemz	1/30
Bryce Miller	1/25	Jodie Nowak	1/30
Willis Miller	1/25	Lisa Stender	1/30
Shayann Nowak	1/25	Leah Taylor	1/30
Barb Reese	1/25	Loni Breckenridge	1/31
Cody Ryan	1/25	Dennis Stiller	1/31
Halle Topp	1/25	Dean Stoppelman	1/31

## Anniversaries



Josh & Amber Erickson	1/2	Roland & Sandy Halsten	1/18
Curt & Lori Johanson	1/6	Shawn & Tracy Bates	1/20
Raymond & Ruthann Brecht	1/10	Barry & Kris Brockopp	1/20
James & Jennifer Disney	1/11	Walden & Viola Kohls	1/22
Ken & Amy Hill	1/12	Kitt McKenzie	
Geniece Klemz-Leines		& Russell Proefrock	1/23
& Terry Leines	1/12	Hilton & Lyla Schwalbe	1/29
Bill & RaeAnn Brown	1/17		

## Board Meeting Minutes—12/14/2009

Call to order: Bill Morris

Opening Prayer: Pastor Disney

Agenda: Agenda will be reviewed as we move through meeting.

Secretary's Report: Three items needed to be revised. The first two are under the Financial / Treasurer's report. First, a slight correction to the statement on housing allowance authorization. There was a reference that the option we were using was the same as in 2007. Technically, we did not have a formal approval like this in 2007. What we are doing now most closely resembles what we have done in the past. Second being that we were going to pay mileage at the existing IRS rate rather than fix it at \$.55 per mile. The third being under Fellowship. A correction to the name Joe Louisiana, it should say Jory Louisiana. A motion to accept secretary's report with revisions was made by Justin Bonk and seconded by Nate R. Motion carried.

Pastors Reports:

Pastor Disney talked about the busy weekend and how we are tested to accommodate all the things that are taking place. He expressed a deep appreciation for all the volunteers who are stepping up to help. He has begun conversations and also referred to his sermon, on the importance of giving and is pleased with the results. These results will all be assessed. It is very exciting to hear of all the events coming up and made a point to say DON'T miss the children's program.

Pastor Bode has been visiting with more people and being very well received. He is visiting with some of the people Pastor Klemz had been going to and has plans to do more. Alpha has completed with 27 people attending. Some of the testimonies given by the attendees spoke as to how well this program is working. Alpha will start again Feb 4<sup>th</sup> so keep this in mind and bring someone who you feel might enjoy this.

Pastor Klemz continues to amaze Pastor Disney with all he does, referring to him as a gem and a star to be cherished by this congregation.

Youth and Family Ministry: Kelly again wants to express a huge THANK YOU to the congregation for all their help in making Operation Christmas Child a success. 140 boxes were completed with 15 youth and adults going to the warehouse to do this. They are now pushing for the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans and fund raisers are planned. They will be going into the community to do things like a pancake breakfast at Appleby's, bagging groceries at Cub. There has been a lot of fun and projects planned for the Christmas program with good participation by everyone.

Financial Secretary / Treasurer's Report: Bill Morris reported on written report in Jim C. absence. There was discussion on some bonds coming due. Bill said Zoe had sent letters asking for a 20 hour work week or what amount it would take in hours to maintain benefits. There is a declaration of hours for eligibility in the medical plan and with much discussion about how many hours are really needed plus we would need to reevaluate the job, it was decided to return to Zoe with a 25 hours plan. This is also being looked into for all hires. Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> is the cut off date so the medical plan needs to be in place. It was recommended by Jim that a 30 hour week would be best. So with all this in mind the board discussed the future of this position and the possibility of volunteers or someone to share the position as a team worker. Housing for Kelly was again brought up and the tax situation and other liabilities are being considered. Kelly would have to be as it is stated "in the ministry" and she is giving this serious consideration. Janice Marshall made a motion to approve the housing allowance for Kelly subject to her decision whether or not she wants to use it. Motion seconded by Roger S. Motion carried. Bill gave overview of financial report and it was commented on that we are ahead of last year. General Fund Totals

Contributions -	\$43,726
Total Expense -	(37,644)
Net Increase -	6,082

A motion to accept Jims report was made by Nate R and seconded by Chris Husom. Motion carried.

Elders: Roger Strege reported all Elders have been given key fobs and will be making sure doors are open and closed for the services. A list of people will be given to the Trustees and the openings and closing will be coordinated with them. This will start Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>. There are three Elders leaving the board and they are still looking for replacements. They will be doing pastoral reviews and Roger has asked for two people to help with this. The Audit was discussed and Roger will be talking with the Elders that are going out to make sure it is done properly.

Evangelism: Business cards have been collected and Peter Churness will create the site. The last flyer for the year was placed in the Drummer for the Christmas programs. Plus the paper contained two other spots advertising St. John's. The committee is looking for more members. Please give it consideration even if it is only to just help out once in a while.

Trustees: The new projector and screen are in place in the Sanctuary. The new chairs should arrive the week of the Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>. The decorating for the holiday is complete. There was discussion on the fact that it needs to be clear that Jackie is an employee and Dan is a volunteer. Benefits for Jackie were discussed. Bill and Stan will be working in the sanctuary to prepare for the Christmas concert.

Worship: It was mentioned that there will be no changes in the Sat. night service time but it is still being discussed. There is a real need for contemporary musicians. Marilyn Kostek has joined the group. They are working on themes at least three months out.

Stewardship: In 2010 the committee will be working with the Worship committee to incorporate some of their programs with the themes chosen by the Worship group. They will also work with the Pastors on how to incorporate their messages with the Stewardship ideals. After the results of the recent campaigns they are looking into a Congregational survey and getting a third party person to find out what is needed in all categories of members from young to older and how to get

people to participate and increase ownership in their church. Nate recommended a book called *Missional Renaissance*. There was discussion on the Capital Campaign.

Fellowship: No representative tonight.

Education: Incorporated in the Youth and Family ministry report.

Lutheran Women in Mission: Chris said there had been no meeting this month so there was not a report. She said they had lots of fun at the Christmas program. They will plan events for the next year at the meeting in Jan.

Library: Hoping to have a great Cookie sale on Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting will be in Feb. when we will also discuss Chris Husom's first book for the Book Club choice.

Missions: Janice Marschel spoke on the projects they have covered or are working on.

Noah's Ark: It was mentioned that we need to really get a representative to participate as there are things coming up that we need to work together on.

Building Committee: Project is complete.

Building Finance: Loan is converted to the 10 year fixed rate, long term. A resolution will need to be passed by the congregation to accept this.

Capital Campaign: Continuing to plan.

Decorating: There was no report at this time but it was mentioned that there was good participation in decorating the church for the holidays.

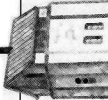
Old Business: Keys and schedules for the opening of the church have been taken care of. Teams and people for the sound & lights are in compete. New chairs will soon be delivered. The organ and pianos are taken care of. Ceiling mount for projector and screen are done.

Other Business: Monthly meetings set. Voter's Meeting Schedule for 2010 (9:15 a.m.) as January 17(Annual meeting), July 18, April 18 & October 17.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Bode Bill Morris adjourned meeting with a motion from Roger Strege.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Olsen, Board Secretary

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Help the Youth raise funds  
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See pages 10-12