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HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR BILL

Joshua was entering a new stage in his life. After serving as Moses' right-hand man for almost 40 years while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness because of their disobedience and unbelief, (Read Numbers 32 and Joshua 5:6), Joshua was called by God to be the man who would lead the people into the promised land. This was no small task. Not only was this a large number of people to lead, but they were entering a land that they would first need to conquer. In addition to that, the children of Israel had a history of unbelief and disobedience. I'm sure Joshua was overwhelmed by the job before his.

In the first chapter of the book of Joshua, God not only calls Joahua, but speaks words of encouragement to him. It's interesting to me, that God does not remind Joshua of all his experience as a leader or of his particular skill set that will equip him for this task. Instead, this is what God says..."

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.". It is the knowledge that God will be with him throughout this new venture that is to encourage Joshua. In fact, a couple of verses earlier God promises him that "He would never leave him or forsake him." (Joshua 1:5)

All of us are looking at the beginning of a new year...a year full of many uncertainties. You may be facing health concerns, or financial struggles. Perhaps you are beginning a new job or are adjusting to new relationships or the loss of old ones. At times like this we all need the same encouragement that God gave Joshua. As Christians, we are not walking this road alone. We can be strong, courageous, brave and encouraged because we know that God is walking with us. He will never leave us or forsake us. The same God who brought you through all of the changes, good and not so good, in your life up to this point, is still with you and His promise still stands...I will never leave you or forsake you". Now, those are encouraging words.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2nd Susan Voie 21st Dennis Miller, Ross Wyman

3rd John Peterson 22nd Jackson Hahn

4th Dausen Anderson 25th Keaven Olson

10th Patricia Olson 27th Briggs Wogsland

13th Cole Smith, Anna Wogsland, Darla White

16th Jordan Lashua

18th Debra Thompson, Elaine Wojclechowski

JANUARY 2025 AT A GLANCE

Altar Guild: Sally Van Epern January Usher Sally Van Epern

AA Meeting: every Thursday at 7:00 PM in basement.

No Confirmation January 1

January 4 take down Christmas decorations 9:00 All asked to help

January 5 Communion during worship.

Men's Ministry: Sunday January 5 following Worship

January 19 Annual meeting after church, chili lunch.

Will need end of 2024 treasure reports to Office by 1-14-25

Projector Jan. 5 Craig A. Projector 12 Bruce M.

Projector January 19 Carl T. Projector January 26 Kevin D.

Northland Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes 11/17/24

Members present: Craig A, Daniele O, Shelley E, Richard K, Pastor Bill, Bill H, Jessie G, Marilyn

Guests: Dianne E

Excused absent: Robbie L, Pam D Pastor opened the meeting with prayer.

Secretary's Report read and accepted as read. Treasurer's Report read and accepted as read.

10/31/24 Checking Balance \$18,638.64 10/31/24 Memorial Balance \$149,390.69

Cash Flow for October: \$5,616.61

Pastor's Report: He continues to do visits. Confirmation class is going well. He was requested to perform a funeral at another church, all went well.

Members have agreed to moving next month's meeting to December 8th.

Dianne E has a rough estimate for computers just below \$2400.00 from Team Logistics for one desktop monitor with a tower and one laptop. She is waiting on another reliable contact to get a second quote.

Annual meeting with congregation proposed for January 19th. Marilyn M, made a motion to accept the date, seconded by Jessie G.

The Thank Offering will be December 15th.

The Living Oaks and The Willows has inquired about a potential giving tree at Northland for residents' wish list. Jessie G will get more info.

December 8th baptisms planned for Henry and Liam Lashua.

A few members have expressed interest in updating the nursery.

Richard made a motion to adjourn, Seconded by Bill H.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

These minutes have not been approved. Jessie Glodowski, council secretary

Thank you

Thank you, Northland brothers and sisters in Christ, for your generous outpouring of LOVE! Our neighbors, friends, and family members residing at The Living Oaks and Willows will be enjoying your kindness this Christmas and into the New Year. They'll receive the 117 gifts of pj's, slippers, socks, towels, t shirts, sweatshirts, flannel shirts, cotton shirts, colored pencils, pencil sharpeners, coloring books, shower gel, bubble bath, body lotion, soaking salts and bath sponges. Your love and caring will certainly be felt by all!

Again, thank you for being so kind in sharing love and joy.

YSIC, Kathy