



# PIONEER LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY 2025

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### PIONEER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

#### February 2, 2025

All members of Pioneer Lutheran Church Council met February 2, 2025, after church service.

Val Hicks opened the meeting. Dana Crooks offered the opening prayer.

Secretary's report approved with a motion made by Carole Hansen, second by Bill Powers.

Treasurer's report approved with a motion by Dana, second by Carole.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Long term projects: no action on noise control in fellowship hall, kitchen counter for serving was lowered by Jim Hansen and Mark

Winklepleck. Carole suggested paying \$100.00 to Mark for his help. Agreed and approved.

Outreach: Bible study in Spring – no action; attend service at UMC in White, at 11:15 AM on February 23, 2025; create valentine cards Feb 9, 2025, at 1 PM Events” Kozelka wedding Feb 15, 2025, rehearsal Feb 14, 2025; Paul & Karolynn wedding May 31, 2025, 2:00 PM with a bridal shower on April 12, 2025, at the Church,

Danish meal in July, 2025; Blessing of Animals October 5, 2025

Member Directory: Carole organizing/checking list of names

Facilities Committee: check outside lights functioning

St Dymas backpacks: MJ sent donation

Cottonwood Tree in ditch: Glacier Lakes Tree Service did the work January 31, 2025.

Prayer Chain: Carole is organizing it.

Annual Meeting: constitution states meeting be held in January of each new year.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Lent services: Ash Wed is March 5, 2025, at 6:30 PM. Soup suppers scheduled for 5:30 PM at Pioneer on March 12, 26, April 9 with service at 6:30 PM. At UMC in White, soup suppers at 5:30 PM March 19 & April 2, service following at 6:30 PM.

Valerie Hicks will preach February 16, 2025, in absence of Pastor Teri.

Pastor's Report: Confirmation with 7 students continues twice monthly, made several contacts.

Officer Elections: Carole nominated for President by Charlotte, second by Dana, passed. Todd Murphy nominated for Vice President by Julie Petersen, second by Carole, passed. Members appointed Julie as Treasurer, Charlotte as Secretary.

Next meeting: March 2, 2025, after church service.

Adjournment: motion by Carole, second by Todd. Passed. Members prayed Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Charlotte Mickelson, Secretary



<b>Pioneer Lutheran Financial Report</b>	
<b>January 31,2025</b>	
General Fund	\$ 18,757.37
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,589.88
	\$ 20,347.25
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Sioux Valley Energy electricity	\$ 240.36
ITC - phone and internet	\$ 96.49
BDRW water	\$ 46.95
Teri Johnson Salary	\$ 2,450.00
Safe Deposit rental	\$ 12.00
Square One Production prepaid copies	\$ 200.00
LCCM	\$ 250.00
ILT	\$ 500.00
Brookings Harvest Table	\$ 500.00
South Sudan Lutheran Church	\$ 500.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 150.00
St Dysmas	\$ 1,200.00
Augstana District	\$ 250.00
Brookings Co. Food Pantry	\$ 100.00
Feeding Brookings	\$ 500.00
	<b>6995.80</b>
<b>Jan 5,2025</b>	\$ 1,475.00
<b>Jan 12,2025</b>	\$ 940.00
<b>Jan 19,2025</b>	\$ 735.00
<b>Jan 26,2025</b>	\$ 865.00
	\$ 4,015.00

## 2024 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

After Sunday service on January 19, 2025, Council President Valerie Hicks called to order the Annual Meeting of Pioneer Lutheran Church at 10:58 AM.

A quorum present of 25% of active membership as deemed by the Constitution was declared.

Valerie offered an opening prayer

Notices of the Annual Meeting through bulletins, newsletters, and post cards were verified.

Hymn # 721 was sung by the members with MJ at the piano.

Secretary's Report: Valerie allowed time for the congregation to read the minutes of the 2024 meeting which were approved with a motion by Jim Hansen, second by Dana Crooks.

Treasurer's Report: Audit Committee had approved the books earlier. Report approved with a motion by Jim Hansen, second by Karen Ronne.

OLD BUSINESS: Mission & Ministry Reports  
 Pastor's Report: Valerie allowed time for congregation to read the report and thanked Pastor Teri for her service and care. She added that confirmation class had increased to 7. She will be absent February 16<sup>th</sup> to attend a meeting in New Orleans with SDSU students.

Pastoral Acts: Recording Secretary Patty Thompson reported no transfers in or out, 4 baptisms, no weddings, one funeral, baptised members 2024 –157, 52 active members.

President's Report: Valerie allowed time for congregation to read the report.

St. Dysmas: Coordinator Arlene Madsen, added that worship had returned to Thursday nights, group of 10 had traveled and joined in worship, in future may travel to prison at Springfield, SD, to worship.

LCCM: Bill Powers added that the gathering in 2025 will be Oct 5-8 in Lakeville, MN

No changes in Youth Group or Sunday School report

OLD BUSINESS: Business & Committee Reports  
 Audit Committee of MJ Powers, Jim Hansen, Karen Ronne had approved the books prior to the meeting. All 3 agreed to serve again for 2025.

Call Committee: on furlough.

Life In the Spirit: Dana Crooks, MJ Powers and Karen Ronne meet monthly to choose and arrange music for service. All 3 agree to serve again in the new year.

Fall Festival: A big thank you to this group for planning, preparing, and serving this event. Julie Petersen warned the group that this event in 2025 would be her last to organize.

Thrivent: The Hollers, the Powers and Laura Quail applied to receive funds from Thrivent for various activities/events throughout the year.

Outreach: a slide show prepared by Laura Quail showed the many activities sponsored by Pioneer Lutheran during 2024. Pastor Teri plans to use a study of Easter People after Easter. She suggested inviting Methodist members to the Lent Soup Suppers and vice versa and to continue Church in the Park during 2025 summer.

Facility Committee: much repair, replace, install happened thanks to Steve Hicks, Kevin Quail, Todd Murphy.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Budget: Valerie gave time for congregation to peruse the suggested budget for 2025. Jim Hansen moved, Ron Tolrud seconded to accept the proposed budget. Motion passed.

#### Election and Committees:

Council 3 year term: 2 seats available: elected Bill Powers, Dana Crooks. Karen Ronne & Todd Murphy counted the ballots.

Nominating Committee: new volunteers – Kevin Quail, Dana Crooks, Charlotte Mickelson

LCMC delegates: Bill Powers, Valerie Hicks

Auditing Committee: Steve Hicks, Jim Hansen, Karen Ronne, MJ Powers

Head Usher: Mike Thompson, Bill Powers

Treasurer Assist: Kevin Quail, Carole Hansen, Larry Holler, Bill Powers

Recording Secretary: Patty Thompson

Life & Spirit: Dana Crooks, MJ Powers, Karen Ronne

Fall Festival: Mike & Julie Petersen, Patty Thompson, Dana & Nancy Crooks, Keri Skroch

Thrivent Coordinators: Larry & Sue Holler, Laura Quail, MJ & Bill Powers

Facility Committee: Kevin Quail, Steve Hicks, Todd Murphy

Outreach: Laura Quail, Charlotte Mickelson

Tech Support: Steve Hicks

Social Media: Bill Powers, Valerie Hicks

St Dysmas Coordinator: Arlene Madsen

Prayer Group: Carole Hansen

Bulletins: MJ Powers, Valerie Hicks

#### CLOSING

Motion by Carole Hansen, second by Arlene Madsen to adjourn. Passed.

Lord's Prayer prayed by all.

Table grace sung before heading to the potluck meal.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlotte Mickelson, Secretary

#### 2024 ANNUAL CEMETERY MEETING

Pioneer Lutheran Cemetery Executive Board held its annual meeting on January 19, 2025, after church service. President, Arlene Madsen, opened the meeting at 11:45 AM.

Secretary/Treasurer Jim Hansen read the minutes of the last annual meeting which were approved with a motion by Valerie Hicks, second by Carole Hansen. Jim presented the financial report which was approved with a motion by Julie Petersen, second by Deanna Tolrud. In closing, Jim thanked all who gave donations to the Cemetery for upkeep and care.

#### NEW BUSINESS

With one seat vacancy ( Mike Petersen's term ended) nominations were called to fill the vacancy. Mike Thompson and Steve Hicks were nominated. Valerie Hicks called for nominations to cease, Todd Murphy seconded the motion and it passed.

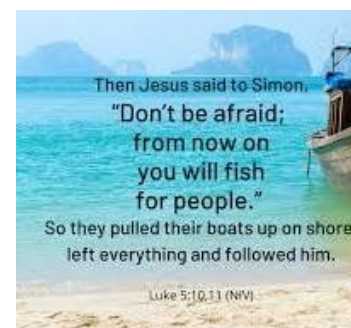
Results of the secret ballot election was to name Mike Thompson to fill the empty seat.

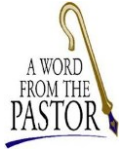
A short discussion about the trimming of the large cottonwood tree in the E ditch was had.

Cost of the work will be split with the Church Council. Professional estimate was \$700.00.

Meeting adjourned with a motion by Valerie Hicks, second by Carole Hansen. Passed

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jim Hansen





## Pastor Teri's weekly sermons can be found on the church website.

<https://www.pioneerlutheran.org/sermons/>

Friends in Christ,

We have been reading and hearing from Paul's powerful letter to the church in Corinth over the last month. Some biblical passages are so well known in the life of the church that it's hard to disassociate them from the ritual we're accustomed to hearing them or to see them with fresh eyes. For example, it's hard to hear 1 Corinthians 13 without thinking of white dresses, suits, flowers, and all the other elements of a wedding. However, like any biblical text, it's important to understand the historical context. Paul's immortal words in 1 Corinthians arose out of a pastoral crisis in the Corinthian Church. The Corinthian Christians are abusing their freedom, refusing to share, scoring their neighbor's spiritual gifts, bragging about their own gifts and seeking recognition for themselves. Paul encourages the Corinthian Christians with a simple command: practice love. Paul speaks about the primary importance of love, the character of love, and the endurance of love.

Paul speaks about the character of love. This month we are bombarded with countless images and ideas of love. However it is helpful to remember that Paul is speaking about agape, the love embodied most visibly in God's love for human beings in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This love is not in the first instance a feeling, but an action. This love seeks not its own good, but the good of the one who is loved. There is

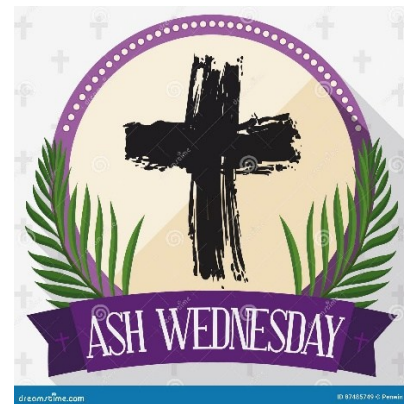
nothing sentimental about the image of love that Paul sets before the church. Paul is talking about a love that is active, tough, resilient, and long-suffering.

The love described in 1 Corinthians 13 is a love we experience as Christ's unwavering grasp upon our lives. Christ's love is the source of our greatest security and is the catalyst for our ability to be patient and kind, to bear all things and not insist on our own way. There is beautiful irony in the fact that the one thing that lasts forever is the love that is given away. Even though none of us can make sense of all our earthly experiences or see clearly what eternal life will be like, we can trust in Christ Jesus and his divine love experienced in human life and on the cross.

This month as we give and receive Valentines, may we also remember the greatest love ever given, the love of Christ. May our lives give testimony in word and deed to the reality of Christ's love in our lives as we serve and love one another.

In Christ's Love,

Teri



Ash Wednesday Services will be held at Pioneer Lutheran Church on March 5, 2025 at 6:30 pm.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Feb 9 Valentine making at 1pm  
Feb 9 LITS meets after service
- Feb 9 & 23 Confirmation
- Feb 23 Attend worship with WUMC
- March 1 Newsletter articles to Julie [jmpete@itctel.com](mailto:jmpete@itctel.com)
- Mar 2 Church Council following service.
- Mar 5 Ash Wed Service @ 6:30

We will be sharing location for Lenten services with the White United Methodist Church. Soups suppers will be at 5:30 and services will be at 6:30. The dates are as follows: March 12, 26 and April 9<sup>th</sup> at Pioneer Lutheran Church and March 19 & April 2 at White United Methodist Church.

If anyone is interested in helping form a prayer chain, please contact Carole Hansen.

**Pioneer plans to attend worship services with the White United Methodist Church on February 23 at 11:15. You are welcomed to join their service after Pioneer's service or if you prefer to just attend one service attend there. This is just a friendly gesture to build their spirits.**


Valentine making at 1pm on Sunday, February 9th



- We need Monthly Cleaners, Readers and coffee servers
- We continue to collect Hy-Vee receipts, so remember to bring yours.
- Please remember to bring your donations for the Brookings Food Pantry. Your contributions are a blessing to others



# FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>READERS: FEB-CHARLOTTE MARCH-LAURA</p>	<p>CLEANERS: FEB- CHARLOTTE MARCH- POWERS</p>					1
<p><b>2</b> 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM WORSHIP/HOLY COMMUNION CHURCH COUNCIL</p>	3	4	5	6	7	8
<p>9 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP Lits meets Confirmation</p>	10	11	12	13	14 	15
<p>16 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM PRAISE WORSHIP</p>	<p>17 PRESIDENT'S DAY</p>	18	19	20	21	22
<p>23 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE CONFIRMATION</p>	24	25	26	27	28	1
<p><b>2</b> 9 AM ADULT FORUM 10 AM WORSHIP/HOLY COMMUNION CHURCH COUNCIL</p>	3	4	<p>5 ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 6:30pm</p>	6	7	8

**PIONEER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
BOX 6  
WHITE, SD 57276**