

## November, 2024

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### **FROM THE PASTOR                      Grief and Gratitude**

November is a month that speaks powerfully of both grief and gratitude: the first Sunday of November is always All Saint's Sunday, when we remember those who have died in the past year. Towards the end of the month, we celebrate Thanksgiving, an acknowledgement of gratitude for our blessings. Although these two themes may initially seem distant from one another, they actually do exist in close relationship to each other, and the timing of their observance makes sense also.

November is a natural month to consider loss and change, as we see nature dying or going into hibernation mode all around us. One friend once told me, "November seems like nature's funeral to me". The increasing darkness and cold tend to create a contemplative mood, and we can find ourselves feeling melancholy or dreading the winter to come. Obviously, Halloween(All Hallows Eve) and All Saint's Day(All Hallows Day) were placed at this time of year by our wise forebears to correlate our need to grieve and acknowledge loss with a time of year that reflects that in nature.

Yet November is also a natural month for us to be grateful. Admittedly, true harvest comes earlier than November in our particular climate, but even so, I believe we relate to images of cornucopias, an abundance of food, and the harvest safely gathered in, as one hymn puts it. Thanksgiving gatherings are a very natural fit at this time of year.

As we experience both grief and gratitude this month, we might reflect on how they are so closely related to one another: We grieve the loss of that for which we were grateful. And we feel gratitude for whatever it was we lost that mattered deeply enough to us that its absence causes grief. C.S. Lewis observed that grief is the price we pay for loving. We have had 3 funerals or memorial services this last month or so, for DeWayne Rubedor, for Audrey Carlson, and for Paul Struve. All three were deeply loved by many of us. I know that I grieve each of their deaths, feeling sorrow at their absence. I also am so genuinely grateful that I had the opportunity to know them; to experience their warm, loving, bright selves; to count them as friends. I feel fortunate and blest in that regard, even as I mourn their passing. So grief and gratitude go hand in hand.

As people of faith, we trust that there is a future realm in which all grief is transformed into gratitude and we weep no more for sorrow. There is no shame in grieving; Jesus Himself wept at the tomb of Lazarus. But grief that allows for hope is a way that our faith can shape our times of loss, knowing that even in darkest times, there is a light and a home on the path ahead.

May God bless us gently in this month of November.

Pastor Susan Berge

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER**

November is a rich month for worship, beginning with All Saint's Sunday and finishing with Thanksgiving Sunday. Veterans will be honored on November 10.

Sunday, November 3- All Saint's Sunday. On this Sunday, we remember all believers, in heaven and on earth, and in particular, we acknowledge the loss of those dear to us within our own community this past year. Our JOYFUL choir will sing, and we will light candles in memory of loved ones who have died. Holy Communion will be celebrated at the altar.

Sunday, November 10-A Sunday in Pentecost. We will acknowledge veterans on this Sunday nearest Veteran's Day, as we worship in a traditional style, celebrating Holy Communion by intinction. Our Sweet Chaos dulcimers will play.

Sunday, November 17-A Sunday in Pentecost. We will worship in a traditional style, celebrating Holy Communion by intinction and having an opportunity for Healing and Anointing.

Sunday, November 24-Thanksgiving Sunday. Sticks and Strings will lead us in a Thanksgiving service. We will celebrate Holy Communion by intinction.

**FIRST COMMUNION CLASS TO BE OFFERED**

If you are interested in having your child attend a single First Communion session, please let Pastor Susan know. We will meet after church on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

**NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS**

	<b>November 3</b>	<b>November 10</b>	<b>November 17</b>	<b>November 24</b>
<u>Ushers</u>	E. Lee J. Lee	N. Walter K. Walter	M. Garey K. Garey	B. Anderson T. Anderson
<u>Lector</u>	E. Lee	S. Hubbartt	L. Jackson	T. Anderson
<u>Communion Asst</u>	A. Hubbartt	K. Bloom	M. McMillion	C. Whiting
<u>Altar Preparation</u>	L. Grong	L. Grong	L. Grong	L. Grong
<u>Offering Counters</u>	S. Jaspersen M. Garey	L. Olson M. von Goertz	K. Struve J. Lee	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>Children's Church/ Kid's Connect</u>	D. Mattson J. McCorison	S. Socha A. Shaw	L. Burkhard A. Hubbartt	C. Smith O. Smith

**GIFTS RECEIVED**

Gifts to the memorial fund in memory of DeWayne Rubedor were received from Paul & Kay Struve, Mary Ann Sironen, Dick Williams,

A gift to the food shelf in memory of DeWayne Rubedor was received from Paul & Kay Struve.

Gifts to the memorial fund in memory of Audrey Carlson were received from Melanie McMillion, Jim & Lee Bujold, Bill Berg, Delores Jackson, Barb Eaton, Scott & Anne Jaspersen, Marge & Norton Johnson, Steve & Sandra Bjorum and Dennis & Georgia Ojard.

A gift to the general fund in memory of Audrey Carlson was received from Rich & Nancy Ojard.

Gifts to the memorial fund in memory of Paul Struve were received from Bill Berg, Scott & Anne Jaspersen, Steve & Sandra Bjorum, and Mary & Butch Deschampe.

A gift to the memorial fund in memory of Paul Struve and in honor of Kay Struve was received from Sherry Phillips.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9 – Chris Skadberg  
12 - Bobbie Mattson  
Dawn Davidson  
14 - Lyle Jackson  
18 - Randy Ellestad  
19 - Dale Davidson  
22 - Pat Bugge Hoggarth  
25-Jan Bergman  
27 - David Jackson  
29 - Callyn Bailey  
30 - Samantha Anderson

## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

1 – Melanie & John McMillion  
4 – Kathy & Sam Black  
8 – Ella & Lyle Jackson

### **Council Buzz – October 2024      By Helene Hedlund**

The Council has identified the following 3 major outcomes for 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

- **Medical emergencies while at KRLC**
  - **In the event someone has a medical emergency, the first step is to always call 911. However, we have acquired some equipment to assist until emergency personnel can arrive.**
  - **Equipment includes, but not limited to:**
    - **AED – seek assistance from one of our health care professionals, however the AED is designed to be used by untrained individuals as well. In the event a care professional is not available, go ahead and use the AED as designed according to the written instructions**
    - **Blood pressure cuff – donated by Kay and Steve Bloom. Seek assistance from a health care professional**
    - **Epi pen – donated by Randi Alreck can be used by individual in need or anyone on site**
    - **Stethoscope – donated by Kay and Steve Bloom – Seek assistance from a health care professional**
    - **Device to assist someone choking – donated by Deb Allert**
  - **KRLC is fortunate to have several trained health care professionals as members, including but not limited to ... Dr. Anne Skadberg, Dr. Deb Allert, Carol Carlson. If a care professional is on site, seek their assistance for medical emergencies**
  - **This equipment is by the AED box which is located in the gathering area just outside the Library.**
  - **Remember . . . the first step is to call 911.**
  - **Thank you to those who have donated equipment/devices for the benefit of KRLC.**
- It has come to our attention that there are some questions as to the purpose of the planning team. Hopefully the information below will help , , ,
  - The planning team has evolved from the former volunteer staff group.
  - The team’s primary function is to assist in the council’s outcome as it relates to communication
  - Attendees include the Pastor, Council President and Treasurer, Administrative volunteer, Newsletter Editor, and Church Mouse contributor,

- The team meets monthly with focused conversations as it relates to the calendar and the monthly newsletter
- As with all KRLC committees/task forces, all are welcome
- The men's group and Property Committee have removed and stored the remaining mosaics from the memorial garden. The goal is to have a smooth service to avoid tripping and or slip and falls. This work has been completed in consultation with Laura Stone. Thank you to the team who has performed this work on behalf of KRLC.
- Draft and implement archiving process – ongoing
- Budgeting for 2025 is underway. The council is seeking input from committees that are allocated budget dollars to determine projected needs.
- Review Committee Structure processes – will require Bylaws change. nearing completion
- It has come to our attention that there are several email addresses being used for Pastor Susan and the church. Not all are valid addresses. Please use [kniferiverchurch@gmail.com](mailto:kniferiverchurch@gmail.com) to contact Pastor Susan and/or the church.

Thank you for your support of the 2024 Council

### **BESIDES BEING A CENTENTARIAN, AUDREY WAS ALSO A “100- PERCENTER.”**

By Paul von Goertz

In 1990 Pastor John Reppe, who had been pastor at KRLC since 1953, announced his impending retirement. He was much admired and loved and many of us wondered what the future would hold with a new pastor.

At the time we were a two-point parish with Bethlehem in Two Harbors. It was determined by both church councils that a call committee would be comprised of five members from Bethlehem and two from KRHCC. Audrey and I were chosen as KRLC's representatives.

The synod provided names of pastors who had made themselves available for call. The call committee looked over several resumes and narrowed the list to three. In addition to interviewing the three, we were encouraged to visit the applicant's church and observe their practice style and depth and relevance of their message.

Audrey and I observed a candidate conduct a service in Duluth. We agreed the pastor was not very inspiring. In summarizing Audrey's assessment, the candidate was perhaps a 50- percenter.

The other two interviews were at Bethlehem. In the time spent driving I learned a lot about Audrey's deep faith in Christ and her love for her church, her family, and the little town where she had lived her life no further than a block from where she was born. It seemed all Audrey valued in life was intertwined and centered around the church from which she worshipped.

Sometimes referred to as a "100-percenter" in her daily life, she wanted the very best for her church right down to how tables were set. She carefully recorded the church's history as would a mother create a scrapbook for her child. She also helped choose the messages and designed and sewed our colorful church banners, except for one that was more of a tapestry.

In all our conversations about calling a pastor, it was very clear that Audrey expected a pastor, among other things, to be capable of having a close and caring relationship with each church member. In contrast, she recalled that when Gary, Audrey and Bert's youngest child was baptized, the pastor at the time could not remember his name.

The second and third candidates were interviewed at Bethlehem. Soon after we explained the particulars of the call to the second candidate, he asked what the pay was. That did not bode well with Audrey.

### **ON-LINE GIVING**

Do you know that there is an on-line app to make your donations to KRLC? We want to make sure that everyone knows about our secure method to donate to KRLC through Subsplash giving. Here is the written link address: <https://secure.subsplash.com/ui/access/SQKVH7>

You can also find a hyperlink on our website @ <https://krlc.org/giving> which will take you directly to the donation page.

If it's your first time on Subsplash, you will need to verify a bank account, but it will go much quicker after that. Please remember that Subsplash does charge a 3.6% fee so if you are able to pay that amount extra each time it would be very helpful. You can also set up automatic payments on Subsplash for whatever schedule you like.

As an alternative, you usually can set up regular automatic payments through your Bank to avoid any fees to either of us.

Thank you for donating to Knife River Lutheran Church.

### **CHURCH MOUSE by Lee Bujold**

#### **THANK YOU!**

We were planning to have this in last month's newsletter. So, I want you to know how Paul and I were feeling at that time. Thank you to our church family for all your prayers, visit and cards. It made the time at rehab much more tolerable. We are truly blessed with such great friends. See you in church soon. *Paul & Kay Struve*

Thank you all for your prayers, visits and caring concern during Paul's hospice. We really appreciated the love that was shown to us. I want to thank everyone for making the service so meaningful. From the preparation of the luncheon to the attentiveness of the servers, Paul would have been overwhelmed. *Kay Struve*

Thank you to *WELCA and the KRLC Men's Group* for the care and detail you shared with the preparation and serving of the Celebration of Audrey's life. The caring love you and the whole church family had for her was expressed throughout her life and now the celebration of her life.

We are blessed to be part of this KRLC family.

Thank you!!! *Steve, Carol, Julie, Rocky and the whole Carlson Family*

Thank you to *Melanie McMillion* for coordinating the "Back to School" supplies drive and for leading the "Elder Care Gifts" opportunity detailed below!

Thank you to the *Men's Group and the Property Committee* for their continuing work on removing mosaics from the Memorial Garden! There is much work behind the scenes that gets done by these two groups. We are most appreciative of your diligence in maintaining our church property in such a proactive way.

...and a big shout out to the *Church Council!* Whether sitting down or standing up for meetings (for those quick decisions), these members care for our budget/finance, worship, property, safety, history, governance, communications, mission outreach and more! Thank you for your diligence, leadership and expertise!

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

The “next generations” of Hansons are joining the church! We extend a warm welcome to Eric & Viola Hanson, Katarina & Joel Bradow and Audrey Hanson. Eric’s parents are Pat Hanson and Jim Hanson (deceased). New members are always welcome at Knife River Lutheran Church. No formal classes are required. If interested, please see Pastor Susan or Melanie McMillion!

## **GIFT TAGS FOR ELDER CARE GIFTS**

It's Elder Care Gift time already! Sponsored by the Two Harbors Ministerium, KRLC has participated in the Elder Care Gift program for several years now. It's a rewarding endeavor to provide a Christmas gift to every resident of our local nursing home and assisted living facility; many are without families. KRLC will receive 25 gift tags containing a suggested gift item(s) for a particular senior. Gift tags will be displayed on the kiosk as soon as they are available from the Ministerium. A \$20-25 expenditure is suggested for each gift tag, and two or more people may go together on one gift. Gifts should be placed in a gift bag, NOT WRAPPED, with the gift tag secured to the bag. Bagged gifts, with tag attached, must be returned to the kiosk at church by Sunday, November 24 (Thanksgiving Sunday). Yes -- that's early! Yes -- that's just around the corner!! Melanie says, "If you just don't have time to shop, you can get \$25 cash to me asap, and I'll be happy to shop for you!" Please join in this extremely important and rewarding outreach!

## **COFFEE & FLOWER SPONSORSHIP**

Way to go, Congregation! Flowers are sponsored each Sunday through 2024! Check the sign-up sheet to confirm your special date in 2025!

Coffee sponsorship dates (as of this printing) include *Sunday, November 3 & 24*. December dates include *Sunday, December 15, 22 and 29!*

## **CHURCH MOUSE TRICKS!**

This Church Mouse hosted WELCA in October where” trick or treat” bags were provided. Each person received treats, and one *very* lucky person got the “trick”! It was a special prize that meant they get to be the Church Mouse from December through March! Drum roll, please....*Anne Jaspersen* “won” and *Randi Alreck* took consolation in the tricky department. They have both agreed to share the job of collecting interesting tidbits from each member of our congregation! It will be fun to see their spin on news from within our congregation! Thank you Anne and Randi for being such good sports!

### **Hope This Thanksgiving**

The simplicity is overwhelming,  
For what we plant, we also reap.

Lord, grant us soul seeds,  
That we may plant them with love,  
Weather them with tears of compassion,  
Nurture them with embraces of warmth,  
Protect them from the storms of life.

Bless this bounty with grace and gentleness,  
That the harvest will be abundant  
In love, in trust, to be shared  
With those closest to our hearts.

May we plant soul seeds for strength,  
Harvested in hope this Thanksgiving,  
For all the days and years that follow.

Judith A. Lindberg

**KRLC Treasurer's Report 9/30/2024**

General Operations Summary	2024	2023
Income from donations	\$ 97,549.42	\$ 92,768.47
Expenses	\$ 105,530.15	\$ 95,464.29
Donations vs expenses	\$ (7,980.73)	\$ (2,695.82)

	Budget
Under budget	\$ 109,676.00
Under budget	\$ 109,676.00



Designated Account Summary	2024	2023
Designated Donations or revenue	\$ 37,101.26	\$ 20,034.74
Expenses from designated areas	\$ 25,615.51	\$ 25,708.60
Donations vs expenses	\$ 11,485.75	\$ (5,673.86)

The Bottom Line	2024	2023
Total income	\$ 134,650.68	\$ 112,803.21
Total expenses	\$ 131,145.66	\$ 121,172.89
Fund Balance change	\$ 3,505.02	\$ (8,369.68)



Fund Balances	Balance
General Operations fund	\$ 2,019.27
Outreach	\$ (481.22)
Building and property fund	\$ 1,797.21
Building and property fund- Money Market	\$ 79,778.26
Memorial	\$ 635.91
Memorial- Money Market	\$ 14,176.74
Passthru	\$ 245.69
Reserve	\$ 5,000.00
Primary account total	\$ 103,171.86



Total of all cash assets	\$ 199,830.06
Total of all debt/NO DEBT!	\$ -



Other Fund Balances	Amount
Columbarium fund	\$ 22,274.20
Reserve required by State Law	\$ 4,500.00
Available after required reserve	\$ 17,774.20
Columbarium debt is fully paid	\$ -
Endowment fund	\$ 74,384.00
Principal amount	\$ 50,000.00

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

**September Highlights**

Donations and expenses for Sept. were roughly the same amount for the month. This still leaves us short by \$7,980.73 for the year when comparing donations/expenses. Our 2025 budget planning has begun with each committee submitting their plans. Have you thought about your plans for giving during the rest of 2024 and into 2025? Thank you very much to DeWayne Rubedor, who planned his estate to include KRLC. A recent purchase by KRLC, of a 3 in 1 color laser printer, was funded with a portion of these funds. A big thank you to DeWayne and Maurine for their foresight! Thank you to everyone who includes KRLC in their planning.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Daylight Savings Time Ends – set clocks back one hour at bedtime!
3 DST Ends 9 am Worship Children's Church & Kid's Connect 10 am Coffee fellowship ALL SAINTS SUNDAY	4 9 am Bone Strengthening Class 2 pm KR Ringers (Bells)	5 9 am Lectio Divina/Dig Deeper 6:30 PM JOYFUL ELECTION DAY	6 1-3 pm Quilters	7 8:30 Men Meet 8:30 Sweet Chaos Dulcimers 5 pm Pop-Up Dinner at Earthwood Inn	8	9
10 9 am Worship Children's Church & Kid's Connect 10 am Coffee fellowship in honor of our Veterans 10 am Sit down Council	11 9 am Bone Strengthening Class 2 pm KR Ringers (Bells) VETERAN'S DAY	12 9 am Lectio Divina/Dig Deeper 10 am Planning Team 6 PM - WELCA 6:30 PM JOYFUL	13 1-3 pm Quilters	14 8:30 Men Meet 8:30 Sweet Chaos Dulcimers 5 pm Pop-Up Dinner at Earthwood Inn	15	16
17 9 am Worship Children's Church & Kid's Connect 10 am Coffee fellowship 10:15 Sticks & Strings 2 PM NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	18 9 am Bone Strengthening Class 2 pm KR Ringers (Bells)	19 9 am Lectio Divina/Dig Deeper 10 am Worship Comm. 6:30 PM JOYFUL	20 1-3 Quilters 5:30 Sticks & Strings 6:30 Confirmation	21 8:30 Men Meet 8:30 Sweet Chaos Dulcimers 5 pm Pop-Up Dinner at Earthwood Inn	22	23
24 9 am Worship Children's Church & Kid's Connect 10 am Coffee fellowship 10:15 First Comm Class ELDER CARE GIFTS DUE THANKSGIVING SUNDAY	25 9 am Bone Strengthening Class 2 pm KR Ringers (Bells)	26 9 am Lectio Divina/Dig Deeper 6:30 PM JOYFUL	27	28 Office Closed THANKSGIVING DAY	29	30

# KRLC November 2024