

Big Canoe & Highland Lutheran Churches

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NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY WORSHIP TIMES

Joint Services at Highland 10:00 a.m.

Ash Wednesday, February 22nd, 6:30 p.m. at Highland

Big Canoe WELCA will be helping with BINGO February 7th at Aase Haugen Home. We need four volunteers to help.

Big Canoe WELCA is collecting items for Bremwood through March 15th.

There will be a basket or tote in the entry at church.

Items needed for each bundle are:

1 bath towel, 1 wash cloth, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrush, solid deodorant. Other optional items are dental floss, chapstick, lip gloss, comb and brush.

Items must be new. Any number of items are welcome.

Please call Emma Thompson



Big Canoe Quilting Group

The past couple of years have been somewhat challenging in lots of ways for many of us. However, some really positive things have emerged as well. The BC quilting group “happened” when a small group of ladies, and a couple of guys, began meeting once a week at the church to do some sewing for Lutheran World Relief. Soon, with a little help from social media, we began receiving financial support and many generous donations of fabric, batting, thread, and other supplies.

Now, not only do we continue to support Lutheran World Relief, we are donating quilts, lap robes, baby blankets, school and personal care kits and fabric kits to many area organizations.

Below is a summary of the donations that were distributed during 2022:

Quilts – adult and child	442	School kits	61
Lap robes	10	Personal care kits	123
Fleece blankets	2	Fabric kits	10
Bremwood kits	14	Sewing kits (Pine Ridge)	20

A complete list of recipients is posted on the bulletin board by the basement stairway – left side.

Interested in joining us?

Sewing is not required! We have lots of fun! We have lots of treats!

Contact: Emma, Sandy, Dee, Carol, Sue, or Judy

January 8, 2023, Big Canoe Council Meeting

The Big Canoe Church Council met for its regular monthly meeting on January 8, 2023 after church services.

Pastor Gies opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes were read and amended and placed on file.

Pastor reported that 5 new member families were introduced to the congregation and several baptisms were performed. Lay people are being instructed on presenting Communion to shut-ins. He also mentioned that the Christmas Eve and Christmas services were cancelled due to bad weather.

Laurie Emery gave the Treasurers report and it was placed on file. Our balance on hand is \$9,632.92 and the Parsonage fund has a balance of \$7,878.64.

The final insurance check (\$27,244.74) has arrived. With that amount we only need \$5,104.50 to finish paying for the roofing that was done this fall. At our last Joint Council meeting we authorized the use of funds from the Parsonage fund to finish the payment, so no fund raiser will be needed.

Four bids have been received for church and cemetery mowing. The bids will be reviewed by the council and the winning bidder will be notified. Bob has been doing routine checks on the furnace, opening the church and shoveling the sidewalk. We will be renegotiating his contract as Janitor.

Several options were discussed on how we can assist the cemetery committee in paying their share of the mowing. No decision has been reached.

A thank you note from Brady Fuller (Forest Hill Baptist Church) was read.

The synod has sent out guidelines for amending member church Constitutions. After a review of their suggestions, Bill made a motion, seconded by Pat, that we politely decline to change our Constitution. The motion passed.

The council reviewed the proposed budget for 2023. The council made several changes from last year. The organist pay was raised. The building and grounds funds were also rearranged and raised as congregants who help with church cleaning and mowing will be compensated. Our ending budget total will be \$143,860 which is down from last year as the roofing project has been completed and paid for. Our benevolence budget was approved at the same level as 2022. A motion was made by Rita and seconded by Bill, that the proposed budget for 2023 be accepted and presented to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting for approval. Motion passed.

Kathryn Thompson, Brian Bigler and Steve Emery have volunteered to be on the council in 2023. Their names will be presented at the Annual Meeting for a vote.

A motion was made and seconded that we adjourn with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Rita Thomas, Council Secretary

Highland Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
January 8, 2022

Call to Order

The January 8, 2022 meeting of the Highland Lutheran Church Council was called to order by President Joyce Bjerke at approximately 8:35 a.m. at Big Canoe Lutheran Church prior to a 10 a.m. Joint Worship Service. Council members in attendance: President - Joyce Bjerke, Vice President - Mark Sollien, Secretary - Danny Dutka, Steve Langland, Darlene Sollien, Virginia Karlsbrotten. Treasurer Anna Jetson arrived later. President Bjerke opened the meeting with a prayer.

Secretary Report

The secretary was asked to give highlights of the November 11, 2022 minutes In lieu of reading the entire minutes.

One of the items was Steve Langland's thought of using some of the Scholarship Fund monies each year for the Northeast Iowa Synod's H. George Anderson Fund for Leaders which provides scholarships for seminary students. The item was brought forward for discussion since this meeting is to formulate a proposed budget for 2023.

Steve expanded on his thoughts and suggested that the Scholarship Fund could also be used to provide additional assistance to the Emmaus Road Foundation's education efforts.

After discussion Danny Dutka moved to include in benevolence giving \$100 for the H. George Anderson Fund for Leaders and an additional \$100 for the Emmaus Road Foundation to be funded from the Scholarship Fund. Motion was seconded by Steve Langland. Motion carried by voice vote.

Call Committee

Virginia Karlsbrotten reviewed the status of our Ministry Site Profile. As she has stated during a previous meeting the profile had been submitted. The profile was reviewed by the ELCA offices and requested that minor corrections be made, which has been done. An additional item that would enhance the profile is a letter of recommendation that could be possibly provided by Pastor Gies.

2023 Budget

Treasurer Jetson arrived with a 2022 year end report and a worksheet the Council could use to formulate the 2023 budget.

Benevolence portion was discussed. It was noted that Thanksgiving offering designated for the Decorah Free Clinic and Christmas offering designated for local food pantries fell short of expectations. Therefore the Council decided that a specified amount should be given. This also resulted in a motion by Danny Dutka to use Current Fund monies to make up any shortfall in Benevolence giving at the end of the year. Motion seconded by Steve Langland. Motion carried by voice vote.

2023 Budget (continued)

The Council discussed and set budget amounts as follows:

Benevolence budgeted at \$4900.

Current Pastoral Ministry budgeted at \$35,000.

Parsonage and Farm remains at \$975.

Administration increase from \$4830 to \$5215.

Worship & Service increase from \$6065 to \$6840.

Building & Grounds increase from \$12,100 to \$13,950.

Social Security increase from \$400 to \$600.

Contingency Fund remains at \$300.

Anniversary Celebration remains at \$400.

Total proposed 2023 budget \$68,180 an increase of \$4660 from 2022 budget of \$63,520.

Secretary note: Increase in proposed 2023 budget can be mainly attributed to assigning fixed amounts to some benevolence recipients, increase in office secretary hourly rate, increase for social security, increase for worship supplies and an increase for utilities.

A motion to present the proposed 2023 budget at the Annual Meeting for congregational approval was made by Steve Langland and seconded by Darlen Sollien. Motion carried by voice vote.

A motion to adjourn was made by Darlene Sollien, seconded by Steve Langland. Motion carried by voice vote.

Submitted by,

Danny Dutka
Highland Secretary

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Confirmation at Big Canoe 6:00 p.m.	2	3	4
5 Highland 10:00 a.m. Communion	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Highland 10:00 a.m.	13	14	15 Confirmation at Big Canoe 6:00 p.m. Newsletter items due	16	17	18
19 Highland 10:00 a.m.	20	21	22 Ash Wednesday 6:30 p.m. service at Highland	23	24	25
26 Highland 10:00 a.m.	27	28	March 1	March 2	March 3	March 4
March 5 Big Canoe 10:00 a.m.		Highland Custodial: 2/5 – Danny Dutka 2/12 – Ed Stoen 2/19 – Al Erickson 2/22 – Dennis Karlsbrotten 2/26 – Gary Halverson			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Big Canoe & Highland website: www.bchlutheran.org </div>	