



David's Star
Evangelical Lutheran Church

thegoodnews

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“For Auld Lang Syne”

by Pastor Kurt Loescher

January 2016

How many of us even know what auld lang syne means? It's an old Scottish expression that literally means “for old long since”. It is a goodbye to the good old days.

It could be loosely interpreted for the good old days, or for the sake of days long past.

Singing the old Scottish song on New Year's Eve is a farewell to the past year, a year that you will never have back again, and reminiscing on the good times of the past year. For many there are no doubt some wonderful accomplishments and great moments of camaraderie and fellowship.

We look back at a vacation, a family gathering, or a great team accomplishment and wish we could have it back again. For others a year could be filled with disappointment, family gatherings that went poorly, old friends who passed away, moments of very poor judgment that we may pay for for the rest of our lives. We wish we could have those moments back again, if only to make things right.

New Year's Eve can be filled with gratitude to God over the blessings of the past year, or it can be filled with regret, or if we are honest, it will be filled with both happy memories and regret over our sins and failings of the past.

Thank God we can go back in time to a place where there were never regrets and only pure fellowship with family and God.

Our only regret is that that time is long since past. Sin put an end to it. But unlike the past year it is a time that we can get back again. In fact, it is the time that Jesus came to earth to restore again. It is a time we have

in Jesus in spite of our failings and sins of the past. Even sins that we may have to pay for for the rest of our lives, we do not have to pay for for eternity. We have the good ole days of paradise promised to us and will never have to say goodbye to those days--ever!

Going into the New Year we may have some trepidation over losing what we have enjoyed for many years, like good health, family members, or diminishing abilities to cope. We may know that we will struggle with sin again and fear that we will fall hard.

But the reality is that we can go into the year with the sure promise of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Savior. We don't need to sing, “We'll take a cup of kindness yet, for auld lang syne” regretting the past that can't be relived. We can praise the Lord of heaven and earth for old lang syne, because he has restored that time of so long ago, the time of sinless joy and fellowship with him. Praise the Lord for old lang syne.

*Volume XVIII,
Number 5*



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
SENIORS**

Helen Kannenberg (1/1)
Delores Heimerl (1/8)
Dietrich Schnappup (1/29)

**JANUARY 2016
GREETERS**

- January 3, 2016 7:45: Joel & Linda Pless
10:15: Jay & Tanya Anderson
- January 10, 2016 7:45: Jim & Jean Korthals
10:15: John & Ruthanne Geldon
- January 17, 2016 7:45: Mike & Deb Boeldt
10:15: Cory & Jessica Schumacher
- January 24, 2016 7:45: Mike & Rebecca Kempfert
10:15: Brian & Pam Lee
- January 31, 2016 7:45 Steve & Kathy Bintz
10:15 Todd & Patty Backus

ANNUAL VOTER’S MEETING is scheduled for Thursday, January 21st, at 7:00 pm.. Items on the agenda will include the adoption of the proposed 2016 Ministry Budget for David’s Star as well as the election of new officers.

THE “LITTLE ONES” GATHERING will take place on the **first Saturday of the month from 9:30am to 10:30am in the new gathering space of church. Please enter through the west side door of church.** This program is designed to be a Christ-centered, nurturing and encouragement group for young children and their mothers, fathers, grandparents, or caregivers. Children from infancy to preschool are welcome to attend with a parent/grandparent or caregiver. “Little Ones” is not designed to be a drop off program. “Little Ones” activities will include circle time, simple Bible lessons, Christian songs, dancing, art/craft time, and snacks. Please feel free to contact Jessica at jc.schumacher@gmail.com with any questions you may have about the program.

BIBLE CLASS OFFERINGS

ADULT BIBLE STUDY (*resumes January 17th*)
1 Peter: Encouragement for Living in a Society Hostile to the Christian Faith. Do we withdraw? Do we concede defeat? Do we fight fire with fire? 1 Peter helps us think through our response to 21st century attacks on those who believe the gospel. Pastor Woldt will lead this study of 1 Peter in the church.

RAINBOW SAVIOR. This is a Bible study on working lovingly but in a clear and godly way with the sin of same sex attraction. It may be fair to say that most of us would just as soon not have to talk about this. But it is a real struggle for brothers and sisters in Christ and they are being tempted beyond measure and need our aid in the fight. Taught by Pastor Loescher in the Multi Purpose Room.

WOMEN'S THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets on the first and third Thursday of the month at 9:30 am in the multi-purpose room of school. Please join us for a little bible study and fellowship. Bring your bible!

MEN’S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY at Jimmy’s in Jackson meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:00 am. This group meets year round.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY has resumed. This group meets on Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the multi-purpose room of school. We will study in the book of Exodus.

“DROP OFF” BIBLE STUDY When you come to David’s Star to drop off your children on Friday Mornings, stay a few minutes longer and discuss the truths of the Holy Scriptures and pray with other parents. Come in your work clothes, work-out clothes, even your pjs if you have to. No make-up? Unshaven? Uncombed hair? It’s all good. You’re dropping off your children, there are no high expectations. There will be the Holy Word of God and good encouragement to start off your day. If you have a toddler at your side, no problem—bring him or her along. We are all parents, we can cope with children in the room.

COUNCIL CAPSULE SUMMARY OF THE DECEMBER 2015 COUNCIL MEETING

David's Star Church Council Minutes
December 15, 2015

Members in attendance: Pastor Loescher, Pastor Woldt, Nelson Erdmann, Randy Matter, Dennis Bell, Mike Willis, Glen Miller, Tim Gustafson, Jim Korthals, Keith Rusch, Brian Lee, Andy Loeffler.

Absent: Kurt Henning

The meeting was called to order by Brian Lee. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Woldt. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting on November 10, 2015.

Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

Incoming: Kurland, Mary; Pusateri, Sharon & A. J.
Adult Confirmation

Outgoing:

Pastors' Report

Pastor Loescher, Telephone # 262.677.0919
kloescher@davidstar.org &
Pastor Woldt, Telephone # 262.377.1019
woldt@nconnect.net

Pastor Woldt will be gone December 27 attending the baptism service for their new grandson. Pastor Loescher is expecting to make a trip south sometime early in January to attend the baptism of their next grandchild who is expected to arrive at the end of December. As the year is about to close, we give thanks for the many faithful members and leaders who continue to support and pray for the gospel ministry here at David's Star. Please continue to do what you can in your own lives to raise up new leaders and supporters of gospel ministry for the future. The strength of any individual congregation is found in the sum of all its members.

President's Report

Brian Lee, Telephone # 262.377.9419
brianandpam1@att.net

A draft of the letter to the congregation regarding the budget was discussed. Brian will begin identifying members that would agree to be on the Audit committee this year. The Nominating Committee has compiled a list of names and is making calls. The presentation of information about endowment funds was postponed.

Board for
Buildings and Grounds
Kurt Henning 262.677.2797
klhrconst@gmail.com

There was nothing new to report.

Board for Elementary Education
Mike Willis, mike.willis@sial.com
Principal Tim Gustafson
Telephone #262.707.2382

A copy of the minutes from the Board of Elementary Education was presented. The technology committee is considering using AT&T for some additional internet bandwidth. The substitute teacher daily rate was set to \$102 plus \$7.80 for social security. The board increased the member tuition for grades 4K-8 by \$50 per student per year. (\$1300 for the first student) allocating an additional \$10 for technology feeds, \$10 for field trips, and \$30 for the general budget; and to increase non-member tuition for grades K-8 by \$100 per student per year (\$4100 for each student) allocating an additional \$10 for technology fees, \$10 for field trips, and \$80 for the general budget. 3K fees were kept at \$900 per year.

Board of Elders
Dennis Bell, 262.677.2248
dandmbell55@yahoo.com

Nothing to report.

Evangelism Committee
Nelson Erdman
theerdmans@hotmail.com

Thanks to Jennifer Miller for helping with the Living Nativity, the Christmas ads, updating the banners, and helping with the mailing. Thanks to Diane Kowalski, Kathy Smith, and Holly Kuester who helped set up our last mailing. Also thanks to Troy Schmeling and Kristina Schmeling for help with the Living Nativity. The committee will be designing an Early Winter/Registration mailer along with new social media posts. The committee is also working on updating the narthex TV slides and updating the banner for each event. Well over 400 people attended the Living Nativity at Cedarburg Creek Farm. A special thanks to all those who helped make this event as successful as it was in bringing the Nativity to life.

Stewardship Committee
Jim Korthals, Telephone # 262.242.8143
korthalj@wls.wels.net

A revised copy of the proposed budget for 2016 was distributed. This was added to New Business.

Spiritual Growth Committee
Andy Loeffler, Telephone #262.677.2319
2046home@gmail.com

Bibles have been ordered. The committee is currently looking for guests for Bible classes.

Treasurer's Report
Randy Matter, Telephone # 262.412.6643
rmattercpa@gmail.com

The printed report for November was presented. The YTD operating fund balance was a deficit in the amount of \$85,606.14. The YTD offerings to our WELS missions were \$78,290.81 which was 96.22% of budget. The YTD offerings to the KMLHS operating fund were \$44,029.79 which was 98.79% of budget and KML Joyful Noise was \$7,027.51 which was 83.47% of budget.

A motion was made and carried to accept the reports.

OLD BUSINESS

2016 Ministry Budget – The current revision of the proposed 2016 budget was presented and discussed. It should now be ready to be printed and distributed to the members of the congregation.

Called Worker Staffing Policy – Mike will distribute the latest revision to the council.

Exploration of Endowment Fund at David's Star – This was tabled until next month.

NEW BUSINESS

School Tuition Rates for 2016-2017 – A motion was made and carried to increase the member tuition for grades 4K-8 by \$50 per student per year and to increase non-member tuition for grades K-8 by \$100 per student per year. This will be added to the agenda of the annual meeting for approval by the voters at the annual voters' meeting.

Recording of Tuition and Fees in 2016 – Randy presented an alternate approach to recording the receipt of school tuition so that rather than record all of it in one month, it would be divided up among the 12 months of the calendar year. The pros and cons of this approach were discussed.

Election Ballot Update – A handout was passed out that listed the elected board and committee positions. There was some discussion regarding some potential candidates for the vacant positions.

2016 Housing Allowance Designations – A motion was made and carried to approve the following amounts designated under the Internal Revenue Code Section 107 as a parsonage allowance for the 2016 calendar year for Ministers of the Gospel. Should any of the Ministers of the Gospel named have the use of a church owned home, they will have the tax-free use of the home for calendar year 2016.

Rev. Michael Woldt	\$7,200
Rev. Kurt Loescher	\$6,500
Mr. Tim Gustafson	\$20,000
Mr. John Giddings	\$25,000
Mr. Tom Neuman	\$20,000
Mr. Randall Watts	\$28,000

Next month's meeting is **Tuesday, January 12, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.**

A motion was made and carried to adjourn. The meeting was closed with a blessing.

Respectively submitted,

Keith Rusch, Recording Secretary
keith_rusch@yahoo.com.

**REGISTRATION 2016
FOR 3K & 4K PRESCHOOL AND 5K
KINDERGARTEN**

Listed below are the registration days for each of our classes. Invitations will be going out in the mail at the end of December. Parents are asked to stay to fill out the registration forms in the concessions area while your child is in the classroom. Please enter through the south doors off of Spring Valley Road.

3K Preschool Friday, January 29 8:30-10:00am Children must be 3 years old by September 1st. Children will be able to attend an abbreviated preschool day. Our 3K Preschool Program is 2 days/week on Tuesday and Thursday. Child care will be available when they are not in class.

4K Kindergarten Thursday, January 28 8:30-10:00am Children must be 4 years old by September 1st. Children will be able to attend an abbreviated kindergarten day. Our 4K Kindergarten Program is 3 days/week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Child care will be available when they are not in class.

5K Kindergarten Friday, January 29 8:30-11:30am Children must be 5 years old by September 1st. Children will be able to attend an abbreviated kindergarten day. Our 5K Kindergarten Program is 5 full days/week.