

SAVED

By Grace,

CALLED

To Serve.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 55
Atwater, MN 56209

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February 24...WELCA Love OFFERING & CAMP SUNDAY!
SPECIAL BLUEGRASS
MUSICAL GROUP
Leading WORSHIP!

Rev. Kathy Hartley, Interim Pastor

Janelle Eisenbacher, Office Administrator
Home: 320.664.4416

Melissa Rossell, Office Administrator
Home: 320.974.3150

Church Contact Information

Phone: 320.974.8695

Fax: 320.974.8687

email: imman@frontiernet.net

Website: www.immanuelatwater.com

Facebook: Immanuel Lutheran - Atwater, MN

True Love.

For God so lo**V**ed the world

That He g**A**ve

His on**L**y

Begott**E**n

So**N**

Tha**T** whosoever

Believeth **I**n Him

Should **N**ot perish,

But have **E**verlasting life.

John 3:16



Volume XXXVIII - Number 11 - February 2013

The OUTREACH

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

February 3 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m.Worship/Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.Fellowship
10:15 a.m.Sunday School/Confirmation

February 10 - Transfiguration of Our Lord

9:00 a.m.Worship
10:00 a.m.Fellowship
10:15 a.m.Sunday School/Confirmation

February 13 - Ash Wednesday

7:00 p.m.Worship @ Immanuel
Imposition of Ashes/Holy Communion

February 17 - 1st Sunday of Lent

9:00 a.m.Worship/Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.Fellowship
10:15 a.m.Sunday School/Confirmation

February 20 - Midweek Lenten Service

7:00 p.m.Worship @ Bethlehem

February 24 - 2nd Sunday of Lent

9:00 a.m.Worship
**WELCA LOVE OFFERING - SPECIAL MUSICAL
GROUP LEADING WORSHIP
CAMP SUNDAY CELEBRATION**

10:00 a.m.Fellowship
10:15 a.m.Sunday School/Confirmation
*Sunday School Kids meet in Sanctuary at 10:15
for Camp Message/Music; Class Time to Follow*

February 27

7:00 p.m.Lenten Worship @ Immanuel

WEATHER-RELATED ANNOUNCEMENTS

If Immanuel's worship services are cancelled, an announcement will be made on Q102 (102.5FM)/KWLM (1340AM) radio. You can also check "Operation Snow Desk" at www.yourq102.com or check Immanuel's Facebook page.

LENTEN WORSHIP

The Bethlehem/Immanuel Midweek Lenten Series is: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus."

We live our lives beneath the cross of Jesus, beneath God's love and grace that reach to us from the cross upon which Jesus gave his life for us.

Based on the hymn, "Beneath the Cross of Jesus," this series explores what it means for us to dwell in the house of the Lord and to confess our sins and receive God's forgiveness.

The midweek worship schedule is:

February 13 - Ash WednesdayImmanuel
Imposition of Ashes/Holy Communion
February 20Bethlehem
February 27Immanuel
March 6Bethlehem
March 13Immanuel
March 20Bethlehem
March 28 - Maundy ThursdayImmanuel
March 29 - Good FridayBethlehem

All services will be at 7 p.m. with a supper served from 5:30 - 6:45 p.m. at the host church.



LOVE OFFERING/CAMP SUNDAY EVENT

Plan to join us February 24 at our 9 a.m. worship for a special musical event! We are happy to have a local musical group leading our worship. Our WELCA group has arranged for them to be here for the annual Love Offering. All WELCA women are encouraged to bring their Love Offerings February 24.

One of the musicians in this group is Dave Eliason, Director of Congregation & Community Engagement for Green Lake Lutheran Ministries. Dave will be greeting us on behalf of the camp, sharing a special children's message, and will be meeting with Sunday School students following worship to share great information about summer camp opportunities, and fun camp music, too!

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Just Do it! For Jesus:

Serving God and Serving Others As Away of Life

Sometimes they are the quiet ones, hardly noticed, remaining in the background. They are the ones who are “just there” volunteering their time, helping to make this world a better place.

They are the first ones to help set up tables, serve food, help with the kids, bring food to the food shelf or a neighbor or work on mission events. They are givers rather than takers, and there is a big difference between the two. The difference is shown in their attitude toward people and toward the purpose of their lives.

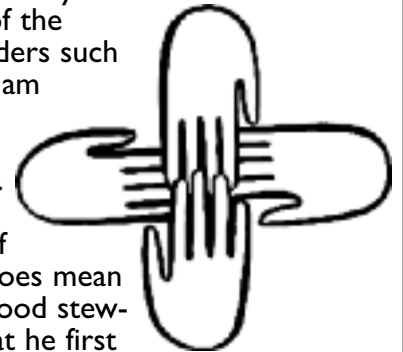
I have a statement that I keep near me on my desk, it was written by Helen Keller and it says this:

Many persons have a wrong idea of what constitutes true happiness. It is not attained through self-gratification but through fidelity to a worthy purpose.

True happiness and joy are not achieved through the attainment of things that are tangible but through the intangible—a legacy of love and compassion, of helping others. For Christians, our “worthy purpose” is living out the gospel, the “Good News” through our words and deeds. When Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was, he said, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself.”

True happiness is also not achieved through self-centered lives. One of Jesus’ main themes in loving

our neighbor is that of service. “The first shall be last and the last shall be first.” Martin Luther said we are to be slaves of no one but servants of all. This does not mean being walked over or not standing up for justice for you or for others. Some of the greatest Christian leaders such as Martin Luther, William Wilberforce, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. expressed their faith through the pursuit of justice. One thing it does mean for all of us is being good stewards—giving God what he first gave us—out time, our talent, and money.



There are many ways to live out servanthood in our church and in our community. Just look around. Ask how you can be involved. If you are not “giving back” or “paying it forward” through service, this new year of 2013 may be a time of new beginnings. If your life feels empty and without meaning, you need to be involved in a worthy purpose—not in order to earn your way to heaven (we are saved by grace through faith) but in order to live our your faith in your daily life. Martin Luther said that one’s outside actions reflect the inside state of one’s soul. It’s time to get involved! Just do it!

Pastor Kathy

OFFICE HOURS

The **church office** is typically open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. - Noon. Fridays from 9-11 a.m.

Pastor Kathy will be in the office Tuesdays and Wednesdays, however, some of these times may be used for home visits. Please call ahead if you would like to meet with her.

MARCH OUTREACH DEADLINE

March Outreach **articles are due** in the church office on **Sunday, February 17.**

We will be **folding** the March Outreach Wednesday, **February 27**, at 9:00 a.m. Helping hands are needed.

WELCA NEWS

Mark your calendars for the BIG LOVE OFFERING Event Feb. 24. We have a new gospel/bluegrass group coming to entertain us and also host our WELCA Love Offering the last Sunday in February.

Feb. 18 is another date to save. The Lakeland Conference Women's Winter Retreat at Green Lake Bible Camp is a day full of fun, fellowship, speakers and, of course, food. There is a cost of \$10.00 and pre-registration. Look for information on the WELCA board.



If you haven't yet noticed, there are new table cloths in the fellowship hall. YEAH! Thanks to Veda for her donation of the round cloths. We were able to find new rectangle cloths in our back room. Thanks to Shirley F. and Robin J., we look a bit brighter during fellowship.

SERVING GROUPS are being listed for 2013, with new chair people. We would like to get a cell phone from the servers not listed in the phone book. Please, share a friend's number if you have it.

If you are a fan of the WELCA Quilt Auctions, please give a hand to our tiny sewing group. WANTED: anyone to tie knots, sew squares, line up material, use a scissors. The gals meet Monday afternoons. Don't be shy if you have any interest at all. You may be able to learn a lost art of your family heritage.

WELCA will meet again Feb. 10 during fellowship time, after coffee. We need to confirm our upcoming WELCA Events.

*Sisters in Christ, Linda Burns
WELCA Interim President*

WORSHIP SERVICE BROADCAST TIMES

Our Sunday Worship is broadcast on Channel #8 every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m.

If you have a special request for a church service broadcast, please call 320.974.3388.



WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Morning Bible Study meets at Peaceful Thymes at 9:00 a.m. Thursday mornings.

KITCHEN CLEANING INFORMATION

There have been some questions as to what the serving groups need to do for monthly kitchen cleanings. Kitchen details should be (for the most part) common everyday, household jobs like you would do cleaning your own kitchen - wiping off counters, checking cabinets for untidiness, straightening out the drawers. Drawers are labeled for what goes where. Sweep and mop the floor if need be. COMMON SENSE works every time. Thanks!

Immanuel's Website is New & Improved!

Visit the church website to view The Outreach, Weekly Bulletins & The Monthly Calendar.

www.immanuelatwater.com
email: imman@frontiernet.net

Other Helpful Internet Links:

Prayer Ventures:

<http://archive.elca.org/prayerventures/>

Synod Update:

<http://www.swmnelca.org/html/Synod%20Update.html>

GLLM Retreats: www.gllm.org

EVENING QUILTING GROUP

The evening quilting group will meet February 11 and 25.

We will begin making spring table toppers using a quilt as you go technique. If you are making a table topper for the fellowship hall, fabric and batting will be provided. Bring grey thread if you plan to sew, but sewing machines are optional.

All are welcome. If you would like to participate but cannot attend, please call Peggy @ 974-3370.

FEBRUARY 24 COFFEE HOUR

WELCA is generously providing cake for coffee hour February 24, however, we are in need of someone to serve/work in the kitchen that morning. Please contact the church office if you are available to help.

CHOIR PRACTICE



The 7 p.m. choir practice will change to 6:30 p.m. once Lenten services begin. Any questions, please contact Deb Mickle.



LIONS
WAFFLE BRUNCH
& preschool bake sale
Sunday, February 3
9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.
Atwater Community Center

**ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
DAD'S BELGIAN WAFFLES**



**Proceeds Benefit the "Cash for Kids" Scholarship Program,
which provides scholarships for ACGC Preschool students.**

your support will be very much appreciated!!

**Supplemented by the Kandiyohi County Chapter
of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans #31307**

145th Annual Meeting of Immanuel Lutheran Church January 27, 2013

The 145th Annual Meeting of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Atwater, Minnesota was held on Sunday, January 27th following our morning worship service.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Chuck Stranberg. Interim Pastor Kathy Hartley led us in devotions on Guidance using excerpts from Proverbs, Isaiah, and Psalms. An addition to the agenda was appointment of Deb Mickle as recording secretary. A motion was made by Ernie Frarck and second by Larry Stranberg to approve the agenda as printed in the Annual Report.

A motion was made by Veda Stockland and second by Bob Starz to approve the minutes of the 144th Annual Meeting as printed. Motion passed unanimously.

Pastor Kathy and Council President Chuck Stranberg gave their respective reports.

The Financial Secretary was accepted as printed and audited.

A motion to accept Pastor's Report, President's Report and Financial Secretary Report was made by Bob Starz, second by Dean Nelson. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports were read and approved by groups. Pat Walsh thanked all who work on the upkeep of our property. Janelle Eisenbacher spoke about participating in Faith and Action Events. The Altar Guild thanked Larry and Sheryl Stranberg for their service and also Jolene Garberich and Deb Mickle for accepting co-chair position. Pat Walsh made a motion to accept the SW Synod report and the Council Ministry Team reports as printed in our annual report. A second was made by Peggy Starz. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Sandy Walsh and second by Vivian Nelson to accept the sub-committee reports and scholarship reports as printed in the annual report. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Peggy Starz and second by Sheryl Stranberg to accept the Financial Reports of the Marv Otto/Immanuel Trust Fund, Women of ELCA, Education Fund, Youth Group, Memorial Fund and Hermena Carly Trust and Organ Repair Loan. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Larry Stranberg and second by Ernie Frarck to accept the Statistics and Memorial Reports as printed in the Annual Report. Motion passed unanimously.

There was no old business.

In new business we received an update on the call committee by chair Ernie Frarck.

A motion was made by Pat Walsh and second by Veda Stockland to approve Resolution #1 as printed in our Annual Report. Motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Bob Starz and second by Larry Stranberg to approve Resolution #2 the Proposed Ministry Financial Plan of \$169,130. Motion passed unanimously.

Also in new business, Linda Burns spoke to the need for more participation in WELCA, and the possible need to prepare a list of men available to help at funerals. Peggy Starz thanked the council for the money received from Immanuel for the Pre-school, and Veda Stockland thanked the council for the money donated to the ambulance squad.

A motion was made by Veda Stockland and second by Larry Stranberg authorizing the council to donate \$4,000 to distribute to various local organizations. Motion passed unanimously.

Elections for various positions were then held. Nominations were made. A motion by Veda Stockland and second by Pat Walsh to cast a unanimous ballot for the following positions: 3 year council term- John Hagstrom, Sue Bohn, Robin Johnson, Youth Position - Jaylen Rossell and 1 year term Deb Mickle. Synod Assembly Delegate – Gayla Fontaine & Roger Holm with Jo Holm as alternate. Motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Veda Stockland and second by Pat Walsh to nominate Paula Pistulka as congregational secretary.

Closing Prayer was led by Pastor Kathy Hartley.

A motion was made and second to adjourn the 145th Annual meeting of Immanuel Lutheran Church. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S DAY EVENT

The Living at Home Block Nurse Program is sponsoring their annual President's Day Pie & Ice Cream Event Monday, February 18, from 1-4 p.m. at the Atwater Community Center. All proceeds go to the Atwater LAH/BNP. Everyone welcome!



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LIKE US ON
FACEBOOK

You can find our page at [Immanuel Lutheran - Atwater, MN](#). We hope to use this site as a valuable outreach tool, and to post announcements and information. There are lots of great photos to see from our recent events, including Rally Sunday, Lefse-Making, and the Fall Festival.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION & RECEPTION

There will be a new member orientation Sunday, March 10, at 10:00 a.m. Pastor Kathy will be meeting with anyone who is considering becoming a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church.

We will receive new members during our 9 a.m. worship service Sunday, March 17.

If you know of anyone who would like more information about becoming a member of Immanuel's fellowship, please have them contact the church office at 974-8695 as soon as possible.

Christian Education **corner**

camp Sunday

We will celebrate Camp Sunday February 24. If you are thinking about attending a Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Bible Camp this summer, this is a great time for you to learn more about the different programs available and the weekly schedule for summer camp. Camps are available for all ages! Youth can attend a camp on their own after they complete 1st grade (Half-Blast), and younger kids can attend Family Camp with parents. There are many opportunities for elementary, jr. high, and sr. high students.

Dave Eliason from GLLM will be greeting us Camp Sunday, sharing a special children's message, and meeting with Sunday School kids at 10:15 a.m. in the sanctuary.

2012 Bible Campers: Please submit your camp pictures and written memories/camp thoughts to the church office ASAP. You can also email the info to imman@frontiernet.net. We need this before Camp Sunday.

first Communion

First Communion instruction will be Wednesday, May 1. First Communion is offered to 5th graders, but can also include any older youth who have not previously had instruction. The May 1 meeting will include both children and parents. Those attending will share a meal and learn more about the sacrament of Holy Communion. Those participating in First Communion instruction are invited to participate in the sacrament of Holy Communion Sunday, May 5, at our 9 a.m. worship.

confirmation classes

Confirmation kids will be meeting with mentors for discussion and fun activities during the Lenten season. Information will be given to you in class as it becomes available.

We are making plans to help at the Willmar Food Shelf in March. The confirmation retreat is April 5-7, so mark your calendars!

sundaySchool

Sunday, February 24, we will have a different schedule. All students and teachers should plan to meet in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. Our music time will be first and we will hear from Dave Eliason about Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Bible camp opportunities. Dave will share some fun camp music with us that morning! Class time will follow.

TEACHERS: The second-half curriculum has arrived. Please see Barb Everson to get your new materials. The bonus materials will also be printed and distributed to you as soon as possible.

camperBrunch

Thanks to all the campers and families who helped with the Annual Meeting brunch in January. Also, thanks to all of you who donated money to our camper scholarship fund. Your support is greatly appreciated!

*****CAMP REGISTRATION REMINDER*****

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED WITH GLLM **BY APRIL 29** IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM IMMANUEL. All you need to do is fill out your registration form and send it to GLLM with a \$50 registration fee - you can also register online. *(If you register for a certain week and find the need to switch to a different week as summer gets closer, GLLM is very willing to help you do this.)* In order for us to get our payment made in time, we need to have our final camper numbers by this date. After April 29, you will be notified of the amount being paid by the church.

Any additional camp payments can be made directly to Immanuel. If you have any questions, please talk to Janelle.

bibleamp Fundraisers

The "Book Sale" Bible Camp Fundraiser continues. Anyone who has gently used books that you are finished with (including children's books) is encouraged to donate books for our sale. **Cost: \$1/hardcover, \$.50/softcover.**

Thanks for supporting our campers, and thanks to all those who have donated and purchased books. We plan to continue this fundraiser as long as we have books to sell, so please check out the selection of books regularly!

Christian Education Ministry Team Members

Shane Hagstrom ♦ Barb Everson
Janelle Eisenbacher ♦ Nick Rossell

christian education calendar of Events

(watch for monthly updates!)

DATE	TIME - PLACE	EVENT
February 24	9:00 a.m./Immanuel	Camp Sunday
February 24	10:15 a.m./Immanuel	Camp Message/Music for Sunday School
March 10		Confirmation Service Project
April 5		Confirmation Retreat
April 15		Early Bird Registration Deadline for GLLM Camps
April 29		Deadline to Notify Immanuel of GLLM Camp Registration
May 1		First Communion Instruction Meeting

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - January 9, 2013

Meeting called to order by President Chuck Stranberg.

Members Present: Chuck Stranberg, Deb Mickle, Jacklyn Frericks, Shane Hagstrom, Pat Walsh, Dean Nelson, Harold Eisenbacher and Pastor Kathy Hartley. Members Absent: Bethany Ehrenberg, Harlan Madsen.

Devotions were led by Pastor Kathy.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made by Dean and second by Harold to approve the minutes of the December 2012 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Full report is available in the Church Office.
A motion was made by Shane and second by Dean to approve the Treasurer's Report for December 2012. Motion passed unanimously subject to audit.

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS: Full reports, if available, can be found in the Church Office.

Christian Education:

1. VBS will be June 2-6 at Immanuel.
2. Carpet project on hold until Summer 2013.
3. Camp Sunday tentatively set for February 24th, 2013

Building/Property:

A motion was made by Harold and second by Shane to buy two furnaces from Dale Kragenbring in an amount not exceed the emergency building fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Finance/Stewardship: \$2,000 in outreach money was given to various organization and individuals.

Worship & Music:

1. Organ project will start in February.
2. Choir numbers are up.

Evangelism/Faith in Action:

1. Service Weekend at GLLM, Bunco Night, Welcoming Event, need more people involved.
2. Bluegrass Band on May 5th
3. Lenten Suppers – need a group to take charge of these.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Full report is available in the Church Office.

1. Lenten Theme will be "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" held jointly with Bethlehem.
2. Mirror needed in Pastor's office.

OTHER COUNCIL ITEMS:

February meeting of Council will be held on Sunday, February 17th, 2013 at 2 pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Call Committee Progress – 6 names have been received from the Synod.
2. Custodian and Maintenance Position – position has been posted. Some interest has been received.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Annual Meeting – reports are due by Friday at the very latest. Meeting will be held January 27th after worship service. A brunch will be held to benefit Camper Scholarships.
2. Council Positions – 4 positions are needed to be filled. 3 for a 3 year term and 1 for a 1 year term.
3. New Members – several people are interested in joining. Council directed Pastor Kathy to move forward with new member class and welcome.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Shane Hagstrom, Secretary

Council & Ministry Team Schedule

Council Meets: February 17, 2 p.m.

Devotions: TBD

Worship & Music: TBD*

Christian Ed.: Sun. Feb. 10, 11:30 a.m.

Finance/Stewardship: TBD*

Property: TBD*

Evangelism/Faith in Action:

Sun. Feb. 17, 10:15 a.m.

*Team Leaders, please notify the church office of your monthly meeting date and time so that information can be included in the Outreach.

DECEMBER OFFERING

General Fund

First Sunday	.....\$3476.00
Second Sunday	.....1869.00
Third Sunday	.....3016.00
Christmas	.....1164.00
Fourth Sunday	.....1509.00
Total	.....\$11,034.00

Building Fund

First Sunday	.....\$50.00
Second Sunday	.....40.00
Third Sunday	.....120.00
Christmas	.....1000.00
Fourth Sunday	.....100.00
Total	.....\$1310.00

Pony Express

First Sunday	.....\$0.00
Second Sunday	.....0.00
Third Sunday	.....0.00
Fourth Sunday	.....0.00
Total	.....\$0.00

Organ Replacement Project

First Sunday	.....\$125.00
Second Sunday	.....130.00
Third Sunday	.....1155.00
Christmas	.....110.00
Fourth Sunday	.....3300.00
Total	.....\$4820.00

Per Sunday

Average Attendance (per Sunday)	.....119
Christmas Attendance	.....125
Avg. General Giving (per service)	...\$2207.00
Avg. Building Fund Giving (per service)	\$262.00
Avg. Pony Express Giving (per Sunday)	.\$0.00

Offering Needed

Per Sunday	.....\$3253.00
Per Month\$14,094.00

Income for 2012 (excluding Organ Project)

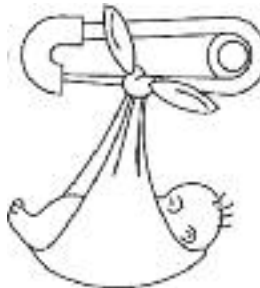
Thru December\$137,748.00
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Needed for Remainder of 2012\$7968.00

2012 Total Budget\$145,716.00

**please note that these figures do not reflect all financial transactions*

NEW BABY



Congratulations to Brittney Naber and Dan Fuchs on the birth of their son, Kayden Lee Fuchs. Kayden was born January 1 at Rice Memorial Hospital in Willmar, MN.

God's blessings to Kayden and his family!

RECENTLY BAPTIZED

Natalie Gostynski

We rejoice as Natalie Gostynski was baptized at Immanuel January 6. Natalie's sponsor is Janelle Kurr.



God's blessings to Natalie!

Harrison James Litzau

We rejoice as Harrison James Litzau, son of Elizabeth & Jason Litzau, was baptized at Immanuel January 13. Harrison's sponsors are Alyssa Wuebker and Dave Litzau.

God's blessings to Harrison & his family!

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Edward Jansen

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Edward Jansen, who passed away January 3, and his funeral was January 25 at Immanuel.

In Deepest Sympathy



May God bring comfort and peace during this time of grieving.

THANK YOU

To the Distinguished Members of Immanuel Lutheran,

On the morning of December 28th, I awoke to what would become the most directly life altering day of my short life. Within 20 minutes of hitting my alarm, I was left to watch everything I own ignite in flames, turning to ash the only place I have called home since becoming an “adult” (let that be a lesson to never hit the Snooze!). Each day since has brought a reminder of something I will never see again, from 4th grade basketball jerseys to college acceptance letters to a repository of Happy Birthday cards from my grandmother, Rocile. However, my most chilling realization has been tied to the things I cannot remember owning in the first place. Our closets were packed full of mementos, pictures, cards, and other things kept to recollect a fond experience or important chapter of my life. But there were so many of these things that without them in my sight to jog my memory, the attachments I had to them will evaporate as quickly as the smoke that morning.

I bring this up to relay the limited importance of “stuff,” and why that day was so life changing for me. In my time as a member of this fine Church, I have listened to countless sermons and Sunday School lessons regarding the exaggerated importance of possessions in our lives. This notion never became real to me until I lost all of mine... and was left having to take a personal inventory of what I still had; what I found was more than I ever could have realized before that morning. Put simply, the fire did not ruin my friendships, it did not burn my warmest memories, and it did not evaporate my faith in people being good. And this last point is key.

My biggest take away from the fire was not my phone or the jacket I grabbed as I ran out. It was the realization that if you give your neighbors, family, friends, and community a reason to do good things, they will support you above and beyond what could ever be expected. In the two weeks that have followed, I have had members from this community (some of whom I haven't seen in years) lend a place to stay, a pair of shoes, a few kind words, and an offer that they will do whatever it takes to help. My take away has been realizing that possessions are indeed just “stuff,” replaceable things that are simply meant to help us in our daily lives. And when you accumulate too much of it, you can't even remember it all (which blinds you from seeing the things you've had all along, the things inflammable to even the hottest fires).



I feel the deepest sense of gratitude for the donation the church collected after hearing about my troubles, and it will go a long way to helping me get back to a more normal way of living. However, the Church providing me the most basic feeling of support from our congregation and the surrounding community, from the good deeds offered to the endless words of encouragement, has been truly remarkable and irreplaceable. More than anything else, this experience has shown me that roast beef suppers are not simply a means of revenue, and that quilts are not merely sold for warmth. The brotherhood and sisterhood of our community, the emotional support of when one falls we all fall, when one hurts we all hurt, invigorates a faith that people are good, and it has reminded me of why we do the things we do for each other. I cannot thank the Church enough for your blessings, prayers, and donations, and I can only hope this experience has helped others like myself see what truly is important...something that no fire can take away.

Humblest Regards, Nicolas Hutchinson

FEBRUARY



Celebrating

An Anniversary This Month

- 2-7 Paul & Denise Hedberg
- 2-9 Arthur & Sandra Nelson
- 2-14 David & Joan Hedberg
- 2-22 Scott & Debb Fredrick
- 2-25 Dean & Beth Nelson
- 2-26 Stanley & Mary Peterson
- 2-27 Dana & Krista Hedberg

HOMEBOUND LIST

Please remember these homebound people with a visit, a card, or a special prayer to bring a little added sunshine into their lives.



Doris Berscheid
Box 266
Atwater, MN 56209

Mark S. Berscheid
Willmar Care Center
500 Russell St. NW
Willmar, MN 56201
Room 5

Lucille Carlson
Bethesda Heritage
1012 3rd St. SE
Room 360
Willmar, MN 56201

Blanche Hoepner
Sunnyview
316 Sunrise Lane
P.O. Box 686
Atwater, MN 56209

Bill Hutchinson
Bethesda Heritage
Room 322B
1012 3rd St.
Willmar, MN 56201

Robert & Darlene Kirk
20277 105th Ave. SE
Atwater, MN 56209

Linnea Johnson
Bethesda Pleasantview
901 Willmar Ave. SE
Room G10
Willmar, MN 56201
262-5033

Grace Peterson
11055 180th St. NE
Atwater, MN 56209
974-8273

Rocile Sokolosky
322 Sunrise Lane
Atwater, MN 56209
974-8217

Marcy Stone
c/o Ron & Kathy Garner
6000 195th St. NE
Atwater, MN 56209

- 2-1 Kristi Wareing
- 2-2 Jill Bengtson
- 2-3 Elaine Wothe
- Dennis Wallin
- Danny Petersen
- Brent Mahn
- 2-4 Steve Bomstad
- 2-5 Hazel Kusler
- Jennifer Schwartz
- 2-6 Elizabeth Litzau
- 2-8 Lisa Schultz
- 2-9 Marty Kragenbring
- 2-10 Sandy Walsh
- Erin Hovey
- Heidi Hoekstra
- 2-11 Sheila Tanata
- Lily Hansen
- 2-12 Betty Stranberg
- Sandra Petersen
- Kirk Elton
- Anna Shoultz
- 2-14 Kathy Mahn
- 2-15 Lindsey Burns
- 2-16 Shirley Walsh
- 2-17 Donald Anderson
- Nathan Rimmel
- 2-19 Doug Anderson
- Shane Hagstrom
- Steven Fluck
- 2-20 Robert Carruthers
- 2-22 Gregg Kragenbring
- David Olson
- Caitlin Ehrenberg
- 2-23 Jeff Johnson
- Sarah Lease
- 2-25 Brian Hovey
- 2-26 Travis Christensen
- 2-27 Jean Stranberg
- Kim Anderson
- 2-28 Larry Rossell
- 2-29 Danita Hansen

Please remember to notify the church office of any corrections that should be made to birthdays, anniversaries, names, addresses, etc., so we can keep our files updated. Thanks!

