



Parish Newsletter

**"If we can just communicate,
Together we'll walk thru Heaven's Gate"**



ST. WENDELIN'S - LUXEMBURG, MN * April 28 , 2024 - 651st Edition

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ST. WENDELIN'S

PARISH FESTIVAL

Coming Up

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024

**Save the Date!
Spread the Word!**

Again featuring a BASKET SILENT AUCTION

As part of the Marketplace Stand
Donations for the baskets are needed.
Please call Marla Honer, 320-266-0336 or
Mary Schaefer, 320-250-1650

**We're looking forward to another great
day of working together for our parish.**

**Dan Salzbrun Chair, 980-1558
John Ludwig, Co-Chair, 259-8136**

Each day is an opportunity to share our hearts,
Our love, and our lives to the fullest.
Sometimes that means just making
the most out of the smallest things
like listening to each other,
holding each other's hand,
or just being together.

Don't run through life so fast that you forget,
Not only where you've been but also where you're going.
Life is not a race but a journey to be savored
each step of the way.

Learn to be silent.
Let your quiet mind listen
To God speaking to you.

Happiness is a butterfly,
Which when pursued,
Is always just beyond your grasp,
But which, if you sit down quietly,
May light upon you.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

May 26, 2024

DEADLINE for News:

Monday May 20, 2024

**If you can get your items in earlier,
it would appreciated.**

**Get your articles to Sheila Albers
7876 Ahles Road St. Cloud, MN
Phone 320-251-7116**

Or e-mail: alberssheila@gmail.com

FINANCE COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, March 21, 2024

Unapproved Minutes

St. Wendelin's Finance Council held its meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the St. Wendelin's school library.

Opened with a prayer lead by Lisa.Lichte.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeanne Lommel, Todd Hurrle, Lisa Lichte, Kelly Knier, and Trustee Erin Lommel. Also present were guests Mike Ritzer and Tracy Dombrovski.

MEMBER ABSENT and excused – Trustee Joe Watrin.

REVIEW OF AGENDA:

The meeting agenda was reviewed. A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Lisa, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mike reported on things that the Cemetery Committee has been working on. The available plots are running low and he presented a map of potential areas that there could be more spots added. Mike will investigate what it would cost to build a mausoleum. There was also discussion on putting a map of the cemetery on the website in the future so people can find their loved ones easier.

Tracy reported on things that the Parish Life Committee has been working on. There will be a resurrection party after the Easter Vigil mass at SMHOC. St. Wendelin's will be part of the ACC parish tour April 13th. They are considering creating a Mary Garden in front of the rectory. The Finance Council will need more information on the potential cost for a Mary Garden.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Todd, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the November 30, 2023 meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The council reviewed the financial reports. We are in a good spot financially at this time; income is up and expenses are down. A motion to approve the financial reports was made by Todd, seconded by Kelly, and carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

The potential new Finance Council By-Laws were reviewed and a few suggestions were made for some small changes. The council will review these changes again and then they will be submitted for approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

The suggested donation amounts for votive candles were discussed. Currently the suggested donation is less than the actual cost so the council recommended the suggested donation amounts to be increased to \$4 for the large candles and \$1 for the small ones. New signs will be printed.

Discussion was had regarding adding food shelf envelopes to the regular mailings. Todd will check on the cost for this.

PARISH BUDGET:

The 2024/2025 budget was reviewed, but will not need to be approved until the May meeting. The grade school subsidy might need to increase if a new teacher is hired. The budget includes another expected increase to property and liability insurance. This cost has almost doubled in the last 3 years. Todd will contact them to review these increases.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. with a closing prayer lead by Todd.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, May 16th 2024, at St. Wendelin's Library

Respectfully submitted: **Kelly Knier**



ST. WENDELIN CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Advisory Committee April 16, 2024
Unapproved Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 7:00 p.m.

Prayer was led by Bonnie Massmann

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Cassandra Deering, Joe Watrin, Lance Watrin, Jason Salzbrun, Bonnie Massmann, Corey Gerads, Leanne Donnay and Amber Laudenbach

Members Absent: Todd Hurrel, Erin Lommel, Father Erik Ludgren, Pat Salzbrun

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ROUTINE MATTERS

PRINCIPAL REPORT

1. Grants

- a. MN Lottery Conservation Grant for Long Lake \$600
- b. Community Giving Foundation \$1000 Designated towards Curriculum

2. Donation

- a. St. Augusta Legion \$1000/mth
- b. Knights of Columbus \$250 Long Lake
- c. St. Wendelins Lions \$500 Long Lake
- d. St. Wendelin Christian Women \$2000 for Tuition Assistance

3. Preschool

a. Fire Marshall requirement - Bonnie asked how to store items that are in the extra classroom as this will be used as a classroom this fall. Thoughts of adding cupboards with doors above cubbies next to classrooms for needed storage. Possibly in the chair room also. A couple names were suggested to help with this project. Corey will do a walk through with someone in this area to offer suggestions of moving forward.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Finance Report-Discussed teacher addition with budget and also tuition assistance going forward. Bonnie will work on a procedure for this.

Statements sent out for 2023 tuition/aftercare. Only a few not paid in full.

COMMITTEE WORK/REPORT

Dinner Fundraiser Committee - Plans for April 20th dinner are on track.

OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS

Policy Manual review

Section 700's (Code of Conduct of Parents, Guardians, Visitors, Volunteers)
Policy attached to agenda-reviewed/discussed/revise

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

ENROLLMENT

2023-2024 enrollment 51 students

2024-2025 enrollment

<u>CURRENT ESTIMATES</u>	<u>ENROLLED</u>	<u>POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL AT THIS TIME</u>
PS	11	2
K	9	4
1	10	-
2	3	1
3	10	2
4	4	-
5	7	-
6	3	3
TOTAL	57	12

NEW BUSINESS

Endowment

Possible Proposal

Ask letter for Spring 2024 - \$6000 Prep for additional classroom, storage in coatroom areas, new curriculum. Bonnie will draft letter.

Ask letter for Spring 2025 -\$6000 Support for additional teacher

NEW STAFFING

Music Teacher hired Cynthia Ruff -2x/week including mass days and will do Christmas play!
Interviews held for 3/ 4 classroom, Phy. Ed/Health and Cook. Should have more answers within a week-10 days.

Possible options for Computer, Barton

PROPOSED CALENDAR-Reviewed survey completed by school families. Teachers and Advisory council approved draft of calendar.

QUESTIONS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEE Members-none

MEETING GUESTS-none

CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS -None at this time

NEXT MEETINGS: May 21 & June 18

AGENDA ITEMS: Staffing, Wellness Policy (have to have for lunch program. Advisory Council agreed to be involved with this), Staff Handbook (Bonnie may have this ready for June meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by **Leanne Donnay**

ST. WENDELIN'S STUDENTS Have Been Busy!!!



Enjoying bouncing, inflatables as a special treat for reaching their Catholic United Goal!!!! \$12,000



AND, Students, Staff and Guests being served a Sedar Meal to start off their Easter Season!!!



PRESCHOOL NEWS

We have been enjoying the warmer weather this month! The preschoolers enjoyed learning about plants. They were very excited to plant their own flower and are anxiously waiting for them to grow!

This month we have a handful of students that have started reading books from the Flyleaf program we use. They are definitely ready for Kindergarten!

Now that we have finished with our Lenten Chaplets, we have resumed praying the rosary. We just finished with the Glorious mysteries and will revisit the Luminous mysteries. They are working hard on memorizing the Apostles Creed!

Mrs. Haselkamp and Mrs. Gruenes

KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE

Happy Easter Season to all of you from the kindergarten and first grade class! I thought our Lent season was amazingly fruitful. We have been learning how to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and have also been focusing on learning more about Saints through a children's podcast called "Saints Alive." The Saint we are learning about now is Saint Gianna.

Currently, the students are working on projects for the upcoming Volunteer appreciation event.

Since our second grade class just received the Sacrament of First Communion, we will be going to our Atrium this week for the presentation called, The Eucharistic Presence of the Good Shepherd.

Mrs. Matchinsky

2ND & 3RD GRADE NEWS

The month of April was very exciting for the St. Wendelin's second and third graders. We learned a great amount of information throughout the Easter season. The class participated in a Sedar meal that involved their family members.

Another thing they experienced was celebrating reaching their fundraising goal. Mrs. Massmann rented 2 bounce houses and each class took turns bouncing and having fun!

I'm also SO HAPPY AND PROUD to announce that the second graders have received the gift of First Communion. We pray that they may always feel God's presence in their lives.



4TH & 5TH GRADE NEWS

The 4th and 5th graders had a special opportunity to help with preparations for the Seder Meal. They worked in groups to learn how to make and then prepare unleavened bread. Throughout Lent, they also took on special readings and being g servers during Stations of the Cross.

We also had a Palm Sunday hatching of the eggs we incubated!



Hatched chicks

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

COREY & CHELSEA GERADS

Corey & Chelsea Gerads live at 21405 Agate Beach Road St Cloud MN 56301.

They have two daughters Mia and Nina who go to St. Wendelin's School. They have been assigned to Group 2.

**Welcome to St. Wendelin's
Community!**

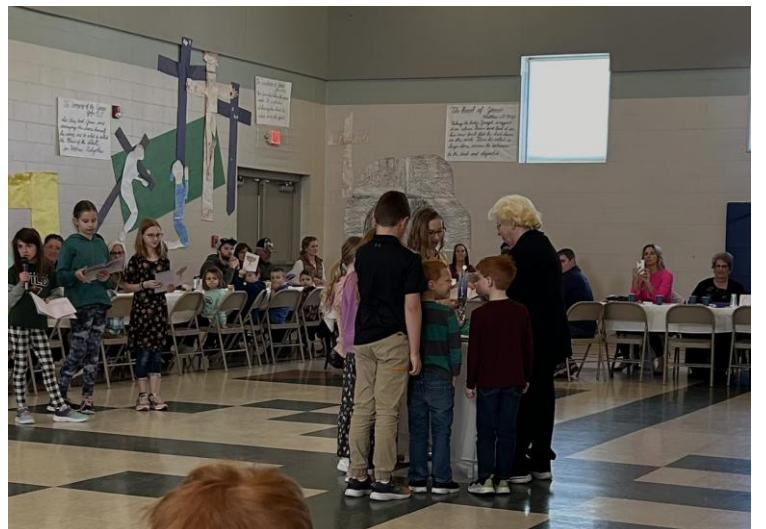
ATTENTION GRADUATES HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE

We would love to hear from you! Please take some time to write a short autobiography and submit a photo for our next Newsletter on May 26th. You can e-mail them to me at alberssheila@gmail.com, mail them to my house at 7876 Ahles Road St. Cloud, MN 56301, put them in the collection basket or get them to the parents in charge of the Graduation Mass. **THE DEADLINE IS MAY 12TH, no exceptions.** We would really appreciate your effort in letting us know a little bit about yourselves, your achievements, some fun things you do, and what your plans are for your future.

Thanks in Advance!

Sheila Albers - Editor

We would like to put the photos in the newsletter in color. Anyone interested in helping pay for the cost please let me know otherwise they will be put in black and white. The cost is \$25 per page. Thanks!



MINUTES FROM ST. ANNE'S CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S MEETING

St. Anne's Christian Women met Tuesday, April 9, 2024 in Mary Hall beginning with fellowship/refreshments at 6:30 p.m. followed by President Karen Des Autels calling the business meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. with opening prayer and pledge of allegiance. Nineteen members were present.

Minutes from the December 12, 2023 meeting were approved as read; also approved was the treasurer's report showing a balance of \$5,613.23 in checking and \$3,537.86 in savings for a total of \$9,151.09. Treasurer Stacy also asked for help in updating recent deaths of our membership to enable having Masses said for the deceased.

OLD BUSINESS

Donations... Following recommendations and discussion, a total of \$4,200.00 in donations was approved as follows:

Pregnancy Resource Center, \$200.00; Hildegard Rohe, \$200.00; Elevate Pregnancy Center, \$400.00; MCCL, \$500.00; Quiet Oaks, \$300.00; St. Wendelin School for Tuition Assistance, \$2,000.00; Jack Massmann, Seminarian from SMHOC, \$300.00 and Poor Clares, \$300.00.

NEW BUSINESS

Rosary at May Sunday Masses... A rosary signup sheet will be in the foyer of the church for members to sign up when they are able to lead the rosary. President Karen encouraged members to gather in small groups and sit up front to lead.

Election of Officers... President Karen announced that election/installation of officers will take place at our next meeting on May 14th. All four officer positions need to be filled. Our current president, vice-president and secretary will not be seeking re-nomination. Members should come to the May meeting with names in mind to nominate for these positions.

Spring West Central Deanery Meeting... will be Tuesday, April 16th at St. Mary's Church, Upsala beginning with 6:00 pm Mass followed by meal and meeting. All are welcome.

Gifts for our Graduates... Following discussion, it was decided to again send congratulatory cards to our high school graduates. Cyntia Lommel and Julie Kraemer have graciously agreed to work with our seven grads to help them with participation in our May 19th Mass in their honor.

Hospitality Committee... Per discussion by our Parish Life Committee, an attempt is being made to establish a Hospitality Committee which is in process. Thoughts are they would visit newcomers and possibly bring food to people in times of special need. Anyone interested in getting involved should call Kathy Watrin at 333-2109. Several group heads who were present stated they regularly welcome new members with a visit (maybe bring a dessert too) or phone call. Membership was grateful that new parishioners are being welcomed in this way.

Final Eucharistic Project... In keeping with the celebration of the Year of the Eucharist, President Karen presented the final project, which was a tri fold "Thinking of You" Card with the inside notation of offering the next Sunday Mass for the recipient. Each member was given a card (along with a stamped envelope) to be sent to the person of her choice.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Commission Reports... Members were advised to check out the "Our Catholic Voice" Newsletter which can be found at www.stcloudccw.org.

Pro Life Notes... Char reported that our state's current, extreme abortion laws that allow abortion right up until birth and in some cases, even allowing newborns to die, have made our state an abortion haven. Also of great concern is the fact that our Legislature has repealed any assistance to Pregnancy Care Centers while also promoting the proposed Equal Rights Amendment which would "enshrine" abortion in our Constitution and restrict religious liberty by removing the word "creed" from protected rights. Besides all this, a proposal is looming to legalize assisted suicide.

In spite of all this negativity, there is hope as seen in current statistics showing many of our younger generation to be pro-life. This was clearly seen at our capitol back on January 22nd at the Prayer Service/March for Life where many young people, especially young men, carried signs saying, "I am the pro life generation"! Giving hope too are groups like 40 Days for Life, MCCL and word from our Bishop Neary that he, along with other MN bishops and clergy, visit legislators at the capitol on a regular basis to express concerns and keep an open dialogue going.

What to do? Char encouraged **PRAYER** including prayers for abortion proponents to have a change of heart to see the humanity of the unborn. She also informed members about **Eucharistic Adoration at the capitol on First Fridays while the Legislature is in session** and invited members to consider going on May 3rd which is the final time for this session. It's also important to keep informed by going to MCCL.org, contacting legislators, supporting our Pregnancy Care Centers and keeping hope as we try to infuse goodness into evil by being Christ-like and loving to all.

Haloes... were given to **Carol Diehl** (from SMHOC) for her work with the Seven Sisters Apostolate, a ministry that gives prayer support to priests and **Karen Des Autels**, for going above and beyond as our St. Anne's CW president.

Miscellaneous... Question was raised as to the challenge of how to get people to accept new jobs or committee work without them feeling it's a forever task. No definite answers here but it's clear this is an ongoing challenge faced in many areas of parish life.

Adjournment at 8:18 pm... with drawing for door prize which went to Pat Salzbrun, and Prayer Partner Exchange. Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 14, 2024 in Mary Hall with fellowship starting at 6:30 pm followed by business meeting at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Char Volkmuth, Secretary

**CHURCH CLEANING
MAY 2024
GROUP 2
STARTING AT 8:00 A.M.**

MAY 4

Karen Kuschel
Steve & Pam Voigt
Norb & Sue Weber
Glenn & Lori Winter
Kelli Winter
***Pat Notch to make reminder calls

MAY 11

Dave & Amy Klema Family
Bob & Jeannie Massmann
Lance & Katie Watrin
Joe & Kathy Watrin
***Delores Heid to make reminder calls

MAY 18

Nick & Mary Leiser
Jean Schabel
Kevin & Diane Thole
Greg & Mary Schaefer
Ron & Sharon Spanier
***Cheri Nies to make reminder calls

MAY 25

Ken & Bonnie Massmann
Matt & Casey Massmann
John & Judy Ludwig
John & Linda Kaiser
Beth Mueller

If you are unable to clean on Saturday,
please leave a note for what was cleaned on
Friday or find someone to clean in your place.
Thank you very much!

RECIPE CORNER

Ron Albers

**PORK CHOPS WITH
COUNTRY GRAVY**

2 Tbsp. vegetable oil, divided
¾ lbs. fresh green beans
1 ¾ tsp. kosher salt, divided
1 tsp. ground black pepper, divided
4 pork rib chops (about ¾" thick)
½ cup chopped country ham
¼ cup finely chopped onion
1 ½ cups chicken broth
½ cup water
½ cup brewed coffee
½ cup whole milk
1/3 cup all-purpose flour
1 Tbsp mustard

In a 12 inch cast-iron skillet, heat 1 Tbsp. oil over medium-high heat. Add beans, ½ tsp. salt, and ¼ tsp. pepper. Cook, stirring frequently, until crisp-tender and lightly browned, about 4 minutes. Remove from skillet. Loosely cover and keep warm.

In same skillet, heat remaining 1 Tbsp. oil over medium heat. Sprinkle 1 tsp. salt and ½ tsp. pepper all over pork chops. Add to skillet, and cook until an instant-read thermometer inserted in thickest portion registers 145 degrees, about 4 minutes per side. Remove from skillet. Loosely cover and keep warm.

Add ham and onion to skillet; cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until lightly browned, about 3 minutes. Stir in broth, ½ cup water, and coffee, scraping browned bits from bottom of skillet with a wooden spoon.

In a small bowl, whisk together milk, flour, remaining ¼ tsp. salt and pepper. Whisk milk mixture into coffee mixture; bring to a simmer, whisking constantly. Reduce heat, and cook until thickened, 2 to 3 minutes more. Whisk in mustard. Place beans and pork chops in skillet; spoon with gravy.

Makes 4 servings.

THANK YOU!

Our most sincere gratitude to everyone who donated to the Easter Decorations and Easter Flower funds! St. Wendelin's parish is extremely thankful for and appreciative of the generous donations that were used to beautify God's House for the Easter Celebration Mass!

God bless each and every one of you!

The Easter flowers were donated in Memory of:

**James Mueller
John Notch
Nic and Betty Spanier
Ken Spanier
Kilian Family
Volkmuth Family
Stephen Mareck
Joe and Fran Blommel
Stacy Diedrich
James Schindler
Ralph and Jean Massmann
Cindy Beckius
John Sworski
Joseph Kiffmeyer
Mike Bloch
Fleischhacker Family
Bloch Family
Alfred and Emma Voit
Louis and Sally Klaverkamp
Kathy Hedlund
Ray and Connie Hedlund
Ron and Alice Heid
Francis and Marilyn Hurrle**

Please keep these individuals/families as well as all the generous donors in your prayers.



Lux Lions



Memorial Weekend Hamburger Sale!

When: Friday May 24th

Where: St Wendelin's School Parking Lot

Time: 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Please place your larger orders in advance,

Call John Honer @ 320-266-0337

Thank You for Your Support!



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