



Parish Newsletter

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



ST. WENDELIN'S - LUXEMBURG, MN * January 26, 2025 - 660th Edition

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The breeze of *God's* grace
is blowing continually.
You have to set your sail
to catch that breeze.

Don't sit down and wait
For opportunities to come...
Get up and make them!

Kind words are short and easy to speak,
But their echoes are truly endless.

...HAPPINESS is not simply a destination,
It is a method of traveling the road of life.

Slow down and enjoy life. It's not only the
scenery you miss by going too fast—you also
miss the sense of where you're going and why.

MARKETPLACE NEWS

Baby it's cold outside!
"Sew" spend your time in-
side Crafting, Sewing, and Shopping online
for the Marketplace stand.
We will do the storage for you so brrrrr-ing
your items to the Hayloft.
Let it Sew! Let it Sew! Let it Sew!



Mary and Marla

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' WEEK

JANUARY 26 –31

MASS 10:00 A.M. JANUARY 26

OPEN HOUSE

JANUARY 30, 2025

6:30 P.M.

Come check out
St. Wendelin's Catholic School
And register your children

To attend this
GREAT SCHOOL!!!!

It's a wonderful place
To get a GREAT EDUCATION!!!

NEXT NEWSLETTER

February 23 , 2025

DEADLINE for News:

Monday February 17, 2025

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



ST. WENDELIN CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 17, 2024

Unapproved Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. A prayer was led by Bonnie Massmann.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bonnie Massmann, Pat Salzbrun, Lance Watrin, Leanne Donnay, Cassandra Deering, Corey Gerads, Amber Laudenbach and Jason Salzbrun

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Routine Matters

A. PRINCIPAL REPORT

1. GRANTS

- a. The School received a grant for marketing which includes developing a new brochure, postage and newspaper ads. Promotional items also possibly including "Future St. Wendelin student" bibs for infants and cinch bag with school logo for T-ball. Someone will reach out to Promotional Resources.
- b. Applied for National Roller Skating Foundation grant which would allow students to attend a STEM class, followed by roller skating at the Skatin' Place for two hours.
- c. Applied for VELA grant to support Montessori training and classroom materials. Bonnie will participate in Zoom meetings to belong to VELA.

2. DONATIONS

- a. St. Augusta Fire Dept. Auxiliary-donation for tone bells and music stands for Music Dept.
- b. Knights of Columbus meat raffle
- c. St. Augusta Legion
- d. Memorial for Sally Koopmeiners
- e. Lux Lions for school Spirit Wear shirts for school employees
- f. CSCOE for staff appreciation dinner
- g. St. Ann's Christian Women for field trip transportation
- h. Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" Project for field trip fund
- i. Hayloft from Holiday Hustle

3. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- a. Financial Management-reviewed/discussed

OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS

- A.. Candy/Pizza-final results \$6,830 with 187 candy bars left to sell.
- B. Spirit Wear-Sold about 90 shirts-not a fundraiser
- C. Capital Campaign-reported that donations are quite a bit lower than last year.
- D. Make and Take-60 children attended. About 16 of these not current students.
- E. CUF-Possibly hosting donut Sunday after Catholic School's Week kick off mass on January 26.

PARISH LIFE MEETING

Our Parish Life Committee met on Thursday, January 9, 2025 in the Mary Hall Entrance area.

Members Present: Tracy Dombrovski, Geralyn Hurrle, Keith Koltas, Virginia Meyer and Char Volkmuth. (Kathy Watrin, unable to attend). Note: The Committee is looking for additional members. If interested, please contact Tracy at 255-9354.

Opening Prayer: Chairperson Tracy called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. and led the group in an opening prayer.

Reading of Minutes...It was agreed reading of minutes is not necessary since our group is advisory only and the minutes are published in "Our Parish Newsletter".

OLD BUSINESS:

Diocesan Questionnaire on Parish Historical and Architectural Info...Char reported the form was completed and sent to our secretary, Shelly, to be sent to the diocese prior to the December 16 deadline. Members involved received a completed copy by email

Welcoming Committee...In absence of chairperson, Kathy, no update was available.

Hospitality Committee...Tabled for the time being since there was no response to recent appeals in the bulletin and "Parish Newsletter".

Membership Records/Parish Census...The importance/benefits of maintaining up to date membership records was discussed at length. Amidst the ongoing challenge of privacy and confidentiality concerns, it was decided to modify a "Membership Memo" developed some time ago and have attendees at an upcoming Sunday Mass fill out this form (per permission from Father Erik) The form would also be available on line. Non respondents would then be mailed the form to help determine who are still parishioners and who are not.

Evangelization...Char will check with Father Erik to get his ideas about the possibility of a Parish Mission as we have not had one since March of 2011, almost 14 years ago. Should we want to go ahead with one, there are a wealth of religious congregations that offer these types of programs. Relative to the time/talent survey discussed at last month's meeting, the group will wait until Kathy Watrin is available to share her input.

NEW BUSINESS:

Parish Education Events... Geralyn Hurrle presented the possibility of offering a Divine Mercy Study during Lent. Sessions would include viewing of DVD's on various topics relating to Divine Mercy (which she has purchased), along with a study guide for questions and discussion. To determine if there is enough interest to move ahead, Geralyn will place announcements in upcoming bulletins asking people to contact her if they wish to take part.

Church Cleaning...It was noted that church cleaning poses a problem as often those assigned are not showing up. Even with the cleaning list usually being published in each week's bulletin and our monthly "Newsletter", as well as reminder calls sometimes being made, it seems people are not always aware they are on for duty. Following lengthy discussion, it was agreed that Tracy will contact Shelly, our secretary, to see if she would be able to make reminder calls each week.

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **DISCUSSION ON 25-26 TUITION.** Need finalized by next meeting.
- B. Discussion on family cap for Preschool
- C. **OPEN HOUSE** January 30, 2025. Re-registration of current families.
- D. Invitations sent to families from parish's databases and ages 2-10 from **MAKE & TAKE.**

QUESTIONS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS-suggested to add "Transportation" as part of school budget in future.

SPRING FUNDRAISER –1st meeting January 16, 2025 Open to all. Dinner/Auction is April 26, 2025. Discussed having a gambling license/is it worth it?

MEETING GUESTS-none

CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

NEXT MEETING: January 21, 2025

Respectfully submitted,
Leanne Donnay

.....

PARISH LIFE MINUTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Duty Roster... Geralyn pointed out the need for those who head various volunteer duties to have their duties written out so in case they be unable to continue in their capacity, there would be clear instructions for whoever steps in. Char will review our current "Duties" list and email to the group suggestions as to which volunteer heads should be contacted in this regard.

Committee Structure... Question came up as to whether to continue our Committee as is, (an advisory group with people volunteering or appointed) or to revert back to a Parish Council with people elected, terms, and by laws. Char will check with Father Erik to find out his thoughts on the matter.

Adjournment at 7:50 pm with closing prayer by Tracy.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 13th at 6:30 pm unless if needed earlier, special meeting would be called.

Respectfully Submitted,
Char Volkmuth, Recorder

SCHOOL NEWS

During the month of January we are very busy at St. Wendelins' School. We will again be participating in the Annual Catholic United Financial Raffle. Tickets are available from any school families or from the school office. All proceeds from the raffle stay at St. Wendelins' School. All costs of the raffle (prizes and materials) are covered by CUF. Tickets will be available after Mass over the next few weeks.

During Catholic Schools' Week, Jan. 26-31, students will be participating in several community service projects and some daily fun activities. During this same week we will begin enrolling students for the 25-26 school year. Anyone interested in information about St. Wendelins' School should contact us at 320-251-9175.

Blessings,

Bonnie Massmann, Principal

PRESCHOOL NEWS

This month we have been working hard getting back into our daily routines. We were shocked at how quickly the students picked right back up where they left off. We continue to work on our handwriting, letter sounds, and rapid number recognition. Three students have begun learning sight words; this is a big deal because it allows them to start reading books to the teachers.

In religion we talked about Baptism. We discussed what baptism means, who John the Baptist is, and what you typically see at a baptism: the baptismal font, the pouring of water over the head 3 times, holy oils, a white garment, and a candle being lit.

At weekly rosary we participated in a family feud style trivia and had a great time! We then moved onto learning the Corporal Works of Mercy and how, even as kids, there are ways that they are able to help others.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Mrs. Haselkamp & Mrs. Gruenes

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

This month we are learning about the Corporal Works of Mercy. Having some background knowledge about these Works will help lead us into Catholic Schools' Week prepared to participate in some great service oriented projects and activities.

We are preparing to do some organizing, sorting, and folding of donated clothes that the sisters at St. Ben's need help with. We will also be making tie quilts for dialysis patients who get chilled during treatment.

The students will be decorating placemats for use over at the Hayloft, so if you stop in there at the end of January maybe you'll get to eat on one!

This month we also enjoyed some Family Feud style competition on rosary and Bible trivia. It was very fun to observe and hear just how much these students have learned and know!!

Mrs. Matchinsky

1ST & 2ND GRADE NEWS

Happy New Year!! The first and second graders hope you are having a great start to the year. We have established new goals for our class. For starters, the kids can only use cursive when writing. This has been a long time coming, they work diligently on their cursive penmanship daily, I felt it was best to make it a requirement after the Christmas break. Another goal the kids have been working on is their creative writing skills. Each day they write a journal entry to me, answering a prompt in a complete sentence. For example, this week one of the questions was "What do you like best, winter or summer? What do you do?" and a first grader replied, "I like summer best because I get to go to North Carolina."

Next month the class will work on writing their own Enchanted Story. I can't wait to share the progress.

Rebecca Rebstock

3RD & 4TH GRADE NEWS

The 3rd and 4th grade class is settling in nicely after Christmas break. This month we have been studying Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Saint Isaac Jogues, and Saint Sebastian. Students' Bible navigation skills have developed nicely, and we have started writing reflections on the readings.

We have embarked on the journey of learning all the states and capitals of our country. The western states are where we started and will move across the US.

Stearns electric came and gave a presentation to the class about electricity. Students learned about safety and different types of electricity.

Students are reading more as we move through the school year and visiting the library is always highly anticipated. Thank you to those of you who have donated, the students have noticed and appreciated the new books.

We give thanks to God for all the community support our school receives. We will be praying for you.

Mrs. Deering

5TH & 6TH GRADE NEWS

Students have been practicing their knowledge of Mass and the rosary with some trivia. Being Catholic Schools Week is at the end of January this has allowed them to reflect and see how much they know.

Catholic Schools Week will have lots of fun activities planned including Bible Trivia, Tie Blankets (which will be donated), making rosaries, and lots of fun dress-up days.

For class, students have continued their English comprehension and skills. They have been reviewing branches of government and how they function. This will also be used for their studies about the Minnesota government. Students were also tasked with completing a design and solution to garbage patches in oceans, using their own research and unique ideas.

Blessings, **Seth Walls**

WE ARE PILGRIMS OF HOPE JUBILEE YEAR 2025

Pope Francis announced that 2025 "will be a Holy Year . . .and an opportunity to be renewed in the hope that does not fade, our hope in God. Hope is the virtue that gives inward direction and purpose to the life of believers so that we may bear credible and attractive witness to the faith and love that dwell in our hearts; that our faith may be joyful and our charity enthusiastic; and that each of us may be able to offer a smile, a small gesture of friendship, a kind look, a ready ear, a good deed, in the knowledge that, in the Spirit of Jesus, these can become, for those who receive them, rich seeds of hope."

Pope Francis continues, "I invite everyone to place their trust in the Lord who not only guides us, but is God-with-us, who loves us and walks with us in every circumstance of life. He shows us the path of love, lifts us up when we fall and supports us in our labors, opens our eyes to see our wretchedness and that of the world, but at the same time fills us with hope."

Mary Neidermeier

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not our own doing, it is the gift of God—not because of works, lest any man should boast.

St. Paul

Responsibility does not ONLY lie with the leaders of our countries or with those who have been appointed or elected to do a particular job. It lies with each of us individually. Peace, for example, starts within each one of us. When we have inner peace, we can be at peace with those around us.



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Open House

January 30th @ 6:30 pm

**Tour the school and meet our
staff. 320-251-9175**

Contact: principal@stwendelins.org

**CHURCH CLEANING
FEBRUARY, 2025
GROUP 3**

(Cleaning time is 8:30 a.m.)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1st

***Mary Broda
Jolene & Steve Brang
Laurie & Steve Opatz
Sue Eckerman
Larry Mohs
Marie & Ron Kotzer

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8th

***Judy & Dan Walters
Sheila & Ron Albers
Erin & Paul Koshiol
Geraldyn & Todd Hurrle
Jennifer & Damon Rice

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15th

*** Ruth & Paul Roufs
Marla & John Honer
Jayne & Keith Thole
Sharon & Ray Gohman
Margie & Dale Koshiol

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd

***Sandi & Mike Weber
Gina & Joe Bartell
Julie & Dale Kraemer
Nancy & Jeff Albers
Sue & Paul Koshiol

*** If you have an asterisk in front of your name, please call the other members the week prior to remind them of church cleaning. If you are unable to work your shift, please find your own replacement or switch with someone else. Thank you all so much!! You are appreciated!!!

RECIPE CORNER

Ron Albers

**BRAISED PORK SHOULDER
WITH MUSTARD-ROSEMARY GRAVY**

1 Tbsp. vegetable oil
1 Tbsp. kosher salt
2 tsp. ground black pepper
1 (4 ½ lb) boneless pork shoulder, trimmed of excess fat
2 ½ cups chicken broth, divided
2/3 cup chopped celery
4 cloves garlic, sliced
4 medium carrots, peeled and diagonally cut into 3" pieces
2 medium white onions cut into 8 wedges each
4½ Tbsp. All-purpose flour
1½ tsp. Dijon mustard
1 Tsp. minced fresh rosemary (or dried)

Preheat oven to 325 degrees.

In a large cast-iron skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat.

Rub salt and pepper all over pork. Add pork to pot; cook until browned on all sides, about 5 minutes per side. Pour 2 cups broth around pork. Spoon celery and garlic around pork. Cover with lid.

Bake for 1 hour. Add carrots and onion.

Cover and bake until pork is tender through center, 1 ½ to 2 hours more.

Place carrots and onion on a serving platter.

Shred pork into large pieces, and add to platter. Loosely cover with foil.

Strain cooking liquid through a fine mesh sieve into a medium saucepan, discard solids. Skim excess fat from liquid.

In a small bowl, place flour; gradually whisk in remaining ½ cup broth. Whisk into cooking liquid in pan. Cook over medium heat, whisking constantly, until thickened and bubbly. Whisk in mustard and rosemary. Serve over pork and vegetables.

(It is great with mashed potatoes too.)



**ST. WENDELIN
CHURCH BREAKFAST
Sunday February 16, 2025**

8:30 a.m. – Noon

St. Wendelin Parish in Luxemburg
(7 miles South of St. Cloud on Hwy 15)

Scrambled Eggs * Pancakes with Toppings

Pep's Pork Sausage * Fruit

Cold Spring Bakery Rolls & Pastries

Juice * Milk * Coffee

Adults - \$10.00

Children Ages 5-10 - \$5.00

Children 4 and under – FREE



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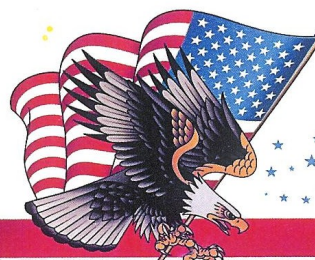
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