

Perley Lutheran Parish
PO Box 379
Perley, Minnesota 56574

February Newsletter

Perley Parish:

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Pastor Michele Jenson:

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Perley Parish Food Shelf

Open 5:00-7:00pm Thursdays

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Easter is early this year so we already beginning to step into Lenten services in just weeks when it feels like Christmas is just barely in our rear view mirror.

As we begin to re-group and come back together for worship services, I can't help but be excited and eager to see your faces in the pews of our churches. It's fun to see your names pop up on-line during the streaming of our services, but wow, it's going to be so much better to actually see each of you. It's extremely important for all of us to follow the guidelines and do as requested so that everyone feels safe - all the time - when they are in church. Council members will be helping everyone on Sundays to ensure that guidelines are being understood and followed.

A special thank you to the Councils. They have had to make decisions that weren't always easy and definitely not what they may have wanted. They all wanted to be back to normal and gathering but they also needed to look at all member's safety and do what they thought was best for everyone. I hope that all of us can begin to gather and move on to in-person services and healing as we begin to get vaccinated and numbers continue to decline. Prayers that these trends continue but know that we are always watching and adjusting should things change.

I look forward to gathering and beginning our Lenten season. I hope that you are feeling safe and ready to return but also understand if you are not. We will continue to stream all services - so you can join us that way as well.

Blessings to you! - Pastor Michele

We're coming back together!

The Councils met Mid-January and determined that not only were numbers lower but that based on the calls to members, it was time to start coming back to in-person services.

With that said, the overwhelming feelings from all those that participated was that they will come to services when they are feeling safe and as long as everyone is following the safety guidelines as prescribed by the councils. Here are the plans:

- *Masks will be worn at all times while in the church building*
- *Masks must be worn covering both mouth and nose*
- *There will be no singing during the service*
- *Communion will be done with pre-filled cups*
- *Seating will be done in pews that are available and with consideration of keeping you/your family 6 feet away from others.*
- *Pastor will dismiss each pew from the back of the church to the front.*
- *There will be no gathering at the back of the sanctuary for visiting (if you wish to have time to socialize you will be asked to do so in the gathering areas rather than in the sanctuary)*
- *There will be no coffee/meals served before/after services*
- *There will be no Sunday School or Confirmation classes at this time.*
- *Sunday School packets will be delivered in early February. (If you didn't get one last time and want to receive this time please call the office as soon as possible).*

Any questions or concerns will be directed to your church council members.

Annual Meetings moved to February

Nora Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, February 21st at 9:45.

Kirkebo Annual Meeting will be held, Sunday, February 28th at 9:45.

Note* Positions are open on the church councils and a treasurer is needed in Nora. Please consider answering the call to serve your church in this role.

All Committees should have submitted your annual reports in to Kristy by January 31st – if you have not done so please do as soon as possible.

Sunday School

Sunday school packets will be delivered the first week of February. Please let the office know if you need any changes to numbers or want someone to be added to the list to receive one as soon as possible.

Confirmation 2020-2021:

Confirmation has been postponed for this year. With the continued pandemic and families desire to not yet return to the church it was decided by the councils to refrain from Confirmation this year and "catch up" on what was missed beginning in the fall.

In our thoughts and prayers:

Sonja Meline, Jeff Loe, Kirk Stevenson. *IF we have missed someone please let us know so we can update this list.*

Helping our Digital light shine

Thank you all for your support in this fund drive! Final numbers are still being tabulated but we are very pleased at the response!

February at a glance:

- ❖ Sunday, February 7th at 9am – Nora
- ❖ Sunday, February 14th at 9am – Kirkebo with Annual Meeting following service
- ❖ Wednesday, February 17th at 7pm – Ash Wednesday at Nora
- ❖ Sunday, February 21st at 9am – Nora with Annual Meeting following service
- ❖ Wednesday, February 24th at 7pm – Lenten at Kirkebo
- ❖ Sunday, February 28th at 9am – Kirkebo

Thank you! Thank you!

Thank you so much for all the fun birthday cards, gifts and well wishes. I received over 120 greetings – what a wonderful surprise. - Adele Reierson

Lenten Services

We will continue to have our Wednesday evening Lenten services at 7 pm. We will be not serving any meals or refreshments prior or after the service and all services will be held in the gathering areas of our churches.

Join us Wednesday evenings as we begin the Lenten series, *Thy Will Be Done*, focusing on different aspects of God's will at work among us.

