



Nora Lutheran Church  
Annual Meeting 2025

**Nora Annual Meeting 2025**  
**February 16, 2025**  
**Agenda**

1. Call To Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting (Enclosed)
4. Reports
  - a. President's Report- Dawn Volden
  - b. Treasurer's Report -Dawn Volden
  - c. Sunday School Report-Melissa Christensen
  - d. Cemetery Report-Dawn Volden
5. Old Business
  - a. 150th Anniversary Celebration-June 23, 2024 Recap
6. New Business
  - A. Budget for 2024-vote
  - B. Honor Flight Fundraiser-Nora and Kirkebo sponsors with 3 other churches
    - i. The goal is to raise at least \$2000 to be able to send one person on the flight.
    - ii. Event Plan- Meal will be free will offering from 5-6:30pm, Silent Auction from 4:30-6:30pm and Bingo starting at 7pm; May 1st in Halstad. Nora council has volunteered to run the bingo games. Flyer enclosed.
7. Announcement of Position Shifts and Nominee
  - a. Kristin Behm-Secretary Nora Council and Secretary of Perley Parish
  - b. Sandy Gjervold-Treasurer of Perley Parish, steps down as Parish Secretary
  - c. Council Election-Nominee Monte Brorson - Vote
    - i. Open seats (3)
7. Adjournment

Dear Congregation,

The annual meeting isn't just a formal report on what's been happening in the church—it's a chance to reflect on the joys and challenges of the past year. As I sit down to write this, I find myself thinking, *What do I really want to say?*

One of the biggest joys this year was celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Nora. It was incredible to see people come together from near and far, all connected to this church in some way. Over the years, many have moved on or passed on, but I have no doubt that the walls of this church have held them in both joy and sorrow. Some say a church is just a building, but to me, it's the people who make it what it is.

Preparing for the anniversary took a lot of planning, hard work, and—let's be honest—a whole lot of sweat! But it was all worth it. A huge thank you to everyone who pitched in to make the day so special. Our goal was to have a great celebration, and that's exactly what we got!

Once the day was over, I felt a bit of sadness. I truly enjoy the process—gathering, planning, and seeing an event come to life. After all the excitement, settling back into the usual day-to-day routine felt a little quiet and bittersweet.

Rural churches everywhere are facing challenges, but we're still here. We keep showing up, week after week, gathering for a short time that, for me, makes all the difference in setting the tone for the week ahead.

As we'll discuss in the minutes ahead, our biggest challenges come down to two things: a shrinking congregation and limited funds. While my time on the council is coming to an end, I know the board will continue to keep the best interests of our members, pastors, and the church itself at the heart of every decision.

Thank you for your kindness and support—I truly appreciate it. I look forward to continuing to worship and share fellowship with you each week!

Kindly,

Dawn Volden

# NORA 2024 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Location: Nora Church

Date: 02/18/2024

1. **Call to Order** - Dawn Volden (President) called meeting to order at 10:25am
2. **Opening Prayer** - Dawn V read opening prayer
3. **2023 Minutes** - Minutes from 2023 annual Meeting were not available to review

## 4. Reports

- a. President's Report – Dawn V read letter
- b. Treasurer's Report – Dawn V Reviewed – no questions
- c. Sunday School Report – Dawn V read Melissa C Report – no questions
- d. Cemetery Report – Vern C reviewed – no questions

## 5. Old Business

- a. 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be June 23, 2024
  - i. Committee meetings will be held the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month until the event. All are welcome to join.

## 6. New Business

- a. 2024 Budget – Dawn V reviewed
  - i. Shannon Kalash asked question about Lutefisk dinner
    1. Vern estimates \$2000 in profits after the sale of leftovers
    2. 10% of profits going to Northern Cass to help with lunches - \$540 check was delivered to NC
  - ii. Claudia Cleveland made motion to accept budget, Shannon K second
- b. Announcement of Position shifts
  - i. Kristin Behm – Secretary
  - ii. Sandy Gjervold – Treasurer (will now do both churches)
- c. Council Elections – 4 open seats
  - i. In need of new council members. Looking for volunteers

## 7. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 10:45am

NORA LUTHERAN CHURCH MONTHLY FINANCIAL

	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	YTD 2024
<b>INCOME</b>													
Tithe Online	\$ 688.82	\$ 456.13	\$ 620.94	\$ 688.82	\$ 654.88	\$ 630.71	\$ 788.82	\$ 654.88	\$ 654.88	\$ 688.82	\$ 654.88	\$ 654.88	\$ 7,837.46
Weekly Offering	2,287.00	2,059.00	1,785.00	1,284.00	1,481.00	967.00	435.00	2,080.00	689.00	1,658.00	2,905.00	2,780.00	20,410.00
Donations/Memorials	500.00	300.00	-	-	100.00	1,357.05	50.00	-	-	-	-	-	2,307.05
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,041.00	-	3,041.00
Sunday School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	350.00	350.00
Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,177.00
Other Income	-	-	-	470.00	-	3,707.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 3,475.82</b>	<b>\$ 2,815.13</b>	<b>\$ 2,405.94</b>	<b>\$ 2,442.82</b>	<b>\$ 2,235.88</b>	<b>\$ 6,661.76</b>	<b>\$ 1,273.82</b>	<b>\$ 2,734.88</b>	<b>\$ 1,343.88</b>	<b>\$ 2,346.82</b>	<b>\$ 6,600.88</b>	<b>\$ 3,784.88</b>	<b>\$ 38,122.51</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>													
Insurance	\$ 4,420.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,420.00
Fundraising Expense	(20.00)	**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(20.00)
Maintenance	544.04	-	-	-	2,725.00	800.00	2,350.85	567.72	-	1,400.00	-	-	8,387.61
Office Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alarm	25.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25.00
Electronics, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,449.23	-	-	-	-	-	1,449.23
Sunday School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	129.96	-	498.97
Anniversary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,569.15
Other Expense*	-	-	-	-	1,213.28	-	-	37.20	-	-	500.00	-	1,750.48
Electricity	690.00	-	335.00	375.00	275.00	-	545.00	280.00	-	565.00	-	520.00	3,585.00
Propane	-	-	-	509.21	-	28.10	-	-	-	124.44	-	-	661.75
Water	28.08	27.27	27.27	27.27	27.54	27.27	32.67	38.07	34.83	27.00	27.27	27.27	351.81
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5,687.12</b>	<b>27.27</b>	<b>362.27</b>	<b>2,425.86</b>	<b>4,240.82</b>	<b>2,571.84</b>	<b>4,578.05</b>	<b>922.99</b>	<b>541.84</b>	<b>2,116.44</b>	<b>657.23</b>	<b>547.27</b>	<b>24,679.00</b>
<b>Net Income Nora</b>	<b>(2,211.30)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,787.86</b>	<b>2,043.67</b>	<b>(2,004.94)</b>	<b>4,089.92</b>	<b>(3,304.23)</b>	<b>1,811.89</b>	<b>802.04</b>	<b>230.38</b>	<b>5,943.65</b>	<b>3,237.61</b>	<b>13,443.51</b>



## **Nora Sunday School Report**

Spring classes for 2024 consisted of 12 students and 2 teachers. For our classroom material we used Activate Faith from Spark House with classes for the semester being completed in May.

We began the 2024-2025 year with 4 students and 2 teachers. We have been using the Jesus Story Book Bible for our materials this year. With the help of our other youth, we once again were able to put together a great Christmas Program in December.

We assisted with serving the meal for the Turkey Bingo fundraiser for the church in November to help raise funds for our program.

Melissa Christensen, Superintendent.

# NORA CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

## 2024 TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank balance as of 01/08/2024 \$ 4,207.14

	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Income</u>
Cass County Taxes	\$ 15.75	
Piano Tuning (150 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.)	\$ 235.00	
Tax Refund		\$ 5.28
Sec'y of State (Non-Profit)	\$ 15.00	
Memorials (2)		\$ 640.00
Donation (4)		\$ 950.00
Mow Cemeteries (Gary Ohnstad)	\$ 2,100.00	
Weed spraying (Vern Cleveland)	<u>\$ 150.00</u>	<u>                    </u>
Subtotal	\$ 2,515.75	\$ 1,595.28

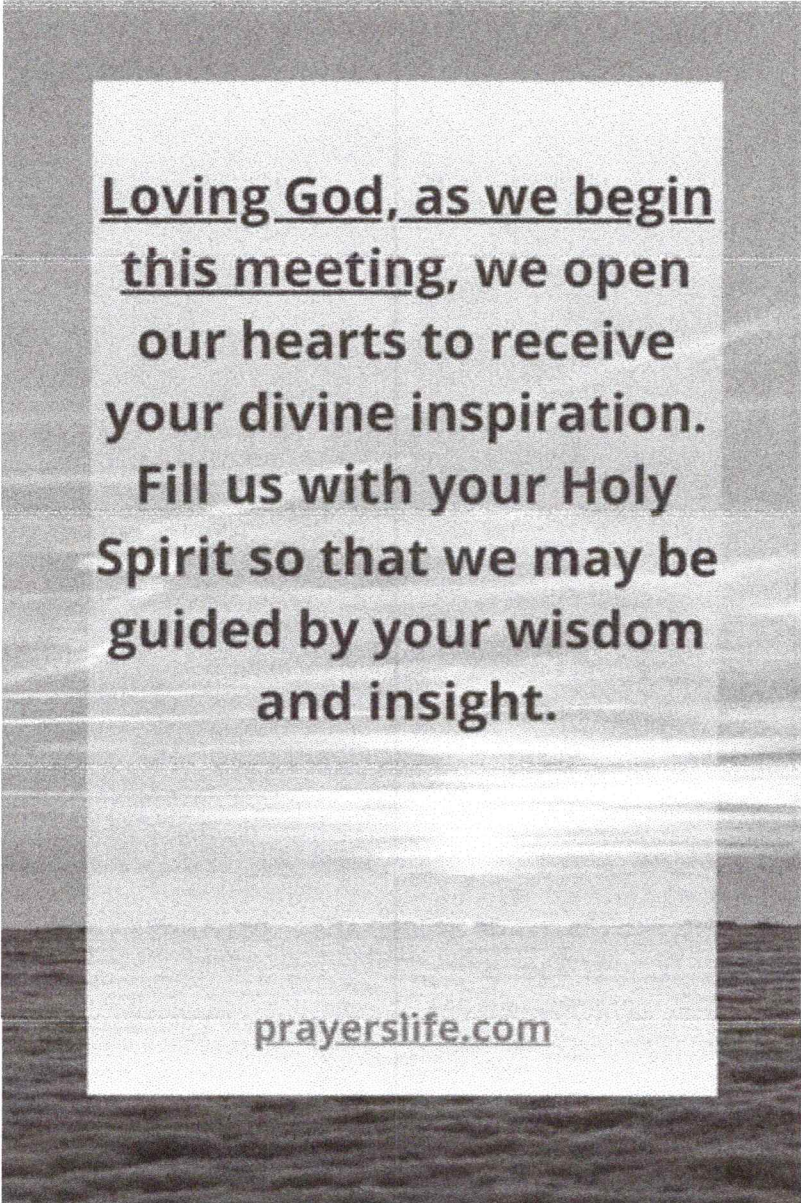
Year end 2024 ending balance 12/31/2024 \$ 3,286.67

CD Harwood State Bank 12/28/2023 term 1yr @ 4.84% \$10,000.00 - (Gain) \$ 483.51

Long term funds for Cemetery Upkeep

Perpetual Care CD Funds of	\$ 47,000.00	
General CD Funds of	<u>\$ 53,000.00</u>	
Total	\$100,000.00	
Reinvested with Thrivent Financial	Oct 2016	
Gains for 2017 thru 2023	<u>\$ 11,342.47</u>	
Ending Value 12/31/2023	\$ 111,342.47	
2024		
Gains for 2024 (5.25%)	<u>\$ 5,033.23</u>	
<u>Ending Value</u> to date (12/31/2024)	\$ 116,375.70	





**Loving God, as we begin  
this meeting, we open  
our hearts to receive  
your divine inspiration.  
Fill us with your Holy  
Spirit so that we may be  
guided by your wisdom  
and insight.**

[prayerslife.com](http://prayerslife.com)

anniversary expenses  
\$ 3569.15

income \$ 3707.00

NORA LUTHERAN CHURCH				
	2024	2025	Increase	
INCOME	Actual YE	Budget	(Decrease)	
Tithe Online	\$ 7,837.46	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 162.54	Parsonage CD
Weekly Offering	20,410.00	20,500.00	90.00	lost balance approx
Donations/Memorials	2,307.05	-	(2,307.05)	\$ 15,000
Sunday School Income	350.00	350.00	-	
Anniversary Income	3,707.00	-	(3,707.00)	General CD approx
Fundraising	3,041.00	3,000.00	(41.00)	\$ 10,000
Other Income	470.00	-	(470.00)	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 38,122.51</b>	<b>\$ 31,850.00</b>	<b>\$ (6,272.51)</b>	General Sav approx \$ 30,000
EXPENSE				
Insurance	\$ 4,420.00	4,831.00	411.00	
Fundraising Expense	-	-	-	
Maintenance	8,387.61	4,000.00	(4,387.61)	Outdoor prep 2024
Office Expense	-	50.00	50.00	
Electronics, etc.	1,449.23	-	(1,449.23)	TV & stand sanctuary 2024
Sunday School	498.97	300.00	(198.97)	
Other Expense*	1,730.48	-	(1,730.48)	
Anniversary Expense	3,569.15	-	(3,569.15)	
Electricity	3,585.00	3,600.00	15.00	
Alarm	25.00	25.00	-	
Propane	661.75	665.00	3.25	
Water	351.81	360.00	8.19	
<b>NORA PAID EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 24,679.00</b>	<b>\$ 13,831.00</b>	<b>\$ (10,848.00)</b>	
			\$ -	
<b>NORA CHURCH NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ 13,443.51</b>	<b>\$ 18,019.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,575.49</b>	
SHARED EXPENSES WITH KIRKEBO				
Pastor Services	\$ 3,075.00	\$ 3,075.00	\$ -	
Pastor Mileage	787.91	788.00	0.09	
SAM Expense	2,193.75	2,195.00	1.25	
Office Expense	368.03	370.00	1.97	
Secretary/Treasurer	1,200.00	600.00	(600.00)	
Other Expense	765.14	150.00	(615.14)	
Telephone/Internet	541.47	575.00	33.53	
<b>Kirkebo Shared Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 8,931.30</b>	<b>\$ 7,753.00</b>	<b>\$ (1,178.30)</b>	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 33,610.30</b>	<b>\$ 21,584.00</b>	<b>\$ (12,026.30)</b>	
			-	
<b>NET INCOME (Shared)</b>	<b>\$ 4,512.21</b>	<b>\$ 10,266.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,753.79</b>	

**Veterans Honor  
Flight of ND/MN  
Dinner ★ Auction ★ Bingo  
★ Join Us ★**

**May 1, 2025 | 4:30pm-8:00pm  
Legion Recreational Center (LRC)  
580 2nd Ave W, Halstad MN**

**4:30pm -- Doors Open**

**5:00pm-6:30pm -- Meal**

**Free Will Offering**

**French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Potatoes,  
Fruit, Desserts, Coffee, Juice, Water**

**4:30pm-6:30pm -- Silent Auction**

**7:00pm -- Bingo and Concessions**

**Sponsored By**

**Kirkebo Lutheran Church Perley, MN**

**Nora Lutheran Church Gardner, ND**

**St. John's Catholic Church, Georgetown, MN**

**Immanuel Lutheran Church Hendrum, MN**

**Holy Family Catholic Church Halstad, MN**



## NORA CHURCH COUNCIL BOARD

<b>Member</b>	<b>Term Expiration</b>	<b>Role</b>
John Christensen	2027	President (start of 2025)
Kristin Behm	2025	Secretary
Vern Cleveland	2026	Board Member
Monte Brorson	2028	Nominee
<i>Open Seat</i>		
<i>Open Seat</i>		
<i>Open Seat</i>		

need to  
vote 3/2

## NORA SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

Melissa Christensen	Superintendent, Educator
Micayla Christensen	Educator

## NORA CEMETARY BOARD

<b>Member</b>	<b>Role</b>
Wayne Ohnstad	President
Vern Cleveland	Secretary/Treasurer
Don Reierson	Board Member
Sean Jalbert	Board Member
<i>Open Seat</i>	