

From Pastor Peter...

On January 2, 2023 the professional football world sat in silent horror watching a 24 year old professional football player lay dead on the field, surrounded by teammates as trainers and medical personnel tried to save his life. Just seconds earlier he had collapsed on the field from an impact induced heart attack. Even TV broadcasters sat in silence with only the sounds of weeping and prayer breaking the silence. If one didn't know better, a person would think that the football world was practicing a recently adopted New Year's resolution to include prayer at every level of the game. But that wasn't the case. What was being witnessed was for a moment of time the need for God became real to a nation and a world. As the young man lay there with his heart stopped because of being impacted at the most vulnerable of times, the moment between heart beats, several realities occurred...death is real, it can happen at any time, and God is real. Even a sportscaster, uncertain if it was the right thing to do, was moved to pray publicly during his broadcast, soliciting the help of the God who otherwise is banned from the public arena.

So what is a God supposed to do when an otherwise rebellious nation with little regard for His Word and even less consideration for His Son, reacts to a time of need by calling upon Him, even confessing they ask because they believe in prayer? The answer from His Word may make us comfortable. It is also an opportunity to help us gain greater appreciation and understanding of the attributes of God as we try to reconcile what the world wants to believe as true and what God actually does. We submit to the Omnipotence of God, surrendering to His majesty that God can answer in whatever way He deems right but we also know that God works as according to His Word. Second, there is no need on our part to judge whether some praying were believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and some were not. Rather, we are seeking to answer the question how God responds to prayer made on behalf of someone in need by anyone not having a saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The 'Prayer' and the Holiness of God. Can just anyone put forth effective prayer? Simply put, no. Prayer is the privilege of the individual believer and the church. With that privilege however comes a responsibility, especially toward those whose sins bar them from an audience with God. No matter a person's intent or sincerity at a given point of time, it does not change the relationship between the Lord and the person not trusting in Jesus Christ. Only Jesus can make that change which happens only when the sinner comes to believe in the Christ who shed His blood on the Cross of Calvary. Jesus addresses this in John 14:6 "No one comes to the Father but through Me." No one has access to God whether we're talking that final move into His heavenly home or coming for a briefer, earthy visit in prayer.

(continued next page...)

One of the greatest works someone can do for another is to go before the throne of grace and mercy on his or her behalf. The unbelievers who prayed on behalf of Mr. Hamlin are to be noted for their heartfelt concerns. Those of us who believe upon Jesus but did not join in prayer for him could learn well from their noble efforts. Here again though, it doesn't change the reality Jesus speaks of in John 15:5 "...he who abides in Me bears much fruit for apart from Me you can do nothing". Without faith in Christ, anyone's work, no matter their sincerity, is a filthy rag before God (Isaiah 64:6).

Holy God's Response - This leads us to how God sees and hears the prayer efforts of the unrighteous. In Zechariah 7:11-13 the Lord openly displays how He has in the past dealt with obstinate Israel who willfully "...refused to pay attention and turned a stubborn shoulder and stopped their ears from hearing". In His omniscient ability to know any future response from them, God responded in kind as He exercised His wrath, "And just as He called and they would not listen, so they called and I would not listen," says the Lord." He speaks similar instructions to His prophet in Jeremiah 14:10-12. As a collective nation, America has turned a deaf ear to God. Its 'united in prayer efforts' on behalf of anyone are not yielding what the people hope. Regarding the individual person as well, we learn from Proverbs 28:9 the results are just as disastrous, "He who turns away his ear from listening to the law, even his prayer is an abomination."

In Isaiah 59:2, God's response indicates the futility of the prayers of the person whose slate is still covered by the stain of sin..."But your iniquities has made a separation between you and your God and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear." And the psalmist's own confession of the disruption caused by his unconfessed sin, "If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear," (Psalm 66:8) reaffirms that same truth.

So does God hear any of the prayers of the unbeliever? Yes, one. The prayer of the repentant sinner broken by God's design under the Law. "For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death." How the Holy Spirit calls and works in the heart of the sinner. How the Lord Jesus waits to hear that prayer of contrition made in His powerful name. How the Father waits to adopt that child and strike up a life-long conversation that goes off into eternity. Yes, God hears that prayer of the unbeliever. May we be praying on their behalf for that day to come...soon.

- Pastor Peter

Maranatha Free Lutheran Church – Glyndon

Council Meeting

January 11th, 2023 at 8:00 p.m.

Present: Glenn Urlacher, Art Welle, Pastor Lloyd Quanbeck, Amanda Larson, Bruce Smith, Sheila Smith, Jeff Ehrichs, Brittany Pender, Kristine Quanbeck, Craig Hurner, Todd Rasmussen

Glenn opened the meeting with prayer.

Previous meeting's minutes read by Bruce. Craig made a motion to approve those minutes as read, seconded by Jeff, motion passed.

Treasurer's report was given by Amanda. Reported that contributions were up at the end of the year. Kristine was thanked for taking over as Treasurer, and Amanda was thanked for her service and doing a great job. Jeff made a motion to approve the report, seconded by Todd, motion passed.

Board Reports:

Finance – Todd

Contribution to AFLC to be discussed at next congregational meeting (Jan. 29, 2023) because of average. Motion made to approve, passed.

Trustee – Jeff

Rate increase from City Utilities regarding snow removal- salt and sanding
Estimate for carpets getting cleaned.

Education – Brittany

Cotton candy- talked about machine
VBS- applied for dates, talked about getting a team and purchasing a kit.
New Bible studies discussed.

Worship – Sheila

Nothing to report

Deacon – Craig

Prayer list
New membership class
Office administrator

Pastor – Pastor Lloyd

Pastor Lloyd took time off
Wedding for Howard Scheuring (took place 12/3/22)
Retirement party for Annie
Temporary help in the office currently given by Keziah Quanbeck
New members class
2 baptisms coming up

Old business:

Pot Blessing & Congregational meeting (upcoming- Jan 29)
Annual reports need to be turned in

New Business:

Suggestion made by Glenn to bring back greeting time in church services on Sunday mornings.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Craig and seconded by Jeff; motion carried.

Ulen Church Council

January 11th, 2023 - 7:00 PM

Present: Gary Langerud, Pastor Ward, Gary Nelson, Bob Herzog, Ben Schmitke, Matt Klemetson, John Austinson, Megan Schmitke, Alayna Klemetson, Dave Schneidermann

Matt called the meeting to order, and opened with devotions and a word of prayer.

Megan volunteered to give devotions in February.

Secretary Report: Read November's notes with no corrections or additions. Motion by Ben to approve. Second by Gary Nelson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Statement handed out and discussed. Motion by John to approve. Second by Bob. All in favor. Motion carried.

Deacons: Small discussion on Sunday School.

Trustees: Motion by John to let Gary L. purchase a new printer. Second by Ben. All in favor. Motion carried.

Christian Ed/Music: No Report.

Pastor's Report:

- Fly Convention
- YouTube account
- Ambassador Hymnal
- Lenten services discussion

Special Report: No Report.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: Ben will talk with Jessie regarding pay for bulletins, etc.

Motion by Gary Nelson to increase guest Pastor's or speakers pay to \$200 + mileage. Second by Dave. All in favor. Motion carried.

Next meeting: February 8th, 2023.

Motion to adjourn by Gary Langerud. Second by Gary Nelson. Meeting adjourned.

Pastor Ward closed in prayer.

WMF NOTES

(Women's Missionary Federation)

Glyndon Morning WMF

Morning WMF met on January 10, 2023 with 11 ladies present.

Terrie Enlow led us in prayer and Bible Study *Eve, Rescued From Shame*, a lesson in forgiveness.

Secretary and Treasurer reports were read and approved.

New Business:

-Motion made and approved to give \$100 to WMF General Fund.

-Terrie will coordinate the basket for Women's Care Center

We closed in prayer.

Glyndon Evening WMF

WMF 1/17/23

The meeting was opened with prayer.

Chapter 1 of *Women of Redemption* was led by Luci.

Janet opened the business meeting.

The treasurer's report was given by Liz.

Old Business:

The prayer box for solders will be completed by the first Sunday in February.

New Business:

1. Corrective pages for the Women's Federation were handed out.
2. Mel made a motion to give \$50 to the General Fund. Pat P. Seconded.
3. Giving Hearts Day was discussed. Pat P. motioned to give \$25 each to Heart of Clay, New Life Center, and the Salvation Army. Luci seconded.
4. Discussion held about another Bunko night. Tabled for now.

Motion to adjourn. Mel/Pat P.

Prayer concerns were given.

Respectfully
submitted
by Luci



Ulen WMF

The Ulen WMF met on Wednesday, January 11th, 2023 at 1pm with 4 ladies present.

We studied EVE from the "Women of Redemption" Bible study. We enjoyed our coffee as we conducted the business meeting. Dianne read the secretary and treasurer reports and both were accepted as read.

New Business: A motion was made & seconded to donate \$50 to the General Fund. The Women's Care Center's "Valley's Largest Baby Shower" has been moved to May to coincide with Mother's Day so we will look at collecting items then instead of January.

The Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 29th. Will a dinner be served following? The WMF is willing to do the serving if council would like one.

Saturday, February 11th we will be hosting a baby shower for Sierra Northridge at 1:00pm.

Saturday, February 18th will be our Valentine's Brunch at 10am. Ellen will make the invitations for the widows in our community. The menu was discussed. Dianne & Gloria will make the sugar cookies. Our theme is "Cling to God".

February 22nd is Ash Wednesday. We will discuss next month about the possibility of serving suppers before the church service.

We closed with several prayer requests.

Minutes taken by Gloria in Ellen's absence.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Zillmer, Secretary

SERVING GROUP III ~ Glyndon

Our opportunity to serve our Lord and our church family with goodies during fellowship time on Sunday's and any other events that come up, will be in the months of January, February and March. A sign-up sheet is posted in the kitchen for you to select a date or dates that works out best for you to serve. Your willingness for serving in this area is much appreciated. Questions- Talk to Ruth Larson or Kim Jensen.

Needed: Women's Care Center Donations

For the month of February only, the Morning WMF is taking donations for the Women's Care Center.

The items that are needed are:

- Diapers: Newborn and sizes 4,5, and 6
- Bottles: "Dr. Brown" and others
- Outfits for boys and girls: Sizes 2T, 3T, and 4T
- Gift Cards: Requested specifically to **Walmart or Amazon**.

Please give these directly to Terrie Enlow for safekeeping.

Happy New Year!

Our family has been richly blessed to be a part of Maranatha congregation for over 13 years. Our kids have grown up here and have now scattered to many parts of our country, and the Lord has added grandchildren to the crew. This past Christmas, with the rare opportunity to have them all together, we managed to get a picture. Many of you have given us Christmas cards and pictures over the years, and so enclosing one from us here is a way to make sure to cover you all in return. Thank you so much for your prayers, encouragement, and support!

Pastor Lloyd, Jean, and family



NEW MEMBER CLASS @ Glyndon

New Member classes are now being offered each Sunday morning **January 29th through March 19th**. We invite you to consider taking the step of becoming a member at Maranatha! "Membership Exploration Class" is an 8-week series that goes through the fundamentals of the Christian faith, as well as giving a glimpse into Free

Lutheran history and current ministries. Classes will be held during Sunday School hour (10:45 am) on Sunday mornings. Talk to Pastors Lloyd or Ryan if interested.

Thankful for those who serve our country!

Kally Anderson, granddaughter of Vonnie Anderson
Levi Dahl, grandson of Harvey & Dianne Dahl
Trevor Dufault, son of Todd & Sara Dravland
Brody Erickson, grand nephew of Glennys Sivertson
Andy Heisinger, husband of Tracy Heisinger
Kyle Johnson, son-in-law of Gary & Debi Langerud
Layne Johnson, grandson of Ardis Johnson
Wyatt Ladwig, son of Scott & Heidi Ladwig
Hunter Macziewski, son of Doug & Tiffany Macziewski
Jessica Myers, granddaughter of Gerrie Payne
Andrew Quanbeck, son of Pastor Lloyd & Jean
Josiah Quanbeck, son of Pastor Lloyd & Jean
Jakob Rolf, grandson of Jim & Mary Rolf
Luke Stensgard, grandson of Jane Williams
Jonathan Taylor, grandson of Fran Jensen

Prayers for our Soldiers

To help us remember to pray for those serving our country, we have a box, in which are names of military men and women (which will tentatively be located on a table in the fellowship hall).

Select a soldier from the box, place it somewhere so you will notice it and then be reminded to pray for that person. It could be in your car, on a table, a counter, a nightstand, or anywhere you pick that would remind you to pray.

Currently we have 100 soldiers in the box, and we can get more. Along with the soldiers there are cards with suggested prayers.

If there are others you would like included, feel free to email the office at mflc@maranathafreelutheran.com



Birthdays & Anniversaries

February ~ Happy Birthday!

Bella Johnson	February 01
Gavin Schmidt	February 01
Nellie Pender	February 02
Natalie Eckert	February 03
Megan Schmitke	February 03
Jim Enlow	February 05
John D Enlow	February 05
Ashley John	February 06
Nathan Lambert	February 06
Sidney Koehler	February 08
IsaBelle Olson	February 08
Zachary Chromey	February 09
Grady Erickson	February 09
Matthew Hamernik	February 09
Bernadene Bentley	February 10
Michal Schmidt	February 10
Jazmin Gonzalez	February 11
Josh Johnson	February 12
Riley Rickford	February 13
Clay Rasmussen	February 14
Jon Rosenfeldt	February 14
Jay Buchfink	February 15
Angela Sivertson	February 15
Celia Trick	February 17
Russell Oberg	February 18
Logan Schlauderaff	February 20
Debi Langerud	February 21
Andrew Austinson	February 24
Jim Specht	February 24
Angie Schlieper	February 25
Jake Murack	February 28

February ~ Happy Anniversary!

Bob & Jocie Herzog	February 04
Alan & Sharon Christensen	February 07
Cliff & Mary Langerud	February 11
Steve & Ruth Stong	February 12
Brian & Chanyce Dahl	February 14
Zack & Julie Boehrsen	February 17
Marlin & Gloria Hadden	February 29



Wednesday evenings:

7:00 - 8:15PM Bible Study and Fellowship

Lent begins February 22! Again, the SaltTeens will be serving Lenten meals. In mid-February, we will begin asking for donations from our SaltTeens families to help provide ingredients for the meals.

Flocking season is in full swing! If you would like to send the flock of Flamingos to a friend's house, get your orders in soon! If you were flocked and would like revenge - we have plenty of spaces available. Again, SaltTeens, thank you for your help in moving the flock around town!

Thank you to our generous (and anonymous) donor who challenged the SaltTeens with a matching gift of \$200 for Charles (our Compassion Child) in January! The Salt-Teens responded well - raising over \$200 for him. Thank you for your continued support.

Lenten Season begins the last Wednesday in February!

Come early (between 5:00 & 6:30) and enjoy "Soup and Sandwiches" and other special meals served by our Maranatha Youth.

Again this year all of our Wednesday night ministries will join together for a 35 minute Worship Service in the Sanctuary beginning at 7:00. After that Service they all break into their normal ministry gatherings.

Our Pastors and various laymen will be sharing short messages each week on a Lenten theme that is yet to be announced. We also welcome volunteers to share special music each week. If you are interested in helping with these services in some way, please talk with Pastor Lloyd or Pastor Ryan.

Valentine Brunch



When: Saturday, February 11 @ 9 AM

Where: Fellowship Hall, Maranatha-Glyndon

Who: Everyone! There is no charge, but please sign up at the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. This will give the brunch crew an idea of how much food to prepare.

Why: Hebrews 10:24-25 Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Proverbs 18:22 He who finds a wife, finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord.

There will also be music and games.

Glyndon Library

Take a look at these great suggestions of books to check out this month in our library!

For Kids: *Little Lives Matter* by Elizabeth Johnston. Follow Mobi as he learns the value of life at all stages.

In Adult Fiction: The *Brideships* series by Jody Hedlund. Each book features a different woman on her way to British Columbia for a better life.

- 1) *Reluctant Bride*
- 2) *The Runaway Bride*
- 3) *A Bride of Convenience*
- 4) *Almost a Bride*



Winter Cancellations ~ Glyndon Cancellation of church services or Wednesday evening activities will be posted on KVLV, WDAY, our Facebook and E-mail. We will follow DGF School storm cancellation policy- if school is cancelled on a Wednesday, our evening activities will also be cancelled.

**Maranatha Free Lutheran Church
Glyndon, MN**

Financial Snapshot - Maranatha Glyndon				
<i>as of 12/31/22</i>				
General Fund			Current Month	Year to Date
Contributions			\$50,824.00	\$352,498
Expenditures			-\$29,486.00	-\$335,169
Surplus / (Shortfall)				\$ 17,329

12/31/2022

GENERAL FUND INCOME	\$50,824
Deacons	-\$15,480
Education	\$0
Finance	-\$7,546
Trustees	-\$5,168
Worship & Music	-\$1,292
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	-\$29,486
Other Income (Rent, Interest, etc)	\$212
General Fund Balance Change	\$21,550

GENERAL FUND BALANCE			\$71,808	Target is \$60,000
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<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Building Fund			\$ 19,094
Building Improvement Fund	2,000		\$ 13,077
Christmas Eve	2,619		\$ 2,619
Cookbook Sales for Missions	100		\$ 195
Designated Donations	360		\$ 1,080
Good Samaritan Fund			\$ 2,335
Holiday Baskets	360	-573	\$ 1,442
Memorial Fund	50		\$ 8,042
Men's Fellowship	100	-44	\$ 1,060
Men's Fraternity			\$ 318
Outreach Ministries			\$ 166
Sunday Fellowship Fund			\$ 467
Sunday School Missions			\$ 226
Thanksgiving Offering		-606	\$ -
Trails End Ranch			\$ 1,716
VBS Blanket Project			\$ 520
Wedding Fund			\$ 1,233
Wednesday Suppers	488	-330	\$ 2,683
World Missions Fund	5		\$ 10,902
Youth Activities Fund	450		\$ 975
Youth FLY Fund	1,169		\$ 12,178
Special Funds Balance			\$ 80,328
General Fund Balance			\$ 71,808
CHECKBOOK BALANCE			\$ 152,116
PETTY CASH BALANCE			\$ 20

*Detailed expense reports are available in the Glyndon office.
Questions can be directed to Amanda Larson - Treasurer
treasurer@maranathafreelutheran.com
(701) 793-5177*

2022 Monthly Financial Summary

February 2023 @ GLYNDON

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:00-6:30pm Supper 5:45pm Confirmation 6:30-7:30pm Kids Club 6:45-7:45pm Friendship 6:45-8:00pm Men's Study 7:00-8:15pm SaltTeens 8:00pm Deacon meeting	2 7:00pm Bible Study at Pat Johnson home	3	4 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 6:00pm Dusty Way Chapel
5 9:30am Worship Service with Communion 10:45am Sunday School 5:30pm Young Adults at Tonneson home	6	7	8 5:00-6:30pm Supper 5:45pm Confirmation 6:30-7:30pm Kids Club 6:45-7:45pm Friendship 6:45-8:00pm Men's Study 7:00-8:15pm SaltTeens 8:00pm Church Council	9 7:00pm Bible Study at Pat Johnson home	10	11 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 9:00am Valentine's Brunch in Fellowship Hall
12 8:00am Ministry Team meeting 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Sunday School 5:30pm Young Adults at Tonneson home	13	14 10:30am Morning WMF	15 5:00-6:30pm Supper 5:45pm Confirmation 6:30-7:30pm Kids Club 6:45-7:45pm Friendship 6:45-8:00pm Men's Study 7:00-8:15pm SaltTeens	16 7:00pm Bible Study at Pat Johnson home	17	18 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 6:00pm Dusty Way Chapel
19 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Sunday School 5:30pm Young Adults at Tonneson home	20	21 10:00am- 3:00pm Quilting at the church 6:30pm Evening WMF	22—Ash Wednesday <i>*(First Wed. in Lent)</i> 5:00-6:30pm Supper 5:45pm Confirmation 6:30-7:30pm Kids Club 6:45-7:45pm Friendship 7:00pm Lenten Service 7:00-8:15pm SaltTeens 8:00pm Men's Study	23 7:00pm Bible Study at Pat Johnson home	24	25 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
26 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Sunday School 5:30pm Young Adults at Tonneson home	27	28				

February 2023 @ ULEN

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 9:30-10:30am Bone Builders	3	4
5 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School	6 9:30-10:30am Bone Builders	7	8 9:00-11:00am MOPS 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	9 9:30-10:30am Bone Builders	10	11 1:00pm Baby Shower for Sierra Northridge at the church
12 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School	13 9:30-10:30am Bone Builders	14	15 10:00am Quilting	16 9:30-10:30am Bone Builders	17	18 10:00am Valentine Brunch for widows
19 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School	20 9:30-10:30am Bone Builders	21	22	23 9:30-10:30am Bone Builders	24	25
26 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School	27 9:30-10:30am Bone Builders	28				

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February 2023



... "where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is freedom." II Corinthians 3:17

Members of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations