| The Carillon | |
| --- | --- |
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Happy 2025!

Even though I will be writing and crossing out 2024 til the cardinals start singing in my backyard.

Our daily calendars have just flipped over but our Liturgical Calendar marks us at the *Time After Epiphany.* Our paraments have returned to green, our Christmas Tree has been taken down and on Epiphany Eve, our kids celebrated the Light of Christ breaking into the world by lighting it aflame at our Epiphany party! For those of us who delight in the Christmas season we might feel a bit of sadness as we lovingly box up the ornaments, though I know some of you will keep your trees up until St. Patrick’s Day. For those of us for whom the holidays are difficult, we might be sighing relief that we have made it through another gauntlet.

January and February both in our daily lives and in the life of the church seem to be marked with little fanfare. The charm of snow might be over for you, and in the church, it can feel like we are just waiting for Lent and Easter.

But if we pay attention, we can see little glimpses of the world transforming. Slowly but surely, since Christmas light has been creeping back into our world. Its, subtle but it’s there.

Our spiritual journeys often times feel this way. We sometimes equate the working of the Spirit with our moods, or what’s happening in the world around us. But often, the Spirit works like midwinter light, it’s there, its growing, but we often times don’t notice it.

And so, I would like to invite you to consider Wintering as a Spiritual Discipline in this time

after Epiphany. Maybe you read a Psalm every day with a cup of coffee (feel free to break up

longer ones like 119 into smaller chunks), or read a paragraph of Luke each evening before bed.   
  
Little disciplines, like an extra minute or two of light each day, add up. Before you know it, you will have read an entire Gospel by the time Spring arrives.

May your remaining Winter months be a blessing of stillness, growth, and hope.   
  
Pastor Ben



**Join Pastor Ben on Thursdays, at 10am for Bible Study**.  There will be coffee, probably some sort of treat and good conversation.  Never been to a Bible study before?  No worries, we will be using the upcoming week's readings and Gospel story.  We will begin on **January 9th** and it will be drop in and out friendly. On WELCA Thursday’s we will adjust Bible Study time as needed. BYOB (bring your own Bible), or use a Bible available at the church.

MCj03226430000[1]NOVEMBER CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

**\*Treasurer’s Report:** Report accepted.

**\*Finance Committee:** Approved bank statements. 2025 proposed budget nearly complete.

\***Ministry Minutes:** Pr. Ben reported that he has had a smooth transition to CVLC! Update of weddings, funerals and baptisms.

**\*Education:** Sunday School is preparing for the Christmas Program on Dec. 15 at 10am.

**\*L.I.F.E:** Middle Coon Valley has been invited to join future events. Another quilt was completed for Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

**\*Youth Ministry:** An intergenerational trip to Milwaukee will take place with Middle June 22-25. An informational meeting will be at Middle on Dec. 22 at 10:15am.

**\*Men’s Club:** Total raised from the Meatball Dinner was $2,428! Thanks to the Stockyard for their generous donation! A Fish Fry will take place during Lent.

**\*Personnel:** Pastor Ben will be the supervisor for Office Admin., Custodian and Organist. There will be a 2.5% raise for employees.

**\*Property & Grounds:** Water heater will be replaced.

**\*Social Ministry:** Giving Tree will take place again this year. A donation of a Thanksgiving meal was giving to a local family from 2 members of our church.

**\*Stewardship:** A letter will be sent out.

**\*Worship:** There will not be communion hymns sung at this time. Mixed feelings about not having a Thanksgiving Eve service. Christmas Eve service at 4pm, Christmas Day at 9am.

**\*Membership, Life & Growth:** Approved to do a new pictorial directory with Universal.

**Discussion Items:**

**\*Shepherd Fund:** The special offering for the fund may happen during Lent.

**\*Farmer’s Market:** A total of $1,630 was collected and given to the General Fund. Thanks to Josh & Meghan Maxwell!

**\*Companion Care Network:** A session will be in January. Cost is $200/person.

**\*Corn Roast:** 3-5 people needed for a committee to continue this event.

Volunteers needed.

**\*Committee Descriptions/Rule & Responsibilities:** Council reviewed a list of current committees. Descriptions, rule and responsibilities and terms need to be discussed.

**\*Nominating Committee:** They meet Nov. 24 to fill the ballot for the Annual Meeting.

**\*Financial Secretary:** Council will appoint a new Secretary for 2025.

**\*Annual report deadline is Jan. 3 and should be sent to Jamie.**

**\*Annual Meeting will be Jan. 26, 2025.**

Next meeting will be on Dec. 19

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 following the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Laura Hofslien

A pair of red boxing gloves

Description automatically generated with low confidenceCVLC BLOOD DRIVE

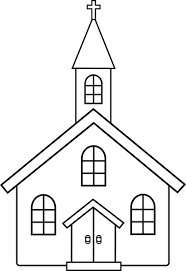
Our next blood drive will be on **Monday, January 20th from 1-6pm**. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Mike Lusk. If you would like to donate you can make an appointment by visiting redcrossblood.org or by calling Mike 452-3472. Blood supplies are critically low at this time. Please consider donating.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Remember this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver. *2 Corinthians 9:6-7*

ANNUAL REPORTS

Deadline for Committee’s to submit their Annual Reports to Jamie is **Friday, January 3rd.** If you serve on a committee, please be sure to know who needs to prepare a report. Please send to office@coonvalleylutheranchurch in Microsoft Word or PDF format. Reports will be available at the church at least one week before the Annual Meeting for pick up during worship services or while visiting the office. If you would like a digital version sent to your email or a copy mailed to you, please contact Jamie.

ANNUAL MEEETING ON JANUARY 26TH

All CVLC voting members (those older than Confirmation youth) are invited to attend our Annual Meeting. Annual Reports will be available in the front of the church or in the office at least one week before the meeting. There will be **a Worship Service** on **January 26 at 10:00AM**. **A** **potluck meal will be served after the Service, if you will be attending the Annual Meeting, please bring a dish to pass**. The church will provide coffee, water and milk. The meeting will begin when everyone has gone through the food line. Coffee will be served during the meeting. This is a good way to discuss the business, maintenance and the ministry of our church. Please come! Don’t forget to bring your Annual Report.

The Church Office will be closed December 23-January 6th for the Holiday Break. Thank you for allowing us this time away with family! In the event of an emergency please contact Pastor Ben.

ASH WEDNESDAY LUMINARY ORDERS

Once again, our Confirmation Youth will be making Luminaries in memory of our loved ones, to shine on Ash Wednesday, March 5. You can order by using this form, signing up on the order forms at church, by contacting Jamie, or by ordering from our Confirmation Youth. All orders should be made and paid for by February 23. \*Make checks out to “CVLC.” Luminaries are $5 per person. If you want two people named on one Luminary, the cost will be $10. List both names on the same line if you would like both names on one luminary.

--------------------------------------------------------

LUMINARY ORDER

FOR FROM $5

Return by Sunday, February 23 ☺

A picture containing text

Description automatically generatedWEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY

**Weekday cancellations:** The cancellation of Committee meetings, Council and other events will be determined by Committee chairpersons, Council President or others in leadership of those events. Whenever possible, cancellation notices will be given 4 hours prior to the scheduled event.

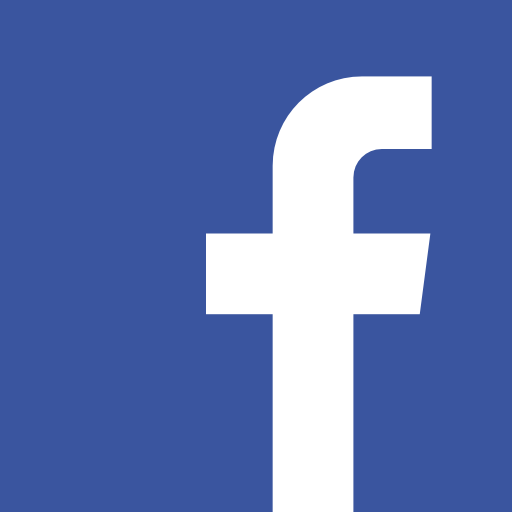
**The church office will be open as possible.**

**Sunday Morning Cancellations:** Sunday morning worship service, Sunday School, coffee fellowship and all other Sunday morning events will be cancelled at the determination of the Council President and Pastor in consultation with council members and/or worship leaders. The decision will be made by 6:30 a.m. that morning and communicated to the congregation as soon as possible. The organist and those scheduled to serve coffee will be notified directly.

For weather-related cancellations, please consult any of the following after 6:30 a.m. on Sundays:

1. WVRQ 102.3 FM and 1360 AM Radio
2. The Church Facebook Page
3. The Church website
4. By Recording on the Parish Office Phone
5. By email and or text message. (If the office has your current information and you have opted-in to receiving text messages from CVLC.

Icon

Description automatically generatedPARTICIPATE IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES FROM HOME

**Facebook:** Services are live streamed, recorded and available Sunday mornings on the CVLC Facebook page.

**YouTube:** Subscribe to our page!

**Our Website:** [www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org](http://www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org)

[](http://www.souperbowl.org/multimedia/logo/soupPot.jpg) “SOUPER BOWL” OF CARING ON FEBRUARY 9.

CVLC will again participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring. On SUPER BOWL SUNDAY a soup kettle will be placed in the narthex to receive monetary donations. 100% of the money given will go directly to the **ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL**. We invite you to put a donation in the kettle on this Sunday. Cash and checks will be accepted (make checks payable to CVLC and write “world hunger” in the memo line) we will send all money to the Synod and they will forward it to the ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL. During these football festivities please remember **to give!**

A city with a body of water

Description automatically generated**Middle Coon Valley & Coon Valley Lutheran**

**INTERGENERATIONAL SERVANT TRIP**

**Milwaukee**

**Service Learning Camps LLC**

[**www.servicelearningcamps.com**](www.servicelearningcamps.com)

This trip is for all ages, for adults and families.

It is an opportunity to spend time reflecting on faith and how that is lived out in God’s world.

**Date: Sunday, June 22nd – Wed, June 25th**

**Estimated Cost**: $120 (2 ½ days of service)

Food, lodging and transportation is not included in this cost and will be worked out by participants during our pre-trip meetings.

**A little about Milwaukee:**Although the city of Milwaukee is vibrant and historical, this is an area that struggles with homelessness as well “food deserts” where people in Milwaukee don’t always have access to food that will nourish their bodies. Volunteer opportunities include chances to engage with the people of Milwaukee and its natural setting.

**We want YOU to join us this summer!!!!**

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY!

We will be updating our church directory with Universal Church Directories! Schedule a time now to be included in our new directory! We would like every one of our members included in this directory. Please sign up! Photography dates will take place at the church on February 20-22. Appointment times for pictures range from 2:00-8:30pm on the 20th & 21st, and 10am-4pm on the 22nd. You may book an appointment time for you and/or family online at <http://www.ucdir.com> (see directions below). If you need assistance booking an appointment, please contact Jamie **during normal office hours after Jan. 5th** We will also have in-person appointment scheduling on **Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26 after worship**. There is no cost to have your picture taken. You will receive a complimentary 8X10 portrait and a directory. You will have the option to purchase more portraits to give to family and friends!

**ONLINE SCHEDULING INSTRUCTIONS**

* Go to the Universal Church Directories website **(**[**www.ucdir.com**](http://www.ucdir.com)**)**
* Click on the box on the right side of the homepage entitled “photography appointment scheduling login”
* Enter your church code **wi389**
* Enter your church password **photos**
* Click on the Enter button
* Click on the desired photography date
* Click on the Reserve Time button beside the desired photography appointment time
* Enter the appropriate information in all required fields (indicated by the asterisk)
* Click on the Schedule Appointment button at the bottom of the screen to reserve the photography appointment time in your family’s name
* If you have more than six family members being photographed, please reserve two appointments consecutively (such as 6:00 and 6:10)
* Print the next screen to use as a reminder of your family’s photography appointment
* **Contact Jamie to change or cancel your photography appointment.**

A hand holding a small plant

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Below is a list of the many funds you may wish to give to.

**GENERAL FUND**- Church operating expenses.

**BUILDING FUND** -Building and grounds projects, currently includes the Parking Lot Fund.

**MEMORIAL FUND**-Used for the life and ministry of the church as determined by Council.

**SHEPHERD FUND**-Funds for church & community members in need.

**CEMETERY**-Maintenance of the grounds.

**WELCA**-Woman of the ELCA includes Quilting and Kitchen funds.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**-Teaching materials

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**-Supplies for the making of prayer shawls and prayer squares.

**YOUTH FUND**-Funds to pay for Mission Trips

**ENDOWMENT**-Only interest income may be used for community outreach, missions of ELCA, Capital Improvements.

**RUDIE BIBLE FUND**-Supply Bibles to youth.

FAMILY L.I.F.E EPIPHANY PARTY

Sunday Jan. 5th 3:30-5:30 at the Tomten & Maxwell residence. We will play pinball, go sledding and enjoy and a Christmas tree bonfire! This will be followed by a free chicken soup supper! Please RSVP to attend. See the enclosed flyer for more information!

**WELCA NEWS**

As of this writing, we have not had our Dec. meeting. On the 19th, we will hear the Christmas Story, sing Christmas songs and enjoy a potluck lunch provided by our members. It has been a good year for WELCA and we thank all of the members who continue to support us by attending meetings, events, serving, quilting, making prayer shawls/squares, giving financially and supporting each other. Your faith in God and belief in our mission are so important in allowing us to help others, locally and globally.

Our Cookie Walk on Sun., Dec. 1, brought out cookie bakers and buyers and we thank everyone who participated. $400+ will go into our treasury because of your generosity.

With 2025 just around the corner we are hoping that one of your New Year resolutions will be to start attending WELCA meetings. We are incredibly thankful for our faithful members but it would be great if more women joined us. Let’s face it – most of us are in our 70’s or 80’s and, unfortunately, we are not going to live forever. We really need new members, new ideas and forming new friendships. Please pray about this and seriously consider joining us in the new year!

**DATE TO REMEMBER**

Jan. 16, **2025** – 10am – WELCA – Program to be announced. Server: Gloria Galstad. Paying Hostesses: Amy Stakston-Wiedemann, Lauri Schultz, Briena Schultz, Rebecca Stakston, Suzanne Strangstalien

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Feb. 20 – 10am – WELCA – General Board presents program. Server and Paying Hostesses to be announced.

**SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE SERVERS**

Jan. 5 Kim Hatlan, Renee Quellhorst

Jan. 12 Rhonda Brye, Casey Vale

Jan. 19 Jean Gronvold, Laura Hofslien,

Angie Nelson

Jan. 26 No Coffee

Feb. 2 Christal Kanieski, Samantha White

Feb. 9 Cathy Foster, Suzy Dickman

Feb. 16 Patricia Meurer, Luann Hoff

Feb. 23 Sunday School

God Bless, Ellie Brye, President

**On behalf of the General Board, we**

**wish everyone a very Happy New Year**

**and good health in 2025!**

****

**A big THANK YOU to Deb Holen for**

**once again setting up the Nativity**

**Set for everyone to enjoy. This was**

**purchased by the Naomi Circle.**

**ATTENDANCE & OFFERING**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2024** | **November** |  | **2024 YTD** |
| **Total Offerings** | $24,239.16 |  | $174,722.25 |
| **Expenses** | $16,941.78 |  | $198,276.69 |
| **Balance/Shortfall** | **$7,297.38** |  | **-$23,554.44** |
| **Parsonage Int. Fund Transfer** | $0 |  | $0 |
| **Building Fund Transfer** | $0 |  | $1,026.75 |
| **Memorial Fund**  **Transfer** | $0 |  | $0 |

**11/24 – 9a:** 93; **Offering:** $11,351.60

**12/1 – 10:15a:** 65; **Offering:** $3,524.07

**12/8 – 9a:** 100; **Offering:** $3,686.61

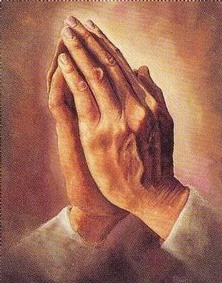
**12/15 – 9a:** 128; **Offering:** $4,139.02

**SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

**11/24-**15; **12/1**-18; **12/8**-15; **12/15**-19

**\*\***Approximately **$4,438.00 a week** is needed to meet operating expenses.

**General Fund Balance:** 11/30/24: $32,869.79

**Memorial Fund Balance:**11/30/24:$61,397.95

**Building Fund Balance:** 11/30/24: $55,476.92

**CD Interest Balance:** 11/30/24: $23,812.04

**Shepherd Fund Balance:** 11/30/24: $632.59

MEMORIALS

**Inez Beck**

Memorial Fund: $80.00

FUNERAL

Inez Beck

ONLINE GIVING

There are several ways you may get your offerings to the church. You may mail it to the church office, P.O. Box 280. Or use one of our eGiving options. 1) You may go to our website and click the Donate button at the top. 2) Give through the mobile app Vanco Mobile. Please let Jamie know if you need assistance in any way. Thank you for your support!

KWIK TRIP GIFT CARDS

Purchase Kwik Trip cards! We are able to purchase these cards for a discount. Purchase them as gifts, or to use for your own needs including gas, milk, bread and much more. Email Jamie to sign up

[office@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org). Or sign up on the order form in the church entrance or near the church office. Help us support our CVLC Youth Trips!

**YEAR-TO-DATE BALANCE**

PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group continues to pray for the church, the congregation and our extended family and friends.

**† *Our church staff***

**† *Our members*:** Corrine Appleman, Beverly Bagstad, Clifford Bakkum, Brian Berg, Herby Cornell, Kira Hoff, Becky Ihle, Donna Ihle, Verlin Ihle, Todd King, Margaret Lee, Russell Lee, Aaron Leisso, Aaron Marx, Frank Mathison, Mitzi Miyamoto, LuEtta Nelson, Romaine Nelson, Cathy Ofte, Eunice Quast, Brian Rude, Jojo Satona, Mary Schultz, Billie Slater, LaVonne Stendahl, Krin (Dreves) Stendalen, Joyce Temp, Debi Thesing, Teri Tomten, Renita Williamson.

**† *Our members who are currently in health care facilities & Assisted Living*:** Tip Bagstad, Rachel Berg, Carl Daffinrud, Evelyn Dahlen, Jeanne Ebli, Lenore Henley, Carl Holte, Bob Moilien, Irene Nestingen, Geri Nestingen, Annie Olson, Beatrice Olson (Alden), Betty Sanders.

**† *Those who grieve:*** Family and friends of Inez Beck

**† *Family and friends of members***

**† *Local Military***

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW EMAIL!

Pastor Benjamin: <pastor@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org>

Jamie Thomas, Office Administrator:

[office@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org)

Becky Lusk, Treasurer:

[treasurer@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org](mailto:treasurer@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org)



**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**WEEK OF JANUARY 5**

**SUNDAY** Jeremiah 31:7-14 *Joy as God’s scattered flock gathers*

Psalm 147:12-20 *Praising God in Zion*

*Or* Sirach 24:1-12 *Wisdom lives among God’s people*

Wisdom 10:15-21 *Praising the holy name*

Ephesians 1:3-14 *The will of God make known in Christ*

John 1:1-18 *God with us*

**MONDAY** Isaiah 60:1-6 *Nations come to the light*

**EPIPHANY** Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 *All shall bow down*

Ephesians 3:1-12 *The gospel’s promise for all*

Matthew 2:1-12 *Christ revealed to the nations*

**TUESDAY** Daniel 2:1-19 *The king searches for wisdom*

**WEDNESDAY** Daniel 2:24-49 *Daniel reveals the dream’s meaning*

**THURSDAY** Luke 1:67-79 *The Savior is seen*

**FRIDAY** Numbers 24:15-19 *A star coming from out of Jacob*

**SATURDAY** Ephesians 4:17—5:1 *Life lived in Christ*

**WEEK OF JANUARY 12**

**SUNDAY** Isaiah 43:1-7 *Passing through the waters*

**BAPTISM OF**Psalm 29 *The voice of the LORD upon the waters*

**OUR LORD** Acts 8:14-17 *Prayer for the Holy Spirit*

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 *The baptism of Jesus*

**MONDAY** Judges 4:1-10, 12-16 *Israel’s enemies drown*

**TUESDAY** Judges 5:12-21 *The song of Deborah*

**WEDNESDAY** Luke 11:33-36 *Your body full of light*

**THURSDAY** Numbers 27:1-11 *Daughters also promised inheritance*

**FRIDAY** 1 John 5:13-21 *The life of those born of God*

**SATURDAY** Psalm 106:1-12 *God saves through water*

**WEEK OF JANUARY 19**

**SUNDAY** Isaiah 62:1-5 *God like the bridegroom and bride*

Psalm 36:5-10 *We feast on the abundance of God’s house*

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 *A variety of gifts but one Spirit*

John 2:1-11 *The wedding at Cana*

**MONDAY** Isaiah 54:1-8 *God is married to Israel*

**TUESDAY** Jeremiah 3:19-25 *Israel is a faithless spouse*

**WEDNESDAY** Luke 5:33-39 *Christ the bridegroom*

**THURSDAY** Song of Solomon 4:9—5:1 *A love song*

**FRIDAY** 1 Corinthians 1:3-17 *Appeal for unity*

**SATURDAY** Psalm 145 *Praise God’s faithfulness*

**WEEK OF JANUARY 26**

**SUNDAY** Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 *Ezra reads the law*

Psalm 19 *The law revives the soul*

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a *You are the body of Christ*

Luke 4:14-21 *Jesus reads the prophet Isaiah*

**MONDAY** Jeremiah 36:1-4, 20-26 *The king burns the scroll*

**TUESDAY** Jeremiah 36:27-32 *Jeremiah dictates a second scroll*

**WEDNESDAY** Luke 4:38-44 *Jesus heals and preached in synagogues*

**THURSDAY** Isaiah 61:1-7 *The spirit of God upon me*

**FRIDAY** 1 Corinthians 14:1-12 *The assembly’s gifts*

**SATURDAY** Psalm 119:89-96 *The law of God gives life*

**Moving? New contact information? Please update the church office.**

**Thank you!**

Please use our correct mailing address when sending us mail.

P.O. Box 280

Thank you!

Visit our website: coonvalleylutheranchurch.org to sign-up to receive our newsletter via email!

**THE CARILLON**

VOL. 54 January 2025 No.1

Coon Valley Lutheran Church, ELCA 1005 Central Avenue, P.O. Box 280

Coon Valley, WI 54623

Office Phone (608)452-3772

[www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org](http://www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org)

**Worship Schedule**

**Sunday Worship at 9:00**

**Sunday School 10:15-11:30am**

**See calendar for change in worship times.**

Pastor: Rev. Ben Morris, 608-406-1556; [pastor@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastor@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org)

Office Administrator: Jamie Thomas, [office@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org),

Office: 608-452-3772; Cell Phone: 608-317-0007

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Treasurer: Becky Lusk, <treasurer@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org>

Organist: Mary Schultz

Indoor Custodian: Tracy Stellner

Church Council President: Steve Pauloski

Vice President: Mike Lusk; Secretary: Laura Hofslien

Paul Bahr, Janice Bender, Mark Hutson, Ron Moilien,

Amy Stakston-Wiedemann, Ray Williamson

**