

THE MESSENGER



From the Pastor's desk...



Summer Worship is the Best!

In a recent conversation with a friend of mine I said that I love to preach in the summer. “Why summer?” she asked. I told her that just because of the way the lessons from the three-year lectionary fall, the best preaching texts often come in the summer. Pastors in the ELCA are free to preach on whatever text they choose, but I like to preach from the appointed texts because it challenges me.

So this summer we are in the Gospel of Luke, chapters ten, eleven, and twelve. Jesus and his disciples are on their way to Jerusalem where Jesus will be crucified. Jesus knows this but the disciples do not. Jesus is teaching them along the way, sending out seventy in mission, telling a parable about a “good” Samaritan, visiting Mary and Martha, teaching them how to pray, telling a parable about a foolish rich man, teaching them about the proper relationship with possessions, telling them about the end times, healing a woman on the Sabbath, and teaching about the proper place to sit at the banquet. The great thing about all of these lessons is that they all relate to our lives in real, concrete ways. They help us to learn how to be disciples of Jesus too.

I know many of you are at the lake on the weekends. I love going to the lake myself. But don't miss out this great season for worship. Find a church close by you to worship. Wear your shorts and flip flops. As you relax and spend time with family and friends, make an effort to spend time with the Lord too. It will help you feel renewed and refreshed.

One more plug for summer worship. You will find more information in this newsletter about Pathways Village, August 16-25, at Camp Minne-Wa-Kan. Minne-Wa-Kan is located on Lake Andrusia, east of Bemidji and north of Cass Lake. During the ten days of Pathways Village they will offer a range of classes, workshops, and outdoor adventures as well as time to rest and relax, all centered around Village Worship each evening. You can go for the day, or stay overnight for two-ten days. Registration information is located later in this newsletter.

Summer is the time to grow. Let us all grow in our faith during this summer as well!

~Pastor Karen

PARISH NEWS

Did you know Valley Memorial Homes has a Memory Care Neighborhood?

Hearthstone is the memory care neighborhood within Woodside Village, a skilled nursing facility at 4000 Valley Square, 4000 24th Avenue South. This neighborhood is designed to support the changing needs of those diagnosed with dementia or Alzheimer's disease. The secure and supportive environment is designed to maximize resident independence in a quiet and homelike setting. The staff at Hearthstone provides individualized care and activities for each resident. If you would like a tour contact Shannon at 701-787-7830 or for more information contact Jonina at 701-787-7960. Visit our website at www.valleymemorial.org.



OUR PARISH FAMILY

Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends Wayne Haug, whose funeral was held at Fisher Lutheran Church on Thursday, June 23, 2016.



We welcome Brooke Rosalie Winger into our parish family through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Brooke is the daughter of Tenniel and Corey Winger (member at Fisher) and she was born on 4/30/16. Her baptism was held at Bygland Lutheran Church on Sunday, June 5, 2016. Sponsors are Nick and Cassie Kasowski and Kari Winger.



Pathways Village

A Church Camp Experience for All Ages
Camp Minne-Wa-Kan, Cass Lake
August 1 6-25, 2016 (Pick whatever dates work for you!)



Pathways Village is an amazing opportunity to get away at the end of the summer, perhaps with your spouse, family, kids or grandkids for a wonderful time of fun and relaxation by the lake. Relax in the midst of a wonderful array of speakers, teachers and faith leaders who provide educational and renewal through refreshing and encouraging opportunities for all ages and participants on the Christian Faith Journey.

To learn more about what this unique choice packed Holden Village like experience will entail, and to register, check out the detailed program offerings on the Pathways Lutheran Outdoor Ministries website:

www.pathwaysbiblecamps.org and click on Pathways Village.

All-School Reunion ~ Kudos to those who worked for years to plan the Fisher All-School Reunion in late June. It was great to see old friends and classmates who all share a common bond of the small-town life in Fisher! Thanks, also, to those who served at the pancake breakfast, as well as those who came to eat! Good food! Good fun!



NWMN SYNOD ASSEMBLY RE-CAP



May 20-21 2016 Concordia College, Moorhead, MN

- More than 500 Lutherans gathered at Concordia College, Moorhead, MN, to discuss speaking the *Truth and Love at the crossroads*.
- Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber was the keynote speaker; Pastor Ron Glusenkamp was our churchwide representative.
- The assembly passed five resolutions:
 - Affirming and continuing the MP4ME Designated offering for our Synod Partners;
 - Affirming financial support for seminary students;
 - Affirming financial support of the Bible Women of the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church (AELC) in India;
 - To recommit support to the Phebe Hospital Solar Project, PV (Photovoltaics) for Phebe;
 - And approved the Dissolution of Lutheran Campus Ministry of Minnesota, Inc.
- Nine growth groups helped participants look at speaking the truth in love on a variety of topics, ranging from immigration, sex trafficking and vocation in the third chapter of life.
- The assembly lifted up the Campaign for the ELCA; we have already raised \$1,325,887 towards the synod's goal of \$4.75 million.

Fisher Lutheran Church Council Minutes

June 22, 2016 7:00 PM

Members present: Lance Reitmeier, Brian Morken, Pastor Karen Young Trenne, Chad Knutson, Darryl Quern, Sheryl Tinkham, Gail Kasowski, and Ken Miller

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by President Lance Reitmeier.

Secretary's Report: No report was provided.

Treasurer's Report: Starting July 1, 2016 Bremer will be charging \$.75 for every transaction over 100 transactions per account. A motion was made by Darryl to continue with the current accounts, seconded by Ken. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Karen provided a brief outline of her activities during the last month.

Old Business: None to report.

New Business: The parsonage committee reported that a new door was put in the garage for \$100. September 11 will be Rally Sunday and ideas were discussed regarding events for the service.

Next meeting: July 6, 2016 at 7:30 PM

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted by Chad Knutson



Bygland Lutheran Church

We are God's work in progress, with hearts lifted to God in trust and praise and with hands extended to serve in Jesus' name.

Unofficial/Unapproved ~ Council Meeting Minutes June 8, 2016 7:30pm

Members present: Pastor Karen, Roger Moe, Ronnie Thorson, Haley Thorson, Marsha Ketring, Randy Moe and Eric Ege-land.

Members absent: Alan Halvorson, Troy Pecka, Pam Robertson, Karen Ebertowski and Sheila Wurden

Call to Order—The council meeting was called to order by Council President Roger Moe at 7:30pm. Pastor Karen opened with a prayer.

Secretary's Report—Haley presented the May minutes. *A motion to approve the secretary's report as amended was made by Ronnie and seconded by Randy. All were in favor, motion carried.*

Treasurer's Report—A May balance sheet was distributed. *A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Haley and seconded by Ronnie. All were in favor, motion carried.*

Devotions—Pastor Karen led devotions from Bishop Wohlrabe's Bible Studies on faith and doubt.

Pastor's Report—Pastor Karen's statistical report for May included no weddings, baptisms or new members. The funeral for Mildred Knutson was held on May 25. Joint Council meeting was confirmed for June 22. Pastor Karen will be taking vacation in August and September (to include Rally Sunday) and Bonnie has already put out the call for pulpit supply.

Old Business

Parsonage Lease—The revisions have been made and it will be signed at the Joint Council meeting.

Church Maintenance—Eric was able to repair the gutter and had contacted North Holt Electric to assess the lightbulbs on the bell tower. He will follow up with them to find out replacement cost and possible discuss changing the bulbs to something more efficient.

New Business

Plumbing—It was noted that the plumbing in the women's restroom in the lower level may need to be looked at. Roger could not replicate the problem while looking at it.

Youth Group Account Request—Becky Egeland is requesting the attainment of a debit card for the Youth Group Account. Most of the purchasing that is completed is done online, in addition to registrations for camps, etc. The Sunday School Account already has a card.

A motion to approve the attainment (by Becky Egeland) of a debit card for the BLC Youth Group Account was made by Eric and seconded by Haley. All were in favor, motion carried.

Use of Church Request—Becky Egeland would like to request the use of the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen for a food prep class in later June. The exact date is not yet set, but she would coordinate to avoid scheduling conflicts.

A motion to allow Becky use of the church was made by Haley and seconded by Marsha. All were in favor motion carried.

Next Meeting Date: Joint Council at Fisher, June 22 / Regular BLC July Meeting, July 13 at 7:30pm

Adjourn—*A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Haley and seconded by Randy. All were in favor, the motion carried.*

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Haley Thorson, BLC Secretary

BYGLAND TIDBITS

QUILTING

Bygland quilters will meet at the church the following dates at 9:00 AM: July 6 and July 13 and August 3 and August 10.



I Book Club

BOOK CLUB NEWS

The Book Club will meet on July 25 (7:00 PM) to discuss *CARRYING ALBERT HOME* (Homer Hickam). It will also meet on August 22 (7:00 PM) to discuss *THE IDIOT GIRLS' ACTION-ADVENTURE CLUB* (Laurie Notaro). Both meetings will happen in the gazebo. New members are always welcome!

FISHER TIDBITS

July 20 — Bible Study at 9:00 AM
Session 2: Seeking God *Jeremiah 29*

July 25 & 26 —Quilting at 9:00 AM

June 13—clean kitchen at 9:00 AM

August 17 —Bible Study at 9:00 AM. Session 3: The Ministry of Reconciliation *2 Corinthians 5:17-19*



VBS SUCCESS

Another successful Vacation Bible School week full of learning and faith was completed June 13-16. 22 kids from the Fisher and Bygland communities attended. For the second year, we used Group Publishing's program and the theme was Cave Quest! Each evening, the kids met a new Bible Buddy and learned a lesson. God gives us hope! God gives us courage! God gives us direction! God gives us love!

It takes many dedicated volunteers to make the week a success. A heartfelt "Thank you" to all the station leaders, crew leaders, helpers, kitchen volunteers, those who donated supplies, and Pastor Karen for sharing her gift with the kids!



The baby grand piano fundraiser is complete! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



Aug. 10-13, 2016
New Orleans

Gathering Details



The 500th anniversary of the Reformation is an opportunity to rejoice in the life-giving, liberating power of the gospel. As part of the observance, we invite you to attend the Grace Gathering, in partnership with the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. This will be an opportunity to experience the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) when gathered as the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, prepare for further observances of the 500th anniversary and reflect on how the Reformation can continue to guide us today.

“The Grace Gathering will bring people together from all across the ELCA. Participants will see the church in action, worship with churchwide assembly voting members, engage in experiential learning and attend a variety of workshops that will equip congregations and synods with tools to prepare for the 500th anniversary observances. And, you know that when you get a couple of thousand Lutherans together, the singing will be great!”

~Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton

We give thanks to the Thrivent Financial Foundation, whose generous grant makes our efforts possible.

More information: <http://elca.org/gracegathering> Registration closes July 17, 2016. Cost to attend the Gathering is \$350 per person.

Fisher Bygland Lutheran Parish

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