

THE MESSENGER

Thank You and Farewell

Serving the Lord Jesus with all of you has been one of the greatest honors of my life. We have served the Lord together for almost twelve years. This will be the longest call that I will serve in my years of ordained pastoral ministry. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your prayers and support, for the love you have shown me and my family, for sharing with me your joys and sorrows, for challenging me, for embracing me, and for celebrating the Gospel message with me.



There are so many wonderful highlights in our time together: baptisms, Holy Communion, confirmations, youth gatherings and trips, Bible studies, Christmas and Easter celebrations, Vacation Bible School, and countless other times we have engaged in ministry together. Even funerals have been a highlight for me because we have surrounded the families of those who have died with the good news of Jesus Christ, that death has been defeated and nothing can separate us from the love of God.

I will always be your sister in Christ. I hold the friendships I have formed with you as sacred. However, after September 7, I will not be your pastor any longer. I will not be available to officiate at weddings, funerals, baptisms, and other pastoral acts for you. I trust that you will understand and respect this important boundary. I will be honored if you should choose to invite me to special events in your lives as a guest. I will hold you and your loved ones in prayers as you let me know of your needs.

I leave you with the words from Revelation chapter 1 I have started every sermon with, “Grace to you and peace from the one who is and who was and who is to come.” Amen

Your sister in Christ, Pastor Karen

Join us as we gather to worship at Pastor Karen Young-Trenne's final church services in our parish.

Sunday, Aug. 29 @ 9:00 am at Bygland Lutheran Church

Sunday, Sept. 5 @ 9:00 am at Fisher Lutheran Church

We invite you to join us for coffee following the services to thank Pastor Karen for her faithful service to our communities and wish her well in her future endeavors.

FISHER NEWS

FALL 2021 WELCA BIBLE STUDY – FISHER LUTHERAN

The gift of the Spirit

By Sara Olson-Smith

Celtic Christians likened the Holy Spirit not to a dove, but to a goose. In this three-session study we will go on our own divine Wild Goose chase. We'll track the Holy Spirit's actions throughout the Bible and throughout our lives. We'll explore how the Spirit moves God's people into adventures and lives we would never dare risk on our own.

SESSION 1:

SPIRIT OF GOD: REVEALER AND RESOURCE

The Holy Spirit might be the most misunderstood or mysterious member of the Trinity, but the Spirit of scripture is not shy. Together we'll uncover the bold, truth-telling Spirit active in our lives. After a quick review of the mystery of the Trinity, we'll read parts of Jesus' farewell discourse, and hear how the Spirit continues to reveal the truth of Jesus to us and to the world. We'll discuss how the gift of the Holy Spirit is a resource for God's people, giving us power we need to do God's work.

SESSION 2:

BREATH OF GOD: REVIVER AND REFORMER

The Holy Spirit is the breath of God, giving life and building community. Beginning with the breath God gave that first human, continuing with the breath that made dry bones dance, God's Spirit continues to revive us. We will see the ways that the Spirit gives life – not just to us as individuals, but to our communities, reconciling us and forming us into life-giving communities, even in our diversity.

SESSION 3:

WIND OF GOD: REFINER AND RE-ROUTER

The Holy Spirit is the wind of God, moving us into deeper faithfulness and more authentic love. We'll see the ways in which God's Spirit moves us to bear good fruit in the world and refines us into our truest selves. We will also follow the Spirit's movements through the early church to see how the Spirit re-routes God's people, guiding us into transformed lives and renewed communities of faith.

Olson-Smith, Sara. "Upcoming Bible Studies" *Gather for Faith and Action*, July/August 2021, p. 39

SESSION 1: SPIRIT OF GOD: REVELER AND RESOURCE will be reviewed at our September WELCA Bible Study session, Sept. 15th at 9:00 am.

Go to gathermagazine.org or call 844-409-0576 to subscribe to Gather to access Bible Study materials.



Sept. 15th: 9:00 AM Bible Study

Sept. 20th & 21st: 9:00 AM Quilting

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS

LWR School Kits

Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that girls attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. School Kits contain essential supplies to help children – and in some cases, adults – continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

Please consider donating as many of the following items as you would like:

- FOUR 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose leaf paper
- ONE 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ONE pencil sharpener
- ONE pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- FIVE unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- FIVE black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- ONE box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ONE 2 ½" eraser

LWR Personal Care Kits

Cleanliness may not actually be next to godliness, but it certainly helps a person feel more human. When families find their homes destroyed, or must flee for their safety, soap and a towel rarely make the cut for what they can carry. Arriving in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared, vulnerable and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit provide much-needed self-care, critical germ fighting, and the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear and uncertainty.

Please consider donating any of the following:

- ONE light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*
- ONE sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ONE metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

**Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap*



GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS SUNDAY

Fisher Lutheran Church

September 19th 2021

9:00 AM

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all

of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Following the church service, we invite you to enjoy breakfast served by the Fisher Lutheran Youth Group. Gather together to help assemble Lutheran World Relief School and Personal Care Kits.

This is a Thrivent Action Team sponsored event.

Lutheran World Relief Quilts... connecting hands and hearts around the world.

Often, when natural disasters strike or war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion, but we don't know how to help.

Making quilts for Lutheran World Relief is a tangible way to express love to our neighbors in need. Quilts can be used as warm bedding, simple tents or floor coverings. Each one reflects God's loving presence in a world laden with suffering.

Join us in our mission to assemble quilts to be shared around the world!

September 20th & 21st

9:00 am

Fisher Lutheran Church

All are welcome! No experience required!



WELCOME TO FISHER LUTHERAN'S 2021-2022 SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR



ON TRACK WITH JESUS!

WHAT'S SUNDAY SCHOOL ALL ABOUT?

- Children 3 years old to 5th grade are welcome to join us each Sunday at 10:15 AM
- The Spark Sunday School curriculum will guide our students through a comprehensive Bible-based curriculum that follows the scripture readings you'll hear during church services each Sunday!
 - *Gather – Kids enjoy a welcoming activity and prayer
 - *It's all about the Bible – Bible discovery and exploration is integrated in every program, every lesson, and every age group – from preschoolers to preteen.
 - *Activities kids love – Lively, age-appropriate activities – such as games, crafts or creative play – accommodate all ways a kid learns!

WHAT WILL SUNDAY SCHOOL LOOK LIKE THIS YEAR?

- We will resume in-person Sunday School for the 2021-2022 school. At this time, face masks will be optional for all participants. We ask you to remain prayerful and mentally flexible as we continue to navigate this pandemic and make decisions as information becomes available.
- For the near future, the Fisher/Bygland Churches will hold services at 9 AM on alternate Sundays...**BUT...** Fisher Lutheran's Sunday School program will be held each & every Sunday morning at 10:15 AM. We encourage all our families to continue to worship in-person each Sunday morning at either Fisher or Bygland.
- Sunday School students will gather in the church pews for our opening session each Sunday before dispersing to their grade level classrooms for instruction.
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OFFERING

Offering will be taken each week but with a little variety. God wants us to give with a cheerful heart and a generous spirit!

- Bring pocket change the **FIRST** Sunday of each month that church services are held at FLC beginning Oct. 3rd for a **"Noisy Offering"**. This offering will be collected not only during Sunday School... but in addition to the regular offering taken during the church service. Gather up your loose change from pockets or purses and let it ring as it is collected in our metal pails!

Noisy Offering collected through December will be given to a selected mission or ministry. Funds collected Jan. through May will be sent to Pathways Lutheran Outdoor Ministries.

- We will celebrate each child's **Baptism** on the **SECOND** Sunday of each month. Those with baptism anniversaries during the month are asked to bring pennies that will be counted out in a special baptism offering for each year of their lives. We will begin the year with August-October baptism recognition on Oct. 10th. Those with baptism dates in June & July will be recognized in May 2022.
- The **THIRD** Sunday of each month will be designated as **Mission Sunday**. In lieu of a monetary offering, the children will be asked to bring items to donate to various mission or charity projects. ***Current needs will be noted in the Fisher Lutheran newsletter, in the weekly Sunday School emails and on the FLC Sunday School Facebook Group page.***

SERVICE LEARNING

To help our young people understand that we are all called to serve, we will continue to offer opportunities for them to help others throughout the school year.

RALLY SUNDAY – FISHER LUTHERAN

September 19, 2021

9:00 AM Church Service

10:15 Sunday School

Blessing of the Backpacks

Children are invited to bring their backpacks to the 9 AM church service on Sept. 19th so that they can be blessed for the coming school year!

Bible Presentation for Preschool and 3 Yr. and 3rd Grade Students

Preschool Bible Story Books

Hobey Bakken

Parents - Mitch & Kelly Bakken

Carter Krostue

Parents - Josh & Nicole Krostue

Izzy Tinkham

Parents - Lance & Emily Tinkham

3rd Grade Bibles

Katie Getsman

Parents - Charles & Amy Getsman

Corban Korynta

Parents - Ross & Kelli Korynta

Brynlee Newhouse

Parents - Troy & Jen Newhouse

Oliver Wallace

Parents - Jay & Stacy Wallace

Parents are invited forward with their children for the Bible presentations.

BYGLAND NEWS

Bygland confirmation on 9-8 and 9-28 time: TBD

Rally Sunday - 9:00 at BLC on 9-12

Adopt a Highway - 10:00 at BLC on 9-12

Book Club—9-27

PARISH NEWS

While we search for our interim Pastor we will continue with our summer schedule – alternating services between Fisher and Bygland with all services scheduled for 9:00 AM. Check the monthly calendar to confirm location.