

Oct. 2022

THE MESSENGER



From the Pastor's desk...



Just the other day I was visiting with a member of the parish and they shared the following words regarding discipleship within a rural community, “Wealth comes from the land and land comes from the Lord.” I just love that reminder! This month marks the beginning of the 8th month that I have been blessed to serve as your Interim Pastor. Prior to accepting the call as Interim, I had never served a 2 point parish. There has been a steep growing curve for me in my leadership skills, to learn how to best lead among Fisher/Bygland. For instance; I had the assumption that a 2 point parish most always worshipped and fellowshipped together. I was wrong. This became apparent as we moved to the alternating Sunday worship schedule throughout the summer. To my surprise, I learned that for some of you, the summer schedule means that you worship every other week. The good news for us, for today, is that we are back to worshipping at both congregations every week! This provides an opportunity for us to see one another weekly, as well as to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Additional learnings are that each parish has its own church councils, committees and missions which function quite uniquely independently. Each of the parishes has distinctive gifts, strengths, traditions and opportunities for growth.

As I continue to enjoy the learnings that accompany this call, I thank you for your patience in teaching me how to ‘best’ lead and to serve among you. As the learning curve continues, I invite you to reach out to me to share insights as to how I might ‘better’ serve as your Interim. For instance; letting me know of any hospital or homebound visits that may be helpful including upcoming surgeries.

One never knows how long an Interim pastor will be in leadership, while each day is a gift. Kirby and I are enjoying setting up the parsonage as our home and are becoming acquainted with ‘farm life’! We love it.

I invite you to hold the Parish Call Committee in prayer as interviews will be taking place shortly for your next full-time called Pastor. It is a most exciting time for the life of a parish as you prepare for pastoral called leadership. I encourage you to listen to the prompting of the Holy Spirit as how to be the body of Christ for today, as well as into the future. God is always calling us to do a ‘new thing’ as believers. My hope is that Fisher/Bygland Parishes thrive this colorful and cool Fall! See you in worship!

Sharing Christ’s Service,
Pastor Gretchen

BYGLAND NEWS



May God our Creator transform your work and your lives through grace; May Jesus lead us, His church, to follow in his path of love and sacrifice; May the Holy Spirit keep you ever joyful and humble in service; May almighty God bless you now and always. Go in Peace. Serve the Lord! #GodsWorkOurHands.

Thank you to all of those who participated in the Bygland Lutheran Church and Youth Group Adopt-A-Highway service project as part of God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, held September 11, 2022: Jeff Millar, Rylan Egeland, Logan Egeland, Steve Moe, Reignan Wavra, Kent Wavra, Zach Wavra, Marsha Ketrung, Steve Short, Courtney Robertson, Alan Halvorson, Denny Robertson, Haley Thorson, Avynn Thorson, Avery Traub, Barry Traub, & Rachel Traub. You have engaged in an opportunity to demonstrate care and restoration to our beautiful earth. It was a beautiful, fall day to be out serving with our family, friends, and neighbors. We thank you for your time and energy. We give a special thank you to Jeff Millar for providing some door prizes for the day.

All friends, neighbors, and parish members are welcome to participate in our program. Mark your calendar for our next collection date: Saturday, May 6, 2023 starting at 10:00 a.m. Participants will meet at the Bygland Lutheran Church, south door.



FISHER NEWS

FISHER LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

October 2, 2022 - NOISY OFFERING

The Sunday School children will be collecting a Noisy Offering on Oct. 2nd during their Gathering session. Bring in loose change and let it ring as it is gathered in our metal buckets! ***We will also be giving all FLC worshipers a chance to contribute with Sunday School students collecting pocket change during the church service.*** Noisy offering collected through December will be given to a selected mission project or ministry. Funds collected January through May will be sent to Pathways Lutheran Outdoor Ministries.

October 9, 2022 - BAPTISM RECOGNITION

We will celebrate the baptism anniversaries of the Sunday School children that were baptized during the month of October. These children are asked to bring pennies that will be counted out in a special baptism offering for each year of their lives.

Paisley Hoffman
River Korynta
Deeken Solheim

Oct. 16, 2022 – MISSION SUNDAY

On Mission Sunday, in lieu of a monetary offering, the Sunday School children will be asked to bring items to donate to the Fisher School Backpack Program. The Backpack Program helps ensure that kids have a healthy and reliable source of food over the weekend. Children are encouraged to bring individual serving containers of pasta such as spaghetti & meatballs, lasagna or macaroni & cheese.

Oct. 23, 2022– NO SUNDAY SCHOOL – MEA BREAK

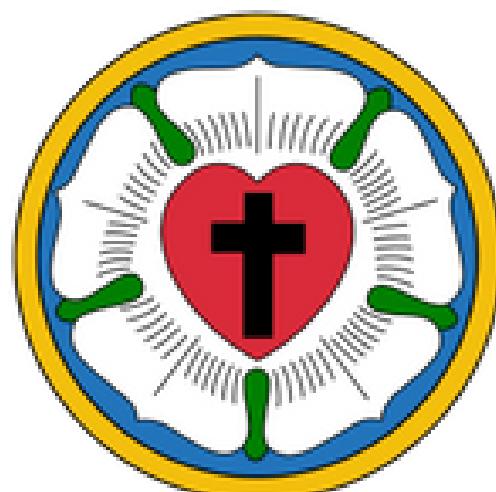
Oct. 30, 2022 - CONFIRMATION

Fisher Lutheran Candidates for Confirmation

Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022

9:00 am Service

Kadence Korynta and Malene Reitmeier



FISHER LUTHERAN WELCA BIBLE STUDY

Oct. 19, 2022 @ 9:00 AM

JESUS AND NATURE: TEACHER OF FAITH

Session 1: “*Trees*” of the *Gather* Bible study, “Jesus and Nature: Teacher of Faith” by the Rev. Sarah Olson-Smith, will tap into Biblical images of trees and explore why planting and protecting trees is important, while rooting us in models of interdependence and mutuality.



**Gather
Zoom Bible
Study**

You can also join the Gather Zoom Bible Study session each

4th Monday of the Month

7:00-8:00 PM

Zoom Meeting ID 830 8115 5921

Questions or for meeting link email Marilyn Grandstrand at mgrand1000@ymail.com

FISHER LUTHERAN QUILTING

Fisher Lutheran Church

October 10, 11, 24 & 25

9:00 AM

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

The Fisher Lutheran congregation came together on September 11th to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Members, both young and old...donated school items and towels to create Lutheran World Relief School Kits and Personal Care Kits. Service projects such as these, 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, caring confidence in God's grace

HALLOWHIM



TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday
OCTOBER
23RD
3:00 - 4:30 PM

TREATS! GAMES! FUN!

Fisher Lutheran Church
Parking Lot
209 2nd St. S., Fisher, MN

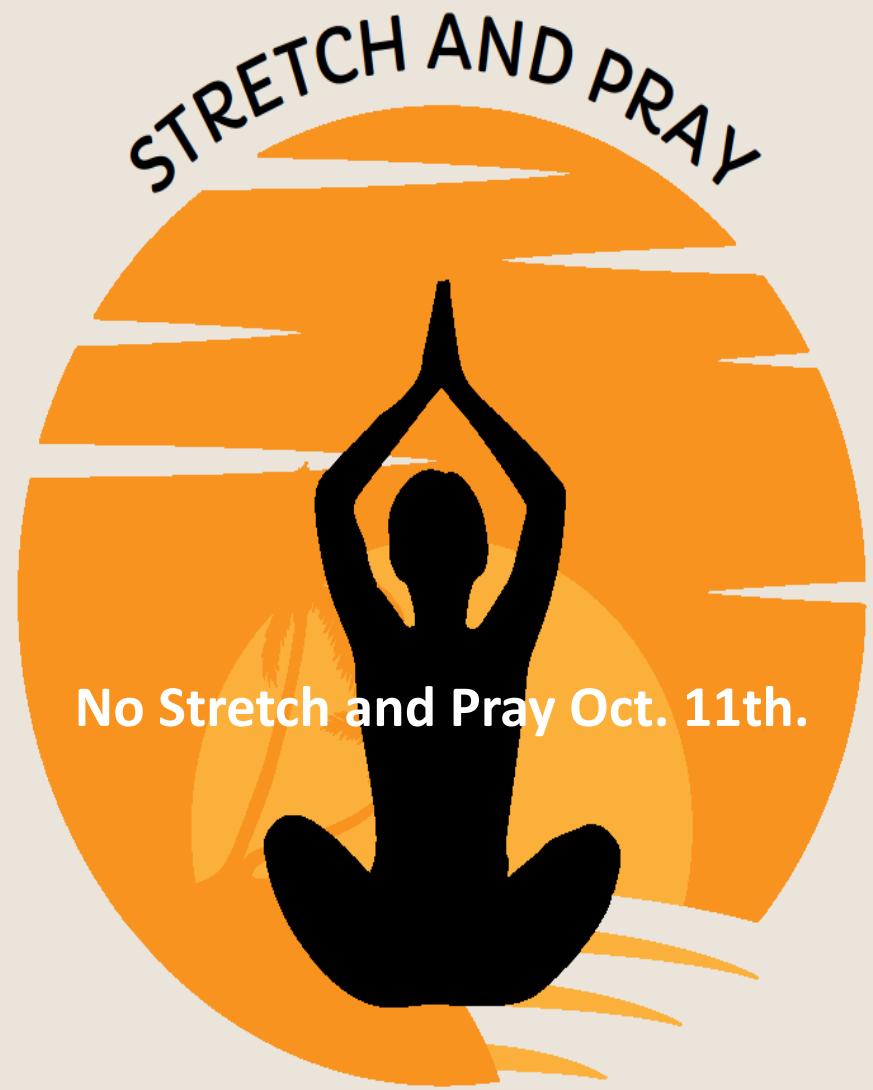
THIS FAMILY FUN EVENT IS FREE & OPEN TO EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY !

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Dear friends in Christ,
As you may know, there has been concern lately about the need to replace the shingles on the church. Hail and wind events this summer have accelerated the situation. The council weighed the pros and cons of asphalt vs steel products and decided in June to accept the low bid for steel shingles for \$130,000. We are assured they will be installed yet this fall and are guaranteed for 50 years.

The Roofing fund, which was started in 2020, has grown to \$85,000 thanks to your generosity and a \$28,000 insurance check from Church Mutual for hail damage. That leaves us with \$45,000 needed to meet the total cost. Consequently we are asking you to prayerfully consider additional gifts to the Roofing fund to help us cover as much of the remaining balance as possible in 2022 to avoid borrowing money for the day to day operations of the church. Our worship facilities have served us well since 2000 and now we need to reinvest in preserving the building for years to come.

Thank you,
Fisher Church council



**8:00 AM TUESDAYS
FISHER LUTHERAN CHURCH
209 2ND STREET S.**

FOR MEN AND WOMEN OF ALL AGES. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. BRING A YOGA MAT, OR A TOWEL AND WATER. WEAR LOOSE FITTING CLOTHES. PREPARE FOR A TIME OF PRAYER, RELAXATION AND GENTLE MOVEMENT.

NO COST OR ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED. MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND COME JOIN US FOR A TIME OF CONNECTION WITH GOD, OUR BODIES AND ONE ANOTHER. NOT TO BE MISSED! PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR GRETCHEN ENOCH FOR QUESTIONS

812-639-7816.



Women's Retreat

January 6th-8th Laporte, MN

Fisher/Bygland Parish is hosting a Women's retreat.
Come and enjoy massage, yoga, relaxation and kindness!

To register contact Pastor Gretchen at
pastor@fisherbygland.org/812-639-7816

Registration deadline Nov. 20th
\$50.00 deposit due at registration.



Proverbs 31:26

When she speaks, her words are wise, and she gives instructions with kindness.

Fisher/Bygland Parish's want to thank our Church Lady, Becky Conati, for her continued commitment to our Parish's. We don't thank her enough for everything she does with the Midweek Memo.

Should we play a game and guess how long she has been dedicated to helping us!? Share your guess's with us at the Church office. Winner will receive a coffee outing with Pastor Gretchen.

If you need your name added to the email list, let us know by emailing the church office at office@fisherbygland.org.



Update from your Fisher/Bygland Call Committee:

The Call Committee has interviewed one pastoral candidate and will meet again on October 23rd at 10am at BLC, to prepare for and to schedule the interview with the 2nd candidate.

The Call Committee is comprised of 4 members from each congregation. Fisher is in need of an individual to volunteer to fill a vacated position for the remainder of the interview process.

Thank you to the current leadership: Travis Schwartz (Chair), Reed Tinkham, Carmen Knutson, Eric Egeland, Holly Wavra, Becky Egeland and Allan Halvorson. Thank you for investing your time in finding the best fit for our Parish's.

Travis Schwartz

