



The

# Parish Visitor

*A Publication of Bethlehem Lutheran Church • Askov, Minnesota*

October 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## *A Message From Our SAM*

When it is meal time I tell my grandchildren they need to fill up their tanks. We need food to nourish our bodies so we can keep healthy and have energy. The same is for our Spiritual lives. How do you fill your tank daily? I like to use the “*Our Daily Bread*” that is offered at our church for one of my daily devotions. They are located on the kiosk, or just ask me and I will make sure you get one.

I also fill my tank with music. The devotion this past September 16 is titled HALLELUJAH! He will reign for ever and ever. Revelation 11:15, with the reading for this day 15-18 verses.

Here is Lisa M. Samra’s devotion for that day:

*Astonishingly, it took Handel only twenty-four days to write the orchestral music for the *Messiah oratorio* – today perhaps the world’s most famous musical composition, one performed thousands of times every year around the world. The magnificent work reaches its climax nearly two hours after it begins with the most famous part of the oratorio, the “Hallelujah Chorus.”*

As the trumpets and timpani announce the beginning of the chorus, voices layer on top of each other as the choir sings the words of Revelation 11:15: “And he shall reign for ever and ever.” It’s a triumphant declaration of the hope of eternity in heaven with Jesus.

Many of the words in *Messiah* come from the book of Revelation, the apostle John’s account of a vision he had near the end of his life describing events culminating with the return of Christ. In Revelation, John returned again and again to the theme of the return of the resurrected Jesus to earth—when there would be great rejoicing with the sound of choirs (19:1-8). The world will rejoice because Jesus will have defeated the powers of darkness and death and established a kingdom of peace.

One day, all the people of heaven will sing together in a magnificent choir proclaiming the majesty of Jesus and the blessing of His forever reign (7:9). Until then, we live, work, pray, and wait in hope.

**How does the return of Jesus to reign over the earth provide you with hope now?  
What songs encourage you with reminders of the majesty of Jesus?**

*Prayer: Come quickly, Jesus, to establish Your reign over the earth. Amen*



-Clara

# October Worship Schedule

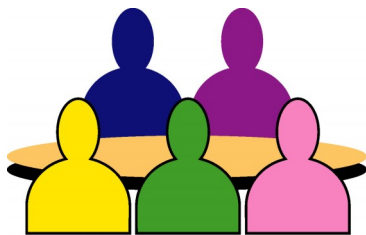
October 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Worship	Becky Gaede	Worship 10 am
October 9 <sup>th</sup> Worship with Holy Communion	Clara Edin, SAM	Worship 10 am
October 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship	Al Overland	Worship 10 am
October 23 <sup>rd</sup> Worship with Holy Communion	Clara Edin, SAM	Worship 10 am
October 30 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship—Reformation Day (No confirmands)	Mark Hollabaugh	Worship 10 am

## IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

**Please include the following people in your daily prayers:**

Jan Ecklund, Lois Sahlen, Don & Mike Petersen, Naevia, Iver, Meghan, Tracy Jensen, Joni, Bob Katon, Chardae, Gavin, Jessica, Lynda, Marge, Family of Tom, and their families.

*If you would like to add someone to the weekly list, please email the church office at [blcaskov@gmail.com](mailto:blcaskov@gmail.com) or let Clara know*



### COUNCIL MEETING

**September 14, 2022  
Unapproved Minutes**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bill Jansen, Sandra Pavelka, Carolyn Steele, Denny Birkholm, Clara Edin; Yvette Maloney was absent.

**DEVOTION & OPENING PRAYER:** Led by Clara.

**ACCEPT MINUTES FROM AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING:** Motion by Sandra, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denny, motion passed.

**AUGUST TREASURER'S REPORT:** **-\$8,427.10** year to date. Discussion on sending letter to the congregation, tabled for now.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Clara provided summary for her pastoral care. Sundays for Clara at this time: 10/9, 10/23, 11/13, 11/27, 12/11, 12/24, and 12/25. Bill made a motion to

change Clara's contract to eliminate E4, and modify F2 to pay \$135 stipend for her cell phone, Carolyn 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

#### MINISTRY TEAMS:

- Property—Denny continues to call Arrow Lift for updates. Unable to get parts. Denny doing a walk-thru with Minnesota Power in the church September 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss ways to lower costs. There is a rebate program from MPL if all lights changed to LED.
- Family Ministry—Sandra received information on Fall 2022 NE MN Synod All Youth Gathering for grades 6-12 and adult leaders at Cragun's Resort on November 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, or 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. Last day to register is November 7<sup>th</sup>. Scholarships available.
- Music and Worship—Up to date.
- Circle of Faith—Meet this week. Will discuss Craft Fair.
- Visioning Committee—Meeting held September 13<sup>th</sup>. Synod was present and brought three con-

tracts of other churches that have successfully implemented 3 point parishes. Committee will review.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Heidi's evaluation—review completed in August 4<sup>th</sup>. Per Synod guidelines Heidi will receive an increase in wage of .75 cents per hour retroactive from August 14<sup>th</sup>. Wage for 2023 \$16.50 an hour. Denny made the motion, Bill 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.
- Fundraiser monies check list—Heidi developed a checklist for fundraisers. Discussion; Bill will follow up with Heidi.
- Microphone base unit—new units ordered were incorrect; have been returned. Bill will get correct information.
- Church pamphlets—Clara and Yvette are moving forward. Will ask Arla Budd to assist.
- Flags in sanctuary—moving flags to fellowship area.
- Amazon Prime account—Motion by Sandra, Carolyn 2<sup>nd</sup> to setup

Prime account for the church, motion passed.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Quarterly congregational meeting—October 23<sup>rd</sup> after worship service. Proposed 2023 budget will need to be prepared before next council meeting.
- SAM contract—tabled.
- Copy machine for the conference room—Motion by Denny, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carolyn to purchase new copier, motion passed.

#### Action Items:

- Denny will continue to contact Arrow Lift.
- Sandra to contact Grace regarding youth attending fall conference.
- Bill discuss with Heidi: fundraising document, and taking 2021 audit to Hinckley. Will order new microphone base unit.
- Denny will discuss Amazon Prime with Heidi.
- Sandra schedule budget meeting with Heidi and Clara.

Adjourned with The Lord's Prayer. Next meeting is October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

*-Sandra Pavelka*



Circle of Faith (COF) met September 10, 2022 at church. The members in attendance were Tracy Zitner, Jo Foss, Jan Parker, Cookie Nielsen, Shawn Jansen, and Mary Johnson.

Tracy called the meeting to order. Jo led us in devo-

tions. Hebrews 10:25 “Let us not neglect our meeting together...but encourage one another.”

**Reports:** Secretary minutes from July’s meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes made by Cookie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jo, motion carried. Circle did not meet in August 2022.

**Treasurer’s report:** Checking \$302.29, savings \$2,027.79.

**Old business:** Final approval for purchasing ice cream for National Night Out was \$108.78. COF

ordered 2 chafing dishes and 2 sidewalk signs. A partial of the money received from the Pine County grant was used to purchase one chafing dish and one sidewalk sign to be used for notifying the public. COF paid \$192.11 for one of the chafing dishes and \$172.82 for one of the sidewalk signs.

**Community meal:** September 28, 2022: Kielbasa sausages, sauerkraut, German potato salad and apple crisp.

**Card mailing:** Cookie in September, Mary in

October, Jan in November, Mary in December, Jo in January

**New Business:** Discussed fundraising ideas. Discussed the Christmas Day dinner, tabled until the next meeting.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Jan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cookie, motion carried. Ended meeting with The Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting October 8, 2022 at 10:00.

*Respectfully submitted*  
-Mary Johnson  
Secretary

## OCTOBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

- |                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Chloe Maloney—1 <sup>st</sup>   | Wendy Ecklund—21 <sup>st</sup>  |
| Donna Sahlen—3 <sup>rd</sup>    | Doug Ecklund—26 <sup>th</sup>   |
| Herman Velsvaag—3 <sup>rd</sup> | Brendan Zinter—30 <sup>th</sup> |
| Heidi Moon—5 <sup>th</sup>      | Brayden Willie—31 <sup>st</sup> |
| Sue Kozlowski—8 <sup>th</sup>   |                                 |
| Margie Dubois—9 <sup>th</sup>   | <b>Happy Anniversary!</b>       |
| Molly Balut—13 <sup>th</sup>    | Ovid & Linda Jensen—            |
| Lynn Storrar—17 <sup>th</sup>   | October 13 <sup>th</sup>        |

The BLC Quarterly Congregational meeting is being held on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> immediately following worship (time approximately 11 am)

Good stories draw us in, captivating our attention, inspiring us to dream, inviting us to see the world a little bit differently, encouraging us to respond. Walking Together is an opportunity for us to learn from people in our synod through the stories of ministries happening right here in Northeastern Minnesota Synod. This is a great way to learn from each other as we celebrate the work of the Spirit!

October 8, 2022, from 9 AM—4 PM

Check-in and social time begin at 7:45 AM

Cost: \$25, includes lunch

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, 612 12th St, Cloquet, MN

Workshop presenters are members of congregations and leaders in our synod who will share the stories of their ministries and how this work has made a difference in their lives and the lives of others.

Topics include faith formation, digital ministry, Faith in Action, forming network partnerships, strategic planning, harm reduction ministry, justice ministry, RIC, and more. Join us October 8<sup>th</sup>! Registration required: [Click here!](#)





The NE MN Synod  
**ALL YOUTH GATHERING**  
 at Cragun's  
[www.nemnsynod.org/AllYouth](http://www.nemnsynod.org/AllYouth)

*Two Events - One Weekend - All Youth*

**November 18-19 OR 19-20, 2022**

Grades 6-12

Cragun's Resort



## COST & REGISTRATION



### Group Registration:

**Register with the NE MN Synod at [www.nemnsynod.org/AllYouth](http://www.nemnsynod.org/AllYouth)**

**Early Registration: \$30** per person (youth and adults, postmarked on or before October 17)

**Standard Registration: \$40** per person (youth and adults, postmarked on or after October 18)

- Group Registration includes t-shirt and all program activities.
- Full payments are due at the time of registration and are non-refundable.
- Add-ons to your initial registration are accepted as space allows.
- Standard registration applies to each registration received on or after October 18, even if the bulk of your group registered early.
- **Registration opens October 1, 2022.**
- **Last Day to Register: November 7, 2022** (postmarked) - OR - when event fills, whichever occurs first

### Housing and Breakfast:

**Register with Cragun's or visit [www.nemnsynod.org/AllYouth](http://www.nemnsynod.org/AllYouth)**

**Quad Occupancy** (4 per room): **\$56.64** per person

**Triple Occupancy** (3 per room): **\$67.28** per person

**Double Occupancy** (2 per room): **\$88.58** per person

**Single Occupancy** (1 per room): **\$152.47** per person

Fifth person in the same room is \$25.00 (*Participant is responsible to bring air mattress and bedding.*)

**Remember to book early!** Rooms will be held until October 17, 2022. After this date, unbooked rooms in our preferred room block will be released to the general public. Our rates will still be guaranteed but room availability is not.

*Additional information on page 5*



# IMPORTANT INFO!



## REGISTRATION

Registration is a two-step process! You will register your GROUP through the NE MN Synod, and your HOUSING through Cragun's. Both will be submitted online. Registration worksheets to help you collect needed information will be posted by September 1, 2022.

## HOUSING

In recent years, congregations have had an increasing number of special housing requests to accommodate a variety of special needs. We expect that to be even more true this year with COVID-19 concerns.

Congregations will now make their housing arrangements directly with Cragun's through a special form just for our group. Payment for housing will also be with Cragun's and must be made by credit card.

### More Housing Updates:

- Participants are required to stay at Cragun's to participate in the All Youth Gathering. Why? Programming does not end until midnight and begins by 8:30am the next morning. Part of the experience is being together so we can be connected and build relationships.
- Book your rooms early! Rooms will be held until October 17, 2022. After this date, rates are guaranteed but room availability is not.
- Cancellations: Cragun's is very generous with our group, and will work with congregations as much as possible when there are last minute cancellations to adjust room assignments to maximize occupancy rates. Cancellations will be allowed without penalty, but please note that you will be charged based on the final actual occupancy of your room (*1 person will be charged single occupancy rate, 2 people will be charged double occupancy rate, etc.*). You are welcome to house participants from different congregations together! You are responsible for making those arrangements. To help participants connect, we have set up an All Youth Gathering event in the Northeastern Minnesota Synod Facebook Group to help congregations find roommates for youth in order to get a lower rate.
- You are allowed to put 5 participants in one room! If you do, you are responsible for bringing your own mattress and bedding.
- Cabins are available! First come, first served. Cabins have 1-7 bedrooms and require walking outside the main event building.
- You are expected to follow our NE MN Synod Housing policy in making housing assignments.
- Substitutions and cancellations must be done in writing by contacting Lorie at [lbourassa@craguns.com](mailto:lbourassa@craguns.com).

Housing Cancellation Policy: Cragun's is very generous with our group, and will work with congregations as much as possible when there are last minute cancellations to adjust room assignments to maximize occupancy rates. Cancellations will be allowed without penalty, but please note that you will be charged based on the final actual occupancy of your room (*1 person will be charged single occupancy rate, 2 people will be charged double occupancy rate, etc.*).

## PIZZA

Large pepperoni, sausage and cheese pizzas from Little Caesar's are available for purchase for \$7 each. All pizzas must be pre-ordered with your Group Registration and are non-refundable. Last day to add to your pizza order is November 7. Additional orders will not be available when you arrive at Cragun's. Pizzas can be picked up during Hotel Life, late evening on Night One. This is NOT supper, so plan a stop for supper on your way to Cragun's!

## SCHEDULE

(Subject to Change)

### Day One

4:30-7:00pm	Registration
6:30pm	Arrival Activities
7:00pm	Adult Leader Meeting
7:45pm	Large Group Session #1
9:00pm	Family Time
9:30pm	Hotel Life
12:00am	Family Time
1:00am	Lights Out

### Day Two

7:30am	Breakfast Buffet
8:30am	Large Group Session #2
9:00am	Learning Cluster #1
10:00am	Learning Cluster #2
10:45am	Break/Check-Out
11:15am	Closing Worship
12:30pm	Depart

For full information go to: <http://www.nemnsynod.org/allyouth.html>



## Visioning Committee Meeting Minutes

**September 13, 2022**

Present: Minister Clara Edin, Pastor Cindy Gray, Amy Frazer, Bill Jansen, Dwain Ecklund, Marvin Rostberg, Laura McCaughan, Greta Detzler, and Deacon Colleen Bernu.

Opened with Prayer – Pastor Cindy.

Dwain passed out July YTD 2022 and 2021 finances of Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Discussion ensued about Bethlehem's budget, will need to gather information for bank account balances, all funds, obligations, and dedicated funds (what they are for and ....) No mortgages on parsonage, or any of the churches. Information on Grace and Emmanuel's financials were not yet ready.

Deacon Bernu discussed the housing scenarios in the area and explained how wonderful it is that there is a parsonage available.

Deacon Bernu passed out three shared ministry agreements and discussed them. "Water from a Rock" – two churches who put God and their mission at the forefront of their agreement. The churches knew they needed to cover the "nuts and bolts" (finances, etc) but wanted to be sure their mission and vision was on the same wavelength. SALT Parish is more logistic based, and the third parish agreement is kind of in the middle. Pastors and leadership will come, eventually. All three pastors/leaders are in/near of our synod and are available to be reached out to.

Deacon Bernu recommends that we figure out what our 3-point agreement will look like first so we know what will go into our site profile when it comes time for a call. However, we need to focus on what we need to do to build our parish relationship, and the call focus will fall into place.

Bill discussed trying to plan out the timeline and goals of what we'd like to see happen and discuss when.

October 8 Walking Together—\$25/person in Cloquet sharing mission – including Good Shepard – sharing stories to get to where they are. Colleen will send story from Good Shepard. NEMN Synod site.

Deacon Bernu suggested the decision we need to make is what foot are we going to lead with? Logistics then figure out shared ministry? Or are we going to lead with shared ministry, then follow with logistics?

Discussed bringing in more SAMS in to the churches from the congregations. Training is required but could be an option. Discussions need to be discussed between the congregation and Deacon Brenda Tibbetts. Also discussed learning from each other and relying on each other and supporting and celebrate each other. BLC is encouraging members to go to Lay Leader Network (training). We (everywhere) need to have discipleship training. Keep eyes open for someone that you think might be a good SAM.

Discussed how far out calls are, could be as much as 3 years. Discussed how calls and filling candidacies go. Everything is on the table to do ministry well with ministers that are supported.

Honest conversations are needed at the congregation level to come up with creativity to make this agreement and ministry attractive for new ministers, as well as taking care of our ministers/leaders.

HOMEWORK: Prayerfully read the covenants and find the bits that speak to you, individually, and then come together, and have conversation about how to move forward, on what foot.

Finish collecting finances (and dedicated funds).

Next meeting October 11<sup>th</sup> at Grace 6:30 pm

Adjourned with the Lord's prayer at 8:11 pm

**- Greta Detzler**