



The

# Parish Visitor

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

| September 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 10             | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17             | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24             | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

## *A Message From Our SAM*



Several weeks ago we read the Gospel of wheat & weeds....  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

If you turn this page around you will see the words above just keep changing to both... and that is what we are. Our human brokenness brings us back to the sinner – time and time again. But by the adoption into Christ’s family we are like him – a saint.

Here is some words from the God Pause put out by Luther Seminary written by Brian Fragodt M Div: Life is a bewildering mix of wheat and weeds growing together – good and evil standing side-by-side, and it’s tough to tell which is which. Jesus’ parable of the weeds among the wheat informs us of that fact, but its main purpose is to help us know how to respond by comparing the response of the slaves to the response of the householder. The slaves (you and I) would concentrate on that which is evil – they would make a judgment as to what the “weeds” are and get rid of them. The householder’s (Jesus) response is to concentrate on what is good or potentially good, withholding judgment on what is “wheat” and what is “weed”. Weed pulling comes by different names today, but it can be any method one uses to judge someone (or even oneself!). Instead, Jesus is saying, “Let the owner of the field do the judging!” For our part, let us keep pointing to Jesus himself as he tends his field with love and grace.

Prayer:

Gracious God, although it’s tempting to focus on the “weeds” in our lives, grant us the wisdom to focus instead on your transforming love. Amen

Let us gather - to worship – to praise – to grow -  
**together in Christ’s love & Grace!**

*-Clara*



## September Worship Schedule

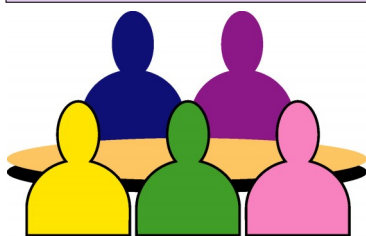
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| September 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Sunday Worship               | Worship Team led | Worship 10 am |
| September 10 <sup>th</sup><br>Worship with Holy Communion | Todd Carlson     | Worship 10 am |
| September 17 <sup>th</sup><br>Sunday Worship              | Rick Martens     | Worship 10 am |
| September 24 <sup>th</sup><br>Worship with Holy Communion | Clara Edin SAM   | Worship 10 am |

## IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Please include the following people in your daily prayers:

Jan, Lois, Don & Mike, Deb, Jo, Jeff, Bob, Daniel, Iver, Rita, Chardae, Lynda, Chase, McCoy, Ron, Gavin, Jerry, Justin, Randy, Rod, Kris, Loretta, 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 August 9, 2023 Unapproved Minutes

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Yvette Maloney, Haley Loew via Zoom, Carolyn Steele, Linda Jensen, Clara Edin SAM, and Sandra Pavelka.

Yvette called the meeting to order. Clara gave devotion.

**ACCEPT MINUTES OF JULY COUNCIL MEETING:** Minutes reviewed. Motion by Carolyn to approve, second by Linda, motion carried.

**JULY TREASURER'S REPORT:** Reviewed by council.

**SAM REPORT:** Clara submitted her pastoral care for the previous month.

**MINISTRY TEAMS:**

- Property—Haley reports \$4,000 bill from Drilling Electric for sanctuary

LED lighting. Anonymous donors gave money to complete the project for the basement, kitchen and offices. Gathering areas paid for by church.

- Family Ministry—Sandra reports no update.
- Circle of Faith—Carolyn reports that National Night Out was a huge success. There is leftover ice cream and Circle will have an ice cream sundae event for the church.
- Music & Worship—Linda reports that church choir will sing August 27<sup>th</sup> lead by Arla Budd.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Youth worship will begin September 24<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed to teach. Sandra will develop calendar for names/dates for who will teach.
- Bill Steele was present to give update on church insurance. He reviewed the policy and reported it is the best coverage for the dollar. The church policy coverage

is insured for replacement value.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Ride Request—council requested more information on individual. Yvette will ask Heidi if she has more information as to where they live.
- Legion honoring 9/11, motion by Linda, second by Carolyn to allow use of the church bells for the service. A church member is requested to ring the bells. Motion carried.
- September 3<sup>rd</sup> service will be lead by Arla Budd and Linda Jensen.
- Quarterly congregational meeting will be held November 12<sup>th</sup>. Nominating committee is Bill Jansen and Jo Foss. Finance committee will be Heidi Moon, Linda Jensen, and Clara Edin SAM.
- Wedding application for July 27, 2024. Motion by Sandra to approve, second by Carolyn, motion carried.
- Klocke Construction invoice for new door and other painting and repair. The invoice is in

the amount of \$4,695.25. There is only \$3,840.12 remaining in the Property Maintenance dedicated fund. Motion by Linda, second by Carolyn to pay the invoice from the Non-designated Memorials fund, motion carried.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Yvette will ask Heidi if she can make graphs for the Treasurer's Report.
- Haley will request Property Committee to write a letter to the congregation for a fall donation to the Property fund.
- Clara will set up the meeting time for the Finance Committee.

Motion to adjourn by Linda, second by Haley, motion carried. Clara closed meeting with prayer.

Next council meeting will be Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully,  
-Sandra Pavelka  
Secretary



Circle of Faith (COF) met July 8, 2023 at Jo Foss's home. The members in attendance were: Tracy Zinter, Carolyn Steele, Cookie Nielsen, Jo Foss, Jan Parker, Clara Edin

SAM, and Mary Johnson. Thank you Jo and Ron for hosting our meeting. We had a fun and relaxing meeting. Tracy called the meeting to order.

**Devotions:** Jo's devotion, teaching us on finding our blessings from God.

**Reports:** Secretary minutes from July's meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes made by Jo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cookie, motion carried.

**Treasurer's report:** Check-

ing \$450.30, savings \$1,183.53, dedicated account \$1,066.50.

**Old business:** Carolyn attended the second meeting for National Night Out. Approximately 150 people were served.

**Community meal:** Will be August 23, 2023.

**Card mailing:** Tracy, September, October, November. Mary, December.

**New Business:** COF will host an ice cream social on Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>

after church. Toppings for the ice cream will be provided.

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

**Next meeting:** September 9, 2023 10:00 am at church.

*Respectfully submitted,  
-Mary Johnson,  
Secretary*

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Kettle River Conference  
Women of the ELCA Fall Gathering**  
September 30, 2023 • 8:30 am Bethany Lutheran, Cromwell

Morning treats will be provided by Zion Lutheran Church women, Cloverdale

**In-kind gifts will be accepted for Tri-Community Food Shelf**

We are excited to hear that Myrna Wells Ulland will be with us as a speaker. She is a board member of Peters Hope, a non-profit fund that works to provide education for women and children in Kenya. One-half of participants' offering will go to Peters Hope and one-half to W/ELCA Churchwide.

We will have silent auction and buy-it-now tables. Following lunch by Bethany Lutheran Women, our day will close with a service of Holy Communion

**Hope to see you there!**

**SEPTEMBER**  
Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Linda Jensen—3<sup>rd</sup>
- Dwain Ecklund—5<sup>th</sup>
- Jan Ecklund—7<sup>th</sup>
- Denny Birkholm—9<sup>th</sup>
- Tom Willie—10<sup>th</sup>
- Lynette Leuty—11<sup>th</sup>
- Michelle Peterson—11<sup>th</sup>
- Mona Knapp—12<sup>th</sup>
- Nadine Loew—16<sup>th</sup>
- Hudson Fogt—26<sup>th</sup>
- Phillip Jansen—26<sup>th</sup>
- Don Petersen—26<sup>th</sup>
- Keith Rolston—28<sup>th</sup>
- Natlie & Tom Leuty—29<sup>th</sup>
- Bob Katon—30<sup>th</sup>
- Haley Loew—30<sup>th</sup>

**Happy Anniversary!**  
Randy & Cindy  
Mortensen—28<sup>th</sup>



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Newsletters will continue to be available on-line at [www.blcaskov.com/newsletter](http://www.blcaskov.com/newsletter)

**July Treasurer's Report Summary:**

**Month:** We are **5,048.09** ahead in income vs. expenses for the month of July 2023; and **2,092.50** under our projected budget for the month of July 2023.

**Year-to-Date Totals:** We are **4,818.27** behind in income vs. expenses for the year 2023; and **705.08** over our projected budget for the year 2023.



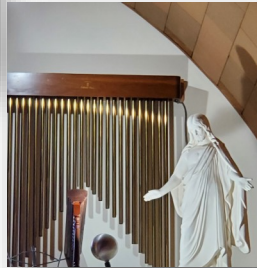


# Photo Ops!

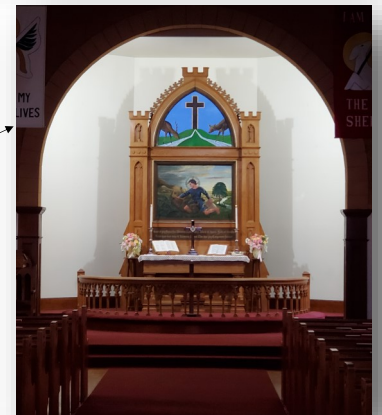


Thank you Circle of Faith for serving the community of Askov root beer floats during National Night Out.

Thanks for the summery decorations in the coffee fellowship area!  
 (Marilyn Krogh has been seasonally decorating our fellowship area)



John 8:13— Again Jesus said to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."  
 Thank you to all the servers of Christ who brought new light to our sanctuary! (more pictures on Facebook: [f BLC - Askov](#))



Finally, a new smooth street on the north side of our church!

