



St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

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**Our Shared Mission: We are saved by grace
through faith to share the good news of the
Gospel with all people and live
God's love by our words and actions.**



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Worship Times

(until September 4, 2022)

9a Gethsemane

10:30a St. Stephen's



June

twenty twenty-two



6 Roger Grinsteiner
7 Janice Kuharski
13 Elaine Haban
11 Kami Salo
21 Harlan Anderson
27 Renee Peretto



Jordan Baril
Jay Chapple
Trish Dams
Brent Jurmu
Jared Jurmu

Happy Anniversary

2 Dennis & Cyndie Berger
5 Pr. Dave & Jane Christenson
6 Tim & Cheri Leiphart
11 Al & Karen Raether
Tyler & Kortney Sulk
16 Todd & Penny Nehls

We continue to hold in prayer:

Hope and comfort in the Resurrection to the friends and family of:

+Janis Linderoth+ (died May 10, 2022)

+Daniel Chaney+ (died May 14, 2022)

+Tom Kros, Jr.+ (died May 24, 2022)

+Tina LaCanne+ (died May 26, 2022)

Bruce Christenson	Caitlin Christophersen	Dan Etelamaki	Darwin Diehm
Deanna Thill	Dennis Kaczmarczyk	Dennis Paul	Emily Christenson
George Hensley	Jenna Perras	Jim Gill	Joan Hofer
Karen Raether	Keith Thoun	Kenny Kline	Kevin Havelka
Logan Parrett	Luann Q. Kiefer	Macy Berszenyi	Marcia Droese
Matt Koldos	Mike Lubore	Mike McCarthy	Mike Pfeiffer
Miles Sorenson	Paul Larmour	Rob Boe	Robert Berszenyi
Ronnie Anderson	Sandy Baumler	Sarah Hess	Shirley Gulbis
Sue Skowronski	Tammy Parrett	Terry Stage Roddy	Tom Wenger
Tracy Klatt	Wendy Gravelle	Wendy Majkrzak	Zeke Gill

Thank you for holding the friends and families of our Congregants in your daily prayers. Corrections? Additions? Please contact the Church Office.



Save the Date (and Pray for Sunshine!)

Sunday, August 7, 2022

Erickson Pavilion in Stephenson – 10:30am



We'll gather for **Worship**,
and enjoy a **Potluck Meal!**



Bring Your Own Drinks, Table Serve Provided!

Come one, come all! Bring a friend...bring 'em all!

Daily Bible Readings - Year C

Year C focuses on the Gospel of **Luke**. The semi-continuous Old Testament readings are of prophetic proclamation chosen in chronological order and highlighting Jeremiah. The second, New Testament, readings are chosen mainly from Colossians 1 and 2 Timothy and 2 Thessalonians.

Wed – Jun 1	Ezekiel 3:12-21	Luke 9:18-27	Psalms 29
Thu – Jun 2	Isaiah 32:11-17	Galatians 5:16-25	Psalms 104:24-34, 35b
Fri – Jun 3	Isaiah 44:1-4	Galatians 6:7-10	Psalms 104:24-34, 35b
Sat – Jun 4	2 Kings 2:1-15a	Luke 1:5-17	Psalms 104:24-34, 35b



Sun. June 5 — Day of Pentecost Acts 2:1-21 Ps 104:24-34, 35b, Rom 8:14-17 John 14:8-17

Prayer of the Day: *God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*

Mon – Jun 6	Joel 2:18-29	1 Corinthians 2:1-11	Psalms 48
Tue – Jun 7	Ezekiel 11:14-25	1 Corinthians 2:12-16	Psalms 48
Wed – Jun 8	Numbers 24:1-14	Luke 1:26-38	Psalms 48
Thu – Jun 9	Proverbs 3:13-18	Ephesians 1:17-19	Psalms 8
Fri – Jun 10	Proverbs 3:19-26	Ephesians 4:1-6	Psalms 8
Sat – Jun 11	Proverbs 4:1-9	Luke 2:41-52	Psalms 8

Sun. June 12 — The Holy Trinity Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalms 8 (2) Rom 5:1-5 John 16:12-15

Prayer of the Day: *Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*

Mon – Jun 13	Proverbs 7:1-4	Ephesians 4:7-16	Psalms 124
Tue – Jun 14	Proverbs 8:4-21	Ephesians 5:15-20	Psalms 124
Wed – Jun 15	Daniel 1:1-21	Luke 1:46b-55	Psalms 124
Thu – Jun 16	Isaiah 56:9-12	Romans 2:17-29	Psalms 22:19-28
Fri – June 17	Isaiah 57:1-13	Galatians 3:15-22	Psalms 22:19-28
Sat – June 18	Isaiah 59:1-8	Matthew 9:27-34	Psalms 22:19-28

Sun. June 19 — 2nd Sunday after Pentecost Isa 65:1-9 Ps 22:19-28 (22) Gal 3:23-29 Luke 8:26-39

Prayer of the Day: *O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.*

Mon – June 20	Job 18:1-21	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Psalm 64
Tue – June 21	Job 19:1-22	Ephesians 2:11-22	Psalm 64
Wed – June 22	Ezekiel 32:1-10	Luke 9:37-43a	Psalm 64
Thu – June 23	Leviticus 9:22—10:11	2 Corinthians 13:5-10	Psalm 16
Fri – June 24	2 Kings 1:1-16	Galatians 4:8-20	Psalm 16
Sat – June 25	Deut 32:15-27, 39-43	Luke 9:21-27	Psalm 16

Sun. June 26 – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 1 Kgs 19:15-16, 19-21 Ps 16 (8) Gal 5:1, 13-25 Luke 9:51-62

Prayer of the Day: *Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.*

Mon – June 27	Gen 24:34-41, 50-67	1 John 2:7-11	Psalm 140
Tue – June 28	Jeremiah 3:15-18	Ephesians 5:6-20	Psalm 140
Wed – June 29	Jeremiah 23:16-22	Matthew 10:16-25	Psalm 140
Thu – June 30	2 Kings 21:1-15	Romans 7:14-25	Psalm 66:1-9



**** National Honor Society Induction Ceremony ****

*Congratulations to **Morgan Bergquist**, **Chelsea Christophersen**, and **Sara Havelka** on exemplifying their commitment to the values of scholarship, service, leadership, and character!*





The Happy Graduates of 2022:
Madison Bergquist
and
Gavyn Crawford





*"Is my box ABOVE my name!?
Is my box BELOW my name!?
Nope! My name is IN my BOX!"*

Thanks again to **Alvin** and **Keith** for all their hard work in crafting our Congregational Mailboxes! Feel free to use the mailboxes to drop off notes, thank you cards, and to pick up your newsletters from here on out!



"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices, God is pleased." -

Hebrews 13:16 Church clean-up was a BIG success! Work was done on the leaky roof, landscape was spruced up and the crumbling retaining wall was reinforced...definitely a big job. Thank you to all who came and volunteered part of their Saturday to help beautify and fix-up the Church.



And a BIG thank you to **Bob and Shelley Berglin** for planting flowers by our Church sign.



Wendy Hanson, Mary Jo Mahaffy, and Jane Christenson all participated in the Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly on Saturday, May 15th. Zion Lutheran in Marinette hosted the hybrid event, which was part in-person, part online.



Welcome, new member Donna Tennessen!

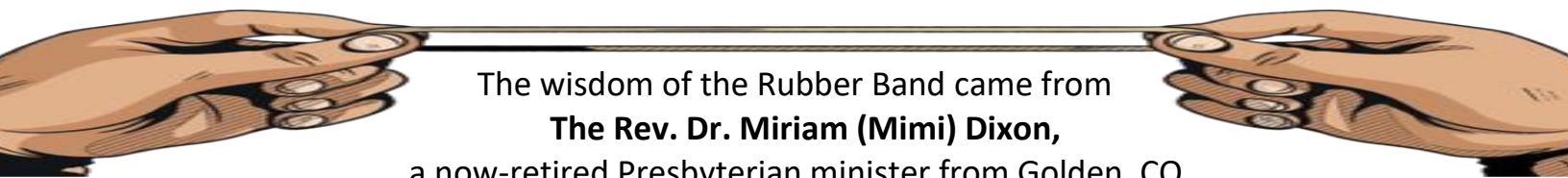
Pastoral Musings

Dear Church,

One of the many learnings I picked up during my Continuing Education time in Colorado was the simple wisdom gleaned from a **rubber band**. Yes...a rubber band! Let me back up a bit...



The entirety of our time at Glen Eyrie Castle focused on creating a safe space for Pastors, allowing us to really take stock of how things are going in our present call, and giving us a chance to **refocus on Jesus**, allowing him to restore our souls. The pacing of the retreat was relaxed though full, and our speakers and leaders were comforting and inspiring.



The wisdom of the Rubber Band came from
The Rev. Dr. Miriam (Mimi) Dixon,
a now-retired Presbyterian minister from Golden, CO.

Mimi's simple explanation (using actual rubber bands for added effect) included the continual stretching and relaxing of a rubber band. She **streetttttched** that rubber band to its limits, all while recalling the typical demands of a Pastor. She released the stretched tension, and the band would **return** to its original shape, all while talking about the ways we care for our souls as Pastors. **Strettttttch**, release. **Strettttttch**, release. The visual hit home for most everyone in the room, especially in this post-COVID, not-really-post-COVID season of church leadership. That little rubber band was really putting things into perspective for us!

How often do we, as a Church, let our lives get soooo **stretched out of shape**, that we can hardly imagine a relaxing into a regular shape ever again? We pack our days full of activities and meetings and more activities and more meetings...all while **strettttttching** ourselves further and further out of shape. Our lives, our emotions, our spirituality gets out of shape.



Mimi's very simple reminder allowed us to **see** and **feel** what it felt like to **relieve** some of that self-placed tension, allowing us to focus on WHO and WHOSE we really are: Children of God who are loved no matter how many tasks we accomplish, no matter how many meetings we schedule, no matter how many activities we try and squeeze into our day. We are loved by a God, who, like that simple rubber band, has **a love that has NO END!**

Releasing some of that tension alongside you,

Pr. Brenda

ST. STEPHEN'S Council Minutes: WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022 – 6p

PRESENT: Cheri Leiphart (President), Keith Olson (Vice-President), Bob Berglin (Secretary), John Starzynski, Pastor Brenda

Pledge of Allegiance

Devotions (John Starzynski): John 14 – our eternal home, healing, restoration.

- Meeting called to order: 6:02pm

Agenda Approval	Motion to Accept: JS	Second: KO	FAVOR
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- ADDITIONS: Honor Flight Letters, Custodial Position

Secretary's Report (*Bob Berglin*)

Motion to Accept : KO	Second: JS	FAVOR
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Pastor's Report (*Pastor Brenda*)

- Funeral, Burial +Bruce Baumler+ - April 4th, 2022, May 20th, 2022
- All things EASTER Thankful for hard work, new ways to celebrate
- Graduation Sunday Thankful for Fellowship, Milestone, Cake from WELCA
- Faith Formation 4-class Series (*Dying Well: Organ Donation, End of Life Choices, Funeral, Grief*)
Well-attended, thoughtful conversations
Summer Break? OR *Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible?*
- Synod Assembly Online Workshops, Assembly on Saturday May 14 at Zion.
Thankful to Jane Christenson for attending.
- 5th Week Worship May 29th at St. St. 10:30a.
- Memorial Day Pr Brenda speaking at Bethesda + Mellen Cemeteries
- Roubal's Worship: June 26th at 1:30p. COME!
- Weddings Kaylyn + Jordan (July 2022). Pre-marital Conv. have begun
- Fortune Lake Camp Counselors are intentionally connecting w/ Kids.
Attended Donor's Brunch
- Continuing Ed Grateful for intentional time of prayer and education in CO.

Treasurer / Financial Secretary's Reports (*Sandy Chaney, Treas. - Danielle Bergquist, Fin. Sec.*)

Motion to Accept: BB	Second: KO	FAVOR
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Ministry Team Reports

Bethesda Cemetery (*Keith*)

- Grounds are in great condition. Wally M. continues work. on cemetery plot map. New Flag will be in place for Memorial Day gathering.

Faith Formation (Bob, Pr B)

- Four class series "Dying Well". Suggested that an AD be placed in the Journal for upcoming classes to capture a larger audience. Conversation regarding suspending or continuing classes for summer.

Ministry Team Reports <i>(continued)</i>

Fellowship *(Pr B)*

- Has been well attended on all Sundays. Volunteers are needed for the remainder of the year. Council voted to suspend Fellowship during the Summer (June, July and August.)

Finance Team *(John, Bob)*

- Budget and expenses are stable, income is lower, though stable, but needs to be watched closely.

Memorial Fund *(John)*

- Donation was made by the Anderson Family in honor of +Audrey+.

Property Team *(Cheri, John, Keith)*

- Repairs to the roof leaks completed – grateful for a donation that made this happen!
- Church clean-up was well-attended with lots of volunteers.
- Mulch was graciously donated by Don Machalk.
- Flowers for front planter to be purchased and planted by Bob and Shelley Berglin.
- Finish clean-up to the rear of church (rotten timbers to be removed), to be done some Saturday in the next few months.
- LED lights need to be properly disposed of and new ones installed in the Fellowship Hall.
- Parts for the bathrooms set to arrive around May 23, 2022.
- Thankful for the mowing team at St. Stephen's.

Social Ministry *(Pr B)*

- Cheri, Pastor, and Bob to review home-visit process.

WELCA

- Supported the 2022 graduates with \$25 each and purchased a cake.

Worship/Music *(Keith)*

- No report other than people are enjoying. Pr Brenda mentioned that the new Setting #11, would be taught/used in the Summer months.

Motion to Accept: KO

Second: Pr. B

FAVOR

NEW BUSINESS

- **Honor Flight Letter:** Pr. Brenda requested the St. St. Council participate in the sending of a Letter to a local veteran heading out on an Honor Flight at the beginning of June. Everyone participated.
- **Building Custodian:** Conversation regarding requirements and hopes for new custodian. Salary would be hourly at \$10/hour, 2 hours/week. Job to be advertised in Journal.

NEXT STEPS + ADJOURNMENT

- Next Council Meeting: Suspended for Summer, with the agreement to meet if any issues arise or need conversation.

Motion to Adjourn: JS

TIME: 7:15pm

CLOSING – The Lord's Prayer



FORTUNE LAKE LUTHERAN CAMP PRESENTS

ONE WONDERFUL DAY: AN ORIGINAL MUSICAL

Saturday, August 6 at 3pm CT

Historic Crystal Theatre

Tickets available at fortunelake.org



ONE WONDERFUL DAY

**Actors, dancers, musicians, set builders, tech crew:
Interested in being a part of the show?**

**Join us for Musical Theatre Week at Fortune Lake
July 31 - August 6**

Visit fortunelake.org to learn more and to register



Northern Great
Lakes Synod
www.nglsynod.org



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

June

**2022 MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER**

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