

# May 2024



## The newsletter of the Northern Lights Ministry Collaborative

### Inside this issue:

Summer Collaboration	1
Meet the Pastors	2
Collaborative Visioning	3
Trinity Lutheran	4-11
First Presbyterian	12-18
WELCA	19-20

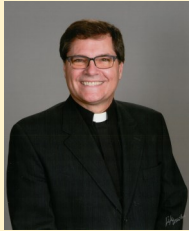
### Summer Preaching Rotation Includes Fisher/Bygland Parish in the Northern Lights Ministry Collaborative

Summer is a time for vacations, family reunions, weddings, and a few other weekend events. Pastors also take advantage of time off which often leads to pulpit supply needs. There being a limited number of pastors available for pulpit supply in our region, we at times struggle to fill the need.

Pastor Gregory Isaacson (Trinity), Pastor Mike Ozaki (First Presbyterian) and Pastor Gretchen Enoch (Fisher/Bygland) have joined efforts to allow for a rotation of pastors in a preaching schedule that provides a few Sundays off for each pastor while also bringing a change of voice in pulpits. This also gives people some options for worship attendance. If you're at the lake, join us for an 11:00 am service at Trinity Point on Maple Lake south of Mentor, MN. Be sure to bring a few lawn chairs in case the weather allows us to do Beach Worship outside. If you're in Crookston, you can join us for a 9:00 am service at Trinity or sleep in a bit and worship at 10:45 am at First Presbyterian. Fisher/Bygland parish combine for one service at 9:00 am and alternate worship spaces each Sunday starting at Fisher Lutheran on May 26.

The future of rural ministry is dependent upon congregations working together to address the needs of our communities. The summer of 2024 will have a pastor in every pulpit each Sunday so everyone can have time to enjoy summer activities and give God thanks and praise each week.





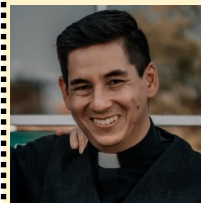
### **Rev. Gregory Isaacson**

Pastor Greg grew up in Kittson County, Minnesota. He graduated from Moorhead State University in Moorhead, MN with a degree in Accounting and Business Administration and was the Hallock, MN Branch Manager for American Federal Savings Bank. Heeding the call to ministry, he attended Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN and has served churches in the Minnesota towns of Clarissa, Ada, Bemidji, Afton, and Crookston. He is passionate about rural ministry and collaborative processes that bring congregations together. He is married to Kristen and they have a son, Karsten, a senior at the University of Minnesota.



### **Pastor Gretchen**

Hello Friends! My name is Pastor Gretchen Enoch and I serve Fisher/Bygland, a 2-point Parish. I was consecrated a Lutheran Deaconess from the Lutheran Deaconess Association, Valparaiso, Indiana in 1995 and ordained to Word and Sacrament Ministry in 2009. My husband, Kirby and I were married in Fergus Falls May 2020, where I served my most recent congregation. Currently, we enjoy living in the Parish Parsonage with our hunting dog, Florence and 2 kittens, Dirt and Mumbles. My husband can be found walking a field with Florence and I enjoy the adventure of thrifting. Kirby and I practice yoga together in addition to working programs of recovery through Alcoholics Anonymous. We have started a Thursday 6:30am AA meeting at Fisher Church, all are welcome. We are eager to worship among the faithful Lutherans and Presbyterians in Crookston and Maple Lake. It is pure gift having this opportunity to share worship leadership within this blessed rural community. Thank you for welcoming Kirby and I into your faith communities. God is with us!



### **Rev. Michael Ozaki**


Pastor Michael Ozaki is a shared pastor with Trinity Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church. He arrived in Crookston 3 years ago along with his Wife Brianna and four children Elle (10), Emery (8), Miles (4) and Ezra (2). When he is not looking for new ways to love God's people and be church beyond our walls, you might find him spending time with family, riding a longboard, playing the drums or making things out of wood poorly but with high enthusiasm.

After high school Pastor Mike worked for 3+ years in mercy missions in India, Thailand, and South Africa focusing on HIV/AIDS affected children and families. He then returned to earn a Bachelors in Sociology from Eastern University while running a youth service experiences as part of Broad Street Ministry in Philadelphia. In 2012 he simultaneously attended Princeton Theological Seminary and Rutgers University to earn a Masters of Divinity and Masters of Social Work. Expecting to become a social worker with a passion for helping churches do better justice and care work, he felt an irresistible pull to ordained ministry instead.

Having ministered in RCA (Reformed Church of America), ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and PCUSA (Presbyterian Church USA) congregations across traditions, he is excited to see where the ever expanding and endlessly creative work of the Spirit will take us next, together.

THE LIFE OF

# DAVID



## New Book Study!

### Thursdays @ 1:00

David's story is the most Shakespearean and emotionally detailed story of one man's life that we have from the ancient world. From a ruddy young man, to a broken and repentant King, to a sad and betrayed old man, David's story touches every part of the human experience and questions where God is in the midst of it. Perhaps it is because of this, not despite it, that David is seen as "A man after God's own heart".

Join us as Pastor Mike leads us through the remarkable story of David which, like a great literature, has the potential to show us more about our own stories and where God might be found.

# COLLABORATIVE VISIONING



*As you know, I think our future in rural ministry is to work collaboratively with other congregations so ministries might be shared. Ministry staff from all congregations can work as a team diminishing feelings of isolation and called to ministries that emphasize their strengths. Healthy congregational traditions can be shared and new possibilities for outreach can be considered. Here is what has been happening this year:*

**Congregational Discernment Retreat**—On January 20, 2024, Trinity hosted a retreat that included St. Paul's Lutheran, Fisher/Bygland Lutheran, First Presbyterian, and Trinity. Leaders from these churches were guided through a process by the Nourishing Vocation Project that centered on the faith practice of VOCARE. VOCARE is an acronym which centered our discussions in these areas: Values, Openness, Call, Attentiveness, Regrets, and Experiencing God. We were encouraged to think about our futures and plan out next steps. We heard similar concerns and developed relationships that could consider future shared possibilities.

**Shared Pastor**—Trinity and First Presbyterian have been sharing a pastor for a few years. Pastor Ozaki continues in this call with an emphasis in youth ministry and adult education. He and Pastor Isaacson alternate preaching Sundays at both congregations. Growing from this ministry are a shared book study, handbells, and vocal choir. On occasion we share preaching series with both congregations.

**Lay Visitation Program**—Pastor Isaacson led training sessions with volunteers who will make regular visits to homebound members from both Trinity and First Presbyterian. Participants will bring communion and share a time of prayer to keep people connected with their church. This program is coordinated by Kathy Shultz and Barb Anderson.

**Summer Pulpit Exchange**—Summers can be difficult to find pulpit supply to fill vacations, continuing education, and sick leave. Fisher/Bygland share one service during the summer months which allow the possibility of rotating preaching assignments with Trinity and First Presbyterian. One pastor will preach at 9:00 am at Fisher/Bygland and then at 10:45 am at First Presbyterian. Another pastor will preach at 9:00 am at Trinity and then at 11:00 am at Trinity Point on Maple Lake. The third pastor will have a Sunday free from preaching.

**Recovery Ministry**—Pastor Enoch from Fisher/Bygland hosts a Bible Study using the 12-step process for people who are recovering with their own particular concerns. Entitled "Recovery for Everyday People" a group of twenty people gather on select Mondays in April and May at Trinity. People from around the area attend.

**St. Paul Call Process**—St. Paul's is in a search process for their next pastor. We do share on-call emergencies with them when a pastor is on vacation, out of town, or not available for short periods of time. St. Paul's does host a weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meeting that is open to the public.

It is important to note that not all pastors work well with a collaborative model. Also, not all congregations are a good fit for collaborative processes. In these initial steps we are working to develop trusting relationships where shared possibilities can be explored. When we come to the table together, healthy discussions can take place and a shared sense of mission and ministry can grow faith in new and life-giving ways.

See you in church, Pastor Gregory Isaacson







# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Phone Numbers:

Church Office: 218-281-4276

Fax: 218-281-5481

## Pastoral Emergencies:

Please call church office @  
218-281-4276 for on-call phone number



# Trinity Point **Opens May 24**

Trinity Point will open Memorial Day Weekend. Sunday services will start on May 26 at 11:00am.

Church wide clean-up day at Trinity Point will be Saturday, May 11 at 9:00am. Please bring an extra rake as picking up leaves is a major task.

As of April 12, Trinity Point has one open seasonal camp site for an active Trinity member. Current policy is that inactive members need to be activated and wait one year to be on the wait list for camp sites. Remember we do have two temporary camp sites if you would like to schedule a week for your own camping purposes. Call Trinity Point at 218-687-4380 after May 24 to schedule.



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

Trinity will be participating in the annual assembly meeting May 17-18, 2024 at Concordia College. Attended by ELCA affiliated churches throughout northwest Minnesota, the meeting considers resolutions, hears reports from synod and church-wide organizations, studies the Bible, and worships together. Pastors Isaacson and Ozaki will be in attendance along with three other volunteers from Trinity.



**FOR PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS:** Please contact a Prayer Chain Coordinator: **Shirley Bakken at 218-687-2107 or Judy Dragseth at 218-281-2550** or the Church Office at 218-281-4276.

**PASTORAL EMERGENCIES:** Please call church office @ 218-281-4276 for on-call phone number.

**HOSPITALIZED?** The only way the church knows that you're hospitalized is if you, a loved one, or friend notifies us. Please call the church office at 218-281-4276 and let us know so that Trinity can support you with prayer and with presence.



# Youth & Children Families MINISTRY

## J.A.M. for PreK-6<sup>th</sup> Graders

Our final day will be Sunday, May 19 from 10:10-11:00. Stay tuned to texts from Leah for any special happenings for this day.



## J.A.M. Plus for 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Graders

Our final day will be Wednesday, May 15 from 6:30-8. Stay tuned to texts from Leah for any specifics for this evening.



## J.A.M. Teachers for 2024-25

We are seeking PreK-10<sup>th</sup> Grade J.A.M. teachers/leaders for the 2024-25 year. Please contact Leah (289-3250) if you have the interest and desire to serve in this invaluable ministry for our church.



## JAM/JAM Plus Evaluation

Our Trinity Staff, Trinity Youth Board and Trinity Children, Youth and Family Team will be evaluating how we structure JAM/JAM Plus for the 2024-25 school year. We are always seeking input from our families and teachers in order to improve our programming. We plan to gather feedback through conversations and surveys this spring and summer. Parents – be looking for a Survey Monkey that will be shared electronically and please take the time to share honest feedback that will help guide us in our decisions moving forward.

## THANK YOU JAM TEACHERS !!!

We want to give a sincere and heartfelt thank you to all of our J.A.M. teachers/leaders who shared their time, creativity, and love for Christ in building the faith in the children and youth of Trinity in unique and memorable ways!

**TEACHERS – who have gone above and beyond the call to teach:**

**JAM Coordinator**

**Marcia Haglund**

**PreK- Kindergarten**

**Francine Olson (Opening Leader)**

**Adults:** Heather Palm, Jess Bengston, Megan Hanson, Katie Lariviere,

Janessa & Jared Quanrud, Laura Neuman

**Youth Helpers:** Ashlyn Bailey, Reggie Winjum, Emma LaPlante, Addie Schiller,

Kendra Brekken, Maddie Hanson

**1<sup>st</sup> /2<sup>nd</sup> :** Georgia Sanders, Halle Winjum, Joey Nesseth

**3<sup>rd</sup> /4<sup>th</sup> :** Angie Smith, Bridget Peterson, Alana & Hans Wagner, Brittney Osen

**5<sup>th</sup> /6<sup>th</sup> :** Crystal Meine

**7<sup>th</sup> :** Leah Winjum

**8<sup>th</sup> /9<sup>th</sup> :** Pastor Mike Ozaki

**10<sup>th</sup> :** Adrienne Winger

## Summer Faith s"PARK" Series

Attention kids entering grades 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> in 2024-25 school year. We invite you to join in our Summer Faith s"PARK" Series on THURSDAYS IN JUNE. This year's theme will be "SHINE BRIGHT" as we explore in the Bible how God calls us each to use our many unique gifts to SHINE BRIGHT to share God's light and goodness in our world around us! Each evening will include games, projects, snacks, music and faith-filled lessons with positive Trinity youth leaders – all while enjoying the outdoors together! Please look for the registration form. Summer Faith s"PARK" Series will occur on the Thursday evenings of June 6, 13, 20, 27 from 5:30pm-8:00pm (locations TBD).

## JH RELEASE



Final 2W Early Release day for our JH Youth will be Wednesday, May 8 from 12:30-3 p.m. We will start at Wildwood Park for some outdoor fun together and finish at Trinity.



Stay Tuned for upcoming SUMMER COMMON GROUND EVENT



Stay tuned for other Summer Children/Youth Opportunities

The poster features a large, stylized sun with rays in the background. In the foreground, there are mountains, a campfire, and three children playing. The text "SUMMER FAITH S'PARK" and "SHINE BRIGHT" is prominently displayed. Below the illustration, the text "FAITH-BASED FUN @ LOCAL PARKS" is followed by a list of activities. At the bottom, there are three callouts: "THURSDAYS IN JUNE 5:30-8 P.M.", "FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Leah Winjum 218-281-4276/289-3250 Registration forms in church office, please register by Sunday, May 26", and "FOR GRADES ENTERING 1-6TH". The Trinity Lutheran Church logo is at the bottom center.

**SUMMER FAITH S'PARK**  
**"SHINE BRIGHT"**

**FAITH-BASED FUN @ LOCAL PARKS**

- Bible Time
- Outdoor Games
- Service Projects
- Picnics & Snacks
- Music
- Arts & Crafts

**THURSDAYS IN JUNE**  
**5:30-8 P.M.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
Contact Leah Winjum  
218-281-4276/289-3250  
Registration forms in church office,  
please register by Sunday, May 26

**FOR GRADES ENTERING 1-6TH**

**TRINITY**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



### Rehearsal/Faith Statement Reading

**Saturday, May 4 @ 7 p.m.**

Confirmands along with their family members and mentors are invited to this evening where faith statements will be shared and a rehearsal of the confirmation service will take place.

statement  
of  
**FAITH**



**We would like to express sincere gratitude to our Mentors:**

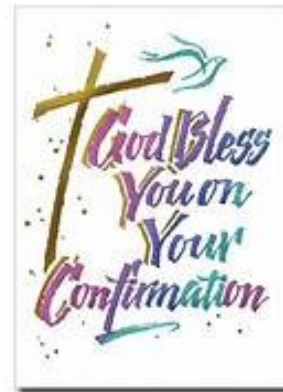
Angie Smith, Jen Nelson, Tricia Sanders, Rich Clauson, Chris Winjum, Jana Brekken, Kelly Andringa, Arla Meyer, Melissa Parkin, Justin Cameron, Annette Thompson, Lon Boike, Cody Brekken.....who accepted this responsibility to connect and share their faith with our youth in this final year of their confirmation journey.



### CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

**May 5, 11 a.m.**

There will be a separate 11 a.m. service. Confirmation services will be livestreamed on our Facebook page.



### 2024 CONFIRMANDS

Madelyn Anderson  
Ashlyn Bailey  
Logan Brekken  
Carter Fee  
Garrett Fischer  
Emma LaPlante  
Ava Martin  
Halle Nicholas  
Kamryn Proulx  
Evan Shockman  
Lucy Smith  
Sam Widseth  
Reggie Winjum







### **May 19 @ 9 a.m.**

We will be celebrating our 2024 Graduates during the 9 a.m. worship service. There will be a reception following worship in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-11 a.m. with light refreshments. Feel free to come, congratulate and greet this wonderful group of seniors! Seniors remember to arrive at 8:20 a.m. with CAP and GOWN to take a class photo prior to worship.

*Seniors:* If you have not already done so, please submit your baby picture, senior picture, favorite scripture, future plans to Leah via email ([leah@trinitycrookston.org](mailto:leah@trinitycrookston.org)) or FB messenger by FRIDAY, MAY 3.



### **Graduation Connection Evening**

2024 Trinity Graduates are invited for an evening together on Wednesday, May 1 for a time to connect, breath and laugh together. You will select your Quilt (Graciously provided by our Trinity Quilters), enjoy dessert, share in devotional, plan out details to the May 19 Baccalaureate Service.



### **2024 TRINITY GRADUATES**

*Marissa Aceves*

*Coral Brekken*

*Kadin Edwards*

*Elizabeth Helgeson*

*Lucas Miller*

*Morgan Nelson*

*Jasmine Perala*

*Ashton Shockman*

*Brooke Simpkins*

*Isabelle Smith*

*Cassie Solheim*

*Jayden Steinbrink*

*Kasen Stromstad*

*Reese Swanson*

*Isaac Thomforde*

*Brekken Tull*

*Halle Winjum*



- ♦ **Dan & Christine Erdman** for the many hours of planning and preparing the amazing suppers on Wednesday evenings in Lent
- ♦ **Adrianne Winger & Ryan Lindtved** for sharing your gift of music and leading the Holden Evening Prayer through Lent
- ♦ **Service Groups** for giving their time to serve the Lenten meals
- ♦ **Trinity Quilters** for the days upon days of commitment and dedication on Mondays and Tuesdays throughout the Winter/Spring to create beautiful quilts for our seniors, newly baptized and beyond.
- ♦ **Brian Ringdahl & Jerry Baird** for hard work on the installation of the new garage doors
- ♦ **Joe Lessard & Brian Ringdahl** for trimming trees around the garage
- ♦ **Jerry & Skylar Baird** for commitment to efficiently replacing the 1<sup>st</sup> floor bathroom floors
- ♦ **Linda Rokke** for sharing your gifts in the kitchen and preparing the delicious JAM plus family dinners
- ♦ **Youth Families** who gave their time to put on the Palm Sunday Brunch
- ♦ **Kathy Schultz & Barb Anderson** for their coordination of the Friendly Visitors
- ♦ **All the Volunteer "Friendly Visitors"** for sharing their time and love by connecting with our church family in their homes
- ♦ **Francine Olson** for coordinating Maundy Thursday Tableau
- ♦ **Tableau Actors** for your time and commitment to the Maundy Thursday Tableau Service
- ♦ **Sheila Davis** for borrowing incredible costumes for the Live Tableau
- ♦ **Emma Wilder** for putting the Trinity Point Video together
- ♦ **Dale & Diane Thompson** – Stole Embroidery for Confirmation
- ♦ **ALL WHO SHARED THEIR TIME AND GIFTS for Easter Sunday** – *Musicians, Readers, Rolls, Acolytes, Greeters, Candy-distributors*
- ♦ **ALL WHO SUPPORTED OUR JH YOUTH** by purchasing Papa Murphy's pizza for their fundraiser
- ♦ **ALL WHO DONATED** hangers for our Hanger Drive to give to Care and Share and who donated fleece material for our upcoming RAY day project, "Blankets for Hope", with our Trinity Youth. during Holy Week.

Thank  
you



- ♦ **Sandie Schmitz** for overseeing Children, Youth and Family Finances
- ♦ **Worship & Music Team** for the beautiful decorating of the sanctuary during Holy Week.
- ♦ **Meagan Michaelson and Brittney Osen** for coordinating the February and April Care and Share Meal
- ♦ **Francine Olson** for utilizing your Thrivent Action Team dollars to support the upcoming RAY Day Project, "Blankets for Hope" that our Trinity youth will facilitate.



# **Rhubarb Festival Luncheon & Bake Sale**

**Thursday, June 13, 2024  
Trinity Lutheran**

**11:00am -1:00pm**

**Luncheon Meal Includes:  
Festival Turkey Salad, Rhubarb  
Salad, Roll & Rhubarb Dessert**

**Cost is \$12 - Take Out Available**







**Phone Number:**

Church Office: 218-281-4853

**Email:**

[office@crookstonfirstpres.org](mailto:office@crookstonfirstpres.org)



The Sunday after Easter FPC had our annual meeting and potluck.

A little bit about me, I'm LOVE potlucks. Not just because I love food but because by it's very nature (people bringing what they have to share, adding it to other's gifts, appreciating and enjoying each without judgement and always to have more than enough). I think they are a beautiful extension of the communion table and Jesus' vision for his church.

And you all did NOT disappoint.

Which makes me think of the story of Jesus' the feeding of the 5000. Did you know it is the only story found in all 4 gospels (except for the resurrection)? So, we know it was central to how the early Jesus followers saw themselves and their mission. And if you were to read that story carefully, soon you see that its not really about Jesus power to make food multiply, it's about how God has already given us more than enough people if we are willing to connect and share it. Jesus' work that day wasn't to magically fix the problem, it was get the people to gather to face each other in mixed groups to see that God had already given them the solution. Instead of going off to fend for themselves in the markets, Jesus got someone to start sharing what they had. I would offer that what happened next was that as the plate got passed, those who had extra gave it and those who had need took it. Until what came back was a overwhelming 12 baskets.

We also know that the early church didn't do communion like us. Instead, each time they gathered to worship they would bring what they had, place it on the table, then after the worship everyone would sit, eat, and take what they needed for the week as they left. Every week was a miracle. Every week Jesus was lived out in that room. No wonder the Jesus movement couldn't be killed.

Over time that organic outpouring of radical generosity, abundance and equality got ritualized, spiritualized and systematized until it became the symbolic once a month act we take part in today.

I and people like me spend a LOT of time thinking about how to make worship feel relevant and deep and impactful and what programs the church needs to grow spiritually and physically. We look high and low for the right words and ministry plans, swimming in a sea of "shoulds" and "comparisons" from all directions.

But what if all of that is really just a way of avoiding the simple call to return to a radical gathering of organic generosity and connection? Not with anonymous money in a private plate that is then dolled out by a committee to whom it deems worthy, but as an open invitation to come, gather, hear God's word and face God's people before giving and receiving as you have or need.

I have a feeling that if we could do that, praise and worship wouldn't take much effort. Fellowship and getting people to show up to church wouldn't require much planning. Seeking and discerning the Spirit wouldn't seem very mysterious.

Maybe we are just called to go where generosity and connection are already flowing and do what allows it to flow even more freely.

That's why I love potlucks. It feels like the church dipping its toes into God's ocean. My prayer is always that we learn and grow in the knowledge and conviction to swim and dive deeper into again.

Grace & Peace,

Rev. Michael Ozaki



## A BIG welcome and thank you to our new session and deacon members!

Session: Dan Wilson, Wally Hoselton  
Deacons: Laurie Wilson, Gloria Watro

# Join Today!



## Join Our Weekly E-mail!

Each week FPC puts out an e-mail for the whole community with not only worship, calendar and announcement information but also prayer requests, birthdays, special note from the pastor and video resources for spiritual growth. We hope that this can be the main way members receive up to date information about the church and each other. If you do not yet receive this email please contact the office with your e-mail to be added.



**Mondays: 9:00am - 3:00pm**  
(Office Administrator)

**Thursdays: 9:00am - 5:00pm**  
(Office Admin. & Pastor)

**Fridays: 10:00am - 4:30pm**  
(Pastor)



## Communion Delivery To Your Home

The communion table is only as complete as the community who is able to receive from it. This means that we still want those who are homebound to receive communion when the congregation does.

That is why Pastor Mike or a member of the visitation team would love to bring communion to anyone unable to be in worship on the 1st of the month when it is usually served.

If you would like us to bring communion to you please let the office know.

## Summer Preaching Rotation with Pastors Greg Isaacson and Gretchen Enoch

Thanks to our collaborative with Trinity Lutheran, Pastor Mike Ozaki, Pastor Greg Isaacson and now Pastor Gretchen Enoch from Fisher/ Bygland Lutheran Church will be working together, trading pulpits, to lead all of our worship services throughout the summer.

What this means is that each week you will have a different pastor offering a fresh and new word, no churches will need to pay for pulpit supply, and each of the pastors will be able to take vacation time at peace knowing Sundays are well cared for. Please keep an eye out for the preaching schedule calendar coming soon.





First Presbyterian Church is proud to provide delivery for "Home Delivered Meals" on May 28th - 31st.

It is only with the support of volunteers like you that this program can run and what makes this town so special.

A sign up sheet is located on the info table outside the church office. Please sign up by Thursday May 23rd.

Each route takes approximately 30 - 45min. Drivers arrive at the Riverview Hospital employee entrance by 11:30am to receive meals, addresses and maps for delivery locations.



## 2024 SPRING GATHERING

**Presbyterian Women of Northern Plains Presbytery  
at the Community Center in Arvilla, North Dakota**



**WHEN:** Saturday, April 27, 2024

**REGISTRATION:** 10:00 a.m. **COST:** \$15.00

**SPEAKER:** Louella Voigt from Luverne, Minnesota, a member of the USA Mission Experience to the Arizona-Mexico border, will share her perspective on immigration issues.

**RSVP by April 22, 2024 to:** Lana Schultz by phone 701-238-4538 or at [lanaj0@casselton.net](mailto:lanaj0@casselton.net)

Items to bring for the clothing closet mission at Bdecan Presbyterian Church are: Household items, such as bedding and kitchen items, are in great need. If you are cleaning out your closets or downsizing, the clothing closet is always in need of t-shirts, sweatshirts, jeans, shorts, outerwear, shoes, and all types of children's clothes.

\$10.00 Gift Cards from Lowe's, Walmart, Target and Amazon will be collected for Churchwide's mission to Bethel House for developmentally disabled adults and Presbyterian Children's Homes for programs for vulnerable children and strengthening families and communities.

## Area Women's Chorus and Bells of Praise

Would you like to join a great group to make beautiful music? Then consider joining one of our music groups!



For more information, please contact Sandy Perkins ([daisysandrap@hotmail.com](mailto:daisysandrap@hotmail.com)).

Area Women's Chorus practices on Tuesdays @ 6:00pm

Bells of Praise practices Wednesdays @ 6:00pm





June 2—Glen & Marlys Finkenbinder  
 June 9—Marlys Mjoen & Marsha Odom  
 June 16—Craig & Connor Morgan  
 June 23—Ralph Pester & Mary Pulkrabek  
 June 30—Lynne Mullins & Paula Waters  
 July 7—Dan & Laurie Wilson  
 July 14—Sam & Marley Melbye  
 July 21—Wally & JoAnn Hoselton  
 July 28—Dan & Vicki Svedarsky  
 August 4—Glen & Marlys Finkenbinder  
 August 11—Connor & Laura Thoreson  
 August 18—Jeri Melsa & Marsha Odom  
 August 25—Dan & Laurie Wilson  
 September 1—Jon & Merrie Nelson  
 September 8—Connor & Katie Morgan  
 September 15—Bill & Gloria Watro  
 September 22—Ralph Pester & Sandy Perkins  
 September 29—Glen & Marlys Finkenbinder



May 5— Mary Pulkrabek  
 May 12—Marsha Odom  
 May 19—Sandy Perkins  
 May 26—Lynne Mullins  
 June 2—Mary Pulkrabek  
 June 9—Lynne Mullins  
 June 16—Marsha Odom  
 June 23—Ralph Pester  
 July 7—Lynne Mullins  
 July 14—Sandy Perkins  
 July 21—Marsha Odom  
 July 28—Lynne Mullins  
 August 4—Ralph Pester  
 August 11—Mary Pulkrabek  
 August 18—Sandy Perkins  
 August 25—Marsha Odom



June 2—Jeri Melsa  
 Communion Preparer: Deacon: Jeri M.  
 July 7— Marlys Mjoen  
 Communion Preparer: Deacon: Laurie W.  
 August 4— Ralph Pester  
 Communion Preparer: Deacon: Gordie T.  
 Sept 1—Sandy Perkins  
 Communion Preparer: Deacon: Lynne M.  
 Oct 6— Lori Folkers  
 Communion Preparer: Deacon: Laurie W.



#### Repeating Calendar Items:

Every Sunday:	10:45am—Worship 12:00pm—Coffee Fellowship
First Sunday of Each Month:	Communion
Every Tuesday—All Months	6:00pm—Area Woman's Chorus
Every 3rd Tuesday of the Month	3:45pm—Presbyterian Women's
Every Wednesday—All Months:	6:00pm—Bell Choir Rehearsal
Every Thursday—All Months:	1:00pm—Book Study

First Presbyterian Church  
Crookston, Mn 56716  
Session minutes  
March 21, 2024

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Crookston Mn met on Thursday March 21, 2024 at 6 pm at First Presbyterian Church. Members present were Sandy Perkins, Gary Hoerner, Marsha Odom, Marley Melbye, Craig Morgan and Glen Finkenbinder and Moderator Pastor Mike Ozaki.

Pastor Mike opened with prayer and devotions. .

## **Agenda & Minutes**

The agenda was accepted. The minutes of the February 2024 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

### **Reports:**

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Mike reported the following under the activities that he is currently involved in

- At TLC continuing to lead and teach fir JAM +, worship planning and leading, visitations and other needs as they arise.
- Leading communion service at Villa in March and April.
- Serving as leadership at the Cove on Wednesdays and board needs
- Serving on United Way Board
- Summer Worship Rotation with Rev Gretchen Enoch of Fisher/Bygland Lutheran
- Gone to PTS forum on Youth Ministry April 29-May 3
- Communion delivery to Homebound and Hospital Members beginning at Easter.
- Exploring possibility of Youth | Elder connection event
- New book study: David's Story A Shakespearean Epic showing what it means to be fully human and fully God's

Clerk's Report: None

Finance Ministry Team Report: the current financial report was presented and accepted. The proposed budget for 2024 was presented. Approved for congregational presentation at annual meeting.

Building and Maintenance: no report

Memorial Ministry Team: No Report

Worship Ministry Team: Maundy Thursday worship will be at Trinity and Good Friday Worship will be at FPC.

Mission Team report: OGHS and Pentecost offering coming up.

Pastor Mike presented proposal for a youth/ Senior connection event to be held at a local assisted living facility. Session approved \$500 from special offerings and suggested the event be planned for the fall.

Cont. Next Page



Personnel Committee: Working thru a few office administration concerns. Was decided that the Office Admin. hours would change to Monday and Thursdays from 9-3:00 if possible. Pastor Mike would speak to Ann about it.

Nomination Committee: The following new members for Deacons and Session will be presented at the Annual Mtg. For Session: Dan Wilson and Wally Hoselton. For Deacons: Laurie Wilson and Gloria Watro.

Special thanks and appreciation given to Glen Finkenbinder and Sandy Perkins, as their term ends, for their years of faithful service on session and beyond.

Unfinished business None

New Business: Annual Congregational Mtg will be Sunday April 7 following worship.

### **Motions made**

- Approved Agenda
- Approved financial report.
- Approved budget for presenting at annual meeting

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned with prayer.

The next Session meeting will be Thursday April 18 at 6:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy Perkins, clerk of Session

## Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization

Dear BOLD leaders of the Women of the ELCA:

It is that time of year to send out the first mailing of information that is important and useful to you and your unit.

I am pleased to announce that your annual Synodical Women's Organization (SWO) Convention will be held Friday-Saturday, September 20-21, 2024, at Christ the King Lutheran in Moorhead, MN. The convention is cohosted by the churches in conferences 4,5,6. Our theme is **Teach me how to P.R.A.Y.** Matthew 7:7 *"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you shall find; knock and the door shall be opened to you."* Our Keynote Speaker is Deb Hadley. Deb will provide you strategies to open the door to your heart to receive the many blessings God has prepared for you. Deb has always believed in God and thought she had a strong faith, but when her children passed suddenly, she found herself lost, alone, broken, and wondering where God was. Deb will take you through the highs and lows of her journey and share with you how the door to her heart was opened by the Lord, how she was inspired to create the Morning God Boost, and how God asked her to *"Help those who are hurting find hope in the Lord and get to Heaven."*



*save the date*

SEPTEMBER 20 - 21, 2024

**NWMN Synodical Women's Organization  
Annual Convention**

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN

1900 14TH AVE SO

MOORHEAD, MN 56560

SPEAKER: DEB HADLEY  
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

**PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!!**



Dear Applicant,

We are happy that you are thinking of attending a college of the ELCA and know that it will be a blessing to you, your family, and your career. To be eligible for a scholarship from the Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization, you must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a graduating High School Senior with a "C" average or above.
2. Be a member of an ELCA Church.
3. Be a resident of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA.
4. Be attending an ELCA College.

Students receiving a tuition discount because their parent(s) are employed at an ELCA college would NOT be eligible.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to have the pastor and school administrator complete the form and return it to the applicant. **The enclosed application, properly signed must be completed and postmarked no later than April 30 of each year.** The Scholarship Committee will meet shortly thereafter to determine eligibility.

The scholarship is awarded to second semester college freshmen to be used for tuition or books. If sufficient funds are received from the local congregational units of the NW MN Women of the ELCA, \$250.00 per eligible applicant will be allocated. It will be matched by most of ELCA colleges that our students attend. The scholarship money is sent directly to the college. Students will be notified by the end of May of the scholarships awarded,

Applications can be picked up at the Trinity Office. Please contact me with any questions you may have.

Yours in Christ,

Luella Thom

NWMN Synodical Women's Organization

Vice President

PO Box 103

Carlos, MN 56319

thom17@wisper-wireless.com

320-852-7701