



THE MESSENGER



From the Pastor's desk...

2018 – A Year of Worship: The Great Thanksgiving

The “Great Thanksgiving” is the part of the service where the bread and wine are joined together with the Word of God to become the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lutherans believe that Jesus is “in, with, and under” the bread and wine. The elements do not quit being bread and wine. At the same time, Holy Communion is not simply a memorial meal where bread and wine are served. We believe in the real presence of Jesus in the bread and wine, his body and blood.

Before the Lord’s Supper is shared, the presiding minister leads the congregation into thanksgiving. With the whole creation, we join the angel’s song. We start with the dialogue where we exchange the greetings of the church. We call upon the Lord to be with our sisters and brothers in Christ. We lift our voices in thanksgiving and praise. Then the presiding minister continues with the proper preface. The preface starts with the words, “It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...” It continues by recalling God’s mighty deeds that are especially appropriate for that Sunday and time of the church year. It concludes with the congregation joining together in “Holy, Holy, Holy.” It is our belief that at this point we are joined by the communion of the saints and the hosts of heaven at the Lord’s Supper.

The Words of Institution are included in the Thanksgiving at the Table. Sometimes the words stand on their own, being the only words necessary for the consecration of the elements. Sometimes the words are included in a more narrative form of the Institution in which the congregation is invited to respond with the ancient affirmations, “Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.”

These three affirmations proclaim the mystery of our faith, moving us from the past, to the present, and into the future in just ten words. Talk about an efficient use of language! The Thanksgiving at the Table concludes with the Lord’s Prayer, our table prayer before we feast.

Distribution of communion takes on many different practices all over the church. Here we use individual cups or intinction. The only important thing about distribution for Lutherans is that each person hears the words, “Given for you,” and “Shed for you.” Having said this, it is important to note that communion is not an individual event, but a community event. Only in special circumstances is Holy Communion to be administered individually.

When all have communed, we receive the table blessing, assuring us of the forgiveness and grace offered in the sacrament. Traditionally this is followed by the song of Simeon, “Now Lord, you let your servant go in peace...” You may have noticed that recently we have started using this again and have left out hymns during communion. We conclude with the prayer after communion, usually a seasonal prayer of praise and thanksgiving.



PARISH NEWS



What does Chaplaincy Ministry provide for the residents of Valley Memorial Homes?

Valley Memorial Homes provides for the physical, emotional and spiritual care of our residents. Spiritual care is provided through partnerships with your congregation as well as having two chaplains dedicated to serving residents, families and staff. They are Chaplain Gwenn Bazajou and Chaplain Suzi Grote. Worship services are offered throughout the week as well as on Sunday. Bible studies, one-on-one visits and spiritual assessments are all an important part of spiritual care at Valley Memorial Homes. We want to thank you for all your prayers and financial support to our Chaplaincy Ministry Program.



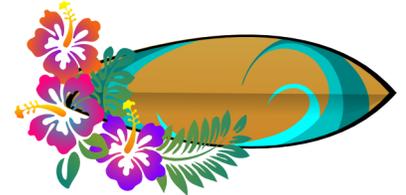
FISHER NEWS



July 9th & 10th 9:00 AM Quilting
July 18th 9:00 AM Bible Study
July 23rd & 24th 9:00 AM Quilting
August 15th 9:00 AM Bible Study

Scrapbooking help is needed...

Old pictures from Fisher Lutheran Church need to be archived into a scrapbook. Anyone who is interested please contact Jami at the office or Sheryl Tinkham.



BYGLAND NEWS

Book Club News ~

Book club members will gather in Ardis's screen house on July 23rd to discuss THIS IS HOW IT ALWAYS IS (Laurie Frankel) and on Aug. 20th to discuss ORIGIN (Dan Brown). New members are always welcome!

Quilting ~

July 11th (and another day TBD) and Aug. 1st & 8th, beginning at 9:00

Bygland Community Annual Picnic



August 8th at 6:00 PM
Bring a dish to share

God's Work Our Hands Sunday at Bygland ~

Sept. 9th at 9:00
9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Adopt-a-Highway
School Kit Assembly (Supplies on Page 4)
11:30 AM Family Fellowship Potluck Dinner

Nature is one of God's beautiful creations. Through nature, God is able to teach us, speak to us, and provide for us. For this reason, we can find in scripture that we humans are called to protect all He has created.



"But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds of the air, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish of the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind." Job 12: 7-10

Thank you to all of those who participated in the Bygland Lutheran Church and Sunday school Adopt-A-Highway service project on Saturday, April 28, 2018: Danielle Brundin, Jamie Brundin, Paige Brundin, Seth Brundin, Sidney Brundin, Duane Waller, Marsha Ketring, Logan Egeland, Rylan Egeland, Arnold Phillips, Holly Wavra, Reighan Wavra, Alan Halvorson, Roger Moe, Steve Moe, Jeff Millar, Kathy Flaas, Waylon Starkey, and Joslyn Starkey. You have engaged in an opportunity to demonstrate care and respect towards our beautiful earth. It was a beautiful, sunny day to be out serving with our family, friends, and neighbors. It was fun to observe the life of the land around us. 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 and to the Arnold Phillips and Holly Wavra for providing the delicious donuts from Tim Horton's for us to enjoy.

All friends, neighbors, and parish members are welcome to participate in our program. Mark your calendar for our next collection date: Sunday, September 9th, 2018 starting at 10:00 a.m. in recognition of "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. Participants will meet at the Bygland Lutheran Church, south door. All are asked to dress accordingly and to wear closed toed shoes.

Fisher Lutheran Church Council 6-6-18

Members Present- Pastor Karen, President Reed Tinkham, Jared Solhiem, John McDonald, Ken Miller, Tami Newhouse, Gail Kasowski, James Mathews, Chad Knutson, Travis Schwarz.

Meeting called to order @ 7:30 by President Tinkham.

Pastor Karen Led Devotions.

Secretary's Report- The May minutes were reviewed by the Council. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ken Miller, Seconded by Travis Schwarz. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report- The report was reviewed by the Council. A motion to approve the report was made by John McDonald, seconded by James Mathews. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report- Presented by Pastor Karen. The Youth Group trip to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp will be June 23-July 1. Vacation Bible School will be June 18-21. There will be a Parish Joint Council meeting June 20 @ 7:45pm at Fisher Lutheran Church. Pastor Karen will be at Continuing Education July 23-27.

Committee Reports

Parsonage Committee- A window and a faucet have been fixed in the Parsonage.

Old Business- A Motion was made by Tami Newhouse to approve the April Minutes, seconded by Ken Miller, passed. A Motion was made by Tami Newhouse for approval of the Confirmation Class, Seconded by Gail Kasowski. A motion was made by Travis Schwarz to reimburse Tami Newhouse \$1,988.48 for the purchase of the new Church television, seconded and passed.

New Business- A motion was made by Ken Miller to move the monthly Council meetings to the third Wednesday of the month going forward, seconded by Tami Newhouse, motion passed. There was no update on Electronic Giving. Next Meeting will be July, 18 @7:30pm. Motion to adjourn @8:23 by John, Seconded by James.

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS SUNDAY

September 9th, 2018 9:00 AM

Fisher Lutheran Church

- *Please bring items for School and Personal Care Kits
- *Stay after church for a bite to eat
- *Help assemble Kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and weather
- *permitting, fall clean up around the church property .

Following is a list of items; please consider donating any amount of any of these items.

Purchasing all items for a complete kit is not necessary.



- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper, approximately 8"x10 1/2"; no loose leaf paper.
- One 30 centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inched on the other.
- One pencil sharpener (not battery Operated.)
- One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steal blades work well.)
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink.)
- One box 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2 1/2" eraser

- One light-weight bath-sized towel (between 20"x 40" and 27" x 52"), dark color recommended.
- Two or three bath-sized bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., and brand , in original wrapping.
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging (toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope: not plastic bags or wrap.)
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging.
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging (no fine-toothed combs or picks, See photo.)



Fisher Bygland Lutheran Parish Joint Council

6-20-18

Members Present- Pastor Karen, Chad Knutson, James Mathews, Wendy Waller, Eric Egeland, Barry Traub, John McDonald, Andrea Marshall, Reed Tinkham, Tami Newhouse, Gail Kasowski, Roger Krostue, Randy Moe, Ron Thorson, Jared Solhiem, Dave Radi, Travis Schwarz.

The meeting was called to order @7:45pm by Fisher Lutheran President Reed Tinkham.

Pastor Karen Led Devotions.

The Agenda was presented and approved.

Parish Secretary/Treasurer's Report- Presented by Pastor Karen for Jami Egeland.

A 2018 Semi-annual Report Summary for the Parish was presented.

A 2018 Semi-annual Report for the Parsonage was presented.

The reimbursement for the Parsonage Insurance was for fiscal year 2017.

A motion was made to approve the Reports, seconded and passed.

Secretary's Report- Reviewed by the Joint Council. A motion was made to approve the 11-15-17 minuted, seconded and passed. A correction in the minutes is the Total Proposed Parish Budget needs to be changed from \$940 to \$9,400.

Pastor's Report- Pastor Karen stated that she is considering moving to a Narrative Lectionary. Pastor Karen would like to order guest chairs for the Parish office, they will be paid for by the Parish.

Old Business

Parsonage Report- Presented by Gail Kasowski. Gail explained the financial status of the Parsonage and explained some maintenance that will be needed.

Organist Coverage- Appreciation for Jane Traub was expressed.

New Business

2019 Compensation Guidelines Review- The guidelines were reviewed by the Joint Council.

2018 Bishops Report Review- Presented by Pastor Karen, she discussed how the Synod will be in the Call position for a new Bishop.

Parish Joint Worship Schedule for 2018

-Thanksgiving- November 22, 9:00am, Fisher

-Christmas Eve- 5:00pm, Bygland

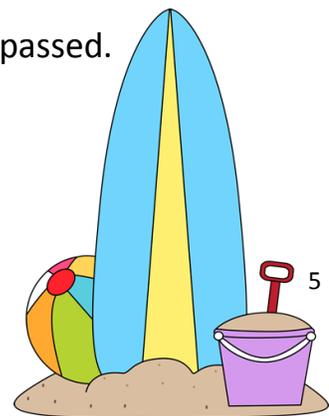
-Christmas Day- 10:00am, Fisher

-Sunday after Christmas- December 30, 9:00am, Bygland. Pastor Karen will be on vacation.

Next Joint Council Meeting November 7, 2018 @7:30pm at Bygland.

A motion was made at 8:58pm to adjourn the meeting, seconded and passed.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.





Bygland Lutheran Church



We are God's work in progress, with hearts lifted to God in trust and praise and with hands extended to serve in Jesus' name.

Unofficial/Unapproved Council Meeting Minutes June 13th , 2018

Members present: Pastor Karen Trenne, Eric Egeland, Roger Krostue, Marsha Ketring, Wendy Waller, Barry Traub, Ronnie Thorson, Randy Moe

Members absent: Karen Ebertowski, Steve Short, Sheila Wurden

Call to order-The meeting was called to order by Eric Egeland

Devotions-Pastor Karen led devotions regarding reconciliation.

Agenda/addition of items was discussed

Secretary's report-read by Wendy Waller. Motion to approve with corrections by Roger K. seconded by Ronnie T.. *motion carried (Correction: under new business-Pastor Karen asked Marsha Ketring if she could provide a financial secretaries report monthly to assist our stewardship goals.)*

Treasurer's report-read by Randy Moe. Motion to approve the monthly report was made by Barry T., seconded by Ronnie T., *motion carried.*

Financial Secretary report-We reviewed the financial secretary's report.

Pastor's report-Pastor Karen read her report.

Old business:

The new furnace wasn't shutting off. Randy called Hastings and they came out and replaced some burnt relays.

- A new vacuum was purchased for our Janitor.
- The members roster is still an ongoing project.
- Our new tenant in our parsonage reports that the propane has not been filled. The tenant is comfortable with squaring it up when they get re-stationed next year. They are having a new issue-There is mold in the upstairs bathroom that looks like it has spread to one of the bedrooms. Tenant has brought that up to TruHome. There is also a water leak in the basement from the upstairs bathroom. Tenant will report this to TruHome also. The window that was cracked has been fixed. There has been no action on the small claims on the previous tenant.

New business:

Angel Korynta from Polk County Health asked if she could put up some signage that states that this is a breast-feeding friendly place.

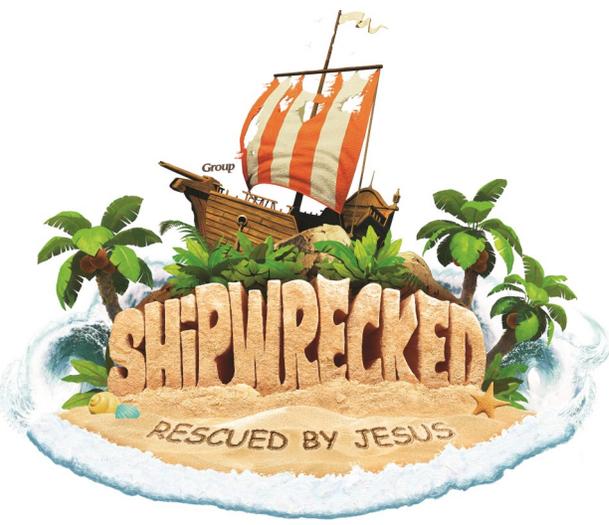
- Our missionaries Anne & Willie Langdji will be in the GF area in August. More information to come when available.
- Marshall County Fair board will be having an ecumenical service on July 29th at 9:30 in the morning at the MC fair new bandstand in Warren, MN. . Lori Line (pianist) will be performing before and after the service's
- Synod Assembly was held last weekend and was attended by Pastor Karen, Wendy Waller, and Steve Short. Two resolutions were passed: 1) Congregations are encouraged to support other congregations with an Internship Support Fund. Many small congregations can provide a meaningful internship opportunity for student pastors but lack the funds to support it. It was suggested that each congregation give \$1/baptized members. 2) Churches are encouraged to open up their buildings for daycare se-ups. Northwest Minnesota is considered a daycare "dessert" with a growing shortfall of daycare options.
- Sheila Wurden has resigned from our church council. She also sits on the Valley Memorial home board. We can appoint a temporary council member from here until January. We do need to appoint someone to the Valley Memorial home board.
- Family Fellowship will organize the picnic in August.

A motion was made by Roger K. to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Ronnie T . The meeting was adjourned. Pastor Karen closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The Joint Council will meet Wednesday, June 20th at 7:45pm at Fisher Lutheran.

The next meeting will be on July 11th, 2018 at 7:30 pm.

The Kids had a blast learning and discovering new things about God's work at our SHIPWRECKED themed Vacation Bible School



Fisher Bygland Lutheran Parish

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