

THE MESSENGER



From the Pastor's desk...



God's work. Our hands.

September is an exciting time of the year for our parish. We will resume every Sunday worship in both congregations starting on Sunday, September 11, "God's Work. Our Hands Sunday." Both congregations have special projects planned for that day. "God's work. Our hands." Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Since 2013, thousands of ELCA congregations have participated in this opportunity and dedicated one day to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all people. This year Bygland will serve by continuing their Adopt-A-Highway projects. Fisher will be collecting and assembling Lutheran World Relief Kits. All ages and abilities are invited to participate at both congregations.

The Schedule for "God's work. Our hands." Sunday is:

9:00 Worship with Holy Communion and Blessing of the backpacks at Bygland

10:00 Rally Sunday - Sunday School

11:00 Worship with Holy Communion and Blessing of the backpacks at Fisher

12:00 Adopt-A-Highway at Bygland (bring work gloves, boots, sunscreen and bug spray)

12:00 Pot luck meal and Lutheran World Relief Kits assembly at Fisher (shopping list on page 6)

This day of service will also mark the 15-year anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2011, terrorist attacks on the United States. "The world can be a dangerous place. But there are some who, when disaster strikes, run toward the danger. These are first responders, firefighters, police and EMTs, who live out their baptismal vocation in service to their communities in times of intense need. They do God's work with their hands," said ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton. "The Rev. Stephen Bouman, executive director for ELCA Congregational and Synodical Mission and former bishop of the ELCA Metropolitan New York Synod at the time of Sept. 11, recounts this story. He had a pastor in his synod who was a chaplain to the fire department. When the first plane hit the first tower, the chaplain rushed to the site where firefighters were mustering. He prayed with them and then took oil and marked their foreheads with the cross. Then the firefighters rushed into the building. The people who survived said they could see the crosses shining on the foreheads of the firefighters.

In baptism we have been marked with the cross. We are the ones who go into the broken places of the world. We are the ones who, by showing up on 'God's work. Our hands.' Sunday, shine the light of the cross in our communities. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Our service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace. ~Pastor Karen

PARISH NEWS

FISHER BYGLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH HAS A PARISH NURSE



Hello, my name is Danielle Gratton and I'd like to take a minute to introduce myself as your Faith Community Nurse! I am so excited to get back to nursing in a church setting! My husband, Chad, and I have three wonderful kids - Wyatt, Katelynn and Piper. Our little family can often be found at a BMX track during the spring, summer and into the fall. When we aren't at the track we are visiting our great grandparents, grandparents, siblings and extended family in the Adams/Osnabrock/Park River areas. I grew up on a farm near Adams and Chad in Osnabrock. We enjoy the small rural community living and are very used to the joys small towns and farms can bring!

I have been a Faith Community Nurse (FCN) since 2011. In my pervious church, I worked closely with another nurse to develop health education, conduct blood pressure checks, starting health walk challenges and many more. Some of my first goals are to have newsletter articles, a health bulletin board, organize a health walk challenge and a blood pressure check. Please feel free to let me know if there is something you'd like to see. The first year will one of growth for the program and one I look forward to!

Our Parish Family



Our sympathy goes out to the family of Laurel Haake, who died on Friday, July 29, 2016. Her funeral was held at Fisher Lutheran Church on Wednesday, August 3, 2016.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." ~ Matthew 5:4

God's Work Our Hands Sunday ~ September 11, 2016



Fisher—Please bring a dish to share for the potluck meal on Sunday, September 11th. Dessert will be provided.

- ◆ Our women's group and social concerns committee is sponsoring a Thrivent Action Team Event by asking all members to bring items for Lutheran World Relief kits. A list of items is included. You may bring any amount of items for any of the kits. Complete kits are not necessary.
- ◆ Following dinner you are invited to help organize kits items, tie a fleece blanket, and assist in getting tables set up for quilting. (*see page 6 for kit items*)
- ◆ Seed money from this Thrivent Action Team event will be used to purchase items needed to complete LWR kits, quilting supplies, and dessert and paper products for the potluck meal.

Bygland—Adopt A Highway workday following the worship service, in recognition of "God's Work Our Hands" Sunday. Bring your work clothes, boots, gloves, sunscreen, and bug spray.

FISHER SUNDAY SCHOOL SNIPPETS



Sunday School will start up again for the 2016-17 school year on Rally Sunday, September 11th! We will continue to use the Spark curriculum that we have been using for several years. The curriculum ties into Pastor Karen's sermon and makes teaching convenient for busy families! The Board of Education is still looking for Sunday School teachers. If you are interested, please contact Lana Motl at [218-280-0975](tel:218-280-0975).

We look forward to another fun and exciting year learning to worship and live for God!

Fisher Lutheran Church Council Minutes ~ July 6, 2016

Members Present: Pastor Karen Young Trenne, Lance Reitmeier, Sheryl Tinkham, Kelly Bakken, Kelly Halvorson, Ross Korynta, Chad Knutson, Gail Kasowski, Brian Morken, Troy Newhouse.

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by President Lance Reitmeier.

Devotions: Devotions were led by Pastor Karen Young Trenne.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's Report for the May meeting was reviewed by the council. A motion was made to approve the May council minutes. Motion was seconded, motion passed. The June meeting was also reviewed by the council. An amendment to the June minutes was made to repair the garage door opener in the parsonage garage not the garage door. A motion was made to accept the amended June minutes, motion was seconded, motion passed. Lastly, the June joint council meeting was reviewed. An amendment was made to an item in the pastor's report. Pastor Karen will be attending continuing education July 11-18th, and not vacation. A motion was made to accept the amended June joint council minutes, motion was seconded, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for the month of June was presented by Kelly Bakken. A motion was made to accept the treasury report. The motion was seconded, motion passed.

Pastor's Report:

- ◆ Pastor Bud Johnson will be the emergency contact for Fisher Lutheran members while Pastor Karen is away July 11-18 for continuing education.
- ◆ Pastor Karen provided ministry for one Baptism and one Funeral in June.
- ◆ In June Pastor Karen was involved with the following places and activities: God Samaritan Center, Red River Valley Juvenile Center, Vacation Bible School, Joint Council Meeting, and the All School Reunion.
- ◆ Upcoming activities include: ELCA Church Wide Assembly August 8-13; Grace Gathering August 10-13 in New Orleans, LA; and Pathways Village August 16-25 at Camp Minne-WaKan.
- ◆ Pastor Karen plans to take vacation August 15-28 and September 10-11.

Old Business:

- ◆ Due to the installment of expensive new banking fees towards our church accounts, the council will continue to research other financial institutions to home our accounts.
- ◆ The Council will talk to Scott Knutson about programming the daily church bell chimes.

New Business:

- ◆ The lock to the main door in the church needs to be fixed. Bonnie can call Security World to make the necessary repairs.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and passed. Pastor Karen led us in praying the Lord's Prayer following the meeting. The next council meeting will be September 7th at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted by Troy Newhouse, Secretary



Fall Bible Study: "When God's Not Fair—Coming to Terms with a Merciful God" (Meghan Johnston Aelabouni)

September 12 & 13 —Quilting at 9:00 AM

September 21 —Bible Study at 9:00 AM (Session 1: Jonah)

September 16-17 —NWMN Synodical Women's Convention

September 25—Thank offering

Vendor/Rummage Sale Success!

The Byglund Lutheran Church Youth Group would like to thank all of those who took part in helping make their Vendor and Rummage sale a success. The sale was held on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at the church. All proceeds from the rummage sale, vendor donations, and coffee/bars will go towards future youth endeavors. Thanks for all of those who brought rummage and bought rummage; who baked bars and ate bars; who set-up and cleaned-up; and who came as a vendor or shopped with our vendors. It is true, more hands make for lighter work. We want to thank each of the vendors personally: Brenda Kovar (The Pampered Chef); Lacy Fredericks (Chloe & Isabel); Liz Martinson (Thirty One Gifts); Emily Lafferty (Lemongrass Spa); Patti Peterson (Origami Owl and Creative Memories); Becky Egeland (Wildtree); Rustic Charm (Barnwood Signs); Kim Huot (Plexus); and Shelly Walsh (Creative Container) for spending their day with us and sharing their wares. A special thank you to the Ernest and Norma Egeland family for the generous donation of estate items to our rummage. Thank you: to Brenda Kovar for the delicious caramel rolls; Patti Peterson for the delicious sloppy joes; and all of the families that donated the yummy bars. Thank you to Kent Wavra for the signage. All unsold items were donated to Linda Haugen (who sets up and furnishes apartments for the needy (including the Women's Crisis Center, the Grand Forks Mission, individuals sponsored by several Greater Grand Forks Bible study groups; individuals referred by the counties such as Polk and Marshall)) and the Dakota Boys Ranch.



QUILTING

Quilting will be September 7 & 14, beginning at 9:00 AM

BOOK CLUB NEWS

The Book Club will meet on Sept. 26 (7:00) to discuss THE LAST ANNIVERSARY (Liann Morarty). We will probably meet at the church unless September provides weather that is gentle enough for the gazebo. New members are always welcome!

Byglund Lutheran Church ~ Unofficial/Unapproved Council Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2016 7:30pm

Members present: Roger Moe, Ronnie Thorson, Haley Thorson, Marsha Ketring, Sheila Wurden and Troy Pecka

Members absent: Pastor Karen, Randy Moe, Alan Halvorson, Pam Robertson and Karen Ebertowski

Call to Order: The council meeting was called to order by Council President Roger Moe at 7:30pm.

Secretary's Report: Haley presented the June minutes. *A motion to approve the secretary's report as amended was made by Ronnie and seconded by Sheila. All were in favor, motion carried.*

Treasurer's Report: No report available.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Karen provided her statistical report for June in advance due to her planned absence. There were no weddings, baptisms, new members or funerals. Upcoming events include the Waller/Tretter wedding on July 23rd, the ELCA Churchwide Assembly August 8-13, Grace Gathering August 10-13 in New Orleans, LA, and Pathways Village at Camp Minne-Wa-Kan August 16-25. She has continuing ed scheduled for July 11-18 and vacations Aug 22-28 and Sept 9-11. Supply is secured.

Old Business

Parsonage Lease: The revised lease was signed at the Fisher/Byglund Joint Council meeting.

Church Maintenance: No updates available on the belltower lights. Haley and Marsha will be exploring options for window coverings for the west windows of the lower level. There current is no covering in the storage room in the northwest corner.

New Business

None

Next Meeting Date: September 14, 2016 at 7:30pm

Adjourn: *A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Haley and seconded by Troy. All were in favor, the motion carried.*

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Haley Thorson, BLC Secretary

“Freed and Renewed in Christ: 500 Years of God’s Grace in Action”



Aug. 10-13, 2016
New Orleans

Voting members of the Evangelical Church in America approved a number of key actions during the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly held in New Orleans August 8-13. The assembly is the highest legislative authority of the church.

The 945 voting members:

◆ Elected William B. Horne II of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Clearwater, FL, vice president of the ELCA. Horne was installed during closing worship Aug. 13.

- ◆ Accepted the “Declaration on the Way”, a unique ecumenical document that marks a path toward greater unity between Catholics and Lutherans. At the heart of the document are 32 “Statements of Agreement” that state where Lutherans and Catholics do not have church-dividing differences on topics about church, ministry and the Eucharist. The document also presents the differences that remain.
- ◆ Approved AMMPARO—the ELCA’s strategy to Accompany Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities. The ELCA developed this strategy based on commitments to uphold and guarantee the basic human rights and safety of migrant children and their families; to address the root causes of migration in countries from Central American’s Northern Triangle and Mexico and the treatment of migrants in transit; to work toward just and humane policies affecting migrants in and outside the U.S.; to engage as a church with all of its companions, affiliates and partners to respond to the migration situation and its causes; and to advocate for migrant children and their families.
- ◆ Approved the Ministry of Word and Service roster. Beginning Jan. 1, 2017, ELCA associates in ministry, deaconesses and diaconal ministers will be a single, unified roster of Ministry of Word and Service. The accompanying constitutional amendments related to the roster were also considered and approved by the assembly.
- ◆ Approved the 2017-2019 budget proposal. The budget includes a 2017 current fund spending authorization of \$65,296,005 and a 2017 ELCA World Hunger spending authorization of \$24.8 million; a 2018 current fund income proposal of \$64,057,220 and a 2018 ELCA World Hunger income proposal of \$25 million; a 2019 current fund income proposal of \$64,151,175 and a 2019 ELCA World Hunger income proposal of \$25 million; and authorizes the Church Council to establish a spending authorization after periodic review of revised income estimates.
- ◆ Approved various memorials—or proposals—from the ELCA’s 65 synods. In addition to memorials considered “en bloc,” the assembly separately approved the following: deepening relationships with historic Black churches; toward a responsible energy future; repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery; peace with justice in the Holy Land; justice for the Holy Land through responsible investment; African Descent Lutherans; call to discernment on U.S. foreign and military policy; welcoming refugees; and supporting military personnel, veterans and their families.
- ◆ Elected members to serve on: Church Council, Portico Benefits Services, Mission Investment Fund, Augsburg Fortress, Committee on Appeals, Committee on Discipline and Nominating Committee.
- ◆ Adopted amendments to the ELCA Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions.

Legislative updates are available at [download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Legislative Updates for the 2016 Churchwide Assembly.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Legislative%20Updates%20for%20the%202016%20Churchwide%20Assembly.pdf).

Lutheran World Relief Kits Shopping List

Please consider donating any amount of any of these items. Purchasing all items for a complete kit is not necessary.

School Kits

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8"x10 ½"; no loose leaf paper
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener (not battery operated)
- One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel 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 ½" eraser

Fabric Kits

- Two spools of neutral-colored, general purpose thread, 250-300 yards each
- Two pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric (no knits of 100% polyester). Each piece should match one of the sizes below:
 - 2 ¼ yards of 60" wide fabric
 - 3 yards of 44" wide fabric
 - 4 yards of 36" wide fabric

Baby Care Kits – sizes between 6 and 24 months

- Two lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesies®)
- Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet), tops and bottoms may be substituted (no Onesies®)
- Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
- Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- Two pairs of socks
- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- Two or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- Two diaper pins or large safety pins

Personal Care Kits

- One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 27" x 52"), dark color recommended
- Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any 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: no 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

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