

English Lutheran News

OUR CHURCH IN OUR COMMUNITIES



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

August 2023



English Lutheran

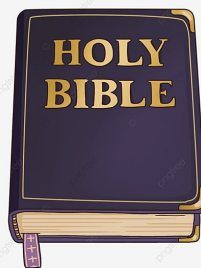
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Disposing of Deteriorating Bibles

**Thursday, August 3 at 11:00
am
at Eldridge Cemetery**

(see page 4 for more details)

Our Mission:

Called to be shepherds, doing God's work, daily.

My eyes have seen what Jesus saw

Thank you for the opportunity to take time in June to visit Jerusalem, the Sea of Galilee, and Jericho. The journey was safe and we experienced no travel disruptions, lost luggage, or weather concerns. One of the things that sticks with me in the weeks since returning home is the visual sight-lines of the area. I knew that the Holy Land is a compact place, but the visual effect of standing in one place and seeing another place that is important to completely different stories from the Bible is powerful. From the hill-top city of Bethlehem on a clear day you can see the hills on the other side of the Dead Sea- the land the Bible calls Moab. I had never considered the story of Naomi and Ruth in this way. When Naomi stood in Bethlehem and considered her options about where to go when a famine struck the land, I had never considered that she and Elimelech would head off to a place that they could see from their home. It might be 30 miles or so to travel- across the Judean desert and down to the Dead Sea and then up the hills on the far side- But they could see it. And after Naomi's husband died and her two sons died, she and her daughter in law Ruth set off to return to Bethlehem. Naomi could see the hill of her home from the place where she buried her family. The same holds true for Ruth- when she arrived in Bethlehem, she could look back to the east and see the hills of her homeland. The same sense of visual closeness happened in Nazareth, in the north, near the Sea of Galilee. When Jesus was growing up, he could see across the broad, wide valley to the hills of Samaria, he could see the solitary mountain where he would meet Moses and Elijah, he could see the city of Megiddo and the plain of Armageddon. Sitting by the Sea of Galilee, the disciples could easily see across the waters to the other side. Streetlights and houses today- campfires in Jesus' day twinkle with the stars after the sun goes down.

My feet have now walked where Jesus walked and my eyes have seen things that Jesus saw, but I did not have to travel to the Holy Land to see the most beautiful and important things that Jesus saw. He saw the face of his neighbors and had compassion for them. We can do the very same thing where we live. Every person you meet, every face in the store, at the gas station, in the drive-thru window, is a person that Jesus looks at and sees as a person with value and importance. It is fun to see the sites, but the lessons of the trip are not in the rocks and ruins, but in the people who continue to give us the opportunity to see Christ in others and to be Christ to a world in need. Travel has taught me that the important things in life are right here. The people that live here want the same things that people in Bethlehem or Jericho, or Jerusalem want- a place to be safe at night, a place where families and friends can live and gather, a way to provide for basic needs and children can learn and grow. The world is a wide place, but we can see the needs of the world by looking around in our own neighborhood. By doing that, each one of us can see what Jesus saw.

Peace, Pastor Erik

Christians in Action—Summer Events

Late July and August are full of events in our congregations and communities.

Check out some of these special events within our Christians in Action partnership.

July 30 9:00 am at Atonement Lutheran 10:45 am at Trinity Lutheran
Installation of Deacon Tara Ulrich as Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries. Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth will preach and install Deacon Tara in her new role.

August 6

Welcome Event to meet Deacon Tara at St. John's Lutheran (time to be announced)

August 10 (Thursday 2:00-4:00 pm)

Coffee and Conversation with Deacon Tara

Middle and High School Youth are invited to Babb's Coffee House in Jamestown for some time to get to know one another and to hear about upcoming youth events.

August 13

End of Summer Picnic and Bonfire Worship at Red Willow Bible Camp
1651 Jacob Dr., Binford, ND 58416

If you drive yourself, plan to arrive at Red Willow between noon and 3:30 pm.

Events include Picnic Lunch from noon – 1:00 pm

Explore camp: swimming, canoeing/kayaking, hiking, playing yard games.

If you ride in the vans, meet in the St. John's parking lot at 1:30 pm.
We'll arrive at Red Willow around 3:00 pm. There will be time to enjoy some camp activities and S'mores over the bonfire before worship begins at 4:00 pm.

The vans will leave Red Willow by 5:15 pm and return to the St. John's parking lot around 6:30-6:45 pm.

August 13 4:00 – 7:00 pm

Atonement Music Festival Come enjoy music and refreshments on the lawn.
1009 12th Ave NE, Jamestown

August 20 5:00 pm

Christ the King Polka Fest Come enjoy polka music followed by refreshments. 713 3rd Ave N, Ellendale Outdoors weather permitting, or in the sanctuary.

Congregations participating in Christians in Action:
Atonement, Jamestown Christ the King, Ellendale Emmanuel,
Gackle English, Medina Montpelier, Montpelier St. John's,
Jamestown Trinity, Jamestown Zion, Kulm

Was held July 16 with about 20 kids participating.

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Do you have a Bible that was given to you but is in a condition that makes it unable to be read without pages falling out?

Our congregation will be collecting used Bibles July 16 – 30.

What will happen to these Bibles?

**Thursday, August 3 at 11:00 am
at Eldridge Cemetery**

Bibles that are in good condition will be donated to Orphan Grain Train to be shared with people who will read them.



Hi! I am Deacon Tara and I am so excited to be a partner in the gospel working with the Christians in Action Partnership. I grew up in Ashley, North Dakota. I am a graduate of the University of Mary with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications with an emphasis in Journalism and an English minor. I am also a

a graduate of Wartburg Theological Seminary with a master of arts in youth, culture, and mission. I have served congregations in Beulah, North Dakota; Dilworth, Minnesota; Minot ND; and Williston ND. Most recently, I served Tri County Ministries which serves the communities of Kloten, McVile, Binford, Grace City, Cooperstown, and Hannaford ND.

I love spending time with my fur babies: my cats Luna Lovegood and Neville Longbottom. I love to read and write and spend time with my family and friends.

I look forward to connecting with and meeting all the families and homes that are part of this partnership.

**English Youth
Meeting
Deacon Tara**



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2023 Offering Envelopes

Our Offering envelopes came in late this year, but have been here for awhile.

Please stop in and pick them up out of your church mailbox.

We'd appreciate it.

If you have already done so, thank you.

Lay Preaching

It takes preparation and courage to stand up in front of a group of people and talk. Even experienced pastors get butterflies in their stomach sometimes at the thought of leading worship and preaching. One thing that is very clear in the world is that God speaks in many ways and through many different people. As part of Christians in Action, we are intentionally trying to create space where more voices can be heard in worship. During this first year of Christians in Action two lay leaders have said yes to preaching occasionally. Tina Lawarnace and Eric Hassebrock have prepared and offered sermons for worship at Trinity, Montpelier, and Atonement. They meet regularly with Pastor Erik to share ideas and learn from each other about the process of preparing a message for a gathered congregation.

Lay preachers are not a new thing in the life of the church, but they have not been in fashion for many years. Somewhere along the way over the past 80 years, it became the “pastor’s” job to preach- to the exclusion of other voices. Reclaiming the place of a variety of voices requires something from all of us who worship. It requires that we listen with new ears. It requires that we open our worship services to voices that may be more nervous than we are used to hearing. It invites us to hear what God is up to in our community today.

Lay Preachers are a valuable part of our ability to continue to gather for worship every week. It is no secret that there are not as many pastors around as there used to be. There aren’t as many pastors available for calls to congregations that are searching. There aren’t as many retired pastors available to fill in. The good news is that God’s word can be lifted up by each one of us. If you have an interest in offering one sermon and give it a try, or are feeling led to join a more regular rotation of preaching or leading parts of worship, contact your local coordinator for Christians in Action or Pastor Erik at St. John’s for ways to get connected with the Lay Preachers group that helps people prepare.

BIRTHDAYS

August

September

Boden Yunck	Aug 1
Briar Yunck	Aug 1
Sourey Schmidt	Aug 3
Shirley Judin	Aug 4
Jordan Zillmer	Aug 10
Emma Kramlich	Aug 12
Easton Liebold	Aug 13
Michael Kapp	Aug 14
Matthew Kapp	Aug 14
Corey Kapp	Aug 14
Jared Opp	Aug 17
Karrisa Yunck	Aug 21
Lisa Olson	Aug 21
Karson Schmidt	Aug 21
Janet Well	Aug 25
Dallas Opp	Aug 26
Genevieve Opp	Aug 27
John Dong	Aug 30
Wayne Reardon	Aug 31
Rob Ruff	Aug 31

Mabel Cowell	Sept 3
Aubree Lachenmeier	Sept 4
Ava Hofmann	Sept 4
Taylor Dockter	Sept 5
Ron Koble	Sept 5
Ryker Liebold	Sept 5
Kenasyn Dockter	Sept 6
Jim Cowell	Sept 18
Brittney Dockter	Sept 20
Sherry Everding	Sept 23
Bence Yunck	Sept 25

Celebrating August/September Anniversaries

Darin & Jodi Dockter
Matt & Jenny (Hieb) Opsahl

Aug 1, 1986
Aug 4, 2018

Bruce & Jaranah Liebold
Jacob & Bonnie Hofmann
Maynard & Darlene Dockter
Gene & Brenda Guthmiller
Xuejun & Chunyan Dong

Sept 1, 2012
Sept 8, 2012
Sept 23, 1962
Sept 24, 1971
Sept 29, 1994

I'm a Lutheran: Ethel Heinle



I am the oldest of eight children, the only one in my family who was born in Dickinson, ND which is where I was baptized. The family moved to Driscoll when I was about 2 years old, where I did my communion and confirmation. All of this was in the Roman Catholic Church. After I got married and started having children, a dear friend invited me to come to the Lutheran Church in Medina. When I was a kid growing up, I kept seeing the fun things that the Lutheran kids were doing, so I was already open to learning about the Lutherans. Really, aside from a few things, the Lutherans and the Catholics are so much alike.

I work as the parish secretary for English Lutheran in Medina and do preliminary bulletin preparation work for St. John's in Jamestown. I've been a farm wife my whole life, but have had jobs as a secretary for a travel agency and for ICS in Medina. I love to read inspirational books and stories, but I have never had that powerful, wonderful faith story that others talk about. I've experienced things more like, "Lord, you need to slap me across the face because I'm not going to pick up on anything very quickly." My favorite bible story is the Birth of Christ. It is meaningful for me to hear that Jesus was born like we are. He came into this world like a normal person. I like that the wise men came. I am drawn to the stories about the life of Jesus: how he called to Zacchaeus to come down out of that tree, and how he healed so many people. I believe that people don't have much common sense these days. That is part of the reason that things get into such a mess. I also believe that people can help each other out. I pray for my family and for the different needs of people that come up. I remember people like the ones in Ukraine, but also our own country, which seems like such a mess sometimes.

I'm a Lutheran because my friends are here, I enjoy the services, and I find them meaningful. Right now I am the WELCA treasurer and I'm amazed at all the good we do in the church and our community. I'm more crafty than musical: I like to make cards and crochet. Sending greeting cards is one of my favorite things to do. I've traveled, mostly in the U.S. My first plane trip was to Alaska. That was quite an experience. The first time I visited my sister in Manhattan, I couldn't believe how many people there were. I wondered how people could live there. On a sister trip to Washington D.C. I enjoyed seeing the historical things that I had learned about. I was particularly touched by the JFK memorial, although I imagined that it would be bigger than it was.

I struggle with winter, especially not being able to get out when I'd like to because of the deep snow drifts. I've lived on the farm some 50 years, raised 3 kids, my husband and I are celebrating 50 years of marriage this fall-what more could I ask for? I've never been without food on the table, clothes on my back, or the chance to see my kids, grand kids and great-grand kids grow up. For the most part, life has been good.