

English Lutheran News

OUR CHURCH IN OUR COMMUNITIES



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

October 2023



English Lutheran

210 Water Street—Box 515
Medina, ND 58467
701-486-3112

Pastor Stephanie Gossett
701-320-7856
pastorstephanie@ndchristiansact.org

Phillip Hofmann
English Council President
(701-320-9029)

Ethel Heinle
Parish Secretary
mssp.sec.church@gmail.com

www.medinastreeterparish.org



Tues, October 31, 2023

@

English Lutheran Church

(see page 7 for details)

Our Mission:

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

Promises

“You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God’s faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?” ELW page 234 - Affirmation of Baptism Service

Over the course of each school year I meet with the 9th Grade Confirmation students and we think about the promises they will make as 10th Graders during the Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) service . We review the promises, one each month. Then in the fall of their 10th Grade year they turn in an essay with their thoughts about these promises. All of this conversation and writing is meant to help them consider the importance of these promises, think deeply about their faith, and prepare them to claim their faith.

In my first meeting with the 9th Grade class this fall we were reviewing the promises their parents, sponsors (Godparents), and the whole congregation made when they were baptized. We talked about how the adults in our life promise to raise us in the faith and promise to support us so that we may grow into our faith. We talked about the important adults in their lives who have been willing to share their faith with us. A metaphor I use to help them understand the passing of faith goes like this; the adults in your life built you a house of faith and now you get to decide for yourself if you want to live in that house.

As we prepare to celebrate with those who are affirming their faith in October it is an excellent time to remember. Remember the covenant God made with you in holy baptism. Remember that you are God’s beloved child, adopted into God’s family, a brother or sister of the beloved Son, Jesus. Remember that you belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Remember that you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Remember that through baptism you are forgiven, redeemed from death and the devil, and given eternal salvation (Luther’s Small Catechism).

Then remember the promises you made when you affirmed your baptism. You promised to live among God’s faithful people - to surround yourself with people of faith who will help you to live out your faith in God. You promised to hear the word of God - to seek God’s voice and to find faithful preachers and teachers to speak God’s word to you. You promised to share in the Lord’s supper - to gather around the Communion table and receive the body and blood of Christ, to receive God’s grace, and to gather with other Christians in community. You promised to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed - to show your faith to the world through the things you say and do, to let your life proclaim God’s love. You promised to serve all people, following the example of Jesus - to care for neighbors and strangers, enemies and friends. You promised to strive for justice and peace in all the earth - to work towards the world we pray for, a world where God’s will is done. As I remind the 9th grade class you will never keep these promises perfectly, but

Faith is a group project! Each generation works together to pass on their faith to the next. Each child brought to the waters of baptism is given the promise of a community of faith that will pray for them, support them, and share stories of God's faithfulness with them. Let us rejoice with this year's Confirmands and re-commit ourselves to the work of the Gospel - sharing the story of God's love.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Medina Youth Group started about two months ago. At this time we are still trying to work out some of the kinks—when to meet, what time, whether or not to be Medina Youth Group or English Lutheran Youth Group. Pastor Stephanie will be our youth leader. I will help as needed. We also have several parents that are willing to help as needed.

The Youth Group served lunch after the Community Church Service. There was between 60-70 people served. The lunch was sloppy joes, coleslaw, corn on the cob and watermelon.

We are hoping to have a chili feed and fry dough fund raiser on November 5.

Blessing, Renae Olson, Youth Leader

† † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Joe Davis and Agape (David Scherer) will be holding a concert at Trinity Lutheran on Saturday evening October 21st at 7 pm. This concert will include worship, poetry, music and dancing. This concert is specifically for those in grades 6-12th grade but please know all are welcome to attend. Tickets are \$10. If interested in purchasing tickets for yourself or your church group, please contact Deacon Tara at deacontara@ndchristiansact.org

**Unapproved minutes and are subject to change.*

English Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes – September 6, 2023 –

Members Present: Phillip Hofmann, Kurt Hayes, Becky Greer, Ceph Dockter,
and Pastor Stephanie

Members Absent: Taylor Dockter & Pastor Erik

Pastor Report – Pastor Stephanie

Had a baptism this past month.

Youth Group meeting & planning – Renee Olson leading.

Social Activities

Meet approximately once-a-month

Serving Fall Festival Sunday lunch

Been on vacation and doing some continuing education activities.

Planning the Fall Festival Community Worship Program.

Successful youth activity with tie-dyeing.

Creative worship series will start the weekend after Fall Festival.

Pastor Erik has been nominated and accepted a Leadership development cohort for the state of North Dakota. More to come on this.

Past Minutes

August meeting minutes were read by Phillip.

Ceph moved to approve the minutes. Becky seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

August's Report was reviewed and discussed.

Becky moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ceph seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business

Parsonage

Mike Moser will do work on lights in parsonage.

Jamestown Garage Door – no reply (east garage door).

Looking at a different options to get some of the 'fix-its' completed.

Old Church Pews – approximately seven have been taken. Pews that are in the front right. Will put announcement in bulletin. No one has been opposed so far. Working on getting rid of the rest of these, looking at getting rid of 10-12. May put out in rummage sale or post for sale on Facebook, donations would be accepted for these.

AED Grant - Will check with Bill and Renae on grant progress.

Youth Director – Tara

Sunday, 17th September 2023, at 7:00 PM in Jamestown at Trinity,
there will be a planning meeting with parents to discuss "youth gatherings." Pastor Stephanie will look into having this meeting recorded and made available for families unable to attend.

Castaway Scholarships (this is open for 6th to 10th grade) was reviewed.

New Business

Cash CD (\$50,000) at Dakota Heritage Bank – It was voted upon and approved to enter into an agreement.

Kurt moved to approve the CD purchase. Ceph seconded. Motion carried.

It was voted upon to open a \$50,000 CD at Dakota Heritage Bank (DHB) using funds from English Lutheran Church's (ELC) building saving account to purchase a CD with the term of seven (7) months at 5.10% interest rate. Authorized signers on the account will be Bryan Behm, ELC treasurer, and Sharon Behm, signer.

Christians in Action – Survey

Pastor Kristi and Pastor Eric wrote.

Need English Lutheran Church members to complete the survey.

Will look into getting the link set on Facebook and/or the church website.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 4th October 2023 at 7:00

Meeting adjourned after the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Kurt A. Hayes

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Synod News – Jamestown Conference EaND Fall Gathering

Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth invites all members of the Eastern North Dakota Synod to participate in this year's Fall Gatherings! Join others from around the synod for an afternoon of connection, conversation, and prayer.

Wahpeton and Jamestown Conferences will gather

Sunday, October 8th from 3-5 pm

At St. John's Lutheran in Verona.

Note— St. John's in Verona

A van will leave from Trinity Lutheran for those who would like to ride together.



Confirmation

Confirmation began at English
on September 20th with two
new students joining the class:

Angel Hayes

&

McCall Dockter

They received their new bibles
that evening.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

St. John's Lutheran Church

German Supper

October 9 @ 5:00 – 7:00 pm

\$ 20/adult (12+)

\$5/ youth ages 3-11

*You get Sausage, Cabbage Roll, Knoephla
Bake, Knoephla Soup, Kuchen
If you have other plans,
takeout can be arranged*

*Tickets are available at the church office
252-1198 or any of the confirmation youth*



TRUNK OR TREAT

Tuesday, October 31st

🕒 5:30pm -MEAL AND GAMES
7:30pm -TRUNKS

📍 English Lutheran
Church, Medina

📞 Contact Bonnie
Hofmann 701-226-5095

**LOOKING FOR
DONATIONS,
VOLUNTEERS,
AND TRUNKS**

TRUNKS SET UP BY 7:15 PM

CANDY

GAMES

FREE MEAL

PRIZES



Thank you to the businesses of Medina for your Donations
and to all those that help make this happen, especially the Volunteers!

EAND Synod Fall Theological Conference

It is a well established tradition that each September the synod's Fall Theological Conference is held at Fairhills Retreat off Pelican Lake in MN. This year was no exception, and September 10-13 leaders from throughout the synod gathered together. There was plenty of time for fellowship, food, and relaxation, but we were also gathered to worship and learn. The Wahpeton Conference planned a beautiful opening worship service, where Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth preached on the story of Cornelius and Peter in Acts.



Our presenter for the conference was Raymond Pickett who serves as the Rector at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, CA. His presentation leaned heavily on



a book on Acts by theologian Willie Jennings. Using Acts as a guide, he spoke about the importance of sharing the stories of our life journeys. We had time in small groups to explore how we're being shaped by our current journey, how ministry has transformed our lives, how we might bear witness to God's presence by giving

voice to our experiences, and other questions. This time spent reflecting was meaningful and helped expand our understanding of both the book of Acts and how God may be working in our lives.

Over the next few months there will be opportunities for congregations to participate in studies on the book of Acts. If you have not read it, or it has been awhile, you are encouraged to give it another go. In many ways where we are at as a society and the church parallels what was happening with the early church during the Roman Empire. Learning from the book of Acts may very well help us better understand life now and how we might best move forward.



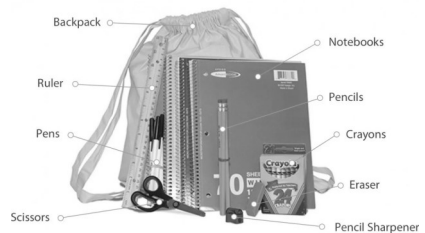
Story of Impact

Each year, as parents take eager students to purchase school supplies for the coming year, a list appears. It's the list of supplies for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. Each kit has four notebooks, a pair of scissors, a pencil sharpener, a ruler, an eraser, pencils, pens, and a box of crayons, packaged together in a school bag. It's not a long list. It's not a lot to gather. When the prices are low it's easy to buy a few more items for the sake of children in need. All together each kit costs under \$10, but what a difference it makes!

The Lutheran World Relief Website states, "Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that girls attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. Lutheran World Relief School Kits contain essential supplies to help children — and in some cases, adults — continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities."

In August and September about 50 LWR School Kits were assembled at Trinity Lutheran. The effort was organized (as it has been for several years) by Ruth Urdahl. This vital ministry makes a real difference in the lives of students all over the world. This is an ongoing event, so watch for an opportunity to contribute again next year!

To learn more or to contribute to shipping costs for kits visit www.LWR.org/kits/school-kits



ELC WELCA meeting minutes– September 17, 2023

- Present Julie Opp, Renae Olson, Ethel Heinle and Jennifer Hayes
- Meeting began with a devotional, Bible reading and a prayer
- Minutes from August 13, 2023 meeting read; approved as read
- Treasurer's Report
 - *Fall Festival Activities raised \$1518.11
 - * WELCA balance in checkbook is about \$5,000
 - *St. John's Lutheran Church Endowment committee gave a donation to help offset costs for the two delegates going to Phoenix this coming week
 - *more greeting cards have been ordered
 - *Christ in Our Home payment for 4th quarter paid
 - * Bibles for 3rd graders to be ordered through St. John's and payment to them
 - *Table discussions on amount to support youth who worked events - a list has been kept
- Renae states that the youth will be hosting a Chili feed on November 5th to raise money for the youth to go on Youth trips in the future
- Jenn will make a flyer for the event
- Renae will write up something for the youth group and activities for newsletter
- November 5th - 19th will be General Cleaning of the Church
 - *a list will be put up for people to sign up for specific duties
- Work on the WELCA Booklet is continuing
 - * think of people who could be added that haven't been in the past
- Fellowship Coffee Hour starting up again
 - * announce during service
 - *Serving schedules to start in October
- Alter Guild will be on the first Sunday of October

Respectfully presented by WELCA Secretary, Jennifer Hayes

Synod News – Jamestown Conference EaND Fall Gathering

Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth invites all members of the Eastern North Dakota Synod to participate in this year's Fall Gatherings! Join others from around the synod for an afternoon of connection, conversation, and prayer.

Wahpeton and Jamestown Conferences will gather

Sunday, October 8th from 3-5 pm

At St. John's Lutheran in Verona.

Note— St. John's in Verona

A van will leave from Trinity Lutheran for those who would like to ride together.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

WELCA & “Angels Among Us” Altar Guild

I would like to thank all of you who donated a monetary gift, baked pies or rolls or worked to make our Fall festival another success! This would not happen if you would not be for each and every one of you!

We would love to have you all join us at 10 am the second Sunday of each month for our WELCA meeting to give us your input and ideas. We need you!

Also please stay posted for our annual Church Cleaning to take place from November 5th thru November 19th. Contact your chairperson or please signup on the sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex as to what you would like to clean

We are starting coffee hour again! Please give your thoughts. We are praying we can be brought back together!

Altar Guild will meet Sunday, October 1st @ 10:00 am. Thank you to Sharon and Kendra for serving in September. Marlene and Renae will serve the month of October.

Thanks so much for all YOU DO!

Julie

BIRTHDAYS

October

Olive Lytle	Oct 1
Jayden Opp	Oct 2
Becky Greer	Oct 4
Charlee Jo Gefroh	Oct 6
Rikki Della Andres	Oct 7
Isaac Olson	Oct 11
Ron Otto	Oct 13
Destiny Opp	Oct 13
Dave Kooker	Oct 17
Leona Morlock	Oct 18
Kane Schmidt	Oct 20
Oliver Hofmann	Oct 20
Ashley Opp	Oct 20
Leila Mae Harr	Oct 20
Daniel Juelfs	Oct 22
Nick Andres	Oct 22
Gene Guthmiller	Oct 25
Lucas Lytle	Oct 25
Erica Olson	Oct 26
Maynard Dockter	Oct 27
Kurt Hayes	Oct 28
Jeremy Ford	Oct 28
Xander Hayes	Oct 28
Jessica Dong	Oct 29
Mike Schleske	Oct 29
Carrie Kapp	Oct 30
Bruce Liebold	Oct 30

November

Brady Andres	Nov 3
Patty Roemmich	Nov 4
Trina Hayes	Nov 7
Brent Kleven	Nov 11
Isayah Olson	Nov 11
Ron Headland	Nov 11
Virginia Jeanotte	Nov 11
Renae Olson	Nov 12
Bryan Andres	Nov 12
Pastor Erik Weber	Nov 18
Jahleel Opp	Nov 19
Larry Junker	Nov 21
Angel Hayes	Nov 22
Betty Christensen	Nov 26
Dennis Behm	Nov 27
Patrice Juelfs	Nov 28
William Juelfs	Nov 29
Doug Schmidt	Nov 30

Celebrating October/November Anniversaries

Dwight & Janine Hofmann	Oct 7, 1978
Ceph & Britteny Dockter	Oct 12, 2019
Wayne & Sue Reardon	Oct 18, 1975

Clarence & Ethel Heinle	Nov 3, 1973
Rory & Kim Hoffmann	Nov 27, 1993