



# Kviteid Voice

**Kviteid Lutheran  
Church**

**July 2023**

**Volume 33 | Number 7**

## Greetings from Pastor Kristine Isder

*“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:8)*

**“Deserves got nothing to do with it.”**

In the movie *Unforgiven*, Clint Eastwood’s character, Bill Munny, was a cold-blooded killer. His line: “Deserves got nothing to do with it” means simply that what happens to us is not tied to whatever we think we are entitled to.

The universe deals out famine, epidemics, hurricanes and personal tragedy without a thought to what anyone deserves. Experience bears that out every day.

Children are killed by drunk drivers, innocent civilians are killed in military conflicts of which they want no part and the list goes on and on.

The flip side is also true. God freely gives us God’s love no matter what we do.

Paul writes in Romans: *“But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)*

Paul applies this concept to God’s love for creation and the people God calls to make known that kind of love.

The world might appear to be hopelessly caught in a spiral of spiritual, environmental and political destruction.

The church might seem a far cry from the Body of Christ Paul insists that it is.

Neither the world nor the church seems worth God’s investing so much of God’s self.

But this world is the one for which God sent God’s Son and the church is the people called and chosen to make that wonderful gift known. **“Deserves got nothing to do with it.”**

Romans 5 focuses on Paul’s central message of grace: that our life as God’s children and heirs is not something we earn or deserve by our righteousness, but is something God does for us out of love when we do not deserve it.

“While we were still sinners, while we were still weak, Christ died for us.”

In this way our whole identity as God’s children is something we “received without payment”—Paul calls it “this grace in which we stand.”



*continued on page 3*

# STEWARDSHIP

## Contributions, Gifts, Memorials & Worship



### FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Fund 2023 Financial Responsibilities \$246,213
Checking Register for the General Fund
5/1/23 balance:           \$10,064
May income:             \$12,520
May expenses:         \$16,522
5/31/23 balance:        \$6,062

### Worship Offerings & Attendance



May 28		
Lakeside Worship	\$255	105
- Loose offering to area food shelves	\$290	
June 4		
	\$1,836	40
June 11		
	\$1,595	36
June 18		
	\$1,822	34
June 25		
	\$750	28


**Memorials & Gifts**  
*None to Report*

**Online Giving ...**   
 Visit our website at  
**[milanslutheranchurch.com](http://milanslutheranchurch.com)**



# PRAYERS

## We offer up prayers for ...

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Pastor, Staff & Officers

### Greetings from Pastor Kristine

*continued from page 1*

God's love was poured into our hearts, Paul writes, and that is both God's love for me and God's love overflowing from my heart to my neighbor.

Knowing that I did nothing to earn God's love, I let it flow to others without expecting them to earn it or to repay me.

While Jesus' life, death and resurrection is a new thing in the story of God's love for humankind, grace does not begin with Jesus.

Throughout all of the Bible, we read about God taking care of God's people. Not because of what the people did, but because of **who God is.**

This is the grace in which we stand.

What gift have you received for which you did not pay or did nothing to deserve?

These gifts could include life itself, health, the senses, music, natural beauty, the love of a friend, another person's forgiveness, a baby's trust, or simply being born into a family where there is no fear of going hungry.

As you think about these gifts now or in the days ahead, pray silently: "Thank you God for this gift. I received without payment." And then add, "As we have received without payment, empower us to give without payment, in Jesus' name."

**"Deserves got nothing to do with it."**

It's all about grace. God's abundance grace for us.



## 2023 Kviteseid Staff & Officers



### Office Staff

**Pastor Kristine Isder**  
pastor@milanslutheranchurch.com

**Parish Assistant:**  
**Theresa Erickson**  
office@milanslutheranchurch.com

### Building Staff

**Custodian: David Thompson**  
**Organist: Judi Bohm**

### Volunteer Leadership

**Sunday School Choir Dir:**  
**Jessica Trager**

**Sunday School Supt.:**  
**Talia Schuerman**

**Contributions Secretaries:**  
**Heidi Hanson**  
**Luther Opjorden**

### Church Officers

**President: Tom Moe**  
**Vice Pres: Paul Tostenson**  
**Secretary: Gwen Olson**  
**Treasurer: Josh Moen**

### Board of Deacons

**Rich Isder, Char Strand, Jon Hanson, Stacey Lea, Cindy Kanten**

### Board of Trustees

**Erik Boraas, Brandon Ascheman, Bryan Schuerman, Cory Heinrich, Ray Trager**

### Board of Education

**Holly Kanten, Jenna Norby, Sue Streed, Emily Heinrich, Tiffany Moen**

### Helping Hands Board

**President: Nancy Schneck**  
**Vice President: Sue Vetter**  
**Secretary: Cathy Olson**  
**Treasurer: Theresa Erickson**  
**Sue Streed, Ronae Rose, Karla Schwendemann, Naomi Streed, Char Johnson**

# WORSHIP NEWS

## July Schedules

### JULY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

#### Deacon Communion Setup

9 - Char Strand

#### Lectors

2 - Reed Molden

9 - Sherry Norby

16 - Teresa Olson

23 - Rob Schwendemann

30 - Judy Thompson

#### Media Operators

2 - *None needed*

9 - Ty Norby

16 - Scarlett Trager

23 - Paul Tostenson

30 - Isaac Hanson

#### Video Recorders

2 - *None needed*

9 - Rich Isder

16 - Theresa Erickson

23 - Jon Hanson

30 - Rich Isder

*Schedules are also available online at [milanslutheranchurch.com](http://milanslutheranchurch.com)*

**Reminder:** It is your responsibility to find a replacement if you are unable to be there the day you are scheduled.

### JULY Ushers

#### Group 5

Captain - Brian Olson

734-4615

Randy Fragodt

David Thompson

Ray Trager

John Vetter

Josh Vetter

### Board Meetings

#### Wednesday, July 19

Deacons

6:00 p.m.

Trustees

7:00 p.m.



Starting July 9<sup>th</sup>

**Worship time  
changes to  
10:30 a.m.**

#### COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

will be before worship starting at 9:45 a.m. in the narthex.

Please sign up to serve goodies. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex. Ushers will make the coffee.



## Lakeside Worship Service

### at Milan Beach Resort

(Randall's - Lac qui Parle Lake)

**Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> - 9:30 a.m.**

Bring a lawn chair ☩ In case of inclement weather, service will be held at Kviteseid, Milan.

Hosted by Big Bend, Borgund, Immanuel, Kviteseid, Minnesota Valley, and Zion Lutheran Churches

Loose offering will be given to the area food shelves

Free will donation for coffee and goodies provided by Randall's following worship.

# LOCAL NEWS

## Bible Readings

### Bible Reading Plans

*Booklets are available at church with these Bible reading plans plus a Bible time line.*



#### **Readings for July to read the Bible in a year Chronologically**

Jul 1 Obadiah; Psalm 82-83  
 Jul 2 2 Kings 1-4  
 Jul 3 2 Kings 5-8  
 Jul 4 2 Kings 9-11  
 Jul 5 2 Kings 12-13;  
 2 Chronicles 24  
 Jul 6 2 Kings 14;  
 2 Chronicles 25  
 Jul 7 Jonah  
 Jul 8 2 Kings 15;  
 2 Chronicles 26

Jul 9 Isaiah 1-4  
 Jul 10 Isaiah 5-8  
 Jul 11 Amos 1-5  
 Jul 12 Amos 6-9  
 Jul 13 2 Chronicles 27;  
 Isaiah 9-12  
 Jul 14 Micah 1-7  
 Jul 15 2 Chronicles 28;  
 2 Kings 16-17  
 Jul 16 Isaiah 13-17  
 Jul 17 Isaiah 18-22  
 Jul 18 Isaiah 23-27  
 Jul 19 2 Kings 18:1-8;  
 2 Chronicles 29-31;  
 Psalm 48

Jul 20 Hosea 1-7  
 Jul 21 Hosea 8-14  
 Jul 22 Isaiah 28-30  
 Jul 23 Isaiah 31-34  
 Jul 24 Isaiah 35-36  
 Jul 25 Isaiah 37-39;  
 Psalm 76  
 Jul 26 Isaiah 40-43  
 Jul 27 Isaiah 44-48  
 Jul 28 2 Kings 18:9-19:37;  
 Psalm 46/80/135  
 Jul 29 Isaiah 49-53  
 Jul 30 Isaiah 54-58  
 Jul 31 Isaiah 59-63

### Lakeside Worship

Lakeside worship was held May 28<sup>th</sup> at Milan Beach Resort. Over 100 people attended on a beautiful morning. It was a joint service with six churches: Kviteseid, Big Bend, Zion in Appleton, Minnesota Valley, Borgund, and Immanuel of Montevideo. Loose offering was given to the three area food shelves.



# LOCAL NEWS

## Helping Hands

### Helping Hands

Happy Summer everyone! It appeared just a few days ago!

It is summer and time for two days of quilting! We will be quilting Monday, July 10 and Thursday, July 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring your own lunch and if



you have something to share for coffee, that would be great! It is a fun time, no stress, no experience and no pressure! Come and have some fun!

We will set up for quilting after church on Sunday, July 9. If you would like to help, that would be appreciated. If you feel compelled to contribute to the cost of the quilting mission, that would also be appreciated. Many, many thanks to those who designated Thrivent grants and for their support of our quilting mission.

Thank you to Group 4, chairpersons Bob/Diane Berven, Heidi Spray, and Sue Streed, for serving the lunch for the family and friends of Tom Johnson following his memorial service.

Again, thank you so much to all who contributed in any way to our Syttende Mai Smorgas Tea held in May. Thanks to all of you it was a great success! See you again next year!

Thank you to all who bring goodies to share Sunday mornings before and after church! It is fun to spend time and connect with family and friends. Do sign up on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Enjoy summer, enjoy each day of summer and of each season! The best to all of you!

### Layettes

Last year when we had God's Work Our Hands Sunday we did Layettes as one of our projects. We would like to do it again this year.

We are in need of receiving blankets. They need to be either 30x30 or 36x36 or 42x42. We hope you can help us out. We are thinking about having a day later to make some blankets. Hope you can help. If you need more info, call me at 289-3066.

Thanks for your help.

- Cathy Olson

## TWC Bible Study



Wednesday,  
July 12

\* \* \* \* \*

1:30 p.m.

in the  
Fellowship Hall

### Prayer for July 4<sup>th</sup>

The following lines are from a long prayer, "That America Fulfill the Promise of Its Founding," by Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan. Though written in 1945, it rings true yet today. (Full text at <https://tinyurl.com/nhc8747x>.)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

O God, who is Liberator and Redeemer, Lawgiver and Judge, ...

May America remain loyal to the principles of the Declaration of Independence, and extend their application to ever-widening areas of life.

Keep out of our life all manner of oppression, persecution, and unjust discrimination; save us from religious, racial and class conflicts; may our country be a haven of refuge to the victims of injustice and misrule.

Instruct us in the art of living together, of reconciling differences of opinion and averting clashes of interest, of helping one another to achieve a harmonious and abundant life ...

That the Star-Spangled Banner, the symbol of our American democracy, may ever wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave. Amen.

# FUNERAL

SERVICE GROUPS

Serving the next funeral will be Group 1.

Service Group 1 chairpersons are:

Cory & Emily Heinrich	320-815-8320
Greg & Sherry Norby	734-4873
Bob & Jen Tostenson	269-8185



# LOCAL NEWS

July



*Looking for ways to help out the church?*

*There are many opportunities.*



**Visitation ministry.** Contact Char Strand.

**Ushers.** Contact Tom Moe.

**Funeral ushers.** Contact Pastor Kristine.

**Lectors.** Contact Heidi Hanson.

**Media.** Contact Judi Bohm.

**Video team.** Contact Pastor Kristine.

**Helping Hands.** Contact Nancy Schneck.

## Thank You

Thank you to all those who donated to the Relay for Life/American Cancer Society. It is greatly appreciated.

- Lorrie Spray

Thank you Kviteseid Lutheran Church for your recent charitable donation of \$97.00. Your support and generosity enable us to serve many individuals in our local area. We are grateful for your kindness and your continued support.

- Prairie Five CAC  
Chippewa County Food Shelf

Thank you for your donation of \$96.00 given as loose offering at Lac qui Parle Lakeside Worship. Your generosity will help to buy nutritious food for those in our community who need help each month in meeting their food needs.

All who work with the food shelf, and there are many, is a volunteer.

Thanks again for helping those who need help.

- Stan Olson, Treasurer  
Lac qui Parle Community Food Shelf

## Looking Ahead

### Lakeside Worship

**September 3**

Milan Beach Resort  
at 9:30 a.m.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Southwest Minnesota Synod

### 2023 Synod Assembly

The 2023 Southwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly was held June 9 and 10 at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter. We met in person for the first time in four years. It was great to visit with people from around the synod.

Rich Isder and Pastor Kristine attended the assembly as voting members. This year, for the first time, the synod assembly went paperless.

The theme of the assembly was “Embodiment of the Word”.

The assembly started with workshops. Pastor Kristine attended “Wait . . . Kids are People?” about incorporating children into worship services; and “Faithful Innovations in a Changing (Church) World” about changes in the church over time and in the future.

Opening worship was held in Christ Chapel which is always so inspiring with so many people participating and singing.

Speaker Matt Bloom’s presentations led us to consider our own well-being as beloved children of God and the well-being of our churches in this changing time.

Rev. Kevin Jacobson gave the ELCA Churchwide Organization report.

Music was provided by Dakota Road.

Other actions of the assembly were to approve the 2024 Compensation Guidelines and the 2025 Synod Budget and election of synod council and committee positions. Maria Lokensgard was elected as vice president of the synod.

There was only one resolution:

to incorporate changes from the 2022 Churchwide Assembly into the Synod constitution. The resolution passed.

During the banquet Friday evening various clergy milestones and church milestones were recognized. Kviteseid was among the churches recognized for their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2022. The Synod Bread Basket Award was presented to one of our neighbors, Borgund Lutheran Church, for contributions to ELCA World Hunger.

*(Photo credits: SW MN Synod, ELCA)*



### AN ABUNDANCE OF GIFTS

In 2022, people set some amazing Guinness World Records. A Nebraska man paddled more than 37 miles in a hollowed-out pumpkin boat. A Vermont teen wearing 4-inch heels walked more than 600 feet across a tightrope. And an Oregon man found and alphabetized all 26 letters in a can of alphabet soup in 2 minutes and 8.6 seconds. (The toughest part, he says, is distinguishing subtle differences between letters such as M and W.)



Your talents might not earn you any world records, but they certainly can grow faith and change lives. Whether you’re good at teaching, singing, writing, cooking or accounting, the church can put those skills to productive use. Romans 12 lists many more qualities you may not realize are spiritual gifts: graciousness, serving, generosity, acts of mercy, loving and honoring others, extending hospitality, rejoicing and weeping with people, making peace.

You might not be able to outperform the alphabet soup record. But God abundantly blesses each of us to “outdo one another in showing honor” (Romans 12:10, ESV) and in sharing his love.

—Stephanie Martin



Kviteeid Lutheran Church  
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# KVITSEID LUTHERAN CHURCH

## **Sunday Schedule**

- ✝ **Worship at 10:30 a.m.** ✝
- ✝ **Online Worship at 10:30 a.m.** ✝
- ✝ **Coffee Fellowship at 11:30 a.m.** ✝

**Church Office Phone: 320-734-4455 ✝ [www.milanslutheranchurch.com](http://www.milanslutheranchurch.com)**



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