



Kviteseid Voice

Kviteseid Lutheran
Church
September 2026
Volume 36 | Number 9

Greetings from Pastor Linda Molitor

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”
Mark 1:15



For everyone who is curious, let me tell you a bit about myself. I’m what is known as a second career pastor. I went through college and seminary later in life. I graduated from seminary the same year my youngest son graduated from High School. I have a lot of life experience and maturity that supplement

formal education. I’ve been divorced for many years. I have two grown single sons, Elisha living in St. Cloud and Peter in Grantsburg, WI. I have a small old dog named Nahla. I have been in rural ministry for eight years but otherwise have lived in cities or large

suburbs the rest of my life. Most of my time has been spent in various parts of the twin cities. I like that rural life has a more mellow pace and people are more connected to each other. The one problem I have is that it often feels isolated to me which I try to balance out.

Doing interim ministry has been a surprise to me. God has a way of directing us in unexpected directions. Moving around is not my favorite thing, but this is where I feel called. I see a lot of transition happening in the church and interim ministry is holy work helping congregations in transition.

A little bit about my faith background is that I had a grandmother who nurtured my faith during my childhood. My grandmother was Pentecostal. My parents did not bring us to church after I turned 7. I and one of my brothers connected with a small Baptist Church in my teen years and I married into the Lutheran church when I got married in 1988. During

Continued on page 3

STEWARDSHIP

Contributions, Gifts, Memorials & Worship



FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Fund
2026 Financial Responsibilities
\$269,336

Checking Register
for the General Fund

7/1/25 balance:	\$ 18,847
July income:	\$ 20,110
July expenses:	\$ 14,355
7/31/25 balance:	\$ 24,602

Worship Offerings & Attendance



August 2	\$ 3890	70
August 9	\$ 165	42
August 16	\$ 1145	37
August 23	\$ 825	42



Memorials and Gifts

None to Report

Online Giving ...



Visit our website at
milanslutheranchurch.com

PRAYERS

We offer up prayers for ...

This section removed for member privacy.

LOCAL NEWS

my years married, my family moved around a bit so I have been a part of more than a dozen churches plus 8 as a pastor. This diversity also gives me some advantages as I work with congregations.

How has that shaped me you might ask. I love the focus on the leading of the Holy Spirit and worship in the Baptists. However, Lutherans have something special with the beauty of liturgy and ritual. This gives a structure to anchor to the holiness of God especially during those times when you don't "feel" God's presence. Lutherans are serious about theology yet open to questions. Martin Luther was challenging Catholic theology which leaves a legacy of asking questions. Seeking the mystery and holiness of God and the sense of real connection through the sacraments is very meaningful to me. This is why I'm more of a traditionalist instead of always seeking to tweak changes. I understand the value of ritual for connection and meaning. However, ritual itself is meant to point you to Jesus, not replace the focus on Jesus. A couple of my favorite traditions are the ashes

on Ash Wednesday and singing Silent Night on Christmas Eve. You may have some traditions that are very important to you and being committed to them should never be more important than being open to what it is supposed to represent. It's a reminder to keep the plot of what the purpose of the church is. Your practices should never be in the way of honest seekers by making them uncomfortable as outsiders. Jesus warns us several places in the bible to not become like the Pharisees who were preoccupied with strict adherence to rules to honor God instead of embracing God in their heart and serving others.

The above bible verse is one that I find meaningful. The kingdom of God is near in the Holy Spirit and our response. I look forward to serving you here and partnering with you to truly follow Jesus in our hearts and actions. We are given a great gift of grace in being accepted with our failings and leading us forward as children of God. May our time together bring devotion and growth in our faith which includes our actions.

In Christ, Pastor Linda

2026 Kviteseid Staff & Officers



Office Staff

Pastor Linda Molitor

pastor@milanslutheranchurch.com

Parish Assistant: Cheryl Erp

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

Brian Olson

Church Officers

President: Connie Fragodt

V. Pres: Char Strand

Secretary: Jessica Trager

Treasurer: Josh Vetter

Board of Deacons

Teresa Olson, Heidi Spray,

Jon Hanson, Jodi Tongen,

Talia Schuerman

Board of Trustees

Cory Heinrich, Ray Trager,

Ryan Erp, Brandon

Ascheman, Bryan Schuerman

Board of Education

Rachel Strand, Tiffany Moen,

Michelle Ascheman, Shea

Joyce, Savannah Moen

Helping Hands Board

President: Nancy Schneck

Vice President: Sue Vetter

Secretary: Cathy Olson

Treasurer: Theresa Erickson

Char Johnson, Sue Streed,

Karla Schwendemann, Patee

Spray, Naomi Streed

WORSHIP NEWS

September Schedules



Deacon Communion Setup

13 - Heidi Spray

Acolytes

13 - Isaac Link
20 - Lucas Schuerman
27 - Warren Heinrich

Lectors

6 - Rob Schwendemann
13 - Jen Tostenson
20 - Judy Thompson
27 - Charlie Hanson

Media Operators

6 - None needed
13 - Theresa Erickson
20 - London Strand
27 - Carter Moen

Video Recorders

6 - None needed
13 -
20 - Jon Hanson
27 - Heidi Spray

*Schedules are also
available online at
milanslutheranchurch.com*

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

Church Board Meetings

**WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 16TH**

Deacons - 6 p.m.
Trustees - 6:30 p.m.
Joint Council - 7:30 p.m.

Coffee Fellowship

Join us for coffee and fellowship
following worship Sunday morn-
ings in the narthex at 10:00 a.m.
Please sign up to serve treats to en-
joy along with the coffee. The sign-
up sheet is on the table in the nar-
thex. The ushers will make the cof-
fee.



Group 5

Captain - Brian Olson
734-4615
Randy Fragodt
David Thompson
Ray Trager
John Vetter
Josh Vetter

Looking Ahead



**Wednesday,
September 9th**

1:30 p.m.

Meet in the Narthax



SUNDAY SCHOOL

begins

September 13th

10:00 a.m.

*Balloon Release at
following worship*

BIG BEND LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COOKBOOK



A Treasured
Cookbook Full of
Favorite Recipes
Cherishing the Past,
Embracing the
Future Get Your
Cookbook Today –
Only \$20!

LOCAL NEWS

Helping Hands

Helping Hands

Wishing all the best to students, teachers, helpers, cooks, bus drivers, administration and parents as they prepare to begin another year of school.

Thank you to the Altar Guild persons who were busy polishing the brass pieces at the church. Your service is much appreciated. I'm sure we don't know all you do, but we would surely notice if those things weren't done! Thank you all!

Be sure to put God's Work, Our Hands on your Sunday calendar for Sunday, September 13. It is our opportunity to serve others in many small ways. It is a feel good time for all who participate. Group 3 is in charge of providing and serving lunch after all projects are done. It promises to be delicious! Come, work, eat, and enjoy time with friends! Those in Group 3, please be ready to help, particularly in the clean up phase! Your help is appreciated!

Thank you to all who participated in the Work Day held recently. Some of the things we did included ripping bandage material, put quilt tops together, sewed batting pieces together, had lunch, enjoyed friends, and got much done. Thank you all!

Good luck to all students as the school year begins!



The **Together With Christ (TWC)** The afternoon Bible Study group will begin a new study on the book of Romans in September. We meet the second Wednesday of each month at 1:30. Please text or call Char Strand (320-815-0219) if you would like to join the group so that a book can be ordered for you. If you have already committed to be part of the group, please disregard. Thank you!

Military Boxes

Military boxes will be packed on Sunday, September 13th on God's Work our Hands Sunday. Items that can be sent are candy, jerky, raisins, licorice, microwave popcorn and baked goods (4-6 in a baggie). Please have items to church by 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 12th. We are not asking for money donations at this time.



FUNERAL

SERVICE GROUPS

Serving the next funeral will be Group 1.

Service Group 1 chairpersons are:

Gary & Kim Heimdahl	752-4529
Bon & Kim Molden	734-4660
Bob & Jen Tostenson	226-8520



LOCAL NEWS

Faith in Action



**This section removed
for member privacy.**

This section removed for member privacy.

All of Kviteseid,

Thank you so much for the kind
“farewell” you gave me!

*the Yummy muffins and coffee

*the beautiful quilt!

*the warm words of appreciation!

May the Lord’s blessing continue
to flow to you and through you. May you go well as
you continue in partnership with Big Bend under guid-
ance of Pastor Linda!

- Love in Christ, Pastor Bob

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Jon Hanson
for faithfully leading worship during the time between
pastors. Your willingness to step up, share your gifts,
and guide our congregation through worship has
meant so much to all of us. We are truly grateful for
your time, dedication, and leadership. Thank you, Jon,
for helping keep our church family connected and
worshipping together during this time of transition!

Project Turnabout appreciates your help! - Troy

Raising Funds while having FUN!!

September 19
at
Big Bend Lutheran Church
8070 90th Avenue NW, Milan MN

CARNIVAL
10am-1pm
Come enjoy games, prizes, and fun for all ages!

LUNCH
11am-1:30pm
Delicious food available for the whole family!

QUILT RAFFLE
1:30pm
beautiful handmade quilt. Need not be present to win!

SILENT AUCTION
10am-2pm
Great items. Great deal. Great cause!

CARNIVAL GAMES:
Nerf ball Blast, Plinko, Ring toss and more!

BOUNCE HOUSES!

CARNIVAL TICKETS \$1 EACH TICKET

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

LOCAL NEWS

September

September Happenings

SEPTEMBER 6

“Lakeside Worship”

at Milan Beach Resort

at 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 13

“Rally Sunday” and “God’s Work Our Hands” Sunday

Worship with communion

at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School Balloon Release

Following worship

Service Projects at 10:15 a.m.

Dinner at 11:15 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 20

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

Installation of Sunday School Teachers and Bible Presentation

during worship

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

Confirmation Parents



Confirmation will be starting in a few weeks. If you have a teen who will be a student this year, please get information to Cheryl. We need their name, grade and your contact information including phone number and email.

There will be a parent meeting on Wednesday, September 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Kviteseid fellowship hall downstairs to go over the plan for the year and requirements.



Red Cross Bloodmobile

will be here on

Monday, September 21st

from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

For more information or to make an appointment,

call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit

www.RedCrossBlood.org

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who gave to the offering at our July 1st Lakeside Worship Service. Your generous gifts were shared with area food shelves, with \$129.82 donated to each of the following:

- Chippewa County Food Shelf
- Lac qui Parle Community Food Shelf
- Swift County Food Shelf

These food shelves expressed their sincere appreciation for your generosity and support. Your gifts help provide food and assistance to individuals and families in our local communities, and your kindness makes a meaningful difference.

We are grateful to everyone who contributed to these important ministries through the Lakeside Worship offering.

Service Work Group 3 will be preparing and serving the God's Work Our Hands/Rally Sunday dinner on Sunday, September 13. We are asking Group 3 members to be there to help with the meal following the church service. Hopefully there will be time for you to help with the service projects as well as you desire. We will also need help with cleanup following the meal. Call one of the chairpeople if you have any questions. Thank you! - Michelle, Theresa, Jessica

LOCAL NEWS

Southwestern Minnesota Synod

Synod News

+Bishop Dee Pederson

We believe that “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8) And yet, we know that life and ministry are filled with times of change. In each season, God continues to call, equip, and lead us.

It is with deep gratitude for her ministry that we share Synod Minister Pr. Heather Culuris has accepted a new call to congregational ministry—a ministry she loves deeply. The call is to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New Prague.

Pastoral calls are not so much about what one is being called from as what one is being called to. We will miss Pr. Heather’s presence and ministry among us! And yet, we rejoice with her in this new call and trust that God is leading her into the place where her gifts and passion will continue to bless God’s people.



"Ecclesiastes 3 reminds us that to everything there is a season. For a season, it has been an honor to serve you as one of your synod ministers in Southwestern Minnesota. It has been a blessing to work with Bishop Dee and the entire synod staff and so many colleagues in our congregations. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with congregations and rostered leaders in times of transition. It has been incredible to work with our students preparing for rostered ministry through the work of our candidacy process. Helping launch our SAM and mentor retreats has been a great joy.

I am grateful for the congregations and rostered leaders who have trusted me to work with you in uncertain times and joyful times, times of stress and times of celebration. I am grateful for the stories of faith, persistence, and hope that I have heard and witnessed from our leaders and our congregations.

Yet, I have been discerning the Spirit’s call back into congregational ministry. I have accepted a call as pastor of Holy Trinity in New Prague. My last Sunday of ministry will be October 4. We will be working on transition plans for the areas of responsibility that I hold in the upcoming weeks. Know that I am grateful for these last several years serving with you."

+Pr. Heather Culuris



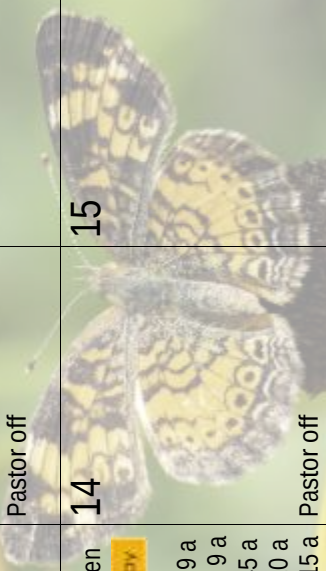
Bishop Election Committee Applications Now Open

At the 2027 Southwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly, June 11–13, voting members will elect a bishop. To help guide this important process, the Synod Council is seeking individuals to serve on the Bishop Election Committee.

This will be a team of 6 - 7 members responsible for overseeing a fair, consistent, and transparent bishop nomination and election process. Members must understand and follow synod governing documents, maintain confidentiality, work collaboratively, and be available for regular meetings. Individuals who intend to be considered for election as bishop should not apply.

Those interested in serving are invited to complete the [Bishop Election Committee Bio Data Form](#) by **September 4**. The Synod Council will review all submissions, and appointments will be made by **October 1**.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Kviteseid Lutheran Church Milan, MN		1	2 Pastor - Worship at Apple Ridge 10a	3 Pastor - Interim meeting 10a-12p	4	5
6 ¹⁵ after Pentecost - Green Lakeside Worship Service 9:30 a	7 Pastor off	8	9 TWC Bible study 1:30 p Confirmation parent / student Meeting 6:30p	10	11 	12
13 16 th after Pentecost- Green "God's work, Our hands." Sunday and Rally Sunday Worship - communion 9 a Online Worship 9 a Balloon Release 9:45 a Service Projects 10 a Dinner 11:15 a	14 Pastor off	15 	16 Board meetings 6 p Deacons 6:30p Trustees 7p Joint Council Meeting	17	18	19
20 17 th after Pentecost- Green Worship - Installation of Sunday School Teachers and Bible Presentation 9 a Online Worship 9 a Sunday School 10 a Kittelson Baptism	21 Red Cross Bloodmobile 1 p Pastor off	22 	23 Confirmation 6:30p	24	25	26
27 18 th after Pentecost- Green Worship 9 a Online Worship 9 a Sunday School 10 a Pastor - Synod conference	28 Pastor - Synod conference	29 Pastor - Synod conference	30 Confirmation 6:30p			

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www.milanslutheranchurch.com

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

KVITSEID LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Schedule

- ✝ Worship at 9:00 a.m. ✝
- ✝ Online Worship at 9:00 a.m. ✝
- ✝ Coffee Fellowship at 10:00 a.m. ✝
- ✝ Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ✝

Church Office Phone: 320-734-4455 ✝ www.milanslutheranchurch.com



Pastor Linda Molitor
Parsonage phone: 651-357-8130
pastor@milanslutheranchurch.com
Parish Assistant - Cheryl Erp
office@milanslutheranchurch.com

