

Kviteseid Voice

Kviteseid Lutheran Church

December 2022

Volume 32 | Number 12

Greetings from Pastor Kristine Isder

Advent began on November 27. The paraments were changed to blue. The season of Advent helps us prepare for the coming of Christ.

Advent is a season of waiting – waiting for Christmas to arrive. This year we have a full four weeks of Advent because Christmas is on Sunday. Waiting can be hard, especially in our “we want it now” society. Most of you remember being a kid and waiting patiently (or impatiently) for Christmas to finally arrive.

Light is an important part of the Advent and Christmas story. We light candles on the Advent wreath to mark the coming of Christmas. Each Sunday we light another candle. As we do, the light gets brighter. Finally on Christmas Eve we light the big white Christ candle in the middle.

Candles symbolize the light of God coming into the world through the birth of His son.

“While Mary and Joseph were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.” (Luke 2:6-7)

“And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)

“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman.” (Galatians 4:4)

There was light when the angels appeared to the shepherds.

“In that region there were shepherds living in the fields,

keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.’” (Luke 2:8-11)

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.” (Isaiah 9:2)

Later wise men from the east came to worship the new king. It was the light of an unusually bright star that the wise men noticed, signaling to them that an important

continued on page 3

STEWARDSHIP

Contributions, Gifts, Memorials & Worship



FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Fund
2022 Financial Responsibilities
\$236,438

Checking Register
for the General Fund

10/1/22 balance:	\$1,017
October income:	\$43,848
October expenses:	\$16,258
10/31/22 balance:	\$28,607

Cashflow loan to date: \$5,000

Worship Offerings & Attendance



October 30	\$636	71
November 6	\$1,753	65
November 13	\$1,590	46
November 20	\$975	50



Memorials & 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

Pastor, Staff & Officers

Greetings from Pastor Kristine

continued from page 1

event had taken place, that a new king had been born. The new king was the Light of the World.

“In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.”” (Matthew 2:1-2)

The light of candles reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world that comes into the darkness of our lives to bring newness, life and hope. It also reminds us that we are called to be a light to the world as we reflect the light of God’s grace to others.

“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

The real meaning of Christmas is that God sent Jesus to live among us. The people were looking for a king that would free them from their oppression at the hands of neighboring powers. What they got was a baby in a manger. A baby who would grow up to be a servant king, to serve others rather than to be served. This servant king gave up his life to give us eternal life, the best gift we could ever get.



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.

2022 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: Roger Strand
Vice Pres: Paul Tostenson
Secretary: Sherry Norby
Treasurer: Josh Moen

Board of Deacons

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

Board of Trustees

Nate Spray, Josh Vetter, Erik Boraas, Brandon Ascheman,
Bryan Schuerman

Board of Education

Emily Heinrich, Hillary Spray,
Holly Kanten, Jenna Norby,
Sue Streed

Helping Hands Board

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

WORSHIP NEWS

December Schedules



Acolytes

- 4 - Thor Hewitt
- 11 - Gabrielle Augeson
- 18 - Matthew Schuerman
- 24 - *Christmas Eve*
Charlie Hanson
- 25 - *Christmas Day*
Ty Norby

Lectors

- 4 - Char Strand
- 11 - Lee Haugen
- 18 - *Christmas Program*
- 24 - *Christmas Eve*
Rich Isder
- 25 - *Christmas Day*
Tom Moe

Deacon Communion Setup

- 4 - Char Strand
- 11 - Stacey Lea
- 24 - *Christmas Eve*
Stacey Lea
- 25 - *Christmas Day*
Char Strand

Media Operators

- 4 - Missy Ervin
- 11 - Isaac Hanson
- 18 - Cale Norby
- 24 - *Christmas Eve*
Tom Moe
- 25 - *Christmas Day*
Gavin Ascherman

Video Recorders

- 4 - Theresa Erickson
- 11 - Jon Hanson
- 18 - Theresa Erickson
- 24 - *Christmas Eve*
Jon Hanson
- 25 - *Christmas Day*
Rich Isder

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.



Group 5

Captain - Brian Olson
734-4615

Randy Fragodt
David Thompson
John Vetter
Josh Vetter
Ray Trager



Sunday School Christmas Program

**Sunday, December 18
9:00 a.m. during Worship**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion

**Saturday, December 24
4:30 p.m.**

Christmas Day Worship with Communion

**Sunday, December 25
9:00 a.m.**



Big Bend

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

**Saturday, December 24
6:30 p.m.**

Coffee Fellowship

**Coffee is in the narthex
after worship**

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



LOCAL NEWS

Helping Hands

Helping Hands

Thanksgiving – a time of thankfulness – each and every day of the year should be Thanksgiving – a time of thankfulness!

Thank you to Group 2, chairpersons, Jim/Paulette Anderson, Val/Char Johnson, Jon/Cindy Kanten, for the lovely fall decorations in our church! You did a great job! Thank you for taking them down as well!

Thank you to Group 3, chairpersons, Robert/Melissa Enevoldsen, Cathy Olson, Jan/Lori Rheingans, for decorating for the Christmas season!

Such a festive time of the year – rejoicing in the birth of Jesus, our Savior!

Thank you to Group 2, chairpersons, Jim/Paulette Anderson, Val/Char Johnson, Jon/Cindy Kanten, for serving the family and friends of Ron Streed following his memorial service. It is much appreciated.

A big thank you to Rodger Schneck and Scott Wendt for building more bandage rollers and forging the cranks for them! They are awesome! Thank you so much!!

The Helping Hands Board will be taking cupcakes to the residents of AppleRidge early in December.

This is in lieu of visiting with residents and bringing Christmas goodies. We know visiting is better, but during this time of flu and Covid, we felt it prudent to opt for bringing cupcakes. Merry Christmas to all those residents!

In the coming month, members of the Helping Hands Board will be contacting people to lead Service Groups for this coming year. Please prayerfully consider taking on this responsibility. We appreciate all who are willing to serve.

During their annual meeting, the Helping Hands board voted to give money to the following charities, Marie Sandvik, Rice Hospice, Lutheran Social Services, Pathways, STF, Heartland Girls Ranch, Caregivers, 3 county food shelves, World Hunger, Missionary, Lutheran World Relief, Global Health, Military Boxes and FLY backpacks. Thank you for your support of the Helping Hands. Most of our funds come from the proceeds of the Syttende Mai Smorgås Tea.

We will be doing Layettes again this year. Cathy Olson is in charge of them if you would like to help.

Quilting in the new year will be February 2, 6, 9 and 13 and July 11 and 14.

Group 3, chairpersons, Robert/Melissa Enevoldsen, Cathy Olson,

Jan/Lori Rheingans, are next in line for funeral serving.

Thank you to the members of our congregation for all you do in support of the mission of our church. It is much appreciated!

With Thankfulness this Thanksgiving!

Service Work Groups

Please take a look at your 2022 Service Work Group booklet and check your listed phone number. We know many of you have disconnected your landline phones and now only use cell phones. As we look forward to 2023 and will soon be putting together next year's Service Group booklet, we would like to make sure we have your most current phone number listed so our chairpeople can easily make contact with you when necessary. Please call or email the church office with any changes. Email: office@milanslutheranchurch.com Phone: (320) 734-4455

Military Boxes

Military boxes will be packed on Tuesday, December 13th. Items that can be sent are: nuts, trail mix, granola bars, candy, jerky, licorice, raisins, individual treats, microwave popcorn and baked goodies (4-6 in a baggie). Please have donated items to the church by 12:00 noon Monday, December 12th. Monetary donations are also appreciated. For questions, call Judi at 734-4671 or Nancy at 734-4694.



FUNERAL

SERVICE
GROUPS



Serving the next funeral will be Group 3.

Service Group 3 chairpersons are:

Robert & Melissa Enevoldsen	269-8712
Cathy Olson	289-3066
Jan & Lori Rheingans	289-2669

LOCAL NEWS

December



Poinsettias to decorate the church for Christmas can be purchased and given in memory or in honor of loved ones. After Christmas, those of you who purchased a poinsettia may take one home with you to enjoy throughout the rest of the holiday season. If you would like to purchase one, you can do so at Country Floral (289-1321) in Appleton. All poinsettias will be red this year. The cost is \$16.95 + tax per poinsettia. A limited number of poinsettias have been ordered for your purchase.



TWC Bible Study

Wednesday
December 9th

1:30 p.m.

Meet in the
fellowship hall.



Zion Candlelight Holiday Service



The Candlelight Holiday Service at the historic Zion Lutheran Church, rural Watson will be held on Saturday December 3rd. Bake sale is at 3:00 p.m., service featuring local area musicians at 4:00 p.m., and soup and chili supper to follow. *Pastor Kristine will be leading the service.*

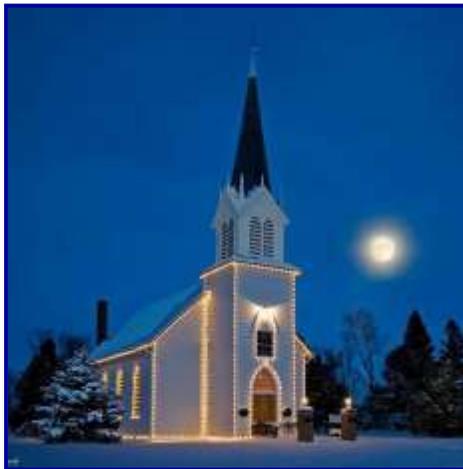


Photo by Lund Photography
Zion Lutheran Church

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member
privacy.**

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privacy.**

LOCAL NEWS

Youth

Youth assembled and handed out Halloween Candy CORN "TRINITY" BAGS



CANDY CORN TRINITY



There are Three Colors in the Candy Corn,
Just like there are Three in the Holy Trinity.
God the Father, Jesus the Son, and The Holy Spirit.
ALL THREE ARE GOD, TOGETHER IN ONE.



All Saints Sunday
Youth placed roses at gravesites



Candles lit in memory of loved ones by the congregation



Gifts of Love

The KLC Teens are hosting a "Gifts of Love" event this Christmas! These gifts will be going to area shut-ins and struggling families.

This is a list of items that would be most helpful:

- blankets
- towels and wash clothes
- candy and treats
- word puzzles or table top activities

- nuts and chocolates
- soft or fuzzy socks
- hats and mittens/gloves
- devotionals, faith notes, calendars
- baskets, totes or gift bags to put the goodies in

Please bring any and all new or gently used donations to the Church Library by

December 18 and the youth will pack the gifts for delivery the week of Christmas!



If you have questions, contact Michelle at 320-226-0658.

Joy to the World

For Christmas Day worship, many churches use Psalm 98. It is fitting, then, that Isaac Watts, who interpreted 132 psalms as hymn texts, based a now-beloved carol on it.

Watts (1674-1748) was a student of language, religion and philosophy. He wanted to make Scripture more relevant to lay people and thought hymns could help. Watts composed more than 600 hymn texts, many still in use. But Psalm 98:4-9, "Joy to the World," needed music to fit its words.

Enter Lowell Mason (1792-1872), an American choir director. He came across Watts' Psalm 98 hymn text and sought inspiration for a melody from the famous oratorio *Messiah* by George F. Handel (1685-1759). Mason pulled musical phrases from sections of Handel's work, resulting in the tune we now recognize as "Joy to the World."

So it is that three men who lived across three centuries and never met — along with the composer of the original psalm more than two millennia earlier — together produced a hymn to the Christ-child, which millions have sung and continue to love.



LOCAL NEWS

Southwest Minnesota Synod

Synod News

Staff Changes

The Southwestern Minnesota Synod welcomes a new Synod Minister for Equipping Congregation Leaders: Pr. Naomi Mahler.

Pr. Naomi Mahler brings a strong background and training to this position. She has been serving as an Associate Pastor at Calvary Lutheran Church, Willmar, since 2014.

The call to serve as a Synod Minister is a call extended by the Synod Council.

Pr. Naomi is excited to begin serving in this new role on November 11, 2022.

"I am looking forward to this opportunity to serve congregations and pastors of this synod and excited about how we might walk together in this journey of faith! I am also grateful to Pr. Stephen Cook and his service as he wraps up his time with the synod." - Pr. Naomi

Pr. Stephen Cook will conclude his synod ministry on November 30, providing the opportunity for overlap and onboarding. We give thanks for his wise leadership and dedication to this ministry.

Equipping Roadshow 2022 Trip Report

The Equipping Roadshow, an experiment in equipping leaders with skills and ideas, completed its journey for November 2022. Stops were made in Spicer, Marshall, and Worthington.

About 135 people participated across the three events. Bishop Dee walked the attendees past the "end of the yellow brick road," into the future of ministry.

Pastor Kristine and Rich attended the event in Marshall. They attended these workshops: They used to give chickens, didn't they? How asking for non-cash gifts can still feed your ministry; Building a culture of generosity; All Creation Sings: liturgies and prayers; Dish with the Bish.

Equipping congregational leaders will continue to be a priority for the Southwestern Minnesota Synod. Watch for opportunities in the coming year.

Church Supper Update

No church supper was held this year. Members were asked to give a monetary donation in lieu of the supper. Total received this year was \$2,224. **Thank you!**



Alternative Gifts

We can give a gift of hope to others through alternative gifts. There are many places where we can give animals, honey bees, fruit-tree seedlings, blankets, school supplies and much more to help people in need. Give the gifts that mean the most to you, or choose gifts to give in honor of someone special. Your gifts support the ministries of the ELCA in nearly 80 countries around the world.



Among these are ELCA Good Gifts, Lutheran World Relief and Heifer International. Information is available on the table in the narthex.

Looking Ahead

Annual Meeting

Sunday
January 22nd

9:45 a.m.

Reports due
January 5th



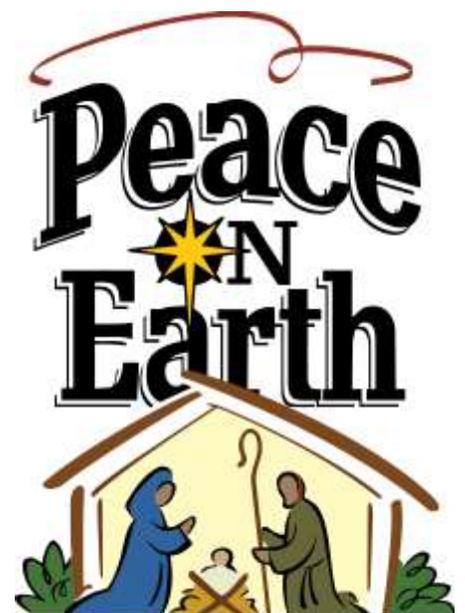
Church Board & Council Meetings

Tuesday, December 13th

Trustees 7:00 p.m.
– Budget Meeting –

Wednesday, December 21st

Deacons 6:00 p.m.
Trustees 7:00 p.m.
Church Council 7:30 p.m.



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

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



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