

Greetings from Pastor Kristine Isder

In the parable of the sower (Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23) Jesus tells of a farmer who goes out to sow. He tosses seed everywhere without regard to where it might land.

Some seeds fell on the path and the birds ate them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground and sprang up quickly, but with no depth of soil and no root, the plants withered

away when the sun rose. Other seeds fell among thorns, which grew and choked the plants out. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty and some thirty.

Jesus says that the seed is the "word of the Kingdom", the good news of God's Kingdom. God is the minister. But it didn't happen. He gracious sower, spreading the good news everywhere.

Like a seed, the message might grow and blossom in the lives of people. God sends the good news without a care about the quality, readiness or receptivity of the person. Everyone has access to the seed that is the gospel good news.

Some of the good news takes root and grows right away. Some of the good news takes longer to produce results.

I recently read a newspaper article about Miron Carney. Growing up in Murray county, Miron's grandparents were deeply committed Methodists and his grandfather was a lay pastor. It was through them that he came to faith.

When Miron was 16, he was quite interested in becoming a was told by his peers, teachers and family that he could probably do

better in other fields. He thought, "the water wasn't running that direction, so it must be true".

After high school he went to college in search of one of those better fields. With his interest and skill in music and guitar, he began playing in a heavy metal rock band. Then, with a busy schedule of band gigs, he decided that college was not for him at this time.

He moved to Los Angeles and got married. After their second child was born, they moved back to Minnesota to the farm by Chandler. Then he decided it was time to get serious about his education and returned to college and earned two business degrees. He held various jobs from working at a printing press to starting a bookstore and a seasonal garden center.

continued on page 3

STEWARDSHIP

Contributions, Gifts, Memorials & Worship



General Fund 2023 Financial Responsibilities \$246,213

Checking Register for the General Fund

6/1/23 balance: \$6,062

June income: \$16,929

June expenses: \$19,387

6/30/23 balance: \$3,604

Worship Offerings & Attendance



July 2		
Lakeside Worship	\$340	88
 Loose offering to area food shelves 	\$235	
area rood sherves	Ψ200	
July 9	\$1,335	43
July 16	\$1,983	30
July 23	\$1,674	45



Memorials & Gifts

<u>Undesignated</u> *In memory of Tom Johnson*

Online Giving ...







PRAYERS

We offer up prayers for ...

This section removed for member privacy.

Pastor, Staff & Officers

Greetings from Pastor Kristine

continued from page 1

But he still felt a call to go into ministry. Decades after discerning the call, after his children were grown, he decided he could no longer ignore that call on his life.

He began doing lay ministry at churches in the area. About 2000 he started taking classes towards the ministry through the United

Methodist Church. He became a Qualified Lay Pastor and started doing pulpit supply at area churches, which ended up as a full-time occupation. Eventually he became a Licensed Pastor and was assigned to Tracy Methodist

Church in August of 2021. In January of 2023, he also became the pastor of Walnut Grove United

Who hat of faith to?

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Methodist Church.

The seeds of ministry had been planted early in Miron's life, but outside forces steered him away from that choice. The call persisted and eventually he answered it and now pastors two churches.

His grandparents planted the seed of faith in his life.

Who has planted seeds of faith in your life?

Who have you passed the seeds of faith to?

We are called to be sowers of the faith. It doesn't matter if we see results or not. We never know how long the seeds may lay dormant before they start to grow, as in Miron's life.

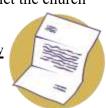
We are called to keep sowing.
Sometimes we don't even
realize the impact we have made on
others. We never know when a seed
may take root and grow. So just
keep sowing seeds everywhere!



Contribution Statements

Statements will soon be mailed out for contributions given through June. Please check your statement to your records and let the church

office know if there is a discrepancy. Statements will **only** be mailed to those with contributions of record.



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

Treasurer: Theresa Erickson Sue Streed, Ronae Rose, Karla Schwendemann, Naomi

Streed, Char Johnson

WORSHIP NEWS

August Schedules

Lakeside Worship July 2, 2023

Lakeside worship was held July 2nd at Milan Beach Resort. Eighty-eight 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.











Tuesday, August 15

(note the change in date)

Deacons Trustees 7:00 p.m.

Coffee Fellowship

Join us for coffee and fellowship before worship Sunday mornings in the narthex starting at 9:45 a.m.



Please sign up to bring and serve goodies to enjoy along with the coffee. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex. The ushers will make the coffee.



Group 8

Captain - Ryan Grant 734-4924

Rich Isder
Tyler Kanten
Dave Lovehaug
Reed Molden
Luther Opjorden
Rob Schwendemann

AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Deacon Communion Setup

6 - Stacey Lea

Lectors

- 6 Heidi Hanson
- 13 Jen Tostenson
- 20 Rich Isder
- 27 Connie Fragodt

Media Operators

- 6 Tom Moe
- 13 Gavin Ascheman
- 20 Jessa Norby
- 27 Rich Isder

Video Recorders

- 6 Theresa Erickson
- 13 Rich Isder
- 20 Theresa Erickson
- 27 Jon Hanson

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.

Bible Readings

Bible Reading Plans

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



Readings for August to read the Bible in a year Chronologically

Aug 1	Isaiah 64-66
Aug 2	2 Kings 20-21
Aug 3	2 Chronicles 32-33
Aug 4	Nahum 1-3
Aug 5	2 Kings 22-23;
_	2 Chronicles 34-35
Aug 6	Zephaniah
Aug 7	Jeremiah1-3
Aug 8	Jeremiah4-6

Aug 9	Jeremiah7-9
Aug 10	Jeremiah10-13
Aug 11	Jeremiah14-17
Aug 12	Jeremiah18-22
Aug 13	Jeremiah23-25
Aug 14	Jeremiah26-29
Aug 15	Jeremiah30-31
Aug 16	Jeremiah32-34
Aug 17	Jeremiah35-37
Aug 18	Jeremiah38-40;
Aug 10	Psalm 74/79
Aug 19	2 Kings 24-25;
Aug 19	2 Chronicles 36
	2 011101110125 30

Aug 20	Habakkuk
Aug 21	Jeremiah41-45
Aug 22	Jeremiah46-48
Aug 23	Jeremiah49-50
Aug 24	Jeremiah51-52
Aug 25	Lamentations 1:1-3:36
Aug 26	Lamentations 3:37-
J	5:22
Aug 27	Ezekiel 1-4
Aug 28	Ezekiel 5-8
Aug 29	Ezekiel 9-12
Aug 30	Ezekiel 13-15
Aug 31	Ezekiel 16-17



"Wandering in the Wilderness"

-All Sunday School age kids are invited-

Sunday and Monday, August 13 and 14

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. both days



- Parents are encouraged to stay and help their kids
- Older kids are welcome to come and help

Supper will be provided both days

National Youth Gathering

The next ELCA Youth Gathering will take place July 16-20, 2024, in New Orleans, LA. There will be daily events to participate in: from learning workshops to a day of service in the city of New Orleans to worship every evening.

Youth will learn what "Created to Be" means. The Gathering is for youth grades 8-12 (in the fall of 2023 school year). Registration will open on September 15, 2023, and

continue until April 15, 2024. 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering The earlier you register, the cheaper it will be. Cost starts at \$375 and goes up from there. There is a \$150 deposit for each participant due at time of registration, and the rest at a later date.



More information can be found on the ELCA Gathering Website, www.elca.org/gathering.

Pastor Jon Wendt at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Wabasso is the SWMN Synod Champion for the 2024 Youth Gathering. He has attended every tri-annual gathering since the early 90's and has watched people grow in their faith as they come together with thousands of other Christians during that week. He will walk with each of the congregations as they begin to register, fundraise and prepare for the gathering.

Interested in attending? Talk to Pastor Kristine.

Helping Hands

Helping Hands

Enjoy summer! It is fleeting! We had a great time this past week quilting! We ended up doing three days and finished more than 25 quilts! That makes in the neighborhood of 70 quilts made this year! Amazing! Thanks so much to all who helped make this mission possible! It is a wonderful thing to be able to make so many people happy and warm! It is so fun to work on this worthwhile project, have great conversation, coffee and lunch with a wonderful group of women! Join us late next winter when we will do this all over again! It will be fun!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed goodies for coffee fellowship before church. It is so good to connect with friends and neighbors each week! The signup sheet is in the narthex!

The Helping Hands Board will be serving the lunch for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday on Rally Sunday, September 10th. Be sure to put that date on your calendar! We do lots of fun projects on that Sunday!

Service Group 1, chairpersons, Cory/Emily Heinrich, Greg/Sherry Norby, Bob/Jen Tostenson, is next for funeral serving. Stay well and safe everyone!

'Til next time, enjoy your summer!

Summer Quilting



















1:30 p.m.

Meet in the Fellowship Hall





August

Thank You

Thank you Lakeside Worship Service (May) for your recent charitable gift of \$97.00. Your support and generosity enables us to serve many individuals in our local area. We are grateful for your kindness and your continued support.

- Swift County Food Shelf

Thank you Lakeside Worship Service (July) for your recent charitable gift of \$78.00. Your support and generosity enables us to serve many individuals in our local area. We are grateful for your kindness and your continued support.

- Chippewa County Food Shelf

Looking Ahead

Lakeside Worship September 3

Milan Beach Resort at 9:30 a.m.

God's Work Our Hands and Rally Sunday

September 10

Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. Worship at 10:30 a.m. Service Projects at 11:00 a.m.

If you have ideas for a project that could be done that day, please talk to Pastor Kristine.

Dinner at 12:15 p.m.

Volunteers Needed



We have many opportunities for you to help out the church. Please consider volunteering to be part of any of

the following ministries. Contact names are listed below.

* * * * * * *

Visitation ministry: Char Strand

Ushers: Tom Moe

Funeral ushers: Pastor Kristine

Lectors: Heidi Hanson **Media**: Judi Bohm

Video team: Pastor Kristine

Helping Hands: Nancy Schneck

This section removed for member privacy.

March Church Council Meeting

Kviteseid Lutheran Church Council Minutes *March 15, 2023*

Meeting called to order by Vice President Paul Tostenson at 7:47 p.m.

Members in attendance: Paul Tostenson, Gwen Olson, Cory Heinrich, Char Strand, Jon Hanson, Rich Isder, Pastor Kristine

Agenda reviewed, no additions

Secretary Report: Pastor Kristine - Minutes from December Council Meeting and Annual Meeting reviewed. No changes submitted.

Treasurers Report: Pastor Kristine - Have not needed to borrow money, \$1K balance in checking.

Deacons Report: Char Strand – Planning Maundy Thursday and First Communion, and Confirmation for April. Confirmation interviews will be held during next meeting. A gift was presented to the Micronesian Congregation from the Kviteseid Congregation.

Trustees Report: Cory Heinrich – Budget is \$10K higher than last year. Mayor Ron Anderson approached the trustees to have a conversation around Kviteseid building being an emergency shelter for the community. City has offered to cooperate financially, specifically regarding a generator that would be needed. Estimates are being sought. There are other costs and liability to consider. They are keeping an eye on the water in/around the building.

Board of Education Report: no report **Pastor's Report: Pastor Kristine**

Church attendance last month: in person 42-71; online reached: 54-210 (Ash Wednesday)

Lenten Services going well. Ash Wednesday service canceled due to weather. Did imposition of ashes the following Sunday. March 1 Lenten service was at Big Bend.

The rest of the services will be at Kviteseid. Supper before services. Need someone to serve March 29.

Bible reading plans: several people are still doing the readings.

First communion: 2 fifth graders: Isaac Link and Lucas Schuerman. First communion will be Maundy Thursday. Have had two classes and will bake bread April 5

Confirmation April 30: Four students: Gabby Augeson, Gunner Liebl, Jessa Norby, Ty Norby.

Graduate recognition: Will be May 21 (day after Syttende Mai). 3 graduates: Carter Bowen, Cale Norby, Sara Larson (confirmed here).

Micronesians used the church March 4 and 5 for services. During their service on March 4, I presented them with the gift from the Congregation. Interview with former Bishop Jon Anderson for a class at Luther Seminary. Loving Your Neighbors-South Pacific about the Micronesians.

Lac qui Parle Conference assembly Feb. 26. Jon Hanson, Nancy Streed, Cindy Kanten, Rich and Pastor attended. My term as dean is done. Pastor Don McKee of Our Saviors in Montevideo is the new dean. All four officer positions were up for election. Still looking for a chair, secretary and treasurer. May be changing the conference structure going forward due to lack of interest and participation.

Synod news: Pastors and interims in the synod: Still a shortage of pastors in the synod and interims.

Pastor meetings: continue to meet both by zoom and in person. Text study alternates one week in person, one week by zoom. Conference pastors will meet quarterly in person and other months by zoom.

Area Churches: Zion in Appleton, Borgund and Minnesota Valley have a new pastor: Linda Wimmer who started March 1.

Today Theresa filed the ELCA Online reports with membership and financial information. We both worked on gathering data.

I had cataract surgery Jan. 31 and Feb. 21. Went well. Had second recheck yesterday and eyes are now healed. My vision has really improved!

My mom moved to the hospice house in

Slayton on January 18. I took a few days off to help her get settled. She died Sunday January 29, sooner than we expected. Took Monday off to make funeral arrangements. Funeral will be April 22. I will be taking a week off then. I am taking care of her financial matters so will have time away for appointments. Thank you for the prayers and cards.

Motion by Char Strand, second Jon Hanson to approve reports as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Housing allowance form needs to be signed by Pastor and Secretary. **Motion** by Char Strand, second Cory Heinrich to approve signing the form. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustees were directed to continue gathering information for emergency shelter/generator. Cory will reach out to the city.

Adopt-A-Highway agreement is up for renewal. It is a two-year agreement for clean-up two times per year. Trustees coordinate the task. **Motion** by Jon Hanson, second Cory Heinrich to approve signing the agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

Lakeside Worship for the summer was discussed. Deacons coordinate the task. Offering has been split three ways. Suggestion was made to offer online option to donate. **Motion** by Char Strand, second Jon Hanson to hold lakeside worship and split the offering to three area food shelves. Motion passed unanimously.

Synod Assembly is June 9 & 10 at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Possible delegates are Jon and Heidi Hanson. Pastor will publish the delegate names in the newsletter when confirmed.

Council directed Theresa Erickson to take care of the memorial for Pastor Kristine's mother.

Next meeting – June 14, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen Kleven Olson, Council Secretary

June Church Council Meeting

Kviteseid Lutheran Church Council Minutes (Draft)

June 14, 2023

(moved up a week due to Pastor being gone)

Meeting called to order by President Tom Moe at 7:50 p.m.

Members in attendance: Tom Moe, Paul Tostenson, Gwen Olson, Cory Heinrich, Ray Trager, Brandon Ascheman, Char Strand, Cindy Kanten, Jon Hanson, Rich Isder, Pastor Kristine

Agenda reviewed, no additions

Devotions: Pastor Kristine led devotions from Romans 5.

Secretary Report: Minutes from March Council Meeting reviewed. No changes submitted. There was a discussion on publishing minutes. Minutes will be published in the next newsletter but labeled "draft". Minutes will be approved at the next joint council meeting.

Treasurers Report: Pastor Kristine - Have not needed to borrow money yet, may need to soon. Giving for the year is \$58,000.

Deacons Report: Char Strand – Lakeside worship in May went well. There will be lakeside worship July 2 and September 3. Graduation recognition went well. All three seniors attended. Plans are being discussed for National Youth Gathering in 2024. The location is New Orleans, LA. Worship time for the year changes to 10:30 a.m. on July 9. There was a discussion on how to get coffee fellowship wrapped up before church starts. Communion will be offered once in July and August.

Trustees Report: Cory Heinrich – working on outside projects, balancing time and cost. Chimes are still in progress. Brandon is researching genera-

tor ideas for the emergency shelter project. Trustees will reach out to the city. Utility shed replacement is being discussed; will also reach out to the city as it is on their property. Water issues with the elevator are being documented and project being defined. There has been a bat in the building, continue to monitor for others.

Board of Education Report: no report

Pastor's Report: Pastor Kristine

Church attendance last month: in person 36-61; online reached: 87-103

Worship time changes July 9 to 10:30 a.m. until June 30 of next year.

First communion (2 students), confirmation Sunday (4 confirmands) and graduate recognition (3 seniors) went well.

Adopt A Highway: cleaned up one mile May 7 after church. We will try to do again on God's Work Our Hands Sunday, but grass may be too tall.

Lakeside worship May 28 went well with over 100 people there from six churches on a beautiful morning. We will do it again July 2 and September 3 with the same churches.

Summer coffee will be before church when we change to 10:30 a.m. worship. Coffee will be upstairs unless someone wants to serve and have it downstairs.

Micronesians used the church June 4 because the street in front of their building in Appleton was dug up.

Synod news: Synod Assembly June 9-10. Pastor and Rich attended. Great to be back in person after four years and to reconnect with people. Worship in Christ Chapel was the highlight for me. Only resolution was to incorporate changes into synod constitution from 2022 Churchwide Assembly. Compensation guidelines approved: 7% inflation increase plus step increase for 2024. 5% in 2023. There's a shortage of pastors in the rural areas and interims and pulpit supply.

tor ideas for the emergency shelter project. Trustees will reach out to the city. by zoom and in person.

Kviteseid Youth: Big Bend received information on synod coordinator for National Youth Gathering 2024 coordinator in New Orleans.

Covid-19 precautions: Still using hand sanitizer before communion and will continue to do so.

Thank you for your prayers, cards, memorials, and expressions of sympathy on the death of my mother, Margaret Kelm. Thank you also to the congregation for the plant and plaque for the funeral and the memorial gift. The memorial was given to the Synod's Gifts of Grace program which is helping to build healthy ministries in the synod.

Motion by Jon Hanson, second Ray Trager to approve reports as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Luther League is still not active, looking to make a plan.

New Business: Gwen from Milan EMS, explained 4 new AED's (automated external defibrillator) that were purchased by the city. One was placed at Kviteseid. Community awareness training will be available in the fall. Cost to city was \$2,131. Motion by Char Strand, second Brandon Ascheman to reimburse the city for the cost of the AED. Motion passed unanimously.

God's Work Our Hands Sunday Sept. 10 and Rally Sunday. Last year they weren't on the same day. There would be better attendance if the same day. Council supports September 10 for both events. Council also supports holding Vacation Bible School.

Next meeting – September 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gwen Kleven Olson, Council Secretary

Southwest Minnesota Synod

Synod Bread Basket Award

At Synod Assembly in June, the Synod Bread Basket Award was presented to one of our neighbor churches, Borgund Lutheran Church, for contributions to ELCA World Hunger.

Borgund's dedication to giving to ELCA World Hunger was noted in the Synod News email March 24, 2023:

"Until All Are Fed"

by Pr. Troy Pflibsen, SW MN DEM, on behalf of your Synod Hunger Team

It all started with one member making an unexpected choice. Instead of only giving his year-end gift to his congregation, Borgund Lutheran Church, rural Madison, he gave a portion of what God had given to him to ELCA World Hunger.

This giving caught on with others at Borgund Lutheran Church and years later this captured the whole congregation and has become a part of the very identity of the community. Now at every opportunity, and there are many, they feed the hungry locally, nationally, and internationally.

The Synod Hunger Team became aware of the congregation's generosity because Borgund perennially receives the synod's Breadbasket Award. This annual award recognizes the congregation in our synod that gives the most, per capita, to ELCA World Hunger. They have received the award in 2009, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022!

Borgund is small, which means that their total may not be as large as some other congregations. But



for Borgund, it represents a large portion of their ministry!

The leaders at Borgund agreed to share this story in the hope that it might inspire other congregations to prioritize the needs of the hungry. To this end, they have issued a challenge! They would like to *share* ber. He made an unexpected choice. the Breadbasket Award with another congregation (for maybe just one year). This means that another congregation of our synod has to increase their giving to ELCA World Hunger, and it would mean that the following year Borgund would be challenged to step up their game as

I would also like to note, as one who works with many congregations, this is a small faith community that is having a big impact. They are not trying to do all things and all ministries. They have focused their mission on issues of hunger, which is ministry beyond themselves and in service to others. And with this clarity of a mission beyond themselves, it gives them a sense of purpose and it means that their work has a greater impact for those in need. They are a small congregation that doesn't wonder what

they are about. They know. Their generosity doesn't make them wonder if they will have enough resources to pay the bills. They have enough, and enough to give generously to those who are hungry.

And it all started with one mem-Years ago, he gave a portion of what God had given to him to ELCA World Hunger. His gift has changed his congregation, and, in that change, they have fed many people!



Kviteseid Lutheran Church PO Box 31 Milan, MN 56262 www.milanslutheranchurch.com Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Milan, Minnesota 56262 Permit No. 4

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

KVITESEID LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Schedule

⊕ Coffee Fellowship at 9:45 a.m. ⊕ ⊕ Worship at 10:30 a.m. ⊕ ⊕ Online Worship at 10:30 a.m. ⊕



Pastor Kristine Isder
Parsonage phone: 320-734-4667
pastor@milanslutheranchurch.com

Parish Assistant - Theresa Erickson office@milanslutheranchurch.com

