



Greetings from Pastor Kristine Isder

Our first lesson for August 22 from Joshua included this well-known verse: **“Choose this day whom you will serve . . . but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”** (Joshua 24:15)

It’s a popular verse and appears on many home décor items.

The background of this text is that the people of Israel are about to finally enter the Promised Land after 40 years of wilderness wanderings. Moses has passed the mantle of leadership to Joshua. But before they depart, Joshua calls the leaders together to hear the word of the Lord. They are challenged to follow the God who has done so much with and for them.

The Israelites respond, **“Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God”** (Joshua 24:18).

The people recommit themselves to God. They are now ready to live on God’s land in the way God wants.

Why did the Israelites choose to follow God? Because of what God has done for them.

We are fairly good at reminding ourselves how we have been blessed. We are fairly good at reminding ourselves to say thank you. But as people of faith, our story and tradition pushes us to take the next step.

Joshua challenges the people to not only remember and be thankful, but to serve.

Notice that the verse doesn’t talk about belief. It talks about service. **“Choose this day whom you will SERVE.”** See what God has done for you? Now how will you respond?

It’s not just believing, it’s doing. It’s about a willingness to order one’s life according to God’s law. We live our lives according to the commitments we have made.

Whose disciple will you show yourself to be? Will the way you live your life reflect the choice you have made about whom you will serve?

Will you live for yourself or live to help and serve others?

What does it mean to say, as Joshua does, **“but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”**? How do we live that out? It is shown in how we use the blessings and gifts we have been given. What we do with our time, our talent, and our treasure shows who we serve.

Do our actions show that we understand ourselves to be living in

continued on page 3

STEWARDSHIP

Contributions, Gifts, Memorials & Worship



FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Fund
2021 Financial Responsibilities
\$233,650

Checking Register
for the General Fund

7/1/21 balance:	\$3,458
July income:	\$15,734
July expenses:	\$17,848
7/31/21 balance:	\$1,344

Worship Offerings & Attendance



July 25	\$3,554.67	35
August 1	\$1,360	41
August 8	\$665.01	32
August 15	\$1,765	42
August 22	\$1,560	26



Gifts & Memorials

General Fund Gift
In memory of Lois Berge

Online Giving ...



Visit our website at

milanslutheranchurch.com

Financial Reminder

Church financial responsibilities continue throughout the summer months. Please send your weekly offerings to the church office or donate online so we can meet our monthly obligations.

THANK YOU!

PRAYERS

We offer up prayers for ...

This section removed for member privacy.

LOCAL NEWS

Pastor, Staff & Officers

Greetings from Pr. Kristine

continued from page 1

service to God? Or do our actions show that we understand ourselves to be living in service to ourselves or some other god? Which comes first?

If God is the source of our blessings, of our abundance, of our life, then what is the appropriate response?

Service, says the faith story. Joshua and Moses and Jesus all appear to agree. Commitment, says the faith story. Putting God first, says the faith story.

The commitment to choose to serve God is also a commitment to serve fellow human beings.

We serve God by serving others. One way to serve others is to help and support them in all of

life's needs, no matter what form that may take.

One opportunity to serve others is on God's Work Our Hands Sunday on Sept. 12. We will work on various projects after worship. There is more information about these projects in the newsletter. Come out and help and enjoy fellowship with other members!

Covid Precautions Update

Recently there has been an increase in Covid cases in the state and in our area, especially the Delta variant.

The deacons met August 16 and talked about precautions.

At this point, facemasks will not be required for worship.

Facemasks will be available for those who feel more comfortable wearing one.

Communion will continue at the rail. Communion servers will wear facemasks.

We won't pass the offering plates. Every other pew will be taped off again.

Food can still be served at church events.



Church Boards

meet in-person
Wednesday, September 15th



Boards
and
Council

Deacons
6:00 p.m.

Trustees
7:00 p.m.

Church Council - 7:45 p.m.

2021 Kviteseid Staff & Officers



Office Staff

Pastor Kristine Isder
pastor@milanslutheranchurch.com

Parish Assistant:
Theresa Erickson
office@milanslutheranchurch.com

Financial Secretary:
Missy Ervin

Building Staff

Custodian: David Thompson

Organist: Judi Bohm

Volunteer Leadership

Sunday School Choir Dir:
Jessica Trager

Sunday School Supt.:
Talia Schuerman

Contributions Secretaries:
Paul Belseth
Heidi Hanson

Church Officers

President: Roger Strand

Vice Pres.: Ken Lee

Secretary: Sherry Norby

Treas.: Rob Schwendemann

Board of Deacons

Marie Molden, Reed Molden,
Cindy Kanten, Rich Isder,
Char Strand

Board of Trustees

Bruce Loose, Josh Moen,
Nate Spray, Josh Vetter, Erik
Boraas

Board of Education

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

Helping Hands Board

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

WORSHIP NEWS

God's Work. Our Hands.

"God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday

**Sunday, September 12
10:30 a.m. Worship**

On Sunday, September 12, we will be working on service projects like we've done in the past. It will be an opportunity for people of all ages to work together.

What can you do?

1. Come and help on September 12!
2. Suggest projects. If you know of anybody who could use some help, please let us know. We want to help people. What can we do? Contact Pastor Kristine.

Schedule for the day:

- 10:30 a.m. Worship with communion and sending out.
- 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Work on service projects.
- 12:15 p.m. Gather back at church for meal together. Dinner will be provided, thanks to a Thrivent grant.

Blessing of Quilts

45+ quilts made by our members were blessed at Sunday morning worship, August 1st.



"God's work. Our hands." Sunday

**Sept. 12
2021**

Projects:

- ◆ Military boxes will be filled and prepared to mail.
- ◆ Layettees will be assembled.
- ◆ Cloth bandages will be rolled.
- ◆ Quilts will be set up to be tied.
- ◆ Coloring for the kids. Pictures will be given to shut-ins.
- ◆ Road ditch cleanup and town garbage pickup
- ◆ Visiting opportunity: Do you ever think, "I should visit _____"? Well, here's your chance. Take this opportunity to go visit them.

There will be projects for people from age 2 to 100! Please come and join us as we do God's Work with Our Hands!

Since 2013, thousands of ELCA congregations have participated in

this dedicated day of service, gathering to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all of God's people. This is one way we can be "church together" and "church for the sake of the world".

"God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. We will join with many other ELCA congregations across the country to boldly participate in God's work in the world. We will use our various gifts in service to our community.

I have heard many good comments from recipients of our service projects in the past. We look forward to working together again this year.

Come and see what's happening!



WORSHIP NEWS

September Schedules & Events

Coffee Fellowship

Coffee Fellowship on Sunday mornings begins at 9:45 a.m. in the narthex. Please sign up to serve coffee and goodies. The ushers will make the coffee.



A sign-up sheet to serve is on the table in the narthex.

Rally Sunday

Sunday
September 12



Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

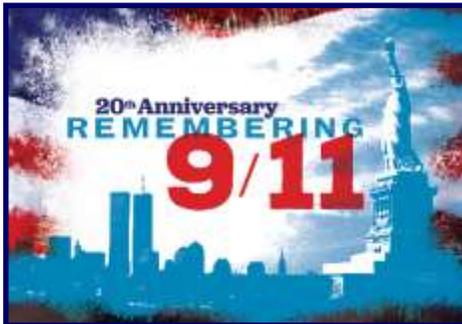
Balloon Release at 10:15 a.m.



Group 3

Captain - Bryan Schuerman
289-3127

Paul Belseth
Wade Kittelson
Bruce Loose
Tim Streed
Paul Tostenson



Lectors

5 - Tom Moe
12 - Char Strand
19 - Jon Hanson
26 - Reed Molden

Media Operators

5 - *None needed*
12 - Isaac Hanson
19 - Cale Norby
26 - Tom Moe

Deacon Communion Setup

12 - Cindy Kanten
19 - Reed Molden

Video Recorders

5 - *None Needed*
12 - Jon Hanson
19 - Theresa Erickson
26 - Rich Isder

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

Schedules are also available online at milanslutheranchurch.com

Lakeside Worship Service at Milan Beach Resort

(Randall's - Lac qui Parle Lake)

Sunday, September 5th - 9 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 go to the FLY Backpack program

LOCAL NEWS

Helping Hands

Helping Hands

September is here and most of us are back to a regular fall schedule!

I hope you have all had a good, memorable summer! Best of all of you for a wonderful fall and upcoming winter season!

Thank you to Group 3, chairpersons Brandon/Michelle Ascheman, Wade/Kim Kittelson, Rodger/Nancy Schneck, for serving the funeral lunch for the family and friends of Lois Berge. It was much appreciated!

Thank you to those in Group 3 and 4 for cleaning the Fellowship Hall, Library, Mini-Kitchen and Meeting Room. It is big job and your help is appreciated! Group 1, chairpersons, Josh/Tiffany Moen, Bob/Kim Molden, Greg/Sherry Norby and Group 2 chairpersons, Judi Bohm, Barb Dale, Lorrie Spray, are planning to do their cleaning in the Sanctuary, Narthex and Balcony after Rally Sunday, God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. Watch for information regarding day and time for that. Thank you all!

The quilting group at Kviteseid brought the 45 or so quilts they made up to be blessed and passed on to those who need them. Some of them went to Family Services of Chippewa County, Prairie 5, Heartland Girls Ranch, Lutheran World Relief and Bridging. Thank you to all who helped in the making of the quilts. If you don't care to quilt, but would like to help, you can donate money to purchase batting, sheets, thread and other supplies for the project. Money can be given to Theresa Erickson, treasurer of the Helping Hands group. Thank you!

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday will be Sunday, September 12. There will be a quilt set up to tie, items for layettes to be put together, as well as other projects such as packing military boxes, lawn clean-up and visitation of shut-ins. Show your love for your community, join us for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. Lunch will be provided by a grant from Thrivent and served by Group 1, chairpersons, Josh/Tiffany Moen, Bob/Kim Molden, Greg/Sherry Norby. Thank you for serving!

Group 4, chairpersons, Robert/Jill Blom, Erik Boraas, Craig/Char Strand, is next for serving funerals. Stay healthy everyone!

Have an awesome September everyone!!!

TWC Bible Study



TWC "Together with Christ" Bible Study will meet Wednesday,

September 8th at 1:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Bring your own beverage and snack.

Kviteseid Connectors

About a year ago, our congregation formed a group of volunteers called Kviteseid Connectors. We consist of 3 couples, 7 individuals, and 2 families. Our mission is to reach out to members of our congregation who may not always be able to attend worship. We began with members who live in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. We have expanded to some members who live in their own homes. We send notes, make phone calls, and visit when it's possible. It is a fun way to help everyone remember that they are an important part of our congregation and we care about them!!



Throughout this last year, many people have felt isolated at times and perhaps have felt lonely. If this sounds like you, we invite you to let us know. Our group is made up of people who care about others. If you would like someone to talk to and/or occasionally visit with, we would like to connect. If interested, please call Char Strand 320-815-0219 or e-mail her at lakeannie@fedteldirect.net.

FUNERAL

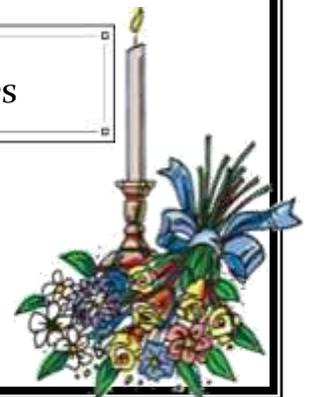
SERVICE GROUPS

Serving the next funeral will be Group 4.

Service Group 4 chairpersons are:

Robert & Jill Blom
Erik Boraas
Craig & Char Strand

793-6740
605-695-9862
734-4758



LOCAL NEWS

September

Thank You

We want to thank all of our church family and friends who have blessed us with support, love and prayers all these years. As many of you know, we have moved to Big Lake to be closer to our families. Our farm site has a young family and it will be nice to have young children and activities there. This was an extremely tough decision for us to leave but we prayed and asked for God's will and we believe this is the right path. Our hearts will always belong to Milan and especially Kviteseid. God's blessings to all of you!

- Denny & Jan Lindahl

Thank you so much for remembering Paul with a "Liberty Bag." It was so nice of you. I shared it with Robert and Melissa. We really enjoyed it. Thanks again.

- Cathy Olson
- Robert & Melissa Enevoldsen

Thank you for thinking of us with the Liberty Bag. We appreciated receiving it.

- Ron & Nancy Streed

Thanks to those who gave a donation to the Relay for Life (American Cancer Association). It is greatly appreciated! Donations currently are still being accepted.

- Lorrie Spray

Military Boxes

Military boxes will be packed on Sunday, September 12 at 11:00 a.m. This will be one of the projects for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. Items that can be sent are: beef jerky, nuts, raisins, trail mix, granola bars, candy, microwave popcorn or home-baked cookies (4 - 6 in a baggie). Also, monetary donations are appreciated. Items can be left at the church office during regular hours or left in the narthex before 12 noon on Friday, September 10. For questions call Judi (734-4671) or Nancy (734-4694).



This section removed for member privacy.

LOCAL NEWS

Southwest Minnesota Synod

Synod News

Installation of New Bishop



The Rev. Dr. Dee Pederson becomes Acting Bishop of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod on September 1.

Service of Holy Communion with the Installation of The Rev. Dr. Dee Pederson as Bishop of the SWMN Synod, ELCA will be Saturday, October 9 at 2:00 pm with a reception to follow at Granite Falls Lutheran Church. The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, will be present to preside and install the new bishop.

The synod will continue to monitor the state's safe gathering guidelines and will post protocol updates on the synod website as needed. Livestream will be hosted on the synod's website for those not able to attend in person.

The service will celebrate God's mission shared by the congregations and all the baptized of the SWMN Synod of the ELCA:

God places us in cities, farms and towns together under one prairie sky.

The Risen Christ surprises us with opportunities to plant God's Word in the world.

Walking together in confidence, we cultivate life-giving congregations, nurture partner ministries, and cooperate in the life of the ELCA.

By God's grace, together we have what we need.

Rev. Alex LaChapelle — our former ELCA missionary —

Greetings in Christ!

As of July 15th, I will no longer serve as an ELCA missionary. I write these words sitting in my apartment in Kenya, quite dusty from my last visit over a year ago. It is set up looking like a place left in a hurry. I saw this before when I served in New Orleans, about two years after the storm. We would still find houses untouched, apartments left as if they were coming back tomorrow. You can tell I did the last bit of dishes; I hung some rags to dry, picked up a little and left long ago March 2020. I believed it would only be a few months at most. Now as I open drawers, I see the clothes I have not worn in over a year, the things I forgot I even had brought with me as I contemplate what can make the trip and what will be left behind.

There is definitely a feeling of sadness as I wrap this long and flexible four-year journey. I started in Southern Africa with Young Adults and Global Mission and journeying through Tanzania hoping to continue the program. Then when YAGM Southern Africa was finished I went to Kenya. Serving as the Lead Pastor to Nairobi International Lutheran Congregation was an in-person job, until myself and many others serving overseas were brought home for Covid 19. I have continued to serve in a long-distance capacity, but this will end July 15th.

No one could have predicted my last four years, and no one could have predicted our last year and a half. Yet amidst all of the switches and the unexpected, the constant has always been your love and support. There was love and support from the people and churches we worked with in all these countries. But the

continued love and support from congregations like yours was of great importance. And I know I was not the great communicator, but I promise you, your support was felt. There are churches in Africa giving thanks for the ELCA and all her members. I know this, because I have brought greetings on our behalf to churches and leaders in five different countries over these last four years. I have been given hospitality because of the long-standing relationships our church has created. There were many who came before me and I trust more will come after me, which will continue to serve the ELCA, but also the greater

church, a church without walls, without borders.

I pray as I finish my time, you will continue to support the good work the ELCA does in overseas mission. I pray you will consider giving to other missionaries like me



who can only exist because of the commitments of others.

Commitments to a greater church. Maybe you have questions? I encourage you to reach out... globalchurch@elca.org. I know that people from the Global Mission Funding Team will also be reaching out in this transition to talk about covenant sponsorships going forward.

I give thanks for you all, I give thanks for our partners, and I give thanks for the good work we do together. May God bless you in your ministries, as we all journey forward from this pandemic.

Peace, Rev. Alex LaChapelle,
Lead Pastor - Nairobi International Lutheran Congregation

Kviteeid 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

KVITSEID LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Schedule

- ✠ Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. ✠
- ✠ Coffee Fellowship at 9:45 a.m. ✠
- ✠ Worship at 10:30 a.m. ✠
- ✠ Facebook Live Worship at 10:30 a.m. ✠

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



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



Parish Assistant - Theresa Erickson
office@milanslutheranchurch.com