

Kviteseid Voice

Kviteseid Lutheran
Church

April 2025

Volume 35 | Number 4

Greetings from Pastor Kristine Isder

Is It In The Bible? Holy Week Version

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, April 13 this year. These verses from the Bible summarize Holy Week.

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord - the King of Israel!" (John 12:13)

On Palm Sunday we observe Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem where the crowds waved palm branches and sang Hosanna to the redeemer king. It is a joyful celebration. Hundreds of people come out to see Jesus. The irony of the day is that just five days later the crowds would cry for the execution of Jesus.

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." (John 13:34)

On Maundy Thursday we remember the last meal Jesus ate with

his disciples who had followed him. At this Last Supper, Jesus instituted the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Jesus came as the servant king. And on this night, he washes the feet of his disciples, the ultimate symbol of servanthood.

The word Maundy comes from the Latin word that means "to give, to entrust, or to order." Jesus gives his last mandate: *"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."* (John 13:34-35)

Jesus knows his life will soon end. He gives his last will and testament before he dies to let his followers know how they should live.

Then Jesus takes his disciples out to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray with him.

Later in the evening Jesus is arrested and brought to trial. The crowd yells *"Crucify him! Crucify him!"* (John 19:6) Jesus is sentenced to crucifixion on Good Friday.

In contrast to the crowds who welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem the previous Sunday, most of his followers have now deserted him.

He is taken away to be crucified. There he hangs alone on the cross.

Finally, it is over. *"It is finished. Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."* (John 19:30)

He was laid in a borrowed tomb. There he was, dead in the grave, along with the hopes of his followers.

Everybody, including his disciples, thought it was over. Because dead people stay dead, right?

But that's not the end of the story. There is more. We all know how it ends.

continued on page 3

STEWARDSHIP

Contributions, Gifts, Memorials & Worship



FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Fund
2025 Financial Responsibilities
\$262,904

Checking Register
for the General Fund

2/1/25 balance: \$29,817
February income: \$12,305
February expenses: \$21,583
2/28/25 balance: \$20,540

Worship Offerings & Attendance



February 23	\$845	44
March 2	\$1,525	61
March 5	\$267	78
- Ash Wednesday		
March 9	\$595	50
March 16	\$1,539	75
March 19	\$94	41
- Lent (attendance includes Big Bend)		
March 23	\$765	51



**None to
Report**

Online Giving ...

Visit our website at
milanslutheranchurch.com



THANK YOU

for your financial
support of the church



Contributions may be mailed to the church office if you are unable to make it to worship. You can also contribute online on our website.

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

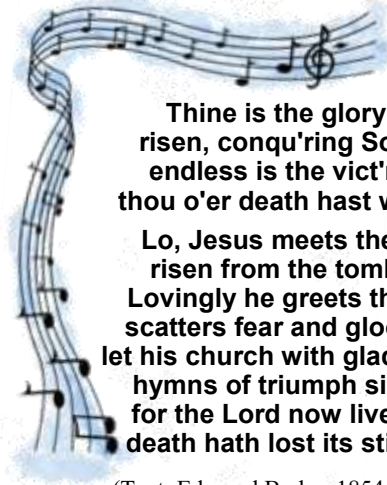
On Easter Sunday we hear that his followers went to the tomb that morning expecting to find the body of Jesus. They hear the amazing news that the tomb is empty! *"He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay."* (Matthew 28:6)

Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to his very stunned followers!

That is the rest of the story. Jesus didn't stay in the tomb. Jesus was alive! God had raised Jesus on the third day.

The powers of darkness had been destroyed. Death had lost and life had won. Jesus conquered death.

The words of the hymn **"Thine Is the Glory"** express the joy of the resurrection:



**Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!**

**Lo, Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting!**

(Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932;
tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939)

We are an Easter people. We live in the joy of the resurrection. Because He lives, we will live also. In the resurrection, we experience God's redeeming and forgiving love for the world.

Wishing you a blessed Easter!

- Pastor Kristine Isder

Pastor Transition

A joint Kviteseid-Big Bend council meeting was held March 23rd to discuss ministry needs after Pastor Kristine's retirement June 30th.

A joint council meeting will be held April 23rd with Pastor Seyward Ask. She is the synod minister for our conference and will be assisting the congregations in the call process.



Red Cross Bloodmobile

**will be here on Monday,
April 7th from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

**For more information or to
make an appointment, call Sue
at 734-4424 or (320) 212-4411 or
visit www.RedCrossBlood.org.**

2025 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: Judi Bohm
V. Pres: Rob Schwendemann
Secretary: Jessica Trager
Treasurer: Andy Streed

Board of Deacons

**Cindy Kanten, Cheryl Erp,
Heidi Spray, Jon Hanson,
Andrea Westra**

Board of Trustees

**Cory Heinrich, Ray Trager,
Ryan Erp, Brandon
Ascheman, Bryan Schuerman**

Board of Education

**Emily Heinrich, 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

April Schedules



Deacon Communion Setup

- 6 - Cindy Kanten
- 17 - *Maundy Thursday*
Cheryl Erp
- 20 - *Easter Sunday*
Cheryl Erp
- 27 - *Confirmation*
TBD

Acolytes

- 6 - Parker Spray
- 13 - Mason Erp
- 17 - *Maundy Thursday*
Iver Heinrich
- 20 - *Easter Sunday*
Daisy Sachariason
- 27 - *Confirmation*
Creed Joyce

Lectors

- 6 - Charlie Hanson
- 13 - Rob Schwendemann
- 17 - *Maundy Thursday*
Heidi Hanson
- 18 - *Good Friday*
Rich Isder
- 20 - *Easter Sunday*
Connie Fragodt
- 27 - *Confirmation*
Confirmands

Media Operators

- 6 - Scarlett Trager
- 13 - Paul Tostenson
- 17 - *Maundy Thursday*
Carter Moen
- 18 - *Good Friday*
Matt Schuerman
- 20 - *Easter Sunday*
Tom Moe
- 27 - *Confirmation*
Parker Spray

Video Recorders

- 2 - Theresa Erickson
- 6 - Jon Hanson
- 9 - Rich Isder
- 13 - Theresa Erickson
- 17 - *Maundy Thursday*
Theresa Erickson
- 18 - *Good Friday*
Jon Hanson
- 20 - *Easter Sunday*
Jon Hanson
- 27 - *Confirmation*
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.**



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE



PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, April 13
Worship at 9:00 a.m.
- Palm Procession
- Children's Choir



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 17
Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- Holy Communion
- First Communion



GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 18
Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- Tenebrae Service



EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 20
Easter Brunch at 8:30 a.m..
Easter Egg Hunt at 8:30 a.m..
Worship at 9:00 a.m.
- Holy Communion



- All services will be livestreamed -



Group 5

Captain - Brian Olson
734-4615

Randy Fragodt
David Thompson
Ray Trager
John Vetter
Josh Vetter

LOCAL NEWS

Lenten Season

Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies, to be placed in the sanctuary for Easter worship in memory or in honor of a loved one, may be purchased by contacting the church office (734-4455). Cost is \$20. Checks should be made out to Kviteseid Lutheran Church. After Easter worship, you may take your purchased plant home. A limited number of Easter Lilies have been ordered for your purchase.



Easter Lilies

Easter Baskets

Service Work Group 4 will be assembling Easter Baskets on Tuesday, April 15th at 3:00 p.m. in the church basement. Please consider coming to help as well as contribute items such as candy, baked goods (cookies, muffins, and small loaves of quick bread), cheeses, crackers, fruit, individual packaged snacks, etc. Items may be left in the church basement. Volunteers are also needed to deliver the baskets. Please call Yong Sun Schroeder, John/Sue Vetter or Bruce/Connie Streed with questions or to volunteer to help in any way.



Lenten Services

What Does It Mean to be an ELCA Lutheran?



The remaining Lenten services will be held at Kviteseid with supper at 6:00 p.m. and worship at 7:00 p.m.

- ⇒ **April 2** - supper (pulled pork) served by the Kviteseid Kids
- ⇒ **April 9** - supper (lasagna) served by the Kviteseid Kids

Easter Choir

Easter Brunch

Easter Sunday, April 20

8:30 a.m. in the Narthex



**Muffins
Baked Goods
Treats**

Served by the "Kviteseid Kids"

Lent Devotions

Looking for a devotion for Lent? Here is a free one you can download from Luther Seminary: "There in God's Garden" for March 5 – April 20. A few printed copies will also be available at church.

Download: <https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/lenten-devotional/>. Select download pdf or download large print pdf.

Military Boxes

Military boxes will be packed on Tuesday, April 8th at 9:00 a.m. Plans are to fill 16 boxes. 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 Monday, April 7th. Monetary donations are also appreciated.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

An **Easter Choir** is being formed to sing a couple of songs on Easter Sunday but we are **IN NEED** of a **CHOIR DIRECTOR!**

Adults and youth in grades 7 through 12 are invited to be a part of the choir. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for anyone interested in joining.

Contact Cindy Kanten if interested in being the director or with any questions.

LOCAL NEWS

Helping Hands

Helping Hands

Blessings to all during this reflective time of Lent.

Thank you again to all who so diligently worked to get so many quilts done this past year! Your rewards are out of this world, in addition to the satisfaction of making so many people happy and warm and we all got to enjoy so much fun, fellowship, laughter and good food!! Sunday, March 16, 80 quilts were blessed during the worship service. It was very impressive to see two quilts draped over each and every pew in the sanctuary! Very soon they will be going to their new homes to be loved! Thank you! Thank you!!!

Thank you to the members of the Helping Hands board and the Kviteseid Kids for serving suppers before the Lenten services. Good food and fellowship are such blessings!

Syttende Mai is going to be celebrated in Milan on May 17 this year. Our Syttende Mai Tea will take place from 10:00 to 1:00 on that day. If you feel moved to help with any part of



that, please contact Nancy Schneck or Char Strand. It is a fun time!

Group 2, chairpersons, Jim/ Paulette Anderson, Judi Bohm, Barb Dale and Lorrie Spray, is next for funeral serving.

Check the newsletter, your group chairperson or project leader for information concerning Easter Baskets and also packing military boxes. Thank you so much for your contributions!

Spring is here and Easter is coming! Rejoice!!

Quilt Blessing Sunday, March 16

THANK YOU to all who helped in any way with quilting in the past year. The quilts were blessed during worship on March 16. It was impressive to see quilts on every pew! There were a lot of oohs and ahs as people came in and saw the quilts. Good job quilters!



F

FUNERAL

SERVICE
GROUPS

Serving the next funeral will be Group 2.

Service Group 2 chairpersons are:

Jim & Paulette Anderson	734-4726
Judi Bohm	226-7354
Barb Dale	734-4409
Lorrie Spray	734-4880

LOCAL NEWS

Youth

Children's Choir

— Sunday, March 16 —



Bible Camp at Green Lake Lutheran Ministries

Calling all kids to register for Bible Camp!

Let's go on this adventure of faith, growing stronger every day, and sharing God's love with everyone we meet!

Come along as we take on the challenge of living a faith that's unstoppable, catches on like a bubbling wave, and is filled with God's never-ending love and strength. We can't wait to have you

join us this summer at one of our beautiful



sites, to pause, reflect, and experience an amazing community with our staff and with each other.

2025 Theme Verse: *Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to God's power that is at work within us, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.* (NIV, Ephesians 3:20-21)

Registration is open. For more information, there are brochures at church or check out their website: <http://www.gllm.org/>

To help offset the cost of Bible Camp for those who would like to attend, the following help is available to those who attend a full week of camp:

Helping Hands.....	\$100
Endowment Fund	\$150
Pastor Kristine & Rich	\$100
Kviteseid Church.....	\$150



Faith Milestones

In April we will celebrate two faith milestones in the lives of our young people.

Six young people will attend first communion classes in preparation to receive Holy Communion for the first time. They will receive their first communion on Maundy Thursday April 17. They are: Tyson Joyce, Greta Link, Colton Moen, Huxton Trager, Chase Schuerman and Sawyer Sachariason.

The second milestone in April is confirmation Sunday on April 27. Four of our young people will affirm their baptism: Mason Erp, Carter Moen, Parker Spray and Eva Trager. When they were baptized, their parents made promises for them. Now they will affirm these promises for themselves.

Come and support our young people as they receive first communion and affirm their baptism.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Dawson-Boyd boys basketball team on winning the state class 1A state championship! Gunner Liebl is a member of the team.

Congratulations also to the Montevideo boys basketball team on making it to the state tournament and placing 5th in class 2A.

Congratulations to the Lac qui Parle/Dawson-Boyd Danceline Jazz and Kick teams for their 1st place finishes in the state class A tournament in February.

Congratulations also to the Montevideo Danceline Jazz and Kick teams for advancing to the state tournament in February. Gabby Augeson and Daisy Sachariason are members of the team.



LOCAL NEWS

April

Job Opening

*Parish Assistant and
Financial Secretary*

Kviteseid is looking to fill the positions of parish assistant and financial secretary. These are two separate jobs so the positions can



be filled by one person or two different people. The two jobs together require about 30 hours

of work and starting date for both is May 1st. Talk to Theresa at church if you have questions about the job requirements.

If you are interested in either of these positions or know of someone who is, drop a letter of interest in the trustees' mail slot at church or contact one of the trustees.

Church Board Meetings

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

Deacons - 6:00 p.m.

Trustees - 7:00 p.m.

Vacation Bible School



Plans are being made to hold Vacation Bible School in early June.

Look for details coming soon!

TWC Bible Study



"Together with Christ"
Bible study will meet in the church fellowship hall at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9th.

Coffee Fellowship

Join us for coffee and fellowship following worship Sunday mornings in the narthex at 10:00 a.m. Please sign up to serve treats to enjoy along with the coffee. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex. The ushers will make the coffee.

Food Shelf Special Offering

\$456 was received for the March food share special offering. The funds will be sent to the Chipewa, Lac qui Parle and Swift County food shelves.



Looking Ahead

SATURDAY
MAY 17

Syttende Mai

SUNDAY
MAY 18

Senior Recognition

Jingle Offering

New this Sunday school year is a jingle offering for kids to put coins in during worship. The kids will decide where the money will be sent.

This
section
removed
for
member
privacy.

LOCAL NEWS

Lac qui Parle Conference

Lac qui Parle Conference Assembly

The Lac qui Parle Conference assembly was held February 23 at Kviteseid. Our conference stretches from Ortonville to Dawson and east to Maynard and consists of 28 churches and two nursing homes.

Judi Bohm, Michelle Ascherman, Gavin Ascherman, Nancy Streed, Rich Isder, Bryan and Talia Schuerman and Pastor Kristine attended from Kviteseid. We had more people attend than any other congregation!

We heard a report from Pastor Don McKee on Heritage Haven, a transitional housing project in Montevideo. Members approved sending \$3,000 from conference funds to this project.

Pastor Don McKee gave a Synod Council Report. The council is working on trying to get more pastors through training. There are 350 pastoral openings in the state of Minnesota. Last year, 126 students graduated from the eight ELCA seminaries. Need to train lay people to help out.

Pastor Mort Meyenburg talked about the synod lay ministry classes that she coordinates for Region 3, which is Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Pastor Don McKee gave an update on our companionship with the Southeastern Diocese in South Africa. Our conference is matched with the KwaNodwengu Circuit. Four people were planning to travel to South Africa in May but due to schedule conflicts, the trip was canceled. Our conference sponsors 30 students in South Africa to go to school. The cost is \$250/student for

a year for two uniforms, room and board and supplies. Funds for the scholarships come from the conference treasury which is supported by the conference churches.

Carla Johnson gave the WELCA report. The Lac qui Parle Conference spring gathering will be held April 22 at Our Savior's in Montevideo. The synod women's gathering will be held May 3 at Vinje in Willmar. Women are welcome to participate in events even if their congregation does not have an organized WELCA.

Gwen Arneson reported on plans for the synod assembly.

The following conference officers were elected: Pastor Mort Meyenburg as conference dean, Ed Delf as chair, Karin Moen as treasurer, Carla Johnson as secretary.

Lac qui Parle Conference WELCA

The Lac qui Parle Women of the ELCA is sponsoring their Spring Gathering on Tuesday, April 22nd at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Montevideo. The speaker is Rev. Gary Mills and the topic is Hebrews 10:19 *"Gathered in to be Sent Forth"*. Men and women are invited. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with the program at 10:00 a.m. To register, call Bernice Oellien at (320) 752-4757 or mail the \$10 registration fee to her at 2570 280th Street, Madison, MN 56256 by April 15th.



SW MN Synod WELCA

The 2025 Synod women's gathering will be held Saturday, May 3rd at Vinje Lutheran Church in Willmar. The theme is *"I Love to Tell the Story"*. Keynote speaker is Rev. Nancy Hansen. Registration fee is \$25. For more information check out their website: <http://www.swmnwelca.org/>.

Also, the SW MN Synod Women's Board is planning a bus trip to tour both Lutheran World Relief and Global Health Ministries in the twin cities on Monday, June 16th. Registration closes May 3rd, or earlier if they reach capacity. The cost is \$20 payable in advance. If you have questions, text or call and leave a message to Cathy Blair at (507) 370-2909 or Karen Skarphol at (507) 822-0785. The Kviteseid church office also has more information if interested. Stops will be made in Redwood Falls, Olivia and Willmar. All women are invited to attend.

Video Team

We are in need of a few more people willing to record, stream, and monitor the camera system to record our worship services. Our hope is to continue streaming our worship services on Facebook but we will be down to only two people doing the recording. Please consider volunteering to be a part of this team so we can continue offering an online worship service each Sunday. Training will be provided. Please let Pastor Kristine know if you are interested.



LOCAL NEWS

Southwestern Minnesota Synod

Synod News

Excerpts from Bishop Dee Pederson's 2024 Annual Report – Part 3

So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

- Romans 12:5

Members One of Another

Praise God, no one is a Christian alone! We were baptized into the body of Christ. We know the truth of the words of St. Paul, that “if one of us suffers, all suffer together, and if one rejoices, all rejoice together.” As our culture and the church are changing, I give thanks for the gift of the partnerships we have as an ELCA synod. These partnerships expand our impact and include:

- colleges & seminaries, campus ministries, advocacy, tackling world hunger, and global partners like LDR & LWR;
- our Mission Developments - House of Grace in Montrose and Reborn Lao Lutheran in Waite Park, and strategic ministry Paz y Esperanza in Willmar – powerful examples of evangelism;
- the accompaniment partnership we share with our Companion Church – the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa. This past June our Synod Assembly was blessed by the presence of Presiding Bishop Nkosinathi Myaka and Diocesan Board Chair Mr. Mkhize. We have much to learn from our friends in the South Eastern Diocese. I ask you to hold our global companions in prayer as they continue to proclaim the Gospel in challenging circumstances,

and yet with deep faith and always – joy and praise to God.

- our global partners of the Ev. Lutheran Church in Jordan & the Holy Land, where I was able to visit two years ago with the Conference of Bishops. I met many of our Lutheran church members and the pastors of our 6 Lutheran congregations who are proclaiming the Gospel in an impossible time. They are surviving with steadfastness and persistence, and most of all, ask for your prayers for the situations in which they live today.

Numbers Together

Reports tell us how our life together is going. Even though our own congregation may not feel the effects of changes in a congregation on the other side of the synod, we are in this together “for better or worse” because we are one in Christ.

The most recent statistical summary for congregations comes from the annual reports completed for 2023. There are 228 congregations in the SW MN Synod; 177 filed an annual report.

Baptized members across the synod decreased from 2022 to 2023. But other numbers were up: average weekly worship on-site and online, and average attendance per congregation on-site and online. (The full report can be found on the synod website under congregations/annual congregation meetings)

Those membership figures may reflect the changed attitudes people place in the importance of “membership” in organizations and specifically, in the institutional church. Yet notice how they also represent how people are slowly emerging to attend worship in per-

son and online as we live out being a both/and church – both in the room and online. Online worship is being accomplished by many congregations with technology as available as the phones we hold in our hands. St. Paul knew that the Good news of Jesus Christ is to be shared. Thank you for proclaiming it near and far.

+ with grace, peace, and love,
*Rev. Dee Pederson, D. Min Bishop,
Southwestern Minnesota Synod,
Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America*

2025 SW MN Synod Assembly

The 2025 Southwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly will be held online and in person June 6-7 at Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter. The theme is “*That My Joy May Be In You.*”

We can have two voting members—one male and one female. If you are interested in being a voting member at synod assembly, talk to Pastor Kristine.

19th Annual Milan Syttende Mai celebration



**Saturday,
May 17th**

Smorgås Tea

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Kviteseid Church Fellowship Hall

Contact Nancy Schneck or
Char Strand if you are willing
to help with the tea

Kviteeid Lutheran Church
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Milan, MN 56262
www.milanslutheranchurch.com

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

KVITESEID 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



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

Parish Assistant - Theresa Erickson
office@milanslutheranchurch.com

