

Kviteeid Voice

**Kviteeid Lutheran
Church**

September 2024

Volume 34 | Number 9

Greetings from Pastor Kristine Isder

LIVE IN LOVE

“Live in love, as Christ loved us.” Ephesians 5:2 (NRSV)

Other translations of this verse:
“Walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us.” (NIV)

“Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ.” (NLT)

Every person is created in the image of God, and when we live in love we become “imitators of God” (Ephesians 5:1).

We are urged to love each other with that same love that we have received from God.

God’s presence in the world is made known through the love of God’s people.

There’s a necessary connection between claiming to love God, and claiming to have experienced God’s love, and demonstrating that we love our neighbor.

This connection is repeated several times in the Bible.

“Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.” (Romans 13:8)

“Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.” (Romans 13:10)

“For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Galatians 5:14)

“The only thing that counts is faith working through love.” (Galatians 5:6)

“You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” (James 2:8)

In 1 Corinthians 13 Paul wrote that the “greatest gift” is love,

without which we are merely a noisy nuisance.

“Those who say, ‘I love God,’ and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.” (1 John 4:20-21)

Jesus said that loving your neighbor is the greatest commandment.

“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)

In addition to being repeated throughout the New Testament,

continued on page 3

STEWARDSHIP

Contributions, Gifts, Memorials & Worship



FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Fund
2024 Financial Responsibilities
\$251,736

Checking Register
for the General Fund

7/1/24 balance:	\$6,282
July income:	\$19,145
July expenses:	\$21,091
7/31/24 balance:	\$4,336

Worship Offerings & Attendance



July 28	\$4,266	33
August 4	\$1,420	37
August 11	\$1,156	32
August 18	\$379	31
August 25	\$1,397	39

Online Giving ...

Visit our website at

milanslutheranchurch.com



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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.

MEMORIALS
and
GIFTS

None to Report

9/11
PATRIOT DAY
WE WILL NEVER FORGET

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

this commandment was also repeated by Christian writers in the centuries after the first believers.

"Our care for the derelict and our active love," writes the African Tertullian, "have become our distinctive sign... See, they say, how they love one another and how ready they are to die for each other."

"Blessed is the one who can love all people equally," said Maximos the Confessor, "always thinking good of everyone."

John the evangelist, who wrote the gospel of John and the book of Revelation, is reported to have preached at Ephesus into his nineties.

By that time, John was so feeble that he had to be carried into the church on a stretcher. When he could no longer preach a normal sermon,

he would lean up on one elbow.

The only thing he said was, "Little children, love one another." People would then carry him back out of the church.

This continued for weeks.

Every week he repeated his one-sentence sermon: "Little children, love one another."

Wearied of hearing the same sermon, the congregation finally asked, "Master, why do you always say this?"

"Because" John replied, "it is the Lord's command, and if this only is done, it is enough."

The farmer-poet Wendell Berry writes:

*"I know that I have life
only insofar as I have love.*

*I have no love
except it come from Thee.*

*Help me, please, to carry
this candle against the wind."*

Go out into the world and spread God's love.



Sunday, September 15

9:45 a.m.

**in the sanctuary
following worship**



This meeting is to discuss and vote on the landscaping and structural repairs to the east side of the church and by the bell tower.

Please put it on your calendar.

2024 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
V. Pres: Rob Schwendemann
Secretary: Sherry Norby
Treasurer: Andy Streed

Board of Deacons

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

Board of Trustees

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

Board of Education

**Sue Streed, Emily Heinrich,
Tiffany Moen, Michelle
Ascheman, Shea Joyce**

Helping Hands Board

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

WORSHIP NEWS

September Schedules



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.

Teacher Installation and Bible Presentation

Our Sunday School Teachers will be installed during worship on Sunday, September 22nd. Also that Sunday, Bibles will be presented to our 3rd grade and 7th grade students.

Church Council and Board Meetings

Wednesday, September 18



Deacons - 6:00 p.m.
Trustees - 7:00 p.m.
Joint Council - 7:30 p.m.

Deacon Communion Setup

- 8 - Cindy Kanten
- 15 - Heidi Spray

Acolytes

- 15 - Carter Moen
- 22 - Eva Trager
- 29 - Parker Spray

Lectors

- 1 - Nancy Streed
- 8 - Teresa Olson
- 15 - Judy Thompson
- 22 - Charlie Hanson
- 29 - Sherry Norby

Media Operators

- 1 - None Needed
- 8 - Paul Tostenson
- 15 - Carter Moen
- 22 - Isaac Hanson
- 29 - Matt Schuerman

Video Recorders

- 1 - None Needed
- 8 - John Hanson
- 15 - Theresa Erickson
- 22 - Rich Isder
- 29 - Theresa Erickson

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 3

Captain - Bryan Schuerman
289-3127

Paul Belseth
Wade Kittelson
Bruce Loose
Tim Streed
Paul Tostenson

TWC Bible Study

Wednesday, September 11

1:30 p.m.



Meet in the Fellowship Hall

Lakeside Worship Service

at Milan Beach Resort

(Randall's - Lac qui Parle Lake)

Sunday, September 1st - 9:30 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 be given to the area food shelves

Free will donation for coffee and goodies following worship.

WORSHIP NEWS

September Sundays

Sundays in September

SEPTEMBER 1

"Lakeside Worship"

at Milan Beach Resort
at 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 8

"Rally Sunday" and "God's Work Our Hands" Sunday

Worship with communion
at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School Balloon Release
at 9:45 a.m.

Service Projects at 10:00 a.m.
Dinner at 11:15 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 15

Worship with communion
at 9:00 a.m.

Special Congregational Meeting
at 9:45 a.m.

Kviteseid Open House
with Games, Activities, and a
Cook-Out to follow meeting

SEPTEMBER 22

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

**Installation of Sunday School
Teachers and Bible Presentation**
during worship

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 29

"Casual Sunday"

Worship at 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

Church Cleaning
following worship
Potluck Dinner
following church cleaning

God's Work. Our Hands Sunday.

Service Project Day

On Sunday, September 8, we will be working on service projects.

People of all ages can work together.

What can you do?

1. Come and help on September 8!
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:

- 9:00 Worship with communion and sending out.
- 9:45 Balloon release.
- 10:00 Work on service projects.
- 11:15 Gather back at church for a meal together.
Dinner will be provided, thanks to a Thrivent grant.

Projects:

- Pack military boxes.
- Assemble layettes.
- Roll cloth bandages.
- Tie quilts.
- Make cards/color pictures for military boxes and shut ins.
- Clean up road ditch and around town.
- Pull weeds around church.
- Visit. Do you ever think, "I should visit ___"? Well, here's your chance. Take this opportunity to go visit them.

Parents are encouraged to work on projects with their kids. There will be projects for people from age 2 to 100! It's a great time to work together and get to know other members of the church.

Please come and join us as we do God's Work with Our Hands!

Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name, sharing the good news of your Gospel.

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.

Come and see what's happening!



LOCAL NEWS

Helping Hands

Helping Hands

The time has come for schedules and lots of activities to begin and busy lives to share! Take care everyone!

Thank you to everyone who came to our workshop on August 12. We ripped lots of sheets for bandages for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, sewed some batting together and had lots of fun, good food and lots of laughs! Do come the next time we do this! It is fun!

God's Work, Our Hands is Sunday, September 8. Worship is at 9:00 a.m. and activities will follow the service. There are lots of fun activities planned for all ages. Service Group 2, chairpersons, Val/Char Johnson, Ken/Cindy Lee, Naomi Streed, has a great lunch planned. Plan to be there and forego cooking for a Sunday! There will be more information about the day elsewhere in this mailer. Love to see lots of kids there! Do plan to attend! It will be a fun day of fellowship!

Thank you to Delores Running for the Thrivent card she shared for lunch for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. You are so generous Delores!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you to all who have shared Thrivent cards! It is so helpful!

Service Group 3, chairpersons, Theresa Erickson, Rob/Karla Schwendemann, Ray/Jessica Trager, are in charge of the next funeral luncheon. Stay healthy everyone!

All the best to the teachers and students of all ages as they go back to school! Prayers for a great school experience!

Rally Sunday

The 2024-2025 Sunday School year starts on September 8th. All students age 3 through 12th grade are welcome. Sunday School is held each Sunday following worship starting at 10:00 a.m. except on some holiday weekends and some weekends with longer school breaks. The balloon release is at 9:45 a.m. with time to help with service projects following.

Military Boxes

Military boxes will be packed on Sunday, September 8th at God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. Plans are to fill 18 boxes. Items that can be sent are: candy, jerky, raisins, licorice, microwave popcorn or baked goods (4-6 in a plastic bag). Monetary donations are also appreciated.

Layettes

We will again be putting together layettes for God's Work Our Hands on Sunday, September 8. Last September we made 40 layettes which was super! We hope to do as many or more this year.

Needed are: washcloths, ivory bar soap, towels (52 inches long), and blankets (30 by 30, 36 by 36, or 42 by 42 inches).

Contact Cathy Olson at 289-3066 if you have questions. Thank you for your help in this project.



Sunday, September 15

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

Games
Activities
Fellowship
Cook-Out



will follow worship and the congregational meeting

Come join the Sunday School in some fun events as they enter the new Sunday School year.

ALL ARE INVITED
to join in the FUN!



FUNERAL

SERVICE GROUPS

Serving the next funeral will be Group 3.

Service Group 3 chairpersons are:

Theresa Erickson	734-4879
Rob & Karla Schwendemann	320-226-3700
Ray & Jessica Trager	320-309-4467



LOCAL NEWS

Letters of Thanks

Thank You

Thank you so much for your donation of the beautiful quilts. We appreciate them so much!

The quilts will be given out at Christmas time to families in need.

- The Santa Anonymous Program,
Chippewa County Family
Services

* * * * *

On behalf of Swift County Food Shelf, we would like to thank you for your donation of \$83.00 made on July 19, 2024.

Swift County Food Shelf relies on the generosity of donors such as yourself and is grateful for your support.

Thank you once again.

- Swift County Food Shelf,
Swift County Outreach

Thank you for sharing \$84.00 to the Lac qui Parle Community Food Shelf from the Lakeside service. Your congregation is such a great supporter of our food shelf even though you aren't in our county. It seems we aren't getting what we need from Second Harvest Heartland so we have to buy from Jubilee in town which costs more. Thanks again for your donation!

- Lac qui Parle Community
Food Shelf

Jingle Offering

New this Sunday School year is a jingle offering for kids during worship. Bring your coins and put them in the can and make some noise!



The first Sunday will be September 8.

The kids will decide where the money will be sent.

Church Cleaning

Church cleaning will follow worship on Sunday, September 29.

Wear casual clothes and bring cleaning supplies.

Bring a hotdish or salad to share for potluck dinner.



Red Cross Bloodmobile

will be here on

Monday, September 23rd

from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit www.RedCrossBlood.org

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LOCAL NEWS

Southwest Minnesota Synod

Synod News

Living Faithfully in this Election Season

+Bp. Dee Pederson

Dear friends - If the news these days is giving you whiplash, you are not alone! We have entered an election season that seems more contentious and emotional than ever before. Relationship tensions across our communities and congregations, and within families are strong.

So how do live together as the church in these times? How do we regard one another?

Remember that:

The people with whom we worship are beloved children of God, each one created in the image of God. (Genesis 1)

Jesus Christ has made us one. We are together in Christ, not alone. It's about unity, not uniformity.

God gave us two ears and one mouth. Listening to others is a valued and sometimes learned practice. Olympic athletes practice their skills. We as Christians get to practice love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. (Galatians 5)

Things we post on social media are there forever. Be intentional about how you engage in conversations in posts. It is far easier to share memes that demonize others, rather than those that exhibit kindness.

As the ELCA, we have plenty of resources that can be helpful. And now, especially as the ELCA is suddenly named nationally, from a variety of perspectives. A primary document is: *Being A Public Church.pdf* (elca.org).

Another resource document is: *Political Activity and Tax Status.pdf* (elca.org).

Short story: because of our tax status, neither synods nor congregations may support or endorse candidates for office, but they are permitted to engage in issue advocacy and neutral political activity (e.g., non-partisan registration drives, serving as a polling location, etc.). Pastors, church employees, and church members can endorse or support candidates, but only if it is clear that they are acting in their personal capacity and not in their capacity as leaders or employees of their congregations or as representing the whole congregation.

As rostered ministers discuss in boundaries training, this can be blurry because many pastors serve in areas where they are always recognized and greeted as "Pastor." So, please think twice before putting your pastor on the spot. Pastors and churches cannot endorse a candidate from the pulpit or on the congregation's Facebook page, or place a candidate's political advertising on the congregation's lawn.

Additional study resources from the ELCA that can be found on ELCA.org:

The 1991 Social Statement, *Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective*.

The Social Message, *Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy*.

And the new draft statement, *Civic Life and Faith*. The task force is receiving feedback and comments until Sept. 24, 2024. Do engage.

Prayers for this season from the Faithful Living in Society section of the All Creation Sings hymnal (page 50):

Sovereign God, your Son Jesus lived within the structures of society even as he spoke truth to those in power and challenged systems of oppression. Empower us to be coura-

geous disciples and responsible citizens. Grant that our life in the public realm be grounded in love for our neighbors, care for the most vulnerable in our midst, and respect for the common life we share, following the example of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, our gracious giver, your Son Jesus taught us that where our treasure is there our hearts will be also. Teach us to love people more than money, relationships more than things, and you above all, that the way we live will reflect what we truly value and believe. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who emptied himself in love for us, and now reigns with you and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

Ornament Bead Class

Jan Beyerl will have an ornament bead class on Wednesday, September 25 at 1 p.m. at Big Bend Church. Kviteseid members are invited to attend.

Have old jewelry laying around that you don't know what to do with? Do you have jewelry from loved ones that have passed away and you are looking for ways to use the jewelry to make family keepsakes?

Bring your old earrings, bracelets, or necklaces and get lessons in how to convert them into beautiful Christmas ornaments or suncatchers. Or Jan might have some spare jewelry too if you don't. Just come and share in the fun and see what it's about!

Please call or text Jan at 320-979-4728 so she has an idea of how many to prepare for.

Please bring a glue gun and cutter/pliers if you have one. Cost is \$5 for supplies.



Kviteeid Lutheran Church
PO Box 31
Milan, MN 56262
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. ✝
- ✝ 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

