

Eden Evangelical LUTHERAN CHURCH

Life in Eden

Visit our Website



From the Pastor

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. Sing praises to the Lord, O you God's faithful ones, and give thanks to God's holy name. For God's anger is but for a moment; God's favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning - Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper! You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever. -Psalm 30

Grace and peace to you from God our Parent, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Amen. Alleluia Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia! Happy Easter to you this Paschal season. We call it the Paschal season because this is when Christ passed over from death to life (in Greek the verb for pass-over is pascha.) The candle we light at baptisms is also called the paschal candle for the same reason, it is the candle that represents our own pascha, as we daily die to sin and rise through those waters to new life.

These pascha moments are not just fancy Greek words, or things that happened long ago on some distant Easter Morning when Christ's body refused to be there in the tomb for its spice bath appointment that the

women had prepared. But the paschal resurrections of Easter, are things we can experience in our day to day lives. The psalmist here celebrates one of those paschas from death to life. Sometimes, like with the psalmist we need to be dragged through them by God, as God had to drag the psalmist's soul from the place of the dead and restore him to life.

You would think the way my daughter approaches nap time, that it was the end of the world. All that is needed is for us to pass over the threshold into her room and the screaming and crying starts as if I was dragging her off to die. I keep telling her, that I do not understand why she is so averse to sleep. Because everyone, including her feels better once she gets some. But she is still not convinced that nap-time is a good thing. All the same, I have seen her pass over into sleep. I have seen her restored and freshly energized after she has been dragged through to a nap. And I know that sleep is good for her and for us as parents. I am living out with her every day the psalmists phrase: "weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning."

In the same way, the beginning of a pascha in our lives is not always pleasant. Once we cross over the threshold of change, there are plenty of excuses for us to scream and wail. But the promise of Psalm 30 is that this discomfort is not permanent. God's anger is but for a moment, but God's favor is for a lifetime. The tears before nap -time do not last nearly as long as the energy that my little one gets once she is rested. The weather might be throwing tantrums and having cold fits and snow flurries well through March and April, but they will not last as long as the new growth in the trees that comes with spring, and the blooming of the flowers. The first-day jitters of a new school year or a new job might be very daunting, but they do not come close to the outlasting growth and verdure that the year(s) ahead will bring.

So sing praises to the Lord, O you God's faithful ones, and give thanks to god's holy name. For this Paschal Season, God has once again passed over from death to life, and turns our mourning into dancing. Amen.

-Pastor Tommy Richter



May Birthdays

5/02 Beryl Davis
5/03 Kim Steinhoff
5/06 Kenya Oas
5/07 Kelsey Murk
5/08 Ruth Elavsky
5/08 Todd Brock
5/08 Violet Dennis
5/10 Matthew Mattson
5/13 Alex Paquette
5/18 Joni Peffers

5/21 Paula Brock
5/23 Karen Scott
5/24 Madeline Cole
5/24 Sean Harmon
5/25 Lorena Mahoski
5/25 Landon Peters
5/26 Curt Erickson
5/29 John Cromell
5/30 Bryan Burkhalter

Thank Yous

Thank you to Eden's Memorial Fund for their continued support to maintain the Circle Garden, it is appreciated!

Thank you to Joanie Hinsa for sponsoring flowers for our worship space for the month of May.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Lenten Socks & Underwear Challenge. Your generosity collected a total of 132 pair of socks and 84 underwear. GOOD JOB!!

Eden will be celebrating our Class of 2022 graduates on Sunday, May 15th. Please join us when we recognize the students during the church service and stay for refreshments following the service. This year's graduates are Alex VanZant, Matthew Lindquist, Skylar Campbell, Madeline Cole, Madison Savola, Lori Mattson, and Logan Peters.

Scholarship Fund Report

Scholarships were awarded to:

Kelsea Ackerman, Marissa Ackerman, Christian Cole, Gabriel Cole, Paul LeVeque, and Alexis Walther

Memorial Fund Report

In Memory Of

GEORGE MANNISTO, JR.

Joanie Hinsa

Harry & Ruth Lindquist

Jean Hayes

Curt & Judy Erickson

George & Anne Balko

Doris Ritter

Billie Lindquist

In Memory Of

PHYLLIS WYS

Joe & Lee Paquette

Jean Hayes

Happening in Munising

The Alger County Youth Committee is sponsoring an alcohol free All-Night Graduation Party for the Class of 2022. Each student attending will receive a gift valued at \$30 or more, with several larger prizes to be awarded. The committee is asking for donations of cash, prizes, food or drinks. If you would like to support this effort, you can send money to the Alger County Youth Committee, PO Box 135, Munising, MI 49862. Pre-addressed envelopes will be available in the narthex, and checks should be made out to the committee. They are a non-profit organization so your contribution is tax deductible. If you would like to donate food, drink or prizes, we will collect them in Eden's kitchen and get them to the committee. The party will be held May 28, so the committee is asking for donations to be received not later than May 21.



Financial Snapshot For Apr.

		YTD
Income	\$ 11,500.00	\$40,263.46
Expenses	\$ 5,533.0	\$23,142.60

Pulpit Supply for May

May 7&8- Pastor Breanne Johnson

May 14&15- Bruce Dausey

May 21&22-Elaine Robbins

May 28&29-Pastor Ellie Russey

Honoring Our Graduates

We will have a special service and message honoring our High School graduates on Sunday May 14th. Graduates will receive a special blessing and a gift so we hope to see you then. Congratulations!





Synod Assembly

Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly workshops are open to everyone! The interactive programs listed below are 50 minutes long, with time for questions and comments. Zoom links will be posted on the Synod Assembly website prior to each workshop. Advance registration is not required and everyone is welcome!

My Bias, My Privilege: How Do We Continue The Conversation of Racial Equity? with the Rev. Jared Howard, Faith, Calumet

Monday, May 9 at 5 ET / 4 pm CT & Wednesday, May 11 at 11 am ET / 10 am CT

As the topics of race and racism continue to be points of hurt for our siblings of color, we are called to confront those pieces of ourselves that participate, known and unknown, in systems and scenarios that continue to harm our neighbor. Using resources from the Wisconsin Council of Churches and the United Church of Christ, we will continue to have difficult conversations about race. Together we hope to identify some of our own biases in an effort to actively address racial disparities in ourselves and our own communities.

All Creation Sings with Lucas Wickstrom and Dave Dagenais

Monday, May 9 at 6 pm ET / 5 pm CT

An introduction to the newest worship supplement from Augsburg Fortress. Hand in hand with Evangelical Lutheran Worship, this supplement invites us to expand our prayer and song, joining our voices with the praise and sighs of the whole creation God so marvelously made. We will explore briefly:

- Two new liturgies of Holy Communion with new musical settings.
- A Service of Word and Prayer designed especially for contemplative worship.
- More than seventy-five new prayers and liturgical forms for diverse occasions and circumstances.
- Approximately 200 hymns and songs, many of them newly created over the last fifteen years, supporting the church year and a wide range of topics.

Youth Ministry in the Northern Great Lakes Synod with Stefanie Ehle, NGLS Youth Ministry Coordinator and Amanda Rasner, Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Director

Monday, May 9 at 7 pm ET / 6 pm CT & Thursday, May 12 at 10 am ET / 9 am CT

Join Stefanie Ehle and Amanda Rasner for an update on youth ministry in our Synod. There will be time to learn about upcoming faith formation opportunities for youth, share ideas about what is working in your congregation, and hear what we can all do to “Grow Younger.”

Nurturing Hope: Building a Lay Visitation Team with Rev. Micah Cavaleri, Grace, South Range

Tuesday, May 10 at 6 pm ET / 5 pm CT & Thursday, May 12 at 4 pm ET / 3 pm CT

Lynne Baab’s book *Nurturing Hope: Pastoral Care in the Twenty-First Century* challenges us to reimagine how we care for one another in the Church. “Pastoral care” isn’t just for the pastor anymore. As Christians, we are all called to care for one another. Using *Nurturing Hope* as a framework, we will look at Grace Lutheran Church’s experiment in building a Lay Visitation team.

Creating, Maintaining and Crossing Bridges with Sister Noreen Stevens, Minister of Word and Service

Tuesday, May 10 at 7 pm ET / 6 pm CT and Wednesday, May 11 at 4 pm ET / 3 pm CT

Called to serve at the intersection of church and society, ELCA Deacons create, maintain and cross bridges in their ministry. Explore the diversity of their ministries grounded in diakonia and consider the bridges needing attention or needing to be constructed in God’s beautiful, broken world.

One Size Fits Nobody: A Tiered Approach to Stewardship with Pastor Mike Markwell, Immanuel, Escanaba

Wednesday, May 11 at 1 pm ET / 12 noon CT & Thursday, May 12 at 7 pm ET / 6 pm CT

Does your congregation send out one stewardship letter to all your members? Does a recent college graduate receive the same materials and messaging as a top tier donor in their 90s? In this workshop we will look at how a tiered approach to stewardship will better meet the needs and resources of the members in our congregations and encourage generosity.

Taco, Cat, Goat, Bible, Pizza: Interpreting the Word as a Lutheran Today with Rev. Sarah Semmler Smith, Campus Pastor, Finlandia University
Wednesday, May 11 at 7 pm ET / 6 pm CT

When two people look at a frog, they both can agree it is a frog. But one might see an amphibian in the web of life, where the other sees only the potential for warts, and still another, a possible prince. When two Christians from different backgrounds look at the Bible, they can both agree it is sacred scripture. But how? To what end, and what authority? How can two people look at the exact same passage, and come to vastly different understandings of what it means? In this workshop, we'll explore how ELCA Lutherans approach the Bible, and participants will walk away with a stronger sense of how to apply the Word to their daily life and values.