



Healing Waters Parish

Gathered in Faith ~ Sent to Serve

Augustana – Bergen – St. Lucas

An area parish of Lutheran churches in Yellow Medicine County, Minnesota

May 2020 Newsletter

www.healingwatersparish.org

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Grace, Mercy, and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

May was supposed to be a busy month. Barbecues, motorcycle outings, getting together with friends and family as the days grow longer and warmer, planting season, Memorial Day events, craft shows, concerts and sports games, graduation and family celebrations, and of course church events – work days, worship, small groups, and so on... I'm sure you can complete the list for yourselves as well. And now we're faced with the prospect of not being able to do any of these things anytime soon – even if the social distancing measures get lifted in the coming month or two, lots of events have already preemptively been cancelled.

This whole situation is frustrating, there is no other way to say it. It's frustrating to have to cancel all of these events, and of course that frustration is compounded by the insecurity and uncertainty around the timeline of the coming months – when can we return to grocery shopping like we used to, when can we celebrate with family gatherings, and when can we come back to church? Naturally, no one has a definitive answer at the moment, and I would be wary of voices who claim to have a complete understanding of the situation.

But perhaps the most important issue this pandemic has shown us so far is that individualism – every person for themselves – doesn't work anymore. We have been so conditioned to think that interconnectedness with and dependence on each other are either wishful thinking or actively harmful that we have started apologizing for reaching out to those around us. We find ourselves forced to try and survive extraordinary, stressful, and frightening situations like today on our own, despite history and human evolution clearly proving that this approach does not work.

So what do we do in a situation when we really don't know what is going to happen, and on what kind of schedule? How do we organize our lives now, individually and communally? How do we find stability when just about everything seems unstable?

In the past, perhaps too often we have given advice in this way: "reach out if you need me, but especially build a relationship with God – pray, meditate, and read devotionals and the Bible." I would suggest that that kind of advice actually reverts the responsibility to care for us individually from the community back to the individual that is suffering. Instead, I want us to try and turn it around: if you find yourselves in distress – whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or spiritually – reach out to God, yes. *But especially reach out to me (Vicar Raphaela), your friends and family, and doctors, therapists, and counselors.*


~Continued on next page

What this pandemic has taught us is that we have the duty and the immense privilege both to care for each other, and the same duty and privilege to seek care from others. It may seem like this idea is far removed from the Gospel, but it actually could not be closer: not only did God send out missionaries like Paul who stayed in consistent contact with their congregations to offer care and support, but in the early churches it was common practice to share everything so that no one would go hungry, naked, cold, or otherwise in need.

The coming months and quite possibly years will not be easy, no doubt. But we will be able to survive and quite possibly even thrive through and after this crisis if we find ways to emulate the early church's example of generosity and active concern for each other beyond our nuclear families. God calls us not only to have faith in God, but to sustain each other in life and faith. I encourage you to reach out to offer and seek support, and I expressly offer my time, resources, and energy to care for you. Most of you have my contact information, but just in case you do not have it yet, my phone number is 317-270-4765, and my email address is Raphaela.Mueller.mail@gmail.com. Call, text, or email me – I am always here to listen.

God's peace to you all, Amen. ~Vicar Raphaella Mueller~

OFFICE & CONTACT INFORMATION

<p><u>Contact Information</u> Vicar Raphaella Mueller 317-270-4765 Raphaela.Mueller.mail@gmail.com YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdshsByvsreGn5J_ledHTCw/videos?view_as=subscriber</p> <p>Healing Waters Parish Staff Angie Thostenson 507-766-0909 office@healingwatersparish.org</p> <p>Augustana Office Nancy Chasteen 320-226-1529/320-669-7427 Nchasteen68@hotmail.com</p> <p>Bergen Office Cindy Skulstad 320-841-1780 Cskulstad5@gmail.com</p> <p>St. Lucas Office Ronda Gregg Herigon 507-530-3858 rbherigon@starpoint.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Thank you for helping with the April newsletter assembly: Angie Thostenson</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Weather Related Cancellations of Worship Services, Sunday School, or Confirmation: Website – www.healingwatersparish.org Facebook – Healing Waters Parish Radio - KMHL – 1400 AM (Marshall) KDMA – 1460 AM (Montevideo)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Worship Schedule</u></p> <p>Sunday, May 3 – Live online worship at 10:00 am Sunday, May 10 - Live online worship at 7:00 am Sunday, May 17 - Live online worship at 7:00 am Sunday, May 24 - Live online worship at 7:00 am Sunday, May 31 - Live online worship at 7:00 am</p> <p>The Healing Waters Parish council met virtually, and in the face of the still widening outbreak of COVID-19, we have decided to keep our worship services online until May 31st, reassessing along the way.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Raphaela's Office Hours</u></p> <p>Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing, there will not be office hours until further notice. Please contact Raphaella directly if you are in need of assistance or would just like to talk.</p> <p>Please notify us when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a birth or adoption of a child • There is a death in your family • There is a hospitalization in your family • Someone becomes home bound • Someone becomes unemployed • You move or get a new phone number • A child moves out of the house or attends college or whenever there is a cause for sorrow or a cause for joy <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Healing Waters Parish, the body of Christ, wants to bring you Christ's love in all the seasons of your life.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Community Prayer List</u></p> <p>Landyn Berends, Libby Dack, Gail Gregoire, Janet Tantow, Gary Johnson, Jill Boehne, Cindy Buyert, Tony Rodriguez, Adela Espinosa <i>+ Please let our church secretary or the pastors know of any change that should be made to the prayer list.</i></p>		

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS

Augustana Lutheran Church

921 11th Avenue

Clarkfield, MN 56223



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 3	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 10	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 17	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 24	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 31	Live online 10:00 am

**Augustana
Prayer List**
Mae Johnson

As the new tax date is July 15th this year, if you still need a copy of your 2019 contributions to Augustana, please call Karen Kaatz at 320-669-7123.

Council:
Nancy will contact council members to set date of next council meeting.

**Rachel Circle
will not meet
until
September.**

May work group leaders:
Dick & Elaine Petersen

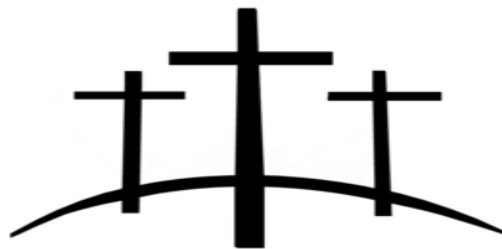
2020 HWP Valhalla Schedule:

Please pick a month you would be willing to bring some goodies like cake, cookies or whatever you choose to serve after church services when Healing Waters Parish is scheduled. Services begin at 2:00 pm on Wednesday. You don't have to be present to serve just leave what you brought before that time. Please supply small paper plates and forks if needed.

The following dates are open: **June 10, July 29, September 16, November 4 and December 16.**

Call Nancy Chasteen at 320-669-7427 or 320-226-1529 if you would be willing to help out.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please don't forget your giving contributions to Augustana during this difficult time. You may mail it to Karen Kaatz at 405 9th Avenue, Clarkfield, MN 56223.



If you have information you would like to have in the newsletter, please contact Nancy Chasteen at 320-669-7427/320-226-1529 or nchasteen68@hotmail.com

BERGEN LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS

Bergen Lutheran Church

4603 310th Ave.
Granite Falls, MN,
56241
320-841-1780



Bergen Prayer List:

Marilyn
Larson, Jo
Pederson,
Bonnie
Westfield

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 3	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 10	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 17	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 24	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 31	Live online 10:00 am

There will be no Sunday School until further notice.



We now have a Facebook page - "Bergen Lutheran Church" Please come check us out!!!

Bergen Women's Meeting will not meet in May.

**Opening Church & Work Group Leaders for:
May: Wayne & Pat Virkus**

ST. LUCAS LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS

St. Lucas Lutheran Church

4232 170th Avenue
Cottonwood, MN 56229



St. Lucas Prayer List

Marilyn
Brusven,
Sheldon
Haaland,
Savannah
Rausch

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 3	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 10	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 17	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 24	Live online 10:00 am
Sunday, May 31	Live online 10:00 am

MAY BIRTHDAYS

01 – Janeen Kompelien
05 – Larry Stensrud
07 – Wesley Anderson
08 – Beulah Anderson
16 – Charlotte Hoff
22 – Norman Anderson
25 – Isaiah Brusven
29 – Teal Bofferding

St. Lucas Lutheran Cemetery Association- Rules and Regulations

Effective January 1, 2016

~Memorial Day flowers and decorations are permitted one week before and one week after Memorial Day.
~Flowers and decorations at other times must not interfere with the maintenance and care of the cemetery. Removal of these will be at the discretion of the cemetery board.
~No planting of trees or plants is permitted.
~Cremated remains may not be scattered anywhere in the cemetery. The remains must be in a container and buried within a burial space approved by the cemetery board.
~The St. Lucas Cemetery assumes no responsibility for vandalism or defacing of interment lots.
~The cemetery board reserves the right to change these rules and regulations as they deem necessary for the operation of the cemetery.