

SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP

For more information, contact
Sugar Creek at 608-734-3113
or check their website at:
www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org



The two quilts that the Mindoro Quilters made for
Sugar Creek's 2020 Quilt Auction brought in
\$225 and \$40 for Sugar Creek.



**Sugar Creek Bible Camp wants to
"thank You" for being so kind to
donate to our auction, volunteer
or make quilts!
Thank You, Thank You!!
Sugar Creek Staff**

2020 Auction raised \$19,435.50
Country Store: \$1,475.55
Sale of Food: \$1482.50
5 K Walk & Run \$2,134.37
Total: \$24,527.92

PASTOR'S PAGE

OCTOBER 2020

Dear Siblings in Christ,

"For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." --2 Timothy 1:7

We have been given a spirit of power, love, and self-control. But over the past few months it sure has seemed like I have been living with a spirit of fear... and I don't think I am alone. I hear over and over again from colleagues, friends, and congregation members how they are living with a heightened level of anxiety. I have heard how people cry and they don't know how to stop. I have heard of overwhelming senses of dread.

Shortly after our Covid-19 shutdown began in March, I found myself unable to breath. I was in the middle of prepping our new set up in Mindoro's sanctuary and fear and panic overtook me. I found myself in the middle of a panic attack that came out of nowhere. I didn't feel like I could talk about my fears and anxieties with others, and so I kept them bottled up, pretending all was okay, until they came rushing out. After this I knew that I was not okay, so I called my primary physician, and got help.

It is important to know that we do not have to pretend to be okay. It is okay to not be okay. But you shouldn't have to feel like you are alone in your feelings. There are people you can talk to, friends, family, your Pastor, or your physician. I am here for you. We are in this together!

These times we are living in are far from over. In fact, they are only amplifying as the Covid-19 numbers in La Crosse County soar, as people we know personally become sick with this disease, and as we get closer and closer to the presidential election.

These times are not ending but we can take comfort in the knowledge that God has seen every thought and image and knows what fears and anxieties we go through. We are not alone. We have been given a spirit of power, and a community of faith that will see us through!

We are in this together! You are not alone!



In Christ,
Pastor Alyssa Mitchell

PASTOR'S PAGE CONTINUED

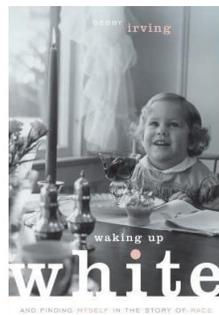


FOOD COLLECTION

Over the month of October, you are invited to bring in non-perishable food items and hygiene products to be given to community food pantries and to benefit our own Little Food Pantries.

"WAKING UP WHITE" SUMMER BOOK CLUB

JOIN IN THE ZOOM DISCUSSION OF "WAKING UP WHITE" BY DEBBIE IRVING. This summer book club will meet at Noon on October 6, 2020. This meeting will cover through the end of the book. Come for respectful conversation as we learn how to be a more multicultural and welcoming community. Sign up by emailing pastorallison@holmenluth.org or contacting Pastor Alyssa.



PASTORAL ACTS IN SEPTEMBER

CONFIRMATION, AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2020:

MINDORO LUTHERAN - MITCHELL BERG, MORGAN DOBBS, BRIELLE WERNER



Sidewalk Sacrament

Would you like me to stop by your driveway for a sidewalk sacrament? Please call me if you're interested. You and other members of your household would come out of your home and remain on the stoop or porch. Bring bread and wine or grape juice from your house. We will share in a brief worship service with me standing 10-12 feet away. You and your family will share communion. I will not have any contact with you or the elements you will eat and drink. You are welcome to share this invitation with adjoining neighbors, explaining to them that they would stay at the front of their respective houses (or 10-12 feet distant from you and from where I could stand). It will take about 10-20 minutes.

-Pastor Alyssa Mitchell

COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

The Tomah Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center is asking for letters and cards for veterans restricted to the VA Community Living Center.

They are in need of uplifting and positive messages, children's artwork, etc.

In order to ensure each veteran receives a card or letter, they need at least 200 each week.

Address letters to:
Tomah VA Medical Center
ATTN: Mail Call (135)
500 East Veterans Street
Tomah, WI, 54660



Elk Creek Lutheran Church of Hale's

Annual Arts & Craft Bazaar

Sunday, October 4th - Outdoors

Refreshments = 11:30 - 3 PM

Country Store / Bake Sale opens at 11:45 AM

Silent Auction & "Norsk" Raffles = Noon - 3 PM

Drawings for All Prizes and Quilt Raffle at 3:15



W16316 County Road OO, Osseo, WI

** This event will be held at a nearby alternate site, if there is inclement weather.

My 11-year-old grandson spent a beautiful Saturday playing video games. His older sister tried coaxing him outside by warning, "Someday you're going to be 30-years-old single and living in mom's basement playing video games all day." His reply, "I can only dream!"

My young son declared, "When I grow up, I'm going to marry you, Mommy."
"You can't marry your own mother," said his older sister.
"Then I'll marry you."
"You can't marry me either."
He looked so confused, so I explained, "You can't marry someone in your own family."
"You mean I have to marry a total stranger?!" he cried.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Holmen Lutheran Church Food Pantry Donations Needed

Laundry Soap
Dish Soap
Kleenex
Deodorant
Juice Boxes
Tuna Helper
Hamburger Helper
Coffee
Potato Sides
Canned Meat/Tuna



Please drop off directly at Holmen Lutheran. Place donations in the box the congregation uses for its food pantry, which is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon Saturday.

22

THE ADRC OF LA CROSSE COUNTY IS PARKED OUTSIDE MINDORO LUTHERAN every Wednesday from 11:30am to 1:00pm to provide frozen meals to seniors 60 years of age or older. Individuals may reserve any desired number of frozen meals to then prepare/consume throughout the week. Reservations are required and voluntary contributions are requested (\$4/meal) however no one is ever denied because of the inability to donate. All donations are kept confidential. To learn more and to reserve meals, call the ADRC at 608-785-5700.



MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

The Mobile Food Pantry will be here on **Tues, Oct 27** from **12:30-1:30pm.**

The WAFER Mobile Food Pantry stops in front of the Mindoro Lutheran Church once a month from 12:30-1:30pm. If you or someone you know needs some extra food to make it through the month, please come to the Mobile Food Pantry. **Families from La Crosse and now Jackson and Monroe counties are invited.** Look for upcoming dates and times at <https://waferlacrosse.org/mobile-pantry/> You can also contact WAFER at 608-782-6003.

22

YOUR CONGREGATIONS AT WORK

Sunday School
Be on the lookout for an email concerning Sunday School beginning.



CHRISTMAS WREATH ORDERS



Wreaths are \$20.00 each. We are getting them from a new location this year. The wreaths are 26" in diameter and come with a red bow & pine cones. Please contact a Confirmation student, Jodi Anderson at 608-386-6187 or 608-857-3550, or the church office to order. Let us know the number of wreaths you would like to order. This year, payment will be due when the wreaths are picked-up or delivered. The wreaths will be available on November 7, 2020.

Orders Due By October 30, 2020.

After much consideration, the **Lewis Valley Fall Festival for 2020 will be cancelled because of COVID-19.** The health of our church members and community are the top priority. Next year will be our 10th year so come celebrate with us!

MINDORO LUTHERAN W-ELCA CANCELS BAZAAR

Because of COVID-19 the annual bazaar at Mindoro Lutheran will be canceled this year. This year, instead of providing auction items, the lunch menu or being a big bidder at the bazaar, we ask you for monetary donations instead. Please mail to MLC, Cindy Tracey, W-ELCA Treasurer, PO Box 167, Mindoro WI 54644, or drop off at the church office. Thank you for your continued support so we can continue to support organizations in our community.

LEWIS VALLEY'S 2020 MISSION FEST DINNER IS CANCELLED due to COVID-19. Please watch for more information about Mission Fest Sunday's guest speaker and possibly a mission's fundraiser.

CAN'T WATCH WORSHIP ON LIVE STREAM OR MAKE IT TO THE DRIVE-IN WORSHIP ON SUNDAY MORNINGS? WATCH WORSHIP ON OUR WEBSITE WHEN IT IS CONVENIENT. HERE'S HOW:
Go to the church website:
<https://www.mindorolewisvalleychurches.org/>
At the top of the page, hover over or click on "Worship".
There will be a drop down with Full Service; click on Full Service
Choose the service you would like to watch.

3

PICTURES FROM OUR MEMBERS



Left: Vehicles coming into the Drive-in Worship on Confirmation Sunday, 9/27/20.

An 85-year-old man was rushed to the hospital for a possible concussion. The doctor asked him a series of questions: "Do you know where you are?" "I'm at Rex Hospital." "What city are you in?" "Raleigh" "Do you know who I am?" "Dr. Hall" The man then turned to the nurse and said, "I hope he doesn't ask me any more questions." "Why?" she asked. "Because all of those answers were on his badge."

Below: Mona's (the office computer) is here! It may not look too exciting to you; but to me it's wonderful! Thank you; Thank you!!



Below: Congratulations to our 2020 Confirmands: Mitchell Berg, Morgan Dobbs, and Brielle Werner They were confirmed at the Drive-in worship at the Lewis Valley parking lot on 9/27/20.



Seemore

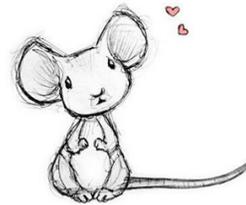
☺ Brielle, Mitchell, and Morgan; CONGRATULATIONS! I can't wait to see the things you do as you continue on your faith journey! I loved hearing your Bible verses, faith statements, and favorite hymns at the Drive-in.

☺ Are you a Thrivent Member? Did you know that you can apply for two \$250 "seed money" cards a year with Thrivent Action Teams? You can do really cool things with that money! Sharon Pfaff used her "seed money" to purchase and gift 101 masks to the Elementary School! Mona Van Ripper used her "seed money" to help put Little Food Pantries at each church to benefit whoever is in need! What could you do? I know what I would do! I would eat those seeds!! And, spend the money card on something to benefit the church or the community.

☺ I had been over to Lillian's house for a while visiting; She sure makes delicious food! Last month, she decided it was time for me to come back to my home at Mindoro Lutheran. The exciting news about coming home - little Kenna found me, and she gave me a great big hug; I even went on a little adventure with her. She and I were both brave and had our picture taken together:



☺ And, it was so fun, and a little scary, in the church office in mid-September, when the UPS worker delivered the new office computer. Mona was so excited; I had to stay in the corner so I wouldn't get squashed when she was jumping up and down! Russell, Nick, Samantha, and Kenna helped her get it up and running!



Seemore the Church Mouse

PICTURES FROM OUR MEMBERS

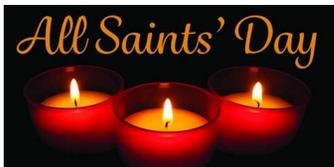


Above and Right: Blessing of Labor service was on 8/30/20. Here are pictures of members with their labor tools. Jack Card, Cindy Tracey, and Pastor Alyssa

A 65- year-old man went to the doctor for his annual check-up. Making conversation, the doctor asked, "How old are your kids?" The man replied, "Forty-four and 39 from my wife who passed away, and from my second wife, 15 and 13." The doctor responded, "That's quite an age difference!" "Well," said the man, "the older ones didn't give me any grandkids, so I made my own."

Reformation Sunday is 10/25/20. Remember to wear red.

NOVEMBER 1, 2020, IS ALL SAINTS SUNDAY. Watch for up-to-date information on our website and on our Facebook pages on how and where we will be remembering our saints.



Church Council Nomination Form Mindoro Lutheran Church ELCA October 2020

I believe that God is leading me to nominate the following person as a spiritual leader to serve on the Mindoro Lutheran Church Council, 2021-2023. I promise to pray for this person, and all those nominated, during their time of discernment.

I nominate _____

CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Jim Hines, President	2022
Cindy Tracey, VP	2020*
Mary Kastenschmidt, Sec.	2021
Rita Cox	2021
John McRae	2021
Ron Moore	2021
Debbie Salek	2021
Sandy Stetzer	2022
Ginny Wegner	2020*

*Per the Church Constitution, C12.02, Cindy Tracey and Ginny Wegner, who have both served only one term, are eligible for nomination.

Please mail or e-mail your nomination form to the church office, PO Box 167, Mindoro WI 54644, by October 26, 2020.

Church Council Nomination Form Lewis Valley Lutheran Church ELCA October 2020

I believe that God is leading me to nominate the following person as a spiritual leader to serve on the Lewis Valley Lutheran Church Council, 2021-2023. I promise to pray for this person, and all those nominated, during their time of discernment.

I nominate _____

CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Gary Wortman, President	2022
Sharon Pfaff, VP	2020*
Becky Whalen, secretary	2022
Barb Anderson, VP	2021
Ivy Endris	2020*
Bill Knutson	2021
Nick Sinotte	2022

*Per the Church Constitution, C12.02, Cindy Tracey and Ginny Wegner, who have both served only one term, are eligible for nomination.

Please mail or e-mail your nomination form to the church office, PO Box 167, Mindoro WI 54644, by October 26, 2020.

YOUR CONGREGATIONS AT WORK

OCTOBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH.

On Sundays, October 4, 11, and 18, our worship services will center around all of us being good stewards in God's creation.

OCTOBER IS CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATION MONTH.

Because we can't meet in-building, our nomination process for new council members will be different this year. On page 20 of this newsletter, are the Lewis Valley and the Mindoro Lutheran nomination forms. Please take time for prayer to help guide you in your decision. Please mail, email, or call the church office with your nomination.



Lutheran World Relief Quilts and Kits

Mindoro Lutheran will pack up the quilts and kits at 6:00pm, on Thursday, October 8, for the LWR boxcar on October 10.

Please have all your school kits, personal care kits, and quilts into the church by 3:00pm Wednesday, October 8.

SCHOOL KITS ARE BEING PUT TOGETHER FOR THE 10/10/2020 LWR BOXCAR.

At LV, if anyone has found good deals on notebooks, a donation of them would be appreciated. LV has all the other school supplies for the kits. At Mindoro, LWR Bags, with the list of school supplies, are available in the narthex for those putting together school kits. And/or school supplies can be brought in for local giving. All items can be dropped off at Mindoro Lutheran during office hours.



Christ in Our Home

October, November, December edition is here!

We have the newest edition of Christ in Our Home at Mindoro Lutheran. If you would like a copy, please come to the church 9:00am-3:00pm, Monday-Friday, ring the bell at the right side of the doors, and the booklets are on the greeting cards bookcase to the right as you walk in.



COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

and the cabinets also need to be ordered and installed when they come in. We need to run the A/C some in the church building due to the humidity in the church. The A/C has not been running regularly with the building not being used much this summer. The Property Committee will spray the church building for spiders this fall.

Other Business: The Fall Festival has been canceled for 2020. Missionfest is still under consideration. Barb is open to thoughts on this topic.

Communion Servers: None needed for October.

Adjourn: Bill moved, Sharon seconded; MMSP.

Respectfully, Becky Whalen, Secretary

(Pending approval at the October meeting)

TO THE CONGREGATIONS OF MINDORO AND LEWIS VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCHES,

It is with the heaviest of heart, that I write this letter. After much consideration, talking with my family, and months of anguishing, I have concluded that at this time, I cannot effectively lead and serve on the Church Council of Mindoro Lutheran Church. Therefore, effective immediately, I will need to step down from my position on the council and as President. Please know this decision was not an easy one for me to make, and it comes with much sadness.

Dealing with work, and the numerous Covid exposures there, and the worry that I myself will contract this disease and bring it to someone I love or care about, either at home or in the community, as well as the isolation and separation of family and friends, has taken a toll on me. I miss being with our family, and friends, and meals with our Mom and Dad, (my in-laws). I miss handshakes and hugs, going out, and the fellowship of the community at Sunday Services. More than anything, I am still struggling to deal with the loss of my beloved Brother in law and best friend Tim, who we lost in May. Dealing with all of these, is what I need to focus on right now.

I look forward to the day when facemasks and 6ft apart, is not a part of our vocabulary. When we gather in person, hug our loved ones, be together with our family, friends and neighbors. I look forward to serving again. Thank you to all, for your understanding.

Your friend in Christ,
Jim Hines

COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

Property: This past week, during a thunderstorm, a tree on Mark Schlifer's property fell onto the church property and took out one of our trees on the south side of the church. Everything has been cleaned up and Ronnie Moore spoke with Mark and he will get rid of what is left of the tree.

Other Business: There are choir robes (that were donated to us) and junior choir robes that have been taking up space in the basement. These have been down there for over 20 years and some of them are getting moldy. There was discussion and Debbie Salek made a motion to dispose of these, seconded by Rita Cox. MMSP

The family of Glen and Louise Sacia would like to purchase a bench with their memorial money. There was discussion regarding this and Debbie Salek will check with the family as to what and where they would like it.

Sandy and Jim Freng donated food money (Sandy always bought the rolls for the outdoor service) and there was discussion as to where was the best use for that money. Cindy Tracey moved, seconded by Mary Kastenschmidt that we use this money to stock our littlest food pantry. MMSP

It was also discussed if we could use money from Hearts and Hammers since we would be constructing the pantries. We will discuss this at the next joint meeting.

Sandy Stetzer moved that we close the meeting and Ronnie Moore seconded it. MMSP

Respectfully, Mary Kastenschmidt

(Pending approval at the October meeting)

Lewis Valley Lutheran Church Council Minutes September 8, 2020

In Attendance: Bill Knutson, Gary Wortman, Ivy Endris, Barb Anderson, Becky Whalen, Sharon Pfaff, Nick Sinotte **Absent:** all in attendance

President Gary Wortman called the meeting to order.

Agenda Approval: Sharon moved, Ivy seconded; MMSP.

Secretary's Report: Sharon moved, Bill seconded; MMSP.

Treasurer's Report: Becky moved, Nick seconded; MMSP.

President's Report: Gary reported that he didn't get any bids for the landscaping, so he and Steve Timm will work on it. Steve Timm and Barb Anderson will also be on the Parsonage Committee, as they are Property Committee members. The electrical work still needs to be completed in the basement.

Team Reports –

Finance: No report.

Property (Church): The flooring in the communion room needs to be installed yet

COUNCILS MEET TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020
6:30PM JOINT COUNCIL AT LEWIS VALLEY;
MINDORO & LEWIS VALLEY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING JOINT

Please let the church office know if you have a
**CHANGE OF ADDRESS, CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER AND/OR CHANGE
OF E-MAIL ADDRESS.**

Church Member Hospital Visits

If you or a family member are in the hospital, please let Pastor Alyssa or the church office know. We can no longer call to find out who is in the hospitals and the chaplains aren't calling to let us know. Pastor Alyssa will do a phone call visit or a virtual visit with you.



COMMITTEES/TEAMS AT LEWIS VALLEY AND MINDORO

CHURCH COUNCILS: LV - President Gary Wortman, VP Sharon Pfaff, Secretary Becky Whalen, Barb Anderson, Ivy Endris, Bill Knutson, Nick Sinotte; MLC - President Jim Hines, VP Cindy Tracey, Secretary Mary Kastenschmidt, Rita Cox, John McRae, Ron Moore, Debbie Salek, Sandy Stetzer, Ginny Wegner

EDUCATION: Betty Pfaff, Nikki Christopherson, Rita Holley, Lara Hines, Beth McRae

FINANCE: MLC: Pastor Alyssa, Jodi Anderson, Jim Hines, Heather Koss, John McRae, Cindy Roberts; LV: Pastor Alyssa, Jodi Anderson, Karen Knutson, Becky Whalen, **LV member needed**

PARSONAGE: Bill Cox, Rich Sinclair, Kay Pfaff, Gary Wortman, Steve Timm, Barb Anderson

PROPERTY: MLC: Ron Moore, Mark Roberts, Rich Sinclair; LV: Gary Wortman, Steve Timm, Barb Anderson

STAFF SUPPORT: Alice Baumer, Lillian Nordin, Carol Taylor, Ginny Wegner

STEWARDSHIP: Rita Cox, Jim Hines, Debbie Peterson, **LV members needed**

WORSHIP: Barb Anderson, Ivy Endris, Debbie Peterson, Sharon Pfaff, Ginny Wegner

LEWIS VALLEY WORSHIP

MISSION STATEMENT: Lewis Valley Lutheran Church is committed to reaching toward God and each other, to grow in faith, fellowship and love. We offer opportunities for the community to experience the grace of God and respond in Christian commitment.

SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL GIVING

Sunday Envelope Offering	\$1,935.00
Sunday Loose Offering	\$45.00
Electronic Giving	\$1,410.00
Pay Pal Giving	\$250.00
Total Giving	\$3,640.00

Lewis Valley Lutheran Income & Expenses for August	
August Income:	\$5,793.96
August Expenses:	\$5,171.32
*of 153 active, confirmed members	

NEEDED AT LEWIS VALLEY
Two Stewardship Team members
(Stewardship Month is October.)
Contact Gary Wortman or the church
office to volunteer or with questions.

MINDORO WORSHIP

MISSION STATEMENT: Mindoro Lutheran Church is committed to reaching toward God and to each other, to grow together in faith, fellowship and love.

SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL GIVING

Sunday Envelope Offering	\$3,240.00
Electronic Giving	\$3,490.00
Pay Pal Giving	\$110.00
Total Giving	\$6,840.00

Mindoro Lutheran Income & Expenses for August	
August Income:	\$9,325.01
August Expenses:	\$6,558.56
*of 238 active, confirmed members	

COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

Staff Support: Pastor Alyssa has sent out the various job descriptions to the group to look over and see if they feel they adequately describe the jobs.

Stewardship: October is going to be Stewardship Month. Pastor Alyssa will get some things lined up for us.

Worship: Worship is going to continue to be drive-in at Lewis Valley until the **next council meeting, October 13, 2020**. The same rules apply. If there is inclement weather Pastor Alyssa, Jared and Sharon/Barb will move to Mindoro and services will be virtual.

Other Business: Jodi informed the group that we didn't receive a summer fill at either church since the tanks were at 85%.

Jodi has sent the money in for the wreaths and they will be here **November 6th**.

Jodi has also filled out online the information for the Rootin Crown. This is a second hand type business and donors and shoppers can designate a registered organization to receive portions of the profits.

Mona's new computer hasn't been ordered yet. They will do that soon. Nick asked that any additional software, something for backing up files and virus software, etc. be ordered so that it is here once the computer comes and he can set it up.

The church directory is coming. There was a snafu and so things are on the slow side. We think they have all been fixed and hopefully they will be here soon.

Ivy Endris moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sandy Stetzer.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Kastenschmidt, Secretary

(Pending approval at the October meeting)

Mindoro Lutheran Church Council Meeting September 8, 2020

Agenda: Mary Kastenschmidt moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Sandy Stetzer. MMSP

Secretary's Report: Mary Kastenschmidt made a motion to approve the secretary's report as written, seconded by Debbie Salek. MMSP

Treasurer's Report: Jodi said that the money has just been coming in and she has been paying the normal bills. There have been no big disbursements.

President's Report: Jim Hines sent a letter to the council requesting that he step down as a council member for a period of time. Cindy Tracey will become the interim president and Ronnie Moore will be our interim vice president. Jim will resume his position when he returns to council.

COUNCIL MINUTES

Joint Council Meeting
Mindoro and Lewis Valley Lutheran Churches
September 8, 2020

Present: Cindy Tracey, Rita Cox, Debbie Salek, Sandy Stetzer, Barb Anderson, Bill Knutson, Jody Anderson, Nick Sinotte, Sharon Pfaff, Becky Whalen, Ronnie Moore, Mary Kastenschmidt and Pastor Alyssa.

Absent: Ginny Wegner, John McRae, and Jim Hines.

Devotions: Each council member was asked to express their high for the week and their low for the week.

Approval of Agenda: Gary Wortman made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Rita Cox. MMSP

Approval of Minutes: Ronnie Moore moved to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Debbie Salek. MMSP

Pastor's Report: She has had no baptisms, funerals or weddings in August. There are less sidewalk sacraments in August and evening prayers services are good. Sunday drive-in services at Lewis Valley are increasing weekly. There are approximately 5-10 more weekly. Pastor Alyssa is teaming up with Holmen, Halfway, and Journey Lutheran to discuss the book "Waking up White". Pastor Alyssa informed the councils that Jim Hines had submitted a letter requesting to step down from council for a period of time.

Education: Pastor Alyssa and Heather Young have been discussing Sunday School and will continue to do so to see if the children can meet in person at the church or if Sunday School will need to be held virtually. The last Sunday in September Mitchell Berg, Brielle Werner, and Morgan Dobbs will be confirmed at the drive-in service at Lewis Valley. Pastor Alyssa is in discussions regarding having confirmation in person.

Outreach: Mona has volunteered to use her Thrivent \$250 to purchase materials to build two littles food pantries; one for each church. There was discussion regarding finding someone to make them or buy a precut one and put it together. It was the consensus to try and find someone who could make them. Sharon Pfaff used her Thrivent money to purchase face masks for students at Melrose-Mindoro.

Parsonage: There was discussion on the remodel and it was felt that we would need updated bids for the work to be done. When John McRae returns, he, Gary Wortman, and Ronnie Moore will seek three contractor bids; an electrical bid, and a bid from a plumber. They are going to be asked to have these bids by the next council meeting so we can get the remodel done as soon as possible and the congregation will know what the cost is to get this done.

Confirmation Students and High School Students

Confirmation Class Information

Classes will be on ZOOM in October 7, 14, 21, & 28, starting with a parents-included meeting on Wednesday, October 7, 2020., at 6:30pm.

Pastor Alyssa will contact you with the ZOOM link.



New Dates. Same Boundless God. #ELCAYG2022 July 24-28, 2022

To learn more about the postponement and the 2022 Gathering, please visit: elca.org/YouthGathering/COVID19.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Women of the ELCA Gathering - We've Moved! Dates, Not Location

We've moved this life-changing event to August 5-8, 2021! Join your sisters of faith in Phoenix for the Gathering 2021. Then begin living out your faith in new and invigorating ways.

Visit welcatg.org for details and registration.



For “God’s Work. Our Hands.” that was on 9/13/20, members decided to build Littlest Food Pantries for both Lewis Valley and Mindoro Lutheran Churches.

Mona used Thrivent Action Team “seed money” to purchase the materials to build the pantries. Gary Wortman has volunteered to build them. And, Ivy Endris has volunteered to paint and decorate them.

Ideas of items that members may donate to keep the pantries full are:

- Cleaning products
- Baby wipes
- Diapers
- Soap (body, baby, and hand)
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Feminine hygiene products
- Healthy snacks for kids (Goldfish, fruit snacks, granola bars, crackers, etc.)
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Cereal
- Rice
- Instant Potatoes
- Pancake mix
- Tortillas
- Bread
- Butter
- Peanut butter/Jelly in plastic container
- Peanuts/Tree nuts
- Baby food
- Beans
- Pasta packs
- Tuna

Freezing temperatures will be here before we want them.

Please think of items for the pantries that won’t freeze and be non-usable.

Visiting is not a good idea right now, but please stay in touch with a call or “just thinking of you” card/letter to our nursing home bound and our homebound. If you need a phone number or an address, please call the church office for it.



THANK YOU

MINDORO CELEBRATION:

In Celebration of Dale & Betty Kirchner’s 64th Wedding Anniversary to the Parsonage Fund from Randy & Sue Loken.

In Celebration of Chauncey & Mary Stetzer’s 65th Wedding Anniversary to the Parsonage Fund from Randy & Sue Loken.

MINDORO MEMORIALS:

A memorial of Patti (Beirne) Peschel to the Sunday School Program from Richard & Tammy Hutschenreuter.

In Memory of Nancy Kish to the Quilting Fund from Bob & Eileen Collins.



To Thank Each One of You

Ardelle, JoAnn, Ruth, Jean, & Sandy,

Knowing people nice as you gives life a brighter touch, And so, to each and all of you - thanks very, very much!

Thank you all for thinking of our mom. She just loved the quilt. She states she has been cold recently so this will help keep her warm with thoughts of all of you. Thank you ladies for all you do!

God’s Blessings, Shirley, Jean, Jane, & Patty

Hello my wonderful friends from Mindoro Lutheran, I always think about you all who came to help us after Katrina. I look at my plate of Jesus walking on water above my door and it reminds me of all the smiling faces that we came to love. Earl is not doing well, he has dementia. He has only long term memory now. I am still here. Please share this letter so everyone who came will know how much they meant to us and countless others. Oh by the way the plate on the wall came from Mr. Anderson. Still get Shirley and Doyle’s Christmas letter. Thank again and God Bless all you wonderful people.

~ Betty Parrish

Dear Lewis Valley Quilters - Ruth Hoff, JoAnn Nelson, Jean Gabrielson, Ardell Adamson, and Sandy McKittreck

Thank you for the friendship quilt you made for me. It is beautiful with the red roses and links.

~Eloise Thum



IN OUR PRAYERS

PRAYED FOR IN SEPTEMBER: Mary Kastensmidt's sister Sharon Ash, Cindy Adamson, Cathy Gabrielson's sister & brother-in-law Karla & Gene Amann & family, Ray Beaser, Les Bryhn, Bob Collins, Rich & Barb Anderson's brother-in-law Tim Devine as he continues on palliative care, Dale & Betty Kirchner's grandson-in-law Garrett Earley as he heals from his surgeries, Lori Ernstes, Jeff Euler, Troy Goodenough, Mona Jolivette's daughter Lori Hudson, Ron & Mary Phillip's great grandson Rashad Isola, Mary Kastenschmidt, Grandparents Dick & Debbie Kirchner on the birth of their grandson Connor Pete Kirchner; Henry & Sharon Ash's niece Carol Lichtenberger, Hunter Linder, Bernice Opland, Pat Paisley, John & Dawn Pierce & family, Melinda Van Riper's friend Amelia Pike, Larry Seekamp, Alma Sennes, Arlene Severson, Nancy Spangler, Russell Van Riper; our healthcare workers and all essential workers; our military men and women; Family & Friends of Steven Graham; and Sally Paisley & Family & Friends of Sally's sister Rhonda Pike.



WE ALSO PRAYED FOR IN SEPTEMBER OUR HOME OR NURSING HOME BOUND

MEMBERS: Audrey Baker, Eloise Thum, Grace Kastenschmidt, Ruby Knudson, Shirley Hoff, and Yvonne & Henry Meyer.

If there is someone that should be added to the prayer list or taken off the list, please let the church office know.

To the Lewis Valley Quilting Group,

Thank you for the very nice quilt you made and delivered to us.
We appreciate it. ~Henry & Yvonne Meyer

Thank you for taking the time out of your day to send a card and celebrate my graduation.

Thank you so much for everything.  Monica Tracey

GOD'S WORD EACH WEEK

You are encouraged to read the Bible each week.
Below are the Sunday readings for this month.
Set aside personal or family time to read each week.

10/04	Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46
10/11	Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14
10/18	Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-13; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22
10/25	Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

FROM BISHOP JIM ARENDS

September 18, 2020

Dear Friends in the La Crosse Area Synod,

We are living in interesting times. I am glad I have been sharing them with you. It is empowering and hopeful to witness what Christ is doing through us as congregations and as synod in the midst of this pandemic. You continue to ensure that the Word of God is proclaimed to our members, to our neighbors and to the world. You continue to feed the hungry, connect with the lonely, protect the most vulnerable among us, and witness for justice. Thank you for what you do in the name of Jesus.

It is my honor to continue to serve with you beyond my two terms in office. I appreciate the opportunity to be a part of our transition to ministry in an epidemic and divided world. I am thankful that I can aim us toward ministry together with our next called bishop. But it is now time for a change.

Since we began postponing and finally cancelled the 2020 La Crosse Area Synod Assembly, I have been discerning with family, friends, colleagues, and our Presiding Bishop. I have prayed. Through much wise council and with a sense of peace I am announcing that I will retire as Bishop of the La Crosse Area and as a called pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on December 31, 2020. I choose to do so for the wellbeing of the synod and for my health and life as husband, father, grandfather, and one with enough years to follow some wisdom.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has already begun a search for an interim bishop to serve starting January 1, 2021, until a newly elected bishop can be installed. I will be available to the interim bishop for consultation. Between now and December 31, I will continue my bishop's duties with full focus and will begin guiding the synod's work toward the transitions to come.

I will be forever grateful for the honor of serving as your bishop. The relationships, the ministry, and the opportunities have been blessing after blessing after blessing. Thank you for your partnership over the past twelve years. Thank you for understanding it is my time to retire. Thank you for your prayers for Lynn's and my future.

Praying peace and blessings for you all,
Rev. James A Arends, Bishop



Anniversaries

Baptismal Anniversaries	
Oct 1	Cassy Schneider Morgan Dobbs
Oct 2	Kyle Opland
Oct 8	Jeremy Anderson Brielle Werner
Oct 9	Henry Kraudy
Oct 11	Barb Anderson
Oct 12	Sharon Pfaff Teri Kirchner Daniel Paisley Tyler Christianson
Oct 13	Shirley Gates Robin Hoff Julia Sallach Kenna Sinotte
Oct 14	Elias Sallach Lincoln Anderson
Oct 15	Karen Hauser
Oct 17	Jordan Knutson Mackenzie Werner
Oct 20	Jenna Euler
Oct 21	Sandra Haag Dawn Hoff Scott Schmidt
Oct 22	Haven Tracey Kyle Korish
Oct 23	Jacqueline Schwier Jackie Seidel-Garcia Mackenzie Pfaff
Oct 24	Dennis Odegaard
Oct 25	Robin Johnson
Oct 26	Joshua Merrell
Oct 27	Bruce Borchert Jessica Kneifl
Oct 29	Lindsay Krause
Oct 31	Blake Young

Wedding Anniversaries	
Oct 4	Jason & Trisha Young
Oct 8	Kegan & Kally Koch
Oct 9	Howard & Dawn Tracey
Oct 11	Dan & Sandra Haag - 45 yrs Rich & Mary Sinclair
Oct 14	Justin & Heather Koss - 20 yrs
Oct 15	Michael & Heather Young
Oct 16	Greg & Patty Kastenschmidt
Oct 19	Jim & Lara Hines
Oct 22	Dustin & Jodi Anderson
Oct 24	Tim & Nicole Tracey
Oct 26	Gary & Sonja Steele
Oct 28	Rob & Crystal Sbraggia - 20 yrs
Oct 30	Keith Pierce & Marlene Anderson

A wife poured her husband, a retired auto mechanic, a cup of herbal tea, then asked how it was. "Excellent," he said. "It smells just like transmission fluid."

My husband told me that I twist everything he says to my advantage. I take that as a compliment.

Happy Birthday!!	
Oct 1	Gary Koss Anthony Hernandez -13
Oct 2	Keith Pierce Jim Hines Monika Tracey
Oct 3	Edrik Jostad - 3
Oct 4	Jane Everitt
Oct 5	Derrick Kneifl
Oct 6	Janice Clott Jacob Merrell
Oct 8	Marcus Berg - 17
Oct 9	Ruth Olson Nick Kunes
Oct 10	Sonja Steele
Oct 11	Kacy Anderson - 17
Oct 12	Rich Anderson
Oct 13	Jennalee Oefstedahl Tajinae Tracey - 17
Oct 14	Jerry Zeroh Mark Roberts Zach Kastenschmidt - 17
Oct 15	Rob Sbraggia
Oct 17	Shari Bockenbauer William Pfaff Crystal Sbraggia Christina Roberts
Oct 18	John Endris Darcy Remus John McRae Blake Young Cassidy Christianson
Oct 23	Wendell Pfaff
Oct 24	Jane Brockway Jean Thompson Greg Kastenschmidt
Oct 26	Jeremy Christianson Johanna Wanie
Oct 27	Melissa Kovacevich
Oct 30	Shirley Olson Julie Goodenough
Oct 31	Brian Haag

Bolded names are members celebrating an 80th Birthday or above. Let's shower them with birthday cards on their special day.



IN LOVING MEMORY	
In Memoriam	
Oct 4	Wayne Simonson
Oct 17	John Ofstedahl
Oct 20	Shirley Severson
Oct 23	Shirley Craig
Oct 24	Carl Hoff
Oct 25	Dale Sutherland

Please let the church office know if a name or date is incorrect or if someone needs to be added. The information is from the church records and all records are not complete.