

The Messenger

AUGUST, 2018

CLAIMED BY CHRIST, GATHERED FOR
WORSHIP, SENT TO SERVE



Pastor's Ponderings

As a congregation of the ELCA, we are in relationship with churches throughout the world, our own nation, and our immediate area, supporting each other in our joys and challenges, taking part in a variety of ministries, united in Jesus' mission to bring life, healing, and wholeness to the world.



Through the Synod expression of our existence as Church, we seek to serve our neighbors, but also to be changed ourselves, intentionally listening to the needs and perspective of others. On Wednesday, August 8, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. we have an opportunity to engage in this deliberate learning and sharing at our very own Concordia! We are hosting an event that our synod's Together Here task force has organized. Together Here is a group of faithful people who are focused on listening to the communities of indigenous peoples in our Synod that we might discover how God might be working in our getting to know each other better. On this particular night, all are welcome to come and hear from Dr. Joseph Bauerkemper who will be helping us to understand treaty rights.

Another task force whose work we are connected to as part of our Synod relationship is the LGBTQ+ accompaniment team, a team of which I am excited to be a part (as is another Concordia member!). As a team, we assist congregations as they discern whether they might be open to calling a pastoral candidate from the LGBTQ+ community. There are a number of candidates for Word and Sacrament ministry who have a difficult time finding an interview (let alone a call) by virtue of their gender identity or sexual orientation. As a task force, we hope to help congregations envision what it might be like to call a pastor from among these qualified, gifted candidates.

We understand that as churches we can do so much more good work together than we could on our own. It is good to be the Church together! It is God's work being accomplished through our partnerships in ministry! As Concordia we are connected to it all!

Pastor Jeff



CLAIMED BY CHRIST

*One Lord, one faith, one
baptism.*
(Ephesians 4:5)



GATHERED FOR WORSHIP

*Worship the Lord with
gladness.*
(Psalm 100:2)



SENT TO SERVE

*"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the
least of these, who are members of my family,
you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40b)*



WORSHIP SCHEDULE 10 A.M.

Sunday, August 5

Time After Pentecost

First Lesson: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Psalm 78:23-29

Second Lesson: Ephesians 4:1-16

Holy Gospel: John 6:24-35



Sunday, August 12

Time After Pentecost

First Lesson: 1 Kings 19:4-8

Psalm 34:1-8

Second Lesson: Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Holy Gospel: John 6:35, 41-51

Bible Study

Sandwich & Scripture is on hiatus until fall.

Youth News

Sunday, August 19

Time After Pentecost

First Lesson: Proverbs 9:1-6

Psalm 34:9-14

Second Lesson: Ephesians 5:15-20

Holy Gospel: John 6:51-58

Concordia Endowment 2018 College

Scholarship Awards: Congratulations to Jacob Carlson and Peter Grunwald as each are recipients of the 2018 college scholarships awards. Each will be awarded \$1000 towards college expenses. Each year, the Concordia Endowment College Scholarships award two students to support their educational journey.

Sunday, August 26

Time After Pentecost

First Lesson: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalm 34:15-22

Second Lesson: Ephesians 6:10-20

Holy Gospel: John 6:56-69



WORSHIP

Worship Matters: Summer Ordinary Time

“Bread of Life”

At the beginning of summer we left the thematic liturgical seasons of the Church Year (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter) and returned to Ordinary Time, the ordinal/counted Sundays of the year that will mark our time until the last Sunday of the Church Year, Christ the King. Our three year cycle of readings provides a rich variety of texts, and during this long ‘green’ season we take time to focus on Christ’s life and teachings and what they mean for our life of faith.

This year (Cycle B), we have an opportunity to enter more deeply into the meaning of a Sacrament we know by many names: Eucharist, Lord’s Supper, Holy Communion, Mass. This sacrament is one of the two central focuses of our weekly worship. The other is the Word of God (read, preached, and sung).

Beginning on July 29, the Lectionary departs from Mark’s Gospel to present the Bread of Life discourse from John. We are invited on a journey that begins with physical bread and moves to spiritual bread as the meaning of Jesus’ life and ministry is developed. Over five weeks we contemplate the full potential of life lived in the gracious love of God expressed in Christ, as Jesus reveals himself as the “living bread” that leads to “life forever.”

Bread and wine bring Jesus to us in a tangible way. We receive the presence of Jesus in our lives – as John would say, we abide with him and he in us. In the Words of Institution we hear, “given for you” and “shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.” In this sacrament, through these words, we remember Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, and forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to each of us. It is a new covenant, achieved not by keeping God’s law, but by receiving his grace.

The past, present, and future are interwoven in this sacrament. All God has done for us (Great Thanksgiving); Christ’s presence – with us and for us – in this community, forgiving our sins and nourishing and sustaining us in our life of faith; and we celebrate “a foretaste of the feast to come.” If you have been receiving communion on a regular basis, you know the welcome presence of Jesus waiting for you. If you have been away for a while, Jesus says “Welcome home. I’m glad you are here – come to the feast that has been prepared for you.” Come and receive the bread and wine. Jesus’ body and blood – given and shed for you – and join with us as we grow as faithful disciples – abiding in Jesus, and he in us, so that we can serve our world in his name .

. . .

PRAY

Let the Prayer Chain members join with you in your prayers and supplications. They are just a phone call away. All prayers are confidential and names or details are not needed. God is aware of all circumstances and waits to hear from you.

Please contact Reba Almquist at 525-6968.

For hospital or other visitations, please contact the office at 728-4229.

God shapes the world by prayer. The more praying there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil.

Mother Teresa
(1910-1997)

Remember in Your Prayers

Please remember the following people who have been hospitalized, under a doctor's care, those recuperating, or those grieving since our last newsletter: The family of Shane Olson, Ellen Johnson, Patti Pearson, Roger Thielen, Phillip Hedges, Carrie Birdseye-Erickson, Clyde Erickson, Roger Erickson, Herluf Christensen, Mary Feiring, Sunny Polling, Kali Wayman, Pastor Joey Bailey, Aline Marling, Alice Knudson, Helene Williams, and Anne Holecek.



Matters of Record

In Memoriam

✠ Shane Timothy Olson
July 10, 2018



Prayer and Visitation Ministry

Please remember those in our congregation who are in nursing homes or are home-bound. Please pray for them and consider stopping by for a visit. Prayer and visitation is an important ministry of the congregation.

At Home: Arnie & Irja Pederson

Barnes Care Assisted Living: Ellen Johnson

Edgewood Vista: Herluf Christensen

Franciscan Health Center: Alice Knudson

Grand Rapids: Helene Williams

Heritage Haven: Warren Roberts

Pines 3: Mary Feiring

COUNCIL PAGE

Claimed by Christ, Gathered for Worship, Sent to Serve

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us (Romans 12:4-6a)

From the Council: Council did not meet in July. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, August 14 at 6 p.m.

June 30, 2018 Financial Report

June 2018	Actual	Budgeted	Year to Date
Income	\$11,995.17	\$14,766.67	\$79,167.34
Expenses	\$13,785.43	\$15,108.00	\$87,359.98
Net	(\$1790.26)	(\$341.33)	(\$8,192.64)

Please continue to hold church leadership in your prayers.

ENCOURAGE

August Birthdays

- 2 Lukas Mayne
Greg Raymond
- 3 Ann Tjepkema
- 4 Lia Saari
- 5 Mary Broman
Gerald DeMeo
- 6 Tamra Carlson
Shelley Michalicek
- 7 Tor Anderson
- 9 Gayle Nelsen
- 10 Michelle Bohlman
- 11 August Marcusen
- 12 Carmen Norlien
Arnie Pederson
- 13 Herluf Christensen
- 15 Chris Bergman
- 16 Debra Vargason
- 18 Ashley Hegman
- 19 Clyde Erickson
Lindsay Premo
- 22 Philip Dennie
- 26 Dylan O'Brien
- 29 Rebecca Collins
Timothy Isaacson
- 30 Carter Meints
Ethel O'Leary
- 31 Drew Dennie



Flower and Sanctuary Candle Sign-up

A nice way to remember a loved one or celebrate a special occasion is to have altar flowers or the sanctuary candle on Sunday morning. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for both. Cost for flowers is \$22 and the candle is \$8. Contact the office with any questions.

Please note that when you have altar flowers for worship, you may take them home following worship. The glass vases must stay at church however.



Equal Exchange Coffee Donations

Equal Exchange coffee donations needed for church coffee supply. Coffee funds are running low. Donation envelopes are available in the narthex information rack. Place an envelope with any donation amount in the offering plate with note "Equal Exchange coffee fund."





The Ladies of Ivy Cottage,
By Julie Klassen

The second book in the *Tales from Ivy Hill* series, *The Ladies of Ivy Cottage*, sees friendships grow stronger, mystery in the air, and new romances bloom.

A gentlewoman in reduced circumstances, Miss Rachel Ashford lives as a guest in Ivy Cottage. With her meager funds rapidly depleting, she is determined to earn her own livelihood . . . somehow. Her friend, Jane Bell, and the other village women encourage her to open a circulating library with the many books she's inherited from her father. As villagers donate additional books and Rachel begins sorting through the volumes, she discovers mysteries hidden among them. A man who once broke her heart helps her search for clues, but both find more than they bargained for.

Rachel's hostess, Mercy Grove, has given up thoughts of suitors and finds fulfillment in managing her girls school. So when several men take an interest in Ivy Cottage, she assumes pretty Miss Ashford is the cause. Exactly what-- or whom--has captured each man's attention? The truth may surprise them all. (From the back of the book)

Given by Marsha Pearson



To Wager Her Heart,
By Tamera Alexander

With fates bound by a shared tragedy, a reformed gambler from the Colorado Territory and a Southern Belle bent on breaking free from society's expectations must work together to achieve their dreams--provided the truth doesn't tear them apart first.

Sylas Rutledge, new owner of the Northeast Line Railroad, invests everything he has into this new venture, partly for the sake of the challenge. But mostly to clear his father's name. One man holds the key to Sy's success--General William Giles Harding of Nashville's Belle Meade Plantation. But Harding is champagne and thoroughbreds, and Sy Rutledge is beer and bullocks.

Sy needs someone to help him maneuver through Nashville's society, and when he meets Alexandra Jamison, he quickly decides he's found his tutor. But he soon discovers that the very train accident his father is blamed for causing is what killed Alexandra's fiance' and shattered her world.

Through connections with the Harding family, Alexandra and Sy become unlikely allies. And despite first impressions, Alexandra gradually finds herself coming to respect and even care for this man. But how can she, when her heart is still spoken for? (From the back of the book)

Given by Marsha Pearson

Ministry Partners



**Lutheran
Social Service**
of Minnesota

Held on June 23rd, the CHUM Rhubarb Festival was a great success with community members enjoying tangy rhubarb treats, juices, brats and more!

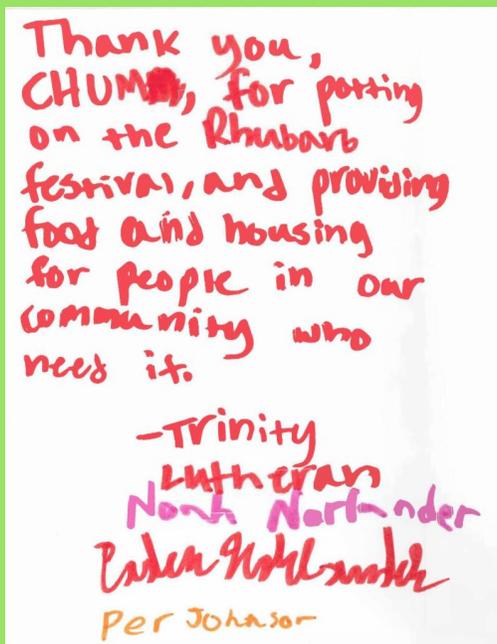
Children of all ages enjoyed the crafts and games, the children's run, the climbing wall and the robotics.

The largest Rhubarb Leaf was submitted by Charles Rines at 35.5 inches across. The largest Rhubarb Stalk was 28.5 inches long submitted by Brenda Vandell, who also won the adult coloring contest.

Thanks to the hundreds of volunteers who worked from 4 hours to 2 months to make this fundraising event a reality. We appreciate all of the congregations who baked and provided volunteers and equipment!

The more than \$65,000 raised will be used to provide food, shelter, dignity and hope to all those who find themselves without a place to shelter or who struggle with food insecurities.

YOU all make CHUM work! Thank you!!
See you next year on June 29, 2019!



Center for Changing Lives Duluth Front desk volunteer

Be the first friendly face people see and help them find their way as they come to the Center for Changing Lives Duluth.

Position description

We are seeking volunteers with great communication skills to cover time at our front desk in the new Center for Changing Lives Duluth. Volunteers will utilize their strong communication skills and friendly attitude to greet youth receiving services, answer phones, distribute mail, receive and log donations, share information about programs, and interact with the public coming to our facility. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about LSS Youth Services as well as make a difference in your community.

We currently have the following time slots available:

Mondays: Noon – 4:30 p.m.
Tuesdays: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 pm
Wednesdays: 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 am and Noon to 4:30 p.m.
Thursdays: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Fridays: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Position details:

Commitment: 2-8 hours per week
Volunteer location: 1422 E Superior St
Duluth, MN
Volunteers for this position need to have good communication skills

For more information:

Please contact Beth.Adams@lssmn.org or 218.529.2233

Ministry Partners NE MN Synod and ELCA

Bishop Aitken's Reflections: "You are God's Resistance"

These were words our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton used when speaking to the 30,000 of us down in Houston three weeks ago for the Youth Gathering. She added that love, God's love is that resistance – working through you. I found that to be powerful.

What needs resisting in our lives, in our culture?

Evil does. Evil found not only in our personal lives, our personal sins, but just as importantly the corporate evil around us and in us, sometimes without our even being aware of it. I will attempt to name some of this as I see it. (I don't begin to see all of it)

- **The need for revenge:** We are surrounded by revenge-talk that seeks and glamorizes revenge rather than redemption
- **The use of violence and violence-talk:** In our personal speech, in our heated political talk, in our quick "fix" to rely on guns rather than the kinder, calmer, intelligent, and compassionate speech of someone like Mr. Rogers - see the new Documentary movie that millions are now watching!
- **The evil of white privilege:** The fact that as a white person (and especially a white male) I can receive so many more services, attention, resources, and open doors than my Native American, Latino, Black, Muslim, or other non-white neighbors
- **The powerful verbiage of racism around us.** It is not to be tolerated as Christians! Scripture teaches we all came from the mind and love and creativity of God, from the very same place!
- **The felt need to be "with our own kind"** a tribalism that undermines God's family, the whole human family, much of it now seen publicly in denying safety to refugees
- **The attempt to Bible-slam those who think differently, pray differently, practice spirituality differently than ourselves**
- **The obsession with money**
- **The proverbial notion that white makes right, and that might makes right**

All of these evils need Christian resistance. Christian resistance is born of the love and courage God has poured into our hearts. It comes with God's Spirit which blows in and through the church, and through our baptismal connection and the Holy Meal with Jesus who is mending the world back together. As we here in the Northeastern MN Synod live into our resolutions to learn to know, understand, and love all our neighbors -no exceptions - we will need to resist what is evil in our own lives, as well as what is evil outside them in order to do so.

For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (Ephesians 6:12-17)

Let the love of God in you clearly resist those *principalities and powers* the New Testament speaks of as we live our lives in Christ each day.

+Bishop Tom Aitken

Ministry Partners NE MN Synod and ELCA

ELCA presiding bishop responds to Supreme Court decision on travel ban

Thus says the Lord: Act with justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor anyone who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the alien, the orphan, and the widow ... (Jeremiah 22:3).

I am dismayed by the Supreme Court's recent decision concerning the president's authority to restrict travel into the United States. It applies to travelers from certain countries based on those countries' inability to provide information necessary for immigration vetting. Strong vetting procedures have already been authorized by Congress and reviews of applications for possible links to terrorism are also in place. Therefore, restricting all travelers from certain countries simply because they are citizens of those countries is deeply troubling. In the past, we have seen the sometimes horrific effects of excluding and marginalizing (or worse) whole classes of people based on their ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender identity or other characteristics.

Our social statement, "For Peace in God's World," provides theological guidance for the church to respond by offering wise words of caution:

Citizens need to give careful attention to how we in the United States perceive our national interest and interpret our national identity, since what states do depends in large measure on their views of their own interests and identity. Sin's power often makes itself felt in arrogant and self-righteous views of national identity, and in narrow, short-term, and absolute views of national interest.

We expect expressions of our nation's identity to build on the best of our traditions, to respect others' identity, and to open up paths for mutual understanding. For the sake of a greater good or for reasons of conscience, citizens may need to oppose a prevailing understanding or practice of national identity and interest.

With this court decision, we are again reaching a point where the assertion of "national security" by the executive branch of government results in the rejection of all other considerations in national policy discussions. Our social statement also reminds us: "In bondage to sin, we fall captive to fear." Jesus taught us to love one another. The social statement calls us to "a dynamic vision of difference in unity."

In a time ... when an idolatrous allegiance to one's own community endangers our oneness, we must voice with clarity the powerful vision of difference in unity. This vision calls us to engage differences, not to ignore or fear them. The hope for earthly peace challenges people to strengthen their own particular communities in ways that promote respect and appreciation for people in other communities, for all share a common humanity.

Let us recall that all people are created in God's image and, therefore, rather than have suspicion be our assumption, let us attribute to them honor and respect as God does.

God's peace,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Please consider joining one of the many committees or groups at Concordia. Your talents and interests are welcomed and appreciated.

Altar Guild: The Altar Guild will not meet again until September 6.

Bridges to Christ: All women are invited to join us for the **free Bayside Sounds concert at the Yellowjacket Union Patio (1600 Catlin Ave) on Wednesday, August 15. Moors & McCumber are 2 gifted singers/songwriters who play multiple instruments (check them out on YouTube). The concert starts at 6 p.m. Free parking at the Yellowjacket Union.**

Bring your own chair. There are local food vendors. **Meet at church to carpool at 4:45 p.m. or meet us at UWS. Sign-up in the Narthex or with Ann Marie Edwards (724-6236) by Sunday, August 12th.** Include if you're riding or driving (and can take passengers).

Building & Grounds: There are no meetings currently scheduled for the Building & Grounds Committee. **New Trees:** Four new trees have been planted. Two hydrangea trees have been given by Paul and Joan Peterson, in memory of their son, Greg. One Autumn Blaze Maple and one Northwoods Maple were given by Marge Martenson, in memory of her husband, Clint. **Thank you for the addition of trees to the church grounds.**

Library: The Library Committee will be meeting as the need arises.

Quilters: The Quilters will meet again in September.

On Being a "Matthew 25 Congregation"

"... for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me. . . . Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these . . . you did it to me." (Matthew 25:34-36, 40)

Union Gospel Mission

We serve dinner on the first and third Mondays from 4:45-6:15 p.m. **The Union Gospel Mission will be closed from August 1-14 for maintenance and cleaning.**

**Monday, August 6-No Dinner Service-
Mission closed**

Monday, August 20

Volunteers are always welcome to help carry this ministry forward. Please contact the church office for more information.

Early Childhood Advocates-Duluth Public Schools

On-going Donation Opportunity: If you have dishes, kitchen appliances in good working condition, furniture, and other household items, the Early Childhood Family Advocates in the Duluth Public Schools will work to match your donation with a specific family in need. Please contact Rachelle Anderson for more information or to offer a donation via email raand17@gmail.com (preferred method of contact) or phone 724-8773 **THANK YOU!**





Social Justice Creation Care



Creation Care Interfaith Arts Camp

Registration is open for Concordia's summer program. Creation Care Interfaith Arts Camp will take the place of our traditional Vacation Bible School program. It is open to children of all faiths or no faith background. It will be held from Monday, August 20 - Thursday, August 23. Children, ages 3-5, will meet from 9 - 11:30 a.m. and children who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade will meet from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.. Before and after care will be available for this age group. The focus of the camp will be on relationships. Specifically, we will be focusing on how we care for ourselves, for others, and for all of God's creation. Every day will begin with a gathering time of music and movement. Throughout the day children will use various aspects of the arts to express themselves. **The community is invited to an open house on Thursday, August 23 from 6-7 p.m. to see what the children have created.** Enrichment activities will be provided by individuals with expertise in mindfulness, nutrition, bird-watching, forestry, interpersonal communication, creative arts, music, and movement. The camp is limited to thirty students and registration will close on August 15. Please share this opportunity with young people that you know. Scholarships are available. The preschool program is \$45 and the K-5 program is \$95. Registration forms are available on Concordia's website or in the church narthex. If you have questions contact Kristin M. Peterson, Camp Coordinator: kpeterson374@gmail.com or call 218-525-3655 and leave a message.

Everywhere we turn it seems we bump up against something political. The news we watch, the athletes we support and even the restaurants where we eat are all increasingly viewed through the lens of partisan politics. Climate change has been viewed similarly, but we have an opportunity. When it comes to trying to engage climate skeptics, too many scientists and advocates fall into the trap of debating the science — believing that just one more fact, one more chart, one more anecdote about the causes and consequences of climate change will persuade them. Alas, this approach falls short. So for those who care about climate change, about creating happier and healthier communities, what is there to do?

1: Lead by Example: *People are inspired when they see others taking action. Show them that climate action can come with a spectrum of benefits. Carpool, bike more often, or switch to hybrid or electric vehicles to decrease climate pollution while increasing health and dollars in the bank. There are a number of local, state, and federal programs that help lower the cost of all electric vehicles. Switch to clean energy. Weatherize. Vote. There are dozens of solutions that are accessible, affordable, and immediately beneficial.*

2: Be Human, Relevant, Positive, Supportive, and Solutions Oriented: *The goal of climate advocacy is to inspire others to take action. Connect with people personally, and highlight shared values and common ground. Inspire them to care by being positive, supportive, and solutions oriented. Listen as much as you speak.*

3: Stick to the Basics: *When it comes to climate advocacy — keep it simple and clear. We have everything we need to stop damaging the climate. Clean energy is cheaper and more available than ever. It creates good-paying jobs for Americans, saves money for families, and helps maintain cleaner, greener neighborhoods.*

4: Location Matters: *When you're talking about climate, start local. Talk about how climate and pollution affects family and friends, neighborhood, work environment, and community. People care about what affects them and their loved ones directly. Equally, if not more important, is to communicate the local benefits of solutions. Americans need to know that climate solutions benefit their health, strengthen their community, and can put more money in their pocket.*

5: Offer Concrete Action to Solve the Problem: *Know what you are asking for when you engage others. If you are discussing clean energy with your congregation, have a plan for action. If you're discussing sustainable transportation, improving energy use, or water conservation with your neighbors, provide a resource that empowers them to take the action you are seeking.*

The fact is, most of us are surrounded by opportunities to cut waste, save money, and benefit our communities in almost everything we do. Improving our lives and strengthening our communities — while also making a difference on climate change — is one of the few big things we can do accomplish in little steps everyday. (blessedtomorrow.org)

Community Social Justice Events, August, 2018

Opening Reception and Artist Talk:
Thursday, July 12, 6 - 9 PM
On View: July 12 - September 2, 2018
George Morrison Gallery

Chholing Taha is a Cree First Nations artist based in Anoka, MN who uses Native imagery to express both contemporary issues and indigenous stories. Solitude and wilderness have been a loyal companion throughout her lifetime.



Image: Chholing Taha, River Spirit

Taha draws on symbols from tribes from the Northwest coast, where she is originally from, as well as the Great Lakes tribes, including Ojibwe Woodland. It is her heart's wish to instill a sense of mystery within anyone who views her work and discover that palce within each spirit that beats together as one heart. These narratives find themselves with one hand holding the past bringing the new insights toward the hand holding the future.



Northeastern Minnesota Synod Together Here Events

August 6, 2018 6:30-8:30 pm
Concordia Lutheran, Duluth
Presentation and Discussion:
“Understanding Treaty Rights”
with
Dr. Joseph Bauerkemper

LOON Summer Sparkler

Tue, Aug 14, 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm | \$25 |
Northland Country Club

Lyric Opera of the North's annual summer fundraising event features the Twin Ports Tenors and a raffle to bring opera to elementary school students. The event will take place rain or shine.

Schedule

5:30 p.m. – Burgers, brats and beverages
7 p.m. – Concert featuring the Twin Ports Tenors



Social Justice

Community Social Justice Events, August, 2018

PAPERCUT WORK BY ELLEN SANDBECK

ILLUSTRATIONS BY MOIRA VILLIARD

ENDANGERED

LIVES AND WAYS OF LIVING



OPENING RECEPTION
FRIDAY, AUGUST 10
5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

Dr. Robert Powless Cultural Center
202 W. 2nd Street, Duluth, MN

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. ON EXHIBIT THROUGH AUGUST 31ST.

IN THIS EXHIBIT, ELLEN SANDBECK AND MOIRA VILLIARD EXPLORE HUMAN IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT. ON ONE SIDE, THE CHINESE ZODIAC TAKE THE FORM OF ANIMALS FROM THE ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST AND ON THE OTHER, ILLUSTRATIONS DEPICTING THE HISTORY OF WILD RICE EXPLORE WHAT'S AT STAKE IN THE FACE OF SULFIDE MINING.



AICHO

American Indian Community
Housing Organization

A Profusion of Partnerships!

The long-awaited resumption of Habitat home building in Duluth begins at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 16 with a blessing and groundbreaking ceremony at 2412 West First Street in the Lincoln Park neighborhood. The Wells Fargo stagecoach will convey the silver groundbreaking shovel from a neighborhood church to the build site.

In addition, there will be a launch of the reconfigured Age in Place Repairs Program (AIP) that works with older adult homeowners. AIP will conduct a set of projects in the neighborhood. The Northland Foundation and Thrivent Financial are key partners in this program.

Wells Fargo volunteers have seven days of work scheduled to start the Duluth build and have brought a major grant to the effort. They will set up for a slab pour. The Building Construction Program from Lake Superior College takes over after that. Three Duluth Rotary Clubs (Duluth 25, Skyline, and Harbortown) are also major partners. They secured a matching district grant and are planning to volunteer.

Thursday will conclude with a fundraiser celebration at Bent Paddle as WLSHFH partners with the Lincoln Park Business Group. The fun begins at 4:30.

Preliminary work has already occurred on the Duluth site. Harbor City International School students (above) removed brush and debris and cleared vegetation in late May. Last week excavators located the sewer lateral line.

The Duluth site, located between two existing owner-occupied home will contribute to revitalization of the Lincoln Park neighborhood. If you know of a family that might be interested in partnering, direct them to wlshabitat.org We will also be doing a cluster of repairs projects with existing older adult homeowners.



The NAACP meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and membership is encouraged, but not required. Memberships are \$30/Individual

There are Free Ojibwe language tables at 5 p.m. every Monday at AICHO. Everyone is welcome.

Community Social Justice Events, August, 2018

Pride Fest 2018 Mayor's Reception

Thu, Aug 30, 5:00 pm | Free | Historic Union Depot

Duluth Mayor Emily Larson, as well as mayors from the surrounding communities give a reception at the Duluth Depot for the annual Labor Day Weekend 2018 Pride Celebration. The event includes live music, free snacks and beer (while it lasts), cocktails, a cash bar, and a brief presentation to honor contributors to the GLBTQAI Community. Pieces from the Tretter GLBT History exhibit will also be on display. The evening concludes with a performance from aerialist Alex Loch inside the Duluth Depot's Great Hall.

Guests can also learn about tickets and events of the weekend.

After the Mayor's Reception in the Great Hall, guests can head downstairs to The Underground for A Very Pride Burlesque with the Duluth Dolls featuring Juliet Divine, Trixi Del Mar, and Vivica Colada.

Questions can be emailed to trains@duluthtrains.com.

Light the entrepreneur within!

Limitless Candles produces beautiful, hand-poured, beeswax candles that are both a work of art and functional. In addition, Limitless Candles produces soy candles made with 100% American-grown soy wax, premium fragrance oils, and lead-free wicks. Limitless Candles is the first social enterprise created by the Legitimate Hustle Program. The first cohort to go through the Legitimate Hustle Program identified that there were very few local candle makers producing beeswax candles, which are the most naturally sourced and long-burning. Limitless Candle creators decided they would make beeswax candles that are both functional and a work of art. Limitless Candles was named to recognize the unlimited potential of our youth, despite a majority of them having faced great adversities in their lives. Their candles can be found at- <https://lifelhouseelhp.org/>





Camp Vermilion Summer Update!

Mid-summer at Camp Vermilion...

We are six weeks into our summer programming at Camp Vermilion, and so the smiling faces and campfire stories abound! So far this summer there have been a variety of ages on site at Camp Vermilion, from the one-day Discoverers to Trekkers, Seekers, Explorers, our week-long junior high canoe campers, and our high school service and leadership L.O.S.T campers. Campers have enjoyed hikes and overnights out at the Primitives campsites, hot dog cookouts at the Adirondacks, daily Rubaboo (bible study) activities, learning songs in worship, and countless games on the ballfield. In the midst of and throughout all of these activities, our summer campers have been hearing the parable of the Good Samaritan and talking about how they can "Go and Do Likewise," in camp and when they go home. After a brief rest around the fourth of July, our staff are working double time as our camper numbers continue to grow, as camps fill up, and as we prepare for the Bluegrass Festival!

And over at Voyageurs Canoe Country....

Our Voyageurs Canoe Country program has also seen a great amount of activity so far this summer. Six trips were on trail early, in the midst of the wonderful weather we saw in June. Groups were able to put on a lot of miles to reach great destinations in the BWCAW: places like Top of the World, Basswood Falls, various pictograph sites, Warrior Hill on the shores of Canada, Curtain Falls, and many of the five-star campsites our canoe guides know well. After a full day of canoeing and portaging, our groups have enjoyed some wonderful campfire meals and great faith conversations with one another. Our guides had a chance to rest around July 4th as well, but they are back and out on trail weekly with a very busy schedule in July and early August!

Thank you for your continual prayers and support!

THANKS FOR HELPING TO MAKE CAMP HAPPEN IN GOD'S GREAT NORTHWOODS!

www.VLMcamps.org • vlm@VLMcamps.org • 800-331-5148 • 218-666-5465

Camp Hiawatha, 36944 Camp Hiawatha Road, Deer River, MN

Camp Vermilion, 2555 Vermilion Camp Road, Cook, MN

Young Adult in Global Mission-Lars Anderson

Update from Lars Anderson:

Greetings!

I left my host community about two weeks ago. Leaving was hard. Over the past year in Palestine, I have made many lasting friendships and gained a new community that has shown me God's love. My time, since leaving my host family and community, has been a rollercoaster. I'm happy that I will be reunited with my friends and family in the United States, but I also have feelings of grief associated with saying goodbye to the people who have given me so much during the time with them.

I am currently traveling around Europe visiting friends and family of mine. Many of the people that I am visiting are former international staff members that I became friends with while I worked at Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry in northern Minnesota. Seeing so many old friends has made me realize how fortunate I am to have had such a transformative experience with the YAGM program. The relationships that I have made throughout my YAGM year (and throughout my life) matter.

Before I return to the United States, I am going to visit a close friend of mine in Romania (whose family graciously welcomed me into their home for Christmas in 2016) and relatives of mine in Germany (who have welcomed me into their home, as if I'm a son returning from a long trip), and I will be a groomsman in the wedding of another dear friend in London. Despite the grief that I feel about saying goodbye to my host community, I know that the love and laughs that I shared with my host community were genuine. My current trip has made me excited for the next time that I am able to see my gracious hosts again.

To the people of Beit Sahour,

Thank you for welcoming me into your community wholeheartedly. Thank you for greeting me with excitement on the streets. Thank you for welcoming me into your homes to share meals with your families. I miss seeing your friendly faces every day.

To the staff and students at the Evangelical Lutheran School- Beit Sahour, Thank you for such an incredible year! I am extremely proud that I had the opportunity to serve in this community with you. Each of you is amazing, and I wish you continued success in everything that you do.

To my host family, Fadi, Abeer, Grandma Emili, Hanna, Emili, Lina, and Jina, thank you for everything. You welcomed me into your home and treated me like I was your own blood. The love and hospitality that you showed me is incredible and I will be eternally grateful. Although I am sad to leave you, I am grateful that I have gained a second family that I love and care about deeply.

Despite the fact I am no longer living alongside you, a piece of my heart will always remain with you. You are constantly in my thoughts and prayers. I am energized by the fact that I get to share your stories with my friends and family in the United States. I have grown as a person since I first arrived in Beit Sahour (and will continue to grow from my experiences with you). You are the people that made my YAGM year so amazing (although, I'm starting to realize that my time with you will continue to shape the rest of my life). Know that your story is being shared and will continue to be shared by me, once I return to the United States.

Thank you again for the love and hospitality that you showed me. Also, please know that you are welcome wherever I am.

With lots of love,
Lars

Young Adult in Global Mission-Lars Anderson



Sharing a meal with my friends Fadi, Basil, and Fadi's parents. PC: Basil Khoury



Dancing with Basil, Fadi, and Fadi's parents after sharing a meal together.
PC: Basil Khoury



Saying goodbye to the office staff at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem. (R to L) Tamara, Lars, Toni, another YAGM, Eamon, and Doris.
PC: Jacoub

Young Adult in Global Mission-Lars Anderson



Enjoying a meal on the last day of school! From L to R: German Volunteer Malwine, Nancy, and Lars. PC: Hanan Qassis



Spending time with my host sister Jina near Jaffa. PC: Jina Rishmawi



Playing with my host parents by the sea in Jaffa. This was a special day for me because it was the first time that my host father had been granted permission to leave the West Bank to see the sea for the first time in 18 years. Jaffa is only about 50 miles away from Beit Sahour. From top to bottom: My host father Fadi, Lars, my host mother Abeer, Josie, and Colin). PC: Jina Rishmawi

Young Adult in Global Mission-Lars Anderson



Playing Santa for the 10th grade class at the Evangelical Lutheran School- Beit Sahour. PC: ELS Beit Sahour



Sharing laughs with my host sister Lina, Josie, and Amos (the children of my country coordinators). PC: Jeni Grangaard

Young Adult in Global Mission-Lars Anderson

So, when do I get home?

My first response to that question is another question: “What is home?” Home means a lot of things to me. Home is enjoying the natural beauty of my hometown Duluth, Minnesota is with my friends and family. Home is enjoying a meal (and lots of laughs) with my friends and family in the UK, Romania, and Germany (and everywhere in between). Home is eating my host mother’s sveha (an Arab meat pie), or a number of other Palestinian dishes, while my host father and siblings playfully tease me. Home is wherever I’m spending time with people that I love.

God transcends boundaries and my time abroad has only reinforced that belief. Through my time working at Lutheran Outdoor Ministry and as a YAGM volunteer, I have been blessed with the opportunity to meet people from different backgrounds than my own. Consequently, I have a very eclectic friend group. Despite our different life experiences, I have seen God’s presence in each interaction that I’ve had with them. My time abroad has further reinforced that God loves. God loves all people, regardless of their background and beliefs. God loves YOU for the person that YOU are.

Now that I’ve shared that piece of information, I will officially arrive back to the United States on August 10th. However, I am proud to announce that I have been offered a position with the YAGM program as a short-term recruiter. Consequently, I will be leaving for Chicago on August 13th for the orientation of the 2018-2019 YAGM cohort, as well as, training for my new job. Following my training in Chicago, I will be traveling around the Midwest until December, sharing about my experience with YAGM and about the YAGM program itself. I don’t know my travel schedule yet, but I would like to see as many of you as possible while I’m on the road. Also, if you know somebody that you think would be interested in YAGM (or are interested in YAGM), please feel free to contact me. I would love to meet with them (you) to talk about YAGM.

As I mentioned before, my year with YAGM and in my host community has been the most transformative period of my life. However, this is just the beginning of that process. My experiences in the Holy Land will continue to help me grow as a person and in my faith. I never realized the profound impact that my year here would have on me, but I am confident deciding to do YAGM was the best decision that I’ve made in my life. I am energized by the fact that I have the opportunity to build a bridge between my sending community and my host community.

Thank you again for your continued support and I am excited to see you soon!

Peace,
Lars

The Last Word



<https://tinyurl.com/CHUM-school-backpacks>

Click on the above link to purchase a backpack online **by August 17th**. Educational Products, Inc. will ship it to CHUM in time for the Duluth School district Back to School fair on August 23.

For your \$10.88 donation, students in Kindergarten – 5th grade will receive:

- 1 16" x 11" x 5" backpack
- 3 wide-ruled spiral notebooks
- 3 pocket folders
- Scissors
- 6 No. 2 pencils
- 1 box of 8 markers
- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 2 glue sticks

For your \$11.21 donation, students in grades 6 – 12 will receive:

- 1 17" x 12" x 5" backpack
- 3 college-ruled spiral notebooks
- 3 pocket folders
- 1 three-ring binder
- 1 pack college-ruled loose leaf filler paper
- 6 No. 2 pencils
- 3 black stick pens
- 1 box of 12 colored pencils

For more information, go to chumduluth.org, or contact Scott Van Daele, CHUM Distributive Services Director. Phone: (218) 727-2391 Email: svandaele@chumduluth.org.



CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES TRIP DETAILS

Attention Concordia women who signed up for the August 24 bus trip to Grand Rapids with Our Saviors: Departure from Concordia at 3:15 (please be there 5-10 minutes earlier so we leave on schedule) Dinner (on your own) at 5:30 (most likely at the Grand Rapids Country Kitchen).

Show at 7:30 in the Wilcox Theater-Reif Center. Return to Duluth immediately after the performance. Thanks!

Email address update: Please begin using the new email address for all of your email correspondence to the church office, as we are phasing out office@concordiaduluth.org **NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: concordiaduluth@gmail.com**

Leadership/ Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jeff Davis
Lay Ministers: Reba Almquist, Julie Larson-Williams, Carmen and Dan Norlien
Confirmation Teachers: Pastor Laura Berdahl, Pastor Jeff Davis, & Pastor Jeff Holter
Nursery: Staff needed
Sanctuary Singers Director: Open
Interim Organist: Kristin Peterson
Cantor: Jennifer Dums
Joyful Voices Pianist: Patti Martenson
Sunday School Teacher: Eliana Katoch
Administrative Assistant: Carmen Norlien
Custodian: Scott Gomon
Treasurer: Mark Morse

Church Council Members

Sean Bedard-Parker
Carol Bell
Ken Broman
Pat Isaacson
Carmen Norlien, Vice President
Kristin Peterson, President
Robin Roeser, Secretary

Committees

Building & Grounds: Pat Isaacson
Finance: Bob Almquist
Library: Norma Wittich
Social Justice: Pastor Jeff Davis
Stewardship: Robin Roeser
Worship & Music: Bryan Anderson, Lynne Erickson, Patti Martenson, and Kristin Peterson
Youth & Family: Marcia DeMeo-Morse

Ministries

Altar Guild: Reba Almquist
Bridges To Christ: Ann Edwards
Caring Ministry: Norma Wittich
Quilters: Karin Cummings

Contact information:

Email: duluthconcordia@gmail.com
Phone Number: (218)728-4229
Website: www.concordiaduluth.org
Facebook: Concordia Lutheran Church of Duluth
Address: 2501 Woodland Avenue
Duluth, MN 55803

Congregational Delegates and Liaisons

CHUM

Carmen Norlien
Robin Roeser

Conference and Synod Assemblies

Bryan Anderson
Sunny Polling

Gustavus Adolphus College

Kristin Peterson

Lutheran Campus Ministry Duluth Board

Patti Martenson

NE Minnesota Synod Youth Board

Margaret Roeser

Union Gospel Mission

Lois Witchall

Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry

Bryan and Rachelle Anderson



The Messenger is a monthly publication of Concordia Lutheran Church. Items for the September newsletter are due by August 21. Please email your items to the office: duluthconcordia@gmail.com We reserve the right to edit your items. This newsletter was produced using Canva. Photo credits: Stock photos, as noted in text, Scott Gomon, and Dan and Carmen Norlien