

To reach Pastor Mike Knudson

Cell: 402-620-8287

e-mail: 2knuds@comcast.net

B - E Friends



THE GREAT JOURNEY THROUGH HELL AND BACK: From Good Friday to Easter Sunday

Welcome to the beating Heart of the Church, The Pinnacle, the Once for All Victory over Death!

On the one hand we have the lowest moment in human history; Jesus' death at our hands. The German artist Kathe Kollwitz (a Lutheran!) was able to portray this depth of despair and horror. Her drawing of a mother holding her dead child IS Good Friday. We mourn our violence to each other and we still, after 2000 years, are shocked that we turned this violence against God's only beloved son.

Then just a couple days later, We rub our tear stained eyes in wonder as the horror of the cross is followed by its opposite extreme- RESURRECTION! The artist Grant Sheppard had the insight to show the Resurrection as a burst of running. Jesus RUNNING out of the tomb as life flooded into him.

We will respect these two sacred extreme days with our worship. **Good Friday we will meet at Eidsvold at noon and do a form of Stations of the Cross walking together from one of Jesus last words to the next.** Photographs from our community will bring Jesus' words closer to home. And then Easter Sunday!!! We Run with Jesus!!!!

Celebrate and Serve the Crucified and Risen Lord!
Pastor Mike



BIRTHDAYS

May you have a special day and a blessed year!

- 2 – Oakley Yarwood
- 3 – Haley Donley
- 3 - Sally Larson
- 6 – Jenny Scharpen
- 6 – Anne Girdeen
- 7 – Jim Nelson
- 10 - Pastor Mike Knudson
- 11– Kathy Hanson
- 19 – James Willenbring
- 20 – Calvin Langer
- 20 – Dale Sears
- 24 – Angela Peterson
- 29 – Donna Barr
- 29 - Max Mandelkow
- 30 – Presley Salava

If your birthday doesn't appear on our monthly birthday calendars, please let Phyllis know so she can add it.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Apr 10, Palm Sunday— 5th Grade Communion
Sunday School sings
- Apr 13 9th graders resume confirmation
- Apr 14 Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. worship - Bethlehem
- Apr 15 Noon Good Friday service Eidsvold
- Apr 17 Festival of Easter
Deadline for Assembly registration
- Apr 30 Synod Assembly—in person/zoom
"Taking it to the Streets - A Public Church"
- Oct 9, 2022 Eidsvold 150th Anniversary



SYNOD ASSEMBLY APRIL 30, 2022

In person @ Trinity Lutheran Church Eau Claire or by zoom. Each congregation is entitled to 2 delegates.

Registration fee is \$50—due April 17th.

THEME: TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

We are called to move beyond the building and to go into the streets - into the public- to witness to the way of Jesus and to be the church for the sake of the world.

More information on the synod website:
<http://nswi.org/2022-synod-assembly>

CARING FOR OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Giving of our time and talents is one way of serving our faith community. Thank you to the following individuals who will serve this faith community during April.

Bethlehem

Altar Guild: Jan Kearns

Church cleaning: Ronny and Pam Johnson

Eidsvold

Church Cleaning: (Note: you clean for the worship held on the date by which you signed
Apr. 3 - Colby and Heather Brown
Apr. 10- Kathy Sears
Apr. 17 - Tracie Esterby and family
Apr. 24 - Hanson family—Kathy, Kendra, Ryan

Usher (please find your assistant) distribute bulletins, count & write attendance on calendar, receive offering

- Apr. 3 - Mary Williams
- Apr. 10 - Tracie Esterby
- Apr. 17 - Michelle Plote
- Apr. 24 - Kendra Hanson

Parking Lot 93.1 FM Transmission
Sign-in sheet, bulletin, communion, offering container, are available at a self serve station in the parking lot.

Altar Committee— Joey Peterson & family
put unused communion cups in refrigerator after worship, discard used cups in garbage and wash cup containers

APRIL READERS:

Bethlehem

- Apr. 3 - Jan Kearns
- Apr. 10 - Pam Johnson
- Apr. 17 - Lora Drenth
- Apr. 24 - John Beastrom

Eidsvold

- Apr. 3 – Rita Anderson
- Apr. 10 - Karen Brostrom
- Apr. 17 - Tana Langer
- Apr. 24 - Mandy Jepson



Lent, Holy Week, & Easter Schedule

Wednesday, April 6 at Eidsvold
5:30 p.m. 5th Grade First Communion Class
6:00 p.m. Meal
7:00 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer along with
"The Greatest Story Ever Told in Art!"

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April 10—Palm Sunday with Sunday School singing, Palms, and Fifth grade First Communion for Ben Helseth, Oskar LaFave, Max Mandelkow, John Willenbring

April 13—9th grade confirmation class

April 14 7:00 Maundy Thursday Worship

April 15 noon Good Friday service Eidsvold

April 17 —Festival of Easter

9:00 a.m. Eidsvold

10:30 a.m. Bethlehem (& baptism)

LSS Update—Resettling Afghan Refugees

We are so grateful for our resettlement of Afghan evacuees. In addition to generous financial donations, hundreds of volunteer hours were spent collecting and sorting donated goods. Congregations and community groups received training and continue to companion our new Afghan neighbors as co-sponsors, helping to navigate bus routes, grocery stores, English classes and more.

While the surge of Afghan evacuees has subsided, the need for ongoing support, goods and co-sponsors remains. ***Just in the first 21 days of March, we have resettled 37 refugees from places other than Afghanistan.***

We are also fielding questions about how to help the people forced to flee their homes in Ukraine. Like the rest of the world, all of us at LSS are hoping for a peaceful resolution and that those who had to leave their homes may have the opportunity to return once the conflict is over. ***We have served refugees from the Ukraine in the past and will be ready to serve more in the future.*** Your continued support will allow us to respond and welcome those needing a safe place as they start new lives.

FYI- LSS (Lutheran Social Services) is supported financially by both Eidsvold and Bethlehem.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER

Why Give?



ELCA World Hunger is this church's ministry to end hunger and poverty. U can be part of the response to work creatively and courageously toward a just world where all are fed.

Working community by community in the United States and more than 60 other countries, ELCA World Hunger offers solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and homelessness.

YOUR World Hunger Offering may be brought now through Easter Sunday. Place in the special World Hunger container at each church! You can also bring your special pig coin banks!

1—Thank you to all who provided for the wonderful meals we have had Wednesday evenings - great food and fellowship!



2—Thank you for filling 33 Easter Pails that were delivered to the Pierce County Food Pantry! Check the Pierce County Hunger Prevention Facebook to see picture and their thank you.

OFFERINGS MAY BE MAILED TO:

Eidsvold:

Eidsvold Lutheran Church

W6111 County Rd EE
Bay City WI 54723

Bethlehem

Janice Kearns
PO Box 724

Ellsworth WI 54011

Check out our parish website & Facebook

Worship times will also be posted on these.

<https://www.bethlehemeidsvoldchurches.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Bethlehem.Eidsvold>



Easter Message from Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson April 2022

2 Corinthians 5:17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Dear Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! This is the good news of Easter. By God's power death is reversed and Christ is raised from the dead. Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything! Everything is made new.

Change is good news after two years of a pandemic, right? We are ready for a change. But are we really? Do we want everything to become new like we read in 2 Corinthians 5 or do we want the change to be a return to the old and familiar?

If Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything, then what has changed in your life? What difference does Jesus make in your life? What has Jesus made new?

What difference does Jesus mean to our siblings in Malawi who are often threatened by drought, flood and famine or to Ukrainians whose homes were destroyed by a Russian bomb?

What difference does Jesus make to a stable congregation deciding what their next most faithful step might be or to a declining congregation wondering if their next most faithful step is to close?

As Lutherans we believe that we are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, we go under the water as a sinner and we are resurrected with Christ, lifted out of the water, a saint. We are changed for sure and we are reborn children of God! Theologically that's beautiful, but in real life, what difference does Jesus make in your life?

As human beings, Christ's resurrection from the dead challenges us to live into that change. As broken sinful humans, whose lives are "messed or mangled" we live into Easter reality that Christ is present and daily working in our lives. Jesus challenges and changes us.

Jesus changes things and makes all things new. We are challenged to see the transformations around us and in us. We are challenged to be the change, evidence of the transformation, for the world to see and know God through us.

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

Christ has risen and forever lives,
to challenge **and to change**.
All whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present,
making us what he has been:
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.

All Creation Sings, #938 v4 ELW Supplement
Augsburg Fortress, 2020

On Palm Sunday, we will be waving eco-palms. The University of Minnesota has partnered with governments of Mexico and Guatemala where farmers gather quality palms, and by doing so protect the valuable natural forests. The farmers receive a higher price for their "fair trade" palms thereby supporting themselves and their families. Eco-palms promote environmental stewardship and fair trade!



2022 Summer Camp "Created Good"

Luther Point Bible Camp's mission is to allow everyone to come to camp regardless of cost. All campership applications are reviewed and with the help of churches and other supporters, they have never turned a camper away from camp!

The Sunday School students are bringing home a brochure for Bible Camp along with a pricing sheet. Bethlehem and Eidsvold are member congregations and campers automatically get \$55 discount. Our churches and women's groups also offer financial support. Extra brochures are on table.

Check out the brochure to find a variety of camps for Grades 1-12, as well as fishing camp, horse camp, grandparent-grandchild camp. Decide now –the **EARLY BIRD** discount ends May 1st.

150th Anniversary Fund for Eidsvold

We have committed to the painting of the inside and outside of the church for \$35,000. The inside had been completed and I hope you have seen how beautiful it is!

We now have to ask for your help to pay for the painting. We also have a few other projects that we will be working on between now and October 9th, the date of our 150th Anniversary Celebration. If any of you have any fundraising ideas or would like to help with these fundraising efforts, please share!

We hope you are able to **help us reach our goal of \$35,000**. If so, make a check out to the church and in the memo write 150th Anniversary Fund or something similar so we know that is how you would like your check to be applied.



Donations can be mailed to:
Eidsvold Lutheran Church
W6111 Cty. Rd. EE
Bay City, WI 54723

More updates to follow!
Thank you!

Walking Together and EPIC

Council members and leaders of the church: You will find pre-recorded video resources and workshops for ministry as we explore the "Next Most Faithful Step God May be Calling Us To Take". The topics and presentations will be available for viewing for the next several months beginning on March 26th at the synod website: <http://nswi.org/walking-together-epic>

MORE EIDSVOLD HISTORY

At Worship on Sunday, April 24th, Phyllis will present more history of the Eidsvold congregation. She will also review a little from the first presentation if you missed that one!
Come, see and hear Eidsvold's story!

Ruby's PANTRY

Do you need to extend your grocery budget?

Ruby's Pantry is open to **ANYONE** interested in extending their monthly grocery budget. There is a \$22 donation per share and you will receive an abundance of groceries. There is no income or residency requirement and you can attend as many Ruby's Pantry locations each month as you would like.

Ruby's Pantry will be hosted by Bethel Covenant Church beginning April 2nd and will be held on the **1st Saturday** of every month from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Bethel Covenant Church is located at W8405 County Road KK, Ellsworth, WI 54011.

If you have additional questions or need more information contact Ruby's Pantry at Rubyspantry.org



Check the back table for FREE ITEMS!

An upper cupboard was emptied in the office and in it were treasures from Eidsvold's 125 Anniversary— Christmas tree ornaments and anniversary plates. There's also picture directories from years past. Everything is free (or if you wish, make a donation to the 150th Anniversary fundraiser)!

