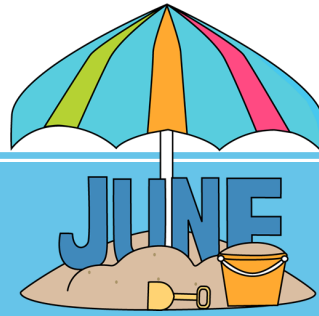


The Vasa Voice

Volume 58 No. 6

JUNE 2022



Vasa Summer Sermon Series

(During the summer months, we take a break from the Narrative Lectionary. Here's what's in store!)

- ◆ *May 22— June 19*, we will explore **Paul's Epistle to the Philippians**. This letter was written by the apostle Paul although Timothy is named with him as co-author or co-sender. Paul, Timothy, Silas (and perhaps Luke) first visited Philippi in Greece (Macedonia) during Paul's second missionary journey from Antioch, which occurred between approximately 49 and 51 AD. In the account of his visit in the Acts of the Apostles, Paul and Silas are accused of "disturbing the city".
- ◆ *June 26— Midsommar Worship*. Service of the Word. We will sing several hymns of Swedish origin and read accompanying scripture texts.
- ◆ *July 3—July 24* we will consider **The Ten Commandments**. We will begin by reading Exodus 19 which gives us the underlying circumstances for the issuing of the commandments. Then we turn to the commandments themselves. The first "table" instructs us on how to be tuned into God. The second "table" guides us on how to be turned toward our neighbor. We conclude the series by considering commandments 9 and 10: Do not covet. How might we manage the desires of our heart?
- ◆ *July 31—September 4* we will explore **The Bible and Economic Justice**: Our final series for the summer will spend time in both the Old and New Testament and lead us to consider the Bible's view regarding economic justice.

Here's what's on the Inside!

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- P. 3* **Thoughts from Pastor Maureen,**
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Worship Volunteers for June

USHERS

June 5	B-J Norman
June 12	Marilyn Hanson
June 19	Mo Hauck
June 26	Midsommar (Outdoor worship)

READERS

June 5	Mo Hauck
June 12	Mark Hagen
June 19	Jim Hedeem
June 26	Midsommar (Outdoor worship)

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

June 5	Barb Weigman
June 19	Geri Lindholm

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 1	Andrea Hyllengren Vanessa Parrot
June 2	Tyler Klein
June 4	Jeremiah Bauch
June 7	Ames Anderson
June 8	Kate Hart
June 13	Emily Nelson
June 14	Kent Volz
June 16	Wendy Anderson Marshall Burke Rosann Pearson
June 17	Mo Hauck
June 18	Jennifer Bauch
June 20	Arlene Stahnke
June 23	Morgan McCann
June 24	Lacy Hart Ty Lindahl
June 29	Melissa McCann

Midsommar Tractor Parade is June 26!



Remember to join us for the **Vasa Midsommar Tractor parade** on June 26! We will gather for outdoor worship at the Lutheran Center at 9:00am, after which the parade will begin. It will conclude at Spring Garden Lutheran where lunch and entertainment will be provided. (Please note that there will not be breakfast at Vasa this year.)



Thoughts from Pastor Maureen

Every couple of months I go to *The Terrace*, the nursing home in Cannon Falls, to lead worship on Sunday afternoon. The residents of The Terrace are some of the most severely disabled and medically fragile people in our area.

Typically, those of us who lead worship will use the same text as was used at Sunday worship. So when I led worship at The Terrace on Sunday, May 8th, it was just after preaching on the story from Acts 16 in which Paul and Silas are imprisoned for exorcising a "spirit of divination" from a slave-girl. One of the ideas that comes out of the text is that the slave-girl, Paul & Silas, and their jailer were all in a prison of sorts. Their imprisonment is not necessarily physical, but could be described as mental, emotional, or spiritual.

As I stood in front of this precious handful of people at the nursing home I thought about how imprisoned they are. At least two of the residents have significant birth defects, that have imprisoned their bodies all of their lives. Others are the victims of accidents, disease, or simple aging. Whatever the cause, they are unable to care for themselves in a way that is life-sustaining.

It is written in Revelation 21: 3-4, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

We have the promise from Revelation to look forward to; that the things that imprison us will pass away. God will dwell with us. God will wipe every tear from our eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more... We cling to this promise even when we find ourselves in a prison of one sort or another.

Grace and peace to you,

Pastor Maureen

VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

April 18, 2022 @ Lutheran Church

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:07 pm by Barbara Weigman, President

Devotions: Randy Klein

Members present and absent:

Present: Pastor Maureen Hagen; Barbara Weigman, President; Randy Klein, Vice President; Brian Diercks; Duane Hanson; Chris Finne; Maureen Hauck; Ben Norman; Lora Gruber; Kent Volz; and Andrew Featherstone, Secretary
Eleven voting members present

Unable to attend: Jason Stahnke and Missy McCann

Also Present: Kathy Tilderquist

Adoption of the Agenda:

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as written.

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2022 and March 21, 2022 council meeting as written.

MOTION CARRIED

Reports Reviewed and Accepted:

Treasurer's Report (Attached)

- A. \$2,000.00 from Endowment fund will go to ELCA to help with Ukraine disaster fund.
- B. It cost around \$18,000 for monthly expenses. Contributions have been good this month.

Finance Report (Attached)

- A. Pastor will be added as a second signer on the WELCA checking account.
- B. Mark Hagen bought a new computer for office. It cost \$768 dollars. Bryan Diercks will set up new users for computer after meeting.

Parish Life (Attached)

- A. Talk continues with free food pantry.
- B. Talk of new church directory has been discussed.
- C. New member reception will be on April 24.
- D. April blood drive is booked full.
- E. 158 people for Easter Worship.
- f. Three communion students will celebrate first communion on Maundy Thursday April 14.

Property Team Report (Attached)

- A. Steve will pay property taxes.
- B. Grass seed will be spread by Duane Hanson, John Hauck, and grandson.
- C. Ringeisen will come out to fix the shorts with outdoor lightning.

Cemetery Board (N/A)

VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

April 18, 2022 @ Lutheran Church (continued)

Executive Board Report (N/A)

Pastor's Report) Attached)

Josh and Becky Erhardt became new members. Jay & Paul Milkaelsen and Lucy Fountain became Associate members. Returning members include Tim, Melenie, Taylor, Tanner, and Megan Carlson.

Consultation re parsonage tenant Ben Edwards who is significantly delinquent in paying his rent. Sasha Diercks has prepared a rental payment spreadsheet. (attached).

Sasha has also prepared a letter that lays out a plan for Ben to catch up on his rental payments (attached).

Diane Johnson will preach on May 1 when pastor is on vacation.

Museum Board (Attached)

121 meals were taken out for the soup luncheon fundraiser. \$1,493.00 were raised.

Windows have been ordered up and is scheduled for replacement.

Endowment Board Report (N/A)

New Business:

Wireless Microphones- the part for the microphone antenna booster came in. Mark is going to pick up the part to help microphones have better reception with no interference.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 7:20 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Report submitted by: Andrew Featherstone, Secretary

VASA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report April 2022

For the Month of April:

Checkbook Balance April 1, 2022	\$57,824.87
General Fund Contributions:	26,063.55
Total Funds Available	83,888.42
Budget Approved Monthly Expenses:	22,948.59
Checkbook Balance, April 30 , 2022	\$60,939.83
Mission Investment Fund, April 1, 2022	\$8,758.36
Mission Investment Fund, April 30, 2022	\$ 8,761.23

From the Downtown Plaza!

The Vasa Community Dinner is really appreciated!

ELYSIAN
THE DOWNTOWN PLAZA

May 17, 2022

Dear Vasa Lutheran Church Pastor and Congregation,

Thank you for your kindness
Thank you so much!
Thank you for the wonderful meals -
Nancy & David

Thank you so much
Marion F.
Mary + Boomer



what wonderful meals. Really enjoyed them so very much!

CHOSO ABE

Thank you so much!
Diane

Thanks appreciate all the meals
Thank you! Betsy
Elsie A.

Thanks so much for the meals
Love them!
Elsie A.

Thank you for the wonderful meals -
Nancy & David

Your congregation is blessed by the Lord. Also, the workers who volunteer to make and deliver meals to us
Sue + Mandak

Your kindness, devotion, & incredible generosity are heaven-sent!
Suzanne
Resident Services Coordinator

David L. M. Fisher
God Bless You!
Mary + Boomer

Thank you!
Diane

Thanks
Sue K.

Thank you! What a beautiful thing to do!
Blessings - Betsy Shaw P/B

Thank you
Rosalia
Sandy + Gabe

Elysian Senior Homes | 434 W. Fourth Street | Red Wing, MN 55066 | 651.385.3400

MARK'S MEDITATION



A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

There is an emphasis in some churches that you must have a "personal relationship with God/Jesus." Of course, prayer should be an important component of one's Christian faith. But so should conversation and study with other people. Every time Jesus described "The Kingdom of God," he described a condition where everyone was kind and generous, not people sequestered in private prayer.

The *Olivet Discourse* is a biblical passage found in the Synoptic Gospels in Matthew 24-25, Mark 13, and Luke 21. It is also known as the Little Apocalypse because it includes the use of apocalyptic language. It ends with Jesus describing how humanity will be separated between the "sheep and the goats."

Matthew 25

³¹ "But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left.

³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. ³⁶ I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

³⁷ "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? ³⁹ When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

⁴⁰ "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'

What is often emphasized about this passage is the tribulation: the separation of the righteous from the unjust. But notice that Jesus is making it abundantly clear: *We experience God when we interact with and help others.*

Is a personal relationship with God important? Maybe. But far more important is a righteous relationship with our neighbors—that is where we find Christ.



Proceeds:

- ◇ 25 packages of underwear
- ◇ One "Pack n' Play"
- ◇ 26 rolls of toilet paper in four packages
- ◇ 27 children's size plastic hangers
- ◇ 280 adult size plastic hangers

Vasa Members...

you
**Make a
A DIFFERENCE**



A thank you note from....



Empowering Lives Through HOPE

Our services include: Haven of Hope domestic violence shelter; Kids Count program for abused children; Sexual Assault Services; Housing Support Services (emergency/transitional housing); & Community Care Fund for basic needs.

PO Box 247, Red Wing, MN 55066

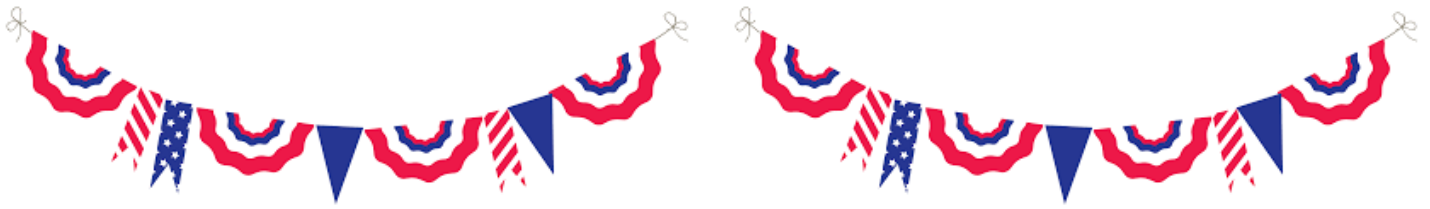
Business (651) 388-9360

Domestic Violence Crisis Line (800) 369-5214

Sexual Assault Crisis Line (800) 519-6690

www.hope-coalition.org

Hello Pastor Maureen & everyone at VASA Lutheran,
Thank you so very much for your thoughtful donations. We all need sanitary things like toilet paper continually! The underwear is priceless and the pack in play will go to some lucky infant.
We appreciate your thoughtfulness & compassion for those in need.
Very sincerely, *Linda Sanders*



July 4th!



Come celebrate Vasa’s Swedish heritage at 1:00 on the 4th of July at the Vasa Museum! Root beer Floats, along with hot sandwiches and chips will be available for purchase, with all proceeds going to the general operating expenses of the museum.

SAVE THE DATE



The Historic Vasa Museum was built in 1862. It is open from the first Sunday in May through the second Sunday in October, or by appointment.

All monetary donations received by the Museum are used for improvements and upkeep of the Museum. Three fundraisers are held yearly: the first Saturday in March is the Annual Museum Soup Luncheon. July 4th Root Beer Floats and sandwiches are served during the Vasa Parade, and the last Saturday in October is the annual Swedish Pancake Breakfast. The Museum Board thanks everyone for their support!

Happy Campers Vacation Bible School!

August 15-18, 5:30-7:00pm

SAVE THE DATE



Vasa Lutheran's Vacation Bible School will be held on Monday, August 15 through Thursday, August 18 from 5:30-7:00. We hope to spend as much time outdoors as possible, hiking, telling stories, singing songs! A Registration Form will be available on the Vasa website in July. (www.vasalutheran.org)



HATS OFF TO OUR GRADUATING SENIORS!



Madison McCann is graduating from Red Wing High School. She plans to attend Riverland Community College in Austin, MN with a focus on web design.

Ellie Clemens is graduating from Red Wing High School. She plans on attending the College of St. Benedict's and studying Biology.

Jordon Fredin is graduating from Cannon Falls High School. He plans to work for a construction company and assist on the farm.

Clara Hart completed her high school requirements in March and just completed her certification in Phlebotomy School. She's hoping to get a job at Mayo

Clinic or with the American Red Cross.

Lily Rosener is graduating from Cannon Falls High School. She plans to take a gap year to decide on her future plans.

Julia Stahnke is graduating from Cannon Falls High School. She plans to attend Chippewa Valley Technical College to study in their Diagnostic Medical Sonography program.

Krystin Anderson Rohloff (daughter of Brad & Jessica Anderson) has received a Doctorate of Nursing Practice as a Family Nurse Practitioner from Winona State University.






Katie Pearson, (daughter of Emmett John & Liz Pearson) graduated from Minnesota State University-Moorhead with a Bachelor of Science degree in Healthcare Administration.

Olivia Anderson (daughter of Todd and Lori Anderson) graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in psychology. She will pursue an advanced degree in Audiology at Purdue University in the fall.



June 2022

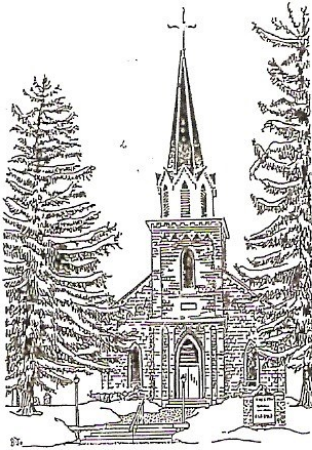


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 9AM Communion Worship	6 5PM Finance Team 6PM Parish Life	 7 9:30 am Coffee and Conversation 4PM Property Team	8 6:30pm Wednesday Evening Wor- ship	9 11AM WELCA Luncheon	10 Pastor's Day Off	11
12 9AM Worship	13 7PM Community Dinner Planning Meeting	 14 9:30 am Coffee and Conversation	15 6:30pm Wednesday Evening Wor- ship	16	17 Pastor's Day Off	18
19 9AM Communion Worship	20 6PM Church Council	 21 9:30 am Coffee and Conversation	22 6:30pm Wednesday Evening Wor- ship	23	24 Pastor's Day Off	25
26 9AM Worship Midsommar Cel- ebration and Tractor Parade	27	 28 9:30 am Coffee and Conversation	29 6:30pm Wednesday Evening Wor- ship	30	1 	2

VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH

15235 NORELIUS ROAD (in Vasa)

WELCH, MN 55089



Historic Vasa Lutheran Church Built in 1869

(Vasa Drawing by B-J Norman)

Worship Schedule

9:00AM Sundays (also live-streamed)

Wednesday Evening Worship

6:30pm Holy Communion + Everyday Bible Conversation
(Fellowship Room of Lutheran Center)

Executive Team

Barbara Weigman, Council President 507.202.7880

Randy Klein, Council Vice President 651.212.8045

Andrew Featherstone, Council Secretary 651.470.9823

Pastor Maureen Hagen

pastor@vasalutheran.org

(Cell)507.251.5270

Church Office

651.258.4327

office@vasalutheran.org

Church Staff

Kathy Tilderquist, Treasurer

Emily Peterson, Office Administrator

Melissa McCann, Custodian

Anne Anderson, Worship Accompanist

Gail Strusz-Klein, Wedding Coordinator

Paul & Jay Mikaelson, Missionaries in La Paz Bolivia
Contact: pmikaelsen@gmail.com

Website: www.caranavi.net/rtc.htm

Vasa Mission Statement

We, the Vasa Congregation,

Called by God, commit to:

Worshipping together,

Growing in Faith,

Serving Others, and

Welcoming and loving all!