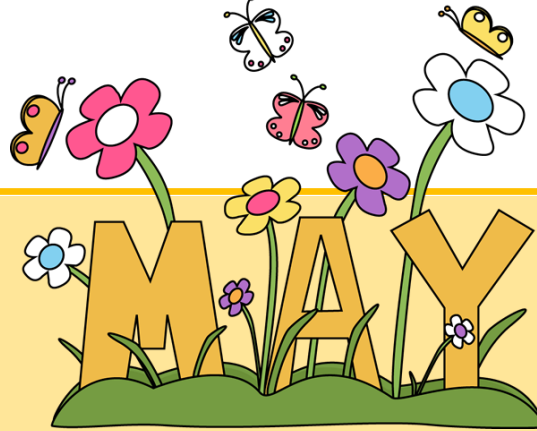


# The Vasa Voice

Volume 58 No. 5

May 2022



## Vasa Happenings in May

### **May 1 Vasa Museum Opens for The Summer**

Regular Hours will be Sundays, 11:30-4:00, or by appointment. Just call or email the church office and Emily will contact a member of the museum board to accommodate your request. 651-258-4327 or [office@vasalutheran.org](mailto:office@vasalutheran.org)

### **May 8 Mother's Day**

A special day for Mothers, Grandmothers, Great-Grandmothers, Godmothers, and every mother figure!

### **May 11 Community Dinner**

This is the LAST community dinner until September. Drive Through opens at 5:30pm at the Vasa Center! Enjoy some pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, potato salad, cheese curds and a cookie! This dinner is courtesy of the Community Dinner Fund!

### **May 15 Undie Sunday**

At times, women and their children arrive at The Haven of Hope Domestic violence shelter in Red Wing with almost nothing. Though Mother's Day is May 8, we will honor our mothers with a collection of new underwear, socks or TP on May 15. We will recognize the children that often accompany their moms by collecting packages of children's underwear and socks as well.

### ***Here's what's on the Inside!***

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***P. 3 Thoughts from Pastor Maureen, Summer Sermon Series***

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***P. 6 Undie Sunday, Thank You, Rummage Sale Update***

***P. 7 Welcome New Members, Mark's Meditation, Mothers in the Bible (Trivia!)***



## Worship Volunteers for May

### USHERS

May 1 Roger Guttromson  
 May 8 Duane Hanson  
 May 15 Intergenerational Worship  
 May 22 Randy Klein  
 May 29 Chuck Peterson

### READERS

May 1 Jeannette Anderson  
 May 8 Kevin Eckblad  
 May 15 Intergenerational Worship  
 May 22 Sid Featherstone  
 May 29 Marv Fredrickson

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

May 1 Mo Hauck  
 May 15 Intergenerational Worship  
 May 29 Geri Lindholm



May 2— Gabe Bauch  
 Sarah Jo Hedeem  
 Tanner Carlson  
 Owyne Gillis  
 Vivian Strusz  
 May 6— Josh Hanson  
 May 7 — Bentley Endres  
 Chris Mann  
 May 10 — Ron Scripture  
 May 11 — Jim Hedeem  
 May 12 — Merle Pearson  
 May 16 — Wendy Anderson  
 Ross Fredin  
 Bruce Tilderquist  
 May 18 — Nora Featherstone  
 May 19 — Brady Bosshart  
 Jeff Nelsen  
 May 20 — Katie Lindahl  
 May 26 — Gabriel Rehder  
 May 27 — Theresa Fredin  
 Julia Stahnke  
 May 28 — Nelson Parker  
 May 29 — Anthony Mann  
 Brian Schmidt  
 May 30 — Lisa Bosshart  
 Kathy Tilderquist  
 May 31 — Gerald McRae  
 Audrey Rosener



A note from the Thompson Family:

A sincere thank you to all who helped in the kitchen on March 13, the day of Linda's funeral. I Thank you, also, to all who brought cakes.

Linda so enjoyed working with the ladies of WELCA. A special thank you to Sue for all her hard work.

You all are greatly appreciated.

Duane, Lori, Kyle and Families

### ***Thoughts from Pastor Maureen***

Pronouns are important. While they are very small words they tell the reader a great deal. There has been a movement in the last forty years to encourage the use of feminine pronouns for the Holy Spirit. I did just that in my April pastor's column.

Nouns in the English language do not have a specific gender, but many other languages do categorize nouns as female, male, or neutral. In Hebrew all the names for God are masculine. What that means is that it could be written: God is the creator. If you followed with a second sentence referring to God you would likely say: *he* created the heavens and the earth. On the other hand the Hebrew word *ruach* is feminine and this word is often used to refer to the Spirit of God. As a result it would be grammatically acceptable to say that when the *ruach* of God moved over the face of the deep at the time of creation, *she* was present and separated the waters from the waters.

Grammar is one matter. Common usage and practice is another. And then there is our understanding of God. Humans have a tendency to categorize. Apparently it's an important part of our inner wiring. As a result we long to categorize God. Is God male? Is God female? Is God genderless or gender neutral?

God is beyond our human ability to categorize. God simply exists. God always has existed and always will. Our challenge is always to stretch our understanding of God beyond gender and that's not easy work. But don't be surprised if you see and read clear references to God's Holy Spirit using feminine pronouns.

Luke 13:34 How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

*Grace and peace to you,*

*Pastor Maureen*

### SUMMER SERMON SERIES...SUMMER SERMON SERIES...SUMMER SERMON SERIES...

**New Testament book of Philippians:** The first summer sermon series runs from May 22 through June 19 and looks closely at the Epistle to the Philippians. This letter was written by the apostle Paul although Timothy is named with him as co-author. 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. Philippians is just four chapters long and you may want to read it as part of your devotions.

**VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**  
March 21, 2022 @Lutheran Church

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:10 PM by Barbara Weigman, President  
**Devotions:** Ben Norman

**Members present and absent:**

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

**Unable to attend:** Jason Stahnke and Kent Volz

**Also Present:** Kathy Tilderquist

**Adoption of the Agenda:**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Approval of Minutes:**

February 21, 2022- N/A Barbara will type up minutes and send via email to review and approve this week.

**Reports Reviewed and Accepted:**

Treasurer's Report (Attached)

Insurance has been paid for April.

2 people found church website online and gave money thru Evan Josephson memorial.

Finance Report (Attached)

Discussion about Chapter 8, Membership, of the church constitution. The specific issue was what constituted a membership for the purchase of a cemetery plot. The constitution has that a member needs to have one Communion and give a \$1 note in a calendar year.

Parish Life (Attached)

Flowers for the alter will be ordered for the next couple weeks.

The Tractor Parade will take place June 26<sup>TH</sup> Barb Weigman is planning the food for breakfast.

We will kneel at railing for Easter Sunday for communion.

Maundy Thursday is April 14 and Good Friday is April 15, worship will take place at 7:00 PM.

Fay Drewianka, Kathy Tilderquist, Vicki Weckerling, and Gail Klein will be in charge of Vasa Rummage Sale.

Property Team Report (Attached)

Heat exchangers on furnaces in church should be taken care of this week by Matt Lindell.

Parking lot railing and Pastor door has now painted.

**VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**  
March 21, 2022 @Lutheran Church (continued)

Cemetery Board (N/A)  
Executive Board Report (N/A)  
Pastor's Report) Attached)

It was moved and seconded to replace the steeple roof.

**MOTION CARRIED**

It was moved and seconded to accept Sid Featherstone Construction LLC bid to replace Church roof and steeple.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Pastor and Andrew will work out a letter to send out with the information that insurance will cover the cost of the roofing.

It was moved and seconded to subsidize families with camp by 75% of the lowest tier pricing.

**MOTION CARRIED**

It was moved and seconded to have communion at the rail on Easter Sunday.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Museum Board (Attached)

Soup luncheon fed 130 people.

Window replacement will take place as soon as window prices get figured out.

Endowment Board Report (N/A)

**Tabled Business:** N/A

**New Business:** N/A

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 8:10 PM.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Report submitted by: Andrew Featherstone, Secretary

VASA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report March 2022

For the Month of March:

Checkbook Balance March 1, 2022	\$48,941.29
General Fund Contributions:	26,275.78
Total Funds Available	75,217.07
Budget Approved Monthly Expenses:	17,392.20
Checkbook Balance, March 31, 2022	\$57,824.87

Mission Investment Fund, March 1, 2022	\$10,855.32
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Mission Investment Fund, March 31, 2022	\$ 8,758.36
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Vasa's



Undie



Sunday

SUNDAY, May 15<sup>th</sup>



At times, women in abusive relationships and their children arrive at domestic violence shelters with almost nothing.

Nothing says you care like Underwear!

Please bring new, unopened women's & children's underwear and socks, and toilet paper to worship on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> to benefit the Haven of Hope Domestic Violence Shelter in Red Wing.



A note from Nancy and Donald Nord:

Dear Vasa Church Members:

Enclosed are checks for 9 meals with an extra \$10 added for the man who delivered the meals. Not only do we get good meals, but we get conversation, good stories, and humor! When you have been restricted this past year and a half, having someone visit you is a treat. You all are the church at work!

With gratitude and prayers,

Nancy and Donald Nord

**—Mothers in the Bible—**

**TRIVA!**

1. Who is known as "The Mother of all Living?"
2. What mother instructed her young son so thoroughly that Paul said to him, "From a child thou has't known the holy Scriptures?"
3. What Mother helped her son deceive his old, nearly blind father?
4. What mother dedicated her first son to God as an attendant in the temple?
5. What mother was sent out into the wilderness with her little son, because her husband's other wife was jealous?
6. What mother asked Jesus that her two sons might have places of honor as his right and left sides in His kingdom?
7. What disciple did Jesus ask to care for his mother at the time of his crucifixion?
8. What mother's son was raised to life by Jesus?
9. Whose mother did Jesus cure of a bad fever?
10. What queen mother had a daughter as wicked as she?

*\* Thanks to Kathy Tilderquist for contributing these. They were found in family papers from Bruce's Aunt Elsie Tilderquist.*



"Motherhood: All love begins and ends there.." *Robert Browning*

"A mother understands what a child does not say." *Jewish Proverb*



## Rummage Sale

The Vasa Rummage Sale was, once again, a HUGE success! Thanks to everyone who made donations, who helped, set up, mark items, keep things organized, clean up after—to anyone who helped in ANY way, thank you! The total proceeds were just about \$6,500.00.

If you didn't get around to gathering up your old clothing, bedding and towels in time for the rummage sale, Vasa will continue to accept these items **IN BAGS** until May 15. All donations will go to the Epilepsy Foundation which will pay Vasa by the cubic foot.

### TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Eve 2. Timothy's mother, Eunice (II Timothy:1:5) 3. Rebekah (Genesis 27:8-18) 4. Hannah (I Samuel 1:28) 5. Hagar (Genesis 21:14) 6. The mother of James and John (Matthew 20:21) 7. John (John 19:26-27) 8. The widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-15) 9. Peter's wife's mother (Matthew 8:14-15) 10. Jezebel (II Kings 11:1-3)

## MARK'S MEDITATION

### AUDIO/VISUAL SYSTEM UPDATE

28 April 2022

They say "No good deed goes unpunished."

When the pandemic hit and the church wanted to stream services on the internet. I did a lot of reading and watching instructional YouTube videos. I also visited several churches to see what others were doing to provide virtual access to worship. As a result of this study, I recommended we get remote-controlled cameras and a remote-controlled audio mixer such that everything could be operated by a single computer in the back row of the sanctuary. This equipment has been installed for several months now. (Many thanks to Ben Norman and Greg Rathman who helped install the necessary A/V cables.)

In order to install the additional audio equipment, I welded up a steel rack to mount the new mixer, speaker amplifier, and wireless microphone receivers. This seemed like a good idea at the time. However, the microphone receivers are now about six feet off the floor, which means that the antennas that capture the signal from the microphone transmitter on pastor Maureen's belt are several feet above her. As a result, if she stands to the right of center in front of the altar, she is in the "shadow" of these antennas and the signal drops out. This happened several times during the Easter service.

The fix to this problem is to purchase a device that replaces the six separate antennas on the three wireless mic receivers with two larger antennas and mount those antennas lower to the ground. Unfortunately, this signal booster has been on back-order for several months.

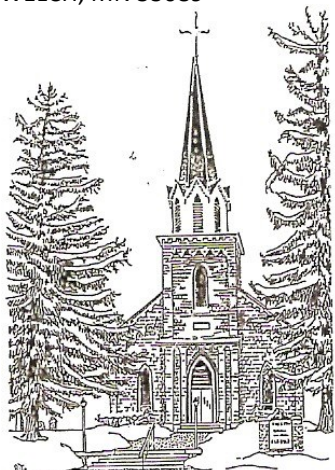
The good news is that the signal booster came in last week and the new antennas arrived this week. So, by the time you read this, our microphone woes should be behind us.

As for the saying "No good deed goes unpunished." Mostly I don't believe that. It is the opposite of the Gospel. But when things go badly, it's hard to remember the words of Jesus. That's why I attend Vasa church—it helps me believe.



On April 24, Vasa Lutheran happily welcomed many new (and returning) members. New members included Josh and Becca Erhardt, and their son Oliver, who was also baptized that day. We also welcomed three associate members, persons who hold membership in other Lutheran congregations but who also desire to participate in the life and mission of this congregation. They are Lucy Fountain (in the state of Washington) and Paul and Jay Mikaelson, missionaries in La Paz, Bolivia (and who live in Red Wing when they are home). Returning members are Tim and Melanie Carlson, Taylor Carlson, Tanner Carlson and Megan Carlson.

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 (in 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](mailto:pastor@vasalutheran.org)

(Cell)507.251.5270

### **Church Office**

651.258.4327

[office@vasalutheran.org](mailto: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 Mikaelsen, Missionaries in La Paz Bolivia Contact: [pmikaelsen@gmail.com](mailto:pmikaelsen@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.caranavi.net/rtc.htm](http://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!