



August 2023



Pastor Ron Dahle

GOOD NEWS

From Pastor Ron Dahle

Did you ever wonder where we get the topics and Scripture readings for our Worship services each week? Some pastors are very good at Topical Preaching, where you select topics and find appropriate Scripture readings to support the topics. Others use what is called a Common Lectionary where Scripture is chosen for every Sunday of the Church year. The common lectionary provides a complete cycle of Scripture readings from the Synoptic Gospels – Matthew, Mark, and Luke. And they fill in appropriate readings from the Gospel of John. Also, the Old Testament readings and the Psalms and the Epistle readings tie together with the Gospel reading.

By following this schedule, the Word of God is the topic, and the Pastor finds the topic for the Sermon from the Bible as it is presented to us.

The Church year, starting with the season of Advent allows us to read and study the seasons of the year with the highlights of special services such as Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Ascension of Jesus ending with All Saints day, and Christ the King Sunday.

The benefit is to provide a consistent format for our Worship. We worship the Living God. Our services are intended to provide a source of renewal for those who are already believers in Jesus, and also for those who wish to become followers of Jesus.

As such, each worship service is the opportunity to be forgiven of sin, to hear the Word read and preached, to confess your Faith in the Living God. So we might leave the service restored, renewed, refreshed, understanding the profound love of God for you. God invites us into relationship with the living God, so that we might enjoy the presence of God in our daily lives and always have an eye on the future. Life is uncertain and we do not know when our time on earth will end. But we can know for certain where we will live in the future. That future starts here and now and transcends death to eternal life.

(continued on page 4)

EVENTS

August 10-21
TARTU Mission Trip
Please pray for the team

Thursday, August 17
Amazing Grays
Medora Trip

Thursday, August 17
Pinochle Night
6:00 p.m.

Friday, August 18
Outdoor Movie Night
7:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 24
Bonfire Night
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 27
Outdoor Worship/Potluck
10:30 a.m.

Executive Director of Ministries Doug Leet

A Remnant

"Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the Lord: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn." Isaiah 51:1 (NIV) A faithful remnant in Israel are encouraged to remember their past, and the power of God that created a great nation from a single couple, an old man and a woman past their age of bearing children.

"And the surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward and bear fruit upward. For out of Jerusalem shall go a remnant, and out of Mount Zion a band of survivors. The zeal of the Lord will do this." 2 Kings 19:30-31 (ESV) God was assuring King Hezekiah that a remnant would survive the Assyrian invasion.

There are numerous examples throughout the Bible of God saving a small remnant of faithful people to carry on, and, as in the case of His message to Hezekiah, "again take root downward and bear fruit upward."

A pastor once told me that the Lutheran seminary trains and equips pastors to "Preach the Word and administer the sacraments." Of course, we know the pastoral duties of parish ministry entail much more than this, but it points to the centrality of scripture and the daily working of God in our lives. Please read Pastor Ron Dahle's lead article in this newsletter about using the common lectionary in Sunday worship where "the Word of God is

the topic, and the pastor finds the topic for the sermon from the Bible as it is presented to us."

I also encourage you to read the Preamble to Charity's constitution, along

with Article II (you can find the link at the bottom of our web page in the middle column). Both areas confess faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as well as point to the scriptural authority for everything Charity is called to do, as the "only infallible authority in all matters of faith and life." The Word is the "rock from which you were cut and the quarry from which you were hewn" here at Charty.

With that, all adults are invited to join us this fall using the Bible as our textbook on Wednesday evenings at 6:15, with the Bethel Bible Series, first providing an overview of the Old Testament before moving on to an overview of the New Testament. The Bethel Bible Series mission is to "Lead church members into a disciplined study of Scripture in such a way that they encounter the Living Christ."

When first introduced, WOW, (Worship on Wednesday) was intended to be an inter-generational night for whole families, starting with a family meal, then children's and youth programming, along with adult group studies. We'll be reintroducing the concept with a bit of a twist as WOW (Word on Wednesday), including a fun scripture memorization program for the elementary ages.

Charity's Adult Ed will continue in the sanctuary this fall on Sunday mornings at 10:45 following the service, running concurrently with the children's Sunday School hour.



Doug Leet

Financial Report

June Actual Income	\$49,119
June Budgeted Income	\$73,849
Difference	\$24,730

June Actual Income	\$49,119
June Actual Expenses	\$58,521
Difference	\$9,402

YTD Actual Income	\$284,533
YTD Budgeted Income	\$443,095
Difference	\$158,562

YTD Actual Income	\$284,533
YTD Actual Expenses	\$337,363
Difference	\$52,830

Memorials & Gifts

GRIEFSHARE

In Memory of Wilbert Fueller by Alvina Fueller
In Honor of LaVern Axt by Lorri Mittleider

A six-part Biblical worldview study called Now We Live will be presented, which is designed to train and equip Christians to "propel faith into action."

Please look for more information as it comes out regarding our fall offerings for the whole family. And remember to place your Bible, pencil and notepad where you won't forget it as you head out the door on your way to Charity!

Vision Council Update

Greetings from the Vision Council. It has been a great summer but as usual it is flying by. It has been nice to see the countryside staying so green with the rain this year.

With Doug Sprynczynatyk and Nathaniel Oakland leaving their staff positions at the end of June, there have been meetings to organize volunteer teams to fill the gap in the facility/grounds and the children's and youth areas, to continue reducing Charity's monthly expenses. If you could help in any of those areas, please contact Doug Leet.

The Vision Council also approved a new Prayer Chain policy. There had been questions about how the Prayer Chain was being administered and who was eligible to receive prayer requests. A copy is available by contacting the office.

If you have been reading Charity Lutheran's monthly newsletter you are aware that our monthly income is still falling well short of expenses. Income has fallen significantly with the splitting of Charity in 2022 without an equivalent reduction in expenses. Fortunately, Charity has had a healthy reserve fund, but good stewardship requires income and expenses to be brought into balance sooner rather than later. Staff have been working diligently to reduce expenses where they can, but the single largest expense is the staff payroll. Some difficult decisions are going to have to be made in the next several months to achieve the goal of a balanced budget. There will be further detailed communications on this subject, and we intend to schedule an informational meeting in late August or early September.

As difficult as the challenges are before us, the leadership team is united in the belief that Charity is only growing stronger in faith and trust in our Father's will for us. We continue to lean on God through the Holy Spirit for wisdom, guidance, and council. Our God will see us through this next transition at Charity. Please pray for all the Charity staff and leadership teams. I also encourage everyone to join us in corporate prayer each Tuesday evening at 6:30.

God Bless
Mike Fluharty
Vision Council President

Vision Council questions can be emailed to:
vision.council@charitylutheran.org

Charity Call Committee Report

We continue to screen applicants for the Senior Pastor position and conducted a Zoom interview with another pastor in July. To date, we have received 14 applications and have gathered more information and interviewed about half of them.

We are also in the process of refreshing the ad for the LCMC website and will repost it in early August.

We ask for your continued prayers for our congregation and for the Senior Pastor God is preparing to send to us. Please reach out to us either individually or through our email at callcommittee@charitylutheran.org with any questions, comments or concerns.

Call Committee members - Beth Allen, Andrea Collin, Melissa Hill, Laura Kourajian and Scott Carter.

Call Committee questions can be emailed to:
callcommittee@charitylutheran.org

From Pastor Ron Dahle

(continued from page 1)

Through faith in Jesus, God invites us to live in relationship with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit throughout our lives here on earth, and in heaven with God for all eternity. God has given us the Word of God for our daily lives, and Worship to continue to live in relationship with God. Our goal is to continue to explore and grow in the Word. I love to use the common lectionary so that we do not miss any part of God's Word. May God grant us to grow up in God's Word!

Welcome to Worship!

-Pastor Ron Dahle

New Adult Ed Opportunities

NOW WE LIVE

How Your Faith Can Restore a Broken World

Six-week Christian Worldview Bible Study

What: Now We Live - Six-week Christian Worldview Bible Study for Adult Ed

When: Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for six Sundays beginning September 10

Where: Charity Sanctuary

Who: For all adults with Don Nordquist facilitating along with video presentation



THE
Bethel Bible
Series

What: Bethel Bible Series - a 20-session Old Testament overview using the Bible as a textbook

When: Wednesday evenings at 6:15 p.m. for the WOW (Word on Wednesday) school year beginning September 13.

Where: Charity Sanctuary

Who: For all adults with Shelley Traynor as the lead teacher, along with co-teachers

August Events

SUMMER BONFIRE NIGHT

Thursday, August 24 | 7-9 PM

Jeff & Rose Gitters House
2912 Valley View Ave
Bismarck, ND 58501

*All Adults
Singles & Couples*



Amazing Grays

The Amazing Grays had a great trip to New Rockford on Wednesday, July 19, and are now preparing for their trip to Medora for shopping, dining and the musical.



We had originally planned to go on August 16 but in checking prices, senior citizens get a 10% discount on Tuesdays and Thursdays so we decided to move the date to **Thursday, August 17**. The cost of the ticket for the musical will be \$55.50 with the discount. Please let Renee Walz know if you would like to go on the bus with our group so I can get a block of seats reserved for us. The bus will plan to leave the parking lot at 2:30 this year so we will have an extra hour for shopping. The musical starts at 7:30 p.m. so this gives you plenty of time to shop and eat dinner at a place of your choice or you can bring a sack lunch along if you prefer. Please make checks out to Renee Walz and let me know by phone or text (400-1201) if you want to go with us by August 3rd.

Pinochle Group

The Pinochle Group will meet Thursday, August 17 at 6:00 p.m. Reserve a spot by texting John Seedorf at 701-426-9768.

September 15 is the next Pinochle night.



**Outdoor
WORSHIP SERVICE
& POTLUCK**
**Sunday, August 27
10:30 a.m.**
SERTOMA PARK SHELTER 11

WE NEED YOU!
Bring lawn chairs for the service and a potluck dish to share.

Charity will provide hotdogs, buns, chips, beans, lemonade, water, coffee, plates, napkins and utensils.

Please plan to join us for our outdoor worship service and potluck on Sunday, August 27 at Sertoma Park Shelter 11 at 10:30 a.m. Please bring your lawn chairs for the service and a potluck dish to share. This will be a great morning of worship, fellowship, and fun!

Amazing Grays


The Amazing Grays had a wonderful trip to the Old Church Theatre in New Rockford to see "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown." Thank you to all who came and thank you to Jeff Brown for driving the bus for the trip!



*TRIP TO
New Rockford
Theatre*



Introducing the



Plant a single potato, give it time to grow and it will produce multiple potatoes. So it is with any memorial, honorarium, donation or gift to the TRUST FUND. It grows and lasts forever while producing earnings for gifting. With a single donation become a SPUD CLUB MEMBER for 2023. Donate now and your name will remain on this list for the year!!

2023 Spud Club Members

- Mark & Lisa Aamodt
- Duane & Darlene Bentz
- Scott & Connie Carter
- Alvina Fueller
- Jeff & Rose Gitter
- Donavon Hatzenbuhler
- Dave & Nancy Jensen
- Matt & Penny Kaldor
- Georgia Kingsbury
- Chad & Laura Kourajian
- Mark & Liz Landis
- Dave & Barb Lee
- Doug & Rhonda Leet
- Wayne & Marie Levang
- Craig & Sandra Lohstreter
- Brad & Pam Miller
- Don & Kathy Nordquist
- Ken & Julie Slag
- John & Sandy Seedorf
- Norlyn & Patty Swenson
- Jerry & Renee Walz
- Kathy Wermager



Tartu Mission Trip

Pastor Bob Nordvall

Greetings, Charity Friends of Tartu Academy in Estonia

Since 2006 Charity has been a faithful supporter of Tartu Academy of Theology in Tartu, Estonia. Over the years you have given much for the ministry and training of pastors and church workers through TAT, and on several occasions you have hosted both Pastor Eenok Haamer (Founder of TAT), and his son, Pastor Siimon Haamer (Dean, TAT), when they have visited at Charity. The duration of your faithful friendship and support over 17 years has been so very much appreciated!

Soon in August, four members of Charity will be joining me and four others from Minnesota, Colorado, and Nebraska on a short-term mission trip to Estonia, the first since the pandemic outbreak in 2019. Donavon Hatzenbuhler, Kathy Wermager, and Arlan and Linda Okerson will be representing Charity August 9-19, and are currently in the process of raising funds for their ground expenses in Estonia. In the transitional process at Charity some things got a bit lost in the shuffle. Airfares have been secured, but the needs on the ground are about \$2000 for each (or a total of \$8000). On this short notice, we pray it will be possible for the Charity family to bring this additional support to the servants of Charity.

I hope you will take time to visit the Estonia table in the Fellowship Hall, locate the friends who will be traveling in August, and ask them some questions. Your prayers are going to be the primary request from them, but your prayerful gifts will also be so gratefully received! You can look for regular daily reports coming during their travels and through the Adult Bible Camp days in TAT. When they return you will hear how God has used this event once again for His glory, both in Estonia and in the lives of each missionary servant!

Please give it prayerful consideration how you may bring your support.

Checks can be made out to: Charity Lutheran Church *Memo line: Estonia Mission Trip*

Online: General Fund *Memo/Note: Estonia Mission Trip*

Blessings,

Pastor Bob Nordvall

All students and education staff, along with parents are invited to attend worship on Sunday, August 20. Pastor Ron Dahle will offer a special blessing to surround the new school year in prayer.

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING
SUNDAY, AUGUST 20
9:30 A.M. SERVICE



August 1
Mark Aamodt

August 2
Rose Gitter
Alison Lubbers

August 4
Jackson Lubbers

August 5
Maggie Dukart

August 8
Lisa Keidel

August 9
Randy Traynor

August 12
Isaac Oakland
Kari Penn

August 13
Scott Carter

August 14
Cassandra Becker
Silas Kaldor

August 15
Barb Heim
Floyd Jacober
Garik Schlecht

August 19
Arnold Leno

August 22
Cassie Braun

August 28
Lily Parnell
Dottie Dixon Schmeling

August 31
Laverne Morrisette



*Those who
remain
in love
remain
in God
and
God
remains
in them.*



1 JOHN 4:16

- August 3** - Nathaniel and Melissa Oakland
- August 9** - Keith and DeLores Soiseth
- August 15** - Wayne and Marie Levang
- August 18** - Scott and Connie Carter
- August 20** - Mark and Liz Landis
- August 20** - Doug and Rhonda Leet
- August 21** - Steve and Pam Miller
- August 26** - Jeff and Carleen Carlson
- August 27** - Randy and Dottie Schmeling
- August 31** - Ronald and Sharon Rosenvold



stephen at Charity Lutheran

MINISTRY.

**FOR HE HAS RESCUED
US FROM THE DOMINION OF
DARKNESS ———— AND
BROUGHT US INTO THE
KINGDOM OF THE SON
HE LOVES, IN WHOM WE
HAVE REDEMPTION, THE
FORGIVENESS OF SINS.**

COLOSSIANS 1:13 & 14

Stephen Ministers will walk beside you through the valley of darkness, being your spiritual guide with God's help and love. If you would like to visit with a Stephen Minister, please call the church office at 258-1228 for more information.

GriefShare will be starting next month. You can scan the QR code on the right for more information or you can visit www.griefshare.org. From there, type in the zip code and you will find Charity Lutheran Church as one of the options. Click on that for more information. You can also email Lorri if you have any questions.

**Begins
Sept. 7**

GRIEF SHARE®
at Charity Lutheran

When: Thursday Evenings 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Where: Charity Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary

This 13 week GriefShare program is designed to help others come to a place where they can move from the state of mourning to experiencing real joy again in this new season of life. Scan the QR code to learn more and to register.



Facilitator: Lorri Mittleider
mitlorri@gmail.com
\$25.00 fee to cover cost of workbook



CALL TO SERVE

It's that time of year again: we're looking for people who want to make a difference in the lives of the next generation in the 2023-2024 ministry year! All volunteers over the age of 17 must be able to pass a background check.

If you would like to volunteer during the 2023-2024 school year with Sunday morning or Wednesday evening Children's and Youth programming, please contact Doug at 258-1228 or email him at doug.leet@charitylutheran.org.



A volunteer orientation for our Children's and Youth programming will take place at a TBD date in August.

Charity Family Registration
2023-2024

Register Here:



2023-2024 Family Registration Now Open

It's time to get registered for fall programs! All kids and students participating in ministry from preschool through high school must have a registration form on file. Visit our homepage or scan the QR code to register now!

Come one, come all and get together for an Outdoor Family Movie Night on Friday, August 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mark and Liz Landis. All ages are welcome to this fun event! Please RSVP to Liz Landis at 701-220-2748 or by email at liz.landis@charitylutheran.org.

Please bring your outdoor chairs and/or blanket to relax and watch Toy Story 3.



Outdoor Family
MOVIE NIGHT

**FRIDAY
18 AUG
7:30 PM**

MOVIE AT 8:15 PM

Join us for some games, smore's, & snacks. Please bring your outdoor chairs and/or blanket to relax and watch the movie.

Mark and Liz Landis' backyard at
5901 Horseshoe Bend, Mandan ND.

SUMMER BONFIRE NIGHTS

We have had two bonfire nights so far!

Thank
you
to

Nathaniel & Melissa Oakland
and Jeff & Rose Gitter
for hosting our bonfire nights.





CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit # 353
Bismarck, ND 58503

CHARITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

120 Aspen Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58503

Phone: 701-258-1228 or Fax: 701-258-4398

Email: office@charitylutheran.org

www.charitylutheran.org



Outdoor WORSHIP SERVICE & POTLUCK

Sunday, August 27
10:30 a.m.

SERTOMA PARK SHELTER 11

WE NEED YOU!

Bring lawn chairs for the service
and a potluck dish to share.

Charity will provide hotdogs, buns,
chips, beans, lemonade, water,
coffee, plates, napkins and utensils.