



Kviteseid Voice

**Kviteseid Lutheran
Church
February 2019
Volume 29 | Number 2**

Greetings from Pastor Kristine Isder

Poet Mary Oliver died in January. I hadn't heard of her but after her death a lot of people were posting her poems and stories online.

Phil Ruge-Jones combined one of her famous sayings or questions with the gospel for January 27.

"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" – Mary Oliver

Jesus answers:

"Bring good news to the poor, announce pardon for the prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind. Set free the oppressed. Proclaim the year of the Lord's amnesty." - Luke 4:18-19

These words were spoken by Jesus at the beginning of His ministry and are his inaugural address. Jesus quotes Isaiah 61 from an Old Testament prophet.

For centuries the people had been waiting for this prophecy to be realized. Jesus proclaims "Today, this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The prophecy of Isaiah spoke of an upside-down kingdom which would make right the wrongs of the people. Or is it a right-side-up kingdom? The way God intended it to be?

And now Jesus was here to set things right: encouraging the discouraged, bringing restoration to that which was lost, freeing up that which was bound, lifting that which was put down, and proclaiming that God is for us and not against us.

The beginning of the text is: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me."

The Spirit of the Lord was upon Jesus, but it's also upon us.

Just as Jesus came to the world to make a deep connection with people, we are called to do the same.

The tasks Jesus did are now the tasks of the Church. We are to bring good news to the poor. We are to release the captives. We are to open the eyes of those who refuse to see. We are to let the oppressed go free.

It isn't always easy to do. But the Good News is that God waits patiently for us. God forgives us when we stumble and fall. God loves us no matter what we do.

Our calling is to love and serve others and spread the good news.

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13.

STEWARDSHIP

Contributions, Gifts, Memorials & Worship



FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Fund
2018 Financial Responsibilities
\$206,812

- We ended 2018 with \$1,091 in the checking account.
- All expenses were paid.
- Detailed report will be in the 2018 annual report.

Approved budget for 2019 is
\$209,671

Worship Offerings & Attendance

Dec. 30	\$3,237	43
Jan. 6	\$1,686	71
Jan. 13	\$1,466	85
Jan. 20	\$2,788	43
Jan. 27	\$ 875	57



Donate online...
It's easy!

Visit our website at
milanslutheranchurch.com

Gifts & Memorials

None to report

IF WE LOVE
ONE ANOTHER,
GOD
LIVES IN US
AND HIS
LOVE
IS MADE
COMPLETE IN US.

I John 4:12

PRAYERS

We offer up prayers for ...

This section removed for member privacy.

LOCAL NEWS

Pastor, staff & officers

Helping Hands

Greetings and welcome to February!! Spring is not far behind, but let us enjoy each day we are given during this time of year!

Thank you to Group 1, chair-people Bob/Diane Berven and Brian/Teresa Olson for decorating and undecorating for the Christmas season! The church was beautiful! Your efforts are truly appreciated!

We will be sewing batting pieces together on Monday, February, 4 starting at 9 am until we are tired. Bring a bag lunch in hopes that we can make it into the afternoon. It would be shame to waste the batting pieces that are left after trimming. No experience is necessary! All help will be appreciated!

Regular quilting we be Mondays, February, 11, 18, 25 and

March 4, beginning at 9 am until 3 pm. Please bring a bag lunch. We invite all to come and help, learn and have a great time! No experience necessary and there are people in our area and across the world that will appreciate your efforts!

Again, thank you to those people who have stepped up to be chairpersons of the service groups for the coming year. We appreciate your time and talent. The new people will begin when the new Service Books are out. Look for them early in February. Thank you Missy for putting them together.

We have a group of people who are willing to help out in a pinch for funerals if you are short of workers. You are not expected to take time off work to do funerals. The people who are willing include: Nancy Schneck, Sue Vetter, Ronae Rose, Cathy Olson, Theresa Erickson

(summer), Pat Berge, Rich Isder (clean up) and Rodger Schneck (clean up). If you are willing to help in this manner, please contact Nancy Schneck. Thank you to these people!

There will be a Potluck dinner following worship on February 10 served by the Helping Hands Board. A-M, please bring salads and N-Z, please bring hot dishes. It is always fun to taste all the different things that people bring! Thank you to everyone!

The next group for funeral serving is Group 3.

Be sure to sign up for goodies to serve with coffee before church! Everyone loves that!

Everyone, please stay healthy and upright! No falling please! Have a great February!

Kviteseid Staff & Officers

2019



Office Staff

Pastor Kristine Isder
pastor@milanslutheranchurch.com

Parish Assistant Malisa Ervin
office@milanslutheranchurch.com

Building Staff

Custodian David Thompson
Organist Judi Bohm

Volunteer Leadership

Choir Director Jessica Trager

Sunday School
Co-Superintendents Mandi Johnson & Talia Schuerman

Contributions Secretaries
Joel Lund & Luther Opjorden

Church Officers

President Jon Hanson
Vice Pres. Connie Fragodt
Secretary Lorrie Spray
Treasurer Rich Isder

Board of Deacons

Lee Haugen, David Lovehaug, Char Strand, Reed Molden, Marie Molden

Board of Trustees

Josh Moen, Josh Vetter, Nate Spray, Erik Boraas, Bruce Loose

Board of Education

Hillary Spray, Jenna Norby, Cheryl Erp, Coral Wehrkamp, Sue Streed

Helping Hands Board

Pres. Nancy Schneck,
Vice Pres. Sue Vetter,
Treas. Theresa Erickson,
Sec. Cathy Olson,
Connie Fragodt, Char Johnson, Renae Tostenson, Naomi Streed, Karla Schwendemann

WORSHIP NEWS

February Schedules & Events

February Worship Assistants

Acolytes

- 3 - Carter Bowen
- 10 - Gage Augeson

Lectors

- 3 - Jon Hanson
- 10 - Reed Molden
- 17 - Sherry Norby
- 24 - Kim Olson

Media Operators

- 3 - Tom Moe
- 10 - Erik Boraas
- 17 - Rich Isder
- 24 - Nevada Jarett

Schedules are also available online at milanslutheranchurch.com

***Reminder:** It is your responsibility to find a replacement if you are unable to be there the day you are scheduled.

Love asks nothing in return but seeks those who need it. And who needs our *love* more than those who are consumed with hatred and are utterly devoid of *love*?

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Global Missions

February's Global Mission meeting will be held at Providence Valley of Dawson on the 15th. Guest speaker will be Chris Heen who went on a mission trip, Crusade for Christ, in Asia. He is a student at the University of Minnesota.

Our Saviors, Montevideo will host the March 15 meeting with guest speaker John Nau, the Assembly of God minister. He has been on many mission trips all over the world. He is the youth pastor in Fulda.

Morning coffee at 9:30. Meeting at 10 am followed by noon lunch. Offerings go to support mission work.

Affectionately yours

St. Valentine, a Roman priest, was martyred in 270 A.D. for loving Jesus. Some sources say he performed weddings after the emperor banned them; others say he rescued Christians from Roman prisons. Two centuries later, the pope declared February 14 St. Valentine's Day.

According to legend, the priest signed his letters "Your Valentine." Later, Christians followed suit to honor him. By the mid-1700s, friends and sweethearts exchanged heart-shaped trinkets or sent handwritten notes of affection on February 14.



Pot Luck Fellowship Dinner

Sunday, February 10th
after the 10 am worship service
in the fellowship hall.

A - M ~ Salad N - Z ~ Hot dish

Served by the Helping Hands Board



FUNERAL

SERVICE GROUPS

Serving the next funeral will be group three.

Service Group 3 chairpersons are:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Ken & Cindy Lee | 269-6606 |
| Ronae Rose | 734-4665 |
| Ron & Nancy Streed | 734-4694 |



LOCAL NEWS

February

Relay-for-Life

The Milan Cancer Crusaders 2019 Relay for Life Team needs You or if you prefer, you can make your own team.

By walking and collecting donations, you are helping the American Cancer Society save lives by funding groundbreaking cancer research, supporting education and prevention efforts, and providing free information and critical services for people with cancer who need them. By bringing more people to our Relay For Life events, we can make a greater impact on finishing the fight against cancer - but we need your help! If you would like to be a part of Relay for Life. Join the Milan Cancer Crusaders Relay for Life Team. Please register @<http://www.relayforlife.org>, click the link - Join Relay-Click zipcode 56265 for Montevideo, MN, join this relay search for a team/type Milan Cancer Crusaders, then click on Join. You will be directed to make an account.

Together we can make a difference in the fight against cancer. For more information contact team captains, Lorrie Spray

Cancelations

Although worship will rarely be canceled, please use your own judgment before traveling in to church on those questionable days. Weather related announcements can be heard on KDMA 1460 AM or KLQP 92.1 FM. It will also be posted on the website calendar.

@ contact: 320-734-4880 or Marie Molden 320-734-4869

The Cancer Survivor Dinner will be held on Saturday, April 6 at Kilowatt Community Center, if you are a cancer survivor and would like to attend, please contact Linda Lopez, 320-226-5435 or llopez@hcinet.net.

Stuck on repeat?

In *Groundhog Day*, Bill Murray is doomed to repeat the same day over and over. For Christians, the “sin cycle” is similar: mess up, repent, resolve to do better — and fail yet again, often in the exact same ways.

That movie is really about grace, contends Mark Lockard. “We fail in small ways ... and in tragic ways,” he writes on MinistryMatters.com. “Sometimes I think it would be nice to be able to hit repeat and try again the next day, to aim for perfection, to be the saintly Phil Connors we see at movie’s end. But that takes away the spontaneity of the new day, the challenge of being more Christ-like despite a brand new set of circumstances.”

On earth, the “chill” of sin keeps biting, but we can “face the stark winter day wrapped warmly in the knowing that it’s okay to get it wrong,” Lockard writes. “That’s part of figuring out who we are as a beloved child of God. That’s what grace is all about.”



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LOCAL NEWS

February

Letters of thanks

Dear Kviteseid Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift which makes possible so many avenues of outreach and programming!

Lutheran Campus Ministry-Morris seeks to build strong relationships and support young adults as they learn and grow.

Deepening Faith—Through studies and worship LCM creates a time for prayer and meditation on scripture for students. We hope this will provide a strong Lutheran foundation and perspective for students.

Expanding Minds—Conversation over coffee to build relationships between Lutheran Campus Ministry & students and students & God.

Building Community—The opportunity to touch lives through the food hospitality of LCM, a place of welcome, fellowship, and community building.

Inspiring Service—Supporting the CROP Hunger Walk, collecting for the food shelf, and coordinating with campus groups to further the mission of social justice, advocacy, and inclusivity.

With God's Grace,
Amanda Johnson, LCM-Morris
Office Manager

Dear Kviteseid Lutheran Church,
What a gift you've given!
Thank you for your recent gift of \$100 to the ELCA ministries through ELCA Good Gifts.

Your gift is a very good gift, indeed. With resources like seedlings and seminary courses, vaccinations and vegetable gardens, Bibles and blankets, you're equipping God's people—around the world and around the corner—with what they need to live abundant lives.

Thank you for your support of the vital ministries that we do together.

Pair of goats were given by the TWC Bible study group.

2019 Usher Schedule

(Also available online at www.milanslutheranchurch.com)



February Ushers
Group 7
Captain
Ken Lee

Josh Moen
Matt Norby
Marv Link
Ron Streed
Paul Spray
Robert Blom

Group 1: March
Luther League

Group 2: May & September
Captain Char Johnson
Jody Molden
Kim Thompson
Sue Streed
Rena Tostenson
Kim Olson
Connie Fragodt

Group 3: June & November
Captain Joel Lund
Tim Streed
Wade Kittelson
Bryan Schuerman
Bruce Loose
Paul Tostenson
Paul Belseth

Group 4: December
Captain Jon Kanten
Nate Spray
Keith Kvistero
Jason Norby
Gary Heimdahl
Val Johnson
Pete Ervin

Group 5: April
Captain Brian Olson
Denny Lindahl
David Thompson
Randy Fragodt
John Vetter
Josh Vetter

Group 6: January & August
Captain Tom Moe
Jon Hanson
Erik Boraas
Steve Thompson
Cory Heinrich
Tim Kanten
Jim Kanten

Group 7: February
Captain Ken Lee
Josh Moen
Matt Norby
Marv Link
Ron Streed
Paul Spray
Robert Blom

Group 8: July & October
Captain Ryan Grant
Rob Schwendemann
Tyler Kanten
Dave Lovehaug
Luther Opjorden
Reed Molden
Rich Isder

LOCAL NEWS

Southwest Minnesota Synod

Synod News

“Spirit Led Innovation” is the theme of the synod’s 2019 Equipping Congregations Day Saturday Feb. 23 in Willmar.

All are welcome: congregation members, Sunday school teachers, council members and youth leaders.

There are many workshops to attend. A few of them are: Abundant Aging, Engaging Youth in Leadership and Top 10

Conversations Every 21st Century Church Must Have.

It’s a great day to learn and meet with other people from across the synod.

Registration is limited to 1,000 people. Talk to Pastor Kristine Feb. 1 if you are interested in attending.



Coffee Fellowship

Sign up to serve goodies n’ coffee each Sunday.

Sign up sheet is on the table in the narthex.



WHAT’S YOUR SYNOD UP TO?

In **2018**, your synod invested in equipping gracious disciples

237 Congregations

+2 Mission Starts

Synod Congregation Statistics:

57% of congregations have average worship attendance of 75 or less.

50% of congregations have 350 or fewer baptized members.

Your gifts of Mission Support (Benevolence) make all these events and opportunities happen!

Your synod staff worked on **47** transitions throughout the synod



10 rostered ministers transferred to another synod

15 rostered ministers welcomed into our synod



14 interims

170 settled calls

12 ordinations

5 people assigned to our synod

17 people in candidacy

58 trained lay preachers

242 people serving on **23** synod boards and committees



20 congregations went through extensive generosity training



More than

50 rostered ministers received ELCA coaching

About **2,955** people

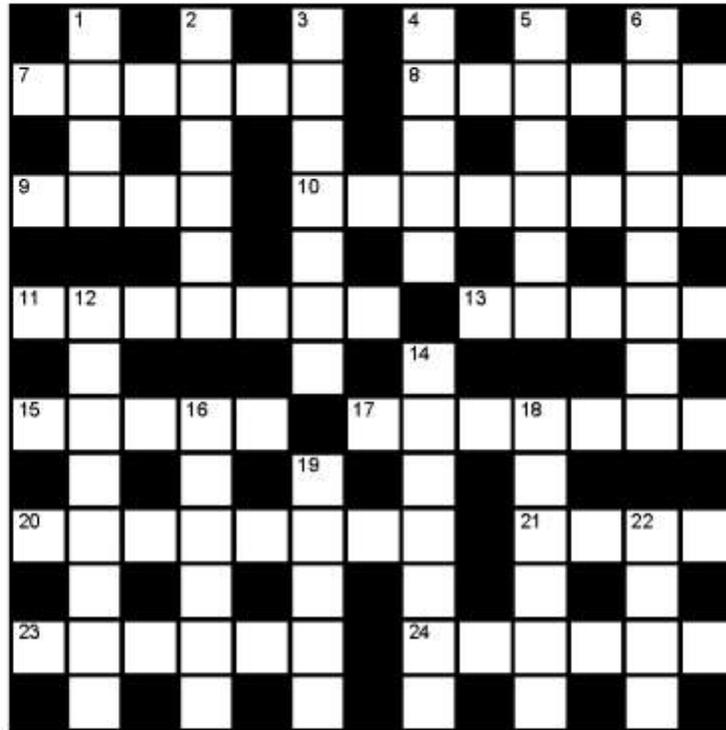
Attended **20** synod events.

Top 3 Events:

- Equipping Congregations Day
- Synod Assembly
- Jr. High Youth Gathering

JUST FOR FUN

The Book of Habakkuk



Answer key
is posted on the
Newsletters page
online
milanslutheranchurch.com

Across

7 “Behold ye among the heathen, and _____, and wonder marvelously.” Hab 1:5 (6)

8 Fearful. Hab 3:2 (6)

9 “Therefore they sacrifice unto their net, and burn incense unto their ____.” Hab 1:16 (4)

10 The Chaldeans are _____ and dreadful. Hab 1:7 (8)

11 “What profiteth the graven image that the maker _____ hath graven it ...” Hab 2:18 (7)

13 “Woe unto him that saith to the wood, Awake; to the dumb stone, Arise, it shall _____!” Hab 2:19 (5)

15 God said, “_____ the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.” Hab 2:2 (5)

17 “Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his! how long? and to

him that ladeth _____ with thick clay!” Hab 2:6 (7)

20 Christianity is a _____. (8)

21 God gave the Jewish people these through Moses. (4)

23 “He stood, and measured the earth: he _____, and drove asunder the nations.” Hab 3:6 (6)

24 “For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans ... to possess the dwellingplaces that are not _____.” Hab 1:6 (6)

Down

1 “O LORD, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not _____!” Hab 1:2 (4)

2 Jesus was born in this. (6)

3 The KJV is a translation, or _____, of the Bible. (7)

4 To stay longer than intended. Hab 2:3 (5)

5 The earth was full of God’s _____. Hab 3:3 (6)

6 Adjective form of the word “bible.” (8)

12 These people “shall fly as the eagle that hasteth to eat.” Hab 1:8 (8)

14 The Chaldeans’ judgment and _____ shall proceed themselves. Hab 1:7 (7)

16 Family groups. Hab 3:9 (6)

18 Idols were made of wood, gold and _____. Hab 2:19 (6)

19 “The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like _____ feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.” Hab 3:19 (5)

22 “And the everlasting mountains _____ scattered, the perpetual hills did bow.” Hab 3:6 (4)

Kviteeid Lutheran Church
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www.milanslutheranchurch.com

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

KVITSEID LUTHERAN CHURCH

Contact information

Sunday Schedule

† Sunday School & Adult Ed at 8:45 am †
† Worship at 10:00 am †

Church Office Phone: 320-734-4455 † www.milanslutheranchurch.com



Pastor Kristine Isder
Parsonage phone: 320-734-4667
pastor@milanslutheranchurch.com



Parish Assistant - Malisa Ervin office@milanslutheranchurch.com

Regular office hours for Parish Assistant:

Mon. & Wed. 8 am - 4 pm † Tue., Thu. & Fri., 8 am - noon