



Luverne YMC

May 2024 Messenger

Greetings,

Happy Spring! By the time you get this newsletter we will already have had a special May Day but wanted you all to know that our kids spent the last Wednesday of April making May Baskets for some of our members and delivering them on May 1st! Do you remember that fun tradition that for some has gone to the wayside. When I was growing up, I remember my mom helping us make May baskets and sharing them with our neighbors.... such a fun day... and if you had a special friend, you were supposed to leave it on the doorstep and knock on the door and then run when answered. Oh, the fun of childhood. Anyway, we thought it would be fun to do the same with the kids, sharing the message of how we are to love and care for our neighbors!

I think we are becoming more and more a church who cares for and loves our neighbors in many ways! We have been delivering meals for as long as they were around, which is an amazing way to care for neighbors... We do a great deal of home visits out in our congregation often passing 20 visits per month. In April, we led Bingo at the Vets Home, which was a blast until the weather interrupted us. We have monthly Community Meals which are always free to all who come! Free donuts at the Band Festival, support of Rock the Edge and its work in the community, your presence and support of our Children's Ministry allows us to go beyond our own walls to invite others to join us! We have the Silver Bucket which supports various ministries in our community, state, nation and even international, as well as a Compassion Account which helps innumerable people in a variety of ways, with gas, food, etc. We lift up the annual Share program, Undy Sunday, remember the bowls for a cause and now are signed up with the Volunteer Program which helps us calculate all the ways our members are volunteering in our community. Whew....

And as we have made this care possible more and more, it's time for us to think outside the box and find new ways to care for our neighbors! "WHAT!?" You might say, we walk on this Journey of our Life... we are learning a lot about what God wanted of his people. Most specifically, we have been walking with Moses in Exodus and you might remember from Sunday, April 28 when we lifted up the scripture from Chapter 3, verse 4... when God called out to his future leader.... "Moses, Moses?" And Moses replied, 'Here I am!'"

A recent devotion challenged our visiting team and those we shared it with to think about what it means to be ready. We know that Moses struggled in some ways to be ready for the job God had for him... but he didn't step away from his faith and letting God know he was ready. He stood in his faith. Sometimes we think of being ready as waiting for the next successful step in our lives, or an answer to a prayer we may have offered. Sometimes God has something more simple or practical or even mundane for us to do in our eyes, when God has a great outcome planned for that little task. Have you ever thought of it that way? Sometimes, God just wants to see if we are willing to do what he asks rather than something that enriches our own lives. Are you ready to step in and make it happen....?

There are ways that COVID made us slow and apathetic. We spent a great deal of time on our heels, separated, hesitating and what one devotion said... "on the shelf." It's time for us to break out of our shells and get (more seriously) back to the business of being the church and the things God calls us to do. That same devotion said that when God gives us something to do, we shouldn't simply say "I'll do it!" It says.... "JUST DO IT!" There is a burning bush right in front of us, just waiting to help us to get to the next stage of doing, loving and sharing...Are you ready? It's time to get excited and see what God has planned for us! What awaits us on that mountain? Here's to a great Summer!

Blessings,

Pastor Dorie

UMC Luverne Members and Friends that live
in Special Homes:

Mary Jane Brown Home
~ Bill Holling ~ David Johnson -

MN Veterans Home
~ Keith Luethje

Poplar Creek Assisted Living
~ Annabelle Frakes - Phyllis Mohr



ElderlyCare

The Oaks
~ Sally Cooksley

The Tuff Home - Hills
~ Ralph Watts



COMMUNION SUNDAY
MAY 12, 2024



SHUT IN COMMUNION/VISITS

MAY 8, 2024



MAY 21, 2024



May is Meals on Wheels month

Memorial Day - May 27

Pie and Ice Cream Social - May 31

Service in the Courtyard - June 2

Service at the Lake - July 7

Vacation Bible School - July 15-18

Annual Salad Luncheon - August 1

Inspiration Hills Retreat - August 7-9



May is Meals on Wheels month..
Please Contact Beth Fick if you would be
interested in helping out with this important
service for our community!!

Thank you so much!

The Prayer Chain

Please call Jan Brandenburg @ 283-4059 for specific announcements or if you or someone you know needs extra prayer. We are here to help!

The Prayer Chain list for the month of May is as follows:

WEEK OF May 5, 2024 - Jeff and Sheila Aukes, Josh and Emily Crabtree Family, Norbert and Laureen Fick, Todd Leech, Randy and Marcia Mulder, Jerry and Ann Rigney and for the Rock County Food Shelf.

WEEK OF May 12, 2024 - Riley Anderson, Jesse and Ashley Connell Family, Daniel and Joci Fick, Jennifer Kruse Family, Aaron and Abby Mulder Family, Kenny Swenson and for the finances of our church and Tithing.

WEEK OF May 19, 2024 - Connor and Cicely Crabtree Family, Morris and Beth Fick, Sara Helling Family, Duane Mulder, Darwin and Evelyn Reyne, Jessica VandeHoef and for the Lent and Easter Season.

WEEK OF May 26, 2024 - Steve and Penny Cattnach Family, Travis and Shannon Dwire Family, David and Anissa Vis, Dan and Becky Anderson, Jerry and Beth Wieman and for our UMC Bible Studies.

ALL WHO
CALL ON GOD
IN TRUE FAITH
WILL CERTAINLY
BE HEARD.



For the month of April there were 2 sponsored radio broadcasts. For the week of, April 7 Donna and Joel Michelson and sister Carol Goretzki. They sponsored it in loving memory of their parents Loren and Helen Meye.r

The week of April 14th. Morris and Beth Fick sponsored in honor of the Beth's mother, Pat Nuffer. Thank you and blessings to all mentioned for sponsoring these broadcasts!

. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast. The cost is \$95 and you may sign up on the bulletin board or Let Jakki know in the office.

The radio broadcast is a very important piece of our ministry; any support is appreciated! Thank you!

Listen to our radio broadcast at 10:30am Sunday, Mon. at 3pm and Fri. at 5pm on VAST Channel 3, or on our Facebook page!

May 2024 Silver Bucket is the Love Offering



Our Love Offering this year will help our neighbors—in Minnesota and around the world—heal from trauma and find safety.

- Thirty percent of the Love Offering will go to a new trauma care center in Ukraine.
- Thirty percent of the Love Offering will go to immigration legal support in partnership with Volunteer Lawyer Network.
- Thirty percent of the Love Offering will go to special programming aimed at reducing trauma at Emma Norton Services' new Restoring Waters facility.
- Ten percent of the Love Offering each year goes to Volunteers in Mission scholarships, which support first-time mission trip participants.



Just a reminder that there are Sunshine Food Grocery cards available in the office during the week and on Sundays. They make great gifts for the holiday season!

These work just like vouchers. These cards come in \$25, \$50, and \$100 increments. If you don't use it all...that is okay...this card holds the balance over for another time! Stop in and get some today.



Another year has gone by for our Children and Youth Ministry...Hard to believe! It has been such a great time and learning experience for all! It's time to celebrate our year with a time of bowling and treats at JJ's! Mark your calendars for May 5, 2024. Speak with Pastor Dorie for any questions!



United
Women
in Faith

God's Circle
May 7, 2024
1:30pm



Don't forget to mark your calendars for our monthly Pizza Ranch Take Out Fundraiser Night on the 2nd Wednesday of each month! 10% of the proceeds will come back to the church to benefit our Children and Youth Wednesday night programs!

It's easy! Call or go into Pizza Ranch and get your order to go...bring it home...ENJOY the yumminess of your meal...and BAM...10% of your order is given back to our church...

Our next Take-Out Night is

May 8, 2024



Our Prayer Warriors meet the second Sunday of every month..Prayer Warriors are needed to help those we know personally and those who are in need anywhere around the world who are suffering with something in our world today!

Our next meeting will be

May 12, 2024
after our service in our sanctuary!

All are welcome!
There is strength in numbers!



Confirmation Sunday ~ May 12, 2024

We have had such a special time in Confirmation this year! We will have three confirmands who will kneel before the altar during this special Worship Service and make the promises he has been learning about over the last four years. This year's confirmands are:

**Danny Aning ~ Reegan Gabrielson
and Garrett Cattnach**

Please join Danny, Reegan and Garrett on their big day as



Sewn in Faith meets on the 2nd and fourth Tuesday of each month! This month we will meet on the following days:

May 14, 2024

May 28, 2024

We would love to have you join us! No need to know how to sew...we will teach you!

**Join us for a
Restorative
Caregiver Retreat
Friday, May 10th - 9:45am**

**American Reformed Church
304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne MN**

Are you a caregiver looking to recharge and connect with fellow caregivers? Take a well-leserved break and join us for our Caregiver retreat designed just for you!

What to expect:

- Expert talks, including a "Happologist"!
- Relaxation activities, including chair & hand massages and crafting stations
- Peer support
- Delicious snacks and lunch
- Giveaways - resources and goodies to support your caregiving journey



Please join us for a FREE day of self-care and rejuvenation! *Respite care available if needed.

Call us today to reserve your spot!

Rock Co. Program Manager Linda Wenzel at (507)283-5064
Stepstone Co. Program Manager Jill Toering at (507)215-6837



SWMN Dementia Awareness Network (SWDAN) and A.C.E. of SW Minnesota are committed to supporting caregivers in our community. This retreat is part of our ongoing efforts to provide resources and care to those who give so much of themselves.

This event was funded in part by SWDAN, Title III-E OAA funds administered by MNRAA, donations, and grant funds from LACF.



... It's Kids Sing Sunday...

May 18, 2024

Class Of 2024

Senior Spotlight



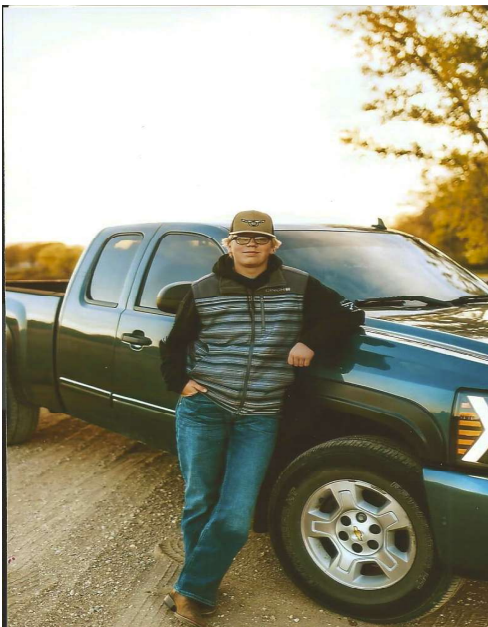
This beautiful young lady is Ella VanWyhe. She is the daughter of Justin VanWyhe. Ella was fortunate enough to travel the world while doing high school online. She actually graduated in December of 2023.

She loves to go shopping, as well as painting, going to the arcade/gaming centers and concerts with friends when she has the opportunity.

When she is just hanging out at home, she makes her favorite Ramen noodles and watches movies. Two of her favorite are *"When Marnie was Here"* and *"Bubble."*

When asked where she saw herself in five years, She could return to school to get her master's degree and secure another job to support her crocheting business. Ella would like to open a coffee shop one day, but first sees herself traveling and continuing her current business/hobby of crocheting.

She mentioned that her favorite memory here at church was when Sewn in Faith presented her a handmade quilt for graduation.

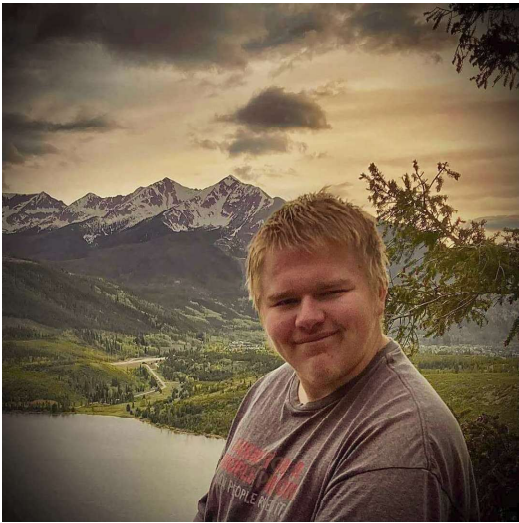


This wonderful young man is Mitchell Sauer, the son of Shane and Katie Sauer. He loves going to downtown Sioux Falls with his friends, as well as hanging out at the shop talking and working on whatever they can find to tinker with.

Mitchell's favorite thing to eat is boneless wings and his favorite movie is *Talladega Nights*. Both great choices! Who doesn't like a little Will Farrell in their life for a good laugh!

Mitchell has plans to attend Southeast Technical Institute (STI) where he plans to study Diesel Technology. He then wants to work at C&B Operation, a farm equipment supplier, where he will work on tractors full time.

He talked about his favorite memory while being here at church. He said his first year of Confirmation was really fun. There were a bunch of great kids to hang out with during youth group!



Let's get to know this young gentleman, Hunter Cope, the son of Dawn Cope and our third graduate this year. When asked about his favorite high school memories, he stated that he liked going tubing, driving around, hanging out with friends, and having bonfires.

He loves Mac and Cheese pizza and his favorite movie is *Jurassic World*. A great movie franchise! I wonder if he likes the other Jurassic movies...?

Hunter's favorite times at church were going to the Inspiration Hills retreats. Hunter likes working on the farm with his grandpa. He wants to work with heavy machinery and drive semis for his grandpa's business. He would like to have his own farm one day.

SCHWARTZ



Sunday May 19th will mark the 25th Anniversary of the Ethel and John Schwartz Scholarship awards to the graduates of the Luverne Methodist Church. A total of 88 scholarships have been awarded to our youth to further their education. Over the 25 years these 88 scholarships have totaled \$121,350. The scholarship was started with \$100,000 with only the growth being distributed. The dedicated scholarship committee has safeguarded the account and it has grown over the years to allow more students to benefit from the funds.

Current and past recipients of the scholarship and their families are grateful to the Schwartz family for this amazing gift! Be sure to thank Diana Schwartz for the generous gift left to the students of our congregation by her late husband and his mother.

The 2024 recipients of the Ethel and John Schwartz scholarship are:

Ella VanWhye * Hunter Cope * Mitchell Sauer

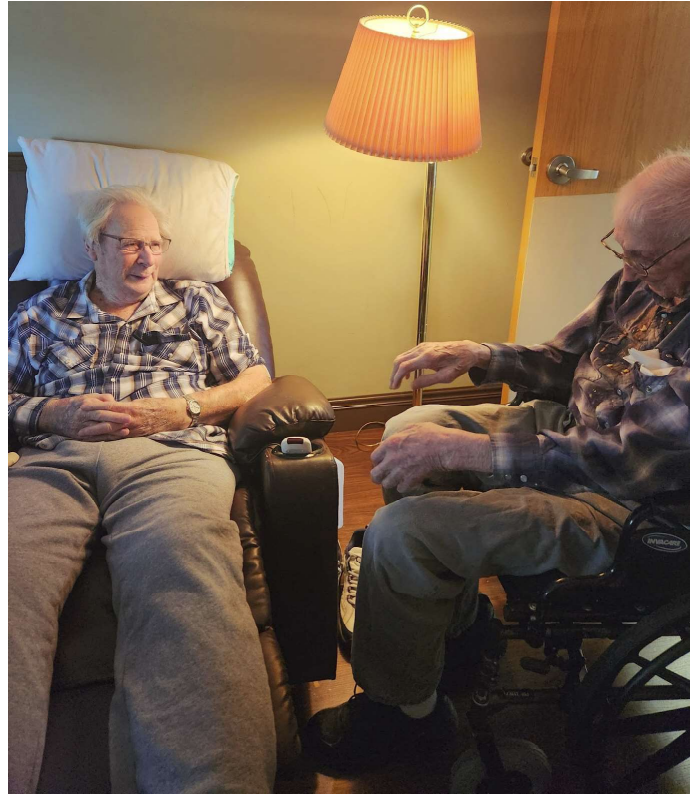
Join us for cake after the service on Sunday, May 19th to celebrate the scholarship recipients.

Chair Person, Steve Cattnach

Faith Family Feature

This month's faith family feature is brought to you by the Annual Children's Auction and the Homebound members of our faith family. Both are very important ministries of our church. We have a great time with both. Here are some pictures to share with all of you!





What a fun time! It is so important to document these times for our faith family! Such a blessing! We can teach our youth and learn from our homebound!

Let's talk a little bit about our prayer options we offer here...

Prayer is central to our faith, one of the most significant ways our faith grows and gives us the opportunity to be able to talk with Jesus. Because of this, our church has several ways for us to corporately offer up the needs of our faith family, their family, and friends in times of needs and beyond.

*Prayer Chapel - We have set aside time when the church is open for an extended period for those who are looking for a quiet place to pray. Each Wednesday, 9 am to 7 pm, the Chapel (on the Upper Room level) is open and warm; set up for anyone wanting a quiet place to lift their thoughts in faith. There is soft music, books, and printed prayers available to assist this time as well as Bibles and Hymnals. Having a specific spot, separate from your home, offers a perfect way to be more committed to prayer and everyone is encouraged to take advantage of this special spot within our church building.

*The Prayer Chain – This is available for anyone with cares and/or concerns. Jan Brandenburg is the head of this important piece of our membership helps. Every Monday, prayers concerns are sent out through groups which include texting, emails, and phone chains. This list includes those cares that have been offered specifically, but also our membership list separated into weeks. Each family is listed on this prayer chain twice a year, along with areas of faith which benefit from extra prayer. This information is listed in your newsletter to offer everyone the opportunity to pray for those listed. You may add persons or areas of care each week by calling Jan Brandenburg or Pastor Dorie.

*Prayer Warriors – These members meet on the Second Sunday after church every month. This group is committed to praying regularly for those on their prayer list and for the church every month. We meet to discuss those who need to be on this list and celebrate the prayers that are answered. We have gone to specific areas of our community and laid hands on them and lift them in prayer as well, i.e. the fire department, police department, the schools, hospital and clinic, family services, etc. We also anoint our church on a regular basis and pray for those who enter our building, especially those with needs. Our prayer list is often available and on the Host Table in our Sanctuary.



OH NO!!!

It has come to our attention that Sunshine Foods is not going to continue with their receipt program. Thank you to all of you for giving your receipts in the past. We had a lot of you contribute toward this program and our Compassion Fund.

LUVERNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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LUVERNE, MN 56156
(507) 283-4529**

**Pastor Dorie Hall
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**pastor@umcluverne.com
pastordoriehall77@gmail.com**

**Church Secretary
Jakki Lindsley
jakki@umcluverne.com**



- 2 - Bergin Flom
- 4 - Carter Davis
- 7 - Cathy Rust
- 11 - Colleen Enga
- 12 - Cade Ruppert
- 15 - Ty Petersen
- 17 - Bryce Schomacker

- 18 - Mitchell Sauer
- 21 - Audrey Sparks
- 22 - Wendy Jamison
- 23 - Patrick Bennett
- 24 - Jennifer Hilfers
- 27 - Matthew Fick

COMMUNITY NIGHTS



May 22, 2024

June 26, 2024

July 24, 2024

**Please Join Us
FREE OF CHARGE
5:30 PM**

Worship Responsibilities

Date	Lay Reader	Hosts	Power Point	Sound	Counters	Worship Asst.	Coffee	Gift Cards
May 5	Bryce Schomacker	Peggy Nelson	Reegan Gabrielson	David Vis	Jack and Felicia Hanson	Jeanne Bowron	Lola Donth	Mary Gehrke
May 12	David Vis	Bill and Maggie Paulsen	Jennifer Hilfers	Matthew Fick	Everett and Jan Brandenburg	Sandy Vogt	Jeanne Bowron	Christine VonHoltum
May 19	Sandy Vogt	Jerry and Ann Rigney	Journey Dwire	Jason Kruse	Gene Ashby	Emily Crabtree	Wyatte Kruse	Becky Anderson
May 26	Christine VonHoltum	Christine VonHoltum	Jeanne Bowron	Luther Hall	Jay and Bev Mann	Jack Hanson	Vicki Slack	Karis Dwire

Communion	Video
Becky Anderson	Beth Fick

Trustee of the Week	
April 29, 2024 thru May 5, 2024	Morris Fick
May 6, 2024 thru May 12, 2024	Al Aanenson
May 13, 2024 thru May 19, 2024	Bryce Schomacker
May 20, 2024 thru May 26, 2024	Jack Hanson
May 27, 2024 thru June 2, 2024	Roger Carlson

April Budget



We are going to have a Finance Meeting on May 6th to work on those goals we set in February. Please be aware that we will be setting aside some Sundays to help our members and friends get set up with electronic giving and other communication needs in our church. Thank you all for being generous in support of your church!

Our Trustee Committee has reported that we need to replace the pumps in the basement. They are original to the church when it was built in 1969. At a cost of \$10,000. We will keep you informed as to the ways we will try to cover this cost. Please stay connected with this important information as we work to care for our church. If you have questions about this important area, please check in with Al Aanenson or any Trustee Member and if you would like to donate to this important cause, please talk to Pastor Dorie, Al Aanenson, Felicia Hanson, or Mary Gehrke. THANK YOU!



General Budget Totals		
March 31, 2024 thru April 28,, 2024		
Envelopes	\$	14,432.00
Loose Offering	\$	568.00
Apportionments	\$	39.00
Radio Broadcast	\$	380.00
Online Giving (March)	\$	3,625.00
Total	\$	19,044.00
Non Budget Donations		
Silver Bucket	\$	232.00
Scholarship Fund	\$	140.00
Total	\$	372.00
Misc. Giving - Coffee Shop	\$	34.00
Totals	\$	19,044.00
	\$	372.00
	\$	34.00
Grand Total	\$	19,450.00