

COVID-19 NEWS

ALL SERVICES & ACTIVITIES REMAIN
CANCELLED THROUGH MAY.

We hope to open in phases starting in June.
Watch for more information in the June
newsletter.

FROM YOUR NEW COUNCIL PRESIDENT DAN SAARELA

*Grace to you and peace from God, our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Dear God's Chosen People of United
Lutheran Church of Proctor,

On Sunday, April 19th, the Church Council
elected me as their Council President to
serve United Lutheran Church until the
next annual meeting in January. If at the
next United Lutheran Congregation annual
meeting coming up this January, and the
congregation wishes to have me continue as
Council President, and vote me in, then I
will continue as Council President. I will
then serve you all for the next two years.

As you all read in the last newsletter,
Brienne Rohweder had to resign as our
Council President and we will all miss her
leadership. Please pray for her as she is
serving others during this covid 19 crisis.

I am humbled and also honored to serve as
your Council President at United Lutheran

Church of Proctor. I am here to serve, you
God's People, in whatever way I can. All
the Council members are here to serve
God's People in their duties as well, and are
doing a fantastic job. Continue to pray for
the Council.

When I found out the Church Council
elected me as their new Council President,
I asked Jesus Christ as Head of the Body,
His Church, to guide and direct me as
Council President of His Church. I asked
for understanding, wisdom, talents, gifts,
to be a true, loving servant to His people
here at United. I also asked God to help
me step out in faith, so He would guide and
direct me to do His Will. I have been
studying the Scriptures to understand what
it means to be a true servant.

In this time away from each other, stay
close to God by reading His Word more,
meditate on what you read, pray for each
other and the world around.

I really miss being with all my sisters and
brothers in Christ. I know we all need to
stay safe, keep our social distancing, and as
the Bishop's recommendation and the
Church Council's vote, to cancel everything
through May.

In the Name of Christ Jesus of Nazareth, I
ask this all, Amen.

Blessings to you all,
Dan Saarela

NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

Karren Robinson has been appointed as the Education Committee Liason on Council. We welcome her leadership and commitment and willingness to help! Thank you, Karren!

LAWN SERVICES

For many years, Doug & Mary Jackson of D & M Lawn Care Services have donated their time in taking care of our lawn. Unfortunately, they cannot continue at this time. We thank them and their team for all these years of great service. Good wishes and much blessing going forward!

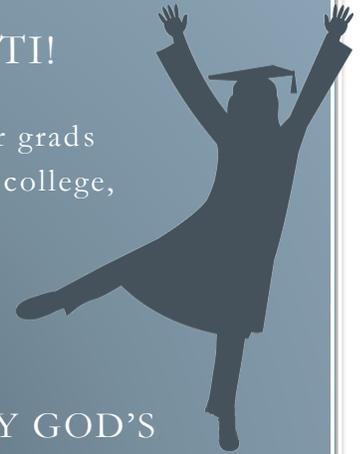
Please contact the office at 218-624-4255 if you are willing to volunteer to be part of the lawn mowing schedule.



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

PAIGE LUSTI!

If you know of other grads from high school or college, please call the office at 218-624-4255 and let Mary know.



WE PRAY GOD'S BLESSING ON YOUR FUTURE!

AUTOMATED GIVING

Keep God at the top of your giving list! Giving automatically is easy, secure and takes only a couple of minutes. You don't need the Internet. The Finance Committee can help you get signed up.

Or you can also create an account online which will allow you to save your donor information and edit your recurring gift after your initial gift is made. Account creation is easy and secure!

To find more details about it, please see our website

proctorlutheran.org/giving

Download the app for your phone. Search:

“GivePlus Church”

GIVE PLUS⁺
A VANCO COMPANY



COVID-19 HELP

DO YOU NEED HELP?
DO YOU WANT TO HELP?

During these unprecedented times, we need each other. If you are self-isolating or know someone who needs assistance for any reason: a friendly phone call, picking up groceries, or something else, please call the office at 218-624-4255. You can also add yourself or someone else to the prayer list.

If you are willing to help out, please fill out the online form: proctorlutheran.org/covid-19-help.html or call the office at 218-624-4255.

WEEKLY WORSHIP IN YOUR HOME:

<https://blogs.elca.org/worship/>

While we cannot be together in person, you can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.

-- an ELCA resource --

BISHOP AITKEN OFFERS SERMON ON MAY 3RD

https://youtu.be/_CLL9ORkqHA



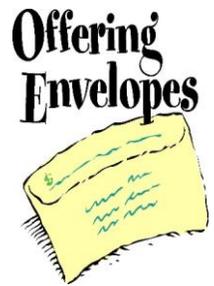
Bishop Thomas Aitken

OUR CHURCH SECRETARY IS IN!

During this time of physical distancing, Mary is still working and available if you have questions or just want to talk via phone at 218-624-4255. She works Monday through Thursday, 8-11 a.m.

ENVELOPE UPDATE?

If you receive offering envelopes in the mail and you want something changed or corrected, please contact Mary in the office with the changes. Email office@proctorlutheran.org or call at 218-624-4255. They will be ordered for the next quarter soon.



CALLED HOME

A memorial service was held online for **ARVILLA "DOLLY" JOHNSON**. Born on July 3, 1930 in Cando, ND, she died on April 15, 2020.

Dolly was a member of Bethlehem and now United for over 60 years.

https://youtu.be/-tb0_c_kuTA

BISHOP AITKEN'S WEEKLY PASTORAL MESSAGE

Dear partners in Christ in the Northeastern MN Synod,

During this continued Covid-19 pandemic let's remember that Christians have a life foundation and purpose already given to us in Christ. As the Apostle Paul says above, it is a life grounded in patience among other things. In this pastoral letter, I stress that we be patient. I am mindful of the good work our Synod leaders, our Governor and smart medical folks are doing in the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Rostered Ministers – thank you for the extra work needed to provide pastoral care and worship leadership along with your worship teams.

In my opinion, Governor Walz is a great leader for our State. Please check regularly his updates: <https://mn.gov/governor/covid-19/> I appreciate the difficult position he as a leader is in, trying to balance economics, safety for not only the most vulnerable, but as we increasingly see, for all of us. He keeps reminding us that the medical experts claim subsequent outbreaks could easily happen. Testing, contact tracing, physical distancing, and limitations to group activities will be absolutely necessary to slow the spread of the virus. Gradual gatherings when and only when it is safe, people worship will most likely be needed and then in phases, not all at once. This will take patience and wisdom from all of us.

Now is not the time to be foolhardy about getting “back to normal” when there is still such a need for social distancing, face masks and intentional work on the part of all of us to flatten the continued infection curve of Covid-19 by paying attention to staying at home. We are in this virus spreading stage for longer than many elieve or want to believe. The Church can model

maturity, intelligence and patience within our congregations as we begin to carefully think through potential phases of change in how we handle our congregational lives together. One of the solid resources for congregations comes out the Wisconsin Council of Churches: “Returning to Church: Ministry during the COVID-19 outbreak” just released last week. It is in my opinion, a wisely cautious and faithful tool as we make important decisions for the future. I am particularly grateful that the document utilized public health experts and church leaders across the United States. It urges us to think contextually, recognizing that there is no perfect timetable plan but some thinking about three types of Phases: <https://www.wichurches.org/2020/04/23/returning-to-church/>

I will be using this with our Synod Council in the days ahead in helping all of us think through “Phases” of re-entry in our own context here in Northeastern MN Synod, and will share our learning and goals in subsequent pastoral letters.

“ I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility, and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

(Ephesians 4:1-3)

As I went around in our Synod, the first two months of 2020 to teach at “Bishop’s visitations” for Confirmation Students, parents and mentors, I used Galatians 5:22 as my Scripture Passage as the framework. I shared with our youth the truth that the Holy Spirit is actually forming in them, the mind and heart of Christ. The fruits of the Spirit that St. Paul mentions in that passage are in reality the very things Christ himself is: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, self-control. Those fruits or gifts are being formed in all of us. Let’s use them to the glory of God and the good of your neighbor right now as we stay safe, faithful and yes, patient.

Your +Bishop, and partner in Christ,

The Rev. Thomas M. Aitken

PHASED OPENING HOPEFUL FOR JUNE

Per Bishop's letter to the synod, he has recommended a possible phased opening. Please follow the link provided in his article for FULL details but here is a potential plan for June. Below is a quick recap and does NOT include the full details. Watch for ULCP's decision in the June newsletter.

PHASE 1: Begins when there are two weeks of declining COVID-19 case counts, widespread availability of testing, contact tracing and no PPE shortages.

- No services yet, but life rituals (weddings, funerals) should be kept to less than 10 in attendance.
- Bible studies and other small groups continue to meet online.
- Consider allowing builder users back in (ex. Quilters, AA) if they are able to observe gathering limits and distancing protocols and clean/sanitize afterward.

PHASE 2: Re-evaluation of the situation with several weeks of improving conditions. This will require careful observance of physical/social distancing.

- Worship – under 50 in attendance per service allowing for 6 feet apart seating per family (every 3 pews). Masks required. Have a contingency plan for overflow. Communion may still be postponed.
- Have a plan to clean surfaces between services.

PHASE 3: Re-evaluation of the situation. If conditions do not improve and infections increase again, physical distancing may need to be tightened again temporarily in order to get on track.



POWER IN PRAYER

All prayer requests can be called to Alice Halvorson-Rohweder 628-6065 or submitted online at proctorlutheran.org/prayer

All requests are important and we welcome any of your concerns.



CALLED HOME

Born on September 7, 1940

NORMA MONROE died on March 31st 2020 at Bayshore Health Center, Duluth.

Norma and her husband, Larry, joined Bethlehem in February of 1991.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Servicemen and women serving our country; Denise Mead; Janis Anderson; Hospital workers, First responders, Police, Firefighters and all those working on the frontline providing services and access to necessities.



HOW TO BE TOGETHER APART

(YOU DO NOT NEED TO HAVE A COMPUTER OR THE INTERNET TO JOIN)

WORSHIP IN THE HOME MAY 10TH ONLINE LITURGY

During this social-distancing time when we are not gathering in one another's physical presence, we have additional opportunities to gather virtually. WORSHIP IN YOUR HOME is an ELCA resource that provides a transcript of our familiar liturgy. You are invited to join zoom and watch or participate as a reader. See this link for the readings which will be posted by May 6th titled:

Worship in the Home: Sunday, May 10, 2020
<https://blogs.elca.org/worship/>

YOU DO NOT NEED TO HAVE A COMPUTER OR THE INTERNET TO JOIN. Using the Zoom conferencing tool, you can connect via an internet-enabled computer/device or you can join by calling from your landline phone.

MAY 10th 10 a.m.

<https://join.zoom.us>

Meeting ID: 218-723-7007

Please see the following page on how to join a Zoom room.

If after we hold this session, we can decide to hold the same type of delivery for the following two Sundays in May.

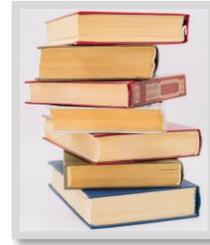
YOUTH GROUP VIA ZOOM

It may look different than our meetings at the church, but youth group is still gathering Wednesday nights from 6-7 p.m. on Zoom!

UNITED LUTHERAN'S BOOK CLUB VIA ZOOM:

<https://join.zoom.us>

Meeting ID: 218-723-7007



Sat., May 9th

9:30 a. m.

Choose Your Own Book!

Read what you want to read! Do you have 3+ books on your nightstand

that you're reading "at the moment." Here's your chance to finish one and minimize your pile. Share your read and what you think of it.

Please see the following page on how to join the Zoom room. Everyone is welcome!

Worship in the Home May 10th

Zoom Reading Signup

Call the office at 218-624-4255 or email office@proctorlutheran.org to sign up.

Sections to Read	Sign Up
Prayer of the Day	
First Reading	
Psalm (unbolded part)	
Second Reading	
Gospel	
Reflection	
Prayers of Intercession	
Concluding Prayers	
Bolded Areas	Read by all

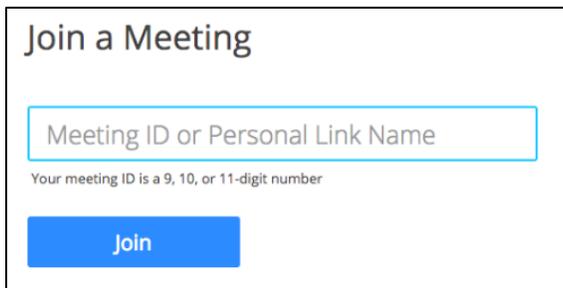
HOW TO JOIN A ZOOM MEETING

Using your Computer/SmartPhone and Web Browser:

1. Open a web browser on your computer and type in the following address:

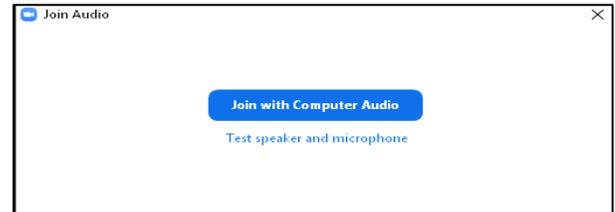
<https://join.zoom.us>

Meeting ID: 218-723-7007



2. If you have never used zoom, you will be prompted to run a small plugin. You may have to say OK.
3. Click Open Zoom Meeting or Open zoom.us to launch the meeting.

4. Depending on your browser, you may have to “open the link.” Don’t be concerned if you do not get this prompt.
5. You will then be prompted to connect your audio. Test your audio settings, then click “Join with Computer Audio” button:



Note: You can also join a test meeting to familiarize yourself with Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/test>

Using your landline or cellphone to call in (audio only):

1. Call 1-312-626-6799
(long distance charges may apply)
2. Enter Meeting ID number:
218-723-7007

MAY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

2	Zachary Johnson	18	Lisa Olson
3	Allana Carlson	23	Chris Davis
8	Kalie Sletten	25	Ariel Carlson, Dennis Wayt, Donna Crilly, Kaitlyn Crilly
11	Alice Rohweder, Amanda Lovold	27	Gwen Nelson
12	Tammy Segel-Crilly	28	Larry Sommer
14	Darius & Declan Kimball, Tate Sletten	31	Tammie Kmecik

WARMEST BIRTHDAY WISHES TO YOU!

– GETTING TO KNOW YOU –

PAUL HAUSCHILD

COUNCIL MEMBER

Paul is the liaison between the Evangelism Committee and Council. He attends the Evangelism meeting and brings the information back to Council. The Evangelism team helps and serves people in need. They share the good news of Jesus through action and service. Evangelism really is what everyone does well here at United. If you would like to join the committee, let Mary in the office know and she will get you in touch with Linda Southerton, the chair of the committee.

Although born in northern Wisconsin, Paul grew up in the Twin Cities since he was 5 and then moved to Duluth about 5 years ago. He moved his mother to Ashland which gave him and his siblings' easier and equal access to visiting her. After a year in Duluth, he met his lovely wife, Nancy Lilliberg on match.com. Nancy was a member of Bethlehem at the time (now United) where he met Pastor Peter Kowitz and asked him if he would marry them. We are lucky to have you both as members of our church family!!

Paul has 3 grown boys: twins and an older brother 2 years apart. Paul fed them the right vegetables because they became a lawyer, a surgeon and a pilot, two of which are also in the Air Force. Who wants some spinach?! When he married Nancy, he added two more children and 5 grand-children to be proud of! What a wonderful family. Oh, and we can't forget Patches and Piper, two Poodle-Cross dogs who look adorable on Zoom.

Paul has spent his career in Information Technology. Currently he does equipment support for banks and



casinos. Although the casinos are closed right now, he helps to keep banks functioning and secure.

In his spare time, he loves to garden and do yard work. He's already got his seeds started for this year. He also enjoys fishing, hunting and music. Together with Nancy, they love to go camping. They even spent their honeymoon camping in Niagara Falls. Now they know how to camp! Paul's also been known to strum a chord or two on his guitar around the campfire!

For it is by grace you have been saved,
through faith—and this is not from
yourselves, it is the gift of God.

--Ephesians 2:8

When asked if there was a bible verse or passage that impacts his life, he noted Ephesians 2, verse 8. It's nice to know that it's not by our own works that we get to heaven or that we are saved but it is the belief in God. We still need to be Christian but we are not ruled by the hammer, so to speak. Believe in the Lord, Our Savior and you will be saved. It's pretty simple, if you accept it.

**THANK YOU ALL FOR CONTINUING TO
MAIL, DROP-OFF OR
ELECTRONICALLY GET YOUR
OFFERINGS TO THE CHURCH. WE ARE
A GREAT CHURCH FAMILY!**



COVID-19 RESPONSE

The VLM Board of Directors, at their April meeting, voted that, **“For the safety of our campers, volunteers, staff, and their families and to position the organization to be a resource for our church and communities during these uncertain times, Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion and their associated programs, will be temporarily closed until further notice.”**

The decision is based on the current and expected restrictions and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the State of Minnesota, and has the following ramifications:

- Cancellation of all summer on-site, Canoe Country, and Day Camp programming for 2020.
- Cancellation of all Retreats and community events through June 30th. July and August groups will be contacted no later than May 31st to review the current situation.
- Temporary furloughs of year-round ministry staff.

You can read the full letter that was sent to your congregation and other updates at www.VLMcamps.org

CONNECT WITH CAMP AT HOME!

We have been offering regular Morning Mai live at 9:00am on our Facebook page each morning. (Mai – a tree, rock, or other natural landmark that gave direction to early Voyageurs; at camp it gives us a direction for our day.) Join us as it happens, or watch it later as your schedule allows.

We also have a variety of videos on our YouTube channel to help you engage with others about faith and see some familiar camp faces. Search for Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry on Facebook or YouTube. Join in!



SUMMER CAMP REFUNDS

VLM will be contacting campers about options for their summer camp deposits. If you had family members registered for Camp Hiawatha or Camp Vermilion and you haven't heard from VLM, please contact them about your options at VLM@VLMcamps.org or 218-666-5465.

www.VLMcamps.org | vlm@vlmcamps.org

800-331-5148 | 218-666-5465

Camp Hiawatha

36944 Camp Hiawatha Road, Deer River, MN

Camp Vermilion

2555 Vermilion Camp Road, Cook, MN



We welcome EVERYONE!

United Lutheran Church of Proctor
701 Third Avenue
Proctor, MN 55810

Northeastern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work: Our hands.

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WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

When church services resume after the Coronavirus Shelter in Home decree expires, you will be welcomed at each of the following:

- ❖ Chapel Service at 8:15 a.m. (Word of God and Holy Communion, with an abridged liturgy)
- ❖ Christian Education at 9 a.m. (1st, 3rd, and possible 5th Sundays of the month)
- ❖ Worship Service at 10 a.m. (Full liturgy plus other celebrations like baptisms, new members, choir)
- ❖ Fellowship to follow worship service

Within this newsletter are the various events hosted by our church in the coming weeks. You are invited to all and we look forward to seeing you.

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PROCTOR

www.proctorlutheran.org

office phone: 218-624-4255

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pastor@proctorlutheran.org

council@proctorlutheran.org

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