



CONNECTION NEWSLETTER

PASTOR’S MESSAGE: A SUMMER READING LIST

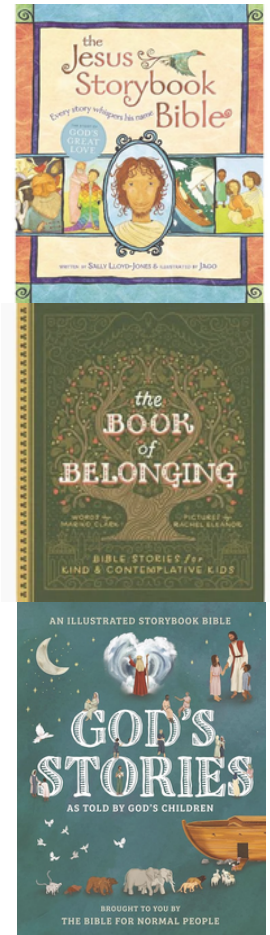
Summer is always a time of more reading for me. Here are some recommendations:

Being part of a preaching program for continuing education this year prompted me to think more deeply about the stories of scripture. I’ve discovered three great resources; I recommend them to anyone who wants to see and hear scripture in new ways. These books may be primarily directed toward children, but they are all informative, inspiring, and even challenging for all ages, sparking new curiosity in “the old old story.”

- *The Jesus Storybook Bible* is from 2007; This is a creative and fun children’s Bible, with bright and colorful illustrations. The stories really come to life!
- *The Book of Belonging* (2024) has a subtitle, “Bible Stories for Kind and Contemplative Kids.” We used this book’s version of the creation story on Trinity Sunday because it is written in such an engaging, thoughtful way. Between chapters, there are pages of “Mindful Moments” to get readers to consider how the story can connect with their lives.
- *God’s Stories As Told by God’s Children* (2025) enlists many writers to retell the Bible stories. This book has great illustrations and plenty of deep thinking opportunities for adults, often included in “sidebars” about historical context and other curiosities.

These books are not just for kids; but even if they were, we can lean on Martin Luther’s insight: “Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.” May we explore with courage and confidence the many ways God’s Word lives among us. May God bless your reading!

P.S. Our newsletter is FULL of information and unique opportunities. It’s going to be a great summer!



Pastor Sherri
♥



Community Club

Kandiyohi Community Club Dinner
Kandiyohi Civic Center
Friday, June 12, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

The meal is a free-will donation.

Proceeds support community events and projects.

The menu includes smoked brisket, smoked chopped pulled pork, smoked corn, mac and cheese, coleslaw, and brownies.

Thank you to Ebenezer Lutheran Church for serving the meal and providing desserts.

All are welcome!

tripolischurch.org



Tripolis
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship Video

ebenezermn.wordpress.com



Ebenezer
Lutheran Church

Worship Video

Scripture readings

June 7

Hosea 5:15—6:6 God desires steadfast love

Psalms 50:7-15 "Call upon me in the day of trouble, says your God."

Romans 4:13-25 The promise to those who share Abraham's faith

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26 Christ heals a woman and raises a synagogue leader's daughter

June 14

Exodus 19:2-8a The covenant with Israel at Sinai

Psalms 100 "We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture."

Romans 5:1-8 While we were sinners, Christ died for us

Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23] The sending of the Twelve

June 21

Jeremiah 20:7-13 The prophet must speak despite opposition

Psalms 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 "Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind."

Romans 6:1b-11 Buried and raised with Christ by baptism

Matthew 10:24-39 The cost of discipleship

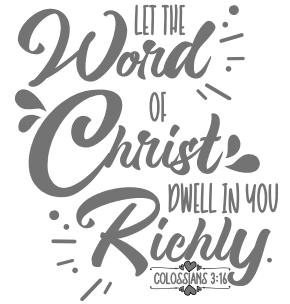
June 28

Jeremiah 28:5-9 The test of a true prophet

Psalms 89:1-4, 15-18 "Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing."

Romans 6:12-23 No longer under law but under grace

Matthew 10:40-42 Welcome Christ in those he sends



There are so many upcoming activities to celebrate our community! Check out the calendars around town or the Facebook page. Please join us for breakfast on Saturday, June 13 from 7:30-10:00, served by our LYO at the Community Center!



Youth and families, if you can help, please contact Jim or Dawn.



CAMRON MCCLAIN

9TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL TRACTOR RIDE JUNE 27TH, 2026

TRACTOR DRIVE

KANDIYOHI ELEVATOR
 PRE-REGISTRATION: 8:00-8:45 AM
 TRACTOR RIDE LEAVES: 9 AM
 \$10 PER TRACTOR
 -MUST HAVE A VALID DRIVERS LICENSE-
 -NO RIDERS, UNLESS TRACTOR HAS A CAB-

FREE-WILL MEAL 12-2PM KANDIYOHI CIVIC CENTER

SANDWICH, CHIPS, BARS, AND BEVERAGE
 -ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS
 CAMRON MCCLAIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP-

TRIPOLIS CALENDAR

Thursday, June 4: 7pm Women's Bible Study
 Sunday, June 7: 9:30am Shared worship at Tripolis
 5:15-7:30pm VBS at Ebenezer
 Monday, June 8: 5:15-7:30pm VBS at Ebenezer
 Tuesday, June 9: 5:15-7:30pm VBS at Ebenezer
 Wed., June 10: 6-7:00pm VBS Family meal & program, Ebenezer
 Thursday, June 11: 9am Quilting
 Friday, June 12: Community dinner at Community Center
 Sat., June 13: 7:30am-10: Pancake breakfast at Community Center
 Sunday, June 14: 9:30am Shared worship at Tripolis
 Sunday, June 21: ****10am**** Shared worship at Capitol Hill
 Monday, June 22: Newsletter Article Information Due
 Tuesday, June 25: 9am Quilting
 Sunday, June 28: 9:30am Shared worship at Tripolis

Tripolis Members on Duty

Council Members

Pam Vruwink, Ron Swenson

Usher

Wendell Nash

Altar

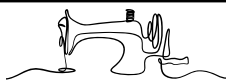
Dana Vruwink, Jeanette Jacobson



Thanks to all who helped plant the soybeans this year. Many generous hands make short work; we are blessed and grateful!



Tripolis Women's Bible Study will meet June 4th at 7pm at church. Cathy Schueler will lead; Karol Markfelder will serve.



Tripolis Quilters: 9am on Thursday, June 11 and Tuesday, June 23

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who helped organize and attend our bridal shower May 16th. Thank you for all the well wishes and gifts.

We feel very blessed!-Adam Ziebarth & Elizabeth Christenson

HAPPY Anniversary

Please join us in celebrating 50 years of marriage!
Saturday, June 20th at 5:30 p.m.

Capitol Hill: 3610 120th Street SE, Atwater

Food, music, visiting (and a possible surprise at dusk to close out the evening with a bang!)

Bring your own lawn chairs, bug spray, and dancing shoes. No gifts, please.

Cal and Barb Freeman & family

Tripolis Worship Leaders

June 7

Lector: Eileen Bosch

Musician: Dana Vruwink

June 14

Lector: Pam Vruwink

Musicians: Wendell Nash,

Camy Wenberg, Paula Grahn

June 2

Worship at 10am at Capitol Hill

Lector: Barb Freeman

Musicians: Members of Cedar Creek Gospel Band

June 28

Musician: Paula Grahn

Lector: Ziebarth family

Congrats!

David and Gayle McClain presented Porter DeKraai and Ivy McClain with the 2026 Camron McClain Memorial Scholarships



LYO

LUTHERAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION

We have canceled our mission trip for this summer, and are instead looking to plan a full day of fun for all ages--probably including a baseball game. Stay tuned!

But...thinking ahead:



It's a whole year away, but planning and prep begins early if we'd like to attend the National Youth Gathering next summer. Think on it! We'll talk soon to gauge interest. We'd hope to partner with other churches to go to this huge and fun event.

Ebenezer Calendar

Thursday, June 4: 6:30pm Kandiyohi Fire Department appreciation supper

Sunday, June 7: 9:30am Shared worship at Tripolis
5:15-7:30 VBS

Monday, June 8: 5:15-7:30 VBS

Tuesday, June 9: 5:15-7:30VBS

Wednesday, June 10: 6-7:00 VBS family meal and program

Friday, June 12: Serve supper at KIDD

Sat., June 13: 7:30am-10: Pancake breakfast at Community Center

Sunday, June 14: 9:30am Shared Worship at Tripolis

Tuesday, June 16: 4pm Ebenezer Women's Bible Study

Sunday, June 21: ****10am**** Shared Worship at Capitol Hill

Monday, June 22: Newsletter Article Information Due

Thursday, June 25: 9am Do-Be Doers if needed

Sunday, June 28: 9:30am Shared Worship at Tripolis

EBENEZER MEMBERS ON DUTY

Council Member: Mary Redepenning

Altar: Mary & Larry Redepenning

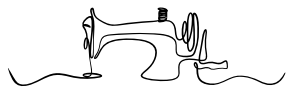
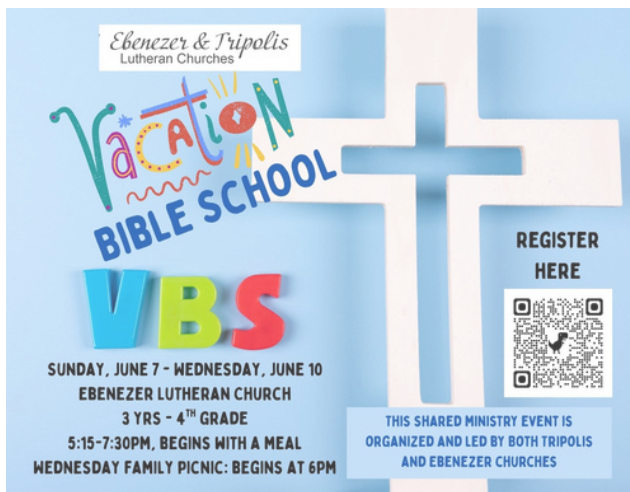
Flowers: Naomi Struck

Volunteers needed

There are sign-up sheets available in the narthex for opportunities to volunteer at the following June Events:

- **June 4:** Appreciation Supper for Kandiyohi Fire Department
 - **June 7-10:** Help prepare and serve suppers for VBS
 - **June 12:** Serve supper for Kandi Is Dandy Days
- Please consider volunteering for one or more of these opportunities to serve and share God's love in our community. THANK YOU!

If you have questions, contact Marilyn or Nancy B.



Do-Be-Doers Quilting

Thursday, June 22nd at 9am if needed



Quilt

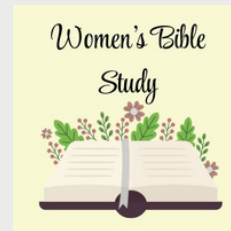
RAFFLE

The Ebenezer "DoBe Doers" are raffling a quilt to raise funds for supplies to make and assemble quilts for several missions. Over the years, we have donated many quilts to help those in need, offering warmth and comfort. Tickets are available by contacting Carol Benson, Mavis Bengston, Nancy Kaehler, Joan Peterson or Dianne Robison. The lucky winner will be drawn at Kandi is Dandi Days. Thank you for your support!



Ebenezer Blessing Box

Thank you to Dan & Betsy Hallberg for serving as caretakers in May. Wayne & Marilyn Zarnott will oversee the supplies in June. We recently used an ELCA "Daily Bread" grant to replenish supplies; donations are always welcome and needed.



Bible Study
Tuesday, June 16th
4:00 pm.

All Ebenezer women are invited to attend the Ebenezer Women's Bible Study Group at our monthly Bible Study June 16. The Bible Study Leader is Mary Redepenning and lunch will be provided by Betsy Hallberg. The meeting will be at church.

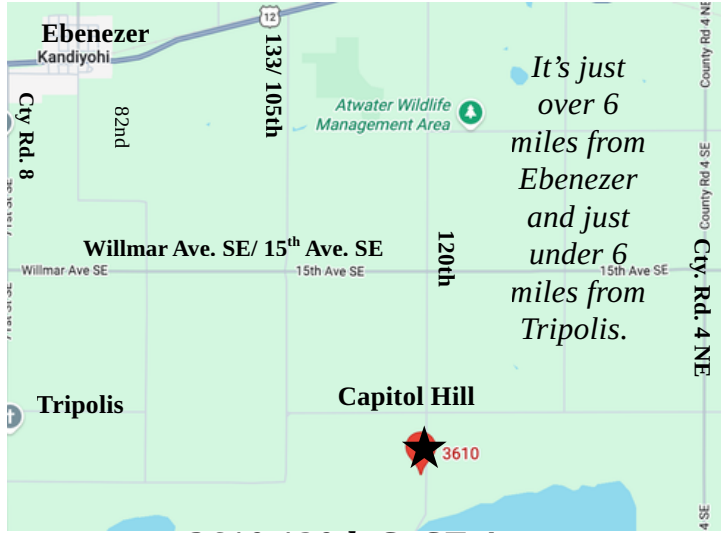
Worship on Capitol Hill Sunday, June 21 10am

Bring a lawn chair

Members of **Cedar Creek Gospel Band**
will lead worship. Invite friends!
In case of rain, the service will be at Tripolis.



“Kandiyohi Town Site Corporation was organized in 1856 with John Swinson as president. By October of that year, the town site had been surveyed. David Charlton’s plat indicates a large central area reserved for the State Capitol with a much smaller area marked “Courthouse Square.” The first State Legislature authorized Governor Henry H Sibley to appoint a commission to assist him in selecting the lands to be granted for the site of the State Capitol. Chosen were J.D. Skinner, W.C. Johnson and Robert Boyle, who left St. Paul on September 1, 1858 and returning only 17 days later. They selected 6.399 acres in Kandiyohi County as the site of the State’s Capitol. Their report was approved by Sibley, but not affirmed by the legislature. The next governor, Alexander Ramsey, then appointed Major Abraham Vorker to recommend sites for the Capitol. He also chose the lands in Kandiyohi County. In 1861 the Legislature’s House of Representatives approved the report, but the Senate did not. The Civil War and U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 delayed further action until 1869 when the old reports of the Capitol Sites Committees were approved by both the House and the Senate. Governor William R. Marshall vetoed the bill. Two years later, when the matter was again raised in the legislature, a motion of indefinite postponement was adopted. This led to a flurry of legal activity. Kandiyohi County citizens, led by John S. Fleckten, tried every legal means to force the removal of the State Capitol to this county. All such action was ended by the Legislature in 1901, which passed a law providing for the sale of the capitol lands in Kandiyohi County on August 15, 1901.” [The Freeman family has owned this land since February 28, 1881.]



3610 120th St SE Atwater

JUNE

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

TRIPOLIS BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Gayle McClain
- 1 Mya Rasmussen
- 3 Cathy Schueler
- 3 Sharon Mason
- 4 Emma Clubb
- 4 Abbie Rasmussen
- 4 Shelly Schueller
- 6 Ben Dahline
- 10 Larry Grahn
- 10 Dalton Ramsey
- 12 Hunter Swenson
- 14 Jaxon Hoffenkamp
- 16 Karol Markfelder
- 16 Lance Ziehl
- 17 Suzanne Ziebarth
- 17 Jameson Hansen
- 19 Nicholas Gould
- 20 Jonas Morrison
- 23 Luke Holien
- 24 Amelia Schliep
- 26 Donna Blesi
- 26 Brennan Holien
- 26 Ron Mackedanz

EBENEZER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Oliver Hennes
- 3 Olivia Wodash
- 5 Jim Thompson
- 5 Holland Hunt
- 6 Shirley Clark
- 6 Karen Hood
- 7 Daniel Benson
- 9 Paula Lang
- 9 Wade Odland
- 11 Jessica Krueger
- 15 Lorraine Eickhoff
- 18 Jan Stene
- 18 Gabrielle Wodash
- 23 Delton Peterson
- 29 Mary Hawkinson
- 29 Wayne Kaehler

TRIPOLIS ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Ryan & Andrea Davis
- 8 Roy & Bernice McClain
- 13 Luke & Michelle Holien
- 18 Clint & Emily Heaser
- 22 Jim & Marcia Ziegler
- 23 Mike & Paula Grahn
- 25 Brad & Lori Howard
- 26 Kevin & Peggy Gould

EBENEZER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Lee & Konnie Carity
- 2 Brandon & Becky Hallberg
- 15 Mary & Larry Redepenning
- 21 Larry & Lorraine Eickhoff
- 26 Wayne & Nancy Kaehler
- 27 Dallas & Elsie Kashmark
- 28 Tom & Karen Hood
- 28 DeWayne & Deb Odland



**Joint Council Minutes
Tripolis and Ebenezer Churches
Tuesday, April 14, 2026
7:00 pm at Ebenezer**

Members: Angela Dahlberg, Konnie Carity, Jeanette Jacobson, David McClain, **Jim Oyen**, Aaron Peterson, Karen Oswood, Eric Struck, Ron Swenson, Mary Redepenning, Pam Vruwink, Deb Wodash, **Tom Wodash**, Lisa Ziehl and Pastor Sherri Larson. Members absent in **BOLD**

Ebenezer Vice-President, Karen Oswood, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Eric Struck, seconded by David McClain, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Devotions: Deb Wodash led devotions.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from March 10, 2026, meeting reviewed. Motion to accept as written by Eric Struck, seconded by Deb Wodash. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Reviewed the plan for Easter services. Wednesday evening Lenten service attendance was down from past years. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services were well attended. First Communion instruction was given. Confirmation presentations will be held for Tripolis students on April 22nd. Confirmation Sunday is April 26th during worship at Tripolis. Graduate recognition Sunday is May 10th. Pastoral supply needs: Pastor will be at Camp House on June 14th and taking vacation on June 28th and July 5th. Continuing with visits.

LYO Report: No report

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: Motion by David McClain, seconded by Eric Struck, to adjourn meeting. Motion carried.

Next Meeting at Tripolis on Tuesday, May 12

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Redepenning, Secretary

Ebenezer Church Council Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2026

Members: **Tom Wodash**, Konnie Carity, Karen Oswood, Aaron Peterson, Eric Struck, Mary Redepenning, Deb Wodash.
Members absent in **BOLD**.

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Vice-President, Karen Oswood.

Approval of Agenda: Topics were added to the agenda.

A motion was made by Mary Redepenning, seconded by Konnie Carity, to accept the revised agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from March 10, 2026, meeting reviewed. Motion to accept as written by Eric Struck, seconded by Deb Wodash. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The finance reports were reviewed. Motion by Mary Redepenning, seconded by Eric Struck, to approve finance reports as written, subject to audit. Motion carried.

Old Business: Motion was made by Karen Oswood and seconded by Aaron Peterson to officially accept the Funeral Policy as discussed at the last meeting. Policy will be posted on the church website.

New Business: Windows for Pastor's Study: Quote was obtained from Ryan Olson to replace some windows in the Pastor's study: Motion was made by Eric Struck and seconded by Konnie Carity to accept the bid and move forward with the project. Medical Leave for Staff: If a leave is eligible for FMLA funding, it will be applied for. If an FMLA application is not approved or eligible, regular salary will be paid by Ebenezer for up to 8 weeks. Motion was made by Mary Redepenning and seconded by Eric Struck. Motion carried.

Passing of Offering Plates: Motion was made by Konnie Carity and seconded by Eric Struck to resume passing of the offering plates during church services. Motion carried.

Wedding Policy: Pastor Sherri distributed a draft version of a wedding policy. Topic will be reviewed at the next council meeting.

Continued on next page

Committee Reports:

CR1 - Worship and Music - Mary Redepenning Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 15th

Communion assist – April - Council person on duty – Konnie Carity

Communion assist – May - Council person on duty – Aaron Peterson

CR2 - Children/Youth/Christian Education: - Konnie Carity - No report

CR3 - Community Building/Outreach and Service Ministries – Deb Wodash: Deb reported that Nancy Bruggers is applying for grant monies to help fund upcoming summer events.

CR4 - Memorial Gift Committee – Karen Oswood - No report

CR5 - Property – Aaron Peterson, Eric Struck: Refer to New Business above.

C6 - Policy – Tom Wodash - No report: Refer to New Business above for draft Wedding policy discussion.

Mary Redepenning will provide devotions in August (No meeting in June or July).

Adjournment: Motion by Deb Wodash, seconded by Eric Struck, to adjourn meeting. Motion carried.

Next Meeting at Tripolis on Tuesday, May 12

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Redepenning, Secretary

Tripolis Church Council Meeting

Tuesday April 14, 2026

Location – Ebenezer

Members: Angie Dahlberg, Jeanette Jacobson, David McClain, **Jim Oyen**, Ron Swenson, Pam Vruwink, and Lisa Ziehl

Members absent in **BOLD**

President, David McClain, called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed. Addition of review of funeral policy to old business. Motion to approve the updated agenda was made by Jeanette seconded by Angela.

Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: March 2026 meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion made to approve the March meeting minutes by Jeanette, seconded by Pam. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Christian Education – Jeanette Jacobson: VBS planned for June 7-10, 2026 5:15 – 7:30, picnic for all families on final evening.

Worship/Music – Lisa Ziehl: no updates

Council Members on Duty –

April: David McClain & Pam Vruwink

May: Angela Dahlberg & Pam Vruwink

Community Building – Pam Vruwink: No Report

Youth – Jim Oyen: No Report

Memorial – Angie Dahlberg: no updates

Finance/Stewardship – David McClain and Jeanette Jacobson: no updates

Property – Ron Swenson: AV system has been bid and set to be installed in the month of July when services are being held in Ebenezer

Old Business

Funeral Policies; Reviewed and updated. Request for updated version to be added to the website

Motion to approve the updated policy was made by Lisa seconded by Ron. Motion carried.

Marriage Policies: Updates in process, not complete for review

AV Committee Updates: Bid has been approved and install is expected in July 2026

Review of Constitution:

Review of Committee Duties/Responsibilities:

Add descriptions of the following committees Library Committee, Head Ushers, Nominating Committee

Active Members: Review of current roster should be conducted

Review of Bi-laws which address specific dates of congregational meetings

New Business

Develop a list of service items with contact information

Example: Elevator update: state inspection and annual maintenance was completed

Motion to adjourn meeting by Jeanette, seconded by Ron. Motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Ziehl, Tripolis Council Secretary

Connection Newsletter June 2026
Ebenezer/Tripolis Lutheran Parish
PO BOX 356
Kandiyohi, MN 56251

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

