



PASTOR'S MESSAGE



WONDERS OF WORSHIP

As an ELCA church, we have a relatively “formal” worship service. It’s not that we need to be dressed formally or that we need to stare straight ahead without smiling. I’m talking more about the content and the order of our liturgy and worship practices.

We have things like the “Greeting” and the “Kyrie” and the “Canticle of Praise.” There’s a “Prayer of the Day” and a few readings. We sing a “Gospel Acclamation” and often stand as the gospel is read. There are certain words and practices around communion. Do you ever wonder why we do the things we do in our worship services? I know I do!

At a conference at St. Olaf this summer, I learned about a program called “Wonders of Worship.” It is a curriculum centered around art-based children’s sermons and activities. It’s specifically designed to engage children in learning about the different parts of worship. Adults can also benefit from learning/re-learning about our faith in this way. Knowing more about the purpose and history of each element can help us all both better appreciate and find more meaning in our worship services.

On the right is one example of an image used to teach the worship element of “Sending.” Images are paired with ideas about how to share and teach 40 different element of worship. I’m looking forward to incorporating this program into worship!

In Christ’s peace,

Pastor Sherri



Image by Vonda Drees

The Wonders of Worship is a project of Nourishing Vocation with Children at St. Olaf College, a project of the Nurturing Children through Worship and Prayer Initiative of Lilly Endowment Inc.



On All Saints’ Sunday, we recognize both those baptized in the past year as well as those who have died. Members are invited to share names of loved ones you’ve lost in the last year (even if they are not members of our churches.) We will say their names and you may light a candle in their honor. Talk to Marilyn at Ebenezer or Barb at Tripolis to include a loved one in our acknowledgements.

October 4

Isaiah 5:1-7 The song of the vineyard

Psalms 80:7-15 "Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine."

Philippians 3:4b-14 Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ

Matthew 21:33-46 The parable of the vineyard owner's son

October 11

Isaiah 25:1-9 The feast of victory

Psalms 23 "You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over."

Philippians 4:1-9 Rejoice in the Lord always

Matthew 22:1-14 The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast

October 18

Isaiah 45:1-7 An earthly ruler as the instrument of God's will

Psalms 96:1-9 [10-13] "Ascribe to the Lord honor and power."

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Thanksgiving for the church at Thessalonica

Matthew 22:15-22 A teaching on giving to the emperor and to God

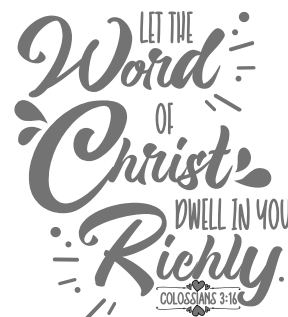
October 25--Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34 The law of God is written on our hearts

Psalms 46 "Be still and know that I am God."

Romans 3:19-28 Justified by God's grace as a gift

John 8:31-36 Jesus says, "Continue in my word and you will know the truth."



Save the dates for these Fun Fall Events

Hobby Retreat at Tripolis: November 13-14

Fall Fun Night
Saturday, October 17

Hayride will leave at 4:30pm
Potluck supper at about 6:30pm

Join us for a night of fun
and fellowship.
All are welcome!!

Home of
Keith & Cathy McClain
9863 135th St SE
Lake Lillian

Women's Retreat

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2026
EAGLE LAKE LUTHERAN

~~~~~

Music & Worship  
Art & Creativity  
Food & Fellowship

~~~~~

9:30am-3:30pm, includes
coffee, lunch, and snacks
\$20 suggested donation

We'll be collecting
CHEESE &
to donate to Hope
for Our City

This fourth annual retreat is organized by leaders at Eagle Lake Lutheran; Hope Presbyterian, First Presbyterian, and Ebenezer and Tripolis Lutheran churches in Kandiyohi. We are grateful for a grant from ELCA's Southwestern Minnesota Synod Endowment Fund.

TRIPOLIS CALENDAR

Thursday, October 1: 2pm Rachel Bible Study group meeting

Sunday, October 4: 9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Worship Service

Wednesday, October 7: 5-7pm Baked Potato Bar

Thursday, October 8: 9am Quilting

Sunday, October 11: 9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Worship Service

Tuesday, October 13: 6:30pm Church Council Meeting at Ebenezer

Saturday, October 17: 4:30pm Fall Fun Night at McClains

Sunday, October 18: 9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Worship Service

Monday, October 19: Newsletter Information Due

Wednesday, October 21: 6:30-8pm Confirmation Meeting

Sunday, October 25: 9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Worship Service

Tuesday, October 27: 9am Quilting

TRIPOLIS MEMBERS ON DUTY

Council Members

David McClain, Jeanette Jacobson

Ushers

Ryan & Dawn Fostervold

Altar

Cheri Bosch, Janell Holien

Tripolis Worship Leaders

October 4

Musicians: Cathy Schueler

Lectors: Fostervold family

Acolyte: Claudia Oyen

October 11

Musician: Dana Vruwink,

Tom & Marlys Gustafson

Lector: Matt Wattnem

Acolyte: Colton Fostervold

October 18

Musician: Dana Vruwink

Lector: Barb Freeman

Acolyte: Eliza Stegeman

October 25

Musician: Paula Grahm, Cathy Schueler

Lectors: Confirmation Students, Pam Vruwink

Acolyte: Odie Larson

Women's Bible
Study



Tripolis Women's Bible Study will meet October 1st at 2pm at Tripolis. Ruth is leading and Barb is serving.

On November 5, Janell will lead and Linda will serve.



All are welcome!

Invite friends!

**BAKED
POTATO
BAR**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 5-7PM

Free will donation

at Tripolis Lutheran Church

Proceeds support local and global missions



We had our first meeting on September 30. Classes are held on Sunday mornings. See the bulletin board in the Sunday School room for the acolyte schedule.

Our next evening meeting is **Wednesday, October 21 from 6:30-8pm**. Students, parents, mentors will gather for a meal and meeting. Siblings welcome.

EBENEZER CALENDAR

Sunday, October 4: 9:30am Worship at Ebenezer
Thursday October 8: 1pm Ebenezer Women's Coordination Council
Sunday, October 11: 9:30am Worship at Ebenezer
Harvest Festival after worship
Tuesday, October 13: Serving Campus Ministry meal
6:30pm Church Council Meeting at Ebenezer
Saturday, October 17: 4:30pm Fall Fun Night at McClains
Sunday, October 18: 9:30am Worship at Ebenezer
Monday, October 19: Newsletter Information Due
Tuesday, October 20: 4pm Ebenezer Women's Bible Study Group
Thursday, October 22: 9am Do-Be Doers
Sunday, October 25: 9:30am Worship at Ebenezer

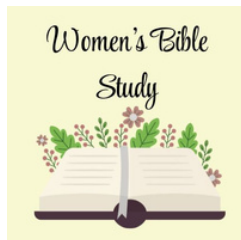
Ebenezer Worship Leaders

October 4 at 9:30 am
Musician: Betsy Hallberg
Lector: Krista Peterson

October 11 at 9:30 am
Musician: Kristine Benson
Lector: Andrew Benson

October 18 at 9:30 am
Musician: Kristine Benson
Lector: Carol Benson

October 25 at 9:30 am
Musician: Betsy Hallberg
Lector: Marilyn Zarnott



The Ebenezer Women's Bible Study Group will hold its monthly meeting at the church on Tuesday, October 20th at 4:00 pm. The leader will be Nancy Kaehler, and lunch will be provided by Karen Deisting. All Ebenezer women are welcome!



Ebenezer Blessing Box

Thank you Nancy Bruggers for volunteering to be the caretakers in September. Donations are always needed of shelf-stable foods for families. Dan & Betsy Hallberg will oversee the supplies in October.

HARVEST FESTIVAL



Sunday, October 11th, after worship

Family names beginning with A-G are asked to bring a pie or a pan dessert (not cake or bars).

Serving Group #2 is in charge.



On Tuesday, October 13, we look forward to serving a noon meal to Ridgewater students at Campus Ministry. If you would be able to help with this or have any questions, please contact Nancy Bruggers. (A Thrivent grant has been applied for to support this outreach.)

EBENEZER MEMBERS ON DUTY

Council Member

Konnie Carity

Ushers

Delton Peterson

Dale Latterell

Greeters

Michael & Kara Nilius

Altar

Marilyn & Wayne Zarnott

Flowers

Joan Peterson

MEETING

The Ebenezer Women's Coordinating Council will meet on Thursday, October 8th at 1:00 at church. At this meeting, the women decide which causes to support with the generous offerings they've received throughout the year.



We warmly welcome Wyatt Daniel, born Saturday, September 19 to Kara and Michael Nilius. God's blessings to all!



We've been asked to announce: Willmar United Methodist Church will have their annual fall Bazaar on Saturday, October 10 from 9am-noon.

October

EBENEZER BIRTHDAYS

1 Gary Carlson
1 Jerome Hoffer
2 Kristy Carity
3 Chuck Lindstrand
4 Joshua Lanners
4 Ian McGillivray
6 Dan Hallberg
6 Nancy Kaehler
9 Joel Backlund
9 Tim Redepenning
10 Morgan Kroes
18 Dallas Kashmark
20 Jennifer Knudson
25 Abby Rae Stark
25 Emmett Hunt
31 Gigi Brouillette
31 Marilyn Zarnott

TRIPOLIS ANNIVERSARIES

1 Dean & Marlys Alinder
3 David & Gayle McClain
4 Craig & Ruth Aurand
4 John & Lindsay Theget
4 David & Marlene Isaacson
6 Travis & Thea Dickerson
15 Duaine & Pat Bosch
17 Dale & Joyce Helmke
20 Mike & Nadene Schliep
20 John & Michelle Beeman
21 Robert & Tamara DeKraai

EBENEZER ANNIVERSARIES

25 Daryl & Karen Deisting

TRIPOLIS BIRTHDAYS

1 Nadene Schliep
2 Natalie Swenson
2 Brookelyn Johanneck
2 Adaline DeKraai
4 Thea Dickerson
6 Mary Dahline
6 Cash Simenson
8 Ella Jeseritz
9 Holden Sharp
10 Robert Saue
12 Tracy Helmke
12 John Theget
12 Aaron Howard
13 Katie Steinhaus
13 Coleman Davis
13 Sophie Oyen
14 Marcia Ziegler
16 Leon Visser
17 Sandra Stierler
17 Jeffrey Stegeman
18 Aaron Knutson
18 Frank Ziebarth
19 Dean Alinder
21 Rick Dahline
21 Holli Serwe
24 Serena Knutson
26 Andrew Bosch
26 Penny Dahlberg
26 Susan DeZeeuw
27 Knolan Wattnem
28 Kelly Gruis
28 Wanda Knoll
30 Shirley Knoll



Happy Anniversary and Happy Birthday to all!
May God's grace surround you on your special day.

Joint Council Minutes Tripolis and Ebenezer Churches
Tuesday, August 11, 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 President, Tom Wodash, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Agenda: Additional items were inserted into the agenda.

Motion made by Mary Redepenning, seconded by Eric Struck to approve the revised agenda. Motion carried.

Devotions: Mary Redepenning led devotions.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from May 12, 2026, meeting reviewed. Motion to accept as written by Jeanette Jacobson, seconded by Eric Struck. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Sherri reviewed her activities since our last meeting as well as event planning for the coming months. She requested that members of the council review the newsletter mailing list to reduce postage costs.

LYO Report:

- Youth participation in the Kandi Is Dandy Days pancake breakfast was very good.
- The National Youth Gathering will be held in Minneapolis next year. This would be a good opportunity for youth involvement from our churches.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Tom Wodash reported that he received a request from the synod to complete an employment sexual harassment form concerning a former pastor. The questionnaire will be completed and returned with no issues identified.
- Church Council meeting time. Motion was made to change our meeting time to 6:30 p.m. starting in September. Motion carried. It is noted that this time can be changed in the future at the discretion of the council.
- Communication Committee: Pastor Sherri asked the councils to consider formulating a small group to review what to include in our bulletins, newsletters and electronic media, making better, more clear information sharing while maintaining the privacy of individuals.
- Hospitality Team: Pastor Sherri also asked the councils to consider having a small group of individuals serve in this capacity to assist the pastor with welcoming people when an informal gathering is held on church grounds.

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

Next Meeting at Tripolis on Tuesday, September 8th at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Redepenning, Secretary

Ebenezer Church Council Meeting Minutes
August 11, 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 President, Tom Wodash.

Approval of Agenda: An additional topic was inserted into the agenda.

A motion was made by Eric Struck, seconded by Aaron Peterson, to accept the revised agenda. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from May 12, 2026, meeting reviewed. Motion to accept as written by Karen Oswood, seconded by Deb Wodash. Motion carried.

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

Old Business:

- Review of Marriage Policy: Motion was made by Eric Struck and seconded by Aaron Peterson to accept the Marriage Policy as presented. Motion carried. Policy should be reviewed on annual basis to assess the fee schedule so that reimbursement of services is fair.
- Property concerns: New windows have been installed in the pastor's office.

New Business:

- Deb Wodash, Ebenezer's Financial Secretary, requested permission for "view only" access to the church bank account. Motion was made by Karen Oswood and seconded by Aaron Peterson to grant this access. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

CR1 - Worship and Music - Mary Redepenning Committee Met on July 29th. Planning is done through November 1st.

Communion assist – August - Council person on duty – Eric Struck

Communion assist – September - Council person on duty – Karen Oswood

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

Communion assist – November - Council person on duty – Mary Redepenning

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

CR3 - Community Building/Outreach and Service Ministries – Deb Wodash

- “Thank You” note was received from Hope for Our City for the Lenten offering given to them from Ebenezer.
- Kandiyo Community Picnic will be held on Thursday, August 20th

CR4 - Memorial Gift Committee – Karen Oswood

- On behalf of Karen Oswood, Deb Wodash reported that the Memorial Committee will be purchasing 10 rectangular tables to replace those currently in our fellowship hall and elsewhere.

CR5 - Property – Aaron Peterson, Eric Struck

- The property committee is exploring church maintenance projects including replacing the carpet, new tile in the fellowship hall, and repainting the church interior.

CR6 - Policy – Tom Wodash - See Old Business

Adjournment: Motion by Eric Struck, seconded by Karen Oswood, to adjourn meeting. Motion carried. Prayed the Lord’s Prayer together.

Next Meeting at Tripolis on Tuesday, September 8th at 6:30 p.m. Tom Wodash will lead devotions at the October meeting.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Redepenning, Secretary

Tripolis Church Council Meeting

August 11, 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 7:37pm.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Jeanette to approve the agenda, seconded by Jim. Motion carried.

Secretary’s Report: May 12, 2026 meeting minutes were reviewed with no additions or corrections made. Motion made to approve the May 12, 2026 minutes was made by Pam, seconded by Jeanette. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Christian Education - Jeanette Jacobson: VBS was a success; the committee has started planning for Sunday School; will be planning children’s Bible gifts

Worship/Music - the committee will be having a retreat at St. Benedict’s Monastery on September 17

Community Building - Pam Vruwink: No report

Council members on duty:

August: Jim and Jeanette

September: Ron and Pam

Youth - Jim Oyen: the youth served pancakes at Kandi is Dandy Days with around 20 people, including adults, volunteering; discussing both youth gathering and mission trip for summer 2027

Memorial - Angie Dahlberg: no report

Finance/Stewardship - David McClain and Jeanette Jacobson: no report

Property - Ron Swenson: sewer system has been put in; sound system installation is in progress

Old Business:

Review of Marriage Policy, Constitution, Committee Duties/Responsibilities, and Bylaws: updates are in progress and will be submitted to the synod once all updates have been made and reviewed by the council.

New Business: no new business

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

Closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Angie Dahlberg

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER • SUNDAY GATHERINGS	
October Worship Schedule	
Sunday, October 4th: 9:30am Worship at Ebenezer 9:45am Sunday School at Tripolis 11am Worship at Tripolis	Sunday, October 18th: 9:30am Worship at Ebenezer 9:45am Sunday School at Tripolis 11am Worship at Tripolis
Sunday, October 11th: 9:30am Worship at Ebenezer <i>(Harvest Festival after worship)</i> 9:45am Sunday School at Tripolis 11am Worship at Tripolis	Sunday October 25th: 9:30am Worship at Ebenezer 9:45am Sunday School at Tripolis 11am Worship at Tripolis