



# The Vasa Voice



Volume 59 No. 9



SEPTEMBER 2023

## What's Happening This Month at Vasa

**September 6th—Confirmation** Classes begin for 7th—8th graders. Meet at the Lutheran Center from 5:45-6:45pm, Classroom 3. 9th Grade confirmation begins the same night. Classes will be from 7:00-8:00pm

**September 10th — Sunday School Classes & Presentation of Bibles to 3rd Graders:** All Sunday school aged children—and especially 3rd graders—are invited to the sanctuary for the presentation of the bibles at the beginning of worship. After the presentations, the children will walk down to the Lutheran Center with their teacher(s) to continue their classes.

### **September 13 — Vasa Family Night! 5:30-7:00pm**

Crafts & Games for all ages! Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets!

## **MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY**

Every year the Vasa Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund awards scholarships to students of active Vasa Families pursuing post-secondary education. You can download an application form from the Vasa Church website. They are also available at the back of the sanctuary or at the Lutheran Center. The application deadline is Sunday November 26th. Awards will be made in early 2024.

### ***Here's what's on the inside...***

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## Worship Volunteers for SEPTEMBER

### USHER

September 3 Duane Hanson  
September 10 Marvin Fredrickson  
September 17 Duane Hanson  
September 25 Bruce Tilderquist

### READERS

September 3 Roger Guttromson  
September 10 Sasha Diercks  
September 17 Jim Hedeem  
September 24 Kathy Tilderquist

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

September 3 Mo Hauck  
September 17 Geri Lindholm

### HOSPITALITY

September 3 Mo Hauck  
September 17 Geri Lindholm

## September birthdays

- 1 John Hauck
- 2 John Hart  
Greg Hovel
- 3 Scott Romness  
Barry Skog
- 7 Jenny Hedeem
- 9 Jessie Otto  
Lora Gruber  
Carson Lind  
Treyton Lind  
Kyleigh Wetzstein
- 10 Sydney Johnson
- 11 Malissa Parrott-Stahnke
- 12 Steve Lindstrom
- 13 Rodney Nelson
- 16 Marcia Featherstone  
Allison Finne
- 18 Sawyer Gesme
- 19 Mitchell Anderson  
Al Lindell  
Megan Widstrom  
Michael Widstrom Jr
- 21 Rick Samuelson
- 23 Amanda Sense
- 24 Judy Anderson
- 26 Amber Nelsen
- 28 Mya Montey
- 29 Sasha Diercks

### CHANGE IN WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Due to Pastor Maureen's confirmation class teaching schedule in September and October, there will be no *Wednesday Evening Worship + Everyday Bible Conversation* services. They will resume on Wednesday evening, November 15th at 6:30pm.

*Faith  
Family  
Friends*

### ***Thoughts from Pastor Maureen***

*Matthew 14:27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."*

This verse comes out of a larger story about Jesus told in Matthew 14:22-33. In the story "[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead." It seems he insisted that they go on a journey across the Sea of Galilee even though it was close to evening and they were leaving him behind.

Have you ever been forced to go on a journey that you didn't want to go on? I'm not necessarily speaking of a boat journey. Sometimes life circumstances force us to participate in doctor's appointments or medical procedures that we have no desire to be a party to. This journey doesn't have to be for our own well-being. It might be because of the challenges that a loved one is facing.

Whatever the reason for the journey it is likely that we find ourselves in a boat, at night, with waves battering the boat and a wind pushing against us. Our circumstances can be very frightening and like the disciples we can feel powerless and alone. They had, after all, left Jesus back on the shore.

But who comes to them? Jesus does. He comes walking to them in the midst of the storm. Not only that, he calms the wind and the waves. I encourage you to remember that when you have been forced to go on an unexpected journey. If you discover that the wind is blowing against you and the waves are battering your boat, remember that Jesus is walking toward you, holding out his hand, and saying, "Take heart! It is I. Do not be afraid."

"Do not be afraid" and "Fear not" are written in the Bible many times, including 23 times in the gospels. It seems that fear is a commonly expressed emotion, especially when it comes to interactions with God. Based on the number of times these two phrases are used, we humans need to be reminded of that frequently.

Have no fear little flock, for it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom!

Be at peace,

*Pastor Maureen*

## **VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

June 19, 2023 @Lutheran Church

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:10 pm by Barbara Weigman , President

**Devotions:** Ben Norman

### **Members present and absent:**

**Present:** Pastor Maureen Hagen; Bryan Diercks, President; Barbara Weigman; Duane Hanson; Ben Norman; Missy McCann; Kent Volz; Kevin Eckbald; Roger Guttromson; and Andrew Featherstone, Secretary;  
Ten voting members present

**Unable to attend:** Vice President, Randy Klein; Mo Hauck; and Chris Finne;

**Also Present:** Kathy Tilderquist

### **Adoption of the Agenda:**

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as written.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2023 council meeting as written.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **Reports Reviewed and Accepted:**

Treasurer's Report (Attached)

Nothing unusual while looking at the treasure report.

We prepay for insurance. We will be making 5 payments for insurance this year.

Finance Report (Attached)

April was a strong month financially.

Dillion Huemann Tree Service took down tree Friday night and hauled away in east parking lot.

Parish Life (Attached)

Mo volunteered to provide fresh produce, honey, eggs for sale by donation in gathering area on Sunday. Proceeds will be given to the window renovation fund.

Ken Fournelle Pictures can be viewed on the website under "About" on the website.

Property Team Report (Attached)

P.I.G. dumpster is still here. It was rumored that they weren't coming to pick up there old dumpsters.

Will call to have porta potty pumped.

Cemetery Board (NA)

Executive Board Report (NA)

Pastor's Report) Attached)

There is a wedding planned for August 5 and is to be held in the gazebo.

Pastor taught the Protected in Christ's Name orientation on June 5 and will schedule a second orientation for early August.

Museum Board (N/A)

Endowment Board Report (N/A)

**Tabled Business:**

CCIC Revamp- Kathy will go to meeting on July 13<sup>th</sup> and report what she finds out.

**New Business:**

Tenant Lease Agreement- We went thru pros and cons with current renter. The list is intended for future discussion when we go over current tenant. Pros- 1. Fixes things on his own. 2. Long term tenant. 3. Takes care of building. 4. Replaces appliances. 5. Plow snow when Kevin can't plow. 6. No pets inside. 7. Skilled Handyman. 8. Cops aren't being called. Cons- 1. Tends to wait til the last minute to pay bills. 2. Runs LP tank low before filling. 3. During winter he gets behind in rent. 4. Vehicles in yard not running. 5. Late on rent.

Guidance on Stained Glass Windows- \$9,000 will be left after we pay Joel for the two windows. Window committee suggested we go ahead with the third window. Joel has time to fit the window in this year. We gave the go ahead to move forward.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 7:55 PM.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Report submitted by: Andrew Featherstone, Secretary

### CHURCH COUNCIL

**President:** Bryan Diercks, 507-259-3909  
diercksbryan@gmail.com

**Vice President:** Randy Klein 651-212-8045  
rdklein@mmm.com

**Secretary:** Andrew Featherstone 651-470-9823  
rwfeatherstonepainting@gmail.com

Kevin Eckblad 651-380-7849  
Chris Finne 651-380-3690  
Roger Guttromson 651-308—6349  
Duane Hanson 651-380-1763  
Maureen Hauck 651-331-8593  
Missy McCann 651-307-2274  
Ben Norman 651-208-7124  
Kent Volz 651-402-0942  
Barbara Weigman 507-202-7880

### WHO TO CONTACT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

**Indoors:** Jim Hedeem 651-380-6054

**Kitchen:** Sue Hedeem 651-380-6270

### VASA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

#### Treasurer's Report July, 2022

For the Month of July:

Checkbook Balance July 1, 2022	\$52,581.56
General Fund Contributions:	38,530.31
Total Funds Available	91,111.87
Budget Approved Monthly Expenses:	21,274.10
Checkbook Balance, July 31, 2022	\$69,837.77

Mission Investment Fund, July 1, 2022	\$8,767.08
Mission Investment Fund, July 31, 2022	\$





## Local Food Shelves STILL Need our Help!

Nationwide, food shelves are struggling. The food bank in Rochester, one of the main food sources for smaller, local Food Shelf operations, is severely under-resourced. In addition, food manufacturers no longer do product overruns specifically for donating. And then, there are the usual supply chain issues. All of this means that our donations are more critical than ever. Here is a list of the most essential items needed:

### FOOD ITEMS

- Cereal
- Canned Tuna/Chicken
- Canned fruit, especially pears, oranges and peaches.
- Canned vegies, especially corn, peas and

green beans.

- Pasta
- Hearty Soups (Progresso is an excellent choice)
- Hamburger Helper
- Crackers/Cookies

**NON-FOOD ITEMS** (these are no longer carried at the food bank in Rochester, making the local need even greater):

- Dish Detergent
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Laundry detergent
- Toilet Paper

**MANY THANKS!**

32<sup>nd</sup> Annual

## Taste of Welch Bake Sale Lunch



Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup  
Homemade Vegetable Soup  
Roast Beef Sandwiches  
Coleslaw  
Assorted Desserts  
Hot and Cold Beverages

### Raffle

"Going Back in Time" Queen-Size Quilt 84"x95"  
Many other item including  
Gift Cards and Gift Certificates  
Sign up for FREE drawings! Some Crafts available

## Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

24036 Co. Rd. 7 Blvd. Welch, MN  
Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> 2023  
9:00 am – 2:00 pm



OCTOBER 28TH  
9:00-11:00AM



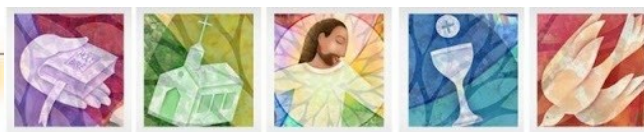
RESERVE YOUR BREAKFASTS ONLINE ([vasalutheran.org](http://vasalutheran.org)), by email ([office@vasalutheran.org](mailto:office@vasalutheran.org)) or by phone (651-258-4327)  
RESERVATIONS DUE BY NOON, OCTOBER 25TH





The 6th annual Vasa Bazaar is coming up in November and vendors are welcome to apply for space. 8' x 6' spaces are available for \$30 per space. Set up time will begin at 7:00am on Saturday Nov 4 (or Friday, Nov 4 by appointment between 7pm and 9pm)

Interested? Registration forms are available on the Vasa Lutheran website (click on the "Info and Events" tab), or contact Faye Drewianka (fdrew46@gmail.com) or Kathy Tilderquist (tilderquist.kathy@gmail.com)



## Faith Formation

**Sunday School** will begin on Sunday, September 10, at 9:00 in the sanctuary where the Third graders will receive their bibles at the beginning of the worship service. Afterwards all Sunday School children will walk down to the Lutheran Center where classes will continue. Future classes will meet at the Lutheran Center at 9:00AM.

**Confirmation Class for 7th/8th graders** will begin on Wednesday, September 6th. We will meet at the Lutheran Center from 5:45-6:45 each Wednesday through November 1st. Our focus of study will be Faith Heroes of the Old Testament.

**Confirmation Class for 9th graders** will be on the same night, but they will meet from 7:00 -8:00pm.



This group has been meeting on the first and third Wednesdays of each month since May. We are now meeting at the Lutheran Center from 9:30—11:00. **September dates are September 6th and September 20th.**

**Please Join Us!**

# MARK'S MEDITATION



## WHERE DID THE NAME "CHRIST" COME FROM

The Hebrew and Aramaic name for "Jesus of Nazareth" is "Yeshua bar Nāṣəraṭ." The name "Jesus" originates from the Latin translation of the Greek name Iēsous, which comes from the Hebrew "Yeshua." (And from where Spanish-speakers get Jesús.) The English equivalent would be "Joshua."

In the English translation of the gospels, we learn that Jesus called himself the "son of man." A more direct translation of the original Greek would be the slightly awkward "the son of the Adam." So, why doesn't our bible address Jesus as "Joshua ben Adam?"

Instead, we address Jesus as "Christ," from the Greek word Christós, meaning "anointed." This is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word Māšîaḥ, or messiah. To the Jews, *The Messiah* was an expected warrior-king who would free them from foreign rule. A tyranny that lasted over 600 years. (667 years to be exact.) Below is the list of foreign rulers and empires that conquered Judea. This list ends at 70AD when the Roman general and soon to be emperor Vespasian destroyed Jerusalem and scattered the Jews.

date	Conqueror	Empire
597 BC	Nebuchadnezzar	Asyrian Empire
538 BC	Cyrus the Great	Achaemenid Empire
330 BC	Alexander the Great	Macedonian Empire
321 BC	Seleucus, Antiochus	Seleucid, Ptolemaic Empire
164 BC	Judas Maccabeus	Hasmonean dynasty
63 BC	Julius Caesar	Roman Empire
70 AD	Vespasian and Titus	Roman Empire

Starting around 200 BC, many people began to expect a messiah who would usher in a new "Kingdom of God." This line of thinking and writing is called *apocalyptic* literature.

Who was it that started calling Jesus "The Christ" instead Joshua ben Adam? It might have been Paul. He says that his conversion on the road to Damascus occurred seven years after Jesus' crucifixion (so year 37 AD). By the time of his epistles, written in the 50's, "Jesus Christ" is the common name used by the churches he is writing to.





Please join us!

# VASA FAMILY NIGHT

Wednesday, September 13th  
5:30-7:00pm Vasa Lutheran Center

**GAMES**



**CRAFTS**



**BRING A LAWN CHAIR OR PICNIC BLANKET!**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



6 ♡ 6 \* ✨  
 thank you

Dear Vasa Women,  
 Thank you for remembering  
 me on my graduation and  
 sending your regards. Thank  
 you very much for your  
 handmade quilt you sent  
 me. I can only imagine  
 how much time that took!  
 I appreciate that a lot!  
 I know it will keep me  
 warm in the cold winters  
 of Chicago.



Vasa Lutheran Church  
 15235 Norelius Rd  
 Welch, MN 55089

Snapfish

Thanks,  
 Zeke Pearson

## Vasa Community Dinners Come to and End

What originally began as a congregational service project in 2012, as an opportunity for neighborhood fellowship within and around the Vasa Community, the Vasa Free Community Dinner evolved, over time, into a full-fledged food ministry for thousands each year. As of this time, there are no Community Dinners scheduled for 2023-2024.





Without a doubt, the success of the Community Dinner was entirely due to the numerous volunteers (over 40 needed each month) who came together to prep, pack, and deliver meals, regardless of how many meals were being served. Initially, that number was about 90 meals per month, but by the end it had grown to nearly 400 each month. We cannot thank them enough.

And now the Community Dinner Team is pressing the pause button to reflect and regroup; to discern what the Holy Spirit might bring next. The opportunities for service and fellowship were abundant and the Vasa community was strengthened in ways both visible and invisible. There is a saying, "Our Lives May Be the Only Gospel Some People Ever Read." May it ever be so.





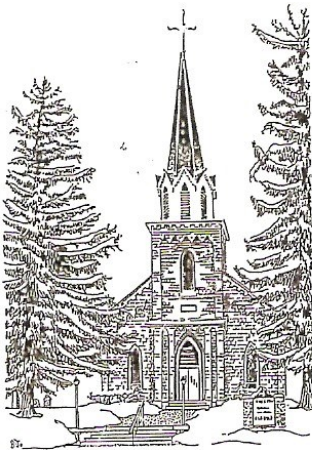


Sunday	Monday				Friday	Saturday
					1 Pastor's Day Off	2
3  9AM Communion Worship  11:30-4:00 Vasa Museum Open	4	5  9:30 <u>TEAM MEETINGS</u> 4PM Property 5PM Finance 6PM Parish Life 6:30 Museum	6 9:30-11:00 Women's Bible Study 5:45-6:45 7th/8th Confirmation Class 7:00-8:00pm 9th Grade Confir- mation Class	7	8 Pastor's Day Off	9
10 9AM Commu- nion Worship Sunday School Begins 11:30-4:00 Vasa Museum Open	11	12  9:30	13 5:30-7:00PM VASA FAMILY NIGHT 5:45-6:45 7th/8th Confirmation Class 7:00-8:00pm 9th Grade Confir- mation Class	14	15 Pastor's Day Off	16
17 9:00AM Com- munion Worship + Sunday School @ Lutheran Center 11:30-4:00 Vasa Museum Open	18 6PM CHURCH COUNCIL	19  9:30	20 9:30-11:00 Women's Bible Study 5:45-6:45 7th/8th Confirmation Class 7:00-8:00pm 9th Grade Confir- mation Class	21	22 Pastor's Day Off	23
24 9AM Commu- nion Worship & Sunday School @ Lutheran Cen- ter 11:30-4:00 Vasa Museum Open	25	26  9:30	27 9:30-11:00 Women's Bible Study 5:45-6:45 7th/8th Confirmation Class 7:00-8:00pm 9th Grade Confir- mation Class	28	29 Pastor's Day Off	30

VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH

15235 NORELIUS ROAD (in Vasa)

WELCH, MN 55089



Historic Vasa Lutheran Church Built in 1869

(Vasa Drawing by B-J Norman)

### **Worship Schedule**

**9:00AM** Sundays (also live-streamed)

#### ***Wednesday Evening Worship***

**6:30pm** Holy Communion + Everyday Bible Conversation  
(Fellowship Room of Lutheran Center)

### **Executive Team**

Bryan Diercks, Council President 507.259.3909

Randy Klein, Council Vice President 651.212.8045

Andrew Featherstone, Council Secretary 651.470.9823

### **Pastor Maureen Hagen**

[pastor@vasalutheran.org](mailto:pastor@vasalutheran.org)

(Cell) 507.251.5270

### **Church Staff**

Kathy Tilderquist, Treasurer

Emily Peterson, Office Administrator

Melissa McCann, Custodian

Anne Anderson, Worship Accompanist

Gail Strusz-Klein, Wedding Coordinator

Paul & Jay Mikaelson, Missionaries in La Paz Bolivia  
Contact: [pmikaelson@gmail.com](mailto:pmikaelson@gmail.com)

Website: [www.caranavi.net/rtc.htm](http://www.caranavi.net/rtc.htm)

## **Vasa Mission Statement**

We, the Vasa Congregation,  
Called by God, commit to:  
Worshipping together,  
Growing in Faith,  
Serving Others, and  
Welcoming and loving all!