

The Vasa Voice

*A monthly publication
encouraging faith, family,
friends and community.*

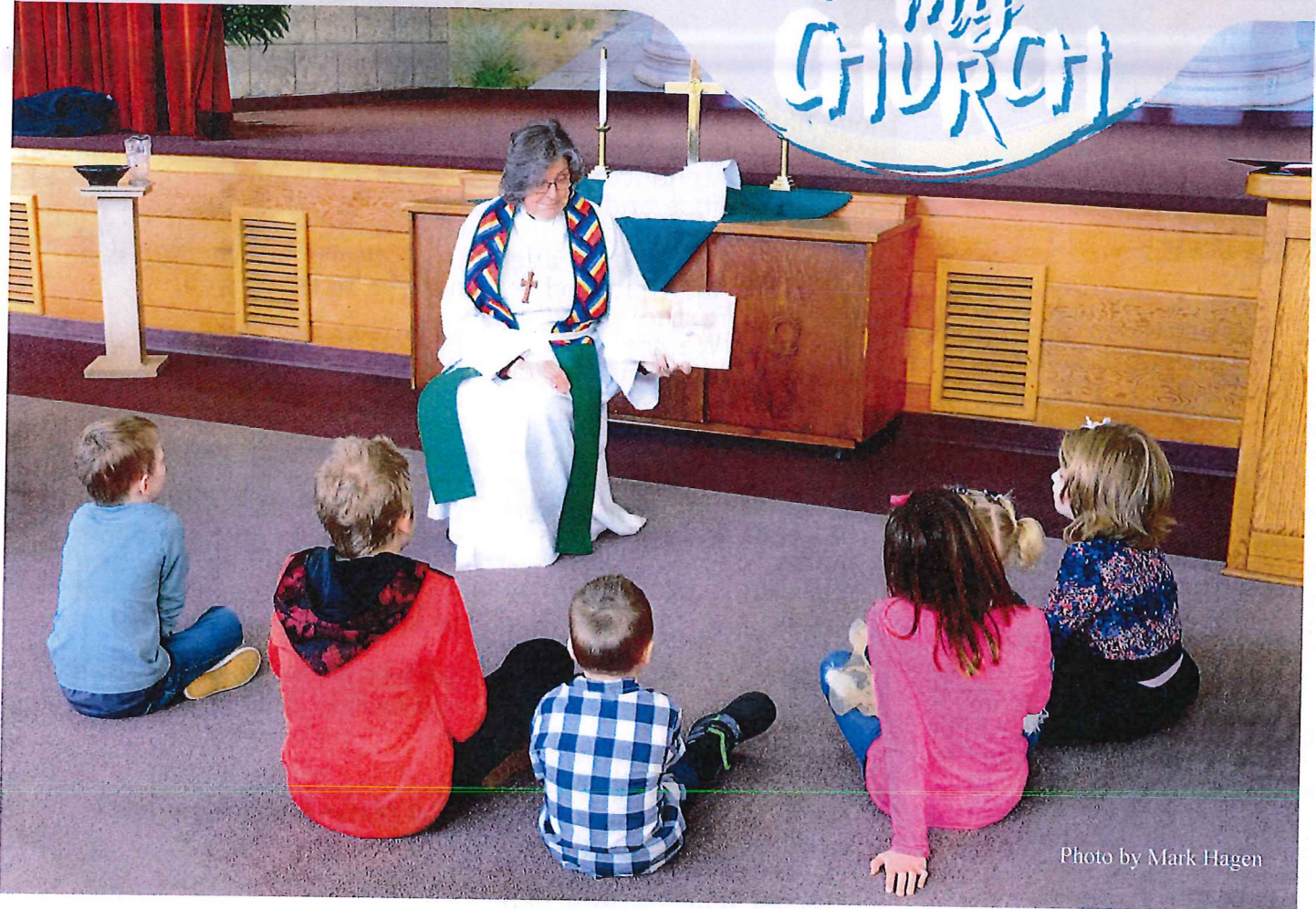


Photo by Mark Hagen



Is God really holding us in the palm of his hands?
Yes, God is. In the midst of the suffering
and the doubt, God is holding us. God is faithful.

Join us every Sunday!
Worship &
Sunday School
begin at 9:00 am

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Photo by Mark Hagen

Michael Joncas

On Eagle's Wings

And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of His hand.

GIVE. GATHER. SERVE.

The first time I was invited to assist with communion, I was given the task of distributing the bread. I was at a large congregation and we served communion to at least 200 people. Over and over I repeated the words, "body of Christ, given for you." The thing that struck me were the hands. Young and slim, old and arthritic, and everything in-between, the hands reached out and grasped a bit of bread as if it were life itself (and of course in many ways it is....)

So, when I come across a reference to hands like the one in On Eagle's Wings I find myself going back to

those hands that I remember as they reached out for sustenance from God. Sustenance and protection. For that is another part of the image from the song: that God is holding us in the palm of God's hand. We are protected in the haven of God's hands.

The challenge comes when bad things happen in our lives. Where is God when sickness and suffering buffet us? Why can't we feel God's presence? What about when someone we love dies? Is God really holding us in the palm of his hands?

As Jesus hung on the cross with nails in his hands he cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" At that moment his hands were empty and

he wasn't sure if God was holding him. This one cry proves Jesus' utter humanity for if the Son of God feels separated from God, then this feeling can happen to us as well.

Is God really holding us in the palm of his hands? Yes, God is. In the midst of the suffering and the doubt, God is holding us. God is faithful. God has promised that God will support and sustain us. In our baptisms we are claimed by God and God never breaks that promise.

Blessings to you through the season of Lent,

Pastor Maureen

VASA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report February 2019

Checkbook Balance, February 1, 2019	\$ 52,177.11	Budget Approved Monthly Expenses:	\$17,097.04
Plus voided check from December	\$ 13.65	Checkbook Balance, February 28, 2019	\$42,667.72
Total available before February income	\$52,190.76	Loan Balance as of January 30, 2018:	\$3,918.00
General Fund Contributions:	\$7,574.00	Loan Balance as of February 28, 2019:	\$0
Total Funds Available	\$59,764.76	Mission Investment Fund, January 31, 2018	\$44,088.69
		Mission Investment Fund, February 28, 2019	\$75,829.94

Lenten Series: Patches of Godlight

Lenten worship in 2019 will officially begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6th with 7:00 worship in the church sanctuary. As is our practice this service will include the imposition of ashes.

For the five Wednesday evenings that follow we will hold Lenten worship in the Lutheran Center at 6:30. Our theme is Patches of Godlight. Each evening we will sing Holden Evening Prayer, pausing in the middle to hear some Scripture and an inspirational story.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Lord of stories, Jesus taught us through stories and the wisdom of the shared word. Teach us through your stories, that we may learn, grow, and love. For the sake of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen. (Prayer of the day for Feb 17, 2019)

Stories for the Journey is a compilation of stories collected by *William R. White*. Published by Augsburg in 1988

Stories of Faith and Faithfulness – Ash Wednesday, March 6

Exodus 3:1-6

Luke 15:4-7

The Stray Lamb page 34

Stories of Love and Forgiveness – March 13

I Corinthians 8

Compassion pages 55-56

Stories of Prayer and Worship – March 20

Mark 2:23-28 or Luke 6:1-5 (same story, different gospel)

Exodus 20:8-11 or Deuteronomy 5:12-15

Three Sabbaths pages 64-66

Stories of Community and Hospitality – March 27

Luke 10:25-37

Stone Soup pages 70-73

Stories of Justice and Courage – April 3

Luke 19:1-10

Ruth and Tobias pages 91-93

Stories of Simplicity and Discipleship – April 10

Matthew 12:9-14 or Luke 14:1-6 (different stories w/ similar teaching intent)

Soap and Religion page 99

This phrase is the title of a book by Jan Karon. Ms. Karon compiled many quotes as she researched and prepared to write the Mitford Series of books with Father Tim, the Episcopal priest in Mitford. She writes in the introduction that the phrase comes from the writings of C.S. Lewis.

April

Happy Birthday!

04/01	Gardiner Michele
04/01	Pearson Chris
04/01	Stehr Jack
04/03	Hart Clara
04/03	Rehder Tristan
04/04	Pearson Liz
04/04	Ziemer Peggy
04/05	Anderson Meagan
04/05	Soine Jeremy
04/09	Majerus Morgan
04/10	Lindblom Troy
04/11	Majerus Jacey
04/13	Pearson Katelyn
04/15	Lindholm Geri
04/15	Mann Daniel
04/16	Clemens Ellie
04/17	Evanson Forest
04/22	Pagel Bonnie
04/24	Fredin Max
04/24	Little Soldier Skylar
04/25	Hovel Cashton
04/26	Anderson Eileen
04/29	Bauch Vicky



April

Serving

USHERS

Rick Samuelson
Duane Hanson
Bruce Tilderquist
Rodnet Nelson

READERS

Kathy Tilderquist
Jessica Anderson
Cynthia Gianoli
Marilyn Hanson
Marcia Fetherstone

GREETERS

Teri Mandelkow

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Rick Samuelson
Duane Hanson
Tana Hovde

ACOLYTE

Kate Hart

COMMUNION SET-UP

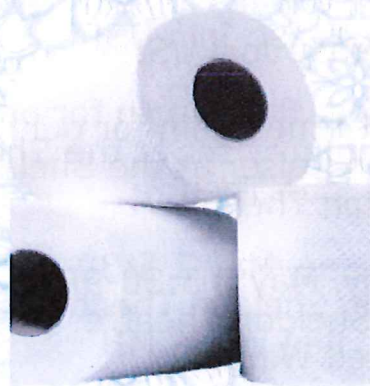
Jim Hedeem



Help Women & Children in Crises by...

Donating women and children's underwear and/or toilet paper on Mother's Day Sunday, May 12th!

The underwear should be new and unopened.



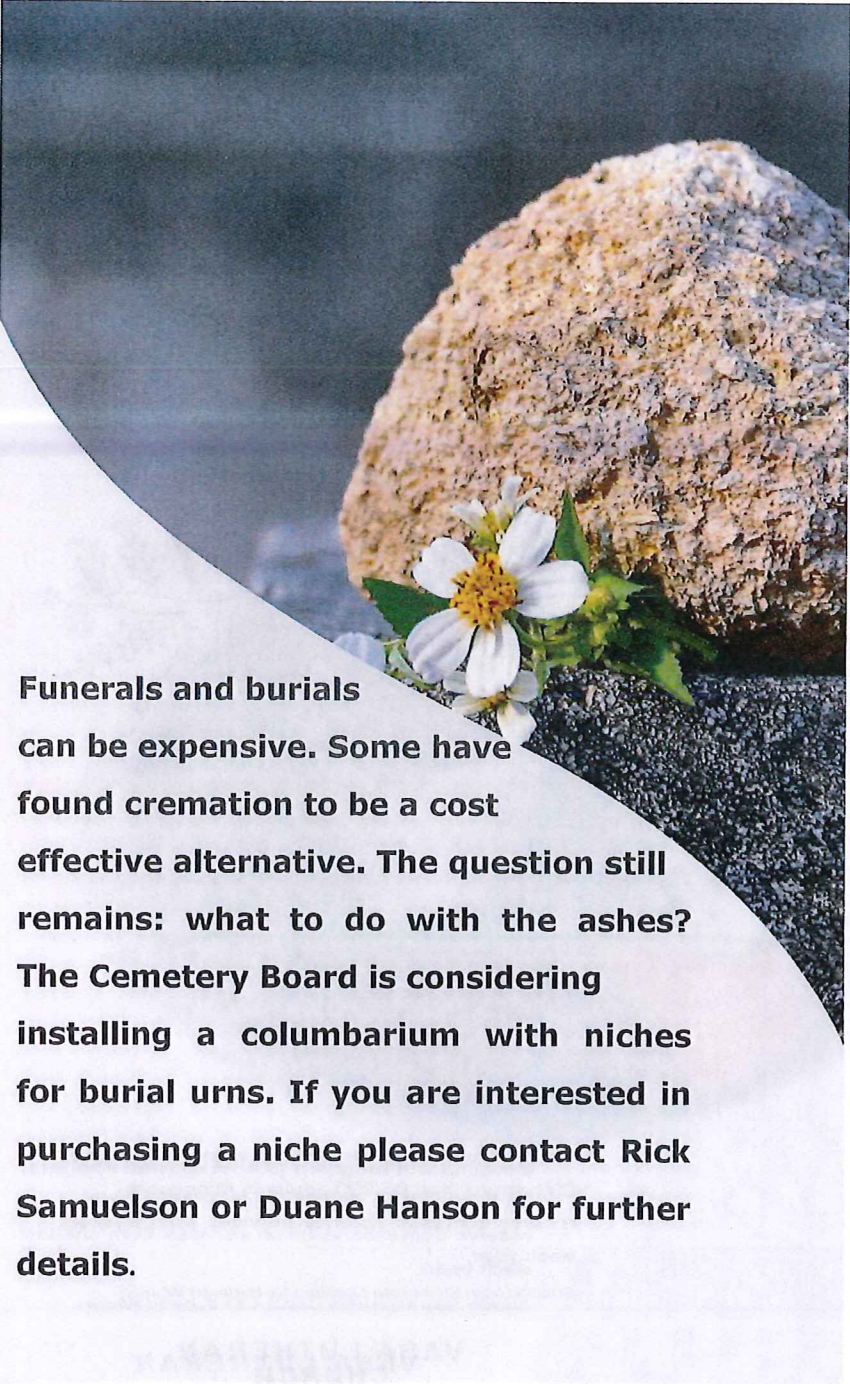
Donations will be given to area women shelters. DYK more than 65,000 adults in Minnesota receive domestic violence services from shelters each year.

Statistic from Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women

**VASA LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

The WELCA gals are seeking colored egg donations for the next Community Dinner. Please drop off your decorated eggs (hollowed not hard boiled) at the Lutheran Center before April 10th. The WELCA gals thank you in advance!





Funerals and burials can be expensive. Some have found cremation to be a cost effective alternative. The question still remains: what to do with the ashes? The Cemetery Board is considering installing a columbarium with niches for burial urns. If you are interested in purchasing a niche please contact Rick Samuelson or Duane Hanson for further details.



Please Join US!

It is that time again for our annual fundraiser at the Sheldon Theatre.

**Thursday, May 2 5:30-9PM
T.B. Sheldon Theatre
Red Wing, MN**

**Marcia Hislop
Faith in Action in Red Wing
Volunteer Coordinator
651-327-2401**

Good Earth Village Summer 2019 registration is now open! Vasa Lutheran Church offers Camp scholarship, so all children have an opportunity to experience the fun of exploring God in creation.

**Contact Pastor Maureen if you have questions about the camp or if you would like to apply for a scholarship.
www.goodearthvillage.org**

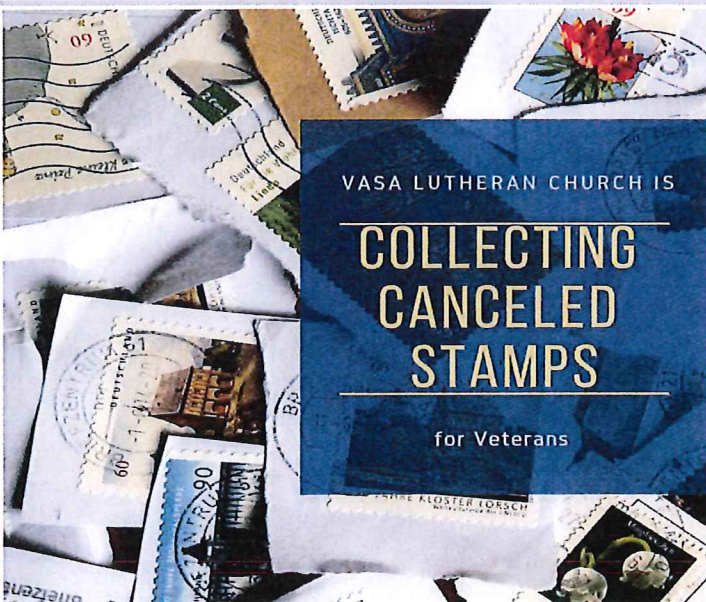


RECEIPTS: Help Vasa Lutheran Church earn \$1,000 through the Direct Your Dollars program! We're collecting receipts from any FamilyFare store. Drop your receipts off at the Vasa Lutheran Church or at the Vase Lutheran Center. Thank you in advance for all your support!



HELP A VETERAN

Everyone, with so much mail coming and going now, please save your cancelled stamps! Rosann will package them up and send them off to the Veterans Association in Arizona. Then they will be sorted, trimmed and packaged in small amounts. This aids Vets with coordination, math, and penmanship problems. Place them in envelopes in back of the church or at the Lutheran Center. **Thank you, Rosann Pearson**



UPCOMING EVENTS AT VASA

April 1: Museum Meeting 6:30 PM

April 4: Cannon River Ministry Confer 9-1 PM

April 4: Blood Mobile 1 to 7 PM

April 6: Bonnie McRae Funeral

April 8: Parish Life 6:30 PM | Finance 7:30 PM

April 9: Property Meeting 5:30 PM

April 10: Free Community Dinner 5:30 to 6:30 PM Pork Roast will be served.

April 14: Palm Sunday 9 AM in the Sanctuary

April 18: Maunday Thursday Service 7 PM in the church sanctuary. Foot washing, 5th Grade First Communion and the stripping of the altar occur as a part of this worship service.

April 19: Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7:00 PM in the church sanctuary. This solemn service includes reading the Passion Story from the gospel of John, as well as stripping the altar and draping the church furnishings in black.

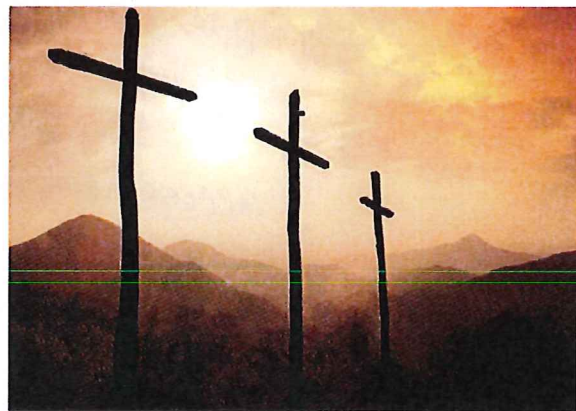
April 21: Easter Sunday 9AM in the Sanctuary

April 25-26: 8-Mile Rummage and Bake Sale

April 28: Twin Rivers

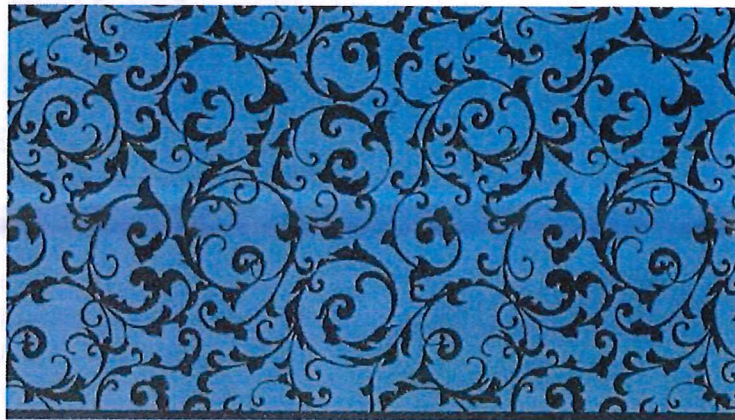
July 4: Museum Root Beer Floats

Oct 26: Museum Swedish Pancake Breakfast



ELECTRONIC GIVING:

Electronic giving is an option at Vasa Lutheran Church. If you are interested in using this method of giving instead of using weekly offering envelopes, please fill out the "Authorization Form" and bring it to the Church Office. Thanks for your consideration of this giving option.



Thank You



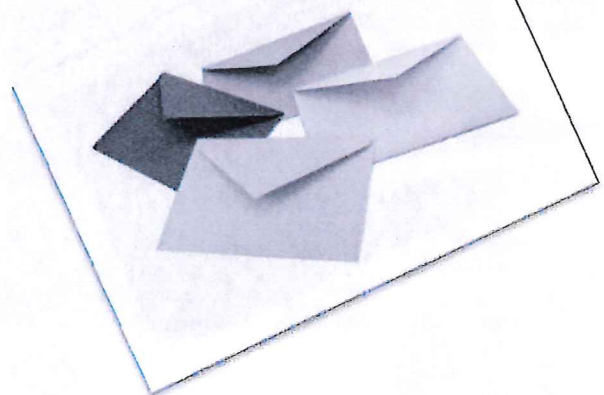
Vasa Church Members,

I would like to thank you
for the donations of hats, Mittens,
gloves and scarves to our school.

I was able to give warm
accessories to those students in need.
Thanks to all of you for your
spirit of giving and thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Anna Rivest, School Social Worker





YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

8-MILE RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

Thursday, April 25
Noon to 7 PM

Friday, April 26
8 AM to 4 PM

Vasa Lutheran Center

Lunch served during sale hours!

Fundraiser with Lunch being served on both days!

4 Ways you can help make this the most successful sale ever!

1. Donate your clean, gently used items! (Spring cleaning is a great time to get rid of unwanted items.)
2. Attend the rummage and bake sale.
3. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors.
4. Volunteer (Contact Faye at 651-212-3209)

Donation Drop-off dates: Monday, April 22, noon to 7 PM; Tuesday, April 23, noon to 7 PM; & Wednesday, April 24, noon to 7 PM. (if you require a different drop-off time please contact Faye at (651-212-3209))

Rummage Sale dates/times: Thursday, April 25, 2019 noon to 7 PM, and Friday April 26, 2019 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Help us to make this our most successful Rummage Sale ever! So let's get those garages, attics and closets cleaned out and find lots of hidden treasures for us to sell. Ask friends, family and neighbors if they have any donations or if they would like to attend.

Rummage Sale Items Needed:

We need gently used clothes (sorted by gender and size for quick placement)

Books | Toys | Small furniture items | Tools | Baby clothing and items | Knickknacks | Linens
Jewelry | Small appliances | Seasonal Holiday items | Home decoration

Please no exercise equipment, mattresses, TV's or large electronic items as they do not sell.

Bake Sale Items Needed:

Pies | Cakes / Coffee Cakes | Rolls | Bars | Cookies | Bread | Buns | or any bake goodies.

Please package your item(s) on paper plates with clear wrapping.

All proceeds will be used to purchase a new fridge for the kitchen.

Note: Cash and checks accepted, no credit cards

VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH ~ PRAYER CONCERNS

The Power of Praying

David Broin

Jay Mikaelson

Scott Sorenson (son of Sterling and Sharyn)

Bonnie McRae family

Working Families | The Lonely | The Hungry | The Homeless

PLEASE JOIN US!

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2019

5:30 TO 6:30 PM

SERVING PORK ROAST

VASA LUTHERAN CENTER
WELCH, MN



If you're interested in helping, please reach out to Sue Hedeem or Jeannette Anderson.

Setup | Donate Food Items | Serving | Cleanup | Meal Delivery | Greeters

Vasa Lutheran, Holidays in United States

Mar 2019 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>24</div> <div>Annual Meeting</div> <div>9 am - Service of</div> <div>9 am - Sunday</div> <div>10:30 am - 9th Grade</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>9:30 am - AM Coffee</div>	<div>27</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>5:15 pm - FLN</div> <div>6:15 pm - Worship</div> <div>7:15 pm - Adult Choir</div>	<div>28</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>1 pm - VASA VOICE</div>	<div>1</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>2</div> <div>11 am - Museum</div>
<div>3</div> <div>9 am - Service of</div> <div>9 am - Sunday</div>	<div>4</div> <div>9 am - Conference @</div> <div>6:30 pm - Museum</div> <div>6:30 pm - Parish Life</div> <div>7:30 pm - Finance</div>	<div>5</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>9:30 am - AM Coffee</div> <div>5:30 pm - Property</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Ash Wednesday</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>5:15 pm - FLN</div> <div>7:15 pm - Adult Choir</div> <div>7:15 pm - Confirmati</div>	<div>7</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>9</div>
<div>10</div> <div>Daylight Saving</div> <div>9 am - Service of</div> <div>9 am - Sunday</div> <div>11 am - Poole Rental</div>	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>9:30 am - AM Coffee</div>	<div>13</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>5:15 pm - FLN</div> <div>5:30 pm - Communit</div> <div>6:15 pm - Worship</div> <div>7:15 pm - Adult Choir</div>	<div>14</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>16</div>
<div>17</div> <div>St. Patrick's Day</div> <div>9 am - Service of</div> <div>9 am - Sunday</div> <div>6:30 pm - 4-H</div>	<div>18</div> <div>7:30 pm - Church</div>	<div>19</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>9:30 am - AM Coffee</div>	<div>20</div> <div>5:15 pm - FLN</div> <div>6 pm - First Holy</div> <div>6:15 pm - Worship</div> <div>7:15 pm - Adult Choir</div> <div>7:15 pm - Confirmati</div>	<div>21</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>9:30 am - Church</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div> <div>8 am - VASA VOICE</div>	<div>23</div>
<div>24</div> <div>9 am - Service of</div> <div>9 am - Sunday</div> <div>1:30 pm - The</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>9:30 am - AM Coffee</div>	<div>27</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>5:15 pm - FLN</div> <div>6 pm - First Holy</div> <div>6:15 pm - Worship</div> <div>7:15 pm - Adult Choir</div>	<div>28</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>10 am - Twin Rivers</div> <div>1 pm - VASA VOICE</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>30</div>
<div>31</div> <div>9 am - Service of</div> <div>9 am - Special Music</div> <div>9 am - Sunday</div>	<div>1</div> <div>Continue Ed Class - Pastor</div> <div>6:30 pm - Museum</div>	<div>2</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>9:30 am - AM Coffee</div>	<div>3</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>5:15 pm - FLN</div> <div>6 pm - First Holy</div> <div>6:15 pm - Worship</div>	<div>4</div> <div>9 am - Cannon river</div> <div>9 am - Office Hours</div> <div>12 pm - Blood Drive</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>6</div> <div>McNamara Funeral</div>

VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH
15235 NORELIUS ROAD (IN VASA)
WELCH, MN 55089

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Maureen Hagen

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Email: vasalutheran@sleepyeyetel.net

Web: www.vasalutheran.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Vasa-Lutheran-Church

CHURCH STAFF

Kathy Tilderquist, Treasurer

Shelley Pohlman, Office Administrator

Melissa McCann, Custodian

Austin Fersonson, Worship Accompanist

Gail Strusz-Klein, Wedding Coordinator

Paul and Jay Mikaelson, Missionaries,
LaPaz, Bolivia

pmikaelson@gmail.com

website: www.caranavi.net/rtc.htm

VASA MISSION STATEMENT

We at Vasa Congregation, called by
God, commit to:

Worshiping together,
Growing in faith,
Serving others, and
Welcoming and loving all!