



Highlights of Vasa in October

October 1-2 - American Red Cross Blood Drive at Vasa

Save a life & donate blood! At the Vasa Lutheran Center on Thursday, October 1, from 1pm until 7pm, and on Friday, from 9am-3pm, the American Red Cross will host a blood drive. Refreshments will also be served throughout the event for those giving blood.

October 11 - Pastor Appreciation Sunday

This is a time to thank our Pastor and to show our gratitude for all of the hard work that she does here at Vasa and in the community.

October 14 - Community Dinner

This month's community dinner occurs on Wednesday, October 14th with a Meatloaf meal. As we did in September, meals will be for Pick-Up or Delivery only, with reservations required in advance (for prep purposes). Reservation forms are available at the Lutheran Center or at Church, OR, you can also call or email the church office and leave your name, number of meals desired and whether you prefer pick-up or delivery. If you can help with food preparations, serving or delivering meals, please see the sign up sheets posted at the Lutheran Center during the week and at the Church on Sundays.

October 31 - Vasa Museum Swedish Pancake Breakfast

The annual fundraiser for the Vasa Museum is on Saturday, October 31. Due to COVID restrictions, it will be a drive through event with meals to be picked up at the Vasa Lutheran Center from 9am until 11am. Come out and support the hard work the Museum Board does to preserve history in Vasa.

Here's what's on the Inside!

- P. 2 Pastor's Thoughts and Thank You note, Treasurer's Report
- P. 3 Birthdays, Worship Service Volunteers, Offering Envelope update, "Just for Kix", Pastor Appreciation Sunday
- P. 4 Community Dinner, Wednesday Evening Worship

- P. 5-6 August Church Council Minutes
- P. 6 Faith in Action volunteer opportunities
- P. 7 Mark's Musings
- P. 8 Habitat for Humanity of Goodhue County update, Third Grade Bibles
- P. 9 A Taste of Welch
- P. 10 Vasa Museum Annual Swedish Pancake Breakfast
- P. 11 October Calendar



Pastor's Thoughts for October

We are at least six months into the challenges of life in the midst of the Covid-19 health crisis. Most of us have been operating under the assumption that things will "return to normal soon." Mental health professionals tell us that the six month point is the point at which we start to realize that "soon" is a much longer span of time than we first anticipated.

If you are starting to sink under the weight of that realization, pause for a moment to refresh your relationship with God. Psalm 86: 15-16 provides a helpful framework.

Psalm 86:15-16 But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. ¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your serving girl.

Begin by contemplating the attributes of God from verse 15. In the quiet and solitude of social distancing and quarantine God is with us; loving us and showering us with mercy and grace. God is faithful to us no matter what, no matter how, no matter where.

The patriarchs of old were never afraid to remind God of God's attributes. They often argued on behalf of God's people based on these attributes of steadfast love, grace, and mercy. When they talked to God they would begin by reminding God of these traits and then they would "make the ask."

If you can do nothing else, read these two verses as an opening to your day. Remind yourself of God's love and mercy. Then pray verse 16 and ask God for help. We have a loving God who will respond to our needs. We can always ask for God to pour out strength to us especially as we struggle.

Every morning I pray for Vasa Congregation and its members. I ask God to be continue to be gracious and merciful to us. I ask God to pour out the Holy Spirit upon us so that we may continue in faith and service to a world in need.

Grace and peace to you,
~Pastor Maureen

in a world
where you can
be anything.
BE KIND.



Dear Members of Vasa, As I walked in to the visitation for my mother, I was surprised to discover this beautiful basket of plants given from you in her memory. Thank you for your kindness. My mother died peacefully with my father, her husband of 68 years, at her side. Her body simply wore out after years of challenges from a debilitating stroke. I felt your prayer support throughout the week as we planned her funeral and laid her to rest. You continue to be a blessing for me. Many thanks, Pastor Maureen

VASA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report

August 2020

For the Month of August:

Checkbook Balance, August 1, 2020	\$ 43,692.35
General Fund Contributions:	21,797.41
Mission Endowment Offering	8,900.00
Total Funds Available	74,389.76
Budget Approved Monthly Expenses:	22,850.65
Checkbook Balance, August 31, 2020	<u>\$51,539.11</u>

Mission Investment Fund, July 30, 2020	\$20,516.60
Mission Investment Fund, August 31, 2020	\$20,533.93

Volunteers for October

READERS & COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- 4 Stuart Samuelson
- 11 Jessica Anderson
- 18 Jeannette Anderson
- 25 Duane Martinson



Birthdays

- 2 Edward Gruber
- 5 Jason Stahnke
Bryan Diercks
- 6 Braeden Gillis
- 8 Jeannette Anderson
Rebecca Fleming
- 9 Irene Carpenter
- 11 Camden Smith
- 13 Elijah Bauch
Jenna Montey
Lyle Ness
- 15 Thomas Ahern
Grace Nelson
Judy Scripture
- 19 William Ahern
Michael Rosener
- 20 Cary Clemens
- 21 Caleb Diercks
- 23 Allen Peterson
- 24 Julia Fleming
- 27 Coty Hyllengren
James Gruber
Hunter Lindblom
- 28 Murlyn Rosener
- 30 Dale Anderson
Doris Munsen
- 31 Jillian Anderson



A Note About Offering Envelopes...

Envelopes are being ordered now for 2021. If you do NOT want envelopes ordered for you and you *did* get a box in 2020, please call the church office and let Emily know, or let Kathy know. If you do not respond by October 10, and you received envelopes in 2020, you will get a new box in 2021.

Apologies for mistakes or omissions. If you know of any birthdays that are missing or wrong, please contact the Vasa church office. THANKS!



Vasa is hosting the Cannon Falls *Just for Kix* dance troupe in the Youth Room on Monday and Wednesday evenings through the 2020-21 school year. Their website writes the following: "For 35 years, *Just For Kix* has provided youth dancers across the

country the opportunity to create their own sparkling image of team work, dance technique, and confidence building through proven instruction and a passion for individual improvement."



Sunday October 11 is Pastor Appreciation Day! This is a time to thank our Pastor and to show our gratitude for of the hard work she does here at Vasa and in the community. There will be a basket for cards and COVID-FRIENDLY refreshments after the service!



Thank you to everyone who helped with our first Community Dinner of 2020-2021 - COVID-Style! It was a huge success! On September 9 we fed just over 190 people. We did 144 take-out meals and delivered 49

meals. Thanks to our drivers, food preparers and servers, everything went off without a hitch.

We will be doing the same take-out/delivery options on **October 14** where the menu is Meatloaf. Reservations are still required for the meals so we know how much food to prepare and so we can pack up the meals with accuracy. You can pick up reservation forms at church on Sundays, at the Vasa Center during the week, or by calling or emailing the church office. **The deadline for October reservations will be Thursday, October 8 at NOON.** We will also be delivering to **farmers** who are working the harvest, and those **will require reservations too.** Last year, we delivered 68—so please let us know as soon as possible if your farmer wants a meal that night!

HISTORY:

In October, 2012, the Community Dinner served 75-85 people and delivered 13 meals. The meal was served in the Fellowship Room/Hallway because the annual WELCA Garage Sale in the gym (it was late that year because of construction on Hwy 19.) My, we have come a long way!



Community dinner is loved by all ages!!



Wednesday Evenings
at the Vasa Center
6:15pm Worship+Everyday Bible Conversation



Community Dinners

The donation list and the work schedule for the Community Dinner will be on the table in back of church on Sundays and at the Vasa Center during the week.

We prepare meals for anyone and there is no charge! Because of COVID we do require reservations, but it is our hope that families can share meals with their neighbors—in appropriately sized groups—and still experience some fellowship with others.

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

There are many things to do including donations of menu items, serving & clean up, and delivery of meals to our shut-Ins.



VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

August 17, 2020 @ Lutheran Center

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Greg Drewianka, President

Devotions: Steve Hyllengren

Present: Pastor Maureen Hagen; Greg Drewianka, President; Jim Hedeem, Vice President; Rick Samuelson; Dan Hedeem; Sid Featherstone; Ben Norman; Steve Hyllengren; Duane Hanson; Kevin Eckblad; Mike Carlson; and Andrew Featherstone

Twelve voting members present

Unable to Attend: Lora Gruber and Jessica Anderson

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 June 29, 2020 council meeting as written.

MOTION CARRIED

Reports Reviewed and Accepted:

1. Treasurer and Finance Team Report (Attached)
 - a. We had a good giving month in July
 - b. We have contracted 7400 gallons of LP at a price of \$1.01 per gallon
 - c. Additional offering counters are needed
2. Parish Life (Attached)
 - a. Vacation Bible School will be Aug. 24-27 from 6pm to 7:30pm
 - b. The next blood drive at Vasa will be on October 1st
3. Property Team Report. (Attached)
 - a. The septic system at the parsonage is finished
 - b. The furnace room door to the outside is going to be replaced
4. Museum Board (Attached)
5. Endowment Board Report (No Meeting)
6. Cemetery Board (No Meeting)
7. Executive Board Report (No Meeting)

August 2020 Church Council Meeting Minutes (cont.)

8. Pastor's Report (Attached)

- a. We will continue to record the Sunday service
- b. Tuesday morning coffee is going
- c. The Wednesday night service is going
- d. There will be a delivery and take out only community dinner in September

Tabled/Old Business (None)

New Business

We discussed what to do about the gazebo and no final decision was made.

It was moved and seconded to table the gazebo discussion until our December council meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion

We talked about the church property lines and issues that we are having with the neighbor adjoining the upper church parking lot.

September Meeting Dates: (Tentative schedule)

Parish Life: Tuesday September 1st @ 6:30pm

Finance: Tuesday September 8th @ 1:00pm

Property: Tuesday September 1st @ 9:30am

Executive: Monday September 14th @ TBD

Council: Monday September 21st @ 6:30pm Devotions: Rick Samuelson

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 8:00 pm.

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Report submitted by:

Rick Samuelson, Secretary

Who are the Volunteers?

- ★ Our Volunteers are wonderful, caring people of all ages, and from all walks of life.
- ★ They are: Neighbors, helping neighbors' reaching out in their congregations and in their community.
- ★ Generous, caring people who share their gifts in helping others.
- ★ Trained women, men, and young adults who provide support



There are over 1,200 Faith In Action programs in the United States.

Faith In Action In Red Wing:

- is a non-profit network of volunteers from local faith congregations and from the community at large.
- provides volunteer assistance to the elderly and others who are in need.
- has a director and is governed by a Board of Directors.
- will work with and accept referrals from local healthcare providers, social services, and public health agencies.
- is dependent on grants, local financial support and fundraising events for its operating budget.
- will not charge for any services performed.
- will attempt to meet all requests when there are volunteers available.



**FAITH
IN ACTION**
in Red Wing

Our Mission
To enrich area residents' lives through faith based volunteer efforts

Volunteer Opportunities

1407 West 4th Street
Red Wing, MN 55066

651-327-2400

Faith in Action is in need of a new Church Coordinator. The Coordinator is a visible presence in the congregation, who links the church with Faith In Action. This person is a helpful resource for the pastors in locating individuals with needs that might be served by Faith in Action. The coordinator also helps recruit new volunteers among the congregation who would like to serve the church and community. The Coordinator contacts all volunteers on a monthly or bi-monthly basis and reports to Faith in Action. Other responsibilities include attending 2 meetings per year, and selling tickets for the annual Spring Fundraiser. If you are interested, please call the FIA office at 651-3270-2400.



Volunteer Opportunities

Friendly Visiting



Volunteers visit individuals in their homes. The purpose is to provide socialization and reduce isolation and loneliness. Visits are weekly or bi-weekly as scheduled.

Transportation



Volunteer drivers transport individuals to local appointments. Requests must be made a minimum of 2 days in advance of services. All rides will depend on availability of volunteer drivers.

Respite Care



Volunteers provide 2-3 hours of relief to allow full-time caregivers time to attend a support group meeting, shop, or enjoy a personal activity.

Caregivers Support Group



Monthly meetings are held in which family caregivers support each other as they discuss common concerns and possible solutions.

Road to Recovery



Volunteers transport cancer patients to out-of-town health care centers. For radiation treatment only.

Book Home Calls



Volunteers pick-out, deliver or return books to the Red Wing Public Library for individuals unable to do so themselves.

You can be a volunteer!

I would like to assist in the following areas:

- Friendly Visiting
- Transportation
- Respite Care
- ACS Road to Recovery
- Other, office
- Book House-Call

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Church _____

Please mail to:

Faith In Action in Red Wing
1407 West 4th St.
Red Wing, MN 55066

(651) 327-2400 or 327-2401

E-mail: fia@redwing.net

Website: www.faiinactionredwing.org

We're Searching for Volunteers



All volunteers are trained before services are provided. There are no charges for services but donations are welcome.

Mark's Musings...Your Impending Resurrection

Last month I wrote about the history of hell; how the idea of hell evolved over time. This month, let's swing the other way and talk about heaven. Specifically, that aspect of heaven that we profess when we say the Apostles' Creed: the bodily resurrection of the dead.

During the time of Jesus, Jews were split regarding the idea that there would be a resurrection of the dead at the end of time. The Pharisees thought this would happen; the Sadducees did not. The Gospel writers have Jesus siding with the Pharisees. This is played out in a scene in all three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) where Jesus is questioned about resurrection. Here is the version from Luke.

Luke 20:27 Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him ²⁸ and asked him a question, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man[b] shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

Luke 20:34 Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶ Indeed they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."

Much of what Christians understand about heaven comes from this one story. (And from the vivid images in Revelation.) Luke says that we will be "like angels." Yet the Apostle Paul (himself a Pharisee) insists that, through Christ, there will be a bodily resurrection at the Last Judgment. So, if you will re-animate your body—what version? Are you resurrected to your aged body right before you die? Do you get to embody your 20 year old self? Will your resurrected body retain the wounds and scars you suffered in life? (Like Jesus, who offered Thomas to touch the wound in his side.) These are difficult questions that have occupied theologians for at least the past 2000 years.

Candida Moss, in her book *Divine Bodies*, concludes that much of what we understand about heaven and resurrection comes down to how we understand beauty. Or, what Paul called "glory."

1 Corinthians 15:35 Our earthly bodies are planted in the ground when we die, but they will be raised to live forever. ⁴³ Our bodies are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness, but they will be raised in strength. ⁴⁴ They are buried as natural human bodies, but they will be raised as spiritual bodies. For just as there are natural bodies, there are also spiritual bodies.

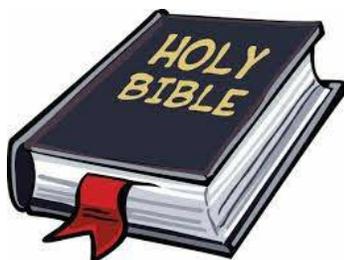
⁴⁵ The Scriptures tell us, "The first man, Adam, became a living person." But the last Adam—that is, Christ—is a life-giving Spirit. ⁴⁶ What comes first is the natural body, then the spiritual body comes later. ⁴⁷ Adam, the first man, was made from the dust of the earth, while Christ, the second man, came from heaven. ⁴⁸ Earthly people are like the earthly man, and heavenly people are like the heavenly man. ⁴⁹ Just as we are now like the earthly man, we will someday be like the heavenly man.



Goodhue County Habitat for Humanity is building a new house in Red Wing for the Knutson family. We are looking for volunteers to help us build with the family. We have Covid precautions in place and are working in smaller groups to help maintain social distance. Habitat for Humanity partner families work alongside volunteers to build their homes. They will obtain a mortgage for the house when it is complete. Habitat believes in giving families a hand up not a hand out. If you are interested in helping, here are some things to know: you do not need construction experience to help us out. We accept volunteers ages 16 and older. We believe that we are the hands and feet of God. You can sign up to volunteer on our website at GCHabitat.org. Please pray for our volunteers and organization to complete this house before Christmas. What an amazing gift that would be for this family.



During the month of September, Vasa's third grade students reached a milestone in their life of faith. Recently, Allison (Allie) Finne (daughter of Chris and Kerry), Larissa Fredin (daughter of Ross and Theresa), and Avery Schaffer (daughter of Chris and Amy), received their Bibles. These children's parents made promises at their baptisms to raise them in the faith. Vasa participates in that promise by providing Bibles. Pictured (L to R) are Avery, Amy and Alivia Schaffer who came to Vasa on September 25 during our video recording session so that we could capture the moment for our online viewers. Allie Finne and Larissa Fredin received their Bibles during worship on September 20.





29th Annual

Taste of Welch

WELCA Mission Fundraiser

Bake Sale

This year we will not have our usual in-person event. Instead, we will be taking pre-orders for the bake sale: Cookies, Bars, Breads, Sweet Breads, Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup & Chili.

Go to ccchurch.us or <https://www.facebook.com/CrossOfChristLutheranChurch/> to find the order form. Please return the form by **September 26th. Pick up items in church parking lot on Oct. 10th.**

Delivered to your vehicle.

Raffle

Queen-Size Quilt 90" x 90"

Many other items including

Gift Cards and Gift Certificates

Order tickets on bake sale form, purchase ticket when you pick up your order, or from a WELCA member.

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

24036 Co. Rd. 7 Blvd. – Welch, MN

Saturday, October 10, 2020

10:00 am - 2:00 pm



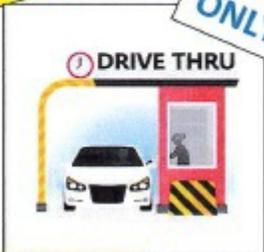


We will gratefully BE accepting free will offerings at the time of pick up. All proceeds will go toward a new Heating/AC system for the Vasa House to better protect our artifacts.

OCTOBER
SWEDISH PANCAKE
BREAKFAST
FUNDRAISER FOR THE
VASA HOUSE!
COVID -19 STYLE!

- MENU
- SWEDISH PANCAKES
 - SAUSAGE PATTIES
 - LINGONBERRIES
 - SYRUP

OCTOBER 31, 2020
9:00-11:00 AM



ONLY

Call the Church office to reserve your
Swedish Pancake Breakfast.
651-258-4327
Meal Reservations due by NOON,
October 29, 2020.

Come out and support the Vasa Museum Board annual Swedish Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on October 31 from 9:00-11:00 AM. Free-will offerings will be gratefully accepted, with all proceeds going toward the installation of a new Heating/AC system for the Vasa House. Due to Covid -19 restrictions, breakfasts will be available for pick-up only, and advance reservations are required (for prep purposes.) Call or email the church office with your name, and number of meals desired.

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Cell: 507-251-5270

Office: 651250-4327

pastor@vasalutheran.net

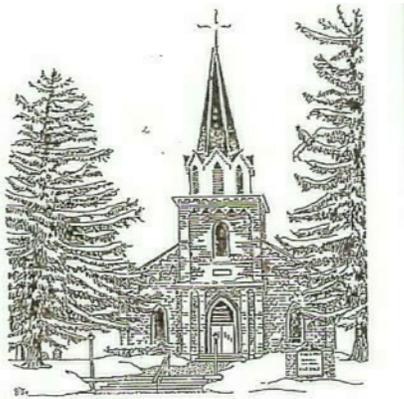
www.vasalutheran.org

www.facebook.com/Vasa-Lutheran-Church

OCTOBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		9:30am Coffee with Pastor 9:30am Property Team 6:30pm Parish Life Team	6:15 Wed Eve Worship + Communion	 American Red Cross Blood Drive 1-7 Lutheran Center	 American Red Cross Blood Drive 9-3 Lutheran Center Pastor's Day Off	
4 9am Service of Holy Communion	5 9:30 AM Property Team 6:30pm Parish Life	6 9:30am Coffee with Pastor	7 6:15 Wed Eve Worship + Communion	8  Free Community Dinner MEAL RESERVATIONS DUE TODAY!	9 Pastor's Day Off	10
11 9am Service of Holy Communion	12	13 9:30am Coffee with Pastor	14  Free Community Dinner PICK-UP or DELIVERY ONLY 5:30-6:30 PM 6:30pm Wed Eve Worship + Communion	15 Finance Team 1:00 PM	16 Pastor's Day Off	17
18 9am Service of Holy Communion	19 6:30pm Church Council	20 9:30am Coffee with Pastor	21 6:15pm Wed Eve Worship + Communion	22	23 Pastor's Day Off	24
25 9am Service of Holy Communion With Confirmation	26 7:00pm Endowment Team	27 9:30am Coffee with Pastor	28 6:15pm Wed Eve Worship + Communion	29	30 Pastor's Day Off	31  Swedish Pancake Breakfast for Vasa House Fundraiser 9:00-11:00

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

9:00 am Sundays

Vasa Virtual Sunday School

Available on the Vasa Lutheran YouTube Channel
September thru May

Wednesday Worship and Everyday Bible Conversations

6:15pm Wednesdays June-August
Vasa Lutheran Center

Pastor Maureen Hagen

pastormaureen@sleepyeyetel.net
(Cell) 507-251-5270
Church Office 651-258-4327
Office Email: vasalutheran@sleepyeyetel.net
Website: vasalutheran.org

Executive Team

Greg Drewianka 651=301-2472

Jim Hedeem 651-380-6054

Rick Samuelson 651-380-9150

Church Staff

Kathy Tilderquist, Treasurer
Emily Peterson, Office Administrator
Melissa McCann, Custodian
Austin Ferguson, Worship Accompanist
Gail Strusz-Klein, Wedding Coordinator
Paul & Jay Mikaelson, Missionaries in LaPaz, Bolivia

Vasa Mission Statement

We the Vasa congregation, called by
God, commit to:

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

Scatter seeds
of kindness
wherever you go

