



The Vasa Voice



Volume 62 No. 9



SEPTEMBER 2026

What's Happening This Month at Vasa

September 9th — Vasa Family Night! 5:30-7:00pm

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

Confirmation classes begin

September 9th — 9th Grade Confirmation Classes begin in the Lutheran Center from 5:45– 6:45pm

September 9th — 7th– 8th Grade Confirmation Classes begin. Meet at the Lutheran Center from 5:45-6:45pm

September 20th—Presentation of Bibles to 3rd Graders—9:00 AM Worship

Third graders will attend worship with their parents and Bibles will be presented just before the sermon.

Attention Vasa Congregation

A committee has been chosen to represent our church in seeking a called pastor. Those representatives are Kevin Eckblad, Rick Samuelson, Sasha Diercks, Andrew Featherstone, BJ Norman, Bruce Tilderquist, Lori Hyllengren and Nick Weigman. They will be introduced at our September 13th service. Please keep them in your prayers as they move forward in this process.

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

P. 2 Worship volunteers, September Birthdays

P. 3 Thoughts from Pastor Tim

P. 4 –5 Church Council Minutes (June)

P. 5 Treasurer's Report (June), Church Council Member Contact Information

P. 6-7 Vasa Winter Bazaar +Vendor requests, Faith Formation details, Women's Bible Study Schedule, American Red Cross Reminder, Feed My Starving Children Update,

P. 8 Taste of Welch flyer

P. 9 Gods work, Our hands

P. 10 FAMILY FUN NIGHT

P. 11 September 2026 Calendar

Worship Volunteers for SEPTEMBER

USHERS

September 6	Rick Samuelson
September 13	Kevin Eckblad
September 20	Marvin Fredrickson
September 27th	Rick Samuelson

READERS

September 6	Sasha Diercks
September 13	Jeanette Anderson
September 20	Kathy Tilderquist
September 27	Sid Featherstone

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

September 6	volunteer needed
September 20	volunteer needed

HOSPITALITY

September 6	Marilyn Hanson
September 13	Volunteer needed
September 20	Lora Gruber
September 27	Audrey Rosener

September birthdays

- 1 John Hauck
- 2 Greg Hovel
Josie O'Connor
- 3 Scott Romness
Barry Skog
- 7 Jenny Hedeem
- 9 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
- 21 Rick Samuelson
- 23 Amanda Sense
Lynda Rosener
- 24 Judy Anderson
- 26 Amber Nelsen
- 28 Mya Montey
- 29 Sasha Diercks



Thoughts from Pastor Tim

Grace and Peace to you Vasa,

I love the transition from the month of August to the month of September. Everything shifts from the pace of summer into the pace of harvest and completing the work of summer as we embrace the Fall.

I love working with an agricultural community because the seasons drive the life of the members. I arrived in June when we wondered how much rain we would get this summer? I was here for the rained out Tractor Parade and worship in the Lutheran Center. I will never forget it because every farmer I spoke to offered up the same identical thanksgiving when I spoke with them... "We need this rain, though." As if to remind me, "it is too bad about the parade pastor, but as we gather today let us remember to be grateful for this rain."

Even the children we unfazed by the cancellation of the parade because everyone was still happy, still worshipping, and still sharing gratitude for what we did have – community, sweet rolls, family and friends together, our faith in Jesus Christ, and the rain.

With the end of summer, my work with Vasa is getting more exciting by the day. We have gathered the names for the Call Committee, and we begin our work together starting on September 13. We will also have another Temple Talk that day. We also would love to

receive any remaining completed questionnaires that have gone out.

As we celebrate the new Call Committee we will be hitting the ground running, compiling all the information we have gathered into the Mission Site Profile. I have been meeting with the Synod and there are already candidates conveying interest in serving your community of Vasa Lutheran Church. (Plus, I tell all the other pastors and Synod administrators I meet what a pleasure it is to work with Vasa.)

I don't say this often but the signs are pointing to our process moving forward quickly. And because we are an agricultural community, and because we are moving into September, I feel this is natural order of things. We work at a slow and steady pace all summer and then once we move into September everyone works like crazy.

May you be blessed in your work and may we continue to be blessed in our work together. Pray for the Call Committee and our success in connecting Vasa to the candidate God already has picked out to serve as your next Pastor.

With deep gratitude, your Interim Minister,
Pastor Tim

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

VASA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

June 8, 2026 at Lutheran Center

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 5:55 pm by Bryan Diercks, President

Devotions: Pastor Maureen Hagen

Members present: Bryan Diercks-President, Randy Klein-Vice President; Barbara Weigman-Secretary, Kent Volz, Mo Hauck, Tim Carlson (6 voting members present)

Unable to attend: Pastor Tim Seitz, Susan Samuelson, Chris Finne, Missy McCann

Also Present: Kathy Tilderquist

Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2026 council meeting with the addition of Tim Carlson present.

MOTION CARRIED

Reports Reviewed and Accepted:

Treasurer's Report (Attached)

Checkbook balance \$65,157.98 (behind budget by \$13,165.58).

Mission Endowment Offering of \$8,000 is slightly less than last year.

Finance Report (Attached)

Offering Counter volunteers: Bryan D, Jill A, Amber G.

Parish Life (attached)

Calendar Work

Confirmation Schedules discussed

Sunday School - Spark curriculum

Property Team Report (N/A)

Outdoor Sign updated.

Window leaking, furnace filters, pest control, cross disassembled.

Parsonage insurance in place. Tenant paid Jan/Feb rent.

Endowment Board Report (N/A)

Cemetery Board (N/A)

Executive Board Report (N/A)

Pastor's Report (via Randy K)

Next steps: Get to Know Each Other, Identify Key Issues / Temple Talk, Form Call Committee,

Missions Site Profile, Interview Candidates

Museum Board (N/A)

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

New Business:

Shared Pastor

Briefly discussed this possibility.

MidSommar Prep

Communion / Intinction, 1 Usher, kids pass Offering plates, Kent provides branch and bucket for blessing of the Tractors

July/August Meeting Dates:

Council: Tuesday, July 14th at 6pm

Monday August 3rd: 4pm-Property; 5pm-Finance; 5:30pm-Parish Life; 6pm- Council

(Devotions: Tim Carlson)

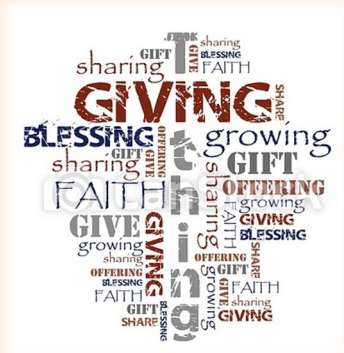
It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 7:10pm.

MOTION

CARRIED

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Report submitted by: Barbara Weigman, Secretary



VASA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report

June 30, 2026

For the Month of June:

Checkbook Balance, June 1, 2026 \$ 65,157.98

General Fund Contributions: 5,526.53

Total Funds Available 70,684.51

Budget Approved Monthly Expenses:
(15,628.02)

Checkbook Balance, June 30, 2026 \$ 55,056.49

Income behind budget by: \$23,267.07 for 6 months

Church Council

President: Bryan Diercks, 507-259-3909
bryanddiercks@protonmail.com

Vice President: Randy Klein 651-212-8045
rdelmark@outlook.com

Secretary: Barbara Weigman 507-202-7880
barbara.weigman@gmail.com

Tim Carlson 651-442-5066

Chris Finne 651-380-3690

Maureen Hauck 651-331-8593

Missy McCann 651-307-2274

Sue Samuelson 907-250-4103

Kent Volz 651-402-0942

Barbara Weigman 507-202-7880

WHO TO CONTACT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Indoors: Tim Carlson 651-442-5066

Kitchen: Sue Hedeem 651-380-6270

Faye Drewianka 651-212-3209

Outdoors: Duane Hanson 651-380-1763

Steve Hyllengren 651-258-4338



The Vasa Bazaar will take place on Saturday, November 7th this year from 9-3. We are looking for crafters and vendors to take part. Already booked are: hand-made jewelry, Norwex, apples and apple products, children's books, Tupperware, gluten-free baked goods, hand-made decorative signs, croched treasures, soy candles, and more.

We will again have lunch available. We plan to have a bake sale, so start thinking about what you can contribute to that! Pass the word about the bazaar to vendors and shoppers alike. The registration form for vendors is on the vasalutheran.org website. We want to fill the gym!! Questions? Contact Kathy Tilderquist at 612-554-1256 or Faye Drewianka at 651-212-3209.



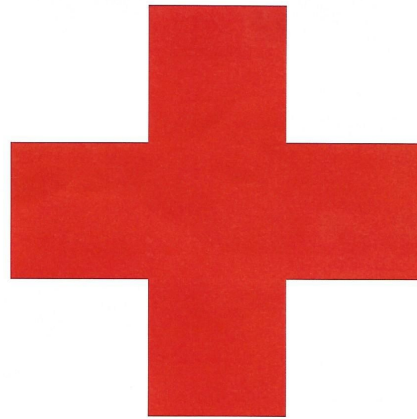
THE NEXT FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILE PACK

at Cannon Falls High School is scheduled for November 7th. There are shifts on Friday, Nov 6th to set-up the cafeteria starting at 3pm. Shifts on Saturday, Nov 7 for packing will be held from 8-10 am, and from 11 am-1 pm. The clean-up shift will be from 12:30-3:30 pm on Saturday once the packing is done. Volunteers are needed for all shifts. See Kathy Tilderquist to sign up or to get questions answered. Kathy will have sign up sheets available at church along with QR codes to access from your phones starting mid-September.

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



**Vasa Lutheran Center
Blood Drive**

15235 Norelius Rd
Welch, MN 55089

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

1:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: vasa lutheran to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to
RedCrossBlood.org

**Fall into donating! Come to give blood Sept. 16 thru 30
for a \$15 e-gift card: rcblood.org/fall.**



Scan to schedule
an appointment

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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**FOR WOMEN
OF ALL AGES
AND STAGES!**

We meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at the Lutheran Center from 9:30—11:00. This year we will continue studying the book of Esther.



Faith Formation

Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 13th, at 9:00 in the Lutheran Center.

Confirmation Class for 9th graders will also begin on Wednesday September 9th. We will meet at the Lutheran Center from 5:45–6:45 through October 14th

Confirmation Class for 7th/8th graders will begin on Wednesday, September 9th. We will meet at the Lutheran Center from 5:45–6:45 each Wednesday through October 28.

35th Annual Taste of Welch Bake Sale Lunch



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

Raffle

Beautiful Hand Tied Quilt 84"x 92" Queen
Many other items including:
Handmade wooden kid's table & bench
Gift Baskets, 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 10th, 2026

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Partially funded by
Coborn's, Duff's Meats
Thrivent Action Grants



“God’s work. Our hands.” is the ELCA’s annual day of service, taking place Sept. 13, 2026. It is a blessed opportunity for all our congregations to celebrate who we are as a church, engaging in projects and activities that explore our convictions as Lutherans: that all life in Jesus flows from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. The ELCA is one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor every day.

With so many meaningful ways to serve in our cities and communities, congregations can research the opportunities that make the best use of their capacities to deepen their members’ experience and meet their community’s needs. Congregations are welcome to partner with other ELCA churches and are encouraged to hold their service events after their worship or arrange for a brief worship service at their event site. “God’s work. Our hands.” is an amazing way for people of different abilities and ages to work alongside one another.

Resources are available on the ELCA’s website.



Family Fun Night will continue this year if we have help to do the following:

Decide on a menu and make sure we have the food/supplies we need. You don't have to pay for the food—the church will pay.

Help serve supper and clean-up or find someone else who can do it

Determine some type of activity for the kids who attend—

Sept and May usually have been playing outside

Oct has typically been a hayride

Dec can be caroling in the gazebo

We have painting supplies, and can find supplies for lots of different things to do, including Bingo and board games.

If a family or 2 families work together to sponsor the month, maybe the kids in the family can help figure out what to do and help teach the other kids something or lead an activity.

This is a chance for a small group of people or families to work together and create a fun night for those of all ages to attend. Sign up on the sheet in the gathering space to be in charge of a month of fun! Family Fun Night is on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, Sept through May but can only happen if we get help!!

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. Application forms can be downloaded 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 30th. Awards will be made in early 2026.

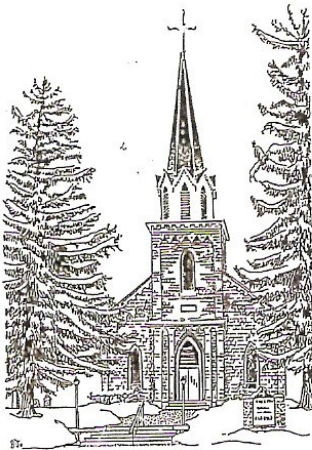
September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 1	2	3	4 Pastor's Day Off	5
6 9AM Communion Worship 11:30-4:00 Vasa Museum Open	7	 8 9:30	9 9:30-11:00 Women's Bible Study Confirmation classes begin Vasa Family Fun Night 5:30-7:00pm	10	11 Pastor's Day Off	12
13 9AM Worship Sunday School Begins 11:30-4:00 Vasa Museum Open	14	 15 9:30	16 5:45-6:45 7th/8th/9th Confirmation Class	 17 1:00-7:00PM	18 Pastor's Day Off	19
20 9:00AM Communion Worship + Sunday School @ Lutheran Center 11:30-4:00 Vasa Museum Open	21	 22 9:30	23 9:30-11:00 Women's Bible Study 5:45-6:45 7th/8th/9th Confirmation Class	24	25 Pastor's Day Off	26
27 9AM Worship & Sunday School @ Lutheran Center 11:30-4:00 Vasa Museum Open	28	 29 9:30	30 9:30-11:00 Quilts for Grads 5:45-6:45 7th/8th/9th Confirmation Class 11			

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

Barbara Weigman , Council Secretary 507-202-7880

Pastor Tim Seitz

pastor@vasalutheran.org

(Cell)617-710-9687

Church Staff

Kathy Tilderquist, Treasurer

Pam Underdahl, Office Administrator

Melissa McCann, Custodian

Anne Anderson, Worship Accompanist

Gail Strusz-Klein, Wedding Coordinator

Vasa Mission Statement

We, the Vasa Congregation,

Called by God, commit to:

Worshipping together,

Growing in Faith,

Serving Others, and

Welcoming and loving all!