

THE MESSENGER



From the Pastor's desk...



Happy October to the Fisher/Bygland Parish Family & Friends,

One of my greatest joys of serving as your Pastor is the opportunity and responsibility of preparations for Sunday worship. I am often asked the question of how I come up with new material for each Sunday's sermon. Ultimately, seeking the inspiration of the Holy Spirit is essential, while reading and studying the Scriptures is a foundational component of each sermon.

Beginning October 28th, I will be offering 4 weeks of discussion, conversation and meditation regarding the upcoming weeks lessons. The course is entitled: SCRIPTURE TALK, I will provide a resource from Sunday's and Seasons as a guide for our Monday conversation. Included within the guide are the lessons and insights regarding the Biblical texts.

I encourage you to attend any one or 4 sessions, while drop-in participation is welcome. No pre-registration is required. Bibles will be available for your use, or you may bring your own.

- 1-Monday October 28th at Bygland Lutheran Church 6-7pm
- 2-Monday November 4th at Fisher Lutheran Church 6-7pm
- 3-Monday November 11th at Bygland Lutheran Church 6-7pm
- NO CLASS ON NOVEMBER 18th
- 4-Monday November 25th at Fisher Lutheran Church 6-7pm

I invite you to consider questions you may have in advance for group conversation. I guarantee you will benefit, as you are willing to take time to study God's Word in a group setting.

With the help of the Holy Spirit, please prayerfully consider making a 4 week commitment to yourself and to God to 'dig deep' into how God may be speaking to you at this time in your spiritual journey.

I am eager to hear your insights and reflections regarding the Biblical texts as a means to learn how I may communicate the Gospel message in a relevant manner within this rural community.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to place God first in your lives through the study of his Word.

Sharing Christ's Service,
Pastor Gretchen Enoch

Nov. 3, 2024 the Fisher/Bygland Parish will celebrate All Saints Sunday

In many Lutheran churches, All Saints' Day is celebrated the Sunday after Reformation is celebrated, generally the first Sunday in November. The festival is commonly an occasion to remember those who have died in the Christian faith. In some places, the names of those within the congregation who have died in the last year are read during worship and each name is marked with the tolling of a bell or the lighting of a candle. While the dead are solemnly remembered during worship on All Saints' Sunday, the festival is, ultimately, a celebration of Christ's victory over death.

On All Saints' Day – Often individuals and families place flowers at gravesites and light candles to remember that deceased also used to enjoy the colors of life once and candles as a symbol of love and hope for peaceful salvation of those who passed away.

The tradition at The Fisher/Bygland Parish is as follows: A candle display will be on south end of sanctuary at Fisher Church and at the front of the sanctuary at Bygland Church. As names are read, individuals will be invited to come forward and light a candle for their loved one. An usher will stand near the display to light a candle for anyone that is not present. We will begin collecting names on Oct. 6. Notification will be added to newsletter as well as bulletins. Display for name collection will be in each narthex throughout month of Oct.

SCRIPTURE TALK 4 WEEK COURSE 6-7 PM

*Get to learn more about the
Holy Scriptures with Pastor Gretchen!*

*The Biblical text for our discussion will be the
upcoming Sunday lessons.*

*Drop in participation is welcome.
No pre-registration is required.*

MON. OCT 28TH @ BLC

MON. NOV 4TH @ FLC

MON. NOV 11TH @ BLC

NO NOV 18TH CLASS

MON. NOV 25TH @ FLC



Women of the ELCA Thankoffering

Thankofferings help support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization such as justice and advocacy work, communications ministries, conventions and conferences, program resources and so much more.

Please consider making a Thankoffering to the ELCA Women's organization. An envelope will be available at church during October. Cash or a check made out to Fisher Women of the ELCA with Thankoffering in the memo can be enclosed in the envelope and placed in the offering plate or given/mailed to Sheryl Tinkham (1429 Crystal Circle SE EGF 56721) Another option is to contribute online womenoftheelca.org click on **Ministry & Action** then **Stewardship** then **Thankofferings**.

It's been shown time and again that gratitude is good for us-spiritually, mentally, and even physically. Making a Thankoffering is gratitude in action. And Women of the ELCA is grateful to you for taking that action.

Thank you.

Community Nurse—Danielle Gratton

October –Getting ready for safe hunting season

This is the time of the year that hunting families get ready for the hunting season. Check out the [Hunter education & safety | Minnesota DNR \(state.mn.us\)](http://state.mn.us) web site for all kinds of information on Hunter's safety from gun to bow hunting, this site has it all. Be sure to let someone know your plans before you head out to hunt or spend time in your deer stand. There are Safe Kids brochures available at the church if you'd like more information.

Noisy Offering



What is a "Noisy Offering"? It's a unique way to contribute loose change, bills, and checks. Fisher Lutheran will collect "Noisy Offering" the first Sunday of each month during the church service. The funds collected October through December 2024 will be donated to ELCA World Hunger.

For 50 year we have joined together as Lutherans to address the root causes of hunger and poverty around the world through ELCA World Hunger. Part of our church's long tradition of meeting human needs, ELCA World Hunger testifies to our hope for and commitment to God's promise of a time when we will hunger and thirst no more.

50
years



ELCA
World Hunger



TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 20, 2024
3:00 - 4:00 PM

Fisher Lutheran Church Parking Lot
209 2nd St. S., Fisher, MN

This family fun event is FREE and open to everyone in the community!

Women ^{of the} ELCA

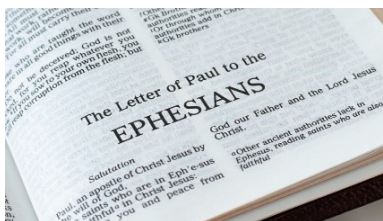
OUR MISSION

Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

OUR PURPOSE

“As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.”

FISHER LUTHERAN WELCA FALL 2024 BIBLE STUDY



RECEIVING GRACE: A STUDY OF EPHESIANS

By Rev. Heidi Haverkamp

SESSION TWO: IS GRACE-FILLED LIVING – ANCIENT & NEW? OCTOBER 16, 2024 @ 9:00 AM

What did the writer of Ephesians imagine grace would look like in Christian life and relationships? How can we live from grace in our own time, reading this letter through our cultural lenses and experiences?



You can also join the Gather Zoom Bible Study session each
4th Monday of the Month
7:00-8:00 PM
Zoom Meeting ID 830 8115 5921



boldcafe.org

Monthly dinner with Boldcafe writers + friends (B.Y.O.D.)




October 3,
@ 7 pm (CDT)

The Rev. Becca Ehrlich and Wanda Frenchman will lead the conversation about being new Lutherans and ways we can welcome those who are new to the faith. Join us!

WOMEN WHO STITCH

FISHER LUTHERAN QUILTING



Oct. 7 & 8 / 21 & 22

Nov. 4 & 5 / 25 & 26

9:00 am

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Gatherers Give with Glad Hearts *Fisher Lutheran Church*

October – December Donations
will be gathered for...

Northlands Rescue Mission

Simply purchase any items from the list to donate, return them to Fisher Lutheran in the gathering bag and they will be delivered to Lutheran World Relief.

Priority Items

- ❖ Shampoo, Body Wash
- ❖ Deodorant
- ❖ Men's Shoes/Work Boots (Sizes 10-13 Preferred)
- ❖ Men's Underwear (New, Sizes S - 2XL)
- ❖ Women's Underwear (New, All Sizes)
- ❖ Twin-size Fitted Sheets
- ❖ Shower Sandals

Clothing

- Men's jeans (waist size 30-36)
- Winter gloves
- White undershirts and tank tops

Consumables

- Cream of (anything) Soup
- Butter
- Mayo
- Canned Vegetables
- Spices (salt, pepper, garlic/onion powder, cumin)
- Sour Cream
- Noodles

Backpack Program

- Applesauce/fruit cups
- Instant oatmeal packets
- Cereal cups
- Juice boxes/pouches
- Soup/noodle cups, ramen noodles
- Snack items (individually packaged, not containing nuts)

Other

- Toilet paper
- Washcloths
- Pots & pans, Tupperware
- Adult diapers (size L or XL)
- Paper towels
- Shower cream, Razors
- Baby diapers size 4+
- Ear plugs
- Toothpaste, toothbrushes
- Air mattresses (new)

- Shower curtains & liners
- Small appliances (e.g. Microwave, toaster)



If you currently have a Gatherer's Bag in your possession, please return it so that others may have an opportunity to participate in the giving.

BYGLAND NEWS

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

I would like to thank everyone for coming out on September 15th to join Bygland in celebrating our 150th anniversary. I'm afraid I would miss too many if I tried to list everyone, but special thanks to the Fisher Church, Pastor Rebel Hurd, and others who traveled to be with us. Also, thank you to the anniversary committee for planning our special day. It wouldn't have been so special without everyone there to reminisce, reconnect, and spend time and fellowship with family and friends! We welcome you back anytime!

Thank you & God Bless,
Becky Egeland
Bygland Church President



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY



The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. Genesis 2:15

Adopt a Highway celebrates 33 years of success in keeping Minnesota highways clean, beautiful, and safe. More than 1,860 Adopt a Highway groups volunteered and picked 38,500 bags of trash in 2022. Volunteers

spent 88,100 plus hours picking up litter on 900 segments of state roadways available for adoption. Thanks to the dedication of Adopt a Highway volunteers and their organizations, MnDOT is able to use the resources, that would have otherwise been used to pick up litter, for highway improvement and safety projects.

Bygland Lutheran Church and Youth Group/Sunday School have been partnering in this program with the state for over 17 years. That is amazing! We celebrate all of those who have taken time to volunteer throughout the years in serving our state, community, and church with this endeavor. Thank you to all of those who participated at our recent collection day, Sunday, September 8, 2024: Kent & Reighan Wavra, Jeff Millar, Rachel Traub, Steve Moe, Layne Egeland and Alan Halvorson. It was good to be together, serving with our families, friends, and neighbors. A special thank you to Jeff Millar for providing door prizes for everyone and to Kent Wavra for providing bottled water.

All friends, neighbors, and parish members are welcome to participate in our program. Mark your calendars for our next collection date: Saturday, April 26th, 2025. Participants will meet at the Bygland Lutheran Church, south door. All our asked to dress accordingly and to wear closed toed shoes. All new volunteers will be asked to view a short safety video. All volunteers between the ages of 12-17 must have a written parental consent form on file with our Adopt-A Highway coordinator. Forms will be available on site.

Weekly Email Reminder

Please let us know if you are not receiving our weekly email. This is the best way to stay up-to-date on what's happening.

Office@fisherbygland.org

TEARS Talk

Kevin Hines

SURVIVOR
BEST SELLING AUTHOR
GLOBAL SPEAKER
DOCUMENTARIAN

Oct. 9th, 2024 | 7-8:30PM

All Confirmands from Bygland and Fisher will be going to this as part of their Confirmation Class. We will meet at 6:30 PM at the front doors of Red River High School. All Youth are invited to attend. Contact Pastor Gretchen if you need a ride. 812-639-7816