

**SUNNE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**August 2023**



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**A Thought or Two From Pastor Dan**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. Amen

As I am writing this newsletter to you on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June I am reminded that it will not be out until August for you to read. I'm doing two things at once today, contemplating my sermon and creating this page, both for you. And as long as I am working on my sermon maybe I can put just a bit of it on these lines. The text I have been working on comes from Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 which is the parable of the sower and the seed. I think this is a great text to reflect on this month for two reasons. The first is that August begins harvest and the beginning of gathering the fruits of the harvest. And the second is that Sunne will be strongly in the call process now and the Holy Spirit is presenting you with a wonderful candidate. I am going to offer two prayers during this month and the first of course is that indeed the good soil you have planted in will bear much fruit, 30, 50, even 100 fold. I know that which you plant is for the good of all God's people and to the best of your ability you will deliver choice products to mills and elevators that will provide for the building up of God's created people. My second prayer will be about soil, the building of it so that the seeds planted in this ministry that is coming to Sunne will also provide a great abundance in your mission of God's will for all people.

So I guess that question is, how do you build soil? You know, I've always had a garden. I love planting, watering, tending (except for weeding, my wife likes to do that), nourishing and giving each plant what it needs to grow into the fullness of its purpose. (you know, cuke seeds providing an abundance of cukes, tomatoes the abundance of tomatoes and so on) Over the years I have learned some things and this last year has been a true enlightenment for me. We built a 3'x12' raised planter garden last summer and added dirt taken from an area where we put in a new patio. It wasn't very good soil. I live in Lincoln and Lincoln is known for its sandy soil. The removed dirt had clumps of grass on each shovel full and sand and weeds and ants and even some old rusty nails, and well it was just icky soil. But we put it in anyway and then threw in grass clippings from our mowings through the entire summer. Looked a mess, and I did not have much confidence nor faith in what we were doing but a friend said, "let it sit, and next spring you will be surprised how deep and dark and rich that soil will become". He promised and well, we followed his lead. You should see my garden, we are so pleased, onions, beans, beets, cukes, tomatoes, flowers.. Wow! Just beautiful.

You have a new candidate for pastor at Sunne Lutheran Church so along with me, I hope you pray for Sunne to be the soil of change. That you put it together joined with God's loving Word and let it begin to deepen into a wonderful rich soil of mission and hope. For awhile now you have existed with interim pastors and uncertainty too. Soil though good, certainly wasn't like it was for the past 30 years or so when a friend of mine was the gardener here. Wow, what a ministry you had and have, but maybe its time to build new soil. Soil that trusts that the Holy Spirit is in charge here and sending you a great prospect. Soil that is patient and that over a season or two it may even be better than what it was before. Soil that does not look back nor compare what was to what is and can be. (and that means no using the term.. "well we never did it that way before", and no standing in the parking lot after worship or a meeting comparing the old to the new)

There is a hymn that speaks to ministry as soil, and a mind set for mission, let me provide you the words from it as a reminder of our faith lives together: "Lord let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your Word. Lord let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood. When my heart is hard, break the stone

away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord let my heart, Lord let my heart, Lord let my heart be good soil.”

For the ministry of Sunne and the one who is coming to tend, nourish and provide God’s abundant love for all may our hearts be fervent in providing a richness of love and grace. Amen

God’s Richest Soil, be with you all!!

**Pastor Dan Paulson**

**Council Highlights**

- ◆ It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the secretary and treasurer’s reports.
- ◆ Pastor Dan and Sid Stromme will have a bluegrass band play for worship on September 10<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with Rally Sunday. Burgers and Brats to follow. A confirmation meeting will be held this day at 9AM.
- ◆ Parsonage Update-Cabinets have been ordered; painting is done on the interior and blinds were added. There was a second work day in which gutters were cleaned, gate was painted, ponds cleaned, and hedges trimmed. The fence still needs to be stained and the trim on the detached garage needs to be painted.
- ◆ Railing Update- Parts have been stained; still waiting on balusters-not sure when they will be delivered.
- ◆ It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve paying \$35 to have an ad in the Wilton Lions calendar.
- ◆ It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve having a display in the narthex to collect donations for the American Cancer Society.
- ◆ ELCA Youth Gathering 2024- Since we didn’t have anyone that stepped up to lead a group for this, we will encourage any youth that are interested to go with Camp of the Cross Ministries. The cost is \$900. Lyndsey Cleveland will talk w/ Emma Berg about fundraising opportunities for the kids to offset some of the cost.

**Financial Report as of June 30, 2023**

Endowment Fund	18,424.85
Equity-Building	657,794.63
General Fund	35,910.29
Memorial Fund	1,560.00
Parsonage Fund	13,825.54
Seminary Student Fund	19,276.13
Special Projects Fund	12,059.88
Wilton Food Pantry	10,129.68
Net Income	-14,364.05
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>823,295.77</b>

**VBS**

Sunne will be holding Vacation Bible School for Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade. August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 6pm **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Register by emailing or texting Anne Earsley at [abearsley@yahoo.com](mailto:abearsley@yahoo.com) or 701-214-2195.



**Wilton Food Pantry**

Distribution will occur on Thursday, August 17th from 3-5pm @ the Wilton Senior Center.





**Congratulations to those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries in August.**

- 1--Patricia Schock
- 2--Logan Hansen & Caleb Jans
- 9--Doreen Sorch & Larry Koffler
- 10--Denise Leapaldt-Johnson & Rachel Schock
- 11--Madison Schuler & Amber Staloch
- 14--Emily Smallbeck
- 15--Ivy Cleveland
- 16--Travis Sorch
- 17--Jesse Hruby
- 18--Timothy Smallbeck
- 19--Jesse Buchholtz
- 20--Myrna Hochhalter & Laynee Sorch
- 22--Karry Pearson
- 23--Wayne Falkenstein
- 24--Wayne Backman & Joyce Falkenstein
- 27--Louella Schuler
- 28--Kalyssa Schock
- 29--Vance Schock
- 30--Marvin Dockter & Jada Vetter

## Mark Your Calendar

**\$ Budget Update  
Congregational Meeting  
August 27 @ 9:30 am**



### Readers, Greeters and Ushers

We are in need of individuals willing to assist with worship in the months of August through October. Please feel free to sign up as much as you would like. The Sign-Up sheets are on the round table in the narthex.  
**THANK YOU!**

*Sunne is sponsoring a community event that is still in the planning process, but the concept is allowing kids from PreK to 5<sup>th</sup> grade to come to the hall on a school day and shop for their families. Everything there will be donated by the community and will be free of charge to kids. There will be a personal shopper for each student and a gift wrap station. If you are interested in donating new or slightly used items (no clothes) for this event, you can contact Pastor Paul Schauer at 701-391-0584 for more information.*

## SENIOR HEALTH FAIR

Tuesday, August 8 from 10am-2pm

Wilton Memorial Hall

*Taco in a bag w/ beverage will be available for \$5*

*Event Features: Free Admission, Health Screenings, Giveaways and door prizes, healthcare professionals*

For more information: 701-223-9407 or [gwen.beckler@mslcc.com](mailto:gwen.beckler@mslcc.com)



## ANOTHER NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK OPPORTUNITY

Join *Camp of the Cross* for their annual night at the Bismarck Larks:



Friday, August 4th, 2023

Come out and support Camp and use code "Cross" for great prices, opportunities, and to be part of the group! We always have a blast at the Larks and have won the "Fans of the Game" award all 3 years we've done this. Hoping to see you there, and tell your friends!

*There is a flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex if you are interested!*

### ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

Date	Readers	Greeters	Ushers	Acolytes
August 6	Kathy Paulson	Kathy Paulson		Hayden Clausen
August 13	Sue Szczur			Jarrick Kassian
August 20	Shelley Porter			Augustus Perkerewicz
August 27		Bill and Darlene Btz	Bill Btz	Kennady Cleveland



### School Kits

We are in the process of raising money and collecting supplies for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. We are especially in need of erasers (2"), scissors, pencil sharpeners, rulers, notebooks and crayons. Bring supplies to the tub designated in the narthex. Monetary donations are also welcome and can be made by writing "school kits" in the memo line of your check or on your offering envelope. THANK YOU!