



Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church * ELCA

P. O. Box 119 * 101 Main Street * Hanley Falls, MN

56245

Pastor Ponderings



NOVEMBER 2025
Volume 6,
Issue 10



So much learning... Here is learning from one night at Confirmation: We all know that Jesus called **twelve disciples**, but how did they get to be **Apostles**? When God raised Jesus from the dead, things changed. They finally understood what Jesus had been saying, and what he came to do! The twelve *provincial bumpkins* (as our confirmation

materials refer to them) suddenly got it! They flexed their muscles, and got going, carrying the message about Jesus, the Messiah the Savior of the world as far as they could go! Many were martyred for their faith, but the church of Christ lived and grew. We are disciples because we follow Jesus. We are apostles because we are sent, just like they were!

Importer or producer? I remember former bishop John Anderson that the Southwest MN Synod imports more pastors than it produces. That got me thinking about congregations. When the last time a son or daughter of this congregation was called into ministry? Syntonically authorized minister Tim Velde is from Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church. Rev. Karen Soli, and Rev. Peter Soli came from Granite Falls Lutheran Church. Please teach me of others. We have members exploring lay ministry in a variety of ways. Who do you know who might make a good pastor or lay minister? Invite them! Send them my way. I'd be happy to talk with them. There are many paths for training. We would love to be a congregation that not only is served by pastors, but *produces* pastoral leadership for the whole church. Let's all work toward this together!

Living wet! The church lives because of its members living out their baptismal vocation in daily life. That's you. That's you in your workplace, at school, at home, with your family, your friends and neighbors. Thank you for the way that you live out your faith in your daily life!

Brad Chamberlain is the new president of Luther College in Decorah, IA. At his installation in October, he told the story of his children, and the pattern they had as he sent them off to school. He would ask "Who are you?" Their response was *A child of God*. "What did you do to earn it?" *Nothing*. "What can you do to lose it?" *Nothing*.

Amen!!! YES!!! This is the joy of the Christian life. We can do nothing to earn God's unconditional love. It is ours it is free. And we can't lose it, even if we lose our way. We are baptized. We belong to each other in the body of Christ.

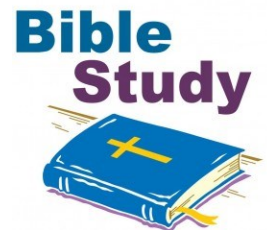
Don't ever forget your identity. You are a precious child of God.

Live in this amazing grace. *And share it!!*

Pastor Sarah

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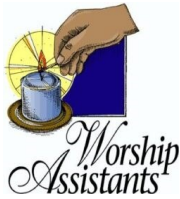


BIBLE STUDY will meet again on November 4th, Pastor Sara will lead the study, at 9:30 am in the Care Center at YMLC.

We will also meet on November 18th via Zoom at 9:30 am.

We will be taking a break during the month of December and resume Wednesday, January 7, 2026 via Zoom at 9:30 am.

Any questions give Cindy Velde a call or text at 507-828-7593.



NOVEMBER ASSIGNMENTS:

Leader:

2 Pastor Sarah Tade
9 Pastor Sarah Tade
16 Pastor Sarah Tade
23 Gwen Arneson
26 Pastor Sarah Tade
30 Pastor Sarah Tade

Accompanists:

2 Augusta Volstad
9 Emma Gregoire
16 Emma Gregoire
23 Augusta Volstad
26 Emma Gregoire
30 Emma Gregoire

Ushers:

2 Brooks Torke
9 Kevin Eye
16 Gary Enger
23 Jon Thostenson
26 Jon Thostenson
30 Justin Torke

Lay Readers

2 Julie Volstad
9 Terri Thostenson
16 Ayla Volstad Hughes
23 Cindy Eye
26 Elmo Volstad
30 Julie Volstad

Technology

2 Paige Lehrkamp
9 Julie Volstad
16 Kevin Eye
23 Julie Volstad
26 Paige Lehrkamp
30 Bonnie Oftedahl

Acolyte:

9 Brynn Lundin
23 Tessa Lundin

Altar Guild:

Terri Thostenson

Communion Assistant

Rich Hagen

Funeral Chairs:

Service Team #3 will be in charge of the next funeral.

Co-chairs are:

Cindy Lundy at 507-423-5633 and Jill Fry at 507-828-0574

ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS NEEDED: If you would like to help with the Altar Guild in the coming years, please talk to Connie Velde at 507-828-4227.

NEW COOKBOOKS AVAILABLE: Is your church cookbook worn out, splattered with various ingredients, missing a cover or pages? You are in luck, for the newly reprinted Favorite Recipes of Yellow Medicine Lutheran cookbook is now available. This is a joint fundraiser between the Yellow Medicine Lutheran and WELCA. Cookbooks are \$10.00. They are for sale at First Independent Bank or please contact Cindy Eye if you would like to purchase one. (507) 768-3547 or ceye@mvtvwireless.com.

YELLOW MEDICINE COUNTY EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM: To receive emergency warnings within Yellow Medicine County, click on the CodeRED logo at the website www.co.ym.mn.gov. You can register to receive community notifications of severe thunderstorms, flash floods, & tornadoes



November Birthdays!

1 Laura Eckstrom
3 Carter Eckstrom
4 Augusta Volstad
7 Noah Schultz
8 Angie Thostenson
10 Carrie Jeseritz
11 Thomas Oftedahl
18 Aubry Eckstrom
Andrew Hewitt
19 Michelle Stolp
21 William Eckstrom
24 Matthew McPhail
26 Bonnie Oftedahl
28 Corrine Gustafson
29 Hannah Lecy
30 Jakob Pringle



3rd Annual Winter Clothing Drive

Hosted by the Ladies Aid of
Pejuhutazizi Presbyterian Church

We are collecting gently used items to support our homeless Dakota relatives in Sisseton.

Items Needed:

- Winter Coats, Boots, Gloves, Hats & Scarves
- Clothing for All Ages (Babies to Adults)
 - Shoes
- Bath Towels & Washcloths
- Personal Care Items (soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, etc.)

Donation Dates:

Sunday, October 26 – Sunday, November 9, 2025

Drop-off Location:

Pejuhutazizi Presbyterian Church

Need a Pickup?

No problem! Please call or leave a voicemail with your name and address:

Rev. Fern Cloud – 320-808-7373

Linda Blue – 320-226-7708

Barbara Mulligan (Montevideo area) – 507-828-9431

Lucy Bennett – 320-226-2971

YMLC

Stewardship Offerings 4 weeks beginning

Sunday, September 28, 2025
and ending Sunday, October 19, 2025

General Fund	\$	4,286.00
Cemetery Fund		150.00
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$	4,435.00

Budgeted each week: \$1,537

YTD Budgeted Offering	\$	66,091.00
YTD Actual Offering		56,040.51
BEHIND BUDGET	\$	10,050.49

Potlucks after Worship services in the Fellowship Hall will resume on the first Sundays of each month during the Fall and Winter months through February.



Come and enjoy the music as Prairie Arts Chorale presents, "American Patchwork: Songs that Stitch Together the American Story". The familiar selections of Battle Hymn of the Republic, This Land is Your Land, and Homeland will be performed. The local concerts are:

Thursday, November 20th at 7:30 pm
Church of St. Anne, Wabasso

Friday, November 21st at 7:30 pm
First Lutheran Church, Marshall

Saturday, November 22nd at 4:00 pm
United Methodist Church, Montevideo

Sunday, November 23rd at 4:00 pm
Faith Lutheran Church, Spicer

\$12 advance tickets are available at from Chorale members. Tickets at the door are \$15. For more information on performances visit www.prairieartschorale.org.

 **SHETEK**
LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

SCANDINAVIAN DINNER

Sunday, December 7, 2025
at 5:00pm

Join us in celebrating our **30th Anniversary** of our Scandinavian Dinner! Come enjoy an evening of fellowship, laughter, and delicious food. All you can eat buffet of Lutefisk, Meatballs, Lefse, and more!



\$25.00 all you can eat!

We need advanced paid registrations.

Reserve your plate by **December 1st!**

Head over to www.shetek.org, email camp@shetek.org, or call (507)763-3567 for more information!



Ministerial Acts:



BAPTISM: Lily Renee Littlecreek, daughter of Edwin and Skyler Littlecreek was baptized on August 2nd, 2025.

BAPTISM: Freya Stevi McCoss was born to Steph Fry and Garrett McCoss on September 6th, 2025 and was baptized on October 5th, 2025.

BURIAL: Angela "Angie" Harris died on September 25, 2025 and was buried at the YMLC East Cemetery on October 18th, 2025.

BURIAL: Gary Ellingson died on October 17th, 2025 and was buried at the YMLC East Cemetery on October 24th, 2025.

Santa's Sleigh 2025

Yellow Medicine County residents with children who need our help this Christmas will need to complete an enrollment form for the Santa's Sleigh program, please call YMC Family Services @320-564-2211 and request that an application be mailed. They may also send an email to santas.sleigh@co.ym.mn.gov. The deadline for applications is Monday, December 1, 2025.

If you are interested in providing a monetary donation to this program you may drop those off at the YMC Family Service's dropbox or mail them to: Santa's Sleigh, c/o Family Service Center, 415 9th Ave., Suite 202, Granite Falls, MN 56241.



Anyone wishing to sponsor a family or be a volunteer Santa's Sleigh shopper may use the same contact information listed above.



ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints Day will be celebrated on November 2nd, 2025, at 11:00 am at Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church. Below are the saints who passed away this past year:

Lonnie Merle Warnke	November 11, 2024
Darlene Erickson	January 28, 2025
Allen Bruce Torke	February 7, 2025
Arlen "Wimpy" Martin	August 14, 2025
Angela "Angie" Harris	September 25, 2025
Gary Ellingson	October 17, 2025

Christmas Poinsettia Memorials will be received again this year. If you would like to remember a loved one in this way, please mail the attached tear off slip and your check for \$12.00 per poinsettia to Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church. You may also save postage by putting your order in the Sunday offering plate. We need to know how many to order by Sunday, November 16th. Please contact Angie if you have any questions. Thank you!

Poinsettia given in memory of/honor of (circle one):

Given by:



Please tear off and put in envelope with your check for \$12.00 payable to Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church. Either mail this or deposit in church offering on or before Sunday, November 16th.

Christmas Cantata 2025

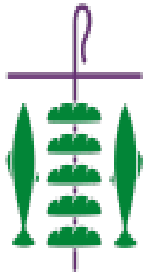
The Granite Falls Lutheran Church Chancel Choir and singers from Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church will join together to present a Christmas Choral Cantata on December 21st, 2025 (9 AM GFLC; 11 AM YMLC). There will be 5 rehearsals on Wednesday evenings (6:30 PM) beginning in November (Saturday morning rehearsal on December 20th, if needed) The first rehearsal will be held in the GFLC Sanctuary on Wednesday, November 12th at 6:30 PM. We are reprising the beautiful cantata, "Love is Born" (Celebrating the Mystery and Wonder of Christmas) arranged by Lloyd Larson. Please contact Elaine Halverson, GFLC Chancel Choir Director for more information ekhalverson5@gmail.com



Three trees have been added to the East Cemetery.

1. From the family in memory of Harlan and Evelyn Kruger.
2. From the family in memory of Clawson and Elma Bennett.
3. From the friends of and in memory of Angie Harris.

Thank you to all for doing this!



THE BANQUET

NEEDED:

The Banquet, a feeding ministry in Sioux Falls where people in need can gather, receive nourishment and experience love in action, requests any donations of empty containers, such as Cool Whip containers, larger yogurt containers, cottage cheese, etc... for leftover food.

A box has been placed in the church entry for any donations. A very sincere THANK YOU for your generosity!

SPECIAL MUSIC

If anyone would like to provide special music, or know of someone who would be willing to provide special music—PLEASE contact one of the worship committee members: Augusta, Emma, Julie, Connie or Colleen.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday Services start at 11:00 am.

Sunday, November 2 — All Saints Sunday—Worship in the Sanctuary followed by a potluck

Sunday, November 9 — Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday, November 16 — Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday, November 23 — Worship in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, November 26 — Thanksgiving Eve Worship in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm

Sunday, November 30— Worship in the Sanctuary



YMLC NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The newsletter deadline is set for the 20th of the month. Please let Angie know of any additions or changes to the newsletter you would like to make.

Next newsletter deadline is November 20th.

Email Angie at: yellowmedicinelutheranchurch@gmail.com. **If you would prefer to read the newsletter online** (and save printing and mailing costs), please email yellowmedicinelutheranchurch@gmail.com.

Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church

P. O. Box 119
101 Main Street
Hanley Falls, MN 56245
www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org

E-mail:

Yellowmedicinelutheranchurch@gmail.com
Phone Angie at 507-766-0909

Pastor Sarah Tadé—507-589-9308
pastorsarah@granitefallslutheran.com

Tim Velde, Synodically Authorized Minister—
tcvfarm@yahoo.com, 507-828-5343
Gwen Arneson, Synodically Authorized
Minister— gwenarneson@yahoo.com,
612-280-5987



You can find us at
[www.facebook.com/
yellowmedicinelutheran](http://www.facebook.com/yellowmedicinelutheran).

Please notify us when:

There is a birth or
adoption of a child

There is a death in
your family

There is a
hospitalization in
your family

Someone becomes
home bound

Someone becomes
unemployed

You move or get a new
phone number

A child moves out of
the house or
attends college, or
whenever there is a
cause for sorrow or
a cause for joy.

PRAYER LIST:

At YMLC – Doug Anderson, Carol Engel, Elmo Volstad, Bob Hoseck,
Les Reisner, Ruth Sharkey, Lola Hoseck, Bonnie Gustafson
In the Community – Jeff Mertens, Rudy Espinoza, Morgan Dale,
Pastor Larry Olson

(If you know of any changes to the prayer list, please let Angie know. We will have people on the prayer list for a month and then remove them unless we receive an additional request or are given details for longer.)

YMLC EAST & WEST CEMETERY RULES & REGULATIONS

- **NO SHRUBBERY SHALL BE ALLOWED.**
 - **ALL FAMILY DECORATIONS ARE AT THE FAMILY'S OWN RISK AND WILL BE REMOVED AT THE NEXT MOWING.**
 - **ALL FOOT MARKERS ARE TO BE SET AT GRASS LEVEL TO PRECLUDE EQUIPMENT DAMAGE.**
 - **IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE SEXTONS TO ENTER UPON ANY LOT OR GRAVE TO PROHIBIT, MODIFY, OR REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF ANY STRUCTURE OR OBJECT WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN PLACED THERE IN VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS SUBMITTED, OR WHICH MAY BE CONSIDERED IN THEIR JUDGMENT TO BE UNSIGHTLY, DANGEROUS, OBJECTIONABLE, OR INTERFERING WITH THE CEMETERY OPERATIONS.**
 - **FAMILY SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COST OF SNOW REMOVAL IN THE CASE OF WINTER BURIALS.**
- THE CEMETERY BOARD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE THESE RULES OR TO MAKE SUCH OTHER RULES AS THEY DEEM NECESSARY FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CEMETERY. NO NOTICE OF SUCH INTENDED CHANGES SHALL BE REQUIRED.

We're on the web!
www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org

Contributions



If you are in need of a new box of contribution envelopes, please contact Angie and she will get you one. But please use the old box until it is empty.

The tithes and donations you make to Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church make a difference to our church and our community. There are various ways you can donate:

- We pass a collection plate during services
- You can send a check to YMLC, P. O. Box 119, Hanley Falls, MN 56245
- Electronic giving is available for 24/7 donations. Just visit www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org under GIVING and press the "DONATE NOW" button.

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops."
Proverbs 3:9

Monthly Treasurer's Report - Sep 2025

9/1/2025 through 9/30/2025

10/10/2025

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Category	9/1/2025-9/30/2025
INFLOWS	
FOOD STAND INCOME	
Food Stand Receipts	60.00
TOTAL FOOD STAND INCOME	60.00
RECEIPTS	
General Expense Offerings	5,208.12
TOTAL RECEIPTS	5,208.12
TOTAL INFLOWS	5,268.12
OUTFLOWS	
LOCAL MINISTRY	
FICA-Medicare (pay employees)	131.22
Staff Salaries	1,715.67
TOTAL LOCAL MINISTRY	1,846.89
OUR CHURCH BUILDING	
Misc. Supplies	108.49
Property Upkeep - Church Building	96.58
Utilities & Fuel	847.72
TOTAL OUR CHURCH BUILDING	1,052.79
WORSHIP & EDUCATION	
e-Giving Transaction Fees	16.10
TOTAL WORSHIP & EDUCATION	16.10
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	2,915.78
OVERALL TOTAL	2,352.34

SAVINGS

Parsonage Sale	\$ 30,755.89
Food Stand Profits	9,158.17
Other savings	102,569.37

TOTAL SAVINGS

\$ 142,483.43

CHECKING

CHECKING BALANCE AS OF 8/31/25	\$ 15,168.07
CHECKING BALANCE AS OF 9/30/25	17,520.41
	\$ 2,352.34

TOTAL SAVINGS & CHECKING:

\$ 160,003.84

Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes Sunday, October 12th, 2025 at 10:15a - Care Center

Present: Kevin Eye, Megan McPhail, Vonnie Severson, Teresa Ofstedahl, Gary Enger, Augusta Volstad
Absent: Daryl Gregoire, Rich Hagen

- Meeting called to order by Chairperson Kevin.
- Devotions led by Teresa.
- Agenda approved.
- Secretary's Minutes approved.
 - Addendum to September minutes: Types of memberships were discussed, including confirmed, baptized members of the church, as well as associate members who have no ability to vote.
- Treasurer's Report approved.
- Committee Reports: **Parish Ed:** did not meet. **Stewardship:** did not meet. **Worship:** did not meet. **P&M:** Narthex doors fixed this week. More to come with the concrete out front.
- Pastor Sarah's Report.
- Old Business
 - Thanksgiving Eve service November 26 at 7:00p, with a catered meal prior at 6:15p. GFLC members are invited to attend this meal and service.
 - October 19th Potluck Sunday following worship service in the Fellowship Hall.
 - Potlucks will continue monthly November through February, on the first Sunday of each month, following worship services in the Fellowship Hall.
- New Business
 - Discussed obtaining a Zoom Membership for YMLC to utilize for basic operations (committee meetings, Bible study, annual meetings, etc.). Considering whether to pay for only the months needed or to get an annual subscription. More research was requested. Pricing & details are as follows:
 - "Pro" account:
 - \$16.99/month or \$159.90/year
 - Host up to 100 participants
 - "Business" account:
 - \$21.99/month or \$219.90/year
 - Host up to 300 participants
 - Skyler Littlecreek expressed interest in teaching Sunday School & leading a Christmas play. She will be coordinating the program and reaching out to member families with children.
 - New grand piano light was purchased for the Sanctuary piano.
- Next meeting will be on Sunday, November 9th, 10:15a.
- We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Augusta Volstad, Secretary

Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church

NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 All Saints Sunday 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live with a potluck following worship.	3	4 Bible Study meets at 9:30 am in the YMLC Care Center	5	6	7	8
9 COMMUNION 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live. YMLC Council meets prior to worship at 10:15 am	10	11	12 Christmas Choral Cantata practice, GFLC Sanctuary at 6:30 PM	13	14	15
16 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live.	17	18 Bible Study meets via Zoom at 9:30 am.	19 Christmas Choral Cantata practice, GFLC Sanctuary at 6:30 PM	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21	22
23 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live.	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Eve Worship in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm with a catered meal prior at 6:15 pm.	27 	28	29
30 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live.						