



Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church * ELCA

P. O. Box 119 * 101 Main Street * Hanley Falls, MN 56245

www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org



Pastor Ponderings



JUNE 2026
Volume 7,
Issue 6

RAISING UP LEADERS

Jesus said "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Matthew 9.38

And the one seated on the throne said "See, I am making all things new." Revelations 21.5

God does new things, again and again. In the context of many churches without pastoral leadership the Holy Spirit is raising up leaders in new ways. In the Southwestern MN Synod, Bishop Dee Pederson says "The Spirit is out ahead of us. We have to run to keep up!"

Here's what's happening: Lay people are being trained to preach, lead worship, and Synodically Authorized Ministers (SAMs) can preside over the sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion at the site where they are authorized to do so in the absence of an ordained pastor. We have been so blessed here by the ministry of SAMs Gwen Arneson and Tim Velde!

To help guide the SAMs, the Synod received a grant to put mentors (seasoned pastors) and SAMs together and provide training. I am a part of this program. Our last retreat was in April at Shalom Hill Farm with topics on Pastoral Care, Funerals, Weddings, and Hospitality in congregations. I have been assigned to walk alongside two SAMs:



Robert Olsen serving at Bethany Elim Lutheran Church in Ivanhoe

Jennifer Warnock serving at Hope and St. Paul's Lutheran Churches in Minneota.

Robert will soon be 70 and is still farming, but he says that God chose him as a ministry leader in his congregation. Before, people waited for the pastor to take care of the church, but now people are responsible, engaged, stepping up to the plate and spiritually alive. They have recently welcomed three or four new families in the congregation. There are adolescent children who have asked to be baptized.

Jenn is a social worker in Big Stone County living in Madison. At the same time she is the SAM serving the two Lutheran churches Minneota, and is taking classes to eventually become an ordained pastor! There has been a long standing divide between the two churches she serves, but on May 17th when Jenn was installed and recognized as a SAM, four members from St. Paul came over and worshipped with the folks at Hope Lutheran. That was a good day!

Let us pray for lay and ordained ministers to meet the needs of congregations and our world, hungry for the good news about Jesus.

Where is God calling you to minister today?

Pastor Sarah

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Bible Study



BIBLE STUDY WILL BE STARTING A NEW SERIES JUNE 16 AT 9:30 AM CALLED "I AM WORTHY" BY REV. SARA OLSON SMITH.

It will begin with the story of God's creation and the "very goodness" that is spoken over every human being. "I am created in God's image. No matter what anyone says." Please join us in the YMLC Care Center for this exciting study. All are welcome! If you would like more information, please contact Cindy Velde at 507-828-7593. We would love to add you to our study group.



ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS NEEDED: If you would like to help with the Altar Guild, please talk to Angie Thostenson at 507-766-0909.

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.

JUNE ASSIGNMENTS:

Leader:

- 7 Pastor Sarah Tade
- 14 Pastor Sarah Tade
- 21 Pastor Sarah Tade
- 28 Gwen Arneson

Accompanists:

- 7 TBD
- 14 TBD
- 21 TBD
- 28 TBD

Ushers:

- 7 Kevin Eye
- 14 Gary Enger
- 21 Jon Thostenson
- 28 Thostenson

Lay Readers

- 7 Pastor Sarah Tade
- 14 Ayla Volstad Hughes
- 21 Pastor Sarah Tade
- 28 Augusta Volstad

Technology

- 7 Paige Lehrkamp
- 14 Kevin Eye
- 21 Julie Volstad
- 28 Kevin Eye

Altar Guild:

Judy Ristau

Communion Assistant

Augusta Volstad

Funeral Chairs:

Service Team #2 will be in charge of the next funeral. Co-chairs are: Barb Bresson at 320-226-3169 and Laura Eckstrom at 507-530-1257

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 and other emergency information.

June Birthdays!

- 2 Jill Fry
- 3 Adam Eckstrom
- 4 Jenece Eckstrom
- 6 Lexi Stengel
- 7 Mark Gustafson
Annette Sharkey
- 8 Perry Oftedahl
- 9 Sydney Lerud
Natalie McPhail
- 15 Logan Dale
- 16 Wayne Ellingson
- 18 Dennis Brouwer
Laura Picard
- 22 Cindy Velde
- 28 Olivia Jeseritz
Amber Lingle

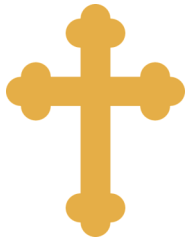
YMLC Stewardship Offerings 6 weeks beginning Sunday, April 19, 2026 and ending Sunday, May 26, 2026	
General Fund	\$ 9,816.00
Cemetery Fund	.00
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$ 9,816.00
<i>Budgeted each week: \$1,566</i>	
YTD Budgeted Offering	\$ 32,886.00
YTD Actual Offering	<u>33,477.55</u>
AHEAD OF BUDGET	\$ 591.55



Father's Day Prayer

THINKING OF YOU ON FATHER'S DAY,
AND OFFERING A *prayer*
THAT GOD
WILL KEEP YOU ALWAYS,
IN THE *shelter* OF HIS CARE—
MAY HE GUIDE YOU IN YOUR DAILY WORK,
BLESS EVERYTHING YOU DO
AND GRANT YOU ALL THOSE *special* JOYS
THAT MEAN THE MOST TO YOU.

Ministerial Acts:



*DEATH: Ruth Helen
Sharkey died on
April 24, 2026
and was buried
at the YMLC East
Cemetery on
April 29th, 2026.*

Effective January 1, 2026, cemetery lot prices will increase.

Member: One (1) 4' x 16' grave lot will increase to \$200.00

Non-Member: One (1) 4' x 16' grave lot will increase to \$400.00

Thanks,
YMLC Cemetery Board

**THE SOUTHWESTERN MN
SYNOD ASSEMBLY IS
HAPPENING ON JUNE 5TH AND
6TH** at Gustavus Adolphus College
in St. Peter. The theme is
"Grounded in Hope." Tim Velde will
be attending from YMLC.



**LEXI STENDEL DAUGHTER OF TIM AND AMANDA
STENDEL WILL GRADUATE FROM YME.** She will be having
an open house on Saturday, June 6, 2026 from 2pm to 5 PM
at her home 4808 250th Ave Granite Falls, MN 56241.
Future plans: Attend Lake Area Technical College,
Watertown, South Dakota for Agricultural Business

2026 Senior Recognition Sunday!



Congratulations
Seth Lecy,
Lexi Stengel,
Mason Sherod,
Colton Lerud,
Trevor Tusberg!!

Christ Has No Body

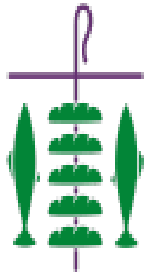
Teresa of Avila, Spain, 1515 - 1582

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion
on this world.

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the
world.

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.





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, or Colleen.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

Sunday Services start at 11:00 am.

Sunday, June 7— Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday, June 14 — Worship with Holy Communion in the Sanctuary

Sunday, June 21 — Father's Day— Outdoor Worship, weather permitting

Sunday, June 28 — 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 June 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 – Kari (Severson) VanDenHemel, Perry Oftedahl, Doug Anderson, Carol Engel, Elmo Volstad, Les Reisner, Lola Hoseck, Bonnie Gustafson
In the Community – Jeff Mertens, Rudy Espinoza, 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 - Apr 2026

4/1/2026 through 4/30/2026

5/12/2026

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Category	4/1/2026- 4/30/2026
INFLOWS	
RECEIPTS	
General Expense Offerings	10,759.14
TOTAL RECEIPTS	10,759.14
TOTAL INFLOWS	10,759.14
OUTFLOWS	
LOCAL MINISTRY	
Federal & State Withholding	-40.00
FICA-Medicare (lay employees)	112.83
MN Paid Family Medical Leave	-4.87
Pastor's Salary	2,871.34
Staff Salaries	1,474.83
Travel Expense (Pastor)	162.40
TOTAL LOCAL MINISTRY	4,576.53
OUR CHURCH BUILDING	
Property Upkeep - Church Building	342.25
Utilities & Fuel	624.21
TOTAL OUR CHURCH BUILDING	966.46
WORSHIP & EDUCATION	
e-Giving Transaction Fees	15.00
Worship Supplies	312.87
TOTAL WORSHIP & EDUCATION	327.87
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	5,870.86
OVERALL TOTAL	4,888.28

SAVINGS

Parsonage Sale	\$ 30,755.89
Food Stand Profits	9,158.17
Other savings	101,648.56
TOTAL SAVINGS	\$ 141,562.62

CHECKING

CHECKING BALANCE AS OF 3/31/26	\$ 4,540.79
CHECKING BALANCE AS OF 4/30/26	9,429.07
	\$ 4,888.28

TOTAL SAVINGS & CHECKING: **\$ 150,991.69**

Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church

JUNE 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 Synod Assembly	6 Synod Assembly Open House Graduation for Lexi Stengel – daughter of Tim and Amanda Stengel- from 2-5 pm at her home 5178 230 th Ave Granite Falls
7 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live.	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 COMMUNION 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live.	15	16 Bible Study at 9:30 am in the Care Center	17 YMLC Council meets at 6:30 pm in the Care Center	18	19	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
21 11:00 am Worship Outdoors (weather permitting) in person or via Facebook live.	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live.	29	30	31			