



# Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church \* ELCA

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

[www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org](http://www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org)



## Pastor Ponderings



*Do you know Psalm 23? I know you do!*

The David of the Old Testament was a shepherd before he became king. He watched over sheep in the Judean hill country outside of Bethlehem. He knew what they needed, and what a shepherd provides. But when he wrote down the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, he did a new and surprising thing: he put himself in the position of his sheep.

*Sheep at Shalom Hill Farm near Windom, MN 4/21/26* *The Lord in my shepherd. I shall not want.*

I led worship at the Avera Care Center today. I asked the residents to speak the Psalm with me as I read it. Almost everyone spoke all or most of the Psalm from memory. We hear it most often at funerals, but for David, these words were words of living, not dying. They described his experience with God. *I shall not want.* With God I have everything I need. What if we took that posture in our living? Would we calm down? Probably!

*He leads me beside still waters.* We all need water, and *calm* waters, all the better! *He makes me lie down in green pastures* which sounds like food if you are a sheep, and *rest* if you are a busy parent, or your work never stops. Lying down in green pastures may be just what you need! *He restores my soul.* Ah!! Who doesn't want their soul put right, restored, and at peace?

Christian art has long loved the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd John 10.11 This image is front and center in the stained glass altar piece at Granite Falls Lutheran Church. Tucked under the right arm of Jesus the shepherd is a lamb. Now, imagine yourself as that lamb. Go ahead. Think on that for a moment. Now, name all the ways that the Lord provides for you.

Here are some new learnings about the Psalm. Joel LeMon, Associate Professor of Old Testament of Candler School of Theology points out that surely can also be translated only. **Only** goodness and mercy will follow me, as opposed to other things. Follow can be translated as pursue. Enemies pursue, but this is different. Not them, but instead *only goodness and mercy!!* That is a blessed state!

*He leads me in right paths for his name sake.* Paths has the sense of a rut or groove that was made in a muddy unpaved road in the spring. Finding your groove with God means living in right relationships with those around you and in community, *for God's name sake.* God's reputation is at stake, so let's stay in the right groove! It is Jesus, our Good Shepherd who guides us into right relationship with others and with God.

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil for you are with me.*

The message of the Psalm is that as we journey, God is as close to us as a Shepherd is to a lamb. No wonder we treasure this Psalm! Pastor Sarah



MAY 2026  
Volume 7,  
Issue 5

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### Bible Study



**BIBLE STUDY, "40 DAYS THROUGH THE BIBLE,"** will continue in May both online and in person. Our meeting dates are the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, May 5th and 19th at 9:30 in the Care Center and online. We encourage anyone who would be interested in a deeper relationship with God as we study his word in this Bible study of 40 days through the Bible. Please contact Cindy Velde at 507-828-7593 if interested or if you have any questions.



**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](mailto: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](http://www.co.ym.mn.gov). You can register to receive community notifications of severe thunderstorms, flash floods, & tornadoes and other emergency information.

**MAY ASSIGNMENTS:**

Leader:

- 3 Pastor Sarah Tadó
- 10 Pastor Sarah Tadó
- 17 Tim Velde
- 24 Pastor Sarah Tadó
- 31 Pastor Sarah Tadó

Accompanists:

- 3 Augusta Volstad
- 10 Emma Gregoire
- 17 Emma Gregoire
- 24 Augusta Volstad
- 31 TBD

Ushers:

- 3 Kevin Eye
- 10 Gary Enger
- 17 Justin Torke
- 24 Justin Torke
- 31 Brooks Torke

Lay Readers

- 3 Pastor Sarah Tadó
- 10 Ayla Volstad Hughes
- 17 Brynn Lundin
- 24 Augusta Volstad
- 31 Julie Volstad

Technology

- 3 Paige Lehrkamp
- 10 Kevin Eye
- 17 Kevin Eye
- 24 Julie Volstad
- 31 Paige Lehrkamp

Acolyte:

- 17 Tessa Lundin

Altar Guild:

- Jean Nelson-Anderson

Communion Assistant

- TBD

Funeral Chairs:

Service Team #1 will be in charge of the next funeral. Co-chairs are: Teresa Oftedahl 507-829-4137 and Becky Velde 320-226-2426

**May Birthdays!**

- 1 Orlen Torke
- 4 Carol Rikke
- 5 Willow Eckstrom  
Mark Thostenson
- 6 Dalen Eckstrom
- 8 Douglas Anderson
- 10 Will Jeseritz  
Tyler Lundin
- 11 Billy Sharkey
- 12 Hannah Fry  
Jay McPhail
- 13 Madelin Kuehl
- 14 Larry Torke
- 15 Derrald Meyer
- 16 Gary Enger
- 18 Kayleigh Albertson
- 20 Jon Thostenson
- 22 Tim Dale  
Tony Eye  
Sue Nelson
- 29 David Anderson  
JoHanna McPhail
- 30 Danny Eye
- 31 Brooke Sand

**YMLC Stewardship Offerings  
3 weeks beginning  
Sunday, March 29, 2026  
and ending  
Sunday, April 12, 2026**

General Fund	\$	5,701.55
Cemetery Fund		20.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERINGS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,721.55</b>

*Budgeted each week: \$1,566*

YTD Budgeted Offering	\$	23,490.00
YTD Actual Offering		23,661.55
<b>AHEAD OF BUDGET</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>171.55</b>



We are looking for a leader for the Threshing Show food stand.



If you are interested, or know someone that would be, please call or text Angie at 507-766-0909.

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

## SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY

Sunday, May 17, 2026 during the 11:00 am worship service.

*Seniors -  
Seth Lecy  
Lexi Stengel  
Mason Sherod  
Colton Lerud  
Trevor Tusberg*



Seth Lecy, son of Chuck & Amanda Lecy graduates from YME & MN West – Welding and will be having an Open House on Saturday May 30th from 2-5 at Tim Velde farm 5178 230th Ave Granite Falls, MN 56241.



You are invited to the  
**2026 SW MN Synodical**



### Women's Organization Convention

**Saturday, May 2, 2026**

Calvary Lutheran Church  
302 Olena Avenue SE, Willmar, Minnesota

### "Rising in Faith, Leading with Courage"

*Honoring Women in Ministry in our Synod*



Theme Verse:

**I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.**

Psalm 139:14 NRSVue

**Registration Fee: \$40 - includes lunch and concert**

- Opening Worship with Holy Communion: Bishop Dee Pederson and Synod Minister Heather Culuris
- Keynote Speaker: TBA
- Special Performance by Sweetwater Revival

**In-Kind Offerings for Lutheran World Relief and Global Health Ministries will be collected in the parking lot.**

- ≈ Convention Offerings: 50% to Churchwide Women, 25% to Hope for Our City, 25% to LWR for shipping
- ≈ In-Kind Donations of canned goods will be collected for Hope for Our City in Willmar.
- ≈ Katie's Cans will be on the tables at lunch. Bring your loose change for Katie's Fund.

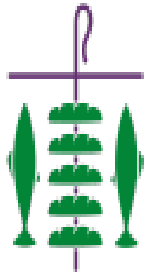
- 7:30 a.m. Registration and service projects begin. Coffee and treats will be served
- In-Kind Offering Drop-off begins in church parking lot.**
- 9:00 a.m. Convention Opens, In-Kind Drop-off ends, Opening Worship
- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Service opportunities, recognition of women in ministry, short business meeting and election of SWO Board members, guest speakers, lunch, commissioning of Triennial Voting Members, and Sweetwater Revival concert.

**The Lutheran Men in Mission Convention will be held simultaneously. Please encourage the men in your congregation to attend.**

### Ministerial Acts:



**DEATH:** Kenneth Ronald Rikke died on April 17, 2026 and was buried in the YMLC Cemetery on April 23rd, 2026.



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 MAY**

Sunday Services start at 11:00 am.

Sunday, May 3— Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday, May 10 — Worship with Holy Communion in the Sanctuary

Sunday, May 17 — Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday, May 24 — Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday, May 31 — Worship in the Sanctuary



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

**Next newsletter deadline is May 20th.**

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

## Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church

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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 – Family of Kenny Rikke, Perry Oftedahl, Doug Anderson,  
Carol Engel, Elmo Volstad, 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](http://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](http://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 - Mar 2026

3/1/2026 through 3/31/2026

4/7/2026

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Category	3/1/2026- 3/31/2026
<b>INFLOWS</b>	
RECEIPTS	
Easter Lilies	2.00
General Expense Offerings	9,091.91
Other Offerings	1,277.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	10,370.91
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>10,370.91</b>
<b>OUTFLOWS</b>	
LOCAL MINISTRY	
Federal & State Withholding	80.00
FICA-Medicare (lay employees)	161.57
Gifts Given	1,000.00
MN Paid Family Medical Leave	26.63
Pastor's Salary	2,871.34
Staff Salaries	2,111.58
Travel Expense (Pastor)	268.98
TOTAL LOCAL MINISTRY	6,520.10
OUR CHURCH BUILDING	
Property Taxes	28.30
Property Upkeep - Church Building	253.07
Utilities & Fuel	1,861.94
Worker's Compensation	-81.00
TOTAL OUR CHURCH BUILDING	2,062.31
WORSHIP & EDUCATION	
e-Giving Transaction Fees	15.00
Worship Supplies	155.59
TOTAL WORSHIP & EDUCATION	170.59
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>8,753.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>1,617.91</b>

**SAVINGS**

Parsonage Sale	\$ 30,755.89
Food Stand Profits	9,158.17
Other savings	104,352.38
<b>TOTAL SAVINGS</b>	<b>\$ 144,266.44</b>

**CHECKING**

CHECKING BALANCE AS OF 2/28/26	\$ 2,935.91
CHECKING BALANCE AS OF 3/31/26	4,540.79
	\$ 1,604.88

**TOTAL SAVINGS & CHECKING:** **\$ 148,807.23**

Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 at 10:00 AM in care center

*Present: Chairperson Rich Hagen, Megan McPhail, Vonnie Severson, Will Lecy*  
*Absent: Augusta Volstad, Daryl Gregoire, Gary Enger, Teresa Oftedahl*

1. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Rich.
2. Devotions led by Vonnie.
3. Agenda approved.
4. Secretary's Minutes approved.
5. Treasurer's Report approved.
6. Committee Reports: **Parish Ed: P & M: Worship:**
7. Pastor Sarah Report
8. Old Business
  - Committee assignments:
  - Sign-up for devotions and communion assistant: All months covered. Rich has updated list.
  - YMLC Church Pictorial update.
    - April 28<sup>th</sup> will be picture day at YMLC. YMLC members can also get their picture taken at GFLC April 21-25, they just have to tell them they are from YMLC. They can also submit a photo for \$15.
9. New Business
  - Good Gifts Collection – ELCA World Hunger. Encouraging people to donate and share gift of food and livestock.
  - Church Clean-up Day: outside/trip bushes, clean windows, vacuum bugs, make a list, have a meal, maybe do it in May
  - Fixing the sidewalks – Rich has the numbers
10. Next meeting will be Wednesday, April 8th at 6:30 PM.
11. Adjourn with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,  
Augusta Volstad, Secretary (Megan McPhail)

# Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church

## MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live.	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Bible Study via Zoom at 9:30 am	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> COMMUNION 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live. HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> YMLC Council meets at 6:30 pm in the Care Center	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live. Senior Recognition Sunday	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Bible Study via Zoom at 9:30 am	<b>20</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live.	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Open House Graduation party for Seth Lecy, son of Chuck & Amanda Lecy from 2-5 at Tim Velde Farm
<b>31</b> 11:00 am Worship in person or via Facebook live.						