

The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, having received 52.32% of the votes cast, is the president-elect of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) for a fifth term of office, 2023–2026.

The nominations process for the position of Synod president began last fall with the mailing of nominating ballots to all congregations of the Synod. All nominations were required to be submitted by Feb. 28, or five months prior to the start of the Synod convention, when the ballots, received by an outside auditor, were tallied and delivered to the Secretary of the Synod.

The resulting candidates were the five ordained ministers who received the highest number of votes in the nominations process and who consented to serve if elected: Harrison, the incumbent president; the Rev. Dr. Patrick T. Ferry, former president of Concordia University Wisconsin and Ann Arbor; the Rev. Richard L. Snow, president of the LCMS Nebraska District; the Rev. Peter K. Lange, LCMS first vice-president; and the Rev. Benjamin T. Ball, LCMS sixth vice-president.

The election took place, according to Bylaw 3.12.2.4, starting June 17 (six weeks prior to the convention) via internet balloting provided by YesElections (formerly Election-America). The 6,053 pastoral and lay voters validly registered by the congregations and parishes of the Synod (Bylaw 3.12.2.3) before the deadline (electronic registration by March 19) or their substitutes (as validly submitted before June 9) served as the voters for this election. Of those, a total of 5,000 votes were cast, constituting a vote percentage of 82.60% of the electorate.

The results of the ballot tallied and reported to the Secretary of the Synod by YesElections are as follows:

- Harrison was voted president-elect with 2,616 votes (52.32%);
- Ferry received 1,593 votes (31.86%); Ball received 341 votes (6.82%);
- Snow received 318 votes (6.36%); and Lange received 132 votes (2.64%).

Harrison said, “Serving as president for 13 years has made me keenly aware of my weaknesses and sins. The job has pushed me to the brink on many occasions. The personal cost to my wife and family has been incalculable.

“Yet these very crosses drive us to Jesus. Thanks be to God for His blessed free Gospel of salvation in the blood of Christ! I appreciate, to no end, your prayers, and I am deeply honored to serve you, the LCMS — the church whose public confession I believe with my whole heart. It is upon that confession I shall stand on the last day before the judgment seat of Christ (FC SD VII.29-30), a sinner forgiven.”

LCMS Bylaws instruct the Secretary of the Synod to notify the candidates in the Synod’s presidential election of the results of the balloting at least two weeks prior to the convention. The candidates were informed earlier today, June 21, of the results of the June 17–20 ballot.

July 2023

**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
**525 South 6<sup>th</sup> St**  
**Lake City MN 55041**

[www.bethanylutheranlakecity.com](http://www.bethanylutheranlakecity.com)

**Worship**

9am on Sunday

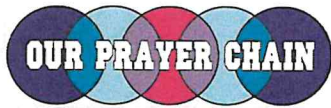
Watch on local channel 13/18

- Sunday at 9am (LIVE)
- Monday at 8pm
- Tuesday at 11am

Pastor Steve Frentz  
[PastorFrentz@hotmail.com](mailto:PastorFrentz@hotmail.com)  
Home 651-448-8561  
Cell 630-846-1909  
Office hours: Wed 9am-12pm

Secretary: Michelle Roberson  
[bethanylc4@hotmail.com](mailto:bethanylc4@hotmail.com)  
Office 651-345-2424  
Cell 507-259-3919  
Office hours:  
Monday-Thursday 8am-1pm

Please watch our  
bulletins for changes.



Send an email to  
[BLCPrayerChain@hotmail.com](mailto:BLCPrayerChain@hotmail.com)  
to join!



Bethany Lutheran Church  
Missouri Synod

**Happy Birthday in July!**

Melanie Corey 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Jan Dison 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Keaton Scolley 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Donna Roschen 5<sup>th</sup>  
Greg Anderson 8<sup>th</sup>  
Jane Linse 8<sup>th</sup>  
Eva Gnotke 10<sup>th</sup>  
Josh Lutjen 10<sup>th</sup>  
Kambrie Scolley 11<sup>th</sup>  
Robyn Wetterern 11<sup>th</sup>  
Karen Day 12<sup>th</sup>  
Lois Sommerfield 13<sup>th</sup>  
Simon Brand 17<sup>th</sup>  
Jerry Abidin 21<sup>st</sup>  
Dale Lee 21<sup>st</sup>  
Melissa McDonnell 24<sup>th</sup>  
Danielle Robb 24<sup>th</sup>  
Rick Solum 24<sup>th</sup>  
Alivia Corey 25<sup>th</sup>  
Linda Hyberger 26<sup>th</sup>  
Tess Holmstadt 27<sup>th</sup>  
Brenda Yennie 29<sup>th</sup>  
Riley Bestul 30<sup>th</sup>  
Connie Schumann 30<sup>th</sup>  
Jeremy McDonnell 31<sup>st</sup>  
Madelyn Roberson 31<sup>st</sup>  
Joel Schultz 31<sup>st</sup>



**Happy Anniversary in July!**

Mark & Sandi Bestul 8<sup>th</sup>  
Tony & Dorie Gilman 9<sup>th</sup>  
Richard & Connie Schumann 11<sup>th</sup>  
Jeremy & Melissa McDonnell 26<sup>th</sup>  
Bill & Gloria Mundstock 26<sup>th</sup>  
Doug & Rebecca Houghton 28<sup>th</sup>

**SAVE THE DATE**

Bethany Lutheran Church will be celebrating 75 years of ministry this fall. Please join us on Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> at 2pm for a special service with the Reverend Dr. Brent Parrish preaching. There will be refreshments and a time to share memories after the service. We hope you will mark your calendars and plan to join us.



# BLOCK PARTY

14<sup>th</sup> Annual Bethany Block Party  
Saturday August 26, 2023 4:30pm – 7:00pm  
In Bethany Lutheran Church Parking Lot  
525 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St. Lake City  
(in Fellowship Hall if there is rain)

PORK SANDWICHES, SWEET CORN, AND MORE!  
Food, Door Prizes, Fun for All and Free Will Offering

*The public is invited. Bring your friends and neighbors!*  
*Handicapped parking available!*



**There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex for watering plants for the summer months.**

## To our church family

A huge thank you for all of the hugs, calls, cards and memorials for Len. The undesignated funds given in Len's name of \$1570 were split. \$785 went to the Bethany Endowment fund and \$785 went to the Bethany Cemetery. Lenny helped take care of the cemetery and church for 22 years.

Thank you  
Rose Parrish and Family

## Reminders

- **Bethany Voter/Council Meeting will be on Wednesday July 19th at 7pm**
- **SUMMER JOINT WORSHIP – The joint parish worship service will be outside at St. Peter's on July 23 at 1030AM with a potluck to follow. Please bring a lawn chair for worship and a dish to pass for the potluck. The VBS tent should still be up so there will be shade available.**

*Life in community THE OSIROS*  
**MARCH/APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER**

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing" (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

The early Christians "continuously devoted themselves to fellowship." (Acts 2:42) Koinonia is a Greek word that describes Christian fellowship or communion with God or with fellow Christians. We have koinonia with all who are in Christ by faith. When we practice hospitality, it is an extension of koinonia, loving our neighbors as ourselves. Missionaries share their knowledge of the Gospel and faith experiences with others. They share life together; they are enculturated into life experiences and witness the Gospel. The Church is engaged in the mission of Jesus, which helps us live and express our Christian identity.

We were created to be in a relationship with Christ and one another. Everyone matters to God! "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32)

It is a blessing for us to serve as part of God's mission and to share His mission with you.

In March, the Africa region missionaries gathered for their annual retreat. This is a time for us to rest, be in fellowship and rejuvenate. Relationships were strengthened as we learned together, laughed together, and worshipped together. Special guests were some of our colleagues from the International Center. They spent time at the Africa field office in Nairobi before the retreat. It was great to give them a glimpse into our lives and work.

Our presenter was Deaconess Heidi Goehmann, who walked us through daily sessions on the book of Ephesians, which focused on Life in Relationships. Discussions centered around our relationship with God and our identity as a child of God, our relationship with each other, and how we connect and belong in those relationships.

## ***TOGETHER IN CHRIST...***

Project 24 held its annual Catechetical Bible competition. This is the first one after the pandemic and a return to the regular school schedule for the children. This wonderful event brought together leaders of the ELCK, the site managers, all the children, and LCMS missionaries. This year there were two sponsor families in attendance. Before the competition, the families visited Project 24

sites in Rongo, Othoro, and Tumaini to meet their sponsored children. Seeing the excitement on the faces of both children and sponsors as they met in person for the first time was a joy. Both families have been sponsoring the kids for five years. Until now, they connected by writing letters several times a year. As I watched their interactions, each was a beautiful expression of love.

The theme for this year's Bible club competition was: "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." (Isaiah 60:1). During the competition, the children performed songs, presented the Ten Commandments and their meaning, showcased different talents, and performed the Passion of the Christ dramas. Each site brought its unique interpretation. The children did exceptionally well, and I and everyone in attendance felt very encouraged by their faith. It is quite evident that Christ is at the center of their lives.

We were created to be in a relationship with Christ and one another. Everyone matters to God! "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32)

It is a blessing for us to serve as part of God's mission and to share His mission with you.

## **prayers & praise**

- Pray for God's strength and guidance as Michael and I serve in Africa.
- Pray for the Alliance & LCMS missionaries serving through LCMS International Mission.
- Pray for the ELCK and the continued growth of Project 24.
- Thank the Lord for all who sponsor children through Christ's Care for Children Kenya.
- Praise God for all of YOU and the love & support that you give to me and Michael.

Contact Information: P. O. Box 22, Karen, 00502 - Kenya  
/ Email: [shara.osiro@lcms.org](mailto:shara.osiro@lcms.org)

***Thank you for being part of this journey with us as we serve the Lord in Africa.***



# St. Peter's News

July 2023

*St. Peter's Lutheran Church*  
28961 365th St. Goodhue, MN 55027



Pastor Steven Frentz · PastorFrentz@hotmail.com · 651-448-8561

Office: 651-923-4438 · Email: stpeter@sleepyeyetel.net

Tara Marklevits, Secretary · Tarakehren@hotmail.com · 651-329-0159

Prayer Chain Email: BLCPrayerChain@hotmail.com

## Summer Joint Worship

Our joint parish worship service will be outside at St. Peter's on July 23rd at 10:30am with a potluck to follow. Bring dish to pass and a chair to sit on. In the event of inclement weather we will move indoors.

## July Worship Assistants

Altar Care: LeAnn Bollum & Heidi Roberson

Elder: Kevin Paradis



## Remember in Prayer...

Please keep in your prayers:



Barb Hinck, Ashley Sexton,

Elnor Bollum, Meryl & Lois Watson,

Marilyn Diercks, John Diercks, and the family  
of Shanna McDonnell

## Council Meeting

Council will meet on Monday, July 3 at 7PM. Let a council member know if you have a topic for discussion. Jonathan Huneke, Kevin Paradis, Jim Hansen, Marty Kehren, Arlan Betcher, Tony Betcher, and Roger Benrud.

## Anniversary Cookbooks

The cookbooks have arrived & will be available for purchase after worship on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month. Cost is \$20 and pre-orders can also be picked up on those Sundays. Questions: Contact Pat Stemmann or Heidi Roberson.



## Worship Schedule

10:30AM Sunday Worship (year round)



## St. Peter's 150 Year Celebration!

Our 150th celebration will be September 24, 2023 with a 2PM worship service and catered meal to follow. \*No morning service

Our 150th anniversary planning is well under way! This includes paying for food/celebratory items. If you wish to donate toward our anniversary celebration please put "anniversary donation" in your check memo line.

If you are a Thrivent Financial member then you are eligible to apply for two grants per year. Each grant is worth \$250. You will need to fill out the Thrivent Action Team Grant form online at Thrivent.com for each grant you are requesting. This money does not have to be paid back. If you need help filling out the grant application please contact Diane Holmstadt at 763-614-7982 and she can assist you in doing so. If you would be willing to use one or more of your Action Team Grants towards St. Peter's 150th celebration we could use this money towards: food, paper products, invitations, advertising, rentals (tent, table & chairs, speaker system), publishing of anniversary cookbooks, and making of shirts.

# Youth Information

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## Acolyte Schedule

- July 2: Ayva  
July 9: Everett  
July 16: Marti  
July 23: No acolyte/outside worship  
July 30: Madeline Kehren

## Youth Day Trip - Valleyfair

A Youth Group day trip is planned for Thursday, July 13 to Valleyfair. All are welcome, including friends! Youth funds will cover the cost of admission for members, friends will cost \$40. Everyone is responsible for their own meals and spending money. We will leave St Peter's at 9 am and return by 5 pm.

Let Jackie know if you plan to attend no later than July 10th. Depending on how many youth we have, additional adults to chaperone and /or help drive may be needed. Jackie's contact info: (651) 385-0176 or jackiebetcher@gmail.com

## VBS 2023 "Set Free"



**Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. -Psalm 118:5**

St. Peter's VBS program is July 17-21st. VBS will run from 9:00-3:30PM Mon-Thurs for 1st-6th graders and 9:00-11:30am for 4yr Old Prek & K. Friday, July 21st all grades to attend from 9:00-11:30AM with a closing program & potluck for families to attend at 11:30AM. Contact Tara Marklevits with any questions or if you can help out or provide food/supplies.

## Anniversaries in July

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- July 8: Jon & Wendy Meyer  
July 12: Tammy & Mike Thaldorff  
July 20: Duane & Nancy Kohrs  
July 28: Keith & Deb Kohrs  
July 28: Dan & Dawn Tipcke  
July 29: Brock & Tara Marklevits

# Giving

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## Missions

St. Peter's has set their 2023 goal of raising \$10,000 to send to various missions throughout the year. This year to date we have raised over \$4,000. If you wish to donate write "missions" on your donation.



## ONLINE giving

We offer the option to give recurring gifts online through First Farmers & Merchants Bank. Contact our church treasurer, Tony Betcher to set this up.

*thank you!*

## Thank You!

Many thanks to Heidi Roberson and Trisha Hadler for planting the urns in front of the church. To Marlys Mickelson's family in donating money to her "growing in faith fund" for the bushes in our cemetery. To LeAnn Bollum for her donation to house our counselors in a VRBO the week of VBS. To all those who continue to water our new trees in the church yard.

## Birthdays in July

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| July 3: Becca Bollum     | July 17: Charlene Juers  |
| Marilyn Diercks          | July 18: Theresa Schafer |
| Alex Kurth               | July 19: Jim Hansen      |
| July 5: Barb Hadler      | Evelyn Schafer           |
| July 6: LeAnn Bollum     | July 20: Sandra Miller   |
| July 8: Jacob Hansen     | Pat Stemmann             |
| Jon Meyer                | July 21: Trisha Hadler   |
| July 9: Caleigh Avery    | July 23: Milt Kehren     |
| July 13: Lisa Acker      | July 26: Jessica Holst   |
| July 15: Patrick Dahling | July 28: Tyson Stemmann  |
| Jonathan Huneke          | July 31: Calvin Benrud   |
| July 16: Jeremy Hadler   | Ella Juers               |
| Jaclyn Thomforde         |                          |

# ***Bethany Lutheran Church - July 2023***

525 South Sixth Street

Lake City, MN 55041

651-345-2424

E-mail: [bethanylc4@hotmail.com](mailto:bethanylc4@hotmail.com)

Prayer Chain: [BLCPrayerChain@hotmail.com](mailto:BLCPrayerChain@hotmail.com) - Just send an email to join!

Website: [www.bethanylutheranlakecity.com](http://www.bethanylutheranlakecity.com)

On Facebook search for: Bethany Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

**Pastor Steven Frentz:** [PastorFrentz@hotmail.com](mailto:PastorFrentz@hotmail.com) (H)651-448-8561 (C)630-846-1909

**Michelle Roberson, Secretary:** [bethanylc4@hotmail.com](mailto:bethanylc4@hotmail.com) Office 651-345-2424 (C)507-259-3919

**Elder: Roger Edwards**

**Ushers: Mark Abel & Barry Thompson**

**Acolytes:**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>: Neveah Anderson**

**July 9<sup>th</sup>: Alana Schmitz**

**July 16<sup>th</sup>: Elijah Finnigan**

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>: 10:30am Joint Parish Worship at St. Peter Belvidere**

**July 30<sup>th</sup>: Leah Anderson**

**Readers:**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tess Holmstadt**

**July 9<sup>th</sup>: Nancy Cliff**

**July 16<sup>th</sup>: Sue Blumberg**

**July 30<sup>th</sup>: Bob Roschen**