# KLC NEWS

# JULY 2026

## Crawl, Walk, Run

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This coming week, the annual Grandma's marathon will be run. The great news is that we can all participate. Well, to some degree that is. Some may be running and others will be walking, and I am pretty certain that some will be crawling. But what I really mean is that everyone who would like to can do something, including handing out water at the finish line or sitting in the stands and cheering the runners on. Participation can be very involved and complex, or it can be passive and observational.

I want to confess something right here and now; I am not a runner. Sure, I run all the time and things can get crazy busy sometimes, but I find no pleasure in what others call pleasure running. Put a basketball in my hands or a football and I will do my best to score and win a game. Better yet place a soccer ball at my feet and I will get crazy competitive. Running, on the other hand, just seems cruel and pointless.

Isn't it strange how different people can be? One person's relaxation is a chore to another person. It's almost as if God created us with such individual care that no two persons are exactly alike. Vive la différence! Vive is simply saying celebrate! That's right--celebrate our differences because we are uniquely and complexly and wonderfully made. Celebrate, because as much as our world gets nervous when our differences get exposed, we are also seeing the wonder of our creator God. For God oftentimes moves outside the norms of our otherwise conformative world.

Do you ever wonder what moved God to create the world that He/She did? It seems to me that the box I have imagined for God does not fit the creator I encounter in most circumstances in life. God seems content to push my envelope and expand my horizons. God seems to want to take me from a crawling infant to a walking person to a running athlete. Ever moving faster so that I can face more of His/Her wonders and expand my understanding of what He/She is all about.

At some point crawling or walking or running doesn't even matter. What is important is that I know that being created is being created in God's image, and I can accept who I am just knowing that all of life offers moments for discovering and seeing God through the lens that is my life and your life. All of life offering a new perspective and angle from which this infinite God can reveal Himself or Herself to each of us. The creation miracle never ends; it just keeps going and expanding and absorbing us. So, enough philosophy! Just get out there and crawl or walk or run. Enjoy life and enjoy the summer!

Pastor Jeffrey Holter

## the President's Message

President: Susan Muehlberger

Happy Fourth of July and the 250th anniversary of our country. It seems like yesterday that we were celebrating our 200th. The years sure go by fast. Now that summer is here, we can look forward to some fellowship events: fish fry, steak fry, and new to this year a Night at the Huskies. We are planning to go to the ballpark on August 4th. Game time is at 6:35. Please invite your family and friends. Sign up in the Messiah room by July 27th. Tickets will be $11.50 for seats that have a back. Pick one, two or all of them and enjoy the fellowship!

# Community Ministry

**July**

**Damiano Center** – Your cash gifts during July will help support Damiano Center. Besides providing a warm meal, their guests can safely store belongings, find clean clothes, take a hot shower, access hygiene items, receive their mail, get support with transportation. Please use your offering envelope, note your gift is for Damiano Center and the amount of your gift.

**Lutheran World Relief**

- **106 School Kits and 25 Quilts** were delivered to Grand Rapids in June. Thank you to Steve and Sue Teske for delivering them to Grand Rapids.
- **School Supplies**. It's hard to believe, but once we get into July, school supplies will go on sale. It's the perfect time to pick up supplies for Lutheran World Relief school kits. Each kit requires 4 spiral bound notebooks (70 sheets), 5 pens, 5 pencils, a box of 24 crayons, scissors, ruler, eraser, pencil sharpener. Bags with a list of the items for each kit will be available in the Messiah Room.

**Safe Bay**

- Thank you for your generous donations in May to support Safe Bay parking at the Vineyard Church. Safe Bay update: An average of 18 folks per night have been served so far this season. They've already had several individuals move into housing. A community/neighborhood meeting is held the first Thursday of the month, 5 pm in the Vineyard lobby. Stop by to learn more.
- Safe Bay is hoping to build better connections between clients and the community, and would like to host a weekly night where an area church provides a meal for about 20 people (guests, staff, volunteers, the church providing the meal) once a month, from July to October. We're hoping some of our Kenwood Lutheran congregation would prayerfully consider this – it could be done by different groups of people. Meals could be:
    - prepared and brought in
    - prepared on site (Vineyard has offered to let people use their kitchen)
    - catered

  See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Messiah Room.

**CHUM Rhubarb Festival**

- Thank you for generous donations of items for the "Baking with Kids" themed basket to be included in the basket raffle at the CHUM Rhubarb Festival. Because of your generosity there were enough items to create 2 baskets!
- **Saturday, June 27**, 9am to 3pm at Asbury Methodist Church, on 6822 Grand Avenue in West Duluth

**LSS Center for Changing Lives Coin Offering** in May was $105.77; for the year $519.27
A special coin offering is taken on the 4th Sunday of each month to benefit Lutheran Social Service's Center for Changing Lives. Bring your coins to worship; currency is also welcomed.

At its May assembly held at Kenwood Lutheran, CHUM reported on Pathway Forward.

Chum, Union Gospel Mission, and the Damiano Center are collaborating to create one powerful, coordinated homelessness response system. The aim of Pathway Forward is to provide 300+ sleeping spaces, 46 units of permanent supportive housing, and 3 meals a day, every day. It will also reduce duplication of services, maximize community investment, ensure transparency and community trust, and ease the impact on area businesses/first responder services.

In fulfillment of these goals, Union Gospel Mission will build a Triage Center (equipped with 100 mats for guests' sleeping purposes) focused on helping people who are facing many barriers to stability. (Note: Minnesota legislature in May passed a Capital Investment Bill which includes $8.85 million to fund Union Gospel Mission's Engagement Center.)

The Damiano Center will have a congregate Shelter with 120 bunk beds in order to aid people who are facing some barriers, but can work with rules and structure. This means that the Congregate Shelter and Drop-in Center will remain when Chum moves back to its Second Street site.

Finally, Chum will construct a Transitional Shelter at its Second Street site. This new model shelter will serve people who are looking to find stability and permanent housing with 1150 private and semi-private units.

Pathway Forward will roll out in phases between now and 2028.

1. The first phase which we are in currently, is planning and alignment, during which the three organizations will seek to synchronize their operations in an effort to function as a cohesive system.

2. During phase two, transition and expansion, the three organizations will begin to shift into their new/extended roles, this will happen during the summer of 2027.

3. Finally, in 2028 the final phase will call forward a full system integration, including the opening of new facilities and the full usage of a coordinated system between the three organizations.

*If your birthday is not listed, call or email the church with your birthdate including the year!*

## July

6 – Kassidy Michelizzi
Cecilia Barg
8 - Anja Saksa
John Sundberg
9 - Wade Rasch
Tammy Saksa
Jim Barg
11 - Bruce Hegrenes
12 – Mike Michelizzi
15 - Lynn Kamphenkel
16 - Nadine Moeller
17 – Jaxon Butler
18 - Gloria Royseth
Jean Wasbotten
19 - Lisa Muehlberger
20 - Austin Stokes
22 – Christine Sabol
26 – Amy Kranig
27 - Peggy Simensen

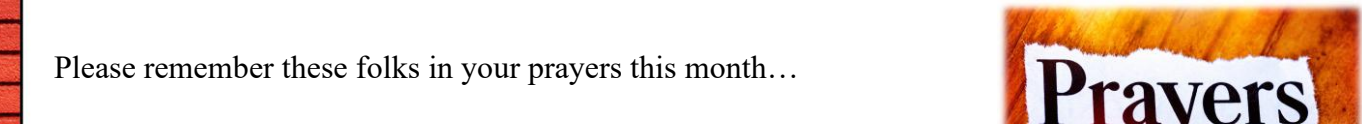
## Church Happenings

**Love to sing?-**meet us the first Sunday of the month at 9:30 a.m. to practice a song to sing during the worship service that day. Songs chosen will be familiar. Everyone welcome!

**Senior Luncheon-**Wednesday, July 1, 11:30 a.m. at the Breeze Inn. A sign-up is posted in the Messiah Room. If you sign up and find you're unable to attend, please notify the church office.

**Volunteers are needed**-for Hospitality over the summer. Groups, families, friends, boards & teams, etc. are invited to do so. Sign up in the Messiah Room for specific dates.

**You're Invited!** -Kenwood Lutheran Church Fish Fry Tuesday, July 14, 2026, 5:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m Outdoor seating (weather permitting). Takeout available. On the menu: Smelt w/option for other Fish or hamburger, French fries, Coleslaw, Beverage, Dessert. Cost-$12 per person or $30 for a family. No reservations required!




Please remember these folks in your prayers this month…

Kim Loken
Jim & Patti Lufholm
Barb Lundstrom
David Mattson
Kevin, Joy, Ben & Sam Michalicek
Kevin & Bonnie Mickelson
John, Jamie & Wyatt Moerke
Tom & Susan Muehlberger
Randy Nelson & Jean Laine
Barb Lucia
Marcia Lunde
Charlene Magarinei
Karen Mattson
Mike, Heather, Kassidy, Sam & Alissa Michelizzi
Nadine Moeller
Lisa Muehlberger
Sandy Musil
Sandy Nervick

Congratulations, Lyvia!

Lyvia Kamunen was confirmed on Sunday, May 24th.

Synod Assembly Quilts 6/7/26

**COUNCIL MEETING - KENWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH**
**May 14, 2026, in person**

Members Present: Pastor Jeff Holter, Susan Muehlberger, Peggy Pruden, Kristi Stokes, Joy Wiecks, Tammy and Eric Saksa, Cindy Peterson and Martha Oswald
Guest(s): Theresa Williams

- The meeting was called to order by President Susan Muehlberger at 7:34 p.m. with devotions and prayer led by Cindy Peterson.
- Treasurer's report = $14,939.18 balance in the checkbook; Capital Improvement Fund = $29,655.31; Long-Term Savings Account = $16,447.32; Memorial Fund = $14,358.74. All bills paid and up-to-date. The report was approved.
- March and April minutes were approved.
- Additions to Action/Discussion Items: Two additions to Discussion Items: VLM campers and Letter from Spirit of God Church in Lincoln Park
- Boards, Ministry Teams, Standing Committees:

a. Asset Management Board
   - Grill N'Thing to be held May 21.
   - New windows to be installed in June/July
   - Ash trees to be taken down this summer, we need to take care of stumps, logs, and sawdust. Seven trees will be taken down for $2300.00

b. Mutual Ministry Board
   - Board did not meet this month
   - There are openings to help with visitation with members in May and June. A contact list is being circulated.
   - Mutual Ministry will discuss taking on the task of creating name tags.

c. Stewardship Board
   - College Care bags were passed out at the April student dinner. We need to distribute the rest of the bags, maybe at Safe Bay this summer.
   - Board discussed maybe coming up with a follow-up letter to welcome new members after their orientation with Pastor. This could include basic information, such as the structure of boards and committees, how to receive the newsletter, and the various options for giving, if they wish to do so.
     Council supports this idea; the Stewardship Board will bring a draft to Council for approval.
   - We received a $250.00 grant from Thrivent to plant two apple trees to go with our three-year Stewardship drive theme. The trees have been purchased and we would like to plant them in June. We have volunteers to help with planting and putting up deer fencing. We will work with Scott Goutermont on siting the trees, calling the utility line, etc.

d. Personnel Support Board
   - No report.

e. Christian Education Ministry Team
   - May 3 was the last day of Sunday school. Coffee hour was held this jointly downstairs with the Stewardship Board. This worked well it encouraged interaction amongst the older church members and the kids.
   - The goal for this year was to get the kids more involved in the services, and this was successful.
   - The Team is planning for next year, will probably start back up in late September.

f. Community Ministry Team
   - June: donate basket for CHUM Rhubarb Festival Saturday June 28. Theme: baking with kids. Invite congregation to contribute items such as baking utensils, measuring cups, cookie cutters, decorating supplies, a large mixing bowl or baking pan to display the items.

- LSS Center for Changing Lives Coin Offering in April = $93.70, year to date = $413.50.
- VLM special offering = $386 and February ELCA World Hunger = $757.00
- April LWR Herd of Hope offering = $815.00 Herd = $530.00. With the remaining $285.00 will select additional animals from the Good Gifts catalog.
- 105 LWR school kits were assembled. Blessing of the kits and quilts will take place on June 7.
- LSS Youth Benefit was held at Clyde Iron on May 12. Six people from KLC attended, along with two from FOG.
- CHUM's Spring Assembly will be held at KLC on May 19 at 6:30 pm. KLC will provide bars/cookies and will serve coffee. Arrangements for table set-up and a presentation have been discussed.
- Safe Bay began on May 1 (warming center closed that morning).
    - Donations will be collected in May. Items needed: car window shades, coffee, $20 gas cards, granola bars.
    - Volunteers needed.
    - Community meetings 1st Thursday of the month, 5 pm, Vineyard Church lobby.
    - Have further discussions about providing meal at KLC at some time.

g. Fellowship Ministry Team
- May 21 Grill N' Thing
- July 14 Smelt Fry
- August 20 Steak Fry
- Oct. 1 Spaghetti Dinner
- Nov. 19 Turkey Bingo

h. Worship Ministry Team/Pastor's Report
- Lent went well, dinners were very nice and we had good participation.
- Summer worship will use parables. There will be less music and more visuals in the sanctuary.
- Pentecost Sunday will be May 24. One confirmand will be confirmed.
- We need a better way to hold the new members class; we need to have people sign up in advance. For the session in April, Pastor showed up but no one else came. People do sometimes sign up on the pew pads – we could encourage this more in the announcements and also remind people to write legibly.
- Completing the 8-week Bible study of Romans.
- Three new members were welcomed at FOG.
- Synod Assembly was held in April and Taryn Montgomery was nominated as the new Bishop.
- Pastor will be having surgery on June 15 (pending insurance approval).
- Parish picnic to be held August 12 at Rice Lake Park.

i. Youth Ministry Team
- Planning to go to a Huskies game in mid-July.

j. Bridges of Faith Parish

No report.

Discussion Items:
- Holy Cross invited our kids to attend their Vacation Bible School free of charge the week of June 21.
- We have two children interested in VLM camp. We have $536.00 available to help with costs ($386.00 from special offering and $150.00 from Sarah's Circle). This will be split evenly between the two campers. There was a motion to give another $4.00 to make it $540.00. Motion passed.

- We will be holding Birthday celebrations once a month for all who are celebrating their birthdays that month. Whoever is doing Hospitality that week will be asked to pick up a cake at Super One. This will start in September.
- Spirit of God Lutheran Church is interested in finding out more about sharing a pastor. They have asked if they can talk to someone from KLC for advice and have issued an invitation for June 7 at 3:00 pm, including a meal and discussion. This request will go to the Parish Council/Lori/Ronna/Frank.
- Parish picnic to be held August 12 at Rice Lake Park.

Action Items:

- We discussed the cost-of-living increase for Pastor Jeff, which is suggested at 2.4%. FOG has already approved this. A motion was made for KLC to approve the same, and passed. Since Pastor is retiring in 2027, there will not be a performance review for him this year.

k. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. with recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy Wiecks, Council Secretary

Outdoors, weather permitting
Take-out available
Reservations not needed

**Save the Date!**

**KLC Fish Fry**
**Tuesday, July 14**

**5:00-6:30**

**$12/person**
**$30/family**

Night at the Huskies Baseball Game
Tuesday, August 4th,
6:35 p.m.
Tickets $11.50

Sign up in the Messiah Room by July 27 so we can get a section reserved for us!

# July Worship Responsibilities at Kenwood Lutheran Church

| | Altar Guild | Welcome Center Attendant | Communion Server | Hospitality | Acolyte | Scripture Reader | Ushers |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **5** | Jean Laine | Wendy Hansen | Nadine Moeller | Volunteers Needed | | Barb Lucia | Kathy Erholtz & Sherry Goutermont |
| **12** | Jean Laine | Lori Robison | Lori Robison | Volunteers Needed | | Lynn Hegrenes | Kenny & Charlene Harkins |
| **19** | Jean Laine | Darlene Roebke | Dennis Kolari | Volunteers Needed | | Barb Teske | Peggy Pruden & Nadine Moeller |
| **26** | Jean Laine | Deb Jarvis | Lynn Hegrenes | Volunteers Needed | | Lynn Hegrenes | Cindy Peterson & Brad Kamphenkel |

## Sponsor a Maple Tree!

Our Boulevard Needs Your Help!

Consider sponsoring a new maple tree as an individual or family. New trees will cost about $350 each new soil and all the fixin's (mulch, etc.) We are looking for 3 on the boulevard and 1 more in our lower lawn area, if possible.

Questions? See Tom M.

Thanks for helping!

Share your kid's colorful creations with **#MyHighlightsKid** for the chance to be featured on our Social Media!

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1<br><br>Church Office Closed<br>11:30am Senior Lunch<br>5:30pm A.A. | 2<br><br>Church Office Closed | 3<br><br>Church Office Closed | 4<br><br>Church Office Closed |
| 5<br><br>9:30am Hospitality<br>10:30am Sanctuary Worship | 6<br><br>9:00am Tai Chi | 7<br><br>8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)<br>7:00pm Harbormasters | 8<br><br>5:30pm A.A. | 9<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>9:00am Tai Chi<br>6:30pm Boards and Teams<br>7:30pm Council Meeting | 10<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation | 11<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation |
| 12<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>9:30am Hospitality<br>10:30am Sanctuary Worship | 13<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>9:00am Tai Chi | 14<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)<br>5:00 pm Fish Fry<br>7:00pm Harbormasters | 15<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>5:30pm A.A. | 16<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>9:00am Tai Chi | 17<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation | 18<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation |
| 19<br><br>Newsletter Deadline<br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>9:00am All Are Welcome Discussion Group<br>9:30am Hospitality<br>10:30am Sanctuary Worship | 20<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>9:00am Tai Chi | 21<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)<br>7:00pm Harbormasters | 22<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>5:30pm A.A. | 23<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation<br>9:00am Tai Chi | 24<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation | 25<br><br>Pastor Holter on Vacation |
| 26<br><br>9:30am Hospitality<br>10:30am Sanctuary Worship | 27<br><br>9:00am Tai Chi | 28<br><br>8:30am TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)<br>7:00pm Harbormasters | 29<br><br>5:30pm A.A. | 30<br><br>9:00am Tai Chi | 31 | |

## Bridge of Faith Parish

## Outdoor Worship & Potluck

save the date

**Wednesday, Aug. 12, 6:00 p.m.**
**Rice Lake Park (4137 Stockholm Rd.)**