



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.



# Baxter & Saron Church News

## September 2023

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Baxter & Saron Lutheran Church**  
Serving together to make Jesus known in our communities and beyond

Pastor Matt Danielson cell: 320-226-5845 email: pr.d7033@gmail.com  
Church Office 320-269-8260 baxtersaron@msn.com  
Church Office Mailing Address: PO Box 43 Montevideo, MN 56265 baxtersaron.weebly.com  
Church Office Physical Address: 802 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Montevideo, MN 56265



### Friends in Christ,

I have a couple of friends who have always maintained that the Fourth of July is the end of summer. While I wouldn't go quite that far, it does seem that the first of August marks the point of transition from summer to fall. All of the vague plans that I had in mind for confirmation and worship back in June need to become reality now. We hope that the pews will fill up after the summer dip in attendance, that the bank balances will be built up with increased giving, and that our Sunday School, confirmation, and other youth programming will be successful.

My summer has been dominated by mental health treatment. After a long period of waiting for insurance issues to resolve, I began Ketamine infusions at JMHS in Dawson. The infusions themselves take an hour. With driving time, waiting time, and not infrequent delays, each infusion took about three hours out of my day. I generally slept through the infusions, but the Ketamine left me groggy. I had infusions twice a week through July and once a week through August. After Labor Day, it will be determined what is needed for a maintenance dose. At this point, we are looking at possible medication changes. Overall, things are going much better. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate all of the support that you all have given me.

The confirmation curriculum this year will focus on the covenant relationship between God and God's people. This will take us from Genesis to Jesus. I am confident that this will be a useful framework for better understanding the story of our faith. Over MEA weekend, we will be going on an overnight retreat to Abbey of the Hills.

During worship this year, we will be learning more about the different elements of worship. For example, we will look at each article of the creed, beginning with and building upon Luther's Small Catechism. The Joint Ministry Board has agreed to be a sounding board for worship ideas and suggestions from the congregations. The minutes from their last meeting are included in the newsletter.

In many ways, fall is a fresh start in the church. Please don't hesitate to share your thoughts, concerns, and ideas about worship and other church activities. You can contact me, a member of the council, or members of the Youth and Family or Ministry Boards.

**In Christ,  
Pastor Matt**



## OFFICIAL ACTS - JULY & AUGUST



### Allan Peterson

Pastor Matt officiated at the funeral service for Allan Peterson at Lac qui Parle Lutheran Church on July 1, 2023.

### Roger Andreson

Pastor Matt officiated at the memorial service for Roger Andreson at Anderson-TeBeest Funeral Home in Montevideo on July 27, 2023.

### Delores Ochs

A memorial service was held for Delores Ochs at Anderson-TeBeest Funeral Home in Granite Falls on August 4, 2023.

### Delores Sandberg

Pastor Matt officiated at the memorial service for Delores Sandberg at Salem Lutheran Church on August 14, 2023.

*We extend sympathy to the families at this time of loss.*

## PARISH NEWS

### September Worship

- **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**                      **PENTECOST 14**  
No Worship Services – please visit area churches
- **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**                      **PENTECOST 15**  
Karen Jacobson leads worship  
Rally Sunday at Baxter
- **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**                      **PENTECOST 16**  
Jeff Thompson, from the Gideons, speaks at Baxter  
Communion & Noisy Offering  
Baxter - Lac qui Parle Walk of Hope  
Saron - Hope Harbor in Marshall  
Rally Sunday at Saron
- **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**                      **PENTECOST 17**  
Noisy Offering for local food shelves

## Attendance Figures

Baxter Attendance Figures			
Date	# Attending in 2022	Date	# Attending in 2023
6/26	29	6/25	23
6/29	Joint - Unknown	7/2	25
7/10	30	7/9	28
7/17	31	7/16	19
7/24	38	7/23	19
7/31	23	7/30	24
8/7	32	8/6	19
8/14	25	8/13	15
8/21	27	8/20	Not Available

Saron Attendance Figures			
Date	# Attending in 2022	Date	# Attending in 2023
6/26	21	6/25	38
6/29	Joint - Unknown	7/2	Not Available
7/10	25	7/9	34
7/17	25	7/16	24
7/24	15	7/23	14
7/31	26	7/30	31
8/7	22	8/6	31
8/14	26	8/13	14
8/21	11	8/20	13



- Military Service Personnel & their families
- Our Companion Synod in South Africa
- For Continued Healing

- \*Cindy Jurgenson
- \*Susan Siverhus
- \*Sharla Kruger
- \*Shirley Sachariason
- \*Chantel Deuth
- \*Jerry Johnson

*Please contact the church office for a specific prayer request or if a home or hospital visit is needed.*

### Change Worship Times

**PLEASE REMEMBER** that on Sun. Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> we go back to our regular worship times of 9:00 am at Baxter and 10:30 am at Saron.

**Lakeside Worship**  
**Sun. Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 am**  
**Milan Beach Resort**  
**(Randall's – Lac qui Parle Lake).**  
**Bring a lawn chair.**  
**In case of inclement weather, the**  
**service will be held at Kviteseid**  
**Lutheran Church in Milan.**

Please Note...

**The Joint Bible Study will NOT meet in September.**  
**We will meet next on Wed. Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at**  
**The Rivers in Montevideo and all are welcome.**

Rally Sunday at Baxter

Rally Sunday, which marks the beginning of the Sunday school year, will be on **September 10<sup>th</sup>** at Baxter! Sunday School will normally meet following the sermon, **but the first day of Sunday School we are going to have a fun day with a Bouncy House and treats!** The whole congregation is invited to share rolls, juice & coffee with us.



Rally Sunday at Saron

Rally Sunday, which marks the beginning of the Sunday school year, will be on **September 17<sup>th</sup>** at Saron! Sunday School will meet at 9:45 am, before the worship service.



Baxter Turkey Dinner - Wed. Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>

This year Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Baxter will be serving our **Annual Turkey Dinner & Fall Bazaar on Wed. Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 4:30 pm. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children (not available at takeout). We will also have a drawing for a quilt made by Judi Eggert and we will be selling Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Baxter cups & saucers and small bowls. The proceeds from the Turkey Dinner support our missionary, and support many organizations that minister to the needs of our local people. When you volunteer your time and energy or make a contribution toward the Turkey Dinner you are helping to make Christ's love known in our communities and beyond.



WELCA Fall Gathering

The Lac qui Parle Conference of the Women of the ELCA will hold their Annual Fall Gathering on **Tue. Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> at Granite Falls Lutheran Church.** The morning will begin at 9:00 am with coffee & a treat. Registration cost is \$5. **The program will be music provided by the Bridges Choir of Granite Falls.**

**Everyone is welcome to attend this event!**

## Joint Ministry Board Minutes

Saron Lutheran & Our Savior's Lutheran Church - Baxter  
Joint Ministry Board

August 3, 2023 @ 7pm

Church Office in Montevideo

Members present: Lyndsae Dack, Lori Formo, Michelle May, Dustin Johnson, Judi Eggert.

Members absent: David Lipps, Heidi Lipps

Also present: Pastor Matt Danielson

Pastor Matt opened the meeting to begin discussion of the purpose of the committee and how it could function. The Committee discussed meeting regularly after certain periods of the Church calendar to reflect and recap on what went well or could be changed, as well as to discuss upcoming activities. The Committee agreed to meet about quarterly. The purpose of the Committee is for members to bring comments, suggestions, questions, and concerns regarding service, including, but not limited to, music selections, lessons, Bible stories, order of service, any other comments or ideas. It was also noted that Saron and Baxter do not have to do the same thing if members want certain requests at each church.

The Committee discussed that some changes may need to be gradual to accommodate members who prefer tradition and those who enjoy contemporary approaches or programming. The Committee wants service to be non-objectionable and reach each member in their own way. The Committee discussed using the months where there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday to introduce new ideas.

Some of the suggestions discussed by the group include:

- Lent service timing was discussed and the possibility of a supper to assist those who struggle to attend at 6:30 due to the timing
- Monthly potluck
- Continuation of the Cookie & Coffee before or after service
- Discussion of ideas for Advent including talking about various people from the Bible
- Discussion about different sections of the Apostle's Creed or Lord's Prayer.

- Explain what different parts of the service mean and being intentional about what we do and why
- How do we engage with each other during service? Learning happens when we discuss, not just listen.
  - o We each take different things from service and how do we learn and listen from each other?
  - o Do other churches engage in discussion during the service? No.
- Variety of music including contemporary music, VBS songs, as well as traditional
  - o Baxter may need to turn off audio when playing some songs to avoid copyright issues on Facebook streaming
- Bring back bulletins from other churches to gather ideas and suggestions
- Would there be an interest in evening or outdoor service?
- One church service at either Baxter OR Saron during the summer.
- Continue to do the Live Stream

The Committee also discussed the future of candles in the church. It has become difficult to find candles to fit the candelabras. There are nice electric candles or oil versions to consider. Pastor Matt also explained we will be using the pouring chalice at upcoming services. We also talked about the Confirmation kids picking up the dirty cups during service to earn confirmation points.

The Committee will meet again on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Church Office. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was concluded with a prayer.





### News from the Rosendahl Family

Dear friends and team members for Christ,  
 We loaded the semi on Friday and it will arrive today in Del Rio, TX. Please pray for everything to go well as it in unloading in 115-degree temperature. The load will be taken from the USA to Acuna, Mexico and then taken down to Puebla Mexico and onto Chetumal, MX. GCOM will pay for the load from Acuna to Puebla and southern Mexico churches will join together to pay for the second leg. The cost of transporting this load to Puebla will be about \$1500. The next load will be leaving Minnesota within a month. I plan to return to Texas and Mexico in mid-September. We are still looking for the right van. Please pray that God leads us to it. Thanks for all you do to help this ministry with your prayers, financial support, ministry items, and encouragement. We love and appreciate all of you and we keep you in our prayers always.

Love, Kevin, Sylvia, and Joshua Rosendahl

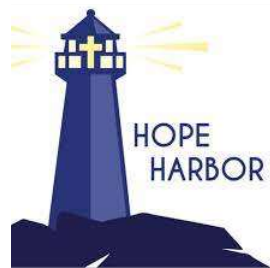
### **\* BAXTER NEWS \***

#### Baxter Bible Presentation

The following 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will be presented with a Bible on Rally Sunday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### Baxter

- Embry Bossert**
- Zane Nguyen**
- Easton Skogrand**
- Paisley Stone**



### Hope Harbor

The Hope Harbor program is a voluntary placement option where teens ages 12-17 and their families have the opportunity to heal from past hurts and destructive choices. We offer a small, structured program that incorporates the entire family with a focus on Jesus Christ in all things in a ministry setting.

Hope Harbor offers loving, family-style care. Just like at home, residents prepare meals and eat together, share bedrooms, do their laundry, relax in the living room and use the yard for games. Biblical counseling and non-accredited private school are provided on-site. Our teens learn healthier habits as they build skills to serve them for years to come.

Hope Harbor builds strong families. We believe that for the entire family to heal, the entire family needs to heal. All Hope Harbor locations require that the parents of the teens in our program travel to our site weekly for parenting classes, biblical counseling, and family visits for the duration of the program. Those sessions are held on Fridays, on-site, in person, starting week one. This is an enormous commitment for parents – work schedules must be altered, travel time and expense incurred, childcare arranged for siblings. But we promise you, it is worth it. The time and energy families put into those Fridays are an investment in your entire family.

[hopeharbormn.org](http://hopeharbormn.org)

### Baxter Blessed the Quilts on June 25<sup>th</sup>

Thank you very much to all those who worked on quilts this year! We were able to complete 45 quilts and 9 baby quilts.

The quilts are distributed for the following needs:

- Santa Anonymous - Montevideo
- Project Turnabout
- Lac qui Parle Family Services
- Food Shelf - Montevideo
- Dawson Ambulance
- Dawson/Boyd & Montevideo Proms
- Graduates
- Baptisms
- Any Local Needs





## Baxter Turkey Dinner Notes – Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>

- **Everyone needs to wear either a Thrivent Live Generously T shirt or the original yellow OSL, helping hands, T shirt.** They are hanging on the coat rack at church, lots of sizes.
- There will be a garden produce and home bake goods table. We look forward to your donations of your abilities in the garden and kitchen.
- Plastic grocery bags will be used, donate extras you may have.
- There is a quilt raffle. Thanks to Judi Eggert for making the colorful quilt. Tickets will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5; sold supper day.
- Coolers are needed for ice to keep coleslaw cold for take-out. If we can borrow yours, please leave at church Sunday, Sept. 10, or bring on Wednesday.
- Lefse rolling and such begins at 8:30 am on Saturday, Sept. 9, come and enjoy.
- Pies start getting cut at noon; we box up 500 for take-out. Please get your 3 to church at noon or soon after, as you can.
- We will have the church's old china out; if you are interested in a keepsake, or have a use, you are welcome to take some.
- Letters with work positions have been sent out. Any questions please call the committee listed or talk to the chair of your area.
- **Looking forward to another great community service and a successful gathering of our church community working our mission.**

**Serving together to make Jesus known in our communities and beyond**

## Grace Christian Outreach Ministries

Grace Christian Outreach Ministries needs our help! We are collecting **school supplies** in **September**. There is a donation box in the Chapel. Any questions, please contact Cody Dyshaw or a Council member. Thank you for supporting this wonderful mission!



## **\* SARON NEWS \***

### LWR School Kits

Saron is collecting supplies for Lutheran World Relief school kits. Each kit contains the following items:

- 4 - Notebooks (with 70 sheets)
- 1 - Ruler (30 centimeters)
- 1 - Pencil Sharpener
- 1 - Pair of Blunt Scissors
- 5 - #2 Pencils with Erasers
- 5 - Blue or Black Ballpoint Pens
- 1 - Box of 16 or 24 Crayons
- 1 - Eraser – 2 ½ "



### Saron Fundraising

The Saron Fundraising Committee has been discussing ideas for our fundraiser in November.

There are many options to choose from, but it just depends on how much time and work everyone is willing to put into it. We would love to hear your thoughts and opinions on the kind of fundraisers we should have! Should we do two fundraisers a year or only one? We do have the community center reserved in November, if needed this year.

Please contact us by phone, text, or visit with us when you see us, and share your thoughts!

Pastor Matt – 320-226-5846    Tami – 320-226-6078  
 Vicki – 952-807-2403        Paula – 320-226-5003  
 Mary – 320-226-6301



## Diet and Alzheimer's

We've all heard about how important it is to stay both physically and mentally active to prevent Alzheimer's Disease, but did you know that your diet can play a role too? Recent studies have shown that how we eat can affect our brains! It's no surprise that an unhealthy diet causes obesity, diabetes and heart disease which put you at greater risk for developing Alzheimer's, but researchers are looking at the relationship between your gut microbes (tiny organisms in the digestive system) and age-related processes that lead to Alzheimer's.

One diet that shows some promising evidence is the Mediterranean diet, which emphasizes fruits, veggies and limited red meat. A variation of this, called MIND also incorporates a high blood pressure prevention diet (high blood pressure is a risk factor for Alzheimer's).

The MIND diet focuses on plant-based foods from 10 healthy food groups.

- ♥ Leafy green vegetables, at least 6 servings/week (talk to your doctor if you are on a blood thinner)
- ♥ Other vegetables, at least 1 serving/day
- ♥ Berries, at least 2 servings/week
- ♥ Whole grains, at least 3 servings/day
- ♥ Fish, 1 serving/week
- ♥ Poultry, 2 servings/week
- ♥ Beans, 3 servings/week
- ♥ Nuts, 5 servings/week (watch salt content)
- ♥ Olive oil
- ♥ Limited servings of red meats, sweets, cheese, butter/margarine, and fast/fried foods.

Two recent studies suggest that, as part of this diet, eating fish may be the strongest factor influencing slowing down the brain's aging. They are found that the anti-inflammatory and antioxidant benefits of eating the MIND diet help protect the brain from developing other forms of dementia. So next time you visit with your doctor, ask about information to help you eat a more MINDful diet!

Your friend in Christ,  
Tera Gades, RN-Parish Nurse



## Baxter Council Meeting Minutes

### **Baxter Council Meeting Minutes – August 9, 2023**

Meeting was called to order by President Cody Dyshaw. Members present included: Inez Bjerkeset, Judi Eggert, Jeremy Enevoldsen, Jeff Johnson, Brenda Berends, Dick Erickson, Deb Anderson, Dave Croymans, Loren Bjerkeset, & Kalen Bjerkeset

Staff present: Pastor Matt Danielson, Gayle Staab

**M/S/C** (Jeff/Dick) to accept the Pastor's Report as printed.

**M/S/C** (Judi/Inez) to accept the Secretary's as printed.

**M/S/C** (Dick/Jeremy) to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed.

**M/S/C** (Dave/Judi) to accept the Office Account Report as printed.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Front Sidewalk-reviewed quote from FB Installation LLC out of Montevideo

1) Sidewalk from parking lot up to the church minus 3 sections in front of the doors/section below the steps-cost would be \$12,000.

2) Continue from sidewalk down to the service road in front of the church. It would curve around and serve as a ramp-cost would be \$5,000.

-This includes concrete cost (4,000# mix), labor, rebar, gravel, sealer & disposal of old cement.

-Cody will be getting one more quote for comparison and then a decision can be made.

- Church Siding on Bell Tower-Fixed 6/26/23. Paid \$900 bill to Golden Touch Construction in July.

- Outside Landscaping (East Side) – This will be put on hold as it seems gutters took care of issue.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Confirmation Ages-start at 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade?

Decided that age should be decided by the parents. Pastor Matt will have meeting Sept. 20 & confirmation will start Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>.

-Matt brought up bringing kids to Abby of the Hills. He will get pricing for next meeting. Should have money available thru Sunday School funds.

- Grace Christian Outreach Ministries August/September Donations – School Supplies. Truck was loaded August 4 to go to Texas and then onto Mexico.

- Thermostat Updates – Smart Thermostat to remotely set temp & monitor remotely-Cody will get a quote for the next meeting.

- Furnace Replacement Quote – Downstairs furnace is nearing end of life. Get quotes from Olsen, Chapel Central, etc.

- Loan at the bank is \$15,000. This will max out in August. Council decided to setup our own loan to use money from our investment funds. The hope is to replenish this as quickly as possible. We will start with \$10,000 & revisit in Sept. (Judi/Dick) & council approved.
- Dick E. suggested maybe going to electric candles for on the altar in front of the church since candles are getting hard to get & find. This will be brought up to WELCA to see what they think & then a decision can be made.
- Inez B. suggested having a Sunday Fun Day in October. Matt suggested having it on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Youth and Family board to setup & organize. The next Council meeting will be Wed. Sept. 6th at 7:00 pm at the church.  
Lord's Prayer / Adjourn (Loren/Judi)  
Brenda Berends, Secretary

### Saron Council Meeting Minutes

#### **The Saron Council Meeting Minutes - July 26<sup>th</sup>**

Members Present: Steve J., Steve R., Stan, Shaun, Janice S., Paul, Ross, Diane, and Izzy

The meeting was called to order by Steve J.

The pastor's written report was unanimously approved.

Secretary's report was approved. Janice and Paul made the motions.

Diane went over the Treasurer's report. After a few questions, Heidi and Paul made the motion to approve the report. The report was approved.

The office report was also approved as presented.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- We are short about \$10,000 for the narthex repair. Some of the insurance money has been used to pay for the remodeling. Steve R. made a motion to allow the treasurer to borrow money to pay our bills. Stan seconded the motion. This motion passed. Diane was thanked for sending out the letter that explained all of the expenses we have had in the last few months. She did a great job in presenting the facts. Now it is up to the congregation to come up with the cash.

- Izzy will start doing the storm damage work sometime in August.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Steve J. discussed the picnic supper for August 30<sup>th</sup> at Heritage Hill. The Saron council is in charge of this event. We are supposed to pass the word around. Being no other business, the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

### **Baxter September Birthdays**

Larry Borstad	9/3
JoAnn Smaagaard	9/5
Carol Litke	9/5
Pepin Strand	9/9
Lokken Gladish	9/12
Hayden Erickson	9/14
Ashley Benson	9/16
Ryan Borstad	9/16
Tyler Gades	9/20
Brenda Stone	9/20
Jodi Enevoldsen	9/20
Judi Eggert	9/20
Lincoln Jurgenson	9/21
Berta Bjerkeset	9/23
Katherine Olson	9/27



### **Saron September Birthdays**

Kevin Olson	9/3
Mike Knudson	9/5
Todd Rodeberg	9/8
Aleah Walsh	9/12
Mason McDougal	9/13
Scarlett Krogsrud	9/13
Paul Nyheim	9/13
David Sletten	9/14
Emily Rodeberg	9/15
Doug Schultz	9/18
Andrea Hinrichs	9/20
Ron Schultz	9/20
Kelby Jaenisch	9/21
Heather Rozman	9/25
Derek Rodeberg	9/25
Wyatt Haugen	9/27
Gloria Schularick	9/28
Alyssa Formo	9/28