

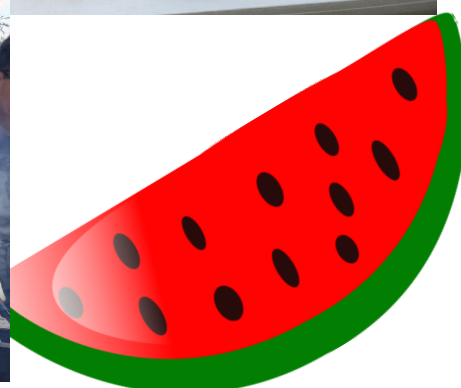
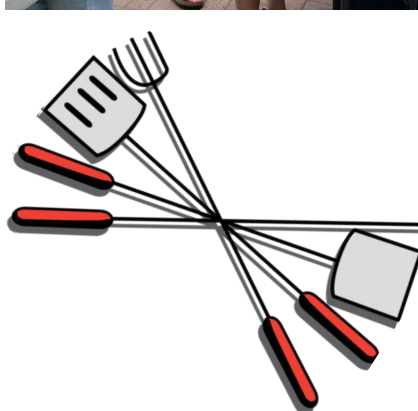
Annual picnic at Northlands Rescue Mission



Thanks to everyone who brought food or volunteered to help make the Northlands Rescue Mission Cookout such a successful event! We were blessed with delicious food and wonderful fellowship. Your contributions were greatly appreciated by many.



~Community Connections Team



Sharon Sharings

Monthly Newsletter of Sharon Lutheran Church

1720 South 20th Street, Grand Forks ND | www.sharonlutheran.org | 701-772-3122

Being a youth-friendly congregation

Working with youth brings me a lot of joy as I get to accompany them on their faith journeys. I am a firm believer in the idea that our youth are not just the future of our church but are a very important part of our present. They have a role to play in the life of our church and we need to affirm them and welcome them in the full expression of our congregation.

1. A youth friendly congregation helps youth sense that they are part of the church. Sometimes we unknowingly say the youth are not allowed at church by what we say and do. You may have heard these: "Children are not members yet, they are members when they are confirmed, they will get their turn." How do these words affect our kids and families?
2. A youth friendly congregation is where youth know that the "adults who are in charge" love kids. Youth Ministry is not a program nor is it a separate ministry in our church. It is part of the work and fellowship we do as a congregation. The "adults in charge" in the congregation need an attitude that says the youth belong and are welcome as members of the Body of Christ. The leaders must value the youth so much as to plan, design, and say words that deliberately include the youth.

Here's what youth friendly congregations do:

- Understand that in order to make youth feel welcome, we need to welcome their parents.

- Create a sense of belonging. Make the youth feel like Sharon is **their** church.
- Make youth feel comfortable in all areas of our building.
- Relaxed fit – do not overwhelm youth with too much friendliness.
- Talk to the youth. Engage with them and make them know that you care about them. Ask about what they are doing outside of church and show interest in their interests too.
- Involve youth in all areas of church. Make worship youth friendly. Include them on council and on teams.

Lastly, a youth friendly congregation values the gifts of children. It doesn't shove kids into the background or kick them out of worship when they cry or are being fussy. Instead, it recognizes these "noises" as signs of life and congregational vitality.

As we begin another fiscal year this month, let us wonder how we are being welcoming to our young people and what we can do to make Sharon even more youth-friendly.

Pastor Tawanda Murinda



Please join us in thanking the members of Wesley United Methodist Church of Grand Forks. Earlier this season, their congregation dissolved and was absorbed by Zion United Methodist Church.



projector. It just so happened that one of our projectors in the sanctuary had broken and was beyond repair. It was, as they say, serendipity. The only charge to us was the labor fees to install the projector.

When this plan was announced, their council contacted HB Sound & Light and

instructed them to find a church who could use a projector—the only stipulation was that they could not charge the new congregation for the

Again, our most sincere thanks to Wesley United! May God bless you all.

The Sharon Lutheran Church Rummage Sale is returning on Friday, August 26!!!

So pack up all your treasures and get ready to volunteer!

Here is some information that you should know:

1. You will be able to **drop off items** for the Rummage Sale beginning on **Monday, August 22 until Wednesday, Aug 24** . Watch for specific drop off times in the upcoming bulletins, E-sharings and the August newsletter.

2. You will be asked to place your items in the appropriate rooms by category so consider dividing up your items accordingly.

3. We are **accepting** donations of kitchen items, knick knacks, linens, books, gently-used clothing, toys, games, books, *small* furniture items, and *small* appliances in working condition.

New this year: The Sharon Specialty Boutique! This is where we will sell our brand name, excellent /new condition and special items!

4. We are **unable to accept** computers, TVs, large appliances, large furniture, pianos

(electric keyboards are fine), large exercise equipment, infant car seats and cribs home-recorded videos and clothing that is dirty, stained or has “unfashionable” holes.

We are looking for volunteers to direct donors to which room they should take their donations at drop-off, set up the sale, price items and work the day of the sale. Sign up will be available soon on Sign-up Genius at and at the Welcome Center in the Narthex.

The Rummage Sale proceeds are used to maintain and improve Our Sharon Lutheran Church Home. Please volunteer to be part of this fun endeavor!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1		1 OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON	2
3 9:00 am Worship (Celebration Hall and Sanctuary) 10:30 am Worship (Celebration Hall)	4 OFFICE CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY	5	6 6:00 pm Worship—Celebration Hall	7	8 OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON	9
10 9:00 am Worship—Sanctuary 10:30 am Worship—Sanctuary (No services in Celebration Hall)	11 5:15 pm Evangelism Team 6:30 pm Properties Team	12 5:30 pm Stewardship Team	13 1:30 pm Sarah Circle 6:00 pm Outdoor Worship	14 5:00 pm Lay Ministry AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	15 OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON	16
17 9:00 am Worship—Celebration Hall 10:30 am Worship—Celebration Hall (No services in the Sanctuary)	18 5:30 pm Public Relations Team	19 1:00 pm Mary Circle	20 6:00 pm Worship—Celebration Hall	21	22 OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON	23
24 9:00 am Worship (Celebration Hall and Sanctuary) 10:30 am Worship (Celebration Hall)	25	26 6:00 pm Church Council—South Hall	27 6:00 pm Worship—Celebration Hall NOISY OFFERING WEDNESDAY	28	29 OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON	30
31 9:00 am Worship (Cell Sanc 10:30 am Worship (Celebration Hall) NOISY OFFERING SUNDAY				July		



Sharon Lutheran Church
1720 S 20th St
Grand Forks, ND 58201

Join us for in-person worship

**Sunday Morning 9:00 in the Sanctuary and Celebration Hall
and 10:30 in Celebration Hall
and Wednesday Evenings in Celebration Hall 6:00**

Worship will also be available online on our website: www.sharonlutheran.org

Sharon Lutheran Staff

Interim Administrative Pastor Karen Young Trenne.....(pastorkaren@sharonlutheran.org)
Deacon Jamie Travers(jtravers@sharonlutheran.org)
Associate Pastor Tawanda Murinda.....(tmurinda@sharonlutheran.org)
Office Manager.....Missy Thompson (mthompson@sharonlutheran.org)
Administrative & Media AssistantBarb Jorgenson (bjorgenson@sharonlutheran.org)
Finance Manager.....Stephanie Leighton (sleighton@sharonlutheran.org)
Dir. Elementary, Middle School, Youth Music.....David Berger (dberger@sharonlutheran.org)
Director of Christian Education.....Cheryl Nyhlen (education@sharonlutheran.org)
Dir. High School Youth, Young Adults.....Steve DeKrey (sdekrey@sharonlutheran.org)
Education & Youth Assistant.....Heather Peters (hpeters@sharonlutheran.org)
Director of Music Ministries.....Roxanne Gessler (rgessler@sharonlutheran.org)
Organist.....Sue Kerr & Carolyn Tunseth
Sanctuary Choir Director.....Jack Boyer
Custodian.....Dan Kuzel
Office.....office@sharonlutheran.org

Church Office Summer Hours
Monday - Thursday 8:30am to 5:00pm
Friday 8:30am to Noon

Faith Formation Ministries

July 2022 News

Vacation Bible School 2022-Kingdom Rock!



We completed VBS on June 9—a week of dragons, wizards, storytellers, creative crafts, yummy snacks, lively music, and delightful participants (children and adults!). We learned about King David's writing of Psalm 23 as a young shepherd, Esther risking her life to save the Jewish people, Jesus dying on the cross for our sins and rising from the dead, and Josiah, who became king when he was eight years old! AND we learned many ways that God helps us Stand Strong. Thank you to all who helped plan and prepare for this event, and to all who led and assisted with the week's activities!

UPPER ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

If you have not yet registered for 2022-2023 church school or 6th-10th grade Confirmation, you can find the registration link on the Sharon Lutheran website at <http://www.sharonlutheran.org/eventreg>

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Confirmation Registration - All families who will have 9th grade and 10th grade students in the fall should have them registered for Confirmation. You can find the registration link on the Sharon Lutheran website at <http://www.sharonlutheran.org/eventreg>

High School Trip to Red Willow Bible Camp - Come spend a week as a camper with Steve and some of our High School students. Steve is leading a trip to Red Willow July 17-22. Sharon is providing this week of High School camp for \$180 per student. This is open to current 9th-12th grade students. If you would like to attend please email Steve at sdekrey@sharonlutheran.org, call the church office, or come see Steve in person.

If any of our young people from Sharon Lutheran are looking for a great summer job, you should definitely check out Red Willow Bible camp as well. Check out their website at <https://www.redwillowministries.com/> to apply.

9th Grade Confirmation - Concluded for the program year.

10th Grade Confirmation - If you have not made your confirmation stole yet, please arrange a time to come to the church during business hours to get that completed.

ReNew - Will meet once or twice a month over the summer. Please check emails or contact Steve for dates and times.



Greetings and Encouragement to you all!

Remember! It is not too late for any of our students in grades 9-12 to register for Senior High AMP Camp at Red Willow! We will be using the Boundless theme that was to be a part of the Youth Gathering, and it will be a week filled with outdoor activities, camp fires, and even making some new friends from around our Synod. Senior High Camp is July 17th-22nd. If you are interested let me know ASAP! --Steve

When I was young, eons ago, one of my favorite hymns was "In the Garden". The second verse and chorus go as follows:

*He speaks and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing
And the melody that He gave to me*

Within my heart is ringing

And He walks with me

And He talks with me

And He tells me I am His own

And the joy we share as we tarry there

None other has ever known.

I still love that hymn because it reminds me to stop once in a while and just listen, just look, just breathe in the wonder of God's creation. What a gift! May you find time this summer to enjoy the beauty around you.

Grace and Peace. --Cheryl

Registration Time is here for Church School and Confirmation 2022-23!

Summer has arrived, and along with it all the summer activities—sports, recreational swimming, vacations, staycations, lake time, fishing, outdoor play, picnics, and _____ (you fill in the blank). Though it may seem there is "nothing to do" for church school or confirmation, behind the scenes we are preparing for the 2022-2023 program year, which will be upon us before we know it. Ours is an interesting planning process, because, unlike public schools, we have softer numbers to plan for classes, class sizes, and volunteers. That's why it's important for children to get registered as soon as it is possible, and for volunteers to step forward with their interest in serving. We also welcome constructive criticism on our past year—curriculum, administration, logistics, etc.

Ways you can serve as a volunteer in Christian Education: Sunday/Wednesday church school teacher; Sunday/Wednesday church school assistant; Sunday/Wednesday substitute; Wednesday church school principal; Confirmation group leader; Confirmation assistant; Confirmation substitute; member of the Christian Education Team. *Church school teachers must be in tenth grade or above. Sixth through ninth graders may serve as assistants.*

For more information on any of the above positions or registration, contact Cheryl (education@sharonlutheran.org) for Lambs-5th grade, Dave (dberger@sharonlutheran.org) for 6th-8th grades, or Steve (sdekrey@sharonlutheran.org) for 9th-11th grades. To register go to sharonlutheran.org/eventreg.

Amount needed in Operating Revenue each month per approved 2021-2022 is \$90,567

Revenue	May Actual 2021-2022	YTD Actual 2021-2022
Current Ministry Gifts	\$58,723	\$753,129
Loose/Misc. Offering Gifts	\$1,434	\$11,546
Operating Fund Memorial Gifts	\$-	\$70
Church School, Confirmation & VBS Registrations	\$975	\$9,987
Benevolence Gifts	\$721	\$11,351
Other Gifts and Donations	\$3,786	\$30,671
2021-2022 Total	\$65,639	\$816,754

	May Actual 2021-2022	YTD Actual 2021-2022
Operating Expenses	\$75,208	\$775,407
Mortgage Debt Reduction	\$6,455	\$67,639
Total Expenses	\$81,663	\$843,046
Revenue Exceeding Expenses	\$(16,024)	\$(26,292)

May Designated gifts received:

Capital Campaign-GIFT	\$3,164
Noisy Offering-Eastern European Disaster Response	\$410
Fellowship Donations	\$193
Undesignated Memorials	\$700
Sharon Cares Donations	\$10
Pastor Lynn Ronsberg ELCA Scholarship Fund	\$850
Wednesday Fellowship Meal	\$305
Faith Formation Donations	\$35
Church School Benevolences	\$152
	\$5,819

For those on the go, here's an easy way to donate to Sharon Lutheran Church using your cellphone!

Simply text "SHARON1720" to 73256. Click the link sent to you, choose which fund you'd like to donate to, and complete your payment information.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 701-772-3122 or email office@sharonlutheran.org



Memorials

In memory of Gerda Backman (Lorraine LeBlanc's mother): Ginger & Keith Trzynka, Lorraine LeBlanc

If you shop on Amazon, Please use this link:
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-0231628>

A portion of all sales are returned to Sharon Lutheran Church to support ministry and mission AT NO ADDITIONAL COST TO YOU!

Katey Ring recipient of scholarship

Sharon Lutheran is proud to present this year’s Pastor Lynn Ronsberg ELCA Memorial Scholarship to Katey Ring!

Katey will be attending Augustana University in Sioux Falls, SD and majoring in Exercise Science.

Thank you to our congregation for their support of this scholarship, as it helps Sharon’s graduates further their education at our ELCA-affiliated universities.

Congratulations, Katey!



Katey Ring

EXCITING NEWS!

Our church leadership has determined it is time for our new pictorial directory. Our dates of photography will be:

- August 2 2:00-8:30 pm
- August 3 2:00—8:30 pm
- September 27-30 2:00-8:30 pm
- October 1 10:00 am—4:00 pm
- October 4 2:00—8:30 pm
- October 8 10:00 am—4:00 pm

We will need volunteers to help with the sign up process for our families. Please contact Missy in the church office (mthompson@shronlutheran.org or 701-772-3122) before July 15 to volunteer to be a part of this project.

Summer Splash continues

Pick up a specially-marked envelope from the display in the narthex and return a special offering to the office this summer to help us meet our Summer Stewardship goal of \$7,500.

If no envelopes are available, please mark your check as “Summer Stewardship” so we can make sure it is credited to the correct line item. Thank you!

The Somethings 20’s & 30’s Ministry

Sharon’s young adult ministry is done in partnership with ELCA congregations in the GF area.

Stay tuned for Young Adult Ministry opportunities coming this summer and fall. Follow our social media to keep up to date!

It’s that time of year to start collecting school supplies for Lutheran World Relief. The following items are needed for 1 school kit:

- 1 drawstring bag
- 1 box of crayons 16 or 24 count
- 4 – 70 sheet notebooks
- 1 – pencil sharpener
- 1 – 30 centimeter ruler
- 1 – blunt scissors
- 5 - unsharpened #2 pencils
- 5 – black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 – 2 ½” eraser

These items can be left in the carts by the elevator.

Thank you from the Community Connections Team.



Let’s go back to the movies!

Our Faith in Film group is starting to go back to the movies. If you are interested in seeing a movie in the afternoons once a month, going out for a meal afterwards, and enjoying good fellowship, please contact Vicki at 701-757-0928 (Home) or email her at vlindberg@midco.net.



Welcome, Barb Jorgenson!

Barb started on Monday, June 13 as the new Administrative & Media Assistant. Barb was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pa. and moved to her husband's family farm in Fisher, MN. in 2011 and recently moved to Grand Forks in May. She has three sons, Andrew (34), Mathew (33), and Joey (18) and four grandchildren, Piper (9), Gavin (7), Mason (5), and Maggie (2). She is looking forward to meeting everyone and is very excited to be working at Sharon Lutheran. Stop by the office and say hi and welcome her to our church!



“Pray like it all depends on God, then when you are done, go work like it all depends on you.”

~Martin Luther