

Northwoods STaR Ministries Newsletter

PARISH OFFICE

W4950 State Highway 86
Ogema, WI 54459
715-767-5155

email: office@1stfamily.org

Web site: www.1stfamily.org

Office Hours: 8:30AM—12:30PM M-TH

Travis Rogers, Minister
715-271-7471 (cell)

Office Hours:

**Wednesday 9 am to 3 pm in the
Pastor's Study at First Ogema
Thursdays by Appointment**

Lyle Roe, Minister
715-613-3153 (cell)
715-229-2293 (home)

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH—OGEMA

W4950 State Highway 86
Ogema, WI 54459
Worship Service: 9:00 AM
3rd Sunday: 10:30 AM

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH—WESTBORO

N8909 Business Hwy. 13 PO Box 15
Westboro, WI 54490-0214
Worship Service: 10:30 AM
3rd Sunday: 9:00 AM

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH—PRENTICE

670 Main Street
Prentice, WI 54556

email: firstlutheranprentice@gmail.com

Office Hours: by appointment
715-428-2575

Worship Service: 10:30 AM
3rd Sunday: 8:30 AM

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH—BRANTWOOD

N5090 County Road D
Brantwood, WI 54513
Worship Service: 8:30 AM
3rd Sunday: 10 AM

**Visitors and new members are
always welcome!**



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

**MAY
2023**



From Northwoods STaR Ministries...

NSM JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE

Please join our four congregations of Northwoods STaR Ministries—
First Ogema, First Westboro, First Prentice and Zion Brantwood in
worshiping together on Memorial Day weekend.

**The joint worship service will be held at First Ogema on
Sunday, May 28, 2023 at 10:30 am.**

(This will be the only worship service on May 28.)

**There will be a fellowship potluck lunch after the service—
so bring a dish to pass.**

COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023

10:30 am

First Lutheran Church — Ogema



Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson presenting the award to Pastor Bob

Pastor Bob Giese accepted a Bright Spot Award for Northwoods STaR Ministries at the Synod Assembly on April 29, 2023, for our innovative ministry leadership in finding new paths for congregations to work together.



So we, being many, are
one body in Christ, and
individually members of
one another. Romans 12:5

From Travis...

The Law of Love (Part 2)

Continuing from my favorite epistle and my favorite chapter of that epistle is the epistle of *First John*, chapter 4.

Love Fulfills the Law

As I mentioned before, Kierkegaard, and others like him, have focused on Jesus' declaration that love fulfills the law. In other words, when we love as we should and act according to that love, the law will be fulfilled ... The commandments will go unbroken. Loving as God loves shows are kinship and obedience to God.

With all this in mind, let's read the *First John* passage again.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

God is Love

Look at that brilliant verse 16 which declares without reservation God is love and related to that is those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in them.

See how easy it is. The commandment is simply love. Saint Augustine put it another way by saying *love and do what you want*. That sounds rather free-spirited and "new agey" but the fact is that, if we truly love and love as we ought, then there is no danger in us doing what we want because what we want will always serve love.

The many commandments of the law have been condensed into the commandment to love. As Jesus said love the Lord your God with all your heart your mind and your strength and love your neighbor as yourself. Those aren't two commandments. They are the A and B sections of one commandment. The commandment is love and the two clauses simply tell us who to love.

Nothing to Fear

John concludes that passage by saying that, if we love as we ought, then there is nothing to fear on the day of judgment. Because "*there is no fear in love but*" and this is one of my favorite passages of the whole Bible "*perfect love casts out fear.*"



Offering Information...

Your generosity allows our churches to keep moving forward and fulfill the mission, vision, & call God has placed on them. We thank you for your support!

Offerings can be mailed to your church anytime:

FLC-Prentice, 670 Main Street, Prentice, WI 54556

FLC-Ogema, W4950 State Hwy 86, Ogema, WI 54459

FLC-Westboro, P.O. Box 15, Westboro, WI 54490

Zion LC, c/o Karin Kivela, W2476 US Hwy 8, Brantwood, WI 54513



Zion Brantwood's Second Quarter Noisy Offering will go to the Prentice School District Fill-A-Belly Backpack program.

Thank you to everyone for your help in collecting change to make a change.



Upcoming Events, Opportunities and Information...



Our best wishes to the graduates of
Northwoods STaR Ministries

A special recognition will be held for the following
graduates during worship at our NSM congregations on
Sunday, May 21, 2023

First Lutheran—Prentice | 8:30 am

Ryan Bergman

Zion Lutheran—Brantwood | 10 am

Ty Heikkinen

First Lutheran—Ogema | 10:30 am

Ryan Griebel & Emilie Hallstrand

As you look to the future, may the goals you have set be
accomplished and your lives fulfilled with God's Blessings.



Early Service at First Prentice with Breakfast

At the Prentice April W/ELCA meeting, it was decided to try something new for our early service Sundays. "Early Service at First Prentice with Breakfast" following. Hot breakfast will be served upstairs to enable all to participate. **We will be serving breakfast following worship the third Sunday of each month.**

The breakfast menu is already planned and will be provided for May 21. If someone wants to help with the June 18 breakfast, let Shawnda Hora, Deb Strobl or Bev Hartmann know.



JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST

Upcoming Events, Opportunities and Information...

Gardening & Community Beautification Project Spring Plant Give Away



Brantwood Community Center Pavilion
N1593 Stadium Road, Brantwood, WI

Tuesday, May 16, 2023
11:30 am—2:00 pm

Flowers, Vegetable Plants,
Seeds, Potting Soil

Open to the Public



Sponsored by Zion Lutheran Church, Brantwood WI and Thrivent

Sunday School, Confirmation and Youth...



Please note —
CYF, Sunday School and
Confirmation Classes all end
this month.

HAVE A
GREAT
SUMMER!

Christian Youth Formation at First Lutheran Church— Prentice

CYF schedule for May

- May 3 from 3:20—4:30 pm
Last Class until Fall



Confirmation Schedule for May

May 7, 2023—WESTBORO at 11:30 am
May 14, 2023—PRENTICE at 11:30 am

**MAY 14 WILL BE THE LAST CLASS
FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR**



**WESTBORO
SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**
The last day of Sunday
School for this school year
will be Sunday, May 14.



Watch for VBS registration forms
next month in the newsletter
and in our churches.



NSM 2023 Vacation Bible School...



Join us for an out-of-this-world adventure at our Parish-Wide VBS

First Lutheran Church-Ogema
July 30—August 3, 2023
(Sunday—Thursday)

5:00 - 8:30 p.m. (Supper @ 5)

All kids are welcome!

Age 4k—5th Grade (Entering Fall 2023)



Prepare to launch into a cosmic quest, have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world, and rocket on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun.

Sponsorship forms to help cover VBS expenses are printed below. Your help is greatly appreciated in making this amazing week happen for so many kids in our community.



Vacation Bible School July 30—August 3, 2023

Sponsorship Form

Thank you for sponsoring this important children's ministry.

At **Stellar VBS**, Kids will launch into a cosmic quest, have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world, and rocket on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun.

You can choose to sponsor any number of children, or just provide a financial gift.

Please mark your choice (X).

_____ I/We would like to sponsor 1 child at \$30.

_____ I/We would like to sponsor _____ (list number) children at \$30.

_____ I/We would like to donate \$_____ (any amount) toward Vacation Bible School.

Your name(s): _____

OR _____ I/We wish to remain anonymous.

Please make your check payable to First Lutheran Church-Ogema & mail this sponsorship sheet along with your check to: First Lutheran Church, W4950 State Hwy 86, Ogema, WI 54459.

Bible Study...

How We Got the Old Testament BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023 | 5:30 PM & 7 PM

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023 | 5:30 PM & 7 PM

First Lutheran Church—Ogema



May 25 will conclude the Old Testament Bible Study. We will be taking a break for the summer. Look for more information later this summer on starting the next session and discover the new topic for discussion.



Women of the ELCA



Upcoming Meeting—PRENTICE

Sunday, June 11, 2023 at 9:30 am

Upcoming Meeting—OGEMA

Sunday, May 21, 2023, at 9 am
(before church)

All women who are members are also members of Women of the ELCA (W/ELCA).

We are involved in many areas to promote health and well-being of our church and those who need our help elsewhere.

Please join us!

May Birthdays & Anniversaries



3 Kevin Pokela
4 Courtney Peterson
5 Megan Maki
Olivia Slattery
7 Tanner Mindock
10 Lois Berg
Kris Gerstberger
Lyla Voda
13 Cathy Cummings
Sharon Dering
Kurt Mueller

14 Lori Tlusty
Ida Mae Schwartz
Deb Strobl
17 Joyce Cummings
Arya Enders
19 Alyson Nehls
20 Scott Raab
21 Grady May
23 Kari Rodman
Candy Zutavern
27 Bernie Kraimer
29 Michelle Brehm
Jacky Peterson
Mary Hora



6 Noah Schantner
8 Breydon Johnson
Je' Ann Johnson
9 Sofie Staroba
10 Carli Frombach
11 Olivia Slattery
13 Logan Geiger
15 Ryan Bergman
17 Beverly Hartmann
18 Garret May
Grady May
24 Micky Esterholm




15 Bruce/Bonnie Mueller





May 2023 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1 9 am Quilters (O)	2	3 3:20-4:30 pm CYF @ First Prentice	4	5	6
7 8:30 am Worship (Z) 9 am Worship (O) 9:15 am Sunday School (W) 10:30 am Worship (P) 10:30 am Worship (W) 11:30 am Confirmation (W)	8 9 am Quilters (O) 6:30 pm Council Mtg (P)	9	10	11 5:30 pm Bible Study @ First Ogema 7 pm Bible Study @ First Ogema	12	13
14  7:30 am Council Mtg (O) 8:30 am Worship (Z) 9 am Worship (O) 9:15 am Sunday School (W) 10:30 am Worship (P) 10:30 am Worship (W) 11:30 am Confirmation (P)	15 9 am Quilters (O)	16 11:30 am to 2 pm Spring Plant Give Away @ Brantwood Community Center Pavilion	17	18	19	20
21 Grad Recognition Services— Zion, Prentice & Ogema 8:30 am Worship (P) (Breakfast following worship @ Prentice) 9 am Worship (W) 9 am W/ELCA Mtg (O) 10 am Worship (Z) 10 am Council Mtg (W) 10:30 am Worship (O)	22 9 am Quilters (O)	23	24	25 5:30 pm Bible Study @ First Ogema 7 pm Bible Study @ First Ogema	26	27
28 10:30 am Joint Worship Service at First Ogema (Potluck to follow worship)	29 9 am Quilters (O) 	30	31	1	2	3

MAY VOLUNTEERS

First Lutheran—Ogema Food Service
OPEN

Zion Lutheran—Brantwood Cleaning Duty
The Ladies of Zion



Northwoods STaR Ministries
W4950 State Highway 86
Ogema, WI 54459-8340



COME WORSHIP WITH US

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2023

Sunday May 7 5th Sunday of Easter

8:30 am Zion Brantwood	10:30 am Prentice
Linda Heikkinen-Leader	Shawnda Hora-Leader
9:00 am Ogema	10:30 am Westboro
Travis Rogers leading worship (Communion)	

Sunday May 14 6th Sunday of Easter

8:30 am Zion Brantwood	10:30 am Prentice
Travis Rogers leading worship (Communion)	
9:00 am Ogema	10:30 am Westboro
Mark Nyberg-Leader	Mary Wagenknecht-Leader

Sunday May 21 7th Sunday of Easter

Graduation Recognition Zion, Prentice & Ogema

8:30 am Prentice	10 am Zion Brantwood
Lyle Roe leading worship (Communion)	
9:00 am Westboro	10:30 am Ogema
Travis Rogers leading worship (Communion)	

Sunday May 28 Day of Pentecost

10:30 am Joint Service at First Ogema

Travis Rogers leading Worship (Communion)

POTLUCK MEAL TO FOLLOW WORSHIP



Please Note: If you need pastoral care or if you know of anyone who should be contacted about receiving a Communion or home visit, please contact the parish office at 715-767-5155 or email office@1stfamily.org.

Or, you may contact our Ministers:

Travis Rogers 715-271-7471 (cell)

Lyle Roe 715-613-3153 (cell) 715-229-2293 (home)