

# Northwoods STaR Ministries Newsletter

## PARISH OFFICE

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

email: [office@1stfamily.org](mailto:office@1stfamily.org)

Web site: [www.1stfamily.org](http://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](mailto: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.

**JUNE  
2023**

**From Northwoods STaR Ministries...**

Led by  
**BREAKING  
CHAINS**



Breaking Chains is a Christian Band from western Wisconsin called to serve God through music ministry. Through God's gifts of music, and a deep desire to worship God for his many blessings, Breaking Chains leads contemporary worship services that serve, teach, and inspire worshipers.

**JUNE  
25 | 10:30 AM  
2023**  
**LION'S PARK - PRENTICE, WI**

**COMMUNITY  
WORSHIP**

*Service*

**PLEASE JOIN THE CHURCHES OF NORTHWOODS STAR  
MINISTRIES WITH A WORSHIP SERVICE FOR THE WHOLE  
COMMUNITY AT THE PRENTICE LION'S PARK,  
SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023, AT 10:30 AM LED BY THE  
CHRISTIAN BAND, BREAKING CHAINS.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

**A POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP LUNCH WILL FOLLOW WORSHIP.**



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

**NORTHWOODS  
STaR MINISTRIES**  
"United in Christ, Sharing God's Love"

## From Travis...

### **The Law of Love (Part 3)**

**Scriptures:** 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-17

**Abiding in Love** The reading in the Gospel According to John and the First Epistle of John go together like a hand in glove. Jesus tells his disciples in the gospel to abide or remain in his love and that becomes the theme of chapter 15. That is, the relationship of God and Jesus with one another and the relationship within the community. It is a relationship of presence and mutuality. The Vine imagery used in the previous verses of John symbolizes how the life of the Christian community is shaped by love and intertwined with the abiding presence of God in Christ.

**Mirroring God's Love** In verses 9 and 10 of the Gospel, Jesus explains that the Father's love for Jesus mirrors Jesus' love for his disciples. Jesus then asked the community to mirror that love in their own actions. When he says, in verse 12, "this is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you," it is a restatement of what he said earlier in chapter 13, verses 34 and 35. But the extreme example of this is found in verse 13 where he says "no one has greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends" and this is what it means to love as Jesus loves. Jesus' death is the ultimate demonstration of his love. Jesus then defines friend and friendship by his own love. To be Jesus' friend is to love Jesus and be loved by him. Jesus ends that section with the commission to the community to go out and do works of love.

**What Love Looks Like** First John 5:1-6 continues the description of what love and faith look like and how they are required as proof of those born of God. Simply, everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God and, if you love the child, then you must love the parent. Of course, in our own lives, we have found that that is not always true. John, however, is talking about the divine relationship with humanity and, if we love the one who walked among us, then we will love the one who sent that emissary.

Beginning in verse one, John points out that what we believe about Christ shapes our understanding of love. The phrase Jesus is the Christ means that the Messiah came in the form of the historical figure Jesus. In verse 2, John says that the proof of our love of humanity and of God is when we do the commandments of God in Christ. But don't be fooled, we're not talking about the 10 Commandments or the hundreds (613) of legal statements found in the Hebrew Bible. We are talking about the one and only commandment given to us by Jesus, the commandment to love. Love God and love our neighbor.

**Obedience is Not a Burden** But, John continues, contrary to some groups against whom John and Paul debated, obedience is not a burden because obedience is done out of love and not out of obligation. When I was young, my father would give me instruction and tell me "you can either do it because you love me or you can do it because I demand it." If I obeyed his instructions out of love, then it was not burdensome. And if I understood his instructions to be given out of love, then the love in me would respond to that.

**Conquering the World** And this is how we conquer the world—that the law imposed on us has lost its restraint and restriction because we are responding to God's law, to God's commandment and, if we follow the instructions of the Lord, then we have no worries about keeping any sort of religious or even civil law. Like we said last week, if we act entirely out of love, laws and commandments will go unbroken. That is as much true for civil law as it is for spiritual instruction.

So then, we conquer the world through our acceptance of the commandment of Jesus to love. Remember the way the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr explained it by saying, "Hate cannot drive out hate. Only love can do that." in another place, Reverend Dr. King declared, "I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden."

And there it is! Love removes the burden, the burden of law, the burden of hate, the very burden of being un-Christlike.

Some biblical interpreters want to say that it is our faith or even our doctrine that conquers the world. John, however, says that it is our belief that Jesus has come to bring God's love to us and who takes on that love and mirrors that love who can truly conquer the burdens of the world.

John concludes that passage by saying that Jesus came by water and blood. What he means is that Jesus was truly from God, truly identifying with God, and truly dying in order to show that no matter what we do, even crucifying the emissary of God, we cannot separate ourselves from the love of God. The presence of the Spirit of God in Christ and in us proves this to be true.

## From Lyle...

### Special Notes:

Thank you to everyone who helped in some way with Holy humor Sunday, including everyone present.

Breaking Chains Praise and Worship Band: Mark your calendar for June 25, 10:30 a.m., at the Prentice Lions buildings. Invite a friend.

**Blessing the Fields & Farmers** (prayers/blessing written by Tim Nelson, a member of Our Saviors Lutheran, Greenwood, WI)

Tim has used this blessing on farms and gardens earlier this spring. (still appropriate)

Heavenly Father;

As we prepare for another season through You we know our labors will not be in vain. Please bless these seeds about to be sown, and the grass, clover, winter wheat, rye, and alfalfa as they awake from winters slumber. May our planting thru harvest be dry when needed and gentle rains for these precious crops. But as we fully know, Ecclesiastes 11:4 4 Whoever observes the wind will not sow; and whoever regards the clouds will not reap. Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. And if they watch every cloud they never harvest.

The Lord will send a blessing on your barns and everything you put your hand to. The Lord your God will bless you in the land. The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. (Deuteronomy 28:8,12)

And let us not forget our animals that were created by your hands. Proverbs 27:23 23. Know well the condition of your flocks, and give attention to your herds;

Finally Lord as we work long and hard hours. Please keep your loving light upon us for safety for ourselves and all others on the farm.

These blessings and prayers we ask of you our Father in the name of your Son Jesus Christ carried by the Holy Spirit.

And that's when all God's children say **Amen**.

### Blessing Tractors & Equipment

Merciful Lord: We give you great thanksgivings! For the horses, donkeys, oxen, and all beasts of burden of our forefathers have been replaced by mechanical beasts of burden that can use equipment that our ancestors could not fathom. This is only possible for the intelligence, knowledge, and wisdom that you freely gave to man. We ask you bless these beasts and modern marvels to perform flawlessly in their assigned purpose.

And that is when all God's children say **Amen**.

Hope to see you on June 25. Lyle Roe

## Zion Community Plant Beautification Project...



We had a beautiful sunny day for giving away plants at Zion's Community Beautification Project on Tuesday, May 16. It was attended by faces we're familiar with and also new faces of people that just moved into our community. What better way to greet new residents of Brantwood and spread God's word.





## 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



## Upcoming Events, Opportunities and Information...

The 2023 Graduates from Northwoods STaR Ministries were honored during Sunday morning services on May 21. Each graduate received a quilt from our quilters at First Prentice and Zion Brantwood.



First Ogema: Ryan Griebel and Emilie Hallstrand w/Mark Nyberg

Best wishes as you continue to grow and use the gifts and talents God has given you. Graduation from high school is just the beginning of the bright path that's filled with your dreams and hopes.



First Prentice: Ryan Bergman w/Bev Hora



Zion Brantwood: Ty Heikkinen w/Lyle Roe



### FIRST PRENTICE CLEANING DAYS

The third Wednesday of the months during the summer, June 21, July 19 and August 16 members of First-Prentice are asked to come to church for some "spring (summer) cleaning" of the church. We will be working 5:00-6:30 pm each day.



### Early Service at First Prentice with Breakfast

Start Father's Day off with attending church and enjoying a great breakfast at First Prentice.

**Join us Sunday, June 18 at 8:30 am** for our "Early Service at First Prentice with Breakfast" following. Hot breakfast will be served upstairs to enable all to participate.



## JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST





# 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.



# Women of the ELCA



## Upcoming Meeting—PRENTICE

Sunday, June 11, 2023 at 9:30 am

## Upcoming Meeting—OGEMA

Sunday, July 9, 2023, following worship

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!

## June Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 3 Kay Rinehart  
Dennis Carlson
- 10 Vanessa Peterson  
Jordan Hora
- 12 LeeAnn Raab
- 14 James Strobl
- 15 Tracy Raab
- 16 Brynlee Bogdan
- 17 Terry Teeters
- 18 Karagan Esterholm
- 22 Cody Esterholm

- 23 Lylah Enders  
Cassidy Strobl  
Senja Koch
- 26 Jamie Kalander
- 29 Jeremy Voda
- 30 Jacob Brehm  
Robert Larson



- 6 Helena Hall
- 7 Brayan Bogdan
- 15 Jordan Hora
- 18 Annette Larson
- 21 Ron Larson



- 1 Scott/Carrie Komarek
- 7 Bernie/Jennifer Krammer
- 14 James/MaryAnn Peterson
- 15 Butch/Linda Dahlke
- 17 Jason/Melissa Raab
- 18 Tim/Gale Klimpke
- 20 Don/Darlene Gustafson
- 22 Danny/Sadie Jensen
- 30 David/Sandra Nehls



The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

## Lay School of Ministry

Equipping Lay Leaders for Ministry

Congratulations to Deb Strobl and Shawnda Hora for their completion of the two year Lay School of Ministry Program.



The Lay School of Ministry is an ongoing educational opportunity for all those interested in learning about the Lutheran faith. During the two year program, the Lay School of Ministry emphasizes the baptismal vocation of all Christians. Courses are designed to help students develop a deeper understanding of the Bible, Worship, Spirituality, Christian History and Lutheran Theology.







# June 2023 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4 8:30 am Worship (Z) 9 am Worship (O) 10:30 am Worship (P) 10:30 am Worship (W)	5 9 am Quilters (O) 6:30 pm Council Mtg (P)	6	7	8	9	10
11 7:30 am Council Mtg (O) 8:30 am Worship (Z) 9 am Worship (O) 9:30 am W/ELCA Mtg (P) 10:30 am Worship (P) 10:30 am Worship (W)	12 9 am Quilters (O)	13	14 	15	16	17
18 8:30 am Worship (P) (Breakfast following worship @ Prentice) 9 am Worship (W) 10 am Worship (Z) 10 am Council Mtg (W) 10:30 am Worship (O) 	19 9 am Quilters (O)	20	21 5-6:30 pm First Prentice Church Clean Up	22	23	24
25 10:30 am Community Worship Service with Breaking Chains at Prentice Lion's Park (Potluck to follow worship)	26 9 am Quilters (O)	27	28	29	30	1

**JUNE VOLUNTEERS**

First Lutheran—Ogema Food Service  
Pat Barr

Zion Lutheran—Brantwood Cleaning Duty  
The Ladies of Zion

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



#### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2023**

##### **Sunday June 4** The Holy Trinity

<b>8:30 am Zion Brantwood</b>	<b>10:30 am Prentice</b>
Linda Heikkinen-Leader	Deb Strobl-Leader
<b>9:00 am Ogema</b>	<b>10:30 am Westboro</b>
Travis Rogers leading worship (Communion)	

##### **Sunday June 11** 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

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

##### **Sunday June 18** 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

<b>8:30 am Prentice</b>	<b>10 am Zion Brantwood</b>
Travis Rogers leading worship (Communion)	
<b>9:00 am Westboro</b>	<b>10:30 am Ogema</b>
RuthAnne Pipkorn-Leader	Jeanne Cummings-Leader

##### **Sunday June 25** 4th Sunday after Pentecost

**10:30 am Community Worship Service with  
Breaking Chains at Prentice Lion's Park**  
Service led by Breaking Chains  
**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](mailto: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)**



*Sunday, June 18*