

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.

**JULY
2023**

From Northwoods STaR Ministries...



SOMO LAKE WORSHIP SERVICE

CO-OP PARK ON SOMO LAKE

Co-Op Park Road | Tomahawk, WI

**SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2023
10:30 AM**

**FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK
TO FOLLOW WORSHIP**

Bring your lawn chairs and join us!

DIRECTIONS:

From Prentice: take U S Hwy 8 East to County Road CC.
Travel south on County Road CC, the road to Co-op Park
is on the 7th Corner.

From Ogema: take Hwy 86 east, turn Left (North) onto
Zenith Tower Rd., Turn right onto Honey Road, then turn
left on Poplar Dr., and turn Left onto CC. You will pass
Nick Rd., after the next big corner the Brantwood Co-op
Park Road will be on the left.

Balloons will mark Co-op Park Road.

Sponsored by:
Zion Lutheran Church, Brantwood, WI
Northwoods STaR Ministries
and Thrivent

Come Worship With Us!

**NORTHWOODS
STaR MINISTRIES**

"United in Christ, Sharing God's Love"



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

From Travis...

On Friday, June 19th of 2020, I made a recorded post for Facebook. It was marking and celebrating Juneteenth, a day which must be a national holiday. A former student of mine, now a teacher herself, transcribed my remarks for her own students and sent me that transcription.

Here's what I said. "Happy Juneteenth, everyone!

I am not going to preach at you for very long but I AM going to preach.

As a historian, American History and Black History are inseparable. African slaves arrived in North America the year BEFORE the lily-white Pilgrims got here. There is no American history that does not include African-American history. Our sisters and brothers had nothing to celebrate on the fourth of July. Freedom from Great Britain meant NOTHING to those millions enslaved by those who proclaimed Liberty for all Americans. Therefore, we should celebrate June 19th as a second, perhaps even more meaningful, day of freedom. Juneteenth should mean as much OR MORE to us than July 4th because on June 19, 1865, all Americans were able to celebrate freedom.

As a Jazz Journalist, I would have nothing to say were it not for the incalculable founding and development of the art form that I love so well. I cannot imagine my life without Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, MaryLou Williams, Fletcher Henderson, Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan, and the Holy Trinity of Monk, Miles and Trane. As a theologian, I am persuaded by the thinking of James Cone, Desmond Tutu, and Monica Miller. Gustavo Gutierrez was correct, God is the God of the Oppressed. For me, it is the African-American churches where I am most at home and it is there where I find Grace so well-lived.

So, when I say that Black Lives Matter, I mean that I cannot imagine my life and my thinking and loving the things I do apart from my Living Black Sisters and Brothers. If you respond with All Lives Matter, then you just don't get the point.

If all I have is a voice and a pen, then, so help me, I will use everything I have to keep that thought alive for those around me.

Sisters and Brothers, I love you, I respect you, and I can't, nor do I want to, imagine life without you.

Black Lives Matter to Me."

As of that Sunday night, 6,500 people watched it and it was shared almost 200 times. That was gratifying, of course, and I heard from so many of my former students (high school and college and seminary) about it.

But here's what really gets me and I have come to refer to this as crackerism. The word cracker is a slang reference for white people and is usually used by people of color. Not because we are white like a Saltine Cracker™ or anything like that. No, it is associated with a sound, the crack of a bullwhip.

So, the crackers started showing up, sounding the ever-white whine of "But what about meeeee?"

Makes me sick.

Then we start seeing corporate guilt showing up with (finally!) the changing of the logos for Aunt Jemima™ and other products. Aunt Jemima represented a slave "mammy" who was given the responsibility of feeding the slave "owners" family.

Yeah. Time to change.

My friend, Jazz pianist Pete Levin, remarked that maybe all products should be just called "Acme" but, he said, "I would be afraid that every time I ate breakfast, I would be hit on the head by an anvil."

So, Land O' Lakes dropped the Native American young woman from the label and people lost their ever-lovin' minds over it.

The woman is pictured on her knees before the buyer. I don't care what the artist meant or how much respect he had for the Native American culture, the image is now seen as a victim of oppression.

But even if you disagree or if you don't see it, congratulations to the corporations who let their collective guilt prompt them to action. Doing the right thing sometimes requires a little pressure, if only from your own conscience.

So, Nicole then posted a remark on Facebook about those acts of kindness. Her entire and singular point was to celebrate the kindness of companies who take strides to be sensitive to the feelings of others. Otherwise, we are putting our "right to offend" above the responsibility to be understanding and respectful and kind. And, for the love of God, changing the picture doesn't change the butter!

Freedom of Speech is not freedom to offend or trample or slander or libel or promote bigotry.

And, if you're tired of hearing me go on and on about racism, imagine how tired our sisters and brothers of color are, how back-breakingly exhausted they are, of 403 years of this insanity.

From Lyle...

I enjoy attending worship services. Many worship services stand out in my mind. Especially ones for a special occasion or ones of a style or format outside of the norm.

The June 25th joint service of Northwoods STA^R Ministry definitely falls into that category for me. I thankfully found it uplifting, joyful mixed with challenges and “food for thought. Judging by comments and reactions, so did others.

For those who were unable to attend, a meaningful worship service was led by Breaking Chains. They are a Christian Band from western Wisconsin called to serve God through music ministry. Breaking Chains leads contemporary worship services that serve, teach, and inspire worshipers. Many times, I have heard them say “we are not here to entertain, we are here to worship with you”.

I want to thank the many people who helped in some way to make the day work. Every day has it's “burps” and “bumps”, like the deafening sound of very hard (but welcome) rain on a metal roof, or the table with crock pots collapsing. People dealt with the challenges and we moved on. (I understand that no crock pots were broke and only one meat ball was lost.)

I greatly appreciate the willingness of the parish council to agreeing to invite Breaking Chains to worship with us.

It is great to see how you join together for the joint services as well as invite the community.

Community Worship Service with Breaking Chains...



Despite the rain, we had a wonderful turnout for the Community Worship Service and fellowship potluck with Breaking Chains on June 25.

Thank you to Breaking Chains, Lyle Roe, and all coordinators of this event—especially First Lutheran Church-Prentice for hosting this event for our parish and community.

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





ALL KIDS WELCOME!

AGES
4K - 5TH GRADE

(GRADE ENTERING
FALL 2023)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



JULY 30 - AUGUST 3

Sunday - Thursday

5 PM - 8:30 PM

(SUPPER AT 5 PM)



JOIN US FOR...

ALL-STAR GAMES
STELLAR BIBLE ADVENTURES
SING & PLAY BLAST OFF QUESTS
COSMIC EXPLORATIONS

AND MUCH MORE!



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH - OGEMA

W4950 STATE HIGHWAY 86 | OGEMA, WI



REGISTER:

Phone: 715-767-5155 or
email: office@1stfamily.org



NORTHWOODS

STaR MINISTRIES

"United in Christ, Sharing God's Love"

NSM 2023 Vacation Bible School...

Our Parish-Wide VBS will send you over the moon!



PARENTS:

Send your kids on an out-of-this-world adventure!

At Stellar VBS, kids shine Jesus' light! Stellar is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Fun crafts, team-building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and sturdy shoes.) Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings®. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot!

Your kids will also participate in a hands-on mission project, through a program called Operation Kid-to-Kid™, that will provide Bibles for families in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Parents, grandparents, and friends are invited to join us at Cosmic Closing each day at 8:20 pm, a daily celebration of Jesus' light, hope, and love!

So mark these dates on your calendar: July 30—August 3, 2023 (Sunday—Thursday).

The fun starts at 5 pm (supper) and will end at 8:30 pm.

We hope you can join us for this life-changing adventure!

Sincerely,

YOUR STELLAR VBS STAFF

To register you may call (715-767-5155), or
email (office@1stfamily.org)
by Wednesday, July 26, 2023.



To our members and friends: Sponsorship donations help cover VBS expenses. 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

No Meeting in July

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!

July Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 3 Michael Hill
- Austin Pemper
- 4 Rachel Dahlke
- 5 Danielle Bogdan
- Don Gustafson
- 6 Samantha Rodman
- Trent Heikkinen
- 7 Piper Heikkinen
- 9 Jacob Hora
- 10 Brian Cummings
- Kim Kalandar
- 11 Bernice Koch

- 11 Mary Wagenknecht
- Barb Esterholm
- 12 Kathy Raab
- 14 Michael Nyberg
- 16 Kara Raab
- Morgan Pipkorn
- 17 Chase Jensen
- 19 Traci Gordon
- 21 Jennifer Staroba
- 25 Teanna Nikkila
- Katherine Mindock
- 26 Nadine Dubois
- 27 Bob Hora
- 29 Brian Nyberg
- 30 Bruce Rinehart
- Sullivan Bryan
- Bev Heikkinen



- 10 James Strobl
- 14 Ashley Gunderman
- 19 James Kalandar

- 24 Debra Strobl
- 29 Danielle Bogdan
- 30 Jakob Hora



- 1 Bruce/Kay Rinehart
- 6 David/Rebekah Bergman
- 21 Randy/Jean Kilty
- Greg/Mary Wagenknecht
- 31 Ed/Joyce Peterson

JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST AT FIRST PRENTICE

Early Service at First Prentice with Breakfast

Start your Sunday off with attending church and enjoying a great breakfast at First Prentice.

Join us Sunday, July 16 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.



FIRST PRENTICE CLEANING DAY

Members of First Prentice are asked to come to church for some "spring (summer) cleaning" of the church on July 19 (third Wednesday of the month).

We will be working from 5:00-6:30 pm.





July 2023 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2 8:30 am Worship (Z) 9 am Worship (O) 10:30 am Worship (P) 10:30 am Worship (W)	3 9 am Quilters (O)	4 	5	6	7	8
9 7:30 am Council Mtg (O) 8:30 am Worship (Z) 9 am Worship (O) W/ELCA Mtg (O) after worship 10:30 am Worship (P) 10:30 am Worship (W)	10 9 am Quilters (O) 6:30 pm Council Mtg (P)	11	12	13	14	15
16 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)	17 9 am Quilters (O)	18	19 5-6:30 pm First Prentice Church Clean Up	20	21	22
23 10:30 am Somo Lake Worship Service (Potluck to follow worship)	24 9 am Quilters (O)	25	26	27	28	29
30 8:30 am Worship (Z) 9 am Worship (O) 10:30 am Worship (P) 10:30 am Worship (W)	31	1	2	3	4	5
 PARISH-WIDE VBS at First Ogema 5 pm—8:30 pm (Supper starting at 5) JULY 30—AUGUST 3 (Sunday through Thursday)						

JULY VOLUNTEERS

First Lutheran—Ogema Food Service
Tracy Raab

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 JULY 2023

Sunday July 2 5th Sunday after Pentecost

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 July 9 6th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Sunday July 16 7th Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 am Prentice	10 am Zion Brantwood
Travis Rogers leading worship (Communion)	
9:00 am Westboro	10:30 am Ogema
Dennis Scheithauer-Leader	Jeanne Cummings-Leader

Sunday July 23 8th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am Somo Lake Worship Service
Pastor Bob Giese leading worship
POTLUCK MEAL TO FOLLOW WORSHIP

Sunday July 30 9th Sunday after Pentecost

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

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)

