

Dennison Vang Lutheran Parish
 PO Box 117, Dennison, MN. 55018
 Pastor Paul A. Graham – Cell (507)581-2484
 Email – paulg1121@outlook.com
 Church Email – dennisonvangoffice@gmail.com
 Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
 Website - <https://dennisonvang.org>
 Office - 37514 3rd Ave. Dennison, MN
 Office phone – (507)645-6042
 Office Assistant – Betsy Messner (612) 702-6662
 Vang Church Kitchen – (507)789-5186
 Vang Custodians:
 Denise Olson – (612)366-0259
 Nicole Monroe – (952) 465-7747

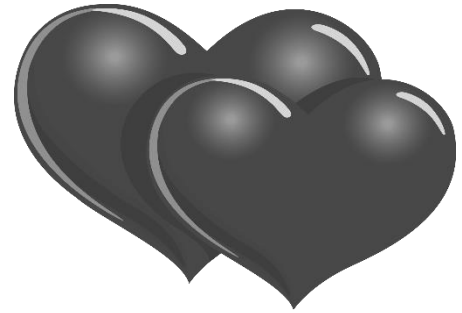
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Dennison MN 55018
Permit # 1

February 2023

Vang Greet & Usher Schedule

	<i>Greet/Usher</i>	<i>Reader</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>Communion Assistant</i>	<i>Communion & Bread Preparer</i>
<i>Feb 5-11 a</i>	<i>Amanda Flom & Family</i>	<i>Louise Starr</i>	<i>Malori Prior</i>		<i>Kathy Whipple</i>
<i>Feb 12-11a</i>	<i>Orvin & Judy Underdahl</i>	<i>Kristin Nesseth</i>	<i>Clara Haugen</i>		
<i>Feb 19-11a</i>	<i>John Machacek Jr.</i>	<i>Ken Vessledahl</i>	<i>Mereanda Wood</i>		
<i>Feb 26-11a</i>	<i>Larry Flom Family</i>	<i>Catherine Lubke</i>	<i>Gunnar Johnson</i>		

February 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Dennison 9 am Vang 11 am Annual Meeting after service	6 Vang Church Council 7 pm	7 Dennison Church Council 5 pm	8 Community & Faith night at Vang, 6:30 pm.	9	10	11
12 Dennison 9 am Vang 11 am	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day	15 Songs of My Life at Dennison 6:30 pm Dinner 6 pm	16	17	18
19 Dennison 9 am Vang 11 am Community Event (Movie Night)	20	21	22 Community & Faith night at Vang, 6:30 pm.	23	24	25
26 Dennison 9 am Vang 11 am	27	28				

DENNISON LUTHERAN CHURCH TREASURER'S REPORT						
Date	Description	Amount		Date	Description	Amount
INCOME				EXPENDITURES		
						Current
						Running
						Balance
12/1/2022	Balance	\$3,516.09		12/6/2022	X-cel energy	74.07
12/8/2022	deposit	\$2,045.00		12/21/2022	Duncan Mechancial/new furnance	\$7,195.10
12/13/2022	deposit	\$310.51		12/22/2022	Ag Partners/LP	\$1,129.59
12/14/2022	deposit	\$250.00		12/27/2022	Vang/Dennison joint acct	\$1,250.00
12/19/2022	TRANSFER from savings	\$7,000.00		12/07/22	check order	\$225.54
12/19/2022	deposit	\$1,677.61		12/29/2022	City of Dennison/utilities	\$62.55
12/20/2022	deposit	\$150.00				
12/29/22	deposit	\$1,600.00				
12/30/22	interest	0.38				
		\$16,549.59				\$9,936.85
						\$6,612.74
Savings Balance	11/30/2022					
	1729-----33147.38	building				
	1737-----238.76	Lutheran brotherhood				

Submitted by: Karen Zimmerman

Vang December 2022 Treasurer Report

DECEMBER

Monthly Budget \$13,209.00
 Checking Deposits \$28,852.41
 Savings Deposits \$34.59
 Total Deposits \$28,887.00
 Budget Surplus \$ 15,678.00

YEAR-TO-DATE

Annual Budget \$158,508.00
 Checking Deposits \$127,847.89
 Savings Deposits \$26,676.43
 Total Deposits \$154,524.32
 Budget (Shortfall) (\$ 3,983.68)

Submitted by Paul Ramig

Notes from the Pastor...

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17-19

In the first century Jesus of Nazareth inspired a movement. A community of people whose lives were centered on Jesus Christ and committed to living the way of God's unconditional, unselfish, sacrificial, and redemptive love. Before they were called "church" or "Christian," this Jesus Movement was simply called "the way."

Our calling as a church is to live as the Lutheran expression of the Jesus Movement. But how can we together grow more deeply with Jesus Christ at the center of our lives, so we can bear witness to his way of love in and for the world?

The deep roots of our Christian tradition may offers paths for us today. Lent is one of those paths. Lent is an ancient practice whose traditional focuses are prayer, fasting, and works of love.

I am looking forward to Lent this year. It will be good to get back to soup suppers and gather for Wednesday evening worship using Holden Evening Prayer. The focus for Lent this year will be "The Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus Centered Life."

By entering into reflection, discernment and commitment around the practices of Turn – Learn – Pray – Worship – Bless – Go – Rest, I pray we will grow as communities following the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus. His way has the power to change each of our lives and to change this world.

God's Peace,

Pastor Paul

God is Love

"When I speak of love I am not speaking of some sentimental and weak response which is little more than emotional bosh. I am speaking of that force which all of the great religions have seen as the supreme unifying principle of life. Love is somehow the key that unlocks the door which leads to ultimate reality. This belief about ultimate reality is beautifully summed up in the First Epistle of Saint John:

Let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loves is born of God, and knows God.

Anyone who does not love does not know God; for God is love.

If we love one another, God dwells in us, and God's love is perfected in us.

Let us hope that this spirit will become the order of the day." – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Family Ministry Update

In September, Sunday school programming was moved to Wednesday nights. After much prayerful and thoughtful discussion, it became clear that it was a good time to take a risk and try something new. This is an experiment that will be evaluated at the end of the year.

We have an amazing group of dedicated leaders working on family ministry. They work hard, and deserve a lot of credit and a lot of thanks.

Family Ministry takes everyone. If you would like to help out, or have an idea for an activity, please let the family ministry team know. You can serve on the family ministry team, help out at events, or take leadership of a particular event or ministry.

We are in a transition time. For years, we enjoyed fairly large class sizes. What a blessing! Classes sizes for the next few years will be smaller. These trends are often times cyclical. But again, it takes everyone. Invite someone. Reach out to people you know. Be proud of your church – this is a special place.

The Wednesday evenings also include adult ed faith formation opportunities. Youth ministry experts often say that if you want children growing in faith, you need adults growing in faith. Faith formation does not stop with confirmation. Come to the Wednesday evening community events, and let's grow together. We can build a church culture that values faith formation for all ages.

I am proud that this is a church that values family ministry, and that is willing to take risks to adapt to a changing world. It is not easy work, but it is certainly filled with joy and unexpected surprises.

God Bless,

Pastor Paul

Songs of My Life

In Songs of My Life gatherings, we build community and connection through music and stories. Since beginning Songs of My Life at Dennison Lutheran Church, there have been many powerful, thoughtful, humorous, prayerful, and meaningful moments.

Beginning this month Songs of My Life will be moving Wednesday evenings. On the third Wednesday of the month, come check out these unique and life-giving gatherings (and bring a friend!)

In addition, there will be a dinner served before Songs of My Life. Come and be filled in body and in spirit.

The next Songs of My Life will be on Wednesday, February 15. Dinner will be at 6:30, and Songs of My Life will begin at 7:00.

A Note on Lent (from “Common Prayer”)

Lent is the forty-day season of reflection and preparation for the death and resurrection of Jesus. It is a time of repentance (turning toward God), of considering Christ’s sufferings, and rethinking how we are called to take up our own crosses. Some of us give up things like chocolate or fast from things like social media, and others try to integrate something new into their lives, like visiting homebound people or people in prison, sewing clothes, exercising, or praying. It is a good season to rethink how we live and to let some things go, or maybe even develop some new holy habits.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Traditionally, the palm branches from Palm Sunday of the previous year are burned and the ashes are placed on the foreheads of Christians as a sign of repentance.



Lent 2023

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22. Soup suppers begin at 6:00, and worship is at 7:00. All soup suppers and worships will be at Dennison Lutheran.

The Lenten focus this year will be “The Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus Centered Life,” entering into reflection, discernment and commitment around the practices of Turn – Learn – Pray – Worship – Bless – Go – Rest.

All are welcome.

Annual Meeting

The Vang Lutheran annual meeting will be on Sunday, February 5 following the 11:00 service at Vang.

Movie Night

There will be a movie night on Sunday, February 19 at 7:00 (location TBA). This will be a collaborative adult ed event hosted by Dale, First, Holden, Minneola and Vang Lutheran churches. Come see old friends, and make new ones. All are welcome.

Thanks!

Thanks to those who contributed to the "Community Chests" at Vang and Dennison. Your generosity was put to good use this Christmas in the form of three gifts cards to local families and individuals. Said one person, "This gift came at exactly the right time." There were also a number of homemade frozen meals that were distributed during the Christmas season. Thanks for all you do to help this community of faith live out God's mission in this place.

Internship Update

The Kenyon Area Internship Committee has completed an application to receive an intern next fall. And, save the date for the KAIC Soup Cookoff, which will be on March 26.

Community and Faith Formation Nights – February

For Adults, Youth, and Children

All are invited to community building and faith formation at Dennison and Vang! On the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, Dennison and Vang will offer a time for all ages to gather, worship, and grow together. The evenings will start with a brief worship time, followed by learning and faith growth time for children, youth, and adults.

Wednesday, February 8 at Vang, 6:30 PM

Adult Bible Study
Confirmation Session
Activities for k-6





Let the children come to Me and don't hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to them. - Jesus



Cannon River Conference pastors meeting hosted by Dennison Lutheran, (with lunch at the Fireside)



A visit with Naomi and Ruth at 3 Links Care Center