

LIFE IN EDEN



A Letter From The Vicar

Hello Church Family!

I begin this newsletter with gratitude! Thank you to those of you who were able to support my academic work by attending the classes I held in June on the Affirmation of Baptism and the series on three of the ELCA's social messages and one social statement. I can't complete assignments that require me to lead a study without participants. Your time, sharing, and encouragement mean a great deal to me.

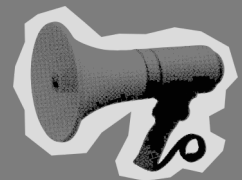
Thank you to Eden's members who attended Pride Fest and those who spent time at our table. Thank you to Norma for applying Eden's logo

to a tablecloth to help identify our church. Our presence at Pride makes a difference that we might never know, yet it is still God's work of loving our neighbor.

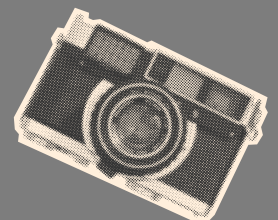
Thank you to everyone who helped with the Annual Fish Fry! It was a great success! This event continues a long-standing tradition and takes many hands! I won't name people because I would certainly miss someone. Instead, thank you to the men who purchased, filleted, and cooked the fish; to the people who moved and set up tables and chairs; to those who made or brought side dishes and desserts; and to those who washed dishes, cleaned up, and put everything back into place. An extra special thank you to the person who left me lemon cake in the refrigerator!

Have something you would like featured in a newsletter?

Reach out to Stephanie by the 20th of the month with info!



Please send any photos you think would be great for the newsletter to eden@jamadots.com!



You know the way to my heart! (I did share with Harry, Steph, and Zac.)

Thank you to everyone who came forward for the laying of hands and anointing. Again, participating in special services that fulfill my assignments supports my education. This service turned out to be much more than an assignment. I can tell you that I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit in a way that I had never experienced before.

The worship service on July 5th will be a celebration of the United States' 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. During this service, we will recommit ourselves to living into our Christian vocation in civic life. From the ELCA Social Statement Faith and Civil Life, "Civic life includes all activities and institutions enabling life in public community, from the local to the international. Our church affirms that anyone contributing to a community's well-being through civic participation is using gifts provided by God, knowingly or not." I encourage you to read the Faith and Civil Life statement, which is most easily found by searching "ELCA Social Statement Faith

and Civil Life." Discussing politics in church often brings mixed feelings, so I want to clarify what the church means by "politics." In this context, politics refers not to political parties, but to the definition found in Article 18 below. I will never preach party politics; that is not my calling. I've included two articles from the statement that shine a light on the church's role in politics. We are called to advocate for justice and peace throughout the earth. That is big, important work.

Together, we can combine our voices, actions, and resources with ELCA Christians around the world to bring about change.

Article 18 The Lutheran tradition teaches that God creates humans as political beings and that political authority is, in principle, God's gift. This church believes that political decisions must be guided by well-considered ethics. "Politics," properly understood, means negotiating how the benefits, burdens, rights, and responsibilities of living in a society are shared. Politics and ethics are necessarily related. Ethics discerns; politics implements.

Article 19 Jesus was not political in the sense of affiliating with a particular political party or



Scripture Readings for July 2026

July 5

Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalms 145:8-14

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19,
25-30

July 11 & 12

Isaiah 55:10-13

Psalms 65:[1-8] 9-13

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 18 & 19

Isaiah 44:6-8

Psalms 86:11-17

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30,
36-43

July 25 & 26

1 Kings 3:5-12

Psalms 119:129-136

Romans 8:26-39

Matthew 13:31-33,
44-52

ideology. At the same time, when Christians affirm that “Jesus is Lord” (Romans 10:9), it is a political as well as a theological claim. This affirmation pulls Christians into civic and political life as Jesus was, so that they might love and serve their neighbors in justice. At the same time, “Jesus is Lord” means Christians cannot give their primary loyalty to any government, nation, civic order, or individuals.

Thank you for allowing me to learn, grow, and serve alongside you. See you in worship!

God’s peace,



Vicar Elaine

**Register Now
for the Fall
Lifelong Faith Formation Classes
The Northern Great Lakes Synod**

For more detailed information and to register, visit the synod website or use the QR code:
<https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation/>

Questions? Contact Sister Noreen Stevens
(651)815.1145 or nstevens@nglsynod.org



Thank you to this group of guys for frying the fish for us to enjoy on Father’s Day!



Thank you!

We would like to sincerely thank each and every one of you who brought dishes for our grandson Kiam Vogelponi's luncheon following his service. The opportunity to gather, remember, and grieve together is so important, and your kindness made that possible.

We want to thank the members of Eden who put on the wonderful luncheon following Deanna Nelson's funeral. We would also like to thank George Balke for setting up the tables. Everyone was so welcoming and as Elaine said, even though we've moved away the church never left us. Thank you again!

Lori, Amy, Mara
and the rest of
the Deanna Nelson
family



Birthstone for June is
Ruby.

The flower is Waterlily

- 07/04: Tara Perttula
- 07/05: Kate Immel
- 07/06: Cary Sutherland
- 07/07: David Fulcher
- 07/13: Tom St. Martin
- 07/13: Brenda Behning
- 07/14: Arlene Elavsky
- 07/15: Alaynah Gatiss
- 07/18: Kirt Harmon
- 07/18: Christian Cole
- 07/18: Aliisa Paquette
- 07/19: Carmon Decet
- 07/20: Patricia Hyry
- 07/27: Michael Albright
- 07/27: Joanie Hinsa
- 07/29: Paul LeVeque
- 07/29: Kathleen
Lindquist
- 07/31: Blake Walther



June 2026 at Eden



Thank you to everyone who attended the annual fish fry on Father's Day and/or brought a dish to pass. We enjoyed wonderful company and food.

We are so thankful that Eden was present at Pride Fest 2026. We must put action behind our words of inclusivity, or our words become meaningless.

Here are a few of the prayers that were put into our prayer jar. These prayers remind us that many people experience exclusion and pain:

"That my LGBTQ+ friend will find a church that loves and nurtures them."

"I pray everyone gets the love they deserve."

"All queers are enough for God! Also, Jesus is one (as is Apostle Paul). I presume."

"May God change the hearts of those who believe love is reserved-may we joyfully partner w/God in that work."

"I pray god accepts me even though my dad doesn't."

"Thank god for making the world." (Slowly and carefully written by the sweetest seven year old, who learned in kindergarten to put spaces between words.)

God is love. Be God's love in the world.



Healing service



In June, Vicar Elaine led a special Healing Service, offering a quiet and prayerful opportunity for those seeking God's healing presence. Through scripture, prayer, reflection, and the laying on of hands with anointing, the service provided comfort, hope, and reassurance of God's love and care. Healing services remind us that God's healing comes in many forms—physical, emotional, and spiritual—and that we are never alone as we face life's challenges.

Thank you to Vicar Elaine and everyone who helped make this meaningful service possible. We pray that all who took part continue to experience God's peace, strength, and healing in the days ahead.

Thank you Candace for playing music!



Scan to give!

Through your gifts, we are able to continue the work God has called us to—welcoming all, growing in faith, and caring for those in need.

Thank you for being part of what God is doing through Eden.



Please note that there will be no worship service on Saturday, July 4th. Worship service will resume on Sunday, July 5th.

Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church

Meeting

May 17, 2026

Members present: Vicar Elaine Robbins, Norma Dick, Ryan Graves, Donna LeRoy, Lynn DeRoche, Bruce Dausey, and Jean Hayes. Absent: Kaye Methot

Meeting was called to order by president Ryan Graves.

Opening Devotions were from a workshop for Working Together while navigating a changing Ministry Landscape. The second part of this was discussed, we will do this in 3 different parts.

Lynn made a motion to accept the previous meeting minutes as presented, 2nd by Ryan, motion carried.

Bruce made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented Review Lynn 2nd, motion carried.

Vicar Elaine's report was reviewed. Thank you to Donna and Lynn for going to the Synod Convention.

Upcoming Church Events:

May 22, Funeral for Deanna Nelson, burial of both Deanna and husband Gordon.

May 23, Burial of Kenneth Bodell.

June 13, Booth at UP Pride, Marquette – Lynn and Bruce will help out with this and Norma is making a table cloth and posters for this.

June 21, Annual Fish Fry, Ryan will order the fish and head this up.

Old Business:

Jean mentioned that we should give Emily a gift, Lynn made a motion that we should get a gift card and the monies for this will be taken out of the Memorial Fund, Norma 2nd this.

New Business:

Lawn Bid from Trudgeon Landscaping – Norma made a motion that we accept this Ryan 2nd, motion carried.

Vicar Elaine took a survey of the Saturday Service people and it was determined that on the 4th of July there will be no service.

Norma made a motion that we cancel Pest Control Jean 2nd, motion carried.

Ryan stated that we should cancel our fire protection from Range Telecommunication seeing it is not working properly. Ryan made a motion to set up a new one with WiFi, this will save us about \$250.00 a year, Norma 2nd, motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting June 14th, 2026

Eden Evangelical Church

July 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
10:30 a.m. ²⁸ Worship	²⁹	³⁰	¹ Office open 9-1 Vicar Elaine in office 10-2	²	³ Office open 9-1	⁴ <i>No worship service</i>
10:30 a.m. ⁵ Worship	⁶	⁷	⁸ Office open 9-1 Vicar Elaine out of office	⁹ 10 a.m. quilting	¹⁰ Office open 9-1	¹¹ 4 p.m. Worship <i>Bruce to lead</i>
10:30 a.m. ¹² Worship <i>Bruce to lead</i>	¹³	¹⁴	¹⁵ Office open 9-1 Vicar Elaine in office 10-2	¹⁶ 1-3 p.m. & 4-6 p.m. Free Store	¹⁷ Office open 9-1	¹⁸ 4 p.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. ¹⁹ Worship Council meeting	²⁰	²¹	²² Office open 9-1 Vicar Elaine in office 10-2	²³	²⁴ Office open 9-1	²⁵ 4 p.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. ²⁶ Worship	²⁷	²⁸	²⁹ Office open 9-1 Vicar Elaine in office 10-2	³⁰	³¹ Office open 9-1	¹ 4 p.m. Worship

Free Store (third Thursday):

Open 1-3 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. Volunteers are needed.

Please note: Office hours are Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 to 1.

Vicar Elaine is in on Wednesdays from 10 to 2.



Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church

Worship Services:

4 p.m. Saturday

10:30 a.m. Sunday

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Physical address: 1150 West M-28, Munising, MI 49862

Mailing address: P.O. Box 360, Munising MI 49862

906-387-2520

www.edenonthebay.org

eden@jamadots.com

Office Hours: Wednesdays & Fridays, 9-1

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Elaine Robbins, Vicar

Office Hours: Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

PastorOfEden@gmail.com

906-450-3344

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Administrative Assistant and Accounts Payable Clerk: Stephanie LaFolle

Treasurer and Financial Secretary: Brandalyn Decet

Maintenance: John Cromell

Custodian: Malcolm Jones

Website Administrator: Lyon Wood

-

Council:

Vicar Elaine Robbins

President: Ryan Graves

Vice President: Norma Dick

Secretary: Jean Hayes

Treasurer: Brandalyn Decet

Council members:

Kaye Methot

Bruce Dausey

Donna LeRoy

Lynn DeRoche

The Congregational Council generally meets on the second Sunday of each month, after worship. All Eden members are welcome to attend.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

**“The heavens are telling the
glory of God; and the
firmament proclaims his
handiwork.”
— Psalm 19:1**

Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church

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