

LIFE IN EDEN

Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church

Munising, Michigan

September 2025

All are welcome. Come as you are!



Hello Church Family!

As summer ends, I look to fall with the excitement that I feel at each new beginning. I always enjoy a fresh start and setting new goals, hopeful that each season will be better than the last.

I am excited for our prayer group, quilters and prayer group to begin meeting again. This is the perfect time to try something new to you. All groups look forward to welcoming new faces.



Registration for the Lifelong Faith Formation classes offered by the synod is open until September 15. The class schedule can be found at nglysnod.org/lifelong-faith-formation. All classes are via Zoom.

You may know that the kids collected Jingle Jar gifts a few weeks back. Those funds are being used to purchase items for Munising Public School Elementary. The gifts to the school will be blessed when we bless our students with a Back to School Blessing, on Sunday, September 7. We will continue to use the Jingle Jars as a learning tool for our youngsters to learn the importance of helping neighbors in need.

I will be attending the Bishop's Convocation at Fortune Lake Bible Camp later this month. I look forward to hearing the 2025 Churchwide Assembly report, future strategies for the ELCA, the latest Synod news and learning more about stewardship. This will also be a time of worship and increasing colleague connections.

Finally, I am excited to share that in October we will be offering the newsletter in *printed* format mailed to your home. We want to hear from anyone who prefers the emailed version or would like to be removed from the mailing list.

The printed newsletter requires additional volunteer hours to prepare for mailing and additional costs. If you would like to be an assembly volunteer, please let Terry know.

For those of you who would like to be a \$50 sponsor, please contact the office or include a check with a notation of 'newsletter' in your weekly offering.

God's blessings,
Vicar Elaine

year/#:~:text=Dear%20God%2C%20thank%20you%20for%20being%20with%20me,me%20as%20I%20embark%20on%20my%20academic%20journey

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Scripture Readings for September

September 7	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Psalm 1	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14:25-33
<i>They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)</i>				
September 14	Exodus 32:7-14	Psalm 51:1-10	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Luke 15:1-10
<i>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. (Ps. 51:1)</i>				
September 21	Amos 8:4-7	Psalm 113	1 Timothy 2:1-7	Luke 16:1-13
<i>The Lord lifts up the poor from the ashes. (Ps. 113:7)</i>				
September 28	Amos 6:1a, 4-7	Psalm 146	1 Timothy 6:6-19	Luke 16:19-31
<i>The Lord gives justice to those who are oppressed. (Ps. 146:7)</i>				

Fall Fest Bazaar

Saturday, October 4, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please plan to attend this year's Fall Fest Bazaar. Proceeds support the work of Eden's Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (WELCA) group.



Please consider donating baked goods, sandwiches/wraps, crafts, raffle items, plants, produce, and white elephant treasures. Items may be placed in the basement kitchen. The floor may be wet; please put items on the counter or a table. Please, no clothing or shoes.

Many volunteers will be needed for another successful bazaar. A sign-up sheet will be available soon. Please contact Norma Dick at 906-202-2778 or Vicar Elaine at pastorofeden@gmail.com to help or with questions. Thanks!

Dear Eden Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Women's Center and its emergency shelter, Harbor House, I want to thank Eden Lutheran Church for your generous donations (\$25.00 and \$184.13). Those are wonderful gestures of kindness from you.

Your willingness to help women, men and children in our community survive the trauma of domestic violence or sexual assault in their lives makes all the difference for them. At the Women's Center, our mission to provide services to survivors and their families of domestic violence and sexual assault is dependent on community support. In FY 2024, we provided services for more than 334 individuals for domestic or sexual violence, 4,227 shelter nights provided and 5,067 support line calls. The need for our services, unfortunately, exists in our communities.

Thank you again for supporting our programs.

Jennine Frazier, Executive Director, Women's Center

Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting
June 22, 2025

Present: Vicar Elaine Robbins, President Ryan Graves, Vice President Norma Dick, Bruce Dausey, Jean Hayes, Brenda St Martin

Additions to Agenda

Old: Community garden update

New: Calendar items

Review and approval of previous meeting minutes:

Bruce motioned to accept the May 8 meeting minutes as amended; Norma seconded. Motion passed.

Review and approval of financial reports from the previous month:

Questions, concerns, and clarifications were discussed concerning no travel mileage in the budget, distributions from the Help Fund, and the lack of an up-to-date Free Store balance. Bruce will follow up with Lynn DeRoche regarding reporting for the Free Store. Bruce motioned to accept the financial reports as prepared; Norma seconded. Motion passed.

Vicar's Report:

Please refer to the report attached to these minutes. (Editor's note: this was published in the August newsletter.)

Old Business:

The community garden group has found another location for their produce garden. They are now proposing a 'prayer garden' at Eden's former produce garden to include perennials and benches. Bruce motioned to continue discussion with this group regarding their new proposal; Norma seconded. Motion passed.

John Cromell has worked on the church lawn mower, including his labor and purchasing necessary parts. Since the landscaping contract is working out well, the mower is not in use at the church. Bruce made a motion to give the

mower to John as reimbursement for parts and his labor; Norma seconded. Motion passed.

The annual fish fry on June 8 served about 45 people. Ryan covered half the cost of the fish – thank you. Donations amounted to \$373.

New Business:

Thank you letters were received from Ruth Lindquist for the luncheon and gifts, and from the Alger County Women's Center for the Lenten offerings.

The council discussed the custodial position. Brenda motioned to change the custodian to a salaried position at \$200 per month, with no payment for additional hours. Jean seconded the motion; motion passed.

Jean reported that the property committee is looking into options for removing the chimney. It appears to be the source of water coming into the building.

The council discussed the alternating time for Saturday worship with the need to change the worship time sign on Eden's entrance sign. An option to change to 4 p.m. year-round was mentioned. Vicar Elaine will discuss worship times with the Saturday group before the fall time change.

The 2025 Fall Fest Bazaar will be on Saturday, October 4. Members are welcome to bring donations to the basement kitchen at any time.

Upcoming church events:

July 13 – Bruce Dausey will preside at a wedding for an Eden member.

October 11 – Vicar Elaine will preside at a wedding for community members.

The next congregational council meeting will be Sunday, July 20, following worship.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Prepared by Brenda St. Martin

Eden,

Thank you so much for the support with baking, volunteering, time, money, prayers and encouragement.

Love, Braylin Calhoun

Eden Lutheran Church Family,

Thank you so much for the pretty flowers sent to me for my birthday.

They really brightened up the day!

Arlene Elavsky

The Prayer Group resumes soon.

Meets every Tuesday, 10 a.m.

All are welcome. We take time to talk about what is going on in our lives and those who are on our prayer list. We use a brief Morning Prayer service to pray for everyone on our prayer list by name.

Book club will resume in autumn.

Meets third Wednesday, 12-1 p.m.

If you have suggestions for book club readings, please let Lynn DeRoche or Joanie Hinsa know. Everyone is welcome to join.

Quilting Bee, September 11

The Quilters meet at 10 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month, except in summer. All are welcome.

Free Store, Thursday, September 18

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

Sunday, September 28, 2 p.m.

On the fourth Sunday of each month, join Vicar Elaine and Harry to worship with the residents of Medilodge.

Dear Terry at Eden Lutheran Church,

We want to express our thanks and gratefulness for allowing us to use your parking lot for our runners for our Grand Island Trail Run on July 26, 2025. The event was a success and runners had a positive experience. In appreciation, please find enclosed a donation of \$200 to your church. We wish you the best in all your work.

Sincerely, Jeff Crumbaugh and Lois Bressette, Race Directors, Great Lakes Endurance, Clintonville, WI

Looking Ahead

- Sunday, September 7 - Back to School Blessing
- Sunday, September 28 - Blessing of the Animals
- Saturday, October 4 - Fall Fest Bazaar
- Sunday, October 26 - **Help is needed to plan this milestone event.** Commemorating the 120th Anniversary of Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church!
- October 25-26 - Reformation Day celebration at worship service
- November 1-2 - All Saints Day worship service
- November 25 (tentative) - Ecumenical Thanksgiving service at Eden

September 22 to October 5

Terry Kolbus will be on vacation.

Terry is retiring December 31!

July Financial Snapshot

Income:	\$5,883.83
Year to date	\$54,027.57
Expenses:	\$8,740.83
YTD	\$64,180.68

Please note: Income is not keeping up with expenses.

Revolving Fund Balances 6/30/2025

Free Store	\$1,288.81
Worship & Music Fund	\$2,529.42
Scholarship Fund	\$23,829.38
Seminary Fund	\$2,758.03
Help Fund	\$1,012.91
Memorial Fund	\$15,322.71
Youth Ministry Fund	\$2,674.61

Free Store Financial Report 6/30/2025

	Income	Expenses	Balance
Balance 1/1/2025			\$1,666.56
January	\$24.53	0	
February	\$24.53	\$45.96	
March	\$24.53	\$482.49	
First qtr 3/31/2025	\$73.59	\$528.45	\$1,211.70
April	\$24.53	\$200.58	
May	\$24.53	\$145.90	
June	\$524.53	\$150.00	
Scnd qtr 6/30/2025	\$573.59	\$496.48	\$1,288.81



A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer. Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year. Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy. Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Happy Birthday!
Birthstone for September is sapphire.
Flower is morning glory.

9/05 Elaine Robbins
9/09 Patsy LaCombe
9/11 David Decet
9/11 Joshua Huotari
9/14 Vicki Ballas
9/16 Connor Masters
9/17 Pam Kuivanen
9/18 Corey Perttula
9/21 Hattie Cota
9/24 Brenda St. Martin

Blitz Torte

1/2 c. butter
1/2 c. sugar
4 egg yolks, beaten
1/2 c. sweet milk
1 tsp. vanilla
1 c. flour
1 tsp. baking powder
4 egg whites

Cream together butter and sugar, until it is lemon colored. Add egg yolks, sweet milk, vanilla, flour and baking powder. Put dough in 2 greased round cake pans. Put on top of raw dough, 4 egg whites beaten with 1/2 cup sugar. On top of whites, put broken pecans. Bake in oven for 35 minutes at 350°. You may serve plain or put fruit and whipped cream between layers.

Pastor Robert Sutherland

A treasure from the 1990 green Eden cookbook.

Serving in September 2025

Date	Assisting Minister	Ushers	Fellowship Hosts
Saturday, September 6	George Balko		
Sunday, September 7	David Decet	Kaye Methot & Jean Hayes	Joanie Hinsa
Saturday, September 13	George Balko		
Sunday, September 14	Joanie Hinsa	David & Brandalyn Decet	Deb and Jim Perttula
Saturday, September 20	George Balko		
Sunday, September 21		Curt and Judy Erickson	
Saturday, September 27	George Balko		
Sunday, September 28	Norma Dick	Deb and Jim Perttula	Donna LeRoy
Altar Guild for September – Elaine Robbins			
Flower sponsor for September – needed			

Date	Musician	Offering Counters
September 7		Norma Dick and Joanie Hinsa
September 14		Jean Hayes and Karen Derwin
September 21		Lynn DeRoche and Donna LeRoy
September 28		Helen Scheuneman and Patsy LaCombe

Serving the congregation during worship

Please consider volunteering on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings to usher, read lessons and prayers, assist with communion, or host fellowship.

Please support our **Youth Ministry Fund** by dropping off returnable cans and bottles at the church.

Where were you in 1965?

See a later page for a glimpse at *Life in Eden* from years past.

Flower Sponsors Are always appreciated. Flower sponsorship is \$30 a month. Your gift may be placed in the offering with a notation for flowers and your selected month.

Flowers from your home garden are also welcome, as well as from a church garden.

Volunteer Help Needed

Your newsletter editor is looking to retire. The current newsletter is prepared in Word. Please speak with Vicar Elaine if you can help. Thank you.

Celebrating 60 years! *Life in Eden* has been a regular monthly publication of Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church since May 1965.

Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church

Worship Services

5 p.m. Saturday

10:30 a.m. Sunday

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: Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Elaine Robbins, Vicar

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

PastorOfEden@gmail.com

906-450-3344

Administrative Assistant and Accounts Payable Clerk: Terry Kolbus

Treasurer and Financial Secretary: Brandalyn Decet

Maintenance: John Cromell

Custodian: Emily Cook

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

Serving through 2026: Bruce Dausey, Norma Dick, Jean Hayes, Kaye Methot

Serving through 2025: Ryan Graves, Brenda St. Martin, Jennifer Wood

Does Eden have your current contact info (mailing address, email, phone)? Please complete the directory update form in the narthex or contact the church office to update your information.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



September 2025

Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day	2 First Day of School in Munising	3 9-2 Office Open Vicar Elaine 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	4	5 9-2 Office Open	6 5 p.m. Worship
7 10:30 a.m. Worship Back to School Blessing	8 9-2 Office Open	9	10 9-2 Office Open Vicar Elaine 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	11	12 9-2 Office Open	13 5 p.m. Worship
14 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Council mtg	15 9-2 Office Open	16	17 9-2 Office Open Vicar Elaine 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	18 Free Store 1-3, 4-6 p.m.	19 9-2 Office Open	20 5 p.m. Worship
21 10:30 a.m. Worship	22 <i>Terry's vacation through October 3</i>	23 <u>Life In Eden Deadline</u>	24 Office closed Vicar Elaine 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	25	26 Office closed	27 5 p.m. Worship
28 10:30 a.m. Worship Blessing of the Animals 2 p.m. Medilodge	29 Office closed	30				

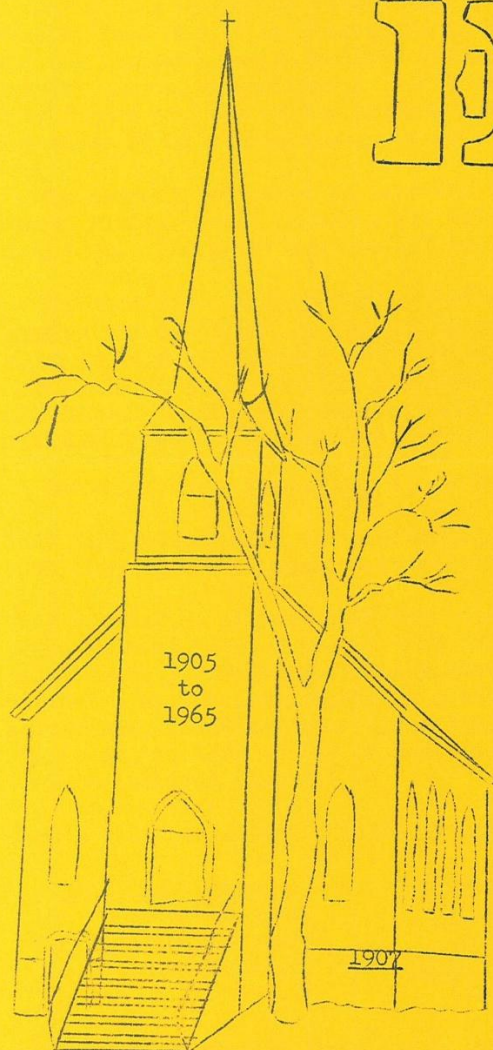


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LIFE IN EDEN



social
ministry
symbol
(October)

OCTOBER

IS

EDEN LUTHERAN'S

SIXTIETH

ANNIVERSARY

MONTH

FESTIVAL: October 31, 1965
(Reformation Day)

History:

June 6, 1905, founded

Church Building, 1907

Parish House, 1918

Parsonage, 1956

OCTOBER, 1965

EDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

MUNISING, MICHIGAN

Leslie E. Niemi, Pastor (ninth pastor)

Excerpts from the Sixtieth Anniversary Booklet
Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Eden Congregation
Munising, Alger County, Michigan - 1905
To be continued as space permits

The Lutheran Church Is Planted —

Seminarian P. O. Bersell, later destined to become the president of Augustana Lutheran Church, began ministering to Munising Lutherans long before the actual founding of a congregation. Already in 1901 a Ladies Aid organization had been started and in 1903, under Pastor Bersell's guidance, it was continued.



Sem. P. O. Bersell
1903

The first officers of this auxiliary were:

1901:

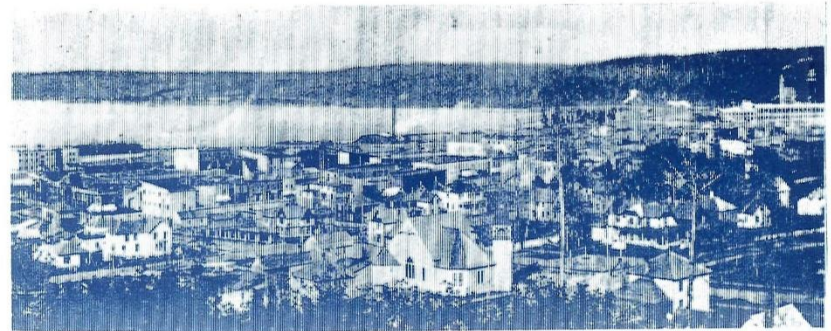
Chairman—Mrs. Axel Carlson
Vice-chairman—Mrs. John Peterson.
Secretary—Mrs. J. Fisk
Treasurer—Mrs. E. Nordlund

1903:

Chairman—P. O. Bersell
Vice-chairman—Mrs. Axel Karlson
Secretary—Mrs. Anton Bjornstad
Treasurer—Mrs. George Olson

Among their first projects was the purchase from the Moline Organ Company of a new organ for a cost of \$47.00.

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The City of Munising, 1906

On June 6, 1905, Christians of Lutheran persuasion met at the Presbyterian Church, Munising's first church, (organized 1889), for the purpose of organizing a congregation. Pastor A. J. Fant, of Iron Mountain, chaired the meeting and Pastor A. E. Monell, from Negaunee, was the temporary secretary.

The listing of adult charter members of Eden Lutheran Church includes the following: Charles Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Alfred Anderson, Johan Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Anton Bjornstad, Mr. and Mrs. Axel Carlson, Mrs. Ellen Benson, Aaron Ebbeson, Oscar E. Olson, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Olson, John Olson, Mr. and Mrs. John Peterson, Ben Person, Miss Hannah Runstedt, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Strand.

Of these charter members who were confirmed members at that time, Mrs. Alfred Olson was the last survivor, who passed away in 1959.

Included among the "child members" who are still members of Eden: Anna Baij, Sarah Hendrickson, Mabel Meyers, Spencer Anderson, Ellen Johnson and Carl Strand.

On July 10, 1905, the same year that the State Highway Department was organized, another congregational meeting was held with Pastor Monell presiding and Anton Bjornstad as secretary. At this meeting it was decided that the new congregation would be known as "Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Eden Congregation, Munising, Alger County, Michigan."

Thus, less than ten years after the beginning of the "new Munising" and 45 years after the founding of the Augustana Church, Eden Lutheran Church was planted in the county seat.

On November 8 of 1906 another meeting was held for the purpose of incorporation with the state. Pastor G. E. Ekeberg, who had been called to serve the young congregation, was present. The meeting was held in the Grace Building on East Superior Street (now known

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Eden began sending this newsletter primarily through email during the Covid pandemic. We estimate that each mailed newsletter costs at least \$1, considering postage, paper, toner, and copier rent. Labor is also a consideration.

If you're reading this via email, would you prefer paper?

Or do you prefer email rather than paper?

Please let the office know your preference.

Does Eden have your correct mailing address?

How about your current email address?

We are happy to hear from you - let's keep in touch!