



Pastor's Message—Pastor Ale Tulu

Be all that you can be

Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us. Hebrew 12:1

Every third week of April on Monday morning, I stay home and watch the Boston marathon. The Boston marathon is one of the greatest marathons in the world. One of the reasons that I stay home and watch this race is that there are always runners from Ethiopia who take part in this race and I want to see how they are doing and cheer for them.

Ethiopians have worldwide recognition and admiration when it comes to marathon and long distance running. We have great legendary runners like Abebe Bikela, Miruts Yifter, Haile Gebreselssie, Kenenisa Bekele, Tirunesh Dibaba, Fatuma Roba... In fact, Ethiopians have a song that says "Marathon is like a queen and Ethiopia is like a king. "They belong to each other.

I, myself have run lots of marathons in my days, including the Boston marathon. My best time is 2:17. The last marathon I ran was over eight years ago. I am not the lean, slim, all American runner I use to be. Because of lack of time and exercise and too many church dinners, I have gained lots of weight, which has made me out of shape. To run the 26.2-mile marathon race and win or even finish takes a lot of hard work. Any athlete who is determined to run this race must train regularly and exercise daily. Otherwise, it will be hard to attain the goal.

Christian life and journey is like being involved in an intense athletic contest. It is like running a marathon race. The apostle Paul, writing to the Corinthians, said, "Don't you know that in a race the runners run, but only one gets the prize. Run in such a way that you may win it." 1 Corinthians 9:24. Paul uses the image of the Olympic Games, which was common in his time and familiar to his readers, to encourage them to work hard and to bring out the best in their spiritual lives.

This message is for us too, especially to those who are sitting on the sidelines like spectators and letting a few do the work of ministry in the church. It is not enough just to be a member of the church, or for that matter, to come to church and hear the word of God, give offering, and go home. We need to get involved and do our best where ever we are needed. When we do our best, we get the best result. So, Paul's message is about not to be content with what we do but to strive for spiritual excellence in every good work we are called to do. It is about being all that God wants us to be by being actively involved in our church mission and ministry. This is not an easy task. It requires great sacrifice and commitment. But as Paul tells us, the reward is great. Therefore, let us serve the Lord to the best of our abilities so that when our time comes and we are ready to depart from this world, we may say like Paul, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me." Amen!

Have a blessed spring season.



Church Events

- Sundays—9:30 a Worship
10:30 a Fellowship
- Tuesdays & Fridays at 9:30 a—
Coffee with the Staff
- Wednesdays (through 5/10/23)
5:30 p Meal
6:15 p Worship
6:30 p Wednesday School
6:45 p Confirmation Class
- Thursdays at 7:00 a—Men's
Breakfast at the Fry' Pan
- May 2 at 5:15 p—Staff Mtg
- May 9 at 1 p—Prayer Shawl
- May 11
1 p—Abigail Circle
7 p—Rebekah Circle
- May 15 at 7 p—Book Club
- May 16 at 6 p—Quilting
- May 17 at 9 a—Quilting
- May 21 at 10:45 a—Council
- May 24—Blood Drive
- June 6 at 5:15 p—Staff Mtg
- June 8
1 p—Abigail Circle
7 p—Rebekah Circle
- June 11 at 10:45 a—Council
- June 19 at 7 p—Book Club
- June 24—Differding/Norgren
Wedding

Contact Information

301 6th St N
Breckenridge, MN
218-643-4892

Office email:
officebrecklutheran@gmail.com

Pastor's email:
pastorbrecklutheran@gmail.com

Office Hours:
9:00-3:00 Mon-Thur

From the Vice President—Orrin Ausen

Don't let your Gifts and Offerings take a Summer Holiday

Ahhh, summer! Great. A time to relax and grab much-needed R & R. Vacations and weekend getaways may keep you away from church, but our congregation is still bustling with activity. The bills never take a summer holiday, so why do our member's offerings?

It's enormously helpful to the congregation's balance sheet if your gifts and offerings continue to come in regularly, even if you are away. Here are some ideas for staying current:

- Pay in advance: Plan ahead by offering more in the weeks in advance of your time away from church.
- Make it up: When you return, give a little more in the weeks that follow.
- Use your envelopes: Here's a tip that's good not only for summer, but year-round: If you use giving envelopes and checks, simply prepare them weeks in advance and bring them to church when convenient.
- Use banking bill pay: Most online banking services will write and send checks for you. Just plug in the church address, the amount of the gift and how often you want it sent. Viola! You're done!
- Enroll in electronic giving: Use the congregation's online giving portal to regularize your offering.
- Give monthly or quarterly: Sometimes it's hard to anticipate how many Sundays you'll be away from church. Planning your offering for monthly or quarterly can keep you current.

Of course, these methods are beneficial not only for the summer months, but also for the whole year. Those who embrace giving as a spiritual discipline often find that their lives of faith are enriched, and their sense of joy and fulfillment is amazingly deepened. Choosing a regular-giving strategy can help you to discover the joys of generosity.



“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, whose people he has chosen as his own.”

We remember those who sacrificed this Memorial Day.

Youth Ministry

The Youth went to Andes Tower Hills
Sunday, March 12th



“Sell and Donate”

Ongoing Fundraiser for Debt Elimination

Why?

Let's pay our church loan off in 2 years, instead of 10. We'd not only free up \$1,000 every month in loan payments, we'd also save our church \$10,000 in interest payments. If you don't currently give to the church for monthly expenses, this is a great way to start, and start building up your tax-deductible donations.

What do I do?

Sell household items on Facebook Marketplace (or another online sales platform). The money you make, you donate to the church for debt reduction. You can do this in 2 ways:

Sell something on Facebook Marketplace, and donate the money to our church debt reduction.

Bring the item to church and we'll sell it for you. If an item is too large to bring in, let us know and we'll come take a photo and sell it for you. Or take photos of the item yourself and text it to us.

What do I sell?

Here are some ideas:

Furniture	Antiques	Appliances
Electronics	Exercise equipment	Cars
Snowmobiles	Trailers	

Remember that all donations you make to the church are tax deductible. If you sell something and donate, and are willing to share about it, let us know what you sold and how much you made. Generosity can be catchy, and you might just inspire another congregation member to sell and donate!



On Sunday, April 16th, we welcomed 11 new members to Breckenridge Lutheran Church. Pictured in the back row are: Pastor Ale Tulu, Guy Whitehead, Nicholas Matz. Picture in the front row are: Rebeka Alemayehu, Sunny Tilahun, Roberta Whitehead and Beverly Pompe. Not pictured are: Kelsey, Landrie & Lexie Kent, and Linda Whitaker.



This year's 1st Communion Class with Pastor Tulu.



Memorials and Gifts

In memory of:	Given by:
Benevolence	
Gene Larson	Joel & Melanie Herder
Elevator	
Carol Stratton (Jan Michels & Virginia Lankow Niece)	Dennis & Rene Hasbargen, Ale & Sunny Tulu
Curt Funkhouser (Former Member of BLC)	Ken & Cleo Reitan
Gary Michels (Jan Michels Brother-in-Law)	Dennis & Rene Hasbargen David & Carol Wood
JoAnn Anderson (Nancy Kent's Mother)	Dennis & Rene Hasbargen
Luella Larson	Jeff & Cathy Affield
Stella Ziegler	David & Carol Wood, Kitty Hansen
General	
Curt Funkhouser	Krystal Schaible, Virgil & Marcia Sheggerud
Dale Hanneman	Marv & Joyce Aarons, Krystal Schaible
Earllet Johnson	Gerry & Jane Fick
JoAnn Anderson	Gerry & Jane Fick
Jon Reber	Jan Michels
Neal Williams (Jan Puchalski's Brother)	Gary & Evie Fox
Robert Meindl	Gerry & Jane Fick
Stella Ziegler	Clark & JoAn Dybdahl, Gary & Evie Fox
Virginia Klein	Dennis & Rene Hasbargen, Gerry & Jane Fick
Quilting	
JoAnn Anderson	Mike & Diane Belseth, Jan Michels
Stella Ziegler	Alice Ellsworth, Dennis & Rene Hasbargen, Dell Krueger, Mike & Julie Ross, Joy Valeske, Mike & Diane Belseth
Virginia Klein	Dell Krueger

In honor of:	Given by:
Elevator	
Mary Ann Conrad's Birthday	Dennis & Rene Hasbargen
General	
Gary Fox's Birthday	Jan Michels
Krystal Schaible's Birthday	Glenn & Dorothy Rakow
Mary Ann Conrad's Birthday	Glenn & Dorothy Rakow
Quilting	
Krystal Schaible's Birthday	Ken & Cleo Reitan, Virginia Lankow, Jan Michels
Mary Ann Conrad's Birthday	Jan Michels
Virginia Lankow's Birthday	Dan & Julie Aigner

Financial Summary (as of March 31, 2023)

March 2023 Financial Summary	
General Account Income in March 2023	\$17,252
General Account Expenditures in March 2023	\$21,573.21
Cash Loss for the month	(\$ 4,321.21)

Year to Date Income	Year to Date Expenses	Year to Date Net Loss	Monthly Budget	Weekly Budget
\$53,521	\$61,518.87	(\$ 7,997.57)	\$24,016	\$5,542

Upcoming Events



Kinship
OF RIVERLAND & WILBUR COUNTIES

17th Annual AMAZING RACE

THURSDAY
JUNE 1, 2023
Check-in: 5:00 - 5:50 PM
Race Starts at 6:00 PM

make memories while supporting youth mentoring
APPROX. 3.25 MI COURSE:
first leg on foot, biking the rest of the way
EIGHT: brain buster & physical challenges hosted by our community
POST-RACE: picnic, prizes & medals

REGISTER NOW
SCAN ME

begins & ends at:
Hughes Shelter—Chahinkapa Park
race throughout our community

\$250 Team Entry
COMPETITIVE OR FAMILY DIVISIONS
gather 4-6 family or friends
all proceeds support youth mentoring programs
Team Entry Deadline: May 15th; Fees due before Race

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.rwkinship.org | miller.rwkinship@gmail.com

Thank you Kinship Amazing Race Sponsors:



May 10, 2023—Last Confirmation. Parents welcome for some Game Show activities!



June 9, 2023—LYO Bus Trip to Valley Fair.

If you have had a recent change to your address, phone number or email address, please be sure to let the church office know!



Mission Report—Connie Jensen



The Richland-Wilkin Food Pantry was the Mission focus in March and April. Did you know our local Pantry benefits from the Greater Metropolitan Council of Churches in Minneapolis? This is a faith-based initiative started in 1905 designed to unite people of faith and serve those in need throughout Minnesota. During this time of year, the grant given to our local Pantry from the GMCC increases according to donations, making monetary and food contributions even more valuable. Our church raised \$110, donated 75 pounds of food and the BLW raised another \$297 at the Good Friday service, for a total of \$407 in cash donations. Once again we see God's Work, Our Hands in action. Thank you for your commitment to helping those in need!

In May, we will remember Valley-Lake Boys Home in prayer and with financial support. Since 1975, Valley-Lake has been a small-sized local resource that's tasked with the big responsibility of helping young boys gain a healthier direction in life. Based just outside of town, Valley-Lake provides 24-hour supervision and programming to boys ages 12-18 and strives to create an environment that encourages youth to accept responsibility for their actions and demonstrate that they are able to make positive life choices. Their location in west central Minnesota also supports easier family interaction when possible, rather than having youth be located far and wide across the state. Please consider giving an offering earmarked for Valley-Lake or making a donation on our church website. Thank you!

Thank you, Bell Choir!



We would like to thank the Bell Choir, under the direction of Mary Jane Pauly, for their spectacular performances this past year. Pictured left to right: Deb Berndt, Bonnie Karels, Maureen Rinnels, Teddi Leinen, Beth Dupree, Deb Sannes, Pam Ditch, Kara Gruenburg, Carol Colby, Sue Johnson.

2023 Breckenridge **SPRING** City Wide **RUMMAGE SALE**



Friday, **May 19th** from 8 am - 6 pm
Saturday, **May 20th** from 8 am - 3 pm
Rain or Shine!



Planning Council Minutes

Minutes can be found in the back of the church.

April 15th was a night of tasting the foods of Ethiopia. Pastor Ale's wife and sister prepared the food. Many thanks to all who participated and made donations to the debt reduction fund.





RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BRECKENRIDGE MN
PERMIT NO. 42

Breckenridge Lutheran Church

Located at 301 6th St N | Breckenridge, MN

Our Mission

Learning to be disciples and to make disciples,
Reaching out to witness and support our community,
Welcoming all to worship and serve Jesus Christ!



Worship Schedule

Worship Service—Sundays at 9:30 am | Fellowship at 10:30 am

Wednesday Meal at 5:30 pm | Worship Service at 6:15 pm | Education at 6:30 pm | Confirmation at 6:45 pm

Holy Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sunday

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 8am - Choir Practice 9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship	1 First Day of Asian Pacific	2 9:30am - Coffee with 5:15pm - Staff Meeting	3 5:30pm - Meal 6:15pm - Worship 6:30pm - Wed. School 6:45pm - Confirmation	4 7am - Men's Breakfast-	5 Cinco de Mayo 9:30am - Coffee with	6
7 8am - Choir Practice 9:30am - Worship Service 10:30am - Fellowship	8	9 9:30am - Coffee with 1pm - Prayer Shawl	10 5:30pm - Meal 6:15pm - Worship 6:30pm - Wed. School 6:45pm - Confirmation	11 7am - Men's Breakfast- 1pm - Abigail Circle 7pm - Rebekah Circle	12 9:30am - Coffee with	13
14 Mother's Day 9:30am - Worship Service 10:30am - Fellowship	15 7pm - Book Club	16 9:30am - Coffee with 6pm - Evening Quilting	17 9am - Quilting	18 7am - Men's Breakfast- 2pm - Apple Tree Court 3pm - York Manor Service	19 9:30am - Coffee with	20
21 8am - Choir Practice 9:30am - Worship Service 10:30am - Fellowship 10:45am - Council	22	23 9:30am - Coffee with	24 11am - Blood Drive	25 7am - Men's Breakfast-	26 9:30am - Coffee with	27
28 9:30am - Worship Service 10:30am - Fellowship	29 Memorial Day	30 9:30am - Coffee with	31	1 First Day of LGBTQ+ Pride 7am - Men's Breakfast-	2 9:30am - Coffee with	3

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 9:30am - Worship Service 10:30am - Fellowship	29 Memorial Day	30 9:30am - Coffee with	31	1 First Day of LGBTQ+ Pride 7am - Men's Breakfast-	2 9:30am - Coffee with	3
4 8am - Choir Practice 9:30am - Worship Service 10:30am - Fellowship	5	6 9:30am - Coffee with 5:15pm - Staff Meeting	7	8 7am - Men's Breakfast- 1pm - Abigail Circle 7pm - Rebekah Circle	9 9:30am - Coffee with	10
11 9:30am - Worship Service 10:30am - Fellowship 10:45am - Council	12	13 9:30am - Coffee with	14 Flag Day	15 7am - Men's Breakfast- 2pm - Apple Tree Court 3pm - York Manor Service	16 9:30am - Coffee with	17
18 Father's Day 9:30am - Worship Service 10:30am - Fellowship	19 Juneteenth 7pm - Book Club	20 9:30am - Coffee with 6pm - Evening Quilting	21 9am - Quilting	22 7am - Men's Breakfast-	23 9:30am - Coffee with	24 Differding/Norgren
25 9:30am - Worship Service 10:30am - Fellowship	26	27 9:30am - Coffee with	28	29 7am - Men's Breakfast-	30 9:30am - Coffee with	1