



Mabel First Lutheran Church Scheie Lutheran Church



JULY/AUGUST 2023 NEWS



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ENGAGING IN MINISTRY TOGETHER

Church Info	p. 1
Worship	p. 1
Prayer Concerns	p. 2

CONGREGATION INFORMATION

Meeting Notices	p. 2
MFL Congregation Council	p. 2
Scheie Congregation Council	p. 2
Congregation Information	p. 3
MFL Council Meeting Inf	p. 4
Scheie Council Mtg Inf	p. 5
Community Events	p. 1,3
Interim Pastor Letter	p. 6
Calendars	p. 7-8

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE-JULY

- 8AM Worship at Mabel First—Coffee & Fellowship following
- 9:30AM Worship at Scheie—Outdoors, weather permitting
Scheie Council will meet on July 9 at 10:30AM.
- 11AM Worship at Henrytown—July 9, 23, 30
- 5:00PM Worship at Henrytown—July 15—outdoors & potluck
The Lord's Supper will be celebrated during worship on July 2 & 9.
MFL ushers in July: Charles Dahl (chairman), Donald & Louise Kleiboer

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE-AUGUST

- 8AM Worship at Henrytown—August 6, 20, 27
- 9:30AM Worship at Mabel First—Coffee & Fellowship following
- 11AM Worship at Scheie—Outdoors, weather permitting
August 6, 20, 27 Scheie Council meeting to be determined.
The Lord's Supper will be celebrated during worship on August 6.
MFL ushers in August-Jolyn Mikesh (chairman), Tyler Mikesh, Brian Johnson

Looking Ahead-September 3, 17, 24

- 8AM Worship at Scheie
- 9:30AM Worship at Henrytown
- 11AM Worship at Mabel First

Sept 10 9AM Ecumenical Worship at Steam Engine Grds.

There are orange cards with the July-September worship schedule printed in the back of each church that can be taken home as a reminder of this schedule. You are welcome to attend whichever church works best for your schedule any given week.

**July 5 7:00 PM
Campfire Worship**
at
Hesper Lutheran Church
"Marshmallow Fellowship"
will follow
All Are Welcome
Please bring your blanket or
lawn chair and a friend



**August 12 5:00 PM
Worship with Sister Luv**
at
Henrytown
All Are Welcome
Additional details will
Be shared in the church
bulletins

CHURCH INFORMATION

Office Phone: 507-493-5293
Website: mabelfirst.org

Fax: 507-493-5045
Facebook Pages: Mabel First Lutheran Scheie Lutheran Church

Email: office@mabelfirst.org

CONGREGATION INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR CARLA at #507-493-5293 or pastor@mabelfirst.org for PASTORAL CARE

PRAYER CONCERNS

BEREAVEMENT

Family & Friends of
Tim Sollien



IMMEDIATE HEALTH CONCERNS

Jim Blagsvedt,
Lee Ann Howard

LONG-TERM HEALTH CONCERNS/CARE

Gary Adams, Gwen Allen, Leona Amdahl, Jackie Erlandson, Dean Garness, Carol Geving, Keith & Joanne Halvorson, Shelly Henry, Ellen Mae Johnson, Lois Johnson, Rosemary Ketchum, Helen Larson, Ryan Lee, Les Myhre, Phyllis Norby, Violet Pederson, Penniann Ramirez, Dacia Sorum, Janice Spande, Bob Stoskopf, Lyle Tripp, Arlyn Vigeland

SERVICE MEMBERS

Jacoby Bigalk, Anna Erickson, Gregory Johnson, Luke Johnson, Adam L Johnson, Benjamin Lee, Jeannie Vick

ONGOING PRAYERS

Mabel First Lutheran, Scheie Lutheran, Henrytown Lutheran, MFL Prayer Box, Mabel Area Food Shelf, Ukraine, Southeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA

The Executive Committees of Scheie, Henrytown, and Mabel First met with Pastor Carla at Mabel First on June 28. The "Holy Experiment" will continue with the current rotation of worship service times. The three congregations will work together to share the confirmation ministry. Scheie and Mabel First will continue to share the Sunday School ministry. Developing these programs will be an ongoing process. If you are willing to help or have ideas to enhance the shared ministry, please share them with your council members so they can be considered at future meetings.

MFL CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Jean Blagsvedt	493-5033
Steve Darrington (Treas)	563-735-5816
Brian Johnson	493-5658
Tyler Mikesh (VP)	563-380-8592
Janet Sanden	493-5078
Deanna Larson	493-5206
Lori Schutte (Pres)	493-5670
Lynn Sollien (Sec)	493-5631
Rodney Tollefsrud	493-5570

SCHEIE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Dick Engrav (Pres)	493-5021
DeeAnn Erickson (Treas)	493-5233
Nancy Engrav	493-5021
Trudy Horihan	493-5749
Deb Marsden (Sec)	493-5651
Adam Olson	493-5686
Gerald Peter (VP)	493-5026
Lance Rasmussen	507-450-1880
Carolyn White	493-5111

Mabel First Lutheran Congregation Council

will meet on **July 5** and **August 2** at 7 PM in the church library.

Scheie Lutheran Congregation Council

will meet on **July 9** at 10:30AM following worship. Date and time for August meeting currently is to be determined.

Pastor's Sabbath: Monday

Pastor's Office Hours: (*barring emergency*)

Tuesday 10AM-12PM at Mabel First
3PM-5PM at Henrytown

Wednesday 10AM-12PM at Mabel First

Friday 10AM-12PM at Mabel First
(*except 4th Friday*)

MABEL FIRST/SCHEIE JOINT INFORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Planning of the Sunday School program for the next school year needs to begin shortly. If you are willing to help with Sunday School, please contact the church office.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Thank you to the confirmation students that helped clean ditches in May and with food shelf stocking and school kits in June.

Parents of confirmation students will be receiving information regarding next year's program directly at a later date.

MFL INFORMATION

Planning for Steam Engine Days has begun and sign-up sheets are posted in the Narthex. Please sign up as you are able. The west door of the education wing of the church is open during office hours and when the food shelf is open if you are unable to attend worship.

We would like to develop an online form for signing up for this and other events. Please send an email message to the church office so we can confirm your email address.

Monetary donations can be made at any time. Make the check to Mabel First Lutheran Church.

SCHEIE INFORMATION

Worship services during July and August will be outdoors, weather (& air quality) permitting. There will be no worship on August 13 when Pastor Carla is on vacation.

Please remember to turn your raffle tickets and money in to Dick Engrav or Gerald Peter. Prize drawing will be on July 30.

OTHER

Readers of the Sunday lessons are needed at both churches. A sign-up sheet is posted on the door at the back of the sanctuary at Mabel First. Carolyn White is the contact for readers at Scheie. *All ages are welcome/encouraged to read.*

MFL has Meals on Wheels July 3-7 (Ruth Circle), July 31-August 4 (Rachel Circle) & August 28-September 1 (Lydia Circle)..

Scheie has Meals on Wheels July 10-14 and August 7-12.

Mabel First Lutheran WELCA

Salad LUNCHEON 

JULY 13TH Thursday

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Mabel First Lutheran Fellowship Hall
202 NORTH OAK • MABEL, MN

\$8.00

ASSORTED SALADS, BREADS, CRACKERS, BARS & BEVERAGE

Everyone Welcome!




MABEL FIRST LUTHERAN COUNCIL

May 3, 2023 Council Meeting Highlights

-Pastoral Acts: No official pastoral acts in April

-The Executive Committees from the three churches met on April 19 regarding the Holy Experiment. The current rotation of worship services will continue. Representatives of the three churches met to review the music for worship services. Next meeting is scheduled for June 21 at Mabel First with the focus being on whether to continue the partnership and at what level and to discuss plans for education (Confirmation, Vacation Bible School, Sunday School).

-Worship and Music Committee will research and purchase the light for the piano that has been approved.

-Property and Management Committee has purchased a new water heater for the parsonage. Other maintenance issues in the parsonage and church are on hold until warmer weather.

-The Youth and Education Committee decided not to offer VBS this summer due to conflicts with the summer rec program, which begins immediately after school is dismissed for the summer. They recommend a two-year confirmation program for 7th and 8th grade students in Mabel with confirmation occurring in the fall of their 9th grade year. Confirmands will clean ditches May 17. Senior Recognition will be scheduled soon.

-Pastor Carla has completed her continuing education classes in "Intentional Transitional Ministry" and has received her certificate. She will be attending the Synod Assembly on May 6 in Mankato. She has been able to activate the church website and has created a google calendar with events for all three churches, which is on the website.

June 7, 2023 Council Meeting Highlights

-Pastoral Acts: Transfer Out—Tim Sollien

-Repair and sealing of the front steps is complete and we are waiting for the carpet to be installed.

-M/S/P to purchase a piano bench as well as the previously approved lamp for the piano. Lori will order shortly.

-Confirmation students did the ditch clean-up followed by pizza and snacks on May 17.

-Discussion regarding the Holy Experiment in preparation for the upcoming meeting of the Executive Committees. Consensus of the council is to continue the Holy Experiment at this time with action taken to make more definite decisions regarding the future of the three congregations during that time. Request will be made to change the meeting to June 28 due to several members being unable to attend on June 21.

-Request from Mabel Historical Preservation for storage space in one of our second level rooms for their documents and memorabilia. M/S.P to allow them to use one room for storage.

-No response was received to the request for persons to serve on the planning committee for Steam Engine Days. Note was made that the proceeds were essential to pay our expenses in 2022 and it is a community service during the celebration. If we do not have the food stand, we need to make an immediate decision and notify those involved that we will not be doing so and we need to find an alternative fundraising activity. No formal decision was made. Following the meeting, the four persons who coordinated the food stand last year (Diane Fishel, Jean Ingvalson, Louise Kleiboer, Janet Sanden) agreed to coordinate this for one more year on condition others step up and help with some of the volunteer recruitment, etc. Hesper and Mabel First will again share a tent with hours and serving the same as last year.



SCHEIE LUTHERAN COUNCIL

Greetings from our council. May and June updates.

-The fuel contract from Ag Vantage. Price would be \$1.69 / gallon. Monthly cost would go down from \$340 to \$211 even pay.

-Offering envelopes will no longer be ordered. Offering can be placed in any kind of envelope with your name on it. If a check is written, envelope is not necessary. Otherwise option is to have automatic withdrawal...Vanco.

-Linda is unable to play for the 8 am services. Rose Breitsprecher has filled in for the most part but there are a few Sundays she is unable to play. Different options were discussed.

-Updated membership list is being worked on. It would be of great help to let Debbie know if you or your adult children/grandchildren have transferred to another church or if they still consider Scheie as their church. We do have records of some official transfers but records may not be complete or accurate. Through reviewing our lists, it has been found that some of our members were not on the mailing list and have not been receiving a newsletter. We deeply apologize for this error.

-Velkommen sign was faded and needed to be refreshed. Shelia painted the background and the wording and Dean Vigland did the rose malling. We sincerely thank both for their beautiful artistry. Dean was a Scheie member growing up with his brother Arlyn. Thanks to Linda King for bringing the sign up to Dean in Rochester and picking it up when it was finished.

New business:

-Updates from Pastor Carla was handed out to all council member.

Noted:

*No Pastoral duties for Scheie...ie, baptism, weddings, funerals. Noted that Judy Narum passed away and will be burried at Scheie but no date as of this time.

*It was decided at the conference in Mankato that due to cost difference, May conference will be in Mankato as Rochester is more expensive.

*Update on executive committee:

*decision to continue existing schedule for worship time.

*Sr. Recognition May 21st. Torri and Madyson Young are from Scheie.

-Congregation input: concerns regarding new hymnals. Hopefully selecting easier and familiar songs will help. Order of service continues to be printed in the bulletins.

-We will not be having an Ice cream social this year but hope to have it again next year. Instead a \$10 raffle with only 360 tickets sold for cash prizes and a quilt. Drawing will be done July 30th.

- We will have services outside during the months of July and August weather permitting. Will move inside if needed.

-Pastor Carla will be on vacation August 13th. Council voted to not have church on August 13th. God's blessing to all. Enjoy your summer.



FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR:

11, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: 4 there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from God our heavenly Father and Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

The early church gathering in Ephesus faced challenges. They were floundering in the tension between the societal structures around them and following Jesus. Paul addresses them with encouragement in the form of a reminder of their calling. They were called by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ. That same Spirit gathered them into community, guided and empowered them, and made them righteous in the sight of God. The reality of being the Church, the community of believers in Christ, supersedes any human paradigm.

Recently, a respected colleague posted a lament concerning the challenges present in the church today. Citing decreasing attendance and financial support as well as changing attitudes of people regarding the functional and cultural relevance of the church in society and in families, he posed a question regarding the activity of the Holy Spirit in the church today.

Is the Holy Spirit still active in the church today? Yes, I firmly believe that the Holy Spirit continues to “call, gather, enlighten, and make holy the whole Christian Church.” (Luther, Small Catechism, Article 3) I also recognize that it does not have to look the same as it did in the past. It is reasonable to expect the Holy Spirit can adapt to any challenges to “call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify the whole Christian Church.” It is unreasonable to expect the Holy Spirit to sanction any construct that limits or prohibits God’s activity.

Paul’s reminder to the Ephesians still applies to us today. Our calling as children of God supersedes all else. Though the particulars of our challenges may differ from the congregation in Ephesus, we also flounder in the tension between societal constructs and our identity as disciples. As we live in that tension, we pray for the wisdom, strength, and courage of the Holy Spirit. During this time of ‘Holy Experiment,’ we have been discerning the opportunities the Spirit has in store for us.

The elected leadership at Henrytown, Mabel First, and Scheie Lutheran have committed to exploring adaptive paradigms for the sake of the Gospel. This summer, we will be intentionally exploring options to formalize a mutually beneficial agreement between the three congregations. We continue to ask for your prayers and input.

Our mutual calling is to proclaim Christ in this time and place. By the power of the Spirit, we face the challenges of our context together. The hope of this calling relies on “one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.”

The Spirit continues to work in and among us. God sends the Holy Spirit will guide us to “walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which” we “have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13) Amen.

In Christ,
Pastor Carla

Mabel First and Scheie Lutheran Churches

July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Abbreviations H Henrytown M Mabel First S Scheie MOW Meals on Wheels						
2A Worship (M)— fellowship after 9:30A Worship (S) No Worship (H)	3A Pastor's Sabbath 11:15A MOW (M-Ruth Circle)	4A Independence Day HOLIDAY	5A 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW (M-Ruth Circle) 7P Cong. Council (M)	6A 11:15A MOW (M-Ruth Circle) 5-7P Food Shelf Open 7:30P AA at M (Closed Mtg)	7A 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW (M-Ruth Circle)	8A
9A Worship (M)— fellowship after 9:30A Worship (S) 10:30A Cong. Council (S) 11A Worship (H)	10A Pastor's Sabbath 9A Stitch & Chat Quilters (S) 11:15A MOW (S) 3-5P Office Hrs. at H	11A 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW (S) 3-5P Office Hrs. at H	12A 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW (S)	13A 9A Rebecca Circle Quilting (S) 11A-1P Salad Luncheon at M 11:15A MOW (S) 5-7P Food Shelf Open 7:30P AA at M (Closed Mtg)	14A 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW (S)	15A 10A-12P Food Shelf Open 5:00P Outdoor Worship (H)
16A Worship (M)— fellowship after 9:30A Worship (S) No Worship (H)	17A Pastor's Sabbath 3-5P Office Hrs. at H	18A 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 3-5P Office Hrs. at H	19A 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M	20A 9A WELCA/Bible Study (S) 1P Food Shelf Delivery 7:30P AA at M (Closed Mtg)	21A 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M	22A
23A Worship (M)— fellowship after 9:30A Worship (S) 11A Worship (H)	24A Pastor's Sabbath 3-5P Office Hrs. at H	25A 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 3-5P Office Hrs. at H	26A 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M	27A 10A Interim Pastors' Mtg Food Shelf Open AA at M (Closed Mtg)	28A 10A Worship- Green Lea Senior Living	29A
30A Worship (M)— fellowship after 9:30A Worship (S)— Raffle Drawing 11A Worship (H)	31A Pastor's Sabbath 11:15A MOW (M-Rachel Circle)					

Mabel First and Scheie Lutheran Churches

August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Abbreviations H Henrytown M Mabel First S Scheie MOW Meals on Wheels A AM P PM						
8A Worship (H) 9:30A Worship (M)— fellowship after 10A Coffee (S) 11A Worship (S)	6 Pastor's Sabbath 11:15A MOW (S)	7 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW 3-5P Office Hrs. at H	8 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW (S) 3-5P Office Hrs. at H	9 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW (S)	10 9A Rebecca Circle Quilting (S) 11:15A MOW (S) 5-7P Food Shelf Open 7:30P AA at M (Closed Mtg)	11 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW (S) 5P Worship at Henrytown with Sister Luv
13 PASTOR'S VACATION 8A No Worship (H) 9:30A Worship (M)— fellowship after 11A No Worship (S)	14 PASTOR'S VACATION 9A Stitch & Chat Quilters (S)	15 PASTOR'S VACATION	16 PASTOR'S VACATION	17 PASTOR'S VACATION 9A WELCA/Bible Study (S) 1P Food Shelf Delivery 7:30P AA at M (Closed Mtg)	18 PASTOR'S VACATION 10A-12P Food Shelf Open	19
20 8A Worship (H) 9:30A Worship (M)— fellowship after 11A Worship (S)	21 Pastor's Sabbath DEADLINE FOR ITEMS FOR SEPT/OCT NEWSLETTER	22 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 2P Worship at Gundersen Health Care Center 3-5P Office Hrs. at H	23 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M	24 10A Interim Pastors' Mtg Food Shelf Open AA at M (Closed Mtg)	25 10A Worship- Green Lea Senior Living	26
27 8A Worship (H) 9:30A Worship (M)— fellowship after 11A Worship (S)	28 Pastor's Sabbath 11:15A MOW (M-Lydia Circle)	29 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW (M-Lydia Circle) 3-5P Office Hrs. at H	30 10A-12P Office Hrs. at M 11:15A MOW (M-Lydia Circle)	31 11:15A MOW (M-Lydia Circle) 5-7P Food Shelf Open 7:30P AA at M (Closed Mtg)		