

# TOGETHER IN FAITH

Let us gather as a community to celebrate the blessings that surround us



## A Letter from the Pastor: God's Work, Our Hands

By Pastor Tim Ehling -- Mission Developer for the Kettle River Cooperative

Disciples of Christ in the Kettle River Cooperative,

**Isaiah 49: 16 ... "See I have engraved you on the palms of my hands."**

Hands. Have you ever noticed how amazing they are ... the way they look, how they work, their shape, strength, character, all they can accomplish. Oh the stories our hands could tell, of life and love, work and play.

God's work is just as amazing, indescribable, awe-inspiring, and story-filled.

What if the two ... Your hands and God's work ... were joined together?

Just think of the unbridled potential, the creative, life-changing energy that would be unleashed into the world. Think about it ... "God's Work, Our Hands."

"God's Work, Our Hands," is the theme of the ELCA Church-wide focus on Mission and Ministry in the world. ELCA Churches and leaders across the country focus faith in Jesus Christ on God's work in the world and the opportunity we have every day to use our hands to partner with God in that work. The official day of service for congregations in the ELCA is September 13. However, local congregations can choose any alternate date that best fits their schedule.

### Sunday Worship

Trinity Lutheran Church

Every Sunday at 8:00am

Oak Lake Lutheran Church

Every Sunday at 11:15am

### Connect with Us

Pastor Tim Ehling

320-226-7074 | [pastortim94@gmail.com](mailto:pastortim94@gmail.com)

Oak Lake Lutheran Church

53131 Shadow Oak Road, Box 17

Kerrick, MN 55756

218-485-8710

[oaklakechurch.org](http://oaklakechurch.org)

Trinity Lutheran Church

7576 Lincoln Street

Bruno, MN 55712

320-838-3596

[tinyurl.com/Trinity-Bruno](http://tinyurl.com/Trinity-Bruno)

### Kettle River Conference Church Cooperative

*Stay updated with upcoming events, news, weekly Bible verses, and share prayer requests*

Website: [kettleriverchurchcoop.org](http://kettleriverchurchcoop.org)

Facebook Page: Kettle River Conference Church Cooperative, ELCA

### Have News to Share?

For questions or to submit content for Trinity, Oak Lake, or Kettle River Co-op communications, contact Amy Nos at [ajnos16@hotmail.com](mailto:ajnos16@hotmail.com) or 218-481-5636 – she's happy to help!

Congregations typically participate in service projects ranging from assembling food baskets and cleaning up community parks to volunteering at local pantries or writing letters to isolated seniors. I also strongly believe the summer is a great opportunity to individually focus on “God’s Work, Our Hands” in all we do.

“Wherever God leads us,  
we can go with  
confidence, knowing we  
are engraved on the palms  
of God's hands.”

As you know, we live in a world that is filled with great joy and at the same time deep sadness; life-giving rays of hope and indescribable despair; the blessings of success and the disappointment of failure; the bounty of life and the emptiness of death.

Reflecting on the uncertainty of our world may be enough to frighten and terrify you into keeping your hands in your pocket and letting God’s work in the world happen without you. But there is something else you need to remember ... Our God has promised to be with us as we go ... to take us by the hand and lead us to people and places in the world that most need our hands to do God’s work. As the angels throughout the scriptures are always reminding us, we don’t need to be afraid!

God’s Work, Our Hands! I wonder where the mission and ministry God has planned for the Kettle River Cooperative of Churches will take us! Wherever it will be, hold close to your heart that we are indeed engraved on the palms of God’s hands.

## News for July

### July Worship at Oak Lake

Join us each Sunday in July at 11:15am for worship at Oak Lake. Throughout the month, services will be held **outdoors under the pavilion** (weather permitting), providing a wonderful setting to gather in worship and fellowship.

On **Sunday, July 19**, Pastor Tim will lead us in a **Holy Communion** service, and we're pleased to welcome **Nathan Frazer** as our guest musician.

Whether you're a longtime member or just visiting, we invite you to worship with us this July at Oak Lake.

### Upcoming NEMN Synod Events

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

#### 2026

- **September 12** – Installation of Bishop-Elect Pastor Taryn Montgomery, 2:00 p.m., First Lutheran Church, Duluth
- **September 13-14** – Fall Theological Conference
- **October 10** – Walking Together
- **November 21-22 & November 22-23** – All Youth Gathering (Cragun's Resort)

#### 2027

- **June 28-July 2** – ELCA Youth Gathering (Minneapolis)

More information about the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering can be found at

[www.elca.org/gathering](http://www.elca.org/gathering).

### Volunteers Needed at Daisy’s Thrift Store!

Looking for a meaningful way to serve your community this summer? Daisy's Thrift Store in Bruno is looking for volunteers to help during store hours. Whether you can give a few hours each week or help occasionally, your time makes a difference!

This is also a wonderful opportunity for **students** looking to earn volunteer hours and give back to the community during summer break.

#### Store Hours:

- Monday, Friday, Saturday: 10am – 3pm
- Thursday: 3pm – 6pm

If you're interested in volunteering or would like more information, please stop by the store or contact a member of the Bruno church community. We'd love to have you join us!

### Oak Lake Directory Update


It's time to update our Oak Lake church directory! Over the next few weeks, you'll receive a copy of the information sheet you completed about three years ago.

**Please review it, make any necessary updates, and return it to the church office.**

We also plan to update **member photos**, and a **date for taking new directory pictures** will be announced soon.

Thank you for helping us keep our church directory current and accurate!

# July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Bruno Food Shelf Hours:</b> Monday, Friday & Saturday 1-2pm			<b>Daisy's Thrift Store Hours:</b> Monday, Friday & Saturday 10am-3pm; Thursday 3-6pm			
<b>OL Worship Servants:</b> Altar Guild: Chris Beise / Mary Maciej & helpers Readers: George Dahm / Chris Beise Communion Server: George Greeters, Acolyte, and Sunday Coffee Hosts: Volunteers			1	2	3	4 
5 Trinity Worship 8am OL Worship 11:15am	6 Health Council 4:30pm at OL  <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	7	8	9 Auxiliary 3pm at Trinity	10 Legion 6pm at Trinity	11 OL Farmer's Market 9:30-11:30am
12 Trinity Worship 8am Potluck to follow  OL Event Mtg 10:15am  OL Worship 11:15am	13 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	14	15	16	17	18 OL Farmer's Market 9:30-11:30am
19 Trinity Worship 8am  OL Property Mtg 10am  OL Worship 11:15am BP checks	20 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	21 Oak Lake Council 6:30pm	22 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	23	24	25 OL Farmer's Market 9:30-11:30am
26 Trinity Worship 8am  OL Worship 11:15am Potluck to follow	27 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	28	29	30	31	