

When it's wrong to go to church

Before I address that question, maybe I should address another question: Is it ever wrong to go to church?

Based on this article's title, I'm sure you can tell that I believe the answer is "yes," otherwise I'd have changed the title.



ZACH BROOM
Eagles Nest Church

OK, so when is it wrong to go to church, and how can I know when that time has arrived?

The answer is when you see famine. "Behold, the days are coming," declares the Lord GOD, "when I will send a famine on the land - not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD." (Amos 8:11)

When a famine arrives, what must we do if we are to survive? Find greener pastures. Which we must also do if the church we are attending is no longer (or never was) preaching the word of the Lord.

"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4)

As bread feeds our physical stomachs, the word of the Lord feeds our spiritual stomachs. It literally nourishes our souls and equips us to face the world, the flesh and the devil - who is no slouch when it comes to throwing incinerating darts at us. (Ephesians 6:16)

The word of the Lord is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path that helps us traverse in the darkness of this world. (Psalm 119:105)

And so, if the pulpit of our church has exchanged the protein-rich beef patties for soy, it means it's time to move on.

How do we detect soy-filled sermons? What do they look like?

They look like preaching tradition over truth, which is something Jesus had zero time for. (Matthew 15:1-20)

Another way to say this is, "preaching man's thoughts over God's," and

this comes in many, many ways. It comes as pushing man's psychology over the Bible, man's scientific understanding over the Bible, and man's political understanding over the Bible, which comes in both red and blue colors.

It doesn't even have to be teaching that opposes the Bible's, but teaching something the Bible doesn't actually teach, which is something God is not at all amused by.

"I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book." (Revelation 22:18)

Even if a church is preaching God's Word, more or less, but they've wrapped a political flag around the cross, or any other kind of flag for that matter, what they've done is baked poison into the bread - and if you eat poisoned bread, it's not going to leave you any better off than starving.

Which means it's time to find new pastures. What kind of pastures?

Pastures where the entire word of the Lord is faithfully proclaimed in its proper context, and not just the culturally expedient parts that make us feel good. Pastures where the word of the Lord is practiced, which means holding leadership accountable to 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, and the congregants accountable to Matthew 18 - regardless of how long they've attended or how much they give.

Pastures where they live in the expectancy of Christ's return as they seek to save the lost by faithfully proclaiming the gospel outside of its four walls.

And then once you've found that, settle in and feast upon the word of the Lord, which is able to nourish and save your soul.

"Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'" (John 6:35)

Zach Broom is pastor at Eagles Nest Church in Breezy Point.

CHURCH BRIEF

Nisswa church to host outdoor worship service June 19

NISSWA — Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa will hold its first outdoor worship of the summer at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, June 19, in

the Memorial Garden, weather permitting.

Bring a chair or blanket. All are welcome!

The 9 a.m. service will be held in the sanctuary and streamed online.

Check www.lccnisswa.org and the church's Facebook page for updates.

Faith in Action kicks off annual fundraiser raffle

HACKENSACK — Raffle tickets are available at local businesses for the 16th annual Faith in Action for Cass County 2022 fundraiser raffle.

The grand prize is a 2022 Polaris Ranger 570 with a Karavan Trailer. The machine and trailer will be on display at area businesses throughout the raffle period.

The second-place prize is \$1,000 cash and the third-place prize is a \$500 gift card from Hackensack Lumber and Do It Best Hardware.

Tickets are available individually or in packets of eight. The raffle drawing will be held Thursday,

Nov. 10, at the Faith in Action office in Hackensack.

This year 17 additional prizes are available, all of which were donated by area businesses, including Tianna Country Club, Portage Brewery and Piggy's BBQ, all in Walker; Full Stringer Bait in Longville; Godfrey's and Long Pine Store & Pizza in Backus; Southside Station, Mark's Market, Rendezvous Brewery, Woman Lake Lodge, Birchwood Char House and Swanson's Bait, all in Hackensack; Clem's Hardware in Cass Lake; and the Pine River Family Market and

Bites Grill and Bar in Pine River.

Faith in Action used more than \$27,000 in proceeds from the 2021 raffle to deliver direct services to people in need.

To buy tickets, visit www.faithinactioncass.com for a list of participating businesses. Call Faith in Action for Cass County at 218-675-5435 or 1-866-675-5435 for information about getting help or volunteering. Volunteer trainings are being scheduled for June and July.

CARD GAMES

500 SCORES

1 p.m. Tuesdays
Pine River American Legion

Tuesday, June 7

► Bill Ellis 4120, Ron Kriewald 3810, Edie Watson 3700, Les Dupont

2980. Don Kruta won the door prize.

BRIDGE SCORES

1 p.m. Thursdays
Ideal Town Hall
Thursday, June 9
Duplicate

► Enga Wodziak and Emily Schuldtt 79.50, Shirley Rhinehart and Clare Fulton 74, Larry Fleer and Donna Fleer 74, Lorraine Northagen and Shirley Gronholm 71.50, Eric Hanson and

Mary De Hanson 70.

Noon Fridays
Crosslake Community Center

Friday, June 10

► Bill Herrick 4790, Donna Fleer 3570, Ruth Soby 3380.

SENIOR MEALS

PINE RIVER — The Senior Nutrition Program offers a nutritionally balanced meal for all people and is open again for in-person dining. Masks are no longer mandatory.

Meals are served at 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday at the Heartland Apartments, 445 Snell Ave., in Pine River.

The suggested voluntary donation is \$5 per meal for those over 60 and \$8.50 for those under 60.

To make a reservation, call 218-587-2921.

Menus are subject to change. Meals are served with low-fat milk.

June 20-24

► **Monday:** Chicken fried steak with gravy, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, bread with margarine, dessert.

► **Tuesday:** Baked chicken, baked potato with sour cream,

Italian blend, bread with margarine, dessert.

► **Wednesday:** Lasagna, California Normandy, peaches, bread-stick, dessert.

► **Thursday:** Chicken salad, croissant, coleslaw, tropical fruit, dessert.

► **Friday:** Beef chili with beans, romaine salad with dressing, cornbread with margarine, pears, dessert.

PEQUOT LAKES MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The following Pequot Lakes Middle School students were named to the second semester honor roll.

Eighth grade

A honor roll

Avery Cassandra Amsden, Dana Ottilie Balmer, Sophie Biley, Gus Henry Bolz-Andolshek, Rebekah Deemer, Carter Allen Erickson, Kendall Lee Galaway, Courtney L Gier, Toby Hoffard, Graeme Holley, Georgia Danielle James, Lilah Jeck, Damon Trevor John, James Roland Johnson, Natalie Grace Johnson, Amani Kibwaa, Cecilia Dawn Kinney, Ethan Moser, Jackson Donald Olsen, Ruby Palmer, Maya Petzoldt, Kelton Mitchell Potocki, Kyra Rohrbach, Ryder Ronnie Schultz, Christopher Shawn Strehlow, Josie Anne Taylor, Sofia Marie Tysdale, Colton Vry, Braden James Wallin, Ahnika Elizabeth Weik, Ben Westerman.

B honor roll

Amiee Afagwu, Halie Marie Bengtson, Presley Crawford, Nikki Sophia Crocker, Adrian Michael Thomas Cuffe, Olivia Den Hartog, Nicholas Thoms Foster, Jayden Payton Fuchs, Francine George Anne Ganley, Brianna Howe, Connor Jansen, Connor Stephen Johnson, Luke N Johnston, Owen Krueger, Sierra Larson, Becker John Lipke, Jake Tucker Litzau, Lilly L Logelin, Griffin Jack Miller, Madelyn Adell Moorhouse, Tyler James Mulholland, Parker Robert Nelson, Madysen Margaret Nivarel, Sydney Oelschlager, Georgia Page, Dylan Michael Pederson, Jadyln Pederson, Danika Ann Peterson, Benjamin Matthew Rieber, Samson Joel Rothwell, June Ruud, Trenten Judd Schliek, Samantha Grace Sesin, Blake Spiczka, Sutton Ray Sullivan, Teagan Sylvester, Emma Jean Tibbetts, Jackson Wait-Learned, Paxton Wait-Learned, Alexander Wallin, Maren Wallin, Gabriel Michael Wilson, Lilli Patience Young, Parker Zutter.

Seventh grade

A honor roll

Eva A Anderson, Kate Arellano, Huck William Balmer, Tollef Thomas Birkeland, Kaydence Jo Blank, William Broskovetz, Brynn Marye Carlson, Cora Beth Carlson, Mya Carr, Anthony Carvelli, Andrew Jerome Craig, Daisy Ann Davis, Zachary Drown, Elianna Elg, Peyton

Lee Fischer, Olivia Rose Fjeseeth, Sophia Flategraff, Andra Helen Ganske, Kellen Reece Gaylord, Michael Joseph Haar, Nolan Drake Hall, Delaney Ann Hoag, Rock Thomas Holubar, Alexander Johnson, Natalie Joy Johnson, Waylon Richard Katterhagen, Mairin Rose Kennedy, Madison Mae Kinan, Ella Joleen Knettel, Kyle Adam Kotaska, Luke Laposky, Sidney Kay Larsen, Sadie Gail McGuire, Max Morsch, Cash Michael Nivarel, Madeline Lavonne Norquist, Jake Thomas Olsen, Claire Oseland, Addison Marie Rau, Cara Scharenbroich, Grant Christopher Schlagel, Kailee Mae Sposito, Keira Kay Favreau Strong, Shaylee Rae Swenson, Tyler Henry Tollefson, Jobey E Tvedt, Grant Vershey, Wyatt Lee Verville, Levi Winkka, Jaxon Dean Woodman, Liam Phillip Zins.

B honor roll

Henry Aldridge, Nicholas Adam Beier, Levi Mathew Bengtson, Levi Bolduc, Wyatt William Borders, Chloe Orlean Bosaaen, Hope Carbert, Gabriel Chapman, Mason Cummings, Nathan Devine, Madilyn Diane Dupre, Tatum Rae Erickson, Zoe May Grecula, Maija Ann Gronholz, Lucas Duane Haff, Addison Dawn Headley, Trevor H Holmberg, Wyatt J Huser, Khloe Mary Johnson, Kaden Johnson-Pugsley, Isaac Kenen, Tobin Kjonaa, Gracie Lynn Kruchten, Landyn Thomas Kruse, Odin Matthew Lottman, Tade Magnuson, Avery Mae Millard, Emma Marie Muller, Payton Lynn Nations, Bodie David Nybakken, Aiden Pintar, Vincent Daniel Przybylski, Josiah Paul Reier, Myah Reuper, Joshua Jerome Robeck, Ryker Schneider, Alexander Schnoor, Jakob Patrick Selter, Calie Nicole Stoltenberg, Kyras Dawn Sundstrom, Kambria Autumn Thompson, Nikolas John Wallin, Kaithleene Watanabe, Bailey Jo Westerman, Triston Wetzberger, Hunter Ted White, Kyleigh Wright.

Sixth grade

A honor roll

Myla Jane Abrams, Carter Anderson, Frankie Lee Brinkman, Sandra Lee Brinkman, Madden Burkman, Kailynn Chambliss, Brett L Dixon, Sean Scott Ebnet, Owen Eide, Clare Marie Foote, Charlie Jerome Gibbons, Sydney Gier, Cora Gladen, Brekkin Rourke Glazier, Reika Gullixson,

Kiley Haberman, Brooklin Aubrey Hansen, Jacob Lawrence Harrison, Andie Joy Held, Nolan Heroff, Greta Lynn Hoefs, TayaMarie Hoffman, Juliann Homan, Evan Bradley Jacobs, Chloe Elizabeth Jobe, Jude Delbert Johnson, Tucker Melvin Johnson, Ireland Jordan, Isaiah Kelm, Aisley Reese Kerger, Micah Edwin Kibwaa, Lucas Victor Martin, Eli Shaun Martini, Matthew Reese Max, Levi Jeffrey McCulloch, Gus Kevin Mckenna, Oliver Ray Mckenna, Isabella Jean Moroni, Anniston Morris, Parker Nelson, Maria Margaret Neva, Sophia Nicole Nordstrom, Samuel James Olson, Michael Lukasz Organista, Ruby Page, Harper Faye Palmer, Finn Virgil Schlagel, Chloe Schnell, Keegan Scully, Shelby Jo Smith, Emma Spiczka, Sophia Stegner, Emersyn Lyn Sullivan, Natalie Rose Swenson, Henry Roger Thell, Zeppelin John Thull, Nathan Triebenbach, Mia Kate Trumpold, Gabrielle Rose Vershey, Emily Vredenburg, Tate James Wallace, Indie Lane Wellnitz, Chelby Gayle Wothe, Ryder John Zebroski.

B honor roll

Alexander Asher, Savannah Barth-Bushinski, Grace Bowman, Jacob David Buckentin, Elly Chambliss, John Christianson, Ava Dumpprope, Grace Duoos, Ashton Fiedler, Ellie Jean Franzen, Nikolas Freking, Cayden Harper, Willem Joseph Harsha, Calvin Leonard Hecker, Forrest Eli Hughs, Emmett Carlisle Jaekel, Tanner Jonathon Jasman, Collin William Johnson, Wyatt Johnson, Madison Rae Kline, Blaine August Kriesel, Sarah Avery Kueker, Hannah Lewandowski, Levi Stanley Manager, Logan Paul Molnau, Weston Dallas Moorhouse, Anthony Nelson, Antje Northway, Camerin Olaszewski, Tyler M Potter, Isabella Lee Raasch, Preston A Resch, Nolan M Riley, Malena Scott, Shelby Shaw, Easton Sigler, Jaxon Soukup, Makaylee Elizabeth Stallman, Makaylen Thomas, Sari Ann Elizabeth Toftness, Zachary Walberg, Mackenzie Ruth Whipps, Emmett Wilson, Cooper Thomas Wolkenhauer, Andrew John Wolthuizen, Aiden Carter Woratschka, Tatum Marie Zierden.

Fifth grade

A honor roll

Bergen Beseth, Macy Jane Besmehn, Bellaeh Austin Brynteson, Elizabell J Cox, William

August Craig, Briella Mae Egert, Caylee Mae Foote, Hailey Friedrich, Jacob Richard Gammon, Sanibel May Goerges, Axel Hall, Parker Hanson, Darby John Harmala, Ruby Ann Haugen, Allison Mae Hecker, Grady Owen Hesck, Kenadi Hess, Hallie Jean Hoheisel, Ascher Holley, Asher James, Savannah John, Ezekyel Louis Johnson, Noah Mark Johnson, Kavan Jordan, Sydney Mae Kearney, Vince Kratochvil, Julian J Kurten, Charlie Lane, Breck Mason Lottman, William Brian Martin, Peyton A Mileski, Kendall Nelson, Lauren Nelson, Henry O'Neil, Dane C Olsen, Kyle Oltmann, Tayea Ostlund, Jayda V Quisberg, Cecelya Lyn Rasinski, Rebecca Karen Redebaugh, Kane O'Brien Ross, Priscilla Sather, Vincent Robert Spizzo, Khloe Thorson, Gavin Anthony Trosdahl, Haley Elizabeth Wallin, Trey Wiczek, Eiley Ann Winkka,

B honor roll

Xylon R Barajas, Mason Thomas Barnes, Emmy Benson, Brooklyn Hope Berg, Seren James Bresnahan, Zoey Marie Cameron, James Carbert, Shelby Lynn Carlson, Caitlyn Cook, Vivian Davidson, Levi DeYounge, Gavin Jay Emans, Allison Nicole Fiksdal, Layla Fox, Vanessa Fox, Rhys Wayne Gabrielson, Claire Marie Glaser, Lily Mia Good, Diane Greenwaldt, Brecken Justin Gronholz, Lucas Ryan Headlee, Brickson Hugh Headley, Anthony Hedtke, Kayden Jarvela, Arik Johnson, Dane Johnson, Alayna J Kirsch, Sloane Elizabeth Knettel, Olivia Lane, Sage Larson, Elijah Lettman, Claire Sophia Loge, Damian Robert McLaughlin, Dalton Augustus Moorhouse, Aiden Joseph Morris, Ryder Munsterman, Beatrice Kate Norquist, Jonathon J Page, Ashlyn Rae Peterson, Tristan D Peterson, Madalyn Pietig, William Regenold, Charlee Lee Rudlang, Dawson D Ruehling, Thomas A Ryan, Peyton Joseph Sargent, Nicholas Sathre, Izabella Sauvageau, Nickolas Scott Schmidke, Auraya Schnoor, Brodie Luke Schramm, Adelle Kathryn Seeker, Malena Seiner-Adams, Sage Sparks Broback, Lacey Sundvahl, Kapri Thompson, Kindle Thompson, Sophia Torborg, Randi Lynne Utter, Kaleb Whitted, Emmytt Scott Woratschka, Mason Jacob Wynn, Koby Daniel Yantes, Maverick Young.

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