



Long Lake Lutheran Church

July Newsletter

7.1.2022



3921 277th Av NW
Isanti, MN 55070
www.longlakeluth.org
(763) 444-5315



Our mission: Called by God to love and serve our neighbors, Long Lake Lutheran Church will proclaim the joy of salvation by teaching, preaching and providing sacraments to our congregation and to our neighbors.

We are Christ Centered, Purpose Driven & Mission Focused!

july



July

- | | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 4th | HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!
Office Closed | 20th | Camp Onomia Day Trip |
| 5th | 9:30 Fellowship Café
7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 Softball
10: Stewardship Team Meeting | 21st | 9:00 Prayer Group
1:00 Welca
11:00 Larry Oliver Funeral |
| 6th | 1:00 Grief Share | 24th | 9am Worship |
| 7th | 9:00 Prayer Group
1:00 Music and Worship Meeting | 25th | 11:00 Lunch Ladies
Willy McCoy's in Andover |
| 10th | 9:00 Worship
10:15 Cong. Life Meeting | 28th | 9:00 Prayer Group
12:00 Senior Cards |
| 11th | 1:00 Friends of Ruth | 31st | 9:00 Worship |
| 13th | 9:30 Grief Share
6:30 Planning Meeting | | |
| 14th | 9:00 Prayer Group
12:00 Senior Cards | | |
| 17th | 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion
10:15 Mission Team Meeting | | |
| 18th | 6pm Executive Team Meeting | | |
| 19th | 9:30 Fellowship Café
7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 Softball | | |



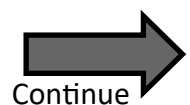
From the desk of Pastor Sue:



About 35 years ago, I was asked to lead the finance team for our visioning/planning/building team. I was 33 years old; I was a young mother of two littles, and I had a full-time job running a restaurant. Another fine example of God's wonderful sense of humor. I was very excited while at the same time intimidated at the thought of being in charge of the finance team of a huge project. My dad was chair of the building team so I was confident he would guide me. I trusted God AND I truly believed in the project. Our old church, much like the Cornerstone, had steep stairs to the sanctuary and no narthex. In the winter, there was no fellowship because once you were down the stairs and outside, you didn't want to stand around and visit. Remember, this is International Falls, Icebox of the Nation! We also had a basement and a balcony with narrow stairs—a real fire hazard and totally unfriendly to anyone with disabilities. One would have to go through the basement or outside to reach the youth and education wing. We had a great two-story education wing that was built in the 60's when we were teaching three groups of 100 each Sunday. No elevator—again not friendly to a person with disabilities.

I remember my analogy that I used for my first temple talk. I think it still holds true today when we consider growing this church. It's about riding a bicycle. If you want to ride a bike, you must pedal. If you stop pedaling, you are likely to come to a stop and tip over (unless you are on a tryke!). I have had a number of bike accidents in my life! Of course, there are times when you can coast for a while, and there are times when you have to pedal really hard to get up a big hill. But, if you stop pedaling, eventually, you are going to fall. The church is like a bicycle and we are the people who pedal the bike to keep it going. God tells us where He wants us to go, and we pedal as hard as we can to get there.

We could choose to do nothing, no looking forward, no pedaling, just coasting. Believe me, we will coast into oblivion; we may last 15 years if we accept the status quo and make no changes at all. The cemetery will be all that is left of this ministry that was begun by some strong pedalers in 1891 with a vision. "September 10, 1891, at the home of Andrew Lindman (the first farm north of the church on the west side of Hwy. 47) thirteen families met to form a new congregation." "The name they gave themselves was formally, The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Bradford, Isanti County, Minnesota." (from the 100 year anniversary book)



They had a vision for ministry and a will to gather for the purpose of upbuilding one another on their most holy faith. The first building was 40 X 30 feet with four windows on each side—no basement. According to the anniversary book, the Ladies Aid held its first picnic and auction on the Lindman farm. When the church was built, the lumber for the inside of the church, the pulpit and the pews were paid for by the ladies. Look how long their legacy has lasted and consider the number of people whose souls were saved, uplifted, enlightened and forgiven in this place.

An aside: “the pastor’s salary was very hard to come by and very little cash could be raised—so each family would give him, as they could afford, farm produce. Also, the church owned the 40 acres on which the parsonage stood, and the pastor was expected to farm the land and raise some of his own food supplies...families would take turns having him for lunch.” Uff da! Thanks for changing that!

It is written that in 1936 temperatures were often over 100 degrees and no rain fell from May 18th until August 21st. “At a special meeting held June 8, 1936, the congregation unanimously voted to ‘investigate the cost of improving the church.’... The congregation at Long Lake made a large commitment in faith that long, hot summer of 1936. On July 1, with no income and little hope of a harvest, its membership voted to proceed with a remodeling project expected to cost in the neighborhood of \$2,000.” To me, it is obvious that God had a plan for this area and these people. God motivated a group of Jesus’ followers to do something for God’s glory here in rural Isanti County. What a treasure those memories are of those first dedicated individuals. They pedaled hard for the Lord! They pedaled with faith.

According to the Midweek STAR of August 2nd, 2000, Marcia Johnson is quoted as saying, “This project is an exciting challenge. It’s a leap of faith.” The article goes on to report, “Long Lake’s people have successfully met incredible challenges in the past. Congregation leaders are confident that this project is an integral part of the caring and faith-building ministry of the church. Richard Hansen said, “We are not finished. We are growing. This is just another step in the life of the Congregation.”

What I am asking of you is to pray. Spend some time asking God what He wants us to do here. Should we stop pedaling and coast until there is no longer a church in this cornfield? Is God done with us here? Or, does God have plans for us? Do you want to leave a legacy that continues for generations, where someone will write about the faithful stewards who kept pedaling to provide the Good News of Jesus Christ, the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Holy Baptism, the rituals of funerals and weddings, our Live Nativity, dinners, missions, the education of youth and the support of families in this area? (It will probably be all built up and we will be a suburb of the Twin Cities by then!)



Continue

An elder of the church stated that we won't live long enough to see the rewards of a building project, or to see the time when the new mortgage is paid off. He is probably correct, but that does not give us an excuse to quit pedaling into the future and for the next generation! In the plan for our current building, there were two add on phases, which were never accomplished. Looking ahead, we need modern, accessible facilities to educate our youth and provide space for the community to gather. We have a planning/visioning team that has met over the past three years. It is time to step up the pace. Please join us in our planning sessions and encourage our younger families to be represented. If our meeting times don't fit your schedule, please let me know so we can accommodate you.

Let's look to the long- range future of Long Lake Lutheran and pedal like crazy. Crazy for the Lord! Pedal for the Lord!

Pastor Sue



From the desk of Shawna Berg:



Have you ever tried to put toothpaste back into the tube? Seems like a silly question right? If you have ever squeezed out too much toothpaste, and worried about the waste, you know that there is no real turning back right? There is no way to “put it back”.

This is an illustration we often use with our young people when we talk about gossip or the words that they use, once you say something you just can’t take it back.

I’ve been thinking a lot lately about the 8th Commandment which tells us “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor” (Exodus 20:16). God knew how important words were when God gave us this commandment.

In the Catechism Martin Luther gives us some further explanation telling us that “We are to fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray them, slander them, or hurt their reputations, but defend them, speak well of them, and explain everything in the kindest way.” Essentially, Luther tells us “If you don’t have something nice to say, don’t say it”, and he also goes on to challenge us to try to interpret our neighbors words and actions in the most positive light – in other words, he challenges us to give our neighbors the benefit of the doubt. I have to admit, this commandment is really hard for me sometimes. We are living in a very polarizing time. There are deep divides in families, in churches, and in our country over the best way to do things. Some people hold strong convictions, and the reasons for their beliefs vary. As a country, we have forgotten how to sit down and have a rational, reasonable conversation with another person who holds a different idea than we do, and instead we resort to name calling, vitriol and anger. I’ve done it myself, when I make assumptions about people based on a view that they hold, assumptions that often times aren’t fair.

In difficult conversations, I often remind myself to think before I speak (because I can’t put the toothpaste back in the tube), and tell myself over and over to put an 8th Commandment Spin on every conversation that I have.

I fail often, and when I do, I am thankful for the love and grace I receive from God, and often from many other people I have met on this journey. When I stumble and fall, I take a deep breath, dust myself off, ask for forgiveness, acknowledge all is not lost and try again!

Faithful Friends Caring Ministry at Long Lake

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” (John 13:34)

For many years, long time member Marcy Stoeckel has had a passion around beginning a lay ministry at Long Lake Lutheran. After various conversations over the years, we were set to send Marcy Stoeckel, Shawna Berg and Pat Weiss-Meyer to do the training to begin setting up a ministry at Long Lake Lutheran in 2020 – then, the pandemic hit. Trainings were suspended. When trainings resumed, they were all online, and the schedule was a bit challenging. After trying unsuccessfully to navigate the schedules our team, with their collective knowledge, and copies of several training manuals, set out to design our own program and materials for Long Lake Lutheran.

What is Faithful Friends?

Faithful Friends will be a group of trained lay leaders who will do home, hospital or nursing home visits. As representatives of the church they will bring communion, will share prayer and friendship with people who would like to be visited. In addition, our group hopes to help coordinate meal trains, do new baby visits and send cards to people marking significant milestones. It is our hope that this group will be able to supplement the work that our Pastoral Staff can do, making our ministry even stronger.

In the next several weeks, Faithful Friends is working to gather and train their team so that Faithful Friends will begin doing visits in October. Watch for more information on how you can request a visit from a Faithful Friend as fall approaches! We are very excited to be bringing this ministry to Long Lake!

As we continue our summer series on the Book of Exodus, see if you can answer these trivia questions.

1. What did the midwives Shiprah and Puah tell the king of Egypt when he asked why they weren't killing male Hebrew babies as he had instructed?
2. When Moses killed the Egyptian for beating a Hebrew worker, where did he hide the body?
3. When his mother put Moses in a basket in the Nile, who watched to see what would happen to him?
4. Which wind brought the plague of locusts to Egypt?
5. Whose flock was Moses attending when he saw the angel of the lord in a burning bush?
6. What was the first plague that the Egyptian magicians could not duplicate?
7. What did God turn Moses' staff into?
8. How old was Moses when he told Pharaoh to let the Israelites go?
9. When God appeared to Moses in the burning bush, what did God say his name was?
10. Who found Moses in a basket in the Nile River?

Exodus

A	L	L	O	Y	I	S	U	S	O	O	A	I	R
I	S	O	U	G	S	M	I	D	I	A	N	A	A
S	I	B	C	L	A	T	H	B	O	I	L	S	F
H	S	E	L	U	U	S	E	U	G	A	L	P	R
S	R	P	E	O	S	H	O	A	R	A	H	P	O
U	A	A	S	O	O	T	S	I	R	H	I	S	G
B	E	S	U	S	X	D	E	R	R	T	R	A	S
G	L	S	D	R	L	Y	B	R	E	L	U	A	L
N	I	O	O	L	Y	O	C	A	D	E	A	I	F
I	T	V	X	I	L	I	V	E	S	T	O	C	K
N	E	E	E	A	D	M	S	S	E	S	O	M	L
R	S	R	A	H	H	O	E	O	A	A	H	N	B
U	G	R	O	S	L	A	V	E	R	Y	E	A	H
B	R	R	E	V	I	R	E	L	I	N	I	V	D

PHARAOH
HAIL
MOSES
FROGS
SLAVERY
BLOOD
BURNING BUSH
MIDIAN
NILE RIVER
EXODUS
LIVESTOCK
LOCUST
RED SEA
ISRAELITES
PASSOVER
PLAGUES
BOILS

Answers:

1. Hebrew women gave birth before the midwives arrived.
2. In the sand.
3. His sister, Miriam
4. East wind.
5. His father-in-law Jethro's flock.
6. Dust to gnats
7. A snake
8. 80
9. I AM
10. Pharaoh's Daughter

What's Happening at LLC?



Every Tuesday at 9:30am Fellowship Café participants gather for coffee, treats, and good company.



6/19/22 Pastor Sue dedicating the new altar/pulpit for outdoor worship given in memory of Marv Evenson by his wife Colleen Evenson.

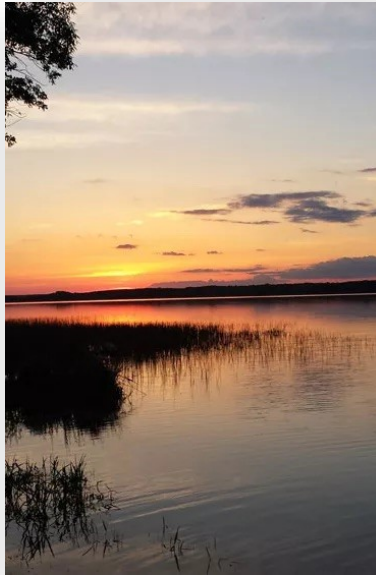


Thanks to many volunteers our herb garden is flourishing!



Before and after photos of our Steeple

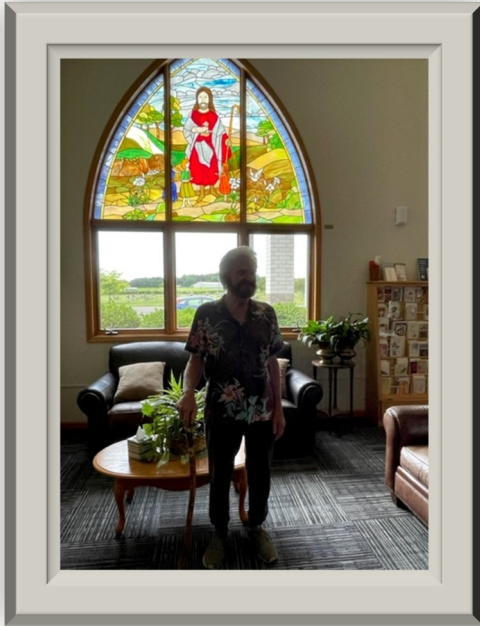
CAMP ONOMIA



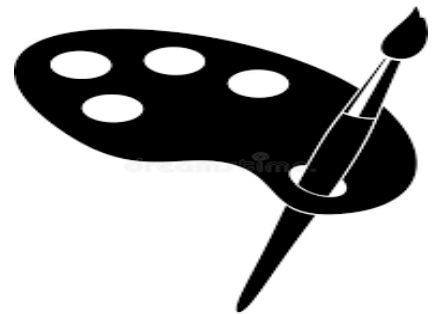
On June 27th our Youth Pastor Shawna Berg was able to visit our Campers up at Camp Onomia!



Look who stopped in!

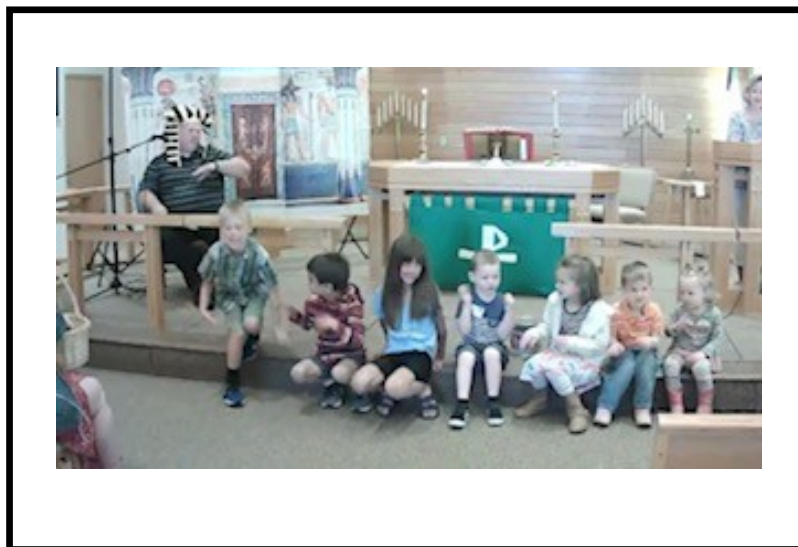


*Walter Horcher
(83) of Cambridge, MN
stopped in to show his
friends the work he did
on the stained glass
windows.*





Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who helped us with our June 26th play.



July Worship Helpers are:

July 3rd

Greeter: Barb Talbot

Ushers: Matt Lundeen

Lector: Monica Ahlman

Kitchen: Lisa Gustafson

July 10th

Greeter: Wanda Strike

Usher: Merwyn Larsen

Lector: Kathie Schleif

Kitchen: Joanne Eittreim

July 17th

Greeter: Angie Spartz

Ushers: Richard & Jessica Larsen

Lector: Marcia Johnson

Kitchen: Jenny Boniarczyk

July 24th

Greeter: Marcy Stockel

Ushers: Mike & Manda Hanson

Lector: Julie Neilson

Kitchen: Margret Bauer

July 31st

Greeter: David Rock

Usher: Richard & Jean Hanson

Lector: Wayne Olson

Kitchen: Connie Anderson

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DEDICATED
VOLUNTEERS!**



June Attendance

June 5th– 92

June 12th– 87

June 19th–90

June 26th- 99



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL THOSE BORN IN JULY!!

07/01 Tristian Boettcher

07/02 Michael Beckensten

07/02 Kathie Schleif

07/02 Kevin Schrapp

07/03 Carol Strand

07/04 Ronda Fenlon

07/05 Larry Larsen

07/06 Amanda Oas

07/06 Marsha Weidner

07/07 Dale Findell

07/07 Charlotte Fischer

07/07 Linda Oliver

07/08 Betsy Vincent

07/09 Sophie Anderson

07/09 James Peterson Jr.

07/10 Annette Lundeen

07/11 Kara Hepp

07/11 Cheryl Knapp

07/13 Melissa Brazier

07/13 Brett White

07/17 Brenna Browen

07/17 Carol Fleischer

07/17 Brooklyn Mehle

07/19 Kyle Lynn

07/20 Cassandra Larson

07/20 Linda Monroe

07/21 Kyler Hennen

07/21 *Remembering– Larry Oliver*

07/22 Claudia Hanson

07/23 Donna Bahr

07/25 Marcy Stoeckel

07/29 Don Hansen

07/31 Betty Englund



Anniversaries:

07/07 Chris & Les Rowe

07/07 Paul & Geri Fournier

07/08 Don & Donna Ziemann

07/10 Doug & Jennifer Orr

07/11 Jeremy & Laura Hill

07/12 Greg & Sarah Anderson

07/13 Brian & Jennifer Manion

07/14 Bruce & Marion Jarnell

07/18 Chris & Jo Hennen

07/20 Brett & Emily White

07/20 Chad & Amanda Saelens

07/20 Brian & Susan Netzer



RED, WHITE & BLUE CHEESECAKE SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese
- 1 (3.4-ounce) package instant cheesecake pudding, unprepared
- 1 cup International Delight French Vanilla Creamer
- 1 pound strawberries, cut into bite-size pieces
- 2 (6-ounce) containers blueberries
- 4 large bananas, sliced
- juice of 1 lemon



INSTRUCTIONS

In a medium tall bowl, using an electric mixer, whip cream cheese until it becomes smooth. It may bind up in the beaters, but continue as is and it will loosen up. Add the dry pudding mix. Beat until well combined.

With the mixer on low, slowly add the creamer to the cream cheese mix. Add it about a tablespoon at a time and then mix until it becomes a smooth mixture and all of the creamer has combined into the cream cheese, repeat until all of the creamer has been added to the mixture. Whip until smooth. Refrigerate while you prepare the fruit.

In a large bowl, combine lemon juice and bananas. Stir to coat bananas completely and pour off any excess lemon juice. Add strawberries and blueberries. Gently stir to combine. Fold the cheesecake mixture into the fruit.

Chill until ready to serve or serve immediately

July 4th commemorates the day in 1776 that our nation declared itself to be an independent nation, and no longer a colony of England. On that date, a number of our leading citizens signed what is known as the Declaration of Independence, stating our determination to become a free country.

Our independence did not come easily; only after several difficult years of war would it finally be won. Nor were our first years as a nation free from problems and controversies (as is still true). But our forefathers were determined to establish a free and democratic system of government, and the Declaration of Independence (together with our Constitution and the Bill of Rights) became the foundation for this. They have stood the test of time, and on July 4th we give thanks for the wisdom and faith and courage of those leaders.

Although it is not a religious holiday like Christmas or Easter, for many Americans July 4th is a time to reflect on God's goodness to us as a nation. Molded into the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia (which proclaimed our independence) are these words from the Bible: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof" (Leviticus 25:10, KJV). Our legal system reflects our Christian roots.

While we look with gratitude to the past on this July 4th, may we also look in faith to the future, and commit it and our lives to God and His will. The ancient words of the Psalmist are still true: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12).

HAVE A SAFE, AND HAPPY FOURTH!



news & announcements

Planning Meeting:

The next visioning/planning team meeting is scheduled for July 13th at 6:30pm. All are welcome to attend, come be apart of our exciting growth opportunities.

Attention:

Our Property team is in need of mowers this summer. If interested please stop by the office and let us know.

Thank you!

The Garden has been planted! If you would like to offer your help talk to Marcy Stoeckel



**JULY 31-
AUG 4**

**SUN 10-NOON
MON-WED 5:30-7:30**

**THURS FOOD
TRUCK FELLOWSHIP
CELEBRATION FROM
4-8P.M.**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
FOR KIDS AGES 3-5TH GRADE
AT LONG LAKE LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

SCAN QR Code For Registration!



Welcome!

Welcome to our newest member:

Denise Sunderland

Garage Sale Season is Here!

The friends of Ruth are always collecting items for baby kits, so while you're out this summer, please keep an eye out for these most needed items:

lightweight cotton T-Shirts (no Onesies)

long- or short-sleeved gowns

swaddling blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, 36" to 52" square

bath-sized bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9oz, any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars.

Thank you!



The Memorial Team has approved and ordered a flag and pole for the softball field. It will be a memorial to honor Will Remus and all Veterans.

Please remember the memorial fund in your special giving. It has been used to purchase hymnals, tv for the youth room, adult education materials, and more.

Memorial donations are a great way to honor your loved ones as well as offering a special gift to those friends who don't need gifts.

Serving on the Memorial team are: Pastor Sue, Mer Larsen, Phil Maguire, Ali Rock and Monica Ahlman.

Technology Help Needed:

More and more technology is being used in the church and we desperately need a team with a strong leader that can direct us in our technology use, especially for worship. Please consider offering up your time and talents if you have knowledge in this area. It is a huge area with many facets such as equipment, software, website, troubleshooting, etc. Please let Pastor Sue, President Ronda Fenlon, or Finance Chair Bruce Yurich know if you are able to help.

Food Packing Event

Long Lake will be hosting a meal packing event with Life Rice on September 10th. Contact Shawna Berg for more details.

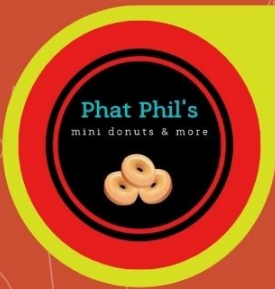


Thank you for your support of our parking lot! We are happy to announce that as of June 27th renovations have begun!

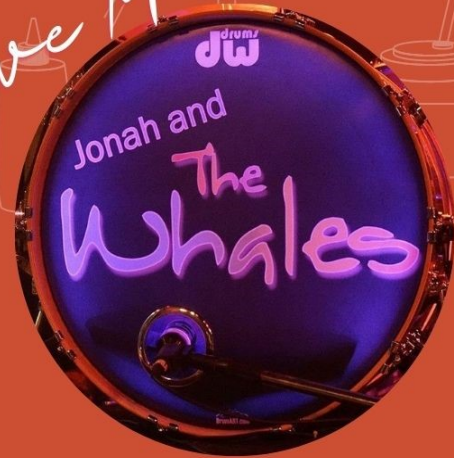
3RD ANNUAL FOOD TRUCK FELLOWSHIP

AUGUST 4TH

4 P.M. - 8 P.M.



*Featuring
Live Music by*



CENTER CITY SWINE CIRCUS BBQ
BRADFORD ROADHOUSE
PHAT PHIL MINI DONUTS
THAI 1 ON
THUNDER BROTHERS BREWERY
KONA SHAVED ICE



LONG LAKE LUTHERAN
3921 2TH AVE NW ISANTI MN