

*CrossWinds*

## NEWSLETTER OF WINDS OF THE PRAIRIE MINISTRY

BETHANY: BETHANY-ELIM: GRACE: PEACE: ST PAUL

Volume 9

Issue 1

August 2013

### FIRST WORD

### The Seven Year Switch

Seven is a number of perfection and completeness with its place in creation as the timeline which God used in the creative process. The seven day week is the most natural distribution of time and renewal with its 52 week cycle making for a year. It seems that human beings run on a seven year cycle.

Our bodies go through changes about every seven years. Think about how we live our lives:

Ages 0 to 7 is Preschool where we do the majority of learning the skills of life from our parents.

Ages 8 to 14 is Elementary when we are first taught general knowledge and how to communicate.

Ages 15 to 21 is a Transitional time when our bodies develop the distinctive characteristics of male and female, the brain learns to integrate its many parts so that we can be abstract thinkers.

Ages 22 to 28 is when we strike out by ourselves into the world to begin our life's vocation and begin to establish our independence.

Ages 29 to 35 is when we find a spouse as a life partner, start a family of our own, continue to grow in our vocation and really start to feel like an adult.

Ages 36 to 42 is when we learn our bad habits from what our children teach us. Our bodies start to show wear and tear from use.

Ages 43 to 49 is when we begin to send our children out into the world and we begin to review our dreams and hopes and may wonder where time went.

Ages 50 to 56 is when we are taking over as the leaders of the institutions and traditions of our family and community. We may begin to experience the death or decline of parents for whom we become responsible.

Ages 57 to 63 is when our careers reach a height and we are considered the wise elder.

Ages 64 to 70 is when we retire from the working world and have time to enjoy the fruits of our labors. Our bodies begin to go back to looking more like they did in childhood but with less energy and more questions than before.

As you see, time gives us both gifts and challenges as we go through life. The wisdom of life experience strengthens us to face the new challenges and there is a certain comfort in knowing that things are progressing. With some idea of what is to come we can make plans with our loved ones so the transitions can be life affirming of that stage of life.

Would you believe that Pastor Steve and I are entering our 7<sup>th</sup> year as your pastors? There is something that begins at the seven year mark in a pastors' tenure at a church. In the time we have been together we have gotten to know each other pretty well. We have learned the gifts each other has and doesn't have. We have gathered to celebrate at our baptismal fonts the giving and fulfillment of the promise to young and old during baptisms, affirmations, wedding, and funerals. We have celebrated anniversaries, eaten together, argued together and loved together. We know each other well enough that we can't use the same excuses about why things are the way they are because there has been a trust built on mutual experience. It is time for us to all grow and change.

The ministry that we are doing in our communities is beginning to change hearts and minds for Christ through daily relationship building. Our church buildings are seen as participants in the community and we have discovered that when we go forth from them we do so to take the good news of Jesus to those community members. So what are we going to do as Winds of the Prairie Ministry as we approach the end of this seven year cycle and the beginning a new one? We have been a ministry for almost ten years and have much to be proud of and celebrate. We can look back and learn from what we have done, but life is lived forward, so let us look ahead and see where God is leading us to be his chosen people. Let's turn on the switch of God's power.

*Pastor Julie A. K. Anderson*

# Intern's Intonations

It's always a bit of a challenge to know where to start when one is asked to write a little about who they are as a means of introduction to new community. The first thing that comes to mind today – as I write this in the midst of packing boxes and newspaper – is “Hello Winds of the Prairie Ministries! I cannot wait to begin meeting all of you and seeing what God has in store for our coming year together.”

As Vicar Kent Krumwiede suggested last month, we never know quite what the journey will look like, but we can be sure that God is right there with us and it will unfold in the incredible and live-giving ways only God could imagine. And so that is where I begin – looking forward to this adventure of being the 2013-14 WOTPM Vicar.

As a means of some basic introduction, I thought I'd enlist the help of some adverbs.

Demographically and relationally, I am Ann Maria Gonyea, a second career seminarian studying and working toward ordained ministry at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. My husband, Larry Alexander, has been gracious and patient enough to enter into this career change with me and is also looking forward to a year in southwest Minnesota. We've been married for 26 years. We have four children. Our daughter Kimberly, her husband Adam and their three boys (Zedd is 8, Ephraim is 5 and Rowan is 2) live in Hazel Park, MI. Our son Michael lives and works in Ypsilanti, MI. Dano, his wife Allison and their 4-year-old daughter Lilah, live in Ferndale, MI. Our youngest son, Max, just left the mother ship last summer and has been living with big sister Kim in his first steps to being an independent young adult.

My first “career” was in the marketing-communications field. I started out of college as a newspaper reporter at *The Mining Journal*, the daily newspaper out of Marquette, MI. Twenty-plus years later I still have ties to that newspaper. For the last two years, I've been writing a monthly column about my seminary experience. Earlier this summer, I was named one of the Good News Award winners for the column by a local ecumenical group. That was pretty exciting for a preacher wanna-be!

My last job was as marketing director for the Great Lakes Center for Youth Development in Marquette. The organization's mission to is build strong young people, in part, by helping to strengthen the nonprofit sector. I was able to learn and teach others about all manners of organizational management, from working with local media, to fund development to board life cycles. We also did a lot of work centered on the 40 Developmental Assets Framework developed by Search Institute of Minneapolis. That work gave me to wonderful opportunity to work all over the Upper Peninsula to help lift up the voices of young people as important and valuable members of the community.

Geographically, I'm originally a Chicago girl. This means that I will always be a Cubs fan, I have no issues with the Stanley Cup residing in Chicago for the year instead of Detroit, and even though I've been pretty much vegetarian for most of my life, I will typically stand in line for a Chicago-style hot dog with a side of fries. When I was 14 my family moved to Manistique, MI, in the Upper Peninsula. Truthfully, I thought it would be the end of me. My teenage self-moped and complained and plotted to get out of there for a couple of years. But I was converted to a Yooper over time and I'm truly blessed by that identity. Throughout my adult life I've lived in other places in Michigan, but my husband and I, our children and now our grandchildren, tend to head back to the U.P. whenever we can, and we pine for it a little when we are not there. For instance, when we are not in living in the U.P., Larry is not allowed to watch *Escanaba in da Moonlight* because he gets too melancholy. The U.P. is where our home congregation lives – Bethany Lutheran in Ishpeming. They have been incredibly supportive of my call and education in preparing for that call.

Theologically, I would say I'm drawn most strongly and consistently to God's work in the world as shown through the wonders and diversity of creation. This shows up in many ways for me – in scripture, in the experience of riding my mountain bike on winding single track through forests and along rivers. Ultimately, of

course, I am continually humbled by God's ultimate act of creation in the person of Jesus Christ – how he redeems us and teaches us to be co-creators in this place. The diversity of creation never ceases to amaze and inspire me. In retrospect, it is this creation-centered theology that has led to the addition of an Interfaith Studies emphasis to my Master's of Divinity work and my extracurricular work with students from other seminaries and traditions to learn more about each other and participate in ecumenical work together.

I was asked as one point to write about my theology using a metaphor. Here is a little of what I wrote. "Rivers have made lasting impressions on me throughout my life and so for my theological metaphor I find myself drawn to the idea of a meandering river. A river that is ancient, wild in some places or at some times, calm at others, deep and life-giving at some points along its bed, quick and fresh in others ... It's alive and moving, it collects materials from its banks and deposits them in new places downstream."

So now that meandering river is bringing me to southwest Minnesota, Winds of the Prairie Ministries and what I know will be a year of rich formation as I learn and continue to prepare to be a pastor of the church. Again I think of Vicar Kent's words about not really knowing what lies ahead or how that journey will reveal itself, but I think there a a few things I can say with some degree of certainty. One of the basic elements of my call to ordained ministry is that I feel drawn to being a voice and helping other voices rise up in response or rebuttal to the often very loud voices that push agendas of divisiveness, fear and hopelessness. I firmly believe the main ingredient of that antidote is the Good News. I am still, however, not quite sure where my voice best serves that role. It may be in preaching, in being an active community member, in pastoral care. It is my hope that internship will help me discern more about where God is calling me to be that voice.

I am also hoping to gain more experience in education and formation. I'm excited to walk alongside youth and adults in those activities. Martin Luther held the preacher as teacher role as an essential part of ordained ministry and I agree with him – not only because education is crucial to moving the church forward in time, but because it is where those in teaching roles continuing learning and growing as well.

Finally, I would say that I'm very excited – a perhaps a little nervous – about discovering how the five congregations of Winds of the Prairie Ministries operate together. More and more, pastors are being called to serve multi-point parishes and I think my internship will prepare me well with an on the ground, intensive experience in this area.

When I was praying about my internship over the last year, I would typically pray for a dynamic environment where I could be open to possibilities I might not think of, get plenty of preaching opportunities and learn more about the minister I am becoming. (Also I thought some good biking opportunities would be a plus.) From what I can tell so far, God has answered my prayers abundantly at Winds of the Prairie Ministries! May the peace of Christ be with you and prepare us all as we begin this year of potential and possibility together.

Your sister in Christ,

*Vicar Ann Gonyea*



**Baptisms ~**

## Pastoral Acts for June 2013

9<sup>th</sup> Scott Nuy child of Chad & Amy Nuy at Bethany-Elim by Pastor Steve  
22<sup>nd</sup> Jade Maranell child of Taylor & Nicole Maranell at Grace by Pastor Julie  
23<sup>rd</sup> Quinlynn Nielsen child of Kayla Nielsen at Bethany-Elim by Pastor Steve

**Funeral/Burial** 8<sup>th</sup> Chrystal Gawerecki burial at St.Paul by Pastor Steve

**Wedding** 29<sup>th</sup> Lucas Oerter & Brandi VanDyke in Minot, ND (Bethany, Arco) by Pastor Steve



## Membership Review We Need YOUR help!

We have some missing contact information, addresses, phone numbers, emails, etc....and really need your help in helping us to update the files. We would really like to reach out to each of our members before we publish our directory, we would like to check and make certain that all contact information is up to date. If you did not get a chance to check your information at the photo shoots, please contact the office. Our current list is at each congregation for you to look review and make corrections. If you are currently not in the area and are attending a local congregation where you live please request your transfer of your primary active membership, for you must request this to be done. However, we would love to have you as an associate member if you would like to maintain a connection to your home congregation. A small annual contribution will help support our ministries including our newsletters to you. We would love to keep in touch while your spiritual needs are being fulfilled by a fellow Christian congregation.

# Café

, a new look for WELCA

[Café](#), Women of the ELCA's on-line magazine for young adult women. The monthly publication features the same sections that readers have come to know since *Café's* beginning in 2003. Every month a main article and theological reflection with discussion questions, written mostly by women in their 20s and 30s, is posted. The e-zine deals with topics about relationships, vocation and other

subjects that are relevant to young adult women of faith.

*Café* is made possible through regular offerings from women who are active in over 7,000 congregational units of Women of the ELCA. *Café* groups—groups of young adult women who may be connected to their active Women of the ELCA unit—are also highlighted.

See more at: [www.boldcafe.org](http://www.boldcafe.org) where you can sign up for receiving the monthly electronic newsletter. Share this with a couple friends and use the monthly articles for a Faithlife study. Pastor Julie is looking at organizing a CAFÉ group to meet on the second and fourth Mondays at 5:30 pm, one in Lake Benton and the other in Ivanhoe. Let her know of your interest ASAP (507-215-2388 or [pastorjuliea@frontiernet.net](mailto:pastorjuliea@frontiernet.net)).



**Shetek Lutheran  
Ministries  
Senior Adult  
Retreat  
Friday - Sunday  
September 6,7,8 2013**

Please join us for this rewarding program for senior adults. The retreat provides singles and couples the opportunity to spend time together in fellowship with other Christian friends.  
Spend time in enjoying good company, great food, lodging, and hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Shetek is blessed to once again welcome Pastor Cy and Betty Jo Solberg as leaders for this retreat.

Call for a brochure today 507-763-3567 or check out our website at [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org)



## Missionary Moment

Prayer requests from missionaries Chris & Emily Adamow's July Newsletter.  
Thanks for the short break in the weather & safety during storms.  
Pray for those affected by severe floods in the North.  
Ask God for two nannies to help with our group here.  
Pray God would bring local friends for kids.

God would continue leading deep conversations with friends.  
Language learning mercy!

Their contact information is: Chris, Emily, Jed, Abe and Lucy [happycamper2345@hotmail.com](mailto:happycamper2345@hotmail.com)  
Support – 232 Clifton Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55403



## **Annual Golf Tournament at the Slayton Country Club held June 24, 2013.**

Winds of the Prairie Ministry was represented by Pastor Julie Anderson, Brandee Miller, Sharon Rasmussen, and Margo Willert at the GOLF event. They were the only female team and “weathered” the rainy start. It was a great day for golf and a lot of fun. The ladies would recommend to any golfers to save the fourth Monday in June (June 23, 2014) next year and join us. Your \$75 registration goes to support the camp. The traveling trophy is for the group who brings the most people, so let’s have 20 from WOTP next there year.

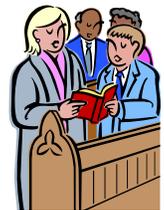


## **New Members Welcome: Change for the Summer**

During the summer months of July and August a new member orientation will be held on the third Wednesday of the month (August 21) from 5:30 to 7 pm at the Diamond Lake Hall. This is for those who want to become members of Winds of the Prairie Ministry congregation. We’ll review what it means to call yourself an ELCA Lutheran and the special benefits of being part of an area parish. Friends are encouraged to accompany their fellow member, so call the Winds office by the preceding Sunday to reserve your place.

### **Hymn Sing Service in August**

In August we have that time when we are in transition between interns so each congregation will have a service of hymns and reflections read by the congregational representatives. We will be singing our understanding of God’s grace and hearing about how these songs are anchors for many people in times of joy and sorrow.



## **What is the FAITH5™?**

The FAITH 5 connects church to home, faith to life, and parents to kids in a powerful way. The five steps of the FAITH5 are:

**Step One: Share** highs and lows. Name something good and bad you experienced today. Can't think of a personal one? Check out the headlines from the news and teach empathy and compassion for the broader world.

**Step Two: Read** a verse from your Bible. (Each Faith Inkubators curriculum includes suggested verses that kick off at church and go home for families to explore every night.

**Step Three: Talk** about how the verse relates to highs and lows. Unpack the verse a bit. What does it mean in your own words? How might it relate to where you are today in your highs and lows?

**Step Four: Pray** for one another's highs and lows, for your family, and for the world. Simply talk to God, thank Jesus for the good, and ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in specific problems.

**Step Five: Bless** one another. Trace the sign of the cross on one another's forehead or palm as a reminder that you belong to God and to one another.

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## Start at Church and Move to Home

It's one thing for churches to *encourage* families to be more intentional about faith practices at home. It's another thing for churches to *equip* families to do so. Role modeling all five steps on a regular basis at worship, during Sunday School, at adult education classes and even at board meetings. Over time, all of the people will become familiar with the practice and have an easier time transitioning church to home.

## From Home Back to Church

When an opportunity is provided for families and households to share stories about their faith practices in the home, growth abounds. Lives deepen. Traditions are built. Relationships are strengthened. The way a congregation functions changes. Setting an expectation to practice these five steps has made a difference in the way families and households connect and in the way we look at how we "do church." The body is only as healthy as its cells. Healthy, growing families contribute to a healthy, growing congregation.

## Weekly Encounter and Encouragement

42 days, 6 week or 1.5 weeks to create a habit for your family that will last a lifetime. After gathering for a meal parents will meet to learn from "Holding Your Family Together: 5 Simple Steps to help bring your family closer to God and each other". By sharing our experiences from each week we will learn from each other what is working for you. Resources will be shared from Faith Inkubators to give you ideas and encouragement to go home and continue to practice. Look for the opportunity to learn Faith5 at your congregations in the near future.

## Upcoming Faith5 Events

August 7 to September 11 is GRACE FAITH5 at Diamond Lake Picnic shelter. For six week six to ten families will meet for supper at 5:30 followed by a time of instruction in the FAITH5 for parents and kids.

More details on both events in the bulletins and newsletters. Look for coming events at your congregation.



## Rally Day is coming!!!!

Before we know it school will be back in session and that means that Sunday School will be back. That day this year is September 8, with Sunday School at around 9:30 at most of our churches.

To get everyone in the spirit of Sunday School the last Wednesday night worship at Diamond Lake Chapel will be a RALLY RALLY. We will sing songs, tell stories in interesting ways and there may even be some arts and crafts. Come to learn about the many educational and study opportunities you will have this fall at your congregation.



## Wanted for Service in the Church

**Delivery Personnel-** Bring the words and elements of Holy Communion to the homebound and sick once a month as a Home Communion Minister.

**Hospitality Team Member-** Help to make guests feel welcome to our congregations on Sunday morning and follow up with them to see how the church can be of service to them.

**Educator-** Teach youth on Sundays about the Good News, help with TFA small groups (Wednesday nights), Assist and participate in Adult Bible Study

**Web Maker-** A creative person who versed in website design and maintenance.

For more information and application contact the Winds office (507-638-1353 or 866-944-9687) Pastor Steve (507-829-9164) or Pastor Julie (507-215-2388).

## *Pre-Marriage Retreat @ Shetek Lutheran Ministries*



Shetek Lutheran Ministries would like to be a part of helping you get your marriage off to a strong start, by offering you and your fiancée a chance to think about some key marriage issues, together with other couples also ready to get married. Registration is only \$25 per couple, which includes your noon lunch. You don't have to be Lutheran to attend! Next retreat is August 10 check the camp website [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org) for future dates.



## **FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION**

**Saturday August 24 9:30 am to 3:30 pm.**

It is that time of year for instruction in Holy Communion for our youth. Those entering fifth grade, or older that need instruction, and a parent will gather at 9:30 am at Bethany in Arco to begin the journey with the baking of bread and learning of its significance in the Holy Meal. After lunch a road trip will include a visit to a winery and a farm to learn more about the parts of this special meal. According to our records the following students are eligible to take the instruction. Please contact the Winds office (888-966-9687) to confirm that you will be attending or to let us know you are not able to attend. If we have missed someone please call to let us know and register.

Anna Krier  
Ryder Olson  
Brayden Kopski  
Brock Hefti  
Molly Krog

Shae Johnson  
Emma Czech  
Zach Miller  
Kya Werner



## **Marriage Tune Ups**

Beginning in October on the second Saturday of the month, married couples are invited to come for a marriage tune up. As pastors we are asking which would be better for a # to 3.5 hour session (depending on whether we eat or not): morning 8:30 to noon, afternoon 1 to 4:30 or evening 4:30 to 8:00. Each month we'll cover 2 topics including Basic Theology of Marriage, Effective Conflict Communication/Management, Financial Planning and Original Nature. Come for two months to work on fine tuning your lifelong commitment to each other. Whether you have been married a year or several decades you can always learn something or teach others about life. Talk to one of the pastors and look for more information in September.

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN MINNEOTA

## ANNUAL PIE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

MEAL INCLUDES: BBQ'S, HOT DOGS, CHIPS & A BEVERAGE.

COST IS \$6/PERSON \$4 FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10



### Fall Study Opportunities: Starting in September 2013

I have been reminded lately that one of the things we promised to do after our Baptism was to study God's Word on a regular basis. Here are some opportunities for studying with a group that will either begin or continue starting in September. If you would like to start your own study group please let the pastors help you by asking us.

**NEW CAFÉ Women's Bible Study** on second and fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 pm. Pastor Julie is planning a Bible study opportunity for women using the monthly CAFÉ study from the WELCA. Plans are still in the works for the same lesson to be held once a month in Lake Benton and in Ivanhoe. Please contact Pastor Julie if you are interested and let her know what day (second or fourth Monday) would work best for you.

**Every Monday at 10 am at Divine Providence** in the Activity Room will be a study lead by Pastor Julie on the upcoming week's text for worship. Come and begin letting the Word work in your life as you prepare yourself for worship. The same type of study will also happen on **Wednesday at 8:30 am at Grace**.

**Breakfast and Bible Study continues Fridays at 7 am at Bethany** with Pastor Steve and the Vicar leading a study of different books and topics from the Bible. Feed your mind, body and spirit well.



### Visitation Invitation

The quickest way to get to know someone is to be introduced to them by someone who already knows them. This is why the pastors and vicar are inviting you to introduce us to your friends. Call one of us up and arrange a day or evening to take us to meet your family members, church members and friends you feel we should meet. Then call up the other persons and tell them you are coming to visit and bringing someone you want them to meet. Better yet have them over for a gathering and we can get to know a lot of people in one time. When you associate your name with us it begins from the start a relationship of trust. When will we get together to visit?



## Pastor's Ministry Goals

In May 2014 the pastors met with the Personnel committee to review the results of the Parish review and how it shapes the goals for the pastors during the upcoming year. The areas of ministry and their corresponding goals are listed here so you will be aware of the focuses in ministry for the pastors this year. Many of the goals offer opportunities for members to partake of learning, enrichment and spiritual gift development. These opportunities will give you a chance to deepen and broaden your understanding of God's will and purpose for your life.

<b>Goals 2013-2014</b>	<b>Lead Pastor</b>	<b>Associate Pastor</b>
<b>General Expectations &amp; Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Deepen prayer life through intentional spiritual retreats.</li> <li>➤ Ministry Colleague Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Final D. Min Studies-graduation Spring 2014</li> <li>➤ Pastor 2 Pastor Group</li> </ul>
<b>Education / Life Long Christian Learning</b>	<p>Training for affirmation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Developing a study group for evaluation of existing program.</li> <li>➤ A. Focus on Mentor training –</li> <li>➤ B. Evaluate Training for Affirmation</li> <li>➤ C. Scheduling for next year/1 Class.</li> </ul> <p>Continue to support Bible Studies in our communities.</p> <p>Continuing Education covenant based on reviews in June.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Training for Affirmation: support and assist with programming, teaching and scheduling</li> <li>➤ Offer "The Bible" study at local libraries.</li> <li>➤ Continue to support Bible Studies</li> <li>➤ Ruthton Bible Study</li> <li>➤ Continuing Education covenant based on reviews in June.</li> </ul>
<b>Youth/Family Ministry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ School/Church Relations</li> <li>➤ Marriage Covenant/Warranty Checkup</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ School/Church Relations</li> <li>➤ Marriage Covenant/Warranty Checkup</li> </ul>
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Reevaluate the Home Communion</li> <li>➤ Sermon Outlines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Reevaluate the Home Communion</li> <li>➤ Sermon Outlines</li> <li>➤ Make at least 4 visits per week</li> </ul>
<b>Active Evangelism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Discovery Classes monthly</li> <li>➤ Pew Pads</li> <li>➤ Cottage Meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Discovery Classes monthly</li> <li>➤ Visiting Inactive/Visitors</li> <li>➤ Evangelism Teams development</li> <li>➤ Pew Pads</li> <li>➤ Cottage Meetings</li> </ul>
<b>Trustees/administration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Oversee Staff, Council, Board and committees</li> <li>➤ Council Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Finish the Picture Directory</li> <li>➤ Finish the Parish Database Update</li> <li>➤ Council Development and Education</li> <li>➤ Annual Review and Scheduling</li> </ul>
<b>General Pastoral Duties –</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Communication Improvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Improvement of Communication</li> <li>➤ Database Update</li> </ul>
<b>Relationships with the greater church community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Road Scholars @ Shetek Lutheran Ministries</li> <li>➤ Synod LYO</li> <li>➤ Be the Change team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chair of Endowment Committee</li> <li>➤ Advisory Board of Luther House of Study at Augustana College.</li> <li>➤ Instructor for PreMarriage Retreats at Shetek Lutheran Ministries</li> <li>➤ Mission highlights in newsletter</li> </ul>



## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

### BETHANY, ARCO

#### Ushers

Ron & Lynette Madsen

#### Assisting Minister

3 Allan Lundberg

4 Glen Sorensen

18 Ilene Sorensen

#### Lectors

3 Allan Lundberg

4 Ilene Sorensen

11 Beth Daniels

18 Dar Schreurs

25 Glen Sorensen

#### Altar Guild

Jewel Noble

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### August 8<sup>th</sup> Women's Retreat held at Bethany

#### **WOMEN'S RETREAT TO BE HELD**

"Live, Laugh and Love" is the theme of the 2013 Women's Retreat to be held at Bethany Lutheran in Arco on Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. The speaker will be Pastor Jennifer Thul, pastor at Danebod Lutheran, Tyler. Registration and coffee will begin at 9 a.m. and followed by music, devotions and news of what is happening in Prairie Conference. We will close with a Potluck meal at noon so each is asked to bring a dish to pass. A free will offering will be taken as you register for the day. It will be announced at the end of the day who will receive that offering gift. Please join us for a great morning of learning and fellowship.

#### **2013 SYNODICAL CONVENTION REPORT**

A small representation from Winds of the Prairie attended the annual synodical convention held at Redwood Falls June 21 and 22<sup>nd</sup>. This was an excellent convention with a great deal of fellowship and learning. Two special communion services were held, the first at the beginning was led by Pastor Paul Oman who is an artist. He created a large mural while music and scripture readings were given. The women watched and meditated on his work. The finished mural is being kept at the Synod office and can be loaned out to churches that wish to display it for special occasions. The second communion service was at the end and was a Taise service. Between those communion services the regular business meetings were held as well as two very good speakers. Pastor Linda Peterson, Synod pastor, described her sabbatical trip to Romania where she learned about her family history. The second was a Minnesota author, Candace Simar, who described her journey in becoming an author. She has written about some of the history of west central and northwest Minnesota and the people who lived there in Minnesota's early years.

Two offering were taken but the most striking offerings were the in-kind things that Women of ELCA do for others. During this year from Convention time last year to this year they reported making and gifting 9369 quilts. In addition 1156 fabric kits were brought to the convention to be sent on to Lutheran World Relief. Another van load of Christian literature was collected and will be sent to Third World countries. Many are truly blessed by the work of our women.

# BETHANY-ELIM, IVANHOE

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## Ushers

4 Clyde & Wendy Rost  
11 Kelly & Nancy Krog family  
18 Bernie Aronson & Marlin Toft  
25 Elmer & Twila Koopman

## Lectors

4 Ruth Mulder  
11 Angie Jerzak  
18 Gene Faulds  
25 Arlinda Bednarek

## Acolyte

4 Kim Bloch  
11 Molly Krog  
18 Shanelle Buffington  
25 Cody Gifford

## Assisting Minister

4 Marlene Lawrence  
11 Mary Pedersen  
18 Julie Nelson  
25 Sharon Rasmussen

## Bethany-Elim dates to remember.....

Hazel Spanton has recently moved to Hudson, WI to be closer to her children. Let's SHOWER her with CARDS! Hazel's new address is Hazel Spanton 3001 Hanley Road Apt 312 Hudson, WI 54016 If you would rather call her, her new number is 715-386-3775

**Memorial Service for Ruby Koopman-Campbell will be held on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am at West Elim Cemetery bring a chair.**

### WANTED: Pie Eaters and Pie Makers

By Nancy Krog



The Bethany-Elim Sunday School is hosting the Pie and Ice Cream Social during Polish Days, at the VFW after the parade until 2 p.m. on Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>.

Please come and enjoy a delicious slice of pie and ice cream in the cool air conditioning of the Ivanhoe VFW...proceeds will be supporting the BE Sunday School program.

If you are a pie maker, donations are being accepted. If you do NOT make pie, but would still like to donate one, contact me & donate \$12 and Gail from "The Ol Time Café" will make a pie for you to donate! A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board at church. Pies should be delivered to the VFW on Sunday by 10 a.m. or to the church on Saturday. Monetary donations are also being accepted to cover expenses such as ice cream, coffee, lemonade, and paper products. Any questions, contact Nancy at 507-487-5722. Thanks and we look forward to seeing you at the Pie and Ice Cream Social...and we won't tell if you eat 2 slices or ask for extra ice cream

## Rally Day at BE

We welcome all Sunday School students, their family and our congregation to Rally Day, September 8, 2013.

Worship begins at 8:30am. Service Auction and brunch will follow worship.

Sunday School lessons & fun will begin the following week, September 15.

All Sunday School students please wear your red VBS t-shirts! If you don't have one yet, one will be waiting for you on Rally Day! Let's join together as a fresh new year begins and we remember to "Let all we do be done in LOVE". I Corinthians 14:16.

# GRACE LUTHERAN, LAKE BENTON

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## Ushers

LaDon Prosch  
Matt Prosch  
Josh Prosch  
Roger Rudebusch

## Altar Guild

Deloris Johansen & Darlene Meyer

## Acolyte

4 Becca Berkenpas  
11 Tyson Weets  
18 Emma Czech  
25 Zach Miller

## Deacon

Jerid Johnson

## Gracious Words submitted by Karen Lichtsinn

**Learning Faith 5** - During August, Grace is offering a series of family workshops on the Faith 5, starting Wednesday Aug 7 thru Sept 11 at Diamond Lake. The Faith 5 family sessions focus on 5 simple steps to help parents be faith teachers, mentors and role models for their family. Resources will be provided. The sessions will start at 5:30 with dinner for the entire family and conclude at 6:45 prior to Wednesday night worship services at DL. **Signup by July 28, space is limited (contact Karen Lichtsinn 507-368-2008).**

**Worship at Diamond Lake** Each Wednesday, join the WOTP churches for our summer worship services at DL at 7 PM, with fellowship following. Please join us for a unique and inspirational worship experience. The final renovations of the DL church and hall are nearly complete. The cement steps are completed and only finishing the woodwork in the church remains. It's also a pleasure to see activities taking place in the new picnic shelter each week. God's work takes place everywhere, not just in church on Sunday. The final fundraising effort is underway, so please consider a gift if you have not done so already. Thank you to everyone who already contributed to this effort. Remember, the DL facility is available for use by the WOTP, so if anyone is interested in holding more events at Diamond Lake, please contact Karen Lichtsinn or the Pastors to schedule your event.

**Church wide Assembly** - During the week of August 11-17, two members of the WOTP will be attending the Church wide Assembly in Pittsburgh, PA. Marie Henriksen and I will be leaving for Pittsburgh on Sunday August 11, acting as voting members on behalf of our SW MN Synod and the Prairie Conference. (Note - there will be 952 voting members from 65 synods and 9,638 congregations serving at the church wide assembly, on behalf of the 4,059,785 baptized members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.) Please pray for us during our travels and for God's guidance in our work at the assembly. During the weeklong assembly we will be focused on the theme of "Always Being Made New". We will provide a report to the WOTP upon our return, but you can also watch the "live stream" of the assembly using the following link. <http://www.elca.org/Who-We-Are/Our-Three-Expressions/Churchwide-Organization/Office-of-the-Secretary/ELCA-Governance/Churchwide-Assembly.aspx>

**Opportunity to serve** - We are seeking a volunteer from Grace Lutheran to serve on the Danebod Village Board. Thank you to Carol Dahl, who formerly held that position on behalf of Grace. Please contact Karen Lichtsinn if you are interested in serving in this position.

**Deacon/Lector for August:** Jerid Johnson

**Next Council meeting date:** Tuesday August 20, Joint Council meeting at Bethany in Arco at 7 PM. Car pools will leave from the church at 6:40.

**Church Access** - Just a reminder that Grace Church will now be locked during the week. We realize this may cause some inconvenience, but preventative safety measures had to be taken. If you need access to the church, the contact

names are listed on the doors to the fellowship hall. We have also provided a small table inside the entrance to the fellowship hall, to allow for mail deliveries and to drop off food or materials at the church for funerals and events. Note - The keypad lock on the inside fellowship doors will close and lock automatically behind you. If you prop that door open, please be sure to shut it when you leave to maintain security. We are working to establish key contacts for unlocking and locking the doors for worship and other events. Please share your questions or concerns with any council member. We appreciate your patience during this transition.

## **GRACE LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

PAT JOHNSON



Hard to believe but it will be Sunday School time again. Sunday School will start on September 8<sup>th</sup>. It will run from 9:45-10:45am. If anyone is interested in teaching or helping with our program, please contact me at 507-820-0117. We look forward to an exciting year of teaching God's Word to our precious children.

### **Upcoming Dates for Grace Lutheran:**

August 7<sup>th</sup>, GLCW

Our summer "break" is over! Just a friendly reminder that ALL women are welcome to join us. Our first "after break" gathering will be Wednesday noon, August 7, 2013, at the shelter house down by the lake. We will honor our over 80's gals and Methodist friends. Under 80's gals, please bring a dish to share. Beverages and eating utensils will be supplied. Check your information booklet for the rest of the year's activities, please. Hope to see many of you there.

## **PEACE LUTHERAN, RUTHTON**

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August 6

9:30 a.m. – St. Matthew Circle meets at the home of Barbara Petersen

2 p.m. – St. Mark Circle meets at the home of Linda Petersen

August 14

Arco Retreat if it is held

August 26

9 a.m. – Quilting Day

## **St Paul Lutheran of Minneota**

**August 4<sup>th</sup> – Pie & Ice Cream Social from 5-7pm at St.Paul's**

COST IS \$ 6 PER PERSON & \$ 4 FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10

BBQ OR HOTDOG, CHIPS & A BEVERAGE ALONG WITH YOUR PIE & ICE CREAM



PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN EARLY EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP & FOOD.

# PRAYER CONCERNS & CARES

## BETHANY (ARCO)

PRAY FOR DOROTHY BUNJER, BUCK BARBER, NORMA RENKEN, HARVEY & BLANCHE JORGENSEN, DAGMAR BLEGEN, TRAVIS NOBLE, CONNIE CLAUSEN (MOTHER OF BRENDA POSSAIL), HARLEY JOHNSON (BROTHER OF JOAN LUNDBERG), AND ELSIE BARBER.

## BETHANY-ELIM (IVANHOE)

PRAY FOR JUDY STOWELL, JEFF NEYENS, VERN JOHNSON, RHODA LARSON, DANIEL AVARD & CHILDREN (BROTHER OF BRIGITTE MUNSTERMAN); BRUCE KELM (BROTHER OF GRETCHEN SUHR); GABRIEL JOHNSON (GRANDSON OF NORMA JEAN JOHNSON); LEIGH JERZAK (SISTER-IN-LAW OF ROGER & ANGIE JERZAK); MIKE KROPP (SON-IN-LAW OF KEN SWANSON); JACKSON & MARY GRACE NELSON (CHILDREN OF RYAN AND KATE); NANCY RESMEN (SISTER-IN-LAW OF BERNADINE OLSEN)

## GRACE (LAKE BENTON)

THE FAMILY OF ANN KRUSE (MOTHER TO NEIL KRUSE). CHERYL KJERGAARD, MARY HAUGEN, NAOMI ENKE, STEVE & NANCY JOHNSON, CAROL MENSEN (DAUGHTER OF ARLYN & GARNET PETERSEN), NORMA BURDICK, PAULA JACOBSON (DAUGHTER OF WAYNE & ANNETTE FEHRMAN), EARL KLITZKE, CHET BORRESEN

## PEACE (RUTHTON)

LEROY HARTSON, BONITA FUHRMANN, CAROLYN HOLCK, ROSMARY HARTSON, EDWIN EWALD, ELLEN HANSEN, EDNA HARALDSEN, AND CLIFF KITTELSON

## ST. PAUL'S (MINNEOTA)

CLARA DEROODE

## THOSE AWAY FROM HOME

ALL THOSE WITH HEALTH ISSUES THAT ARE SILENT & THOSE UNDERGOING TREATMENTS AWAY FROM HOME.

## TYLER NURSING HOME

CLIFF KITTLESON, CAROLYN HOLCK, & BONNIE FUHRMANN (PEACE)  
ANNETTE FEHRMAN (GRACE)

## HENDRICKS NURSING HOME

ILA RASMUSSEN (BETHANY)  
RHONDA LARSON (BETHANY-EILM)  
NORMA BURDICK (GRACE)  
RUTH RASMUSSEN (BETHANY-ELIM)

## DIVINE PROVIDENCE NURSING

HOME (IVANHOE) MABEL DRESSEN,  
ELsie BARBER, DAGMAR BLEGEN (BETHANY)

## MILITARY:

PRAY FOR THE LEADERS OF THIS NATION AND ALL THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD THAT MAY SEEK PEACE. PRAY FOR THOSE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE MEMBERS OF WOTP WHO SERVE IN THE MILITARY OR RESERVE FORCES, ESPECIALLY, JESSE ZAFFT, LUCAS OERTER, SCOTT JOHNSON, JON DOUGHERTY, CHRISTIAN VIZECKY, DANIELLE THOMSEN, MICHAEL COLMAN, ROSS, RYAN, ANGELA, AND DAVID NELSON, ALLAN PETERSON, DERRICK LINNEMAN, TODD BOARD, KYLE SHEIK, ALYSON BYLONE, JIM PEDERSEN, JUSTIN SCHMIDT, ADAM DEROODE, PAM GREGOR, PAUL GREGOR JR., COREY GREGOR, CHRISTOPHER GREGOR, AND PAUL GREGOR

# HURRICANE

WXY Newsletter

August 2013

## 2013-2014 TFA Student Rally

*August 14 from 1pm to 8 pm*

*Diamond Lake Chapel*

All students of TFA (Training for Affirmation) in the upcoming year should come out to the Diamond Lake Chapel on August 14 for an afternoon of getting to know each other and preparing for our new year of class. We'll put together a worship service for the W.O.W. that evening while sharing in food, fun and fellowship. We are assuming you all (those entering 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade or currently enrolled) will be coming. Please contact one of the pastors if you cannot attend before August 1. See you all out at Diamond Lake.



## First Communion Instruction



For any child who will be entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade this Fall or older who needs instruction for First Communion it will be in late August or early September. Please let the Winds office (507-638-1353 or 866-944-9687) know if you are eligible by July 24. One parent is to accompany the child on our day of exploration and participation.

## EAGLE BUTTE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

***Rescheduled to Monday August 5 to Friday August 9***



Our youth ages 14 to 90 are invited to share in a cross-cultural servant event on the Cheyenne-Eagle Butte reservation in South Dakota. We will leave for Eagle Butte to work with Habitat for Humanity on Monday August 5<sup>th</sup> and return on Friday August 9<sup>th</sup>.

This servant trip is for up to sixteen youths and four adults (one to four ratios). We leave Sunday after church and return Saturday afternoon. Cost will be \$175.00/person.

We will be working with a family to build their home, learning about Lakota history and culture, experiencing a sweat lodge, seeing a bison herd up close and personal, laughing and working some more. Eagle Butte is in the center of the Cheyenne Eagle Butte Reservation of the Lakota nation.

Don't wait until the last minute to sign up. You will need time to fill out your health form, and volunteer forms. We are limited to 20 (4 adults and 16 youth) for the trip to Eagle Butte. Check your calendar and come join the fun.

**August 2013**



14 Keeley Island Dr  
Slayton, MN 56172  
507-763-3567  
sibc@frontiernet.net  
www.shetek.org

# CANNEWS FROM CAMP

*Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers*

Mark Your Calendar

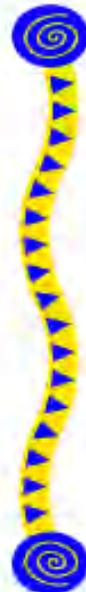
- \* Pre-marriage Retreat - August 10<sup>th</sup> 2013
- \* Senior Adult Retreat- September 6, 7 & 8 2013
- \* Women's Retreat - September 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> 2013
- \* WELCA conference - September 21<sup>st</sup> 2013
- \* Fall Fantasy - October 6<sup>th</sup> 2013
- \* Timber Banquet - October 13<sup>th</sup> 2013
- \* Live Nativity - November 30<sup>th</sup> 2013
- \* Lutefisk Supper - December 8<sup>th</sup> 2013

Any questions call (507) 763-3567 or  
Check out our website at [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org)

Thank you to all who continues to support your camp, Shetek Lutheran Ministries! Your generous gifts of time, talents, creations, & contributions make it possible for your camp to carry out its mission of providing Christ-centered learning experiences for people of all ages. Thank You!

Help send Kids to camp... Become a Pelican/Timber member today  
Call for a Brochure 507-763-3567 or visit or website [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org)

**Shetek Lutheran Ministries**  
**Senior Adult Retreat**  
**Friday~Sunday**  
**Sept. 6-8, 2013**  
**Call for a brochure today**  
**507-763-3567 or**  
**check out [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org)**



**Shetek Lutheran Ministries**  
**67th Annual Women's Retreat**  
**"Color Me New"**  
**Friday & Saturday**  
**Sept. 13&14 2013**  
**call for a brochure today**  
**507-763-3567 or**  
**check out [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org)**



# It's time again for the Bethany-Elim Service Auction!

This event has been so much fun & successful in the past and we are making plans for another auction. There will be a YOUTH AUCTION again; at which only the youth can bid (they had so much fun making decisions & bidding!) Kevin & Andrew Swanson have agreed to be our auctioneers ...and we know how much excitement they add to our auction.

EVERYONE (young & old) at Bethany-Elim is invited to donate something(s) to be auctioned off. We DON'T want old appliances, furniture, or junk; we want YOUR talents and gifts. The auction will be held on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, following 8:30am church services (DON'T FORGET the time switch to 8:30am church beginning that day!) Breakfast will be served after church, and the auction will begin at 10am. A sign-up sheet to help with the breakfast can be found on the bulletin board. We have a church family full of talented people, so we are hoping for a large slate of items & talents for this event. Pass the word around to our members and invite them to donate and to attend for a morning filled with fellowship and FUN! GET THINKING NOW and be as creative as possible!!!!

**REMINDER – Your donations ARE Tax-Deductible!! It's a WIN- WIN for all involved!**

It is no secret that our church family is in debt. We need to all come together and search our heart & find our talents that GOD has blessed us with. You will find a form attached for your donations. Extra forms can be found by the posters in church. This auction is for EVERYONE. Contact your Council members if you have questions. They are Brandon Gifford, Loretta Lundberg, Bernie Olsen, Jim Weckert, Chris Clarke & Kyle Krier.

**HERE ARE SOME IDEAS to get you thinking:** Labor (window washing, housecleaning, mowing, snow removal, oil changes, weeding gardens, planting flowers, etc...) Singing Telegrams; Movie Tickets; Jams & Jellies; Pies; Cakes; Salsa; Candy, etc; Surprise Basket; Afghans or Quilts; Paintings, Home Canned Goods; Meat Bundles; Gift Certificates; Babysitting; Manicures; Steak Dinner; Homemade Meal.

**Ideas for Kids' Auction:** Movie Tickets; Toys; Gift Certificate; Candy Gum (we will try to keep each of these "winning bids" at \$10 or under – so please consider that when contributing items & services for the kids' auction).

***BE SURE TO CHECK THE CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD FOR MANY MORE IDEAS!  
Let's work together to make this an AWESOME service auction!!***

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I/WE would like to donate the following goods and/or services to the Bethany-Elim Service Auction:  
(description, size, number, frequency, date of completion,  
etc)\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name**\_\_\_\_\_

---

I/WE would like to donate the following goods and/or services to the Bethany-Elim Service Auction:  
(description, size, number, frequency, date of completion,  
etc)\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name**\_\_\_\_\_

---

I/WE would like to donate the following goods and/or services to the Bethany-Elim Service Auction:  
(description, size, number, frequency, date of completion,  
etc)\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name**\_\_\_\_\_

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## 2013 Churchwide Assembly

August 12-17, 2013

David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA

The Churchwide Assembly (CWA) is designated as the "highest legislative authority" in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). That means that the assembly deals with the purposes, functions, and directions of churchwide ministries. The assembly also addresses issues that affect the life of our whole church. In the polity of that Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we have three primary expressions - congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization. As provided in churchwide constitutional provision 8.11.: [click here to read more](#)

The theme for 2013 Churchwide Assembly is

***[Always being made new. 25 years together in Christ.](#)***

*So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. - 2 Corinthians 5:17-21*

This year you will be able to watch the Churchwide Assembly online as in the past. You can also read all the documents that your synod's voting members receive. Just download the Guidebook app on your computer, tablet or phone. [Click here for more information.](#)

You may also access some features of the Guidebook through any web browser at:

<http://m.guidebook.com/guide/4924/> (This web version of the Guidebook is a less-functional version, so be sure to download the full-featured version for your device.)

Leading up the CWA we would invite you to pray the [25 Days of Prayer](#) for wisdom in discernment for the ELCA and voting members of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly.

[Click here](#) for the 25 Days of Prayer scripture readings and hymns.

### 2013 Southwestern Minnesota Synod Churchwide Voting Members:

Rev	Jon	Anderson	SW MN Synod				
Mrs	Gwen	Arneson	Christ, Cottonwood	<b>Ms</b>	<b>Karen</b>	<b>Lichtsinn</b>	<b>Grace, Lake Benton</b>
Ms	Lisa	Barto	First, Litchfield	Rev	Peter	Lundholm	Salem, St Cloud
Rev	Bobbi	Bell	Atonement, St Cloud	Ms	Kristin	Marks	First, Marshall
Mr	Jim	Branstad	First, St James	Ms	Rae	Mathias	First, Dundee
Rev	Paul	Erdal	First, Morris	Rev	Christian	Muellerleile	Zion, Litchfield
Mr	Bill	Fenske	Vinje, Willmar	Rev	Matthew	Peterson	St Stephen, Marshall
Rev	Simon	Fensom	Faith, Spicer	Rev	Chad	Peterson	Vinje, Willmar
Mr	Joel	Hanse	Trinity, Cyrus	Rev	Joyce	Piper	SW MN Synod
<b>Ms</b>	<b>Marie</b>	<b>Henriksen</b>	<b>Bethany, Arco</b>	Ms	Tammy	Sather	Bethany, Morgan
Ms	Jen	Hovland	Vinje, Willmar	Rev	Lyle	Snyder	First English, Tyler
Mr	Dustin L.	Johnson	Our Saviour's, Baxter	Mr	Ferman	Woodberry	Our Saviors, Montevideo
Mr	Kody	Kantor	Rejoice, Clearwater	Rev	Margaret	Yackel-	Prairie Star Ministries
Mr	Kris	Kelly	Trinity, St Peter			Juleen	