



### CONTENTS

First Word, p. 1  
Notes from the Intern, p. 2  
WotP Council Notes, p. 3  
Preaching Schedule, p. 3  
WXY Meeting Notes, p. 4  
Winter Weather Alerts, p. 5  
Contact Reminder, p. 5  
Thank Offerings, p. 6  
T.F.A, p. 6  
Family Faith, p. 7  
Bethany Notes, p. 7  
Bethany-Elim Notes, p. 8  
Grace Notes, p. 8  
Peace Notes, p. 9  
St Paul Notes, p. 10

## FIRST WORD: COMFORT: COURAGE OR COMPLACENCY

PASTOR JULIE A. K. ANDERSON

*Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.*

ISAIAH 40

These words of the prophet Isaiah came to mind recently when I was pondering the Advent season. Then I got to thinking that this will be the third year that Pastor Steve and I have shared this season with you. This got me thinking back to all that has happened in three years.

We have done a lot in that time. There have been happy events like weddings, baptisms and celebrations to name a few. We have walked together in challenging times of death, disasters, and adjustments. All of this has helped us to create a certain degree of comfort and familiarity with each other. From my observations there usually is one of two things that we do when we are comfortable.

Comfort can be for many a sign that things are going well and that it is best not to try to change things. This condition of complacency make our vision short sighted and narrow. When opportunities arise to do something the reaction is that it will change things so it must not be good. We are quick to judge and negate any idea. Life becomes closed and more like death with no change which is a result of growth.

On the other hand comfort can give us courage to explore new things. When we are comfortable and understand who and whose we are we are more ready to venture out into new arenas of interest and needs. When opportunities to serve arise we respond out of the love and security we feel in God's promise. When challenges seem to become too great we are comforted that we will not be left but supported in the cause. These challenges lead us to even greater and deeper insights into ourselves.

I recognize this pattern in myself. After over three years I have got to know many of you and have walked with all of you thorough the deaths of many of our beloved saints. My heart breaks a little with each death and swells with love at each baptism, affirmation, marriage and celebration. I have begun to imagine and see ways we can work together to respond to God's mission for us here on the prairie. I have great dreams and hopes for our ministry together.

The changes of our present time are demanding that we be more involved and aware of the need for God's Work right outside our doors which is great. Estimates are that 70% of the population in any community do not have a church home. We are being truly asked to be God's Hands, reaching out to our neighbors near and far. As the ELCA church body the frontlines of ministry are being placed in our hands to support with our time, talents and money. Ministry runs on these three things and we can each contribute in some way, small or large.

CONTINUED FOLLOWING PAGE



As we come to the beginning of this new church year with Advent we are preparing for the arrival of God's promised salvation in the form of His Son. Our comfort is that God provides and our response should be courageous, based on God's love and promise, as children of the kingdom. What do you hear God calling you to? How are the challenges of this day preparing you to understand that call? Let the Word this Advent prepare you to greet the Christ child and help you to see his hand at work in your life to bless the lives of others. Comfort lived in courage leads to a full and meaningful life lived for more than just your needs, but for others. Share the courage.

## NOTES FROM THE INTERN

BY VICAR JACKIE BRAUN

**The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.**

### ISAIAH 9:2

Advent is a time of waiting and preparation for the birth of our God, in Jesus Christ. Christmas is then a time of celebration, a time to rejoice for Christ comes, for God has become one of us. Immanuel – God with us – a light into this world, where heaven and earth come together. The Word became flesh and lived among us ... (John 1:14). Jesus is God's gift freely given to all of mankind, so that in our brokenness, we too can be made whole and holy.

The Epiphany (Greek for the manifestation of God) season, which follows Christmas is also a time for continuing the story of God's incarnation on earth through Christ. We have waited for Christ to be with us through Advent and we have celebrated His birth at Christmas and now we begin our journey with the Promised One, a time when God's glory in Jesus Christ is increasingly revealed to us.

The celebration of Epiphany begins on 01/06/2010 as we hear the story of the Magi, following the brightest star in the sky, bringing gifts to the newborn King and pointing to who Jesus really has come to be. We will hear of Jesus' baptism and a voice say, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." The stories of his first miracle, his call to come and see, as well as a call to be salt of the earth and light of this world will be heard this season. The time after Epiphany will end on 03/06/2010, with Transfiguration Sunday, where on the mountain, Jesus is revealed once again, as God's beloved son, beaming with the glory of God. And yet we hear hints of what is to come, as Jesus tells of the Son of Man who will be raised from the dead. This day serves as our bridge from Advent,

Christmas and Epiphany into the season of Lent, where through Jesus death and resurrection, he will become the Passover lamb for all of creation, revealing himself to us through the sacrament of Holy Communion. It is this day that we traditionally put away the "light of Christ" and we will no longer speak or sing Alleluia, waiting for Christ's return on Easter morning.

In this season after Epiphany, the stories not only call us to consider who Christ is – a bright shining star for the world – a beacon of salvation for all – but invites us to rise up from our own corners of darkness, and see with clarity this light shining into the world. We too become the light illuminating into a dark world, calling out what it means for be a child of God, revealing to all the Glory of God.

In the days ahead – in the long hours of winter darkness - as life gets hectic with Christmas programs and other gatherings and of course shopping and preparing foods – or maybe as you find yourself alone in grief or loneliness – take some time to bask in the light of Jesus Christ and in a God who chose to come to us through pains of birth and choose to live among us in human flesh, proclaiming mercy and salvation to all, revealing himself for us and for all nations as a beacon of light among the darkness. And be looking for more details about Epiphany as well as on the lookout for stars, lots of stars as we investigate and discover how Christ reveals himself to us and for others in our daily lives. And my blessing for you throughout this season is: May Christ, born into time to bring endless peace, guide your days and years in righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. Amen.

# WOTP COUNCIL NOTES

MARY GISLASON, SECRETARY

November 2, 2010

Members Present: Sherry Rost, Karen Richmond, Carol Dahl, Carole Larsen, Phil Anderson, Ron Madsen, Randy Noble, Deb Baartman, Karen Lichtsinn, Mary Gislason, Pastor Steve and Pastor Julie.

A projector has been found to purchase for \$530, which is \$30 over what had been planned. Sherry Rost made a motion to go ahead and pay the \$530, seconded by Ron Madsen. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Randy Noble that we not have Advent Services this year, seconded by Mary Gislason. Motion passed unanimously.

Acolyte training for 4th & 5th graders after services on November 7 at Bethany and Bethany-Elim after services, November 14 at Peace after Sunday School, on November 21 at St. Paul's at 4:40 and at Grace on November 28 at 3:30.



Proposed budget for 2011 was handed out. Randy Noble made a motion to accept the proposed budget with just a couple changes in wording. Carol Dahl seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

The next meeting is December 14th at Bethany-Elim in Ivanhoe at 7 o'clock.

Carol Dahl made a motion to end the meeting, seconded by Carole Larsen. It passed unanimously.

## DECEMBER PREACHING SCHEDULE

		<b>Bethany (8:30)</b>	<b>Grace (8:30)</b>	<b>Peace (10:30)</b>	<b>St. Paul (8:30)</b>	<b>Bethany-Elim (10:30)</b>
<b>Saturday, Dec 04</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>	Rasmusson				
<b>Sunday, Dec 05</b>	<i>Advent 2 Holy Communion</i>	Rasmusson	Braun	Braun	Anderson	Anderson
<b>Saturday, Dec 11</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>			Rasmusson		
<b>Sunday, Dec 12</b>	<i>Advent 3</i>	Rasmusson	Braun	Braun	Anderson	Anderson
<b>Saturday, Dec 18</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>		Anderson			
<b>Sunday, Dec 19</b>	<i>Advent 4 Holy Communion</i>	Anderson	Rasmusson	Rasmusson	Braun	Braun
<b>Friday, Dec 24</b>	<i>Christmas Eve</i>	Rasmusson/Braun	Braun	Rasmusson	Anderson	Anderson
	<b>Time</b>	<b>10:30 PM</b>	<b>4 PM</b>	<b>5 PM</b>	<b>4 PM</b>	<b>7 PM</b>
<b>Sunday, Dec 26</b>	<i>Service of the Word</i>	Supply Pastor	Rasmusson	Rasmusson	Braun	Braun

## SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE

Are you going somewhere for fun, family or work on Sunday? Then come to the services at 5:30 pm on Saturday night with rotation around our parish in the following pattern.

- First Saturday- Bethany in Arco
- Second Saturday- Peace in Ruthton
- Third Saturday- Bethany-Elim in Ivanhoe
- Fourth Saturday- Grace in Lake Benton –(No worship on December 25)
- Last Saturday- St Paul in Minneota –(No worship on December 25)

Watch the calendar for events at churches before or after worship. Bring a friend to worship for the real Saturday Night Live.

## WXY YOUTH BOARD

EMILY CLARKE, SECRETARY

The WXY Youth Board met at 4:00 PM on Sunday, November 14, 2010. The meeting was called to order and opening prayer given by Tisha Burch. Devotion was given by Tisha Burch and Michelle Kuhlman.

In old business, the October activity was discussed. Lawns were raked and pumpkins were made and given away. Good attendance was reported. Gustavus Homeless experience was discussed. No one in attendance had gone.

In November events, the Junior High Gathering was discussed. Drivers were discussed and finalized. Drivers still need to know how many are going, contact Pastor Steve to let him know. Bring your luggage to the church the night before or bring your luggage with you to school. Pick up will be on Friday, November 19, promptly after school. Everyone going will stop at the Days Inn upon arrival in Willmar to check in and drop off luggage before going to the Gathering. Junior High Gathering is taking place at the Holiday Inn and the band starts at 6:00 PM. The gathering starts at 6:30 PM.

Megan Clarke gave an update on the delivering of Thanksgiving meals. Decision made to contact nursing home in Ivanhoe and to contact the public access channel. Chris Clarke is coordinating drivers, at least two youth to every one adult would be preferred. Youth will carry meals to car and deliver meals.

In December events, babysitting at the Holiday Bazaar and doing crafts with the younger kids was discussed. Decision was made to contact Nancy Krog. Other activities at the Holiday Bazaar were discussed. Caroling was discussed and considered.

In January events, an outdoor event was discussed. Sledding, indoor games at Hole in the Mountain park were discussed depending on availability of chalet. Date was set for January 23, from 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM. Hot chocolate and snacks will be provided.

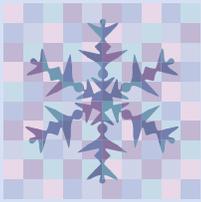
In February events, the Hunger Experience at Danebod Complex is on February 20, at 6:00 PM to February 21 at 7:30 PM. The TFA SPLASH event was moved to the second weekend in February.

Summer events were discussed. Decision was made to collect e-mail addresses from the TFA students at the next gathering. The D.C. trip was discussed and the decision was made to find interest. A sheet will be brought to the next TFA meeting on December 1 to check interest. The sheet will check for interest in the Boundary Waters trip, the Washington D.C. trip and the Eagle Butte trip.

A reminder was made that the Senior High Gathering is coming up in March.

The next meeting will be on December 12. Closing prayer was given by Vicar Jackie, the Lord's Prayer was said, and the meeting adjourned.

## WINTER WEATHER PROCEDURES AND OPTIONS

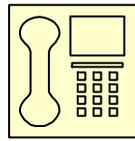


Winter officially begins on December 21<sup>st</sup>, but how often have we known Minnesota to pay any attention to that date? So here, for review is our weather cancellation policy.

Every congregation makes a decision based on the weather in their area. Since we have nearly 50 miles from north to south in our parish the possibility that safe travel in one area might devolve to unsafe in another area is pretty high.

The Lead pastor and the congregational presidents will contact one another, and using our contacts with the MN Dept of Transportation, the weather forecasting services and contacts with local parishioners will make a decision on cancellation prior to 6:00 a.m. Once a decision is made, the lead pastor will be responsible for contacting staff and appoint those responsible for calling KLOH and KMHL radio and WCCO and KELO Television. Each congregation is to have “point persons” whom members can call for confirmation. Also check the website at [www.windsoftheprairie.org](http://www.windsoftheprairie.org) for weather related announcements.

## COMMUNICATION UPDATE



It has been a couple months since we have had a review of the communication procedures, so we just wanted to review and remind everyone of how things are set up.

- Call the Winds of the Prairie Ministry Office at 507-694-1238 or 1-866-944-9687.
- If no one is in the office you may leave a message on the voicemail or press “0” and your call will be forwarded to the pastor on call. This is forwarded through the Bethany-Elim number so please use the BE number sparingly. If the forward is not activated for please listen to the numbers of the pastors & call them. Vicar Jackie will use the vicarage phone for contact when in town 507-694-1343 in addition to her cell at 507-530-1825.
- You can always call one of the pastors for confidential matters. Please call one of the pastors if you are in the hospital. The hospital chaplains and switchboards have our numbers so call them for reference. The cell phone numbers are the primary contacts for the pastors. Pastor Steve: 507-829-9164 Pastor Julie: 507-215-2388
- Remember that the hospitals do not call us when you are admitted unless you let them know that you would like a pastor to visit and that you are open to visitation. Please call one of the pastors directly so they can follow your process and be supportive.

## BIBLE STUDY

### BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE:

A study of some of the women of the Bible.

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 6:30pm at Grace Lutheran

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 10:00 am at Bethany-Elim

### WEEKLY LECTIONARY READINGS REFLECTION

on Wednesdays at 8:30 am at the Buffalo Ridge Trading and Coffee Company.

**BOOK OF FAITH AND BREAKFAST** at Café in Ivanhoe at 7:15 am on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday. We begin with a study of Genesis.

**FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST** in Arco at 7:00 am continues to traverse through the Book of Acts.

**SATURDAY MEN’S STUDY** at the Buffalo Ridge Trading Company in Lake Benton (across from the Fire Hall). This is a non-denominational gathering, and all men are welcome to discuss issues and get acquainted over a cup of coffee, while studying the word of God! For information, contact J.R. Harris at (952) 288-4013 (email - [gettfree4god@hotmail.com](mailto:gettfree4god@hotmail.com)).

You are welcome to come to any of these studies. If anyone is interested in another time and place for a Bible Study contact a pastor for help in getting one together.

# THANK OFFERINGS

## Leviticus 7:11-17

### 2 CHRONICLES 29:31 (NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION)

THEN HEZEKIAH SAID, "YOU HAVE NOW DEDICATED YOURSELVES TO THE LORD. COME AND BRING SACRIFICES AND THANK OFFERINGS TO THE TEMPLE OF THE LORD." SO THE ASSEMBLY BROUGHT SACRIFICES AND THANK OFFERINGS, AND ALL WHOSE HEARTS WERE WILLING BROUGHT BURNT OFFERINGS.

The ancient Hebrew community of faith were called to give a number of types of offering to God. In the Jewish law codes (*The Halakah- the path that one is to walk*), a sizable portion related to the offerings required members of the Jewish community. There are 613 immutable laws of the Jewish faith found in the first five books of the Bible. (Ten of these we Christians already know – the ten commandments.) Of the 613, a large portion related to the offerings of the temple worship, which cannot be done today, since the Temple was destroyed in 70 AD. These laws all relate to the practice of *Korbanot* – the call to recognize that God is the giver of all things:

Korbanot are offered as a way of getting closer to God.

- Korbanot served the same purposes as prayer today: praise, thanks, etc.

- Some Korbanot were not animal sacrifices
- Without Korbanot, forgiveness is obtained through repentance, prayer and good deeds

One of the main forms of offering was the thank-offering. This was what was given after the required sacrifice offerings were met. This "peace" offering (*shalom*) was given whenever a celebration was in order for the person's life. Birthdays, graduations, harvest, bar mitzvah (coming of age ceremony) and other life celebrations all called for a peace/thank offering. It meant that life was *shalom* – at peace – and the source of all peace is God.

We have peace with God for all life as a gift. *Romans 5.1: Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.* Our whole life, all our giving, is a gift of thanks to God.

What is your thank offering?

## TRAINING FOR AFFIRMATION: DECEMBER



It is hard to believe that it is already December and Training for Affirmation continues to grow with our new format and three consecutive sites. This month the SPLASH event will be on the second Sunday December 12 at Christ Lutheran in Hendricks to examine how we live our lives as "Saints and Sinners" under "Law and Gospel". Those from the Hendricks site will supply supper while students, mentors, parents, and table leaders learn together.

### DECEMBER SCHEDULE OF INSTRUCTION

DATE	Tyler:5:30 @ First English	Hendricks:6:00 @ Christ	Minneota: 5:30 @ Hope
1-Dec-10	The Sacrament of Baptism- Julie, Doris	Introduction to the 10 Commandments- Bogie & Steve	The Greatest Prayer- Lyle, Tom, Jackie
8-Dec-10	Word with Water	Exploring the Commandments Part One	God's Kingdom and Will
15-Dec-10	The Sacrament of Communion- Tom, Julie, Doris	Exploring the Commandments Part Two-	God Gives and forgives Lyle, Jackie
22-Dec-10	Take and Eat	Exploring the Commandments Part Three- Steve, Bogie	Temptation, Trail and Deliverance: Lyle, Steve, Jackie
<b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b>		Story Collection at Family Holiday Events	
5-Jan-11	Saved by Grace Through Faith- Tom, Julie & Lyle	Exploring the Commandments Part Four- Bogie & Steve	The Sacrament of Baptism- Doris, Jackie

# FAMILY FAITH

NANCY KROG

Traditions make holiday celebrations special and memorable. Grandmas usually put a lot of effort and overtime into make those traditions “stick” in each family. I know my Grandmas worked diligently to prepare a delicious traditional meal, set a beautiful table, chose a perfect article or storybook to share the Christmas story, carefully thought out each gift purchase, and still seemed to have the time and patience to listen to each grandchild and appreciate their excitement for Christmas.

Well, this is the first Christmas without both of my Grandmothers. Granted, they are probably going to enjoy their best Christmas yet, in heaven with Jesus and their beloved husbands. But this year, traditions seem even MORE important than ever, to me. I feel a sense of responsibility to carry on the traditions they so sincerely

## MAKE THIS A STORYTELLING DAY

Invite the whole family to gather together to remember past Christmas events. Get Mom or Dad to tell about Christmas when they were children. Ask Grandma and Grandpa, too. Ask family members to remember the best gifts they ever gave, the best gifts they ever received, their favorite Christmas carols, a special ornament for the tree, a unique meal shared with the family, the best family traditions.

Then ask someone to tell the Christmas story or read it from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 2, verses 1-20. Share hot chocolate and popcorn...and hugs all around!

## BETHANY, ARCO

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR NOVEMBER

USHERS: Randy & Jewel Noble

ALTAR GUILD: Marie Henriksen

### BETHANY NEWS

GAYLE RASMUSSEN

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We have had a busy time preparing for & anticipating Thanksgiving and our Advent event. And waiting for Christmas (except for the hustle and bustle of the season), not to mention the Cookie Walk.

We will make wreaths at our Advent Event on December 4th, giving them to many people in the area. Afterwards, we will have a soup and sandwich supper, followed by our Saturday evening worship service.

cared about. So I’m thinking and planning. My dining room table may not be graced with Grandma Isfeld’s beautiful red glasses or perfectly chosen conversation topics to include all members of the family in conversation. I probably won’t ever make oyster stew like my Grandma Richmond or create straight ribbon Spritz cookies. But with God’s help, I’ll do my best. Our family will celebrate Jesus’ birthday and carry out our unique Christmas traditions.

This holiday season, may you and your family enjoy the wonderful traditions you have created to celebrate the birth of Jesus!

### UPCOMING DATES

**December 9** – Bethany WELCA guests of Bethany-Elim

**December 11** – Bethany Cookie Walk, 9am

**December 22** – Women’s Bible Study, 9am

Our youth are getting active and involved in church activities, acolyte training, Sunday School programs, and singing at Sunday services. The TFA students and WXY youth are doing many fun and helpful things. Congratulations to our Sunday School students and teachers on their plant bulb sale, earning more than \$300. The students elected to go shopping and buy toys for the “Toys for Tots” program. Great job!

In the rush of the season, maybe we can sit back and relax, letting the meaning of Christmas sink in.

Merry Christmas and remember this is the birthday of Jesus.

# BETHANY-ELIM, IVANHOE

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS AT BETHANY-ELIM

NANCY KROG

The Sunday School will be hosting a meal after worship on Sunday, December 5th. Please come and enjoy hot ham and cheese sandwiches and delicious dessert! A free will offering will be available for our "stocking stuffer" fundraiser.

All are invited to the Sunday School Christmas program scheduled for Sunday, December 19th during 10:30 worship at Bethany-Elim. The program is entitled, "The Big, Big Story" and some investigative reporters will interview key characters to find out what the BIG STORY

will be this Christmas. Please bring a dish to pass and enjoy potluck, fellowship, and holiday cheer with the families of our congregation after worship.

There will be no Sunday School on December 26 and January 2.

We will resume Sunday School on January 9th. Soak up a fantastic holiday season with your family!

# GRACE, LAKE BENTON

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR NOVEMBER

**USHERS:** Mike Czech, Lloyd Dahl, Milo Downs, Don Evers

**ALTAR GUILD:** Anne Lichtsinn

## GRACIOUS WORDS

**DARREN NELSEN, GRACE PRESIDENT**

It's getting close to winter or it already feels like it. We are offering rides for people who do not want to drive to church on very cold, snowy or icy conditions. Please contact a member of our church council and we will arrange transportation to and from church.

Please remember everyone who has less than we do. Especially during the winter months for your local food pantry and various other organizations. I was listening to the radio the other day and South Dakota had the number of people that are receiving food assistance in their state. For a state of 800,000 people, 99,000 are receiving assistance which is up 12,000 from the year prior. Remember those who have less locally, regionally and globally with your thoughts, prayers and donations this Christmas season.

## UPCOMING DATES

**Wednesday, December 1, 1:30pm**

**-- GLCW in the Fellowship Room.**

Program is "Christmas Memories." Devotions by Romelle COOKIE EXCHANGE FOR SHUT-IN'S---each member to bring 2 dozen

cookies. Hostesses: Dorothy Henningsen and Faye Rochel

**Wednesday, December 8 -- GLCW Bible Study**

December 8th will enjoy the Christmas Tea in Tyler

## GLCW NEWS

GLCW met on November 3rd. Lois Widmark was our guest speaker. She shared her Honor Flight trip with us. We enjoyed seeing her very interesting pictures and hearing her story. Thanks Lois. We turned in our Thankoffering boxes and at next month's meeting we will be putting together cookie plates for singles and shut-ins. We are requesting two dozen cookies from any church member who would like to help out with this project. Thank you.

## GRACE LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

PAT JOHNSON

Thank you to the children and adults who attended our Fall gathering on October 23. We had a great time working together and were able to rake 5 lawns for church members and part of the Church lawn. We enjoyed decorating pumpkins and cards that we handed out to church members along the way. The children also decorated pumpkins to take home.

Sunday school is going very well. We have 23 children attending this fall. It makes for an exciting and very busy hour each Sunday. Our "Growing in Christ" material from Concordia has been teaching us about the many special stories from the book of Genesis. We have recently studied about Father Abraham. Last week in Sunday school the children made their family trees. How fun it was to have some children learn they had a common relative on their family trees. It is a small world.

We have started our Christmas program practice during Sunday school. We will run an extra hour on Dec. 5 & 12 to give us more practice time. If needed, we will practice on Saturday, Dec. 18.

We invite everyone to our Christmas program on Dec. 19 during our church hour at 8:30 a.m. Please come and see all the hard work the children have done, celebrate our Savior's birth, and enjoy singing those favorite Christmas carols.

## PEACE, RUTHTON

### SUNDAYS:

Sunday School	9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.

### NOTES AND DATES:

Monday, December 6, 5pm -- St. John Circle meets at the church.  
Tuesday, December 7, 9am -- St. Matthew Circle meets at the home of Jean Lundholm.  
Tuesday, December 7, 2pm -- St. Mark Circle meets at the home of Doretta Vinson.  
Wednesday, December 8, 2pm – PLCW

Thank you to all our secret prayer pals. This program seems to be going very well. As a reminder - please pray for your child daily and contact them by mail at least once a month. For the children to receive something in the mail just for them is so special and also shows to them how much you are thinking of them.

If you would like to give them something special for the holidays, birthdays, or etc. and don't want to mail it - please let me know so that I make sure the child gets it and it is done with discretion.

Thank you to Karrie Rochel, Gerry & Faye's daughter, for giving us some great paper products to use in Sunday school. Thank you to Darlene Willert for the mini and large sized pumpkins for the children to decorate at the Fall gathering and Sunday school.

We wish everyone a very blessed Christmas and a happy New Year.

### UPCOMING DATES:

Dec. 5 & 12 - Sunday School runs 1 hour longer for Christmas program practice  
Dec. 18 - Possible program practice(will notify parents)  
Dec. 19 - Sunday School Christmas program 8:30 a.m.  
Dec. 26 - No Sunday school  
Jan. 2 - No Sunday school

**GOD SIGHTINGS:** Thank you to all the men who are giving of their time and talents to be our church service ushers. Your willingness to help with this job makes our services much better. You are appreciated.

# ST PAUL, MINNEOTA

**LOOKING BACK...**The Chili Supper was held on October 24th at St. Paul's. Thanks to all WOTP members who came to Minneota to enjoy some Chili. We hope everyone enjoyed the chili and conversation. It is always nice to see those familiar faces from Winds of the Prairie. Thanks to Pastor Steve, Pastor Julie and Vicar Jackie for all the assistance with the supper. We are a small group, but can accomplish much together. Also, "Good Work" to our fellow St. Paul members for their commitment to this annual event.

St. Paul's was host the monthly TFA event on October 10th. Over one hundred parents, sponsors and students were in attendance. The students and families from both Hope

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### BETHANY (ARCO):

Pray for Elsie Barber and Carol Marin .

### BETHANY-ELIM (IVANHOE):

Pray for the Family of Lloyd Nielson. For Mavis Nielsen, Dave Lawrence, Dennis Amundson, Ken Swanson, Brenda Sheik, Kelsey & Robin Hoffman; Michael Kropp; Jackson Nelson (son of Ryan & Kate Nelson); Kristi Morelan, and Leann Wadsworth; Dareld Benz (brother of Mavis Nielsen); Nancy Resmen (sister-in-law of Bernadine Olsen); Linda Vlaminc (Sister-in-Law of Dave & Marlene Lawrence); and Mary Grace Nelson (daughter of Ryan & Kate Nelson).

### GRACE (LAKE BENTON):

Pray for the Families of Howard Krog and Sigurd Nielsen. Pray for Joyce Knutson, Norma Burdick, Eva Otkin, Chandra & Matt Prosch Family; Linda Borresen (Sister of Gerry Rochel); Paula Jacobson (Daughter of Wayne & Annette Fehrman); Larry Neuberger; Joe Harris Sr.; Earl Klitzke; Leann Wadsworth; and Chet Borresen

### PEACE (RUTHTON):

Pray for Chet Petersen, Lavonne Fuhrmann, Cliff Kittelson, and Jean Lundholm.

### ST. PAUL (MINNEOTA):

Pray for Lyall Gislason, Doris Richards, Clara DeRoode, and Crystal Gawarecki.

Lutheran and St. Paul's brought food and the variety was great!

Congratulations to Agnes Severson who turned 100 years on October 13th. We are all proud of you Agnes and wish you continued good health and happiness.

Thank you to Ken and Bev Buysse for furnishing the festive broom corn, gourds and pumpkins that adorn our church. They are so generous to share this labor of love with us!

**LOOKING AHEAD...** Our Christmas Eve Service is set for December 24th at 4:00pm.

Peace to you and yours as we await the Savior's birth!

### MILITARY

Pray for the leaders of this nation and all the nations of the world that all may seek peace. Pray for those family and friends of the members of WOTP who serve in the military or reserve forces, especially Lucas Oerter, Scott Johnson, Anthony Nielsen, Jon Dougherty, Christian Vizecky, Jon and Jack Healy, Danielle Thomsen, Michael Colman, Ross, Ryan, Angela, and David Nelson, Allan Peterson, Brook Brown, Derrick Linneman, Todd Board, Kyle Sheik, Alyson Bylone, Steve VandeBerg, Jim Pedersen, Scott Lundberg, Aaron Darrel Lundberg, Justin Schmidt, Adam DeRoode, Pam Gregor, Paul Gregor, Jr., Corey Gregor, Christopher Gregor, Stephanie Christoffels, and Paul Gregor

### TYLER NURSING HOME:

Marjorie Meyer, Grace Lutheran

### DIVINE PROVIDENCE NURSING HOME, IVANHOE:

Mabel Dressen, Bethany Lutheran

Elsie Barber, Bethany Lutheran

Dr. Mary Bird, St. Paul Lutheran

Pat Metzen, Bethany-Elm Lutheran

### HENDRICKS NURSING HOME:

Hilda Herschberger, Bethany-Elm Lutheran

### MINNEOTA MANOR:

Clara DeRoode, St. Paul Lutheran