



CrossWinds

NEWSLETTER OF WINDS OF THE PRAIRIE

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

JULY 2012

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FIRST WORD: CLEANSING TEARS

PASTOR STEPHEN RASMUSSEN

PAUL, A SERVANT OF JESUS CHRIST, CALLED TO BE AN APOSTLE, SET APART FOR THE GOSPEL OF GOD, WHICH HE PROMISED BEFOREHAND THROUGH HIS PROPHETS IN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, THE GOSPEL CONCERNING HIS SON, WHO WAS DESCENDED FROM DAVID ACCORDING TO THE FLESH AND WAS DECLARED TO BE SON OF GOD WITH POWER ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT OF HOLINESS BY RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD, JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE RECEIVED GRACE AND APOSTLESHIP TO BRING ABOUT THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH AMONG ALL THE GENTILES FOR THE SAKE OF HIS NAME, INCLUDING YOURSELVES WHO ARE CALLED TO BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST. ROMANS 1:1-6

We are now deep into summer. The planting is done, the hard work of spring over. This is the time of travel, growth, and the nurturing work that leads to harvest. We are tempted to bask in the warmth and promise of these "Lazy, hazy crazy days of summer" as the old song calls out. As we float through these days of summer vacations and mid-summer harvest, it is tempting to forget about the one who promises to be with us forever. It is easy to forget those we are.

Paul, formerly a persecutor of the church, has been made new by Jesus the Christ's resurrection power. He has been set apart for the gospel of God. The definition of holiness is that which has been set apart by God for the service of God. Paul claims this holiness for himself, as he is proclaiming the gospel of salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Paul's newness is defined by his new calling to be an apostle of Jesus.

Our newness is the same as Paul's. Our trust in Jesus leads us to the "obedience of faith among all the gentiles" – that includes us. And this obedience is to our own calling to share the hope and promise of Jesus to all in our lives.

Our offertory song for the summer reminds us of this truth. We are called out by God, set apart and made holy, for the purpose of proclamation of his story of faithfulness. Just as Paul was called into service of the Master as he was off to persecute the followers of Christ, so too, we are called as we are. –

Take, O take me as I am;

It is the one who calls us through the Spirit who has promised in scripture that we would be saved. God speaks to us through the Bible. As you go through this summer, I encourage you to read the Bible as if every word of promise was written that it might –

Summon out what I shall be;

Newsletter via E-mail?

If you would like to receive your monthly WOTP newsletter via e-mail, please e-mail Deb at belutheran@frontiernet.net.
Thanks!

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE There are many summer activities and events that promise us more life than living in faith in Jesus. As you make your decisions how to spend your summer days, I challenge you to make these words real –

*Set your seal upon my heart
And live in me.*

The newness of Christ ought to ring forth in your lives and the lives of all Christians as we celebrate family, creation, recreation and life itself during this summer. May your lives be filled with the power of the Spirit that calls us to his eternal life.

Pastor Stephen

NOTES FROM THE INTERN

VICAR BAILEY LANDA

Can it be July already? When asked the question, “Can you believe that you are almost done here?” I cannot believe how quickly this year has flashed before my eyes. The Contextual Education Department had told us before the 2011-2012 interns had ventured out to our various communities, that this year would fly by before we even knew it. And well, they were right. But, what they do not completely prepare you for are all the learning experiences that you will encounter, the visits that will leave an impact on your heart, the unique gifts that each and every member of the congregation brings, birds in the basement, and the Body of Christ very much alive out here on the prairie.

The Gospel of John reveals four chapters of ‘Jesus’ Farewell Discourse’, chapters 14-17. To all of his disciples, he prepares them with what is to come. He eloquently paints this image of a time that is soon to come, to his disciples. It was a personal moment that he had with his disciples.

So how then, would I do my ‘Farewell Discourse’? To start, it would be a praise and thanksgiving to each and every one of you. Praise for the communities that have formed so tightly here with Winds of the Prairie. Thanksgiving for seeing God’s work alive and being shared. Praise for your support in me as I continue through God’s call for me. Thanksgiving for how welcoming you were to Erik when he came to visit. And much praise and thanksgiving to what you have taught me along this journey! I am beyond grateful for all of you who have welcomed me into your homes. I’m thankful also for the learning “experiences” along the way- how to catch a bird in the parsonage basement, how to drive your truck at Grace, how to give a two minute sermon when your iPad locks up, Sunday afternoon lunches in Tauton, how to preach off of a laptop, and many other “experiences” that add to the ministry experience. ☺

²⁰ “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: ²³ I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me ²⁴ “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. ²⁵ “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.” **JOHN 17:20-26**

COMMUNICATIONS

When calling the Winds of the Prairie Ministry Office please use either the 507-694-1238 or 1-866-944-9687 (WotP). Outside of office hours the Bethany-Elim number (507-694-1353) is usually forwarded to the pastor on call and can be accessed from the 1238 voicemail.

PASTOR'S REPORT FOR MAY 2012

Worship	Education	Meetings	Pastoral Acts	Visits
20 - Sundays Worships Total	10 - Bible/Book Study	5 - Council/Meeting	1- Funeral	27 - Home
6 - Nursing Home	2- TFA	2 - WELCA	4 - Counseling	6- Public Events
4- Holy Week/Saturday Night	6-VBS	1 - WXY	0 - Committal	4- Hospital
	3-Continuing Education	1- Synod	2- Baptism	
		1-Mutual Ministry		

PARISH WORSHIP AND PICNIC – AUGUST 5TH ANDERSON PARK, LAKE STAY, ARCO, MN

Before you head off to the fair stop by Lake Stay for an outdoor worship with communion at 10:30 a.m.

Synod Minister Rev. Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl, former Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, will be our preacher. We will send off Vicar Bailey Landa to her last year of seminary training and then share a pot-luck lunch. Bring a lawnchair, and a dish to share.

No worship services will be held in our church buildings on that day.

GOSPEL FEST 2012



Join us for an afternoon and evening of praise and fun on July 4th. We have the Grace Gospel Band from Grace Life Church in Marshall coming again this year. The Munstermans will share their musical talents, and there are other surprise guests coming to entertain us as well.

Bring your favorite lawn chair, for we will be outside if the weather is good. A supper will be provided.

Music begins at 2:00 pm. with a picnic supper at 5:30. The event will conclude with worship in the old church at 7:00 pm.

A free will offering will be taken to maintain the Diamond Lake facilities.

JULY/AUGUST PREACHING SCHEDULE

Date		Peace (8:30)	Bethany (8:30)	Grace (10:30)	Bethany-Elim (8:30)	St. Paul (10:30)
Sun, July 1	Holy Communion	Anderson	Landa	Landa	Rasmusson	Rasmusson
Wed, July 4	Gospelfest @ Diamond Lake Chapel –Peace 2 to 8 pm Apostles' Creed 2					
Sun, July 8	Service of the Word	Rasmusson	Lay Service/ Speaker on South Africa	Rasmusson/ Speaker on South Africa	Vedell	Vedell
Wed, July 11	Pastor Julie's 5 th Anniversary of Ordination- Winds Board Apostles' Creed 3 -- 7 pm					
Sun, July 15	Holy Communion	Vedell	Rasmusson	Rasmusson	Anderson	Anderson
Wed, July 18	Lord's Prayer- Bethany-Elim Lutheran -7 pm					
Sun, July 22		Landa	Anderson	Anderson	Rasmusson	Rasmusson
Wed, July 25	Lord's Prayer 2- Ladies' Canoe Trip-7 pm					
Sun, July 29	Mission Sunday	Rev. Williams	Roy Anderson	Anderson	Landa	Landa
Wed, August 1	Lord's Prayer 3- Grace Lutheran -7 pm					
Sun, August 5	Winds of the Prairie Ministry Worship and Picnic 10:30 am at Lake Stay Park in Arco followed by potluck, games and fellowship Guest Preacher: Rev. Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl					
Wed, August 8	Lord's Prayer 4-Guy's Canoe Trip – 7 pm					
Sun, August 12	Community Services	Rasmusson	Vedell	Vedell	Anderson	Anderson
Wed August 15	Lord's Prayer 5- New Intern Welcome by Internship Committee					
Sun, August 19	Holy Communion	Gideons Service of the Word	Anderson	Anderson	Rasmusson & Vicar	Rasmusson & Vicar
Wed, August 22	Lord's Prayer 6- Bethany Lutheran -7 pm					
Sun, August 26	Service of the Word	Anderson Holy Communion	Rasmusson & Vicar	Rasmusson & Vicar	Gideons Service of the Word	Gideons Service of the Word
Wed, August 29	Lord's Prayer 7- Dessert Potluck by All -7 pm					

DIAMOND LAKE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Church/Committee
July 4	Apostles' Creed 2	Peace Gospelfest
July 11	Apostles Creed 3	Winds Board Pastor Julie 5 th Anniversary
July 18	Lord's Prayer 1	Bethany-Elim
July 25	Lord's Prayer 2	Ladies Canoe Trip
August 1	Lord's Prayer 3	Grace
August 8	Lord's Prayer 4	Guys Canoe Trip
August 15	Lord's Prayer 5	Internship Welcome of New Intern
August 22	Lord's Prayer 6	Bethany
August 29	Lord's Prayer 7	Pastors



Make plans for your summer worship starting on June 27 at the Diamond Lake Chapel at 7 pm. We'll be completing our study of the Catechism with the Apostle's Creed and Lords' Prayer.

Once again our councils, board and committees will be helping to plan and lead worship. Ask if you may help by supplying refreshments, special music or ideas.

The **Gospelfest** on July 4 will begin in the early afternoon with music and a dinner for our break and finish with worship.

AFRICAN JOURNEY

A TRIP TO VISIT THE LUTHERANS OF THE UMFOLOZI CIRCUIT

Pastor Lyle Snyder of First English Tyler, acting in his capacity as Dean of the Prairie Conference, will be leading a group visiting the Southeastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa, spending time especially the Mfolozi circuit with Pastor Snyder's counterpart, Dean Lwandle.

We are blessed to have a connection to these members of the Prairie Conference who are making this journey on our behalf. We were honored to have Shanda speak to Bethany-Elim and St. Paul on Sunday June 24th, and look forward to having Tim speak at Bethany and Grace on July 8th.

If you would like to view the video shown at worship go to YouTube.com on your web browser, and search for "African Journey - a Trip to Visit the Lutherans of the Umfolozi Circuit."

THANK YOU RECEIVED

FROM SOUTHWEST HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The "baby shower" gifts donated by each of our churches have been delivered and are appreciated. The Winds of the Prairie Council recently received this thank you note.

"On behalf of the staff of Southwest Health and Human Services, I want to thank all the members of the Winds of the Prairie Ministry for their generous gifts for us to share with our clients. The clients were amazed and many times overwhelmed by the gifts given them, especially by people they have never met. It was signed by Ardis Henriksen, Executive Assistant.



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY TEXTS FOR STUDY

Date	Old Testament	Psalms	New Testament	Gospel	Theme
July 1	2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27	130	2 Corinthians 8:7-15	Mark 5:21-42	Boundaries/Crossing
July 8	2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10	48	2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Mark 6:1-13	A New King
July 15	2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19	24	Ephesians 1:3-14	Mark 6:14-29	Symbols of the Covenant
July 22	2 Samuel 7:1-14a	89:20-37	Ephesians 2:11-22	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	ReNewAll
July 29	2 Samuel 11:1-15	14	Ephesians 3:14-21	John 6:1-21	A Human King
August 5	2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a	51:1-13	Ephesians 4:1-16	John 6:24-35	Perfect Sacrifice for Redemption

FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST STUDY: Come to Bethany in Arco at 7 am for breakfast and Bible study.

Wednesday morning 90 Day Bible Study at 8:30 am at Pastor Julie's in Lake Benton and 11 am at Bethany-Elm until they have completed the study. Reflection and information on the narrative by the group helps to bring a broader and deeper dynamic to the Bible.



HOW HAS PRAYER BEEN AFFECTING OUR HOUSEHOLDS?

Since Advent you have had an opportunity to pray for several households of your congregation. I have heard stories of people making connections with people they have lost track of resulting in renewed relationships. People have told me they have easily become more aware of the lives of others and their challenges. They have made a connection through prayer that have created new relationships. If you received a note or call about someone praying for you it has been a comfort. There are more names of households which need praying for so adopt another family over the summer or who knows you maybe the household being prayed for.

WXY TO BWCA

Amazing – these Acronyms!

For those who are wondering – this means that the Winds eXtreme Youth are off on a high adventure trip to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. The gals head out on July 12th, the guys on July 26th, with both groups being out for a week. Look for them to bring stories of their trips at Diamond Lake worships on July 25th and August 8th. Please pray for their safe travels and for the deepening of their trust in God, in God's Son the Christ and in the community that bears Christ's name.



Giving back makes an important impact in people's lives. Last year alone, Thrivent Financial provided more than \$100 million to help congregations, communities and individuals in need. Members who own Thrivent Financial products help make this support possible.

Thrivent Choice[®] lets you recommend where some of Thrivent Financial's charitable outreach funds go by directing Choice DollarsSM and by participating in Voting Events. The congregations and ministry are all participating in this program so can be designated as recipients of Choice Dollars. The small contributions of many add up to significant amounts.

Use your MyThrivent user ID and password to [log in](#) and get started. If you aren't signed up yet, [register now](#) to participate in Choice DollarsSM and Voting Events.



MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSION OF DEFINITION

Our councils continue the discussion of how to standardize the way we define membership.
Comments to help clarify points are in this bold font.

Members shall be classified as follows:

- a. **Baptized** members are those persons who have been received by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in this congregation, or, having been previously baptized in the name of the Triune God, have been received by certificate of transfer from other Lutheran congregations or by affirmation of faith.
- b. **Confirmed** members are baptized persons who have been confirmed in this congregation, those who have been received by adult baptism or by transfer as confirmed members from other Lutheran congregations, or baptized persons received by affirmation of faith.
 - (1) **Active** members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have the duties of :
 - (a) communing in this congregation annually.
 - (b) shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation or participated in a congregational fundraising event.

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

- (c) Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic duties shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation.

You may only be an active member of one congregation and that is usually the one you live closest to and can participate in regularly.

- (2) ***Inactive*** members are members who have not participated in the life of the congregation by communing and making a contribution of record during the preceding year. The congregational council will annually review the roster of the congregation and determine those who will be informed that they are to be placed on the inactive list. Participating in the duties of an active member in a year will result in return to active status immediately.

The only way a council knows that a person is participating in the life of the congregation is by the recording of Holy Communion participation and records of contributions. So please use your envelopes with your number on it for contributions and fill out your communion cards so we can record it.

- (3) ***Associate*** members are persons:
 - (a) holding membership in other [Lutheran] [Christian] congregations who wish to retain such membership.
 - (b) who wish to retain a relationship with this congregation while being members of other congregations.
 - (c) They have all the privileges and duties of membership except voting rights and eligibility for elected offices or membership on the Congregation Council of this congregation. A suggested contribution for maintenance of the mission and facilities of the congregation is encouraged.

When you are active in another congregation yet want to have a registered connection with your home congregation you can be an associate member. To help the congregation maintain their records and facilities for the future and annual contribution would be encouraged.

***C8.03.** All applications for confirmed membership shall be submitted to and shall require the approval of the Congregation Council.

***C8.05.** Membership in this congregation shall be terminated by any of the following:

- a. death;
- b. resignation;
- c. transfer or release;
- d. disciplinary action by the Congregation Council; or
- e. removal from the roll due to inactivity as defined in the bylaws.

Such persons who have been removed from the roll of members shall remain persons for whom the Church has a continuing pastoral concern.

Contributions are not to be considered dues like membership in a club, but as mission support of the missions and ministries of congregations. This includes maintaining buildings with utilities, maintenance and improvements along with the human beings who work on behalf of the congregation and the commitments to ministries outside the local congregation. The active participation of members in the many aspects of membership helps us all to grow in faith. Please share with your councils any views or ideas you have on these points.

BETHANY, ARCO

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JULY

USHERS: Carsten & Luella Madsen

ALTAR GUILD: Lynette Madsen

NOTES & DATES

July 25 – Women's Bible Study, 9am

BETHANY-ELIM, IVANHOE

WELCA UPDATE FROM BETHANY-ELIM

As a mission service, the Bethany-Elim Women's WELCA has recently decided to furnish coffee for any Bethany-Elim related activity. This includes fellowship meetings, WELCA, Bible studies, pastors' meetings and other meetings, Sunday School gatherings, church council meetings, etc.

Please notify a WELCA member if you see that the supply has been depleted at any time.

We are very thankful for an active and interested church family.

GRACE, LAKE BENTON

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JULY

USHERS: Claire Pritchett, Garrett Peterson,
LaDon Prosch, Josh Prosch

ALTAR GUILD: Faye Meyer

ACOLYTES: 1st – Becca Berkenpas

8th – Tyson Weets, 15th – Brandon Hefti

22nd – Steven Czech, 29th – John Sutherland

NEWS FROM GRACE

The Grace Lutheran Garage Sale and Fundraiser was a huge success. The WXY served lunch both days. A big thank you goes to all who donated, worked, and participated.

Peace Lutheran Church, Ruthton, United Methodist Church, Lake Benton, and Grace Lutheran Church held Vacation Bible School June 4th – 8th. The program was held Friday night at 7:00 with lunch following. There were 50 kids who attended.

The Mike and Tonia Czeck attended Synod Assembly at St Peter, MN on June 8-9. On Sunday, Mike gave a short talk about the different speakers and topics. He recommended that people should attend this conference to see how the parliamentary process works. There were many good workshops to attend.

God Bless,

LaDon Prosch

PEACE, RUTHTON

NOTES AND DATES

Monday, July 2, 9am – Quilting Day

Tuesday, July 3, 2pm – St. Mark Circle meets at the home of Doretta Vinson
(St. Matthew Circle not meeting)

Monday, July 9 pm – St. John Circle not meeting

Wednesday, July 11, 2pm – PLCW. Program – Deloris Dagele. Devotions – Joyce Peters. Offering Meditation – Lilen Kuhlman. Hostesses – St. John Circle.

Monday, July 30, 9am – Quilting Day

NOTE: No Council Meeting in July

Leona Sumption would like her friends at Peace Lutheran to know her new address and phone number:

Hill Street Place
401 S Hill Street, Apt. 124
Marshall, MN 56258
507-537-9290

ST. PAUL'S, MINNEOTA

ST. PAUL'S BIBLE SCHOOL

SUE BUYSSE

St. Paul's Lutheran, St. Edward's, and Hope Lutheran Churches worked as a Minneota Community to provide Vacation Bible School to kids ages four through sixth grade May 21-15. Around 125 kids, helpers and adults participated in the weeklong event. The theme SKY...Anything is Possible with God featured inspiring music, storytime with the Pastors, games outside, creating the day's themed snacks, Movie and Missions, and imagination stations. During the week, the campers discussed the mission of helping children in Mali. Mali's children are devastated with Malaria, a mosquito-carried disease that kills one person every 45 seconds throughout the region. Kids and adults brought in money to purchase mosquito-nets for the children of Mali. They found it encouraging that only \$6.00 could

buy a net that would last up to four years and protect two children. With this excitement, we collected nearly \$350! Students were eager to place pennies, quarters and bills from their piggy banks and tooth fairy money in the collection basket. On Thursday evening, a short program was given to the parents and community which featured the enthusiastically sung songs of the week, followed by a walking taco meal. The week was deemed a success by sharing the love of God with the kids from the Minneota area and the children of Mali. Thanks to Pastor Julie, Pastor Steve and Vicar Bailey for being with us during this fun-filled week. Also thank you to St. Paul's congregation for your food/supplies donations. Praise be to God!

PRAYER CONCERNS

BETHANY (ARCO):

Pray for Delores Oerter, Luella Madsen, Harvey & Blanche Jorgensen, Kendall Lundberg, Dagmar Blegen, Elsie Barber, Travis Noble, and Harley Johnson (brother of Joan Lundberg)

BETHANY-ELIM (IVANHOE):

Pray for Kay Weckert, Bernie Aronson, Rhoda Larson, Brenda Sheik, Brook Brown (son-in-law of Robert & Bernie Olsen); Micheal Steele (friend of Buffington family);

Travis Noble (Brother of Nichelle Buffington); Bruce Kelm (brother of Gretchen Suhr); Gabriel Johnson (Grandson of Norma Jean Johnson); Leigh Jerzak; Michael Kropp; Jackson Nelson (son of Ryan & Kate Nelson); Nancy Resmen (sister-in-law of Bernadine Olsen); and Mary Grace Nelson (daughter of Ryan & Kate Nelson).

GRACE (LAKE BENTON):

Pray for Norma Burdick, Robert Boll; Joyce McColn (sister of Carl Burk); Paula Jacobson (Daughter of Wayne & Annette Fehrman); Earl Klitzke; and Chet Borresen

PEACE (RUTHTON):

Pray for Leona Sumption, Florine Bannick, Bonita Fuhrmann, Lance Preston, Carolyn Holck, Edna Haraldsen, and Cliff Kittelson.

ST. PAUL (MINNEOTA):

Pray for Doris Richards, Clara DeRoode, & Crystal Gawarecki.

TYLER NURSING HOME:

Cliff Kittleson, Carolyn Holck, Harvey Christensen-Peace Lutheran

Annette Fehrman – Grace Lutheran

HENDRICKS NURSING HOME:

Ila Rasmussen, Bethany Lutheran

Rhoda Larson, Bethany-Elim Lutheran

Kay Weckert, Bethany-Elim Lutheran

DIVINE PROVIDENCE NURSING HOME (IVANHOE):

Mabel Dressen, Bethany Lutheran

Elsie Barber, Bethany Lutheran

Dagmar Blegen, Bethany Lutheran

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, Jon Dougherty, Christian Vizecky, 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, Justin Schmidt, Adam DeRoode, Pam Gregor, Paul Gregor, Jr., Corey Gregor, Christopher Gregor, and Paul Gregor