

# CrossWinds

Newsletter of Winds of the Prairie Ministry

Bethany: Bethany-Elim: Grace: Peace: St Paul

June/July 2014

Volume 10 Issue 6



## **First Word** ...just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. **1 Thessalonians 2:4**

There is a notion that once you become a believer in Jesus your life will be perfect. I have found or heard no evidence to that notion as expressed in the 1 Thessalonians or other bible text. What does appear to be the truth is that we are challenged for the sake of the Good News to live our lives and face challenges as one who trusts God's plan for our life.

Have you ever played the game where you put one of your shoes in a pile, everyone grabs a shoe that is not theirs and tells the story of that person. Well what if we did the same thing with our problems, what stories would they tell? Would we grab for our own problems when we see the problems of others? Is there comfort in the familiar even when it comes to problems?

Our problems and troubles are often an expression of who we are and how the world affects us. When we are doing things that are not good for us or others the effects start to interfere with our life. Therefore, our problems are personal and cannot be shared or solved by others for they are ours. The entire Bible gives examples of how God tests people to help them to be strengthened in their understanding and witness to God's goodness. Testing invites us to change our ways, strengthen our faith and learn God's heart of love and grace.

Lately when I have a challenging situation, usually defined as a problem, I ask a simple question, "God, what are you trying to teach me or prepare me for?" The answer usually comes later when I come across someone who needs to hear God's word of promise by learning from my problems or needs to see the authenticity of my witness. So it goes to show that my problems are not meant to be your problems, for the right lesson will not be learned by either of us.

When we try to avoid problems or continually ignore them they don't go away but accumulate. After a time they become a burden that we carry around with such effort that it becomes exhausting, emotionally, intellectually and physically. There is only one place I have found an answer for this situation.<sup>2</sup>

***8 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'* Matthew 11. 28-29**

Jesus will not take the burdens or problems away but give us a means to deal with them. This is part of our learning, our discipleship, to trust that God will prepare us for the challenges that lie ahead. So rather than running from challenge, embrace them as lessons for life and exercises in spiritual discipline for it is in the testing that we learn the lessons and our hearts are humbled by the power of our awesome, loving God.

*Pastor Julie*



## Intern's Intonations

If you know me for more than a few minutes, you probably find out that I love to bike. Biking gives me a place to push my physical limits. I can lose myself in maneuvering through winding single track, navigating rocks and roots, switchbacks, berms, climbs and descents. One of my biking friends and I call it the Zen of MTB riding. When I'm stressed or worried about something, I can go out and push myself on the trails and pound my anxieties through the frame of the bike, into the tires and further, into the earth where I surrender it and let it be somewhere else besides festering like so much toxic sludge inside me.

I learned to ride a two wheeler when my family lived in Ingleside, Illinois, in the Green House. I was probably about 6 or 7 years old. Our house was at the top of a gravel road. I think I got my new bike for my birthday – July is a perfect month for getting birthday bikes. It was pink and white, with a banana seat and tassels coming out of the handle grips (although, those don't last). I loved my bike. One weekend, my dad decided I was going to learn to ride without training wheels. I was pretty nervous, but I think I was also OK with the idea – riding on gravel with training wheels was holding me back. I had places to go, realities to manipulate. To teach me, my dad put me on the bike, sans training wheels, at the top of the gravel hill and gave me a push. Lord have mercy, I was scared. I could vividly imagine wiping out and the gravel digging into my knees and through my thin cotton summer clothes. But, by the time I reached the bottom of the hill, I was riding. I never looked back.

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Earlier this week, Larry and I were taken on an amazingly detailed tour of the two cemeteries connected to one of the churches I am serving during my internship here in southwest Minnesota. Bernie, our host, is one of those people who have an uncanny ability to remember histories and stories from layers of years and decades, generations and families.

We heard about relations between the dominant families that founded the east and west churches; churches eventually came together to form the congregation that exists today. We got family histories on many of the familiar surnames on the headstones that mingled with the contemporary faces of those who continue carrying those names. We learned it was our host himself who planted the long lines of pine along the boundaries of the cemetery 30 years ago so that on so that on that sunny spring day we wouldn't get chilled to the bone by that persistent and powerful character who's run things all along out here: the wind.

We are a people of stories. That's become more apparent to me than ever since I've started preparing to be in ministry full time. We use stories to paint the picture of who we are – bikers and bankers, sisters and brothers, parents and friends. We use them to mark passages in time on headstones and in history books.

As a wannabe pastor, I am particularly captivated at how our stories connect and weave with the stories in our scriptures. In my memory of being pushed down that gravel hill without training wheels, I can identify a little with Ruth and the courage she mustered to seek a life among strangers. Walking through the cemeteries this week and hearing stories brings to mind the triumphs and missteps, the faith and the fears of the siblings Moses, Aaron and Miriam as they led people to land, legacy and being a blessing to those they met in their journeys.

Finally, as my internship winds down to its last weeks, I am excited about the stories to come – those in which I get to be the story teller and the story hearer alike.

**Vicar Ann**



## Shawn Cable Guest Soloist with Buffalo Ridge Chorale



"June is bustin' out all over;" so sing the members of the Buffalo Ridge Chorale as they prepare for their Sunday, June 1, concert at Christ Lutheran Church in Hendricks, MN. The 4:00pm concert of Broadway songs will include selections ranging from old favorite musicals such as *South Pacific* and *The Sound of Music* to the more contemporary *Shrek* and *Les Misérables*.

Directed by Dr. Russell Svenningsen of Augustana College, the Chorale has forty-seven members from eleven towns along the Minnesota-South Dakota border. Steve Hemmingsen and Karen Richmond serve as narrators, and Nancy Sandro is the accompanist. A new feature at this concert will be solos by several Chorale members. One of the songs, "If This Isn't Love," has been arranged just for the Chorale by Jeremy Hegg.

Also appearing on the program will be a guest soloist, Shawn Cable, KSFY weatherman, who will be offering up more Broadway songs and who will team up with director Svenningsen in a tenor duet that will truly be "bustin' out."

*This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the SWMN Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.*



## PASTOR'S ACTS

Report for April 2014

**New Members** –Matt Rhode & Amber Wigton family at Bethany(Vicar Ann )

**Baptism**– Richard Lennon Rhode at Bethany (Vicar Ann )



# WELCOME

## New Member Welcome on June 8

All who want to become members of a Winds of the Prairie Ministry Congregation should contact a pastor of the office about their intent before June 1. If you have attended a new member orientation or transferred to a congregation we would like to make public recognition of your membership on June 8. Please let us celebrate our new life together.

<b>JUNE</b>		<b>Bethany : 8:30</b>	<b>St Paul: 10:30</b>	<b>Bethany-Elim - 8:30</b>	<b>Grace: 8:30</b>	<b>Peace:10:30</b>
Sunday, June 01, 2014	Holy Communion	Anderson	Anderson	Gonyea	Rasmusson	Rasmusson
Mind of Christ/Mission Start up						
Sunday, June 08, 2014	PENTECOST/ Holy Communion New Members Welcome	Rasmusson	Rasmusson	Anderson	Gonyea	Gonyea
Acts 2:1-21						
Sunday, June 15, 2014	Assembly: Lay Services	Gonyea	Gonyea	Rasmusson	Saddle Horse Worship @ 9 am Opera House	Anderson
Wednesday, June 18, 2014						
WOW Potluck at 6:15 Heart Healthy Love Feast for Larry followed by worship in the chapel.						
Sunday, June 22, 2014	Holy Communion	Anderson	Anderson	Gonyea	Rasmusson	Rasmusson
Commandments to Honor God						
Wednesday, June 25, 2014	Studies @ 6:00, WOW at 7 pm-Right & Wrong #1 with Bethany supplying the fellowship	Exodus 20:3-11		Matthew 24-40		Psalms 33:8-12
Sunday, June 29, 2014	Healing Service	Rasmusson	Rasmusson	Anderson	Gonyea	Gonyea
Commandments to Honor Others						
		Exodus 20:12-16		Matthew 22:34-40		Psalms 33:13-19

# JULY

		<b>Bethany : 8:30</b>	<b>St Paul: 10:30</b>	<b>Bethany-Elim - 8:30</b>	<b>Grace: 8:30</b>	<b>Peace:10:30</b>
Wednesday, July 02, 2014	Studies @ 6:00 , WOW at 7 pm-Right & Wrong #2 with Peace supplying the fellowship					
Sunday, July 06, 2014	Holy Communion	Gonyea	Gonyea	Rasmusson	Anderson	Anderson
Commandments to Honor Self	Exodus 20:17			Matthew 22-34-40		Psalms 33:20-22
Wednesday, July 09, 2014	Studies @ 6:00 , WOW at 7 pm-What Christians Believe #1 with Winds Board supplying the fellowship					
Sunday, July 13, 2014	Service of the Word	Anderson	Anderson	Gonyea	Rasmusson	Rasmusson
God's Tangible Word of Life	1 John 1:1-4			John 1:14-16		Psalms 148
Wednesday, July 16, 2014	Studies @ 6:00 , WOW at 7 pm-What Christians Believe #2 with Bethany-Elim supplying the fellowship					
Sunday, July 20, 2014	Holy Communion	Rasmusson	Rasmusson	Anderson	Gonyea	Gonyea
If we say we have no sin...	1 John 1:5-2:2			John 1:29		Psalms 135
Wednesday, July 23, 2014	Studies @ 6:00 , WOW at 7 pm-Christian Behavior #1 with WxY supplying the fellowship					
Sunday, July 27, 2014	<b>PARISH PICNIC-10th Anniversary Celebration</b>					
Testing the Spirits	John 14:15-17, 1 John 4:1-6, Psalm 86					
Wednesday, July 30, 2014	Studies @ 6:00 , WOW at 7 pm-Christian Behavior #2 with Grace supplying the fellowship					
Sunday, August 03, 2014	Holy Communion	Lund	Lund	Rasmusson	Anderson	Anderson
We love because God first loved us	1 John 4:7-21			John 15:9-11		Psalms 22:25-31



## WXY Youth 2014 Fundraiser for our Summer Trips

*We have had a overwhelming response to this! THANK YOU*

\*What do you need to do to take part in helping our youth? Go to [www.thefruitclub.net](http://www.thefruitclub.net) & place your order. (Please leave the BEST way to get in touch with you) so that you can receive a reminder call or email when the truck is scheduled to arrive. If you do not have access to the internet please call the office at 866-944-9687 or text 507-828-6781 OR 605-809-5190 to place your order. Pre-orders are a must for this truck

\*\*There are "Forms" at each of the churches and we ask that you bring that to the truck when you come to pick up your preorder (you pay at the truck).

You are welcome to share this with friends, family & coworkers.

### **June fruit is BING CHERRIES.**

We have sold out trucks in the past very fast !!!

**Delivery for the cherries will be in Lake Benton at the intersection of Hwy 14 & 75.**

***Keep in mind that you will need to pre-order the cherries that are coming in June. We WILL sell out, so get your order in at [www.thefruitclub.net](http://www.thefruitclub.net) !!!***



\*Previous fruit has been Cherries, Peaches, Apples, Starkrimson Pears & Bartlett Pears, Navel Oranges, Cara Cara Oranges, Grapefruit, Honeybells, Honey Tangerines, Pecans, Strawberries & lastly Blueberries, Almonds, Walnuts & Chocolate Covered Pecans, Athena Muskmelons.



***WXY Youth will also be holding a CAR WASH & BAKE SALE on Saturday morning during Saddle Horse Holiday on Fathers' Day Weekend in Lake Benton at Grace Lutheran Church. Details to come in your weekly announcements. Please let us know***

***if you are willing to help.***



## **VBS Dates for 2014**

**Lake Benton & Ruthton:** June 1-6 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 at Grace Lutheran Church

**Arco/Ivanhoe/Wilno:** June 9 to 12 in the afternoon at Bethany-Elim.

Mark your calendars and be on the lookout for more information.





## MOGO: Mission Opportunities Grace Observances

Keep up your MOGO's during the summer. The MOGO sheets will give you an opportunity to tell the stories you see around much like your highs and lows.

**Mission Opportunities** are times and places where you have been of service to another or someone has served you. When you see or experience someone giving or needing help and you do God's work with your hands, please make a note on the MOGO sheet to place in the offering plate. We want to share these moments.

**Grace Observances** are times when you see God's unconditional love happening. Far and near we see that God is active and working for the coming of the kingdom. When you see or experience that grace around you make a note and share with all of us.

Consider this a means to exercise the FAITH 5 you learned during Lent. Where do you see God's presence and absence (highs/lows)? How is the word of God you heard on Sunday affecting what you see in the world? Tell everyone through the MOGO what you have seen. Offer a prayer for the world around you that you are experiencing and finally bless because you are blessed.

## Lenten Baby Shower

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Lenten Baby Shower. The items will be distributed amongst the 4 counties that our churches are in. Look how much we are sharing.



## GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS T-SHIRTS



T-shirts in Adult and Ladies sizes are available for **\$10** from the WOTPM office. They are bright green with the WOPTM logo on the front and hands on the back bearing the faith practices of the home and the community of faith. Call the office to get yours and it can be delivered on Sunday to you at worship.

## 10th Anniversary Pictorial Directory is now here!!!

For those who preordered the directory they are available at your congregations. We have a limited number available for \$15 if you are interested in getting one, just remember first come preference.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Winds of the Prairie Ministry

Mark your calendars for **July 27 at 10 am** for our *Joint Worship to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary* as companions in mission and ministry on the windy prairies of SW Minnesota. We'll gather at the Diamond Lake Chapel grounds near the Hall, so bring a lawn chair to sit on, a dish to share for the potluck and a sense of blessing for what God has given us. Bishop Jon Anderson will be our preacher to share in this special celebration. If you would like to help with the planning of this event please contact your Winds Board member or a pastor.



# PICNIC AT THE PARK



SERVING: BBQS, POTATO SALAD, BEANS, CHIPS,  
A BAR AND BEVERAGE  
FREE WILL DONATION  
THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2014  
11AM TO 1 PM  
AT THE SHELTER HOUSE BY THE SWIMMING POOL IN IVAN-  
HOE, MN

## FUNDRAISER FOR FOREVER JEN

**We are also hosting a Motorcycle Run on June 14th which is sponsored by the Ivanhoe Liquor Store. Details are in the works, please watch for fliers!**

ALL PROCEEDS from both events go to the AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY!  
Please contact Lynnette Madsen for more details.



## Secretary's Corner



Is SPRING finally here? I think we can all agree that we are in hopes that Old Man Winter has gone to bed for a while. I was blessed the other day with some fresh asparagus from a new friend and boy oh boy did we enjoy it! We are anxiously awaiting our fresh garden produce that will arrive with a lot of constant, continual daily & weekly work in the garden that will take all three of us to do our part.

It's kind of like church; it consistently takes many hands to make the work less for all involved and isn't it more fun to work with others rather than working alone.? Our churches keep on operating even if we aren't there & they need our continual support.

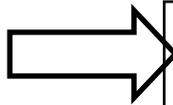
I'm just as guilty as the next person about missing church in the Summer & thru the year. Yes, we all have a lot that is happening & keeping us on the move that can keep us away from the church if we let it. One of my family goals is to be regular at church during the Summer (don't tell my kids but it gets them out of bed and moving so we can start our day). Maybe you're family is going to be gone for the weekend but around on Wednesday night, stop on by to Worship On Wednesday out at Diamond Lake. We have soooo much fun out there & I for one LOVE seeing those from all 5 of our congregations. Hopefully you'll be able to join us at W.O.W. this summer & then you'll be able to see all the beautiful restorations that have been done at Diamond Lake.

Submit your email request to WOTPM@frontier.com to receive the newsletter via email. Each month I will do a drawing from all names that have requested an online copy of the newsletter.

Keep up with the news by checking out our website — Each church now has their own Facebook page, and Winds of The Prairie does as well. Please consider contributing photos to these pages and sharing them with other members. We want to keep the pages filled with fun things that we all have going on and this is one way we can share our happenings with those who aren't able to attend our services with us. This is also a very quick way that we can let everyone know if we have a sudden change to our events due to things like our lovely weather that can change very quickly.

I will be out of the office from July 6-12 & enjoying the Boundary Waters with our youth group.

REMINDER that we are always working 2-6 months ahead of the actual date for all 5 congregations. Please get your articles and meet-



Winds of The Prairie's Website  
[www.windsoftheprairie.org](http://www.windsoftheprairie.org)

## **SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

The assembly will be held June 13-15, 2014, on the campus of Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. For the first time, we will be hosting a Glocal Synod Assembly co-sponsored with ELCA Churchwide Global Mission. Glocal is the word used to describe God's work both locally and globally. Sunitha Mortha, ELCA's Director for Mission Formation, will lead us in conversations about accompaniment. Questions like, "What is mission?" and "Who is our neighbor?" will be topics of discussion. A Glocal band ready to lead, teach and inspire us with music and dance will be present during worship and plenary sessions. Pr. David Vasquez, author and campus pastor at Luther College, will be our Bible Study leader. Go to <http://www.swmnelca.org/Assembly.html>



JOURNEY WITH JESUS  
LUKE 24:13-35

2014 SYNOD GLOCAL ASSEMBLY

## Keep In Your Prayers

### **Bethany, Arco**

Les Blegen, Aaron Delp, Eloise Hauschild, Buck Barber, Dorothy Bunjer, Norma Renken, Harvey & Blanche Jorgensen, Dagmar Blegen, Travis Noble, Connie Clausen(mother of Brenda Possail), Elsie Barber.

### **Bethany-Elim, Ivanhoe**

Denis Lundberg, Carol Olsen, Anna Zafft (granddaughter of Harvey & Muriel Koopman), Richard Ellis, Davey Lundberg, Ray Johnson, Jeff Neyens, Rhoda Larson, Bruce Kelm (brother of Gretchen Suhr); Gabriel Johnson (Grandson of Norma Jean Johnson); 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), Ralph & Lynn Holland.

### **Grace, Lake Benton**

Rick Midden, Romelle Pritchett, Jeanette Nelsen, Allan Johnson, Norma Nielsen(Wanda Nordmeyer's sister), Marian Bennett, Cheryl Kjergaard, Mary Haugen, Naomi Enke, Norma Burdick, Annette Fehrman, Paula Jacobson (Daughter of Wayne & Annette Fehrman), Earl Klitzke

### **Peace, Ruthton**

Lynnette Lingen, Doretta Vinson, Herb Vinson, Sue Stensgaard, Kyle Stensgaard, Jean Lundholm, LeRoy Hartson(Rosmary's son), Bonita Fuhrmann, Carolyn Holck, Rosmary Hartson, Edwin Ewald, Ellen Hansen, Edna & Vern Haraldsen, and Cliff Kittelson.

### **St.Paul's Minneota**

Mary Buysse, Jeff Kompelin, Larry Alexander & Clara DeRoode

**Those with silent health issues& undergoing treatments away from home.**

### **Tyler Nursing Home**

Cliff Kittleson, Carolyn Holck & Bonnie Fuhrmann(Peace), Annette Ferhman(Grace).

### **Hendricks Nursing Home**

Ila Rasmussen(Bethany), Norma Burdick (Grace), Ruth Josephson (B-E)

### **Divine Providence Nursing Home**

Mabel Dressen, Elsie Barber & Dagmar Blegen (Bethany)

### **Military**

Pray for the leaders of this great nation & all nations of the world that seek peace. Pray for those who have family & friends who serve in the military or reserve forces. Especially: Jesse Zafft, Lucas Oerter, Jon Dougherty, Christian Vizecky, Danielle Thomsen, Michael Colman, Ross, Ryan, Angela & David Nelson, Allan Peterson, Derrick Linneman, Todd Board, Kyle Shiek, Alyson Bylone, Jim Pedersen, Justin Schmidt, Adam DeRoode, Pam Gregor, Paul Gregor Jr., Corey Gregor, Christopher Gregor & Paul Gregor.

Pray for the family of Lynn Lingen with the passing of her mother.



## GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS-Healthy Potlucks & :Picnics

When the weather is warm, potlucks, cookouts and picnics abound. Even the most casual meal with family and friends is improved by a little pre-planning, so consider this your guide to healthy outdoor entertaining.

Everyone loves apps. Cut-up veggies with dip make a great (and easy!) appetizer that can be prepped ahead of time and set out while you’re laying the table. Serve with whole-grain tortilla chips and guacamole for a serving of fiber and heart-healthy monounsaturated fats.

**Tip:** For a boost of fiber without the fat, munch on veggies with hummus. You can have a full cup of sugar snap peas with 2 tablespoons of hummus for just a little more than 100 calories and about 3 grams of fat.

Thumbs up for hand-held foods. Skip messy foods like spaghetti and pick foods that are easy to eat in a setting where you’re not necessarily sitting down. Sandwiches feel like party food when they’re cut into small diamonds and served on a platter, and grilled vegetable kabobs don’t even require a plate. Chop vegetables and meats into smaller pieces that work with plastic utensils—and remember that soupy foods might soak through paper plates (or spill into someone’s lap).

**Tip:** Old stand-bys like burgers and hot dogs are great choices—especially when served on a whole-wheat bun. If you’re concerned about calories, go for a hot dog with lower-cal toppings like mustard, relish or just a little ketchup. This choice will come in at around 300 calories, versus about 500 for a quarter-pound beef burger with cheese.

Consider a grains-based salad. Crisp green salads are a natural choice for summer eating—but those greens might not look quite so appetizing after sitting in the sun for a while. A grains-based salad is a healthy choice that will travel better and hold up to the heat longer than a green salad. Add vegetables, nuts and cheese to your favorite whole-grain (such as quinoa, wheat berries or bulgur), and toss with a robust dressing.

**Tip:** If you love traditional creamy picnic side dishes like mayo-based potato salad but are looking for something a little more diet-friendly, try coleslaw instead. It can satisfy a craving for something creamy for far fewer calories. Plus, cabbage provides a variety of essential nutrients including vitamin C.

Make dessert the night before. Sorbets and ice creams are refreshing desserts but can be high-maintenance if everyone isn’t eating at the same time.

Plan ahead and bake cookies the night before, giving you less day-of prep. Seasonal fruit with a dusting of powdered sugar also makes a great summer dessert.

**Tip:** If dessert is your favorite part of a potluck, save room by choosing lighter options elsewhere.

Don’t forget the drinks. Guests love to bring appetizers and desserts, but don’t overlook the drinks. Make a pitcher of homemade iced-tea feel festive with citrus slices or slivers of fresh mint.



**Tip:** Transport your dish safely. It’s essential to keep hot food hot and cold food cold on the way to, and throughout, a potluck. Transport cold dishes in a cooler and keep them cold until you eat. Heat foods that are served warm just before the meal. Holding food at an unsafe temperature is a prime cause of food-borne illness. Food should not



### Worship on Wednesday

June 11 Campout at Diamond Lake Chapel- Bring your campers out to Diamond Lake for a warm up worship at 7 pm. We’ll gather around the campfire for songs and Bible stories. Breakfast and Bible in the morning before 8 am in the Hall.

June 18 we begin our weekly worships with a potluck dinner (see healthy suggestion above) at 6:15 followed by worship. This potluck will complete the “**Loveboxes for Larry**” fundraiser with the presentation of the funds which are supplemented by \$300 from Thrivent Financial for Christians. Check out “God’s Word, Our Hands” article for tips on healthy potluck.



# The Hurricane

The Newsletter of WXY

June/July 2014



## **Attention to Everyone: Shetek Extreme Makeover Blitz on June 30th (Change of plans)**

Everyone is invited to join us for the day, 9am-4pm on June 30th to go out to Shetek Lutheran Ministries Camp. Kids of all ages from 10+ this includes Adults. We will carpool to the camp and details regarding the days activities will be published soon. Please register at [www.thewindsoftheprairie.org](http://www.thewindsoftheprairie.org) under Ministries & WXY. Watch your weekly announcements at church.



## **Boundary Waters Trip- Date Between July 6-12**

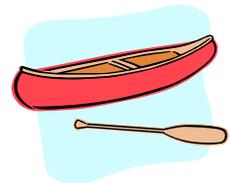
Canoe the Boundary Waters where you get to test your mettle. Catch some fish & eat 'em along with gaining some wonderful experiences outdoors and away from technology, youth must be 13 years of age or older to attend. In preparation for the trip the group will be meeting on the June 4 at 3:30pm, for training and orientation. This is a Venture Crew 316 sponsored trip. We outfit through Voyager North Outfitters of Ely. Our spiritual guides & paddle instructors will be Pastor Rasmusson & Vicar Gonyea.

Cost for the trip is around \$300 with a non-refundable deposit of \$75 made out to WOTP Ministry ASAP We have room for two more

We have room for 2 more people to attend.

## **Venture Crew: Those Ages 14 to 21**

June 7 at 1pm, meeting at Shetek Lutheran Ministries for canoeing & preparing for the Boundary Waters Canoe trip.



## **TFA Registration is now open**

For students who will be in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade next year should register for TFA by July 10 on the Winds of the Prairie Ministry website [www.windsoftheprairie.org](http://www.windsoftheprairie.org) or call the winds office(507-694-1238 or 1-866-944-9687) for a form.

It is very important you get this in so we can plan on times and places for instruction in the upcoming year. Look for more information in August by mail, bulletin and email.



## **First Communion Registration**

For those entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall it is time to have instruction for First Communion. We will meet Saturday August 23 from 9am to about 4 pm at Bethany Lutheran in Arco. Child and Parent will gather for breadmaking, a trip to a winery, and a farm. Register on the website at [www.windsoftheprairie.org](http://www.windsoftheprairie.org) or call the winds office(507-694-1238 or 1-866-944-9687) for a form.



## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

### BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

#### June Bethany Worship Assistants:

**Ushers:** Gayle and Ruth Rasmussen

**Altar Guild:** Ilene Sorensen

#### **Assisting Minister**

1 Glen Sorensen  
15 Ilene Sorensen

#### **Lector**

1 Dar Schreurs  
8 Glen Sorensen  
15 Gayle Rasmussen  
22 Ilene Sorensen  
29 Katilynn Jorgensen

#### **Calendar Dates:**

June 12 – WELCA, 1:30 p.m. – Bethany hosts Bethany-Elim  
June 25<sup>th</sup> – 9 a.m. Women's Bible Study

#### July Worship Assistants

**Ushers:** Carsten and Luella Madsen

**Altar Guild:** Ruth Rasmussen

#### **Assisting Minister**

6 Marie Henriksen  
20 Jewel Noble

#### **Lector**

6 Marie Henriksen  
13 Ron Madsen  
20 Morgan Possail  
27 Allan Lundberg

#### **WELCA MEMBERS FROM ARCO & IVANHOE VISIT SHALOM HILL FARM**

Ten women from the units in Arco and Ivanhoe boarded the church van (driven by Brandee) and took off for Shalom Hill Farm, a rural retreat center outside of Windom. The van was loaded as well with gifts for the farm such as mattress pads and household products. On the way a stop was made at the Slayton office of the SW Health and Human Services to drop off their baby shower gifts. At Shalom Hill we:

Toured the facility seeing how the landscape was used to create the layout. The main building is built descending a hillside and was planned to use the most efficient energy possible. A few of the original farm buildings remain.

Had a delicious meal using some foods raised on the farm.

Heard from Pastor Margaret Yackel-Juleen director about the history of the farm as well as the vision and mission the Shalom Hill Farm. She also lead a Bible study for us.

This was a day well spent learning about one of the adjunct ministries in the SWMN Synod.

#### **JUNE MEETING PLANS FOR BETHANY AND BETHANY-ELIM WELCAS**

Bethany-Elim WELCA members are invited to join the members from Bethany at the Lyon County Museum on Thursday afternoon, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. We will tour the newly designed museum and following will go to Perkins for our coffee. More details will be sent to Bethany-Elim and Bethany members via the bulletins.

July 10 Church tour of Lincoln County with supper at the Brink Manor Planners : Ilene, Ruth & Marie

# BETHANY-ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

## June

### Ushers

1 Mike & Margo Willert  
8 Bernie Aronson & Hank Bruns  
15 Chris & Amy Clarke  
22 Loren & Anna Epple

### Assisting Minister

1 Marlene Lawrence  
8 Loretta Lundberg  
15 Julie Nelson  
22 Mary Pedersen

### Lector

1 Amy Clarke  
8 Chris Clarke  
15 Emily Clarke  
22 Anna Epple

### Acolyte

1 Kathy Richmond  
8 Kim Bloch  
15 Shanelle Buffington  
22 Jason Epple

## July

### Ushers

6 Gene Faulds & Roger Nelson  
13 Brandon & Kristy Gifford family  
20 Roger & Angie Jerzak  
27 Elmer & Twila Koopman

### Assisting Minister

6 Sharon Rasmussen  
13 Clyde Rost  
20 Merle Rost  
27 Sherry Rost

### Lector

6 Gene Faulds  
13 Brandon Gifford  
20 Cody Gifford  
27 Angie Jerzak

### Acolyte

6 Cody Gifford  
13 Kira Gifford  
20 Ethan Krier

Rebekah Circle is held every month on the 3rd Tuesday at 1:30pm  
June 28th Shetek Quilt Auction

## **Vacation Bible School at BE**

By Nancy Krog

“Living in God’s Time” is the theme for our VBS week slated for June 9-12, 2014. VBS will be from 2 – 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday at Bethany-Elim. We are excited to see what Shetek staff has planned for us.

We will celebrate our week of VBS with a grand finale VBS Celebration Program on Thursday, June 12 at 6 p.m. Bethany-Elim. VBS kids will be showing off their new songs, crafts, and friendships during the program. A free hotdog meal will be provided for all who attend. Come and enjoy the fun & fellowship.

We look forward to a spectacular week as we join forces with Bethany, Sts. Peter and Paul, St. John Cantius, St. Genevieve and St. Dionysius churches to provide an action-packed week of faith building for the youth in our community!



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Every Wednesday there will be 8:30am Bible Study at Grace

June 4 NO Meeting

June 18 Block Day

June 26- Do Day

July 2—1:30pm “Patriotic Readings “ devotions by Faye Rochel hostesses Bonnie Neuberger & Diane Evers

July 16 Block Day

July 23 Do Day

## USHERS for June

Garrett Petersen

LaDon Prosch

Josh Prosch

Matt Prosch

## Altar Guild:

Annie Weets

Deacon: Karen Lichtsinn

## Acolyte:

1 Brock Hefti

8 Austin Johnson & Brandon Hefti

15 Steven Czech

22 John Sutherland

28 Blaine Hefti

## July

### Ushers

Roger Rudebusch

Vern Paschke

Jay Stuefen

### Altar Guild:

Annie Weets

## Deacon:

Ann Lichtsinn/Karen Lichtsinn

## Acolyte:

6 Adam Czech

13 Caul Harstad

20 Adrianna Johnson

27 None Parish Picnic

## Grace Sunday School News by Pat Johnson

Grace Lutheran Sunday School News

Pat Johnson

On Sunday, May 18 during church the Sunday school teachers - Tanya Berkenpas, Mike Czech, Mindy Johnson, and Tonia Czech, and helpers Chandra Prosch, Linda Sutherland, Adam Czech, Adrianna Johnson, Jayla Prosch, Jaylen Miller, and Jerid Johnson, and Superintendent Pat Johnson were honored for their service. Also honored was Landon Johnson for perfect attendance-making it his 4th year. Also the children recited their catechism requirements and sang a 2014 VBS song. A pizza and ice cream party was held afterwards. See you all in VBS and have a great summer.

VBS will be June 1-June 5 with a program for the public at 7 p.m. on June 5. We have 84 children enrolled to attend "WEIRD ANIMALS". Thank you to all the volunteers to help put on this special week and for all the very generous donations to cover the costs. It is deeply appreciated!!!!!!

Upcoming dates:

Saturday, May 31 - set up for VBS 6 p.m.

Sunday -Thursday, June 1-5 - VBS suppers starting at 5:30

VBS 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 5 - VBS program @ 7 p.m.

## **Gracious Words** by *Karen Lichtsinn*

**Talking About Prayer** - I found the following article from The Lutheran magazine back in July 2013, by Peter W. Marty, pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport, IA. The article was entitled "Talking about prayer", and here are a few key thoughts that resonated with me.

Often a newcomer to the Christian faith may inquire about the merits of prayer. As Christians, we learn about prayer in early Christian education, adult Christian education, reading the Bible and thru worship. Marty's daughter Rachel, a young Christian, innocently asked him, "Dad....does prayer change anything?" That honest question made him consider that we could all address the subject of prayer in our lives.

Some common questions are: Does prayer work? Are we wasting our time if God doesn't answer our prayers? Marty proposed a new way to consider prayer...eliminate the use of the word "answer" (which implies self-interest), but rather consider prayer as being in a conversation and relationship with God. When we pray, we are sharing company with God. Some may feel a bit clumsy in prayer because that intimacy with God feels uncomfortable. (personally, being of "Germanic" heritage often leads to my fear of intimacy)

Marty feels that "deepening key relationships in our lives" may help us feel more comfortable in prayer. Often relating to God in prayer is similar to having a "deep relationship with another individual" such as a friend or family member. Marty states, "When you spend time with a good friend, who understands you well, you can't get enough time together. Prayer has a similar allure." God loves us, and the best way to know that love is to pray.

Marty reminds us that one benefit of prayer is an intimacy with God, which grows deeper than just meeting our desires. Marty states, "The longer we hang in there with prayer, the more we encounter a God who does not provide an answer to our every want, but who offers strength for our every need." This was a very powerful statement for me. Some say the purpose of prayer is to know God, but Marty believes it is to enjoy God, deepening a relationship that is already in progress.

Don't panic if you may have become out-of-touch with prayer. You can open the door to prayer anytime, anywhere. We don't need special language in our prayers, but the same words you would use with your closest friend. Remember God doesn't need a grocery list of our prayer concerns, for he already knows and sees all. But treat prayer as an opportunity to be thrown headlong into God's affection. Marty believes the greatest delight in prayer is how it affects you, the pray-er. When you place yourself in God's hands, "not my will, but thy will", prayer can reshape you.

We may never know if prayer changes things, but we do know that God can change all things, even if that change doesn't occur according to our timing or desires. So hang in there with prayer and be changed in the process. It is wonderful.

**Love Boxes for Larry** - The Love continues thru June 8. The Love Boxes are used to collect monetary gifts for Larry Alexander (Vicar Ann's husband), to help offset medical costs incurred related to Larry's recent medical procedures. Watch for the Love Box at your church and consider a monetary gift to help Larry and Ann with their medical expenses. The Thrivent Financial Chapter #30598 is also providing \$300 in supporting funds for this event. The culminating event will be a pot luck dinner on Wed June 18 at Diamond Lake, where we will all join in celebration and present our gifts to Larry and Ann. Contact your church council president with any questions.

**Grace Lutheran Float for Saddle Horse Day Parade** - The Grace church council be decorating our Saddle Horse Day float on Sunday June 8 following fellowship. Volunteers are welcome to join the decorating party. The group will start decorating after worship, followed by a potluck meal. Anyone interested in helping with the project, please contact any council member.

**Grace Lutheran Garage Sale** - Grace will hold a **churchwide garage sale on Saturday August 9**. As you do spring cleaning, save items to contribute to the garage sale (sorry - due to limited space, **no** clothing and **no** Technology (PCs, TVs, stereos). All members of the WOTP are invited to participate. The WXY will be serving lunch. Volunteers are needed for setup on Thursday night and Friday. Items can be dropped off at the church starting Monday Aug 4. More details will follow in your bulletins.

**June Deacon:** Annie Weets

**July Deacon:** Karen Lichtsinn

## **Peace Lutheran Church**

Tuesday, June 3

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 Doretta Vinson.

Wednesday, June 11

2 p.m. – PLCW

Monday, June 23

9 a.m. – Quilting Day

Pentecost Sunday: June 8

Those interested in placing red geraniums for Pentecost Sunday, please fill in the forms and have them turned in no later than Wed., June 4 so names can be included in the bulletin. Contact Deb Barron, 658-3891, if turning forms in after Sunday, June 1.

Tuesday, July 1st– 9:30am St. Matthew Circle will meet at the home of Margaret Breummer

2pm St. Mark Circle will meet at the home of Joyce Anderson

NO LCW in July

Monday, July 28th—9am Quilting Day

## **St Paul Lutheran Church**

Thanks to all who attended and helped with VBS by offering your donations and prayers.

### **SHALOM HILL FARM**

Shalom Hill Farm Fall Festival is Sunday, September 7th from 4-8pm. Come and join in the festivities that day: Pork Roast sandwich meal, craft and bake sale, farmer's market, themed basket silent auction, outdoor music concert.

We'd love to have your donations of: extra garden produce, canned goods, baked goods, crafts and theme baskets (movie, kids' autumn, devotional, gardening, bookworm, miniature gardens, crafters, coffee, tea, spa day, cooking meat—use your imagination)!

Thank you so much for your support of the ministry of Shalom Hill Farm!!

We hope to see you on the 7th of September for our Fall Festival.

Call Margaret at 507-831-2232 or 507-221-0147 with questions.



## Summer Planning: Mark your calendars

### **Summer Book Study for Fun and Learning**

Several opportunities to have some fun reading and learning from each other by sharing the study of some fun books.

#### **Mondays at 10 am @ Divine Providence Center**

Along with looking at the text for the upcoming week we'll begin with the study of "Proof of Heaven" by Eben Alexander, M.D. about the change in his life after a near death experience. The study will begin June 28.

#### **"Mere Christianity" by C.S. Lewis**

Our summer worship on Wednesday will be based on the classic observations that gave courage and hope to the people of Great Britain during the dark days of World War II. For those who would like to have a deeper conversation we'll gather at 6 pm out at the Diamond Lake Hall for a study of the chapter of the day.

For those who wish to order a book please let Pastor Julie( [pastorjuliea@frontiernet.net](mailto:pastorjuliea@frontiernet.net) or 507-215-2388) know by June 15 what you want ordered, with "Mere Christianity" and "Proof of Heaven" are \$10.00 each.

**Boot Camp for the TFA** is an opportunity for students who need to catch up in their learning or just want to come for a review and some fun. It will be held beginning on Friday June 6 at 9 am at Diamond Lake Chapel for a day of learning and service. An overnight camp out with the Boundary Waters group and then spend the morning of June 5 in learning and service. Parents are invited to come out for the campout on Friday night. Register online on the [www.windsoftheprairie.org](http://www.windsoftheprairie.org) website.



### **A Treasure Found**

Thank you to Valgean and Ilene Lundberg for donating the heritage quilt from Bethany-Elim's past. It will be added to the historical treasure chest of Bethany-Elim for posterity. Thank you to Dianne Bunjer, Bernie Aronson and Mary Ann Koopman for their work in finding out the stories behind the names on quilt. Elim Lutheran Ladies were instrumental in starting this quilt before 1917 and its finish date is undetermined, this was purchased by Charles Pederson which was then passed down to Ed & Hulda Pederson, then their daughter Vivian and back to Hulda as she outlived her children, later she gifted this quilt to the Lundbergs. It is a community quilt with names & businesses from Ivanhoe and the surrounding townships. It is assumed that this was a fundraiser, and possibly sold when the church in town was started in the 1920's. There are names that have yet to be identified. This piece of history will help to connect us all with our forebears as we continue to bring together God's people on the prairie.



**Summer 2014**



# CANEWS FROM CAMP

## Mark Your Calendar

- \*\*Summer camp starts - June 8th 2014*
  - \*GOLF Tournament - June 23 rd 2014*
  - \*28th Annual Quilt Auction - June 27&28th 2014*
  - \*Senior Adult Retreat- September 5&6 2014*
  - \*Women's Retreat - September 12&13 2014*
  - \*Shetek WELCA conference- September 20th2014*
  - \*Timber banquet - October 5th 2014*
- Any questions call (507) 763-3567 or  
Check out our website at [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org)*

Shetek Lutheran Ministries  
2014 summer camps.

To find out open dates call 507-763-3567 or go to  
[www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org)

This year's theme is Living in God's Time. "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."(Ecclesiastes 3:1RSV). Together we will learn more about living as Christians during Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost and how we are to live in God's holy time.



**Thank you for your Support!**

*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)*

**Winds of the Prairie Ministry Contact Information**

**Phone Numbers**

Pastor Stephen Rasmussen 507-829-9164 (Cell)  
Pastor Julie Anderson 507-215-2388 (Cell)  
Vicar Ann Gonyea 507-530-1825 (Cell)  
WOTP Toll-Free 1-866-944-9687  
WOTP Office: 507-694-1238  
Bethany Lutheran 507-487-5530  
Bethany-Elim Lutheran 507-694-1353  
Grace Lutheran 507-368-4243  
Peace Lutheran 507-658-3329  
St. Paul's Lutheran 507-694-1238

WOTP's email: [wotpm@frontier.com](mailto:wotpm@frontier.com)

**Secretary Office Hours**

(Bethany-Elim & Grace Offices)

WOTP Office Hours: Monday to Wednesday - B-E from 9:30am to 2:00pm  
Thursday at Grace from 9:30am-2:00pm



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