



*CrossWinds*

## NEWSLETTER OF WINDS OF THE PRAIRIE

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

SEPTEMBER 2011

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### FIRST WORD

PASTOR STEVE RASMUSSEN

Christ Be Our Light – Sharing the light of Christ

September is the month after the big move. According to the US Census bureau, most families choose to move into a new neighborhood or community during the summer months, when the weather is less inclement and schools are out of session. June through September are months with the largest number of household moves in the United States. SO – the chances are very good that there are new neighbors in your area after this summer.

How do you meet the new folks in the area? Here are a number of ideas:

1. Check out places where new folks might be seen. Recreational activities, furniture stores, the grocery, the schools are all places where you might expect to find new people. If you see a new face there, strike up a conversation!
2. Ask your kids about the new kids in their classes. Encourage you children and grandchildren to be “friendly welcomers” of the new students, rather than hanging out with the kids they already know. Let them know that supervised outings and play dates are possibilities with your family.
3. Become engaged in your own church enough to be excited about it. Your active participation makes it so much easier to invite others.
4. Go with a friend to bring a housewarming gift (a pie, a fresh loaf of bread, a quilt) to the new resident. There is nothing that says welcome better than a fresh bit of baking or something homemade!
5. Be aware of how we tend to keep to our own in our communities, and dare to reach outside our comfort zone.
6. Expect to meet a new child of God. We often expect resistance to the hope we bring from our faith. Yet everyone is in need of God's love and support. If we enter into the conversation expecting to meet a child of God with an exciting life story, we are never disappointed.
7. SHARE the fun! – You know what it is that you have in your life that is most exciting and energizing to you. Use that excitement and energy to benefit that new friend. That way you both enjoy the encounter.

The bottom line for us as we welcome our new neighbors is to know that we have the greatest welcome gift in universe to share with them – the Light of Christ in our life, our church and our community.

May Christ Be our Light – and the Light of our new friends!

Pastor Steve

# NOTES FROM THE INTERN

VICAR BAILEY LANDA

**“FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE HAVE GATHERED IN MY NAME, THERE AM I WITH THEM.”**

**MATTHEW 18:20**

These last few days have just been a matter of settling in, but so much going on in them. Between tours of the communities and meeting many members, I now have a moment to reflect on all that has been going on.

Even in the course of three days, I have been reminded of the close sense of community here, and this verse came to mind right away. It is not a message as individuals, but rather for them together and there Christ will be amongst them. These last few days have shown me community, but I’m excited to learn more about the community of Winds of the Prairie and meet all of you in the next year!

## PASTOR’S REPORT FOR JULY 2011

Worship	Education	Meetings	Pastoral Acts	Visits
25 - Sundays Worships Total 5 - Nursing Home 1 - Saturday Night 4 - Wednesday	8 - Bible/Book Study	3- Council/Meeting 1 - WELCA 1 - WXY 1 - Synod	8 - Counseling 2 - Wedding	35 - Home 2 - Hospital 4 - Public Events

## SEPTEMBER PREACHING SCHEDULE

		Bethany (8:30)	Grace (8:30)	Peace (10:30)	St. Paul (8:30)	Bethany-Elim (10:30)
<b>Sun, Sept 04</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>	Anderson	Landa/Rasmusson	Landa/Rasmusson	E. Anderson	E. Anderson
<b>Sat, Sept 10</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>			Rasmusson		
<b>Worship Times Change</b>		Peace (8:30)	Bethany-Elim (8:30)	Grace (10:30)	Bethany (8:30)	St. Paul (10:30)
<b>Sun, Sept 11</b>	<i>Service of the Word</i>	Rasmusson	Landa	Landa	Anderson	Anderson
<b>Sat, Sept 17</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>		Rasmusson	Anderson/Landa (DL)		
<b>Sun, Sept 18</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>	Anderson	Rasmusson	Rasmusson	Landa	Landa
<b>Sat, Sept 24</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>			Landa	Rasmusson	Anderson
<b>Sun, Sept 25</b>	<i>Service of the Word</i>	Landa	Anderson	Anderson	No Worship	Rasmusson

## 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.

# SAVE THE DATES! 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Grace Lutheran congregation will be celebrating their 125th anniversary on Sept. 17 and 18, 2011. It is the anniversary for both the Lake Benton and Diamond Lake sites. On Saturday, Sept. 17 a 5:30 p.m. potluck supper with church service following will be held at Diamond Lake and in town on Sunday, Sept. 18, there will be a 10:30 a.m. church service followed by a catered dinner (reservations required) and an afternoon program. Please join us in celebrating this wonderful milestone in our church life. Let your family and friends know so they may join us.

## MISSION OF THE MINISTRY: LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE



We will be highlighting and supporting the mission of Lutheran Disaster Response in the upcoming months. Below is a news release and call for volunteers, which expresses the mission of LDR or bringing help and hope.

### NEWS RELEASE:

In late June, record flooding devastated the city of Minot, North Dakota, forcing nearly a third of the residents to evacuate and leaving more than 4,000 homes and businesses heavily damaged.

Local residents have been hard at work, but the task is too much for local volunteers alone. As Lutherans, we're experts at rolling up our sleeves when there is a need, and our sisters and brothers in Minot need our help now. The goal is to have as many flood-damaged homes gutted as possible before the first major snowfall, which could be less than three months away.

This is an all-call for volunteers from around the country. Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota has set-up a volunteer hotline, and anyone interested in helping should call **218-443-4970** to register. You can also visit [www.lssnd.org](http://www.lssnd.org) to find volunteer registration forms and other important information about volunteering.

What do we as Winds of the Prairie Ministry want to do? Contact councils and pastors with ideas and we'll see what we can do to help. More about LDR and its resources for individuals and congregations in the future.

## MARRIAGE ROCKS!

Whether your marriage is rocky or rock solid, you will be glad you attended a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend. Engaging presentations by both lay and clergy leaders give you tools and information, while exercises and conversations with your spouse in the privacy of your hotel room deepen your understanding, communication and compassion.

The Fall Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends in Minnesota are October 14-16 in Duluth and November 18-20 in Brooklyn Center. Please register several weeks in advance. For more information, contact Dick & Judy Dehnel at 952-432-3105, Pete & Phyllis McMahon at 763-561-1575, or visit [www.godlovesmarriage.org](http://www.godlovesmarriage.org).

# BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

SUBMITTED BY SHIRLEY MOCK

Beginning Experience of Southwest Minnesota, a peer ministry support group for widowed, separated and divorced people is offering a Weekend Retreat - "A Path to Healing" - A weekend providing an individual with the opportunity to encounter self and to grow with a purpose to achieve inner peace. The experience is to help close the door gently on the past and move on with renewed hope and purpose. The weekend retreat will be held at Shetek Lutheran Ministries and is scheduled for September 9-11, 2011. Early registrations are encouraged. Please contact Karen at 507-532-0922 email: kmpokey@hotmail.com, Shirley at 507-829-3106 email: bbm@mvtvwireless.com, Gene at 507-215-1362 or Kathy at 507-215-2361.



## BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

**SUNDAY TEXT STUDY:** To help you prepare for Sunday worship here are the text which you can read during the week to prepare for worship.

Date	Old Testament	Psalms	New Testament	Gospel
September 4, 2011	Exodus 12:1-14	149	Romans 13:8-14	Matthew 18:15-20
September 11, 2011	Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21	114	Romans 14:1-12	Matthew 18:21-35
September 18, 2011	Exodus 18:2-15	105:1-6, 37-45	Philippians 1:21-30	Matthew 20:1-6
September 25, 2011	Exodus 17:1-7	78:1-4, 12-16	Philippians 2:1-13	Matthew 21:23-32
October 2, 2011	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20	19	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46

**SATURDAY MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES:** September 10 at 7:30 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at Rusty's in Taunton and the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday September 24 at 7:30 am in Ivanhoe at Bethany-Elm Lutheran Church.

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

**Wednesday morning Text Study** at 8:30 am will meet at Grace Lutheran in Lake Benton. A reading and discussion of the upcoming readings for the Sunday worship as noted in the chart above.

**Old Testament Study on Second and Fourth Monday and Tuesday at 10 am** will begin by focusing on the Old Testament readings that review for us the faithfulness of God's plan for the upcoming weeks. When the readings are suspended for the early seasons of the church year we'll pull out the Serendipity Bible or a book or two for study.



### W3- WINDS WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY

Starting in September on the fourth Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, the women of Winds of the Prairie Ministry are invited to come together for an evening of fellowship, conversation and surprises. We'll use a variety of resources from movies, TV programs and studies to help us to explore how our faith affects our daily life. Ask Pastor Julie if you have any questions and we'll plan on meeting at Bethany in Arco at 7:30 pm. Feed the family and leave the dishes for them to do and come for a time of renewal and recharge.



## STEWARDSHIP AS SHINING CHRIST'S LIGHT

I attended the stewardship event on August 17 in Marshall and came back with a lot of information I will share with you over the next months. To get use started I would like to share this thought and question with you.

**How is it that you talk about money when you aren't asking for it? Is it a hurdle or a bridge?**

We don't have to talk just about money, but about everything in our life that can be used to build God's kingdom on earth.

Things are a hurdle when they put up a barrier between us and God. When our perspective is that it is all ours and not God's this creates a barrier and a relationship of suspicion, scarcity and conflict. We perceive that things are being taken away from us.

We build a bridge or connection when we entrust to God all that we are. We are no longer burdened with anxious concern but trust that God will give us what we need. Life is lived from a perspective of a generous, giving and gracious God who cares for everything down to the smallest detail where all we need is given to us.

As we live in the WATERS of our Baptism we can show the world what it is to live a life of trust (faith) in God. The marks of discipleship become a joyful duty instead of a required task. Take for example:

WORSHIP is to be a joyous gathering together around Word and Sacrament to hear the promises of God's faithfulness. If we are empty we are filled and if we are full to overflowing we are giving to others from God's abundance.

ADVOCACY is our opportunity to be the voice of God by speaking up for those who cannot. It is seeing all as our brothers and sisters who need our care.

TEACHING is our chance to learn and teach each other about how God has built bridges in our lives.

EVANGELISM is the public witness of how we live our lives outside of the church building. Do we give the perspective that our relationship with the Church, the body of Christ is lived out during the week or only when we are in the building?

RELATIONSHIPS are bridge building when we see the face of Christ in the other. When we are reluctant to engage others for fear of how they may change or challenge us we are missing opportunities to be strengthened and renewed in our faith in God.

SERVICE is when we consider the needs of others as important as our own. We find ways to use the gifts and talents God has given us to help build bridges to God for others.

During this season of Pentecost we are now the ones who are reflecting Christ's light into a dark and troubled world. We are to shine the light of love and grace over those barriers that people have put up in the false hope of protecting themselves, instead we are to extend a hand and show them the way to the bridge called Christ to that open, free and whole relationship with God.

Good stewardship is faith based so over the next months we will take a look at what may be blocking us from full participation in God's plan. It may be fears, past experiences, unknown details or a variety of things that we'll explore through questions and conversation as individuals, congregations and ministry. It is the old adage when we know and can name the barrier it can be moved. Be excited about looking forward to this journey of exploration over the next year.

*Pastor Julie Anderson*

## ANNOUNCEMENT: BUFFALO RIDGE CHORALE

The end of summer brings the beginning of school for young folks, but for the Buffalo Ridge Chorale it means the beginning of fall concert rehearsals. Those rehearsals will begin at 7:00 on Thursday, September 8, at Christ Lutheran Church in Hendricks.

This will be the fourth concert for the group, which is comprised of thirty-some singers from eight different towns along the Minnesota-South Dakota border. The location for each concert is different. with this fall's concert scheduled to be held at St. John Cantius Church in Wilno, Mn, on Sunday, October 30 at 4 PM.

The upcoming concert will be directed by Steven Grives, who is head of choral music at SDSU. Nancy Sandro will be the accompanist.

New singers are welcome to join the group. No auditions are necessary.

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY



God has given each Christian two vitally important gifts. The first is the gift of faith in Jesus Christ, his work of redemption, and thus forgiveness of sin. The second is the gift of one or more special abilities, which are to be used for the purpose of unifying the body of Christ and for the growth of God's Kingdom. These abilities are called spiritual gifts and they are received through our baptism.

Like other presents, it is impossible to fully appreciate and make use of our spiritual gifts until they have been opened. This tool will help you begin to open your spiritual gifts by guiding you through scripture review, scripture references, and self-assessment inventory.

Each month we'll give you the 3 inventory questions for several of the gifts. For each of the questions which follow, select the number that best matches how you perceive yourself.

Numeral scores are presented as:

- 4, consistently true
- 3, frequently true
- 2, occasionally true
- 1, infrequently true
- 0, rarely true

<u>Questions</u>	<u>Score: 0-4</u>
<b><u>Discernment</u></b>	
1. My faith requires me to seek out God's will and purpose in all circumstances that arise in my life.	
2. I have assisted others as they sought to discern whether or not their personal decisions were helpful and in accord with God's will for their lives.	
3. In the congregation, I am often asked if a direction being discussed is in accord with God's will and purpose.	
<b><u>Total for Discernment</u></b>	
<b><u>Evangelism</u></b>	
1. I do not find it difficult to share what Jesus means to me with non-believers.	
2. I enjoy being with non-believers and like having the opportunity to encourage them to faith and commitment..	
3. I am able to convey the Gospel message to non-believers in ways that they are able to easily understand	
<b><u>Total for Evangelism</u></b>	
<b><u>Exhortation</u></b>	
1. I am moved by those who through conflict or sorrow are wavering in faith.	
2. When I know someone is facing a crisis, I feel compelled to provide support and care.	
3. Those who are struggling with life questions have come to me for guidance and help.	
<b><u>Total for Exhortation</u></b>	

Scores of 7 or greater are considered strong gifts. Following are descriptions, biblical references and ministry suggestion for each gift. If any are a gift of yours use the resources below to learn more and discern how to use your gifts.

**Discernment:** The gift that motivates a believer to seek God's will and purpose and apply that understanding to individual and congregational situations.

*Biblical References:* John 16:6-15, Romans 9:1, I Corinthians 2:9-16.

*Suggestions:* Congregation Council, Long Range Planning Team, Social Ministry Team, Peer Counseling, Support Group Facilitator

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**Evangelism:** The gift that moves believers to reach nonbelievers in such a way that they are baptized and become active members of the Christian community.

*Biblical References:* Matthew 28:16-20, Ephesians 4:11- 16, Acts 2:36-40.

*Suggestions:* Prospective Member Visitation, Evangelism Team, Advertising and Marketing, New Member Sponsor, Community Visitation

**Exhortation:** The gift that moves the believer to reach out with Christian love and presence to people in personal conflict of facing a spiritual void.

*Biblical References:* John 14:1, II Timothy 1:16-18, III John 5-8.

*Suggestions:* Mutual Ministry Team, Hospital/Home/Institution Visitation, Telecare Ministry, Peer Counseling, Small Group Leader

**Next month: faith, giving, hospitality. All questions from the Spiritual Gifts Assessment at elca.org.**



## PASTORAL TASKS 2011-2012

It is the nature of the office of pastor to have certain tasks associated with it. These are laid out in a document called "Visions and Expectations" which sets for these tasks which are then adapted to the place where the pastor is called to minister. We thought we would share these eight areas of ministry with you over the next few months so you all understand what the Personnel committee has helped the pastors to determine as the needs of the Winds of the Prairie Ministry congregations.

### Lead and Associate Pastor

Education / Life Long Christian Learning (Associate has primary responsibility for this portfolio)

- Training for Affirmation – shared leadership with Pastors and Intern
  - First Communion Instruction 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
  - Third Grade Bible introduction
  - Fourth Grade Acolyte Training
  - Adult Mentor Training
- Sunday School - advise
- Bible Schools - advise
- Adult Ed – Lead and advise Bible, book and educational studies
- Retreats – Seminars – Special Focus
- Cradle Roll - advise
- Prayer Pals - advise



## CONGRATULATIONS REVEREND HARVESTINE!

Our former intern Jackie Harvestine was ordained on August 20<sup>th</sup>.

Bishop John presided, and Jackie's home pastor served as preacher.

We wish her the best of luck and God's blessings at her new call.





## TRAINING FOR AFFIRMATION (TFA) 2011-2012

The middle school students of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades will continue their studies to prepare for Affirmation of Baptism. This year we will meet at Winds of the Prairie Ministry congregations at Bethany Lutheran in Arco after school on Wednesdays.

**Sixth Grade** will be learning by reviewing the Old Testament stories they have been hearing in Sunday School for years. From 4:30 to 5:30 they will receive instruction from the pastors. At 5:30 they will join the other grades for a short worship and meal. They will then clean up the meal and participate in their small group until 7. Later in the year they will have a retreat to explore the Wisdom Literature.

**Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Graders** will study the New Testament. When they arrive around 4:30 they will participate in small group activities for worship preparation, service and meal preparation. After worship and meal they will have instruction with the pastors. Retreats centered around the Lord's Prayer or Apostle's Creed will occur later in the year.

On the **first Wednesday** of the odd numbered months we'll make a **SPLASH** with the Ten Commandments and living the Old Testament stories. Our first Wednesday on **September 7 will be Orientation for Parents and Students. Parents and mentors are invited to join us for supper at 5:30** followed by an evening program.

On the first Sunday of the even numbered months we'll gather with our fellow Lincoln Lyon Lutherans for events to do and learn of God's work.

October 2, 2011- CROP WALK in Minneota with registration beginning at 1, walk at 2 and closing at 5 pm.

December 4, 2011- Advent Festival of St Nicolas at Behtnay-Elim Lutheran in Ivanhoe.

February 5, 2012- SOUPER BOWL- soup suppers at each congregation with proceeds to go to hunger. Soup preparation on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> in Hendricks at the Senior Center

April 1, 2010- PASSION SUNDAY- a learning experience about the Passion of Our Lord at Bethany-Elim Lutheran in Ivanhoe.

To prepare for this new year there are several things you can do to help with TFA.

- Consider being a mentor for a TFA student. The sixth graders will each need a caring adult who will walk with them in their TFA journey by meeting with them monthly to discuss faith issues and how faith is an important part of your life.
- We need adults, especially men, to be leaders for the small groups of five to six students on Wednesday evening. If you feel that you are gifted and called to help young people and along the way get to review what you learned in Confirmation.
- We are looking for several people who would help to prepare the meal with the students assistance. If you love to cook why not share it.

If you have any questions or comments please share with the pastors. We are looking forward to an exciting year.

## FAMILY FAITH

NANCY KROG

**TODAY'S READING:** Song of Songs 2:4, 10-13

He has taken me to the banquet hall, and His banner over me is love.

### FAITH WALK:

Take a walk through a Labor Day festival or end-of-summer fair. Enjoy the outdoor activities.

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**FAITH TALK:**

- Describe some of the sights, sounds, and smells of the festival.
- What activities or events did you enjoy the most?
- The Bible passage reminds us that our relationship with God is a banquet, a fest, a festival of love.
- God gathers His children under His banner of love. This banner was proclaimed in Jesus' death.
- We can celebrate God's love for us with joy and delight.
- Love is not only a noun, it is a verb, an action. In what ways has God acted in your life to show you His love?

**FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES**

- Invite some friends over for a banquet of favorite foods. If you don't have time to prepare a full feast, have a brunch, an appetizer party, or a potluck. Share today's Scripture verse with your guests.
- Make a family banner proclaiming God's love for you.
- Put on some lively instrumental music and have a dance to celebrate God's love for us.

**OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE:**

Dear Loving Father, We praise and thank You for the banner of love under which You gather us. We look forward to the wedding feast in heaven and being with Jesus, the Bridegroom. Until then may we walk in Your love, as we see to love You in return. In His name, which is Love. Amen.

("Family Faith Walks" by Kelly J. Haack)

**BETHANY, ARCO****WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR SEPTEMBER**

**USHERS:** Tom & Beth Daniels

**ALTAR GUILD:** Jewel Noble

**CALENDAR:**

**Sept 8, 1:00 p.m.** – WELCA, BE women guests

**Sept 28, 9:00 a.m.** – Women's Bible Study

**Sept 25** – Annual Chicken Dinner

**BETHANY-ELIM GUESTS AT BETHANY'S WELCA MEETING**

A joint meeting for the Bethany-Elm and Bethany WELCAs will be Thursday, September 8, at Bethany beginning at 1:00 p.m. Our program will be "Speaking Faith Thru Art" done by Marie Henriksen. Serving lunch that afternoon from Bethany will be Delores Oerter and Helen Olson. Any Winds of the Prairie woman is welcome to come.

**BETHANY NEWS**

**GAYLE RASMUSSEN**

Thank you to all who helped make our recent events happen....the prayer program for our Wednesday service at Diamond Lake, the WOTP service and picnic at Arco park, and helping with the service at the band shell park in Ivanhoe for the Polska Kielbasa celebration.

More to come! The annual Chicken Dinner will be held on Sunday, September 25. Come and enjoy Rally Day on Sunday, September 11—8:30am Worship services, Sunday School and a Pancake Breakfast. If you can teach and help with Sunday School, let us know. You can make this a

great year for our youth helping them learn about the stories in the Bible.

We will have an open house at Bethany, celebrating the 70th wedding anniversary of Harvey and Blanche Jorgensen on Saturday, September 11, from 2--4pm.

School is now in session for the year, we wish all students and teachers a great learning experience.

Fall gets us into a more normal routine, so come and be a part of Bethany.

Peace be with you.

# BETHANY-ELIM, IVANHOE

## NEWS FROM BETHANY-ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

SHARON RASMUSSEN, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

What a busy summer! It sure flew by! The council has been working on various parsonage issues, Memorial Fund policies and lighting changes in our church! We are blessed to have such competent electricians to help us changeover and the savings we will see in the electric bill will help us with our operating costs in the future. With the generous labor donation and the rebate from the power company, it has been a very good opportunity for our church.

Also, I wanted to report on the letter the council sent out to members this summer on our financial position. We had a wonderful response and heard from many people outside the immediate community. THANKS to all who consider Bethany-Elim their home congregation and for the support we continue to receive from our members, near and far. We are a great church family.

## RALLY DAY AT BETHANY-ELIM

NANCY KROG

We welcome all Sunday School students, their families, and our congregation to Rally Day on Sunday, September 11, 2011!

We will present our new preschooler, Olivia Gladis, with her own special Bible during worship service on Sunday, September 11.

Bethany-Elim third graders will receive their new Bibles on behalf of their parents and congregation in late September. Third graders to receive their Bible: Anna Krier, Braden Meyer and Ryder Olsen.

All Sunday School students please wear your bright blue VBS t-shirts! If you don't have one yet, one will be waiting for you on Rally Day! Let's join together as a fresh new year begins to learn about and love our Lord...and remember that God's Word Will Amaze You!

Finally, MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND DON'T FORGET THE SECOND ANNUAL SERVICE AUCTION AT BETHANY-ELIM ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2011. Last year the auction was a tremendous success and lots of fun! We know it will be equally as much fun this year. We will begin the auction after the worship service. We need your ideas to donate work, items, talents and other ideas for bidding. Last year we saw beautiful artwork available at the church for immediate auction, and members donated things like a supper to be served, yard work to be done, free labor to paint one room, a pontoon ride across Lake Shaokatan, frozen corn, and much more. We really had a great time and raised money for our church. Please come, ALL ARE WELCOME! Leave off your donation idea at the church or contact Sherry Rost.

## WISH TO BE A PRAYER PAL?

NANCY KROG

Bethany-Elim will be matching up prayer pals within our congregation from our preschool children through our freshman in college. If you are interested in participating in the prayer pal program, please call (507-487-5722) or email ([knkrog@frontier.com](mailto:knkrog@frontier.com)) me soon. Assignments will be made and announced at the end of September.

Duties for Prayer Pals include: keep it a secret!, pray for your prayer pal, mail a card or note to your pal once per month, make note of any appearances in the newspaper & send clippings to your prayer pal, send a birthday card, be creative, and we'll reveal our prayer pals in April 2011. I will be using the list of prayer pals from last year. Please contact me if you wish NOT to participate. If you were not a prayer pal from last year, please contact me and let me know you want to be ADDED to our fun program! Thanks – we look forward to another successful Prayer Pal program...for both youth and adults☺

## BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...BETHANY-ELIM SERVICE AUCTION

Bethany-Elim will be having another auction—a service auction! This was something “new” we tried last year, and it was so much fun and so successful that we are again making plans for another auction. Last year our young bidders enjoyed buying, so we are planning a portion of the auction for only the youth. Once again, Kevin and Andrew Swanson have agreed to be our auctioneers. They added so much excitement and fun to the event last year!

EVERYONE (young and old) at Bethany-Elim is invited to donate something to be auctioned off. We DON'T want old appliances, furniture or junk—we want your talents or gifts. The auction will be held on Sunday, September 11, following church services (DON'T FORGET the time switch to 8:30am Church). We have a church family full of talented people, so we are hoping for a large slate of items to be auctioned. GET THINKING NOW and be as creative as possible!!

It's no secret that our church family is in debt. We need to all come together and search our hearts and find our talents that God has blessed us with. We will be getting forms out soon to be filled in with your donations. This auction is for EVERYONE! Any questions, feel free to contact your council members: Sherry Rost, Sharon Rasmussen, Brandon Gifford, Loretta Lundberg, Bernie Olsen and Jim Weckert.

### HERE ARE SOME IDEAS TO GET YOU THINKING:

- Labor (washing windows, housecleaning, mowing, etc.)
- Singing Telegrams
- Movie Tickets
- Jams, Pies, Cakes, Salsa, Candy, etc.
- Surprise Basket
- Afghans or Quilts
- Snow Removal
- Oil Change
- Painting
- Home Canned Goods
- Meat Bundles
- Babysitting
- Manicure Gift Certificate
- Steak Dinner at VFW
- Homemade Meal delivered to your home

### IDEAS for kids' auction:

- Movie Tickets
- Toy Baskets
- Gift Certificates
- Candy Bundles
- Pets

CHECK the bulletin board for many more ideas!

Let's work together to make this an AWESOME SERVICE AUCTION!

# GRACE, LAKE BENTON

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR SEPTEMBER

**USHERS:** Josh Prosch, Matt Prosch,  
Roger Rudebusch, Vern Paschke

**ALTAR GUILD:** Garnet Petersen

## CALENDAR:

**Wed, Sept 7** – GLCW @ 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Room  
Program is entitled “Short and Sweet”  
Devotions by Garnet Petersen  
Hostesses are Faye Meyer and Connie Bressler  
**Wed, Sept 14** -- Bible Study-Wanda Nordmeyer  
**Wed, Sept 21** -- Block Day  
**Wed, Sept 28** -- Do Day

## GRACIOUS WORDS

CHANDRA PROSCH

The congregation is busy preparing for the upcoming 125th Anniversary of our churches on September 17th-18th. We included a registration form in the last newsletter. Please submit your reservation for the catered dinner by Aug 31st. If you have any photos or stories you would like included please contact Karen Lichtsinn @ 507-368-2008. Please share this information with your family and friends. We look forward to our celebration and seeing you all there!

Reminder, our church service is starting at 10:30am on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Also set for September 11<sup>th</sup>, is Rally Sunday. Sunday school will start at 9:15am.

You may notice some improvements of our facility as we prepare for our celebration. We can still use volunteers for cleaning and painting. Thank you to those who have already volunteered we appreciate it!

We are getting very close of reaching our goal for the well in South Africa. Any contributions should be noted on your check by August 31st.

Thank you to all who attended and volunteered July 31st for our 5th Sunday brunch. Everyone enjoyed the good food and fellowship. We look forward to the October 5th Sunday brunch sponsored by the GLCW.

God Bless!

## GRACE LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

PAT JOHNSON, SUPERINTENDENT

It's hard to believe that summer will soon be over. Sunday school will start with Rally Sunday on September 11. Sunday school will be from 9-10am, with church following at 10:30 this year. I ask that all children please attend church that morning.

Children age 3 and up can attend Sunday school so please notify me ASAP if you have a child or know of someone who would like to attend.

Also, I would like to invite anyone interested in helping with the Sunday school program to also contact me. We could use a substitute teacher or classroom assistants. So if you love children and would like to help in some way, please give me a call.

On Saturday and Sunday, September 17 & 18, our church is celebrating our 125th anniversary. The children will be singing during the 10:30 am church service at Grace on September 18. This is a very important milestone in our church, and I hope that our congregation will gather together for this wonderful event.

I look forward to another wonderful year with all our great kids and terrific teachers - Tanya Berkenpas, Mindy Johnson, Julianne Prosch, and Mike & Tonia Czech.

# PEACE, RUTHTON

## NOTES AND DATES:

Jane Baumgard (former member of Peace Lutheran) and her family wish to thank all those who so faithfully prayed for her recovery since the beginning of the year. She is doing OK now. Never underestimate the power of prayer. God Bless each and every one of you.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### BETHANY (ARCO):

Pray for Ruth Rasmussen, Luella Madsen, Elsie Barber and Harley Johnson (brother of Joan Lundberg)

### BETHANY-ELIM (IVANHOE):

Pray for Rhoda Larson, Mavis Nielsen, Charmaine Lundberg, Dave Lawrence, Dennis Amundson, Ken Swanson, Brenda Sheik, Gabriel Johnson (Grandson of Norma Jean Johnson); Becky Paluch, Gladys Olson Watts (sister of Esther Wayland); Leigh Jerzak; Kelsey & Robin Hoffman; Michael Kropp; Jackson Nelson (son of Ryan & Kate Nelson); Kristi Morelan; Dareld Benz (brother of Mavis Nielsen); Nancy Resmen (sister-in-law of Bernadine Olsen); Linda Vlaminck (Sister-in-Law of Dave & Marlene Lawrence); and Mary Grace Nelson (daughter of Ryan & Kate Nelson).

### GRACE (LAKE BENTON):

Pray for Dorothy Henningsen, Norma Burdick, Joyce McColn (sister of Carl Burk); Rev. Gary Kubly (MN Senator); Paula Jacobson (Daughter of Wayne & Annette Fehrman); Earl Klitzke; Leann Wadsworth; and Chet Borresen

### PEACE (RUTHTON):

Pray for Herb Vinson, Carolyn Holck, Eldonna Peterson, Jane Baumgard, Edna Haraldsen, Lavonne Fuhrmann, Annalease Hofner, and Cliff Kittleson.

### ST. PAUL (MINNEOTA):

Pray for Niel Gunlogson, Lyall Gislason, Doris Richards, Clara DeRoode, & Crystal Gawarecki.

### TYLER NURSING HOME:

Marjorie Meyer, Grace Lutheran

Cliff Kittleson, Carolyn Holck, Eldonna Peterson, Harvey Christensen- Peace 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, 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, Justin Schmidt, Adam DeRoode, Pam Gregor, Paul Gregor, Jr., Corey Gregor, Christopher Gregor, Stephanie Christoffels, and Paul Gregor