

*CrossWinds*

NEWSLETTER OF WINDS OF THE PRAIRIE MINISTRY

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

Volume 9

Issue 2

SEPTEMBER 2013

## FIRST WORD

### CELEBRATING THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

#### GET EXCITED!!!

School is already up and running in Southwestern Minnesota, and the mornings are tinged with the hint of the change of seasons. It's time!

It's time to begin Training for affirmation classes. They have already begun for our youths in Minnesota, and will begin on September 11<sup>th</sup> for those in our other congregations.

It's time to welcome our new intern, Ann Gonyea and her husband Larry Alexander.

It's time to begin a new year of celebration and learning as we delve into our Sunday texts. We will again follow the story of salvation from creation to today as we use the narrative lectionary.

Our Gospel for the year is John. Within the four gospels in the Bible, John stands apart. It has a different tone than the other three. Being the last to be written, it shares a more developed theology of the sacraments, and of the relationship between the community of faithful and the world. It speaks of the challenges that existed in the first century church, and the words of Jesus that address those challenges. We will find that John the Evangelist writes with great boldness and style about the power and majesty of God in Jesus and about the intentional control and care with which Jesus uses that power to save humanity.

Of all the Gospels I like to say that John is one of my four favorites!

- John has the most quoted verse in the Christian Scriptures – John 3:16. (If you don't know what it is – find it and memorize it.)
- John celebrates living in the victory of the cross, even in the midst of deep suffering. John's Gospel presents a theology of the cross rather than a theology about the cross (listen for more on this throughout the year).
- John brings the story of Jesus on three levels:
  - The first level is the time of Jesus on the earth
  - The second is hidden behind the first and links us to the church to whom it was originally written. We can sense the struggles of first century Christians as John tells them the story.
  - The third is the direct influence of the story of Jesus on our own lives. John's Gospel connects our story and Jesus' story together with the power of the Spirit of Truth
- John deals with the great dichotomies of life. He speaks of truth and untruth, revelation and ignorance, light and darkness, death and resurrection, the those on the way and those who are lost, sin and forgiveness in the name of Jesus, life and death.

Join us for this wonderful romp through the greatest story ever told.

*Pastor Stephen*



## Intern's Intonations

Well, I'm here! Yeah! My husband Larry and I officially moved into the parsonage in Ivanhoe on August 15 and since then it has been a wild and wonderful orientation to the people and goings on of Winds of the Prairie Ministries. We've been received beautifully and are so thankful for all the help, warm smiles, yummy garden vegetables and the plethora of goodies and life supplies we took home from the Intern pounding on Wednesday. Thank you, all, for making this exciting and challenging move into my internship already such a blessing.

The task list calls already, however, and I quickly found myself behind on writing deadlines, which I'm learning is as much a part of the life of a vicar or pastor as it was the life of a writer. One of those deadlines was for my monthly column on my life as a seminarian in the daily newspaper in the U.P. that serves the region of my home congregation, Bethany Lutheran in Ishpeming, MI. And so in the interest of not holding up the WOTPM newsletter any more than I needed to, I thought it would be wise and appropriate to share with you what I wrote in my column as I made the transition into this year of learning and walking with the WOTPM communities.

I am a Great Lakes-centric person.

I've moved around them all my life, from my Chicago beginnings on Lake Michigan to my beloved northwoods life on Superior. In both places, as long as I knew where the lake was, I knew where east was and, therefore, where north, south and west were too.

The first time I became acutely aware of this internal locator was during a short stint as a resident of Coldwater, Michigan. It's an Ishpeming-sized town about half way between Chicago and Detroit and about 10 miles north of the Indiana border. It's where I first saw farm equipment of a size I usually associated with snow removal equipment. It's where I first experienced what it was to position one's self on the planet without a Great Lake and in a landscape that was divided by straight, flat roads roughly measuring out field after field of corn and soybean. I never got my bearings.

This week I find myself in a similar landscape as I begin my internship as vicar of Winds of the Prairie Ministries in and around Ivanhoe, Minnesota. Except the fields and the basically straight demarcation lines here are on a much grander scale. It's the scale of our national grasslands, the vast North American prairie, the high plains. I couldn't help but wonder how I would get my bearings here.

But then something else began to push those thoughts out of the forefront of my mind. On our way from Chicago, we crossed the Mississippi River and began the journey deep into this landscape of enormous and skillfully planted seas of wheat, corn, soybeans and sunflowers. I thought of the Old Testament narratives of the Israelites crossing the Jordan and reaching the Land and all it promised – mostly unknown details of what it meant to live as God's people; all the abundance and pitfalls and more abundance that come with that life.

And then this Great Lake-free landscape reminded me of something the lakes had taught me very early in my life: The wind is like (or maybe it is) the Holy Spirit winding about on the planet, seemingly randomly, but always incessantly. It has become one of my visualizations of how God's life-giving activity is carried throughout creation. I first started making this connection between the lakes and the land when we began seeing the evidence of another big crop out here, wind farms. Just of the south of where we are living is the Buffalo Ridge Wind Farm. Hundreds of hi-tech, white, gigantic prairie flowers spin in the wind that starts at the Rockies and doesn't run into much of anything besides Brockway Mountain in Copper Harbor before hitting the Appalachians.

Watching the wind turbines and the ribbons of wind whip through the wheat fields, I began to recognize a different kind of sea. It was comforted to know that, Great Lakes or not, God and God's abundant and surprising presence goes with me in this

new land. And I've learned to lean into and trust that promise, just as Abram did when God said "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house (and your geographic locators) to the land that I will show you." (Gen. 12:1).

Perhaps my new geographic locator will be Buffalo Ridge on the southern horizon. If I know where south is, I know where east is and, therefore, where north and west are. But more importantly, I think, they have already become the incessant reminder that the Holy Spirit is here, as everywhere, and continues to whip and ribbon through our lives and our landscapes. (Printed originally in The Mining Journal, Marquette, MI, Aug. 17, 2013)

Vicar Ann Gonyea



## Pastoral Acts for July 2013

### Baptisms

**July 7** Ayden Berkenpas, son of Brandon & Nellie Berkenpas, at Grace by Pastor Julie Anderson

**July 28** Robert Worth, son of Jon & Shanna Worth, at Lake Stay worship (Grace Lutheran) by Pastors Steve Rasmusson & Julie Anderson.

### Funeral/Burial

**July 6** (Funeral) Ann Kruse, mother to Neil Kruse, at Grace by Pastor Steve Rasmusson

**July 20** (Burial) Joyce McColm, sister to Carl Burk, at Grace by Pastor Julie Anderson

**July 21** (Burial) Leonard & Dorys Richards at Westerhiem (St.Paul's) by Pastor Julie Anderson

### Wedding

**July 27** Sarah Lynn & Dustin Kronbach at Garvin Park (Grace Lutheran) by Pastor Julie

### *Narrative Lectionary for September: Preparation for Worship*



The Narrative Lectionary is an awesome, exciting, integrated, organized, unique means of experiencing the Bible story in worship. We begin at the beginning of the Bible as the story God's creation and involvement with humanity is revealed in the stories of the ordinary people who believe in an extraordinary God. During the Fall, we will be remembering the Old Testament witness of God's Chosen People. We will have glimpses of the future story from the Gospel of John where this story of promise is fulfilled.

Our companion this year will be the Gospel of John. The last gospel written it tells the story of Jesus the Christ in a different way. His perspective is one from heaven from which Jesus came to abide with humanity. A sense of God here and now is the grammar of the gospel rather than what is to come in the future. Rather than parables and sermons, Jesus has a lot of conversations and discussions with people to answer their questions. The signs or miracles of Jesus are done very publically so that people can see his divinity. John tells his story in a way that makes you feel like you are there.

Each week there will be a devotional study and readings on the back of the bulletin for you to read the stories in between the Sunday readings. With some daily reading you will see the unfolding of God's plan for humanity. Why not use the daily reading as a way to begin or end your day to let God's Word be an active part of your life.

Date	Sermon Reading	Psalm	Gospel Reading	Theme
<b>September 8</b>	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Psalm 8	John 1:1-5	Creation/Study
<b>September 15</b>	Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14	Psalm 13	John 1:29	Abraham's Sacrifice/Worship
<b>September 22</b>	Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17	Psalm 106:1-12	John 1:50-51	Tricky Blessing/ Give & Serve
<b>September 29</b>	Exodus 2:23-25; 3:10-15; 4:10-17	Psalm 105:1-6	John 8:58	"I AM" / Witness
<b>October 6</b>	Exodus 16:1-18	Psalm 105:37-45	John 6:51	Food Complaint/Prayer



**What is the FAITH5™?** Look at your hands, they usually have 5 fingers with a pair of hands that mirror each other. That is what we are going to do this year with FAITH 5, mirror our life as a community of faith in our homes and vice versa. The FAITH 5 connects church to home, faith to life, spouse to spouse and parents to kids in a powerful way. The five steps of the FAITH5 are:

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

**Step Two: Read** a verse from your Bible. (Use the text from Sunday, as found in the chart in the newsletter, during your week or the readings on the back of the bulletin).

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

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

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

---

As communities of faith we are going to encourage the practice of FAITH 5 as a means to connect home and church, Sunday to weekdays, and our life in church and the world. Each month we'll look at one of the points from the perspective of each place.

STEP 1: When we gather as a community of faith we bring our highs and lows of the week with us. We begin our worship with confession and forgiveness so we can be open to hear that God and this community cares for us in all situations of life. The highs and lows are often shared during fellowship or at some time during the service.

As home this sharing continues when you share your daily highs and lows with the loved ones in your household. This is best done before bedtime so you can rest free of burdens and assured of God's protection. If you live alone make a pack to call another friend or family member who is also single each night before bed for your check in.

Both these exercises complement each other by opening our lives to God's Word along with the awareness it creates of God here with us now. Let's start a new and healthy spiritual habit as a community of faith in our homes where each kitchen table is an altar around which a family gathers to worship each day.



## **Rally Day is coming!!!!**

School is back in session and that means that Sunday School will soon be approaching. That day this year is September 8, with Sunday School at around 9:15 & 9:45 at most of our churches.



## Fall Study Opportunities: Starting in September 2013

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

**NEW CAFÉ Women's Bible Study** on second (Bethany-Elim/Ivanhoe) and fourth (Grace/Lake Benton- on **September 30** due to FTC)) Monday of each month at 5:30 pm. Pastor Julie is leading a Bible study opportunity for women using the monthly CAFÉ study from the WELCA. Women of all ages are welcome to come for an hour of faith conversation.



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

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



## Marriage Tune Ups

Beginning in October on the second Saturday of the month, 8:30 to noon, at Grace Lutheran, 7 married couples are invited to come for a marriage tune up. As pastors we are asking which would be better for a 3 to 3.5 hours. Each month we'll cover 2 topics including Basic Theology of Marriage, Effective Conflict Communication/Management, Financial Planning and Original Nature. Come for two months to work on fine tuning your lifelong commitment to each other. Whether you have been married a year or several decades you can always learn something or teach others about life. Note your name and preferences on the charts found at your congregation so events can be planned for the near future.

## Wanted for Service in the Church



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

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

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

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

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



## Bethany-Elim Service Auction will be Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> following church.

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

The auction will be held on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, following 8:30am church services (DON'T FORGET the time switch to 8:30am church beginning that day!) Breakfast will be served after church, and the auction will begin at 10am.

**Some items or tasks up for bid may include:** Labor (window washing, housecleaning, mowing, snow removal, oil changes, weeding gardens, planting flowers, etc...) Singing Telegrams; Movie Tickets; Jams & Jellies; Pies; Cakes; Salsa; Candy, etc; Surprise Basket; Afghans or Quilts; Paintings, Home Canned Goods; Meat Bundles; Gift Certificates; Babysitting; Manicures; Steak Dinner; Homemade Meal.

**Kids' Auction items may include:** Movie Tickets; Toys; Gift Certificate; Candy Gum (we will try to keep each of these "winning bids" at \$10 or under.

## Diamond Lake Celebration of Renewal

- Everyone is invited to join us at Diamond Lake on Saturday Sept 21 at 2 PM for a service of renewal and celebration. We are celebrating the beautiful renovations to our church's buildings and want to thank everyone who helped to support the project through your time and gifts. Please join us for the afternoon worship service at 2 PM followed by coffee and cake at the Hall. We look forward to seeing you there.



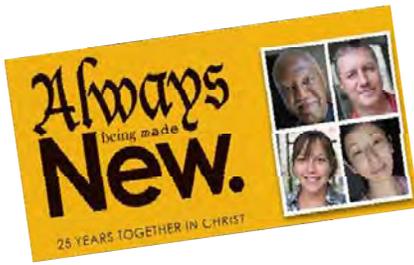
**CHICKEN DINNER,  
Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> – 2013  
11am – 1:30pm at Bethany Lutheran Church  
in Arco**

**Adults \$8**

**K-6 \$3**

**Pre-School \$ 1**

**Enjoy..... Homemade Chicken, potatoes & gravy.  
Dressing, carrots & dessert.**



*Submitted*

*by Karen Lichtsinn and Marie Henriksen*

**Always Being Made New** - the theme of the ELCA 2013 Churchwide Assembly in Pittsburgh, PA. Along with 24 other voting members from the Southwest Minnesota Synod of the ELCA, Marie Henriksen and I attended the churchwide assembly in Pittsburgh, PA from Aug 11 thru Aug 17. Although we have both attended our Minnesota Synod Assembly numerous times, this was a much bigger event. The 952 ELCA voting members attended the assembly from all across the nation. There were so many "sweet moments" but these are the ones that resonated with the 2 of us.....

- Getting to know our 24 colleagues from the SW MN Synod, including face time with our Bishop Jon Anderson.
- Learning to use the iPad (we were "paperless in Pittsburgh" this year – it was quite easy once we got started and very "green", with significant savings in reduced printing costs) By the end of the week, it inspired us both to go out and buy one.
- Learning first-hand the appropriate business meeting procedures according to "Robert's Rules of Order". (Marie already know most of that, but I learned a lot!)
- Participating in energetic and insightful Bible Study discussions.
- Meeting our prayer pals.
- Eating excellent food from all nationalities (not sure about Marie, but Karen gained a few "assembly" pounds!).
- Listening to inspirational messages from our Bishops and leaders.
- Electing our first woman ELCA Presiding Bishop, Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, and the new ELCA Secretary, Rev. Wm. Chris Boerger. Both individuals will serve 6 yr. terms starting in Jan 2014.
- Electing new leaders for various ELCA Churchwide council and committees. Among those elected from our Synod were Oliver Thul from Tyler and Joyce Graue from Redwood Falls.
- Learning more about the churchwide committees and teams that support our global missions and ELCA programs.
- Visiting with Bishop Jon Anderson at the WECLA reception and during a dinner at the airport.
- Shaking hands with the new presiding ELCA bishop-elect, Rev. Elizabeth Eaton from Ohio.
- Seeing and hearing the energy and excitement from the youth and young adults in the ELCA. They are truly the leaders of our church today and into the future.
- Attending the daily communion worship services, rich with singing and inspirational messages. Many of the lessons and liturgy were delivered in various languages, representing the diversity of the ELCA in America and in our world.
- Singing and hearing beautiful Christian music, both in traditional and contemporary settings. It was especially moving to hear the congregational harmony of over 1,000 Lutherans singing hymns in praise to God. The chorus, musicians and song leaders were exceptional, adding to the richness of the daily worship services. We sang during our business sessions as well, in addition to prayer and discernment prior to every voting session.
- Sharing our daily offerings for various missions and initiatives within the ELCA.
- Attending hearings to learn more about the 2014-2016 ELCA Churchwide budget and other key issues set before the assembly.
- Approving the social statement on criminal justice; *The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries*, which encourages all of the ELCA to become more involved in working for justice for all people.
- Participating in the discussion and approval of the various memorials and resolutions set before the assembly.
- Attending the joyous banquet to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ELCA. The event included messages from ELCA bishops and leaders and entertainment, led by music program directors from Central Lutheran and Mount Olivet in Minneapolis, MN.
- Participating in the ELCA video. Marie was randomly selected from the crowd to participate in a video on the ELCA, which is available on U-tube (cast to the tune of "YMCA" by the Village People). Marie is a natural for the camera. You really need to watch this video.

- To finish things off, on the ride home the plane was comprised of mostly Lutherans, who started singing hymns.....which was truly appreciated by the pilots, flight attendants and other passengers. What a beautiful way to send us back into the world to spread God's word. Praise be to God!

It was our pleasure to attend this event on behalf of our congregations and our synod. This was truly an experience of a lifetime and inspires us to a life of service within our church. We had the opportunity to learn so much more about how the ELCA works and all of God's work being done across our nation and in the world. The next Churchwide assembly will be in 3 years, at New Orleans in August of 2016. We encourage everyone to get involved with our local Prairie Conference and within our SW MN synod. Be a part of the mission to do God's Work, Our Hands.



### **Safe Haven for Everyone**

We live in a world that has a wide variety of views, actions and understandings when it comes to interactions. This leads to misunderstandings and people left feeling uncomfortable and at times threatened. The Church should be a place where people feel safe, so our congregations are implementing an educational process called "Safe Haven" so we can create that safe place.

**SAFE HAVEN Training-** Wednesday September 4 at 7 pm to 8 pm at Bethany in Arco  
or Saturday September 7 from 9 to 10 am

Everyone, especially those who will be Sunday School teachers or working with youth or vulnerable adults, is encouraged to attend one of these trainings. Our insurance company, sister churches, and community will see this as a first step to ensure the safety of all those who enter our congregations.

As adults it is our responsibility to set up safe boundaries for our youth to create safe havens. It empowers our youth when they are given the option as to how they will participate in interaction with adults in safe environments. To help us all learn about setting up safe boundaries we will have some 5-minute Safe Haven reflections on Sundays based on our Youth Protection Guidelines beginning this Fall.

Consider this an opportunity to learn for yourself as a parent, grandparent, mentor, and community member for those you love how to create and live in a safe and loving community which builds each person up.



### **Let the School know.**

Please let your School Board members and Administration know that Wednesday nights need to be kept free of school activities so that churches may have religious instructions and events year round. Unless we let them know that spiritual development of our children is important and that this time needs to be respected and honored on Wednesday nights we may lose it. Write letters, have conversations and point out when events will conflict so changes can be made.

### **Greetings members of WOTP!**

First, Thank you all so much for all of your support these last few years. Thank you for hosting my ordination service and for the beautiful cross. I have worn it at every service I have been involved in since my ordination and it will remain very special to me. The last few months have been a whirlwind with moving, packing, and unpacking, and beginning new calls. Anthony and I have five churches between the two of us, so we are staying quite busy. I am serving at Partners in Ministry, a two-point parish consisting of First Lutheran Church and Trimont United Methodist Church in Trimont. Anthony is serving at Circle of Faith, a three-point parish with Waverly Lutheran in rural Trimont, Trinity Lutheran in Welcome, and St.Peter Lutheran in Ceylon. We are very excited with where we are serving and we feel very blessed. Thank you all again for all your support, love and prayers. I am very proud to have been raised in the church at Bethany-Elim and had the opportunity to work with everyone at Winds of the Prairie. Let your light shine to show God's works to the world. May God bless you all and may you continue to raise up new leaders for our church.

God's Peace,

Stephanie, Anthony & Nicholas Christoffels

Stephanie & Anthony Christoffels  
41 Apple St. E.  
P.O. Box 352  
Trimont, MN 56176



People interested in improving their health without either diet or exercise might consider joining the Buffalo Ridge Chorale. Scientific research along with singers' personal experiences establish that singing is good for you physically, mentally, and socially.

The breath support required by singing helps people with asthma and bronchitis, and in some instances, singing will relieve tension headaches and the symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome.

Singing decreases the effects of neurological disorders such as stuttering and autism. It releases the immunoglobulin that improves immune defenses, and it reduces stress, which in turn also benefits the immune system.

Learning music increases the number of neural connections in the brain and it counteracts the cognitive decline caused by aging.

Given all of those benefits, it's no surprise that last spring thirty-eight people from eleven communities along the South Dakota-Minnesota border sang in the Buffalo Ridge Chorale. The Chorale is under the direction of Dr. Russell Svenningsen, award-winning professor of music at Augustana College in Sioux Falls. Svenningsen leads the choir with humorous enthusiasm, challenging them to improve with every concert.

Rehearsals for the fall concert will begin at 7 pm on Thursday, September 5, at Christ Lutheran Church in Hendricks. No auditions are required, but a commitment to the eight rehearsals is necessary.

The fall concert will be held on Sunday, October 27, at St. John Cantius Church in Wilno.

For more information call Nancy Sandro at (612) 479-3438 or email Bev Johnson at [mbjohnso@itctel.com](mailto:mbjohnso@itctel.com).

*This activity is made possible in part by a grant from the Southwest Minnesota Arts and Humanities Council (SMAHC) with funds appropriated by the McKnight Foundation and/or by the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.*

The Buffalo Ridge Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Russell Svenningsen, will begin rehearsals at Christ Lutheran Church in Hendricks on Thursday, September 5 at 7 pm. The concert will be held at St. John Cantius in Wilno on Sunday, October 27. New members are welcome. No auditions are required but commitment to eight rehearsals is essential. For more information call Nancy Sandro at 605 479 3438 or email Bev Johnson at [mbjohnso@itctel.com](mailto:mbjohnso@itctel.com).



## Visitation Invitation

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



## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

### BETHANY, ARCO

#### Ushers

Tom & Beth Daniels

#### Assisting Minister

1 Marie Henriksen

7 Jewel Noble

15 Ardis Henriksen

#### Lectors

1 Gayle Rasmussen

7 Ilene Sorensen

15 Marie Henriksen

22 Ron Madsen

29 Morgan Possail

#### Altar Guild

Ardis Henriksen

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

September 12 at 1:30pm WELCA B-E at Bethany

September 24 at 5:30pm is Worship followed by set up for Chicken Dinner, (No worship on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup>)

September 15 from 11-1:30pm Chicken Dinner

September 25 at 9am Women's Bible Study

### BETHANY-ELIM, IVANHOE

#### Ushers

1 Dustin & Kristina Richmond

8 Kevin & Deb Swanson Family

15 Robert & Bernie Olsen

22 Kyle & Susan Krier Family

29 Chris & Amy Clarke Family

#### Lectors

1

8 Chris Rasmussen

15 Anna Epple

22 Sherry Rost

29 Kristina Richmond

#### Acolyte

1 Kathy Richmond

8 Jennifer Krog

15 Jason Epple

22 Ethan Krier

29 Kira Gifford

#### Assisting Minister

1 Val Whipple

8 Loretta Lundberg

15 Clyde Rost

22 Merle Rost

29 Emily Clarke

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

September 12 at 1:30pm WELCA B-E at Bethany

October 2, Wednesday from 11am-1pm *Annual Soup and Sandwich & Bake Sale*

## **Rally Day at BE**

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

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

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

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

## **GRACE LUTHERAN, LAKE BENTON**

---

### **Ushers**

Vern Paschke

Jay Stuefen

Doug Venekamp

Bob Trigg

### **Deacon**

Karen Lichtsinn

### **Acolyte**

1 Brandon Hefti

8 Steven Czech

15 John Sutherland

22 Blaine Hefti

29 Adam Czech

### **Altar Guild**

## **Gracious Words**

submitted by **Karen Lichtsinn**



**Learning Faith 5** - The Faith 5 family sessions focus on 5 simple steps to help parents be faith teachers, mentors and role models for their family; **Share, Read, Talk, Pray, Bless**. Starting in early August, Grace began a series of family workshops on the Faith 5, running each Wed night starting Aug 7 thru Sept 11 at Diamond Lake. The sessions start at 5:30 with dinner for the entire family and conclude at 6:45 prior to Wednesday night worship services at DL. There will be future sessions, so please contact Pastor Julie if you are interested.

**Diamond Lake Church - Celebration of Renewal** - All are welcome to help celebrate the recent renovations to this historic Diamond Lake Church and hall. Join us on Sat Sept 21 at 2 PM at the Diamond Lake Church for a Renewal service, with a reception following at the Diamond Lake Hall. We look forward to seeing you

there. Remember, the DL facility is available for use by the WOTP, so if anyone is interested in holding more events at Diamond Lake, please contact Karen Lichtsinn or the Pastors to schedule your event.

**Opportunity to serve** - We are seeking a volunteer from Grace Lutheran to serve on the Danebod Village Board. Please contact Karen Lichtsinn if you are interested in serving in this position.

**Deacon/Lector for September:** Karen Lichtsinn

**Next Council meeting date:** Thursday Sept 26 at 7 PM at Grace (note the date change for Sept)

**Church Access** - Just a reminder that Grace Church will now be locked during the week. We realize this may cause some inconvenience, but preventative safety measures had to be taken. If you need access to the church, the contact names are listed on the doors to the fellowship hall. We have also provided a small table inside the entrance to the fellowship hall, to allow for mail deliveries and to drop off food or materials at the church for funerals and events. Note - The keypad lock on the inside fellowship doors will close and lock automatically behind you. If you prop that door open, please be sure to shut it when you leave to maintain security. We are working to establish key contacts for unlocking and locking the doors for worship and other events. Please share your questions or concerns with any council member. We appreciate your patience during this transition.

## **GRACE LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

**PAT JOHNSON**



Sept. 8, 2013 is Rally Day for Sunday school. We will start with church at 8:30 a.m. Children and parents please attend church. During church the teachers and helpers will be installed, along with material, children, parents, and the congregation receiving instructions/blessings for participation.

The following 3rd grade children will be receiving their church Bibles during the church service:

Breelee Berkenpas - daughter of Barry & Tanya Berkenpas  
Ellie Frahm - daughter of Chad & Sandy Frahm  
Gary Sutherland - son of Tom & Linda Sutherland  
Autumn Tooley - daughter of Michael & Shayna Demuth

Congratulations. May your lives be blessed with the gift of God's Word.

We are totally excited about Sunday school starting on Sept. 8! As of Aug. 14, we have 28 children enrolled for pre-k through 6th grade. There will be 12 new children attending Sunday school. God is so happy!!! Because of this increase in attendance we need to add another teacher & Sunday school class.

Classes will be: pre-k & kindergarten (8 children)

1st & 2nd (5 children)

3rd & 4th (7 children)

5th & 6th (8 children)

Please contact me in church or at 507-820-0117 if you feel God calling you to fill this very important position. Thank you for all the support given to the Sunday school program.

Also, continue to support and pray for our high school students.

7th grade in TFA: Adam Czech, Caul Harstad, Adrianna Johnson, Jaylen Miller, & Jayla Prosch

8th grade in TFA: Blaine Hefti

9th grade finishing TFA/Faith statements: Steven Czech & John Sutherland

11th grade: Brandon Hefti

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

**September 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday** – Ladies are heading to the McCrossan Boys' Ranch. Leaving at 9am (bringing pillowcases & quilts with so please drop them off at church before September 4.

# Peace Lutheran, Ruthton

**Tuesday, Sept. 3** 9:30 a.m. – St. Matthew Circle meets at the home of (already called in)  
2 p.m. – St. Mark Circle meets at the home of Deloris Dagele

**Monday, Sept. 9**

5 p.m. – St. John Circle meets at the Church

**Wednesday, Sept. 11**

2 p.m. – PLCW

**Monday, September 23**

9 a.m. – Quilting Day

**PLCW meeting, Sept. 11**

Program – Barbara Petersen; Devotions – Lilen Kuhlman; Offering Meditation – Valerie Petersen;  
Hostesses – St. Mark Circle

**Sunday School**

Peace Sunday School will begin **Sunday, Sept. 15 at 9:15 a.m.** If anyone knows of a child that is a neighbor or friend, but not attending any Sunday School, invite them to attend.

## St Paul Lutheran of Minneota

IN OCTOBER WE WILL HOST OUR ANNUAL CHILI SUPPER — WATCH FOR DETAILS

<b>The Rock Christian Youth Center</b>	
<b>TWO-DAY RUMMAGE SALE!!</b>	
<b>Friday, October 5: Noon to 6pm</b>	307 N Tyler St Tyler, MN Next to Maynards
<b>Saturday, October 6: 8am to 3pm</b>	
<b>50% OFF</b> from 1 TO 3 on Saturday	<b>Saturday lunch:</b>
<b>ALL ITEMS REDUCED!!</b>	<b>11:30am to 1pm</b>
	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/RockChristianYouthCenter">www.facebook.com/RockChristianYouthCenter</a> Call Linda @ 507-828-6025 for more information



# PRAYER CONCERNS & CARES

## BETHANY (ARCO)

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

## BETHANY-ELIM (IVANHOE)

PRAY FOR THE FAMILY OF RUBY CAMPBELL & GARRY KOOPMAN (SISTER & BROTHER TO HARVEY KOOPMAN). PRAY FOR DAVEY LUNDBERG, CHARMAINE LUNDBERG, DONNA KURTH, JUDY STOWELL, JEFF NEYENS, VERN JOHNSON, RHODA LARSON, DANIEL AVARD & CHILDREN (BROTHER OF BRIGITTE MUNSTERMAN); BRUCE KELM (BROTHER OF GRETCHEN SUHR); GABRIEL JOHNSON (GRANDSON OF NORMA JEAN JOHNSON); LEIGH JERZAK (SISTER-IN-LAW OF ROGER & ANGIE JERZAK); MIKE KROPP (SON-IN-LAW OF KEN SWANSON); JACKSON & MARY GRACE NELSON (CHILDREN OF RYAN AND KATE); NANCY RESMEN (SISTER-IN-LAW OF BERNADINE OLSEN)

## GRACE (LAKE BENTON)

BRIAN EVERS, CHERYL KJERGAARD, MARY HAUGEN, NAOMI ENKE, STEVE & NANCY JOHNSON, CAROL MENSEN (DAUGHTER OF ARLYN & GARNET PETERSEN), NORMA BURDICK, PAULA JACOBSON (DAUGHTER OF WAYNE & ANNETTE FEHRMAN), EARL KLITZKE, CHET BORRESEN

## PEACE (RUTHTON)

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

## ST. PAUL'S (MINNEOTA)

CLARA DEROODE

## THOSE AWAY FROM HOME

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

## TYLER NURSING HOME

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

## HENDRICKS NURSING HOME

ILA RASMUSSEN (BETHANY)  
NORMA BURDICK (GRACE)  
RUTH RASMUSSEN (BETHANY-ELIM)

## DIVINE PROVIDENCE NURSING HOME (IVANHOE)

MABEL DRESSEN,  
ELsie BARBER, DAGMAR BLEGEN (BETHANY)

## MILITARY:

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

# HURRICANE

WXY Newsletter

September 2013

TFA Classes start at 6:30pm on Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> of September in Arco.



SPLASH event for TFA will be on Wed. September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm with the van leaving ARCO at 5:30-5:45pm and will return around 8:30-8:45pm that evening.

30 HOUR FAMINE – A Learning and sharing about the causes and solutions to the problems caused by hunger in our world.  
See the Flyer – For all youths between 8th and 12th grades.

## WXY FALL PICNIC

Diamond Lake Fellowship Hall.

September 8<sup>th</sup> - 6-8 p.m.

Elections of officers and the youth committee for 2013-2014.

The WXY Youth Committee consists of two youths from each congregations of Winds of the Prairie. Each congregation is also to select an adult to ask to serve as their advisor. We meet monthly to plan events for the youth in service to others and in celebration of our life together in Christ.

## JUNIOR HI GATHERING

6<sup>h</sup> THROUGH 9<sup>th</sup> Graders - SAVE THE DATE!

November 22-23 at the Holiday Inn in Willmar, MN

**September 2013**



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

# CAMP NEWS FROM CAMP

*Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers*

## Mark Your Calendar

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

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

*Thank you!*

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

*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)*



***Thank you for  
you Support!***

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

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