

THE SCROLL

Prairie Lutheran Parish Newsletter

July 2016

A Few July Events

Sunday, July 3

Katie Miyamoto at Bethlehem &
ALC

Monday, July 4

ALC walks in the Parade

Monday, July 11

7pm: Churchwide Assembly
Prepare & Prayer

Wednesday, July 13

LYO Summer Event

Wednesday, July 27

Parish Board Meeting

Sunday, July 31

Join Worship/Youth Sunday

First fruits

Freedom & The Servant King

Imitate God? EVERY DAY!

LYO enjoys the lake

Synod Assembly Recap

Mission Fund Milestone Reached

Prairie Ford Gathers Food for Hunger

YOUTH SUNDAY IS COMING

Prep & Prayer for Churchwide

Visitors to come from Japan & Nigeria

Final Worship to be held in Fortuna

Thanks to all the VBS Helpers!

Questions to discover who God meant for you to be

<h3>✠ Prairie Lutheran Parish ✠</h3>			
"Four Congregations, One Prairie"			
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Ross 9:00am Sundays	Knife River Lutheran Church Hwy 8 South of Stanley 9:00am Sundays	American Lutheran Church Stanley 10:30am Sundays	Faith Lutheran Church Palermo 10:30am Sundays
(701) 628-2550 PrairieLutheranParish.org			

First Fruits of the Harvest

On Monday June 20, I joined members of the Lund family in harvesting some of the first fruits from the Ross Bethlehem Roughrider gardens. This year, the garden has expanded, so that we can grow even more good, fresh vegetables to donate to the community. Together, we pulled up beautiful radishes, plucked the outer leaves of mixed lettuces, and snipped cilantro, parsley, and basil. Then we washed and bagged it in individual family sized bags and delivered it to the food pantry.



Giving away the first fruits of a harvest is an often-repeated biblical command and theme. There is something beautiful about the specific and clear command that it be the **first** of our fruits that we give. Too often, it is tempting to take care of all of our own needs and wants first, and only then consider what we have leftover to share. But God challenges us to put our neighbors in need first, before we even begin to worry about ourselves. What a spiritual challenge!

As soon as the word spread, the people of Israel gave in abundance the first fruits of grain, wine, oil, honey, and of all the produce of the field; and they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything. -2 Chronicles 31:5

This past year, the Mountrail Community Food Pantry has seen a large increase in need and use of their important ministry. If you are a gardener, please keep in mind that the Food Pantry will gladly accept produce donations. As a lover of gardening, I think that the only thing better than harvesting home-grown vegetables is sharing God's bounty with others! Whether it is sharing with the Food pantry, giving to a neighbor, or the faithful volunteers who help at the Samaritans' Supper, this summer I invite you to consider how you might share of your abundance with others.

***Honor the LORD with your substance
and with the first fruits of all your produce ...***

-Proverbs 3:9



"As saints of old their first fruits brought of orchard, flock, and field. To God the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield, so we today first fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land, of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand." - ELW 695, As Saints of Old, verse 1

-Pastor Carolyn Philstrom

Freedom & The Servant King

With the Fourth of July coming on, we are about to hear the word “Freedom” A LOT. It’s a great thing, Freedom. It’s a great word. It plays a vital role in our national identity. We are a free people. But as important as Freedom is for a citizen of the United States of America, it’s even more important for a follower of Christ.

Freedom is what God’s work in Christ is all about. Sometimes we call it by another name, Salvation. Others might use the word Liberation. Martin Luther used the word Freedom.

In the most beautiful definition of a Christian that I’ve ever found, Martin Luther says in his treatise *The Freedom of a Christian*:

“A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.”

Here is a description of the Christian life that gets out of the heady spiritual language of “being saved” or “being delivered from sin” or “living in Christ’s Kingdom forever”. This description of a Christian has power, and it has direction, and it has vital implications for how we live our daily lives as Christ followers.

Perfectly Free Lord of All, Subject to None

As followers of Jesus, we are invited to rejoice in the fullness and freedom of the Christian Life. With Jesus leading us, we can overcome any challenge, any trial, any difficulty that life might throw at us. Luther goes on in his treatise to explain, “First, with respect to kingship, every Christian is by

She is lord of all things without exception, so that nothing can do her any harm.

faith so exalted above all things that, by virtue of a spiritual power, [he/she] is lord of all things without exception, so that nothing can do [him/her] any harm. As a matter of fact, all things are made subject to [him/her] and are compelled to serve [him/her] in obtaining salvation.” In this proclamation Luther is saying that anything might be compelled to serve

the Christian in obtaining salvation. That anything could include a friendship with an unsavory character, a cancer diagnoses, a vacation, a new job, a traffic accident, or a board game. ALL THINGS are subject to serve the Christian who sees all things through faith and encounters all things in faith.

Perfectly Dutiful Servant of All, Subject to All



In his letter to the Galatians, Paul writes, “For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another.” Martin Luther said a similar thing when he said that a Christian is subject to all. So what does this mean?

This is the part of our Christian identity that gives us a mission. It implies action. This is the part that can truly direct our lives as Christ followers. Whereas our Lordship releases us from fear and the threat of harm, our Servanthood guides us in the application of our awe-inspiring freedom.

This second half is often forgotten when we talk about what it means to be free. Most of the time we equate Freedom in American with doing whatever I want, whenever I want, however I want. Most of the time Freedom is all about me, me, me. But Paul warns us away from this very thing, “Do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence.” Instead, the Scriptures remind us that we are freed for a purpose—to love.

As followers of Christ, we are invited to take our Lord’s easy yoke upon our shoulders. That yoke is God’s law. summed up in its entirety by Jesus. “Love God and love your neighbor,” Jesus says. We are freed for love. We are freed in order that we might become courageous and loving people. We are freed so that fear or the threat of harm might no more control our actions, but rather that they might be controlled by love alone.

To cherish God in each moment, to find Christ in each neighbor, to taste Spirit in each breath, to love: this is what we were made for and what we were freed for. Hallelujah.

-Pastor Rory Philstrom

July Sunday Worship Leadership

ALC: Missy Rogstad (acolytes)
(none signed up) (communion servers)

Faith: Gaby Rolfe

If you are unable to serve for when you signed up,
please find a replacement!

Confirmation Camp July 17-22

This year Prairie Lutheran Parish is going to confirmation camp at **Metigoshe Ministries—July 17-22!**

Contact the camp directly to register, and then please let a pastor know you signed up. Prairie Lutheran Parish covers all the costs of attending camp. Mark your calendars now!

I ♥
VBS

Metigoshe Day Camp took over American Lutheran Church the week of June 20th! Camp Counselors, Brooke, Jennessa, and Emily, came from Metigoshe to spread the message: "Imitate God" "EVERY DAY!" "Live your life." "THE JESUS WAY!"

We had about 18 campers come to day camp this year. Thank you to all the people who helped out this week! The Parish Education Committee would like to give a shout out to the following people:

Arden and Janis Thompson for housing the camp counselors. Suzie Trana, Amy Walter, Becky Tangsrud, and Sarah Sorenson for being the VBS Superintendents. Stacey Barstad and Linda Hammers for providing suppers for the camp counselors. Connie Essler and Nellie Larson for bringing sleepover snacks and breakfast. Beth Gjellstad for providing snacks for the campers. Dan Harwood for bringing cookies and serving after the Wednesday night program. Kelly Roemmich for driving the kids to the nursing home to sing on Wednesday. John, Marichel, Pastor Carolynn, and Pastor Rory for helping with all the other daily camp tasks!

Thank you all for allowing God to use you to bring the word of God to our children. Without your help, day camp would not be possible! You all ROCK and are a great example of "Living your life. The Jesus Way!" Thanks be to God.
Parish Education Committee

LYO July News

Eden Cuypers, Youth Leader



Days at the lake with LYO are the best! Our first summer event for LYO was a huge success. We visited White Earth Dam for a beautiful evening of games, fishing, food, a fire with s'mores, and meaningful discussion about how God helps us through prayer and difficult experiences. Another portion of our time was spent focusing on planning for Youth Sunday coming up at the end of July. We had so much!

A special thank you to those who helped provide food and transportation! Our next summer LYO event is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13th with a back-up date of Saturday, July 23rd.

In our own words: Psalm 100



"Let God and the world know you love him. Be happy when worshipping the Lord. Know the Lord is our creator and we are his children. Always give thanks and praise to God. God is great and will love us always."

-Written by kids in LYO

Join us for LYO this summer!

We are planning for bigger LYO events once a month this summer. Mark your calendars! Specific plans will be advertised soon. Thanks!

- Wednesday, July 13th
- August (TBA)

* If we can't meet on July 13th, our back-up date will be Sat. July 23rd.

Our LYO Mission Statement

We brainstormed all of the things that we want LYO to be about, and our list became very long, but we narrowed it down to a beginning mission statement for our group.

"LYO is about fun, food, and serving others by having communities and fun Bible studies."

Contact information:

(701) 840-2871 (cell phone)

Eden.drevecky@gmail.com



July Gospel Seeds

A Monthly Update from the Western North Dakota Synod Office



Bishop Mark Narum

Synod Assembly Re-Cap

A record number of people (at least in recent years) gathered to worship, engage Bible study, learn together, and conduct business during this year's Synod Assembly June 10th & 11th in Bismarck.

Highlights include:

- Opening worship with musicians gathered from across the synod leading us in joyful song.
- Engaging conversation around how God gifts and calls each of us through our baptism for the sake of our neighbor. Bishop Terry Brandt and Shar Gumke, Eastern North Dakota Synod, helped us engage these issues and ponder how God might be calling each of us.
- Heard stories of wrestling with God's calling from the perspective of a farm/ranch couple - Myron and Georgean Lick, from the perspective of a woman who is Native American - Prairie Rose Sem-nole, from a Campus Pastor and college student - Rev. Christoph Schmidt and Karen Langemo, and from the perspective of a business leader - Reier Thompson, CEO of Missouri Slope Care Center.
- Heard a detailed presentation of your Synod's financial condition. The good news is Mission Support has continued to grow the past several years; the challenging news is recent budgets passed by Synod Assemblies rely on reserve funds to balance the budget. The Assembly then spent time in table top conversations to provide your Synod Council members with advice about how we financially sustain our synod. We are not in a crisis situation, rather, we are in a time where steps need to be taken to solidify our financial future for the sake of ministry in Christ's name.
- A memorial was brought forward late in the Assembly on the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery. The Assembly Reference and Counsel Committee referred the memorial to Synod Council noting it was too important a document to engage in a limited amount of time.
- Tabled a proposed Synod Bylaw which would have brought the Synod Constitution and Bylaws in alignment; this would have removed term limits for the Bishop.

-Gave notice that next year there will be constitutional changes proposed; watch for the text of those changes this fall.

More Assembly News...

The Assembly Bible study, the conversations around vocation, and Dan Rift's keynote presentation on the work of World Hunger will all be available online as resources for your congregation.

In other news:

- The Assembly heard that through "Bringin' Home the Bacon", the #HungerRide, and other offerings the Western North Dakota Synod has shared over \$95,000 with ELCA World Hunger.
- Those attending the Mission Gala at Lord of Life were treated to an excellent meal; thanks to Pastors Nadine and Larry, as well as, the talented kitchen crew.
- Rev. Taryn Montgomery was honored with the Peterman Award for her efforts in modeling and teaching holistic stewardship. Each year one pastor from across the ELCA is chosen for this award.

Milestone Reached...

Over the top! Thanks to the Mission Gala, Live Auction, and Silent Auction at Synod Assembly the Western North Dakota Mission Endowment Fund has gone over the half million-dollar mark. Congratulations to all of you who have contributed to this fund in the past six years! That is correct... In six short years, we have invested that amazing amount of money!

Thursday evening, the Synod Council Executive Committee gathered and awarded three grants from proceeds of the Mission Endowment Fund. One award was given to the youth of Bread of Life Lutheran, Minot for a Mission Trip to form relationships with people in Haiti. A \$1,000 grant was given to Carpio Lutheran, Carpio for their handicap accessible, raised garden project, and a \$1,000 grant to Zion Lutheran, Berthold to help them buy fixtures as they establish a community food pantry.

Rev. Mark Narum

Serving as Bishop of the Western North Dakota Synod

Synod Assembly 2017 - Grand Hotel - Minot

Mission Gala & Auction: Thursday, June 1

Assembly: Friday & Saturday, June 2-3



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Summary of the Work of the Synod in Plenary

Elected to Serve on WND Synod Council:

Rev. Ellery Dykeman of Dickinson, Myron Lick of Turtle Lake, Sandra Anderson of Tioga, Troy Langmaack of Minot, and Barbara Roise of Ross.

Elected to Serve on Synod Discipline Committee

Karen Langemo of Minot, Rev. Mary Lou Aune of Beulah, Glen Bruschwein of Dickinson, and Rev. Tim Mantei of Butte.

Elected to Serve on Board of Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN

Murray Sagsveen, Lutheran Church of the Cross, Bismarck

RESOLUTIONS: View full text of the resolutions at wndsynod.org/synod-assembly

Western ND Fiscal Plan for 2017

Action: PASSED

The Assembly adopted the fiscal plan for the 2017 fiscal year as proposed by synod council.

2017 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Leaders

Action: PASSED

The Assembly adopted the 2017 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Leaders serving in the Western North Dakota Synod as proposed by synod council.

Resolution regarding a proposed bylaw change to clarify term limits for the synodical Bishop

Action: Postponed Indefinitely

A number of constitutional changes are anticipated following the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly scheduled for August which will prompt a review of the Western North Dakota Synod Constitution. Synod council will inform congregations of any resulting constitutional changes to the Western North Dakota Synod Constitution 6 months prior to the 2017 Western North Dakota Synod Assembly. Notice of proposed changes will be shared via Synod E-News, Gospel Seeds, and mailed to synod congregations.

Resolution on the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery

Action: Referred to Synod Council for further appropriate consideration and action

The Reference and Counsel Committee determined that this issue is too significant to be discussed in the closing minutes of the synod assembly. It deserves an opportunity for collective thought and deep care because it is an incredibly important issue. Therefore, due to the late submission of the resolution and the lack of adequate time to discuss the resolution thoroughly, the resolution has been referred to the Synod Council.

**2017 Synod Assembly will be held
June 1-3, 2017
in Minot.**



Western North Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Synod Assembly 2016

June 10-11, 2016

Assembly Theme: Living in God's Abundance

Over 350 members of the Western North Dakota Synod gathered together in Bismarck June 9-11 to delve deep into exploring the Lutheran idea of vocation. As children of God, we are raised up out of the waters of baptism assured of our place in the family of God, dripping with Christ's mercy and grace and invited into Christ's work of sharing the deep love of God with our neighbors. Within each and every one of us lie talents and passions, created and placed there by God for the sake of our neighbor. This Assembly provided ample opportunities to hear the stories of how many among us have identified their gifts and seek to live faithfully. We were also reminded that the process of discerning our vocation is never done in isolation, but in community. We are the body of Christ in need of one another and gifted to share with one another as well. What might God do in our neighborhoods and our world if each of us claimed the abundance of gifts placed within us and faithfully shared those gifts with the world around us?

Preassembly Workshop: Gifted to Serve: The emphasis on claiming our God-given gifts and exploring where God is calling us to serve began on Thursday with the Preassembly Workshop led by diaconal ministers Beth Anderson and Anna Dykeman. Over 60 folks spent a day together exploring their interests, spiritual gifts, personality, values and passions as together they claimed who God has created them to be and explored the places they might share their gifts in their homes, congregations and communities.

Mission Gala Dinner and Silent Auction: Once again the Mission Gala Auction and Silent Auction were a great fun. We gathered at Lord of Life Lutheran – appetizers provided by Good Shepherd Lutheran and an incredible meal prepared by members and staff of Lord of Life. Rostered Leaders were the servers – the conversation was lively, the atmosphere was festive and in the end a milestone was reached. Over \$17,000 was raised by this event which pushed the Mission Endowment Fund over the \$500,000 mark. Earnings from this fund will provide seed money for mission across our territory. Thanks be to God.

Text and Talent: Bible Study throughout the assembly was led by Eastern North Dakota Synod Bishop Terry Brandt and Assistant to the Bishop Shar Gumke. They led us in diving into scripture and exploring how we are freed in baptism to serve and called forth together to share our gifts with the world. We celebrated the internal discernment of call and the external way in which the community names our gifts and calls us into possibilities that we ourselves might not even imagine.

Stories of Vocation from Our Synod: Myron and Georgean Lick have farmed near rural Ruso, ND for over 45 years. They are members of St. Olaf Lutheran Church, near Turtle Lake. Both spoke with passion of living as stewards of God's creation - Georgean, as she looks at God's handiwork in

the flowers outside her kitchen window; Myron, as he talked about trying to replicate cyclical grazing patterns native to the prairies.

Rev. Christoph Schmidt and Karen Langemo, peer minister, serve through Lutheran Campus Ministry at Minot State University. Christoph shared stories of students wrestling with the question of “What is it to be called?” Karen shared a bit of her joy in having a safe place to talk with others about college, life, faith and more.

Prairie Rose Seminole grew up in North Dakota, an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes. She currently serves as ELCA Program Director for the American Indian and Alaska Native Ministries. She spoke of the cultural issues surrounding the church’s engagement with indigenous communities. She also spoke of the deep power found in connections to family and community, sharing the wisdom of her grandmother, “If you can’t do anything, you can use your voice, you can speak for justice.”

Reier Thompson, CEO of Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center in Bismarck, shared the call he has grown into, a call centered in the intentionality of caring for clients, employees, and family. He spoke of the importance of keeping faith central. In leadership, we are called to wrestle with the difficult decisions. Living vocation isn’t easy, but it is at the heart of living faithfully.

Invitation to Conversation around “What does it mean to be Synod?”

The word synod means “walking together.” Through an afternoon plenary session and workshop led by Synod Council and Bishop Mark Narum, assembly participants were invited into deep discussion around strategic priorities and financial stewardship. The good news is mission support in our synod was at a record level again in 2015 at just over \$1,082,000. The concern is our future ability to balance the synod budget without depleting reserve funds. Bishop Mark reiterated we are not in a financial crisis, but we do need to pay serious attention to the financial position of the synod for the sake of our future mission.

Feeding the World: Over the past year, the synod’s Sending Team has led an effort to increase gifts from Western North Dakota congregations to ELCA World Hunger through their “Bringing Home the Bacon Campaign.” It was announced at Synod Assembly that over \$85,000 has been raised by congregations in our synod. Clear Creak Lutheran Church received the Flying Pig Award for the congregation that raised the most money per baptized member. Collectively, the congregation raised \$60.61 per baptized member.

On June 7, a team of 7 members of the synod embarked on a #HungerRide to raise awareness and funds for World Hunger. Together they biked 120 miles in 3 days, spreading the word about this important ministry of our church. Through donations received at each of their stops, through online sponsorships and offerings shared by participants at the synod assembly, this group raised \$6,503 for ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Response.

The offering from our Synod Assembly Opening Worship also was dedicated to ELCA World Hunger and brought in gifts totaling \$3,829. When this is added to the totals from the Bringing Home the Bacon Project and

#HungerRide efforts, the people of Western North Dakota have raised over \$95,332 during the past year toward ending hunger domestically and around the world.

Rev. Dan Rift, Director of the ELCA World Hunger and Disaster appeal affirmed that God is doing something really astounding in this church when it comes to eradicating hunger and responding to communities affected by disaster. Our willingness to engage in working to end hunger authenticates our faith to others. In our work together, others see and experience a God who is present, drawing us into a future. When we live out our faith through tangible acts of responding to the needs of others we witness to God’s love and concern for all. Blessed to be a blessing is an important teaching, but on its own it’s not enough. At the end of the day, we’ve missed something if all we do is gather it up and distribute funds. The Christian calling is to not only hand out food, but to enter into communion with one another. Rift warned that if you come into this ministry, your heart will be broken, but that’s also probably the place where God will show up. Are we changing the world? There is no question. Since 1974 the rate of extreme hunger in the world has been cut by 60%. The people and resources are present to end World hunger. The world is being changed. The bigger question is, “Are we engaging in the world in such a way to allow God to change us?” This is a question of communion, and it is the place where we find Jesus in our own lives.

Peterman Good Steward Award presented to Rev. Taryn Montgomery

Each year the ELCA awards the Dr. Richard Lee Peterman Good Steward Award to an ELCA congregational pastor who exemplifies outstanding stewardship ministry through preaching, teaching, and example. This may be reflected through innovative programs, new resources, or significant gains in stewardship response during the previous year, or over a longer period of time. Rev. Taryn Montgomery, senior pastor at Bread of Life Lutheran Church in Minot, was presented with this prestigious honor by Neil Bullock, ELCA Churchwide Staff, during the Friday evening banquet. In her 5-year tenure at Bread of Life in Minot, Taryn has led her congregation in hosting a sister ELCA congregation for 18 months following Minot’s 2011 flood, developing an annual family carnival open to the entire Minot community free of charge, shifting her church’s budget from fundraising to survive to consistent stewardship with funds continuing to support other ministries, and making an impact with educating children about the importance of giving. From 2008 to 2015, Bread of Life’s mission support has grown over 2000% going from \$0.00 to \$26,500. Montgomery is a faithful, passionate, and compassionate steward leader in the church. She is an exemplary stewardship teacher and models the steward’s life.

Assembly Offerings:

Friday Worship: \$3,829 the ELCA Campaign World Hunger & Disaster Appeal

#Hunger Ride: \$6,503 for ELCA World Hunger & Disaster Appeal

Friday Banquet: \$1,800 for our synod’s Four Bible Camps

Sweet Deal for C.A.R.: over \$22,000



Prairie Lutheran Parish News



Million Meals Drive Through August 15th – Unfortunately, hunger exists in our community. But we're doing something about it. Prairie Ford and other members of the Automobile Dealers Association of North Dakota, is partnering with the Great Plains Food Bank and their network of food pantries, shelters and soup kitchens statewide to supply 1,000,000 more meals to people in need. Many, right here in our community. Please drop off cash or non-perishable food items at the Prairie Ford. Suggested items: Crisco, flour, sugar, Kool-aid, cooking oil, canned meat (spam, tuna etc....), canned corn, canned fruit, stews, chili and soup. Food pantries cannot accept home-canned products. Our food drive will end August 15th. Together we can solve hunger!

Mountrail County Food Pantry

The food pantry gave away 4424 pounds of food in May. We served 42 families, of which 52 were children and 8 were seniors. Thank you to the Vacation Bible Schools for their food donations in June!

Mary

Parish - Recent Deaths

June 4th

Olive Margaret Reep

Member of A.L.C.

*"Whether we live or whether we die,
we are the Lord's." Romans 14:8b*

Parish - Recent Marriages

June 18th

Knife River Lutheran Church
Bradley Strobel & Carmen McNeill

God Bless Your Marriage

Growing in Faith To Serve

GIFTS will meet July 25th at 10am

GIFTS is an opportunity to come together as disciples and encourage one another in Christian living. If this sounds like something you would like to be part of, join us for Bible study and mutual encouragement.

Together 4 Prayer

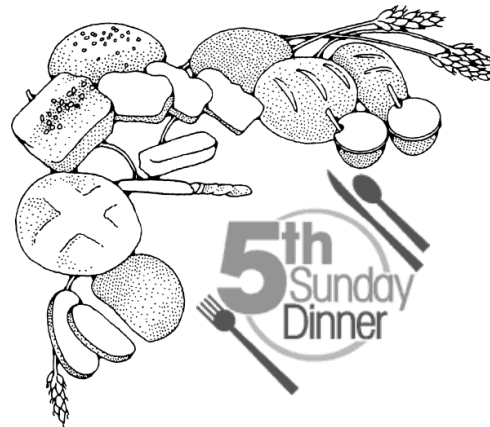
Will meet at 9:30 a.m. Thursday,
July 7th at Thompson's.
All are welcome.

Our Scroll is On-Line!

We are excited to announce you now have the option of reading the Scroll on our website (PrairieLutheranParish.org). If you wish to "go green" and remove your name from the Scroll (snail) mail list... call John at the church office. Forgot what day your (church) meeting is? Go to our website and a copy of the Scroll is available for your review.

Youth Sunday is July 31st

Mark your calendar for July 31st. You won't want to miss this special Parish Combined Worship Service led by our youth. They are in the planning stages already for a time of meaningful worship with some skits and other ways of thinking about our Christian walk. Come and support our youth in this endeavor.



Parish Potluck & Fellowship Sunday

July 31st is our
5th Sunday
Get-Together

Churchwide Assembly Prepare & Prayer

JULY 11TH

7:00 PM


@ ALC

Every three years, our church the ELCA gathers together to support one another in our work together as God's people. On July 11th, we will gather with Sarah Sorenson, one of our members who was elected to serve as a delegate to the assembly, to prepare and pray about this event. Whether you are attending or not, you are invited to join us to talk and pray about the topics up for discussion at this year's assembly, including but not limited to: "What are ministers of Word and Service and why does it matter?", "What should our ministry with Native Americans look like?", "How can we better commit ourselves to racial and ethnic diversity?", and "What should the relationship between Lutherans and Catholics look like?" Please join us for this important time of conversation and prayer.



Sunday Schedule:
Bethlehem: 9:00
Knife River: 9:00
American: 10:30
Faith: 10:30

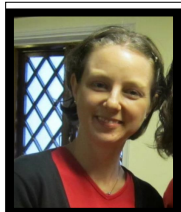


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Pastor's Sabbath	2
3 Sunday Worship! Katie Narum-Miyamoto at Bethlehem, ALC	4 	5 10 Pastor's Text Study 2:00 Faith Aft Bible Study	6 7:00 Bethlehem Council	7 8:00 Men's Bible Study at ALC 9:30 Together-4-Prayer at Thompsons	8 Pastor's Sabbath 8 a.m. Bethlehem fixes hair at Bethel	9
10 Sunday Worship! Faith Council after worship	11 ALC 10:00 Quilting 7:00 Churchwide Prepare & Prayer	12 10 Pastor's Text Study 10 Bethlehem Bible Study	13 LYO Summer Event	14 8:00 Men's Bible Study at ALC	15 Pastor's Sabbath	16 Wedding at ALC
John vacation						
17 Sunday Worship!	18 ALC 10:00 Quilting 6:30 ALC Council	19 10 Pastor's Text Study 10 Bethlehem Bible Study	20	21 8:00 Men's Bible Study at ALC	22 Pastor's Sabbath 8 a.m. American fixes hair at Bethel Noon - Scroll deadline	23
Confirmation Camp at Metigoshe						
24 Sunday Worship!	25 ALC 10:00 Quilting GIFTS 10:00	26 10 Pastor's Text Study 10 Bethlehem Bible Study	27 6:00 PLP Board at ALC	28 8:00 Men's Bible Study at Centennial Court 1:00 Scroll assembly by Knife River Lutheran	29	30
31 Youth Sunday! Combined Worship White Serving Grp ALC Hymn Committee ALC						<u>Regular Weekly Activities</u> 10:00 A.M. AIAnon on Saturdays at ALC 6:30 P.M. Boy Scouts on Mondays at ALC only in the event of rain (summer months) 8:00 P.M. A.A. on Mondays & Fridays at ALC

American Lutheran Church



Open doors-open hearts. Join us for worship.



Our church supported missionary, Katie Narum-Miyamoto will be with us on July 3 to share her ministry in Japan, and how that work has been going in the past year. Her town of Kumamoto was hit by a 7.3-magnitude earthquake in April. She will speak at the during worship, with a time for questions and conversation afterwards.



4th of July Parade - We've had a church banner made and will be carrying it during the 4th of July celebration! We encourage people of the congregation to meet at the church at 10:30 and to walk with us as we distribute wrist bands and proclaim Christ risen!

At the special Congregational meeting on Sunday, June 12th, a motion was made and there was unanimous support by the congregation to accept the bid for the roof repair.



2016 Tables Du Jour

The date of the Table Du Jour this fall has been set for Sunday, September 11th. There will be no specific theme to follow, so let your imagination and creativity go wild.

Contact Renae Gjellstad at 629-1952 if you are interested in decorating a table this year.

In Memory of

Donors

Building

Marilyn Smith.....Diane & Meyer Kinnoin

Wee Care

Sharalyn Vedaa.....Janet Aardahl & Family

Sharalyn Vedaa.....Steve & Cathy Springan

Donation.....Gary & Cheryl Weisenberger



ALC Serving Groups - The serving group is posted on the church bulletin. The groups will continue to meet the LAST Sunday of the month previous to the month they are scheduled to serve. The White Serving Group will meet Sunday, July 31 following worship services.



White Group

Serves in August

Nancy Brown

Ken & Cleo Bykonen

Rod & Connie Essler *

Zach & Erin Essler

Brad & Amy Farhart

Maren Feiring

Heather Greenlee

Gene & Carol Hanson *

Kelly Hanson

Kyle & Marianne Hanson

Nichole Janz Hoffert

Dale & Mary Kilen

Don & Verlee Kjoson

Quintin & Heather Lee

Wally Lee

Don & Connie Longmuir

Marichel Mariscal

David & Renae Minton

Mark & Sheila Morgan

Dave & Barb Nesheim

Deloris Oja

Gordon & Connie Patten

Tom & Akela Raile

Chad & Sarah Rismon

Jane Rismon

Brent Rodenhizer

Bruce Rodenhizer

Alex & Katie Sandeen

Tom & Betty Simmers

Cliff & Judy Skaar

Tanya Skaar

Yanci Smith

Korey & Valerie Stammen

Andy & Amy Steiner

Jim & Tara Swegarden

Arden & Janis Thompson

Cristi Trulson



Red Group

Serves in July

Rudy & Ardyce Alvstad

Chris & Annie Baumann

Wayne & Konni Bohrer

Arlo & Faye Borud *

Brad Borud

Joanne Colbenson

David & Tammi Colbenson

Jeff & Karen Colbenson

Brett & Lindsey Ellvanger

Jerome Erie

Rhonda Erie

Julie Erie

Michelle Gamble

Aaron Gandrud

Lynn & Marlene Grabow *

Shelby Grabow

Dan & Katie Harwood

Pat Jensen

LaVerne & Sherry Laib

Lynn & Carol Mehus

Gary & Jenette Nelson

Scott & Dawn Nelson

Phil & Cassandra Petz

Cory & Jamie Rice

Scott & Jackie Rudolph

Wade Tulson

Austin & Abi Vachal

Beau & Kim Vachal

Lowell & Judy Vedaa

Stan Wright

* = Chair/Vice Chair of Group



Combined Worship and 5th Sunday potluck will be on Youth Sunday, July 31st

July 2016

Red Serving Group

August 2016

White Serving Group

September 2016

Blue Serving Group

October 2016

Gold Serving Group

November 2016

Green Serving Group

December 2016

Purple Serving Group

January 2017

White Serving Group

Power Point

Projectionists

Katie/Sarah 1st

Kelly/Dawn 2nd

Gary/Kaye 3rd

Jeff/Karen 4th

Volunteer 5th

Sound System

Volunteer needed 1st

Don Longmuir 2nd

Gary Nordloef 3rd

Jeff Colbenson 4th

Volunteer needed 5th

July Communion

Assistants

July 3rd

Stacey & Sarah

July 10th

Jeremy & Kyle

July 17th

Kay & Dave C.

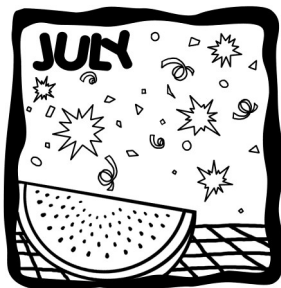
July 24th

Dave N.

July 31st

Dawn





July Coffee/Greeters:

July 3: Jamie & Pam

July 17: Scott & Nancy

July 31: Combined Parish Worship

July 10: Mike & Kim

July 24: Allen & Debbie

July Ushers: Roger & Addy

Bethlehem News

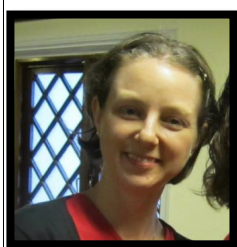
Mark your calendar for August 7th. Ibrahim Bitrus, Nigerian Theologian in Residence for the Minneapolis/St Paul Synod, and his family will be joining us for worship and fellowship following. Please try to take advantage of this opportunity to visit with and learn about what Christ is up to with our neighbors across the globe (and share with them what Christ is doing in your world)!

No Bible Study July 5th (Centennial Court). Continue with study on July 12th.

Bethlehem fixes hair at Bethel Home Friday, July 8th.

Parish Council meeting Wednesday July 27th at 6:00 pm.

Bethlehem Council meeting July 6th at 7:00 pm. *Barb*



Our church supported missionary, Katie Narum-Miyamoto will be with us in worship on July 3 to share her ministry in Japan, and how that work has been going in the past year. Her town of Kumamoto was hit by a 7.3-magnitude earthquake in April.

Coming to Bethlehem Lutheran on August 7th

My name is Ibrahim Bitrus. I was born and raised in a Christian family in Jada in the southern part of Adamawa state, Nigeria. My father was a Lutheran pastor. Having received the Nigerian's Certificate in Education (associate degree) from College of Education Hong in the northern part of the state, I taught social studies, Christianity and government classes at a high school. I also served as a volunteer coordinator for the Fellowship of Christian Students (FCS), but I felt God was calling me to do more. So after teaching for seven years, I went to study at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria (TCCN) Bukuru, Plateau state where I received Bachelor in Divinity and Master's of Theology. I am not yet ordained. I thereafter taught at the Bronnum Lutheran Seminary Yola, Nigeria for four years (2006-2010). I also served as a faculty secretary and assistant Dean of Studies at Bronnum. I came to Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota in August 2010. I have been working on PhD in systematic theology, which I completed this past summer. I currently serve as the Nigerian Theologian in Residence for the Minneapolis Area Synod. I enjoy growing rice, corn and peanut. I also love to bike.

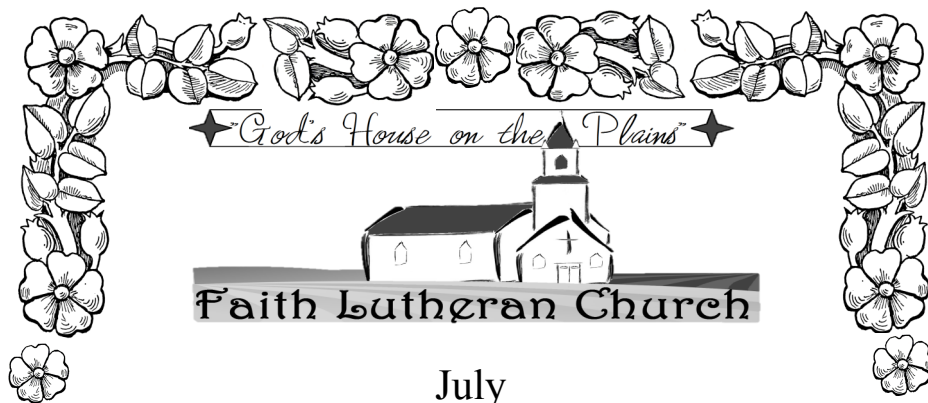
My wife Julecy also known as Julie and our children; Pasy (14, 9th grade), Tunary (12, 7th grade), Falnyi the only girl (11, 5th grade) and Titveren (Tguy 9, 3rd grade) joined me three years ago. Julie was born and raised in a Mennonite Christian family in Gashala in the southern of Adamawa state. She is a junior at the Metro State University working on her bachelor in chemistry and biology double major. She used to be a high school teacher of biology and chemistry in Nigeria. She was also an undergraduate college student in Nigeria. She has started her undergraduate program all over here because she is not able to transfer her credits from Nigeria. Bama where she was studying has been under the control of Boko Haram. She enjoys raising flowers, chickens and sheep.

Pasy likes English, basketball and music;

Tunary likes Math, soccer, music, and basket ball;

Falnyi likes math, science, swimming, drawing, coloring, music, art, basketball, making of video and soccer (She also plays an instrument);

Tguy likes math, swimming, science, basketball, music, and soccer. We plan to return to Nigeria after my wife finishes her program. I will be returning to Bronnum to teach systematic theology while Julie will be a teacher in secondary school.



July

Have a Happy and Safe Independence Day on July 4th! Afternoon Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, July 5th at 2 p.m. at the home of Velma Enger with Bible Study as a group.

Evening Bible Study will not meet in July and August. Charity Circle has table decorations for July and August. Church Council will meet July 10th after worship service. Flower of the month and meaning: Hydrangea = Devotion

Iva

July- Church Servants

Altar and Greeters:
Carol & Sarah

Work:
Kathryne

Coffee Servers

3rd - Geraine

10th - Wanda

17th - Iva

24th - Barbara

31st - Combined
Parish Worship

Readers

3rd - Phyllis

10th - Janice O.

17th - Barbara

24th - Iva

31st - Combined
Parish Worship



News from Western North Dakota Synod ELCA



Upcoming Retirements

Rev. Ray Anderson

Living Water Lutheran Church, Mandan, August 1, 2016

James Hamann, SAM

McGregor-White Earth Lutheran Parish, August 1, 2016

Faith Lutheran Church, Fortuna

On Sunday June 26th at 3:00PM, the members and neighbors of Faith Lutheran Church of Fortuna, ND, held a Service of Leave Taking. As they held their final worship service, they celebrated the mission and ministry of this congregation. The color of the day was red; all rostered leaders were invited to vest.

Bringing the Assembly Home

Over 350 members of the Western North Dakota Synod gathered together in Bismarck June 9-11 to delve deep into exploring the Lutheran idea of vocation. As children of God, we are raised up out of the waters of baptism assured of our place in the family of God, dripping with Christ's mercy and grace and invited into Christ's work of sharing the deep love of God with our neighbors. Within each and every one of us lie talents and passions, created and placed there by God for the sake of our neighbor. This Assembly provided ample opportunities to hear the stories of how many among us have identified their gifts and seek to live faithfully. We were also reminded that the process of discerning our vocation is never done in isolation, but in community. We are the body of Christ in need of one another and gifted to share with one another as well.

Resources from this year's synod assembly are available at
wndsynod.org/synod-assembly/summary.



CONGRATULATIONS

Carmen McNeill and Brad Stoebel were married at Knife River on June 18th; Pastor Carolyn officiated. We wish the newlyweds a happy and healthy life together.

WELCA

WELCA will meet at 2:00 on Tuesday, August 2nd at Jean Nelson's

JANITORS July janitors are Orville & Betty Harstad



Sunday School Report

I want to say a big thank you to all the teachers and helping hands that made our VBS a success once again this year. We had a great turn out and I think everyone enjoyed it! The kids were able to donate to the fire victims in New Town and the food pantry in Stanley this year. Thanks to all the parents who helped to make this possible. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of our Sunday School program for the last few years. It has been fun! The kids are growing up right before our eyes! Hope everyone has a wonderful 4th of July and a fun and safe summer!

God Bless,
Christine



Notes from your Parish Administrator

DISCOVERING WHO YOU ARE

Pastor Rory and I had the opportunity to attend the Pre-synod assembly workshop on June 9th.

The emphasis was on claiming our God-given gifts and exploring where God is calling us to serve. The workshop was led by diaconal ministers Beth Anderson and Anna Dykeman. We used the LifeKey curriculum to look at our gifts, personality, values and passions as we discussed "*are we the person that God meant us to be?*"

During the day we examined:

1. What do we do best? We learned about life gifts and spiritual gifts. Life gifts are those things that we have learned and do well. Spiritual gifts are given (not earned by learning them). Each of us receives different gifts so that body of Christ has what it needs to spread God's message of love. These gifts are given for the common good, not for the benefit of the individual who receives them.
2. Where are the places that give us the most energy? We did a group exercise that helped us identify our personality type and values. Key to this discussion was "If you know yourself, you can find your God-given place." By identifying our values, "we then seek the values that strike the right cord with God."
3. What are the purposes God has placed in our hearts? We spent time identifying our passions in life. "You are called to serve where you can harmonize with God's song in your heart!" This is followed by "Fulfillment is making music where God wants you to play."

As I thought about our own Prairie Lutheran Parish several individuals came to mind. Members who use both their life gifts and their spiritual gifts. Many are blessed by your willingness to share these gifts with us. I especially thought of those who show such passion in sharing their gifts. You are doing exactly what God has called you to do!

John

Romans 12:4-8

⁴For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your^a faith; ⁷if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, ^bdo it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Congratulations to all those celebrating this month!

- 1 - Sarah Matheny, Raymond Anderson, Gladys Anderson
- 2 - Renae Thiel, Tara Haj, Luann Roise
- 3 - Shirley Bird, Konnie Bohrer, Wally Lee, Faith Fladeland, Jacob Looney
- 4 - Evonne Piepkorn
- 5 - Jan Narum
- 6 - Brad Ellis, Holly Mills,
- 7 - Ryan Paetz, Andrew Gandrud, Heather Greenlee, Greg Jones
- 8 - Ashley Taylor, Matthew Nelson, Michelle Guthmiller, Dallas Halvorson
- 9 - Seth Gandrud, Tim Lystad, Tristen Barstad, Pam Fladeland, Jean Nelson, Kaisa Mortensen, Greg Gunderson II
- 10 - Brady Aadnes, Stacey Barstad, Summer Meyer, Ryan Wilhelmi
- 11 - Eli Pappa
- 12 - Sheila Nelson, Tyler Thiel, Pat Grinolds, Trenton Bruhn, Aubrey Locken, Cody Anderson
- 13 - Kirk Johnson, Ben Wing
- 14 - Roger Gjellstad, Jacob Hellman, Joyce Hollekim, Chris Meiers, Hunter Warenke, Jonathan Germundson
- 15 - Reed Mehus, Sue Evenson, Debra Alvstad,
- 16 - Lee Halvorson, Jessica Reep, Kari Cook, Kris (Noble) Johnson, Duane Fretheim, Kerry Fretheim
- 17 - Coy William Smith, Noah Rolfe
- 18 - Mark Erickson Sr., Dominic (Bruhn) Patterson, Halle Sorenson, Kyann Sorenson
- 19 - Janis Thompson
- 20 - Brittany Uran, Trinadi Bruhn, Irene Quammen
- 21 - Susie Trana, Tom Anderberg, June Abdallah, Michelle Gamble,
- 22 - Mary Lou Dennis
- 23 - Ashley Nichols, Wyatt Hanson, Bayley Rolfe
- 24 - Camden Reep, Troy Fladeland
- 25 - Kacey Cope, Grady Nichols
- 26 - Doug Larson, Sophia Bruhn
- 27 - Maren Feiring, Hanna Warta, Matt Warenke, Bill Meiers, Luke Uran
- 28 - Bailey Evenson
- 29 - Marie Roise, Nancy Hemstad, Sheila Morgan, Cody Anderson, Shannon Mell
- 30 - Akadiea Stone, Len Jones,
- 31 - Eryn Faber, Kermit Arneson, Elle Sorenson, Mya Mortensen, Monte Lund, Candace (Juma) Brown, Ellie Sorenson



July Anniversaries:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 - Earl & Janet Jensen | 17 - Dale & Debbie Pappa |
| 1 - Don & Verlee Kjoson | 17 - Wes & Carmen Peck |
| 1 - Dan & Karen Lindberg | 17 - Kelly & Pam Schunke |
| 1 - Mike & Abby Reep | 17 - Aaron & Ashley Skarsgard |
| 2 - Dale & Mary Kilen | 17 - Robert & Kay Western |
| 3 - Jason & Stacy Barstad | 19 - Mark & Holly Halvorson |
| 5 - Ray & Sandy Anderson | 19 - Roger & Michelle Harstad |
| 6 - Eric & Shannon Mell | 21 - Wesley & Kim Reynolds |
| 6 - Dusty & Christy Nelson | 22 - Mark & Nicole Longmuir |
| 7 - Tim & Jan Johnson | 23 - Kyle & Ashley Nichols |
| 7 - Elmer & Carol Nelson | 26 - Chad & Emily Peterson |
| 10 - Don & Marlene Hoirup | 28 - Tim & Marion Dorau |
| 10 - Landon & Kara Nichols | 28 - Lynn & Marlene Grabow |
| 11 - Evan & Erin Meiers | 29 - John & Candace Brown |
| 12 - Jerome & Pat Lautenschlager | 29 - Bryan & Karrie Halvorson |
| 13 - Troy & Amy Fladeland | 30 - Kevin & Sandra Harstad |
| 14 - Arden & Janis Thompson | 30 - Greg & Stacey Mortensen |
| 15 - Kevin & Michele Kinnoin | 31 - Brooks & Stacey Goodall |

Prairie Lutheran Parish – Servants of Christ, Sharing His love with others

Contact Us

Please let us know of any ministry needs or questions.

Prairie Lutheran Parish

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Pastor Rory Philstrom

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John Mogren, Parish Administrator

parishadmin@midstatetel.com

Eden Cuypers, Youth Leader

(701) 840-2871 | Eden.drevecky@gmail.com

Marichel Mariscal, Parish Treasurer

alcstanley@hotmail.com

Michelle Gamble, ALC Custodian

621-6227-Access to the American Lutheran Church

Visit us on the web at www.PrairieLutheranParish.org
and on our Facebook page!



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