

Prairie Lutheran Parish
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THE SCROLL

Prairie Lutheran Parish Newsletter

Dec 2017



As Bethlehem Lutheran Church, our mission through Jesus Christ is to serve the world, both across the globe and just outside our front door. We seek to be a place of good soil, where the seeds of faith can grow.



As Knife River Lutheran Church, our mission is to actively spread God's Word and shining light with unrelenting fortitude, through the work of our women, men, young people, and little children. We seek to be a bright spot on the prairie, to be an island of peace and light in a chaotic world.

As Faith Lutheran Church, our mission is to meet the needs of brothers and sisters in Christ through active listening, daily worship, and service to the family of God. We seek to be the family of God, where different people come together for the sake of Jesus Christ.



As American Lutheran Church, our mission is to worship Jesus and minister to the community of Stanley. Our purpose as people is to praise God and to live out love for our neighbors. We seek to have open doors and open hearts; to be a people and a place of peace, love, and welcome.



Prairie Lutheran Parish

Four Congregations gathered into One Parish

9:00 am Sunday Worship

Bethlehem
Lutheran
Ross

Knife River
Lutheran

Hwy 8 South of Stanley

(701) 628-2550

PrairieLutheranParish.org

10:30 am Sunday Worship

American
Lutheran
Stanley

Faith
Lutheran
Palermo



Some Words From Pastor Carter Hill

'Tis The Season

When I first starting thinking about what to write about this month, Advent and Christmas where not the first thing that came to mind. Then I thought of the phrase "Tis the Season." However, I didn't think about that it is the season for the waiting of the coming of Christ, and the joyous celebration of Christmas and the birth of our savior. I first thought 'Tis the season for church budgets. 'Tis the season for too many meetings to prepare the end the year. 'Tis the season of annual reports. 'Tis the season for last minute tax donations. 'Tis the season of wondering how Christmas presents will be able to be afforded.

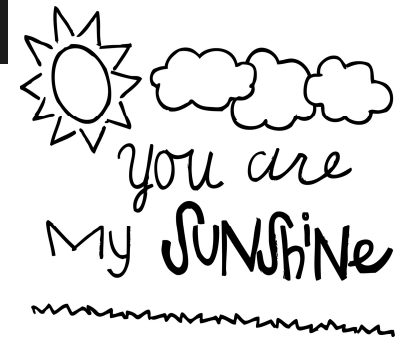
We live incredibly busy lives. Pastor Sarah and I were meeting just yesterday to fill in our December calendars, and it is crazy. There is so much happening, and so many places for us to be each and every day as we approach Christmas.

It is a funny thing that the Holidays that are supposed to bring us such great joy and peace, often bring us the greatest stress. So what will you be doing this Advent and Christmas season? My hope is that you live into the four words that we often use to describe Advent: hope, peace, love, and joy. Sometimes these are things that do not come to us easily. There are times we need to search deeply within ourselves to find joy and peace.

So this season, do just that. Find peace. Create peace. Don't be scared to say no. Don't overwhelm yourself. Skip something to make time for you. But don't skip church. :)

December Anniversaries

2 - William and June Stevens
3 - Jeremy and Sarah Carkuff
5 - Blaine & Kaylee Hamers
5- Howard & Janice Rehak
13- Roger & Sheryl Sorenson
16 - Chad and Sarah Rismon
17- Jodi & Matt Zimmerman
20 - Lane and Judy Lee
22 - Tom and Tammy Wilhelmi
23 - Jeff and Cindy Jensen
23 - Brent and Naomi Rodenhizer
26 - Stan and Joyce Vachal
28- Gerald & LuAnn Roise
29 - Mark and Sheila Morgan
30- Dan & Virginia Noble
30 - Bill & Lillian Meiers



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

Visit us on the web at <http://PrairieLutheranParish.org/>
and on our Facebook page!

Contact Us

Please let us know of any ministry needs or questions.

Prairie Lutheran Parish

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403 1st Street SW ~ Stanley, ND 58784

Carter Hill, Pastor

Carterbhill@gmail.com
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John Mogren, Parish Administrator

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(701) 628-2550

Marichel Mariscal, Parish Treasurer

alcstanley@hotmail.com
(701) 628-2550

Santana Lidstrom, ALC Custodian

ALC Access: (701) 629-0406

Sarah Sorenson, Pastoral Intern

SarahSorenson51@gmail.com
(701) 629-1206

Eden Cuypers, Parish Youth Leader

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

Paul Dennis, Parish Publications

paul.dennis.33@gmail.com

Our Parish members celebrating birthdays this month!

- 1— Greg Gunderson III, Karen Eliason, Colleen Holm, William Nelson, Danika Lynnes
- 2- Jeff Lapica, Logan Lapica, Gary Mork, Sr., James Carkuff, Danielle Dupay, Tyke Wayne Barstad
- 3 - Darin Larson
- 4- Carol Johnson, Julie Erie, Carsen Westlake
- 5— John Anderson Sr., Jim Swegarden, Jayce Vignesss
- 6 - Barb Nesheim, Jed Bohmbach
- 7 - Della Mader, Caleb Uran
- 8 - Gregg Springan, Mallory Johnson
- 9 - Ryder Bruhn, Stella Belik, Elaine Nisly, Faye Borud, Sydney Larson
- 10— Breann Lund, Lyle Lidstrom
- 11 - Chris Hanson, Erma Martinson, Delaney Rae Dupay, Bray Gjellstad, Warren Craft
- 12 - Phyllis Vesey, Dustin Noble, Quintin Lee, Kelsey Hopkins, Raegan Jolynn Ostdahl
- 13 - Hunter Meckle, Colin Vachal, Meyer Kinnoin, Adam Barnhart, Jim Dazell
- 14— Kim Sorenson, Tom Miller, Roger Holm
- 15 - Joanne Colbenson, Griffin Wilhelmi
- 16 - Ron Aadnes, Kim Vachal, Kim Reynolds
- 17 - Janice Ostdahl, Don Longmuir, Katie Sandeen
- 18 - Brad Bruhn, Crystal Johnson Laparra, Karen Colbenson, Jacob Lidstrom
- 19 - Claranne Baddeley, T.J. Edwards, Curt Meyer, Zander Fladeland
- 20 - Colter Nichole Dunham, Giles Glaholt, Kalynn Hudson, Lynette Johnson, Devra Mogren
- 21— Nancy Meiers, Prayrie Lund, Verlee Kjoson, Jason Wirtz, Nicholas Hys-julien, Sarah Rismon, Koier Nordloef, Trevor Harstad, Brooks Goodall
- 22 - Karen Lindberg, Stacey Goodall
- 23— Barbara Olson, Jenette Nelson, James David Nelson, Blake Ellvanger
- 24 - Nicholas Gandrud, Scott Aas, Roger Harstad, Isaiah Anderson
- 25 - Travis Kulstad, Finlay Wendt
- 26 - Colton Bruhn
- 28 - LaVern Laib, Sabrina Skarsgard, Larry Lystad, Matthew Dupay, Eli Harwood, Eden Cuypers
- 29— Jim Dennis, Lane Lee, Connie Longmuir, Mackenzie Raasakka, Amanda Lyn Chilcoat
- 30 - Diane Ostdahl, Jenna Bruhn, Erin Anderson, David Johnson, Dillon Oscar Lynnes
- 31— Gerald Olson, Cody Uran, Jess Niemitalo



Baptisms! So Many Baptisms.

This past month we baptized six young people! In the coming months we have 5 more pending. What wonderful news for us all as we welcome others into the mission of Christ that we share together as the one body.

Grief and Christmas

November was the first month since I have joined you all that we have baptized more people than buried. It has been a heavy year for grief among our people. There are also many people that still grieve the loss of people from years ago. When Holidays come around we often remember that grief most. Please join us on December 20th at 7PM for a Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service. This will be a time we gather together to simply reflect and remember. It will be a very mellow setting. This is a time to remember all of those that will not be with us this Christmas, so even if you lost your parent 20 or 50 years ago and you still miss their presence at holiday times, come and sit with us and take a moment to cherish the memories you made.

#Blessed

Having the great joy of spending time with our young people often keeps me updated on the trending things. #Blessed is something that comes to mind when I think of all of you. (I don't have enough room to explain what # means today, so ask your child or grandchild) But know this, I give thanks to God every day for each of you, for our individual and unique churches, and for our beautiful relationship we have together as a parish. I am blessed to serve among you.



Prairie Lutheran Parish News



Baptism

Baptisms in November

Coppersmith, Cooper LeRoy (Theodore & Keri)	11/12/2017 Faith
Nordloef, Kuf Myron (Chris & Whitney)	11/19/2017 American
Meiers, Keyton Al (Matt & the late Tina)	11/25/2017 Knife River
Sandeen, Bennett James (Alex & Katie)	11/26/2017 American
Essler, McCoy James (Erin & Zachary)	11/26/2017 American
Essler, Elliott Louise (Erin & Zachary)	11/26/2017 American

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:

join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.



Children of the parish who received their Bibles in November include:

Lance Allen, Eli Brewer, Evan Craft, Denium Dunham, Maycee Ellvanger, Rylee Littlecreek, Kolton Longmuir, Logan Longmuir, Mya Mortensen, Lexi Neset, Kane Reep, Annie Roise, Levi Uran, Ashley Walter, Alice Wienbar and Devon Wittmayer.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. Psalm 119:105

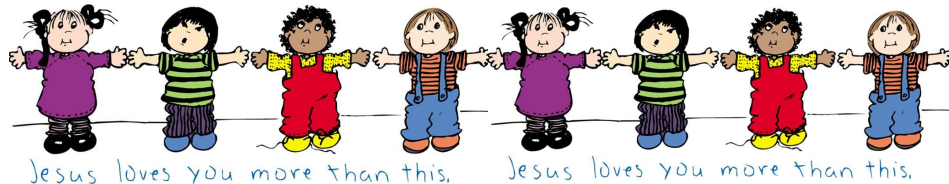
Together-4-Prayer will meet the first Thursday in December (7th) at Thompson's. All are welcome to join us.

Recent Funerals in the Parish

Rehak, Clinton Brian 10/27/2017—Bethlehem

Prairie Lutheran Parish Wednesday School

We have been busy practicing for the Christmas program which will be on Wednesday, December 13th at 6 pm. Please join us!



I want to thank everyone for their help with November's family league. The people who received the pies we made were so excited and happy to get them! The kids also did a great job singing for the service. I want to give a BIG THANKS to Nora Hermanson for playing the piano for me. It is a huge help!

Our Christmas Program will be **December 17th at 4pm.** (notice the time!!) There will be a few piano solos done right before the program. The kids have been working really hard with this and I am excited to hear them all play for us. We will have a supper to follow.

We will meet for Sunday school Dec 3 and Dec 10. We won't meet again for Sunday school until after the new year.

Enjoy the Holidays and Have a MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

-Nikki





Stay informed with
news, updates
and events

JANITOR - No one was signed up for December so are looking for a volunteer.

WELCA - will meet on **Tuesday, December 12th**, at Marie Harstad's home at 2:00 p.m.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS - on Sunday, November 12th, **Les and Debbie Alvstad and Carter Hill** were welcomed as new members of our congregation. We are happy to have them as a part of our church family and ask God's blessings upon them.


THIRD GRADE BIBLES – Bibles were presented to **Evan Craft, Kolton Longmuir and Logan Longmuir** by the women (WELCA) of Knife River. We hope they will enjoy exploring God's Word in their new Bibles.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jody and Santana Lidstrom on the birth of their son, **Maverick Aldin**, on November 10th. He joins his brother, Thosten, and we wish God's blessing on little Maverick and to the family.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM – is scheduled for **Sunday, December 17th, at 4:00 p.m.** Lunch will be served following the program.

THANK YOU to all those who helped with pie baking on Family Night. It was a fun and rewarding project. The Sunday School kids made cards of love to give away with the pies. The pies were delivered to shut ins in our Parish and we hope they all enjoyed them.


SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, there will be **no services at Knife River, but there will be joint Christmas Eve Services at ALC and Bethlehem at Ross at 5:00 p.m.** All are invited to one of these services.



Blue Christmas
A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND HOPE

Prairie Lutheran Parish would like to invite you to a
Blue Christmas Service
Wednesday, December 20th at 7 pm at American Lutheran Church

We recognize that Christmas is not always a season of happiness for everyone. We invite those facing a less-than-perfect Christmas and those willing to support others at this time, to come together for a service of remembrance and hope. We hope that this service will help you feel the comfort of Christ and remind you that He is with you always, just as He promised.
A brief gathering with refreshments will follow the service.



Annual reports for your annual congregational meetings will soon be due! Remember your school days and how nice it was to have an assignment done ahead of time! You can experience that joy again! Please begin assembling your reports!



Eden Cuypers, Youth Leader

Our packed Wednesdays are an awesome place to be. From confirmation to Wednesday School to LYO and worship, our youth have been very busy. The group ranges in numbers from 15-17, with a smaller group once in awhile. Either way, we get to connect with each other every week, and become a close-knit group.

In the past couple of weeks, we've taken some time to break down bible verses from our lessons that we connect with. This past summer, I introduced the SOAP (scripture, observation, application, prayer) method in order to help us apply God's Word to our lives. It also lets us see how each of us is different in our understanding and application with various verses.

We are always looking for ways for our youth to help our community and raise funds that go towards their trip to the National Youth Gathering in Houston next summer. In the past month, our youth were able to help with the Lutefisk meal that was served by the men at ALC along with Pastor Carter's knoepla meal.

We have a total of 22 youth and 8 adults going to Houston to serve, grow, and have fun! It's hard to believe how fast this year is going, and this amazing experience will be here soon! Our youth and their families will continue to serve meals on Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m. right before worship. We would love to have you join us!

Reminders:

- Meals are served at 5:15 PM.
- LYO goes from 6:30-8:00 PM on Wednesdays.
- LYO is open to all 7th-12th graders.

Please let me know if you have any questions!



Contact information:
(701) 840-2871 (cell phone)
Eden.drevecky@gmail.com

Faith Budget meeting on Dec 10 after church (subject to change)

Afternoon Bible Study will meet on Dec 4 at 2:00 at the home of Phyllis Vesey. A Bible Study to follow along with a small gift exchange.

Evening Bible Study will meet on Dec 7 at 3:00 at the home of Janice Kvamme. A Bible Study to follow along with a gift exchange

-Debbie



Christmas Program practice will be on December 3rd and 10th at 11:30 am.

Christmas program for Faith is on December 17th at 10:30 am with potluck afterwards.

Sunday School will kick off on January 7th and the next two Sundays—14th and 21st — at 9:30 am.

Hope everyone has a nice Christmas vacation!
See you all in Jan!

-Kathryne





"Merry Christmas to all my readers!"

Thank you to Kathy for organizing the ThankOffering service. Thank you to our SS kids for singing.

Congrats to Eli, Lance, Alice, and Demin for receiving their Bibles.

WELCA Ladies will meet on Dec 14 at 2:00 in the church basement. Charity circle will be serving lunch.

A Speedy recovery for Velma and hoping she can come to church soon. We miss her!

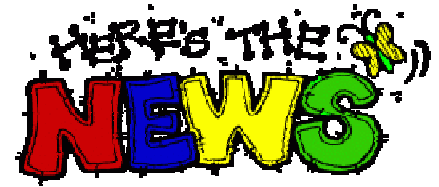
Altar & Greeters: Kathy R & Janet J

Work: Monica Ch, Joann & Nikki

Readers: 3 - Darlene B. 10 - Iva

Coffee: 3 - Joyce, 10 - Kathryne, 17 - Christmas Program with potluck, 24 - Kathy, 31 - Joint Service at ALC

17th Dec - Christmas Program with potluck, 24 - Service at ALC & Bethlehem.



The Wee Care classes have been busy this month! The kids have been working hard and having fun. It's so amazing that in just a few short months, kids that couldn't recognize or write their name can now do it! Many kids that knew no letters in September can now name all of the letters that have been introduced! It's exciting and rewarding as teachers to see so much growth. It's not all work and no play though. We celebrated Thanksgiving with a pizza feast. The students got to make their own pizzas and watch a Veggie Tales movie while their pizzas baked. We have also begun practicing for our Christmas program. Our Wee Care Christmas program will be on December 19th.

-Mrs. Lund & Mrs. Laparra

Horn of Plenty

The KHRT Horn of Plenty reaches out to families in need during the Christmas season. It provides a week or two of food including items for a Christmas Day meal, toys for the children, and a ministry gift that shares the Good News of the Gospel with that family. The Horn of Plenty is a program that takes the involvement of the whole community. Non-perishable food items need to be donated. Toys need to be donated. Money is needed to purchase perishable food items and the ministry gifts. Volunteers are needed. Individuals, couples, families, organizations, civic groups, businesses, churches and others get involved each year in the Horn of Plenty. We say "thank you"! Without your participation we couldn't do the Horn of Plenty.

The Horn of Plenty is upon us, and we hope it inspires a spirit of giving throughout our community. Through the Horn of Plenty, you'll touch the heart of people in our area, people who need your help this Christmas season. One of the ways you can help is by generously donating non-perishable food items and new, or slightly used, toys. You can drop off your donations no later than Monday, December 4th at: Prairie Ford, Stanley.



Gospel Seeds - December 2017

A Monthly Update from the Western North Dakota Synod Office



Bishop Mark Narum

Waiting...

The season of Advent, a season of waiting. We wait expectantly for the Savior of the world – the Christ – to return. We gather for Christmas programs, family gatherings with good food and presents. We gather with friends and co-workers and we celebrate. This is a time to remember that God made a choice, a choice

incredible love for you, for each of us, for all the world. The choice to become fully human, in the form of an infant. One who would experience all of life, including death. So we celebrate and we await His coming again as we pray, “Come, Lord Jesus.”

Guests Are Coming!

As I write this we are preparing to welcome four guests from our churchwide offices. Reverend Dr. Stephen Bouman, the Executive Director of the Domestic Mission Unit along with three Washington D.C. based staff members of the Advocacy Office will be in the synod in mid December. They are coming to learn more about rural life and issues, as well as energy issues. This visit is about meeting faithful ELCA Lutherans who make their living from the land and how federal policy affects the work they do. Pray for this group, for safe travel, fruitful conversation and learning all around.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton to visit...

We have just received word that Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will be with us during our Synod Assembly in Bismarck, June 1-2 as well as for our pre-assembly workshop May 31. Each year a churchwide representative is at synod assembly to talk about the inter-dependent partnership between congregations, synods and churchwide. Remember each congregation of the synod may send at least two voting members to assembly. Once again, we will also accept visitor registrations for the assembly. More details will be shared about theme and schedules in the coming months.

“Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord...” Luke 2:10-11

Congratulations to Levi and Annie on receiving their 3rd grade Bibles!

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” Psalm 119:105

-Diana

Other News

Thank you to all who served at our pancake breakfast, and to all who shared a gift for the free-will offering. We received about \$1800 in gifts, so with our churches promise to match gifts, we are able to share \$3600 with the Stanley Area Cares for Kids (S.A.C.K.) program. Thank you!

Also, thanks to all who attended the fall festival worship service. What a joy it is to celebrate together the gifts of this year’s harvest! As a church focused on serving and sharing beyond ourselves, so many people have been, and will be, blessed by your selfless act of passing on a portion of the financial gifts God has entrusted to your care.

“All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared eve-



In November, our Sunday school didn’t get to meet for class. But we’ve still been busy! Kids got to help out with their families at the pancake breakfast. The

church council was generous enough to give each child some money to shop for kids in need during this holiday season. Some kids chose to use the money toward boxes for Operation Christmas child. Between the kids and other members of our congregation, we were able to bring 21 boxes to the drop off station in Minot! Other kids are choosing to use their money for the giving tree. Such a great opportunity for them to enjoy the gift of giving. We’ve begun practicing for our Christmas program as well. Please join us on December 17 at 5:30pm as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!

-Breann and Pam



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

We are good soil.



<u>Coffee / Greeters</u>		<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
12/3/2017	Jubal & Deann Jarmin	Dustin & Barb Roise	Dec 10th
12/10/2017	Sunday School		
12/17/2017	SS Christmas Program		
12/24/2017	??		
12/31/2017	Joint Service		

<u>Readings</u>	<u>Music</u>	<u>Communion Usher</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Coffee</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Bell Ringers</u>
Jonathan	Molly	Katy	Brooke	Alycia	Briggs	Jessy	Sadee
Annie			Levi	Jake	Owen	Kaley	Jack
Alexis						Henry	Jozey

Dates for Calendar:

Centennial Bible Study December 5th at 10:00;

Tuesdays at Ten Bible study Dec 12 and 19 at 10:00

Bethlehem hair fix at Bethel home: December 8th

Bethlehem Christmas program December 17th at 5:30

Bethlehem church council December 7th @ 7:00

Christmas Eve worship at Bethlehem @ 5:00

WELCA News

Thank you to Debbie, Lesley, and Andie for planning and leading the WELCA thank offering service. Thanks, also, to all who were able to give an offering. WELCA will once again pay the postage for the Operation Christmas Child boxes put together by Sunday School youth and church members. Thanks to Debbie for delivering the boxes to the drop point in Minot. WELCA will be serving a light supper following the Sunday School Christmas program on December 17th.



"We give Thee, but thine own..."

God has blessed us! There is no question about that fact. I want to thank those who have shared lavishly with their congregations this past year.

Those who have quietly shared their time serving on committees, being confirmation mentors, church council members or worked in the kitchen sharing the gift of hospitality – well done good and faithful steward. Thanks to those who have shared their talents; those who have organized events, those who have cut, stitched, bound and quilted; those who have taught or visited or sang or play an instrument, your gifts are valued – well done good and faithful servant. I want to thank those who have shared from the financial resources God has provided them. Those who gave to their church, those who have given gifts to the synod appeal, those who have shared with the Synod Endowment Fund – your generosity is contagious. Well done, good and faithful servant. Ministry in Christ's name happens because ordinary people, use their time, talent and treasures faithfully. Thank You!

End of Year Giving...

You still have time to make an end of the year gift to the Western North Dakota Endowment Fund. The earnings off these funds help train up future pastors and deacons, support creative Christ centered ministries in our synod and provide funds to do the work of walking with those in discernment. Gifts of \$5,000 or more may receive a North Dakota Income Tax credit. Check with your tax advisor for ways your gifts can benefit you come tax time. Faith Simonieg, Assistant to the Bishop for Stewardship and Generosity is more than happy to assist you with gift planning – I would love to introduce her to you.

First Call Theological Event...

One way we support first call leaders across this church is through a program called First Call Theological Education. All first call leaders in their first three years of service attend these gatherings which happen once a year, in late January. We gather to talk about the joys and challenges of ministry. We gather to worship, learn, laugh and eat together. Through these events leaders are formed for the sake of the proclamation of the Gospel. We are thankful to God for these leader and they gifts they bring to their settings.

Blessings all!

Rev. Mark Narum

Serving as Bishop of the Western North Dakota



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Prairie Lutheran Parish

American-Bethlehem-Faith-Knife River
We are one together in mission

Stanley Area Care for Kids

Nearly one in six children in America live in a household that struggles to put food on the table. That means they struggle with hunger sometime during the year. The Stanley Park District, Mountrail County Health Foundation and the Stanley Public Schools have teamed up with local churches to help with the fact that there are children in our area who are not getting the nutritious food they need on a regular basis.

Established in the summer of 2017, S.A.C.K., which just received its 501c3 non-profit status, will offer a supply of nutritious meals and snacks for children over their weekends and extended breaks, free of charge. Elementary students will be bringing home a prebagged sack. The sacks are distributed by their teacher on the last school day before the weekend or break.

In the near future, at the high school, there will be an actual space where the food will be stocked and the students may come in and shop for the food they need at a time that works for them.

Any child enrolled in the Stanley School District is able to receive these weekly sacks of food. Please prayerfully consider donating the needed food it takes to feed over 30 children from 13 families each week. Black totes are located in your church lobby or at the front of Cash Wise. We thank you so much for your help on this.



Red Serving Group Serves in December	
December 2017	Rudy & Ardyce Alvstad
Red Serving Group	Annie Baumann
	Wayne & Konni Bohrer
	Arlo & Faye Borud *
Blue Serving Group Serves in January	
January 2018	Brad Borud
Blue Serving Group	David & Tammi Colbenson
	Jeff & Karen Colbenson
Gold Serving Group Serves in February	
February 2018	Brett & Lindsey Ellvanger
Gold Serving Group	Jerome Erie
	Julie Erie
Green Serving Group Serves in March	
March 2018	Aaron Gandrud
Green Serving Group	Lynn & Marlene Grabow *
	Dan & Katie Harwood
Purple Serving Group Serves in April	
April 2018	Pat Jensen
Purple Serving Group	Lynn & Carol Mehus
	Gary & Jenette Nelson
Red Serving Group Serves in May	
May 2018	Scott & Dawn Nelson
Red Serving Group	Phil & Cassandra Petz
	Cory & Jamie Rice
	Scott & Jackie Rudolph
	Austin & Abi Vachal
	Beau & Kim Vachal
	Lowell & Judy Vedaa
	* = Chair/Vice Chair of Group
Power Point Projectionists	
	Katie/Sarah 1st
	Kelly/Dawn 2nd
	Gary/Kay 3rd
	Jeff/Karen 4th
	Jake Hellman 5th
Sound System	
	Jake Hellman 1st
	Don Longmuir 2nd
	Gary Nordloef 3rd
	Jeff Colbenson 4th
	Jake Hellman 5th

ALC Serving Groups -
Also see the church bulletin board

Acolytes:

December 2017 : Ethan
January 2018 : Cal
February 2018: Kerrington
March 2018: Ethan
April 2018: Kerrington

Blue Serving Group Serves in January
Susan Arneson
Jason & Stacey Barstad *
Jason & Danielle DuPay
Matthew & Kim DuPay
Neil & Laurie Faber
Carrie Giese
Don Giese
Renee Grinolds
Deanna Haugen
Grace Johnson
Dave Johnson
Lacey Johnson
McKenzie Johnson
Ronnie LaFromboise
Jerome & Pat Lautenschlager
Jessica LeRohf
George & Amy Littlecreek
Jennifer & Brian Manson
Curt & Summer Meyer
Gary & Kathy Mork
Elmer & Carol Nelson
Steve & Jennifer Nelson
Landon & Kara Nichols
Dennis & Brenda Nielsen
Ben Nordloef
Chris & Whitney Nordloef
Gary & Kay Nordloef
Rand & Diane Olson
Andrew & Randi Petras
Michael & Abby Reep
Brad & Barb Reese
Eric & Donna Simpson
Duc & Renae Thiel
Ira & Amy Walter
Gary & Cheryl Weisenberger*
Bill & Anna Marie Whitmore
Ryan & Beth Wilhelmi

Serving Groups - Serving forms are placed in the folder beside the bulletin board. Tasks are on the back side of the serving form. If you have questions please visit with your Serving Group chairperson. Thank you for serving our congregation.

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH



DECEMBER

Joy
to
the
WORLD

As the holiday season is bearing down on all of us, the WELCA would like to thank everyone for the good day, for the quilt auction and bake sale so we can make our donations at Christmas!

Women , you did a great job and I really enjoy working with all of you - Thanks!

The quilters have again chosen three names from the Giving Tree.

WELCA will meet on Dec. 4th at 2:15 pm after quilting. Ladies please join us as donations for the year will be decided.

Anyone wanting to quilt with us on Mondays is welcome. We work from 10am to 2pm and have a good time of work, fellowship and visiting

Wishing all a Blessed Happy Holiday Season!

In Christ,
Marilyn

Thank you to Jim Trana for coordinating the Lutefisk supper and to all those who helped out. It is a success because you are all willing to pitch in.

We will have our usual first Sunday of the month potluck on Dec 3.

Christmas program will be held Wednesday December 13th at 6:00, instead of the regular midweek service.

Remember there will be no Prairie Lutheran Parish Wednesday (after-school) activities for the children on Dec 20 & 27.

The WELCA report will be sent in the next email



Prairie Lutheran Parish
American-Bethlehem-Faith-Knife River
We are one together in mission

Mountrail County Food Pantry is a Prairie Lutheran Parish supported ministry.

The food pantry served the most families we have served this year with 66 families visiting in the month of October. A total of 216 people received food, of which 90 were children, and 16 were seniors. We have had some wonderful donations this month of garden produce, Girl Scout cookies, and beef liver, heart, and tongue. We had 246 pounds of vegetables and apples!! There is nothing as tasty as home grown vegetables!! And folks were tickled to have an option of the beef products. Thanks, Craig!! That's something we rarely offer at our food pantry, so it was a real treat!! We have received some financial help from the Prairie Lutheran Parish and the Knife River Church, which we are so thankful for! Father Jason has kindly offered to fund our Thanksgiving turkeys!! Cashwise creates the vouchers, and each client receives a voucher on the day they visit the pantry, if that is their wishes. Then they take the voucher to Cashwise, and trade it for a turkey! Cashwise has made this a very easy process for all of us, and we surely do appreciate them. We do take warm coats, which we in turn, give away to clients who need a warm coat. If there are folks that are cleaning out their closets, this may be of interest to you. ☺ I'm not sure this person wants recognition, so I will, for now, just say that an amazing lady knitted/crocheted (I'm not good at telling the difference) a nice variety of warm hats, which are always joyfully received by clients. Thank you so much for your devotion, for this isn't the first time you have made these wonderful hats for us to give to clients ☺ As a food pantry that serves so many, we are taking a moment to express our thankfulness to our community, for the support that you continue to provide.... thank you, thank you, thank you. ☺

Mary

Mountrail County Food Pantry
PO Box 39, Stanley, ND 58784



Thank you to the good people of Mountrail County.
For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger and you welcomed me.
Matthew 25:35

Hunger in Mountrail County

An estimated 850 individuals, or one in 18 of your Mountrail County neighbors turned to the Great Plains Food Bank partner agencies and feeding programs to meet their nutritional needs in 2016.

Thirty-six percent are children and 12% are seniors.

The Great Plains Food Bank partners with the Mountrail County Food Pantry, delivering food for more than 70,000 meals per year into Mountrail County each year to ensure that much needed food is available for those who struggle with hunger.

Together we can end hunger. Ways You Can Help

Hold a Food & Funds drive at your church, business or in your neighborhood. Make a one time financial gift or become a monthly donor. Become a Hunger Advocate; lend your voice to hunger related issues.

Each year we distribute more than 14 million pounds of food and grocery products to 241 partner agencies across North Dakota and Clay County, Minnesota. Our partner agencies are as strong and diverse as the staff and volunteers who operate them. This network, comprised of soup kitchens, emergency shelters, afterschool programs, senior meal programs and other charitable feeding programs, are on the front lines every day distributing the food we supply directly into the hands of hungry children, seniors and working families. They are a vital link in our mission to end hunger.

Thank you for your continued support of your local Mountrail County food pantry.

Heather Schmidt 701-476-9117
schmidt@greatplainsfoodbank.org



The ALC Council met on November 17th. Kelly Evenson reported that they had 1 request for Endowment Funds this quarter. The Council approved \$1,000 to the Camp of Cross to travel to Puerto Rico to help rebuild a Bible Camp. Discussion was held on what to do with the oil dividend and oil lease income received in October. The total dividend and oil lease check totaled \$39,136.01. With the build in donations of 10% to Ministry Trust fund, the 5% to Bible Camps, 1% to Oppeboen's scholarship fund and \$500 to Bridges of Hope, per check, the council approved to use \$1,000.00 for the guest speaker, \$800 for an altar cloth and the balance as follows: Domestic Violence Local \$2,500.00, Domestic Violence Shelter Home \$2,500.00, Men's Homeless Shelter \$2,500.00, Food Pantry \$2,000.00, Local Giving Tree \$1,000.00, Horn of Plenty \$5,000.00, Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch \$8,000.00, Camp of the Cross building fund \$5,000.00, and the balance to go to the Synod Clergy Endowment Fund.

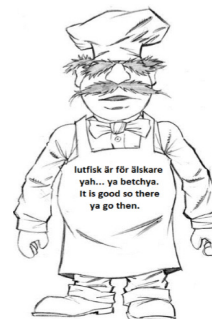
The next council meeting is December 6th at 7:30 p.m.



AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Landscape, and Lighting, and Air, Oh My!

The second of three forums was held on November 19 to discuss air conditioning, lighting and landscaping. Good discussion was held and it is hopeful everyone will have had the opportunity to voice their opinions and offer suggestions before the annual meeting. The last forum will be held on December 3 immediately after worship.



There was a good turn-out for the annual lutefisk supper and 498 tickets were sold and no one went away hungry.



Lutheran
Social
Services
of North Dakota

SOCIAL MINISTRY GLIMPSE

Youth Court

Youth Court is a program of Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota (LSSND) that provides an alternative to formal court proceedings for youth. Volunteers provide an opportunity for their peers to be held accountable for their actions in positive and educational ways. Services are currently offered in Cass and Clay counties. The service is free to those who participate. Referrals come from local schools and juvenile court. Typical cases involved include disorderly conduct, school disturbance, truancy, theft and assault.

4-10 youth volunteers serve as jurors on a weekly basis and the program sees over 40 volunteers yearly. In 2016, the program served 195 youth in the Fargo-Moorhead area.

For more information, please contact program coordinator, Brittney, at bengebretson@lssnd.org.

LSSND Internships

Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota (LSSND) has always been a great place to be an intern but, the newly enhanced LSSND Internship Program adds some important features to the experiences that young professionals will get during the time they spend at LSSND: the chance to network with other students involved in the internship experience, access to a dedicated mentor, monthly intern chats, a work/life balanced schedule, and an intern-oriented evaluation.

LSSND is currently helping students from Concordia College, Minnesota State University Moorhead, North Dakota State University, and University of North Dakota complete internships in the following LSSND programs: Refugee Resettlement, Senior Independence, Unaccompanied Refugee Minors, and Luther Hall.

For more information about LSSND Internships, please contact: Donna Schneider at dschneider@lssnd.org.

Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota
<http://www.lssnd.org/>



MOUNTRAIL COUNTY
SOCIAL SERVICES

In the Spirit of Giving...

Do you have a room to give a foster child?

Call 701-628-2924 for more
information on
becoming a foster parent.



Matthew 25: ³⁴“Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry, and you gave Me *something* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me *something* to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; ³⁶naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’ ³⁷“Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You *something* to drink? ³⁸And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? ³⁹When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ ⁴⁰“The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, *even* the least of *them*, you did it to Me.’

Sunday Worship
Schedule:
Bethlehem: 9:00
Knife River: 9:00



DECEMBER 2017



Wednesday Parish
Schedule:
Supper: 5:15
Worship: 6:00
Bible Study: 6:30

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Regular Weekly Activities 4:00-5:00 Cub Scouts on Mondays at ALC 6:00-8:00 Boy Scouts on Mondays at ALC 8:00 P.M. A.A. on Mondays & Fridays at ALC 10:00 A.M. AlAnon on Saturdays at ALC					1 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	2
3 Sunday Worship! ALC monthly potluck ALC Congregation Forum	4 10:00 ALC quilting 2:15 ALC WELCA 2:00 Faith afternoon Bible Study	5 10 Pastor's Text Study 10:00 Bethlehem Bible Study at Centennial	6 See Wednesday Parish Schedule below 7:30pm ALC Council	7 8:00 Parish Men's Bible Study at Centennial Crt 9:30 Together-4-Prayer 3:00 Faith eve Bible study	8 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> 8:00 Bethlehem hair fix at Bethel home	9
10 Sunday Worship! 11:30 Faith pre-budget meeting	11 10:00 ALC quilting	12 10 Pastor's Text Study 10 Bethlehem Bible Study 2:00 Knife River WELCA	13 Regular Wed schedule Plus 6:00 PLPWS Christmas program	14 8:00 Parish Men's Bible Study at Centennial Court 2:00 Faith WELCA	15 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	16
17 Sunday Worship! Christmas Programs: 10:30 Faith + potluck 4:00 Knife River + meal 5:30 Bethlehem + meal ALC Blue Serving Grp meets	18 10:00 ALC quilting	19 10 Pastor's Text Study 10 Bethlehem Bible Study Wee Care Christmas Programs AM & PM	20 <i>Scroll Deadline</i> 7PM Blue Christmas No meal or other usual Wednesday activities.	21 8:00 Parish Men's Bible Study at Centennial Court	22 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> 8:00 ALC fix hair at Bethel	23
24 No morning services 5:00 Candlelight Worship Service at American 5:00 Candlelight Worship Service at Bethlehem	25 Christmas!	26 10 Pastor's Text Study 10 Bethlehem Bible Study	27 No Wednesday Parish activities	28 8:00 Parish Men's Bible Study at Centennial Court	29 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	30
31 Sunday Worship! Joint Service at ALC + potluck fellowship ALC Johnson/Richter wedding	Wednesday Parish Schedule 2:45 After School Fellowship 4:00 Parish School Fellowship 4:00 Confirmation 5:15 Fellowship Supper 6:00 Worship 6:30 LYO 6:30 Adult Bible Study					Please remember to call the church office and have your church activities added to our parish calendar.