

Prairie Lutheran Parish
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THE SCROLL

Prairie Lutheran Parish Newsletter

Jan 2018



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

10:30 am Sunday Worship

Bethlehem
Lutheran
Ross

Knife River
Lutheran
Hwy 8 South of Stanley

American
Lutheran
Stanley

Faith
Lutheran
Palermo

(701) 628-2550

PrairieLutheranParish.org



A message from Intern Pastor Sarah:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ...and also Happy New Year to you all! The snow is falling as I write this message to you...snow that came just in time for Christmas! Snow that came to us whether we were ready or not. I was visiting with a member in our parish about the snow falling around us and she said something that has stayed with me since I talked to her. She said, "The snow coming for Christmas is much like waiting for Jesus. We know he is going to come, we just don't know when." In the gospel of Matthew we are told in Chapter 24, Verse 36, "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only." Then again in Matthew 24:44, "Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." And so I ask the question, "Are you ready?"

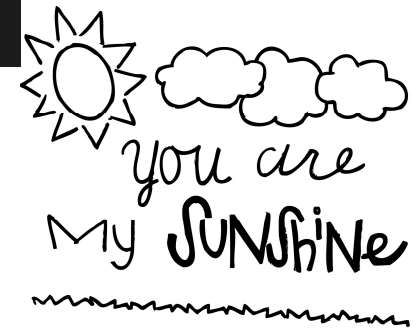
This is the perfect time for us to reflect on these verses in Matthew. This is the perfect time to ask ourselves that question. Why, you ask? Because now is the time we make our New Year's Resolutions! What if this year (If you don't already!) we added some spiritual resolutions? What if this year we woke up every morning prepared for the coming of the Lord? Here are a few ideas for some spiritual resolutions:

Take some time to review the promises you made in Baptism and again in Confirmation. Ask yourself the difficult questions: Am I following through with these promises for myself, my children, my Godchildren, and the people of God?

This past month, Pastor Carter and I have been excitedly busy with Baptisms! Each Baptism has made me stop and reflect on the promises my Parents and Godparents made when I was baptised. Promises that I made when I reaffirmed my baptism. Promises I made at my own children's baptisms and then again as a godmother for my 6 godchildren. The next time you are in worship, I invite you to open up the hymnal to the Baptism section and re-

January Anniversaries

3 – Duc & Renae Thiel
16 – Rand & Diane Olson
19 – Jerimey & Nikkie Bruhn
21 – Keith & Taina Karow



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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Carterbhill@gmail.com
(701) 425-7041

John Mogren, Parish Administrator
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Santana Lidstrom, ALC Custodian

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 – Alex Skarsgard, Michelle Goodall
- 2 – Debbie Haugen, Gary Evenson, Keri Skaar
- 3 – Chad Rolfe, Julie Roehrich, Terry Ortloff
- 4 – Monica Sem, Debbie Lee, Tim Johnson, Leah Aadnes
- 5 – Kolten Longmuir, Logan Longmuir, Eric Mell, Jason Roise
- 6 – Jason Iverson, Quayde Lee, Melissa Bristol
- 7 – Landon Jones, Anna Marie Whitmore, Gavin David Fry, Annie Brown
- 8 – Dana Johnson, Bryan Bohrer
- 9 – Kurt Edwards, Mark Halvorson, Nevaeh Cathleen Charnetzki, Margie Jaha, Evelyn Halvorson
- 10 – Evan Dale Craft, Jared Anderson, Rian Smith, Jared Anderson
- 11 – Chad Peterson, Evolet Lydia Raile
- 12 – Parker Dittbrenner, Lesley Trulson, Joshua Crowder
- 13 – Amanda Peterson, Myles Evanson Kulstad
- 14 – Lynn Mehus, Riley Iverson, Alexis Laparra
- 15 – Greg Bruhn, Velma Enger, Travis Johnson
- 16 – Don Kjoson, Kathy Mork, Mazzie Mills
- 18 – Jace Carl Anderson
- 19 – Taya Niemitalo, Dawn Nelson, Shelby Jo Jilek, Logan Aadnes, Ashley Walter
- 20 – Bill Stevens, Todd Klein, Troy Klein
- 21 – Gary Johnson, Amy Walter
- 22 – Geraine Johnson, Brianna Nelson, Hayley Dralle
- 23 – David Hynek
- 24 – Brandon Hauge, Linda Halvorson
- 25 – Layton Bruhn, Nicholas Bruhn, Scott Carkuff
- 26 – Jaret Wirtz, Derek N. Dunham
- 27 – Barb Jones, Shelly Aadnes, Diane Olson, Ashley Abrahamson, Dennis Halvorson
- 28 – Gary Craft, Eugene Hanson, Done Giese
- 29 – Lillian Meiers, Austin Vachal
- 30 – Zack Essler, Alexander Mell, Marie Stettner
- 31 – Sophie Marie Meckle

Blessings

Happy Birthday

read the promises you have made to God.

Join a Bible Study. I know, you are busy or you don't know enough about the Bible or I don't want to go alone. I know this because I have said all of those same things myself. A Bible Study is a perfect place to come and grow in your faith. It's the perfect place to come if you don't feel like you know enough about the Bible. It's the perfect place to bring a family member or a friend, so you don't have to come alone! It's a great place to build relationships with others in your faith family. I am a firm believer that when we step outside our comfort zone or when we take time to learn and talk about God, we are filled with the Holy Spirit and the light of Jesus Christ.

Pray every day. Have you heard the saying, "Don't tell God how big your storm is, tell your storm how big your God is." There is power in prayer! Pray prayers of thanksgiving, sadness, despair, or anger. Pray for those you love and those you maybe do not love. Pray for direction. Pray for peace. Open up the newspaper and pray for the first 3 people or places that you read about. Just pray.

I look forward to this new year with each and every one of you! I pray for peace, love and strength for all of us embarking on 2018!

God Bless you!





Prairie Lutheran Parish News

JANUARY

2018
Happy New Year!

Parish Wednesday Night Bible Study

A group of us will be gathering soon to begin an exciting study called Making Sense of Scripture: Big Questions about the book of Faith. We don't pretend to have all the answers, but we do want to share what the Bible means to us and how it may be able to speak to our lives. Some people in this group may have spent a great deal of time with the Bible. Most of us haven't read it as much as we might like. But together we hope to come to it anew, as if opening this book for the first time. We will gather on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 beginning Wednesday, January 10th. We will meet for about an hour in the American Lutheran Church's back lounge after worship. If you plan to join, please let me, Intern Pastor Sarah, know or email me at sarahsorenson51@gmail.com and I will order enough books for everyone! It should be a very relaxed first gathering. Feel free to give me a holler if you have any questions! I can't wait to see you there!

Wednesday Night Parish Worship!

Are your weekends jam packed and there are times when you are unable to make it to worship? Join us for a kid friendly and uplifting Parish Worship Service at American Lutheran Church on Wednesday Nights! Supper is served from 5:15-6:00 by our youth who are fundraising for their trip to the National Youth Gathering in Houston this summer. Worship supper at 6:00 - 6:30 with songs, a short message and communion. Our Worship Services will resume on Wednesday, January 10.

Opportunities for Children, Youth, and Family Staff and Volunteers

Discipling Cohorts are a one year process of training in a group of 8-10 faith formation staff or volunteers. There are still openings in cohorts and you are encouraged to apply even if you don't attend the Extravaganza and the deadline has passed to apply!

The ELCA Extravaganza will be in Houston on January 26-29.

Recharge is in Fargo on January 13.

Coming up in February....5th Grade Communion Classes! Keep an eye out for your informational letter coming to a post office near you! :)

THANK YOU to the Sunday School children for their excellent portrayal of the Christmas Story and the teachers who worked so diligently to put it together.

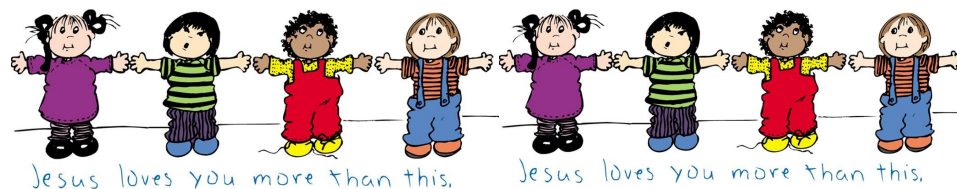
Also thanks to the students who played piano solos. You all did a great job!

Thanks to Hermansons for providing the hamburger for slushburgers and also making it as well as all others who helped serve and bring bars.

Thanks also to those who put up the Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary of the church and got all the decorating done. It looks very nice.

MAY YOU ALL HAVE A VERY BLESSED AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

-Marie



month.

Everyone did a great job at the Christmas program! I am so proud of you!

Thank you Norah, for playing the piano again for us. Thank you Nancy for all your help!

We will resume with class starting Jan 7th. And will meet each Sunday this



Happy **JANUARY**
Newyear

JANITORS for January are Roger and Michelle Harstad. Thanks!

WELCA – There will be no WELCA meeting in January.

ANNUAL MEETING OF CONGREGATION – is scheduled for **Sunday, January 21st, at 5:00 p.m.** Please note time and date and mark your calendar for this meeting. Election of council members and appointment of committees will be on the agenda as well as approval of the new revised **Constitution** for our congregation. Supper will be provided so no pot luck. This is an important meeting each year for our congregation and we encourage you to make an effort to attend and appreciate your input. Knife River Council. (Annual meeting is in lieu of Family Night for January).

BAPTISMS :

On Saturday, December 9th, **Keyton Meiers** was baptized as a member of the Knife River Congregation. He is the son of Matt and the late Tina Meiers. His sponsors were Chris and LuWanna Meiers.

On Saturday, December 16th, **Maverick Albin Lidstrom** was baptized as a member of the Knife River Lutheran Congregation. He is the son of Jody and Santana Lidstrom and his sponsors were Sarah and Matthew Matheny.

On Sunday, December 17th, **Anthony Layne Sigloh** was baptized as a member of the Knife River Lutheran Congregation. He is the son of Anthony and Carrie Sigloh. Anthony's sponsors were James and Lenee Steinberger.

Welcome and God's blessings to these newly baptized members of our congregation.



Stay informed with
**news, updates
and events**

Confirmation Update!

Prairie Lutheran Parish Wednesday School, Confirmation for grades 7-9 grade, and LYO will resume on Wednesday, January 10th! 7th grade Confirmation will meet with Pastor Carter at 2:55 - 4:00. Can't wait to see all of your smiling faces!

PLPWS

We will resume on Wednesday, January 10th. Grades 3-6 please remember to bring your bibles. We will be using those for the rest of the year. Students are continuing to collect loose change in their piggy and barn banks. The money will be used to purchase items for ELCA World Hunger.

Thanks to Beth Wilhelmi for putting on another wonderful Christmas program. Thank you to all of those who helped Beth with the program and program practice.

Resolutions for Synod Assembly: Due March 31, 2018

Do you have a resolution to bring before the 2018 synod assembly? Here are documents with all the information you need to form your resolution and submit it by March 31, 2018. If you have any questions, contact Faith Simoneig at 701-226-5865 or faith@wndsynod.org.





Eden Cuypers, Youth Leader

It's crazy to think that we are already at the beginning of January! Usually, this is the time to look back on what we've done and look forward to goals we have for the next year. Our LYO group has been filled with lots of discussion, laughter, food, and helpful guys and gals. The youth have been working hard with fundraising opportunities in the fall, preparing and serving meals at Wednesday services, and helping with various worship duties as well.

Before the school Christmas break, we had laid back Christmas party. Our group watched "Elf" and played hide 'n' seek most of the night. We will continue our regular Wednesday schedule on January 10th.

A HUGE thank you goes out to all of the families that are helping with Wednesday meals! I am so appreciative of the group that we have going to the National Youth Gathering and what they have accomplished during the fall/winter. We have planned out most of the spring semester for Wednesday meals, and I am looking forward to other opportunities the youth will have to help. 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!

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

Afternoon Bible Study will meet at Debbie's at 2:00 along with a Bible Study. This will be on Jan 2.

Evening Bible Study will meet at Geraine's at 3:00 along with a Bible Study. This will be on Jan 24.
Have a Safe Month.

-Debbie



Quote of the Month

"Exercise—Walk With God"



I want to congratulate all the kids for doing such a good job at the Christmas program. We couldn't pull it off without them. I want to thank Eileen for playing for the program. Our next Sunday School session will be on Jan 7 at 9:30.

See you all then!

-Kathryne



Happy 2018 Everyone!

First off the bat I wanted to say “Thank you!” to – Monica & her helpers for the wonderful Christmas program that they & the kids put on.

- 2) The helpers in the kitchen during potluck dinner & everyone that brought for the meal.
- 3) Eileen & Barb for helping me decorate the church for Christmas
- 4) City of Palermo for handing out bags of goodies for the kids.
- 5) Everyone that came & enjoyed the program.

Our deepest Sympathy goes out to the Jenson families for the passing of Earl. May his memory last in us forever & ever.

Continue healing for Velma and anyone that needs this “I Care” prayer. Prayer Does Answer! You just have to Believe!

Faith Annual Meeting will be Jan 21 during church along with a potluck meal afterwards. Hopefully the booklets will be handed out the week before so you can read up on everything. Table Decorations is Hope Circle for the month of Jan – April.

Altar & Greeters are Kathy & Janet.

Work: Nikki Ch, Monica & Joann

Coffee: 7 – Geraine, 14 – Claranne, 21 – Annual Meeting w/ potluck, 28 – Iva

Readers: 7 – Lori, 14 – Phyllis, 21 – Annual Meeting w/ potluck, 28 – Debbie

December was a busy month at Wee Care! On December 12th, the students got to see Santa at the Bethel Home! They made candy canes out of beads to pass out to the residents. The kids enjoyed seeing Santa and singing a few Christmas songs. It was great to see the smiles from both the kids and the residents. The students worked so hard throughout the month preparing for their Christmas program. All of their hard work paid off. Their program was on December 19th. They did a great job singing their songs and saying the poems they practiced. Families and friends got to enjoy refreshments after the program. We hope the Wee Care students and families enjoy the Christmas break! Preschool will resume after Christmas on January 2nd.

-Mrs. Lund & Mrs. Laparra



*Wee Care
Morning Class*



*Wee Care
Afternoon Class*

Gospel Seeds - January 2018

A Monthly Update from the Western North Dakota Synod Office



Thanks...

I want to start the New Year by expressing deep appreciation for all of the ministry which happens because of each of you. If you serve on a church council or have agreed to serve in the coming year, I want to say thank you. I ask that in the year ahead you make sharing the Good News of Jesus the central part of

Your council work. If you serve as a church school teacher, I want you to know how thankful I am for your ministry. You are helping our young people know who Jesus is and that they are beloved; this is vital work. If you are a quilter or gather items for health kits or school kits, please know my deep appreciation for your work. You are living out your faith through this important work. Look around you, there are countless people within your congregation who are using their God given talents for the sake of the Gospel. I give thanks for each of them. Would you also tell them how important their work is? Thank you is a powerful word which can never be used too much!

Even More Thanks!!!

Remember "synod" is a Greek word which roughly means "walking together." There is a long list of people who help with this journey and a huge thank you is in order for each of them. Those who serve on Synod Council help set the direction of our ministry together, and they help manage the finances. I am so thankful for their creative and faithful work. We are blessed to have an excellent Candidacy Committee who walks with those who are discerning a call to ministry or who are engaging theological education – thank you for your work. We are blessed with seven Conference Deans who organize activities within their respective conferences and serve as a sounding board for Synod Staff - Thanks! There are even more people to thank. The Lutheran Youth Board are a creative group of people who coordinate the annual youth gathering; you all are a blessing. The Synod's Women of the ELCA are always looking for new ways to share the Good News of Jesus through word and deed; thank you for the partnership. This list is incomplete without the GIFTS Committee and the Synod Teams; you all are a blessing. Thanks.

Our annual meeting will be January 21st at 9:00, with a brief worship service prior. Please join us for the annual meeting as we gather as members of Bethlehem, and the body of Christ, to discern together God's plans for our church in the upcoming year. The meeting will be followed with a potluck meal and fellowship.

Our deepest condolences and prayers for the family of Grady and Lisa Uran on the passing of Grady's father, Lloyd.

"And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:7



December was a busy month for the Ross Sunday school kids! They spent Sundays and a couple of Wednesdays preparing for their program. On De-

cember 17th, they got to show off all of their hard work. The kids did a great job presenting the story of the birth of our Savior to the crowd. The WELCA ladies prepared a wonderful supper for us following the programs, including a birthday cake for Jesus. A special thank you goes out to Susan Vachal for planning the program and Kim Sorenson for preparing many of the props and organizing costumes for everyone. So many parents pitched in to make this special day a success. Sunday school with resume with our "Faith Builders" lessons on January 7th. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and many blessings to you in 2018!

-Breann and Pam



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

We are good soil.



<u>Coffee / Greeters</u>		Ushers	<u>Sunday School</u>
1/7/2018	Wayne & Diana Evans	Allen & Debbie Lund	Jan 14th
1/14/2018	Sunday School		
1/21/2018	Jamie & Pam Germundson		
1/28/2018	Colin & Susan Vachal		

<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>
Alexis Katy Owen	Jonathan	Jake	Kaley Jessy	Alycia Jozey	Levi Sadie	Brooke Annie Molly	Jack Henry Briggs

WELCA News

Thank you to everyone who brought food and to everyone who helped serve the light

supper for the Sunday School Christmas program!!

“The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”

which means, “God with us.” Matthew 1:23

As we contemplate a new year, we are invited to live leaning into the future. Chances are, the year ahead will be filled with challenges, sorrows, and joys, just like the year past. But no matter what the next 365 days bring, we can trust that God will be there, always drawing us forward into the fullness of God’s reign. So, we can boldly step through the door into the new year, knowing that Immanuel goes with us. (Christ In Our Home)

Have a blessed new year!!!

Calls Accepted and Ordinations...

It is with great joy we announce the following:

- ♦ Bill Dodd was ordained and installed to serve United at Almont and Skandanavian at Sims.
- ♦ Sue Lynn White has been ordained and will serve the people of Oak Valley Lutheran, Velva.
- ♦ Beth Walch has been ordained and will serve the people of Lord of Life Lutheran, Bismarck as Associate Pastor.
- ♦ Rev. Brandy Gerjets has accepted the call and been installed as Lead Pastor of First Lutheran, Minot.
- ♦ Rev. Brian Knutson has accepted the call to serve and has been installed as Senior Pastor of First Lutheran, Williston.
- ♦ Deacon Anna Dykeman has accepted the call to serve as Campus Minister at Minot State University.

Educational Opportunities...

At the end of the month, rostered leaders in their first three years of ministry will be gathering at Metigoshe Ministries for First Call Theological Education. This is a way for leaders to grow in their skills through workshops and mutual conversation. Life Keys is the next GIFTS event. This workshop will help participants discern their God given gifts. The workshop is scheduled for First Lutheran, Minot – February 3rd. Register now, please.

End of Year...

The end of the fiscal year for the Western North Dakota Synod is January 31st, 2018. I want to thank all of our congregations and individuals for the gifts they have shared to help support our ministry together. Your Mission Support allows your Synod to have staff who help in the midst of call process, leading congregations in Mission Planning, raising up future leaders and helping in the midst of congregational issues. We could not do what we do without your partnership.

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

"The Pantry"

The Prairie Lutheran Parish will be teaming up with other local churches, the Stanley Park District, Mountrail County Health Foundation and the Stanley Public Schools to help with the fact that children in our area are not getting the nutritious food they need on a regular basis. Nearly one in six children in America lives in households that struggle to put food on the table. That means they struggle with hunger sometime during the year.

Starting on Friday, September 8th, "The Portable Pantry" will allow children in the Stanley elementary school that are on the free or reduced meals program to bring home a bag of food each Friday. Each week a group will get together in a classroom at the Elementary school and bag up the food for each child designated in a reusable grocery bag.

In the near future, "The Pantry" will be setup at the high school where students can go shop for what they need.

Informational brochures and applications for this program will be available at each local church and at the Grade School and High School guidance counselors' offices.

Cashwise has graciously approved to mark the food items The Pantry board has chosen for the month so shoppers can pick up items as they shop. A large tote will be placed up front for drop off of the food purchased by shoppers.

The local churches are spearheading this campaign with seed money to start it off with and food donations. Grants will also be applied for once The Pantry has its 501c3 accreditation. But, this is a community effort, so any service organization that would like to help bag food for a week, donate food or money or help with any needed movement of food please contact Steph Everett at 628-1405 or talk to Sarah Sorenson or Eden Cuypers!

If you are interested in helping pack bags of food for the elementary school for our S.A.C.K Program, We will be packing at 5:00 on the dates listed. Please let Pastoral Intern Sarah know if you are interested in helping. We need 4-5 helpers each time and it takes about an hour to pack the bags. Thank you!

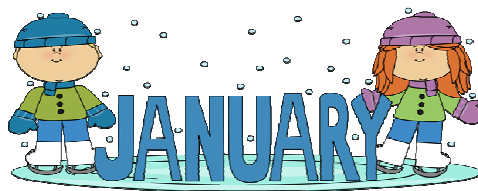


ALC Serving Groups - Also see the church bulletin board

	Blue Serving Group Serves in January	Gold Group Serves in February
December 2017 Red Serving Group	Susan Arneson Jason & Stacey Barstad * Jason & Danielle DuPay	Ron & Shelly Aadnes Shane Aadnes Dave & Paula Brown
January 2018 Blue Serving Group	Matthew & Kim DuPay Neil & Laurie Faber Carrie Giese	Jacob & Ashley Carpenter Brandon & Beth Dean Jared Enget
February 2018 Gold Serving Group	Don Giese Renee Grinolds Deanna Haugen	Scott & Jordan Evans Rocky & Adriana Fladeland Larry & Nancy Hagen
March 2018 Green Serving Group	Grace Johnson Dave Johnson Lacey Johnson McKenzie Johnson	Nancy Hemstad Gerry & Chancey Henin Jason & Christy Iverson*
April 2018 Purple Serving Group	Ronnie LaFromboise Jerome & Pat Lautenschlager Jessica LeRohl	Duane & Janice Lindberg Evan & Erin Meiers Eric & Shannon Mell
May 2018 Red Serving Group	George & Amy Littlecreek Jennifer & Brian Manson Curt & Summer Meyer	Norman & Julie Mell Jackie Nelson Earl Rogstad Layne & Tyra Rolfe
Power Point Projectionists	Gary & Kathy Mork Elmer & Carol Nelson Steve & Jennifer Nelson	Robert & Elaine Sandry Pam & Kelly Shunke Aaron & Ashley Skarsgard
Katie/Sarah 1st Kelly/Dawn 2nd Gary/Kaye 3rd Jeff/Karen 4th Jake Hellman 5th	Landon & Kara Nichols Dennis & Brenda Nielsen Ben Nordloef Chris & Whitney Nordloef	Troy & Jenny Smith BreeAnn Sorenson* Clay & Sarah Sorenson Steve & Cathy Springan
Sound System Jake Hellman 1st Don Longmuir 2nd Gary Nordloef 3rd Jeff Colbenson 4th Jake Hellman 5th	Gary & Kay Nordloef Rand & Diane Olson Andrew & Randi Petras Michael & Abby Reep Brad & Barb Reese	Bill & June Stevens January 2018 : Cal February 2018: Kerrington March 2018: Ethan April 2018: Kerrington
	Eric & Donna Simpson Duc & Renae Thiel Ira & Amy Walter Gary & Cheryl Weisenberger* Bill & Anna Marie Whitmore Ryan & Beth Wilhelmi	

* = Chair/Vice Chair of Group

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.



2017 is almost a closed book.

WELCA had their last meeting on Dec 2nd after quilting.

Yearly donations were decided on.

Salt & Pepper shakers for the tables were donated by Sharon Aas. Now they all are the same – Thanks Sharon.

If anyone is interested in the Pres. & Treas. job please talk to Marilyn or Sue.

The altar committee is also in need of a couple volunteers.

The quilters continue to meet Mondays from 10-2pm.

Anyone interested is welcome to join us.

We took 3 names from the Giving Tree, brought gifts and gave each a small quilt.

A Happy and Blessed New Year to all.

-Marilyn

Thank you to our children who did a fantastic job of re-telling the Christmas Story and to all the adults who were involved in making it such a wonderful Christmas Program. Also a big thank you to our parish young people who went Christmas caroling at the Bethel Home. You warmed their hearts. A special thank you to Pastor Sarah and Pastor Carter for the messages on Christ-

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

ALC Annual Reports Deadline is noon January 3rd

ALC Contemporary Worship is on January 14th

ALC Annual Meeting to be held January 21st 10:30



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 Mountrail Community Food Pantry's old record of 66 families served per month has been broken; we served 86 families in November!! We distributed 8714 pounds of food!! Those 86 families came to a total of 297 people, of which 123 were kids and 19 were seniors. It appears that the food pantries in Parshall and New Town barely, if at all, exist now, and I wonder if that is why we are serving more families here. (The Great Plains Food Bank is trying to find someone to start up a food pantry in New Town, for they know there is a need for one. They would be able to order from GPFB just as we do.) 86 families kept our loyal volunteers scrambling in November, trying to be as efficient as they could to move so many people through each Monday. They have to make certain the foods taken are the correct amount per family, and then they have to weigh the food and record it, which we report each month to the Great Plains Food Bank. Then they bag up the food (with your donated bags ☺) and the client wheels the food out to their car in one of our wagons. The Great Plains Food Bank requires us to weigh the food for each family before it leaves the building. This is their checks and balances to see how much food we provide, versus how much food we order. If we ordered 10,000 pounds of food, but provided 3000 pounds....it might raise some red flags. ☺ Special side note there....in November, a great group of willing volunteers unloaded 5014 pounds of food from the GPFB truck!! A class of high school kids pitched in...THANK YOU!!!!...bounding up the steps with giant armloads of HEAVY items!! Boy, was that wonderful!!! Volunteers to unload the truck is something that we sure can use....so if you have the desire to lend a hand on delivery day (once a month), either carrying in or stocking shelves, please let me know! I will add you to our group text for the next 'invitation'. ☺ An amazing fact...without fail, when the food pantry needs become greater, so does the support from this wonderful community!! ☺ We received donations from Plaza WELCA, the American Lutheran Church; we received funds from a grant we wrote through Souris Valley United Way; and three individuals each gave generous donations in November!! We have had several anonymous donations of food arrive at our door, and we continue to receive donations from the free offers out at Cashwise. Thank you for participating in that program!! The Stanley FFA had some wreaths left over from their orders...and what did they do with them?? Brightened some of the food pantry clients homes with a free wreath!!!!

We are thankful for the support of the caring folks of Mountrail County. Because of you, we can continue to provide nutritious food to those in need, even as the numbers increase. This couldn't work without all of you. Thank you so very much!! ☺
God bless you and keep you all! ☺

Mary

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





144 ENVELOPES PROJECT

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

Amongst Prairie Luthern Parish churches, there are 144 envelopes, each one numbered from \$1-144. If you would like to contribute to the cost of our National Youth Gathering trip to Houston next June, feel free to take an envelope of an amount that you are comfortable with. Please fill in your name on the back of the envelope.

After you have filled the envelope with the designated amount, return it to the office at American Lutheran or Pastor Carter, Pastor Sarah, or Eden.

Thank you for all of your support and help for our youth and their experience at the National Youth Gathering!

LifeKeys: Discover Who You Are

When: Saturday, February 3, 2018 from 8:45 AM to 4:30 PM CST

Dear John,

We hope you'll join us for the next GIFTS event on Saturday, Feb 3rd at First Lutheran Church in Minot.

Join Deacon Beth Anderson in experiencing the LifeKeys Process of exploring how God has gifted you to serve. You'll uncover your life gifts, interest areas, and spiritual gifts and explore your values, personality type, & passions then put it all together to consider how God may be calling you to share all that you are in home, congregation and community.

This would be an excellent lenten study to lead in your congregation. Consider sending a few folks from your congregation to experience the process so they could in turn lead it in your congregation this coming lent.

Thank you, we hope to see you in Minot in February.

Sincerely,

Beth Anderson

Western North Dakota Synod-ELCA

beth@wndsynod.org

701-223-5312



American Lutheran Church Memorials

In Memory of

William Evenson
Donation
Curt Johnson
Evon Moen
Curt Johnson

Building Donor

Kenneth & Cleo Bykonen
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Marichel Mariscal
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Quilting

William Evenson
Evon Moen
Donation
Gladys Anderson
Betty Bloom

Orville K. Nyhus
William Jr. & Anna Marie Whitmore
Gladys Meyer
Her Family
William Jr. & Anna Marie Whitmore





SOCIAL MINISTRY GLIMPSE

Raising Awareness of New American Services - Jan 13 & 14

Lutheran Social Services and Zion Lutheran Church in Minot are excited to host an event raising awareness of the New American services through LSS. Worship with guest speaker Jessica Thomasson on Saturday, January 13 at 5:00PM will be followed by an ethnic dinner and a panel of New Americans sharing stories. A freewill offering will be taken to cover expenses with any surplus will be sent to the New American program.

Jessica Thomasson will also speak in worship on Sunday, January 14, at 8:30AM and 11:00AM and during fellowship hour at 9:30

Social Ministry Spotlight Aging Life Care Management

Aging Life Care™ professionals help find solutions in times of uncertainty; provide guidance and support to ensure quality care and well-being for loved ones; thus reducing worry, stress and time off for family caregivers. Tailored to the senior's need, services: assess and monitor; plan and problem solve; educate and advocate; support both care receiver and caregiver. As assisted living, and nursing home care costs continue to rise, Aging Life Care can coordinate necessary supports in the home, often at a much lower cost.

In the past year, 47 families connected with care managers to navigate health-care options in a flexible, person-centered manner.

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

Update from Bishop Mark Narum on Advocacy Trip with Churchwide Staff

Greetings in Christ's name!

I write today to share news of a recent visit to North and South Dakota by churchwide staff. This trip comes as a follow-up to last June's visit by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. During her follow-up visit in the aftermath of Standing Rock, Bishop Eaton heard some expressed concern that there is a disconnect between churchwide statements and the lives of some ELCA members here in North Dakota. Out of that trip Bishop Eaton felt it is important other churchwide staff be given the same opportunity for open conversation.

During this most recent visit we welcomed:

- Rev. Stephen Bouman - Director of the Domestic Mission Unit
- Rev. Amy Reumann -ELCA Director of Advocacy
- Ruth Ivory-Moore - ELCA Advocacy Program Director, Environmental and Energy Policy
- John Johnson - ELCA Advocacy Program Director, Domestic Policy

This most recent trip came about through the work of South Dakota Bishop David Zellmer, Eastern North Dakota Bishop Terry Brand and myself. One churchwide guest flew into Sioux Falls, one into Fargo and two into Bismarck. On December 13th churchwide staff engaged in an agriculture tour in the synod they arrived in. Here in Western North Dakota we left a Bismarck hotel at 7:00AM and made stops at St. John, Killdeer, an Earth Lodge Village at New Town, the Roise Ranch north of Ross, the Lick Ranch near Ruso and St. Olaf Lutheran, rural Turtle Lake.

During this agriculture day we attempted to show churchwide staff that ELCA members across Western North Dakota are diverse in their political views, that they are stewards of the land, that they are deeply faithful Christians and that some statements made by our churchwide partners are troubling because they are made without understanding the consequences to people who live on the land.

On Thursday, December 14th, the entire group came together in Bismarck and traveled to the Beulah area. Synod Council Vice President Bruce Carlson, retired manager of Verendrye Electric Cooperative, set up a tour of the North American Coal Cotteau Coal Mine, the Basin Electric Antelope Valley Power Plant and Basin's Coal Gasification Plant. That evening we ate in Bismarck with a group of ELCA Lutherans who work in the energy industry. Our conversations were broad ranging but included conversations around the Clean Power Act, regulation of the petroleum industry and the energy industry's efforts to be stewards of the land.

Friday, December 15th, we gathered at the synod office in the Lutheran Social Services conference room for a conversation about rural economic development. We then spent time unpacking what we had heard and seen during our days together. This visit helped us share with churchwide staff:

- our deep love of this church, for it is our heritage.
- our concern that the divergent views between urban and rural views in this country are also being reflected in church life.
- That there are people here on the prairie who are leaders in the agriculture and energy industries and who are willing conversation partners when this church considers taking faith-based stands on policy issues.
- that members of our congregations hold a variety political persuasions, have deep faith in the risen Christ regardless of their political affiliation and want that fact recognized and respected.

I am thankful for the opportunity given to us to engage with our churchwide partners with honest conversation where we could speak both of our joys and our hopes for the future. I am also thankful for a large group of faithful members of this synod who took time out of the very busy December schedules for the sake of these conversations. My hope is that through all of this our partnership will be strengthened.

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

JANUARY 2018

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Happy New Year!</i> No Parish Events	2 Wee care Resumes 10 Pastor's Text Study 10:00 Bethlehem Bible Study at Centennial Crt	3 ALC Annual Reports Deadline NO Parish Events Schedule	4 8:00 Parish Men's Bible Study at Centennial Court 7 pm Bethlehem Council	5 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	6
7 Sunday Worship! Faith, KR & Bethlehem Sunday Schools resume	8 10:00 ALC quilting	9 10 Pastor's Text Study 10:00 Bethlehem Bible Study	10 See Wednesday Parish schedule below PLPWS & LYO Resume 10 Parish morning Bible study at ALC 7:30pm ALC Council meet-	11 8:00 Parish Men's Bible Study at Centennial Court 3:00 Faith evening Bi-	12 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> Bethlehem hair fix at Bethel home	13
14 Sunday Worship! ALC Contemporary Sunday Worship	15 10:00 ALC quilting	16 10 Pastor's Text Study 10 Bethlehem Bible Study	17 See Wednesday Parish Schedule below Noon:Scroll Deadline	18 8:00 Parish Men's Bible Study at Centennial Court	19 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	20
21 Sunday Worship! Annual Meetings for ALC, Bethlehem, Faith & KR Potluck to follow all annual meetings	22 10:00 ALC quilting Carter will be attending First Call 22-24	23 10 Pastor's Text Study 10 Bethlehem Bible Study	24 See Wednesday Parish Schedule below 3 Faith Eve Bible study Carter attending pre-NYG 25-29	25 8:00 Parish Men's Bible Study at Centennial Crt Scroll Assembly by Bethlehem	26 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	27
28 Sunday Worship! ALC Gold Serving Group meets	29 10:00 ALC quilting Carter will be attending continuing ed 29-Feb 2	30 10 Pastor's Text Study 10 Bethlehem Bible Study	31 See Wednesday Parish Schedule below			
During Pastor Carter's absence in January, the pastoral emergencies will be covered by Pastor Sarah. If unable to reach her call John.			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		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	