

Prairie Lutheran Parish

One Prairie. Four Churches. One God.

the Scroll

December 2018

(701) 628-2550

prairielutheranparish.org



I've been a dad for almost a full week now. If I am honest it is incredibly terrifying, yet also amazingly joyful. I'm hoping that someday our daughter, Adelaide, will not remember the many times I forcefully poked her shoulder during a nap because I wasn't sure if she was breathing, or not. Although Adelaide has brought many changes to our

lives, we could not be happier. Well, if I'm honest, I do need to learn how to not be so cranky on only a few hours of sleep. That is the most challenging part so far in this new calling as a parent. However, getting back to my point, as we enter into the season of Advent I can't help but think about the past nine months. Advent is a season of waiting and preparation. Having a child is also a season of waiting and preparation. Advent is a time where we are to think about the coming Christ Child, the savior. Having your first child is also spent continually thinking about the day when the child will actually arrive. I often found myself asking, "are we ready to be parents?" Some days worry and panic would set in and others pure joy and happiness filled our time of waiting. As the father I tried desperately to feel the same connection that I knew Kayla felt as her body grew and nurtured our child, but as much as I tried, the more I felt like I failed. I did not have that connection I knew Kayla had with her. I tried to feel her kick, listen to her heartbeat, and none of it seemed to work. However, all of that changed the day she was born. They placed Adelaide on Kayla's chest, and all the love and connection I had been waiting to feel for months finally overwhelmingly flooded my entire being. It is in that moment that I think I finally understood the waiting of Advent. We often forget that during the time when Christ was born people lived in fear, they

waited for a messiah, a savior. They did not know the light of Christ and the promises we have been given through him. Each time this season comes around we should remember that this world once lived in darkness not knowing the light that Christ offers. We must remember this to feel the true feelings of advent waiting, for when we remember the darkness this world once knew, the light that comes into the world means all the more. So, this Advent may you recall the darkness this world once knew, and wait for the coming light. Embrace the darkness, the fear, the worry, the pain, for joy comes in the morning. Then when Christmas arrives this year, and Jesus is laid in a manger, may you be filled with overwhelming love, peace, hope, and joy because your savior has been born to bring light into this world, and redeem you, your loved ones, and the entire world.

A blessed Advent and Christmas to you and yours!

With Love,

-Pastor Carter



November 20th was an exciting day for Pastor Carter. In the afternoon, the one-act play he coaches for Stanley High School after performing in finals was named state champions beating the other 19 schools that qualified for state from their regional tournaments. Later that night, he and Kayla at 10:16 PM welcomed their daughter Adelaide Renee Hill to the world coming in at 7lbs 2oz, 20.5 inches long,



Knife River

JANITORS for the month are Warren and Meredith Craft. Thanks!

WELCA will meet at Betty Harstad's at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 11.

FAMILY NIGHT/CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will meet on **Sunday, December 16, at 5:00 p.m.** Lunch is being provided.

THANKS to all the women who participated in the program and contributed to the Thankoffering on Thankoffering Sunday. Thanks to Jana Enger for serving a delicious supper.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

I want to start with a HUGE thank you to everyone who donated money for the SACK program. We were able to raise just over \$500. The Sunday school kids took that money to the grocery store and were able to purchase food needed to help stock the cupboards and feed many families in our school system.

We will meet the first 2 Sundays in December and on Dec 16th (family league) the kids will be singing and putting on a small skit for the congregation.

There will be a giving tree set up in the basement with an opportunity to purchase gifts for kids/ families in need. Please consider helping with this project. If you would rather donate money, I can do the shopping for you. All gifts can be brought back to the church and on Dec 16 we will wrap them together. I will also have "The Star" playing with other fun activities for the kids.

Merry Christmas!!

Nikki

**May you all have a Blessed and Merry Christmas.
Jesus is the reason for the season!**

Bethlehem

Council meeting December 11th at 7:00 pm.

WELCA NEWS

Ross WELCA gifted our 3rd graders Jozie and Henry Sorenson with Bibles on Sunday the 25th. Blessings to both of you as you read God's word and continue to grow in your faith!

Thank you to everyone who supported the Thankoffering. 100% of the money collected goes to the Churchwide Women of the ELCA. These funds help support the ongoing ministries of Women of the ELCA, including the triennial conventions, online resources, justice and advocacy work and much more.

WELCA will serve a light meal following the Sunday School Christmas program on the evening of December 16th.

I wish you a peaceful season of patience during Advent, love and joy shared with family & friends at Christmas, & blessings in the new year!

- Diana

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our Sunday School Christmas program will be held on Sunday December 16th at 5pm. Please come and celebrate Jesus' birth with our Sunday School! Please note there will be NO morning worship the day of the program. We will not have class on December 23rd and 30th for Christmas break.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- Our deepest sympathies to the family of Pam Uran upon her passing. "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Phillipians 4:7
- Wishing the happiest of Birthday blessings upon Stella Belik as she celebrates her 100th birthday!!
- Congratulations to Pastor's Carter and Kayla, on the birth of their baby daughter Adelaide Renee, November 20th!



Faith Lutheran

THANK YOU

- to everyone who helped with the Thankoffering program
- to everyone who donated to the Operation Christmas Child—we ended up with 22 boxes to be sent!

CONGRATULATIONS to Cooper Sem who received his Bible on November 18. May he use it well, what a special day for Cooper!

WELCA will meet on Thursday, December 13, at 2:00pm at church for their meeting. Hope circle serves.

Christmas Eve Services will be at American and Faith at 5:00pm.

Let's keep "I Care" prayers in our hearts, especially for Kristi Freadhoff (Kathy's sister) she's recooperating from surgery.

SERVING US THIS MONTH

Work = Kathy Ch, Claranne and Janet

Altar and Greeter = Darlene B, Monica and Sammy

Readers = Dec 2: Alice, 9: Wayne, 16: Christmas Program, 23:Debbie, 30: Joint Service at ALC with Potluck

Coffee = 2: Lori H, 9:Kathy, 16: Christmas Program Snack and Cookie Exchange, 23:Monica, 30:Joint Service

Afternoon Bible Study: December 11 at Debbie Haugen's home at 2pm. There will be a Bible Study and Christmas Gift Exchange.

Evening Bible Study: will meet at the home of Iva Fox on December 5 at 1pm for Bible study and gift exchange.

Merry Christmas to All!

Insect of the Month — Damselfly

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Christmas Program is just around the corner! Practice will take place on December 2 at 9:00am, December 9 at 9:00am, and December 16 at 8:30am.

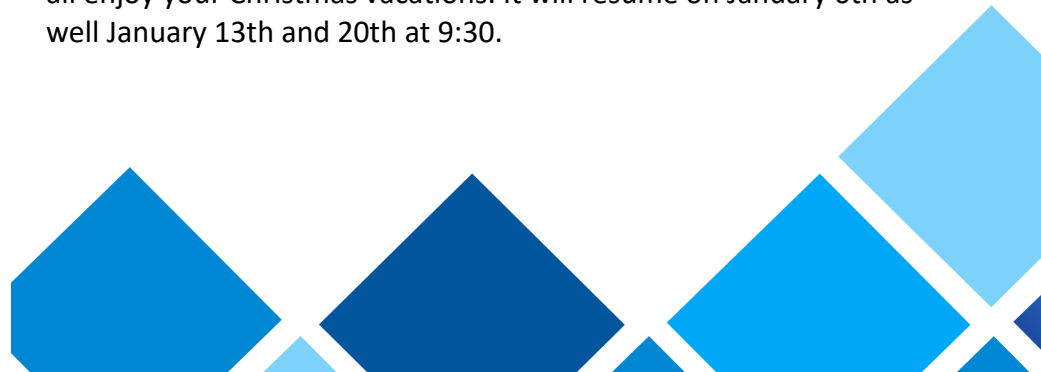
The program will be December 16th at 10:30am.

After the program a light snack will be provided consisting of meat and cheese and veggie trays. This will be served in the north part of the church. Coffee and juice will be served. Hope everyone can come and enjoy this time of fellowship.

There will also be a cookie exchange (1 dozen) for anyone interested. Bring a dozen cookie of your own that day and go home with a different dozen. There will be a table set up in the north room for this also.



There will be no Sunday school on December 23rd or 30th so you can all enjoy your Christmas vacations. It will resume on January 6th as well January 13th and 20th at 9:30.



American Lutheran

White Group

Gold Group

December 2018	Nancy Brown	Ron & Shelly Aadnes
White Group	Ken & Cleo Bykonen	Shane Aadnes
January 2019	Yanci Crider	Dave & Paula Brown
Gold Group	Rod & Connie Essler *	Jacob & Ashley Carpenter
February 2019	Zach & Erin Essler	Brandon & Beth Dean
Green Group	Brad & Amy Farhart	Jared Enget
March 2019	Maren Feiring	Scott & Jordan Evans
Purple Group	Heather Greenlee	Rocky & Adriana Fladeland
April 2019	Gene & Carol Hanson *	Larry & Nancy Hagen
Red Group	Kyle & Marianne Hanson	Nancy Hemstad
May 2019	Nichole Janz Hoffert	Gerry & Chancey Henin
White Group	Dale & Mary Kilen	Jason & Christy Iverson*
	Don & Verlee Kjoson	Duane & Janice Lindberg
	Quintin & Heather Lee	Evan & Erin Meiers
	Wally Lee	Eric & Shannon Mell
	Don & Connie Longmuir	Norman & Julie Mell
	Marichel Mariscal	Jackie Nelson
	David & Renae Minton	Earl Rogstad
	Mark & Sheila Morgan	Layne & Tyra Rolfe
	Dave & Barb Nesheim	Elaine Sandry
	Deloris Oja	Pam & Kelly Shunke
Power Point Asst.	Gordon & Connie Patten	Aaron & Ashley Skarsgard
Katie 1st	Tom & Akela Raile	Troy & Jenny Smith
Kelly/Dawn 2nd	Chad & Sarah Rismon	BreeAnn Sorenson*
Gary/Kay 3rd	Jane Rismon	Clay & Sarah Sorenson
Jeff/Karen 4th	Brent Rodenhizer	Steve & Cathy Springan
Jake Hellman 5th	Bruce Rodenhizer	Bill & June Stevens
	Alex & Katie Sandeen	Andie Vroman
	Tom & Betty Simmers	
Sound System	Cliff & Judy Skaar	
Jake Hellman 1st	Tanya Skaar	
Don Longmuir 2nd	Korey & Valerie Stammen	
Gary Nordloef 3rd	Jim & Tara Swegarden	
Jeff Colbenson 4th	Arden & Janis Thompson	
Jake Hellman 5th	Cristi Trulson	

Thank You! – The Lutheran Brotherhood extends its appreciation to all those who once again helped make the Lutefisk, Lefsa, Meatball (and pie) supper another successful undertaking. Much coordination was done by our Lutefisk Committee to ensure that we have people in place for each task. But it wouldn't get done if we didn't have people who will say "yes" when asked to help. Every one of you is equally important as we pull together to "get 'er done!" We say "Mange tusen takk!" (Many thousand thanks!)

WELCA NEWS

- Thank you to everyone who helped with the Thankoffering! If you still have your envelope from the bakeless bake sale, you can turn that in anytime before Christmas. Thank you! The sympathy cards have arrived and are on the shelf by table in the hallway.
- WELCA will be meeting December 10 at 2:30pm.
- Congratulations to Pastor Carter and Kayla on the birth of their daughter.

Merry Christmas to all!

Wee Care

We've had a fun November in Wee Care. We continue learning about a new letter every week. This month, we've been talking about different kinds of food and learning about some new shapes. We enjoyed a Pizza Feast for Thanksgiving. Each child got to make their own pizza and eat them for snack in class. We've started practicing Christmas songs so we can be ready for our Christmas program.

Please join us on Tuesday, December 18th @10:00am and 2:00pm in the chapel as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!

December

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Worship Schedule

9a Bethlehem

9a Knife River

10:30a American

10:30a Faith

2 Sunday Worship!
ALC Poluck after Worship
ALC Council Meeting

3 10a ALC Quilting

4
10a Centennial Court
Bible Study
10a Pastor's Text Study

5
4 - 5:15p We
School and C
5:15p Family
6p The Bridg
6:45p LYO &

9 Sunday Worship!

10

11
10a Pastor's Text Study
10a Ross Bible Study
2p Faith Aft. Bible Study

12 10a Pa
4 - 5:15p We
School and C
5:15p Family
6p The Bridg
6:45p LYO &

16 Sunday Worship!

17 10a ALC Quilting

18
10a Pastor's Text Study
10a Ross Bible Study

19
4 - 5:15p We
School and C
5:15p Family
6p The Bridg
6:45p LYO &

23 Sunday Worship!
Gold Serving Group Meets

24 CHRISTMAS EVE
8am ALC fixes hair at
Bethel Home
5pm Service at American
5pm Service at Faith

25
CHRISTMAS
Office Closed

26
No Wednesday

30
Joint Service with Potluck

31

Regular Weekly Activities:

8p A.A. on Mondays & Fridays at ALC
10a AlAnon on Saturdays at ALC
Mondays: Boy Scouts in Fellowship Hall

er 2018

Sat

8

	6	7 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	8
Wednesday	8a Men's Bible Study		
Confirmation	9:30a Together 4 Prayers		
Meal			
Large Worship			
& Bible Study			

15

13		14 Pastor's Sabbath		15	
British Bible Study					
Wednesday	8a Men's Bible Study				
Confirmation	1p Faith Evn Bible Study	8a Bethlehem fixes hair at			
Meal	3:40p 3rd Grd Bible Class	Bethel			
Worship					
& Bible Study					

22

	20	21 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	22
Wednesday			
Confirmation		8a ALC fixes hair at	
Meal		Bethel Home	
Worship			
& Bible Study			

29

ay Activities
27 1p American Assembles Scroll
28 Pastor's Sabbath
29

American Lutheran Memorials

In Memory of

Russell Kilen
Gladys Meyer
Gladys Meyer
Steve Strasser
Steve Strasser
Steve Strasser
Gary Evenson
Gary Evenson
Gary Evenson
Gary Evenson
Gary Evenson
Pam Uran

Donations
Donation
Maxine Johnston
Maxine Johnston
Maxine Johnston

Friends
Donations
Gladys Meyer
Gladys Meyer

Irene Quammen
Sandy Baade
Steve Strasser
Sandy Baade
Sandy Baade
Sandy Baade
Sandy Baade
Sandy Baade & Susan Mountain
Sandy Baade
Sandy Baade
Donation

Undesignated

Anonymous
Wm.Jr. & Anna Marie Whitmore
Gordon & Sharon Aas
David & Ardis Look
Ray & Sandy Anderson
Dale & Dolly Ellis
Dale & Dolly Ellis
Earl Rogstad
Gordon & Sharon Aas
Marichel Mariscal
Wm.Jr. & Anna Marie Whitmore
Earl Rogstad

Wee Care

Gary & Cheryl Weisenberger
Meyer & Diane Kinnoin
Sidney & Carol Craft
Maren Feiring
Steve & Cathy Springan

Building

Jerry & Nancy Rudolph
Meyer & Diane Kinnoin
Meyer & Diane Kinnoin
Cleo & Kenneth Bykonen

Quilting

Anonymous
Anonymous
Gene & Carol Hanson
Earl Rogstad
Hod & Ruth Hysjulien
Doug & Sue Halden
Jan Johnson
Gayne & Barb Meiers
Gordon & Sharon Aas
Gene & Carol Hanson
Pat Eisenzimmer

Food Pantry

The Mountrail Community Food Pantry provided 7422 pounds of food in October to 51 families, serving 175 individuals, of which 70 were children and 17 were seniors. We are gearing up for the holidays and, thanks to the generosity of this community, are purchasing the traditional holiday foods from Cashwise. We will have these holiday foods on the shelves starting the first Monday of November. We plan on doing the same thing in December. Cashwise has kindly created turkey coupons for us and we will give one to each family, to have a Thanksgiving turkey. We will have the same type of coupons from Cashwise for ham for the Christmas meal. As I write this, I ponder how blessed our food pantry is for having such loyal, service minded, creative thinking volunteers. Their determination to make this food pantry the best that it can be, is profoundly noteworthy, and extremely appreciated! 😊 And I marvel at how caring this community is....so determined that those who need food, will get food. God bless you all!

With much thankfulness,
- Mary



Youth News

Our November LYO has focused on an “attitude of gratitude” and being thankful for all that we have the opportunities that we have to help others. Both our high school and junior high groups went through a texting challenge for things and people that they are thankful. They also had the challenge of thinking of something or someone that they thank God for every day. It was interesting to hear their answers and share with each other (myself included) what we may take for granted or not take the time to thank God for.

Parents/Guardians: If you haven’t had the chance to add yourself or your child/children, feel free to join our Remind group for any announcements or reminders for youth activities or quick questions.

Enter this number: 81010

Text this message: @plply

Here’s what our month will look like for youth in grades 7-12:

November 28th -- 9th-12th grade

December 5th -- 7th/8th grade

December 12th -- 9th-12th grade

December 19th -- All 7th-12th grade (LYO Christmas Party)

At our **LYO Christmas Party on December 19th**, we’ll have an evening with games, a movie, and other activities that the youth can choose from starting at 6:30. Also, if you would like to, bring a small gift (under \$5) for a gift exchange. (This is not a required activity.)

Lastly, I am so grateful for all that our churches and parish do help and support the youth in our congregations. Forming our amazing youth family has been so awesome, and I look forward to all that we get to do soon! THANK YOU EVERYONE SO MUCH!

If you have any questions or concerns about LYO or Wednesday schedules, please let Eden know!

Online Giving

To have your offering automatically taken from your bank account each month and never miss a week of giving! Consider giving online! You can visit prairielutheranparish.org, click on giving, and sign yourself up! Be sure to select the drop down arrow for giving via your credit or debit card to also select ACH transfer. By selecting ACH transfer and using your accounts routing number the church will be charged less fees for your giving. Also be sure to select the drop down arrow to select the correct congregation you wish to give to!

Special Events

He Didn't Throw the Clay Away—December 2nd

Ren Fuglestad will be giving a visual demonstration of mans relationship with God through the art of pottery at the American Lutheran Church on Sunday, December 2 at 10:30. He will be bringing some of his pottery to sell also. These are great gift ideas! You may have seen his beautiful pottery at the Hostfest as he has been there for many years. If you aren't able to make it to the church to watch the demonstration, please feel welcome to come afterwards to look at the items he is bringing if you are looking for special gifts for yourself or others.

Heart River Bridges of Hope—December 16th

December 16th, Renee Splichal-Larson will be joining us at American Lutheran church, during worship, to share with us about the ministry happening at Heart River Bridges of Hope. This is one of our synodical ministry partners that our parish supports. Please join us to hear how ministry is happening at Heart River, on the campus of the youth correctional facility in Bismarck.



- 1 - Karen Eliason, Colleen Holm, William Nelson
- 2 - Gary Mork, Sr., James Carkuff, Danielle Dupay, Tyke Barstad, Jeff Lapica, Logan Lapica
- 3 - Darin Larson
- 4 - Julie Erie, Carsen Westlake, Carol Johnson
- 5 - Jim Swegarden, Jayce Vigness, John Anderson Sr.
- 6 - Barb Nesheim, Jed Bohmbach
- 7— Della Mader, Caleb Uran
- 8 - Gregg Springan, Mallory Johnson
- 9 - Faye Borud, Sydney Larson, Ryder Bruhn, Stella Belik
- 10— Lyle Lidstrom, Breann Lund
- 11 - Chris Hanson, Erma Martinson, Delaney Rae Dupay, Bray Gjellstad, Warren Craft
- 12 - Quintin Lee, Kelsey Hopkins, Raegan Jolynn Ostdahl, Phyllis Vesey, Dustin Noble
- 13 - Meyer Kinnoin, Adam Barnhart, Colin Vachal, Jim Dazell, Hunter Meckle
- 14 - Tom Miller, Roger Holm, Kim Sorenson
- 15 - Joanne Colbenson, Griffin Wilhelmi, Tad Ploium
- 16 - Ron Aadnes, Kim Vachal, Kim Reynolds
- 17 - Don Longmuir, Katie Sandeen, Janice Ostdahl
- 18 - Karen Colbenson, Jacob Lidstrom, Brad Bruhn, Crystal Laparra
- 19 - Curt Meyer, Claranne Baddeley, Zander Fladeland, T.J. Edwards
- 20 - Kalynn Hudson, Lynette Johnson, Devra Mogren, Colter Dunham, Giles Glahoit
- 21 - Verlee Kjoson, Jason Wirtz, Nicholas Hysjulien, Sarah Rismon, Koier Nordloef, Trevor Harstad, Brookes Goodall, Nancy Meiers, Prayrie Lund
- 22 - Karen Lindberg, Stacey Goodall
- 23 - 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 - Lane Lee, Connie Longmuir, Mackenzie Raasakka,
Amanda Lyn Chilcoat, Jim Dennis

30 - David Johnson, Diane Ostdahl, Jenna Bruhn, Erin Anderson

31 - Cody Uran, Jess Niemitalo, Gerald Olson

Happy Anniversary

2 - William and June Stevens

3 - Jeremy and Sarah Carkuff

5 - Blaine and Kaye Lee Hamers

5 - Howard and Janice Rehak

13 - Roger and Sheryl Sorenson

16 - Chad and Sarah Rismon

17 - Matt and Jodi Zimmerman

20 - Lane and Judy Lee

22 - Tom and Tammy Wilhelm

23 - Jeff and Cindy Jensen

23 - Brent and Naomi Rodenhizer

26 - Stan and Joyce Vachal

28 - Gerald and Luann Roise

29 - Mark and Sheila Morgan

30 - Bill & Lillian Meiers

30 - Dan and Virginia Noble

PRAIRIE LUTHERAN PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

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Synod News

A world turned upside down... As we enter the final month of the year, I invite you to begin reading the Gospel of Luke as part of your devotional reading. Luke is the Gospel we will hear in worship most weeks for the next 12 months. While you read, look for examples of ordinary people being used for extraordinary purposes. For example, an elderly couple, barren all of their lives are told they will have a child. Another example, a very young woman is told she will have a child,

"...therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God."

Ordinary people called by God to change the world.

We believe that God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, continues to work in the world. Ordinary people, with ordinary lives are living their faith every day! What about you? How is God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, calling you to serve? In what ways might the work of your hands, head and heart turn the world upside down for the sake of others?

The Gospel of Luke is a testimony that God works through ordinary people. Enjoy some time just reading that story and let it bless you.

We Did It!! Thank you!! We are excited to announce because of your generosity, we have surpassed the \$20,000, "Walking With You" Annual Appeal goal!! As of November 15, \$20,820 has been contributed. **Thank you!**

From Bowman to Ray, Tioga, and Williston, over to Bottineau, down to Hettinger and back up to Underwood-a significant amount of synod staff time this fall was spent on the road meeting with congregations in transition and people in the midst of discernment.

On November 16th, a special dinner was held with time for prayer and conversation for those in discernment about where they may be called to serve their church. This dinner was attended by 4 young adults with their parents, youth director and/or pastors. Because of your generous contributions to the WND Synod Annual Appeal, this important work that God has for us can continue.

As it can be with any challenge, it sometimes feels like climbing a snow-covered mountain without the right equipment. And just when you think you cannot take another step forward, you discover you are

not alone and that feeling of support propels you forward. As a synod, we are walking together on this journey of call to serve the church and bring the good news to the world. We are grateful for every gift received, no matter the size and will continue to receive gifts to the appeal until the end of the year. Gifts to general synod mission support will continue to be received from congregations and individuals.

Planning for the future... As we approach the end of the year, just a quick reminder, gifts of \$5,000 or more to one of the three synod endowment funds can be of significant tax advantage to you. If you have questions call the synod office. Your gifts help provide scholarships for seminarians, funding for creative, Christ centered ministries or can help ensure there are people walk with future ministry candidates.

Call Process Updates...

- Rev Renee Johnson and Rev Charles Johnson have accepted calls to the Dakota Lutheran Parish and will begin serving Amidon, Bowman as well as Bethany & First of Rhame.
- Deacon Jodi Lorenz has accepted a call to serve the people of Augustana, Underwood and Birka, Washburn.
- Rev. Sandy Anderson resigned her call to First and Trinity of Tioga
- Rev. Gary Erdmann has begun his work as Intentional Interim Minister at Trinity, Bismarck.

Candidacy Committee News... Your synod candidacy committee has approved two people for ordination. Bethany Haberstroh who has been serving the Horizon Parish (Flasher, Carson, Bethseda) as a TEEM candidate will soon move into the interview process with the parish for call. Mike Olson who has been serving White Earth and McGregor as a TEEM candidate has already been interviewed for call and soon a vote will take place. We are excited about the gifts of these two candidates. They will serve the Gospel well in the years to come.

If you know of someone who you believe has the gifts for ministry begin praying for them now. Let them know what you see in them. Finally, encourage them to reach out to synod staff we would love to have a conversation with them about ministry possibilities.

- Rev. Mark Narum



Prairie Lutheran Parish

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