

To the Prairie Lutheran Parish,

We have been very busy in the past month during this time of change. I will try my best to keep everyone up-to-date on what is going on in the parish.

To date, as I write this, the parish council met on March 9th to discuss the steps to move forward in the absence of any pastors.

**Call committee:** we have gotten site profiles from the synod to update. Once completed, the profiles will be turned back into the synod office to update our profile so we can start looking for a pastor/pastors.

**Communion:** The synod has approved one person for each church to be allowed to do communion. These people can only do communion in their church.

**ALC:** Maren Feiring **Faith:** Iva Fox

Bethlehem: Diana Evans Knife River: Don Longmuir

**Pulpit Supply:** we have MOST worship spots filled to June. We have a dedicated parish worship committee working the phone lines to fill these spots. If you would like to volunteer to fill in for worship, please let us know.

**Conformation and LYO:** Classes are taken care of through the rest of the year, and we will be looking at plans for next fall to continue with it.

The parish council and the church council presidents met with Bishop Craig and his assistant Sherie Heine on Thursday March 18th.

Discussion was held on what the process could involve in calling our next pastor.

Discussion was held on the possibility of an interim pastor to be with us, one trained in helping congregations realize what they need in their next clergy.

Each church will vote to approve calling an interim pastor to serve our Parish.

If you have any questions, comments, or would like to volunteer, please contact me at (701) 629-0373 or stop by my office at Prairie Ford.

## Thank you and God bless Matt Evans Prairie Lutheran Parish Council President

### Who to Call

For emergency services, in crisis situations, for arrangements for weddings, baptisms, funerals. etc

Mike Burns-Vice Pastor for ALC-(281) 705-0294

Janet Gwin- Vice Pastor for Bethlehem, Faith & Knife River-(701) 389-0071

## Bethlehem

A **big thank you** to everyone who brought food and joined in to serve the February 24th Lent supper.

And a Special Thank You to Debbie and Allen for chairing the supper and for donating the delicious potatoes and for sharing a little history on the planting and digging of the crop. Very cool! If you missed it just ask for more info.

BLC will serve again on the 24th of March along with Faith and Knife River. So I say thank you to these volunteers in advance.

**WELCA** met briefly at coffee hour to decide on a gift for our SHS graduates. That's all I have to say about that as to not give the surprise away. We will meet again b/f graduation so will talk then. Thanks!

We will have a coffee hour in honor of our graduates on Sunday the 16th after worship. Our graduates are Justin G, Logan L, and Eli P.

The SS will be having a Spring Bowling party sponsored by Ted and Jane. Thank you two for your awesome support and love to the BLC Sunday School students and teachers. The SS students will Bless us by singing on Easter Sunday!! What a Joy to look forward to hearing them sing!

The JH/HS youth will be serving Easter breakfast starting at 8:00 am with worship at 9:00am! Mmmm good..be ready for

the wonderful aroma to greet you when you step inside the door!

The WNDS has authorized one member from each congregation in the parish to preside at Holy Communion in their church only. This will be discussed further at our council meeting on March 21st.

May 2nd will be a joint worship at ALC with Bishop Craig leading worship! Watch and listen for more info on this event. Thanks be to God!

The "guys" will serve the annual Mother's Day Brunch on May 9th after worship!

Remember to pray every Tuesday at noon! Every morning is Easter morning from now on! Every day is Resurrection Day the past is over and done.

Happy Easter Everyone!! Thanks be to God!!



## Faith Lutheran

**Reminder**: The Faith-full Men & helpers are having their Easter Breakfast on **April 4th, 9:15-10:15.** There will be a special program put on by the Sunday School kids at 10:30 that day instead of church service.

For the month of April we are trying out coffee time before church for anyone that wants to come down in the basement and join us for coffee & cookies.

**Joint Service** at ALC on May 2nd at 10:30am with Bishop Craig.

**Evening Bible Study:** April 7th at 3pm at the church. Barb is the hostess.

**Afternoon Bible Study:** April 6th at 2pm at Kathy Rolfe's home.

**Readers:** 4th-S.S. Program, 11th-Debbie, 18th-Eieleen, 25th-Darlene B.

Altar: Darlene V. & Lori H.

Work: Janice K.

April Showers? -Debbie-

#### **Dates to Remember**

2nd- Good Friday 4th- Happy Easter 5th- Easter Monday (Can.) 13th- Ramadan Begins 22nd- Earth Day 30th– Arbor Day

### **Faith Lutheran Sunday School**

It's hard to believe it's already April! Our S.S. kids are putting on a special program in Easter Sunday instead of a service for the congregation. Our next session of Sunday School in April are the 4th, 11th & 18th at 9:30am

Happy Easter to all! -Kathryne-

## Knife River

JANITORS for April are Kevin and Sandy Harstad. Thanks!

**EASTER BREAKFAST** – The LYO (7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade) will serve breakfast prior to worship from **8:15** A.M. to **9:00** a.m. Free will offering will be collected and the proceeds will go to the LYO for their upcoming convention in Minneapolis this summer.

EASTER SERVICES – Sunday, April 4th, at 9:00 a.m. with Holy Communion.

**SPECIAL THANKS** to all of those who have been doing pulpit supply in our Parish. You are appreciated very much and it is nice to know there is someone to fill in during this time of pastoral vacancy. God's blessings to each and everyone of you!

### -COMING UP -

Sunday, May 2nd, Bishop Craig Schweitzer is coming to American Lutheran for worship and this will be a joint worship for the parish with a potluck dinner following service. More details will be forthcoming.

### American Lutheran

**April 18th** will be a very special Sunday with the dedication of our "Cross of Symbols" which was made by Richard Solberg. He will be sharing his story how the project became a reality. His wife Barb will be leading us in fellowship that day. There will be a potluck dinner that day also to share fellowship with the Solbergs.

WELCA- Although I don't have anything new to report at this deadline time, we will have news next month about both the Day & Eve groups—so stay tuned! In the thought that I do want all of us to remember is: "Every morning is Easter Morning from now on! Every day is Resurrection Day, the past is over & done!" These words are from a hymn written long ago & they're beautiful! We ARE "Easter People" & we should see EVERY day as RESURRECTION DAY! Have a

In Christ's Love  $\dagger \heartsuit$ , Maren 629-1067

**Evening WELCA** did not meet in February. We are looking for one or two individuals who would be interested in helping lead our evening WELCA meetings. If you are interested, please contact Maren Feiring or Karen Colbenson.

-Jennifer Neset

### **Upcoming May Serving Group-Gold**

Nancy Hemstad

Ron & Shelly Aadnes Shane Aadnes BreeAnn Blankenship Dave & Paula Brown Jacob & Ashley Carpenter Brandon & Beth Dean Jared Enget Scott & Jordan Evans Rocky & Adriana Fladeland Larry & Nancy Hagen

blessed Easter, everyone!

Gerry & Chancey Henin Jason & Christy Iverson Sabrina & Jaeden Jenson Duane & Janice Lindberg Eric & Shannon Mell Norman & Julie Mell Jackie Nelson Earl Rogstad Layne & Tyra Rolfe
Elaine Sandry
Pam & Kelly Schunke
Aaron & Ashley
Skarsgard
Troy & Jenny Smith
Clay & Sarah Sorenson
Roger & Sheryl
Sorenson
Steve & Cathy Springan
Bill & June Stevens

### Food Pantry

The Mountrail Community Food Pantry provided 15,078 pounds of food to 72 Mountrail County families which consisted of 180 people, of which 63 were children and 32 were seniors.

The day of the food giveaway truck, we provided 4821 pounds of food to 67 families, which consisted of 194 people, of which 87 were children and 40 were seniors. That hour kept us hopping, but we enjoyed it!! And while the week before had been below zero, the day the food truck came was warmer, with not a lot of wind....so we were very thankful for that, too!! For those of you who don't know how that works; a food truck unloads food in front of the Fair Building (by the South Complex). Cars pull up in a wide circle and when we are ready, pull up to our line of food. Information takers have already gathered their names and how many are in their family and the age category, and the town they are from. If they are picking up for more than themselves, they give the information for each family they are picking up for. Then, we put the allotted amount of food in their vehicles, depending on how many families they are picking up for. And off they go. 😥 It's a very efficient system, plus it's fun to visit with folks, and everyone drives away with a smile on their face. smiles....that's what a person does when three classes of kindergartners come into the food pantry bringing their bags of birthday fix-They each put together a pretty bag of cake mix, frosting, candles, maybe plates and forks, napkins....oh the creativity!! And we hand these out to folks that will have birthdays month. (3) Thank you all!!! (3) No matter what kind of a day a person may be having, those beautiful little people will make anyone feel a whole lot better!!! (3) This was very thoughtful of the teachers, and very kind of the parents and the children...an effort that will make a difference in so many other kids' lives. (3) We move into March with a happy heart, knowing that we live in a community of great love and joy....grateful for every beautiful moment....

God bless you and keep you, Mary

# April 2

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
Sunday Worship			
9am Bethlehem 9am Knife River 10:30am American 10:30am Faith			
4	5	6	<b>7</b> 7am E 3pm F
Regular Schedule	10am Quilting 8pm A.A.	2pm Faith Bible Study	Study 4pm V 4pm ( 7th-12
11	12	13	14 Kid
Regular Schedule	10am Quilting 8pm A.A.		7am Bild 4pm We 4pm Co 7th & 8
18	19	20	21
Regular Schedule	10am Quilting 8pm A.A.		7am Bib 4pm We 4pm Co 9th-12th
25	26	27	<b>28</b>
Regular Schedule	10am Quilting 8pm A.A.		7am Bib 4pm We 4pm Co 7-12th I
			LLUUIL

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	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3
	Maundy Thursday 5pm Supper 6pm Worship	Good Friday 6pm worship No Supper	10am Al-Anon
ble Study aith Bible	8	9	10
<sup>/</sup> ed. School <mark>on</mark> firmation h LYO		8pm A.A.	10am Al-Anon
Church rvice e Study d. School ofirmation h LYO	15 Scroll Deadline  8am Men's Bible Study	<b>16</b> 8pm A.A.	<b>17</b> 10am Al-Anon
e Study 1. School nfirmation LYO	<b>22</b> Scroll Assembly- ALC 8am Men's Bible Study	<b>23</b> 8pm A.A.	24 10am Al-Anon
e Study d. School nfirmation 10	<b>29</b> 8am Men's Bible Study	<b>30</b> 8pm A.A.	



#### Hello!

Over the last few weeks, we have had topics relating to "loving others" and "making an impact." These lessons have given us a chance to discuss how God wants us to love others - everyone. Even those who may be annoying, frustrating, or those that we disagree with. We've also had great discussion about how one person or a small group of people can make an impact on our school, community, our state, and all around the world. Even though we may not be famous, we can make a difference for those around us, which spreads to others - another way we can show God's love to many people!

March will bring a bit of a switch in our regular LYO schedule again. We will have a few smaller groups for junior high and high school separately in the middle of April.

### **April Schedule**

- •April 7th 7th-12th grade LYO
- •April 14th 7th/8th grade LYO
- •April 21st 9th -12th grade LYO
- •April 28th 7th-12th grade LYO

In the next scroll mailing, I will share plans for summer LYO, ideas from our youth, and some deadlines that will be coming up in the fall for the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in 2022.

**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

Keep checking the scroll, Facebook, and Remind messages for updates on LYO events! Thank you to all the churches for all of the love and continued support that you show our youth!

Eden Cuypers, Youth Leader (701) 840-2871 eden.drevecky@gmail.com





Parent Teacher Conferences are going to be held on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>! I am looking forward to a great turn out! It's fun to let parents know how much fun we are having learning and growing together.

On March 17<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated Saint Patrick's Day by wearing green and tasting green foods. Our list included snap peas, broccoli, carrots (our only orange food), sweet pickles, dill pickles, celery, kiwi, grapes, and pears. We served them with ranch! The kids had fun trying new things! As Elliot said, "I love everything!"

A big thank you to Mayor Fritz and Cheryl Weisenburger for donating books to the students for Easter! They love getting new books!

Registration for 2021-2022 Wee Care will be held on Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. The registration will be online only. Please see the information in the scroll for more details!

Blessings,
Tamara Martens



### Wee Care ONLINE Registration for 2021-2022 School Year

Tuesday April 6 - Form goes live at 7:00pm

### tinyurl.com/WeeCare2021 OR

### Wee Care Learning Center page on Facebook

Class spots will be filled in the order we receive the online registrations. Registration fee will not be required online, but must be submitted by April 16 to retain your child's registration. Details will be provided in your registration confirmation email.

If you have questions, call 701-425-8695 or ask us on Facebook.

- \*Licensed preschool
- \*Morning or afternoon sessions
- \*3 days per week Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
- \*Tuition \$150/month (scholarships available)
- \*\$35 registration fee
- \*Students must be 4 by August 1 to attend
- \*Fall classes begin September 7

#### A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP CRAIG

"'But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.'" So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." (Mark 16:7-8)

Sisters and brothers in Christ of the Western North Dakota synod, grace and peace to you from our risen Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ!

A few days before Easter Sunday 2020, I found myself on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River at the Double Ditch Indian Village State Historical Site. It was shortly before sunrise, a time of day that I am very rarely awake to see. I was recording a sermon that would be part of Good Shepherd's Easter Sunday worship service. An Easter Sunday worship service offered to an online worshiping community that formed in just a few short weeks as a global pandemic took hold of every part of life. A global pandemic that most of us believed would only last for a few more weeks and then everything would return to "normal" again.

As we worship together – online and in-person – on Easter Sunday this year, have things returned to "normal" yet? Maybe. Maybe not. Or maybe the better question to ask is, should they?

The Easter story from Mark's gospel that we hear this year speaks of fear, terror and amazement. Those are words that evoke emotions only found in an ancient Biblical story. They speak truth to each one of us. And there was far more than just one moment of terror and amazement in the past year. Social and political unrest in our nation and in nations around the world pitted neighbor against neighbor. Angry debates unfolded over how or if we should care for one another during the pandemic. It divided many of our congregations in ways they had never seen before and in ways that they may never fully recover from.

Like the women at the tomb, fear, terror, and amazement consumed us in 2020.

The young man dressed in a white robe who met Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome at the tomb said to them, "Do not be alarmed." The man goes on to tell them that Jesus has risen from the dead just as he said he would and that the risen Christ was going ahead of them. They didn't need to waste time longing for the "normal" they had known before Jesus' resurrection to return or angrily protest who they thought God loved more or argue about any variety of things that would divide their communities to the point of destroying them.

They were to confidently and joyfully go. They would meet Jesus there.

Life as they knew it would never return to the normal of before. And wherever their journey took them next, they would never journey alone.

Maybe this is what Easter Sunday is calling us to do in 2021? To confidently and joyfully go, knowing that wherever we go, God is with us.

As she reflected upon her life of the past year, one ELCA pastor said, "I am so afraid that I will never be who I once was. And I am also afraid that I will be."

My Easter message over the Missouri River bluffs last year offered a challenge us to be "hope carriers." The image of being hope carriers still resonates with me this year. You and I will never be who we were before 2020 began. And because of the resurrection, we do not have to be afraid of that truth. Happy Easter!

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Keith Pearson is our synod's Regional Gift Planner through a partnership with the ELCA Foundation. Keith can help provide management services to your congregation as well as help explore the variety of possibilities to help you arrange a planned gift. Contact Faith Simonieg for more information!

Mark Your Calendar: 2021 Synod Assembly June 4 & 5 at the Grand Hotel in Minot

### Happy Birthday to

- 1 Julie Mell, Kevin Evenson, Janice Kvamme
- 2 Benjamin Nordloef
- 3 Kelly Hanson, Andrea Craft, Alex Wilson
- 4 Kim Ellis, Henzlie Longmuir
- 5 Sarah Carkuff, Terry Anderson
- 6 Shane Bruhn
- 7 Connie Essler, Ron Hamers, Rudy Alvstad, Payton Erie
- 8 Austin Ellis, Yanci Crider, Teegan Sorenson, Carissa Bieri, Jacob Stordahl
- 9 Diane Kinnoin, Neil Faber, Brenda Nielsen
- 10 Jasmyn Giese, Kaley Uran, McKenzie Jarmin, Ava Hauge
- 11 Irvin Eliason, Christy Iverson, Heather Lee
- 12 Keith Karow Sr., John Anderson Jr., Brence Wilson
- 13 Jan Johnson, Dustin Roise, Levi Nichols
- 14 Norah Hermanson
- 16 Shane Ryals
- 17 Quentin Giese, Winnifred Kvamme, Josh Stordahl
- 18 Jessy Roise
- 19 Cleo Bykonen, Susan Arneson
- 20 Moxon Fritz Fettig
- 21 Garrett Dazell, Joann Ostdahl
- 23 Maxwell Meiers, Ty Fladeland, Muriel Bruhn
- 25 Steve Springan
- 26 Layne Rolfe, Karen McLaughlin
- 27 Pam Schunke, Aspen Locken, Layana Moore, Madden Kluck
- 28 Randal Reese, Kaydin Meiers, Jerimey Bruhn
- 30 Laura Paetz, Kennedi Fladeland

### Happy Anniversary

- 3 Gene & Carol Hanson
- 7 Jamie & Pam Germundson
- 7 Marvin & Geraine Johnson
- 11 Brett & Lindsey Ellvanger
  - 15 Lyle & Delina Lidstrom
    - 16 Matt & Sara Evans
- 20 Andrew & Ashlee Raasakka
  - 21 Corey & Melissa Bristol
  - 23 Gordon & Sharon Aas
- 23 Gary & Cheryl Weisenberger
  - 23 Roger & Darlene Vesey

### PRAIRIE LUTHERAN PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

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