



Greeting Prairie Lutheran Parish,

I write to you so I can try and keep everyone up to date on what's going on in our parish. Our parish council has been TERRIBLY busy. We normally meet quarterly each year, but this year is SO MUCH DIFFERENT, as we have met five times to date.

Parish council has voted to ask Bishop Craig to look for the interim pastor in our time of change. He tells us finding an interim pastor is like finding a unicorn right now, but they will do their best. I know that he has been in discussion with a few possible candidates for us and will keep us informed.

Our pulpit supply committee has been knocking it out of the park to keep us going with Sunday services. They continue making calls and emails to make sure we have someone in each church every week.

Our Lent and Easter season went very well. Thank you to everyone that made it happen, you did a great job. All the Lent offering we took in was \$1400 and donated to the S.A.C.K. program at the school.

It is with sadness I tell you that our church office manager Stacy Craft has resigned and her last day will be May 2nd. We have already started looking for her replacement.

On May 2nd Bishop Craig will lead us in a joint worship at ALC with a meal afterword. Please join us for this special day.

If you have questions, concerns, comments, or want to volunteer please call (701) 629-0373 or stop by my office at Prairie Ford.

Matt Evans, Prairie Lutheran Parish President

PRAIRIE LUTHERAN PARISH CONGRATULATES ALL OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

We are proud of your accomplishments and pray for your bright and bold future.

"But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." --Isaiah 40:31

CHURCH WEBSITE

Beth Wilhelmi and Stacey Mortensen are updating the church website. Please submit new photos you would like to see to: s.mortensen@live.com. We may not be able to feature all photos, but we aim to create a friendly and current image of our parish.

JOB POSTING

Prairie Lutheran Parish, a partnership of four congregations, based in Stanley, ND is looking for an Office Administrator.

Responsibilities include: computer literacy with working knowledge of Microsoft Office, be able to work in a team environment, and receptionist duties. This position starts with 20-30 hours per week based on demand with 1 week of vacation. Pay starts at \$18.00 per hour depending on qualifications. To apply, please send resume to kmhanson@midstatetel.com or call 701-621-6042. Applications close May 15, 2021.

American Lutheran

OPPEBOEN'S SCHOLARSHIP

High School Seniors planning to go to College, and College students, please stop at the office to pick up an Application for the Oppeboen's Scholarship. Due date to bring it back is May 15th!

ALC CONGREGATION MEETING!

There will be a Congregational Meeting for ALC on Sunday may 16, following worship service, to discuss the direction of ALC. (For example: how do you feel about being an ELCA church? Do you feel about being part of the 4 point parish?, etc...) We will also be talking about some by law changes. Please mark the date on your calendar and bring your questions and concerns!

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS!

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Holy Week/Easter services! We truly appreciate the time and effort from everyone to make these services happen!

ALC Church council met on Sunday April 18 for our monthly meeting. We will be redirecting our donation to Lutheran Social Services for the year to the S.A.C.K program. We will also be donating money to Mountrail County Social Services to help the families who were displaced by the apartment fire in New Town on Easter Sunday morning.

The Council would also like to invite everyone to our Congregational Meeting on May 16, following worship services!

We look forward to celebrating our graduating seniors this month!

WELCA

Happy Easter to everyone—YES, it's still Easter till May 16! Don't forget the "cross" & the lessons we have learned from it, just because the "holiday" is done!

We want to thank Ron H. & Chad H. & EVERYONE who helped them get our pop machine in & going! It was a mess after sitting outside for 2 yrs, but Ron cleaned it out & got it running—thank you! Thank you to Cheryl & Fritz & their family for arranging all the details in our church so nice for Easter—the church was beautiful & we all loved it! We are in need of someone to be in charge of the Evening WELCA. This can be made as easy as you want it to be—it's a chance for the members that can't take part during the day, to be together & do some small projects & have fellowship, too! YOU are needed! Call Maren & I can tell you any details you might like to know!

REMEMBER: "Grace from God" is Jesus dying on the cross & rising again, for YOU, & FOR ME, & FOR ALL PEOPLE!

Maren 629-1067

Upcoming June Serving Group- Green

Gordon & Sharon Aas
Tom Anderberg
Amanda Chilcoat
Bryan & Karen Davies
Carissa Decker
Robin Enget
Chase Enget
Kale Enget
Sue Evenson
Brian & Traci Hysjulien
Chad & Cammi Hysjulien

Cole & Lauren Hysjulien
Hod & Ruth Hysjulien
Gary & Judy Johnson
Lynette Johnson
Kevin & Michelle Kinnoin
Chase Lindberg
Dan Lindberg
Larry & Grace Lystad
Greg & Stacey Mortensen
Bey Neset

Jerry & Jennifer Neset
Reed Neset
Stacey Neset
Lance & Teri Ostdahl
Evonne Piepkorn
Ken & Donna Ranum
Bill & LaRae Rudolph
Amy Strasser
Robert Western
Bernard & Joanne Wirtz

Bethlehem

<u>A BIG THANK YOU</u> to everyone who made our Easter morning extra special!! To the LYO students and their families for the delicious "French toast" breakfast. To Eden Cuypers for the beautiful Easter message. To the Sunday School for the awesome singing. To the secret helpers for the Easter egg hunt. Praise the Lord for our Easter Celebration!! Christ Is Risen Indeed.. Alleluia!!

A big thank you also to all the readers for the Palm Sunday Worship!

Bethlehem will plan on serving communion the 3rd Sunday of every month. When an ordained minister fills in for pulpit supply there may be added Sundays.

<u>SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:</u> The older students continue with their Bible study on the book of James and the younger students learned more about Easter and Holy Week leading up to it. As SS winds down for the year, the kids brainstormed ideas of how to share their offering money. They have decided to divide it up and bless three different places. They will share those next month after those places receive their gifts. The year end bowling party is scheduled for Sunday April 25th after worship. Thanks to Ted and Jane for blessing our youth!

<u>MAY 2ND</u> will be a joint worship at 10:30 at ALC with Bishop Craig leading worship! There will be an organized **potluck dinner** to follow. Bethlehem has been asked to provide the dessert.

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

We will have a coffee hour in honor of our **2021 SHS Graduates** on Sunday May 16th after worship. Our graduates are Justin Germundson, Logan Lapica, and Eli Pappa.

A reminder the S.A.C.K. program is in need of donations. PO Box 10, Stanley, ND.

Remember to pray every Tuesday at noon!
How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! Psalm 133:1

-Peace, Diana-

Knife River

<u>JANITOR</u> for May is Camie Anderson. Thank you Camie! <u>WELCA</u> No meeting is currently scheduled and you will be notified when a meeting is to be held.

THANK YOU:

- -To those who helped served for the Lenten Services and also when we joined with Bethlehem and Faith for another Lenten Service. It was appreciated!
- To all those who were involved with the Palm Sunday Service It was indeed a special service!
- -To the Sunday School kids and teachers who put on the Easter Sunday Service. It was very well presented and the kids did a super job!
- -To the youth of our congregation who served breakfast before Easter Sunday worship. The free will offering collected was given to the LYO group to help fund their activities.

JOINT WORSHIP – SUNDAY, MAY 2ND AT ALC.
Bishop Craig will be leading this worship service at 10:30 a.m.

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalm 118:24

Faith Lutheran "May Flowers"

A lot of thank you's

1.) Jim Hollekim for removing snow at the church. 2.) To all that participated in the Passion Story on Palm Sunday. Kudos to all! 3.) All the fellas that served us our Easter breakfast. Well done! 4.) Sunday School kids and helpers that put on a program on Easter Sunday and for Monica that was the organizer of it all with the help of Kathryn and Angie.

Hats off to **Alex Wilson** as he graduates from Stanley High on May 23rd. We will have coffee & cake before church that day to honor him and congratulate him on his special day. Congrats to all the graduates as well.

Synod Convention is at the Minot Grand Hotel on June 4th & 5th. Delegates are Iva Fox & Debbie Haugen.

WELCA-Ladie's Aid meets on June 10th at 2pm at church. Hope circle serves.

Afternoon Bible Study meets on May 4th at 2pm at Katy Rolfe's home.

Evening Bible Study meets on May 5th at 3:00 at Janice K's home.

Altar: Barb & Jennifer Work: Darlene Bruhn & Darlene Vesey

Readers: 2nd-Joint Service at ALC at 10:30with Bishop Craig along with a potluck to follow. 9th-Janice O., 16th– Erin, 23rd-Wayne, 30th-Iva.

Sunday School as we approach the end of Sunday School I want to thank all the kids for coming and making the year fun in learning. Also a BIG thanks to all that helped put on the Easter program. Our last session of Sunday School is May 2nd, 9th & 16th at 9:30. Have a great summer everyone! -Kathryne-

Dates to Remember

May 9th-Mother's Day

May 13th– 40 days after Easter– Christ ascension into heaven.

May 15th– Armed Forces Day

May 17th—Shavuot-Jewish festival with dairy food meal, staying up all night reading the book of Ruth, hearing the 10 commandments. Starts evening of May16th through the 18th.

May 31st— Memorial Day Have a great month! -Debbie-



Mother the Camp! Donate to Camp Metigoshe's Kitchen in person or use Amazon

This summer we will have hundreds of hungry campers! Help fill your Bible camp's pantry by "mothering our camp." Any of the items listed here are items we use a lot at camp. Your donations add up to a significant cost savings. Drop off your items at the Chistian Center, summer camp at Pelican Lake of at your church in the month of May.

We also have a wish list on Amazon Smile as well. To access our wish list, go to: *smile.amazon.com/charitylists* and them search for Camp Metigishe. Thank you for "mothering" Camp Metigoshe.

Please place items in the tub at the back of the sanctuary at ALC through May 16th.

Clip & Save to Mother the Camp breakfast cereal chocolate chips drink mix old-fashioned peanut butter/jelly napkins/paper towe oatmeal canned fruit toilet paper tomato sauce pancake syrup dish soap canned vegetables honey mosquito spray brown/white sugar mayonnaise band aids powdered sugar pickles sunscreen flour Hershey Kisses® permanent markers gluten-free baking pasta Amazon Wish List mixes s'mores ingredients (see article)

MAY

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed |
|---|---|-----------------------|--|
| Worship Schedule 9am Bethlehem 9am Knife River 10:30am American 10:30am Faith | Wednesday Schedule 4pm Confirmation 4pm Church School 5pm Supper 6pm Bridge Worship | | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Joint Worship with Bishop Craig | 10am Quilting 6:30 Boy Scouts 8pm A.A. | 2pm Faith Bible Study | Cinco do 3pm Fait Study 7th-12th |
| 9 Mother's Day | 10 10am Quilting 6:30 Boy Scouts 8pm A.A. | 11 | 12 7th gradd LYO wrap |
| 16 ALC Congregational Mtg. | 17 10am Quilting 6:30 Boy Scouts 8pm A.A. | 18 | 19 No LYO |
| 23 Stanley High Graduation | 24 10am Quilting 6:30 Boy Scouts 8pm A.A. | 25 | 26 No LYO |
| 30 | 31 Memorial Day 10am Quilting 8pm A.A. | | |

| | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------|---|
| | | | 1 10am Al-Anon |
| | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Mayo Bible | 8am Men's Bible Study | 8pm A.A. | 10am Al-Anon |
| Grade LYO | | | |
| -12th grade -up | 8am Men's Bible Study 10am&2pm Wee Care Program | 14 8pm A.A. | 10am Al-Anon Synod Assembly registration dead- line |
| | 20 8am Men's Bible Study Last day of Wee Care | 21 8pm A.A. | 22 10am Al-Anon |
| | 27 8am Men's Bible Study | 28 8pm A.A. | 29 10am Al-Anon |



In recent scroll articles, the National Youth Gathering dates have been listed since the event was moved to July of 2022. This wonderful event will still be held in Minneapolis (their first time hosting the ELCA National Youth Gathering). Some key dates will be coming up in the next few months including volunteer and participant registration. Here are a few details for anyone who is curious about the gathering:

Who can attend?

- •Students who are in 8th-12th grade in the fall of 2021.
- •How do I volunteer at the gathering?
- •Applications for volunteers begin on May 22, 2021.
- https://elca.org/YouthGathering/FAQs

What is the gathering in Minneapolis?

- •Minneapolis is a great host city and has excellent venues for all our Gathering program needs.
- •Any Covid-related questions or concerns are also addressed here:
- https://elca.org/YouthGathering/COVID19

May will bring the last few LYO dates and a wrap-up for the school year. Then, we will have our summer LYO schedule which includes monthly activities and events where we can be outside more for activities or even venture to Minot.

May Schedule

- May 5th -- 7th-12th grade LYO
- •May 12th -- LYO Wrap-up for all 7th-12th grades
- •May 19th & 26th No LYO

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

Wednesday School

Wednesday school spring program was held on April 14th. The kids worked so hard and did a wonderful job singing! Our last day of Wednesday school was April 28th. We celebrated by having treats and playing at the park.

I want to give a huge THANK YOU to all of our volunteers/ teachers who help each week to make our Wednesday school program possible! Thank you BreeAnn Sorenson, George and Amy Littlecreek, Jennifer Partridge, Kim Vachal, Ashley Skarsgard, Kim Dupay, Michelle Davis, Abby Reep, Amy Walter, Katie Harwood, and Beth Gjellstad.

See you in the Fall 2021!



Wee Care Learning Center has been busy learning about plants. We sorted seeds and got to plant some flower seeds. We learned that they need three things in order to survive; water, sun, and soil. We read some books and found out that seeds can be carried by all kinds of things; wind, water, animals, and even people. We got to blow milkweed seeds around the classroom! It was so much fun moving our seeds.

We were lucky enough to purchase an incubator from a donation that was made to Wee Care. We are hatching chicks! Our "farm" eggs arrived last Monday and were place in the incubator. We will candle our eggs and see our baby chicks growing inside. We have an ovascope that allows us to rest an egg on its end and shine a light through the egg. We can see the baby's chick's eye and its little body moving around in the egg. Our chicks will hatch in 21 days! We will be waiting for our new babies to arrive the week of May 3rd!

Our Wee Care Spring program will be held on May. 13th at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. We are excited to sing some our favorite songs from the year. Our last day of Wee Care will be May 20th. Wee Care will start up again with the fall semester beginning on September 8th.

Wee Care registration for the 2021-2022 school year was held online on April 7th. We had 29 students register in 5 minutes and 12 seconds! Needless to say, we are 100% full for next year and have several students on the wait list! We are so excited to be welcoming another 30 students to preschool! A BIG thank you to Beth Wilhelmi for getting our online registration up and running!



Blessings, Tamara Martens, Wee Care Director



Food Pantry

The Mountrail Community Food Pantry provided 15,197 pounds of food in March to 117 families, for a total of 391 people, of which 152 were children and 43 were seniors.

We have made it through the winter, I believe! Our faithful volunteers have withstood the cold and the wind to make certain that folks got the food that they needed, standing outside taking the information while clients waited in their cars....then wagons of food would be pulled out to the waiting cars, loaded, and clients would be sent on their way with their food.

Never once did I hear a complaint about the cold or the wind. 😥 I'm not so sure I would have kept such a great attitude if it were me standing out there!! 😥 After careful consideration, it has been decided to open the doors to our pantry again, beginning in April, and go back to allowing clients to choose their own foods again. We have several safety protocols in place. We will limit the amount of people in the pantry at one time. We will implement our plexiglass screen. We will disinfect the wagon handles each time they are used. It's almost a little unnerving, after being closed for one year; but it will be good to get back into the more normal swing of things. We have had wonderful donations coming in....both food-wise and money-wise. (3) have had quite a treat these past few months....a young father and his little girl have decided to give back, so once a week, they come to the food pantry and vacuum for us!! What a meaningful memory they are making together!! And the joy that I see between father and daughter as they go about their work together tugs on a person's heartstrings. (3) The kindergarteners gifts of festive birthday bags are sure a hit! Each family that has a birthday(s) that month receives a bag (s). They have cake mixes, frosting, candles, sometimes even sprinkles, napkins, plates, forks...all in a pretty gift bag. (3) And just today, Stanley EOG employees brought over 40 bags of personal care products and laundry detergent!! This was quite an endeavor, and is very, very appreciated!! What a wonderfully caring community we live in!!! (3) As I write this, Easter is just a few days away. May the miracle and the joy of Easter shine brightly for us all. And if a person were to give their loved ones a little longer hug this year....that would be

Synod News



Love God. Love People.

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:39)

In July 2020, the Western North Dakota Synod was the first ELCA synod to hold an online only, all digital Synod Assembly. It was quite the undertaking! By the grace of God, we did it. We met to pray, to worship,

to study scripture, to hear about the good work God is doing through our church, and to elect our next Bishop. To be honest, in so many ways, last year's Synod Assembly feels like a lifetime ago.

In just a few short weeks, we will gather again in Synod Assembly. And we will once again pray together, worship, study scripture, hear about the good work God is doing through our church, and elect leadership to serve on Synod Council, ELCA Church Council, synod committees, and as voting members at the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. We will also be invited to attend complimentary receptions to get to know one another a little better (Thursday evening) and celebrate the incredible staff our synod is blessed to have (Saturday morning). Our gathering as Synod Assembly will look different again this year. But it will still be sacred and holy time.

The 2021 Western North Dakota Synod Assembly will focus our hearts and minds upon Jesus' command to love our neighbor. To love your neighbor as yourself. Period. Seems simple enough. The past fifteen months or so in our life together as God's children have proven just how hard Jesus' commandment is to live out along our faith journey.

As we gather – on-line and in-person – we will celebrate the many ways God has worked through us to love our neighbor, we will confess the many times we have failed to love our neighbor, and we will seek the Holy Spirit's guidance as God calls us into new ministry opportunities to love our neighbor in our congregations, across the synod, and around the world.

Whether you are attending Synod Assembly on-line or in-person this year, I look forward to seeing you soon!

God's peace, Bishop Craig

Synod Assembly Information

2021 Western North Dakota Synod Assembly
Grand Hotel in Minot and Online
Friday, June 4, 2021 – All plenary sessions and banquet
Complimentary celebrations hosted by Synod Council on Thursday
evening, June 3 and Saturday morning, June 5.

Voting members will be able to choose between participating in-person or online. For more information and to register as a voting member, visit:

http://wndsynod.org/synod-assembly/

No in-person visitor registrations will be allowed due to capacity restrictions. All are invited to follow the assembly live on Facebook on June 4 at: https://www.facebook.com/wndsynod

Registration Deadline: May 15 Late Registrations accepted through May 30 (add \$50 late fee) No Registrations will be accepted after May 30

Hunger Ride will be June 1-3 and will journey around the Minot area, bicycling to raise awareness and funds for ELCA World Hunger. Contact Mike Olson at 701-240-0770 or mikeolson20@gmail.com

Happy Birthday to

- 1 Dave Brown, Mabel Howell, Sydney Craft
- 2 Calum Sorenson
- 3 Jessa Longmuir
- 4 Kelly Wittmayer, Sadee Uran, Eric Ostdahl
- 5 Shadoe Sveen
- 7 Alex Johnson, Deanna Haugen, Lisa Uran, Grady Uran, Waylon Dazell
- 8 Halle Larson, Alexis Koester
- 9 Julia Jones
- 10 Jason Barstad
- 11 Robert (Hod) Hysjulien, Jerome Lautenschlager,
 Dawn Evenson, Bill Rudolph, Andie Roise, Mark Longmuir
- 12 Rydge Gjellstad, Stacy Craft
- 14 Judy Johnson
- 15 Jack Wilhelmi, Cooper Rismon, Parker Manson, Curt Trulson, Jim Enge, Arlan Ostdahl
- 16 Kevin Craft
- 17 Wayne Evans
- 18 Chancey Henin
- 20 Nala Fladeland, Lillian Johnson
- 21 David Colbenson, Ryan Faber, Sawyer Skarsgard
- 22 Kelly Evenson, Linda Wienbar
- 23 Judy Vedaa, Tanya Skaar, Brett Ellvanger
- 25 Sophie Vachal, Evan Meiers
- 26 Joanne Wirtz, Lane Gandrud, Lexi Ann Neset, Sadie Carkuff
- 27 Beth Wilhelmi, Traci Hysjulien, Debbie Lund
- 28 Jordan Larson, George Littlecreek, Waylon Bruhn, Chandler Vachal
- 29 Carol Mehus, Jordan Evans, Jana Enger
- 30 Robert Western, Tara Swegarden, Bev Fretheim, Darla Craft, Howard Rolfe
- 31 Leonard Stettner

Happy Anniversary

- 3 Ryan and Beth Gjellstad
- 3 Larry & Grace Lystad
- 6 Grady & Lisa Uran
- 8 Monte & BreAnn Lund
- 9 Philip & Cassandra Petz
- 9 <mark>- Jake & Jess</mark>ica Niemitalo
- 9 Shane & Stephanie Pappa12 George & Amy Littlecreek
- 18 David & Barbara Nesheim

- 25 Howard & Kathy Rolfe
- <mark>26 -</mark> Gary & Kaylen Nordloef
- 27 Scott & Nancy Meiers
- 28 Jason & Andie Roise
- 28 Jennifer and Brian Manson
- 29 Charles and Claranne Baddeley
- 31 Carter & Kayla Hill

PRAIRIE LUTHERAN PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

PO BOX 310 | Stanley, ND 58784 | (701) 628-2550

Stacy Craft, Office Manager office@prairielutheranparish.org (701) 628-2550

Marichel Mariscal, Parish Treasurer alcstanley@hotmail.com (701) 628-2550

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

Prairie Lutheran Parish Stanley, ND 58784 PO BOX 310

NON-PROFIT ORG U.S.POSTAGE PAID

PERMIT NO. 31

STANLEY, N.D. 58784

Address Service Requested