GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH



January 2018 Newsletter

From the Desk of Pastor David Maxfield

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is the day after Christmas. Our refrigerator was too full and the milk carton too empty, so I bundled up for a trip to a local store. Mindful that the day after Christmas is a shopper's holiday I braced myself for the onslaught. Like a running back maneuvering through the line I wove and darted around, behind and through the defense arriving at the cooler and the prize of a gallon of milk (No, I did not sit and do "duck, duck grey duck"- a solo version would look rather peculiar).

Task at hand I could meander back toward the cash register. I looked, I listened, and was rather saddened by what I saw.

It wasn't the barren shelves which just hours before stored the last minute treasure. It wasn't the sound of music now playing the daily fair from the satellite, it wasn't even the Valentine Candy. Or was it?

Another reminder of our instant society. Been there... done that... got the present. It's always time to move on. Can't wait, can't savor, don't have time to ponder. Maybe that **is** the reason for the sadness of the soul- its been barely 24 hours since we celebrated the birth of Jesus and already Christmas is boxed up, shelved up, silenced we can get ready for the next big thing (how about a new crooner's tune "I'm dreaming of a Purple Super Bowl, not like the ones I used to know).

I know we need to get back home, back to work and the clock waits for no one, so how can you and I take the wonder of Christmas and allow it to marinade our stressed-out souls?

In the Church year, Christmas does not end on Dec.25 but begins with the celebration of Jesus' birth and continues until Jan 6-the Epiphany of our Lord. Some traditions (especially in Europe) share their gifts on the 12 day to honor the gifts of the Wise men, some (like the Finnish) have a big bonfire where the trees are gathered and carols sang one last time before hot apple cider and cookies are consumed.

If you have an Advent wreath at home, continue to light it every day, if you have put it away light one white candle. Read the childhood account of Luke (chapter 2: 21-40), listen to Simeon and Anna, remember your childhood adventure and recall the journey of parenthood. In Matthew (chapter 2) journey with the Wise men and meet the political scoundrel named Herod. Listen to the mothers' cry as their children are taken and pray for a world where not much has changed in 2000 years- except for one baby...

Pondering, praying this is how we make the longest journey of faith- from the head to the heartit is a way to savor and celebrate the wonder of Christmas long after the shelves are cleared.

Shalom & Happy New Year!

Pastor David



Happy Holiday's from the Worship Committee!

The worship committee would like to thank you all for another wonderful year and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year! We are excited and can not wait to see what 2018 will bring for our church family.

Chelsey Vinger, Linda Clemes, Kathy Molland, Dave Rod, Paul Solomonson, Peggy Hagen, Steve Peters, and Clair Keene!

Hello from Parish Ed Committee!

Parish Ed News:

The church school kids from Sunday and Wednesday night practiced for the annual Christmas Concert that they performed on December 17th. The kids really enjoyed the parts they acted out and singing the Christmas Songs. Thank you for all the parents and volunteers for helping us make it another great performance.

412Youth News:

The 5th, 6th and 7th Graders decorated Santa Hats, boarded a bus and headed out to sing Christmas Carols at Bethel Homes, Arbor House and Golden Estates. Some of the kids even got to sing to their Grandparents. Thank you to the Glory Band for coming with us and helping us stay in tune!

We would also like to thank everyone that placed orders for Christmas paper and gifts to support the Mission Trip this summer. The kids raised just over \$1200.00 from the sales. The kids also raised about 400.00 from two days of babysitting.

February 11th, 412Youth and Parish Ed will be hosting a Bingo Events starting at noon. This family event is open to everyone in the community. Proceeds will go to 412Youth Mission Trip and Parish Ed 's Scholarship Fund. Look for more information to come as we get closer to the date.

Confirmation News:

8th & 9th Grade Confirmation students worked with Bill Christensen on making Christmas Ornaments that were handed out to the residents at Bethel, Arbor House and Golden Estates when Confirmation went Caroling with the 412Youth group.

Classes resume for Wednesday's Group on January 3rd and January 7th for the Sunday School class. We hope that you had a wonderful and blessed Christmas and New Year.

Happy New Year, Georgette Huravitch, Rachael Studsrud, Liz Shupe, Sherry Weyrauch, Steph Amundson, Heidi Clemes, Ann Nelson, and Kami Dornfeld.

Greetings from Stewardship Committee!

The Stewardship Committee is working with the Worship Committee on recruiting new worship volunteers. Watch for volunteer descriptions in upcoming newsletters. Volunteers are needed for: usher, communion server, acolyte, greeter, treats and setup/cleanup for coffee hour. Please contact a committee member or the church office for additional information.

The Stewardship Committee -

Wendy McGinley, Kent Reierson, Alberta Parisien, Rick Clemes & James Bervig

Stewardship is...

Just as what a person does with finances cannot be separated from the person's faith in Jesus Christ, what a congregation does with finances cannot be separated from the spiritual life of the congregation. Jesus talks about money a lot. His talk about money always deals with money as a spiritual matter. "Stewardship is everything I do after I say I believe." "Stewardship is about money and a whole lot more." The Church has talked about the three T's of Stewardship: time, talent and treasure.



Working together to be a community where all people are valued.



Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.

Romans 5:1-2

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Paul opened his letters to churches with this greeting. Our pastors greet us this way on Sunday mornings. What a beautiful greeting, full of blessing for anyone that receives it. People of other faiths greet each other with similar sentiments. We are all familiar with the word "Shalom," meaning peace. What a blessing to bestow on someone as we greet them or say goodbye. Imagine how many people we could bless with the simple word of peace.

There are people in our community that do not feel the grace and peace that God our Father wants them to feel. They are struggling to feed their families, may be living in their car, have mental health challenges or simply don't know how to navigate through this new world of applying for jobs on-line. This is where Community Connections can help guide them as they simply try to find their way.

2017 was an extremely busy year and 2018 promises to be just as busy or even busier. We are working with more and more churches in the area. We are also working to find those gaps in service for people in need and partnering with churches and agencies to develop the best possible care for individuals that have needs in the gap areas. We are excited to continue this work and serve God our Father with the grace and peace we have been granted.

Peace be with you all and a blessed 2018.

Lynea Geinert, Deacon Executive Director

603 Main Street #2 Williston, ND 58801

701-713-6783 community connectionswilliston@outlook.com

January BIRTHDAYS

01/01 RICK BONSNESS LELAND BOSTROM MARILYN ROOKS RUSSELL SOLBERG

01/02 BRAYDEN BORRESON CARTER BORRESON GRACIE BORRESON KEIRA BORRESON CAROLE HEALY BARBARA OVERLAND JOHN SALVEVOLD

01/03 BONNIE KOLDEN DAXTON MURPHY GARRETT SOLBERG

01/04 DIANE NELSON BERT STORLIE

01/05 DEAN BENTH BROOKE STUNDAL JOAN THOMPSON JAREK WIGNESS

01/06 LISA BORRESON TAVIA OVERLAND

01/07 BARBARA HAUGSDAL NICK LIPPERT PHILIP RABON

01/08
PAUL AABERG
JOAN BEKKEDAHL
DICK MCKENNETT
DOLORES SCHNEIDER
KAYLA SWENSON
JAMAR WALTON

01/09 ALLAN GREENFIELD HAYDEN OWAN LACEY PETERSON TERRI WILDER

01/10 DAKOTA COTTAM 01/11
AUSTIN ANDERSON
BETTY HEGGE
COLTON LARSON
MCKENZIE LARSON
EVERHETT ZIEBARTH

01/12 TRAYCE BURWELL BILL CHRISTENSEN RICHARD LUDWIG JAMASON MATHERS JASON THOMPSON

01/13 CHARLES LOTVEDT TYLER SCHAAN SEAN STUDSRUD

01/14 ASHLEY FAGERLAND CALLIE NASS JAXON VONDALL

01/15 JEREMY BAKKEN JESSICA VESTAL

01/16
MATT LLEWELLYN
WYATT LLEWELLYN
KEITH OVERLAND
BRITYN WALLIN
DUFFY WEYRAUCH
CAROLYN WHITECLOUD

01/17 BURNETTA FAGERLAND MELANIE STILLWELL RYLAND STILLWELL

> 01/18 KAREN GARAAS SHAWN HOLM MACK JOHNSON

01/19
KALLYN BRUNELLE
KAYLEEN CHARBONNET
LARRY OLSON
JORDAN PETERSON
SKYLAR ROBB
GABE SLOTSVE

01/20 TARA IRGENS 01/21 HADEN BERGSTROM DOLAN NELSON

01/22 JOSHUA BLOXHAM BRAXTON HANSON LUKE REEB TONYA THOMPSON

01/23 CHAZ BAKKEN LOREN SANDVOLD

01/24 KIM ENGEN SOPHIA FRITSCH

01/25 DEB KEMP DIANA MURPHY

01/26 ALAN CLARK ALISON MISCHKE KIRK SOISETH

01/27
COLTEN HANSEN
SID HAUGE
JANELL MCKECHNIE
KEYTON OPSAL
JIM SEMINGSON
LACEY SIME

01/28
CRAIG ANDERSON
DOROTHY BOSTROM
CHERYL HAUGENOE
LANELL LEDOSQUET
MARG MCKENNETT

01/29 DEBRA OAS

01/30
EMILY ALTON
SKYE CARRAWAY
JACOB GOFF
KALEB GOFF
SCOTT STUDSRUD
TIM VADER
ROBYN WADE

01/31 BRENDA COLLINS AUBREY NASS CHASE A. OLSON



December Memorials

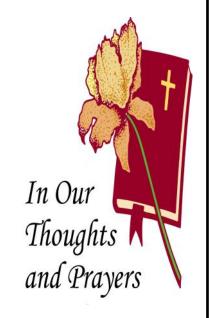
In Memory of Rose Slette

Mortgage Reduction Fund
Rodney & Sandy Opperud
John & Lois Kuester
Stanley & Nina Grev
Floyd & Donna Peterson
Dick & Marg McKennett
Brian & Kathy Engberg
Etta Miller
Holly Austreim
Kari & Pete Borseth
Greg & Charysse Everson
Anna Remsburg
Jean Lewis
Anonymous

Campership
Ron & Deb Bingeman

In Memory of Eleanor Sathre

Mortgage Reduction Fund
Jan Williams
Roy & Kathy Trogstad



In Memory of Jean Krenz

Mortgage Reduction Fund
John & Lois Kuester
Rick & Janet Tangedal

In Memory of Joy Rockstad

Mortgage Reduction Fund
John & Lois Kuester



FAITH5™ (FAITH ACTS IN THE HOME)

FAITH5 is a simple, easy-to-implement faith practice, perfect for incorporating into your bedtime routine for five to fifteen minutes a night. When done over time, the **FAITH5** carries the power to enrich

the **FAITH5** carries the power to enrich communication, deepen understanding, aid sleep, and promote mental, physical and spiritual health.

- SHARE your highs and lows
- READ a Bible verse or story
- TALK about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows
- PRAY for one another's highs and lows
- BLESS one another

For more FAITH5 resources go to faith5.org

ANNUAL MEETING

DATE: JANUARY 28TH

TIME: IMMEDIATELY

FOLLOWING

10:45 AM SERVICE

POTLUCK DINNER WILL
BE SERVED



Parish Ed/ Youth Bingo Fundraiser

DATE: FEBRUARY 11TH

TIME: NOON - 3:30 PM

FUNDRAISER FOR 412 MISSION TRIP & PARISH ED CAMPERSHIP FUND



The 2017 Williston Area Christmas Closet

Once again, the Christmas Closet doors have closed for another year. Our 2017 event was our most successful yet! Between our two shopping days, we had 301 people come through our doors to find items both for Christmas gifts and, often, to fill an immediate need. It's simply amazing the far-reaching impact this event has had on people in our area. This year's shoppers bring our four-year total to over 900 shoppers. Unbelievable! That means that the total number of people affected by the Christmas Closet in four years is into the *thousands*. Can you imagine?

Yet again, we had a number of remarkable volunteers who helped us out. Several of our members, many of whom are Christmas Closet volunteer alumni, showed up in big numbers to help us get set up on both Wednesday and Friday, and then came during the shopping events on Thursday and Saturday too! We had gift wrappers, reorganizers, stockers, and loaders. We even had a couple of personal shoppers who helped a few of our guests who benefited from a little personal attention. J

A huge Christmas Closet thank you goes out to GDLC's wonderful 412 Youth Group! On the Wednesday evening before our first event, the 412 kids worked hard on bringing donations from the church school rooms down to the Fellowship Hall. Other kids then helped unload those donations from boxes and bags to display them on tables. Their presence was such a wonderful help, and the Fellowship Hall went from a church school dinner to a fully stocked shopping event in approximately 45 minutes!

Thank you, again, to the congregation of Gloria Dei for your generosity and help with this year's Christmas Closet. This event quite literally would not be possible without your donations, your time, and your prayers. We are endlessly grateful for all of you! Keep an eye out for our return in November 2018 for the fifth annual Christmas Closet!



Gospel Seed.. January 2018

A Monthly Update from the 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.

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



November 2017 Financials

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General Checking Account:	
November 1 2017 General Checking Account Balance	198,879.55
November Offering	+28,543.82
November Expenses	(27,505.77)
November 30 2017 General Checking Account Balance	\$199,917.60
Special Checking Account:	
November 1 2017 Special Checking Account Balance	258,735.52
November Specials Offering	+24,644.03
November Expenses	(10,423.55)
November 2017 Special Checking Account Balance	\$272,956.00
Benevolences:	
WND Synod—ELCA Benevolence	1741.81
WND Synod- WND Benevolence	199.06
UMM Bible Camp Benevolence	248.83
Bethel Lutheran Home Benevolence	174.18
Lutheran Social Services Benevolence	<u>124.42</u>
Total Benevolences for November	\$2488.30
Thrivent Mortgage Payment	\$6552.00
Building Loan Balance as of November 20, 2017	\$189,923.93

December Council Meeting Highlights

Committee Reports -

Pastor's report — Pastor David thanked the council and congregation for their support during the illness and loss of Margaret's mother in November.

Evangelism – Committee isn't meeting during the month of December.

Property - Work night is 2nd Monday of each month as the committee continues to work hard on their list of tasks.

Worship – Sanctuary was decorated for Christmas season and committee served church school dinner on December 6.

Stewardship — Number of pledge cards received by church is down from prior years; committee will work on ways to encourage giving from members.

Parish Ed – Church school Christmas Program is December 17th at 9:45 am.

Nominating – Open positions for council

Vice President, Secretary, Worship - 1, Youth - One youth



Visit www.gloriadeiwill.org and sign up for online giving. Click on the 'Give' tab and create an account. If you have any questions, please call the office at 701-572-2667.

Faith Lutheran Church





Faith News January 2018
Bill Christensen

"The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

A voice of one calling in the wilderness, prepare the way for the Lord,

make straight paths for Him." Mark 1:1,3

By the time you read this newsletter we will be starting a New Year with all the wonderment of what will God do next? Christmas lasts twelve days and soon the magi will arrive to worship the new born King Jesus and present Him their gifts. We have been talking a lot about gifts lately and that we are all blessed to have gifts and talents that Jesus can use to make this a better world for all to live in. The one gift Jesus wants from all of us is our presence in worship of Him as the magi came and did. We may not have gold, frankincense, and myrrh to offer when we leave to return to our daily lives like the magi. Like John the Baptist we can call others to the attention that our Messiah is here now and is here forever. Like Little Billy said on Christmas Eve, "Spot and the animals {the lamb, cow, donkey, and camel} were announcing the birth of our Savior Jesus, and that is the best gift I will ever receive!" We tell others the story of Jesus when we use the gifts and talents that God has given us the way that God wants us to use them. Sometimes we even use have to use words. I pray that you all will have a joyful and blessed New Year living in the grace of our Lord Jesus.



- Annual meeting will be held January 14th following worship.
- Potluck fellowship dinner January 14th following the annual meeting.
- Faith Women of the ELCA will meet January 6th. Hostess Sharon Moline.

 Bible Study leader Joanne Njos.
- Cleaning for January Larry & Joanne Njos.

Worship Faith Lutheran Sunday Schedule Worship Gloria Dei Saturday Schedule Stephen Ministries - 10 AM Bible Breakfast - 8 AM VES - 8 AM 10:00 AM 5:00 PM Sat 20 13 27 Fri 61 36 17 Bible Study - 1 PM & 6 PM Bible Study - 1 PM & 6 PM JANUARY 2018 Evangelism - 6 PM Council - 6:00 PM Property - Noon Gideons - 6 PM Thu 18 25 IISupper 5:30 PM
Education Hour 6 PM
Extended Youth Group 7 PM
Glory Band 8 PM Supper 5:30 PM
Education Hour 6 PM
Extended Youth Group 7 PM
Glory Band 8 PM Supper 5:30 PM
Education Hour 6 PM
Extended Youth Group 7 PM
Glory Band 8 PM 5:30 PM Extended Youth Group 7 PM Glory Band 8 PM 8 PM 6 PM No Church School Education Hour Glory Band Glory Band Glory Band Glory Band Wed 10 Quilting - 9 AM Stephen Ministries - 6:30 PM Quilting - 9 AM Stephen Ministries - 6:30 PM Stephen Ministries 6:30 PM Quilting - 9 AM Stephen Ministries - 6:30 PM Quilting - 9 AM Stephen Ministries - 6:30 PM Quilting - 9 AM Exec Meeting — 5:30 PM Tue 16 30 23 GDLC Work Night - 5:30 PM Tri County Childcare - 7 PM SOS - 7 PM SOS - 7 PM Mon 15 22 50 Gloria Dei Summer Schedule Contemporary following 10:45 Service Sr. High Youth- 7 PM Sr. High Youth- 7 PM Sr. High Youth 7 PM Coffee Hour GDLC Annual Meeting Traditional 9:30 - Church School Worship Worship No Church School Annual Meeting Faith Lutheran 8:30 AM 10:45 AM Sun 9:30 AM 14 21

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Judy Hogue

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Stewardship

Wendy McGinley

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