# GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH



JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER

# From the Desk of Pastor David Maxfield

#### Dear Friends in Christ

#### Summer thoughts...

The late evening sunset and the endless Dakota horizon are two of my favorite joys of summer. I can stand mesmerized by the stunning beauty which God paints before my eyes on a daily basis. Where do you find moments of wonder?

Recently we were flying back to Williston after some time away. On the ground a thunderstorm delayed our departure by over three hours. I would like to tell you that I was all "sunshine and happiness" but in all honesty I was just as grumpy and growly as the skies overhead. I was glad we were finally airborne as we climbed beyond the 30,000 altitude I looked out the window of the aircraft. There off to the left was a huge anvil-headed thundercloud. Its flat headed top was much higher than we would ever climb. The immensity of that cloud made it seem like an oval with an endless circumference. Then came the lightening from deep within the bowels of that heavenborne mass. I was speechless. We were a safe distance and the pilot had told us we had been re-routed around that storm system. But from my seat our large airliner seemed oh so small, and once more the words of the classic hymn came to mind,

Oh Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, Consider all the worlds thy hand has made. I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder Thy power throughout the universe displayed...

Soon we shall celebrate the 244th anniversary of the signing of the *Declaration of Independence*.

As we celebrate with hotdogs and hamburgers, with fireworks and celebrations please keep these words in mind...

...We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness...

What ever your political persuasion, whatever your thoughts on the hot-button issues of the day, I hope you will take time to ponder these words and their place in our lives as a nation. Then however you are so inspired please take a moment to whisper a prayer of thanks.

I would like to invite you to a special concert. On Sunday, July 22 at 7:00 pm, we will welcome to Gloria Dei Jerry and Karin Gunderson and their music ministry "Heavenly Harp". A graduate of Concordia College in Moorehead, Minnesota, Karin is a professional musician and music therapist. She discovered her special ministry as she shared her gift with people of all ages, especially the elderly and those in hospice care. It will be an uplifting, inspiring evening. Watch for details as we are exploring a pre-concert pot-luck or picnic, invite a neighbor and come to be blessed. A Free Will offering will be received.

Treasure each day, be aware of the wonder hidden in the here and now, and delight in the goodness of God.

Shalom,

Pastor Dave

# Church Committees.... WHODOES WHAT

### **Hello from The Worship Committee!**

We at the Worship Committee hope you are all enjoying your summer and that you are bringing Jesus, along with Flat Jesus, with you on your many adventures! We are putting the finishing touches on our Worship in the Park service and talking about some exciting up and coming possibilities to our church! Stay Tuned!

Chelsey Vinger, Ashley Weisz, Linda Clemes, Kathy Molland, Clair Keene, Dave Rod, Peggy Hagen, and Steve Peters.

#### Hello from Parish Ed & 412 Youth!

We had another successful VBS this year. Over 80 kids registered this year! Thank you to everyone that helped make it such a success. Thank you to the committees also for your support in making meals for the kids.

We are in need of support for this upcoming year for church school and youth. We will be asking members to help with teaching, teachers helper, and meals for Wednesday night. We will have more specific information when we get a little closer.

#### **Upcoming dates:**

July 11<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>: 412Youth Trip to Minneapolis (Please say some prayers for a safe and spirit filled trip!)

July 25<sup>th</sup>: Youth Picnic in the Park- Dakota Park 5:30-7:30

Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> will be the start of Church School, 412Youth and Confirmation Classes.

We are asking the congregation to say some prayers for our ministry. As we grow in numbers we struggle to find volunteers to help with the kids and youth.

Please pray that God will understand our needs and our passions to teach the kids and youth to know and love him. Pray that our volunteers will have the passion for Christ in their hearts and minds and the patients and understanding for the children. Pray that the past and future volunteers know how much they are needed and how thankful we are for all that they do. Pray that the kids know that they are loved by God and by this church family. And lastly, pray for the parents of these children, that they will again this year understand the importance of the love of God in their children's' lives. Amen.

Thank you in advance for your prayers.

Parish Education Committee and 412Youth Leaders,

Heidi Clemes, Sherry Weyrauch, Kami Dornfeld, Georgette Huravitch, Bobbi Gathman, Wendy Slotsve, Ann Nelson













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

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; In you I trust, O my God.

Psalm 25:1

We had the privilege and fun of working with the Booze Fighters Motorcycle Club to provide bicycles to the children of some of our clients. The people of the club did a wonderful job of raising funds to buy new bicycles. Businesses in the community contributed food so we could have a celebratory barbeque. We want to thank Coca Cola Williston, Cash Wise, Albertsons, Dairy Queen, Hardees and Smiling Moose for their wonderful contributions of food and beverages.





603 Main Street #2 Williston, ND 58801

701-713-6783 community connectionswilliston@outlook.com



Worship Committee is excited to announce the return of Flat Jesus! Gloria Dei loved seeing where Flat Jesus popped up with our members, visitors, and friends last summer, and we can't wait to see where He goes this year. Printouts of Flat Jesus are available in the Gathering Area, and we encourage you to pick one up and take Him with on your travels this summer as a reminder that no matter where we may be, He is always with us! Visiting family? Going overseas? Taking a cruise? Attending worship elsewhere while out of town? Going camping? Heading off to college? We would love to see where you and Flat Jesus will go this summer! Pick up a printout and include Him in your summer photos – just be sure to email the pictures to office@gloriadeiwill.org so we can all enjoy the reminder that Jesus goes with us wherever we may be!

# BIRTHDAYS

07/01
KATIE HANSEN
TIM KLEVEN
DAKOTA OSTER
KEIANA RONESS
JOSH SOLEM

07/02 DEEANN GRUNDSTAD JADA OSBORN

07/03 BRADON CERKONEY TYLER COLEBANK KARLA SHEETS BETTY TVEDT

07/04
BRITTANY FARSTVEET
NORM HANSON
JEFF KLEVEN
TANNER SCHAAN

07/05
DIANE ANDERSON
HUDSON FARSTVEET
MOLLY GATHMAN

07/06
DAN LERVICK
DEB NOESKE
WINIFRED SCHIELE
JAN STONER

07/07
KYLIE BOLDT
JORDAN BRACKEY
CHRIS HURAVITCH
RON LAWRENCE
MIRIAM THEIGE

07/08 BRANDON BENTH JIM ENGEN KRISTI OLSON

07/09 JADEN LYNCH PAUL OLSON

07/10
KASI BERGSTROM
RYLEE IRGENS
KEEGAN REDKA
SHANNA RUDE
GARY SUNDET

07/11
LEON BRACKEY
JEFF GRAUPE
RAE OLSON
ASHLEY OWAN
KATHY TROGSTAD
CLARENE VEE
ALAN WENSTAD

07/12
KENTON CARNELL
CODY KREIL

07/13 ADELYNN KNUTSON

07/14
GEORGE CONOVER
ZOANNI LIFFRIG
BRYCE PARISIEN
CATHELEEN STRINDEN

07/15
DAVE CHALLES
CLAY GAFKJEN
MATT KOHLER
MARY JO NEUBAUER
KASETEN QUAMME
CARL ZEMAN

07/16 SADIE GRAUPE BEV ZAHN

07/17 KATHY BRIGHAM VERNA COLBY

07/18 BOBBIE KOHLER

07/19
SHANNON BACHMEIER
NIKOLE HELLEN
JAXON JEANNOTTE
ZACK NELSON
RYLAN WOLD

07/20
EMILY EHLERT
TY GERRARD
MARTY HAUG
JAY SOLEM
OWEN THEIGE

07/21
NANCY HOLGERSON
KYMBREE HOLM
LYNN LEININGER
LEON SIME
ROSALIE TRONES

07/22 KERRY MONSON

07/23 BRAD KJORSTAD HAYLEE MOLDENHAUER JERRY OPSAL MONIQUE WISNESS

07/24 JAMISON NEUBAUER

> 07/25 TAMSEN ALLEN LAURIE GARBEL JAYDIS RAMSEY HAILEY VADER

07/26 BRAYDEN HELLER WAYNE KAMP SCOTT SIM JADEN WYMAN

07/27
STEPHANIE BRACKEY
LANDON EDWARDS
KELSEY ENGBERG
GARRETT HOLTE
TAMMY LACROSSE
HEATHER POWELL
KENNEDY WHRITENOUR
TENLEIGH WROLSON

07/29
APRIL COLLINGS
BRIE MOLDENHAUER
MADISON NELSON

07/30 JASON BARTEN VICKI HAUGE MORGAN STRIETZEL

> 07/31 RYAN WICKUM



## **HEAVENLY HARP**

Ready to relax? Need a break? Join us for the Heavenly Harp concert Sunday, July 22nd at 7 PM at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Enjoy inspiring and peaceful music featuring harp, piano and vocals along with wonderful stories of God's presence and provision. This is a great opportunity to reach out to friends and neighbors, so invite someone to join you. No ticket fees: a free will offering will be accepted. CDs and DVDs will be available and author, Karin Gunderson, will be signing her book, "Encounters with Heaven~ Stories of God's Surprising Presence." See you there!

DATE: SUNDAY, JULY 22nd TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH





### FALL BAZAAR

Needed co-chairs for the FALL BAZAAR!

A fun opportunity to help in what I consider a GREAT time of FELLOWSHIP and getting acquainted with members you may have seen or even knew their name, but will learn more about their interests and faith walk.

Our Bazaar date typically is the Saturday before Thanksgiving, so that would mean this years potential date is November 17<sup>th</sup>.

We have strong group leadership in all areas and have people from the past that have provided great notes so individuals can step in and fill the role.

Please contact me with any questions and watch for a scheduled meeting in August to start our plans.

Thank you, Deb Bingeman 701-572-6155



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# <u>June Memorials</u>

#### **In Memory of Charles Frazier**

Mortgage Reduction
Bonnie Kolden

#### **In Memory of Terry Kuester**

Memorial Fund Harold & Arlene Tvedt

# Communion to the Homebound

This month Pastor Betty Czubay will begin volunteering at assisting our congregation with home communions. She will visit on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. Pastor Betty looks forward to visiting with you. She has one request: Please do not offer snacks because she is a diabetic. Thank you!

# Steve's Corner

#### **Seminary Update**

Greek starts on July 23 and my books have been ordered. Pastor Nicole Martin at Good Shepherd Lutheran has offered to help mentor me (and keep on task when I feel like running away from class), so I believe I am set up for success. Wartburg Seminary fast fact: 50 students in my cohort this spring. 38 long distance, 12 residential; the new collaborative and distance learning programs are enabling more people to answer the call to serve in the church, that would normally not be able to do so. All praise to God!

#### Amazing Hymn/Song Story: Great Is Thy Faithfulness

While many hymns are born out of a particular dramatic experience, this hymn was simply the result of the author's morning by morning realization of God's personal faithfulness. Thomas Obadiah Chisholm was born in a log cabin in Kentucky. Without the benefit of high school or advanced training, he began his career as a school teacher at the age of sixteen, in the same country schoolhouse where he had received his elementary training.

When he was twenty-one, he became the associate editor of his home town weekly newspaper, *The Franklin Favorite*. Six years later he accepted Christ as his personal Savior during a revival meeting. Later Chisholm was ordained to the Methodist ministry but was forced to resign after a brief pastorate because of poor health. Chisholm retired in 1953 and spent his remaining years at the Methodist Home for the Aged, in Ocean Grove, New Jersey In a letter dated 1941, Mr. Chisholm wrote; "My income has not been large at any time due to impaired health in the earlier years which has followed me until now, although I must not fail to record the unfailing faithfulness of a covenant-keeping God, for which I am filled with astonishing gratefulness."

# THE WHOLENESS WHEEL



Note: Portico Benefit Services' wholeness wheel emblems are trademarks of Portico Benefit Services (U.S. Patent and Trademark). Certificate of registration numbers: 4,637,269; 4,637,258; 4,637,259; 4,637,811; 4,769,984. Intellectual well-being helps us keep our minds alert and active, staying curious, asking questions and seeking answers. The key here is to explore new responsibilities, experience new things, engage in conversations, and keep an open mind. As we study scripture, we as theologians (yes that's you and me), continue to explore the Word, ask questions and engage in conversations. This in turn helps to strengthen our faith, build strong community, and brings the scriptures alive and relevant in each of us.

Do you have a plan and commitment to lifelong learning? I do, and I hope that you will join me, as we spread the good news of the gospel to the world!



# Gospel Seeds.... July 2018

#### Honest Talk...

We have just come off an amazing Synod Assembly. Our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, was engaging, witty and extremely honest. She talked openly about her 2016 statement on the Dakota Access Pipeline. Not backing away from what she wrote but at the same time saying she has come to an understanding that this is an extremely complex issue which will take her (and many others) a long time to truly understand.

Her openness to speak into this difficult subject, knowing how polarizing the topic can be was a blessing. It was a model for us to replicate – have open honest conversation about issues. One we need to address in this synod is racism, especially as it relates to how we interact with our Native American brothers and sisters. Pray that we can find ways to engage openly and honestly in these issues.

#### More Honest Talk...

We also talked openly about the finances of the synod. At the end of the past two fiscal years I have been forced to down-size staff. It meant saying good-bye to people who were valuable members of our team. However, as I look to 2020 and the election of the next bishop we need to have our financial house in order. The synod has been balancing our budget on the possibility of taking funds from reserves. We have not had to do that each year – because Mission Support from congregations has exceeded what we had budgeted. For Assistant to the Bishop for Candidacy, Faith Formation that I say a huge thank-you.

At the same time, we need some honest talk. In cleaning our old paperwork, I ran across a report from 1993 listing the Mission Support from each congregation. Many congregations on the list are giving close to the same Mission Support today as they did 25 years ago, meanwhile inflation has increased 65%.

We have important work to do together as the Western North Dakota Synod. There are candidates for ministry to walk with; there are congregations who need conversation partners to dream new dreams and put action plans together; there are new ministry to start, like campus ministry in Bismarck; there are faith formation gatherings to create. Mission Support makes all of this and much more possible. Bottom line, without Mission Support our ministry is restricted.

<u> Synod Assembly 2019: June 7 & 8, 2019 – </u> Pre-Assembly June 6

#### A Time for Leadership...

During our assembly I called for bold leadership. It is time for congregational members to stand up and clearly state that congregations exist for the sake of engaging God's Mission. Congregations exist so the Good News of Jesus is proclaimed, so the sacraments can be celebrated, so the Word can be heard and studied.

It is time for each congregation to engage conversation around mission and ministry in God's name. It is also time to stand up against petty arguing, gossip and any other actions which tear down the body of Christ. We are called to important work. We need leaders who are willing to share a vision beyond our own desires for the sake of those who do not yet know the love, grace and mercy available through Jesus.

#### Videos Available for Study and Conversation...

Would you like to listen in on parts of Synod Assembly? We have now uploaded the 4 Bible Engagement Sessions, the "Dream Church" visions from 3 young adults, the "State of the Synod" address and a brief portion of the Question and Answers with Presiding Bishop Eaton (technical difficulties prevent us from sharing the entire session). To find the videos go to Vimeo.com and search Western North Dakota Synod. An outline for using the Bible Engagement can be found on the Synod Website under the Resources Tab.

#### A time away...

We are glad to announce that Deacon Beth Anderson, and Communication is now on sabbatical. Beth will be back in the office August 13th. A significant amount of her time away will be for spiritual renewal. Blessings Beth!

#### Welcome...

A new voice will greet you at the Synod Office front desk or on the phone – Laurie Jesz is our new Office Assistant. Laurie is originally from Bismarck, is a military veteran, has a background in nursing and has operated an event planning business. When you get a chance, welcome her.

Blessings All!.

#### Rev. Mark Narum

Serving as Bishop of the Western North Dakota Synod



#### **May 2018 Financials**

#### **June Council Meeting Highlights**

#### **Committee Reports -**

Pastor Report - Pastor David and Steve provided monthly report on pastoral activity.

Property – A dehumidifier will be purchased for the parsonage. They are close to installing the washer and dryer in the church.

Worship – Healing Service will be held on July 29<sup>th</sup>. Outdoor worship service and potluck will be August 19<sup>th</sup> at Spring Lake Park.

Stewardship – Amber is exploring avenues for on-line giving and will give comparisons of what we have and what else is offered.

Parish Ed – VBS was a big success.

Website subcommittee will get information on computer and technology update.

The nominating committee is seeking people to fill vacant positions – Youth – 1 youth & 1 adult, Property – 1, Stewardship – 1.

The old copier is having a part replaced.

Heavenly Harp Concert will be July 22, 7 pm. There will be a pre-concert meal and free will donation.



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**

July 1 Worship 10:00 AM
July 8 Worship 10:00 AM
July 15 Worship 10:00 AM
July 22 Worship 10:00 AM
July 29 Worship 10:00 AM



## Faith News July 2018

It's hard to believe that I am here typing my last letter to you before I travel out of the states. Time does not take its time (haha  $\square$ ). Over the last month I have been busy volunteering at Theodore Roosevelt National Park and helping my family at home around the farm and ranch. During this period, I have had the blessing of being able to visit with some people from home. I am praying that God continues to water His creation over the next couple of hot months that this season will bring. Mother nature is proof that we cannot control life, and that we are dependent upon the good Father to "prosper us and not to harm us, plans to give us a hope and a future (Jeremiah 9:11)."

I believe that God has this plan for all His children. You, me, friends, family, and strangers alike are the human beings that Jesus lived, suffered, and died for so that we may know Christ eternally and deeply. It is exciting to know that God has had this mission in His plan all along for His children in South Asia that is full of hope, a future of Jesus, and free of the weight of sin. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)."

In the last month of preparing, our team has met several times over video chats. I already feel like we are becoming family as our hearts are breaking deeper for the part of the world that we are traveling to. It has been eye-opening to learn about Hinduism, and humbling to understand how to share Christ in a new way. I pray for conversations that are filled with Christ taking control of questions and answers so that hearts are broken for His name. One thing that has stuck out in my mind as we have talked over our video chats is Romans 1:19-23:

<sup>19</sup> since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. <sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

Everyone has been made known of God's existence by God-"we are without excuse." Deep in our hearts, Jesus has broken a barrier of sin ages ago so that we may be free to make that choice of opening the door when He is knocking. It is interesting to not only see the big differences between Hindu and Christian beliefs, but also the similarities. God has been made plain to all of us, but when our hearts start placing other idols and priorities above Him and stop glorifying His name, we can forget the grace He has for us. Praise the Lord that His grace is unconditional, and His love is everlasting.

We will be departing from the states early July. The Lord has gone before us all to prepare our hearts to be deepened for His heart. I pray that you, I, and the people we meet have hearts that break for the hope of Jesus. If you would like to hear about the mission when I return, I plan to give a presentation in Grenora and speak at Faith Church early August. I do not know the exact days yet, but I can notify you when I find out. Thank you for all of your support again, it is wonderful that Christ has brought us together to glorify His name. God bless.

Love,

Chelsea Berg



- No Women of the ELCA meeting in July or August.
- Cleaning for July Curt & Phyllis Sylte
- Faith Worship on July 22 will be held at the farm of Dennis & Cathy Stromme at 10 AM.
   Barbeque picnic to follow. Meat/buns will be provided. Please bring a dish to share.

413						eran Sunday
		1	000	0		10:00 AM Worship
			OLY 2010	01		Gloria Dei Saturday Schedule 5:00 PM Worship
Mon		Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	m ŭ	3 Exec. Committee - 5:30 PM	4 OFFICE CLOSED  HAPPY  MAPPY  MULY 4th	5 Quilting - 9 AM	9	7 VES - 8 AM Bible Breakfast - 8 AM Telehey Bridal Shower - 2 PM
ork Night ty Childoar	9 GDLC Wark Night - 5:30 PM Tri County Childcare - 7 PM	10	11	12 Quilting - 9 AM Council - 6:00 PM	13	14 Bible Breakfast - 8 AM
	H Z 4	17 Worship Meeting - 6 PM Parish Ed Meeting - 8 PM	18 Glory Band 8 PM	19 Quilting - 9 AM Sylte/Sather Wedding Rehearsal - 5 PM Gideons - 6 PM Evangelism Meeting- 6 PM	20 Sylte/Sather Wedding - 5 PM	21 Bible Breakfast - 8 AM
23 SOS - 7 PM	7	24	25 Youth Picnic in the Park - Dakota Park 5:30 - 7:30 PM Glory Band 8 PM	26 Quilting - 9 AM Property Meeting - NOON	27	28 Bible Breakfast - 8 AM
	m	31	****			

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church ELCA 1821 9th Avenue West Williston, North Dakota, 58801



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#### Parish Ed

Heidi Jeanotte

Sherri Weyrauch

#### **Evangelism**

Judy Hogue

Cheryl Nelson

#### **Property**

Mark Telehey

#### Stewardship

Terry Olson

Worship

David Rod

**Youth Committee** 

#### **Executive Committee**

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