

# **G L O R I A   D E I L U T H E R A N C H U R C H**

**THE LORD WILL GIVE  
WHAT IS GOOD AND  
OUR LAND WILL  
YIELD ITS HARVEST.**

**PSALM 85:12**



# **S E P T E M B E R   2 0 1 8 N E W S L E T T E R**

# From the Desk of Pastor David Maxfield

*Dear Friends in Christ,*

“ Dave, you gotta come and see this,” Dalton said with excitement. “See what ?” I wondered, but he wouldn’t say. I thought, did he get tickets to the Packers? ( we were living in Wisconsin), was it something his kids did? Maybe he wanted me to see his new hunting dog, I didn’t know, and Dalton wasn’t saying, he jut persisted, Finally I relented, “okay, I’ll come and see, just tell me when and where.” He did.

On the appointed day, the agreed upon place and the designated time I showed up. I stepped into the room. “Welcome to Alpha” Dalton said. I looked around the tables, familiar faces and friends I had yet to meet. Folks who had been in church with Moses, and some who had been afraid to darken the door. Some knew God on a first name basis, and many wondered if God was even real, and if He even cared.

The meal wasn’t all that special, but it was. There is something about sitting around a table, strangers become a little more like friends and we discover we’re sharing life. Dalton pulled me aside. “ Dave I know you’re a pastor, but I need to ask you to do a special mission tonight. I need you to pray silently the whole time. I know I’m askin’ the impossible when I ask a preacher to keep silent (he was a fellow pastor) but I invited you hear to pray, to watch, and sometimes– well you know sometimes, pastors get in the way. So I did, I watched, I listened I prayed.

*Alpha* is a phenomenal experience born on the streets of London over 30 years ago. It was started by a young preacher– Nicky Gumble– who met people in the coffee shops, the subway and on the street. He discovered that everybody was searching, asking the same questions... what is the purpose of life? Is this all there is? Is God a myth? These are foundational questions, questions that loom in the heart and mind of those who have yet to say “I believe” and those who have been baptized and confirmed in the faith.

From conversation to conversation Alpha is a series of evening events centered around a meal, a presentation and small group discussion. Everyone is welcome. All questions are fairgame.and amazing things happen as lives are transformed and people renewed as faith comes alive, Jesus becomes real and prayer becomes a conversation between friends.

I sat in silence and watched it unfold in the honesty of questions, the depth of relationships which were formed and impact it had on the lives of those in whose group I was invited to pray. I left that evening awed by what God can do, and thankful that Dalton had the courage to invite me to “come and see.”

Now I wish to extend the same invitation to you. Beginning **Thursday, September 6 from 7-8:30 pm** we will gather at *Good Shepherd* for a series of Alpha evenings. Bring your appetite, your questions, bring a friend. Co-sponsored by the ELCA churches of Williston (Gloria Dei, Good Shepherd, First) Alpha is beckoning you to come explore the “first things”. By the way, that will be me over there in the corner, my call and gift is to pray.

*Shalom,  
Pastor David*

**P. S.** A special, personal word of thanks for your generous gifts in August’s “ Noisy Offering. The money received will be forwarded to my hometown– Marshalltown, Iowa to aid in the clean up and rebuild after a massive tornado danced down main street several weeks ago. I am in contact with my home congregation and we are searching for a family to bless.

1. How is it that God has blessed us this past year?
2. What is our congregation doing that is making a difference in people’s lives?
3. What is our congregation doing that is making a difference in the world?
4. How do we feel God is calling us to respond to God’s blessings through our giving to the congregation next year?

*(Fill out a sheet by the office window and place in the box.)*

*The Stewardship Committee ~ Alberta Parisian, Wendy McGinley, Terry Olson, Rick Clemes & Kent Reierson*

# Church Committees.... WHODOESWHAT

## Hello from The Evangelism Committee!

The Evangelism Committee invites the congregation to participate in a “Fellowship Potluck” on September 16; please bring your favorite dish and introduce yourself to someone you haven’t met—there is nothing better than a Lutheran Potluck! The committee is working on some fun new projects this fall including serving brown bag lunches to those in need and delivering CD recordings of our Sunday service and CD players to our homebound parishioners; we will be looking for volunteers for these projects; please stay tuned for further details! Thank you so much for your continued generosity to our food pantry and crisis fund; with your help we are able to help many people in our community!!

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## Greetings from Parish Ed!

We are off and running for the year! Sunday Church School starts September 9th and Wednesday night activities start September 12th. Parents are invited to stay and eat supper with you kid(s) on Wednesday night, September 12th also.

If you haven’t registered yet, please go to our website, [www.gloriadeiwill.org](http://www.gloriadeiwill.org).



Our first service project will be for the police department. Often the police officers are called out for domestic issues with families that have children. This can be a very frightening experience for the children. They have found that giving kids a stuffed animal can be comforting. We will have a blessing of all the stuffed animals on October 7th.

We are making Chemo care kits. We did these a few years ago and received many thank you’s from patients. That will start in October. Watch for information to come on that.

Confirmation Parent and Student meeting for 8th and 9th graders will be on September 5th from 6-7. There are some important information to talk about so this meeting is for both students and parents.

Confirmation Parent and Student meeting for 10th Graders that will be confirmed will be on September 5th also from 7-8pm.

**10TH GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS—DON’T FORGET TO PICK UP YOUR STOLE IF YOU HAVEN’T ALREADY!**

We are so excited to have all the kids back for another great year! We have some really neat things planned for service projects and other activities and we are so thankful for the teachers who are sharing their talents with us this year!

Blessings,  
Parish Education

*Heidi Clemes, Kami Dornfeld, Sherry Weyrauch, Georgette Huravitch, Ann Nelson*

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

*Come and see what God has done,  
How awesome his works in man's behalf!*

Psalm 66:5

People are once again arriving in Williston every day looking to improve their circumstances. They have heard of there are many jobs, as many as 3,000, available here. They come with very few resources on which to live while they look for work and wait for their first paycheck. At Community Connections we have seen a spike in the number of people coming to ask for financial assistance and reporting they are living in their vehicle or on the streets which is their definition of homeless. January through June 2017 we had 69 people living homeless come to us for help . The same period in 2018 we had 114. As of August 10 we already had 14 people report to us they were homeless. This is a 40% jump in the number of people self-reporting they are living in their cars or on the streets.

Over the past several months we have been holding meetings at area churches and to report on the extent of the issue of homelessness and to ask the community for ideas of what we can do as a community together to help with the challenge of people living homeless. We have received many great ideas. One such idea centered on feeding those that are hungry. We have wonderful community meals on the weekends, Banquet West at First Lutheran Sunday evenings and GIFT at Faith United Methodist Saturday evenings. The question from people at the meetings was “What do people do during the week?”

Community Connections has been blessed with a grant and a benefactor coming forward to support a weekday sack lunch program called “Lunch Connections.” Faith United Methodist is opening their doors for us to put the lunches together in their kitchen as well provide a place to hand out the lunches Monday through Friday. Sandy Winter has agreed to be the Lunch Connections Coordinator. God saw the need and has blessed us as the conduit through which his work to feed the hungry can happen.

“Come and see what God has done.” Sandy hopes to begin serving sack lunches mid-September and she will need volunteers to help make sandwiches and put the lunches together as well as to serve and clean up. Please contact Sandy if you are interested in helping. Sandy can be reach at the office at 701-713-6783 or by cell phone at 701-580-0547.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Deacon Lynea Geinert  
Executive Director

**603 Main Street #2  
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**701-713-6783  
communityconnectionswilliston@outlook.com**

# September

## BIRTHDAYS

09/01

JASON OSBORN  
KASS WHITECLOUD

09/02

GORDON WEYRAUCH

09/03

LES HOLGERSON  
AUSTIN SALVESON  
JANESSA STORLIE  
KARSON WIGNESS

09/04

JOHN ATOR  
CODY JEANNOTTE  
EMMA SOLBERG

09/05

MANDY LANDERS  
RYLAND NEUBAUER  
JIM RAUSER

09/06

ALEINA HERBECK  
BREXTON KRITIKOS  
CODI SALVEVOLD  
JOYCE SPEELMON  
ROY TROGSTAD

09/07

SULLEY KRENZ

09/08

ANDY MOCK  
KEON SYVERSON

09/09

DEBBIE BENTH  
ROY CLARK  
SAWYER HANSON

09/10

ETHAN ANDERSON  
LACEY BURWELL  
WAYNE COLEBANK  
MARY ERICKSON  
BRECKLYN LANDERS  
MYLES SWALLOW

09/11

TRISTAN FALCON  
AVERY NOESKE  
GRACE SLAAEN  
BRIE WEDGE  
LEAH WIEDRICH

09/12

ADDISYN COTE  
CINDY LAWRENCE  
TERRY OLSON  
ALEXANDRA O'NEILL  
VAL OPSAL  
QUINN VONDAL

09/13

GABRIELLA ERICKSON  
ROBERT WROLSON

09/14

DARREL FAGERLAND  
SHELBY HANSON  
ALEXIS VADER

09/15

PAULETTE OVERBO

09/16

CONNIE LARSON

09/17

RICK ANDERSON  
COLLEEN BAIRD  
ZACK BOLDT  
JOANNE COLEBANK  
FAITH MOCK

09/18

ANNABELLE CONLIN  
BRETT OLSON  
DAWSON SHEETS

09/19

CURTIS THOMPSON

09/20

BRITTNEY BUBLITZ  
CASEY JONES  
SHELBY NELSEN

9/20

DUANE NOESKE  
TIEGAN NORDLOEF-BURKE  
ROD OPPERUD

09/21

SUMMER HILDEBRANDT  
BRIAN KNOX  
LOGAN LONGTIN  
CARTER RONHOLDT  
GLADYS STRAND

09/22

CARLY COLLINGS  
CASS HANSON

09/23

JACIE KOHLER  
JAMIE KOHLER  
TRACER OVERLAND

09/24

CLEO ERICKSON  
LEE GARBEL  
JEANNE KNUDSVIG  
PAUL SOLOMONSON

09/25

TESS COLEBANK  
BETH HAAGENSON  
JEFF LEDOSQUET

09/28

MARY SCHROEDER  
JENNA SIME

09/29

LORI GELTEL  
KENT REIERSON

09/30

RICHARD ODEGARD



# FLAT JESUS SUMMER ADVENTURES



Flat Jesus becomes friends with a Canadian Mountie



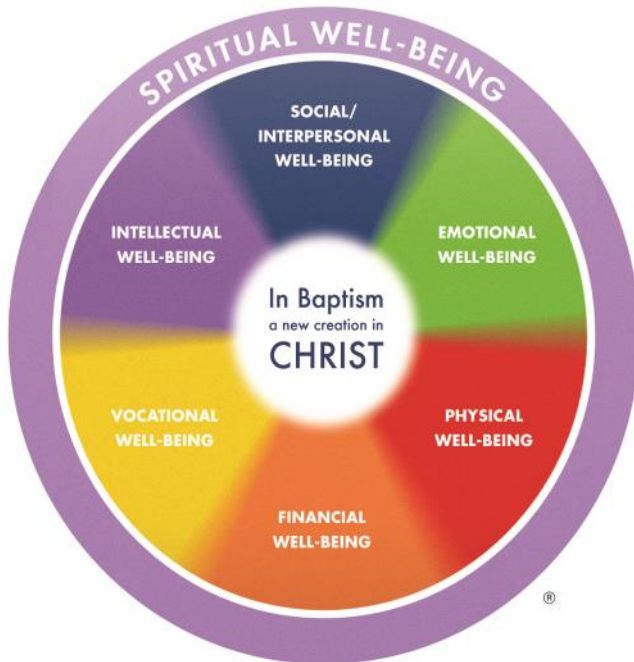
## August Memorials

In Memory of Philip Anderson  
Mortgage Reduction Fund  
 Bill & Lola Christensen

In Memory of Philip Anderson  
Food Pantry  
 Russ & Audrey Frisinger

# Steve's Corner

## 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: 4,637,260; 4,637,258; 4,637,259; 4,636,828; 4,677,811; 4,769,984.

We are created by God to be social beings, living in community and instructed to help and love each other. We maintain social well-being through interaction, play and forgiveness. Take time to nurture your relationships with family, friends, congregation and co-workers.

As I was talking about in my message this past weekend Paul calls us to put on the breastplate of righteousness. Building and maintaining good, right and healthy relationships with those around us, working through relationships that have gone astray. We have a wonderful community that God has given us to make this happen.

**Community Connections**

**LUNCH CONNECTIONS**

Faith United Methodist Church

11:30AM - 1PM Monday - Friday

219 1st Ave West, Williston, ND 58801

Stop and go or eat in the dining area

Meal is FREE - All are Welcome!

Community Connections announces a wonderful new program, that will help fill the gap of providing community meals to homeless and those in need during the week. We are thankful for our partnership with Faith United Methodist Church, and generous funding to make this happen. The Holy Spirit is truly working the work in our community, and for that we are grateful.

Steve

# ***Gospel Seeds.... September 2018***

## **A Monthly Update from Western ND Synod Staff**

### ***It's All About a Relationships...***

The seasons are beginning to shift – soon congregations will move into fall program activities. Church newsletters, bulletins and worship announcements are filled with upcoming activities and opportunities for people to share their talents. I read and hear about calls for Church School teachers, Confirmation Mentors, Bible Study participants and leaders – the list goes on and on – there is no question, we are shifting into a new season of the church year.

So, the question arises, why do we put all of this effort into these activities? Really, what is our end goal for church school or confirmation or for that matter adult Bible Study? What is our expected outcome?

I have been reading a book which has me pondering seemingly simple questions like that and it has helped me realize something – the end goal is a relationship with Jesus, God's only begotten Son. While there is nothing wrong with learning information about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit – head knowledge does not automatically translate into heart knowledge (in other words into a relationship).

I am more and more convinced that a life giving relationship with Jesus the Risen Christ is what will lead us to wanting more head knowledge. It is the relationship which will draw us into sharing the hope we have found in God's grace with those around us.

### ***So What's the Book...***

The book I mentioned above is "Crossing the Bar: Home by Another Way" by James G. Johnson. Deacon Jody Lorenz put me on to this book. It is written by a former ELCA pastor, who now owns and operates a bar.

Each chapter is a theological reflection on life and faith as he engages people who might never set foot in a church. Johnson has some important insights that "church people" can learn from, especially in this changing world.

Take a read – my sense is this could be an excellent Adult Study for any congregation.

***Western North Dakota Synod Council – September 14 & 15. If you have items that should be raised let me know.***

## ***GIFTS – growing a deeper relationship with Jesus***

One of the resources of this synod for growing a Christ centered relationship is GIFTS (Growing In Faith To Serve). Now almost 3 decades old this gathering of people who wants a deeper relationship with Jesus through prayer, scripture study and conversation always has room for more participants.

GIFTS really has components. Probably the best known is the synod-wide component where three or four times a year, seminary professors come here and teach. These are wonderful sessions. The other part of GIFTS is the local gathering – where participants gather with a Mentor Pastor. These local gatherings can engage topics of interest to those gathered. They might include diving deep into a book of the Bible, study around prayer, training on home visitation, digging into Luther's Large Catechism – really the possibilities are endless.

Would you like to learn more – Sherie Heine is available to answer questions and help new local groups get up and running.

### ***"Walking With You" – 2018 Annual Appeal***

You probably remember that the word "Synod" is a Greek word which can be translated, "walking together". That is what we do, as 170 congregations with 57,000 members we walk together in our work of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ.

As a synod staff our job is to "Walk With You" through life's journey. We walk together through call process, congregational mission discernment, candidacy, faith formation activities and much more. To help make this journey together possible a synod annual financial appeal has been established.

The 2018 Annual Appeal will allow us to meet *all* needs of synod ministry, to be quick in meeting immediate opportunities as well as funding new ministries as needed. The cost of the appropriate human resources and staff time required to accompany congregations and individuals on their journey of faith is significantly on the increase.

Soon many of you will be getting a letter inviting you to participate in this appeal, we hope you will respond. If you do not receive a letter it is because we do not have your address but if you would like to give a financial gift we would be honored. You can mail it to: Synod Appeal, 1614 Capitol Way, Bismarck ND 58502

### **Rev. Mark Narum**

Serving as Bishop of the Western North Dakota Synod



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



## July 2018 Financials

### General Checking Account:

July 1 2018 General Checking Account Balance	188,402.08
July Offering	+21,730.29
July Expenses	<u>(23,301.18)</u>
July 31 2018 General Checking Account Balance	\$186,831.19

### Special Checking Account:

July 1 2018 Special Checking Account Balance	262,666.95
July Specials Offering	+7,272.00
July Expenses	<u>(10,594.89)</u>
July 31 2018 Special Checking Account Balance	\$259,344.06

### Benevolences :

WND Synod—ELCA Benevolence	1271.34
WND Synod– WND Benevolence	145.30
UMM Bible Camp Benevolence	181.62
Bethel Lutheran Home Benevolence	127.13
Lutheran Social Services Benevolence	90.81
Community Connections	<u>90.81</u>
Total Benevolences for May	\$1907.01
Thrivent Mortgage Payment	\$6552.00
Building Loan Balance as of July 22, 2018	\$131,125.57

## August Council Meeting Highlights

### **Committee Reports –**

Pastor David and Steve provided written reports.

**Evangelism** – Church Service and picnic at Spring Lake Park on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Looking at opportunities to partner with Community Connections in a “Brown Bag Lunch” program for those in need as well as a Birthday Treat Program. Homebound communion assistants are needed.

**Property** – Various projects are being worked on in and around the church and parsonage. Church security is a priority.

**Worship** – Folks are encouraged to send pictures of Flat Jesus to the office. Worship in the Park will be held on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 am. Potluck to follow. Sunday worship services return to 8:30 and 10:45 on September 9<sup>th</sup>

**Parish Ed** – Teachers and helpers needed for Sunday and Wednesday schools. Blessing of the backpacks will be August 26<sup>th</sup>. Rally Days will be September 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Noisy Offering for August will go to Elim Lutheran Church in Marshalltown, Iowa and for September will go to the Gideons.

**GIVE  
ONLINE**

Visit [www.gloriadeiwill.org](http://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

September 2    Worship    10:00 AM  
September 9    Worship    10:00 AM  
September 16    Worship    10:00 AM  
September 23    Worship    10:00 AM  
September 30    Worship    10:00 AM



## Faith News - September 2018

By Bill Christensen

The bread is pure and fresh, the water is cool and clear. Lord of all life, be with us, Lord of all life, be near. An African Table Grace We Pray: Come Lord Jesus and be our guest, let these gifts to us be blest, Amen. In bible study recently we heard an angel tell Elijah: Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be you much for you. This church year we have five weeks of gospel texts about bread and as important as bread is to our existence it is not the physical bread that we get from the wheat our farmers grow so well as it is the bread we get from God. Whether it was the bread from heaven that fed the Israelities in the desert on their journey to the Promised Land. The Holy bread of the priests that sustained David when he was hunted by King Saul or the bread the angel provided Elijah when he was fleeing Jezebel. They all knew that God provided the bread as God provides us the bread today.

Today Christians believe the Jesus Christ is the true bread from heaven that God provides. **“Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.”** John 6:35 And Jesus gave us this gift of life, when we believe Him.

As we eat the bread and drink the wine of Holy Communion; God speaks this promise to us: I am present with you and in you right now and remember that your sins are forgiven. You can call yourselves a child of my creation and you and I shall spend eternity together.



- **Faith Women of the ELCA will meet September 8th at 10 AM. Hostess: Judy Sylte. Bible Study Leader - Sharon Moline. Please bring items needed for school kits for Lutheran World Relief.**
- **Fellowship Dinner - September 9th. Hostesses: Darlene Benth & Judy Sylte.**
- **Cleaning for September - LCW**
- **Council meeting at Faith September 12th at 7 PM.**






8:30 AM Traditional Worship

9:30 AM Coffee Hour  
10:45 AM Contemporary Worship

10:00 AM Worship

Gloria Dei Saturday Schedule  
5:00 PM Worship

# SEPTEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2</p> <p>Last Sunday with Unified Worship Service at 9:30 AM</p>	<p>3</p> <p>HAPPY LABOR DAY!!</p>  <p>Church office closed</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Staff Meeting - 1 PM</p> <p>Executive Meeting - 5:30 PM</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Confirmation Parent/Student Meeting - 6 PM</p> <p>Glory Band 8 PM</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>VES - 8:00 AM</p> <p>Bible Breakfast - 8 AM</p>
<p>9</p>  <p>Back to Regular Worship Schedule 8:30 - Traditional Worship 10:45-Contemporary Worship Church School Starts - 9:30 AM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Gloria Dei Worknight - 6 PM</p> <p>SOS - 7 PM</p> <p>Tri County Childcare - 7 PM</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Staff Meeting - 1 PM</p>	<p>12</p>  <p>Supper 5 PM Education Hour 6 PM Extended Youth Group 7 PM Glory Band 8 PM</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Council - 6:00 PM</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Bible Breakfast - 8 AM</p>
<p>16</p>  <p>Potluck to follow 10:45 Service Church School - 9:30 AM Sr High Youth Group - 7 PM</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Staff Meeting - 1 PM</p> <p>Worship Committee - 6 PM</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Supper 5 PM Education Hour 6 PM Extended Youth Group 7 PM Glory Band 8 PM</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Evangelism Committee - 6 PM</p> <p>Gideons - 6 PM</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Bible Breakfast - 8 AM</p> <p>Comm. Conn. Retreat - 9 AM</p> <p>Out of the Darkness Walk @ WSC</p> <p>- Registration -11 AM</p> <p>- Walk starts at Noon</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Church School - 9:30 AM</p> <p>Sr High Youth Group - 7 PM</p>	<p>24</p> <p>SOS - 7 PM</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Staff Meeting - 1 PM</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Supper 5 PM Education Hour 6 PM Extended Youth Group 7 PM Glory Band 8 PM</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Property Committee - Noon</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Bible Breakfast - 8 AM</p>
<p>30</p>  <p>Church School - 9:30 AM</p> <p>Girls Night Out - 6 PM</p> <p>Sr High Youth Group - 7 PM</p>						



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