# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER



And he commanded our ancestors to teach them to their children.

Then their children would know them, even their children not yet born.

And they would tell their children. So they would all trust God. Psalm 78:5-7

## Dear Friends in Christ.

**First Thoughts**– It's a few days before Christmas as I write. It not that I'm a procrastinator, but I bet like you my plate is full not so much with holiday treats as with holiday to do's (you fill in your list, I have mine). So here I am attempting to reflect on the New Year when I have yet to spent time with Mary to ponder "the things that happened." Then it occurred to me, my life was speaking, am I listening?

What do you hear when you listen to your life? Busyness? Lists of "to do's," "should do's" "didn't do"? Added to the noise of our busy life, the cacophony of our own self-talk can be noisier than my college roomate's mega amped up stereo receiver (ah, those were the days). We may get things done, but do we take time to savor? We rush from the table, from the job, from the gym, from relationships, from ourselves, and ultimately we run from God. No time to pray, to worship, to listen, to ponder and therefore we get lost in the noise of the moment.

Maybe that's why mom liked 10 minutes in the tub, dad liked to go for a walk (how do you break the noise?) Reading, fishing, sitting in tree stand? Out in the shed, the shop, the sewing room? Where, how do you and I seek the spaces which make our lives whole?

**Second thoughts**– Like a baby learning to walk, I have yet to meet a toddler who can run a marathon after their first steps, yet so often New Year's resolutions try to move mountains, change life, go in a new direction. No wonder we're so easily discouraged and give up.

So my life speaks again, am I listening? I often find myself out on the recliner in the wee hours of the night. A different position is needed. I have learned over time that this is one of the moments of stillness presented to me. So before I tumble back into sleep, I spend a little time with a Bible app (my favorite is www.sacredspace i.e.,), my prayer concerns, but mostly simply sitting in silence. Can't say that I've heard the voice of God, but I can say that little late night time has become precious to me in a life that is often filled with noise.

So, maybe that is a word for us in the New Year– begin where you are, God is already there. Like the Psalmist said, "Be still and know I'm God," the first step might just be right here, right now. Oh I would like to say my New Year's resolution with be earth shattering, but maybe I simply ought to listen and take a baby step or two, how about you?

**Third Thoughts**– I was pondering our ministry together and became quite struck with how global and local Gloria Dei is as we seek to live our Mission "Gathering to Grow to the Glory of God." To toot a horn a bit, consider our local ministries:

Christmas Closet
Relay for Life
Community Connections
Banquet West
Food Pantry

**Funeral Hospitality** 

These are just a few examples of the compassion of Christ making a difference in the lives of others.

Or think about global outreach projects such as

Quilting
Operation Christmas Child
Sister Synod Projects
Food for the Poor
Feed My Starving Children

Lives are being touched, sometimes literally saved because of the gifts of your time, your talent, and often your treasure. In the smiles, in the tears, in the faces of those we meet, and those we will never see, God is doing an amazing thing in, with and through you! If you have an idea or a project in mind, let's talk and with prayerful imagination begin to turn our "what if's" into "what is"

All of this came during a late night pondering in my chair, and draws me to say "Thank you" it is a joy serving with you as we follow our living Lord into a new year!

Thanks for your partnership in the Gospel.

Pastor David

## January 2019 Gospel Seeds

## A Monthly Update from Western ND Synod Staff

Mark Narum, Serving as Bishop of the Western North Dakota Synod

### A Year that is New...

One of the gifts of the New Year is the chance to "start anew." We enter January as an artist facing a blank canvas – white, fresh, clean. The possibilities ahead are infinite. What colors will fill in the background? What is the subject of the painting? Where will the brush move us?

As I sat in worship recently we sang Marty Haugen's, "Gather Us In." My imagination took ahold as I sang the words at the end of the second stanza, "...give us the courage to enter the song." I began to wonder about the new beginnings offered at this time of year. What would it mean to enter the song? Where might courage push me?

I invite you spend time pondering Haugen's words, his invitation to pray for courage to be the Good News of Jesus in a new or different way this coming year. I am not certain what that would look like in your life; my guess is that it would be different for each of us. But what if in the midst of our daily routines we looked for opportunities to let the Gospel sing through our words and deeds. No matter where we work, or reside, or wander, or shop, or live – each of us have opportunities to "enter the song" by truly loving others.

It seems to me our faith in Jesus is not lived out through extraordinary acts of self-sacrifice, as much as it is lived out through the very ordinary and mundane daily tasks which show we love others. Opportunities to be Christ's love come to us often. May you keep your eyes to notice them and then have "...the courage to enter the song."

## Assembly...

As you prepare for your annual meetings a reminder: each congregation of the synod is invited to elect at least two people (larger congregations may send more depending on membership). Assembly this year will be at The Grand in Minot. June 6 is pre-assembly and June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> is the Assembly. We will gather under the theme: The Kingdom of God is Like: Dreams – Desires – Demands. Assembly is a time of worship, Bible Study, faith-filled conversations and more. Plan to attend now.

A deep word of appreciation to all congregations who generously shared Mission Support this past year. We are able to be in ministry together because of your generosity.

## LSS of ND Celebrates its 100th Birthday in February!

Every congregation in the Western North Dakota Synod is a part owner of Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota. Our Social Ministry organization is turning 100 years old in February. Here is an invitation from LSS: On February 24, 2019, we'd like to invite congregations to continue their long support and partnership with us by simultaneously hosting a celebration potluck meal in each church after services. This mass breaking of bread (or lefse!) seems like the ideal way to celebrate a century of partnership in bringing healing, help and hope to our neighbors.

If you would like to have an LSS staff or board member present with you on this special day call LSS. You can be proud that over the past 100 years your social ministry has helped with adoptions, cared for senior citizens, provided in-patient mental healthcare for youth, done in-home coaching for young parents, resettled refugees and much more.

## **GIFTS Event...**

What opportunities is God providing for your congregation to be the Gospel in your community? In what ways are we being called to engage ministry differently today? What experiments are needed to test our hunches? These are some of the questions that Dr. Dwight Zscheile will help us engage during our next GIFTS event on February 2 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bismarck.

This would be an excellent event for any church council. A way to wonder together about making Gospel -sized plans for your congregation.

### A Couple of Quick Notes...

-Now is the time to fill out the annual parochial report. Check the synod website for a link. It the responsibility of the congregation pastor ensure this report is filed.

-It is also time to send your Bishop's Report. This is a chance for us to hear how ministry is going in your place.

-If you have GIFTS members in your congregation, please help them get their annual tuition paid now. Many congregations cover this expense as a way of helping build up lay ministry within their congregation. GIFTS helps build stronger lay leaders.

Blessings,

Mark Narum

Serving as Bishop of the Western North Dakota Synod

## **November 2018 Financials**

	1 to tolling 1 might be 1	
	General Checking Account:	
	November 1 2018 General Checking Account Balance	175,139.35
	November Offering	+25,697.14
	November Expenses	(25,516.13)
	November 30 2018 General Checking Account Balance	\$175,320.36
	Special Checking Account:	
	November 1 2018 Special Checking Account Balance	252,609.93
	November Specials Offering	\$21,789.63
	November Expenses	(\$10,205.24)
	November 30 2018 Special Checking Account Balance	\$264,194.32
	Benevolences:	
	WND Synod—ELCA Benevolence	1,585.01
	WND Synod– WND Benevolence	181.14
	UMM Bible Camp Benevolence	226.43
	Bethel Lutheran Home Benevolence	158.50
	Lutheran Social Services Benevolence	113.22
	Community Connections	<u>113.22</u>
	Total Benevolences for November	\$2377.52
	Thrivent Mortgage Payment	\$6552.00
•	Building Loan Balance as of November 21, 2018	\$88,951.29

"I thank God every time I remember you" Philippians 1:4

Dear Friend in Christ.

As we approach the Holiday Season, it reminds us of all the blessing we receive. As Bing Crosby would sing, count your blessings instead of sheep, you'll fall asleep counting your blessings... And we at Gloria Dei have been witness to many blessings-large church school numbers, the joy of noisy offerings supporting so may things, Suppers for our Wednesday night children, Crosses for Bethel, Christmas Closet, Banquet West and the list goes on.

While we gather to grow to the glory of God, we profess how we "love our church". We all need to reflect on how many of these blessings come to fruition. It's because of generous and dedicated members of Gloria Dei.

As we move into our thoughts of our stewardship towards Gloria Dei, please consider gifts that will continue the great work we do.

Give generously. Gloria Dei needs your financial help to continue our mission of Gathering to Grow. Thank You for your partnership in the Gospel.

Terry Olson, Pastor David Maxfield and the Stewardship Committee

## Celebrate Generosity

Because God gives abundantly, and because I want to be a faithful steward.

I/we will take a step up in my/our giving.						
NAME						
I plan to grow toward or beyond a tithe by growing 1% of my income per year.						
Beginning next Sunday, I/we will give \$ per week/month.						
I plan to grow toward or beyond a tithe by giving \$ per week/month/year (circle one)						
I would volunteer as Usher Communion ServerReader Committee Council Other						
Gathering to Grow in the Glory of God!						
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church - 1821 9th Ave West - Williston, ND 58801 - (701)-572-2667						

#### Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Council Minutes December 13, 2018, 6:00 PM.

Call to order/prayer concerns –

Present: Cheryl, Sherry, Pastor David, Kathy, Terry, Rick. Mark, Wendy. Judy, Jeramy, Ashlev

Absent: Heidi Devotions - Judy

Prayers – By Pastor David

#### CONSENT AGENDA

- Secretary's minutes from November's council meeting
- В. Treasurer's report
- Approve Bills C.
- D. Executive Committee actions –

Rick moved to approve the amended consent agenda. Judy seconded. Motion carried.

- Committee Reports (Note: It is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED that the committees use the Committee Communication form please email them to Ann shortly after committee meetings.)
  - A. Pastor's Pastor David
    - a. David Monthly Update Written report
    - b. Community Connections Statistics
    - Macedonian Ministry Holy Land Trip is scheduled for the end of July.
  - Evangelism Judy Hogue and Cheryl Nelson -
  - Property Mark Telehey making 2 classrooms into one and office reorganization.
  - Worship David Rod and Kathy Molland -
  - Stewardship Rick Clemes and Terry Olson Ε.
  - Parish Education Heidi Clemes and Sherry Weyrauch -

  - Website Committee (Computer/Technology Update)

Jeramy moved to increase the storage/memory of Pastor David's Computer up to \$150 with Pro IT, Wendy seconded. Motion carried.

- I. Nominating -
- Personnel Verbal Update to Report

#### **Unfinished Business**

- A. Call committee
  - Pastor David to update

The call committee to update the congregational profile. The council affirms the call committee's process.

- В. Parsonage committee
- Church Security Discussion HIGH PRIORITY –
- D. Leininger Family Giving Fund Grant
- E. Lyle Nelson Mineral Rights –
- F. Calendar Review

Review long term calendar & notify Ann of any changes. Info for the 2018-2019 calendar is needed.

- G. To-Do List Review
- H. Loose Offering for January Emergency Housing Through Community Connections
- Committee Reports are due in the office by December 28th. Type your reports!

### **New Business**

- A. Approve Budget to send to the congregation. Kathy moved to approve sending the budget to the congregation. Cheryl seconded. Motion carried.
- Move funds to Money Market Terry move to set up 2 money market accounts in the Trust Dept of American State Bank. Kathy seconded. Motion carried, 1 abstention.
  - Rick moved to move \$225,000 from the special account and \$75,000 from the general fund to the newly established money market accounts. Any future transactions in or out of the money markets need council approval. This will be done to maximize interest earnings. Judy seconded. Motion carried.
  - Terry moved that the same authorized signers of the checking accounts Wendy McGinley, Rick Clemes, Jeramy Hansen, Ashley Weisz, and Kathy Molland - are authorized to move monies in and out of the money market accounts with council approval. Mark seconded. Motion carried.
- C. Fair Market Rental Value Rick moved to approve the fair market rental value as presented. Terry seconded. Motion carried.
- Terry moved to approve the parsonage furnishing allowance for 2019. Ashley seconded. Motion carried.

  D. Carry Over of Vacation Time Jeramy moved to approve a one time carry over of unused vacation time into 2019 for Ann. Judy seconded. Motion carried.
- Annual Meeting Agenda constitutionally set.
- Winter Emergencies Consensus of the Council is that Pastor David contact the Council President, if Pastor David is gone, the council president will make the call. To cancel one service is to cancel the other. Will contact TV stations, radio stations, post on Facebook, website. On Wednesdays will follow the school district.
- Saturday Evening Worship
  Terry moved to accept the recommendation from executive community on raises and bonuses. Judy seconded. Motion carried.

Offering Key Exchange – Keys to Wendy, Heidi is backup.

D. Adjournment/Lord's Prayer

Next Executive Meeting: Thursday, January 3, 5:30 p.m.

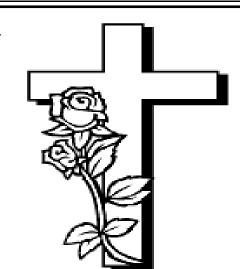
Next Council Meeting: Thursday, January 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

## December Memorials

Mortgage Reduction Fund
In Memory of Lawrence Lippert
Geraldine Lippert

Quilters Fund In Memory of Hazel Kolden

Duane & Dorothy Fenster
Deb & Ron Bingeman
Dick & Marge McKennett
Edward & Judy Lodwig
Linda Ydstie
John & Carrie Forthum
Trevis & Linda Alton
Rick & Janet Tangedal
Floyd & Donna Peterson
Gene & Tamara Johnson



Stan Kolden & Glyn Northington Living Water Church Harriet Buehler Nancy & Mark Boriack Dr. & John Simkovich

Food Pantry Fund
In Memory of Bob Olson
Trevis & Linda Alton

In Memory of Darlene Lee
Betty Hegge

<u>Campership Fund</u> In Memory of Chuck Williams Jan Williams

## GORADE ANUAL MODELDING

Date: January 27th, 2019

Following the 10:45 Service

Potluck dinner after meeting.

## FAITH LUTHERAN



Date: January 20th Fellowship Dinner to Follow. Prayerfully consider volunteering for one of the below openings.

If you would like to volunteer please talk to one of the current council members and let them know that you are interested in joining!

- Vice President
- Parish Education
- Evangelism
- Property
- Stewardship
- Youth
- UMM Delegate

## Faith Lutheran Church Service Schedule

January 6th—10AM—
Communion
January 13th—10AM
January 20th—10AM—
Communion
January 27th—10AM





## Faith News January 2019 Bill Christensen

Magi from the East came to Jerusalem and asked: "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We have seen his star in the East and have come to worship Him." Matthew 2:

The Magi must have wondered if the prophets of old were right, if the star they had been following was indeed leading them to a king. They thought Jerusalem would be the birth place of a new king, but King Herod knew nothing. Something about star gave them hope and so they continued on following that star to Bethlehem and imagine their surprise when the star stopped over a stable. Could a king really be born in such humble settings?

When they saw and worshipped the Christ Child they knew they had found their King and they were no longer bothered by the modest circumstances of Christ's humble birth place. They surely had to have struggled with doubts about their journey and what they were to find

were to find.

Christians experience this same struggle as we endure our trials until we come closer to God. We with our over the top celebrations of Christ's birthday so often miss the real meaning of Christmas as we look in all the wrong places for our God who comes to us a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths... We too should fall on our knees and worship the God who so loved us so much that God sent His only Son to live among us. We light candles on our Advent wreathe for hope, peace, joy and love. God's blessings to us that gives real meaning to our Christmas and all thru out our year. Jesus' mission on earth was to teach us to love, have hope, live in joy and peace with each other. May you all have a Blessed New Year living in the promises of Christ our Lord.



Notes from Joanne Njos

\*Faith LCW will meet January 5 at 10 AM at Sharon Moline's. Bible study leader is Phyllis Sylte.

\*Faith's Annual Meeting is January 20 with Fellowship Dinner to follow.

\*Cleaning for January is Larry and Joanne Njos.



Epiphany is a day in the church when we celebrate the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem. The three had come to worship Jesus. These three wisemen knew who Jesus was and knew the baby needed to be protected (Matthew 2:1-12). Epiphany is also a word used to describe a new way of thinking about something, or as some would say, "My eyes were opened." Some may refer to that moment as a "light bulb moment" when a light shined in the darkness and gave them a new way of thinking about something.

At Community Connections we look for those lights that show us the needs of our community. We talk to others in our community to learn from them and to compare what each of us are seeing. Every month we meet with a group of partners that includes churches, social service agencies, Job Service ND and other interested individuals. We discuss what is currently going in our community and think about solutions. Below are some startling statistics of what is currently happening in our community.

Community Connections Clients as of December 15, 2018:

2017 total client visits: 773 2018 total client visits: 1,161

Adults reporting they are living on the streets or in their cars: 2017: 116 adults 2018: 276 adults and 41 children 273% rise

The Williston School District #1 reports they have 356 students, up from 74 in 2016-17, classified as homeless under the McKinney Vento Act. The Act defines children as homeless if they are living on the streets, in a car, are unaccompanied by an adult, living "doubled-up" in an apartment or home, or in a camper. All considered unsafe conditions for children.

Many people may think the homeless are transient people just looking for a "quick buck" then going home. There are still some of those coming to Williston. However, there are differences this year. First, we have had people come for help because their rents are rising \$300-\$500 per month and even working they cannot afford the higher rent causing them to be evicted and become homeless. Second, families are coming because one of the parents has a good job offer but we have no company provided housing and they cannot afford to rent until they have received at least 2-3 paychecks to pay for a security deposit and first month's rent. Third, the many jobs available in Williston are advertised across our country, people respond in hopes of making their lives better but the employers, especially in the oil fields, are looking to hire people with the skills needed for the job.

As we begin a new year, we at Community Connections are looking for ideas, for new ways of thinking, for epiphanies on how to help those in need in our community. We invite you to stop by our offices or call us with your idea. Working together we can make a difference one life at a time.

Deacon Lynea Geinert

# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

BARBARA OVERLAND  CAROLE HEALY  BRAYDEN BORRESON  (ARTILLEWELLYN  BRAYDEN BORRESON  (ARTILLEWELLYN  BRITTW MALILIN  BURNETTA FAGERLAND  KEIRA BORRESON  (ARTILLEWELLYN  BRITTW MALILIN  BURNETTA FAGERLAND  RYLAND STILLWELL  SHAWNHOLM  KAREN GARAAS  BONNIE KOLDEN  DAXTON MURPHY  DAYNON MURPHY  DEAN BERTT STORLIE  DAYNON MURPHY  DEAN BERTT H  DEAN BERTH  DEAN BERTH  DEAN BERTH  DEAN BERTH  SEAN STUNDAL  LISA  BONNIE KOLDEN  JAREK WIGNESS  1/5  BROOKE STUNDAL  LISA  BROOKE STUNDAL  LISA  BROOKE STUNDAL  LISA  RALLY BRUNHELE  LORDAN PETERSON  JAREK WIGNESS  TAVIA OVERLAND  LISA BORRESON  JAREK WIGNESS  TAVIA OVERLAND  LISA BORRESON  JOAN THOMPSON  JAREK WIGNESS  TAVIA OVERLAND  LISA BORRESON  JOBAN BERGSTROM  TONYA THOMPSON  JOSHUA BLOXHAM  LIUKE REEB  LOREN SANDVOLD  CHAZ BAKKEN  DEBORA KEMP  DIANA MURPHY  DIANA MURPHY  LACEY PETERSON  JAMAR WALTON  JAMAR WALTON  BETTY HEGGE  MILLE AREO  LACEY PETERSON  JAMAR WALTON  JAMAR WALTON
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Sat	Worship Service-5PM	12 Baptism – Harper Olson – 5PM Worship Service-5PM	19 Worship Service-5PM	26 Worship Service-5PM	
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Thu	Secutive Meeting—5:30 PM	Girl Scout Meeting- 5:30PM Council Meeting- 6PM	Ly Evangelism Meeting—6:30PM Gideons—6:30PM	24 Girl Scout Meeting—5:30PM	S1 Property Meeting— 12PM
Wed	2 No Wednesday Night Activities Glory Band Practice – 8PM	Wednesday Night Activities—6 PM Glory Band Practice— 8PM	16 Wednesday Night Activities—6PM Glory Band Practice—8PM	23 No Wednesday Night Activities	30 Wednesday Night Activities—6PM Glory Band Practice—8PM
Tue	1 Church Office Closed	∞	15	22	29
Mon			Work Day—5:30PM Tri-County Daycare—7PM S.O.S. Meeting-7PM	21 No School—Martin Luther King's Birthday	28 Financial Peace Class—7PM
Sun		Sunday Church School— 9:30PM Traditional Service— 8:30am Contemporary Service 10:45AM	Sunday Church School—9:30PM Traditional Service— 8:30am Contemporary Service	FAITH LUTHERAN'S ANNUAL MEETING No Sunday Church School Traditional Service— 8:30am Contemporary Service 10:45AM	GLORIA DEI'S ANNUAL MEETING Traditional Service— 8:30am Contemporary Service 10:45AM



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



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### GLORIA DEI MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor David Maxfield

701-572-2667

david.maxfield@gloriadeiwill.org

## GLORIA DEI OFFICE STAFF

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## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Bill Christensen

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billcwoodworker@gmail.com

## GLORIA DEI COUNCIL

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President - Wendy McGinley

wendymcginley@outlook.com Vice-President— Rick Clemes

rickc@fulkersons.com

701-570-6320

Treasurer - Jeramy Hansen jeramyhansen@hotmail.com

701-425-7822

Secretary - Kathy Molland

kathymolland@gmail.com 701-770-8649

## COMMITTEE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

## PARISH ED

Heidi Clemes

Sherri Weyrauch

## **EVANGELISM**

Judy Hogue

Cheryl Nelson

## **PROPERTY**

Mark Telehev

### **STEWARDSHIP**

Terry Olson

## **WORSHIP**

David Rod