

Dear Friends in Christ,

November is always a month that conjures up feelings about “gathering in” for me. For as long as I can remember, I have loved all that is associated with this time of “gathering in.” With each hose, rake, and shovel that is carefully hung away until next Spring, I can’t help but feel a sense of thankfulness for all the simple pleasures that have been my unique privilege to enjoy. The memories of soft, balmy breezes refreshing me as I lounge in a hammock on a quiet Summer evening flit across my mind even to this day! I still recall the fragrance of a freshly mown lawn and a smile presses at my lips as I savor lingering thoughts of an entire meal built around buttered corn on the cob.

Such “gathering in” memories help me reflect on how God abundantly blesses each of our lives in so many subtle and remarkable ways! Yet, even as I call to mind these “gathering in” experiences of my personal life, I am made even more aware of the thanksgivings that are made real to me each time I experience a “gathering in” with you, the people of God... especially for times of worship!

Each and every time we “gather in Jesus’ name”... I’m forever grateful!

There is so much to praise God for in these days of our lives together. A mere ten days ago, many of us gathered for worship on Reformation Sunday, joyously witnessing 17 of our young people proclaiming publicly their faith in Jesus Christ as part of their Confirmation. As I looked up and down the long row of youthful faces, I grew more and more convinced that in spite of the cynical views our world may have of youth, our God already is preparing a present and a future that will surely be brightened by the faithful living and significant contributions of these Christian brothers and sisters.

Each and every time we “gather in Jesus’ name” ... I’m forever grateful! What a heartfelt joy is mine whenever I am privileged to welcome one more fascinating child into the family of God through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism!

The smiles of joy and thanksgiving that shine upon the faces of proud parents is always unmistakable. What a privilege to stand together as the gathered, hope-filled people of God, awaiting with awe to see how the hand of the Almighty will mold and shape the life of one more child who is cleansed and reborn in the waters of Baptism.



Pastor Dave



Each and every time we “gather in Jesus’ name” ... I’m forever grateful! Gathering in community around the Table of our Lord, I frequently become more mindful of all that binds us together as God’s people. Despite our varying experiences and different stations in life, it is at the Lord’s Table that we rediscover the unity that links us with one another. Falling to our knees, we become united in our brokenness. Recognizing our emptiness without God, we become united in our need to be restored in relationship with Jesus and with one another. Miraculously... marvelously, as we savor a simple bite of bread and a sip of wine, we experience the greatest gift of our lives...the life-giving presence of our Lord, coming to us as we “gather in His name,” seeking His healing gifts of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life!

Yes... each and every time we “gather in Jesus’ name... I’m forever grateful! Forever grateful for the love of God I am privileged to experience in community with you, the people of House of Prayer. Forever grateful for the opportunities we have to be united in a partnership of ministry, learning of God’s amazing gifts to us and faithfully embracing the mission God calls us to in this time and in this place!

Forever grateful,

Pastor Dave

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

Men's November Bible Study



TUESDAY MORNINGS
8:30 AM • Library

NOV. 15, 23, 29

Join us for insight on the Bible and it's meaning. Read, discuss and learn more about the Bible.

LADIES' *Join Us!* BIBLE STUDY



WEDNESDAY MORNINGS
9:30 AM • S. Sunday School Room

NOVEMBER 16, 23, 30

ALL ladies are invited to attend Our study theme: "Experiencing the Words of Jesus." Join us for a time of learning, inspiration, and great fellowship!



WELCA BIBLE STUDY

SATURDAY MORNING

9:30 AM

Fellowship Hall

NOVEMBER 19

One Bible Study - One great morning of learning! Come and join us in a comfortable, relaxed setting.

A Bible Lesson - Coffee - and Treats will be waiting for you!

Continuing in November

HEBREWS BIBLE STUDY



Led by
Judy Nabben

SUNDAY MORNINGS

10:15 AM

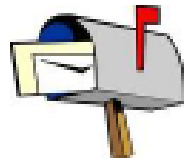
You may wish to read the Chapter in preparation for these class lessons.

NOV. 13 - Hebrews 6 - Youth Room

NOV. 20 - Hebrews 7 - Youth Room

NOV. 27 - Hebrews 8 - Library

In the mail...



Words of Thanks for our Quilters...

"Thank You"

Thank you so much for the quilts you donated to our residents. We really appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch

"Thank You"

On behalf of our clients, staff, and board of directors, Thank You for your generous donation of 12 quilts to Welcome House, Inc. With your help, desperate families in our community have a chance to change their lives.

Welcome House, Bismarck

OCTOBER GIFTS



DATE	ATTENDANCE			OFFERING
	9AM	11AM	WED	
9.29			37	\$1104.00
10.3	144	72		\$9,460.60
10.5*			66	\$852.00
10.9	130	70		\$4,502.66
10.12			66	\$995.00
10.16	119	123		\$3,912.31
10.19*			31	\$282.75
10.23	99	100		\$4,430.50
10.26*			42	\$1,242.00
10.30	117	252		\$4,973.63
11.2			70	\$1,333.00

* Denotes greater attendance for the week than in 2010.

Thank you for your continued generosity! Because of your giving, we have the opportunity to spread the Word, and provide supportive help for the needy of our community.



Amount Raised for the Good Samaritan Fund:

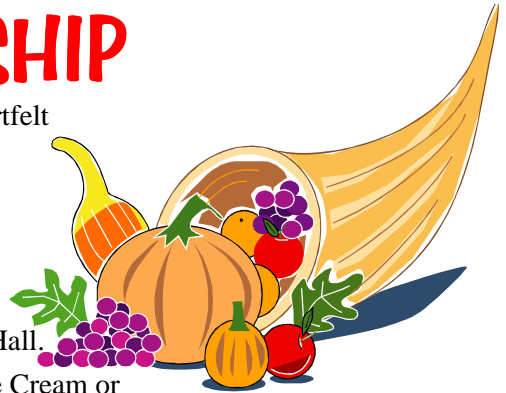
\$55.00

Money received from Sunday morning Coffees are placed in this fund unless otherwise noted. The "Good Samaritan Fund" was developed to help those within our community who may need immediate assistance with gas, housing or other needs.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

It's that very special Season of Thanksgiving! As a way to offer our Lord heartfelt thanks and praise, we will gather for a Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service on

Wednesday, November 23
at 6:30 pm



This worship service will be followed by a **Pie Social** in the Fellowship Hall.

The following people will be sharing a PIE for the evening, topped off with Ice Cream or Cool Whip provided by our Worship Committee.

Clara & Bob Sheldon
Shirley Engstrom
Jean Barr
Arthleen & Ivan Larson

Marea & Chris Reinicke
Keith & Hazel Cleveland
Gloria Hanson
Donna Vetter

Carla Bender
Laurie Eckroth (Todd)
Sally Pfeiffer
Beverly Feist

Bert Palen
Arlene Grenz
Ruth Gray
Desiree & Doug Clark

Please plan to join us as we celebrate this special Thanksgiving tradition!



November Caring-N-Sharing

Special thanks to Carla Bender for leading the way in organizing our monthly groups!



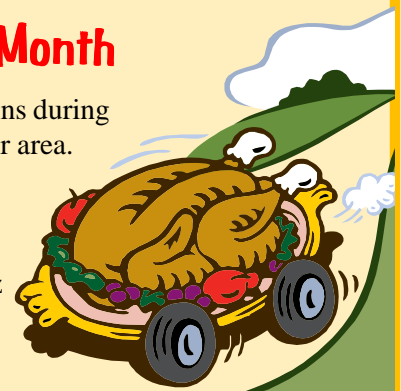
DATE	TIME	USHERS	GREETERS	READER	COFFEE
NOV. 9	6:30pm	Confirmation Group 1	Conf. Group 1	-	-
NOV 13	9:00am	Maxine Martin/Carla Bender	Ron & Ilene Larsen	Carla Bender	Patricia Frey, Charlene Schuchard, Evangeline Hart
NOV 13	11:00am	Doug & Trudy Kilber	Clint & Doris Lowe	Dave Meiers	TCO (taken care of)
NOV 16	6:30pm	_____	_____	_____	_____
NOV 20	9:00am	Paul & Jodi Barnum	Elvira Braatz	_____	WELCA
NOV 20	11:00am	Clint & Doris Lowe	Mike & Carla Wardzinski	_____	TCO
NOV 23	6:30pm	_____	_____	_____	_____
NOV 27	9:00am	_____	Patricia Frey	Gaylynn Becker	QUILTERS
NOV 27	11:00am	_____	_____	Gaylynn Becker	TCO

November is House of Prayer's "Meals on Wheels" Month

We want to thank all those members who have offered to help serve meals to area shut-ins during the month of November. This is a great local volunteer project that benefits many in our area.

Thank you to the following:

Andrew Oyen	Shirley & Virgle Engstrom	Rose Etchison	Reba Hagerott
Laurie Eckroth	Reinie Kembel	Jeremy Lauer	Ethan & Reece Mertz
Crystal Zander	Bob Sheldon	Laura Hjelmstad	Bert Palen
Kelly Carlson	Dodie Larson	Shawn Braaten	Gene Harper



"Covering our Community in Warmth... One Quilt at a Time!"



THE MITERED CORNER

**OCTOBER
QUILTER'S REPORT**



**Spring Harvest: 153
Fall Harvest: 149
Plus Baptismal: 14**



Another year of quilting has been completed for the 2011 shipments and deliveries, but the quilting doesn't stop there! Our Quilters continue weekly to create beautiful pieces of art that will be given to special needs within our Community and as an Outreach Ministry that touches people all around the world!

"Where do All of the Quilts Go?"

Our Quilters continue to reach toward new horizons, touching more and more who are in need with their Quilts! During 2011 they shared Quilts with:

- Ruth Meiers 22
- Salvation Army 24
- Abused Women 20
- Manchester House 26
- Charles Hall 30
- Welcome House 24
- Tracy's Sanctuary 10
- Pam's House 16
- Dakota Boys Campus 24
- Camp of the Cross 5
- LWR Missions 58
- Quilts SOLD 6
- Baptismal Quilts 14

"Who ARE these people?"

The House of Prayer Quilters Group is comprised of a variety of ladies whose skills, talents and creativity all work together to create quilts for "give away." From young to old, these gals enjoy the fellowship of loving the same hobby, and especially enjoy sharing a good cup of coffee and a delicious treat or two!

If you are curious and would like to join them any Monday from 10am - 4pm, simply stop in the Church and join in. They'll find a project for you. Quilting has many facets: Fabric to press; squares to cut; squares to layout; sewing; tying; finishing... there is always a new project and activity going on!

You can tell by the smiles on their faces that this rewarding gathering makes not only *others* happy, but makes the Quilters happy as well! Join us soon!



November Anniversaries

NOV

- 3 Paul & Vickie Messner 33
- 6 Michael & Dianna Anderson **40**
- 7 Robert & Gloria Hanson 41
- 7 Steve & Kay Larson 12
- 10 Leon & Darlene Thiel 49
- 18 Archie & Alice Rasmusson... **60**
- 24 Mike & Sona Houle 21
- 27 John & Karla Saylor 19
- 28 Gerald & Denise VanBeek 31
- 28 Tim & Roxann Sauter 36
- 29 Keith & Linda Ulmer 31

You're Invited...

Clarence and May Rieger (Howard Rieger's parents), will be celebrating their 65th Wedding Anniversary on **Saturday, November 26th** at **Faith Lutheran Church**. Open House 1:30-5:00pm with a program at 2:00pm. They invite all those who know the Riegers to join them.



Drop a Note to a Soldier...

Grab a card and jot a note to a young man from House of Prayer who is serving in the Marines! Let's show our support with a shower of cards, letters, and gifts from his home congregation!

Brighten his Day!

Sid is the son of Julie & Thomas Schwan.

**LCPL SCHWAN, SIDNEY A
3/7 WPNS CO. 81's PLT
UNIT 41570
FPO AP 96427-1570**



Sunday, November 6th, House of Prayer recognized those who have passed away within the past year, becoming a part of the Church Triumphant!



This year in our service, we recognized the following:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Lorraine Graf | Katherine Bailey |
| Robert Butler | Maren Knoll |
| Jason Bailey | Lester Heim |
| Carmin Bartole | Esther Zeiszler |
| Shirley Neuberger | |

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and loved ones who remember and claim hope in the resurrection.



Sunday, Dec. 4 @ 10:15am

During November, our New Member Class is being held. On Sunday, Dec. 4th, we will welcome these new friends into our Congregation. To celebrate this joyous day, we will be having a **New Member Reception** during our December Birthday Cupcake celebration. Please stop and introduce yourself to our New Members, and enjoy coffee and a cupcake, too!

What a grand way to start the busy holiday season!

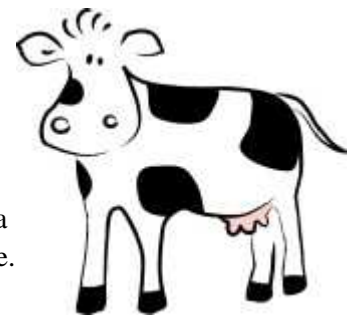
Sunday School News House of Prayer 2011

Sunday School is in full swing and each week our "Investigators" discover new and exciting things about the Bible through Bible stories and skits!



Our attendance this year is up from last year, and teachers are doing a great job, providing a stimulating and memorable learning experience.

This year, the Sunday School children are planning to do a special **OUTREACH** project by purchasing a **COW** for a developing country village. Every dollar raised in the offering will be applied toward the purchase of the animal. *Their first goal is to raise \$90.00.*



Stay tuned for upcoming totals!

*— Coming Soon —
Sunday School Christmas Program*

**Sunday, December 18
3:00 pm**

You will experience Mary, Joseph, Shepherds, Wisemen, and the true meaning of the season... JESUS!

Join us as the children portray this exciting day in our faith through a colorful and musical pageant of JOY!

Parents - Please plan to have your children at Sunday School for practices each week!



**Christmas
Drama**

November

Happy November Birthdays

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Todd Huber | 12 Everett McConnell | 19 Caden Kautz |
| 2 Tyler Bader | 12 Cal Schell | 19 Grant Neustel |
| 2 Julia Zeller Clark | 13 Liam Hjelmstad | 19 Dorothy Thorson |
| 2 Larry Sailer | 14 Ruth Harter | 21 Ryan Repnow |
| 2 Christopher Volk | 14 Dana Ostwald | 22 Amanda Giardini |
| 3 Carolyn Twedt | 14 Todd Vossler | 22 Shawn Gieszler |
| 5 Kierra Barth | 15 Gary Dietz | 22 Amanda Pedersen |
| 6 Jan Gieszler | 15 Matthew Mehlhoff | 23 Brittany Olheiser |
| 6 Charles Taplin | 15 Judson Meschke | 25 Alan Hilton |
| 7 Pam Bethke | 15 Donald Pedersen | 25 Sydney Isaak |
| 7 Laura Hjelmstad | 15 Gordon Sandau | 26 John Jennings |
| 7 Bryce Stevens | 16 Anne Zwarych | 28 Jane Brown |
| 8 Adison Bitz | 17 Sherri Anderson | 28 Katelyn Van Berkom |
| 9 Kate Klein | 17 Matea Betting | 29 Richard Eichhorst |
| 9 Alfred Lowe | 17 Ron Larsen | 29 Cayden Smith |
| 10 Karen McBride | 18 Cindy Lippert | 30 Brandon Gensburg |
| 11 Kristie Wiese | 19 Deanna Beiswanger | 30 Hugo Zimmerman |
| 12 C'aira Davis | 19 Marjorie Kaiser | |



DELICIOUS BIRTHDAY TREATS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our Birthday Celebrants! Sunday, November 6th kicked off our Birthday Coffees. Each month we will celebrate birthdays with coffee and Cupcakes on the first weekend. This month, Julie Schepp and Shirley Borg brought delicious cupcakes, made decaf and regular coffee to help celebrate during coffeetime. At the end of coffeetime, only "2" cupcakes remained of the 50 provided, and a total of \$56.00 was raised for the Good Samaritan Fund for the week! Thank you everyone for joining us during this special morning fellowship. Next month's Birthday Coffee will be on December 4th. *Please join us!*



CONGREGATION GATHERING AT 10:15AM

Our "Birthday Sunday" Schedule

- | | |
|--|---|
| DECEMBER
Ruth Hepper | JUNE
Minnie Rosta
Dorothy Moser |
| JANUARY
Rayne Kembel
Ginger Trousdale | JULY
Laura Hjelmstad
Michelle Hintz |
| FEBRUARY
Vera Hermanson
Colleen Nelson | AUGUST
Bert Palen
JoDee Davenport |
| MARCH
Carla Bender
Vi Wolf | SEPTEMBER
Donna Vetter
Jan Menge |
| APRIL
Shirley Engstrom
Lou Glass | OCTOBER
Ann Tranby
Laurain Dehlin |
| MAY
Jean Barr
Maxine Martin | NOVEMBER
Julie Schepp
Shirley Borg |

Thank you for offering to bake for our Coffees!



SHIRLEY BORG & JULIE SCHEPP

Look!



Flood of Love

UPDATE

\$6,469.00

is now...

\$6,700.00

Submitted by
Bob Sheldon,
Stewardship
Committee



November
Message

Stewardship

*“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,
and His mercies endure forever.”*

RISKY TRUST

Why didn't Jesus give us everything we need, especially in His church? I don't understand this. Or is it that what He really wants from us is our trust. Why is it so hard to trust God with our money? Could it be that we trust in our money more than anything? Money and what money can do! So what does a person trust more? Money, which can give you RVs, boats, expensive houses, luxury, the best doctors, pleasure. Or is it **Jesus, the Word**, who can give contentment, joy, love, character, understanding and eternal life. The choice is ours. Our heart follows our money.

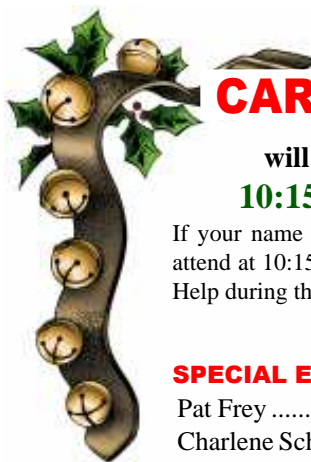
God wants our heart. He doesn't need our money. But, He can test where our hearts are by how we use our money.

How can we prove that our heart and trust is in the word of Jesus and His promises? There is one way we have to prove Jesus is the Word, and His promises are true.

About 15 years ago, Clara and I were willing to take that test and the promise in **Malachi 3:10** came true. I thought, "If this is true, what else in this Bible is true?" We started reading the Bible, the Word and studying anything we could about what it says. We're so convinced by what **Malachi 3: 8-10** says, that we have found contentment. The contentment received from drawing closer to Jesus by giving where God started people in the Old Testament.

Through prayer and reading, I have found that God's financial plan for us is giving 1/10th of our income to God through the church; 1/10th to savings; and living on 8/10ths. This is a risk, but if you live by God's plan, you can't fail. After awhile, you won't even miss the money, but you'll receive *all* the blessings! When you start to increase your giving to God's plan, remember to make the check to God, or the church, your *first* monthly bill. By doing it this way, you're showing that God is more important than any other thing. Do it this way and watch how all your bills get paid.

This could be a big risk, but we're asked to step out, make use of our faith, and let God show us what He can do. Do you think this could be a risk He's talking about? Or is it too big for Him to show us His power? What do **you** think?



December

CARING-N-SHARING

will meet **November 20th**
10:15am - in the Sanctuary

If your name is on our December list, please plan to attend at 10:15am to volunteer in some way to Host or Help during the month of December.

SPECIAL EVENT HOSTESSES

Pat Frey 258-0968
Charlene Schuchard 223-9267

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Doug & Desiree Clark | Randy & Jana Rakowski |
| Patrick & JoDee Davenport | Bonnie Repnow |
| Paul & Brenda Haaland | Virginia Ritchie |
| Vicky Hammel | Heidi Schmaltz |
| Ruth Hepper | Dean & Melissa Staigle |
| Jerry & Laura Hjelmstad | Bonnie Stromme |
| Dave & Kay Knudson | Alan & Kim VanNorman |
| Jason & Wendy Knudson | Kyle & Amy Vorachek |
| Paul & Lisa Nelson | Curt & Pam Wagner |
| Richard & Collen Olson | Clyde & Sandy Wilson |

OCTOBER PASTORAL ACTS



Weddings

- Oct. 1 - **Brent Doll & Corie Snyder**
Oct. 15- **Katy Nord & Brett Zeltinger**

Baptisms

- Oct. 1 - **Paige Renee Jung**
Daughter of Scott & Kristen Jung
Jordan Jacob Jung
Son of Scott & Kristen
Taya Marie Jung
Daughter of Scott & Kristen
Brody Michael Jung
Son of Scott & Kristen
- Oct. 2 - **Mackensie Faith Pierce**
Daughter of Angela Pierce
- Oct. 16 - **KristaLynn Baylee Harter**
Daughter of Cody & Kristi Harter



Confirmation Banquet, 2011



On Wednesday evening, October 26th, our 10th Grade Confirmation Youth gathered for the annual Confirmation Banquet provided by the 9th Grade Confirmation Students.

The families and students enjoyed a delicious lasagna supper, followed by each student reading their Faith Statements before the group.

We are proud of our 2011 Class as they reaffirm their Baptisms and embark on their life-long faith journeys.

Molly Costain
Ashley Eckroth
Gretta Gilje
Ashley Hausauer
Raechel Heuer
Mckenna Smith
Layne Walby
Madison Yantzer
Grant Barnum
Nathan Dinga



Ethan Fettig
Brandon Gieszler
Tanner Hegre
Austin Teunissen
Jarin Sprecher
Matthew Lawler
Zach Pedersen

Special "Thanks" to Melea Grabinger for her photography!

PASTOR APPRECIATION, 2011



Each year the month of October is set aside to show appreciation for our Pastors. This year's theme was "Mardi Gras" which filled the Fellowship Hall with color and fun for everyone. The afternoon began with a delicious potluck meal, followed by entertainment from Rhonda & Dennis Gowen Music Team, a program under the leadership of Church Council President, Dick Olson, doorprizes, a "How well do you know your Pastors?" game, fun and fellowship.



**Pastor Dave
Joanne
Luke &
Emelle
Swonger**

"THANK YOU...THANK YOU...THANK YOU! My family and I are still basking in the glow of all that we experienced at the October Pastor Appreciation Event on October 16th, as well as the many outpourings of love so many of you have shared with us. Words can never adequately express how you have blessed us in countless ways with your thoughtful words of encouragement, your generous gifts, a festive Mardi Gras celebration complete with creative music from Rhonda, Dennis Gowen and Company. Thanks, also to Sheila Hinkel for making our special day one that my family and I will long remember. We are "forever grateful" for each of you! *Pastor Dave*



**Thanks to
everyone who
had a part in
helping this day!**



**"Thank You"
Pastor Dave
and
Pastor Joel**



Special thanks to everyone who helped make this day possible! Thank you Julie Schepp for your time and help in creating our room; Jayde Enninga for playing our Jester for the day; to all the ladies who helped in the kitchen set up our wonderful potluck lunch, and cleaned afterwards; to our wonderful entertainment; and everyone who attended. Sheila



**Pastor Joel
Dakota
Amanda
Samuelson**

Since this photo in October, Dakota has a new baby sister, Eden Blum Samuelson, born on November 4th!

Standing up in front of people weekend after weekend to lead worship is a vulnerable position to be in, so it makes an enormous difference to know people in the congregation are supporting you. The many kind words, cards, and gifts that were shared this past month reminded me again of your kindness and support. Life can be challenging, and certainly ministry can be challenging, however in the midst of those challenges you remind me of how blessed I am to be your Pastor, thank you.

I also want to thank Sheila for putting the Pastor Appreciation meal together. She is such a blessing to our church. I also thank you to Pastor Dave, I couldn't ask for a better colleague to minister with over these past 9 years. Continue to hold our church up in prayer, and ask God to continue to guide House of Prayer. Again, thank you so much for all your support! You are all such a blessing in my life. I hope you feel blessed to be members and continue to be fed spiritually at House of Prayer. *Pastor Joel*



2011 Confirmation

"Affirmation of Baptism" Service
Sunday, Oct. 30 • 11:00 A.M. Worship

The following 17 young people have completed their three-year journey of faith enrichment with studies in the Apostles' Creed, the Bible, the Lord's Prayer, the Sacraments, and the Ten Commandments. Our blessings to these young people as they continue their faith journey. It was a beautiful, bright sunny day as they welcomed their new life.

Molly Costain

Gretta Gilje

Raechel Heuer

Layne Walby

Grant Barnum

Ethan Fettig

Tanner Hegre

Jarin Sprecher

Ashley Eckroth

Ashley Hausauer

Mckenna Smith

Madison Yantzer

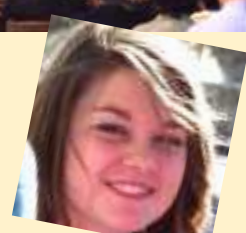
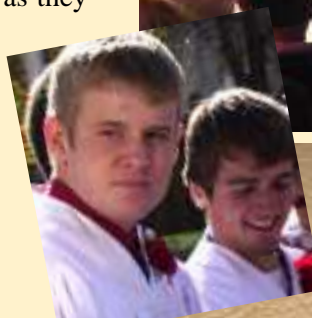
Nathan Dinga

Brandon Gieszler

Austin Teunissen

Matthew Lawler

Zach Pedersen



May God be your "Spiritual Anchor" throughout your life!

[The **anchor** is a very early Christian symbol that has been found in the catacombs. It brings together the cross and the various nautical Christian symbols (fish, boat, dolphin), and it symbolizes **Christian hope in Christ.**]



Pastor Joel

Pam Dienert

Youth Team

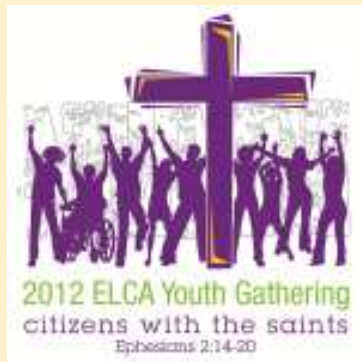
JR. HIGH YOUTH SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER

- 16 - Service Events
- 23 - Thanksgiving Eve Worship - 6:30pm
- 30 - Worship Only

DECEMBER

- 7 - Confirmation Session #5
- 14 - Confirmation Session #6
- 21 - Cheer Boxes made & delivered/No Wcu.
Worship this evening.
- 28 - No Wednesday Worship



After hurricane Katrina slammed into the Gulf Coast wreaking havoc on the city of New Orleans, ELCA members rolled up their sleeves and helped with the heavy lifting. Two years ago, over 37,000 ELCA young people showed up in New Orleans ready to help rebuild a struggling city. The

youth made a *human connection* with the New Orleans area. House of Prayer is about to share in that excitement as we prepare to join thousands of other **ELCA youth in New Orleans in 2012.**

This will be a life-changing and faith-strengthening event for all that gather. It only happens once every three years. Don't miss out on this powerful event!

"CHEER BOXES"

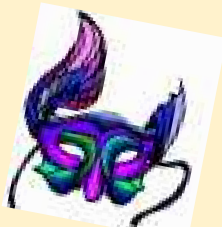
This year, our Youth will again get together on Dec. 21st to assemble Cheer Boxes. These boxes are filled with holiday treats, fruit, candy, a card and lots of well wishes!



Parents of Confirmation Youth will be notified of the items their group will be providing for these Boxes. It is a fun and rewarding evening of events. Our Youth and their Group Guide DELIVER the boxes that same evening!

It is a wonderful gift from our congregation and the youth during this Season of Love.

Let's Raise some MONEY!



Our Sr. High Youth are dedicated to attending this special ELCA Youth Gathering in 2012. New Orleans is a **LONG WAY from NORTH DAKOTA**, so they need to raise funds to pay for the trip. Be watching for the following scheduled events to help them raise funds for this very special trip.

- **Butter Braid Sales** **During November**
(Read about the sale in this Newsletter)
- Pizza Corner Pizzas During December
- Christmas Breakfast Sunday, Dec. 18th
- Annual Meeting Luncheon Sunday, Jan. 29th.
- Palm Sunday Breakfast Sunday, Apr. 1st

Please participate in our Youth Fundraisers. You are helping shape the future of our young people! Thanks!!

SR. HIGH YOUTH SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER

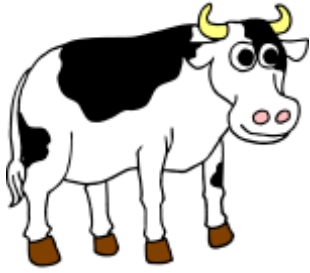
- 16 - Youth Group
DEADLINE - Ski Trip Deposit
- 23 - NO Youth Group - Thanksgiving
- 30 - Youth Group

DECEMBER

- 7 - Christmas Party
- 14 - Youth Group
- 18 - Cantata Breakfast
(note change from Dec. 11th)
- 21st - No Youth Group
- 28 - No Youth Group - "Merry Christmas!"



“Moo-ve some things in your freezer to make room for...”



The **Sr. High Youth** are selling Butter Braids during the month of NOVEMBER. These delicious 1 lb. 6 oz. braided pastry (icing included) will serve 11 people!



Just allow the frozen pastry to thaw and rise until about double in size, then bake for a fabulous, homemade tasting pastry!
Perfect for family get-togethers at Christmas!

“I’m just RAISIN’ funds!”



Choose:

- APPLE BLUEBERRY CREAM CHEESE
- RASPBERRY STRAWBERRY CREAM CHEESE
- CINNAMON CARAMEL ROLLS (9 count)
- BAVARIAN CREME (with choc. icing)

Please contact PAM DIENERT, Youth Director, at 471-9437 to place an order, or contact a Sr. High Youth member.

One price: \$10 each

Funds raised will be used toward the Youth Conference Trip to New Orleans in 2012. Call today to place your order! Thank you.



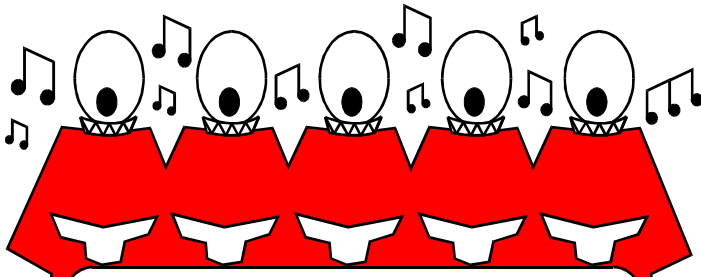
*Fund Raising in December
Pizza Corner
Pizza's
Dec. 1-30th*



“I’m just RAISIN’ funds!”



CHOIR CANTATA BREAKFAST



**Sunday
December 18
9am & 11am
Worship**

**The Sr. High Youth
will be sponsoring a
Cantata Breakfast**

**BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED
Immediately following
BOTH services.**

FREE WILL OFFERING

Come and enjoy:

- EGGS SAUSAGE**
- ROLLS JUICE & COFFEE**

“I’m just RAISIN’ funds!”



There is still time to join the Choir for our upcoming Christmas Cantata! Simply join us Wednesdays at 7:30pm.



CHOIR PRACTICES are scheduled every Wednesday evening at 7:30pm after Worship. **Nov. 9, 16, (none Nov. 23), Nov. 30, Dec. 7, and Dec. 14.** The Cantata will be presented at **BOTH** the 9 & 11 AM Worship Service on **Sunday, December 18th.**



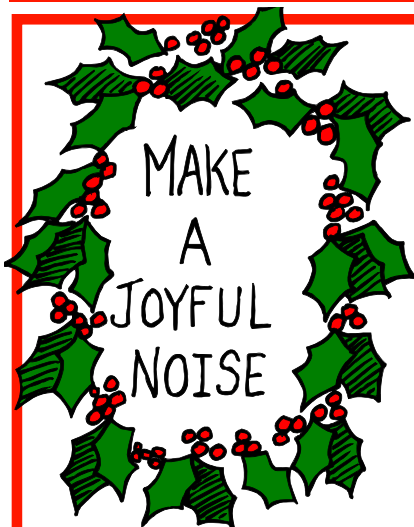
Sat., December 3 9:30 AM 2011 WELCA Advent Brunch



Tickets only
\$5⁰⁰

- Secret Sisters Revealed!
- Delicious Breakfast Served
- Entertainment
- Devotions
- Special Holiday Decor!
- Bring along a friend!
- TICKETS ARE ONLY \$5.00 EACH

Tickets on sale now! Call the office to reserve your spot(s) or purchase at the WELCA Table in the Narthex.



Sweet Adelines in Concert Sunday December 4 3:00 pm

You are invited...

To attend the 2011 Sweet Adelines Concert in our church Sanctuary. Your **"TICKET"** is to bring a canned goods item that will be given to the Ruth Meiers House. The Concert will be followed by a social in the Fellowship Hall.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Canned Meats | Sugar |
| Instant Potatoes | Snack Foods |
| Peanut Butter | Stuffing Mix |
| Potato Chips | Soups |
| Powdered Milk | Pasta |
| Mayo/Miracle Whip | Styro Cups/Plates/
Plasticware |
| Tuna Helper | Dish Detergent / Bleach |
| Sloppy Joe Mix | Laundry Detergent |
| Spaghetti Sauce | Vitamins / Band-aids |
| Canned Fruit/Vegetables | Shampoo / Rinse |
| Coffee | |




During this busy season of hustle and bustle, many are preparing for the coming of Thanksgiving and Christmas. For most of us, this means simply going shopping and picking up the things we need at the supermarket to prepare meals. In our local area, there are many who do not have the means to simply "go shopping," and are not able to purchase food due to lack of funds.

Our local Ruth Meiers Hospitality House has a FOOD PANTRY that provides food for those in our area who would otherwise not have anything to eat. House of Prayer's OUTREACH Team is collecting items for the Ruth Meiers Food Pantry during the month of November.

Please bring your items and place a donation in the Narthex basket (or box). These items will be delivered to the Food Pantry on your behalf.

If you are attending the SWEET ADELINES Concert on December 4th, please remember to bring a Canned Good Item as your "ticket."

Please see the items listed to the left to help with suggestions for purchase as your gift donation in November. *We can make a difference!*



**HOUSE OF PRAYER
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
1470 S. Washington St.
Bismarck, ND 58504 • 223-2202
MINISTRY PARTNERS WITH CAMP OF THE CROSS — GARRISON

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #76
BISMARCK, ND

Return Service Requested

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



*“WE GATHER
TOGETHER TO
ASK THE
LORD’S
BLESSING...”*

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Wednesday, November 23 6:30pm
Followed by a Pie Social

House of Prayer Staff

- Pastor ----- Rev. David Swonger, 516-4369
- Pastor ----- Rev. Joel Samuelson, 516-4368
- Organist/Keyboard ----- Rhonda Gowen
- Youth Events Coordinator ----- Pam Dienert
- Bookkeeper ----- Penelope Heinze
- Ministry Coordinator ----- Sheila Hinkel
- Custodian ----- Mahlon Meidinger

OFFICE HOURS MON-WED-THU 8:30AM - 5:00PM

House of Prayer Church Council

- DICK OLSON - President/Extended Ministry/Youth
- RICK SCHUCHARD - Vice President/Mutual Ministry
- RAYNE KEMBEL - Secretary / Worship & Music
- KEITH ZHORELA - Treasurer/Budget & Finance

Council Members:

- VERA HERMANSON - Adult Ministries
- CURTIS LIPPERT - Children’s Ministries
- HOWARD RIEGER - Building & Property
- CAL SCHELL - Outreach
- BOB SHELDON - Stewardship

HOUSE OF PRAYER

MISSION STATEMENT

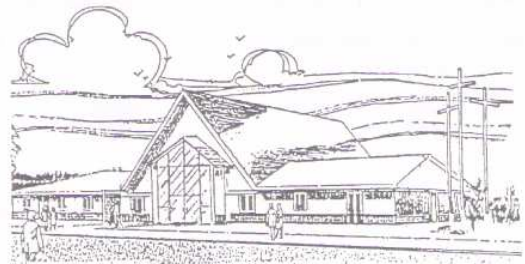
The members of House of Prayer celebrate faith by inviting all people into a deepening relationship with Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY Worship

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
9:45 AM - Sunday School

WEDNESDAY

Worship
6:30 PM



Visit us on the Web at:
www.houseofprayerbismarck.com

November 27th begins the season of



Advent

If we were to ask children, “What is the meaning of Christmas?” they would dutifully reply, “The birth of Jesus.” But we

know them better than that. To these little ones, Christmas is really about opening presents, baking cookies, decorating the tree, and stringing twinkle lights with Daddy.

Sure, we read the Christmas story, attend candlelight services, and quote the obligatory “Jesus is the reason for the season” while simultaneously wiping tears from their eyes and drool off their chins at the Barbie aisle of Walmart. But if we could see into children’s hearts, we would understand that, to them, Christmas is not only about the birth of Jesus — it’s also about *celebrating* the birth of Jesus.

Celebrating Christmas is not far from the heart of God, either. If you’re feeling like Jesus has gotten lost in the frenzy of the holiday season, please take the time to teach your children the *true meaning* of Christmas. Look in the middle of the celebration and you will find God.

Jesus is beckoning us to come to the party and bring the kids. In doing so, we will run into Him at school, in our living room, and even at the mall. He’s in the lights, the carols, and the cards. He’ll be there when you dress the evergreen tree, when you prepare and eat your Christmas turkey and dressing.

Take the time to enjoy a traditional Advent, the twenty-four days preceding Christmas. Explore the different aspects of the Christmas celebration. It’s amazing how short a distance you have to go to find Jesus in our present-day symbols and traditions.

To help you get started in this Advent Season, we have provided some suggestions to share with your family. Find “teachable moments” to visit with your child while you wrap gifts, ice cookies, hang tinsel, and sing carols. Look behind every song, every story, for the *Best* of All Stories.

May the seeking — and the finding — bring you and your family much joy.

The Advent Wreath

The word “Advent” means “to come,” and it refers to Jesus’ coming to earth as a baby on Christmas Day. It is all about looking forward to celebrating the day when our Almighty God steps into history as a human being.

Four blue candles stand amid greenery, a white candle stands in the center. The **FIRST** candle is called the Hope candle. It invites us to thank God for the hope we have in Jesus, the prophesied Messiah. The **SECOND** candle is called Peace. The Prince of Peace was born so that we sinners could be at peace with our holy God. The **THIRD** candle is **JOY**, which celebrates the good tidings of great joy that is for all people. The **FOURTH** candle is called **LOVE**. Love has entered our world through the birth of Jesus. The **WHITE** candle represents Jesus Christ who came to die on a cross for us that we might be purified of sin and made white as new-fallen snow! *That’s* amazing love.

Lights on the Tree

As the story goes, Martin Luther was walking alone through a forest one December night in the early 1500s. As he made his way home, the stars seemed to twinkle with an unusual brightness against the velvety blackness of the clear night sky.

The legend goes on to tell how Luther chopped down a small fir tree and set it up in his family’s living area. He then went through his house and gathered up all the burning candles. One by one, he carefully placed them on the branches of the tree, making the tree twinkle as he had seen in the forest.

Candy Canes

It all started out as a simple white stick of sugar to pacify babies when they got fussy. In the 1670s, a German choir-master had the idea of bending the sticks into the shape of a shepherd’s crook. Later it reminded folks of the shepherds of Judea. If you turn it upside down, it forms the letter “J” — for Jesus.

Hundreds of years later, a candy maker in Indiana began tying the treats in with the meaning of Christmas. First, he added a large red stripe as a symbol of the blood Jesus shed on the cross. The confectioner added smaller red stripes to represent both the lashes from the soldiers’ whips across Jesus’ back and the promise that “by His stripes we are healed.” The white color reminded children that Jesus lived a life completely without sin.

Peppermint flavoring was added that called to mind hyssop, the Old Testament plant used in sacrifices, because Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for our sin. The candy’s hardness declares that Jesus is the Rock of our Salvation.

This is an invitation to “taste and see that the Lord is good” (Psalm 34:8, NIV).



**LIVING GENEROUSLY...
SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS!**



**House of Prayer Lutheran Church
2012 Stewardship of Gifts Response Form**

*Choosing to faithfully support the ministries of House of Prayer,
(I/my family) will live generously in 2012 through (my/our):*

PRAYERS OF:

- Gratitude for God's blessings
- Discernment & Direction for House of Prayer
- Guidance for the leadership of our Church, community, nation, & world.
- Compassion for others in need.
- Personal need for help, healing, hope.

PRESENCE:

- Worshipping regularly.
- Inviting / Bringing others to church.
- Attending Sunday School/Summer Day Camp.
- Participating in Confirmation.
- Engaging in Small Group Bible Study

PARTICIPATION IN:

- Altar Guild / Communion Set-up & Service
- "Caring-N-Sharing" Opportunities (Greeter, Reader, Usher, Coffee Host)
- Choir
- Committee Volunteerism (Outreach, Stewardship, Worship)
- Confirmation Leadership (Group Guide / Program Support)
- Council Leadership
- Funeral Luncheon Support
- Instrumental Music Offerings & Vocal Music Offerings (Solo, Duet, etc.)
- Men's Group
- Quilters
- Song Leadership (9am or 11am)
- Sunday Plus Projection Operator
- Sunday School Leadership (Teach, Assist, Program Support)
- Women of the ELCA Events (Circle, Board, etc.)
- Youth Leadership (Retreat Chaperones/ Drivers/ etc.)

RESPONSE OF PRAISE:

*Thankful for God's goodness...
committed to making God's love known
to others, (I/we) plan to give financially
in 2012:*

\$ _____ per week, or -

\$ _____ per month, or -

\$ _____ per year

- Please send me information regarding Automatic Funds Transfer (i.e. Simply Giving Program)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

- I would like to receive church information via E-mail. (Newsletters/Midweek Moment, etc.)