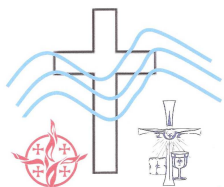


Flooded by Faith

BREAD OF LIFE & AUGUSTANA  
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

November 2011



Gathered in Spirit

# A Slice of Tidings

Volume 1, Issue 3

Monthly Newsletter of Bread of Life Lutheran Church  
1415 17th Avenue Southwest, Minot ND 58701 (701) 838-3360



**Praise Concert** .The Minot Prairie Gospel Quartet has volunteered to do a benefit concert for the **WND Flood of Love Fund**. The concert will be **Sunday evening, November 6, 6:00 pm at Bread of Life**. Also performing will be **Heavens Harmony and Master's Plan**, quartets from Bismarck. Put the date on your calendar and spread the word. Let's fill the church and give a big Bread of Life - Augustana welcome for this event.

*Bibles for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders* ~ On Sunday, **November 6<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30am service**, Bread of Life third graders will be receiving their bibles.

*Bishop Narum shares about the Central African Republic*

Mark your calendars! On Sunday, November 13, Bishop Mark Narum of the WND Synod will be preaching and leading worship at BOL/Augustana, speaking on his experience last spring in the Central African Republic. The Western North Dakota synod is a companion synod to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Central African Republic. Bishop Narum has an exciting presentation and stories to share. Come out and hear about this important partnership and mission for the church!



**Fall Conference Gathering Turtle Mountain and Western Prairie Joint Conference Gathering!**  
**Sunday, November 13, 2011 at Minot Zion Lutheran Church**

**Thanksgiving SERVICE** *Thanksgiving Eve Worship* will be on Wednesday, November 23 at 7:00pm. Join us as we give our thanksgiving to God for the many blessings in our lives. Worship followed by pie and fellowship.

*Wednesday evening Advent Worship Services* ~ **First service will be Wednesday, November 30**. We will gather at 6:30pm for a meal and worship together

**Open House** *Advent Open House at Pastor Taryn's* ~ You're invited! Pastor Taryn and her husband Christoph would like to invite you to their home on Sunday, December 4 from 2-5pm for an Advent Open House. There will be holiday sweets, carols, and fellowship. All Bread of Life and Augustana members are welcome. The address is 416 Dewey St., Berthold. Hope to see you there!

## *From Pastor Taryn*

### **Why the Worry?**

*“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own.”  
-Matthew 6:34*

While I write this as an expectant mother, it is my sincere hope that by the time you are reading it I will have a newborn in my arms! What a ride these nine months have been. It has given the meaning of “Advent” itself a whole new meaning for me. And yet, as with any major life change – like moving, a new job, marriage, or a flooded home – the experience of waiting for a child’s birth has been full of its anxiety-ridden moments and worries. Is the baby healthy? Will I know what to do once it arrives?!? What if he or she gets sick? We all worry about something or someone at some point in our lives. For some of us, worrying seems an every day activity. We worry about our kids, our jobs, our churches, and our homes. We worry about aging parents and bills that must be paid. We worry about our health, the safety of our loved ones, and the well-being of our communities. We sometimes worry about our faith.



In Matthew’s gospel we read, “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today” (6:34). How true these words ring in our ears! Today seems like enough to handle. And yet, God has called us to a life of little worry. Just before this in chapter 6, Jesus tells the crowds to not be concerned about what they will eat or drink or wear, but to think of the lilies of the fields that grow and prosper, that neither toil nor spin. Even these flowers, he says, are clothed in the love of God. So too we are clothed in Christ’s love! That even in the midst of our daily struggles, questions, and concerns, the Holy Spirit is there to comfort us in our distress, calm our fears, and lead us into a renewed sense of hope in faith. This doesn’t mean our worries simply go away, but we have been called to give them over to God. Knowing that with the Lord’s help we can get through the difficulties placed before us, the doubts or hesitations we might have, and fix our eyes on the one who carries our burdens and concerns so we don’t have to. And that is good news!

See you in church,  
Pastor Taryn

### **A “Worry Idea” for the Whole Family!**

Place a bowl on your meal table to serve as a “worry bowl.” Talk about the worries in your lives. For each worry, place a stone or marble in the bowl. Pray that God will help you deal with those things that concern you. Then pour some water over the objects and say together these words: “We are God’s baptized children. He loves us and will take care of us. Praise the Lord!” Use the bowl as a focus point for your home prayer times throughout the week.

Magdalene Esther Montgomery Schmidt, was born October 15, weighing in at 6 lbs, 6 oz, and 19 inches long. The name Magdalene is inspired by Christoph’s maternal grandmother and by Taryn’s favorite biblical lady, and Esther for Taryn’s maternal grandmother.

*Welcome “Maggie” and Congratulations to Pastors Taryn and Christoph*



*-from Vibrant Faith Ministries*

### *From Pastor Michon*

I remember as a kid one afternoon, my dad said “Geeze” we just got side swiped by a tornado. We were in the butler building when it hit, and were huddled under the Steiger tractor. It was not a very big storm, but it did manage to take the “leintoo” off the barn and two grain bins.

I guess I am remembering these times as we have experienced something similar this past summer, that continues to be with us as we go into the thanksgiving and advent season, it is a time of new life and rebirth, but also a time of stewardship and consecration renewal.

In the past we have gathered for a consecration Sunday and turned our pledge cards for the coming year. In the last questionnaire we were told by several of you what you planned to pledge toward the rebuild project if that is the path we would choose. While this was vital information as we continue to move forward it is important that we consider our entire stewardship.

From the Seeds of the Parish I was inspired by the article “What is stewardship all about?” it starts with a very basic question. Who creates all that is in the world? If the answer is God, then the next question is “who owns all that we have?”

If stewardship is not just about what we have and how we are to share it, but fundamentally it is who’s we are. It is from Martin Luther’s small catechism that he explains in the Apostles Creed that God not only creates us but God also daily and abundantly provides for us. This includes our clothes, shoes, homes, food, children, family, farms and all that we are.

Luther combines daily and abundantly in his explanation, so that would suggest that at all times and in all places God will provide for us all that we need. God creates all things and if we believe that God creates abundantly we must also begin to imagine life is abundantly blessed daily. What does that mean for each of us and how we understand stewardship of our lives and all that we believe that we have?

Borrowing from the author of the article Paul Lutter, he ends his article with the following: “God never runs out. What if this provided the focus of how we think about and live out stewardship?”

Blessings,

~Pastor Michon Weingartner



### *Coffee and Conversation*

Come join the Augustana Council for coffee and conversation. Some key topics that will be discussed are electronics/organ/piano in the balcony, buttoning up for winter, and the asbestos update. Please bring any questions or concerns that you may have.

See you there,  
Augustana Council





*From BOL President Scot*

Autumn Greetings to all,

November 2011

You may remember from last year that autumn is one of my favorite times of year. It is a time of preparation and renewal, as well as a time of celebration. In the past, our elders may recall Harvest Dances, or Harvest Celebrations, which simply signify the completion of putting up the year's crops. There are also Thanksgiving feasts, Halloween Parties, and the like. These all seem to say that there has been a bounty which has been gathered and the majority of the work is done. We have God to thank for both our bounties and our work. The bounties help us to maintain our health and strength and our work helps us to have a purpose and direction.

As for renewal, autumn is a time to try to fill our freezers with wild game to enhance the overall healthiness of our diet over the difficult winter ahead, to gather our nuts, so to speak.

Autumn is a time for preparation, in that we may have time to get those snow blowers running, to winterize the sprinkler systems, the lawn mowers, and the campers, as well as give those vehicles one last hand washing, and sweep out the garage before the winter freeze is upon us.

Well, this year is a bit different for me, since I am feverishly trying to get my house closed back up after some serious urban renewal. I may have to forego the tune-up to the snow blower this year, though I do know that it runs. I may only put some fuel stabilizer in the lawn mowers before I put them up for the year instead of cleaning them all up. I'll just have to take some extra time in the spring to catch up.

In any case, I still feel the urge to celebrate this fall since we still are staring much of God's bounty right in the face. Even after the biggest disaster that we have ever faced, my family is still healthy and happy, we have shown one another that we can handle nearly anything, and we have pulled through something that we probably never thought that we could. We are by no means done, but we know that with each others' help and the help of many others, as well as our faith that God will help and guide us, we know that we will see this through to the end.

Welcome back to all from a busy summer! It is wonderful to see so many kids in Sunday School and Confirmation! I would like to extend a very special thank you to one of our own who has truly taken himself to a new level of involvement at Bread of Life. Doug Berg has gone far beyond anyone's expectations in his service to Bread of Life. He headed up the nearly impromptu Flood of Love Carnival held at BOL, he has begun a new youth gathering, was instrumental in a very successful Turkey Dinner held on September 30<sup>th</sup>, and also took part in a congregational assessment that was put on by the Synod to give us and the Synod some insight as to where we are in our "Church life cycle". Doug's eagerness to drive forward inspires me, and I would like to personally thank him for his time and efforts. There are many others who deserve thanks and since I know that I'll miss someone if I try to list them, I'll just say thank you to all who have helped out!

A final thank you to Bishop Narum and the Synod Staff for all they've done for us through the recent past.

I would also like to extend congratulations to Pastor Taryn and Pastor Christoph, on the Birth of baby Magdalene Esther Montgomery Schmidt. Welcome both of you to Parenthood, and welcome baby Maggie!

As always, keep the faith, God Bless, and be the example that you would like others to emulate. Actions speak much louder than words.

In His work and in His Word, *Scot D. Redding*



In memory of Rob Eidmann from Elaine Swanson, Shirley Quigley
In memory of Don Haugre from Lon & Sandy Drevecky
In memory of Lenard Koland from Larry & Donna Herslip
In memory of Del Bjork from Loren & Joylea Knutson

Thanksgiving

T is for the trust the pilgrims had so many years ago
H is for the harvest the settlers learnt to grow
A is for America, the land in which we live
N is for nature and beauty which she gives
K is for kindness, gentle words, thoughtful deeds
S is for smiles, the sunshine everyone needs
G is for gratitude... our blessings big and small
I is for ideas, letting wisdom grow tall
V is for voices, singing, laughing, always caring
I is for Indians, who taught them about sharing
N is for neighbors, across the street, over the sea
G is for giving of myself to make a better me

CHOIR logo with musical notes. Text: Everyone who loves to sing and has a desire to help enrich our worship service... Other opportunities for music involvement include praise and worship band, gospel singers, piano players, instrumentalists.

Snow Birds



Packing your bags to leave for a winter in a warmer climate? Do you have young adults who are at college, or working and no longer living at home? please give your vacationing address and email address to the church office.

Scripture Readings for November:



November 6

November 13

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90:1-8, 12
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

November 20

November 27

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 95:1-7a
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Hospitalized?

If a member of your household is hospitalized (or you have any pastoral need) let the office know (838-3360). Office hours are 9 - 1, Monday - Friday. There is also voice mail so you can leave a message at any time.

## *All About Advent*



Every year in the weeks before Christmas, Christians around the world celebrate the season of Advent. The word "Advent" is from the Latin word *adventus* meaning "coming". It is a season in the church year all about waiting – Mary waiting for the birth of her son, an entire people waiting for the coming Messiah, and all of us today waiting for the expectant Christ child at Christmas. There are four Sundays in Advent, which we note by lighting a new candle on the Advent Wreath each week in worship. This is also symbolic of the anticipation and waiting we experience as Christians in our own faith journeys. The color we use during Advent is blue because it is known as a color of "hopefulness". This can be seen on the stole a pastor wears around the neck and the colored "paraments" on the altar and pulpit. Advent also marks the beginning of a new church year for Christians. While our yearly calendar starts on the first of January, the church year starts on the first Sunday in Advent. This is when our lectionary (weekly bible readings) also changes. For example, this past year we have been focusing on the gospel of Matthew on Sunday morning, but starting in Advent we will begin studying the gospel of Mark through the coming year.

We invite you to join us in this new season of the church year as we worship, grow, and learn together – fixing our expectant eyes on the coming of the baby Jesus in the manger. Praise God for the newness that will soon surround us in faith!

### **Advent Worship Services on Wednesday Evenings**

During the season of Advent, we will be offering a mid-week worship service on Wednesday nights. We will gather at 6:30pm for a meal and worship together. The service we are using is called "Prayer Around the Cross" and our theme this year will be the "Faith 5". We invite you to join us for this special time of worship and fellowship with one another as we await the coming of Christ!

### **Advent Theme: The "Faith 5"**

This year our confirmation students are studying the 10 Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and talking through some of the hard topics teenagers face today. Along with this we are working with the "Faith 5" in our weekly classes. These are SHARE, READ, TALK, PRAY, and BLESS. While the confirmation students are doing these at home with their parents, we want to share it with the whole congregation!

Therefore, our theme for Advent this year is the "Faith 5". We will spend each Wednesday evening worship service looking at a different piece of the 5 and talking about how it relates to our lives and faith journey.

November 30: **SHARE** highs & lows of the day

December 7: **READ** scripture

December 14: **TALK** about scripture and its connection to daily life

December 21: **PRAY** for and **BLESS** one another

We encourage ALL members to join us as we explore how God is at work in our daily lives – at work, school, church, with friends, and at home with our family. As congregations centered in the Word of God, together we can discover the ways God uses our every day experiences, scripture, song, worship, and each other to speak grace in our midst.

## Augustana Birthdays & Anniversaries

### November Birthdays

- 2 Heather Meschke
- 3 Kris Neset
- 6 Richard Olson
- 8 Tim Lett
- 9 Dale Hagen
- Kenneth Johnson
- 12 Walter Mertz
- Terry Quinlen
- 13 Everett Debertain
- 15 Cole Mertz
- Janell Shannon
- 16 Crystal Babcock
- Robert Norton
- Jenepher Vang
- 20 Jeff Holm
- 20 Jordan Brown
- 23 Lyder Nord
- 24 Mildred Edwards
- Dorothy Hennix



### November

#### Wedding Anniversaries

- 3 Daniel & Kym Reiter
- 3 Tyson & Amy Reiter
- 10 Walter & Eunice Mertz
- 15 Jim & Bonnie Ripplinger
- 18 Jeff & Gwen Bloms
- 22 Warren & Bev Helstedt
- Lowell & LaVon Morris
- 23 Charles & Annette Keller
- 24 Glen & Onna Bockness
- 25 Sheldon & Geraldine Nickel
- 26 Erik & Julie Haas
- 30 Keith & Denise Johnson



## Bread of Life Birthdays & Anniversaries

### November Birthdays

- 1 Aaron Blumhagen
- 4 Paige Argent, Daren Jespersen,  
Cord Redding
- 5 Taylor Huber
- 7 Justin Anderson, Mardell Poirier
- 8 Connor Beckedahl
- 9 Ashley Flaten, Donna Herslip
- 10 Aubree Meyer, Michael Lauckner
- 11 Michelle Poole, Tyrel Warman,  
Kayla Lawson
- 14 Brooklyn Johnson
- 15 Dustin Lawson, Jane Stokke,  
Rhianna Kissner
- 16 Benson Huber, Gavin Fylling
- 18 Tyler Grondahl
- 19 Brenda Flaten,
- 21 Alie Conger
- 23 Greg Dupre
- 24 Allan Stavem
- 26 Michael Burnham
- 27 Penny Belgarde
- 28 James Bakken, Carol Sitter,  
Aaliyah Burnett
- 29 Dawn Evenson
- 30 Chelsea Vedvik, Kristine Walker

### November

#### Wedding Anniversaries

- 3 Rick & Terri Huber
- 6 Robert & Joyce Olson
- 11 Morris & Mae Ludwig
- 15 Paul & Elaine Kjosa
- 28 Ole & Laurie Honadel
- 29 Rondel & Cody Roteliuk

~ If you are not on the birthday and anniversary lists, it probably means the church office does not have your info. Please call the office and help us update the files.



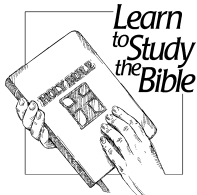
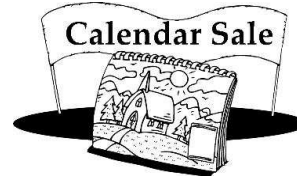
### Christmas Caroling

On Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 1-3 p.m., confirmation students, mentors, and all other youth will visit local nursing homes to share their songs of Christmas. Everyone will gather at the church and then carpool to the nursing homes. Cookies and cocoa will be served after the caroling. Parents will be asked to assist with driving, cookies, and cocoa.



### Youth Calendar Sales

Orders for 2012 calendars are now being placed. The calendars are beautiful and a nice size for home use and are selling for \$6.00 each.. They will make great gifts as well as your personal use. Please place your orders by signing up on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex. Wall and pocket calendars are available. The order will be placed around November 15<sup>th</sup>, so that the calendars will arrive in time for Christmas.



### Third Grade Bibles

Let us give thanks for the youth of our congregation and pray that they may each develop a personal relationship with Jesus. Sunday, November 6, at the 10:30 service Bibles will be presented to 3rd graders:

- Garrett Anderson**
- Emily Bender**
- Kaeli Eggen**
- Gabrielle Kissner**
- Jory Long**

### Poinsettia Plants.....

We are again asking for poinsettia plants for our Christmas services. The plan is to order the plants and have them delivered to the church. Cost for a plant is \$10.00 and payment must accompany this order. Please make checks payable to Bread of Life. Orders must be to the church office NO LATER THAN **December 12.**

Number of plants \_\_\_ at \$10.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

In loving memory of (deceased)

\_\_\_\_\_

In honor of

\_\_\_\_\_

Or a gift to the glory of God....

Given by

\_\_\_\_\_



## *Worship Assistants for November 2011*

6-Nov	Ushers	8am	Ardis & Ron Neshem
		10:30	Jacki & Gary Johnson
	Greeters	8am	Bill & Maryls Klimpel
		10:30	Hunter Sherven, Colton Bartuska
	Acolyte	8am	Sydnie Hedstrand
		10:30	Alex Emerson
	Communion Asst.	8am	Carmen Fricke
		(3) 10:30	Linda & Al Torrington, Arlene Mehlhoff
	Reader	8am	Margaret Sherve
	10:30	Madison Belgarde	
Fellowship Hour		9am	Bill & Marian Crawford
		11:30	Susan Thompson, Erna Eidmann
13-Nov	Ushers	8am	Ardella & Robert Heldstadt
		10:30	Elaine Swanson, Dennis Rowe
	Greeters	8am	Stan & Betty Lou Ralph
		10:30	Andy & Arylis Radford
	Acolyte	8am	Ashley Hustad
		10:30	Hallie Abrahamson
	Communion Asst.	8am	Lila Striefel
		(3) 10:30	Megan Bender, Olivia McCarty
	Reader	8am	Jim Bakken
	10:30	Travis Andersen	
Fellowship Hour		9am	Vang Family
		11:30	Augustana WELCA
20-Nov	Ushers	8am	Jim & Marvel Bakken
		10:30	Mark & Carol Schnabel
	Greeters	8am	Larry & Donna Herslip
		10:30	Julia Ellis
	Acolyte	8am	Jason Putt
		10:30	Kyle Flaten
	Communion Asst.	8am	Carmen Fricke
		(3) 10:30	Erin, Jeff & Melissa Bliss
	Reader	8am	Maggie Crawford
	10:30	Mary Ann Rowe	
Fellowship Hour		9am	Terry & Peggy Quinlen
		11:30	Shirley Quigley, Pastor Taryn
27-Nov	Ushers	8am	Mildred & Henry Aipperspach
		10:30	Scot & Cord Redding
	Greeters	8am	Mavis Bolte, Leone Bolinski
		10:30	Tom & Mary Probst
	Acolyte	8am	Zach Zietz
		10:30	Mara Roteliuk
	Communion Asst.	8am	Margaret Sherve
		(3) 10:30	Mara Roteliuk, Elaine Swanson, Fenecia Foster
	Reader	8am	Jessica Kessler
	10:30	Tom Ripplinger	
Fellowship Hour		9am	Marvel Bakken, Ardis Neshem
		11:30	Lois Matson, Arlene Mehlhoff



**Thank You**

Please note if the date or worship time does not work for you please find a replacement and let the church office know.

*Pastor Michon's Recipe of The Month*

**Potato – Bacon – Cheddar Soup**

- 8-10 med potatoes diced
- ½ package of Bacon
- ½ onion diced
- 2 stalks of celery diced
- 2 cups of water
- 12-16 oz Cheddar Cheese shredded (Crystal Farms Pre-shredded is OK)
- 24 oz Daisy Sour Cream



Boil and drain potatoes. Fry bacon, onion and celery until translucent. Drain off grease. Add 2 cups water and puree in a blender. Put pureed mixture in a sauce pan and bring to a boil. Add ½ of the potatoes, stir in shredded cheese until melted. Add Daisy Sour Cream. Do not let boil.

Add some soup to blender and blend until smooth if the soup needs to be thickened. Continue to blend soup to desired consistency (about ½ blended is good). Add the remaining potatoes and continue to heat until the potatoes are warm.

***Lutheran Campus Ministry!***

**Wednesday Night Alive!** Wednesday evenings from 9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., Crane Hall Classroom on the MSU campus. Come for bible study and worship.

**Tuesday Soup, Bread and Conversation!** Free soup from 11:30 a.m - 1:30 pm in the Native American Culture Center, third floor of the Student Union. Come and enjoy a warm cup of soup and stay for conversation.

**Lutheran Campus Ministry** will also have a temporary office on the first floor of the floor of the Student Union. Stop by and say hi!

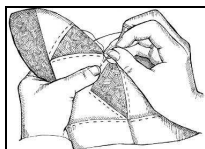
**Questions?** Please call Kari Williamson  
Campus Pastor, 833-2221 or  
kari.williamson@minotstateu.edu

THANK YOU

- To My Friends at Bread of Life
- Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!
- What a blessing you've been to me these many years. Your kind words and gifts to me when I left for Luther Seminary were wonderful and very much appreciated. And a thank you to those Saturday breakfast people, too. That was such a nice surprise.
- You have all been most generous to me and that will not be forgotten. And, by the way, I have met your new pastor and she will be a blessing to your congregation (as I know you will be to her).
- 
- Much love to all my friends at Bread of Life.
- Susan Anderson

### Quilting

The ladies will be quilting on November 14 and 28 from - 9 a.m. until noon.



**All are welcome!  
More hands = More quilts**

*All women* - are invited for a time of Bible study and fellowship. The Bible study for each circle is based on the national Women of the ELCA's study "**To Follow and to Serve: The Gospel of Mark.**" Choose a time that works for you:



#### EVE CIRCLE

Leader Mary Probst 839-6979  
Will meet on November 1, 7:30 pm.

#### NAOMI CIRCLE

Leader Olly Enders 838-7365  
Will meet on November 2 at 10:00 a.m.

#### MERRY CIRCLE:

Leader Ardis Neshem 838-4642  
Will meet on November 2 at 1:30 p.m.

#### RACHEL CIRCLE

Leader Arlene Mehlhoff 852-2890  
Will meet on November 10 at 1:30 p.m.

#### DEBORAH CIRCLE

Leader Linda Schaefer 722-3554  
Will meet on November 17 at 7:00 p.m.



Sunday November 6



We will again be adopting families and will be providing them with gifts for Christmas. Watch for the tree in the narthex with tags for the various family members. You can help by choosing a tag, purchasing gifts, and returning the gifts to the church.

Or if you prefer, financial contributions will also be accepted to provide additional gifts and grocery store certificates.

**November 14, 7 pm, BOL women will meet to make fleece blankets to be given to Adopt-A-Families at Christmas.** You are invited to come and help with this great stewardship project.

### Lutheran Men

All men are invited to Marco's Restaurant, Town and Country Center, Friday, Nov 4, at noon. The meal will be soup, sandwich, dessert & beverage at a cost of \$7.50. Please reserve the lunch by calling 852-2400. Program will be a panel discussion to assess the flood damage to churches, actions underway for recovery, etc. The panel membership will include members from the Minot Lutheran congregations.



## House Blessings

Are you leaving a dear home behind in the flood? Moving into a new or newly remodeled home? Or just moving in general? As many of our members are moving into new homes, apartments, FEMA trailers, returning to their places of work, moving their businesses to a new location, or leaving a loved home behind, we encourage people to have a "House Blessing" to mark the occasion. These blessings involve a candle, some Bible verses, and a prayer for each room of your home or workplace, asking God to be a guest in your new home or helping you say good-bye to an old home. Whether you live in a house, apartment or FEMA trailer, a home is more than just bricks and wood. It is a dwelling where life, love and peace reside. For many centuries we have had traditions of house warmings and blessings. If this is something you would like to consider, either as you close/leave a home or when you get into your new residence please let pastor know. Or, if you would like a copy of this short service contact the church office at (701) 838-3360.



**ELCA GOOD GIFTS.** Consider giving a gift that can make a difference. For that person that has everything or is hard to buy for, give a GOOD GIFT in their honor. Give a gift to buy farm animals, dig a water well, purchase a malaria net, provide food, education supplies. Your gift will carry God's love to others, making a difference in lives and in the world. All your gifts will last for more than a couple of days or weeks. They keep on giving for years to come. **ELCA GOOD GIFTS Catalogs are in the narthex.**

## Flood of Love—Tree of Hope



The 2011 Mouse River Flood displaced approximately 12,000 people from over 4,000 flooded homes; in addition, countless businesses and community landmarks were devastated. As our brothers and sisters in Christ move through the stages of grief and take on the monumental task of rebuilding their lives and community, the unfortunate timing of the June 2011 flood positions them in a potentially vulnerable emotional state during the upcoming holiday season.

As people search for their holiday decorations and try to recreate their holiday spirit and traditions in a post-flood life, many of them will also be searching for faith to guide their way.



Join the Flood of Love—Tree of Hope project in providing ornaments, lights, decorations, and trees to serve as symbols that friends, family, and God are at work as we get back on our feet.

Due to the lack of storage space at First Lutheran, we do ask that you hold on to the materials until Saturday, November 19th. First Lutheran will then open their doors to begin collecting the material from 9 AM - 7 PM on Sat., the 19th.

The Tree of Hope Fair will be held on Sunday, November 20th, at First Lutheran Church – Minot, from 2 - 5 PM.

Individuals will be able to obtain donated items to bring the Christmas spirit to their homes and all who are in need can register for the giveaway of a number of fully decorated trees! Refreshments will be served!

## *Fall Conference Gathering*

**Turtle Mountain and Western Prairie Joint Conference Gathering!**

**Sunday, November 13, 2011**

Come spend a couple of valuable hours packed with inspiration and information!

- Who do we want to be as the Church?
- How do we grow generous stewards?
- How could I live out “missionary me!” ?

### Speakers:

Rev. Twila Schock, ELCA Director for Global Mission Support (and Ashley, ND native!), Rev. Mark Narum, bishop of the Western North Dakota Synod, and Rev. Lisa Ahlness, assistant to the Bishop, along with others will share stories of the ELCA in action.

Bishop Narum will lead in Bible Study and worship.

Each congregation will see “to the penny” how its 2010 mission support dollars given through the synod were spent and take home a tool kit filled with resources.

Hear about the ELCA at work globally, how congregations support our missionaries, tales of tithing, what ministries are thriving in our synod, and consider how we can build generosity.

Time for questions and discussion.

Brief time for conference elections.

Meal and fellowship to follow, so please plan to stay if you can!

**Who should come?** Church council members, congregation members, Sunday School teachers, musicians, WELCA officers, youth leaders, pastors, synod council, church staff, and all other baptized members!

**Where?** Zion Lutheran Church, 1800 Hiawatha St, Minot

**When?** Registration/coffee at 2:30; presentation begins promptly at 3 p.m.

**Why should I come?** Here’s what last year’s gathering participants had to say:

“It was a real pleasure to get together with others from around the area, to share and network and just be together.”

“Hearing the ‘big picture’ was really great; hearing what all our churches working together can do.”

“The Bible Study on II Corinthians- to look beyond ourselves for the sake of others.”

“To see where our offering goes, broken down to the penny, was extremely helpful. I am proud to see that my congregation gives more than 10% beyond itself.”

“To be able to put a face on the ELCA by having a representative from Churchwide here.”

“I was actually riveted most of the time. The variety of the speakers was good. All offered excellent knowledge and insight. Well organized and focused.”

***BOL E-News*** ~ We are now sending weekly E-News through email. Each week this will include a brief devotion on the upcoming gospel for the following Sunday, as well as any special announcements of the congregation and our prayer list. If you are interested in receiving this please contact the church office at [bollc@srt.com](mailto:bollc@srt.com).



## ***Gospel Seeds... November 2011***

### **A Monthly Update from the Western North Dakota Synod Office**

As I write this I am sitting at the Western ND Synod LYO Convention in Minot. We are blessed by a group of young faithful people who are trying to figure out what God wants of them. During this event they spent time in Bible Study, Worship, conversation, prayer and pizza eating. They spent an afternoon helping restore the zoo following flood damage. Another group helped clean Peace Lutheran in Burlington as the congregation prepares to return to worship in their church. These youth also connected with the ELCA Malaria Initiative, raising over \$600 to help fight this disease. They are challenging youth across the synod to rise up, raise money and help save lives. We celebrate as Brooke Lietzke, St. John in Dickinson, becomes LYO President. These young people are the church – thanks be to God for their faith and faithfulness.

#### **Time for a Bowl of Chili...**

Synod staff will again be out on the road cooking chili and chicken noodle soup and you are invited for food, fellowship, Bible Study and information. For the month of November here are the locations:  
Beach November 1st                      Reeder November 2nd                      Hazen November 3rd  
Zion, Ashley – November 29th      First, Rugby – November 30th      Zion, Mohall – December 1st  
Serving starts at 5:30PM at each location. We will enter into Bible Study at 6:15PM

#### **Conference Meetings:**

Upper Missouri: Nov 12, 9:30 AM registration, 10:00 start

**West Prairie/Turtle Mountain: Nov 13, 2:30 registration, 3:00 start at Minot Zion Lutheran**

#### **It's Time to Talk...**

I encourage you to begin a conversation in your congregation to define why your congregation exists, what God is calling it to, and how you will get there...

#### ***Why are you here for God's sake?***

At the churchwide assembly a person stood at the mic and asked the question this way, "Why is your congregation taking up precious space on God's good earth?"

A simple way to ask the question would be to say, "If your congregation disappeared what would your community miss?"

Some Examples:

- they would miss our daycare
- there would be no food pantry
- we provide meals to shut-ins and new moms

What does scripture have to say:

John 13 – Jesus washes the disciples feet

Luke 22: 14-20 Jesus shares Holy Communion

Matthew 28:19-20 Great Commission - preach and teach

#### ***Where in Jesus' name are we going?***

If you are unsure if there is anything the community would miss, then maybe it is time to begin to study scripture together exploring why God created the church and ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance in identifying opportunities to live the Good News of Jesus Christ by serving your neighbor.

Read some "Journey Stories":

Luke 24:13ff – Road to Emmaus

Exodus – a difficult journey, hardship and complaining

Jonah – called by God to a journey we may not want

Acts- journeys that lead to thousands of new Christians

#### ***How do we seek the Spirit's guidance to get there?***

If you have a hunch about the ministry that God is calling you to, then think about the steps it will take to get from where you are now to that new place.

Nehemiah – see how Nehemiah sets out a plan to rebuild the wall

All along the way keep talking with members of the congregation. Be in prayer, and ask God to guide!

God Bless... Mark Narum, serving as Bishop

**BREAD OF LIFE & AUGUSTANA  
LUTHERAN CHURCHES**

1415 17th Ave SW  
Minot, ND 58701

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**Bread of Life** Pastor Taryn Montgomery  
pastortaryn@gmail.com

Office: 838-3360, Cell: 701-509-6135

Website: <http://breadoflifeminot.com>

**Augustana** Pastor Michon Weingartner

michon64w@yahoo.com or

pastormichon@srt.com

Office: 838-9563; Home: 852-0922;

Cell: 833-2228

Website:

<http://www.lutheransonline.com/augustanaminot>