

# Parish Visitor

September 2016

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 8

## *As He did with the Loaves and Fishes.*

What a blessing it is to see what God does with small things we do. Be it planting seeds, listening to a friend, helping a stranger, giving an offering, or teaching children, God blesses our gifts! God takes whatever we offer and multiplies it as Jesus did with the loaves and the fishes. The student being taught is blessed to learn about God. The teacher is strengthened and comforted in their own faith journey. Giving blesses everyone!

I was reminded of fruits of past generosity when Theresa Howie told me “the parsonage fruit trees are loaded with fruit!” I couldn’t believe my eyes when I stopped to see for myself! Three pear trees were fruiting abundantly! One apple tree had good sized apples! Most amazing was the beautiful pine and juniper border They not



only made the parsonage back yard wind free and totally private but were beautiful, towering witnesses of what God does when we step forward in faith.

Lynn Peterson began the process by donating part of her yard to the parish so trees could be planted. We’ve tried



planting trees there but they didn’t grow. The soil is hard” commented nurseryman Ken Stopplesworth. But Lynn’s generosity helped us step forth in faith

## September Worship Schedule

|    |         |                             |
|----|---------|-----------------------------|
| 4  | 8:30am  | Worship & Coffee - Medora   |
|    | 10:00am | Worship & Coffee - Belfield |
|    | 11:45am | Worship & Dinner - Daglum   |
| 11 | 8:30am  | Worship & Coffee - Medora   |
|    | 10:00am | Worship & Coffee - Belfield |
|    | 10:30am | Children’s Sunday School    |
| 18 | 8:30am  | Worship & Coffee - Medora   |
|    | 10:00am | Worship & Coffee - Belfield |
|    | 10:30am | Sunday School (BLC)         |
|    | 11:45am | Worship & Dinner - Daglum   |
| 25 | 8:30am  | Worship & Coffee - Medora   |
|    | 10:00am | Worship & Coffee - Belfield |
|    | 10:30am | Sunday School (BLC)         |

Choir rehearsal every Wednesday night at 7:00. Starts September 7th. See page 6 for more info.

Bible Study in the Book of Mark at Dwelle’s each Saturday night at 7:00pm.

once again. Irene Wolf, LaRae Tschetter, Andy Fiedler, and others, helped plant. Others contributed funds. Ten ponderosa and scotch pine trees were planted, in faith. Today the back yard is a beautiful oasis that provides a shelter and sanctuary for parsonage residents. Lynn Peterson was blessed as well. "I enjoy the beautiful pines" she noted. They also provide some summer shade for her vehicles. Lynn's board fence is no longer needed and has been dismantled. Giving in faith blesses all, especially the donor.

This month parents and grandparents are invited to bring their children and grandchildren to learn about Jesus. Seeds of faith will be planted in the hearts that are open and ready to learn about God. I thank God my parents made sure that my brother, sister and I were present each week at worship. I thank God that my mother taught my Sunday school and confirmation class when no one else stepped forward. I thank God for parents and grandparents who pray for their children and share their faith. I thank God for faithful worshippers who take time to witness that worshipping and honoring God is important in a world that disagrees and lives as though there is no God. I thank God for financial gifts that help our three congregations work together in partnership with one another as well as other congregations in our Synod and around the world. I thank God for you parents of confirmation students who are helping your children wrap up their work and write their faith stories. In so doing you are honoring the commitment you made to God when your child was baptized. That promise was to: "faithfully bring them to services of God's house, and teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As they grow in years, you should place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for the instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ."

I thank God for Theresa Howie who attended a workshop at Luther Seminary called "Rethinking Sunday Morning" to help us look at how we might adapt to changing times. We no longer use filmstrips or cassette tapes in Sunday school or sixteen millimeter movies for special events. Teaching and learning is different but God remains the same and continues to change lives.

Sometimes it's easy to get weary and discouraged in this rapidly changing world. This last month I was part of the ELCA national church gathering in New Orleans. I was impressed by the racial diversity and the young people who attended some of whom had different ideas than I. But we follow and serve the same Jesus. I am grateful that our church strives to include the ideas and thinking of those who are younger as well as the wisdom of elders. One Bishop reported that the average age of his Synod's Assembly was 23!

God calls each of us and says "come and follow me, the harvest is ready and the laborers are few." How is God calling you? As you come forward and share your gifts know that whatever you offer God will take and multiply. Hebrews 13 reminds us that "Jesus Christ the same yesterday today forever. Let us rise to our feet and honor him as Lord through worshipping, serving and following him.

*Pastor Roger*

## **Bishop Narum to join us for worship September 11**

**We have a special treat. Bishop Mark Narum will be preaching at Medora and Belfield worship on September 11th, while in the area for the Fall Pastor's Conference in Medora.**

*Sunday School starts  
Sunday, September 11th  
at 10:30am!*

*Kids will be released  
from service after the  
Children's Sermon.*

# We Celebrate with...



• Jordan Hutzenbiler and Brett Chamberlain on the birth of their son, Aiden James Chamberlain, born March 29. Aiden was baptized at Belfield Lutheran Church on June 26. Baptismal sponsors are Paul Hutzenbiler, Jr. and Destiny Chamberlain.



## Our Sympathy to...

• The family of **Louis Lindbo**, who died June 29. Services were July 5 at Ladbury Funeral Service.

### **A Note of Thanks.**

We would like to thank our church family and friends for choosing my dad and mom, Chuck & Kim Sommers, as the recipient of the fundraising funds this summer. An extra special 'Thank You' goes out to everyone involved with the events. Your dedication and time to ensure the success of the Breakfast Sandwiches and BBQ will never be forgotten. We are beyond blessed to be surrounded by the love and support we have received. Thank you doesn't seem to do justice. Dad's dementia has continued to progress more rapidly than his ALS symptoms but we are taking each day as they come. May God continue to bless you and yours throughout each and every day.

**Dana, Dusty, Kailee, Karlee & Kinlee Tescher**

# In our ongoing prayers...

- **Bea Syminow** recovering from surgery.
- **Dan Sandvik** recovering from surgery.
- **Dennis Keblar**, in poor physical health.
- **Tess C.**, struggling with mental illness.
- **Jennifer (Peterson) Kinney** following surgery.
- **Georgia Fisher** and family after facing a health scare.
- **Sprynczynatyk Family**, on the loss of Elizabeth Sprynczynatyk of Bismarck.
- The **Newton** family on the loss of Barb sister, Cleta.
- **Vinson Waldo**, who began his deployment in April, and for all of our service members who are deployed in service to our country.
- **Chuck and Kim Sommers**. Chuck (Dana Tescher's father) is currently battling Lou Gehrig's Disease.
- **Greg Matteson**, for continued improvement in physical therapy after heart surgery and a resulting stroke.
- **Margaret May** dealing with seizures.
- **Marilyn Oyhus** recovering from surgery.
- **Ardeth Jensen**
- **Cliff Solberg** in rehab at St. Luke's.
- **Noel Nichols** recovering at home.
- Relatives who struggle with addiction.

### **Dear Members of the Lutheran Church,**

The Sommers family would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who helped raise money for Charles.

Words cannot express how grateful we are. We appreciate that you chose to help us out, and the fact that you gave of your own time to make it happen.

Again, THANK YOU so much!! May GOD bless each and every one of you!

**Charles "Chuck" & Kim Sommers**

*Help keep our prayer list current. Names are removed after 3 months unless requested to remain. To add a loved one to the prayer list for next month's issue, please send their name to Theresa Howie at belfieldlutheran@gmail.com or fill out a prayer request slip during worship and place it in the offering basket.*



2016 YOUTH MISSION TRIP A SUCCESS! Our thanks to Damon Ross for stepping in to join our youth on their mission trip this past July.

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## *It's Time for Choir!*

The Belfield Lutheran Church choir will begin it's new season on Wednesday, September 7th! Rehearsals are every Wednesday at 7:00pm, in the BLC Sanctuary. The choirs present songs of worship on various Sunday mornings through Spring 2016. They also make a trip to Medora to join other area choirs for a fun and meaningful Christmas concert.

Voices are needed! Make new friends and enjoy laughter and fellowship as you serve the Lord with your musical ability.

If you are interested in joining choir, please contact Jean Franklin in person or email the church office - [belfieldlutheran@gmail.com](mailto:belfieldlutheran@gmail.com).

## **Annual Church Supper Sunday, October 2nd**

One of the biggest events of our year is upon us! The BLC W.E.L.C.A. members invite you to annual Belfield Lutheran Church Supper, October 2nd from 4:30pm to 7:00pm at Saint Bernard Parish Center. A free will offering will be taken.

Join us for Ham, meatballs, mashed potatoes and gravy, salad, beans, lefse and assorted Scandinavian desserts! Food, fun and fellowship abound at this highly anticipated, well attended annual event. You don't want to miss it!

For more information, or to help, contact Barb Hurt or email [belfieldlutheran@gmail.com](mailto:belfieldlutheran@gmail.com).

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## ***Gospel Seeds-September 2016***

A Monthly Update from the  
Western North Dakota Synod Office

### **Proud to Participate...**

Once again it was an honor to see people from our Synod actively involved as servants during August's ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Rev. Craig Schweitzer and Associate in Ministry Kari Files were part of the team of worship musicians. Mason Schmidt, Christ Lutheran (Minot), was assisting minister during worship on Friday of the Assembly. Synod staff member Sherie Heine was one of the communion ministers during the entire Assembly. Connie Essler, America Lutheran (Stanley), served as an Assembly volunteer.

There were also seven people from our Synod who participated in the Grace Gathering, a way for people from around the country to experience the work this church does together in Jesus' name.

### **News from Around Your Church...**

Sixteen voting members from our Synod joined almost 1,000 voting members from around the country to do the business of the church. During the time in New Orleans the Assembly:

- Gathered daily in worship, with rich preaching of God's word and the celebration of Holy Communion.
  - Heard calls from our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Secretary Chris Boerger, and Vice President Carlos Pena to remember that Jesus is at the heart of who we are; it is proclamation of the Good News of his death and resurrection we are called to share and be about as church.
  - Continued the conversation about future priorities of our church.
  - Elected William B. Horn II (Clearwater, Florida) as Vice President.
  - Unified the three lay rosters of Diaconal Minister, Associate in Ministry and Deaconess into one roster which will be known as Deacon.
  - Passed a memorial repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery.
  - Approved a document (Declaration on the Way) outlining what the ELCA and the U.S. Roman Catholic Church agrees on in terms of the church, worship, and Holy Communion.
- You can read more about your Church's gathering at [elca.org](http://elca.org).

### **Great News...**

We have received word a Churchwide mission probe grant has been approved for "Penelope's Place", an outreach of Metigoshe Lutheran Church. This ministry's

goal is to connect with those pushed away by the church - especially women. We are looking forward to seeing what God might stir up through this outreach.

### **Save the Dates!**

All ELCA Rostered Leaders are invited to a leadership gathering next summer in Atlanta, Georgia. The event entitled, "On the Way Together", is being billed as a continuing education event with excellent worship, learning opportunities, and the ability to connect with colleagues from across our church. The dates are August 7 -10, 2017. Watch for more details in coming months on the ELCA website.

### **Good Resources...**

I commend two books, which I have recently read, to you. The first is "Embracing Stewardship" by Charles "Chick" Lane and Grace Duddy Pomroy. The first section of this book lays out a solid Lutheran theology of stewardship. The second section is intended to be used over time as a resource providing different ways to engage stewardship within a congregation.

One of the gifts of this book is the diversity of the two authors. They are open about the difference in their church backgrounds, their age, and their gender. This diversity brings a wider range of thinking to current day issues of being stewards - or caretakers - of all God has entrusted to us.

The second book was shared with me by Pastor Marty Mock. "I Am A Church Member" by Thom S. Rainer is a quick read and defines the difference between a church consumer and a disciple of Jesus. Pastor Mock plans to use this as a conversation starter with his church council.

Both of these books could be excellent conversation starters within your congregation.

### **Church Council Visits...**

In the coming weeks, Synod Council members and Synod Staff will be making phone calls asking to make a visit to some church councils across the Synod. The purpose of these visits is straight forward: to thank congregations for their partnership, to share stories of ministry in Jesus' name made possible because congregations share Mission Support, and to share the Bishop's Challenge.

If you would like a visit, please call the Synod Office and let us know. If you receive a call, please help arrange the visit. We are thankful for your partnership in the Gospel.

Rev. Mark Narum

Serving as Bishop of the Western North Dakota Synod



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

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*Contributions, including articles, reports, photos and drawings are welcome, and will be used as space permits.*

### **Photo Submissions:**

*Have a great photo of church or community events, or the beautiful North Dakota landscape? We'd love to share them for all to see in the Parish Visitor! Contact Theresa Howie at belfieldlutheran@gmail.com for more info.*

### **Church Bulletin Submissions:**

*If you have announcements or prayer requests for the weekly church bulletin, please call or email Lynn Peterson by Wednesday night. Contact info for Lynn can be found in staff listing above.*

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**Would you prefer to receive your issue of the Parish Visitor electronically?** Send your email address to belfieldlutheran@gmail.com. Your next issue will arrive via email, and we'll remove your name from the regular mailings.

*Our thanks to  
Randy & Sue  
Mosser  
for sponsoring  
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The Parish Visitor*

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*Thank you in advance for your generosity!*

# SEPTEMBER 2016

| Sunday  | Monday | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday                          | Friday | Saturday                                     |
|---|--------|---|--|-----------------------------------|--------|--|
|   |        |   |  | 1                                 | 2      | 3<br>7:00 PM "Mark" Bible Study at Dwelle's  |
| 4<br>COMMUNION<br>WORSHIP<br>8:30 AM-Medora-coffee<br>10:00 AM-Belfield-coffee<br>11:45 AM-Daglum-dinner  | 5      | 6<br>1:15 PM-Pastor's Text Study, Dickinson<br>8:00 PM-AA Meets @ Belfield Lutheran                                     | 7<br>7:00 PM – Belfield Choir  | 8                                 | 9      | 10<br>7:00 PM "Mark" Bible Study at Dwelle's |
| 11<br>WORSHIP<br>8:30 AM-Medora-coffee<br>Bishop Mark preaches at both churches<br>10:00 AM-Belfield-coffee<br>10:30 AM –Belfield SS<br>Fall Pastor's Conference @ Medora | 12     | 13<br>1:15 PM. Pastor's Text Study, Dickinson<br>6:00 PM-Belfield Council Meets<br>8:00 PM-AA Meets @ Belfield Lutheran | 14<br>6-7 PM – Third Year Confirmation students & parents meet (no meal)<br>7:00 PM – Belfield Choir | 15<br>October Newsletter deadline | 16     | 17<br>7:00 PM "Mark" Bible Study at Dwelle's |
| 18<br>WORSHIP<br>8:30 AM-Medora Coffee<br>Communion Service<br>10:00 AM-Belfield-coffee<br>10:30 AM-Belfield SS<br>11:45 AM – Daglum and Fall Dinner                      | 19     | 20<br>1:15 PM. Pastor's Text Study, Dickinson<br>8:00 PM AA Meets @ Belfield Lutheran                                   | 21<br>7:00 PM – Belfield Choir   | 22                                | 23     | 24<br>7:00 PM "Mark" Bible Study at Dwelle's |
| 25<br>WORSHIP<br>8:30 AM-Medora-coffee<br>10:00 AM-Belfield with<br>10:30 AM-Belfield SS  | 26     | 27<br>1:15 PM. Pastor's Text Study, Dickinson<br>8:00 PM AA Meets @ Belfield Lutheran                                   | 28<br>7:00 PM – Belfield Choir   | 29                                | 30     |  |

Belfield Lutheran Church  
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Medora Lutheran Church  
www.medoralutheranchurch.com

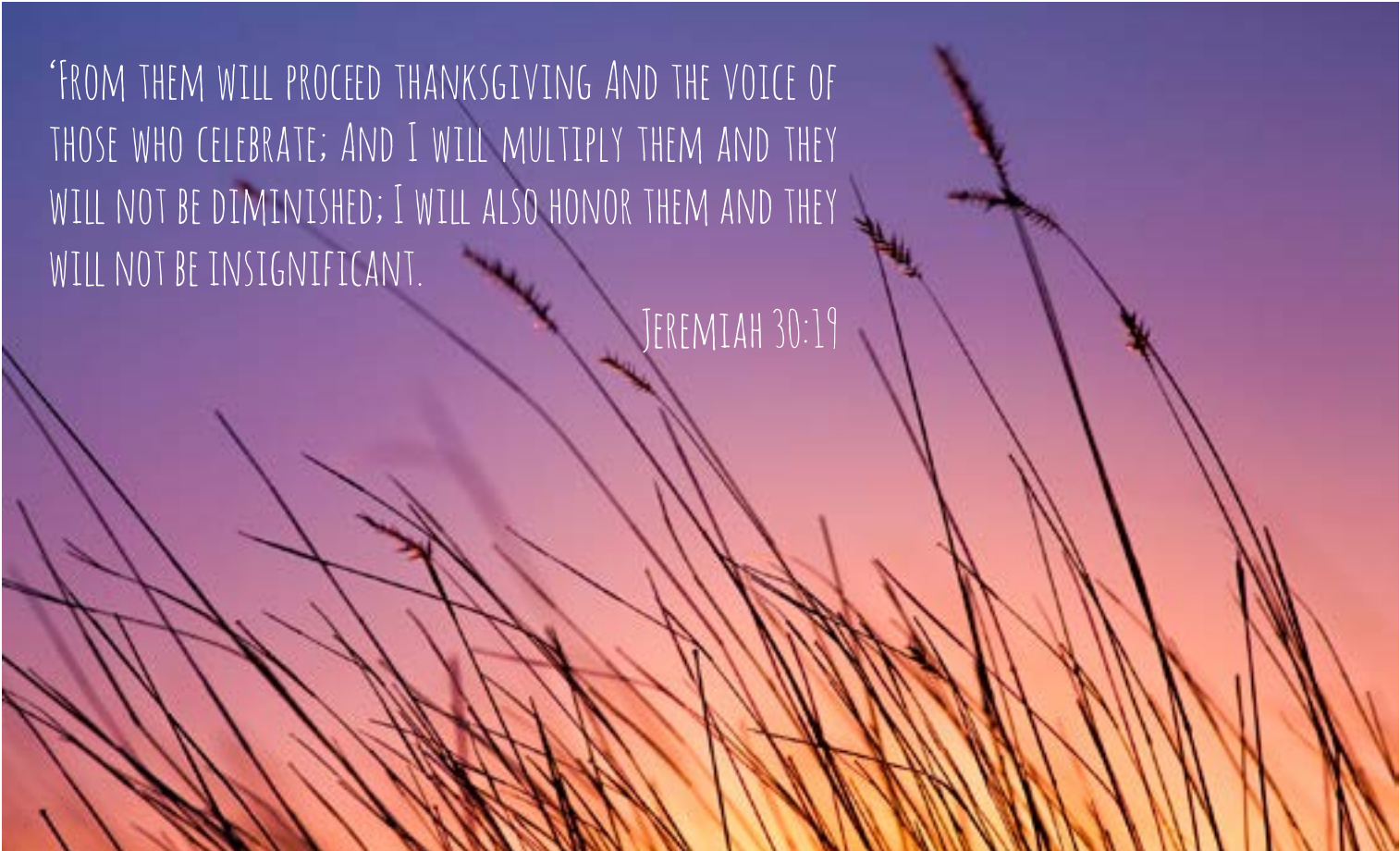
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*Parish Visitor  
September 2016*

**To:**



‘FROM THEM WILL PROCEED THANKSGIVING AND THE VOICE OF  
THOSE WHO CELEBRATE; AND I WILL MULTIPLY THEM AND THEY  
WILL NOT BE DIMINISHED; I WILL ALSO HONOR THEM AND THEY  
WILL NOT BE INSIGNIFICANT.

JEREMIAH 30:19