

April 2013



Message from Interim Pastor G:

Gerald Giese Cell# 507-380-1176,
e-mail: giese@circleoffaithparish.org

Dear friends, grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Crucified and Risen Lord Jesus. Amen.

As we enter the month of April, we remember the events of Holy Week and Easter. No one I am sure will ever be able to understand what the disciples were feeling those final days before and after our Lord's crucifixion. Their despair and sorrow must have been beyond comprehension. Their hopes and dreams, their trust and their very lives were shattered. Then while locking themselves in an upper room, Mary Magdalene comes and knocks on the door and tells them she has seen the Lord. In their grief, they mocked her in disbelief. In the gospels, we are told that during that first Easter day, Jesus appeared to two of his followers on the road to Emmaus. After he had supper with them, he broke bread with them and they "saw" him. The disciples questioned their story until Jesus appeared to them that very evening. Thomas, we are told doubted and needed proof. After Jesus met with him, he confessed, "*My Lord and My God!*"

Why the doubt, the fear, the hesitation to believe? Jesus through the Gospel of John declares in chapter 20, "*Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are they who have not seen and yet believe?*" John further declares, "*Now Jesus did many other signs, but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.*"

Why then is there doubt and the hesitation in our day? Are we no different then his disciples? The disciples and others were hoping for the restoration of the kingdom of David. Their hope was that the Messiah would come to redeem and restore the kingdom. For the Jewish community, it was their hope that the Messiah would free them from their bondage. That was the dream of the disciples as well. When Jesus declared that he would suffer and die; the hopes and dreams of the disciples began to fade, even to the point of denial and locking themselves in the upper room. Surely, when Jesus

died, they were devastated. So then, are the reactions of the disciples so profound? What does Jesus mean when he says, "*Blessed are they who have not seen, yet believe?*"

Are we any different then his disciples? Are we not also hoping for deliverance? Is that not the reason why we ask the question why, when events around us do not seem fair or just? Is not that the reason we ask for the impossible? Are we not in the disciples' shoes, when we look to him for something that he is not? We just celebrated Holy Week and Easter, so exactly what are called to believe? We are called to believe that Jesus is our Crucified and Risen Lord and Savior. We are called to believe that he is the victorious Christ, who overcame death and the power of the devil through his blessed resurrection. He is the victorious Christ who offers forgiveness and life for all who believe.

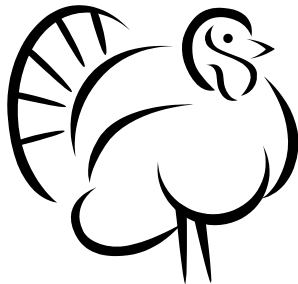
Why then is it difficult for us to believe, when we know the story? If we are looking for a political savior, one who will solve the world's dilemmas, give quick and simple solutions to our personal crisis, then yes, it would be difficult to believe in a Crucified and Risen Savior. But then, if we see him as Savior of the world as he really is, then no, it is not difficult or impossible to believe. For what did Jesus come to do? In Christ all things have been restored. In Christ, we find the meaning of hope, joy and victory. In Christ, we learn once again the meaning of love and service. Our old sinful life took on the meaning of meaninglessness and despair. In Christ, new life was and is restored again for purpose and direction. For in Christ, all have been made alive, full of peace and hope and above all life itself. In this perspective, then is it not too difficult to believe and find the hope that only our Risen Savior can give?

God's blessings to you in your work and in your play and in your rest.

Peace and Joy;
Pastor G

CIRCLE OF FAITH PAGES

I have been made aware that I am not receiving all emails that have been sent to Circle of Faith Parish, it has been the ones that the sender has used capital letters in the address. Please use this address when sending emails: parish@circleoffaithparish.org. Thanks – Lisa



Annual Turkey Dinner @ Trinity Lutheran –
Welcome, Sunday, April 21st
serving from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.
Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing,
vegetable and dessert.
Suggested donation - \$8.00: 13 & up,
\$5.00: 6-12, 5 & under: free.



RUNNERS - needed to deliver bulletins, mail, and other items between congregations and the church office. Once a week responsibility for anyone who enjoys driving the countryside. Please contact Lisa at the Parish Office (507-728-8259 or parish@circleoffaithparish.org) to volunteer. Lisa will coordinate the schedule of volunteers. Thanks for your willingness to help!



Our Parish / congregational websites:

CircleOfFaithParish.org is online! At least, the start of our website is up and active.

We need your help in coming up with content for each congregation's individual section of the website. Active in your Women of the ELCA? Help us write a short explanation of your WELCA, and who to contact for more information. We can include a link to your yearly WELCA booklet as well. Work with Sunday School, youth, or any other organization within your congregation? We want to hear from you, so we can create pages that reflect your program and it's upcoming events.

Currently on our website: Worship and Sunday School schedules, photos of our congregations, parish and clergy contact information, staff information, and Call Committee updates.

Waverly has it's own website, embedded within Circle of Faith's site. On Waverly's site you can find videos from our weekly worship services, copies of our constitution, church directory, and WELCA (WOW) booklet,

Please contact Kirsten Rabbe (kcrabbe@mac.com or 507-227-6862), and she'll connect you and your info to our web designer.

This cannot happen without you! Tell us what information you would like to see on our website. And keep checking CircleOfFaithParish.org to see what's new and exciting at Circle of Faith!

They're Back ! * ! * !

Tuesday Morning Coffees
Starting April 2, 8:30 – 10:00 am
Trinity in Trimont, HWY 4



IT'S COMING! Pentecost Sunday is May 19th. In celebration it is a day to wear red to worship.



Wade Steele Benefit, Saturday, April 20. 2013. MCW High School. 4:30 – 7:30 pm.
Check the poster on your bulletin bd. Wade is the son of Bill and Nancy Steele.

+++++

A Seminarian's Letters
Home --- April
2013



To the membership of Circle of Faith Parish

Greetings to you all from Pennsylvania! Welcome to what is known in Christianity as the Great Fifty Days. From Easter to Pentecost, we live in the season of Easter. Alleluias are everywhere, as is the joyful music of resurrection. White and gold adorn our altars, our vestments, and our churches. The paschal candle burns every Sunday throughout this time. We have followed Christ through the wilderness and have come out of the tomb with him into the dawn of new life and freedom. Finally, Easter is here!

Early Christians did not have the practice of celebrating Easter sunrise as we do now. That tradition came about in the 16th century, a gift from our brothers and sisters in the Moravian Church. The Moravians taught us to rejoice as the sun was rising, as the light was spreading throughout the world and the shadows were fleeing. The way ahead was not yet fully clear, but hope and new life had come about, and things were getting better by the minute. So, too, we as Circle of Faith are not yet fully what God intends us to be. But we are on the way. Christ is bringing new life, new zeal and new hope to birth all around us, and will lead us onward to fulfill the promises of Easter. Alleluia, Christ is risen! And Christ will come again.

Journeying forward into the great fifty days of Easter, let us pray for God's blessing, using these words:

Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord's resurrection. Give us also the joys of life in your service, and bring us at last to the full joy of life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. [ELW, The Resurrection of our Lord]

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Your fellow member and pilgrim,

Carl P. Rabbe

The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia

S T. P E T E R L U T H E R A N P A G E S

St. Peter Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Opening Devotions

Secretary's Report Treasurer's Report Benevolence Treasurer's Report

Pastor's Report

Old Business: Paper towel dispensers. Methodist members. Keys to church. Helping with communion. Change bulletins. Change money envelopes.

New Business: I changed the mailing address to the Welcome office. Worked things out with Kathy and the bills for phone, bank statement, not sure about Nuway, will all be sent directly to Kathy.

I will order 50 Palms for Palm Sunday.

Other business:

Next Meeting April 14th after church services.

WELCA

The next meeting will be April 3rd @ 1:30 pm. Hostesses: Jeannine Rasmussen and Rosemary Saggau.

Bible Study: Session 8 – "Storytelling" from Acts 14th Chapter given by Pastor Giese.
The balance on hand as of March 20th is \$1,189.85.

The annual Spring Gathering will be Saturday, April 13th at Our Savior's in New Ulm. Registration 8:30 am. The program will be presented by the "Heart of New Ulm" group with Cindy Winter speaking about heart health. Cost - \$5.00/person, includes lunch. Offering will be ½ for the synod and ½ for health initiative of the WELCA.

Group 1 – Kitchen and base sale. Please let Barb or Charlotte know what you will furnish – pies, bar-b-que, rolls, egg salad, chicken salad, etc. All needed. The buns will be bought so sandwiches are the same size – with the exception of hot dogs. Food for the kitchen and bake sale are voluntary.

Group 2 – clean-up. The sale if from 8:00 – 1:00 and please NO packing until after 1 pm.

Group 3 – set up on Thursday and Friday from 3-7. Please use masking tape and mark by quarters. Rummage and baked goods will be sold Friday evening, but there will be no kitchen service. This all involves a Lot of work, so many workers are needed. THANKS!!

The final quilt tally is 123 large and 18 baby to LWR warehouse. 11 to Forest Ridge, 2 Welcome confirmation, 6 to Okoboji Auction made by Julie, Muriel, Rosemary and Shirley. 6 to Options, plus the 18 sent to LWR made by Shirley. A big thank you to Bernice and Julie and all others who made quilt tops or furnished for middles and quilt backs and came to help. The LWR goal for this year is 500,000 quilts for those coping with poverty, war and disasters. The cost to ship one quilt is \$2.25.

There is also a need for Personal Care Kits. 1 light or medium weight bath-size towel (approx.: 52x27), dark color recommended. 2 bath size bars (4-5 oz.) soap, any brand in original wrapping, 1 adult size toothbrush in its original packing. These have been furnished by Dr. Erickson from Fairmont Family Dentistry, 1 sturdy comb and 1 metal nail clippers, both removed from packaging.

Group 1 will have next work duty. Thank you to the Altar Guild for their work.

Special birthdays: Delores Daleske – April 5, Rosemary Saggau – April 15, Kathryn Detert – April 30.
THINK SPRING !

The Family of Harold Detert

We wish to Thank our many friends, relatives, neighbors, and caretakers for the prayers, visits, phone calls, food, memorials. We thank Pastor Giese for his visits and being with us before and after the loss of our beloved one. We will forever hold you in our hearts.

ANNUAL Rummage and Bake Sale (in conjunction with Ceylon Community Days). St. Peter church basement.
Saturday, April 13th 8:00 am – 1:00 pm.

USHERS

ACOLYTES

April 7 Dale and Jeanne Leiding
April 14 LeRoy and Janice Franck
April 21 Terry and Mary Muller
April 28 John Schmidtke and Bob Nelson

May 5 Jeff Petschke and Larry R Schmidt

Callie Peta
Emma Koehler
Dylan Muller
Callie Peta

Emma Koehler

TRINITY LUTHERAN PAGES

Trinity Lutheran Council March Council Minutes - March 6, 2013

Members present: Becky Detert, Phil Burgess Wes Strausser, John Frerichs, Merle Burmeister, Star Spiegel, Pastor Giese. Call to order by Pres. Becky Detert who opened the meeting with a prayer.

Pastor reported that he was trying to incorporate high school youth into the Easter Service. Pre-Communion class first communion would be Maundy Thursday service.

Secretary, Treasurer, Financial secretary reports were reviewed.

Youth will be serving Easter Breakfast. Board of Ed. will be meeting the 10th of March. They are looking at forming a Youth & Education Parish Committee for Circle of Faith Parish.

Deacon and Trustee reports were presented.

Wes motioned, John F. seconded that all reports be approved. Motion carried.

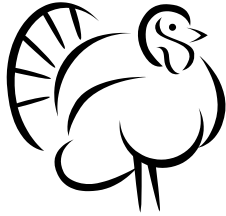
Old Business: Jon Saxen is still investigating title for neighboring house. Turkey dinner is April 14th.

New Business: Wes will meet with Lisa about updates to the secretary's office. Discussion was held concerning Sunday School use of office equipment and space.

Closed with prayer by Pastor Giese. Motion to adjourn: Wes Strausser, second: Star S., passed.

Next meeting Wed. April 10th, 7 PM.

Secretary, temporary Becky Detert



OUR ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER is coming up on
Sunday, April 12th. 11:00 – 1:00
Check out the sign-up sheets by the coat rack.



to Pinky Saxen for making the beautiful “Circle of Faith” Banner that is hanging in our church.

T-WELCA

There will be a T-WELCA meeting on April 3rd @ 9:30 am. Hannah Circle is in charge of devotions and serving.
The Tuesday morning Coffee hours are starting. Trinity Lutheran of Trimont is hosting the first month
Starting April 2nd. Serving from 8:30 – 10:00 am.

Don't forget the Salvation Army box for non-perishable food items and/or the “Little Red Kettle” for monetary donations,
Blessings – Connie

APRIL

USHERS

7 Bocky and Susan Borchardt,
Larry Puhrman and Todd Williams
14 Connie and Norman Jensen, Becky and Joel Detert
21 Larry and Deb Philipp Family
28 Loren Schultz, Delano Bergemann,
Dick Traetow, Phil Burgess

COMMUNION

S-Bocky Borchardt H-Jon Saxen

S-Jon Saxen H-John Frerichs

May

5 Tim and Liz Stahl Family

S-John Frerichs H-Bob Moffitt

ACOLYTES:

7 Jordan Stahl and Jackie Frerichs
14 Aaron Burmeister and Austin Holm

21 Chase and Dylan Petersen
28 Mariah Rasmussen and Morgan Wolter

May

5 Mara Immens and Jackie Frerichs

W A V E R L Y L U T H E R A N P A G E S

Waverly Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes – there was no meeting in March

From the Presidents Desk - 

The pen is dry this month !!!

Deanne Gaalswyk President of Waverly



Waverly's Day with Gloria Dei! Sunday, April 7, 2013

It's our turn! Gloria Dei, and our Buddy Families from last year, have invited Waverly's entire congregation to spend a day with them, and see how our Outreach Partner worships, teaches, and ministers to their neighbors. Gloria Dei has a beautiful sanctuary and church building, an exceptional Sunday School program, and a worship service that is both familiar and extraordinary.

Here's how the day plays out:

- 6:15 am Meet at Waverly, for coffee, juice and donuts
- 6:45 am Depart Waverly by motor coach
- 9:00 am Arrive at Gloria Dei
- 9:30 am Waverly kids will join Gloria Dei kids for Sunday School hour
 at the Water Tower (extremely cool!)
- Adults will attend Adult Forum, featuring special guest (former) Bishop Herb Chilstrom, the first Presiding Bishop
 of the ELCA
- 10:45 am Worship (Bishop Chilstrom preaches)
- 12:00 pm Lunch, hosted by last year's Waverly Buddy families
- 1:00 pm Various tours and outreach activities – both on and off Gloria Dei's campus.
- 3:00 pm Motor Coach departs for Waverly

Our Buddy Families from last year, and our potential new Buddy Families are waiting to host and serve us, and to share their church and neighborhood with us.

A prize drawing for our Waverly kids will be held on the return bus ride! There will be a gift for every child on the bus. There will be a special drawing for Waverly Sunday School children – two bicycles will be given away. Must be present to be included in the drawing and giveaways. Kids – invite a friend to come with you! (Let us know who is coming.)

We're traveling by motor coach – comfortable seats, and a restroom on board!

Waverly's Worship on April 7th will be held at Gloria Dei, as the entire congregation is invited. You will be contacted by Tim & Belva Peterson to reserve a seat on the bus. Or you can call them at 507-236-8432 or the church office at 507-728-8259.

* * * * *

APRIL LAY READER:

7 Gloria Dei bus trip
14 Erwin Atzenhoefer
21 Tom Peterson
28 Tim Peterson

APRIL USHERS:

Don Nordstrom, Dennis Krueger
Bob Olson, Jim Sherman, Jon
Helvig, Daniel Helvig



Confirmation is Sunday, April 28th. Our confirmand this year is Eivey Kuehl, daughter of Shane and Jen Kuehl.



Bridal shower for Kendra VanBeusekom, bride to be of Daniel Helvig is Saturday, April 20th at 9:30 am in the Waverly church basement.

THANK YOU - to Rosemary Atzenhoefer for making the quilted cross banner that has graced our sanctuary this Lenten Season.

“Resume of Jesus Christ” (Submitted by Lorrene Knuth)

Address: Ephesians 1:20

Website: The Bible.

Keywords: Christ, Lord, Savior and Jesus

Objective: My name is Jesus – the Christ. Many call me Lord! I have sent you my resume because I am seeking the top management position in your heart. Please consider my accomplishments as set forth in my resume.

Qualifications: I founded the earth and established the heavens, (Proverbs 3:19)

I formed man from the dust of the ground (Gen. 2:7) & I breathed into man the breath of life (Gen. 2:7)

I redeemed man from the curse of the law (Galatians 3:13)

The blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant comes upon your life through me (Galatians 3:14)

Occupational Background: I’ve only had one employer (Luke 2:49)

I’ve never been tardy, absent, disobedient, slothful, or disrespectful. My employer has nothing but great reviews for me (Matthew 3:15-17)

Skills / Work Experience: Some of my skills and work experience include: empowering the poor to be poor no more; healing the brokenhearted; setting the captives free; healing the sick; restoring sight to the blind; and setting at liberty them that are bruised (Luke 4:18)

I am a Wonderful Counselor, (Isaiah 9:6).

People who listen to me shall dwell safely and shall not fear evil, (Prov. 1:33)

Most importantly, I have the authority, ability and power to cleanse you of your sins (1 Jn. 1:7-9)

Education Background:

I encompass the entire breadth and length of knowledge, wisdom and understanding (Prov. 2:6)

In me are hid all of the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Colossians 2:3)

My Word is so powerful; it has been described as a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path (Psalm 119:105)

Major Accomplishments: I was an active participant in the greatest Summit meeting of all time (Matthew 17:1f)

I laid down my life so that you may live (Matthew 27:1f)

I have miraculously fed the poor, healed the sick and raised the dead and many more, you may read them on my website, the Bible.

References: Believers worldwide will testify to my divine healing, salvation, deliverance, miracles, restoration and supernatural guidance. Now that you have read my resume, I am confident that I am the only candidate uniquely qualified to fill this vital position in your heart. I will properly direct your paths (Prov. 3:5-6 and lead you into everlasting life (John 6:47) When can I start? Time is of the essence (Hebrews 3:15)

APRIL 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Those Tuesday Morning Coffees start on April 2 @ Trinity Lutheran in Trimont, 8:30 am		T-Pre-Comm. Class – 4 pm W-Dorca- 2pm Truman L. C. W-Mary – 7 pm @ Myrna Rahm	T-WELCA – 9:30 am SP - WELCA 1:30 pm Confirmation 4 pm – T 6:30 pm St. P	Pastor G @ Interim mtg.		T - Bridal Shower for Kari Ziemer
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship Services & Sunday school Waverly – Bus trip to Gloria Dei Luth. St. Paul - 6:45 am departure	T- Eunice	TMC W - Council Mtg. 7 pm	T - Hannah/ Elizabeth – 9:00 am Confirmation 4 pm – T 6:30 pm St. P T - Council Mtg 7 pm			St. Peter's Rummage, Bake Sale & Food stand 8-1 (in conjunction with Ceylon Community Days)
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Worship Services & Sunday school W - Easter Cantata Baptism		TMC	Confirmation 4 pm – T 6:30 pm St. P	AM Pastor G @ Watonwan Conference mtg		W –9:30 am Bridal Shower for Kendra VonBeusekom Welcome Legion Pork Chop Feed 5-7:30 pm
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship Service & Sunday School St. P Council Mtg follows worship Blessing of the Seeds Sunday T- Turkey Dinner	Reports due for May Newsletter	TMC	Confirmation 4 pm – T 6:30 pm St. P			
28	29	30				

Worship Services & Sunday school		TMC	Pastor's Office hours Mon. – Fri . 9 am – 1 pm	<u>Worship</u> St. Peter- 8:00 Trinity- 9:30 Waverly-11:00	<u>Sunday school</u> 9:00 7 & 21 10:45 9:45:	Parish Administrator Office hours Mon. – Fri . 9 am – 1 pm
W - Confirmation						

Circle of Faith Parish
P.O. Box 328
Welcome, MN 56181

US Postage Paid
Non-Profit Organization
Permit No. 5
Welcome, MN 56181

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DID YOU KNOW?

Our Circle of Faith Parish BLESSING OF THE SEEDS SUNDAY is April 21? And in addition, at Waverly, our First Fruits Festival? Or in more biblical terms our "Sowing and Reaping" Sunday? In the Old Testament both Sowing and Reaping were recognized as God's blessings. In fact festivals and celebrations asking God's blessings and giving thanks were a normal part of the agricultural cycle.

And so today also, we take time in each of our churches to recognize God's hand in our planting and sowing cycle in our lives as spring has brought us to a new growing season. We are all invited to bring our seeds... garden seeds (vegetable, flower, lawn) and field seeds to worship on April 21st for a special blessing and to invite God into our growing season and our lives.

At Waverly we also invite you to bring your farm equipment to be included in the blessing as a reminder that all of what we have comes from God. At this time we will also celebrate our blessings with our annual First Fruits Festival.

Our Sunday School children will be planting seeds. Our worship will revolve around God's mandated First Fruits Festival and include The Blessing of the Seeds. We have all received "fruits" from God. Let's join in sharing these "fruits" by bringing food for Heaven's Table and a special offering for local charities. Then... Join us after worship for a celebration potluck.

Questions about our special worships? Find Karen Koeder at 639-6275 or e-mail: kkoeder@gmail.com