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APRIL 2014

P A S T O R A N T H O N Y ' S R I P P L E S

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I think that we have finally turned the corner on winter. According to the calendar, spring is here! As spring comes, we see the promise of renewal come to life. The black dead or dormant is replaced with green and new life. Soon the tulips that we planted at the parsonage will begin peeking through the soil. Especially after the winter that we just went through, I think all of us are looking forward to the spring that lies ahead.

With spring comes new growth. At Circle of Faith, Pastor Eric and I have been thinking about new growth. We have been noticing and hearing the need and desire for more Bible Study opportunities. Because of our unique ministry, Sunday morning Bible Studies are challenging. So instead, we have found a different type of Bible Study that we are really excited about trying. This study actually begins each week during the regular Sunday worship service. The scripture readings and the sermon introduce the topic that will be discussed during the Bible Study. Now because of the size of our parish, we are planning on having 5 Bible Study groups meeting at different locations throughout the parish. This will hopefully decrease the drive time and make committing to the study easier. 4 of the 5 small groups will be hosted and led by people in their homes. The fifth small group will meet online through Facebook and I will lead that group. If you are interested in hosting and/or leading a small group please talk to Pastor Eric or myself. There will be handouts that will clearly layout how to lead the study. Minimal prep time will be required.

Pastor Eric and I are very excited to introduce this new Bible Study titled "God's Own People". It is a study that works through 1 Peter. This is only a 5 week Bible Study that has the introduction to the week each Sunday followed by a meeting sometime during the week in a small group. If you are not already in a Bible Study group and would like to be in one, please consider committing to this new study for 5 weeks. And if you already are in a Bible Study group through WELCA, Women's Circle, or Men's Garage, you are still welcome to attend this study as well. Signup sheets for the small groups will be available in all three churches in April. The study begins on Sunday, April 27th (the Sunday after Easter) and continues through the month of May.

When we think of spring, we think of Easter, new life and new growth. So during the 50 days of the Season of Easter this year, why not focus on growing and strengthening our relationship with God? After all, we are God's Own People, right?

In Christ,
Pastor Anthony

P A S T O R E R I C ' S R I P P L E S

"Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand, the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land, a home within the wilderness..."

Dear friends,

Usually my life is not like a journey. It is more like small excursions in which I go out, have an adventure and then come back home again. I love having a home base. It is not a great house or anything, but I have a little office where I can read by the fire. It is by the dinning room and kitchen where there is a cupboard and a fridge that have good stuff to eat. There are all the other rooms where all my needs can be taken care of. I go out, I come back, I go out, I come back. It is my base. It is where I get refueled.

It is my shade.

Our spiritual lives are like that too. We have a base where our souls get refueled, where our spiritual needs get taken care of, where we can rest up and get ready for another excursion into the world. That is Holy Week. It is where we visit Jesus, as he eats his last supper, offering us forgiveness life and salvation. It is where we visit Jesus on the cross and are invited to lay down our own burdens of defeat and sin and worry that the world lays on us. It is where we meet Jesus as he is raised again in victory over all powers and evil and defeats.

Our Lenten journey is a reminder to return again and again to our base.

Pastor Eric



**Tuesday, April 2
5:30—7:30**

Host: Jeff Lueth Address is 2258 150th Ave Truman, MN 56088

Directions:
From the Truman Welcome blacktop corner,
I live 2 miles East and ½ mile south on 150th Ave.

From Waverly Church,
1.75 miles East on gravel and ½ mile north on 150th Ave. east side of road.

APRIL Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship Services

Date	St. Peter – 8:30 am	Trinity – 10:30 am	Waverly – 10:30 am
April 6 – Communion	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Eric	Pr. Anthony
April 13 – Communion <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Eric
April 20 <i>Resurrection of Our Lord</i>	<i>See Holy Week Schedule Below</i>		
April 27 - Communion	Pr. Eric	Pr. Eric	Pr. Anthony <i>Confirmation Sunday</i>

Special Worship Services

Date	St. Peter	Trinity	Waverly
Wednesday, April 2 <i>Lenten-Eve</i>	<i>Joint Worship @ Trinity</i>	Worship @ 7:00 pm <i>Pr. Eric preaching</i>	<i>Joint Worship @ Trinity</i>
Wednesday, April 9 <i>Lenten-Eve</i>	<i>Joint Worship @ Waverly</i>	<i>Joint Worship @ Waverly</i>	Worship @ 7:00 pm <i>Pr. Anthony preaching</i>
Thursday, April 17 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> <i>w/Holy Communion</i>	Worship @ 8:00 pm <i>Pr. Anthony preaching</i>	Worship @ 6:30 pm <i>Pr. Anthony preaching</i>	Worship @ 6:30 pm <i>Pr. Eric preaching</i>
Friday, April 18 <i>Good Friday</i>	Worship @ 7:00 pm <i>Pr. Anthony preaching</i>	<i>Joint Worship @</i> <i>St. Peter</i>	<i>Joint Worship @</i> <i>St. Peter</i>
Sunday, April 20 <i>Resurrection of Our Lord</i> <i>w/Holy Communion</i>	Worship @ 9:30 am <i>Pr. Eric preaching</i>	Worship @ 7:00 am <i>Pr. Anthony preaching</i>	Worship @ 10:30 am <i>Pr. Anthony preaching</i>

Easter is Coming!



Easter Sunday is April 20th
Worship at Trinity 7:00 am
Worship at St. Peter 9:30 am
Worship at Waverly 10:30 am



BRING A BELL TO CELEBRATE!

The Resurrection of Our Lord is one of our most joyous festivals of the church year.
 To celebrate this day, we are requesting that you bring a hand bell to help make a
 joyous noise that will ring throughout our churches.

Upcoming Meals at Circle of Faith

Wednesday, April 2nd Lenten-Eve Supper at Trinity
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Sunday, April 6th Pancake Breakfast at St. Peter
10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Wednesday, April 9th Lenten-Eve Supper at Waverly
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Sunday, April 20th Easter Breakfast at Trinity
Following service

Sunday, April 27th Turkey Dinner at Trinity
11:15 am – 1:00 pm

****Everyone is welcome to come to any of these meals in our parish.****

New Bible Study Coming



A new Bible Study is coming to Circle of Faith! We will begin this 5 week study after Easter. The topic each week will be introduced during the regular Sunday morning worship service. Then participants will meet in a small group sometime during the week to discuss the topic in greater detail.

We are looking for a handful of people that are willing to host and lead a small group once a week for five weeks. There will be minimal prep time required for this and all of the necessary information for the study will be provided for you. If you are interested in leading and hosting a small group please talk to Pastor Anthony. Signup sheets for the small groups will be available in April.

First Communion Class

For anyone who has not received communion before, but would like to. We will be holding instructional classes in April. Typically at St. Peter and Waverly, anyone 5th grade or older takes the First Communion class. For Trinity, anyone 2nd grade or older. This does not mean that someone younger than this age cannot take the class. Anyone wanting to take this class should, along with their parents, talk to Pastor Anthony or Pastor Eric.

First Communion Class information:

When: Sunday, April 13th

Where: Trinity Lutheran, Welcome

Time: 3:30 pm for 2nd, 3rd & 4th grader

4:30 pm for 5th grader & older

****Parents, please plan to attend the class as well. You are expected to attend with your child.****

Circle of Faith
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2014

Meeting was called to order at Trinity Lutheran in Welcome at 6:00 pm by Vice-President Jon Saxen. Other members present: Merle Burmeister, Marilyn Cheever (via speakerphone), Jon Helvig, Joel Rabbe, Kirsten Rabbe. Clergy present: Pastor Anthony Christoffels & Pastor Eric Midthun.

Motion by Joe R., seconded by Merle B., to approve agenda as written. Motion carried.

Pr. Anthony explained "Dwelling in the Word", a concept whereby you study the same passage of scripture for several months, to see how it's meaning grows in your understanding, to hear what God is calling us to do. Relax, clear your head of the day's distractions. Focus just on this particular text. Pay attention to any one word or phrase. What questions do you have? What is God saying to you, to us? Why is the church even here? Why are we here? Then he led us in devotions, based again on I Peter 2:2-10

Kirsten R. presented the Secretary's report for the February 11, 2014 Parish Council meeting. Motion by Jon H., seconded by Merle B., to approve the Secretary's report as presented. Motion carried.

Joe R. presented the Treasurer's report for February 2014. Motion by Merle B., seconded by Kirsten R., to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

PASTORS REPORTS

Pr. Anthony

April 12th Framing our Unique Ministry. Please have it on our calendars. Parish Council strongly encouraged, CC encouraged.

Lent schedule, supper precedes all but April 2nd. Holy Week schedule listed there as well.

Parish Administrator position – Exec Committee will create a job description.

OLD BUSINESS

ELCA Visit to Circle of Faith Parish

Council discussed the ELCA's visit to Circle of Faith Parish on February 23, 2014. Overall, the visit was well planned and well received by our parishioners. Word has spread among other congregations in our synod, encouraging other small congregations to venture out and try new things. Website video of the service was appreciated, especially by shut-ins. Children received the message loud and clear – we are part of something bigger than just ourselves.

Communications Team responsibilities

Motion by Kirsten R., seconded by Jon H., to approve the attached purpose and description for the Communications Team, which will begin meeting on March 27, 2014. Motion carried.

Carl Rabbe – summer 2014 contract

Jon Saxen reported that terms have been agreed to in principal with Carl Rabbe for his service at Circle of Faith in the summer of 2014. Motion by Jon H., seconded by Merle B., to approve the finance committee's recommendation for compensation for Carl Rabbe, effective June 15 through August 15, 2014. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Looking at "Who We Are" as a Parish

Pastor Anthony shared a map of where all the members of Circle of Faith Parish live. Discussion followed on what this tells us about who we are as a parish, and how this helps us see our mission field. This map would have looked very different 50 years ago, and even 25 years ago. Where is the hope for our future? How do we reach out to those who don't belong to a congregation, don't identify as Christians? "We need to meet the people where they are." Pastor Anthony followed this up with the reading of our Circle of Faith Mission Statement: "Saved by grace, gathered in faith, and nurtured by Word and Sacrament, we commit ourselves to share a hope for the future, to use our resources and talents as guided by the Holy Spirit, and to work together to grow our ministry, welcome our neighbors, serve others, and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ." This will be our guide, moving forward. Pastor Eric shared that people seem to be looking for a church that's "doing something," some active ministry, so they can join in and do with us. Concept in communications: make people wonder, "What are they doing today? What will they be doing tomorrow?" and want to be a part of it.

Reaching out in our communities

Brainstormed ideas for creating name recognition for Circle of Faith within our community. Discussed the types of community events where we could have a presence, maybe even hand out something fun with our parish and congregation names on it, to get people talking about us, watching what we are doing. Would be just a first step. Many ideas were presented. More will be forthcoming.

The next Circle of Faith Parish Council meeting will be April 8, 2014, 6:00 pm, at Trinity in Welcome.

Motion by Jon H., seconded by Joel R, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirsten Rabbe, Secretary

Seminarian's Letter Home

To the membership of Circle of Faith Parish:

Greetings to you all from Evanston, IL! As I write this, the snow is steadily melting out there, rain is drizzling down, and the temperature is climbing. Spring is on its way. But every once in a while, a cold wind blows in off Lake Michigan and bites through my jacket, reminding me that spring isn't fully here yet. Winter still has a strong grip, and is determined, or so it seems, to fight to the last icy breath. Before long, we will be able to come back together and celebrate Christ's resurrection. But we're not out of the wilderness yet. Still, there may be some hope on the horizon.

In Western Christianity, of which Lutherans are very much a part, the fourth Sunday is Lent is called Lenten Rose Sunday. The vestments and paraments in many churches change from purple to pink, a glimmer of hope that the fast won't last forever. Those who have decided to adhere to some strict practice during Lent are allowed to relax a bit on this day, to remind themselves that it's not all about what they have given up. The next week, we see purple again. From then on, though, it blushes into the crimson of Holy Week and the starkness of Good Friday, dawning again in white and gold. Then we will be in the queen of seasons. Then spring will truly have come. Then we will have crossed over Jordan into the holy light of Easter.

As we continue through the wilderness of Lent's wintry paths, let us pray for God's blessing, using these words:

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. [ELW, Lent 4A]

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, M.Div.



IT'S TIME

TUESDAY MORNING COFFEES

**Starting, April 1 @ Trinity in Trimont.
8:30—10:00 am**

S T. P E T E R R I P P L E S



Next meeting: April 2nd @ 1:30 pm.
 Hostesses: Jeannine Rasmussen and Rosemary Saggau.
 Bible Study is Session 8: "Rizpah, A Vigilant Mourner from 2nd Samuel

Treasure balance on hand is: \$1,690.91

The annual Spring Gathering will be Saturday, April 5th at First Lutheran in St. James. Registration is at 8:30. Cost—\$7.00. Marie Hendriksen will be using a quilt to tell the story of twelve women of the bible and their faith. This sounds very interesting. I hope many of you will be interested in attending.

The final quilt tally is 85 large and 17 child to LWR warehouse. 10 to Forest Ridge, 5 to Salvation Army, 5 large and 2 baby to Upper Des Moines, 3 large and 2 baby to Okoboji Quilt Auction, 8 for confirmands, 1 quilt was given to Bishop Eaton, 10 to Lakeview Methodist Home (6 lap robes made by Julie, 2 by Muriel and 2 full size by Muriel). Of the baby quilts—Shirley made 25 and Kathryn 5. Last fall 19 quilts were made and sent to LWR then. Thank you to Julie and Bernice and all others who made quilt tops or furnished for tops and middles and came to help. The quilts went to 21 counties last year. It costs \$2.25 to ship one quilt. JoAnn Wink will deliver 15 blankets to the homeless in Mankato.


If you have been collecting items for the kits for the Synod Convention in May, please bring the items to the April meeting so we can see what we have and what we need. Items needed for the for the Personal Care kits are light weight bath towels approx. 52 x 27, dark colors preferred, 2 bath size bars (4-5 oz) soap in original wrapping, 1 adults tooth brush, (I have several that Dr. Erickson donated), 1 sturdy comb & 1 metal nail clippers both removed from packing.

Group 1 will be serving supper for the Lenten Service on March 26th
 Annette Yackle will have Altar care.

April birthday are—Delores Daleske—5th. Rosemary Saggau—15th. Kathryn Detert—30th.

HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

Easter blessings, Janice

SUNDAY APRIL	USHERS 
6	Jon and Elizabeth Petshcke family
13	Bernice Lehman and Sherry Schmidt
20	Jeff Petshcke and family
27	Gene and Annette Yackle
MAY	
4	Jeannine Rasmussen and Shirley Schmidt

TRINITY RIPPLES



Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting – March 11, 2014

Meeting called to order at 7:45 by President Phil Burgess.

Members present: President Phil Burgess, Pastor Anthony and Pastor Eric, Jon Saxen, Merle Burmeister, Henry Borchardt, Eileen Morrow and Larry Phillip.

Secretary's Report - Reviewed.

Treasurer's Report - Reviewed.

Financial Secretary Report - Reviewed.

TWELCA - none

Youth & Board of Ed - none

Deacon's Report - nothing to report

Trustee's report - none

Henry moved to accept the reports, Merle seconded, motion carried.

Old Business:

*Discussion was held on the lot north of the church and the sidewalk with no decisions being made until the snow melts and the ground settles. A couple suggestions from the congregation include planting tree(s) and a donation of a swing set.

*The key for the church sign has been found and discussion was held on how to upgrade the sign. We need to do some research on how and what will need to be done.

*The estimate for the sign north of town is between \$260 - \$365. We would like more information on what is being displayed on it and how it is being constructed before we will make a decision.

*The window in Pastor's Eric's office that is cracked is being replaced.

*A request was made that when they run the water line into the church they could install an outside faucet on the north side of the church. The trustees will get two quotes before the semi-annual meeting.

New Business:

*The Turkey Dinner will be held on April 27th from 11:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

*Jon Saxen moved to use memorial funds to pay for the folding accordion door for the north basement stairs, Merle seconded, motion carried.

*Partially due to the harsh winter and a couple of cancelled church services, we are short by \$6,000 to pay expenses on April 1st. Please keep our church in your prayers and thank you for your generosity in helping us meet this commitment.

*Jon Saxen made a motion to adjourn, Henry seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Eileen Morrow, Secretary

Next meeting will be held on April 8th at 7:30 following the Circle of Faith Parish Board meeting at 6 pm.

Meeting is April 2 @ 9:30 am at the church. Hannah circle is in charge.
 We will be serving supper before Lenten Service on April 2nd at 5:30 pm.

The Trinity church of Trimont is hosting the Tuesday morning coffee, starting April 1 8:30—10:00.

Don't forget the Salvation Army box for non-perishable food items and/or the "Little Red Kettle" for monetary donations.

Spring Gathering is Saturday, April 5 at First Lutheran St. James. Call me (764-2053) if you would to go.



Thank you ladies for the lovely flowers, they kept well and enjoyed them every day—
 George and Jerry Hendricks

God bless the ladies of Trinity for the beautiful flowers for our anniversary. Your kindness is
 Greatly appreciated—thanks so much. Russ and Barb Plumhoff



If you wish to grace our altar with an Easter Lily or a plant, 'in memory of' or 'in honor of' a loved one, contact Mary Ann DeBus 728-8778 or the church office 728-8259 by Wed. April 16. Please bring your flower/plant to the church either at the Maundy Thursday Service or on Saturday, April 19. Thank you

APRIL	USHERS	COMMUNION SERVERS	ACOLYTES
6	Bocky and Susan Borchardt	S-Bob Moffitt H-Lonnie Moffitt	Carlene Hand Sarah Justice
13	Connie and Norman Jensen		Jackie Frerichs Mara Immens
Maundy Thursday		S-Velma Schaal H-Bocky Borchardt	
20	John and Mary Ann Frerichs Family, 2 Council members	S-Bocky Borchardt H-Jon Saxen	Dylan Petersen Aaron Burmeister
27	Dick Traetow Larry Puhrman	S-Jon Saxen H-Brian Burmeister	Jordan Stahl Morgan Wolter
MAY			
4	Dallas and Tami Rasmussen Family	S-Lonnie Moffitt H-Bob Moffitt	Zane Borchardt Jordan Wolter

W A V E R L Y R I P P L E S



We're looking for additional Waverly worship servers!

- * Acolytes - we need families or groups of 2 or more friends.
- * Readers: anyone who likes to read is welcome!
- * Children's Time presenters: Looking for people with a great story to tell our kids during worship.
- * Video Camera operators: Someone to turn the camera on, make sure it is in focus, and turn it off at the end of the service. (The ambitious can play with the zoom.)

If you are interested, please contact the church office, either pastor, or any member of the Worship Committee (Laurie Sherman, Jodi Lueth, Kirsten Rabbe, Nancy Nordstrom, or Rosemary Atzenhoefer). Thanks for your willingness to serve!



The family of Gene Sheppard would like to thank everyone who visited dad at the hospital or nursing home. We would like to thank everyone who gave good, sent flowers, cards and visited. Thanks also to Pastor Anthony and Pastor Eric for their visits and to all the people who worked in the kitchen for dad's service, the choir for singing, Pastor Anthony's nice message and Nancy for playing for us. It meant so much to our family.

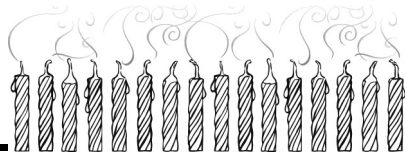
David & Jolene, Susan & Todd, Lynette & Kevin

APRIL	READER	ACOLYTE:
6	Mary Lou Sherman	Laurie / Brad Sherman
13	Lindsey Bettin	Mary Lou / Jim Sherman
20	Lynette Shaw	Lindsey Bettin
27	Deanne Gaalswyk	Jenny / Shane Kuehl
MAY		
4	Sonja Haugen	Muriel / Al Armbrust

APRIL USHERS

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Tuesday Morning coffees @ 8:30 Trinity Trimont	1 TMC 7 pm Mary Circle WLC 5:30 pm Men's Garage @ Jeff Lueth's	2 TWELCA 9:30 TLC WELCA 1:30 StP 1:30 Dorcas Circle WLC 5:30 pm Lenten Supper—TLC Lenten Service— 7 pm TLC	3	4	5
6 Worship/Comm Sunday school TLC & WLC 10 am—1 pm Pancake Breakfast @ StP	7	8 TMC 6:00 pm Parish Council 7:30 pm WLC, TLC Council mtgs.	9 9:00 am Hannah / Eliza- beth Circle TLC 5:30 pm Lenten Supper—WLC Lenten Service 7 pm WLC	10	11	12 WELCA Spring Gathering @ First Lutheran St. James
13  Worship Sunday school— all	14 Eunice Circle 9 am @ Mary Ann DeBus	15 TMC	16 Confirmation 6:30—8 pm TLC	17 Maundy Thursday Services 6:30 pm TLC & WLC 8 pm StP	18 Good Friday joint service 7 pm StP	19 Ripples of Faith Articles due—20th
20  7 am—TLC Breakfast follows 9:30 am—StP 10:30 am—WLC	21	22 TMC	23 Confirmation 6:30—8 pm TLC	24 9:30 am Assemble Ripples— office	25	26
27 Worship/Comm Sunday school TLC & StP Confirmation @ WLC 11:15—1:00 pm Turkey Dinner @ TLC	28	29 TMC	30 Confirmation 6:30—8 pm TLC			



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Maisie Bentz	2	3 Aaron Burmeister Dennis Hoppe	4 Jennifer Petersen	5 Jordan Hovick Delores Daleske George Hendricks
6 <i>Carol & Keith Thiesse</i> <i>Brian and Heidi Clow</i> <i>James & Donna Hand</i>	7 Gloria Cook	8 William Steele	9 Bev Trebesch	10	11 Merle Burmeister	12 Donald Schley <i>Howard & Starr Spiegeler</i>
13	14 Norm Schley Beth Mulso	15 Rosemary Saggau <i>Jim and Shirley O'Sell</i> <i>Kevin & Lynette Shaw</i>	16	17 Logan Hughes Brandie Gibson -Fletcher	18 Brian Sandberg Quinn Gaalswyk <i>Dean & Melanie Koehler</i>	19 Tom Hovick Justin Shaw Michael Roth
20 Aline Wilking Lee Thompson Aldor Rose	21 <i>Henry and Sun Borchardt</i>	22 Sarah Hand Shirley Gerdes Wyatt Bengé	23 Deanne Gaalswyk Alan Johnson	24 Catherine Sherman	25 Hunter Schmidtke	26 Kendra Helvig
27 Jim Chukuske, Sr Zach Peterson	28 Bradie Rosen Margaret Reiman	29	30 Rosemary Atzenhoefer Troy Schmidtke Braedy Lueth Kathryn Detert			



Circle of Faith Parish
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Welcome, MN 56181

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



God knocked at the door of my heart one day and I looked for a place to hide;
my soul was cluttered and choked with debris and things were untidy inside.
I needed some time to put matters right, surprised He would call on me;
my soul needed cleaning from bottom to top, there were things He just should not see.
There were tasks neglected, long overdue; cobwebs to be brushed from the wall;
rugs to be shaken and windows cleaned up . . . I had not expected this call.
I stood with my hand on the latch of the door and gazed at the mess in the room;
When I opened the door, my soul blushed to see God had left on my doorstep . . . a broom.