



Ripples of Faith



JANUARY 2014

P A S T O R S R I P P L E S

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

Wow, 2014 is knocking on our door and what a year 2013 has been. For most of us, 2013 has been a year of changes. Some changes may have not been so nice, but many of those changes have been for good. For myself it has been graduating from seminary, being ordained, moving to Trimont, and beginning my new call with Circle of Faith Parish. What have been some of the changes in 2013 for you?

I know one change that happened for all of you, and it all started last January. January 22nd to be exact. On January 22, 2013, the dream of having a multi-point parish in southern Minnesota became a reality. Circle of Faith Parish was born and according to the calendar, we have almost made it a full year as a parish. That certainly is something to celebrate isn't it? Well your pastors and parish council thought so. That is way we decided to hold a one year anniversary celebration of the parish. Below you will find the details for the celebration.

Circle of Faith's 1st Anniversary
Sunday, January 26, 2014
10:00 AM Joint Worship Service
Trinity Lutheran, Welcome
Refreshments with cake to follow

Why even bother with a celebration? Because you, the members of St. Peter, Trinity, and Waverly Lutheran Churches decided to take a leap of faith and enter into this partnership to see where God would lead you. 2013 has been a good first year for Circle of Faith, but it has not been the best year for other churches around us. One church in our area has closed its doors forever and another church voted to close its doors in 2014. Even with other congregations closing, Circle of Faith has successfully made it a full year in this new partnership. A partnership that is made up of God's people ministering to God's people. Making this partnership work for a full year is certainly an accomplishment that deserves to be celebrated. Please join us as we celebrate together the first anniversary of our new parish on Sunday, January 26, 2013 with a joint worship service with Holy Communion at 10:00 am at Trinity Lutheran in Welcome.

As I look forward to 2014, I am excited to see where it is that God will take Circle of Faith Parish in this new year!

Happy New Year!

In Christ,
Pastor Anthony

P A S T O R S R I P P L E S

Dear people of God,

What does it mean to be described as God's own people? We have had the opportunity to reflect on the other three descriptions in I Peter chapter 2; a "chosen race", a "royal priesthood", and a "holy nation". This is the last of the four.

A few years ago someone told me they were going out with their "peeps". I said, "Your what?". He explained that he was getting together with his friends, his people, his peeps. Who are your peeps? These are the people you think about, care about, worry about. You help them and when you need help, they are the ones you turn to. We are God's peeps. God thinks about us, worries about us, helps us. God enjoys doing things with us and uses us to do the things that need doing in the world.

The word "own" is a word of emphasis. It carries a sense of possessiveness, the sense that we have been claimed and are jealously guarded. God's people make up the Church. If I was God I would not have claimed the same group as my people. Some yes, I can see it, but others, no way. Here is where faith comes in. God really does know best.

Who would have chosen two poor nobodies like Mary and Joseph to raise their only child? Who would have chosen Peter or Thomas or Matthew? And honestly, I'm mostly not at all sure why God claimed me. But, I feel honored, grateful. And challenged. We've been chosen for a reason, for something we can offer to the Kingdom.

That we are God's people is the most important part of our identity. More important than what clan we belong to, than what positions we have, than what congregation we belong to, than what country we live in.

As you bump into God's people here and there and especially other Circle of Faith people may 2014 be the year you see at least partly why God finds that other person so precious. As you do, everything else will become more clear as well.

Happy New Year!!! I pray it is a good one for you.

Pastor Eric



Wednesday, January 8
5:30—7:30

Steve Williamson is hosting this month's 'men's garage'.

Directions: 2223 140th Avenue Trimont, Mn.

Or simply go East of Waverly Church which is on 220 St, to the first corner and then turn left or North on 140th Avenue for 1/4 mile. We are on the west side of the road.

The Lord has called us together in worship not for his sake only but also for ours-
that we may be renewed with forgiveness, encouraged by God's Word
and strengthened through Christian fellowship

January Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship Services

Date	St. Peter – 8:30 am	Trinity – 10:30 am	Waverly – 10:30 am
January 5 – Communion	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Eric	Pr. Anthony
January 12	Pr. Eric	Pr. Eric <i>New Member Sunday</i>	Pr. Anthony <i>New Member Sunday</i>
January 19	Pr. Anthony <i>Annual Meeting Follow- ing Worship</i>	Pr. Anthony <i>Annual Meeting Follow- ing Worship</i>	Pr. Eric <i>Annual Meeting At 7:00 PM</i>
January 26 – Communion	Joint Service @ Trinity	Pr. Anthony <i>Joint Service</i>	Joint Service @ Trinity



ANNUAL MEETING

The Circle of Faith Parish annual meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 6:00 pm @ TLC
(during the Parish council meeting)

St. Peter Lutheran Annual meeting is Sunday, Jan. 19 following worship service

Trinity Lutheran Annual meeting is Sunday Jan. 19 following worship service

Waverly Lutheran Annual meeting is Sunday, Jan. 19 at 7:00 pm



1 st



**Sunday, January 26 Joint Worship @ Trinity, Welcome
10:00 am**

Cake and refreshments to follow



Thank you to all who gave us Christmas Wishes, food and goodies,
They were greatly appreciated.
We are hoping that God blessed you and yours with a very merry Christmas.

Pastor Anthony, Pastor Eric, Lisa

**‘Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.
The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God,
who brought us back to himself through Christ.’ 2 Corinthians 5:17-18a**



Seminarian’s Letter Home

January 2014

To the membership of Circle of Faith Parish:

Greetings to you all from Evanston, IL, and a happy 2014 to everybody! Christmas is over now, and on January 6, the day we call Epiphany, we begin another journey, like the Magi whom the star led to Jesus. Early Christians recognized this as the time of year when the light in the northern hemisphere is lengthening, as the days are getting longer. So, the season of Epiphany became a time of looking for the light of Christ, and following that light to the mountain of the transfiguration. From there, we will descend with Christ on the trail toward Jerusalem, the way of the cross. But until then, we celebrate that the Light from on high has come down to dwell with us.

It was one year ago on January 7 that Circle of Faith Parish officially began to function as a joint parish. We have come so far since then, led by the grace of God. Two wonderful pastors have joined us, new projects and tasks have begun, and great things are unfolding. We don’t know where the Light will lead us as our future together continues to unfold, but we do know who the Light is, and the promises we have been given. For the Light that has come among us and hallowed our world in the darkness of winter, the Light that has brought us together and continues to lead us forward, the Light that will never leave us in shadow, thanks be to God.

As we follow Christ our Light toward the holy mountain and the road back to cross and Easter, let us pray for God’s blessing, using these words:

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. [ELW, The Epiphany 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, M.Div.

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



December 10, 2013—meeting was called to order. Members present were Pr. Eric and Pr. Anthony, Jamie Leiding, Jeannine Rasmussen, Jody Franck, Jeremy Wink and Lois Duncan. Members absent were: Keith Franck, Roger Rezac, Dale Leiding and Mary Muller.

Secretary Report: read and approved

Treasurer's Report: none

Benevolence Treasurer Report: balance on hand \$1,375.48. It was approved to send Christmas Cheer of \$150.00 to Ingleside, Maple Wood Lakeview, Goldfinch, Upper Des Moines, Ingham Lake, Salvation Army.

Pastors Report: for Communion he will hold up one large wafer so we can see it. Constitution by law will read: The Congregation only allows marriages between a man and a woman to be preformed at St. Peter Lutheran Church at this time. It has to pass by 2/3 majority.

Old Business: We will table the roof until next spring.

JoAnn said Men's bathroom is fixed.

Head Ushers—John and Daryl would like it if we had one more person. Each one would do every third month.

Candy bags—Larry R Schmidt will help put them together.

—A discussion was had of getting a new gown for Pastor so he won't have to bring one all the time. There was one hanging in the closet so he was going to try it one. They money for the new gown would be taken from the Memorial fund.

—It was also decided not to change the Children's Christmas Eve program, but to have it at 7:00 pm so the Pastor could be there.

New Business: The Annual meeting will be on January 19th after church.

Other Business: none

Meeting was adjourned.

Council secretary—Lois Duncan

Next WELCA meeting is January 8, 2014 at 1:30 pm
Hostesses are: Muriel Klenz and Marge Schley

Happy New Year and may you be blessed as we continue studying Biblical Women from the Gather Magazine.

Thank you to group 2 for decorating and serving the food and fellowship evening meeting, and to all who brought the delicious hot dishes, salads, and desserts. Thank you to Jeannie for planning the program and evening of entertainment. It was an enjoyable evening and we thank Pastor Anthony, Pastor Stephanie and all who came.

Installation of officers: Pres.—Janice, VPres.—Jeannine, Secretary—Rosemary, Treasurer—Muriel, Historian—Barb. Thank you to Sherry for her years of service. January balance is \$1,104.87

January quilting days are the 15 & 16, 29 & 30. Invite a friend along, bring a sack lunch, come when you can and stay as long as you can. If you need a ride, call the church at 632-4416.

Group 1 is in charge of next work duty. Bernice is in charge of altar care.

January birthdays: Shirley Onken—3rd, Irene Reiman—4th, Jeannine Rasmussen—4th.

Blessings, Janice

SUNDAY

USHERS

- | | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| 5 | Bernice Lehmann and Shirley Schmidt |
| 12 | Gene and Annette Yackle |
| 19 | Sherry Schmidt and Jeannine Rasmussen |
| 26 | Neil and Marilyn Cheever |
| Feb. 2 | Roger and Joan Rezac |

“Winter blah humor” - People are funny: They want to front of the bus, the middle of the road and the back of the church

TRINITY RIPPLES



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

Members present: President Phil Burgess, Pastor Anthony, Eileen Morrow, Mary Ann and John Frerichs, Starr Spiegel, and Wes Strausser. President Anthony opened the meeting with devotions.

Pastor's report.

We celebrated the baptism of Landon Gerhardt on December 8th.

There are two meetings scheduled for church leaders, lay leaders, and clergy. The first will be for Multiple Area Parishes. It will be held on January 18th from 9 am to 3 pm at St Mathews in Wabasso. The second meeting is called Equipping Congregations Day. That will be held Saturday February 22nd at Vinge in Willmar. A Jr Hi "lock-in" is in the planning stages. It will be held on a Friday night until Saturday morning. The date has yet to be determined. It will be held at Waverly.

January 14th will be the next joint Parish Council/Church Council meeting. Circle of Faith Parish will meet at 6 pm followed by the individual church council meetings at 7:30. Everyone is welcome to attend.

January 26th we will celebrate the first anniversary of the Circle of Faith Parish with a joint service at Trinity Lutheran Church in Welcome followed by cider and cake.

Secretary's Report. Reviewed

Treasurer's Report - Reviewed.

Financial Secretary Report – Reviewed

TWELCA – none

Youth & Board of Ed – Sunday School program will be Dec 15th. We will be preparing the Christmas bags Saturday at 1:30. Discussion was held on participating in a malaria fund raiser with the youth. We wish to thank the anonymous donor for the advent calendars that were purchased for the children.

Deacon's Report – Everything is going good.

Trustee's report- The stair treads on Pastor Eric's steps have been installed, and the water line is in from the street to the church.

Old Business: Discussion was held on the lot where the old house was on the north side of the church.

New Business: The nominating committee is working on getting the following open positions filled.

President

Vice President

Trustee – 2 positions open

Deacon – 2 positions open

Board of Education – 2 positions open

Financial Secretary

If you are willing to take a position on the board, please contact the church office.

Discussion was held on the funds remaining in our 2013 benevolence budget. Eileen made a motion to accept the proposed benevolence allocations to be paid, Wes seconded. Motion carried.

Wes made a motion to accept the proposed 2014 budget, John Frerichs seconded. Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Circle of Faith Parish Budget. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Eileen Morrow, Secretary

Next meeting will be January 14th. Circle of Faith Parish Council will meet at 6 pm followed by the individual councils at 7:30 pm.

January — Weather permitting we will have a TWELCA meeting on Thursday, Jan. 2. (Jan. 1 is News Year’s Day) Hannah circle serves.

Our new table cloths for the 20 tables in the dining room arrived and with Becky and Joel’s help they have been cut and put on the tables. The old ones can be used as drop cloths or such. They are in the ‘pit’. Thank you for your help.

We also thank Cheryl Schwieger for the beautiful Christmas center pieces for the tables. She does such good work!

We also thank all the Ladies of TWLECA for their help this past year. We do ‘miss’ two of our over 80 ladies, Ardella and Mae! Thanks to Jean Schock for delivering the shut-in gifts.

Don’t forget out box for non-perishable items or the ‘Little Red Kettle’. If you rather give money, each \$1.00 you put in the kettle will buy \$3.00 worth of food from Second Harvest Food Bank for the Salvation Army in Martin County.

Blessings to all in 2014 — Connie Jensen



will start again in January on the 5th, all classes Preschool—8th Grade !!!

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>COMM. USHERS</u>	<u>ACOLYTES</u>
5	Susan and Bocky Borchardt Henry and Sun Borchardt	S-Brian Burmeister H-John Frerichs	Zane Borchardt, Jordan Wolter
12	Joel and Beck Detert		Carlene Hand, Sarah Justice
19	John and MaryAnn Frerichs		Jackie Frerichs, Mara Immens
26	Jon and Jen Saxen	S-Jon Saxen H-Bob Moffitt	Dylan Petersen, Aaron Burmeister
Feb. 2	Phil Burgess and Norm Schley	S-John Frerichs H-Velma Schaal	Jordan Stahl, Morgan Wolter

“Winter blah humor” — Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn’t belong.

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



The Waverly Church Council met December 16, 2013. Members present: Pastor Anthony, Cliff Armbrust, Rosemary Atzenhoefer, Deanne Gaalswyk, Bob Olson, Scott Peterson, Tim Peterson, Jack Potter, Deb Schneider, and John Sherman.

Deanne Gaalswyk, Council President, called the meeting to order. The November secretary's report was approved as read. Motion by John, second by Rosie, motion carried.

Cliff gave the financial report. Motion by Bob, second by Tim to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

The proposed Waverly 2014 budget was reviewed and discussed. Motion by Scott, second by Bob to present the proposed budget to the Waverly congregation. The proposed Circle of Faith budget was also reviewed and discussed. Motion by Rosie, second by Jack to present the proposed Circle Faith budget to the congregation.

Pastor's Report

Gathering of all multipoint congregations in the Synod is Saturday, January 18, 2014 at St. Matthew's in Wabasso from 9 am – 3 pm., an unlimited number of attendee's are invited with registration paid by Circle of Faith Parish, \$25.00 per parish.

Equipping Congregations Day is February 22, 2014. From 8:30 am – 3:30 pm., at Vingie Lutheran in Willmar. February 10, 2014 is the registration deadline and Circle of Faith Parish will pay for the registration.

New membership is acknowledged. Motion by John, second by Cliff to acknowledge Lacey Schmidtke, Kenzie Schmidtke, and Harry & Shirley Geerdes as new members. Motion carried.

Old Business

- ~Membership forms are tabled until after the annual meeting.
- ~Little Lutheran magazine has been ordered.
- ~Poinsettia delivery has been arranged.

New Business

- ~ Potluck at Waverly on January 12, 2014 in honor of new members.
- ~Waverly annual meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

With no further business, motion by John, seconded by Tim to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Schneider

The first two Sundays of each month
~~~~~





From the Presidents Desk -

I am coming to the end of my year as the president of Waverly. It has been an interesting year. We have joined a new cluster, expanding our church family by two new congregations. We were fortunate to have two special pastors agree to come and serve the new Circle of Faith Parish. This year has been one of many changes. There cannot be growth without changes. Thanks to the dedication and work of many, this new adventure has been launched and has become a blessing. What an exciting time for Waverly. As I have said many times, Waverly is very special to me. Seeing the benefits of the changes of this past year makes me believe that the future is bright indeed.

I want to thank you for this opportunity to be a part of this year. We are well on our way down a new path. There will still be some bumps and maybe even some detours, but I will never doubt that the journey will be well worth it.

Thank you to the Circle of Faith Parish Council and to the Waverly Council. Thank you for all of the hours you give so willing to make sure that we stay on the path. Thank you for your support and your counsel. Each of you helped make this a special year for me. I look forward to many more years of fellowship with you and all of the members of this cluster.

Here is to 2014 and beyond! May the Lord bless each one of us and may He bless and watch over Waverly and the Circle of Faith Parish!

Your fellow traveler, *Deanne Gaalswyk*,



So much for the beautiful poinsettia that was brought to me from Waverly. It was special to be remembered. LeVone Toedt



| <u>SUNDAY</u> | <u>READER</u> | <u>ACOLYTE(S)</u>       |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 5             | Don Nordstrom | Jim / Mary Lou Sherman  |
| 12            | Mim Potter    | Jenny / Shane Kuehl     |
| 19            | Daniel Helvig | Lindsey Bettin          |
| 26            | Karen Helvig  | Muriel / Al Armbrust    |
| Feb. 2        | Deb Schneider | Heidi/Brian Clow family |

January  
Ushers

Tim Peterson  
Steve Williamson  
Randy Schneider  
Brian Clow  
Jeff Lueth

*"Winter blah humor" - forbidden fruits create many jams.*

# January 2014

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                               | Mon       | Tue                                                                                                                        | Wed                                                                                                                          | Thu                                    | Fri       | Sat       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                   |           |                                                                                                                            | <b>1</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED<br>               | <b>2</b><br>9:30 am<br>W-ELCA -<br>TLC | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>5</b><br>Worship<br>Sunday school                                                                                                                                                              | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b><br>7:00 pm<br>Mary's Circle -<br>WLC                                                                              | <b>8</b><br>9:30 H/E Circle - TLC<br>1:30 pm WELCA St.P<br>6:30 pm Confirmation<br>5:30 Men's Garage @<br>Steve Williamson's | <b>9</b>                               | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> |
| <b>12</b><br>Worship<br>Sunday school<br>Waverly new<br>member day<br>and potluck                                                                                                                 | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b><br>Quilt work<br>day— WLC<br>6 pm Parish<br>Annual Mtg @<br>Parish Council<br>mtg<br>Cong. Councils<br>@ 7:30 pm | <b>15</b><br>Quilt work day—WLC<br>Sewing day—StP<br>6:30 pm Confirmation                                                    | <b>16</b><br>Sewing<br>day—StP         | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> |
| <b>19</b><br>Worship /<br>Annual meetings<br>follow StP & TLC<br>WLC @ 7 pm<br>Sunday school                                                                                                      | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b>                                                                                                                  | <b>22</b><br>Newsletter articles<br>due<br>6:30 pm Confirmation                                                              | <b>23</b>                              | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> |
| <b>26</b><br>Joint Worship @<br>TLC 10:00 am<br>Birthday cake,<br>coffee & spar-<br>kling cider<br>follows<br> | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b>                                                                                                                  | <b>29</b><br>9:30 am<br>Assemble newsletter<br>Sewing day—StP<br>6:30 pm Confirmation                                        | <b>30</b><br>Sewing<br>day—StP         | <b>31</b> |           |



# January 2014



| Sun                                    | Mon                               | Tue                                                              | Wed                    | Thu                                                                                                                                           | Fri                                                           | Sat                                                        |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                        |                                   |                                                                  | 1<br>Ronald<br>Rahm    | 2<br>Karen Koeder<br>Belva Peterson<br>Tom Peterson<br>January Elliott<br>Amelia<br>Brosnahan<br><br><i>George and Jerry<br/>Hendricks—65</i> | 3<br>Shirley Onken<br><br><br><i>Jon and Karen<br/>Helvig</i> | 4<br>Jeannine<br>Rasmussen<br>Irene Reiman<br>Deb Armbrust |
| 5<br>Lois Duncan                       | 6                                 | 7<br>Aimee Hand<br>Mason Mosloski                                | 8                      | 9<br>Amanda<br>Brosnahan                                                                                                                      | 10<br>Maurice Rahm<br>Lacey Lueth<br>John Frerichs            | 11<br>Patience Poyzer                                      |
| 12<br>Olin Bakke<br>Selma<br>Peterson  | 13<br>Marge Schley<br>Scott Bengé | 14<br>Barb Speckman<br><br><br><i>Paul and Lorrie<br/>Jensen</i> | 15<br>Nancy Steele     | 16<br>Wayne<br>Burmeister<br>Ione Nelson                                                                                                      | 17<br>Denyse<br>Borchardt                                     | 18<br>Julie Schulz<br>James Korte                          |
| 19<br>Larry Puhrman<br>Larry R Schmidt | 20<br>Vic Abelson                 | 21<br>Victoria Lake                                              | 22<br>Deb<br>Schneider | 23<br>Jeanne Leiding                                                                                                                          | 24<br>Susan Krueger                                           | 25                                                         |
| 26<br>Synjin Haugen                    | 27<br>Rhonda<br>Oeschle           | 28                                                               | 29                     | 30                                                                                                                                            | 31<br>MarLeone<br>Williamson                                  |                                                            |



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## Epiphany's significance

The church season of Epiphany begins on January 6 each year. The name comes from the Greek work epiphaneia, meaning "to appear, to show or to manifest." The ending date of the Epiphany Season is determined by Ash Wednesday, which is determined by the date of Easter.

Traditionally, Epiphany Day marks the arrival of the Magi, or wise men, to worship the infant Jesus. The significance of Epiphany for Christians is that it symbolizes the first recognition of Christ by Gentiles, or non-Jews.

The season of Epiphany emphasizes the divine nature of Jesus, the Light of the world. Symbols for the season include light, a star and the color green, which represents life, growth, hope and eternity.