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CIRCLE OF FAITH **PARISH**

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Sundays-Worship @ TLC & St.P

Tuesdays: Men's Sunrise Bible Study @ First Lutheran in Trimont

Tuesday Morning Coffees—StP

Wednesdays-Worship @ Waverly

UPCOMING EVENTS:

7/4	Independence Day
7/5	Mary Circle
7/6	TSL Communion
	Dorcas Circle
7/11	VBS meeting @ St. Paul's
7/12	Parish Council meeting
7/13	Goldfinch Communion
	WLC Council meeting
7/14	Worship @ Goldfinch
7/16	Trinity Pie and Ice Cream Social
7/17	Trinity-10 am Community Worship
7/19	Wine, Women & the Word
7/20	Deadline for Ripple articles
7/27	Assemble Ripples
	Parish Picnic and Worship
7/31-8/4	Vacation Bible School

Staff / Email

Eric Midthun-Associate Pastor Lisa Wohlhuter Eileen Morrow

Anthony Christoffels - Lead Pastor achristoffels@circleoffaithparish.org emidthun@circleoffaithparish.org lwohlhuter@circleoffaithparish.org emorrow@circleoffaithparish.org

July Worship Schedule

Weekly Worship Services

Date	St. Peter – 8:30 am Trinity – 8:30 am		Waverly – 6:30 pm
July 3 – Communion Altar Color: Green	Pr. Eric	Pr. Anthony	
July 6 – Communion Altar Color : Green			"Bear Fruit and Grow" Colossians 1:1-14
July 10 Altar Color: Green	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Eric	
July 13 – Communion Altar Color: Green			"Who is the Head of the Church?" <i>Colossians 1:15-28</i>
July 17 Altar Color: Green	Pr. Eric	Community Worship at St. Paul's UCC at 10:00 AM Pr. Anthony	
July 20 – Communion Altar Color: Green			"The Fullness of Life in Christ" Colossians 2:6-19
July 24 Altar Color: Green	Pr. Stephanie Swanson Pr. Anthony on vacation		
July 27 – Communion Altar Color: Green	Parish Picnic and Worship at Anderson Park in Trimont 5:30 pm Meal 6:30 pm Worship		"Chosen and Holy!?!?" Colossians 3:12-17
July 31 – Communion Altar Color: Green	Pr. Anthony Pr. John Malm Pr. Eric on vacation		



Galatians Series

WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP

Is your summer full of ball games, vacations, fishing, golfing, and camping?

Is it hard to work worship into your busy summer schedule?

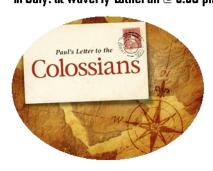
We've got an alternative for you!

Free up your weekend by joining us for a casual worship service on Wednesday evenings this summer!

St. Peter Lutheran @ 6:30 pm

with Holy Communion

> In July: at Waverly Lutheran @ 6:30 pm



> In August: at Trinity Lutheran @ 6:30 pm



SCHEDULE

D JUNE 1

Who are you trying to please?

8 JUNE

Being Set Apart -Chosen by God!

DJUNE 15

Saved by Faith; not Works!

▶ JUNE 22

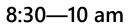
Heirs without Distinction

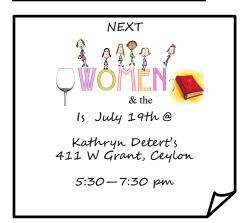
D JUNE 29

Guidance Through the Spirit 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther nailing the 95 Theses to the doors of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Please join Pastor Anthony and Pastor Stephanie as we walk in the footsteps of Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation beginning in Rome and ending in Germany in the summer of 2018. Brochures are available in all three churches. For more information talk to Pastor Anthony.















Save the date and plan to attend!
Please join us for the Circle of Faith Parish summer picnic and Worship service on Wednesday, July 27, 2016, at Anderson Park in Trimont.

The picnic will start at 5:30 pm.
Worship will begin at 6:30 pm.

Everyone is invited!

This will again be a potluck picnic. Waverly will provide the beverages and tableware. If you don't have a dish to pass, please, still come. Potlucks provide plenty of food and fellowship for everyone!!

(Note: Anderson park is located on the south side of Trimont, west of Hwy 4.)

FAMILY Signs



Each church is going to have a "Family Sign" made for their entryway. This sign will display different words that describe our congregations. The sign can be made out of any material. Looking for people who would be interested in using their talents toward this project.

Contact Karen Koeder @ 507-848-6712 or Pastor Anthony @ 507-848-0017 if you are interested in working on this project.

Example

IN THIS HOME WE DO...

Laughter dinners together MERCY friends and Prayer SHINDIGS coeffee from Say we're FUN deserts Inspire each other SOUTH STUFF RECYCLE creative messes SECOND CHANCES Liss
REED THE MAKE MISTAKES Goodnight

PROMISSING LISTEN R and aways you give you gove you

Example

LIKE US

On:



Circle of Faith Parish www.facebook.com/circleoffaithparish

Trinity Lutheran www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranwelcome

Waverly Lutheran www.facebook.com/waverlylutheran



Circle of Faith Parish Council Minutes

Circle of Faith June 14th, 2016 Secretary's minutes

Circle of Faith parish Council Members present include, Marilyn Cheever, Deb Philipp, Jeff Lueth, Jon Saxen, Karen Helvig, Deanne Gaalswyk. Congregational Presidents, Henry Borchardt from Trinity, Sue Krueger from Waverly.

There was a motion to approve the agenda by Jon Saxen. It was seconded by Jeff Lueth.

<u>Devotions</u> were led by Pastor Anthony, Matthew 10. Do not fear those who kill the body, but cannot kill the soul. This means we are all important in the eyes of God.

<u>Secretary's report:</u> There was a motion to approve by Deanne Gaalswyk. It was seconded by Deb Philipp.

<u>Treasurer's report:</u> There was a motion to approve the treasurer's report by Marilyn Cheever. It was seconded and by Jeff Lueth.

<u>Pastor's report:</u> Pastor Anthony reported that all 5 Sundays for the Pastor's Vacations have been filled with pulpit supply. One is taking 3 of the 5 and the other is taking the other 2.

Waverly will host parish picnic at the Anderson Park in Trimont on Wednesday July27th. Supper will begin at 5:30. Worship at 6:30. Waverly will provide paper products for the meal. Everyone please bring a dish to pass for the potluck meal.

Synod Assembly went great. They welcomed a new ELCA congregation. It has been named River of Hope Lutheran in Hutchinson, MN. The synod is receiving a grant from the Lily Foundation up to \$250,000. This is a match to what they fundraise. The theme is about money, pastor pensions, student loan debt. They will be holding a survey on how to help: The two choices to use the grant is reading the Ministry in Money book with discussion and learning about mission thru budgeting. The sessions will be held on September 10th. The synod will send pastors to attend. The other option is learning about Engaging and mobilizing your congregation, as well as budgeting to meet visions. This is a workshop with Gustavus staff. Three to four lay members and clergy of 15 congregations may go from the synod.

Pastor Eric reported that he is hearing several positive comments about Wednesday nights and 8:30 early services. Change is a good thing to try.

Committee updates:

Communications:

We need someone to drive the trailer for the parades in Trimont and Welcome. Karen suggested that Waverly members organize walkers for the Trimont parade and Trinity members organize walkers for the Welcome parade. We need someone to purchase and freeze freezy pops for the parade. Deanna volunteered to contact the Trimont Town Center for cost of pops and possibility of freezing them for us.

No updates from other committees at this time.

<u>Old Business:</u> Pastor received the proof of the parish directory today. Two members from each congregation will look over to see if there are any changes. Due by July 1st. Effective date is June 1st for insurance beginning.

New Business:

We are family:

Greeting card ministry: Each congregation will seek out a member to help do this ministry. Parish Council will cover postage and cards for these members to use. Pastor received a donation to cover these expenses. A discussion was presented on a possibility of having cards printed with COF logo and a blank inside for members to use. There was a discussion presented about including a preprinted bible verse included on card. We will send them at Life journey events such as a birth of a child, confirmation (year after), homebound once a year, after death of a loved one which could be sent between 1 month and up to 12 months later.

Family Signs: There was a discussion on how and when to get the signs built? There was a discussion, should we have members build them or do we want to hire. The words on the sign will all be the same. The way the sign is built may be different by each church. There was a discussion to put in an article in Ripples to see if there is an interest of someone who would like to design signs from the congregations. Each council will discuss to see if there is an interest in someone building their sign as well. There was a discussion on what words to use for the signs.

The sign will say, In this church we:

Support Make mistakes Celebrate Eat Coffee Grow **Pray** Disagree **Laugh Forgive WORSHIP** (These will be in the center of the sign)

Accountability: There was a discussion of what things we can do better to grow our mission of members not attending and how we can talk to families in the community.

There was a motion to adjourn by Jon Saxen. Seconded by Jeff Lueth.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 12th at 6p.m at Trinity.

Respectfully submitted, Deb Philipp, Circle of Faith Parish Secretary





St. Peter Ripples

There will be no meeting in July because we serve the coffees each Tuesday morning from 8:30-10. Serving July 5 and 19 is Group 1 and July 12 and 26 is Group 2. Please come for good food and fellowship.

The ice cream social at Ingham Bible Camp went very well. Perfect weather always helps. I haven't received a full total but did hear that the pie auction alone brought in \$7,300, with the highest pie at \$300. Looking ahead is the Hog Roast August 28 and they are hoping the new chapel will be finished by then. The Okoboji Camp Quilt Auction is August 6th with viewing and food the night before. We have delivered 5 quilts.

Muriel reports a treasury balance of \$1,050. \$100 has been sent to the ELCA Disaster Relief Fund. \$700 is the total given in place of the Annual Rummage sale. "Thank You" to all who contributed.

Janice and I attended the 29th Annual Convention of the SW MN Synodical WELCA on June 17-18 in Willmar. It was a great 2 days with good meetings, music and fellowship. They had a semi there for the mission projects: 2368 quilts, 620 fleece blankets, 1039 school kits, 715 personal care kits, 80 fabric kits, 802 baby kits, 673 pounds of soap and \$1,200 was given towards shipping. This is "Mission in Action". In the dedication it was stressed that this is God's Work Our Hands.

Looking ahead:

Kathryn will host "Wine, Women and the Word" Tuesday July 19th at 5:30 pm.

Our next meeting will be August 3rd at 9 am with Ann and Lorrene hosting. We will continue our study on "Treasure in Clay Jars". This will be on reconciliation.

Next work duty is Group 1. Altar care for July is Jeannine.

"Gracious and Holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you".

Happy 4th of July! Jeannine



Thursday, July 7 1—6 pm American Legion, Ceylon

DATE	LECTOR	USHERS		
JULY Sundays @ 8:30 am				
3	Jeannine Rasmussen	Bernice Lehmann & Shirley Schmidt		
10	Bernice Lehmann	Larry W Schmidt & Larry R Schmidt		
17	Janice Franck	Bob Nelson and Jeff Petschke		
24	Muriel Klenz	Darrell and Muriel Klenz		
31	Jeannine Rasmussen	Keith and Jody Franck		
August 7		LeRoy and Janice Franck		



Trinity Ripples

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – JUNE 14, 2016

Members present were: Henry Borchardt, Pastor Anthony, Pastor Eric, John Borchardt, Velma Schaal, Jean Schock, Larry Philipp, Robert Moffitt and Lonnie Mofffitt.

Henry called the meeting to order. Pastor Anthony opened with a reading from Matthew keeping the victims from the Orlando, FL shooting in mind. It talked about killing the body but not the soul. It says have no fear.

Pastor's Report – The parish picnic will be hosted by Waverly this year. It will be the last Wednesday in July on July 27. It will be at Anderson Park in Trimont with the meal beginning at 5:30 and the service at 6:30. Waverly will furnish the beverage, paper products and those coming are asked to bring a dish to pass.

Pastor attended the Synod Assembly last weekend. The welcomed a new congregation into the Synod – River of Hope Lutheran Church in Hutchinson, MN.

The Synod has received a grant from the Lilly Endowment fund which provides new opportunities for our congregations to "Embrace God's Mission + Equip God's People. There are two areas that the money can be spent in -

Education and literacy about money.

There will be a survey coming out to see if Trinity has any interest in attending one or both opportunities. The Education portion will allow pastors and people from congregations to take advantage of workshops, seminars, etc. at reduced prices. The Literacy about Money will have two sessions – The first will be on Sept 10 on Ministry and Money at Calvary Lutheran Church in Willmar, MN. The other will be on energizing and mobilizing your congregation workshops-a joint program between the SW MN Synod and the Economics and Management Dept of Gustavus Adolphus College. Date to be determined yet.

A motion was made to accept the Secretary report, Treasurer report and Financial Secretary report as presented. Bob made the motion and Velma seconded. Motion carried. It was brought up asking if the number of people per Sunday and the amount of the deposits per Sunday could be put in the bulletin each week. It was decided to put it in the newsletter once a month.

Faith Formation Report – VBS will be with St. Paul again and will be held at St. Paul Church from July 31 through August 4th.

Caring Ministries Report – Nothing to report.

Property Committee Report – John Borchardt reported on the windows in the kitchen. The measurements have been taken. It was decided to go with single hung windows. The labor per opening is \$750 each or \$1,500 for the two. The windows will be approximately \$880 each or \$1,760 for the two for a total amount of approximately \$3260. The funds will come from the church repair fund. This project was previously okayed by the congregation. A motion by Bob, seconded by Velma was made to reactivate the prior motion on the windows. Motion carried.

Parish Council Report – The proofs for the church directory have been received but the company had put some things in the wrong place so they will have to redo the proofs before the directory can be printed. A Greeting card ministry is being started. Seed money of \$300 has been received for this to get the cards ordered and stamps to send them out. Blank cards will be ordered and volunteers will be needed from all three churches to write in them for different occasions and mail them out for birth of a child, 1st year after being confirmed, death of a loved one, shut ins once a year. The pastor will generate the list and it will be given to the volunteers. Giving a care package to the high school graduates and college students was also suggested. Signs for each church were discussed. We are a family and we do many things together. Each church will have an individual sign.

New Business – Ice Cream Social – Carolyn Strausser has agreed to help but additional volunteers will be needed. The social runs from 1-4 and the parade is at 4:00 this year.

There will be a community worship service at St. Paul's on July 17 with the service at 10:00 with a meal of grilled burgers to follow.

The mid-year financial report to the congregation was discussed. It will come out in July and will be sent by some means to all members.

Velma made a motion, seconded by Bob to put an ad for Trinity Lutheran Church on the Welcome Festival Poster.

The next meeting will be August 9th at 7:30.

Bob made a motion to adjourn. Velma seconded. Motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Lonnie Moffitt

Dear Members of Trinity,

We will once again be hosting our annual "Pie and Ice Cream Social" during the Welcome Summer Festival on Sat. July 16th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. We are asking each member to provide two 9" pies or \$10.00 for this event. Please deliver the pies to the church by 11:30 am on Saturday, July 16th. We thank you for your willingness to provide us with this donation.

We will also need volunteers to help in the afternoon. Any help would be very much appreciated If you have any question please call Jean Schock (507-728-8773) or the church office at (507-728-8259)



There will be a joint Community Worship service again this year during the Welcome Summer Festival.

> Sunday, July 17th. 10 am St. Paul's UCC Fellowship Hall

Grilled burgers/hotdogs to follow.

All are invited, nothing to bring but yourselves.



Thank you to everyone that gave in numerous ways to help make our May, Tuesday morning Coffees a success

Vacation Bible School

Come and join in for smoke fun.



VBS @ St. Paul's of Welcome

214 Dugan St. North

Sun. July 31 - Thurs. Aug. 4 6:30 - 8 pm 3 yrs. old – 6th grade

DATE	<u>USHERS</u>	LECTOR	COMMUNION
JULY 3	Larry and Deb Philipp		Henry Borchardt Velma Schaal
10	Amy Morrow Eileen Morrow	Tracy Winter	
17	Henry and Sun Borchardt	MaryAnn	
24	Liz and Jordan Stahl	Tracy Winter	
31	Lonnie and Bob Moffitt	Liz Stahl	Brian Burmeister Tony Truesdell
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 3 6:30 pm	MaryAnn and John Frerichs	Tracy Winter	

Waverly Ripples



to all who helped make by birthday very special.

AlArmbrust

DATE	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	CHILDREN'S TIME	COMMUNION ASSISTANCE
July	Worship Wednesday @ 6:30 pm			
6	Sonja Haugen			Lynette Shaw
13	Belva Peterson			Lynette Shaw
20	JoAnne Sherman			Lynette Shaw
27	CHURCH PARISH PICNIC LuAnn Peterson			Lynette Shaw
Sun. Aug. 7 8:30 am	John Sherman			Jack Potter

July Ushers: John Sherman, Tim Peterson, Cliff Armbrust, Brad Sherman, Jeff Armbrust

August Ushers: Steve Williamson, Troy Schmidkte, Todd Rathman, Will Hecht



Council members present: Albert Armbrust, Cliff Armbrust, Karen Koeder, Sue Krueger, Don Nordstrom, Pastor Anthony, Deanne Gaalswyk

The meeting was called to order by President Sue Krueger. Deanne opened with devotions from the book <u>Discovering Hope.</u> The topic was Evangelism: A Way of Life.

A motion was made by Karen and seconded by Deanne to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

<u>The secretary's report</u> was accepted with a motion by Karen and seconded by Albert. Motion carried. <u>Treasurer's report</u> was presented by Cliff. Year to date Income minus Expenses is -\$12,301.97. Motion made by Karen and seconded by Don to accept the report as presented. Motion carried.

<u>Pastor's Report:</u> Pastor Anthony reported on the Synod Assembly. At the Assembly a new congregation was added to our Synod – River of Hope in Hutchinson. Pastor explained that our synod will receive up to \$250,000 of matching money form the Lilly Endowment Grant. This organization has been around for a number of years. Two workshops will be held utilizing funds from this grant. One workshop is Ministry and Money which will be held September 10. The topics will cover literacy for money matters in our congregations and helping pastors with student debt reduction, pension, and medical expenses. The other workshop will discuss Management, Marketing, etc. The date has not been determined at this time.

A letter was received from the Town Center that Waverly could set up a charge account. Karen made a motion and Don seconded to set a charge account up. Cliff has activated this charge account.

<u>The Worship Committee</u> met and discussed worship in July. The fall special worship services were set. Cradle Roll, Bible presentation, and Sunday School Teachers installation will be September 11. Harvest Homecoming is set for September 18. Reformation Sunday is October 30, with All Saints on November 6, and Thankoffering on November 13. They recommended that we use the liturgy from With One Voice once a month.

<u>The Caring Ministries</u> shared that they had provided communion to members and talked about the Backpack Program.

<u>Faith Formation</u> will be meeting later this summer to set up schedule and to continue using the Spark Rotation Program. We will be seeking teachers for the upcoming year.

The church directory proof has received and is being check for corrections.

The Church Picnic was discussed. Things are in place for the service to be held in the Anderson Park in Trimont on July 27.

Waverly is in charge of the Circle of Faith float in the Trimont Parade. Don volunteered to drive his pickup for this. We need walkers to hand out freezer pops along the route.

Circle of Faith Parish is starting a new program to send card to our members for significant life events. The cards and stamps will be provided, but need volunteers to write and send them out.

Each church will have a Family Sign made for their entryway. This sign will display different words that describe our congregations. The sign can be made out of any material. Looking for people who would be interested in using their talents toward this project.

Karen made a motion and Don seconded to adjourn.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Deanne Gaalswyk, secretary pro temp.





Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
****	****	***	*	1 Doug Bettin Luke Benge	2 Sherry Schmidt
Happy July 4th	5 Roger Geiger Samantha Meyer	6	7 Torrey Paplow Larry W Schmidt Ben Chukuske Dylan Petersen	8	9 Mara Immens Steve Williamson
		Marlene & Wayne Burmeister		Don & Pinky Saxen	Jon & Jen Saxen
11	Mara & Adrian Rasmussen	13	14 Muriel Klenz Harry Gerdes	15 Walt Bettin Tyler Bettin Joan Rezac Steve Hatland Jon Burmeister Kim Dirks	16
18 Elizabeth Kuehl Colby Lyons Taylor Truesde	19 Kaden Olson Craig Hatland	20 Lowell Wohlhuter	21 Gayle Schuett James Hatland	22 Zachary Hovick Gary Miller Larry Schuett	23 Starr Speigeler Jody Franck
Joanne & John Sherman					
25 Kevin Philipp Brandi Mulvihill	26	27 Steve Sheppard	28	29 Velma Schaal Bryan Poppe LeRoy & Janice	30 LuAnn Peterson Dakoda Schultz
	Andy & Stephanie Truesdell		Larry and Darcia Schmidt	Franck Keith & Jody Franck	Dale & Shirley Keck
	×	CELFRRATE			
	18 Elizabeth Kuehl Colby Lyons Taylor Truesde Joanne & John Sherman	Roger Geiger Samantha Meyer 11 12 Mara & Adrian Rasmussen 18 Elizabeth Kuehl Colby Lyons Taylor Truesde Joanne & John Sherman 25 Kevin Philipp Brandi Mulvihill Andy & Stephanie	Roger Geiger Samantha Meyer Marlene & Wayne Burmeister 11 12 13 Mara & Adrian Rasmussen 18 Elizabeth Kuehl Colby Lyons Taylor Truesde Joanne & John Sherman 25 Kevin Philipp Brandi Mulvihill Andy & Stephanie Marlene & Wayne Burmeister 20 Lowell Wohlhuter 27 Steve Sheppard	Roger Geiger Samantha Meyer Marlene & Wayne Burmeister 11 12 13 14 Muriel Klenz Harry Gerdes Mara & Adrian Rasmussen 18 Elizabeth Kuehl Colby Lyons Taylor Truesde Joanne & John Sherman 25 Kevin Philipp Brandi Mulvihill Andy & Stephanie Rager Geiger Samantha Meyer Torrey Paplow Larry W Schmidt Ben Chukuske Dylan Petersen 14 Muriel Klenz Harry Gerdes 20 Lowell Wohlhuter Gayle Schuett James Hatland 25 Kevin Philipp Brandi Mulvihill Andy & Stephanie Larry and Darcia	Doug Bettin Luke Benge Soger Geiger Samantha Meyer Marlene & Wayne Burmeister 12 13 14 Muriel Klenz Harry Gerdes Walt Bettin Tyler Bettin Joan Rezac Steve Hatland Jon Burmeister 18 Elizabeth Kuehl Colby Lyons Taylor Truesde 19 Kaden Olson Craig Hatland Joanne & John Sherman 20 Lowell Wohlhuter 21 Gayle Schuett James Hatland 22 Zachary Hovick Gary Miller Larry Schuett 25 Kevin Philipp Brandi Mulvihill 26 27 Steve Sheppard 28 29 Velma Schaal Bryan Poppe LeRoy & Janice Franck Franck Keith & Jody Larry and Darcia Keith & Jody



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday Worship 8:30 am Sundays St. Peter Trinity	Office hours Monday— Thursday 9 am—1 pm Closed Fridays		Wednesday Worship / Communion 6:30 pm / Waverly	RASEBALI	1	2
3 Worship / Comm.		5 6:30 am Men's SRBS TMC @ St. Peter 8:30—10 am 7 pm Mary Circle @ Nancy Nordstrom	6 10 am Communion (a) TSL 1:30 pm Dorcas Circle (a) TSL Worship (a) WLC 6:30 pm / Comm	7	8	9 Trimont parade
10 Worship	6:30 pm VBS mtg @ St. Paul's, Welcome	TMC @ St. Peter 8:30—10 am 6 pm Parish Council mtg	13 2 pm Goldfinch Communion Worship @ WLC 6:30 pm / Comm 7:30 pm WLC Council mtg	14 10 am Worship @ Goldfinch	15	16 1-4 pm Pie & Ice Cream social 4 pm Welcome parade
17 Worship TLC 10 am Welcome Community Worship Service @ St. Paul's Meal to follow	18	19 TMC @ St. Peter 8:30—10 am Wine Women & The Word - 5:30	Ripples Deadline Worship @ WLC 6:30 pm / Comm	21	22	23
24 Worship	25	26 TMC @ St. Peter 8:30—10 am	9 am Assemble Ripples PARISH PICNIC 5:30 pm Meal 6:30 pm Worship	28	29	30
Worship / Comm. VBS @ St. Paul's 6:30—8 pm	Aug. 1 Gome and	join in for fun./	3	4	5	

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

There are many Biblical references to "A Balm in Gilead", beginning in Genesis in the story of Joseph, when his brothers sold him to a caravan traveling to Egypt from Gilead with spices, balms and myrrh. Gilead was an area just east of Jordan that was famous for medicinal balms. Jeremiah cries out for a cure for Israel: "Is there no balm in Gilead?" Jeremiah 8:22. It is a cry like going to the drug-

store to find no cure for your illness. But, there really is a balm in Gilead – Jesus. He died for us all, to heal our sin-sick souls. Matthew, Romans and 2nd Corinthians talk of the balm of Gilead. The Negros arrived in this country in chains, separated from family, friends and in bondage. They needed a balm so they sang of it! They found release and solace in music. The spirituals are different from other hymns because they were composed by singing in the fields while working – they were passed on from plantation to plantation and generation to generation – they were signals to each other – and sung in torch-lit groves while worshipping God. Few can be dated nor the composer or author known. They all became known as gospel music. Hundreds of their spirituals were eventually collected in the 1860's (after the Civil War) by Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee. The Fisk Jubilee Singers popularized them around the world. "If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul, you can tell the love of Jesus, and say, 'He died for all."