

Ripples of Faith



NOVEMBER 2013

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.

We are coming to the part of our year when the world outside is beginning to look rather bare. The leaves are falling off the branches, the grass is turning brown, and the fields are empty. It can certainly appear to be an unenjoyable time of year. But this is actually time when we reflect on and are thankful for the many blessings that we have received throughout the year. We praise God for the harvest that has been collected and all of the wonderful gifts we have been given this year.

During the month of November, we tend to look back on the previous year and see where God has blessed us with family, friends, resources, and enjoyment. But with looking back, we also look forward into the year to come. As we look forward, we continue asking the question “Who are we” and working through our theme verse from 1 Peter 2:9 “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” Last month, Pastor Eric and I talked about how all of us as the body of Christ are a part of this royal priesthood who cares for and looks after one another. This month we look to how we are all included in a chosen race. Pastor Eric’s article will explain this further.

As individuals chosen by God, we are set apart from the world. Those that are a part of this chosen race (Christianity) live knowing that there is hope and that they have a purpose in this life. We care for those around us in our community as well as those around the world. We share this message of hope with others. We are chosen people who live in the hope of the promised eternal life. As Circle of Faith grows and matures, we will broaden and deepen our ministry together.

At our last Parish Council meeting, I asked the question, “What do you want Circle of Faith’s reputation to be?” Currently, our parish is so new that we have no reputation. Even though our three churches have all been active congregations in their respective communities for over 100 years, Circle of Faith Parish is not even a year old. We are still newborns; just learning how to crawl and make sounds. So what do you want Circle of Faith’s reputation to be? What kind of parish do you want your church a part of?

We all are chosen by God and part of a royal priesthood! As we enter the season of being thankful for the blessings that we have received, ask yourself how can Circle of Faith Parish have a reputation of being a blessing that other people are thankful for?

In Christ, *Pastor Anthony*



Dear fellow chosen ones,

Last month we focused on the adjective/noun combination of royal priesthood that is one way to express our identity as Christians. This month we look at another, chosen race.

Sometimes you fill out a form that asks for your race and you can check the box that says Caucasian or Hispanic or Oriental or whatever. The word race refers to a group of people that have certain similarities or a common ancestor. Often the similarities have to do with skin tone and/or physical features. Sometimes we even think of particular personality traits. The people of Madagascar have a beautiful brown skin tone. They liked to say that when God made human beings the first batch got a little burned and the second batch was not quite done, but the third batch came out just right and God put them on the Island of Madagascar. There is no question that throughout the history of the world we humans have used racial differences to divide and control and do terrible things to one another. So, sometimes instead of checking the box some people write “human race” on the form.

In the Old Testament, the people of Israel are the chosen race. They came from the common ancestor Abraham and God chose to work in a particular way with them. In the New Testament people who are baptized and now live in faith and make up the church are grafted into Abraham’s family tree. And so we are now part of the Israelite race even though we look like we belong somewhere else like Norway or Germany. What that means for us is that as God blessed Abraham and his descendants in order that they could be a blessing to the world, God blesses us that we can be a blessing to the world. This means that the questions we should ask before we make any decision in the church is this: How can we be a blessing to the world? And, Will this be a blessing for the world? And, Who will this bless? As individual followers of Christ, these are the questions that should hover around in our minds and float around in our houses and hang around where we work and ride around in our cars and tractors and shopping carts and pop out of our wallets and purses.

For sure, The Circle of Faith Parish makes each of its individual congregations stronger in terms of survival, which is a blessing in itself. But, it is much more than that. The Circle of Faith Parish was actually created as an answer to the question, How can we be more of a blessing to the world? By sharing and working together more we can receive more and have more to give. By making us non-Israelites a part of the chosen race, God has made a move toward creating a “race” of people that is not ‘racial’ in human terms (similar skin tone and physical characteristics) but in terms of similar attitudes and goals. A people set apart, “chosen”, by God in baptism to be a blessing to the world. A people with many differences. A variety of beautiful people of every color and with every kind of physical characteristic. A people who belong to different congregations, who live in different townships but all have the same goal: giving glory to God by being a blessing to the world. A chosen multi-racial race. That’s us!

Eric



Daylight Savings time ends—remember to turn your clocks back when you go to bed on Saturday night, Nov. 2.

FALL BACK !!!

“God loves to get knee-mail”

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

November Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship Services

Date	St. Peter - 8:30 AM	Trinity - 10:30 AM	Waverly - 10:30 AM
November 3 - Communion <i>All Saints Sunday</i>	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Eric	Pr. Anthony
November 10	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Eric
November 17	Pr. Eric	Pr. Eric	Pr. Anthony Thankoffering Sunday
November 24 - Communion <i>Christ the King Sunday</i>	Pr. Eric	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Eric

Special Joint Worship Services

Date	St. Peter - 7:00 PM	Trinity	Waverly
Wednesday, November 27 <i>Thanksgiving Eve Service</i>	Pr. Anthony <i>Joint Service</i>	<i>Joint Service @ St. Peter</i>	<i>Joint Service @ St. Peter</i>

Your pastors need your help!

As a 3-point parish, we currently have 27 people on our home communion list. For a variety of reasons, these 27 people are unable to come to Sunday morning worship to receive communion. Since there is a barrier there, we (the church) must breakdown that barrier and bring communion to our members.

Pastor Anthony and Pastor Eric are unable to bring communion to all 27 people each month. They are asking for your help to visit with and bring communion to 2-3 members of your own congregation. You will be trained and given a communion kit along with an order of service to follow.



Please consider helping serve your neighbors in Christ by bringing communion to those who are unable to come to worship. Talk to Pastor Anthony or Pastor Eric if you are interested in helping out.

COMING SOON!!!



**Wednesday, December 4
7:00 PM**

MEN!!

Down through the years the women of our congregations have had great opportunities to study the Bible and have discussions about their faith. They usually meet at homes with coffee and treats that they bake. It is fun and strengthens their faith and fellowship.

After an unofficial though exhaustive study of men's habits, it appears that they do important stuff not so much in the kitchen with coffee but in the garage with perhaps a beer. So following the example of Jesus who met people

where they were, some men would like to gather together once a month in someone's garage or shed and invite Jesus as the Word to be present. There will be fellowship and opportunity to talk about those things that we wonder about and think about in life as we journey with the Word.

Our first meeting will be at 7:00 pm on December 4th in a location yet to be decided. Please let Pastor Anthony or Pastor Eric know if you are interested.

XX

Christ is King! Let the Music Ring!

Glenn Henriksen, will perform on piano and organ in concert at Waverly Lutheran Church, sharing great music of the church that proclaims Christ as King.

Sunday – November 17, 2013
2:00 p.m.
Waverly Lutheran Church
Reception to follow



Glenn Henriksen, of Spirit Lake and Armstrong, Iowa, is an amazing, versatile pianist and organist. This special concert will feature solo piano and organ pieces, a joint choir anthem, a hymn sing-a-long, and by-request improvisational arrangements. Admission is free, and a free-will offering will be taken.



Glenn's music appeals to all ages, so invite your friends and family, and come share an unforgettable afternoon of music and thanksgiving.

This is the first of a two part concert series by Glenn, sponsored by Immanuel Lutheran Church in Dunnell, Minnesota and the congregations of Circle of Faith Parish - St. Peter Lutheran - Ceylon, Trinity Lutheran - Welcome, and Waverly Lutheran - rural Trimont. Glenn's second concert, "He Is Born", will be held at Immanuel on December 15th.



Circle of Faith

Parish Council Meeting Minutes October 8, 2013

Meeting was called to order at Trinity Lutheran in Welcome at 7:20 pm by President Steve Williamson. Other members present: Jon Helvig, Joel Rabbe, Kirsten Rabbe, Jon Saxen. Clergy present: Pastor Anthony Christoffels, Pastor Eric Midthun. Guest present: Deanne Gaalswyk, Waverly President.

Pr. Anthony and Pr. Eric led devotions, based on I Peter 2:2-10.

Kirsten presented the Secretary's Report for the September 19, 2013, Parish Council meeting. Motion by Joe, seconded by Jon S. to approve the Secretary's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Joe presented the Treasurer's Report for September, 2013. Motion by Jon S. seconded by Kirsten, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Pastors' Report

Pastor Anthony's report: 1) Series on "Why Worship Matters" is coming to an end. Comments from members have been very positive, both about the services themselves, and the informational format of the bulletins. 2) The church staff will revisit bulletin formats again in the near future, and will also work on a large print bulletin for anyone who would appreciate it. 3) Four people from Waverly/Circle of Faith attended to Growing Congregational Vitality workshop in Windom, along with Pastors Anthony and Eric. Sponsored by the Southwestern Minnesota Synod, the workshop gave us practical tools for becoming missional congregations that we can put into action. 4) We need to put together a weather policy for the parish. After discussion, it was agreed that Pr. Anthony will gather information on multiple methods to use for communication, that may include telephone trees, radio, our website and/or Facebook page, mass text messages. Multiple methods of communication allow us to get the message out to those who aren't on our phone trees currently. Discussion emphasized that we want to be inclusive in all our parish communications, to reach not just our members, but our communities and visitors as well. The decision whether to hold church will be made by the congregational presidents, in conjunction with the pastors. Pr. Anthony will let the council know what he learns in his investigation of communication methods.

Pr. Eric's report: Thinking ahead, considering starting a unique men's monthly bible study. More information to come, will begin either late this year or early in 2014.

OLD BUSINESS

Personnel Manual Committee

The Personnel Manual Committee will consist of the Executive Committee (Steve Williamson, Jon Saxen, Kirsten Rabbe, Joe Rabbe, Jody Franck) and one additional member from each congregation: Jeff Lueth, Waverly, Bocky Borchart, Trinity, and Marilyn Cheever, St. Peter. Their first meeting will be on Tuesday, October 22nd. 6:30 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Results from Parish Cottage Meetings

Pr. Anthony shared what was learned from the Fall 2013 Parish Cottage Meetings. Pr. Anthony led 8 meetings. 52 participants attended across the congregations, averaging 6-7 people per meeting. St. Peter had 18 participants, representing 46% of average worship attendance. Trinity had 17 participants, representing 27% of average worship attendance. Waverly also had 17 participants, representing 29% of worship attendance. The results provide a roadmap for the Parish Council and Congregational Councils as they plan for the future. Pr. Anthony will include a summary of the results in November's Ripples of Faith.

The ensuing discussion, inspired by the cottage meeting results, included conversation on stewardship, creating a parish reputation and identity within our communities, reaching out to "strangers" and neighbors, especially those without church homes in our communities, and how the focus of our parish has grown since our inception just 9 months ago. Talked about the need to let our communities know who Circle of Faith is, get the message outside of our congregational walls.

Budget Planning Time Line for 2014

Parish Finance Committee will have a budget proposal for 2014 completed and out to the Parish Council (by email) for comments and consideration by November 28, 2013. Parish Council will vote on the proposed budget at their December 10th meeting, and then will forward it on to Congregational Councils.

Congregational Annual Reports will include Parish Financial Statements, and a recap of the previous year's parish accomplishments.

Joint meetings of Parish Council and Congregational Councils

Parish Council will ask the Congregational Councils to approve joint meeting nights each month. Parish Council will meet on the second Tuesday of each month, from 6:00-7:30 pm, and Congregational Councils will meet beginning at 7:30 pm the same evenings. Congregational Council members are invited to attend the Parish Council meeting, to increase communication between all leadership across the parish. Given the very positive reaction to the joint Parish Council/ Congregational Council meeting nights, the fact that these allow the pastors to be at all four council meetings in one evening, and that this greatly increases the communication between all councils, it seems like a great option for all concerned. For the time being, these meetings will be held at Trinity in Welcome.

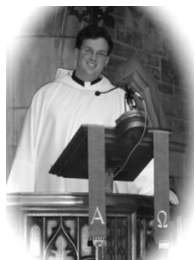
Glenn Henriksen Concert Series

Announcement by Kirsten about the upcoming Glenn Henriksen Concert Series. The "Christ the King" concert will take place at Circle of Faith/Waverly on November 17, 2013, at 2 pm. The "Advent and Christmas" concert will take place at Immanuel Lutheran in Dunnell on December 15, 2013 at 2 pm. Each concert will be followed by a reception, featuring desserts or bars and coffee. People will be able to meet Glenn in person, and have a chance to purchase his CDs at the reception. Promotion will begin the last week of October, with notices going out to area churches, and articles running in area newspapers. A hymn sing will be included as part of each concert, and a joint choir number is also being considered.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be November 11, 2013, 6:00 pm, at Trinity in Welcome. The Congregational Councils will be our guests for the meeting. Individual Congregational Council meetings will begin at 7:30 pm that same evening.

Motion by Jon Helvig, seconded by Jon Saxen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted, Kirsten Rabbe—Secretary



A Seminarian's Letters Home

November 2013

To the membership of Circle of Faith Parish:

Greetings to you all from Evanston, IL! Every year at this time, I can't help but remember the words of the great American philosopher who said, "Well, another Halloween has come and gone." And yes, that philosopher was Charlie Brown. He said that to Linus, who was feeling down after having spent yet another entire Halloween night in the pumpkin patch, waiting for the Great Pumpkin to show up, which never happens. Yet, the last clip in that cartoon is always Linus' defiant shout: "The Great Pumpkin will appear, and I'll be waiting for him! I'll be there, Charlie Brown! Just wait till next year!"

On November 1st and 2nd, the Church celebrates two days that carry similar notes. We call them All Saints and All Souls. On All Saints, we remember all those who have been baptized, every last one of us, who have been marked with the cross, wrapped in white, and rendered eternally equal members of God's kingdom. We mourn the things that divide Christ's body on earth, and pray to be held close together. On All Souls, we remember all those who have died in the promise of the resurrection of the body, which we profess each Sunday to believe. We grieve for those whom we loved and long to see again. On both these days, to paraphrase Linus, we proclaim that Christ is risen, and will come again. And we, living and dead, marked with Christ's cross forever and promised a share in that resurrection and everlasting life, will be waiting. And the promise Christ made us will be fulfilled.

Going into this late fall through All Saints to Thanksgiving, let us pray for God's blessing, using these words:

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. [ELW, All Saints Day]

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



No Council meeting was held the month of October.



Next meeting: November 6th at 1:30 pm
 Hostesses: Marge Schley and Bernice Lehmann
 Bible Study: The Widow of Zarephath Gather magazine by pastor.

This is Thankoffering month. This special offering by Lutheran women has been carried out for more than 100 years. Last year's offering was \$857,448. and the goal for 2013 is \$1,010,000. Every dollar supports the ministries of Women of the ELCA

Oct. 5th Annette Yackle, Bernice Lehmann, Rosemary Saggau, Jeannine Rasmussen and I attended the Fall Gathering at Trinity in Sleepy Eye. 78 women from 15 churches attended. The speaker was Jan Turner from Cosmos. In 1989 pneumonia somehow left her with the loss of her arms below the elbow and below the knees. This hasn't stopped her from raising chickens, riding horses and being a youth pastor and substitute teacher and working at the Wilmer Radio station. She has a good attitude and great faith in her Savior.

The quilts and school kits have been sent to LWR. Sherry reported the checking balance as of Oct. 20th is \$2,703.75.

November is also Salvation Army Food Drive. A box will be in the narthex. The need is great.

The books for 2014 will be worked on this month. Any changes in serving, prayer chain etc. please let an officer know.

November birthdays: Annette Yackle — 21st Next work group is 2. Altar Care is Jeannine Rasmussen

Thank you who took a family to pray for with PPLs.

Trinity will not be having the December potluck due to not enough people to work. Plans for December meeting are being worked on. Check the bulletin for details.

Thank you Lord, for your many blessings, but especially for the love that makes all of us one family in You.

Janice

SUNDAY	USHER	SUNDAY SCHOOL
3rd	Gene and Annette Yackle	
10th	Neil and Marilyn Cheever	Sunday School
17th	Roger and Joan Rezac	
24th	Keith and Jody Franck	Sunday School

December 1 Ushers:
 Dale and Jeanne Leiding

TRINITY RIPPLES

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting – October 9, 2013



Meeting called to order at 8:05 by Vice President Phil Burgess.

Members present: Vice President Phil Burgess, Pastor Eric, Pastor Anthony, Eileen Morrow, Merle Burmeister, and John Frerichs.

Opening devotions by Pastor Anthony.

Pastor's report. Pastor Anthony went over the summary of comments from the Cottage Meetings from all 3 of the churches. He has compiled them into 3 categories: 1.) What are we doing well, 2). What can we improve on, and 3). What is your dream for Circle of Faith.

He is also working on creating a weather policy for winter storms.

Pastor Eric reported that he is working on setting up a "Men's Discussion Group". He also thanked us for the carpet in his office.

Secretary's Report. Reviewed

Treasurer's Report - Reviewed.

Financial Secretary Report – none.

TWELCA – none

Youth & Board of Ed –Sunday School is underway. They are reusing some books that were used several years ago so there will be minimal expenses. A motion was made by Eileen and seconded by John to give Liz and Mary Ann authority to sort through the books in the library. Motion carried. The Girl Scouts will be getting a start on the painting this month in the library.

Deacon's Report – John will be picking up supplies needed.

Trustee's report- none

Eileen moved to approve the reports, Phil seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business: Review on the reports for the Cottage Meetings.

New Business:

A lock needs to be installed on Pastor Eric's office door. We are looking for someone to install it.

The lawn has been fertilized.

We need to have someone help build a stable for the nativity scene. Please contact the church office if you can help with this.

The nominating committee needs to start working on the slate of officers for the annual meeting in January. The Circle of Faith Council will have their budget to us by November 28th. Our annual meeting is January 19th following church services.

John moved to adjourn, Merle seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm with Lord's Prayer.

Eileen Morrow, Secretary

Council meeting will be November 12th at Trinity in Welcome.

Circle of Faith Parish Council will be held at 6 p.m. followed by the individual Congregational Council meetings at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend the Circle of Faith Parish Council meeting.

Our next meeting is Nov. 6th at 9:30 am. The Eunice Circle is in charge of devotions and morning lunch. We have end of the year monies to pass on, etc.

On Nov. 22nd we will go to the Trimont Health Care Center to help the residents play BINGO at 9:30 am. They are asking for 3 helpers, 2 dozen bananas and 3 dozen cookies.

We had an extra meeting and it was decided to not have a Christmas Dinner on Dec. 4th - our usual guest day. We are going to find something else to do with the Circle of Faith Ladies.

We will be having a Thankoffering Sunday—the date yet to be decided.

Please remember:

The Salvation Army food box and the 'Little Red Kettle' in the entry of the church. They are empty !!!

Have a great Thanksgiving.— Connie



Operation Christmas Child demonstrates God’s love to hurting children in a tangible way by partnering with churches worldwide to deliver gift-filled shoeboxes and the Good News of Jesus Christ.

This year again—those of you at Trinity are given the opportunity to join in this project.

You can take your own shoebox and fill it with goodies, or you can get an OCC box from Marilyn Oelke and fill it. There is a poster on the bulletin board that tells how to pack your box, the different age groups that you can choose, and also what and what not to buy for the box.

The deadline to bring your box will be Sunday, Nov. 10. For more information, you can talk to Marilyn Oelke or Lisa at the church office.

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>USHER</u>	<u>COMM. USHER</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>
Nov. 3	Larry and Deb Philipp Family	S-Jon Saxen H-Bob Moffitt	Zane Borchardt Jordan Wolter
Nov. 10	John and Mary Ann Frerichs Family		Carlene Hand Sarah Justice
Nov. 17	Wes and Carolyn Strausser		Jackie Frerichs Mara Immens
Nov. 24	Larry Puhrman Todd Williamson	S-Bob Moffitt H-Brian Burmeister	Dylan Petersen Aaron Burmeister

Dec. 1 Ushers—Phil Burgess and Norm Schley
 Communion Ushers: S-John Frerichs H— Jon Saxen
 Acolytes: no one assigned

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



WAVERLY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING September 16, 2013

The Waverly Church Council met on September 16, 2013, at 7:00 pm. Members present: Cliff Armbrust, Rosemary Atzenhoefer, Deanne Gaalswyk, Karen Koeder, Tim Peterson, Deb Schneider, and John Sherman.

Deanne Gaalswyk, Council President, called the meeting to order, and opened with prayer.

Motion by Tim, second by John to accept the secretary's report. Motion carried.

Cliff gave the financial report. August receipts totaled \$4,595.08, Disbursements totaled \$4,051.51. Motion by John, second by Rosie to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

Worship Committee: A schedule has been established for readers, ushers and acolytes. Reformation Sunday is October 27, 2013.

Old Business:

The "coffee" stove in the kitchen was discussed, with no action taken, as well as Workman's Comp. and Insurance.

New Business:

Donation to Green Lake for each baptized member will be discussed at the Annual meeting.

105.63 pounds of food were collated and donated to Heaven's Food Table, January –May.

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

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Schneider

Waverly Church Council will meet October 14, 2013 at 8:00 p.m.

WAVERLY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING October 14, 2013

The Waverly Church Council met on October 14, 2013, at 8:00 pm. Members present: Pastor Anthony, Cliff Armbrust, Deanne Gaalswyk, Karen Koeder, Bob Olson, Tim Peterson, Deb Schneider, and John Sherman.

Deanne Gaalswyk, Council President, called the meeting to order, and Pastor Anthony opened with prayer.

September secretary's report was not given, due to late submission on Council secretary's part. I am sorry!

Cliff gave the financial report. September receipts totaled \$14,952.06, Disbursements totaled \$-2,523.99. Year to date receipts total \$79,737.81, expenses \$79,713.27. Motion by Bob, second by John to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

Worship Committee: A schedule has been established for readers, ushers and acolytes. Reformation Sunday is October 27, 2013.

Pastor's Report:

Parish Council budget is due 11/28/2013.

Summary of information gleaned from Cottage meetings was reviewed, 52 people between 3 churches attended these meetings.

Old Business:

~Replacing the "coffee top" range top is tabled for now, as turning the gas on and off under the top seems to work taking care of occasional smell in the basement. Directions for turning the gas on and off will be posted.

~Members present discussed a parish wide weather policy, in addition to Waverly's "calling tree" to cover gaps in communication. This policy is in the works, and will be presented at the joint council meeting in November.

~Women of Waverly Booklet will be called Waverly-Circle of Faith.

~The funeral policy will have 2 service groups, rather than women, or divisions.

~Internet and recording services was discussed. Motion by Tim, seconded by John to renew Waverly's VIMEO account so that available on the Internet services can continue.

~Walmart credit account is for cleaning supplies.

~Yard light and pulpit light discussed. Yard light is currently serviced by REA at \$14.00 per month in addition to electricity cost. Motion by John, seconded by Bob to replaced Waverly's yard light with LED lights, and also replace the pulpit light. Motion carried.

New Business:

~Membership forms discussed and revisions suggested. Karen is willing to modify and work with Pastor to update. Thank you Karen!

~Trinity Truman Youth Mission Trip was discussed. Motion by Tim, seconded by Bob to contribute \$100.00 for Kristine Hansen to attend, as Waverly currently does not have a youth group. Motion carried. With no further business, motion by Bob, seconded by Tim to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Schneider



From the Presidents Desk -

As I was traveling around the neighborhood delivering meals to the guys in the fields a few days ago, I happen to witness a beautiful scene. It was a cloudy day, but I noticed a ray of sunshine beaming down. There was Waverly shining brightly nestled in the trees a couple of miles over. The sun made the church building look blindingly white. I immediately began to smile and a feeling of peace and contentment flowed over me. I began to say thanks for the church that has so faithfully stood in that place for a hundred years. This made me think of those that lived here before us and what struggles and triumphs were a part of their daily lives. Do we know their stories? Do we know our families' stories? As we approach the time of year when families gather together, we need to take the time to search for these stories. Now is the time to sit down and really listen to the history. When was the last time you ask your parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles what their lives had been like in times gone by? What were their dreams and hopes for the future? Have you really listened when the same story is told for the umpteenth time? The flip side of that is have you written down the experiences and events that shaped your life, so that what you learned will not be lost. You may think that no one will be interested or that nothing exciting happened, but you may never know the lives that will be touched. I am fortunate that my mother's mother was a writer and wrote her life story. It may not be on the New York Times bestseller list, but it gives me a glimpse into what it was like in the early 1900s. She also made sure that every photo was identified and not just the names but the family relationships. I am so very grateful that she took the time to do this. I wish I had asked more questions of my dad and his family while I had them. Surprise your families with a keepsake that will continue to be treasured for many generations. It will be the best gift of the season!

Your fellow traveler, *Deanne Gaalswyk*

WAVERLY THANKOFFERING SUNDAY

November 17, 2013

What an incredible harvest! What an incredible gift from God! And it is not only the harvest, but every day of our lives we find abundant gifts and blessings from God! Our Thankoffering Worship gives us an opportunity, as a congregation, to give our thanks and praise to God who is so generous with us. A special offering will go to our church wide WELCA missions programs. And what a wonderful opportunity to share our abundance with those close to home with donations of food for our local food shelves. Maybe even add "Food Shelf" to your shopping list. Please note we will not have a potluck following worship. Rather, plan to attend the special concert at 2 that afternoon.



WAVERLY SPECIAL SUNDAYS

First Sundays

What does mosquito netting have in common with shopping lists? Hmmm! Oh yes! The first Sunday of each month! Our Sunday School has embarked on their annual fund collecting with Malaria being the focus. Each first Sunday of the month our children will be passing the mosquito netted hat for you to put all of your loose change into to support this ELCA project. So remember to not remove all of your change from pocket or purse prior to leaving home. Maybe even empty your loose change container into your pocket or purse. And then...when shopping include "Food Shelf" on your shopping list and bring items to church that Sunday. So remember each first Sunday to bring food and change!



SUNDAY	READER	ACOLYTE
3rd	Deanne Gaalswyk	Laurie and Brad Sherman
10th	Sonja Haugen	Scott Peterson
17th	Gene Sheppard	Lindsey Bettin
24th	Susan Rathman	Jodi and Jeff Lueth

November Ushers

John Sherman
Tom Peterson
Brad Williamson
Troy Schmidtke
Walt Bettin
Howard Jorgenson
Jon Bentz



Ba-Sat-

by Shower for Jill Peterson, (wife of Josh Peterson) will be held 10:00 am on urday, November 30th At Waverly Lutheran Church

Let us come before him with thanksgiving.
Psalm 95:2, NIV

Grateful to God



November 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i> Harper Armbrust John Schmidtke Jason Bakke	<i>2</i> Melanie Koehler Tami Rasmussen
<i>3</i> <i>Don & Marilyn Schlager</i>	<i>4</i> Stephanie Sherman	<i>5</i> Kristi Gaalswyk	<i>6</i> Daniel Helvig Kathy Anderson	<i>7</i> Russell Rosenberg <i>Larry W & Barb Schmidt '60'</i> <i>Richard & Marlys Traetow</i>	<i>8</i> Delano Bergemann Gracie Mulso Philip Bettin Carmyne Hecht	<i>9</i> Betty Stine Curt Anderson
<i>10</i> Sandra Ehlert	<i>11</i> Joan Ellis Robert Olson Cory Cheever	<i>12</i> Sandy McKean Carl Hughes Carl Rabbe <i>Dale & Jeanne Leiding</i>	<i>13</i> Pauline Gibson	<i>14</i> Marlys Traetow Jocelyn Schmidtke <i>Steve & Eileen Morrow</i>	<i>15</i> Elaine Johnson Kelsey Binner Kyle Binner <i>Alvin & Mary Schultze '60'</i>	<i>16</i> Travis Winter
<i>17</i> Nancy Nordstrom Nathan Nordstrom Camryn Clow	<i>18</i> Adriana Leiding Lynette Shaw Gary Roberts	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> John Borchardt MiKayla Gibson	<i>21</i> Sibyl Anderson Annette Yackle Gene Yackle	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> <i>Liz & Tim Stahl</i>
<i>24</i> Harold Juhl <i>Lacey & Troy Schmidtke</i>	<i>25</i> <i>Aldean & Barbara Speckman</i>	<i>26</i> <i>Aldor & De Elda Rose '66'</i>	<i>27</i> Jill Schwanz James Armbrust James Sherman <i>Bruce & Kathy Johnson</i>	<i>28</i> <i>Blessings in Abundance</i>	<i>29</i> <i>Chelsey & Jeff Armbrust '5'</i>	<i>30</i> <i>John & Rita Garbers</i>

November 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Set your clocks back one hour— 
3 Worship / Holy Communion SS—WLC, TLC WLC 1st Sunday Malaria/Food Shelf	4	5 W—Mary Circle 7 pm	6 T-WELCA—9:30 am St. P WELCA—1:30 pm W- Dorcas Circle TSL 1:30 pm 6:30—8:00 pm Confirmation	7	8	9
10 Worship SS—all	11	12 WLC— Quilt Day 6—7:30 pm Parish Council Mtg. 7:30 pm Church Councils @ TLC	13 WLC - Quilt Work Day Hannah/Elizabeth TLC 6:30—8:00 pm Confirmation	14	15	16
17 Worship SS—TLC 2:00 pm <i>Glen Henriksen Concert @ WLC</i>	18	19	20 6:30—8:00 pm Confirmation	21	22 Items due for December newsletter	23
24 Worship / Holy Communion SS—TLC, StP	25	26	27 9:30 am Assemble newsletter 7:00 pm <i>Joint Thanksgiving Eve Worship @ St. Peter's</i>	28 	29	30 WLC— Baby shower for Jill Peterson, (wife of Josh) 10:00 am

Circle of Faith Parish
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If you are one of the many Thrivent Financial for Lutherans members who direct Choice Dollars to your congregation, we've got 15 million reasons why you will want to act now. During the Thrivent Choice® Double Direction Campaign, Thrivent will double* the amount distributed to enrolled churches. This one-time campaign lasts through Nov. 30 or until \$15 million has been awarded, whichever comes first. There's a lot of buzz about this campaign and as a result call wait times are longer than usual. We encourage you to take advantage of the online direction feature by following the instructions below.

- Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.
- Click the red "Get Started" button and log in.
- Search for your preferred organization(s)
- Choose where you'd like to direct designated Choice Dollars.

You may also call a Member Care representative at 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and when prompted, say, "Thrivent Choice."

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This is a great opportunity to get some extra Thrivent funds into your congregation. If you enroll on line you will need your Member ID or policy number. You can get that off of a premium notice or your membership card. Otherwise just give that number a call and they will help you through the process. If you don't direct your Choice Dollars by March 31, 2014, they expire and the dollars go back to Thrivent (BUT you MUST designate by November 30th to get the double Choice Dollars). This specific campaign is only for congregations and they are doubling the amount you have accumulated through Nov 30th up to \$15 million. (You receive your Choice Dollars by the eligible contracts you have with Thrivent. If you have questions on if you have any Choice Dollars and have not received any information – again call that toll free number listed above.) If I can help you understand this new program, please give me a call. Eileen Morrow 728-8774 (Trinity)