



OCTOBER 2013

PASTORS RIPPLES

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

I first want to thank all of you who attend/hosted the cottage meetings. The attendance and participation at each meeting was wonderful! I heard many things that we are doing well at and once all of the information is organized we can certainly give praise and thanksgiving for the areas we are excelling in. I also have a long list of dreams for the parish and things that we need to be improving on. These will also soon be discussed and action will be taken. At these meetings I did quite a bit of listening. From time to time, I will be sharing with you ideas that I have. The ministry that we do is a partnership; Pastor Eric and I want to work with you.

Working through our theme verse for this year, Pastor Eric's letter this month expands on two words from that verse, "Royal Priesthood." As you will read, we are all in this together; we are all priests. And as priests, we have a responsibility to care for those around us. And like he says, we are already doing this, but there is always room for improvement. This is an area where we can improve on. Plus from a very practical standpoint, your pastors need your help. Currently we have 27 people on our home communion list. People who are on this list are on it because they cannot regularly come to worship to receive communion. So the church needs to go to them. With this in mind, I have 2 requests:

Those of you who cannot come to worship regularly due to some health related issue:

Your pastors and your congregation would really like to bring communion to you on a regular basis. Our goal is to eventually have communion brought to you each month. Please know that Pastor Eric or myself will be coming on a more regular basis to visit with you and bring you communion. We hope that soon there will also be members of the congregations that will bring communion to you as well.

Those of you who can come to worship regularly:

We are all priests and are all responsible or caring for those who are in need. Currently we have 27 people in our parish that are unable to come to one of our three congregations to worship and receive Holy Communion. Since their health has created a barrier between them and coming to church, we need to go to them. Pastor Eric and I are asking for your help. If you would be interested in visiting with and bringing communion to a few of our members each month, please talk to myself or Pastor Eric. We don't want someone's health to be a barrier and the reason why they are not receiving Holy Communion.

As we enter into this joyous season of harvest and plenty, let's not forget about our neighbors.

In Christ,

Pastor Anthony

Dear fellow Priests,

We are continuing our project of thinking about who we are as individuals, as three distinct congregations (St. Peter, Trinity and Waverly) and the Circle of Faith Parish. We have been looking at this verse, I Peter 2:9, that gives four images, each one with an adjective and a noun.

- 1...Chosen Race
- 2...Royal Priesthood
- 3...Holy Nation
- 4...God's Own People

Today we look at one of them: Royal Priesthood. First of all, we are identified as royal. As Americans we don't go for royalty. Even though I was not there when the United States broke away from England to become an independent nation, I feel like I was because we became independent from the King and all the 'royal' stuff that went with it, and that is part of my identity. We believe in equality and equal opportunity with regard to the pursuit of happiness, and one person one vote. We don't believe in the idea that some people should have special privileges just because of their blood line. There is a new song I've been hearing on the pop radio stations called "Royal" by Lorde. She sings, "We will never be royals...it's not in our blood" I agree and I don't want to be. So, what do we do with this word of identification? Well, one of the words used to explain who God is and what God does is, "King". And God has a "Kingdom". God is the ruler. When the author of I Peter says we are royal he makes the point that for all practical purposes we are part of the King's bloodline. We are part of a privileged group. "We are children of the King and we should live like it.", my old preacher uncle used to bellow after saying grace before a family feast. But, as royals we have also inherited some responsibilities. We help God, the King take care of the "Kingdom". It is our place as royals to do that. Second, we are a Priesthood. In the Old Testament people would bring offerings of grains or meat to God for thanksgiving and for forgiveness. The priests were the ones who were set aside to present the offerings and burn them and they were often spoken of as a sweet aroma to the Lord. I suppose it would have smelled like a BBQ but it represented the people thanking and praising God and asking for forgiveness. That would be sweet for God. The priests also did other things to mediate between God and God's people.

Since we are priests, we can offer up our own sacrifices, we don't need a mediator. And we can be mediators for one another. We can share the word of God's forgiveness with one another, we can minister to one another. Since we are royals, we actually have this as our inherited right and obligation. It comes with being in God's family...a royal family. Of course this is all possible because Jesus gave the ultimate sacrifice and is the ultimate mediator. And, we are the body of Christ in the world. We are called to minister to the needy world in every which way we can, like Jesus did.

So, what does this mean for us here and now? Well, we became the "Circle of Faith Parish" so we could do some of it better. Some of it we do better as individuals. For example, if my neighbor needs some prayers it makes sense for me to pray for them rather than have a church meeting to discuss it and decide when and what to pray for and who should do the praying. Some of it we do better as individual congregations too, for example caring for our buildings and responding to needs in our own respective communities. Our new Parish has been born, but is not grown up. Part of the growing is to continue to define how this all fits together. That's fun! It's like a bunch of people getting together and playing with Legos or maybe even putting together a lawn sprinkler system.

In Christ,

Pastor Eric

Circle of Faith

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2013

Meeting was called to order at Trinity Lutheran Church at 6:05 pm by President Steve Williamson. Members present: Merle Burmeister, Marilyn Cheever, Jody Franck, Jon Helvig, Joel Rabbe, Kirsten Rabbe, Jon Saxen, Liz Stahl, Steve Williamson. Congregational Presidents present: Becky Detert, Trinity; Jody Franck, St. Peter; Deanne Gaalswyk, Waverly. Guests: members of congregational councils. President Steve welcomed Pr. Eric to Circle of Faith.

Pr. Eric gave devotions, based on the annunciation to Mary in Luke 1. Mary's response to the angel's announcement that she would bear a son was an open, wondering, yet accepting response: "How will this be?" Contrast this to Zachariah's not open, challenging response when the angel told him Elizabeth would have a baby: "How can I be sure of this? I'm an old man." We all struggle with times when we doubt what God has planned for us. Let us pray to be more like Mary, "This is going to be amazing, tell me more." Trust God. Enjoy the mystery of where God will take you. Circle of Faith is a little like that – at times we are trusting, at times more doubting. Pray that God will keep us open to God's possibilities as we move forward.

Kirsten Rabbe presented the Secretary's Report for the July, 2013, Parish Council meeting. Motion by Jon Helvig, seconded by Marilyn Cheever, to approve the Secretary's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Joel Rabbe presented the Treasurer's Report for July, 2013. Motion by Jon Saxen, seconded by Jody Franck, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Pastor Anthony Christoffels' Report

There will be Cottage Meetings of the parish the first 3 weeks of September. 3 meetings hosted by each church, 9 total. Four questions to be explored: What are we doing well? What would you like to see brought forward from St. Peter/Trinity/Waverly? What could we improve on? What is your dream for Circle of Faith Parish in the near and far future (from 2 to 20 years)?

Our pastoral staff will present a series of four sermons on the subject "Why Worship Matters" September 22 through October 13, 2013. Sermons will focus, one each, on the four parts of our worship service: Gathering, Word, Meal, and Sending. These will be done during the season of Pentecost, which is the teaching time of the church year, before we enter the more active time of the year.

Pr. Anthony reinforced that all scheduling for any parish or individual congregational activities must go through Lisa – call her at the Parish Office.

Pastor Eric Midthun's Report

Pr. Eric thanked Circle of Faith for their warm welcome. He is learning to balance his church work (part time) with his other work in the Cities (working with a friend in a lawn sprinkler business). Pr. Eric is enjoying working with Pr. Anthony. They have different styles but have similar goals and understandings of church, God, and theology. He has been leading Bible studies, begun visitation, helped with VBS.

OLD BUSINESS

Report on Carl Rabbe's Work with the Parish, Summer of 2013

Steve reported on exit interviews with Carl before he left, with Steve, Jon Saxen, Pr. Anthony, and congregational presidents. Overall reviews of Carl's work with us were excellent. His presence allowed Pr. Anthony ample time to make a smooth transition, while assuring parish needs were covered. Even though Carl grew up in Waverly, he was not afraid to make suggestions. He brought with him a different view, because of his experiences, and shared that knowledge with us as we learned from him. Carl did a fantastic job visiting with people, communicating what yet needs to be done. He was at every coffee at St. Peter and Trinity. Pr. Anthony mentioned that he helped create a clear picture of our shut-in and visitation situation, making it much easier for Pr. Eric as he came on board. You could tell by his sermons that he understood the vision of Circle of Faith.

In his exit interviews, Carl stressed the importance of communication between all councils and the parish. Circle of Faith has done a good job communicating, but we still could do more in staying in front of people, especially those who aren't very involved. Carl's visitation with members allowed him to fill in some of those blanks for people, and highlighted where the bar needs to be as we move forward. We are "grateful and thankful" for Carl's work with us in the summer of 2013, and wish him well as goes on to work on his PhD at Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois.

NEW BUSINESS

Visit to Watonwan River Conference by members of South African synod

Tim Peterson, Waverly member and chair of the SWMN synod's Watonwan River Conference, shared information on an upcoming visit of four women and one man from our sister diocese in southeastern South Africa. SWMN synod delegations have visited South Africa every year, and have started a lot of projects there. After the end of Apartheid, all the white farmers left rural South Africa, leaving people without farming background to learn how to manage the land. Our synod is helping their diocese learn how to use the farmland. The weekend of September 21st, three members of this delegation will be visiting our area. There will be a welcoming potluck at Waverly on Saturday, 9/22/13, at xx pm. They will also attend worship on Sunday. Tim asked if all three congregations would like to have a delegate attend their worship, so all of Circle of Faith can take part. Tim will work with the congregational presidents to work out the details. Anyone from the parish can come to Waverly for the potluck, please bring a dish to pass.

Wedding policy for Circle of Faith Parish

Discussion was held on building a joint wedding policy for all of Circle of Faith. Pr. Anthony has been working to consolidate all three congregations' wedding policies into one. He asked the Parish Council for input on the fee schedule to be adopted. Each fee suggested was not less than any member congregation's current fees.

Motion by Joe Rabbe, seconded by Liz Stahl, to adopt the attached fee schedule, to be reviewed again in one year. Motion passed.

Worship schedule/rotation – Sundays and Special Services

Pr. Anthony reported back on the congregation's input for service times. St. Peter would like to stay at the early service time, Trinity at the late service time, and Waverly would like early in the summer, and later in the school year (due to potential snow removal issues). Pr. Anthony proposed the Sunday schedule that is at the end of these minutes. (Note: Pastoral schedule for a 5th Sunday in any given month will be up to the pastors' discretion and parish needs.)

Pastor Anthony presented a worship schedule for Special Services on a three-year rotation (see attached). Mid-week Lenten Services, Thanksgiving Eve, and Church Picnic in the summer will rotate among the congregations. The schedule will honor each congregation's current Christmas Eve tradition. Easter schedule will be determined at a later date.

Motion by Kirsten Rabbe, seconded by Liz Stahl to approve the schedules as presented. Motion passed.

Home Communion Kit Purchases

Four home communion kits will be donated by a Circle of Faith Parish family for use by our pastoral staff and lay visitation ministers. There will be one kit for each congregation, and one kit for the pastoral staff.

Confirmation Curriculum

Confirmation Curriculum will be purchased by the parish, then prorated and reimbursed by the individual congregations on a per student basis.

“God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday – September 8, 2013.

The ELCA is celebrating 25 years in 2013. Sunday, September 8th has been named “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday, with each congregation being asked to do some kind of mission work together that day. Waverly Worship Committee proposed beginning a campaign to contribute to the ELCA’s Malaria Campaign, and has asked if Trinity and St. Peter would like to do the same, and share materials. This will be discussed in individual Congregational Council meetings.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be September 10, 2013, at 6:30 pm, at Trinity in Welcome.

Ending comments: President Steve commended Pastor Anthony on having items to be considered at council meetings emailed to council members ahead of time. Cliff Armbrust appreciates the open meetings. Joe mentioned that members are always invited to attend and listen, but four times a year we will have joint parish council/ congregational council meeting nights, like tonight. If any Congregational Council would like a member of the Parish Council to attend their meetings, please contact one of the pastors, and they will funnel it back to the appropriate Parish Council members.

Motion by Jon Saxen, seconded by Jon Helvig, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted, Kirsten Rabbe, Secretary

Circle of Faith Parish
Wedding Fees and Financial Policies

Basic Services	Non-Members	Members
Pastor's services *	\$235	\$135
Custodian**	\$100	\$100
Use of Sanctuary	\$25	0
Use of Church Fellowship Hall for Reception	<u>\$150</u>	<u>\$25</u>
Total	\$510	\$260
Organist/Pianist (if requested and available)	<u>\$125</u>	<u>\$125</u>
Total with organist/pianist	\$635	\$385
Deposit Required to hold the date: (to be applied toward the total balance due)	\$100 NR	\$50 R
Optional Services		
Bulletin Preparation	\$20	
Bulletin Copies	10¢/copy	
Pew Candles (St. Peter only)	\$25	
Use of Church Fellowship Hall for Rehearsal Dinner	\$150	\$25

Deposit Required to hold the date:

* Includes pre-marital counseling, on-line pre-assessment, rehearsal, and ceremony.

** Excessive cleaning if needed (as determined by 2 members of the congregation) will be billed at the rate of \$75.00/hour. Damages will be billed for the amount of repairs.

R: Deposit for Non-Members is not refundable.

NR: Deposit for Members is refundable if notice is given 30 days prior to the ceremony date.

Final Fees must be paid at the Parish Office at least seven days prior to the ceremony.

Circle of Faith

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2013

Meeting was called to order at Trinity Lutheran in Welcome at 6:30 pm by President Steve Williamson. Parish Council members present: Steve Williamson, Merle Burmeister, Marilyn Cheever (via speaker phone), Joel Rabbe, Kirsten Rabbe. Guests present: Deanne Gaalswyk, Waverly president.

Pr. Anthony gave devotions, based on 1 Peter 2:10. "Who are we?"

Kirsten presented the Secretary's Report for the August 13, 2013, Parish Council meeting. Motion by Joe, seconded by Merle, to approve the Secretary's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Joel presented the Treasurer's Report for August, 2013. Motion by Merle, seconded by Steve, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Pastors' Report

Cottage meetings were well attended, and there was great input from members. Pr. Anthony will compile information gathered and will present to Parish Council at our October meeting. Sunday Sept. 22nd, begins our worship/sermon series, "Why Worship Matters." "Growing Congregational Vitality" workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 1st, at American Lutheran in Windom, MN. Free event, since one attendee (Pr. Anthony) is under age 35. 6 pm light meal, 6:30 - 8:15 pm workshop. Let Pr. Anthony know by 9/27/13 if you plan to attend. Easter Worship schedule has been decided: Trinity – 7:00 am, followed by breakfast. St. Peter – 9:30 am, Waverly – 10:30 am. Shut-ins are receiving a copy of Pr. Anthony's sermon mailed to them with each week's bulletin.

OLD BUSINESS

Report on Visit to Watonwan River Conference by members of South African synod

On Saturday, September 21st, at 4:00 pm, 5 people from South Africa are coming to Waverly for a welcoming potluck to the Watonwan River Conference and the Southwestern Minnesota synod. Anyone from WRC is welcome to attend the potluck. Somebody from the delegation will be at each Circle of Faith congregation on Sunday, September 22nd, to worship, meet people, and raise awareness of the partnership between our synods. They will be introduced during announcements.

"Shiyane Circuit is a part of the Southeastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Southern Africa in the same way that we of Watonwan River Conference (WRC) are a part of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We have been privileged to officially have been a part of that partnership for 8 years. During that time, various people have come to Minnesota and others have gone to South Africa. Now we have the privilege of hosting 5 people from our Companion Circuit, specifically to visit in the WRC." (From WRC press release.)

NEW BUSINESS

Long Term planning: Leadership – Discernment & Development

Pr. Anthony discussed long term and short term goals for Circle of Faith. Gathered from brainstorming among the two pastors, Parish Council, and other members, he has compiled a chart laying out three years of discernment for the entire parish, and Year 1's development process – a list of short-term goals and projects for leadership and congregations to accomplish, put into a time line format. This will be an open, on-going project, seeking input from members, congregational and parish councils. Work will begin immediately on fall 2013 goals. If we want to be a Southern Minnesota beacon, we need a plan for parish organization and mission growth. At our October meeting, we will lay out a plan for congregational involvement in each portion, so we can get info to each council in a timely manner for their discussion.

Joe: "The three congregations today have more than they have ever had before. We have two pastors, we have more services than we have ever had in the life of our church. We have more to look forward to if we stick together, and work together." Discussion on bringing all members on board with the vision. If we ask people to be on a committee, they will need to know what their responsibilities will likely be. Need to leave room for the congregations and committee members to dream. President Steve: "As committee work goes, the council needs to guide them but not limit them."

Personnel Manual for Circle of Faith Parish

A committee will be formed to create a Personnel Manual for Circle of Faith Parish. Committee will consist of Pr. Anthony, the Executive Board, plus 1 member from each congregation with business employee management experience (if possible).

Sexual Harassment policy

Insurance companies are requiring that Circle of Faith congregations have a sexual harassment policy on file. Work on that will be completed as part of the Personnel Manual Committee’s work this fall.

Vacation and Personnel Contracts

Motion by Joe, seconded by Merle, that the COF staff vacation policies and contracts follow the calendar year, January 1-December 31st. Motion passed.

Fall Theological Conference attendance

Motion by Kirsten, seconded by Steve, that Circle of Faith reimburse Pr. Eric for \$85 for registration and up to \$50 per night for hotel accommodations, hotel not to exceed \$100, for the Fall Theological Conference in Mankato. Motion passed.

Chain of Command

At our November joint meeting, we will share information with everyone on chain of command for personnel issues, and other parish issues, particularly what are the parish’s responsibilities, and what remain the congregations’ responsibilities.

Time for joint meetings in the future will be 6:00 pm for Parish Council, 7:30 pm for Congregational Councils. As this meeting schedule was particularly advantageous for the pastors, allowing each to attend all four meetings on one night, the Parish Council will take under consideration increasing the number of times each year we hold joint meetings. We will respect the time parameters set for each meeting portion. All Congregational Council members will be encouraged to observe the Parish Council meeting on those nights, to increase communication and understanding.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be October 8, 2013, 6:30 pm, at Trinity in Welcome. The next joint Parish / Congregational Councils meeting will be held on November 11, 2013.

Motion by Merle, seconded by Joe, to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 pm. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirsten Rabbe
Secretary

September – May

	St. Peter Lutheran 8:30 am	Trinity Lutheran 10:30 am	Waverly Lutheran 10:30 am
<i>1st Sunday</i>	Pastor Anthony	Pastor Eric	Pastor Anthony
<i>2nd Sunday</i>	Pastor Anthony	Pastor Anthony	Pastor Eric
<i>3rd Sunday</i>	Pastor Eric	Pastor Eric	Pastor Anthony
<i>4th Sunday</i>	Pastor Eric	Pastor Anthony	Pastor Eric

A Seminarian's Letters Home — October 2013

To the membership of Circle of Faith Parish:



Greetings to you all from Evanston, IL! The school year is well underway now. Harvest is beginning, and the leaves are starting to turn. We are entering another season of the year, that of fall. We are also drawing closer to that landmark day for Lutherans, Reformation Sunday. Soon, red will adorn our altars, our vestments, and our clothing as we recall that day when Martin Luther nailed the 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg's Castle Church, unwittingly beginning what we now know as the Reformation.

A few years from now, in 2017, the ELCA will join with Lutherans around the world marking the 500th anniversary of the posting of the theses. Between now and then, in prayer, in song, and in the constant proclamation of the good news, we will remember Luther, Melancthon, and the many others who staked all they had to preach the message they had found in Scripture, the message that God's grace is a completely free gift to all of us, a gift that has no price tag, and no strings attached. That grace is still here among us today, marked on us in baptism, and in Christ, is making us all anew. That is the message we share each Reformation Sunday. For that, and for all the ways in which God continually acts to reform us all here and now, thanks be to God.

As we travel toward Reformation Sunday, let us pray for God's blessing, using these words:

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, comfort and protect them in times of trial, defend them from all enemies of the Gospel, and bestow upon your church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. [ELW, Reformation Sunday]

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.



ORGAN CONCERT to the Glory of God and the 'pipes'

Sunday, October 13 @ 4:30 pm. Jayson Enguist, of St. Paul, a graduate of Fairmont High School is giving an organ concert at St. Martin Episcopal Church, 102 N Park Fairmont, MN. They are re-dedicating their church organ. Free-will offering — reception following.

A Past interim Gerry Giese; just letting everyone know that I have begun a
NOTE new interim at Community Lutheran Geneva...CLC is my 11th interim.
FROM: I pray that all is well with each of you....
my new address is... giesecommunitylutheran@frontier.com

ST. PETER RIPPLES

Dear WELCA members,



As I write this it is chilly, a reminder autumn is here. As you read this the farmers may be harvesting. We give thanks for the crops being harvested and we pray for safety for all farmers and agriculture people.

We will meet Wed. Oct 2 at 1:30 at church. Hostesses are Shirley and Muriel.

As of Sept 20th Sherry reported \$2698.73 in the treasury.

Twenty four school kits and twenty quilts will be sent soon to LWR. Thank you to all who helped with this.

Suggestions for the coming year's schedule are welcome. Talk to any board member or bring ideas to the meeting.

The Fall Gathering is Sat. Oct 5th at Trinity in Sleepy Eye. See poster at church for further details. Jan Turner from Willmar, who lost her limbs to an illness will speak about her hope, determination and courage to live a full life. Hope it will work for many of us to attend.

Group 2 will have the next work group. Jeannine has Altar Care.

Happy Birthday to Charlotte Schmidtke on the 25th.

Remember the five simple rules to be happy.

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries.
3. Live simply
4. Give more
5. Expect less.

Blessings, Janice

USHERS:	
Oct. 6	LeRoy and Janice Franck
Oct. 13	Larry W Schmidt and Larry R Schmidt
Oct. 20	Bernice Lehmann and Sherry Schmidt
Oct. 27	Shirley Schmidt and Jeannine Rasmussen
Nov. 3	Gene and Annette Yackle

TRINITY RIPPLES

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting – Sept 11, 2013

Meeting called to order by Vice President Phil Burgess.

Members present: Pastor Eric, Wes Strausser. Eileen Morrow, Merle Burmeister, Starr Spiegler, and Liz Stahl.

Opening devotions by Pastor Eric.

Pastor's report. None

Secretary's Report Reviewed. Clarification on the confirmation fees - Each congregation will pay their appropriate share of the curriculum fees based on the percentage of students attending from their church.

Treasurer's Report - Reviewed.

Financial Secretary Report –Reviewed.

TWELCA – none

Youth & Board of Ed –Sunday school will start on the 15th with installation of teachers and presenting bibles to the 2nd and 7th grade classes.

Deacon's Report – going good.

Trustee's report- Visited with the neighbor to the east of the church about parking. No problems.

Wes moved to approve the reports, Liz seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Cottage meetings are going well.

Discussion was held on installing a new water line from the west. It currently runs through the old parsonage to the east of the church.

New Business:

Discussion was held on President Becky Detert's resignation.

Next meeting: October 9th at 8 p.m. (NOTE TIME CHANGE due to confirmation classes)

Starr moved to adjourn, Eileen seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 with Lord's Prayer.

Eileen Morrow, Secretary



TWELCA — I am very sorry to have neglected our General ALCW meetings this past summer. I had Dr's visits etc. and couldn't get the meetings etc all done. We are hoping to get caught up by having a **TWELCA meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 2nd @ 9:30 am.** Some very important items need to be discussed, including our Christmas Guest Day on Dec. 4th. So please, do try to be at the church on the 2nd at 9:30 for this meeting. Hannah Circle serves lunch etc. See you on the 2nd—Connie

OCTOBER

USHERS

COMMUNION

6	Jon and Jen Saxen	S-John Frerichs	H-Jon Saxen
13	Dallas and Tami Rasmussen Family		
20	Tim and Liz Stahl Famil		
27	Norm Schley and Delano Bergemann	S-Jon Saxen	H-John Frerichs

NOVEMBER

3	Larry and Deb Philipp Family	S-Velma Schaal	H-Bob Moffitt
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WAVERLY RIPPLES



From the Presidents Desk -

Fall harvest is moving into high gear and our lives are busy gathering the fruits of our labor. This is a special time of year when we receive the rewards from the land. When Pastor Eric spoke about the *Canticle of Praise* portion of our service as thanking God for all the blessings that He pours out onto us, it reminded me of Thankoffering Service and Thanksgiving. I am jumping ahead one month I know, but I wanted to share my thoughts on this. When we receive a thank you, whether by mail, email, or in person, it makes the day brighter and our steps lighter. To be appreciated and recognized makes us feel special and validated. Feeling this way makes us more likely to pass it on to those that we encounter. How many times have you felt gratitude and did not take the opportunity to say thank you? Maybe we thought that the person must know how we feel, so it is not necessary to express it out loud. That may be the case, but everyone still likes to hear the words. The people that need to hear our thanks the most, but probably hear it the least, are our families. When was the last time you said thank you to your spouse or children, grandchildren, etc. Even if it was something small, it still deserves recognition.

I challenge you to set a goal for yourself in October. See how many times a day you can find a chance to say thank you. If you want to keep a record, you may be surprise to find out how easy it becomes. You may even realize that not only are you making someone's day brighter, but you feel better also.

So give it a try and see where it may lead. Remember to include God in your thanksgiving. After all, our reasons for thanksgiving begins with Him! As one of my mother's favorite hymns says, "*Count your blessings, name them one by one!*"

Your fellow traveler, *Deanne Gaalswyk*, Waverly's President

REFORMATION RED

Remember last spring when we all found something red to wear on Pentecost Sunday? It is time to find that red something again for Reformation Sunday on October 27th. These are the two "Red"



Sunday's in our church year. And, how appropriate! Red is the color associated with the Holy Spirit, whose coming we celebrated on Pentecost. It is this same Holy Spirit that was in the middle of Martin Luther's life as he sorted out our relationship with God and the same Holy Spirit with us today as we too

continue to follow the ways of Jesus. Let's all find something "Red" to wear as we celebrate the Holy Spirit guiding Martin Luther AND our lives too.



Quilt work days in October are the 8th and 9th

READER

ACOLYTE

USHERS:

October 6 Mary Lou Sherman

Kendra/Daniel Helvig

Irwin Atzenhoefer, Brad

October 13 Lynette Shaw

Heidi/Brian Clow Family

Sherman, Phil Bettin

October 20 Emily Bettin

Lindsey Bettin

Cliff Armbrust, Todd

October 27 Rosemary Atzenhoefer

Muriel/Al Armbrust

Rathman



Starting in October—Waverly Sunday school is only going to be the first 2 Sundays of each month throughout the year.



A HUGE THANK YOU!!!! Thank you to all of you who made the 2013 Waverly Harvest Homecoming so special. To all the Waverly members who helped in their usual selfless and generous way, to the Circle of Faith members who came and were an extra set of hands on Saturday and Sunday; the day was special because of YOU! We are so blessed to be able to count on so many to give their gifts of time, food, machinery, animals and education. All of you worked so hard! Again this year's celebration was a treat for all who attended, and a blessing for those who gave to it. It amazes us each time how fulfilling and loving the day becomes as we all gather in His name. May the Lord bless all of you again, thank you.

Karen and Jon Helvig, Steve and Marleone Williamson, Joe and Kirsten Rabbe, Belva Peterson



Harvest Homecoming pics



Reflections on our second Harvest Homecoming at Waverly

by Pat Derry, Director of Families and Faith Formation

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minnesota

September 15, 2013

Gloria Dei's 2013 third grade trip to Waverly was all the more anxiously awaited because of the marvelous experience the families had the year before! One mother commented, "I asked our friends who had come the year before if they recommended the trip, and the answer I received was, "This is the most fun you will have all fall!" And it was true!

Like all adventures, it included a challenge. Families pulled up to Gloria Dei at 7:15 am, only to see one of our two motor coaches bottomed out on the entrance to the parking lot. The back tires of the bus spun off the ground! Not even a tow truck could budge the huge bus. But we were not left stranded - we filled the Gloria Dei van, a car, and every seat on the first bus. Thanks to our trusty friend, Jim Johnson, who offered to drive the van, everyone arrived happily to our friends in Trimont, MN.

As we approached Waverly Lutheran from the main road, we were greeted by a new sight! Waverly has installed a beautiful church quilt on the side of the building – the Waverly Harvest Star filled with symbolism tying the rich agricultural life of the community to their life of faith. And of course the welcoming faces of our hosts were awaiting our arrival! No sooner had our third graders stepped off the bus when they were warmly received by their Buddy families. Exciting farm equipment and large tents surrounded the church – a promise of things to come! But our first steps were into the sanctuary for worship!

The children were initiated into the Waverly community when they each received a large handkerchief, which they were instructed to tuck into their back pocket. At the given moment, the kids pulled out their hankie, wiped their brow, and said in unison, "Whew! Just another Waverly day!" Gloria Dei kids agreed – they would be excited for another Waverly day! Worship was specially crafted to involve the children, including the sermon where manna (popcorn) rained from the heavens to feed the hungry children of Israel. We sang the lovely song "Good Soil" which we learned from Lizzy, and were also blessed by the choir who sang a beautiful, touching benediction.

After worship we were treated to a delicious warm meal, complete with fresh roasted corn and a table filled to overflowing with every imaginable type of homemade bar! We feasted in the large tent before the church bell called us to explore the other activities that were carefully planned and awaited us. Gloria Dei families learned about modern farming. Alongside the church, tractors from the 1940s were dwarfed by new technology-driven farm machinery. And not only did we learn about the machinery, but the kids were invited to climb and crawl over the farm equipment – a favorite experience for many! Other children were attracted to the animals: riding horses, holding the baby chicks, and petting the sweet Jersey calf or sheep. Jumping in the hay bales was super-fun, and other children said that the hay ride was their favorite part of the day! There was something fun for everyone!

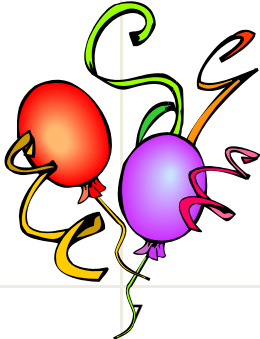
When it was time to gather dened. The day had gone so with gift bags and caps, with children of Waverly charter nesses of sharing an amazing, We thank our Waverly bud- ous spirits, for sharing their coming us as family. You are faith – for God and for oth- bottom of our hearts!



and say goodbye, we were sad- fast! The children were blessed the stories of fifth-generation members, and with the happi- inspiring day with new friends. dies for their warm and gener- faith and their life, and for wel- models for us of living your ers! Thank you, from the



October 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Charleen Swanson Norma Schley MaryAnn Frerichs	4 Ron Schock Kathleen Klug <i>Michael and Tina Schultz Aline and Caleb Wilking</i>	5
6	<i>Sandy and Tom McKean</i>	8 Gayle Odegaard Liz Rabbe Liz Stahl <i>Vic and Diane Abelson</i>	9 Jodi Lueth	10	11 Charles Armbrust Laurie Sherman	12 Vicki Smith
13	14 Maxine Cassem	15	16	17 Taylor Jorgenson	18 Jon Saxen Donald Saxen <i>Ralph and Maureen Stanton - 10</i>	19 Brian Rahm
20	21	22 Jacob Melson	23	24 Kathy Johnson	25 Gary Roeker Charlotte Schmidtke <i>Susan and Todd Rathman—10</i>	26 Calvin Schultze
27 Amy Feely	28	29	30 Kelley Bettin Kiley Bettin Lola Lueth Millie Wohlhuter <i>Bill and Nancy Steele</i>	31 Joyce Sathoff Dana Dettmer Jackie Frerichs Charles Rahm		

October 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 WLC—7pm Mary Circle	2 TLC—9:30 am TWELCA StP 1:30 pm WELCA WLC—1:30 pm Dorca @ TSL 6:30 pm @ TLC Confirmation	3	4	5
6 Worship Holy Communion Sunday school (WLC)	7	8 WLC Quilt Work Day 6:30 pm Parish Council Mtg @ TLC	9 TLC—9:00 am Hannah/Elizabeth WLC Quilt Work Day 6:30 pm @ TLC Confirmation TLC—8 pm Council meeting	10	11	12
13 Worship Sunday school (St. P & WLC)	14	15	16 NO Confirmation MEA	17	18	19
20 Worship Sunday school	21	22 Deadline For November Newsletter	23 6:30 pm @ TLC Confirmation	24	25	26
27 Worship Holy Communion Sunday school (St.P)	28	29	30 9:30 am Assemble Newsletter @ TLC 6:30 pm @ TLC Confirmation	31 		

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