

Wangen Prairie News

Volume 3, Number 4

April, 2009

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OFFICE HOURS

TUESDAY 10:30-2:30

THURSDAY 10:30-2:30

OR BY APPOINTMENT

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Organist: Prudy Busch



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The In-Between Times

The earth in Minnesota is in the in-between times. No longer winter but not quite spring. Not much snow but not much grass either. The geese fly north but the birds are not yet building nests. The robins huddle on branches and wait for the ground to thaw. The goats are getting rounder but not yet ready to kid. We are in the in-between times. On the other side of the in-between time is new life in the trees and meadows.

In the church year we are also in the in-between times. We journey through Lent with our eyes and hearts toward the cross and Easter - but we are not there yet. We know how the story will turn out but that does not lessen the anticipation of being through with Lent. On the other side of this in-between time is life in a new church year.

As we enter Holy Week and the Three Days, Jesus is in the in-between time too. His face is set toward Jerusalem and he longs to save the people he loves. He will enter into the last days not fully knowing what the outcome will be but he will not raise a hand to change the will of the people. He will die so that we can understand the love that God has for each of us. He will care for us even with his last breath and enter into death. Jesus will trust the love of God and the promise of God's favor and freely die for you. On the other side of the in-between time is life eternal.

You and I are in the in-between times too. We live in faith and in hope and wait with anticipation to see with our eyes what we live in faith. This is our time on earth to live our lives fully, completely and in trust for the promise we know in Christ – the promise lived from our baptism and by the power of the Holy Spirit. In this place we can live fearlessly. Here we boldly tell of this good news until on the other side of this in-between time, we will see clearly what we now hold in faith.

Thanks be to God! Pastor Joy

Foot washing

Prepare for foot washing on Maundy Thursday. Because foot washing is a personal thing, do not feel obligated to come forward during the service. If you choose to, wear shoes and socks that are easily removed. Maundy Thursday reminds us that our Lord came to us as a servant, taking on the lowest task – even the task of a slave, to show how much we are loved and how we are to live in the world.

Needed for Good Friday

For the Tenebrae service on Good Friday I need 7 pillar candles (for each of the readings). They do not have to match, just be big enough to stand alone.

Baker wanted

We wait with excitement to celebrate the feast of communion on Easter morning. To add to its festive feel, would anyone like to bake a loaf of bread to be the body of Christ?

To add to the newsletter, announcements for the bulletin, and to add or delete names on the prayer list, contact

Ona Sheets

Phone: 507-263-2852

E-mail: osheets@frontiernet.net

Wangen Prairie Council Meeting — February 19, 2009

Meeting opened with prayer. Brian Hale, Thrivent representative from Pine Island, talked to us about possibilities for our proceeds from the parsonage sale. He distributed hand-outs and concluded. More on a following discussion later in the minutes.

Secretary's report read and approved.

Treasurer's report distributed, reviewed and approved. Specific funds discussed. We have a summer camp fund, a piano fund, a parament fund, as well as money in memory of Russ Clevenger that Pastor and Dawn will use for altar tables of their choice.

Deacons report: List needed for ministry donations each month. Deacons will meet to make and share such a list.

Trustees report:

Estimate for outdoor lights discussed. We have one, which is about \$3000. Need another.

Motion made and approved to give \$14,000 to the synod for ministries and \$5000 to Pastor Joy for her education debt.

Decision made to stay with Thrivent for investments and advice.

Motion made and approved to set \$47,000 as the amount for investments with Thrivent. A resolution regarding this needs to be approved at a congregational meeting. Ona and Larry will take care of this, with Brian Hale.

Motion made and approved to give \$200 from the summer camp fund to Carl for this summer. More information later from Pastor Joy and/or Carl.

Pastor's report: During Lent, her days will be **Wed.**, **Thursday** and Sundays.

Requested that a sewing day be set to work on the altar clothes.. a **Sunday** afternoon? An effort will be made to get them ready by Easter. There is an offer from Lori Pasch as to the embroidery.

Easter week services will be a Maundy **Thursday** Communion service at 5:30 pm, and a Good **Friday** prayer service, also at 5:30 pm. There is also a **Saturday** night Easter vigil at St. Olaf for any interested.

Easter Lilies for altar? Deb Davisson offered to take care of the sign-ups, purchasing, etc.

Wednesday night soup serving to be discussed at **Sunday** morning coffee. Lenten Services will be a 5:30, with soup following.

Future council meetings will be held at this time, 6:00 pm, the third Thursday of the month.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Beckman, recording secretary.

Wangen Prairie Council Meeting — March 12, 2009

Larry called the meeting to order and Pastor Joy led us in prayer.

There were no minutes from our last meeting.

Treasurer's Report: : read and approved

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Joy reported that there will be a workshop. "Councils as Leader" held on March 29 at 2:00-4:45 in Owatonna. Any council member wishing to go should contact her to make arrangements to go

The National Day of Prayer will be May 7, at St. Ansgars 7:00 pm

The annual synod assembly will be held May 1-2. The Theme this year is "Peace and Justice" Registrations are due by April 24

She volunteered Wangen Prairie to act as host of the Global Day of Prayer to be held March 5, 2010.

Paraments are in progress: The material has been purchased, they are cut out and ready for embroidery work. They then need to be hemmed. The first should be ready for Easter.

Continued →

March Minutes Continued

Old Business: We have had discussions about a congregational garden. Now would be the time to make plans if we are going to do something this year. It was decided that we would start small this year and just do a container garden. Pastor Joy volunteered to head up the project and will be looking for volunteers interested in helping her.

A motion was made and passed to designate loose offerings during the mid-week Lenten service to the Local Food Shelf.

New Business: The local Pregnancy Center will be having their annual “Walk for Life” May 9. Material is available if anyone is interested in participating.

We have asked the trustees to mount the white board to the back of the chalk board.

A motion was made and approved to give the Praise and Worship team a thank-you gift of \$200.

Deacon’s Report: The Deacons recommended the following schedule for special offerings for the coming year.

April	New Beginnings	October	Good Samaritan Fund
May	Cemetery Association.	November	World Hunger
June	ECHO	December	Metro Hope
July	Lutheran Braille	January	Red Wing Women’s Shelter
August	Caring & Sharing Hands	February	Pastor K.K.
September	Thrivent Builds	March	Food Shelf

A motion was made and approved to accept the above list.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully Submitted
Ona Sheets, Acting Secretary

I thank God for you!

To the members of Wangen Prairie – I thank God for your kindness. The gift of money toward my debt retirement was generous and very much appreciated. It gives me the ability to relax a little about my future and focus on pastoring a congregation that I have come to love.

Peace be with you! Pastor Joy

“SWAP”

As an effort to encourage us all to reduce, reuse and recycle it might be fun to list your items here.

Call me at 263-2852 or email me at osheets@frontiernet.net to have your

A Pig Story

A teacher was reading the story of the Three Little Pigs to her class.

She came to the part of the story where the first pig was trying to gather the building materials for his home. She read, "And so the pig went up to the man with the wheelbarrow full of straw and said: 'Pardon me sir, but may I have some of that straw to build my house?'"

The teacher paused then asked the class: "And what do you think the man said?"

One little boy raised his hand and said very matter-of-factly, "I think the man would have said, 'Well, what do ya know?! A talking pig!'"

Faith Journeys

Our first Journey will be a series of articles from Joyce Sheets

A Healing Journey—Part 2 “Following the Road Ahead

by Joyce Sheets

John 12:35,36 Jesus said to them. "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness *may* not over take you. If you walk in darkness you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, Believe In The Light, so that you *may* become children of the light".

This light of God has helped me in my healing journey. God's Healing Light!! is there to show me the way and give me a stronger faith in Him;. for me to trust in Him totally. Do you remember the **Sunday**, Wangen Prairie church gave out money to us all to do with what ever we chose to do with it? Some people baked cookies, breads and made bird houses. I bead, making bracelets, earrings, beading pictures of Eagles into small pouches for necklaces. That is one small bead after one small bead until the bag is done taking weeks sometimes. Instead of trying to sell them, I ended up giving my works away to special people. It was Mothers Day. The women of the Praise & Worship team received my beadings.

A two day retreat was held for both churches (Tools to help me change) I used my \$100 to go to the retreat, This was to better myself. -I had a lot of dislike towards my Mother and I wanted to change that.. I met Renay Ingledew, the retreat was at Renay`s home in Sogan Valley. Many women from other churches were there. I knew only one person. Diane Allmann was our teacher and she talked about the Labyrinth, an ancient symbol, a divine imprint, found in various forms in all cultures and religious traditions all around the world. Walking this spiral-designed Footpath offers people the opportunity for prayer, meditation and simply being with God.. It is a tool to guide healing, deepen self-knowledge and empower creativity. It is not a maze that dead ends, but rather a slow spiral path of prayer-a whole body prayer-that leads you to the center and out again.. I thought, "OH YA!! what will this do for me?" But as I walked in and around the circle, stopping , thinking and praying- I got closer to the center. As I entered the center, GOD had my attention. God`s Warm Bright Healing Light was now on me!!! I stayed for a short time and walking back out I was so at peace with myself.

Journaling has always been part of my life since I was young, so I felt comfortable with journaling. That afternoon we all walked up on the highest hill in Sogan Valley where GOD told me (Rejection) as I journaled at the picnic table. "My Father worked on road construction black topping the roads between Two Harbors and Grand Marais on highway 61 in northern Minnesota. I had felt Rejection from my Mother when I started first grade. I stayed with my Grama Tripp (this was so I would not have to change schools so many times during the school year). This was good,--but did my Mother tell me why? This I do not remember. I held this inside of me; and it blocked me from any love Mom showed me and many things I should have remembered. I did not feel love from my Mother tho she loved me very much to leave me behind to go to first grade, an important time in my life."

Continued next month-----

Words of Wisdom: *Be kinder than necessary because everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.*

If you get a second chance, grab it with both hands. If it changes your life, let it. Nobody said life would be easy, they just promised it would be worth it.

Easter Morning should prove to be both beautiful and fragrant. The following is a list of plants purchased as memorials to be place in the church on Easter morning. It should be spectacular!

Begonia given in memory of Laura Ann Beckman
by Don and Linda Beckman

Begonia given in memory of Nifton and Amanda Beckman
by Larry and Marleen Beckman

Easter Lily given in memory of John Halvor Beckman
by Shirley Beckman

Cyclamen given in memory of Russ Clevenger
by Dawn and Dayton Clevenger

Hibiscus given in memory of Floyd and Alice Becksted
Potted Bulb garden given in memory of Louie Davisson
by Dave and Deb Davisson

Easter Lily given in memory of Arnold and Marian Flakne,
Donald Flakne, and Marlis (Flakne) Erickson
by Jim and Jean Flakne

Easter Lily, Potted Bulb garden, and Kalanchoe given in memory of my Grandparents,
and all those who have gone before us. In honor of Carl.
by Pastor Joy

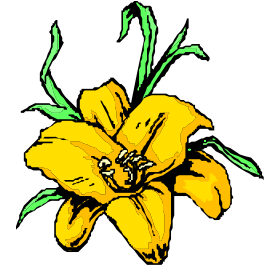
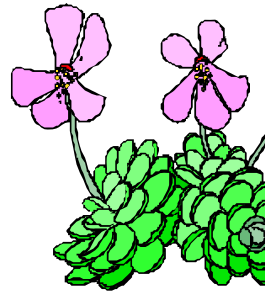
Easter Lily given in memory of Orrin and Thelma Eglund (parents)
and Christ and Karina Gilje (Grandparents)
by Arlene Hernke

Hibiscus given in memory of Jim and Junice Goudy
Begonia given in memory of Burnett Johnson
by Dave and Jean Kapp

Potted Tulip given in memory of her Mother, Muriel Cowell
by Joyce Sheets

Kalanchoe given in memory of their parents Herman and Dorthy Meyer and Wayne and Muriel Sheets.
by Gary and Ona Sheets

Potted Tulip and Cyclamen given in memory of Pastor George Thompson
by Frances Thompson and Tom and Lori Pasch



Election

The kids in the neighborhood held an election.
The grownups were astonished that a four-year-old had been elected president.
"That boy must be a born leader," one Dad observed. "How does is it that all you bigger boys voted for him?"
"Well, you see Dad," one lad replied. "He cannot very well be secretary because he doesn't know how to write. He would not do for treasurer because he is not able to count. He would never do for sergeant- at-arms because he is too little to throw anybody out. If we did not choose him for anything, he would feel bad. So we made him president."



MARCH READINGS & LAY READERS & COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Date	1 st Reading	Psalm	2 nd Reading	Gospel	Lay Reader	Communion Asst.
Apr 5	Isaiah 50: 4-9a	Psalm 31: 9-16	Philippians 2: 5-11	Mark 14: 1— 15:47	Dale Lilleskov	On Sheets & Jeanne Kapp
Apr 12 Easter	Isaiah 25: 6-9	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Mark 16:1-8	Linda Beckman	Roger & Joyce Sheets
Apr 19	Acts 4:32-35	Psalm 133	1 John1: 1-2	John 20: 16-31	Marleen Beckman	Larry & Marleen Beckman
Apr 25	Isaiah 52: 7-10	Psalm 57	2 Timothy 4:6-11	Mark 1:1-15	Audrey McKeag	

WILL YOU HELP?

****Set up Communion****

****Clean the Church****

(Vacuum, Dust, empty garbage, check paper towels, toilet paper etc.)

Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board

WELCA
Mission Circle Quilting
April 1 - 1:30 pm at church
BIBLE STUDY—
date change April 25 , 1:30 pm

*During the season of Lent,
Pastor Joy's office hours will change.*

OFFICE HOURS
WEDNESDAY 10:30-2:30
THURSDAY 10:30-2:30
OR BY APPOINTMENT

Going to be a BIRTHDAY PARTY!

Saturday, April 18th, 2009 Potluck Bluegrass/Fun Day at Wangen Prairie Luther Church 34344 Co. 24 Blvd. Time: Noon, April 18th 2009. Please bring a dish to pass, and your instruments, listen to music, or just come and visit and help Gene Schiell Celebrate his

A Psych Funny

John went to a psychiatrist: "I've got problems. Every time I go to bed, I think there's somebody under it. I'm scared. I think I'm going crazy."

"Just put yourself in my hands for one year," said the shrink.

"Come talk to me three times a week, and we should be able to get rid of those fears."

"How much do you charge?" John asked warily.

"Each visit is \$150," replied the doctor.

"Well, I'll sleep on it."

Six months later the doctor bumped into John on the street:

"Why didn't you ever come to see me about those fears you were having?"

"Well, one hundred and fifty bucks a visit three times a week for a year is an awful lot of money! A friend at work cured me for nothing. I was so happy to have saved all that money that I went and bought myself a new pickup!"

"Is that so?! And how, may I ask, did your friend cure you?"

"He told me to cut the legs off the bed!"

today'sTHOT=====

Not only do I not know what's going on, but I wouldn't know what to do about it if I did.

APRIL 2009

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 6-7 am Men's Bible Study – Urland 1:30 Mission Circle (Quilting) 5:30 pm Lent Service – soup/bread Following service	2 9:30 am Bible Study 5:45 pm Lectio Divina 7 p.m.,- Bluegrass Jam	3	4
5 PALM SUNDAY 8:00 Choir Practice 9:00 Worship/Comm 10:00 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School	6	7	8 6-7 am Men's Bible Study – Urland	9 9:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service/Communion	10 5:30 pm – Good Friday Service	11
12 EASTER 9:00 Worship/Comm 10:00 BRUNCH	13	14	15 6-7 am Men's Bible Study – Urland	16 9:30 am Bible Study 5:45 pm Lectio Divina 6:00 pm Church Council 7 p.m.,- Bluegrass Jam	17	18
19 8:00 Choir Practice 9:00 Worship/Comm 10:00 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School Adult Forum	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22 6-7 am Men's Bible Study – Urland	23 9:30 am Bible Study 5:45 pm Lectio Divina 7 p.m.,- Bluegrass Jam	24	25 1:30 pm WELCA Bible study (at the church)
26 9:00 Worship <i>Praise & Worship Team</i> 10:00 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School Adult Forum	27	28	29 6-7 am Men's Bible Study – Urland	30 9:30 am Bible Study 5:45 pm Lectio Divina 7 p.m.,- Bluegrass Jam		

Wangen Prairie Lutheran Church
34289 County 24 Blvd
Cannon Falls, MN 55009

We're on the Web!
www.wangenprairie.org

Hearing, Believing, and Serving God



A prayer...
for the Lord's blessings
in your life.



Weekly Church Schedule

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 Worship Service

10:00 Fellowship

10:30 Sunday School—Adult Forum

Bible Studies

Thursday 9:30 a.m. Bible Study

Thursday 5:45 p.m.- Lectio Divina

7:00 p.m. Blue Grass Music

Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday Service

With Communion

April 9 — 5:50 pm

Good Friday Service

April 10 — 5:30 pm

Easter Sunday

Worship—(Regular time) 9:00 am

