

PASTOR PETE'S PONDERINGS

Good news! Prayers answered! Pastor Pete returned to his home in Watertown Wednesday, July 20 and is recuperating following an extended stay in the hospital. As you are aware, Pastor Pete had surgery in Sioux Falls July 12 to repair an aneurysm. He anticipates having a pace maker installed in the near future. Our prayers continue to be with him for renewed strength, healing and encouragement. If you wish to send a card, his home address is 111 4th Ave. SW, Watertown, SD 57201. We await his return to Badger and Trinity Lutheran Churches.

If there is a need for pastoral ministry before his return, you are encouraged to call an area pastor, or call the office at 785-3277, and the secretary will contact a pastor for you.

NALC Reaches 100,000-Member Milestone

The North American Lutheran Church has reached the significant milestone of 100,000 members. The NALC passed the 100,000-member mark in June —two months before its first anniversary.

The NALC is now among the largest third of Lutheran church bodies in the world. The Lutheran World Federation has 145 member churches in 79 countries. The NALC is already larger than 96 of those church bodies.

The NALC is also the sixth largest Lutheran church body in the United States. The church body has been experiencing rapid growth since it was constituted August 27, 2010. Since the NALC was constituted, more Lutheran congregations have joined the NALC than any other Lutheran church body in the United States. The NALC reached the 100-congregation milestone in January and the 200-church milestone in May.

The Executive Council has formally received 212 member congregations during the NALC's first ten months of existence. At least 23 additional congregations have passed resolutions indicating their intention to join the NALC upon completion of their departure from their current church body.

Largest Lutheran Church Bodies in North America:

North American Lutheran Church	100,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada	148,863
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ	310,495
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod	389,545
The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod	2,400,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	4,543,037

(Statistics — other than those for the NALC and LCMC — are from a February 14, 2011, report by the Lutheran World Federation.)

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: Thursday, July 7, 2011 – 8:00 P.M.
Devotions: Gerry Koisti

Members Present: Don Thue, Dan Koistinen, Gerry Koisti, Brandy Aho, Dave Carlson, Harlan Olson, Pastor Peterson; **Members Absent:** Rusty Antonen, David St. John, Mary Pekas

Secretary's Report: Don Thue made a motion to approve and Harlan Olson seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report: Brandy Aho moved to approve the report and Gerry Koisti seconded it.

Committee Reports:

Christian Education: Vacation Bible School went well and the kids did a great job at the July community church service.

Property: Shingles need replacing at parsonage. Gerry Koisti motioned to get bids and Dan Koistinen seconded. Ad will be submitted to the Herald Enterprise for 2 weeks announcing seeking bids. Fill for by the new sidewalk chunk was talked about.

Old Business: None

New Business:

For the next 3 Sunday's (July: 17, 24, 31) people are needed to give the sermon and lead worship. People's names were mentioned and Shirley will contact to see if they would be interested in doing this.

Lutheran Seminary in Brookings is putting an evangelism course together online for congregations free of charge. Pastor is gathering some more information and we will discuss watching this online.

Adjournment: Dan Koistinen moved to adjourn and Don Thue seconded.

Next meeting: August 4, 2011

Devotions: Harlan Olson

~ Brandy Aho, Secretary

Facing Temptation 101

A mom and her young son were walking through a mall when she suggested they go into a toy store to buy a birthday gift for the boy's friend.

"No, Mommy, I can't go in there," he protested. "I'll see something I want and can't have. Then I'll cry. So it's just better if I don't go in."

Temptation wasn't yet in this boy's vocabulary, but he sure knew what it was. More impressively, he knew what to do about it.

Follow the boy's example: Don't put yourself into vulnerable positions in the first place. For "The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matthew 26:41b, NRSV).

~ The NewsletterNewsletter

News From the Food Pantry

Please note that the Food Pantry no longer accepts used clothing or other household items.

Donations of nonperishable food items are appreciated so much! Because of your faithfulness, the Food Pantry has been able to help many needy families.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2 Harry Anderson
 3 Roy Hauschildt
 3 Darren Kastein
 3 Gunner St. John
 5 Mary Pekas
 5 Kiana Sowers
 6 Chad Pedersen
 9 Ryan Pedersen
 10 Emily Antonen
 10 Brady Jager
 13 Leona Kretzschmar
 15 Donald Anderson, Jr.
 16 Ronald Glaim
 16 Theresa Hauschildt
 22 Odell Jager
 26 Terry Hauschildt
 28 Doris Koisti
 28 Charles Strande
 29 Aaron Swanson
 30 Roberta Pedersen



Happy Birthday!

Tuesdays with Morrie

A movie with a message and discussion: An old man, a young man, and life's greatest lesson. Mitch rediscovers his old dying professor, Morrie. Their rekindled relationship turns into one final 'class'; lessons in how to live and how to die.

August 23, 2011

Register by calling 605-882-7714
 Prairie Lakes, Watertown



PRAYER CONCERNS...

- All who are recovering from surgery or illness
- Children, youth and staff preparing for the school year
- NALC; Bishop Paull Spring and Staff
- Lutheran Core and NALC Convocation Events
- Pastor Peterson - recovering from surgery

LifeLight Music Festival

The LifeLight family fun event will be held September 2-4 at Worthing, 12 miles south of Sioux Falls. Check out the poster in the narthex for pictures of the featured artists. For more information go to: www.LifeLight.org.

Upcoming Events

The **Lutheran CORE Convocation** will be held August 9, followed by a Theological Conference August 10-11.

The **North American Lutheran Church Convocation** will be held August 11—12. A new bishop will be elected along with other leadership positions. Pastor Randy Eisenbeisz from Hayti is a nominee for the Executive Council.

Please remember these meetings in your prayers. These events will be held in Ohio. Check for updates on their web site: www.thenalc.org.

The **Quilt Auction** to raise money for Lutherans Outdoors (LO) camping ministry will be held Saturday, August 27, 1 P.M. at Joy Ranch. Quilts for sale may soon be viewed on their website: www.losd.org. While on the LO website, click on LO videos (orange splash of color), then click on NeSo-Dak or Joy Ranch for a quick trip to camping experiences in our area.



Keeping in Touch With Youth

Do you have a son, daughter, or a grandchild going off to college, vocational school, or working away from home this fall? Please help us keep in touch with them by providing information requested below.

Name _____

School (or Job) _____

Mailing address: _____

Evangelism Corner

Where to Find Rest

“Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28

Do we become weary and heavy laden today? There's no doubt about it. We mourn at the grave of a loved one or a friend. Family issues give us anxiety. We have financial problems. We are concerned about our health. Advancing years take their toll on us. We are troubled by guilty consciences and the burden of sin. We would like to escape it all.

The psalmist speaks for us: “Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest! (Psalm 55:6). Despair is right at hand to cast us down and separate us from God. Despair is a sin unto eternal death.



Come to me all who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest.

“Come to Me,” Jesus said, “and I will give you rest.” He understands our earthly struggles. He was “a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief” (Isaiah 53:3). He understands our spiritual struggles. He was “tempted as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15). In Him is hope and help. No need to despair. Through the cross and resurrection

of Jesus, our sins are forgiven, gone “as far as the east is from the west” (Psalm 103:12). The rest he gives is not a comfortable pillow. His rest is to be renewed, refreshed, and strengthened for the task, for the cross, for death and resurrection.

**O God, give us rest
in the midst of all our struggles.
In Jesus' name. Amen.**

*(Portals of Prayer, March 2011)
~ Submitted by Evangelism Committee*

In Our Prayers For August

With joy, we can intercede for people and situations beyond our own families and friends, and God hears our prayers. Praying for others is another way of helping our church by simply asking the Lord to bless them. People remembered in prayer this month are the following:

August 7: Jimmy Glaim, Kristie Kasten; Rhonda Paso; Charles Strande

August 14: Orpha Anderson; Ron & Lana Glaim; Virginia Kasten; Chad Pedersen

August 21: Rodney Anderson; Brad Gomer; Brent, Amy Koisti & Family; Ryan Pedersen

August 28: Roger & Donna Anderson; Trevor Gorder; Gerry & Doris Koisti; Dacia Pedersen

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New Babies!

Congratulations to Jarid and Tara Espland on the birth of a girl, Micha Jane, on July 10! They appreciate all the wonderful gifts received at the baby shower.



Proud great-grandmother is Jane Espland, and grandparents are Andy and Sharon Espland, and Jerome and Sharon Moshier.

Congratulations to Jesse and Julie Steffensen on the birth of a son, Aiden Norvid on June 12. He joins a sister, Madisen, at home. His proud grandparents are Richard and Sharon Berg, John and Corinne Wilder, and the late Norvid Steffensen. Aiden was baptized on July 2 at Trinity. His sponsors were Johnny Wilder and Donna Steffensen.

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"Come-Back Award"

Cheers could be heard going up for Kendell Riter who was presented with the "Come-Back Award" at the baseball game on Sunday, July 3! Last year Kendell suffered a stroke, but proved to his family, friends and community that he would return to his job of handing out quarters at the games for foul balls! He is an inspiration to the community, and we are very proud of his progress and accomplishments since the stroke. God bless you, Kendell!

The Importance of Average Joes

God seems to have a special fondness for average Joes. Before they accomplished extraordinary deeds, normal guys like Gideon, David, Peter, and Paul went about their farming, sheep herding, fishing, and tent making. Even Jesus, our Redeemer, Healer, and coming King, started out using a hammer and saw in a carpenter's shop...

In a day when compromise and political correctness rule, these simple men—average Joes—seek truth and have an unshakable commitment to doing what is right. Ask them their opinion, and you will get an earful of resolute beliefs in God, country, and family. Strong in character, integrity, and principle, these are the unsung heroes of everyday life in America.

~ Excerpts from *Average Joe*



Our sympathy to David and Joyce Carlson on the death of their niece, Nicole Dunn. She was killed in a motorcycle accident, and the funeral was held in Rapid City July 11.



RALLY DAY

September 11

Activities begin at 9:45. Parents, mark your calendars now!

SUNDAY SCHOOL
NEWS

Fellowship dinner follows worship at 10:45.
On the menu: Pizza!

Update on Listing of Veterans

In the last newsletter, the names of veterans who are members of Trinity were listed. One name was inadvertently omitted from the list. George Grape, son of Lila Grape, served in the Navy from 1972—1992. My apology for the omission.

SECRETARY'S CORNER

Has a song been rolling around in your mind lately? For me, it is one sung at a recent contemporary service:

"How great is our God, how great is his name
How great is our God, forever the same!
He rolled back the waters of the mighty Red Sea
And he said "I'll never leave you;
Put your trust in Me!"

Wow, what powerful words for all of us. The song tells of the greatness of our God, the power of God, and His promise to *never* leave us! May God strengthen our faith and trust in Him for every day and through every situation.

God's Word

In our lives and in the church, we are never without revelation from God. At all times you and I have his message to us in all its power, authority, clarity, and might. We don't have to work to come up with a word from God; we simply have to trust the Word he has already given us. When we do, the Word of God will accomplish the work of God among the people of God.

~ Excerpts from *Radical Together* by David Platt

Joy in the midst of sorrow and faithfulness in the midst of division

By Pastor John Bradosky
NALC General Secretary

Every week, as I have the privilege to speak in congregations throughout the North American Lutheran Church, I encounter people who share a common story of joy in the midst of sorrow and of faithfulness in the midst of division.

The launch and growth of the North American Lutheran Church has not been without personal and corporate sacrifice.

While we celebrate with joy amazing renewal in congregations and the maturing faith of individuals, we do so in the midst of grief and loss.

Our movement forward is anything but easy. It has divided families, broken the bonds of friendships, and produced a form of persecution from within the body of Christ.

Two weeks ago a woman, in tears, told me the story of her two brothers — both pastors in the ELCA — who refuse to engage her in dialog about her concerns. Their rejection has moved from refusing to speak with her to avoiding her altogether. Their silence is perceived as rejection and their anger as hatred.

While she grieves the loss, she is undeterred — reminding me that the issues are so essential they



Pastor John Bradosky

cannot be minimized by virtue of her brothers' rejection.

The authority of the Scriptures, the nature and mission of Christ and His Church, redemption and salvation, law and gospel, faith and grace are fundamental to our identity, shape our life together and our mission in this world.

If you didn't spend time with the entire 10th chapter of Matthew in preparing for the second Sunday after Pentecost, I encourage you to do so. These words of Jesus provide meaning and comfort for our context.

In preparing and empowering His disciples for mission and ministry, Jesus also prepares them for persecution. Instead of reassuring them that following Him would be easy, Jesus paints

a realistic picture of discipleship. You will be betrayed by both governors and the governed. Following Jesus may mean division in families between parents and children, between spouses and among siblings. There are times when the Gospel brings division instead of peace.

In a sermon for the Sunday after Christmas, Martin Luther writes about the confession of Anna and Simeon. Giving thanks is a matter of confession. When we confess the grace we have received, the goodness of the One offering that grace and our unworthiness, we properly give thanks. Then he writes, "Beyond this 'confess' also means to take a stand concerning a thing; as Christ says in Matthew 10, whoever confesses me before men, him will I confess before My Father in heaven. But whoever denies me before men, him will I also deny before My Father in heaven."

Then Luther adds, when we reject Christ's teaching we reject Him and His Father. "Christ is not interested in having His person and name greatly honored, rather he wants His teaching to be honored."

Faith and knowledge of Christ cannot remain silent. It testifies to others. The light of Christ must shine through our words and deeds, impacting the lives of

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others. Yet, we are sure to suffer misfortune and persecution when we open our mouths.

Long before Luther, the early Church fathers interpreted these texts with similar meaning.

Jerome writes, "The whole world is becoming divided against itself for the sake of faith in Christ. A necessary conflict has been sent to break a peace that is evil."

Augustine presents the necessary conversation between parents and children. "I will love you in Christ, not instead of Christ. You will be with me in Him but I will not be with you without Him!"

The conflicts we face are as old as the Gospel itself. While it may seem strange to us, it is not new. While it is a difficult adjustment, Jesus teaches us to prepare for it.

Luther experienced the reality of Christ's teaching. In his commentary on this text, Luther writes, "If then my teaching has such an effect in the world, as the enemy himself confesses, what could be better for me than hearing these words? Is it not a wonderful God who turns Balaam's malediction into a benediction (Numbers 24), the threats of my enemies into my consolation, and their defiance into my strength? Do you see how well you have hit upon the nature and work of the divine Word, you precious dealer in Holy Scripture?"

There are many who want to use the Scriptures to offend no one, cause no disputes, and bring their own form of peace. But

*"The discord,
dissension, and
disturbance produced
by God's Word
are blessed events.
With them a true faith
begins and struggles
against false faith."*

♦ *Martin Luther*

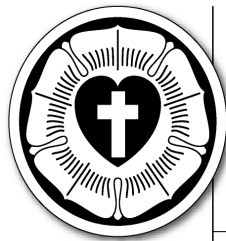
Jesus is telling us plainly in His words it cannot and will not be so!

Rather than simply regretting our circumstance and persevering, Luther challenges us to see it as a blessing. "The discord,

dissension, and disturbance produced by God's Word are blessed events. With them a true faith begins and struggles against false faith. Suffering and persecution also begin again, as does the true nature of the Christian people."

Throughout Matthew 10, Jesus reminds His disciples and us that there are people who are receptive to the Gospel. There are people who are waiting and longing to hear it, to be comforted and healed and to be united with others bound by that same living Word, Jesus Christ. He promises that His followers will be welcomed into homes and blessed. Because Jesus has gone before us, there will be plenty of refreshment and joy along the way. If the One watching over us knows every sparrow that falls, how much more does he care for us?

We have every reason not to live in fear but to push forward boldly confessing Christ. Together we are!



NALC

North American Lutheran Church

Christ-Centered

Mission-Driven

Traditionally-Grounded

Congregationally-Focused

Emily's Camp Report 2011

I look forward to Bible camp every year! I am so blessed to be able to go! This year's theme was "GO!" We learned about how when God tells us to go, that means he has something better for our lives. The main Bible verse for the week was the great commission—Matthew 28:19-20.

I was there for five days in mid-July. These five days were filled with fun games, great food, meeting new friends, deep discussions, making new memories, Bible studies, worship, great sermons, and simply being in the presence of the LORD! This week really challenged me to listen to and follow God's voice more.

This week was definitely something that I wouldn't exchange for anything! Thank you so much for allowing me to go to camp! ~ **Emily Antonen**

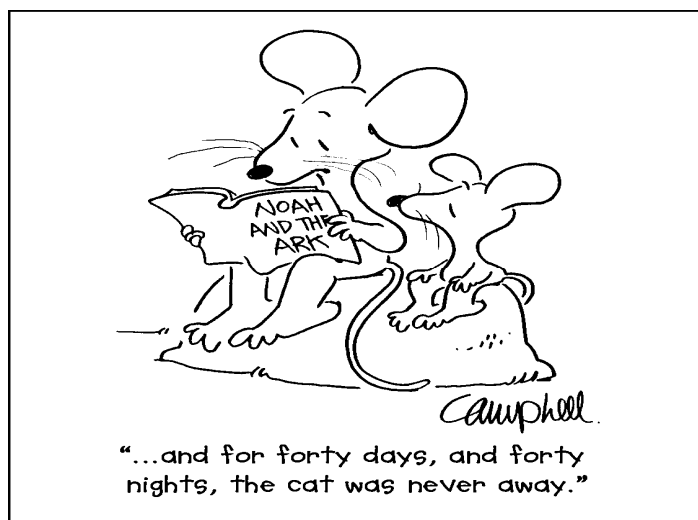


School will soon be in session! Supplies are being collected for children whose parents use the food pantry. If you wish to donate supplies, please leave them in the education unit. Thank you for your help in this way!

AUGUST

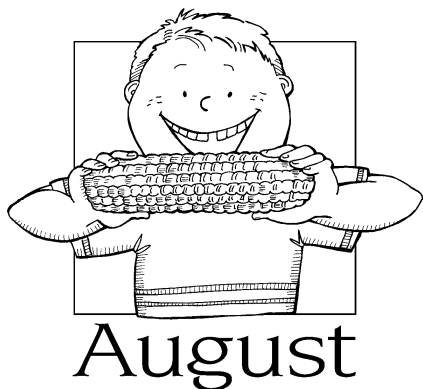
THANK YOU NOTES

- Thanks to everyone for making the pork barbecue a great success by bringing food and working!
- Thank you to the youth for helping at the barbecue. They were Jonathan Kretzschmar, Alexis Kranz, Abby, Kirby and Emily Antonen, Jessica Koistinen, Chance Niemann, and Gunner St. John. They all did a great job!
- Thank you to all who helped with VBS this year! Every staff person made a difference in the lives of children.
- Thank you to Gerry Koisti and Dan Koistinen for the time spent on making two pews shorter, thereby allowing easy access for wheel chairs. It's another sign that as a church, others with physical disabilities are remembered and cared for. Thank you to Myrna Jensen, mother of Larry Jensen, who shortened the pew cushions.
- Thank you to the anonymous donor who paid for cleaning and waxing of the basement floor. It looks great! Stop and check it out.
- Thank you to all who have donated toward cleaning of all carpets in the church. An anonymous donation for carpet cleaning has been received. Additional donations would be welcomed and appreciated very much for this expensive project. Donations may be sent to Sylvia Riter at PO Box 221, Lake Norden, SD.
- Thank you to Terry and Paulette Kasten for the beautiful clock they donated for the narthex!



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Return to:
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
405 3rd AVENUE NORTH
P.O. BOX 230
LAKE NORDEN, SD 57248



You Choose

One beautiful Sunday morning, the pastor announced to his congregation: "My good people, I have here in my hands three sermons...a \$100 sermon that lasts five minutes, a \$50 sermon that lasts fifteen minutes, and a \$10 sermon that lasts a full hour."

"Now, we'll take the collection and see which one you have chosen."

The Visiting Preacher

The visiting preacher was really getting the congregation moving. Near the end of his sermon he said this church has really got to walk - to which someone in the back yelled, "let her walk preacher".

The preacher then said if this church is going to go it's got to get up and run to which someone again yelled with gusto, "let her run preacher."

Feeling the surge of the church, the preacher then said with even louder gusto, "if this church is going to go it's got to really fly" and once again with ever greater gusto, someone yelled, "let her fly preacher, let her fly."

The preacher then seized the moment and stated with even greater gusto, "if this church is really going to fly it's going to need money" to which someone in the back yelled, "let her walk preacher, let her walk."