

Parish Newsletter **March 2023**



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



By the time you get this we will be into our Lenten journey. “The word is traced etymologically to an Old English word *lencten* (related to “lengthen,” referring to the lengthening of days) that simply referred to the season of spring.” It is also related to a Teutonic word with the same meaning.” “The liturgical season of Lent coincides with spring, calling to mind the new life and growth, the hope and change that should characterize this time of prayer, penance and conversion. This is the season of initiation into the grace-life of the Church. For 40 days, the Church invites us to start afresh.” Those were two of the many entries I found describing LENT.

My sisters and I delighted in snow forts and snowball fights and sledding. I for one can't wait to have the (hopefully gradual melt of the) mountains of snow replaced by green grass and flowers. Oh, let it be so, Dear Lord...this too shall pass, meaning the ice dams in my gutters and higher heat bills etc.) If it's anything like how fast we've flown through January and February, March will fly by and the 40 M-Sat. days and 6 Respite Resurrection Sundays. Days will get longer until Holy Saturday April 8th will spirit us through to the cross and resurrection story for us and our sisters and brothers and neighbors who might delight in the snow until it isn't.

Last Month I did an “official” interview with Stefani Osowski who was to come and be a speaker for our services in November. She is also my neighbor and I so enjoy watching her family outside when weather is permitting. Times when they are enjoying their great fire circle or bicycling and playing. She has a passion for Foster Care both from a professional experience in Social work and a personal history as she and her husband Mark fostered many children. I think of our talk and what a tough winter it has been. She told me stories of the need just for transport to get kids to their temporary safe house until placement. The statistics of Traill county alone were surprising. This fall and winter has been a tough one for many families in our own county and the surrounding ones. I look forward to her rescheduling and sharing with us about ways we could learn more, ways to be involved to make a difference in children's lives even if we wouldn't be foster parents.

Even on some really cold days the delight I see in the children who are sledding on the big Mayville hill makes me smile and remember those times I had with my sisters and friends. I hear folks talk about the expectation for spring just around the corner on March 20th and the possibilities to get out and about as the temps rise. We lose an hour springing ahead with Daylight savings time on March 12th, the almost half way point in our Lenten journey this year. It may not be foster care that God shall give you a call to, perhaps it will be renewal from prayers and conversations during fellowship that will connect you to something new, to spring afresh as the family of God. May you find renewal this Lenten season.

(The drawing is by Mary Engelbret. The Bad News is there's still a lot of snow. The Good news is it will not stay forever.)

Pastor Deb Stave

P.S. If you would like a pastoral visit whether in the hospital or at home please let me know. My cell phone is currently 701/550-9830, please leave a voicemail or text if you don't get an answer.

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter items can be sent to Tracy Foss at Tracy.L.Foss@gmail.com Newsletter deadline is usually the Tuesday before the last Sunday of the month. April newsletter deadline is 3-21-2023.

Parish News

SUNDAY READINGS FOR READING AND WORSHIP –

MARCH 2023 READINGS ARE THE SAME FOR BOTH CONGREGATIONS THIS MONTH

- **March 5th - 2nd Sunday in Lent**
 - Gen. 12:1-4a; Ps. 121; Rom. 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17
- **March 12th - 3rd Sunday in Lent**
 - Ex. 17:1-7; Ps. 95; Rom. 5:1-11; John 4:5-42
- **March 19th - 4th Sunday in Lent**
 - I Sam. 16:1-13; Ps. 23; Eph. 5:8-14; John 9:1-41
- **March 26th - 5th Sunday in Lent**
 - Ezek. 37:1-14; Ps. 130; Rom. 8:6-11; John 11:1-4

COMMUNITY GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Grieving the loss of a loved one? Join our local grief support group! **Who:** Anyone, of any age who has had someone significant to them (family, children/infants, friends etc.) pass on. **When:** Every third Monday of the Month from 7-8 PM. **Where:** Hatton Community Center; Railroad Ave E. Hatton ND. Have

questions or would like to connect with us: Renee Anderson: (701-430-1077) or Emily Anderson: (701-430-3633)

Mayville Congregational-UCC News

MARCH READERS

March 5 – Jackee Lerol

March 12 – Kraig Lerol

March 19 – Dalton McMahon

March 26 – Bob Meiss

LENTEN SERVICES

Congregation will gather at 5:30ish for a light soup supper.

Worship will be around 6PM

Lenten Services for UCC 2023 *Our Lenten Service and Living Our Gifts Day after Day*

<u>DATE</u>	<u>WORSHIP</u>
Feb 22 (Ash Wednesday)	P. Deb Stave – Imposition of Ashes
March 1	Julie Tillberg (SouthAfrica)
March 8	Lysa Wright (Music Therapy)
March 15	Elroy Lindaas (Barn Dance)
March 22	Staves Kirsten Stave Ness (IT & Marketing)
March 29	Rick Holman (Educ & State Bills)

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

Our UCC offering, One Great Hour of Sharing, is designated church wide as March 19th. We'll gather offerings through the month, just use the envelopes or mark your offering OGHS.

Bethany News.

MARCH READERS

March 5 – Linsey Naastad

March 12 – Alicia Foss

March 19 – Mandi Aamold

March 26 – Laura Foss

MARCH USHERS

- Peter and Karen Naastad

LENTEN SERVICES

Congregation will gather at 5:30ish for a light soup supper.

Worship is at 7PM

Lenten Services for Bethany 2023 Songs and Prayers and the Journey of Faith

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>WORSHIP</u>
Feb 22 (Ash Wednesday)	No meal	P. Deb
March 1	Men's Club	P. Deb
March 15	Janet Osland, P. Deb	P. Deb, Linda Stromstad*
March 29	Women	P. Deb

BETHANY CIRCLE

Bethany Circle will meet at 2:00pm March 8th at the church.

BETHANY COUNCIL

The council did not meet in February. Next council meeting TBD.

BETHANY ANNUAL MEETING

A delicious pot luck meal was had before the meeting. Thank you to all that brought items. The following business was conducted at the annual meeting of the church. Reports were read and approved. Budgets were approved. The slate of nominees was elected. It was decided that the telephone land line will be discontinued. (Full minutes are available for review through the council secretary.)

CHURCH TELEPHONE LAND LINE.

The land line for the church will be discontinued in the near future. The pastor and council members can be reached via their cell phones.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AT LUTHER MEMORIAL HOME

The Luther Memorial Home no longer has an auxiliary. There will be times they need volunteers to assist with activities. If you are interested in doing this, contact Karen Osland or Sue Rice for more information.

WELCA - IMPORTANT DATES

On April 29, 2023, the Cluster meeting will be held at Christi's Lakeview Restaurant. Dates have been set for the third annual "Tea Party" to be held June 14, 2023. Dates have been set for the retreat on August 2 and 3, 2023.

JANITOR/USHER SIGNUP

Please check the Janitor/Usher signup on the bulletin board in the entry way.

COFFEE AFTER CHURCH

If you have a certain Sunday sometime this year you would like to bring something to have with coffee after Church - please put your name on the list on the bulletin board in the entry.

USED T-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS

Linda Stromstad knows of an outlet for used sweatshirts and t-shirts. They are used in making diapers and sent to orphanages overseas. They use all sizes in any condition. If you have any you would like to donate, please deliver them to Linda.

YARN DONATIONS

If anyone has yarn, any type, that you want to get rid of, bring it to church, we will send it to the EaNSWO convention in September, and from there it goes to prisons of ND, where they knit things to give or send away.

WANT TO UPDATE HOW YOU RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER?

If you would like to update the way you receive the newsletter, or if you are a member of another church and you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please contact a church council member or Tracy Foss. Your options for receiving the newsletter are: e-mail, hard copy through the mail, or read it on the website.

WEB PAGE

BethanyRuralHatton.com If you have anything you would like to put on the website contact Mark.

BULLETIN

Bulletin announcements can be sent to Lorrie Aamold Loaamold@hotmail.com or by leaving a message at 543-3806. Deadline for the bulletin is Thursdays.

BETHANY NEWS

News items can be sent to Charlotte Lee at Charlottelee7@icloud.com or Tracy Foss at Tracy.L.Foss@gmail.com Newsletter deadline is usually the Tuesday before the last Sunday of the month. April newsletter deadline is 3-21-2023.