



*1 Peter 3:8-9 "Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing."*

**FEBRUARY**

**2012**

**GOOD NEWS  
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
BOTTINEAU, ND (701)228-2228  
[www.bottineauflc.org](http://www.bottineauflc.org)**



**FEBRUARY 2<sup>nd</sup>** =  
Groundhog Day

**FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup>** =  
Valentines Social

**FEBRUARY 14<sup>th</sup>** =  
Valentine's Day

**FEBRUARY 20<sup>th</sup>** =  
Office Closed Presidents Day

**FEBRUARY 22<sup>nd</sup>** =  
Ash Wednesday

**FEBRUARY 26<sup>th</sup>** =  
Pie Social

Details in this newsletter.

## Pastor Glenn A. Berge

## {From Annual Report}

It is always an interesting and profound task for me to think and write about the ministry of a congregation through the course of a year. Ministry is unlike most jobs that a person could do. It is not like manufacturing where you can produce a certain number of units of product. It is not like retail sales where one might report gross and net sales or give a breakdown of what products are moving and which are not. It is not like farming where one might note the acres seeded and the acres left unseeded due to wet ground and the final tally of bushels per acre. Reflecting back over past annual reports I remember reporting such things as the number of sermons preached, the number of baptisms, confirmands, wedding and funerals - those numbers are always interesting to me .... But do those numbers really reflect 'ministry' in 2011?

It is hard to judge the ministry given over the course of a year. I know that when the doors have opened for a Sunday or Wednesday evening worship .... the Word of God has been proclaimed and God's gracious meal offered. The waters of Baptism have splashed, young people have confirmed their faith, couples have married, and when death has come we have gathered families and friends around an amazing promise. All of this is ministry. But ministry at First Lutheran happens in so many other ways.

As I think of ministry at First Lutheran in 2011, it is a long parade of events that come to mind:

- I think of groups of people gathered around a round table visiting over a cup of coffee. Often times the conversation does not get beyond chit-chat ... but at other times a need or concern surfaces and one member ends up reaching out to another and ministry happens.
- I think of the massive mounds of sandwiches and hot dishes that have been made and served [most often at the time of a funeral]. I suspect that there may be times when those gracious servants in the kitchen never hear a word of appreciation but I often think that that meal is almost a sacrament as it provided a moment and a place for love and healing at one of the most critical times in a family's life.
- I think of readers and greeters and ushers and singers and tech folk and set up, clean up, fill up, fold up and take out folk [to name a few] who step outside of their comfort zones when it would be easier to just sit in the pew or stay in bed. Yet they step forward to help and make it possible for the good news to reach the ears and eyes and nose and tongues and hands of those who come with needs that we often do not know.
- I think of those who sort and pick up and straighten up clothing that goes out to places and needs that we do not know. And of those who cut and sew fabric pieces into quilts that have gone from this place to far flung corners of the world as well as into homes nearby that have no electricity [in the midst of a North Dakota winter].
- I think of those who 'suffer' through long hours of council and committee meetings when we all would rather not have to struggle with the difficult questions of how to do ministry and take care of some of the necessary, mundane issues of running a church.
- I think of quiet moments when I have had the privilege of just listening - - to be available because the church cares about the people of God in such a way that they choose to provide pastors to be there in those unexpected moments that no one plans for. To be able to go to the hospital bed of one who is unsure of what is happening medically or even knows that death is approaching - - - there to pray together or lift up bread and wine to say that God has not abandoned you in this dark moment ... there is always something new ... something filled with life ... and God has it for you! What a blessing to me, to those struggling, and to you as the church when such ministry can happen.

I suspect that I could go on and on reflecting on the ministry that has happened here at First Lutheran in 2011. These things continue to happen as we work together to provide ministry in this place. As we continue to live into a changing culture, we will continue to struggle to find the best ways to do ministry here in Bottineau. We do struggle with the changes that have come to our culture and how to make ministry happen here most effectively. I urge you and encourage you to choose to be involved where you are able and as God calls you. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving God in this place now for the 10<sup>th</sup> year. I look forward to 2012 serving with you.



## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DESIREE UHRICH

As I think back over this first year as your pastor, I am reminded of the words that the Apostle Paul said to the Philippians, “I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you. . .” Paul expresses my feelings about this congregation and the blessedness I feel in this call to First Lutheran Church.

I remember joining this congregation when Nora was five years old and Miles was nine – now more than a dozen years ago. I would not have believed at that time that someday I would be a pastor here, and I cannot help but reflect on how fortunate I am to have received this unique opportunity to serve my first call here at the church I already loved – to be ordained here among all the ones who accompanied me through the long years of discernment and seminary, and to be installed as pastor here. God is good indeed.

This first year, I have been engaged in all of the various tasks that pastors are charged with doing – leading worship, preaching, pastoral care, teaching, administration, evangelism, and social ministry. As you know, my call to First Lutheran is part-time. My call also includes the work I do with clergy and other congregations to equip them to respond to domestic violence and sexual assault. I have struggled to find a rhythm that works, and I think that is finally coming together. Both aspects of this call are so important to me, and I really want to do justice to each of them.

I have appreciated the willingness of people to be engaged in ministry here. There are so many people doing so many things to serve our congregation and community. The tendency here is to say “yes” to God’s call, and I deeply value your commitment to share your gifts and resources so generously with others.

Sometimes the leaders of this congregation get discouraged that we don’t have the same number of people in worship or Sunday school as we used to, that there aren’t as many committees, that our family and youth involvement is not as high as we would like. It is true that our congregation is not the same as it was ten or twenty or thirty years ago, but neither is the larger church. However, that doesn’t mean that God has forgotten us or does not have a plan for us.

God **does** have a plan, and the Holy Spirit **is** at work here. I hope you know that God is working through *your heart and hands*, both within our church walls and outside our church walls as you live out your discipleship to Christ in your family, work and community. This year, one of my goals is to have conversations with many individuals and small groups to learn what is important to you and where you see God is calling our congregation. I also welcome *your* invitation to share conversation about this church that has been entrusted to us, and hear about your joys and sorrows, your dreams and visions, and your hopes for our ministry together in 2012 and beyond.



*Pastor Desiree*



## LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays,  
Starting Ash Wednesday  
Feb 22nd  
Supper 6:30 pm  
Service 7:15 pm

**Lent:** A 40 day period, excluding Sundays, of self-denial, fasting, and penitence, continuing until Easter.

*Matthew 6:16-18*

*“When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen: and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”*



## **FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL HEART AWARENESS MONTH**

### ***Make your heart a priority***

Each year more than 800,000 Americans have their first heart attack. For about 1/3 of these people, that first heart attack is fatal. Many people who do survive develop lifelong heart problems. Are you at risk for a first heart attack? The risk of heart attack increases as you age and your risk is higher if you come from a family where heart disease and heart attacks are common. You cannot turn back the clock or change your genetic makeup, but being aware of the risks is important. You can compensate for their effects by making important lifestyle and health changes, as well as properly taking your medications. If you smoke, quit. Don't be a couch potato! Keep your diabetes under control. Lower your cholesterol and blood pressure levels. Decide today that a healthy heart is going to be your top priority and take action.

We need to care for both our physical and spiritual hearts, so we can serve our Lord in Wholeness.

**JOHN 14:1 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me.”**



Your Parish Nurse,  
Lois Fett, RN

# WELCA INFORMATION

## BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE

### Changes to your book.

- 1. Information it contains:** The WELCA President has a binder with all the rules, regulations and guidelines given and presented by the synod.
- 2. Change in workgroups:** We now have 4 work groups (A,B,C,D), which will alternate as events occur. Example: Group A did the funeral on Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> and Group B did the funeral on Jan 21<sup>st</sup>. Group C will be called for the next funeral and Group D the one after that, then it goes back to Group A. Chairmen of the committees will make their own manual with pertinent information regarding their group. Please contact your chairmen and let them know what you want to be involved with, or what you can and can't do.
- 3. Change in paying funeral fund:** The work group members are asked to pay \$5.00 once a year to the help fund the cost for the food for funerals. BEFORE you would pay during the month you served. NOW with the new groups formed and to make it easier on our bookkeeper the \$5.00 will be due every January. You can turn your funds into the treasurer Lynn Boettcher of the office. Please make checks out to WELCA and always indicate who the funds are from.



Diane Pearson  
Your WELCA President

## NEW YEAR – NEW BEGINNINGS

I need to first express thanks to all who were a part of putting in place needed changes to make our workgroups stronger and more efficient. Your ideas and feedback have been excellent and I am excited to work with all of you to iron out any quirks in our new system. I am confident that the changes are positive and will make everyone's job easier, thereby making our service to the Lord a blessing for all.

**CHAIRMEN:** Please note that there is a serving book located in the kitchen to keep track of all the information needed to serve an event. (This information is very valuable to all service groups in planning for an event)

**OTHER CHANGES:** Everyone please note that due to health safety issues we will be using our glass coffee cups during fellowship hour on Sunday's and the plastic communion cups for communion at the table.

A question came up and I thought I would share the answer with you. Who is and what does WELCA do?

WELCA stands for Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. So, Who is WELCA; would be all the women members of an Evangelical Lutheran Church. Thereby if you are a member of First Lutheran and you are female you are a member of WELCA.

What does WELCA do? – they as the women of the church participate in the operations of the church by serving funerals and events, have bible studies, circles, groups and committees. (Check out the book for more information) As a woman of First Lutheran Church you determine how much and what you are able to be a part of. It takes all of us doing many different things to be servants of the Lord's work. Please note that our service groups maybe contacting you regarding what you can or are willing to do.

**Recipe for caring!** 1 pinch of kindness, 1 kind smile, 1 cup of trust, ½ cup of laughter, 3 tbsp of activities.  
Mix the ingredients and sprinkle with 5 cups forgiveness.

## FUNERALS

Jan 18<sup>th</sup> = Jean Rispa

Pastor Desiree' Uhrich

Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> = Howard Wall

Pastor Desiree' Uhrich

Pastor Glenn A Berge

Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> = Paul Surdahl

Pastor Glenn A Berge

## MEMORIALS

Daryl Charboneau

Harriet Nordmark

Agnes Lindstrom

Ada Gorder

Loren Halvorson

Maurice, Loraine & Mary Deraas

Evelyn Lundy

Ruth Kjelshus

Melvin & Polly Haugen

## BAPTISMS

Jan. 15, 2012



**Khaliel Jayden Abdurrahman**

**Born: 12-23-06**

**Sophia Jade Abdurrahman**

**Born: 4-29-10**



**Parents: Krystal & Tijani**

**Sponsors: Rachel Bullinger**

**Misti Aufforth**

**Pastor: Desiree' Uhrich**

## A MESSAGE FROM DEB WILLIAMS

*I would like to thank everyone who has given so freely toward my trip to Central Africa. The silent auction was a huge success, personal and group donations have been unbelievable and the soup and bread meals went far and above anything I could have imagined!*

*The blessings I have received have made it possible for me to go and return debt free and I am so grateful. The trip is scheduled February 17<sup>th</sup> through March 3<sup>rd</sup> and, once home, I would welcome the opportunity to share with the congregation what I have seen and learned while I was there. I know this trip is a calling and my future will be forever changed. Again, thank you, everyone, for your financial support, your prayers, and encouragement. I am humbled to be able to do the Lords work.*

*Deb Williams*



**Matthew 18:20 “For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”**

**Deb,**

**We are here praying for your mission, your safety, and your health, go with God and he will carry you, guide you, and lead you as you fulfill His will.**

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### **FIRST LUTHERAN VALENTINE'S SOCIAL**

**What a wonderful way to let you know how much you mean to us and how much we love each and every one of you.**

**SUNDAY**

**FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup>**

**4:00 PM**

**Fellowship Hall**

**Enjoy food, fellowship and entertainment on us.**

**DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?**

Please call the church office for more information at 228-2228

ALSO LOOKING FOR MORE DRIVERS.

**SERVING IN FEBRUARY**

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Youth/Evangel/Mission  
and Vinje Memorial  
Committees

**USHERS**

**8:30 = Don Wolfe, Greg Feland,  
Dave Geisler**

**11:00 = Larry Gienger, Mark  
Berstein, Gene Siercks**

**READERS:**

**8:30 Paul Berge**

**11:00 Alvin  
Dravland**

**GREETERS**

**8:30 Steve and Randy Gorder**

**11:00 Chuck & Mary Lura**

**YOUTH PIE SOCIAL  
BETWEEN SERVICES  
ON SUNDAY FEB 26th**

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Joyfully Growing as God's People for Lives of Faith, Love and Service.**



Stop in on Thursdays at  
10:00 AM  
For Coffee and Fellowship



Duane Larson on Israel.  
Thank you for sharing with us.

Will it be a long winter?

Find out on  
Groundhog Day  
Thursday, Feb. 2nd



On the Left:  
Praise Musicians  
Accompanist for the  
third Sunday of the  
month.

On the Right:  
Folk Musicians  
Accompanist for the  
first Sunday of the  
month.



**A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PROVIDE MUSIC WITH INSTRUMENTS AND VOICES. YOUR SERVICE MEANS A LOT TO US AND YOU ARE SO APPRECIATED.**

## PRAYER CHAIN MEMBERS

Be sure and pick up your updated information in the basket on the table in the narthex with your name on the envelope.

### FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH FEBRUARY CALENDAR

**WEDNESDAYS = 9:00** Lectionary, **3:30** Youth 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> grade, **4:30** Youth 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade, **5:30** Confirmation, **6:00** Bell Choir Practice, **7:00** Youth 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade, **7:00** Evening Bible Study.

**Sun. 5<sup>th</sup> = 8:30** Radio broadcast on 101.9FM, **8:30 & 11:00** Folk worship service with communion. **9:25** Children's Church, **9:50** Adult Bibles Study, **10:00** Small Group Discussion, **10:00** Cable TV broadcast on channels 19 & 52.

**Sun 12<sup>th</sup> = 8:30** Radio broadcast on 101.9FM, **8:30 & 11:00** worship services, **9:25** Children's Church, **9:50** Adult Bible Study, **10:00** Small Group Discussion. **10:00** Cable broadcast on channels 19& 52. **4:00 First Lutheran Valentine Social**

**Tues 14<sup>th</sup> = Happy Valentine's Day!** **10:00** Bible Briefing, **10:00** Sarah Circle, **11:00** Mission Aid, **3:30** Hannah Circle at Lynn Boetcher's, **7:00** Committee Meetings **8:00** Council Meeting

**Wed 15<sup>th</sup> = 2:00**Rebecca Circle, **3:30** Eve Circle,

**Sun 19<sup>th</sup> =8:30** Radio broadcast on 101.9FM, **8:30 & 11:00** Praise worship service with communion. **9:25** Children's Church, **9:50** Adult Bibles Study, **10:00** Small Group Discussion, **10:00** Cable TV broadcast on channels 19 & 52.

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> = Office Closed Presidents Day, 9:30** Deborah Circle

**ASH Wed. 22<sup>nd</sup> = No Confirmation Class, No Evening Bible Study 6:30** Supper, **7:15** Lent Service Bell Choir prelude

**Sun. 26<sup>th</sup> = 8:30** Radio broadcast on 101.9FM, **8:30 & 11:00** worship services, **9:25** Children's Church, **9:50** Adult Bible Study, **10:00** Small Group Discussion. **10:00** Cable broadcast on channels 19& 52. **YOUTH PIE SOCIAL** between services.

**Wed. 29<sup>th</sup> = No Confirmation Class, No Evening Bible Study 6:30** Supper, **7:15** Lent Service

**FEBRUARY 2012  
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
701 MAIN STREET  
BOTTINEAU, ND 58318**

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

US POSTAGE PAID

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BOTTINEAU, ND 58318

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT:**

**JOYFULLY GROWING AS GOD'S PEOPLE  
FOR LIVES OF FAITH, LOVE AND SERVICE**

**WEBPAGE: [www.bottineauflc.org](http://www.bottineauflc.org)**

**ALL ARE WELCOME AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH:**

**OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 AM TO 5:00 PM**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES 8:30 & 11:00 AM**

**YOUTH PROGRAMS ON WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAYS CALL 228-2228 FOR MORE  
INFORMTION.**

**HOME OF: PASTOR GLENN A BERGE AND PASTOR DESIREE' UHRICH**

