



A Note from Deacon Janie

What a summer it has been. As I sit outside today and try and write this column I am filled with a little bit of sadness as summer is ending. The mornings are a bit crisper, some leaves are starting to turn, and in every store Halloween and fall décor is in full swing on the shelves. The transition between summer and into fall is always a hard one for me. I absolutely love summer and what it has to offer for my soul. But, without the changes of the seasons would I appreciate the season of summer so much? I am not sure.

This time of year, the verses from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 roll through my head. “For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to throw away; a time to tear and a time to sew; a time to keep silent and a time to speak; a time to love and a time to hate; a time for war and a time for peace.”

Timing is everything. Without time and change we would never be able to grow deeper in our lives of faith. Without time and change we would never be able to move forward. Without time and change we would never be able to appreciate the beauty of one season ending and the new one beginning.

These last few years with the pandemic have been hard on all of us, we are all longing to go back to normal. We have all grown and learned so much about ourselves and each other. And now we have paved a new normal. A new us. While yes the sadness of one season coming to a close is hard, we have to experience and go through the difficult parts of the seasons that we don't necessarily enjoy in order to see the beautifulness of what is to come.

My friends, as we enter into another season of change, and a season of unknown in the future, may we hold onto the hope that Jesus gives us in that there is a time for everything. God be with you in the next journey of change.

Deacon Janie

Altar Focus – September– Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch

Our Altar Focus for the month of September will be Western Plains Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. DBGR is a residential facility that can host up to 16 at risk youth in Bismarck. "We help the most troubled, complicated, and amazing kids by providing best in class psychiatric therapy and trauma informed care, where we look kids in the eye, walk with them, and help them become their best selves." DBGR is looking for items to help provide items for the residents that they serve. Items that can be donated are Teen books, Movies on DVD PG13 or PG, personal DVD players, Nintendo switch games (not mine craft), bath towels, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, art supplies, electronics that are new or very gently used like a Nintendo switch, Xbox controllers, Xbox, Wii and controllers, DS and a PlayStation with controllers. Gift cards to game stop, Walmart, or best buy. New razor scooters, skateboard/rollerblade knee, elbow, wrist pad sets, tennis racket grip tape, smaller items that can be used as bingo prizes like headphones, aux cords, fidgets, magnets, decks of cards, mini-Lego sets, smaller art supplies like sketch pads, dry erase markers, gel pens, sketch pencils, spa items like single use face masks, foot masks, press on nail sets, and SanDisk clip jam mp3 players found a Best Buy.

Special Alert! Women's jeans needed

Pastor Gail Hagerty has alerted us that Bridges of Hope (Heart River Lutheran's prison/post prison ministry) has an urgent need for larger sizes of women's jeans (sizes 16 and up). Bridges of Hope has a clothes closet to help women leaving prison, who often have little or nothing. Contact the church office for more information.

Israel/Jordan trip scheduled in early 2023

In 2019, several members of LCC, plus friends, family and others who joined us, visited Israel. It is a journey that enriched our faith, expanded our horizons and understanding, and allowed us to hear Scripture in a whole new way. We had always planned to offer the trip again – first in 2022, but that got pushed back to 2023. This time the journey to the Holy Land will also include an extension to Jordan. Full brochures are available in the narthex. Dates of the trip are Jan. 27-Feb.8, 2023. If you'd like to visit Israel, but don't wish to do the Jordan extension, that is possible, too. Please speak to Pr. Lisa or Mavis Pommerer if you'd like to learn more. All are welcome; you don't need to be an LCC member to go on this journey!

An **Open House** is slated to be held Sunday, September 11 from 2-4pm at the new Missouri Slope campus to dedicate the Outdoor Gardens made and donated by Paul Gurholt.

Church School begins on Sunday September 11th and Wednesday September 14th with Rally Day. Parents and students are invited to attend, meet teachers and learn about the flow of Church School. Please register your son/daughter for church school. Registration forms can be found at the information table in the narthex.

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP: The Rev. Bradley Dokken
Joins Western ND Synod Staff September 1, 2022.

On August 16, 2022, the Western North Dakota Synod Council voted unanimously to extend a call to the Rev. Bradley Lars Dokken. Pr. Dokken will serve as Associate with the Bishop for Leadership, Candidacy, and Call. Welcome, Pr. Dokken to the Western North Dakota Synod staff team!!

Pr. Dokken is a western North Dakota native, growing up in the Crosby area. His previous calls include Director of Youth and Family Ministries for the Watford City Area Lutheran Parish and First Lutheran Church in Williston. He has served three congregations as pastor; St John's in Marion WI, Peace Lutheran Church in Oshkosh WI and is currently serving as an intentional interim for English Lutheran in Hazen. Camping ministry is also an important part of his call to ministry, having spent several summers working at Upper Missouri Ministries in Epping. Pr. Dokken is a 2012 Wartburg Seminary graduate and was ordained to the ministry of word and sacrament on August 4, 2012. His spouse, the Rev. Stephanie Lorenz, is also a rostered minister in the ELCA and is currently serving as a chaplain at Sanford Health in Bismarck. They are proud dog parents to Gus, an 18-month-old Goldendoodle.

Pr. Dokken's philosophy when it comes to ministry is to remind people that God loves them and meets them where they are at. He loves to hear people's stories and help them see how we are all connected. We live in a world that desperately wants to know that they matter and belong; it is our calling as God's beloved to help others know how deeply God loves them.

He is an avid baseball and football fan, cheering on The Minnesota Twins and Vikings, along with being a life-long Chicago Cubs fan. He is also active in community theater productions, loves a good mystery novel, and is constantly in search of the best piece of bread pudding. He and his wife love going to Walt Disney World any chance they get and can be found enjoying local restaurants when possible.

Western North Dakota Synod Vice-President Bruce Carlson said, "We welcome Pr. Dokken to the synod staff team and are excited to see how God will work through him in our shared mission and ministry to encourage and equip the ministries of our synod."

"I am deeply humbled to be called to this ministry," Pr. Dokken offers, "and to have the opportunity to walk alongside people as they are discovering what God is up to in their lives. I am grateful to Deacon Anderson and the ministry she has provided and will continue to provide for our synod. I am thrilled to join the staff of the Western North Dakota Synod as we look at how we can do ministry in diverse settings to best serve God's people."

Reflecting on this change within our synod's staff team, Bishop Craig Schweitzer said, "I am overwhelmed by the Spirit's work across this church as we have engaged in a season of celebration for the ministry of Deacon Beth Anderson, listened for what God might be calling us into next, and embraced holy conversations with candidates who imagined a call to synod ministry as an exciting new opportunity. I give thanks for Deacon Anderson's fourteen years of service to our synod and I'm excited to begin serving with Pr. Dokken. His wealth of knowledge of congregational systems and leadership challenges, deep love for the landscape and people of western North Dakota, and unending passion for sharing the love of Jesus will be a great asset for our synod's future mission and ministry."

New Member Class this September!

Are you interested in joining Lutheran Church of the Cross, or interested in learning more about it? Come to our new member class on Sept. 18 and Sept 25 after worship! Bring your coffee and treat from the fellowship area and join Pastor Lisa in the conference room near the offices. Meet some other new folks and find out just what a Lutheran is, anyway! If you cannot come one or both of those days, let Pr. Lisa know and we'll work something else out for you.

Financial Peace University at LCC this fall!

Take control of your money with *Financial Peace University*! This nine-lesson class uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt, and make your money work for you! You can sign up for this class and start your 14-day free trial of Financial Peace at fpu.com/1153946. Class starts **Sunday, October 2, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.**

School Kit Day Sept. 28

Calling all who love school! Our confirmation students will put the school kits together to send to Lutheran World Relief on Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 7 pm, as part of a service evening. You are welcome to come join in if you like! Please have all donated school supplies here by then.

Pr. Lisa Elected to Church Council

At the recent ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Ohio, our own Pr. Lisa was elected to serve a six year term on the ELCA Church Council. This is the legislative body that serves the denomination between Churchwide Assemblies, which are held every three years. (Think of it as like a congregational council for the whole denomination.) Congratulations, Pastor.

Confirmation Orientation Wednesday September 7th for grades 6,7,and 8 in the Fellowship Hall at 6pm.

Confirmation students and mentors meeting Wednesday, September 7, 7pm in the Multipurpose room.

Book Club Choices:

Meets the 2nd Wednesday at 1:30 in the Library.

September: The Maid by Nita Prose

October: A Woman of No Importance by Sonia Purnel

November: Where the River Ends by Charles Martin





Sunday, September 11, 2022

9:15am Meet the School Teachers

10:00 Worship Service
Installation of Teachers

11:00 am Church Potluck

Wednesday, September 13, 2022

5:15pm Potluck Supper

Worship Service 6:15pm
Installation of Teachers

Church School 7pm
Meet the School Teachers

Confirmation 7pm

Deacon Janie's Corner



August 2022



Theology on Tap September 15th 7:30pm

21 or older? Join Janie at Gideons Brewery to dive deeper into faith and life questions.

Confirmation Schedule

- September 7** **6pm: Orientation (Grades 6, 7, 8)**
 7pm: 9th Grade Five Promises Mentor/Mentee Meeting
- September 14** **Small Group Night**
- September 21** **Large Group Night Theme: Introduction to the 10 Commandments**
Please read: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; John 15:8-17; Joel 2:12-14
- September 28** **Service Project Night – All grades meet at LCC**
- October 5** **Large Group Night Theme: Exploring the Commandments Part One and Two** *Please read: Exodus 3:13-15; 32:1-20; Leviticus 25:1-12; Isaiah 43:1-7; John 2:1-12; Matthew 5:17-48; 2 Samuel 11:1-27*

Church School Schedule

Sunday

- September 11:** Rally Day
September 18: Whole Family – Adam and Eve
September 25: No Church School
October 2: Memory Work – Ten Commandments

Wednesday

- September 14:** Rally Day
September 21: Whole Family – Adam and Eve
September 28: Service Project Night
October: Memory Work – Ten Commandments

Children Youth and Family Events

September 16th: Late night “Mock-in” for grades 3-5. Join Janie at LCC from 7-10pm for a lock in type event without staying the whole night.

September 14th: Jr and Sr. High School Youth group Grades 6-12. Join Janie from 8-9pm at Starbucks by Lowes.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
September 2022						
4 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	5 Memorial Day Office Closed	6	7 Confirmation orientation 6pm Mentor/Mentee Mtg 7pm	8 Quilting 1 pm Church Council 6:30pm 7:30pm AA Mtg.	9 Wired Word 1:30pm	10
11 Rally Sunday 9:15 Church School 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Potluck MS Open House 2-4 pm Outdoor Gardens	12 Needlework Group 9:00am	13	14 Book Club 1:30 Rally Wednesday Potluck 5:15pm Worship Service 6:15pm Church School / Confir- mation 7pm Jr & Sr Youth Grp 8pm Starbucks	15 Quilting 1 pm Theology on Tap 7:30pm Gideon Brewery 7:30pm AA Mtg.	16 Wired Word 1:30pm "Mock In" Gr 3-5	17
18 9:15pm C. School 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour/New member	19 Needlework Group 9:00am	20	21 5:15pm Supper Worship Service 6:15pm Church School/ Confirmation 7pm	22 Quilting 1 pm 7:30pm AA Mtg.	23 Wired Word 1:30pm	24
25 9:15pm C. School 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour/New member	26 Needlework Group 9:00am Knitting 4 Others 1:00 pm	27	28 Early Morning Book Study 9 am 5:15pm Supper Worship Service 6:15pm Church School/ Confirmation 7pm	29 Quilting 1 pm 7:30pm AA Mtg.	30 Wired Word 1:30pm	



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E-News

Worship Times:

Wednesday Worship
6:15pm (School year)

Sunday Worship
The River Service
10:00am

Lisa Ahlness, Pastor
Janie Hague, Deacon

Office Hours:

M -TH 8-4pm
Fri. 8-noon School Year
Summer Hours 8—noon
Mon.—Fri

Lutheran Church of the Cross

Rally Sunday Sept. 11 & Rally Wednesday, Sept 14
Meet the School Teachers

Worship Service
Installation of Teachers

Church Potluck

Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts