



The In Touch

Volume 54, Issue 8

Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation

Ramblings from the Rev....

Greeting to you our ecumenical (across Christian denominations) sisters and brothers on Christ,

Since the beginning of summer, I have been conducting interviews with every family in our congregation of Littlefork Lutheran. This is the beginning of my 8th year in the Borderland, so I didn't expect to find any supposed... I mean, I've been here long enough to know everyone and everything going on, right ;) Not even close!

Some of what I have learned is pretty specific to our community and congregation; however, most of this learning applies anywhere and I wanted to share three insights with all of you.

1.) When we keep our fears to ourselves, they are much scarier and we feel more hopeless. Our biggest fear as a congregation is the trend in declining worship attendance. Our average weekly attendance dropped 9 out of the last 10 years. Everyone was noticing this trend but no one was talking about it openly. Assumptions were being made and theories were silently put together but nothing constructive could be done until it was talked about openly. These visits have empowered us to talk and start forming plans to address the decline; like creating more special service we can use as excuses to invite people back/to worship and starting a year round Wednesday night worship at 7pm starting the end of August. This is just one example of how bringing fears into the open makes them manageable.

2.) Each Christian has a unique and beautiful way of living out faith; and yet, we cannot be whole in our faithfulness alone. If you're a regular attender of worship this idea is pretty self-explanatory. The worshipping community allows us to visibly and physically represent the Body of Christ, to teach and learn from each other and offer mutual support. In worship, we carry each other's through high and lows.

3.) We spend a lot of time measuring ourselves by standards that only lead to disappointment. Like the number of average worship attenders; this is a conversation ender. It says nothing about the quality of fellowship, the prayers said, the service inspired, the hope given or the lives transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ! I bet each of us could come with 10 better ways of measuring the qualities of our congregation beside a simple number.

My challenge to all of you at Holy Trinity is the same as what we are doing at Littlefork Lutheran; share your fears with each other so they can be worked on by the community, life up the incredible work God performs through communal worship and start measuring your congregation in ways that actually matter to your community and the Gospel. You find yourself and community transformed in the process!

<·(((< *Pastor Andy Berry ~ Team Mission Developer*



Summer Ecumenical Wednesday Evening Worship

*Churches involved: Zion Lutheran, Holy Trinity, First Lutheran,
Faith United & St. John's (Fort Frances)*

***All services hosted @ Holy Trinity Episcopal Church @ 6:00-7:00 pm
August 7th, 14th, 21st***



- 8/1 ~ **Willie Corrin** (son Bill & Jeanne)
- 8/1 ~ **Bill Walls**
- 8/2 ~ **Jim Yount**
- 8/4 ~ **James Briggs**
- 8/5 ~ **Waylon Rasmussen**
- 8/12 ~ **Gavia Crossley Yount**
- 8/13 ~ **David Menefee** (son of Waiva)
- 8/15 ~ **Delbert Hickey**
- 8/17 ~ **Jim Stone**
- 8/22 ~ **Rev. Samantha Crossley**
- 8/27 ~ **Kelly Mattsen** (daughter Melanie & Randy)
- 8/30 ~ **Sarah O'Kane** (daughter Heather, granddaughter of Andy & Georgeann Wright)
- 8/30 ~ **Etta & Sheila Johnson** (daughters of Byrne & Carole)



- 8/9 ~ **Andrew Strand**
- 8/10 ~ **Morgann Rud** (daughter Tara, granddaughter of Cindy Cassibo)
- 8/14 ~ **Glenn Walls**
- 8/15 ~ **Tom Grim**
- 8/24 ~ **Pam Oettinger** (Davison)
- 8/28 ~ **David Menefee**
- 8/30 ~ **Heather O'Kane** (Wright)



- 8/6 ~ **Matthew & Edith Jenkinson**
- 8/9 ~ **Lynn Naeckel & David McKee**
- 8/12 ~ **Mandy & Rick Windschitl**
- 8/13 ~ **Erik & Jeannie Strand**
- 8/15 ~ **Bill & Karen Walls**
- 8/18 ~ **Brittany & Joe Klatt**
- 8/21 ~ **Wilbur & Mary Ann Tveit**
- 8/29 ~ **Andy & Georgeann Wright**



Voyageurs Park Service Dates

Aug. 4th & 18th

August'19 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
4  Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 8th Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim	Lee Grim	Carole Johnson Lee Grim	Carole Johnson
11 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 9th Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim	Lee Grim	Michelle Dahlin Lee Grim	Wilbur & MaryAnn Tveit
18  Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 10th Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim	Lee Grim		Georgeann & Andy Wright
25 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 11th Sunday after Pentecost Good Samaritan Service 2:00	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim	Lee Grim	Gavia Yount Lee Grim	Carolyn Davison



August 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Altar Guild
						Tricia
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Altar Guild
 Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.			John ~ Faith UCC Wed. Evening Service @ Holy Trinity 6-7 pm			Georgeann & Donna
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 am	<i>Ruby's Pantry Reg. 4:30 Dist. 5-6:30</i>		Erin ~ 1 st Luth Wed. Evening Service @ Holy Trinity 6-7 pm			Georgeann & Donna
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Altar Guild
 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am		Newsletter Deadline Vestry 4:45 pm	Musonda ~ St John's FF Wed. Evening Service @ Holy Trinity			Flossie
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Good Sam Service 2:00						Flossie

