



The Shepherd's Post

A monthly publication of Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Parish

Shepherd of the Prairie
Lutheran Parish
537 3rd Street
Walcott, ND 58077

March 2017

March Worship & Events

SUNDAY WORSHIP

March 5	9 am Walcott*	11 am Christine*
March 12	9 am Walcott	11 am Hickson*
March 19	9 am Walcott	11 am Christine
March 26	9 am Walcott	11 am Hickson

*Communion Worship

LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Soup Supper served at 6:30 pm*

Worship at 7:30 pm

March 1	Ash Wednesday communion worship—Christine
March 8	Hickson*
March 15	Walcott*
March 22	Christine*
March 29	Hickson*
April 5	Walcott*
April 13	Maundy Thursday communion worship—Walcott
April 14	Good Friday communion worship—Hickson

EVENTS

Mondays	Pastor's day off
Tuesdays	9:15 am Walcott quilting (weather permitting)
Tues-Thurs	9 am—1 pm Parish office hours*
Thursdays	9 am bulletin info due*
March 8-15*	Parish office closed (bulletin info due Tuesday, March 7)
March 12	11 am First Communion (Jack Wold) - Hickson
March 18	10 am Walcott WELCA meeting/brunch
March 20	9 am April newsletter info due
March 25	8:15 am registration/coffee; 9 am Spring Cluster Meeting —Hope South, Fargo



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**Scott & MaryJane
Nipstad**

A Special
THANK YOU

for sponsoring this
month's newsletter.

Your gift is very much
appreciated!



Sitting in the chair



LENTEN WORSHIP will
be held at 7:30 pm
SOUP & SANDWICH
SUPPERS
are served at 6:30 pm
on Weeks 1-5

As children, we can ask for a nightlight to chase away the shadows that come alive in the dark, and keep the creature under the bed away. As we grow older, and darkness creeps over us in the form of pain, depression, grief, and fear, there is no nightlight. We may find comfort and relief in things that numb and distract us from pain. Whatever our experience might be, our hope is that if we wait in the darkness long enough, we might discover something about ourselves, God and our world. In other words, sitting in the darkness can be a transformative and healing time.

This Lent we will be using a collection of films, and a variety of authors, theologians, philosophers, and scholars will share their own experiences of darkness and light... (to include: Glennon Doyle Melton, Brene Brown, Parker Palmer, Barbara Brown Taylor, Walter Bruggemann) We know we are not alone in the dark and hopefully this lent we will be able to sit with each other and come to see the affirmation of life in the midst of suffering.

“SITTING THROUGH THE POETRY OF PAIN”

MARCH 1 (ASH WEDNESDAY) CHRISTINE

Sitting as Bringing the Light

MARCH 8 (WEEK 1) HICKSON

“Sitting as Brokenness”

MARCH 15 (WEEK 2) WALCOTT

Sitting as Getting into It

MARCH 22 (WEEK 3) CHRISTINE

Sitting as Creating Life

MARCH 29 (WEEK 4) HICKSON

Sitting as Weeping

APRIL 5 (WEEK 5) WALCOTT

Sitting as Enlarging Life

APRIL 13 (MAUNDY THURSDAY) WALCOTT

APRIL 14 (GOOD FRIDAY) HICKSON (TENNEBRAE SERVICE)

Sitting as Discipleship

APRIL 16 (EASTER SUNDAY) 7 AM HICKSON; 9 AM CHRISTINE; 11 AM WALCOTT

May be subject to change!

Pastor Karin

Offerings as of 1/31/17

Congregation	2017 Budget	Monthly Offering needed	January Offering	Y-T-D Totals
Christine	\$ 26,125.00	\$ 2,177.00	\$ 1,391.00	\$ 1,391.00
Hickson	\$ 70,552.00	\$ 5,880.00	\$ 6,844.00	\$ 6,844.00
Walcott	\$ 74,074.00	\$ 6,173.00	\$ 3,712.50	\$ 3,712.50

March Wish List

1. Devotional materials for the parish
2. Weekly bulletin mailing to homebound/nursing home members: \$6/wk or \$25/mo
3. Sponsor April newsletter: \$50
4. Sponsor weekly bulletin: \$25
5. Mileage for pastoral visits: **any amount

**Please make check payable and mail to:
Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Parish,
537 3rd Street, Walcott, ND 58077**

If you are interested in sponsoring one of these items, please contact LeAnn Toppen at 469-2183 or email her at shepluthpar@wtc-mail.net. Gifts will be acknowledged in the following newsletter.

Lenten offering

Kindred Backpack Program

During the school year, more than 33,000 children across North Dakota qualify for and greatly rely on the federal free and reduced lunch program to meet their daily nutritional needs. But on weekends, many of these children struggle with hunger. The Backpack Program is designed to fill gaps in meals during the weekend for children on free and reduced lunches by providing items such as milk, juice, snacks and food for four meals.

The parish council designated this year's Lenten offering to go to the Kindred School Backpack Program. Currently it costs only \$4.25 to fill a backpack for the weekend. To sponsor a child for an entire year, it costs only \$162. Your donations will help many children get the nutrition they need every weekend so they can learn and grow into healthy adults.

Special offering envelopes are available on the usher tables at all three churches throughout the Lenten season. Please make your check payable to your congregation. Thank you!



- ◆ **Parish office hours:**
9 am-1 pm
Tuesday– Thursday
(Parish office closed March 8-15)
- ◆ **Bulletin info needed by:** 9 am Thursdays,
(March 12th bulletin info needed by 9 am March 7th)
- ◆ **April Newsletter info due:** March 20
- ◆ **Lenten devotionals** are available in the church entrances
- ◆ **April-June Christ in Our Home** devotionals will be available by March 19th

WISH LIST GIFTS RECEIVED IN FEBRUARY

\$100—**Scott & Mary Jane Nipstad:** sponsored the March newsletter (\$50) and mileage for Pastor Karin (\$50).

Total Wish List Gifts received in 2017: \$100

Pastor Karin also personally received \$30 from **Sue Evert** from which she purchased an easel for use in the parish.

THANK YOU!!

Confirmation News

On Wednesday, February 8th the confirmation students made Valentine cards for 30 members of our parish. Thanks to **Cheryl Anderson** for providing the supplies and guiding the students in this project!

Confirmation classes will resume after Easter. Students are asked to attend the Lenten and Holy Week services in place of class.

EASTER FOOD BASKETS

The Kindred Area Ministerial Association (KAMA) will deliver 25 food baskets by Easter in our area. \$25/congregation is also needed to purchase meat and bread. (Make checks payable to KAMA and put in suggestion box).

Christine: 12 oz. tuna
Hickson: canned corn
Walcott: plastic jars of peanut butter

Deadline is April 5th



Bethany, did you know...

...that representatives of Bethany's sponsoring congregations formed the Bethany Auxiliary in 1964. Since then, these dedicated volunteers have provided countless hours of time and energy to conduct a variety of special fundraising events, assist at resident activities and help out in the Coffee Shop. Their efforts have generated thousands of dollars that have purchased items to enhance the quality of life for residents at Bethany Retirement Living. To find out how you can be a part of the Bethany Auxiliary, Contact Jessica at jpeck@bethanynd.org or 701.239.3246 or Laurie at Ischnabel@bethany.org or 701.478.8904.



Synod Events

There are a variety of opportunities offered in our synod this month that you will want to

consider attending. If you are interested in any of them, please let Pastor Karin know.

March 4 Creating Worship Vitality in Any Setting

10 am-3 pm: Lutheran Social Services North Dakota headquarters (3911 20th Ave S, Fargo. Cost: \$50. Composer and Church Musician **Jay Beech** will discuss the questions: *“What are the essential components that bring life and vitality to worship? How does this differ based on context, history, and congregation size? What can leaders do to enhance both the meaning and experience of worship?”* Interviews with leaders from congregations of various sizes in our synod and the Western MN Synod that experience vibrant and life-giving worship will be held.

Jay Beech worked as the Director of Music at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead. He is currently the Executive Director of The Center for Worship & Music Studies in Minneapolis.

March 17 Music of Early Lutheran Masters

7 pm—Trinity Lutheran Church, Moorhead. Presented by the National Lutheran Choir. Tickets available through Trinity’s church office (218)236-1333 or at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2605803>. Tickets (advance): \$20 adults, \$10 students, 17 & under free; (at the door) \$25 adults, \$12 students.

March 25 Spring Cluster Gathering

8:15 am registration/coffee; 9 am program—Hope South Chapel, Fargo. All women are invited. Cost for lunch: \$6. In Kind gifts will go to the YWCA in Fargo. See poster and list in church entrance. Walcott members contact Nina Stone if interested. Christine & Hickson members contact Pastor Karin.

April 4 International Potluck

5 pm bring food and connect; 5:30 dinner; 7 pm program—Olivet Lutheran Church, Fargo. Share food and stories from many different cultures. Celebrate and experience diversity and broaden your palate at the same time.



Jay Beech



**SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN PARISH
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, February 7, 2017—7:00 pm
Christine Lutheran Church
UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Council Members Present: Melissa Rademacher (H), ~~MaryJane Nipstad (H)~~, Shelly Swandal (W), Ron Heglie (W), Cheryl Anderson (W), Ryan Skoog (C), ~~Josh Granholt (C)~~, Pastor Karin Moberg

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:09 with Pastor Karin reading from Matthew. Pastor Karin led us in prayer.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report: Melissa read the minutes from the December 13, 2016 budget meeting. Ryan moved to approve. Shelly seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Discussion regarding the changes in the budget were discussed. Due to a miscalculation, the amount budgeted for Pastor Karin's benefits was understated. The parish contingency will be used to make up the difference. The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Cash moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ryan seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Cheryl and Pastor Karin will work with the confirmation students to send Valentine's Day cards to homebound members. Pastor Karin is working on a theme for Lenten services. Installation of Officers should be scheduled soon. The Feed My Starving Children event was full, so we will not be participating. LeAnn will be back on February 17. She will be gone the week of March 8. Thanks to Pastor Holtey for filling in for Pastor Karin this past Sunday.

OLD BUSINESS

1. The parish council directory was updated.
2. The Lenten offering will go to the Kindred Backpack Program.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The summer worship schedule was reviewed. Melissa asked if Hickson and Walcott could switch times for Rally Day so that Hickson has the 11:00 am service and Walcott has the 9:00 am service. Ron moved to approve the summer worship schedule. Cheryl seconded the motion. Motion approved.
2. Shelly was asked by the Walcott council to review the giving units. A Walcott member asked if it was time to redefine what gift amount constitutes a giving unit. The council agreed that the giving unit percentages are reevaluated every year and seem to be equitable. The council decided not to move forward on further research at this time.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 2 at 7:00 pm in Hickson. Melissa moved to adjourn the meeting. Ryan seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Rademacher

Hickson quilters

On Saturday, February 11th the next generation of quilters—**Jodi Freitag, Sharon Kaseman, Laura Oster-Aaland and Diane Ricker**—got together to make quilts for this year's graduating seniors.

Thanks to Laura for providing these great photos!

Right: Diane, "Are you sure we need one more row on this quilt?"



Above: Jodi & Sharon.

Right: Diane & Sharon hard at work.

Also pictured: a mystery man??

March worship in Hickson

SUNDAY WORSHIP—11 AM

March 12*

1st Communion for Jack Wold

Work Group: Rickers

March 26

Work Group: Bensons

**Communion*

LENTEN WORSHIP

6:30 soup supper, 7:30 worship

March 8

Ushers: Scott Nipstad family

Readers: Confirmation students

Soup makers/servers:

Dorothy Brakke, Alice Mathison,

MaryJane Nipstad

March 29

Ushers: Scott Nipstad family

Readers: Confirmation students

Soup makers/servers:

Diane Ricker, Sandy Nipstad,

MaryJane Nipstad

THIS MONTH IN CHRISTINE

WORSHIP

11:00 am

March 5* & 19

LENTEN WORSHIP

7:30 pm

March 1—Ash Wed.*

March 22

(6:30 Soup Supper)

*Communion



CHRISTINE

None

HICKSON

3/5: Blain Johnson

3/6: Marshall Tangen

3/7: Alex Larson

3/9: Greg Anderson

3/12: John Vikander

3/13: Hartley Ellingson

3/20: McKenna Braaten

3/27: Dorothy Brakke

3/29: Amy Andel

Breanne Andel

WELCA News

THIS MONTH IN WALCOTT

WORSHIP
9 am

LENTEN WORSHIP
6:30 pm soup supper
7:30 pm worship
March 15
March 29

USHER
Arnold Jordheim

**WELCA
MEETING/BRUNCH**
March 18—10 am
Hostesses: **Ellen Ista &
Heidi Golderg**

WELCA MEETING

The next WELCA meeting/brunch is Saturday, March 18th at 10 am. **Jan Nelson** will speak about the **Heartsprings** organization and the good works they do. Servers are **Ellen Ista & Heidi Goldberg**.

SPRING CLUSTER MEETING

The Spring Cluster Meeting is set for March 25th at Hope Lutheran

South Chapel. Registration/coffee begins at 8:15 am with the program "*The Parable of the Good Samaritan*" beginning at 9 am. In Kind offering is personal items for the women at the YWCA. I'll have the list of items needed at the WELCA meeting.

- Nina Stone, President

Note of thanks

How wonderful it is to be in a church family that cares!

Thanks to everyone for the calls, cards, prayers and the prayer shawl that **Cordy** made and gave to me. It is so nice and comforting!

When we turn our troubles over to God, the burdens become so much

lighter and we are able to handle them.

Thank you, **Pastor Karin**, for all your calls, visits, communion and prayers with us.

- Gene & LaMae Iwen

THANKS
from the
HEART

Update on Walcott's Superhero

Thanks for all your prayers for **Aden Oestreich**, who had chest reconstruction surgery in Virginia on February 15th. Aden loves Superheros and with how well his surgery went as well as his physical therapy while in the hospital, Aden is definitely a Superhero himself! He was discharged

from the hospital only 5 days later and is now back home in Walcott with his parents, Greg & Beth.

Follow Aden's progress on his Caringbridge site (caringbridge.org) Photos on the following page are from the site.

**Welcome home
Aden, Greg & Beth!**



Three special ladies (and a cute little girl!)

Pastor Karin's camera has been busy again! She took the following picture of **Bette Jordheim** and the beautiful bread she baked at a recent visit.

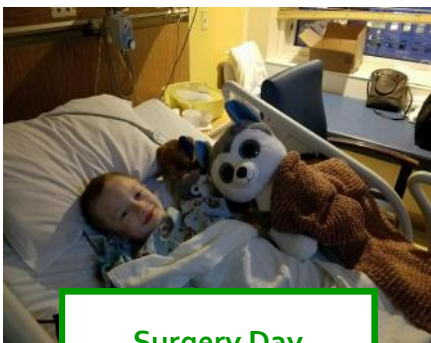


She also photographed President **Shelly Swandal** at the February 9th council meeting. Shelly received assistance from her granddaughter.

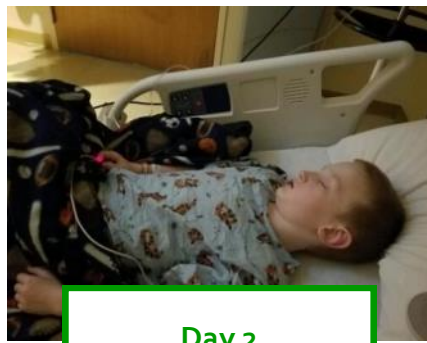
Thanks Pastor Karin!



3/2: Charlie Rieger
Marlene Rieger
3/4: Sue Farsdale
3/5: Kami Grad
3/8: Drew Nelson
3/14: Paul Moyer
3/16: Jared Bakko
3/17: Cheryl Anderson
3/19: Bette Jordheim
3/20: Mike Heglie
3/23: Sandy Heglie
3/24: Rayder Rude
3/28: Dan Grad
3/30: James Heyen



Surgery Day



Day 2



Day 3

Aden



Day 4

Day 5



**WALCOTT LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
FEBRUARY 9, 2017**

The Walcott Church Council met February 9th at 7:00 pm in the memorial lounge.

Present were: Shelly Swandal, Pastor Karin, Leeanne and Dan Girodat, Sandy Heglie, Allan Stone, Ron Heglie and Cheryl Anderson.

CALL TO ORDER & DEVOTIONS

Shelly called the meeting to order. Pastor Karin led us in devotions. February 9th is Giving Hearts Day in the greater Fargo/Moorhead area. We talked about acts of kindness and shared acts of kindness that we had witnessed or been a part of.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report: Sandy read the minutes from the December 15, 2016 meeting. Ron made a motion to approve said minutes, Leeanne seconded and motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report: Leeanne gave the treasurer's report. She shared that she worked on the giving units for our church. We have 46 giving units. We discussed that all of the churches in the parish are seeing the strain.

Pastor's report: Pastor Karin.

- Valentines cards will be sent out by confirmation classes to homebound/sick parishioners. Many thanks to Cheryl Anderson for helping.
- Lent begins Wednesday, March 1st. Ash Wednesday service will be held in Christine.
- Installation of officer will be on February 12th at the 11:00 service.
- There will not be a "Feed My Hungry Children" service project this year. All of the slots were filled.
- Special offering for Easter has been designated to the Kindred Backpack Program. The Good Gifts Program at Christmas, raised \$1,258.00.
- Pastor's vacation will be April 18-25 and July 12-16. She will be doing continuing education from July 5-11 at the Holden Village Lutheran Retreat Center in Washington State. Will need supply Pastors for April 23, July 9, and July 16.
- Pastor will send out the CaringBridge link for Aden Oestreich, with thoughts and prayers for a successful surgery and recovery.

Trustee Report: Allan gave the Trustee's report sharing that the heating issue was caused by a bad heat controller and had been repaired. The lighting issue (or lack thereof) in the library may be solved. Allan was looking in to a few wireless options.

Deacon Report- Dan noted that the glass for the front church sign is broken. Leeanne and Dan said they had a piece of plexi-glass that might work to replace the glass. Ron mentioned as a reminder that one of the responsibilities of the ushers is to change the service times in above said sign at the end of the month in which they usher.

Board of Education: No report given.

NEW BUSINESS

1. This Lent we will be asking for the congregation's help with the Lenten soup & sandwich supper. They will be held on March 15 and April 5 this year. There will be a sign up sheet in the entrance of the church. Please have food to church by 6:30. The kids will help serve.
2. Information from the February 7th Parish Council Meeting was shared. The Summer Schedule was approved. The changes included; Hickson will stay at 9:00 for the months of May/June. Walcott and Christine switched time for Rally Sunday with Walcott taking the 9:00 service and Hickson taking the 11:00 service.
3. Leeanne discussed the money in the savings account. She was going to find a place to put it that gave us a better return. Motion was made by Allen to approve and Cheryl seconded it.

ADJOURNMENT

Our next meeting will be April 4th at 7:00p.m.

We ended the meeting praying the Lord's Prayer.

Leeanne made a motion to adjourn and Sandy seconded it.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Heglie



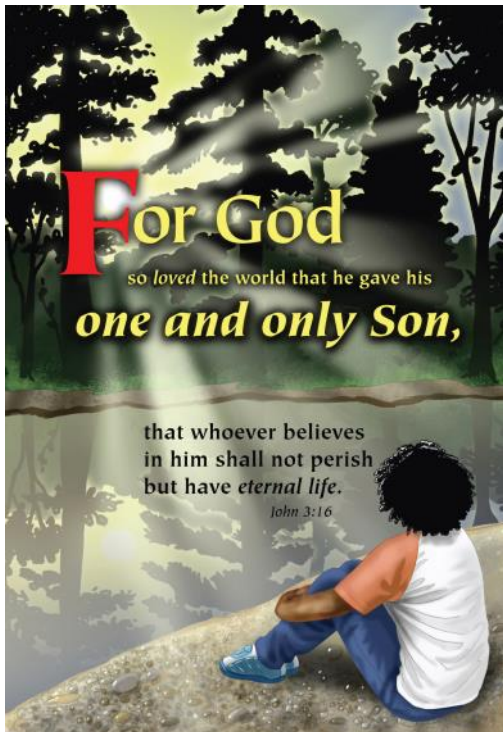


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Serving the ELCA Congregations of
Christine, Hickson & Walcott

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



The Shepherd's Post is published monthly for members and friends of Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Parish.

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