



# 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

May 2016

## May Events

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 1	9:00 am Christine*	11:00 am Walcott*
May 8	9:00 am Christine	11:00 am Hickson*
May 15	9:00 am Christine	11:00 am Walcott
May 22	9:00 am Christine	11:00 am Hickson
May 29	11:00 am All Parish Worship—Walcott	

\*Communion Worship

### EVENTS/MEETINGS

Mondays		Pastor Karin's day off
Tues-Thurs**	9:00 am-1:00 pm	Parish office hours
Thursdays**	9:00 am	Bulletin announcements due
May 1	9:00 am	First Communion—Christine
	10:00 am	Last day of Sunday School—Christine
May 3	7:00 pm	Hickson council meeting
May 8	11:00 am	First Communion—Hickson
	11:00 am	Blessing of the graduates—Hickson
May 10	7:00 pm	Parish council meeting—Walcott
May 11	1:30 pm	Hickson Bible study—Lillian Johnson's
May 15	9:00 am	Blessing of the graduates—Christine
	11:00 am	Blessing of the quilts—Walcott
May 16-24		Pastor Karin at continuing education
May 19	7:00 pm	Walcott WELCA meeting/Love Offering
May 22	2:00 pm	Richland Baccalaureate—Zion
	7:00 pm	Kindred Baccalaureate—Kindred Luth.
May 29	12:00 pm	Potluck dinner ( <u>Christine</u> : desserts, <u>Hickson</u> : salads, <u>Walcott</u> : main meal) following All Parish Worship—Walcott

\*\*Parish office closed through May 4



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*Thanks!*  
to  
**KATHY LINDGREN  
OLSON**  
For sponsoring  
this month's  
newsletter  
**YOUR GIFT IS GREATLY  
APPRECIATED!**



## Divine Hope

In this season of graduation, I find myself reflecting back to my daughter Johnna's graduation from college. She was somewhere in a sea of black caps and gowns. Thanks to a zoom lens on a very good camcorder, and a mother's intuition I was able to find my daughter in the crowd of students. Once I had my sights fixed on her, I relaxed.

That's when I began to look around at all the proud families gathered in that college auditorium. It was a day full of possibility. And we were there sharing HOPE – hope for the future.

This is the month when many families and churches celebrate graduations. We will bless Shepherd of the Prairie's high school graduates and remember parents who are preparing to send their children, some literally and some figuratively, off to experience the next phase of life and growth. Excited for the possibilities that await them, parents and families share with their children hopes for the future. Hopes that they will continue to blossom and grow in mind, body and spirit.

**Jesus says, ...go...you are chosen and appointed to bear fruit that will last.**

Here we catch a glimpse of the divine character of God as "one who hopes in us." The God who hopes. The God who hopes for our good. The One who places us here in the garden, in families and communities, with everything we need in order to grow...

Parents carry this divine hope within as well. We want our children to embrace our values, discern their vocations, understand the world a little better, choose their friends wisely, and manage their freedom. We want them to avoid pain by avoiding some of the mistakes we may have made.

But communities of faith also carry this divine hope. That's why we remember those who are graduating and that's why gifts are given and prayers are said. When our young people are not within our sight, we trust that God is watching over them and abiding with them...

We hope they will remember that the God of the garden is a God who is on our side, investing in us, cheering us on, hoping that we are ready to go. Ready to grow. Ready to begin growing in new ways. We hope our graduates will remember that the God of the garden is on THEIR side.

**I love that we have a God who chooses us and appoints us so that we might go, grow, and bear fruit – fruit that will last – so that our joy might be complete.**

**(John 15:16)**

It is quite amazing to see how life springs up from sleeping soil. I don't know about you, but it gives my spirit a lift when I see seeds sprouting, bare trees leafing out, flower buds swelling to bloom. I love this time of the year.

Secondly, that the garden stewards the story of spring, the resurrection story: What was dead comes back to life. The moment simply speaks to us of Jesus' resurrection, an event the returning array of asparagus imprints on us with a deeper intensity. The bare plot turned vegetable crop shows us new birth and a living hope (1 Peter 1:3 – 4), a graphic and delicious account of death to life.



*Pastor Karin*

Over and over the spring garden proclaims the way of God's salvation (Psalm 67:1); new shoots and vibrant leaves keep us in the company of the redemption story, reminding us that God has blessed us with his salvation (Psalm 67:6).  
- See more at: <http://www.gardenindelight.com/spring-devotions/#sthash.OgAP8aoC.dpuf>

## Offerings as of 3/30/16

Congregation	2016 Budget	Monthly Offering needed	March Offering	Y-T-D Totals
Christine	\$ 24,200.00	\$ 2,017.00	\$ n/a	\$ n/a
Hickson	\$ 73,933.00	\$ 6,162.00	\$ 5,002.00	\$13,555.00
Walcott	\$ 70,894.00	\$ 5,908.00	\$ 6,393.66	\$11,478.66

## May Wish List

1. Devotional materials for the parish
2. Weekly bulletin mailing to homebound/nursing home members: \$7.50/wk/\$30/mo
3. Sponsor June/July 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.*

**Total Wish List Gifts for 2016: \$300**

## Lutheran World Relief Drive

**May 9-13 from 9 am-4 pm**

**Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota  
3911 20th Ave S, Fargo**

*A truck will be parked on the north side of the building. Please unload items there.*

### ITEMS NEEDED:

Quilts, Personal care kits, Baby care kits, Fabric kits, New bars of soap

### PACKING INSTRUCTIONS:

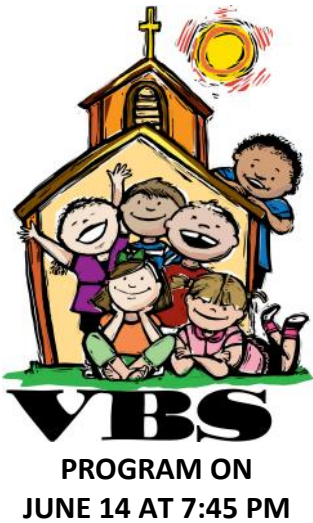
1. Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations
2. Donations should be sorted and packed in separate boxes
3. Use strong cartons secured with packing tape
4. Do not allow box weight to exceed 40 pounds
5. Label each box with name & address of congregation & box contents



- ◆ **Parish office hours:**  
*Closed thru May 4;  
then 9 am– 1 pm  
Tuesday through  
Thursday*
- ◆ **Bulletin printed:**  
*9 am Thursdays*
- ◆ **Parish Council mtg:**  
*7 pm Tues., May  
10—Walcott*
- ◆ **Pastor Karin at continuing ed:** *May 16-24*
- ◆ **June/July newsletter info due:** *May 20th*
- ◆ **All Parish Worship:**  
*11 am on 5/29—  
Walcott*
- ◆ **April-June Christ In Our Home** *daily devotionals (in the church entrances)*

### **BETHANY ANNUAL MEETING**

Bethany Retirement Living held their annual meeting on April 5th. Delegates attending from our parish were: **Darla Rufer**, Christine; **Allen & Diane Ricker**, Hickson; **Susan Hanson & Bette Jordheim**, Walcott.



## Save the date!

The congregations of Hickson, Christine, and Walcott will hold a combined **Vacation Bible School** on June 12-14 from 5:30-8:30 pm at the Hickson church.

Park River Bible Camp counselors will be the lead VBS and children ages

6–11 are welcome—you don't need to be a member to participate. Suggested donation is \$20/child and may be paid the first night of VBS. RSVP to **MaryJane Nipstad** at 701.361.5191 or [mjnipstad@gmail.com](mailto:mjnipstad@gmail.com) by June 1.

## First Communion

First Communion is being held at all congregations in the parish. Third and fourth graders from the parish were invited to attend one of the confirmation retreats held April 23rd in Walcott or April 30th in Hickson.

Eight students were invited to attend: **Emma Schnellbach**

(Christine); **Carson Andel, Sophie Brakke, Ali Henke, Elsa Ingebrigtsen, & Cella Nettetstad**, (Hickson); **Aiden Getscher & Dylan Henke** (Walcott).

### FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAYS

Walcott: 9 am, April 24th

Christine: 9 am, May 1st

Hickson: 11 am, May 8th



## Parish graduates

Congratulations to this year's the four HS graduates of our parish!

Special blessings for the graduates will be held at their home churches. A write up and photos of each of the graduates will be included in the June/July newsletter.

BLESSING OF THE GRADUATES  
Hickson: 11 am, May 8. Graduates are **Madeline Braaten & Brandon Rademacher**

Christine: 9 am, May 15. Graduates are **Cole Hildebrant, Kayla Hildebrant and Reed Rufer**.

Walcott: There are no graduates this year.

May God bless you all on your next journey in life!



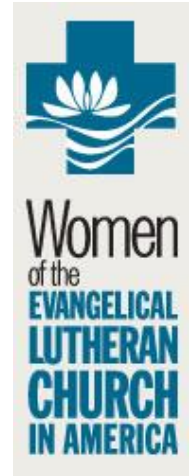


## WELCA Cluster meeting

This year's WELCA Fargo Cluster Meeting was held at Messiah Lutheran Church in Fargo on Saturday, April 2nd.

The morning included a snack and coffee and lunch was served at noon. The program was "Heart

Springs" by Jan Nelson and music was provided by Amy Lee Lehmann and daughter Jackie Lee Hovind. Those attending had an enjoyable morning! Thanks to Pastor Karin for providing the following photos of the event!



Speaker Jan Nelson



ABOVE  
Walcott members:  
**Bonnie Christianson,  
Marilyn Jordheim,  
Shelly Swandal,  
Nina Stone,  
Rita Amundson and  
Linda Stone.**



Musicians Amy Lee Lehmann  
& Jackie Lee Hovind

Hickson members: **Darlene Young, Dorothy Brakke  
& Lorraine Read**



## Synod Assembly

June 4-5, Holiday Inn, Fargo

The 2016 Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly will be held on June 4-5 at the Fargo Holiday Inn.

### SPECIAL GUESTS

Keynote Speaker Shane Claiborne, author, activist and founding member of The Simply Way.

ELCA Churchwide Representative Mikka McCracken of ELCA World Hunger

ELCA Missionary Susan Smith

Special music provided by Dakota Road

### CONGREGATIONAL DELEGATES

Christine: Randy Raeder

Hickson: Carol Freeman & Lorraine Read

Walcott: Ron & Sandy Heglie

This gathering is an opportunity to celebrate the mission and ministry of our synod as well as plan for the future. Over the course of two days, delegates will worship, learn, network, dream and conduct the annual business of the synod.



## Business Meeting



## Bethany retirement living

## Bethany... did you know

...that Bethany Retirement Living is sponsored by 38 congregations of the ELCA, include ours? Delegates from sponsoring churches elect the board of trustees at the annual meeting in April. The board is charged with overseeing the policies and operations of Bethany Retirement Living. AND, members of this parish are donors, advocates for Bethany and active in the auxiliary that helps enhance the quality of life for the residents. To learn more, visit Bethany's website at [www.bethanynd.org](http://www.bethanynd.org).



## Spaghetti Dinner

## Jeff Heglie Benefit

FRIDAY, JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> FROM 5-8 PM  
CHRISTINE COMMUNITY CENTER

*Spaghetti feed*

*Bake sale*

*Meat raffle*

*Silent auction*



## This month in Christine

Worship:

9 am (No worship on May 29th)

First Communion:

9 am May 1st

Last Day of Sunday School:

10 am May 1st

Blessing of the Graduates:

11 am May 15th

Coffee Servers:

5/1: Sharffs

5/8: Kay Skoog

5/15: OPEN

5/22: OPEN

5/29: Potluck at Walcott (bring desserts)

## This month in Hickson

WORSHIP (11 AM)

May 8 (Acolyte: **Solvey Ingebrigtsen**) &

May 22 (Acolyte: **Max Vikander**)

FIRST COMMUNION &

BLESSING OF THE GRADUATES

11 am May 8

COUNCIL MEETING

7 pm May 3

BIBLE STUDY

1:30 pm May 11—**Lil Johnson's** home

POTLUCK (SALADS)

12 pm May 29—Walcott

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Children will pack 175 snack bags for Churches United for the Homeless on April 24th to be delivered to the shelter for kids to eat while they wait in lines at the shelter or to take to school with them. Throughout the whole school year, there has been a rotation of local churches (Kindred, Norman, Davenport & Hickson) to help supply snack bags to Churches United.

## This month in Walcott

**W**orship will be held at 11 am on May 1st (Acolyte: **Aubrie Goldberg**), 15th (Acolyte: **Logan Myers**) and at the All Parish Worship service on May 29th (Acolyte: **Jack Sherven**). The Sons of Norway Accordion Band will perform and Walcott will provide the main meal for the potluck to follow.

Usher: Darlan Fatland; Deacon: Ron Heglie

Blessing of the quilts will be held during worship on May 15th.

WELCA meeting/Love Offering: 7 pm May 19th. Hostesses: Marlene & Leanne

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

**CHRISTINE**

5/3: Sandy Alm

5/7: Derek Overbo

5/14: Scott Hendrickson

5/15: Susie Granholt

5/19: Marilyn

Hendrickson

Matthew Granholt

5/19: Kyle Kensinger

**HICKSON**

5/1: Ida Bye

Shirley Christianson

John Freitag

5/6: Scott Johnson

Max Vikander

5/14: Hank Mertz

5/15: Cella Nettetstad

5/17: Penny Vikander

5/22: Jerome Nipstad

5/25: Colton Schaffer

5/27: Oliver Mathison

**WALCOTT**

5/1: Ellen Ista

5/2: Linda Nelson

Derek Rhodenbaugh

5/4: Henry Heyen

5/8: Brad Jordheim

5/9: Allen Farsdale

5/18: Jack Rhodenbaugh

5/20: Wayne Farsdale

5/23: Kathryn Haskins-

Jostad

Bruce Nelson

Holly Rieger

5/24: Gerda Jordheim

5/30: Andrew Hebl

Heather

Rhodenbaugh

5/31: Stephanie

Hendrickson



**Shepherd of the  
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*Serving the ELCA Congregations of  
Christine, Hickson & Walcott*

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**Monday, May 30th  
ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY LUNCHEON**  
Following a short program at 11 am  
Walcott Lutheran Church  
**MENU**  
Scalloped potatoes with ham, corn,  
beans, rolls, beverages, pie.  
***All are welcome!***

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

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastor** .....Karin Moberg  
**Administrative Assistant** .....LeAnn Toppen  
**Organists** .....Kay Skoog, Christine  
.....Mary Jo Lothspeich, Hickson & Walcott  
**Newsletter Editor** .....LeAnn Toppen  
**Production Assistants** ..... Marilyn Jordheim & Howard Ellenson  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Office Hours:** Tuesday-Thursday 9:00 am-1:00 pm  
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**Hickson Office Phone:** 701.588.4354  
**Pastor's Phone:** 701.793.6252  
**Pastor's Email:** [pastorkarin14@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkarin14@gmail.com)  
**Parish Office Email:** [shepluthpar@wtc-mail.net](mailto:shepluthpar@wtc-mail.net)  
**Parish Website:** [www.shepherdparish.com](http://www.shepherdparish.com)  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/shepluthpar](http://www.facebook.com/shepluthpar)