



Volume 24 Issue 04
April 2024

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PRAIRIE FAITH COMPANION

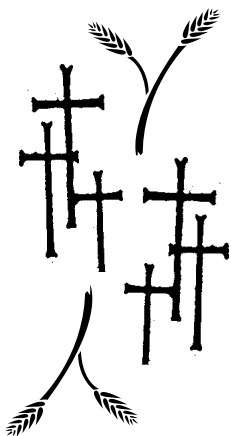
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Pastor Jon will be on Vacation from Thursday, April 4th thru Sunday, April 7th.



Prairie Faith Shared Ministry
Combined Worship Service

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
338 N. 7th St., WaKeeney

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024
10:30 A.M.

Clergy: *Pastor Ethan Feistner, Executive Director*
Camp Tomah Shinga
(Member of Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Kansas)



The Prairie Faith Parish Nurse Ministry is working with Matt and Kristi Morton to collect funding to help complete a remodeling project for their new home to make their bathroom accessible for Kristi to be able to shower independently—currently Matt has to be at home to physically lift Kristi from her wheelchair to the shower.

The undesignated offering collected at the combined service at Bethlehem on Sunday, April 7 will go toward their project, and the parish nurse ministry will have a free-will donation basket at the potluck lunch following the combined service that same day. **You will find more information in the April parish nurse newsletter!** Anyone in the community may contribute to their remodeling project. Contact Nancy with any questions! Thank you in advance for your support of this project!



You Are Invited!

Lasagna Supper!

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024, 5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

A freewill donation with proceeds going toward the remaining church basement renovations.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
(NORTH OF ELLIS ON THE BLACKTOP ROAD)

Looking forward to seeing you there!

The mission of Prairie Faith Shared Ministry is to gather in God's name, share ideas & concerns, and actively shape the future of spiritual growth for our member congregations. Empowered by the Holy Spirit and through ordained and lay leadership, we offer this ministry to serve Christ in our communities.



Prairie Faith Shared Ministry
 Pastor Jon Anderson
 Church Office Location:
 338 N 7th Street
 WaKeeney, KS 67672

Phone—(785) 743-2005
 Email - blc1@ruraltel.net
 www.prairiefaith.com

PFSM Council Members and Phone Numbers

- Katie Dreiling, St. John,.....
- Robert Schonthaler, St. John, President.....
- Richard Jensen, Bethlehem, Treasurer.....
- Margaret Schmitt, Bethlehem.....
- Kathleen Fabrizius, Emanuel, Secretary.....

Please call the church office at 785-754-2005 and we will put you in touch with a PF Council Member.



A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSISTED AND CONTRIBUTED TO OUR PRAIRIE FAITH CONGREGATIONS' LENTEN, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES, AS WELL AS THE COMMUNITY LENTEN BREAKFASTS! ALSO, THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED AND PARTICIPATED IN ANY WAY TO BETHLEHEM'S BAKED POTATO BAR! YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT ARE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!

Bethlehem & Pastor Jon:

Address: 338 N. 7th St.
 WaKeeney, KS 67672

Office Phone: (785) 743-2005
 Cell Phone: Please Call Office
 E-mail: pjzionem@yahoo.com

St. John Church info:

Address: 394 St. John - St. Andrew Road
 Ellis, KS 67637

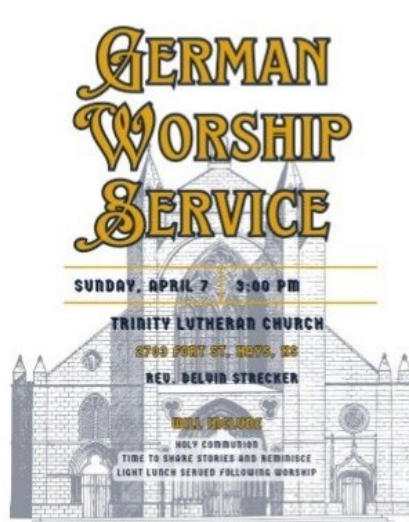
SJ Office Phone: (785) 726-3207
 PF OfficePhone: (785) 743-2005

Parish Nurse—Nancy Bollig, BSN,RN

Address: 338 N 7th Street
 WaKeeney, KS 67672

Cell Phone: (785) 769-4731
 E-mail: parishnurse@ruraltel.net

**Pastor Jon is available by appointment.
 To get in touch with Pastor Jon, please call his cell phone or the church office.**



German Worship Service 4-7-24, 3PM

Join us on Sunday, April 7th, 2024 at 3:00 pm (Trinity Lutheran Church 2703 Fort Street, Hays, KS) for a worship service in the German Language. This service will be similar to services held by the Lutheran Russian-German immigrants who settled in Ellis, Barton, and Russell county. The Service will be led by Rev. Delvin Strecker. Holy communion will

be offered. There will also be a time to share stories and reminisce. A light lunch will follow the service- both service and lunch open to the public. Lunch-freewill donation.

Rev. Delvin Strecker's family emigrated to the Barton county area of Kansas from the Lutheran area along the Volga River in Russia. He grew up speaking the Volga German dialect but learned to speak High German and was a high school German teacher until he retired and went to seminary. Even though the Volga Germans who came to this area did not speak High German, the worship services were held in High German because their hymnals, catechisms and Bibles were written in High German. Komm danket dem Heiland mit freudigen Zungen!





Bethlehem

Sunday Worship—9:00 a.m.
Mid-Week School, Wed @ 6:00 p.m.
(during public school year)
Office: 785-743-2005
(Please leave a message)

Volunteers for April

April 7— Pastor Ethan Feistner
COMBINED PFSM WORSHIP SERVICE AT BETHLEHEM
Worship begins at 10:30 a.m. instead of 9:00 a.m.
Organist/Pianist—Cindy Level
Lector—Myrna Mai
Head Usher— Richard Jensen
Acolyte—Dalton Conness

April 14— Pastor Jon Anderson
CELEBRATION OF FIRST COMMUNION
Organist/Pianist—Chris Trogstad
Lector—Sean Conness
Head Usher— Bridget Cook
Acolyte—Tatum Cook

April 21— Pastor Shelly Klingensmith
Organist/Pianist—Mary Cunningham
Lector—Linda Glaze
Head Usher— Jeremiah Burbach
Acolyte—Bentley Conness

April 28 — Pastor Jon Anderson
Organist/Pianist—Laura Anderson
Lector—Deb Fabrizius
Head Usher— Richard Jensen
Acolyte—Gabe Schneider



HOLY COMMUNION

PASTOR JON WILL BE HOLDING FIRST COMMUNION CLASS AT BETHLEHEM ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, AT 6:30 P.M. DURING MIDWEEK IN THE 5TH/6TH GRADE CLASS-ROOM OF THE BLC

EDUCATION WING. WHETHER YOU ARE MAKING YOUR FIRST COMMUNION OR WOULD LIKE A REFRESHER, ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

A CELEBRATION OF FIRST COMMUNION WILL BE HELD DURING WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH.

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship — 9:00 a.m.
(every 1st & 3rd Sundays)

April 7— No Service at Emanuel
Combined Service at Bethlehem

April 21— Pastor Jon Anderson

St. John Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship—11:00 a.m.
(Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays)

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
(during public school year)

Volunteers for April

April 7— Pastor Ethan Feistner
COMBINED PFSM WORSHIP SERVICE AT BETHLEHEM
Potluck Lunch following Worship
Worship begins at 10:30 a.m. instead of 9:00 a.m.

April 14— Pastor Jon Anderson
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOLLOWING WORSHIP
CONFIRMATION CLASS FOLLOWING MEETING
LASAGNA SUPPER FROM 5:00P TO 7:00P

Greeter—Bill Dietz
Lector—Terry Kortan
Organist—Katie Dreiling
Sound—Lyle Johnston

April 21— Pastor Jon Anderson
Greeter—Rodger Fischer
Lector—Josh Keller
Communion—Tim & Aleta Keller
Organist—Katie Dreiling
Sound—Lyle Johnston

April 28— Pastor Jon Anderson
CONFIRMATION CLASS FOLLOWING WORSHIP~12:00
Greeter—Darrell Armbruster
Lector—Brenda Lucas
Organist—Katie Dreiling
Sound—Lyle Johnston



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024
FOLLOWING WORSHIP



April BIRTHDAYS

Bethlehem

- 1 Austin Kinderknecht
- 2 Josh Enslow
- 4 Charlie Crook
- 4 Kyle Crossland
- 5 Matthew Coker
- 9 Deven Schoenthaler
- 10 Eric Cunningham
- 15 Brooks Conness
- 16 Brenda Hilmes
- 16 Mary Ann Schneider
- 18 Bev Armbruster
- 19 Paityn Armbruster
- 20 Jami Albers
- 21 Margaret Schmitt
- 24 Raydene Dietz
- 25 Ashley Garrett
- 29 Mark Hafliger
- 29 Lyle Larson
- 30 Taylor Schoenthaler

St. John

- 4 Deborah Jones
- 4 Jamie Keller
- 6 Sarah Gabel
- 11 Kara Homburg
- 12 Brianna Brin
- 13 Logan Brin
- 17 Delwin Massier
- 18 Randy Armbrister
- 18 Trayton Kroeger
- 19 Hope Couse
- 21 Brianna Fischer
- 23 Don Davis
- 23 Amy Fisher
- 25 Joshua Keller
- 27 Diana Schonhaler
- 28 Andrew Lucas
- 30 Crystal Armbrister

Emanuel

- 4 Kelli Morrill
- 23 Jackson Morrill



Happy ANNIVERSARY

Wedding Anniversaries

- 2 Bret & Ashley Conness — Bethlehem
- 5 Thomas & Nicole McElroy — St. John
- 7 Craig & Linda Crossland — Bethlehem
- 9 Tate & Bridget Cook — Bethlehem
- 13 Rodger & Kenda Fischer — St. John
- 17 Scott & Tania Kortan — St. John
- 27 Alise & Brandon Gosselin — Bethlehem
- 27 Darin & Natalie Armbrister — St. John
- 28 Tim & Aleta Keller — St. John



Church Camp

Sunday, April 7 at 10:30 a.m.
BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prairie Faith Shared Ministry

Combined Service
with

Pastor Ethan Feistner, Exec. Director
Camp Tomah Shinga

Great opportunity for parents, whose kids may be interested in summer camp, to learn more about Camp Tomah Shinga!
There will be a potluck lunch following worship.
Looking forward to seeing you there!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH EDUCATION

Midweek at Bethlehem

You are invited to come, join your friends in fellowship and learn more about Jesus and God's Word. You do not have to be Lutheran to attend. Meal begins at 6:00p, followed by Worship/Music and classes at 6:45p. Class dismisses at 7:30p. Classes include Pre-K thru 8th grade. During Lent, class will dismiss early for Lenten Services. Midweek will be held at the regular time on early-dismissal days from school. For more information about our Midweek program, please contact the BLC Church Office at 785-743-2005 and we will put you in contact with a Midweek representative.



BETHLEHEM MIDWEEK MEALS

April 3—Goulash, corn, French bread, brownies, milk or juice

April 10—Pancakes, sausage, bananas, milk or juice

April 17— Ham & Cheese sandwich, apple slices, chips, Rice Krispie treat, milk or juice

April 24— Chili cheese nachos & hot dogs, dessert, juice

First Communion Class
 6:30 p.m., Wednesday,
 April 10 in the
 5th/6th grade classroom.
 All are Welcome!

**Celebration of
 First Communion on**
 Sunday, April 14th
 9:00 a.m. during Worship



Sunday School/Confirmation at St. John

Confirmation Class
 Sunday, April 14, following the congregational meeting.
 Sunday, April 28 at 12:00 p.m.

Sunday School at St. John meets on Sunday Mornings during the school year prior to worship at 10:00 a.m.

Please join us as we celebrate another great year of Fellowship, Worship and Learning! If you would like more information about Sunday School, please call a St. John Sunday School representative or the Prairie Faith office at 785-743-2005 and we will put you in touch with a St. John Sunday School representative. Looking forward to seeing you there!





FROM THE PASTOR

Colossians 3:1-4

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

If you're reading this after March 31st, you probably think Easter is over. Guess again! The Easter season begins on Easter Sunday (March 31st this year) and ends on the Day of Pentecost (May 21st this year)-eight Sundays. And besides that, every Sunday of the year (yes, even during Lent) is a celebration of Easter. I know of a pastor who wanted to remind his congregation of that truth, and so every Sunday, all year round, even at Christmas time, even during Lent, the service included at least one Easter hymn. The Scripture I quoted above reminds us that the effects of Easter are ongoing. Christ has died and has been raised. In our baptism, we, as Paul writes elsewhere, are baptized into Christ's death, and raised with Him to new life. In other words, Easter isn't just something that happened to Jesus a long time ago-it's something that is happening to us. In our baptism, we were joined to Christ's death and resurrection, and each time we come to worship, hear the Gospel proclaimed, and share in the Sacrament, we are renewed in our baptism and in our faith. Luther calls upon us to renew our baptism daily in prayer, reminding ourselves of who we are and whose we are. As part of the service of Baptism, a lighted candle is handed to the newly baptized or a parent or sponsor (depending on how old the person being baptized is) while these words are spoken: "Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven". While we continue to live in the flesh, sometimes the light of Christ shines through clearly, while other times the old Adam-the old sinful self-is revealed in us. As Luther said "the old Adam was drowned in baptism, but he's a good swimmer." But when that happens, we know that God's Spirit, given to us in baptism, will bring us to repentance. We begin most of our services with confession, because we know that more often than we'd like to admit, our old self comes out. During the Easter season, our service begins with a Thanksgiving for Baptism, in which we remember and give thanks for what God accomplished in those waters-but we are not without confession, for our service includes The Lord's Prayer, in which we pray, "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." We look forward to the day when the old Adam in us is totally destroyed and only our new self, the life of Christ given us in baptism, remains, and we "are revealed with (Christ) in glory". Until that day comes, may God's peace be with you.

Pastor Jon





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 2:00p Women's Bible Study in BLC Library 4:00p Yoga @ Library	2 6:30p PFSM Bible Study @ BLC	3 6:00p Midweek Dismisses at 7:30p	4	5	6
7 2nd Sunday of Easter 10:30a PFSM Combined Service at Bethlehem/Communion Clergy: Pastor Ethan Feistner, Camp Tomah Shinga No services at St. John or Emanuel	8 11:00a BLC Worship at WaKeeney LTC 4:00p Yoga @ Library 7:00p SJ Council Mtg.	9 6:30p PFSM Bible Study @ BLC 7:30p PFSM Council Mtg.	10 6:00p Midweek Dismisses at 7:30 p 6:30p BLC First Communion Class during Midweek 7:30p BLC Council Mtg.	11	12	13
Bethlehem ~ Meals on Wheels, Apr. 8th thru 12th						
14 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:00a BLC Worship/Communion 9:00a BLC Celebration of First Communion during Worship 10:00a SJ Sunday School 11:00a SJ Worship 12:00p SJ Congregational Mtg. SJ Confirmation Class following Congregational Mtg. 5:00p to 7:00p SJ Lasagna Supper	15 4:00p Yoga @ Library	16 6:30p PFSM Bible Study @ BLC	17 6:00p Midweek Dismisses at 7:30 p	18 1:00p BLC WaKeeney LTC Communion	19 PFSM Newsletter Deadline	20
21 4th Sunday of Easter 9:00a Em Worship/Communion 9:00a BLC Worship/Communion 10:00a SJ Sunday School 11:00a SJ Worship/Communion	22 4:00p Yoga @ Library	23 6:30p PFSM Bible Study @ BLC	24 6:00p Final Midweek of the School Year ~ Dismisses at 7:30p	25 1:00p WaKeeney Sr. Apartment Communion	26	27
28 5th Sunday of Easter 9:00a BLC Worship/Communion 10:00a SJ Sunday School 11:00p SJ Worship 12:00p SJ Confirmation Class	29 4:00p Yoga @ Library	30 6:30p PFSM Bible Study @ BLC				

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PRAIRIE FAITH SHARED MINISTRY

Isaiah 26:3-4

YOU, LORD, GIVE TRUE PEACE
TO THOSE WHO DEPEND ON YOU,
BECAUSE THEY TRUST YOU.
SO, TRUST THE LORD ALWAYS,
BECAUSE HE IS OUR ROCK FOREVER.



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*May all your people from all the ends
of Earth be gathered into one in you.*

Bethlehem Lutheran WaKeeney, KS	Emanuel Lutheran Rural Ogallah, KS
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St.. John's Lutheran Church
North of Ellis, KS

*Prairie Faith Companion
The monthly newsletter for members and friends of
Prairie Faith Shared Ministry*