



Volume 25 Issue 03

March 2025

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**St. John will be holding a Special Congregational Meeting following Worship on Sunday, March 9.**

**The purpose of the meeting is to discuss building projects.**

# PRAIRIE FAITH COMPANION

## You Are Invited!

## ANNUAL BAKED POTATO BAR FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025

10:30 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.



Great Variety of Toppings  
And Desserts!

*Stay and enjoy or  
"To Go" boxes available.*



Freewill donation with all  
Proceeds going toward  
Trego Community General  
Public (Out-of-Town)  
Transportation Van!



### BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

**338 N. 7TH ST., WAKEENEY**

*A new chairlift is available for basement access,  
located at the church's East parking lot (double red doors)*

*In 2024, the Transportation Van provided 715 medical rides and 53 other essential trips (shopping, airport, veterinary visits, etc.) This van was vital for travel to medical appointments to Ellis, Hays, Quinter, Great Bend, Garden City, Russell and Wichita.*

**Pastor D. J. Rasner, a former PFSM Intern,** recently underwent surgery to remove a brain tumor. We are happy to report that he is now at home and recovering well. If you would like to send him a get-well card, it would be very much appreciated. His address is listed below. Please keep Pastor D. J. and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

**Pastor D.J. Rasner**  
**116 Fortune Lake Camp Road**  
**Crystal Falls, MI 49920**

*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 Fabrizio, Emanuel, Secretary.....

### Pastor Jon & Bethlehem Lutheran Church:

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

Office Phone: (785) 743-2005

Cell Phone:

Pastor E-mail: pjzionem@yahoo.com

Office E-mail: blc1@ruraltel.net

### St. John Lutheran Church:

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 171  
Ellis, KS 67637

SJ Office Phone: (785) 726-3207

PF Office Phone: (785) 743-2005

### Emanuel Lutheran Church:

Address: 27037 Hwy 147  
Ogallah, KS 67656  
(7 Miles South of Ogallah I-70 Exit 135)

Mailing Address: c/o Kathleen Fabrizio  
32086 S Rd.  
Ogallah, KS 67656

PF Office Phone: (785)-743-2005

### Parish Nurse—Nancy Bollig, BSN, RN

Address: 338 N 7th Street  
WaKeeney, KS 67672

Office Phone: (785)743-2005

Cell Phone:

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.

## Prairie Faith Shared Ministry Council Minutes December 10, 2024

The December 10, 2024, meeting of Prairie Faith Shared Ministry Council was held at St. John's Lutheran Church.

The following churches and representatives were in attendance: Bethlehem- Richard Jensen, Margaret Schmitt; St. John- Bob Schonthaler, Katie Dreiling

Also in attendance was Pastor Jon Anderson.

The meeting was called to order by Bob.

Devotions were given by Katie.

The agenda, minutes and financial packet was given to all attendees.

The minutes from the October 8, 2024, meeting was approved as written.

Richard went over the financial reports. He suggested we do collect December dues from churches just in case we need to cover an extra Pastor if one is found before Pastor Jon retires. He also went over the proposed 2025 budget for PFSM. He noted budget lines should be able to give enough to cover any fluctuations in line items.

The 2025 PFSM budget was approved to pass on to congregations.

Pastor Jon shared his schedule for all the upcoming services at the three churches through Christmas and also upcoming baptisms and funerals. His new phone is set up and working well for him.

When discussion on the call committee process came up it was reported the call committee was tweaking the information on the site profile that will need the bishop's approval and they are in getting it done in good time.

Nancy had a written Parish Nurse report that council looked over at meeting with a few highlights noted.

Communications-Thank you note

Old business -none

New business -none

The next meeting will be February 18, 2025, at 7:30 at BLC

Richard will do devotions.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Margaret Schmitt



## 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 March

**March 2**— Pastor Jon Anderson  
 Organist/Pianist—Chris Trogstad  
 Lector—Laurita Burbach  
 Head Usher—Rick Burbach  
 Acolyte—Bentley Conness

**March 5**— Pastor Jon Anderson  
**ASH WEDNESDAY —Service at 7:30 p.m.**  
 Organist/Pianist—Mary Cunningham  
 Lector—Bridget Cook  
 Head Usher—Bridget Cook  
 Acolyte—Tatum Cook

**March 9**— Pastor Jon Anderson  
 Organist/Pianist—Cindy Level  
 Lector—Laura Anderson  
 Head Usher—Ruth Shiltz  
 Acolyte—June Schneider

**March 12**—Pastor Jon Anderson  
**LENTEN SERVICE —Service at 7:30 p.m.**  
 Leader/Cantor—Laura Anderson  
 Theme—"The Nail"  
 Organist/Pianist—Mary Cunningham  
 Lector—Kathy Dietz  
 Head Usher—Bridget Cook/Jeremiah Burbach  
 Acolyte—Gabe Schneider

**March 16**—Pastor Shelly Klingensmith  
**BAKED POTATO BAR—10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**  
 Organist/Pianist—Laura Anderson  
 Lector—Mel Fabrizio  
 Head Usher—Mary Cunningham  
 Acolyte—Raylan Conness

**March 19**—Pastor Jon Anderson  
**LENTEN SERVICE —Service at 7:30 p.m.**  
 Leader/Cantor—Sherry Galloway  
 Theme—"The Robe"  
 Organist/Pianist—Mary Cunningham  
 Lector—  
 Head Usher—Bridget Cook/Jeremiah Burbach  
 Acolyte—Gage Garrett

Continued next column

### Volunteers for March

#### Bethlehem Volunteers, continued

**March 23**— Pastor Jon Anderson  
 Organist/Pianist—Mary Cunningham  
 Lector—Deb Fabrizio  
 Head Usher—Kelsey Kinderknecht  
 Acolyte—Elias Hille

**March 26**— Pastor Jon Anderson  
**LENTEN SERVICE—Service at 7:30 p.m.**  
 Leader/Cantor—Santee Scott  
 Theme—"The Shroud"  
 Organist/Pianist—Mary Cunningham  
 Lector—  
 Head Usher—Bridget Cook/Jeremiah Burbach  
 Acolyte—Tucker Yingling

**March 30**— Pastor Jon Anderson  
 Organist/Pianist—Cindy Level  
 Lector—Myrna Mai  
 Head Usher—Richard Jensen  
 Acolyte—Bentley Conness

## Emanuel Lutheran Church

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

**March 2**— Pastor Emer. Randy Gibbs

**March 16**—Pastor Jon Anderson

WaKeeney Lenten Prayer  
 Breakfasts  
 7:00 a.m.

**March 12 ~** Men at Bethlehem Lutheran  
 Women at WaKeeney Methodist

**March 19 ~** Men at Church of God  
 Women at Bethlehem Lutheran

**March 26 ~** Men at Christ the King  
 Women at Church of God

**April 2 ~** Men at WaKeeney Methodist  
 Women at Christ the King

**April 9 ~** Men and Women at Christ the King



# 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 March

**March 2**—Pastor Jon Anderson  
Greeter—Bob Schonthaler  
Lector—Vonda Ackerman  
Communion—Brenda Lucas & Rodger Fischer  
Organist—Katie Dreiling  
Sound—Lyle Johnston

**March 5**—Pastor Emer. Randy Gibbs  
ASH WEDNESDAY —Service at 7:30 p.m.

**March 9**—Pastor Jon Anderson  
SUNDAY SCHOOL—10:00 a.m.  
Greeter—Bill Dietz  
Lector—Sue Schonthaler  
Organist—Katie Dreiling  
Sound—Lyle Johnston

**March 12**—  
LENTEN SERVICE —Service at 7:30 p.m.

**March 16**—Pastor Jon Anderson  
Greeter—Rodger Fischer  
Lector—Josh Keller  
Communion—Tim & Aleta Keller  
Organist—Katie Dreiling  
Sound—Lyle Johnston

**March 19**—  
LENTEN SERVICE —Service at 7:30 p.m.

**March 23**—Pastor Jon Anderson  
SUNDAY SCHOOL—10:00 a.m.  
Greeter—Darrell Armbruster  
Lector—Sarah Windholz  
Organist—Katie Dreiling  
Sound—Lyle Johnston

**March 26**—  
LENTEN SERVICE —Service at 7:30 p.m.

**March 30**—Pastor Jon Anderson  
CANDLELIGHT LASAGNA SUPPER~5:00p TO 7:00p  
Greeter—Bee McElroy  
Lector—Dennis Keller  
Organist—Katie Dreiling  
Sound—Lyle Johnston

## St. John

1 Kaylene Brin  
4 Justin Keller  
6 Trevor Funk  
7 Wanda Kortan  
9 Tim Kroeger II  
11 Marvin Keller  
16 Skyler Keller  
18 Aleta Keller  
18 Scott Kortan  
23 Kathy Desaire  
28 Darrell Keller  
28 Stephanie Daniels  
29 Bill Dietz  
29 Dustin Daniels  
31 Cage Daniels

## Emanuel

10 Mark Fabrizius

## Wedding Anniversaries

23 Tracy & Dennis Dinkel  
St. John

## Bethlehem

3 Chloe Woods  
3 Amanda Conness  
5 Tucker Yingling  
6 Ashley Conness  
8 Deb Fabrizius  
10 Grady Long  
11 Brice Custer  
11 Cindy Level  
14 Dean Papes  
14 Melvin Fabrizius  
17 Gerald Armbruster  
17 Richard Jensen  
20 Elaine Conness  
20 Gail Jensen  
21 Mitch Kroeger  
21 Hannah Enslow  
24 Carolyn Riggs  
28 Joseph Herskowitz  
29 Treygan Desair  
31 Linda Crossland



The Prairie Faith Parish Nurse Ministry invites you to participate in a stocking hat and glove/mitten drive for the Trego County Food Pantry.

New (or nearly new, in very good condition and laundered) stocking hats and gloves/mittens for adults or children may be placed in the food pantry donation box or given directly to Pastor Jon or Laura Anderson.

Please help spread the word to family, friends and neighbors! Thank you for your help with this service project for the community!

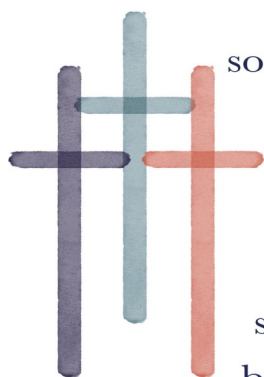
## Midweek at Bethlehem

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.



### BETHLEHEM MIDWEEK MEALS

March 5—NO MIDWEEK ~ ASH WEDNESDAY  
 March 12—Chili cheese nachos, hot dogs, fruit, cookies, juice or milk  
 March 19—NO MIDWEEK ~ SPRING BREAK  
 March 26—Pancakes, sausage, bananas, juice or milk



For God  
 so loved the world,  
 that he gave  
 his only son,  
 that whoever  
 believes in *him*  
 should not perish  
 but have *eternal life*.

John 3:16

### NO MIDWEEK

Wednesday, March 5  
 ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, March 19  
 SPRING BREAK...YEAH!!

### BLC MARCH LENTEN SERVICES

SERVICES BEGIN AT 7:30 P.M.

Ash Wednesday, March 5  
 Wednesday, March 12  
 Wednesday, March 19  
 Wednesday, March 26

### MIDWEEK DISMISSES

AT 7:15 P.M. on

March 12th, 19th and 26th  
 during Lent. Please Join Us for  
 Worship!

## Sunday School at St. John

**Sunday School will be held in March at 10:00 a.m. as follows:**  
**Sunday, March 9th and Sunday March 23rd**

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!



# A Message from Pastor Jon



**Psalm 99—"The Lord is king; let the people tremble. The Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake. The Lord, great in Zion, is high above all peoples. Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One. O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One. Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O Lord, they called upon you, and you answered them, you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them. O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds. Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and worship upon God's holy hill; for the Lord our God is the Holy One."**

Recently, it was reported that President Trump worshipped at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., as presidents have done for generations. The story is told that some years back, a tourist visiting Washington called the National Cathedral and asked if the president was planning to be there the following Sunday, because if so, she and her family would like to worship there. The secretary told her, "Well, ma'am, the president doesn't tell us his schedule, so we never know in advance whether he'll be here or not. However, I can assure that God will be here, and so a visit here Sunday will certainly be worth your while, and you and your family are quite welcome to join us". In today's world, churches are God's holy hills. We come to church for all kinds of reasons—to see our friends, because we like the pastor, because we enjoy the worship and fellowship, etc., but the church's main purpose is to be a place where we encounter God. Churches offer many different styles of worship, because people have different ways of experiencing God. Some prefer a quieter service, with periods of silence and meditation; some prefer a traditional liturgy and traditional hymns, played on an organ or piano, while some prefer more modern music, perhaps with drums and guitar. Whatever type of service is used, it's good worship if it helps us to experience the presence of God—and if in the worship, God's salvation for us is proclaimed. I encourage you to experience worship at one of our Prairie Faith churches as often as you can—if you can't attend in person, find a service online—you may see people you know—you may even see someone famous—but undoubtedly, God will be there. Yes, God is ever present—but church is the place where we can focus completely on God, and through the worship, the lessons, and the sermon, hear what God has to say to us. May God's peace be with you.

*Pastor Jon.*





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<b>2 Transfiguration of Our Lord</b> 9:00a BLC Worship/Communion 9:00a Em Worship/Communion <b>9:30a SJ Women's Prayer Breakfast</b> SJ—No Sunday School 11:00a SJ Worship/Communion	<b>3</b> 2:00p BLC WELCA 4:00p Yoga @ Library	<b>4</b> 6:30p PFSM Bible Study @ BLC	<b>5 ASH WEDNESDAY</b> <b>NO MIDWEEK</b> 7:30p <a href="#">Ash Wednesday Services</a> Bethlehem~Pastor Jon St. John~Pastor Emer. Randy	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9 1st Sunday in Lent</b> 9:00a BLC Worship/Communion 10:00a SJ Sunday School 11:00a SJ Worship/No Communion	<b>10</b> 11:00a BLC ~ WaKeeney LTC Worship 4:00p Yoga @ Library	<b>11</b> 6:30p PFSM Bible Study @ BLC	<b>12 7:00a Lenten Breakfast</b> <b>Men at Bethlehem Lutheran</b> <b>Women at WaKeeney Methodist</b> 6:00p Midweek~Dismisses @ 7:15p 7:30p <a href="#">Lenten Services</a> Bethlehem St. John	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
Bethlehem Meals on Wheels ~ March 10 to 14						
<b>16 2nd Sunday in Lent</b> 9:00a Em Worship/Communion 9:00a BLC Worship/Communion SJ—No Sunday School 11:00a SJ Worship/Communion <b>10:30a to 1:30p BLC Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser</b>	<b>17</b> 4:00p Yoga @ Library 	<b>18</b> 6:30p PFSM Bible Study @ BLC	<b>19 7:00a Lenten Breakfast</b> <b>Men at Church of God</b> <b>Women at Bethlehem Lutheran</b> <b>NO MIDWEEK-SPRING BREAK</b> 7:30p <a href="#">Lenten Services</a> Bethlehem St. John	<b>20</b> 1:00p BLC WaKeeney LTC Communion	<b>21</b> <b>PFSM April Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>22</b>
Spring Break—WaKeeney						
<b>23 3rd Sunday in Lent</b> 9:00a BLC Worship/Communion 10:00a SJ Sunday School 11:00p SJ Worship/No Communion	<b>24</b> 4:00p Yoga @ Library	<b>25</b> 6:30p PFSM Bible Study @ BLC	<b>26 7:00a Lenten Breakfast</b> <b>Men at Christ the King</b> <b>Women at Church of God</b> 6:00p Midweek ~Dismisses at 7:15p 7:30p <a href="#">Lenten Services</a> Bethlehem St. John	<b>27</b> 1:00p BLC WaKeeney Sr. Apartment Communion	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30 4th Sunday in Lent</b> 9:00a BLC Worship/Communion SJ—No Sunday School 11:00a SJ Worship/No Communion <b>5:00p to 7:00p SJ—Candlelight Lasagna Supper</b>	<b>31</b> 4:00p Yoga @ Library					

Prairie Faith Shared Ministry

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

Bethlehem Lutheran	Emanuel Lutheran
WaKeeney, KS	Rural Ogallah, KS

St.. John's Lutheran Church  
North of Ellis, KS

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