

WANDERINGS AND WONDERINGS

There was a group of scientists who were reviewing all the scientific accomplishments of the last millennium they decided they didn't need God anymore. They had figured out how to cure disease, manufacture food, and even create life in a test tube. So they thought maybe it was time to tell God that he could go find another universe to oversee.

When they told God all that they were thinking, God agreed that science had made wonderful strides. God also agreed that he would leave us on our own if they could pass one little test. God told them, "I want to see you create life just like I did in the beginning, taking a handful of dirt and breathing on it." The scientist conferred and they agreed that they would take God's challenge.

So God bent down took up a handful of dirt. And the scientists bent down and took up a handful of dirt. God interrupted them, "Ah-ahem...wait a minute...I think I created that dirt. If you don't need me, you get your own dirt."

Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves; otherwise we shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth." The LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had built. And the LORD said, "Look, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them". ...because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth. (Genesis 11:1-9)

There are two things in this story of the tower of Babel that make me stop and think. One is that verse, "...**this is only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them...**" As we look back over the centuries and millenniums, and as the commercial slogan goes, "*We have come a long*

way, baby!" We have. I often marvel at the generation who are in their 90's or so, and think about all the change they have encounter. How the world they were born in, has become the world they now live. Change, unbelievable change. And most of it for the best. I'm left in awe.

I don't quite believe that everything and anything is possible for us, but I have been heard saying, "if we can imagine it, somebody (with unlimited resources) can do it." It seems that way at times.

But then there is a second part of that passage. "**The LORD came down to see the city and the tower...**" If it is so high and mighty, why did God have to "come down" to see it. I picture it like looking at something from the Sears Tower. I see people on the sidewalk below, but I would have to "come down" to recognize any of them, for they are too little.

When it comes down to it, who I am, what I see, what I can imagine – it is all pretty small when I begin to stack it up against God and God's ways. Even when I look at God's hand working in our world, I think far too small. In fact, I often see God too small.

God is the one who I am in awe of. Every day I look at God with awe and wonder. I look at God with excitement about what new possibilities He is planning, and preparing, and imagining. Because it is true of Him, what he imagines is not just possible, but is!

As we watch the harvest come in. As we look around and see all that God has provided. As we realize all what God is doing. As we see the bare "dirt" on top of our fields. As we come to the table with thanksgiving in our hearts. Let us stand before God in worship and awe. For we have an Awesome God! More wonderful than our hearts and minds can even imagine.

Wanderings and Wonderings,
Pastor Bill Peters

WORSHIP – EDUCATION – SERVICE – FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP

Sunday, October 28th – Reformation Sunday
Celebrated with Holy Communion

Affirmation of Baptism – Dylan Davis
Conclusion of Listening to God’s Word – 40 Days
Special Offering - Audio Bible for the people of
Liberia who speak Bassa.

Sunday, November 4th – All Saints Sunday
Celebrated with Adult Choir & Holy
Communion

Sunday, November 11th – Lectionary 32

‘Celebration of Youth’ Sunday

Sunday, November 11th

**Our youth will be participating in various
parts of our worship.
Chime Choir Debut!**

Spaghetti Dinner - Congregation Meal
Sunday, November 11th

Following worship
Free will donation

Hosted by the Sr. and Jr. High Youth.

Sunday, November 18th – Lectionary 33
Waldorf College Sunday

*Loose and designated offerings will support our
mission at Waldorf as an Association Member
Congregation of Waldorf College.*

“Alive” worship team will be leading worship.
Pastor Baldwin will be leading worship.

Sunday, November 25th – Christ the King

Sunday, December 2nd – Advent
Celebrated with Adult Choir & Holy Communion

Parish-wide Thanksgiving Eve Worship

7:30 pm Wednesday, November 21st

At Sion Lutheran Church

Celebrated with Holy Communion

*Offerings: Cash – Guatemala Mission Trip
(medicine, building supplies, etc.)*

Non-perishable food-Worth/Winnebago Food Banks

Sunday School Christmas Program
Sunday, December 16th

EDUCATION

The Lutheran Course: Part 1

Seven week study beginning...

Two times:

1:30 pm Wed., Nov. 7th at Sion

7:30 pm Thurs., Nov. 8th at Wbgo



*Evening class adjustments – move
to Monday, November 19th &
December 3rd*

.Cost of materials - \$15

Youth Meeting and Service

Jr. and Sr. High youth

Sunday, November 25th following worship
Decorating the church for Advent and Christmas.
Lunch will be provided.

Thank you

Check out the Re-
modeled
bathrooms in the
Parish Hall.

Thank you to the WELCA
(Women’s Organization) for designating from their
funds most of the financial support to complete this
project.

Thank you to a number of the guys who shared
their know-how and gave a few days of their time
tiling floors/walls, carpentry – finish work and
adjusting the wall

ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH

Confirmation Ministry

Confirmation Ministry

Confirmation Classes

Wednesdays after-school at Sion Lutheran Church

November 7th

Seventh Grade – Movie “Ten Commandments”

We will start the movie at 4:00 – get you pizza and eat as we watch.

Eighth Grade Confirmation

4:00 pm Snack Time & 4:15 – 5:45 pm Class

November 14th

7th & 8th Grades – Food Scavenger Hunt

6:15 pm Meet at Salem (basement)

Dress for the weather as we will be walking thru Lake Mills gathering food for the area food banks.

We will be finished up around 8:00 pm

No regular class after school.

November 21st

No confirmation classes

Thanksgiving Eve Worship at Sion

November 28th

Seventh Grade – Movie “Ten Commandments”

We will start the movie at 4:00 – get you pizza and eat as we watch.

Eighth Grade Confirmation

4:00 pm Snack Time & 4:15 – 5:45 pm Class

Ninth Grade Discipleship Class

**Wednesday, November 28th at 7:00pm
at Salem Chapel**

Stewardship: Sharing our Treasures

Pastor Randy Baldwin

WOW

Midweek Christian Education for 1st- 4th Grades

3:15pm to 5pm at Salem
Lutheran Church

***Family Night – Program and Refreshments
6:30 pm Tuesday, November 20th***

Adult Education

Parables of Jesus

Crossways Bible Study

The Study of the Parables of Jesus! Hear the Parables the Jesus' crowd heard them. Class meets Continues at 7:00 pm on Thursday evenings at Immanuel. There is a cost for materials.

New Study Opportunity.....

The Lutheran Course: Part 1

Seven week study beginning...

Two times:

**1:30 pm Wednesday, November
7th at Sion**

**7:30 pm Thursday, November
8th at Wbgo**

*Evening class adjustments – move
to Monday, November 19th &
December 3rd*

.Cost of materials - \$15



- How to Tell the Difference Between the Law and the Gospel
- Five things You Should Know about the Lutheran Reformation
- The Anatomy of a Baptism
- How to Receive Communion
- The Three Most Rebellious Things Jesus Did
- How to Read the Bible
- How to Share your Faith with Someone

This is an excellent opportunity to learn and discuss what makes us Lutheran Christians.

Excellent for “those new to the Lutheran church”, “those thinking about joining the Lutheran church”, for those...well, lets say...your confirmation wasn't this past fall ☺.

ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH

Parish-Wide Thanksgiving Eve Wednesday, November 21st

7:30 pm

At Sion Lutheran Church
Celebrated with Holy Communion

Offerings

Offerings: Cash – Guatemala trip projects
(medicine, building supplies, etc.)

Non-perishable food – Worth & Winnebago
county Food Banks

One in Christ Lutheran Parish Guatemala Trip 2008

Friday, Jan. 25, 2008 thru Monday, Feb. 4, 2008.

The plans are to assemble a medical team to serve the area and a work crew that will work the newly constructed school.



Guatemala

The cost will be \$1,300. A commitment and deposit of \$650 is needed by October 31, 2007.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Bill Peters – email pastorbill@wctatel.net, phone #641-567-3675.

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH



We are beginning to assemble the directory information. When completed, we will print a rough copy for congregations to review, make adjustments, and place orders for those who want a hard copy. (*The price will be worked out after we have a rough copy and before you are asked to order.*) You will be able to view the directory online through our website and you will be able to print a copy of the directory on your own if you desire.

Harmony Ranch (Clear Lake area) Service Project.

The Parish Council is gathering a task force to make plans and begin preparations to do a service project a Harmony Ranch, Clear Lake.

Harmony Ranch is developing a walking trail that walks one through the



Biblical story. It will have stations along the way that visually tell the story. We would like to plan for and construct one or more stations. Some examples/ideas are the gates that Sampson destroys, or something to depict the splitting of the water by Moses. Any ideas are welcome... We are looking for a least one volunteer from each congregation to serve on a task force that will develop and plan these stations for us and set-up a couple of fellowship/work days in the spring to implement these plans. Please contact a parish council representative or pastor if you might be interested.

There will be an organizational meeting in early December (tentatively Thursday, December 6th) to begin to gather the group and develop of process/plan of development.



Natural Church Development A VISIONING PROCESS

Congregations have all taken the inventory and we have sent it off to be scored and summarized for us. The parish and congregational councils will be begin working with the data as soon as it is shared with us. Our reports will speak to our congregations, and to our parish. We will then process this information and begin to address one or two areas in our life together to improve and grow.

November Birthdays

- 1 – Samantha Woodward
- 7 – Melanie Twait
- 8 – Mattie Tweeten
- 11 – Brad Woodward
- 14 – Jedidiah Durgin
- 14 – Luke Gerdes
- 14 – Andrew Johnson
- 14 – Thomas Solomonson
- 16 – Megan Johnson
- 20 – Belinda Hanna
- 21 – Peter Serdiuk
- 23 – Marcella Hauge
- 24 – Deb Nyhus
- 26 – Stanley Rusley
- 26 – Maynard Tweeten
- 27 – Janell Twait
- 30 – Brian Charlson
- 30 – Delores Knudtson

November Anniversaries

- 15 – Matt & Lorelei Olson
- 16 – Mike & Kelly Kuhlemeier
- 23 – Scott & Darla Rodberg
- 30 – Ronald & Mary Jane Redenius

WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

9:00 am Worship at Bethany Lutheran Church,
Joice

10:15 am Sunday School at Bethany

9:00 am Sunday School at Winnebago

**10:30 am Worship at Winnebago Lutheran
Church**

**Joint Parish Thanksgiving Eve Worship
Wednesday, November 21st at 7:30 pm
at Sion**

PASTOR BILL'S OFFICE HOURS

Bethany

9:00 – 11:30 am Wednesdays

Winnebago

9:00 – 11:30 am Thursdays

Tuesday, November 20th from

9:00 – 11:30 am

CHOIRS PRACTICE & PERFORM

The Adult Choir

Practice – Wednesdays at 8:00 pm

November 7, 21, and 28.

Sundays – November 4, 11, & 28 at 10:00 am.

Sing during Worship

Sunday, November 4th

The “Alive” Choir

Practice

Wednesday, November 14th at 8:00 pm

Sunday, November 11th at 7:00 pm

Sing during Worship

Sunday – November 18th

Cherub & Youth Choir

Practice – Every Sunday at 9:15 am

Cherub Sing

Sunday – November 11th

Youth Play Chimes

Sunday – November 11th

WELCA

The Winnebago Women of the ELCA will meet on Thursday, November 15th for their Meeting and Bible Study at 1:30 pm. **The Thank Offering will be collected.** Lydia Circle will give the Devotions. Pastor Bill will lead the Bible Study. The Hostess is Marilyn Johnson.

CIRCLES

The *Esther/Ruth Circle* will meet on *Tuesday*, November 13th at 7:00 pm at the Church. Please bring a snack to share.

“ONE IN CHRIST” LUTHERAN PARISH PASTORS’

NOVEMBER PREACHING SCHEDULE

for Winnebago and Bethany

November 4th – Pastor Bill Peters

November 11th – Pastor Bill Peters

Celebration of Youth Sunday

November 18th – Pastor Randy Baldwin

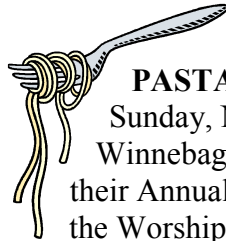
November 21st – Joint Parish Thanksgiving

Eve at Sion – Pastors Bill & Randy

November 25th – Pastor Bill Peters

NOVEMBER DUTY ROSTER

Altar Guild.....Marilyn Tweeten
 Acolytes.....JJ Durgin
 Chelsea Hanna
 Ushers.....Paul Abele
 Steve Knudtson
 Robert Knudtson
 Robert Greenfield



YOUTH SERVE A PASTA DINNER

Sunday, November 18th the Winnebago Youth will be holding their Annual Pasta Dinner following the Worship Service. Free Will Offering.



ATTENDANCE AND CONTRIBUTIONS

(Benevolence includes Missions, Missionary, World Hunger)

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Contributions</u>
September		
23 -	121	\$1194.00
	<i>(plus \$550.00 to Benevolence)</i>	
30 -	113	\$2406.50
October		
7 -	97	\$3672.82
	<i>(plus \$10.00 to Benevolence)</i>	
14 - <i>Mission Sunday</i>	141	\$1861.85
	Mission Offering	\$4457.25
21 -	96	\$3857.00
	<i>(plus \$550.00 to Benevolence)</i>	

NARTHEX ADDITION OFFERING

This is included in the above giving!

September:

23 -	\$ 0
30 -	\$ 212.00

October:

7 -	\$ 950.00
14 -	\$ 200.00
21 -	\$1084.00

Total Given to Date \$96,515.31

Thank you.

Loan Balance is \$56,174.74

(Originally borrowed was \$85,000.00)

PARSONAGE UPDATES OFFERING

This is included in the above giving!

September:

23 -	\$ 0
30 -	\$ 156.00

October:

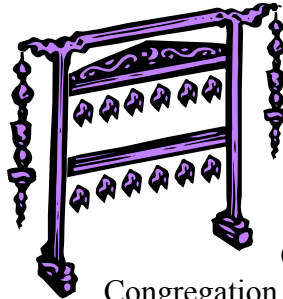
7 -	\$ 0
14 -	\$ 0
21 -	\$ 84.00

Total Given to Date \$6,246.00

Thank you.

WOW FAMILY NIGHT

The WOW Family Night will be held at Salem Lutheran Church on Tuesday, November 20th at 6:30 pm. You are in for another awesome program from our youth. We would love it if everyone could join us for our program. Fellowship will follow the program. Everyone is welcome!



**4TH - 8TH GRADE
PLAYING OUR
NEW CHIMES DURING
CELEBRATION OF YOUTH
SUNDAY**

On Sunday, November 11th our Congregation will be Celebrating our Youth. During the Worship the 4th - 8th Grade Sunday School classes will be playing our new Chimes. *All of the 4th - 8th graders are needed so please have your Sunday School Student at the Worship Service that day.*

WINNEBAGO SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

"Once Upon A Starry Night"

Winnebago Sunday School Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 16th during the Worship Service. *Practice will begin on Sunday, November 11th at 8:30 am.*



ASSEMBLE WITNESS

We will put the Witness together following the WELCA meeting on Thursday, November 15th. Any help will be appreciated.

For "One In Christ" Parish Minutes look under Minutes tab, then October.



'Celebration of Youth' Sunday

Sunday, November 11th

Our youth will be participating in various parts of our worship.

**11:45 am Congregation Meal – Spaghetti
Hosted by the Youth.**

Parish-wide Thanksgiving Eve Worship

7:30 pm Wednesday, November 21st

At Sion Lutheran Church

Celebrated with Holy Communion

*Offerings: Cash – Guatemala Mission Trip
(medicine, building supplies, etc.)*

Non-perishable food-Worth/Winnebago Food Banks

Guatemala 2008 Trip

Date of trip: January 25th – February 4th

Registration forms and deposit due October 31st.