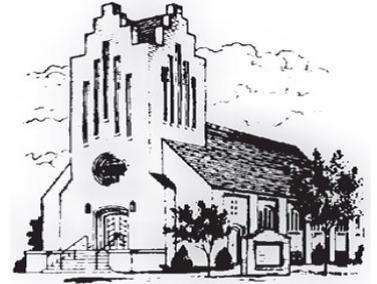




Pella Lutheran Church Ambassador



With Christ; We Welcome, Nurture, Equip and Serve.

June 2017

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING!

Pella Lutheran Church Presents:

Who:

- Children entering preschool (age 4) through 5th grade next school year.
- Volunteers entering 6th grade through adults.

What:

Interactive Bible fun, music to energize your ears, super science, cool crafts, hands-on mission hero work, delicious snacks, great games and more.

When:

June 19-23

2-5 p.m.

How:

Register as a student or volunteer at:

- <http://2017.cokesburyvbs.com/pella/>
- or
- through the church office.



Janelle Lamb, Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator

Interim Perspective by Pastor Joel

How long – before Pella gets a new pastor and I depart for a new interim position? Those two things are, of course, connected. I will leave slightly before the arrival of a new pastor at Pella.

When? It could be as early as later this summer or as far as next summer or anytime in between. It all depends on how the call process goes.

Call Process: 1) reception of candidate names, 2) reviewing candidate's mobility papers, 3) initial interviews, 4) additional interviews and reference checks, 5) site visits, 6) recommendation of call, 7) congregational vote, and 8) acceptance of call by candidate of choice.

Will I (and Diane) be sad to leave? Yes. Will we be excited about the next interim? Yes. So at the same time we will be experiencing sadness and joy, mourning and anticipation, gratefulness and uncertainty. This has happened at each of the other five interim congregations and we are confident that will happen this time, also.

Perhaps you will also have a similar experience when bidding us farewell and bestowing welcome for a new pastor. It's not really strange that such opposite emotion can occur together. I hope you realize it is natural. In one moment two things are happening: a departure and an arrival. If both those relationships are positive, then we typically have two distinct responses happening side by side.

Where is the next interim congregation that I will be going to? I have no idea. Even if I knew when we were going to be leaving, I wouldn't know where we were going.

This makes me think of the words of Jesus, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." As I shared with you in my sermon on May 14; the answer to the question of where I am going isn't as important as knowing Jesus Christ and living one's life in Christ. In Christ, who is the way, that question is transcended. All that relationship with Christ entails sets all our concerns, questions, worries and cares aside.

Jesus reminds us again (and again) how he is present to us and for us. Whatever choices we face for direction in life, Jesus is there and is the way. Let us continue to believe and trust in God and in Jesus.

Scripture for June

6/4 Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

Psalms 104:20-34, 35b

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

John 20:19-23

6/11 First Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalms 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

6/18 Second Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 19:2-8a

Psalms 100

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35-10:8 [9-23]

6/25 Third Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Psalms 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

Summer Reading & Table Talk

Beginning in June, Pastor Joel is going to start reading the book Resilient Reformer: The Life and Thought of Martin Luther by Timothy Lull & Derek Nelson. You are invited to join him for group reflection (Table Talk) during the following schedule:

Chapters 1 – 3

Sunday, June 11 OR Wednesday, June 14

Chapters 4 – 6

Sunday, June 25 OR Wednesday, June 28

Chapters 7 – 9

Sunday, July 9 OR Wednesday, July 12

Chapters 10 – 12

Sunday, July 23 OR Wednesday, July 26

Table Talks on Sunday will follow worship at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Table Talks will be at 7:00 p.m.

Is there another time you and others would like to meet with Pr. Joel? Please contact him! There is one copy of the book in the Library. If you have a book that someone else could use for that time, please let the Church Office know. Pr. Joel is looking forward to sharing reflections on Luther during this year of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Church Cleaning

There will be an entire church cleaning and organizing event on Sunday, August 27.

Further details will be posted as we get closer to the date.



Help Needed for Meals on Wheels

Pella members have been asked to deliver Meals on Wheels May 30-June 23.

There are sign-up sheets on the

information desk, and we have lots of open times left.

Please contact the church office to sign up. Thank you.



← Quilts for Lutheran World Relief



↑ WBS students collecting soap

→ LYO Students putting Personal Care Kits together



Faith Circle Group

Front: Enid Huotari, Linda Tibbits, Audrey Herman, Lois Dump, Kyra Hagberg.
 Back: Marvelee Fink, Doris Larsen, Barb Badt, Dawn Biebl, Judy Sondeno, Nancy Hedegaard, Carol Nankivel.

Mission Project Completed

Earlier this year, Faith Circle women's group set out on a mission project to collect and assemble personal care kits to send to Lutheran World Relief. Our goal was 300 kits, so that when combined with 200 quilts made by the Pella Quilters, we would have more than 500 items to send to LWR in 2017 in honor of the 500-year anniversary of the Reformation. It was a lofty goal for sure, but with the help of the congregation, we exceeded our goal and actually assembled 309 personal care kits! The kits and quilts were recently boxed up and sent on their way to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse, where they will be distributed to needy people throughout the world. In total, Pella sent 223 quilts (plus 10 additional quilts were made and given locally), 309 personal care kits, and an additional 51 pounds of soap (214 bars)!

What started as a mission project in our small women's circle grew to involve the entire congregation in doing God's work. We thank the congregation for their support, as members generously donated money and items for the personal care kits, and the youth of the church also got involved. Wednesday Bible School classes collected 302 bars of soap, and LYO and confirmation students collected 298 toothbrushes! The LYO group also spent an evening wrapping and tying up personal care kits. Several of the women in our circle applied for and received Thrivent Action Cards, and those funds were used to purchase items for the kits. Special thanks go to Craig Averett for the use of his trailer; Palmer Norby for supplying boxes; Bill and Carol Nankivel and Duane and Linda Anderson for driving and delivering the boxes to Williston; and Fink Dental and Healthy Smiles Dental Group for donating toothbrushes.

Finally, the success of our project would not have been possible without the dedication of an amazing group of ladies: the Pella Quilters. They meet weekly to cut and sew the fabric to make beautiful quilts. Even though they are a relatively small group, they're very productive and talented and have made mission quilts here at Pella year after year. Our congregation is fortunate to have such a group of devoted women to do this important work.

We are so very blessed at Pella, and we have witnessed how God uses us to bless others in need. We plan to continue our focus on missions, and in the coming months, we will work on putting together LWR school kits.

In Christ,

Faith Circle



Confirmation Class 2017

L to R Top: Tammy Pedersen (Leader), Logan Jones, Andoni Idoate, Brodey Skogen, Ian Jurgens, Jaxson Franklin, Braden Klinke and Kaci Dean (Leader)
 L to R Bottom: Interim Pastor Joel Westby, Liliana Johnson, Alexa Iversen, Claire Frank, Jaylen Baxter, Taylor Stewart, Alexia Metz, Kolby Hutzenbiler

*Photo courtesy of Vanessa Pooch.



Congratulations Confirmands!

On May 7, 2017, Pella Lutheran Church celebrated Confirmation Sunday. Twelve 8th graders affirmed their baptisms during worship and another was recognized for his involvement in the program. The names of the students are listed with the photo, and a booklet was compiled about the students. The booklet includes photos, favorite Bible verses, and faith statements from each of the students. If you were not able to attend, but are interested in the booklet, they are available at the church. A huge thank you goes out to the volunteers who led these confirmands through the 3-year program: Kaci Dean and Tammy Pedersen.



Senior Recognition Sunday – April 30, 2017

L to R Bottom: Taylor Lange, Autumn Larson, Emily Swenson, Chantel Wilcoxon

L to R Middle: Jordan Baxter, Paige Metz, Dawson McGlothlin, Jared Jurgens

L to R Top: Michael McGinnis

*Photo courtesy of Pam McGlothlin.

Not pictured: Maddison DiFonzo, Michael Gangstad, Ally Harris, Adam Wentz, and Nathan Wick

Congratulations High School Seniors!

During worship and fellowship on Sunday, April 30, we recognized Pella’s high school seniors. A booklet was created for senior recognition, including the photos of and information about all the seniors listed with the photo on this page. Other seniors recognized, but who did not have information in the booklet are: Jace Benson, Kelvin Hill (Lambert), Zach Sommerfeld, Tanner Wacha, and Casey Watson (Lambert). These are seniors who have been a part of Pella in various ways, so we wanted to recognize them, as well as honor all the graduates throughout our community. If you were not able to be here, but would like to see the booklet, they are available at the church.



Thank you for your donations to these memorial funds.

Radio fund

In memory of Lila Miller: Ruth Iversen,
Iona Hansen, Margene Rambur,
Jim & Linda Tibbits, Bill & Carol Nankivel,
Louise Iversen

In memory of Andrew Miller:
Jim & Linda Tibbits, Bill & Carol Nankivel

In memory of Paul Trudell: Anna Ginther
In memory of Shelly Rosaaen: Ruth Iversen,
Kerry Rasmussen, Louise Iversen

Set Free to Serve fund

In memory of Paul Trudell: Violet Tharp,
Marvelee Fink

In memory of Selene Gaffri:
Mary & James Paxton

In memory of Andrew Miller: Adeline Dige,
Enid & Russ Huotari, Betty Cumming

In memory of Lila Miller: Adeline Dige,
Enid & Russ Huotari, Betty Cumming

In memory of Shelly Rosaaen: Ron Steffens,
Gene & Judy Sondeno, Eddie Vaira,
Violet Tharp, Jim & Linda Tibbits,
Cindy & Tom Irigoien, Ron & Marie Waller,
Mark & Marilyn Olson, Alton Hillesland,
Peggy Errecart, Duane & Linda Anderson,
Bill & Trish Neiss, Randy & Kelly Johnson,
Edwin & Carol Damm, Paul & Doris Morasko,
Charlotte Anvik, Kathryn Pemberton,
Gail & Rhonda Peterson, Delila Scheff,
Enid & Russ Huotari, David McMillen,
Terry & Synneva Meldahl,
Mark & Kathy Iversen, Cammy & Ed Lien

Set Free to Serve fund continued

In memory of Shelly Rosaaen:
Gene & Bonnie Meldahl,
Eileen & Richard Rein

Sign fund

In memory of Shelly Rosaaen:
Charley & Chole Butler

General fund

In memory of Shelly Rosaaen:
Ray & Anne Franz

Pastoral Acts for May 2017

Confirmation services on May 7 for 12 Pella confirmands and one participant.

Grave site services on May 10 for Lila Miller and Andrew Miller, sister and brother.

Funeral services on May 16 for Shelly Ann Rosaaen.

June Acolytes

- 4th** Mikael Savage & Hattie Brothen
- 11th** Jenna Anderson & Rowan Ellingson
- 18th** Grady Larson & Olivia Schoepp
- 25th** Blake Benson & Wes VanHook



Summary of Pella Council: May 2017

Thank you messages were shared from Rocky Boy for Pella's recent donation and a letter from the Montana Synod thanking Pella for its support and letting us know we are among the Top 10 of congregations for mission support.

Checking Account has a balance of \$89,305 and the General Fund balance is \$17,720. The "Set Free to Serve" loan balance is currently at \$695,042. Council decided to proceed with the re-amortization of the "Set Free to Serve" loan, with any additional "Set Free to Serve" contributions received by Pella to be used towards reducing principal first.

Pastor encouraged the Council to start thinking about preparing for a new pastor. It was reported that several candidates are being interviewed by the Call Committee via Skype. The Committee has started background checks on some and will notify Council if they would like personal interviews with any of the candidates (for budgeting purposes and approval of the travel expenses).

Youth & Education Committee has set VBS dates of June 19-23. A meeting may be scheduled in the fall for parents interested in their children receiving communion.

Council Objectives/Goals for 2017 were discussed. The Reformation 500 Task Force will meet May 24 to begin the planning of the church wide recognition/celebration of Reformation 500. There will be a congregation church cleaning on August 27. Council Members shared names of individuals that they thought may be interested in serving on the Outreach Committee; those individuals will be contacted. When there are sufficient volunteers, an initial meeting will be scheduled.

Two members of Council are considering attending the Montana Synod Assembly in Great Falls, June 2-4.

Next meeting of Congregational Council will be Tuesday, June 6.



Save Your Rhubarb for Pella Pantry!

If you have some fresh rhubarb you are willing to donate, the Pella Pantry would be happy to take it off your hands. If you can please place 8 cups of rhubarb per plastic bag that would be very helpful.

Thank you!

Pella Pie? Barbeque Beef? Are you hungry yet? *By Kelly Johnson*

Summer Greetings Pella members! One cannot think of summer without thinking of the fair. And, one cannot think of the fair, without thinking about fair food. Finally, one cannot think of fair food without thinking of the Pella Pantry! Our food booth is profitable and benefits many in the church and community. Thanks to the many people willing to work a shift or two. During the fair of 2016, we had one of the best sign ups for workers for the Pella Pantry ever! **Thank you, if you were one of them!** There really are enough of us at Pella that we should all only need to work one shift at the fair. It was wonderful for Randy and Susan Iversen, Margene Rambur, Pam Dahl, and myself to be able to go in the morning and set up for the day and not have to work several more shifts throughout the day, which has happened many times! This year, we know we already have some scheduling challenges, and hope (and pray) that every Pella member steps up to assist once again. If you have never worked, we will train! It is a great time of fellowship for Pella members. I know several families that often have company during the fair, that have their company come out and help...and always report a good time was had by all...as long as there are enough workers! We certainly appreciate Pella people as customers at the fair, but especially appreciate a sign up of a shift of service for our church and community!



Shift options signup sheets will be available by the end of June. Please sign up early to get your preferred time and position! *Notice the overlapping of shifts of 15 minutes out at the fair. This is important, so that the person leaving the shift can TRAIN the person coming in on the next shift!*

Set up the booth- Sunday, July 30st at 1 p.m.-3 p.m. (give or take) ---with lots of help, doesn't take long!

Pie Baking starts at 7:30 a.m. or as soon as you can come, at Pella, starting Tuesday morning Aug. 1-Friday, Aug. 4. You don't need to be a pie making expert. It takes many hands to make the final product!

Wednesday and Thursday shift option times: (3 hour & 15 minutes shifts)

10:45-2 (doors open around 11)

1:45-5

4:45-8

7:45-11:00 (grill will close at 10:15, no matter how busy...so that clean up is complete & everyone can leave by 11).

Friday and Saturday shift option times: (3 hour & 30 minute shifts)

10:45-2:15 (doors open around 11)

2:00-5:30

5:15-8:45

8:30-11:30 (CLOSE at 10:45...no exceptions...so that clean up is complete by 11:30)

Clean up the booth-Sunday, August 6th at 1-3 p.m. give or take depending on how many come!

FYI...Last Year the Pella Pantry made a profit of **\$9,686.98**, which was distributed as follows:

\$1,500 kitchen/building fund

\$1,500 Pella Church discretionary fund

\$1,000 Pella quilters

\$1,000 LYO

\$1,000 Boys & Girls Club of Richland County

\$1,000 Richland County Food Bank

\$ 500 Matthew House

\$ 500 Richland County Domestic Abuse

\$ 500 Upper Missouri Ministries

\$ 500 Richland Opportunities Inc.





JUNE 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
				*Scholarship Deadline Today	Montana Synod Assembly in Great Falls	
4 Pentecost 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship	5	6	7	8	9	10
Montana Synod Assembly in Great Falls		7:00 pm Council Meeting				
11 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship 10:00 am Blood Pressure 10:30 am Table Talk: Reform book	12	13 8:00 am Quilting	14 Flag Day	15	16	17
			7:00 pm Table Talk: Reform book			
18 Father's Day 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship	19	20 6:45 am Endowment Committee Meeting	21	22	23	24
Vacation Bible School: Monday - Friday, 2 - 5 pm.						
25 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Table Talk: Reform book	26	27 8:00 am Quilting 10:00 am Worship at Extended Care	28	29	30	
		5:30 pm Christian Ed Cmte. Mtg.	7:00 pm Table Talk Reform book			

**PELLA LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

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COORDINATOR:**

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CUSTODIANS:

Kenny Vannatta
Bev Jones

MISSION PARTNER

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church at
Rocky Boy

COMPANION SYNOD

Cape Orange Diocese
Evangelical Lutheran Church
of South Africa

COMPANION CONGREGATION

Upington Parish
Northern Cape, South Africa

**THE PELLA
"AMBASSADOR" IS
PUBLISHED MONTHLY
BY PELLA LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Office Hours

**Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Closed from Noon to
1:00 p.m. for lunch)**

Increasing active membership and welcoming new members

By: Natalie West

What is "active" membership? How can we maintain a supportive and engaged community of believers? How welcoming is our fellowship to those who couldn't distinguish *krumkake* from *pannekaken*?

Questions of this sort can be a challenge to any congregation. If you feel called to ponder such dilemmas within the Pella community, please consider joining the newly revived Membership and Outreach Committee.

This committee has been on "sabbatical" for a few years, but presents an opportunity to discuss what keeps our faith family vital and inclusive, and how we can challenge ourselves to reach out to those we haven't seen in a while or who are waiting to be seen. If you are interested in finding out more, feel free to ask any council member or Pastor Joel, or email Natalie West at: irideae@gmail.com.



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