



# Pella Lutheran Church

## *Ambassador*



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

October 2017

Opening doors to faith at Pella

# REFORMATION



Sunday, October 8: **“Luther and the Reformation”** DVD (Rick Steves)  
10:30 am AND 6:30 pm (1 ½ hours)

Sunday, October 15: **“Thad’s Story”** – a brief DVD and discussion @ Global Mission  
10:30 am – Noon AND 6:30 pm (one hour)



Wednesday, October 18: **Meal and a Movie**  
6:00 pm – Special Reformation Meal  
7:00 pm – Movie: **“Luther”** (2 ½ hours)

Sunday, October 22: **Where in the World are Lutherans?**  
10:30 am (one hour)

Sunday, October 22: **Lutheran-Catholic Prayer Service**  
6:30 pm at St. Matthew’s Catholic Church

Sunday, October 29: **Reformation Sunday**, 9:00 am Worship  
10:30 am Brunch served by the LYO (Lutheran Youth Org.)

**Dialog Sermons:** Sundays, October 1 – 22, the sermon will feature interviews with Martin Luther and Katie Van Bora (Luther’s wife).

**Reformation Doors:** Continuing through All Saints’ Day will be the interactive **chalk doors** in the Gathering Commons. The doors will have a quote from Luther and a related question for you to write your response on the doors. New information will be posted on the **Fellowship doors** as we progress through October. Watch for the additions!

**Door Prizes** every Sunday in October at Fellowship and every Wednesday at the meal.

## Interim Perspective by Pastor Joel

I am really excited to celebrate Reformation500. I think celebrating is something we need to do especially as a community. So I'm so glad that you are willing and wanting to join in this celebration. The Reformation stands as a significant time and event in history, which means it has a major impact on life today and where we are going in the future.

The beginnings of the Reformation divided the Church; there came to be Protestants as well as Catholics, and among Protestants there were a variety of denominations – not just Lutheran. Luther, of course, originally tried to “correct” some teaching and practices within the Church. His vision was not to fragment the Church but to strengthen it by emphasizing what was most essential and true to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now, after 500 years since the start of the Reformation, we can rejoice in that a vast amount of Lutheran Church bodies (Lutheran World Federation) and the Catholic Church have come to agreement on a number of ideas that had previously divided us. It seems that the Reformation vision of Martin Luther is coming to be. It's not that the Catholics have finally agreed with Lutherans or vice versa, as much as we have discussed the issues and ideas and have all come to greater realization of what is good and true. We have gained by listening and sharing with each other.

Some differences remain but they are not divisive. We recognize that we are brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. We accept that there is a variety of piety but that Jesus is Lord of the Church that includes and extends over us both and others as well. So we will celebrate with our sisters and brothers in the Catholic Church on Sunday, October 22, 6:30 pm at St. Matthew's. Together we will pray and sing, give thanks and repent, read scripture and celebrate what unites us. In that worship service we will acknowledge the “Five Ecumenical Imperatives for Lutherans and Catholics” that we hold as the truth of our reality and future. I've reprinted them here for everyone to consider and reflect on.

- ✚ Catholics and Lutherans should always begin from the perspective of unity and not from the point of view of division in order to strengthen what is held in common even though the differences are more easily seen and experienced.
- ✚ Lutherans and Catholics must let themselves continuously be transformed by the encounter with the other and by the mutual witness of faith.
- ✚ Catholics and Lutherans should again commit themselves to seek visible unity, to elaborate together what this means in concrete steps, and to strive repeatedly toward this goal.
- ✚ Lutherans and Catholics should jointly rediscover the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ for our time.
- ✚ Catholics and Lutherans should witness together to the mercy of God in proclamation and service to the world.

For more on the Reformation 500 celebration I include this reflection from Bishop Jessica Crist, Montana Synod of the ELCA on the next page.

## Words from the Bishop - Why the Reformation Matters

We are closing in on the 500th anniversary of the monk Martin Luther nailing (or maybe not nailing) the 95 Theses on the Wittenberg Church door, a symbolic act that is the starting point for the Reformation. This anniversary has gotten a lot of attention from quarters that normally do not pay a lot of attention to religion, and some that do. Germany is concluding a 10 year count-down to the 31st of October, 2017. The Lutheran World Federation began the year with an ecumenical service including Pope Francis, and continued the observation at the Assembly in Namibia. National magazines and newspapers have done features on the Reformation, and numerous documentaries, articles and reflections have been done on Martin Luther.

Martin Luther was, indeed, a fascinating character. Countless biographies have been written about him—as hero, as villain, from a psychological perspective, from a spiritual perspective. It is fascinating to visit the Luther Museum in Wittenberg and see a history of how Reformation anniversaries were noted over the years, and how Luther was portrayed over the years.

But interesting as all of that is, Martin Luther himself is not the reason the Reformation matters. The Reformation matters because it changed history. It changed the geopolitical contours of Europe. And it changed the religious landscape of Europe, and eventually the rest of the world. Christianity's split into the Eastern (Orthodox) Church and the Western (Roman Catholic) Church was of similar significance centuries before. The Reformation's split of the Western Church into Protestant and Catholic, coming as it did when the medieval western world was meeting modernity, helped shape modernity.

The Reformation matters to us as Christians because it was a reform movement within the church, taking seriously matters of salvation. The Reformation matters because it challenged the church to rethink its practices and priorities, because it would not settle for easy answers, because it gave people the opportunity to look at their faith with fresh eyes and new understanding. The Reformation matters because it still challenges our institutions and our priorities, and it still will not settle for easy answers.

Regardless of what Martin Luther intended with his 95 Theses, the Reformation exploded into something much more than an academic discussion of theological points. Accusations were hurled. Riots erupted. Wars broke out. Mutual condemnations poisoned the air. It was not a movement without bloodshed, without cost.

Now, 500 years later, we are finding ways to talk about the Reformation as Protestant and Catholic Christians. In Montana, we will do this during our Convocation in Lewistown on October 27 and at our joint service at the Helena Cathedral on October 30 at 7 pm.

Different people find different aspects of the Reformation most meaningful, and commemorate the anniversary in different ways. As I read your church newsletters I am learning about the education classes, the sermons and the joint community worship services that you are planning. And for those of you who have not yet started planning, you don't need to worry about an October 31 deadline. We plan to keep living out the Reformation after that, as well! We have resources on our website that you can use.

In the next few weeks I will be sharing my reflections on some of the highlights of the Reformation. Because the Reformation does matter.

Jessica Crist, Bishop (Montana Synod – ELCA)

*You can find Bishop Crist's reflections on the Synod's homepage at [www.montanasynd.org](http://www.montanasynd.org).*

## Introducing Pella's 2017/2018 Youth Leaders

A month of Wednesday youth programs already has come and gone. Time flies when you are having fun and are surrounded by a great team of volunteers. I want to introduce you to all of the volunteers who make the youth programs at Pella a success.

### Nursery

Linda Becker and Aleah Rosaaen have taken lead roles in the nursery this year, providing care to the ones too young for WBS (Wednesday Bible School). The care provided by Linda, Aleah and other volunteers allow WBS teachers with little ones under age 4 the freedom to teach. If you are interested in helping in the nursery, we are always looking for additional help.

### Wednesday Bible School

Here is the WBS teaching team, by grade:

- ✝ Preschool – Jane Olson and Diane Savage
- ✝ Kindergarten – Heidi Moran and Nicole Goulart-Wick
- ✝ First Grade – Jennifer Carlsen and Hailee Moore
- ✝ Second Grade – Erin Anderson and Crystal Strait
- ✝ Third Grade – Melissa Buckley and Susan Iversen
- ✝ Fourth Grade – Beverly Jones and Beth Thompson
- ✝ Fifth Grade – Joanna Horsburgh and Enid Huotari

### Confirmation

Here are the confirmation leaders by groups:

- ✝ Year 1
  - Group 1 – Kaci Dean
  - Group 2 – April Boehler and Kristin Larson
- ✝ Year 2
  - Group 1 – Jennifer Doty
  - Group 2 – Luke Savage
- ✝ Year 3
  - Patti McGinnis and Tonya Schoepp

### LYO

Jason Lamb and Vanessa Pooch, with support from Kim Hill are leading the high school group. Please pray for these volunteers as they give of themselves, their talents and their time. Their service is invaluable!

With Heartfelt Thanks,

***Janelle Leader Lamb***

***Youth & Family Ministries Coordinator***

## Oct. 1 Worship – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Presentation and WBS Special Music

Pella's tradition of providing each 3<sup>rd</sup> grader with a Bible will continue on Sunday, Oct. 1. During worship, 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will be presented a Bible. In addition, all of the WBS students will be singing special music for worship that day. Please join us!

## Wednesday, Oct. 18 – NO WBS, Confirmation or LYO

Classes will NOT meet on Wednesday, Oct. 18, but please join us for a special Reformation meal (6:00) and the movie "Luther" (7:00).

PARENTS: "Luther" was rated PG-13 in 2003. If you are wondering whether or not to allow your children to watch the movie, you can find more information, including a parent guide, at [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com).



## ELCA Youth Gathering – Houston 2018

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the ELCA gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

Some of the LYO students are gearing up to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston June 27-July 1, 2018. The theme of the 2018 gathering is "This Changes Everything." The Bible focus is

Ephesians 2:8, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God ..."

Please pray for the youth and the leaders as we prepare for this journey. Fundraising activities are being scheduled throughout the year, starting with a brunch after worship on Oct. 29. We hope you can join us!

## Sunday Advent Activities

Last year's advent activities included making advent calendar wreaths, decorating cookies, stringing popcorn garland, and a nativity walk. Plans are underway for this year's activities. These activities are for ALL ages and will be held after fellowship time on the following Sundays:

- 🕯 December 3
- 🕯 December 10
- 🕯 December 17
- 🕯 December 24

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information.

## “A Fiddle, A Flute and Some Friends”

Benefit Concert for Freedom in Christ Prison Ministry

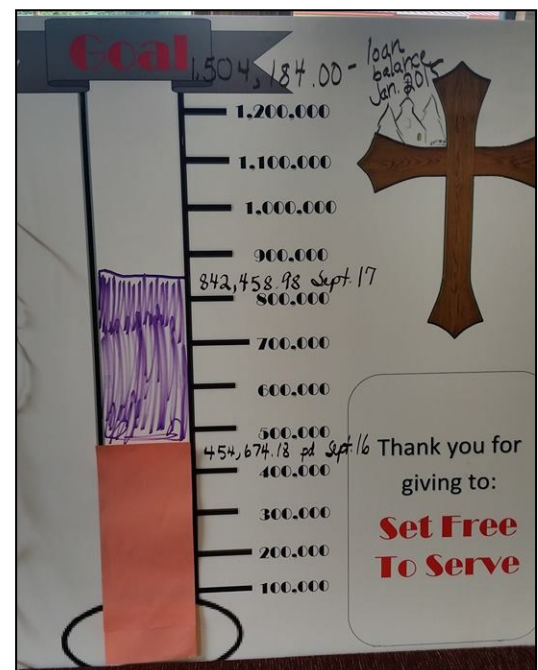
3:00 pm on Sunday, October 1, at Pella Lutheran



The final line up is in and it promises to be fun! The program ranges from Bach & Mozart to movie music; from a Souza march to old time hymns. Pastors Alvina Olstead, Melanie Martin-Dent and Wade Brinkhopft will be joined by vocalist Mary Pfau, the Sunrise Brass, the Sidney Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir and a vocal duet from Sidney High School for a musical program for a good cause. There will be a reception with goodies from Simply Scrumptious, supported by a Thrivent Action Team grant. Thank you to all the musicians and to Thrivent for making this possible.

## “Set Free to Serve” Update 2017

In January 2015, the members of PELLA church were challenged and encouraged to support the final journey of paying off the balance of the loan for our beautifully remodeled church facility. At the beginning of the campaign, our loan balance was \$1,504,184.00. In September of 2016, the Pella “Prize Patrol” presented its first announcement of giving to date. At that presentation, the congregation was informed that \$454,674.18 had been contributed. That was an exciting first announcement! Fast forward now to September 2017... On Sunday, September 17, 2017, the prize patrol was back for an announcement! At this time, the total paid off on our loan is now \$842,458.98. This leaves a total of \$661,725.02. Our “Set Free to Serve” committee is hopeful and excited that in September of 2018, we could possibly announce our goal has been met?! We believe with the grace of God and the generosity of our congregation, that this goal can be achieved. Please consider supporting this special fund in addition to your regular giving at Pella Lutheran Church. Without the burden of paying off this loan, we can only imagine the freedom to support many other worthy ministries in our church, community, and world! We will truly be SET FREE TO SERVE!



<sup>18</sup>AND GOODNESS IS THE *HARVEST* THAT  
IS PRODUCED FROM THE SEEDS THE  
PEACEMAKERS PLANT IN PEACE. **James 3:18**

There are **bountiful opportunities** here at Pella to be a servant of the Lord, a Peacemaker! Each month, we will provide details on a number of the groups/activities listed below (see **bold** print).

Choir – meets at 8 am, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays (Sept.-May)

Committees: Christian Education, Library, Membership & Outreach, Pella Pantry, Property & Grounds, Stewardship, and Worship & Music

Confirmation – meets Wednesday evenings at 6:45pm, following the Community Meal.

Faith Circle – A women’s devotional group; meets at 7pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday (Sept.-May)

Flutes – practices at 9:30 am Thursdays (Sept.-May)

Handbell Choir – practices at 10:30 am Sundays (Sept.-May)

Men’s Morning Fellowship - This group meets each Thursday morning (Sept.-May) @ 6:30 am.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry - If you knit or crochet, we have a “knit-ch” for you! This group of volunteers typically meets just twice a year for a bit of fellowship; the majority of the task is completed in your own home on your own schedule! Completed Prayer Shawls are given as baptismal gifts, as a measure of comfort in someone’s time of loss and to members / friends who are recovering from a serious injury or illness. If your fingers are itching to get those needles clicking, contact Betty Cumming at 488-3465.**

**Quilters– Our “Pella Piecemakers” meet each Tuesday from 8-11:30 am in the double-classroom in the new addition. This group is very prolific; last spring they sent 223 handmade quilts to the Lutheran World Relief organization and also donated several quilts to local fundraisers and medical benefits! All this and they even find time for coffee and a good deal of conversation! For more information call Linda Tibbits at 433-2215.**

Wednesday Bible School – meets Wednesday evenings (Sept.-May) from 5:15-6:15pm.

**Wednesday Community Meals - Meal preparations begin at 2 pm each Wednesday in the Kitchen but helpers are welcome to join in most anytime! If food prep isn’t your passion, we also need friendly servers, dish pan handlers & table washers! Call Linette Miller at 488-4495 or Linda Anderson at 798-3489 for more information!**

Worship Assistants: ushers, lectors, musicians, Communion set-up/clean-up, Communion servers, Communion bread bakers, Fellowship hosts/hostess, power point operators, and nursery assistants.

If you have questions about any of the above groups or activities, please call the church office at 433-3350 and we will provide more details and a contact person.

*Becky Reidle, Parish Assistant*

**Thank you for your donations  
to these memorial funds.**

**Radio fund**

*In memory of Kari Iversen:*

Anna Ginther, Iona Hansen, Marvelling Fink

*In memory of Stanley Dreyer:*

Iona Hansen

*In memory of Harriet Hillesland:*

John & Nancy Dynneson

*In memory of Lila Miller:*

Iona Hansen & Adeline Farrar

**Set Free to Serve fund**

*In memory of Ann Franz:*

David & Becky Reidle, Enid & Russ Huotari,

Eddie Vaira, Stan Rosaaen, David McMillen,

Patti & Bill Iversen, Louise Iversen,

Marvelling Fink, Charlotte Anvik,

Brian & Patti McGinnis,

Darrell & Doris Goebel,

Sherman & Marlys Dynneson

*In memory of Lori Krugler:*

Enid & Russ Huotari, David & Becky Reidle,

Tom & Nancy Hedegaard,

Steve & Linda Bryan, George & Dawn Biebl

**Set Free to Serve fund**

*In memory Shelly Rosaaen:*

David & Becky Reidle

*In memory of Lila Miller & Andrew Miller Jr.:*

David & Becky Reidle

*In memory of Stanley Dreyer:*

Randy & Kelly Johnson

*In memory of Harriet Hillesland:*

Violet Tharp, Eddie Vaira,

Gene & Bonnie Meldahl

*In memory of Kari Iversen:*

Palmer & Doris Norby, Violet Tharp,

Gene & Bonnie Meldahl, Ron Steffens

**Lutheran World Relief/Water Projects**

*In memory of Harriet Hillesland:*

Jerry & Sandra Nypen

**Sign fund**

*In memory of Richard Wolfe:*

Wolfe Family

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**Pastoral Acts for August & September**

**BAPTISMS:**

Daniel Myhre on August 20

Brynlee Baker on August 20

Archer and Lochlan Peterson on September 10

Lainey Sundheim on September 10

Brecken Hecker on September 17

**WEDDING:**

Nicole Williams & Luke Berry on September 9

**FUNERALS:**

Kari Iversen on August 28

Alberta Wilkinson-Sowle on September 7





## Summary of Pella Council: September

The checking account has a balance of \$98,263.32 and the general fund is \$12,417.27. The “Set Free to Serve” loan balance is \$668,459.09.

Reformation 500 Task Force has scheduled a meal and movie on Wednesday, October 18. A Lutheran-Catholic prayer service will be held at St. Matthew’s at 6:30 pm on October 22, and Pella will have a Reformation Sunday worship on October 29. Plans are to have dialog sermons during Sunday worship from September 17 - October 22.

Worship and Music reviewed piano tuning/tuners and a schedule for having this done. Honorariums and budget planning was also discussed.

Christian Education has filled all teacher/guide positions for the upcoming WBS/Confirmation year. LYO students are making plans to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering event in Houston next summer. Senior Recognition Sunday is scheduled for April 29.

The Synod review team has also approved the changes to our Constitution. Both the Constitution and Bylaws are ready for presentation and approval by the Congregation at the Annual meeting (January 2018).

Council objectives for 2017 are progressing.

Next Council meeting will be Tuesday, October 10 at 7:00 p.m.

### Fall Events at Upper Missouri Ministries

Just because summer camp is over, does not mean that UMM in Epping, ND, is without activity. Here are some of the offerings at UMM this fall:

- \*Fall Art Day – Oct. 7
- \*Fall Craft Retreat – Oct. 20-22
- \*Beautiful Girl Retreat – Nov. 17-18

For more information about these and other events, go to [www.campumm.org](http://www.campumm.org).



## Scripture for October

**10/1** *17th Sunday after Pentecost*  
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32  
Psalm 25:1-9  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Matthew 21:23-32

**10/8** *18th Sunday after Pentecost*  
Isaiah 5:1-7  
Psalm 80:7-15  
Philippians 3:4-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

**10/15** *19th Sunday after Pentecost*  
Isaiah 25:1-9  
Psalm 23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

**10/22** *20th Sunday after Pentecost*  
Isaiah 45:1-7  
Psalm 96:1-13  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

**10/29** *Reformation Sunday*  
Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 46  
Romans 3:19-28  
John 8:31-36

## College Care Packages

If you have someone in your family who would appreciate a care package, please contact the office with his/her name and address.



Also, if you have something to donate for the care packages, please deliver it to the church by Sunday, Oct. 22. (We are estimating that we'll send about 30 packages, and will mail them Oct. 27.) Items to consider: toiletries, snacks, school/office supplies.

Thank you for helping us stay in touch with those in our faith family who are away from home!

**Pella Quilters** We meet every Tuesday morning from 8-11:30 a.m. in the quilting room at Pella. All are welcome. We can always use people to cut fabric, help tie the quilts, measure batting, or sew binding. We can find a job for everyone. Please come join us anytime!

**Prayer Shawl Mission** During the last several months we have given out a number of prayer shawls. Some have gone to the newly baptized children here at Pella and we took part in the prayer shawl mission at the Spirit of Life church in Wolf Point recently. We have given several at times of loss or change to our Pella family here. If you would like to knit or crochet a shawl please contact the office or Betty Cumming at 488-3465. We welcome you to this "prayer filled" mission here at Pella!

**FLUTES** If you play the flute and would enjoy belonging to a flute ensemble, please leave your name in the office or stop in for information. Help us offer our music in praise!!



# OCTOBER 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> 8:15 am Choir 9:00 am Worship Bible Presentations 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Door Stopper:95 Theses 10:30 am Hand bells 3:00 pm Concert	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 8:00 am Quilting	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  5:15 pm WBS 6:00 pm Meal 6:45 pm Confirmation & LYO	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:15 am Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship 10:00 am Blood Pressure 10:30 am Luther DVD 10:30 am Hand bells 6:30 pm Luther DVD	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 8:00 am Quilting  7:00 pm Council	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  5:15 pm WBS 6:00 pm Meal 6:45 pm Confirmation & LYO  7:00 pm Faith Circle	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Pella Pantry 10:30 am "Thad's Story" DVD 10:30 am Hand bells 6:30 pm "Thad's Story" DVD	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 8:00 am Quilting  5:30 pm Christian Ed Committee	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  NO WBS, Confirmation or LYO 6:00 pm Reform500 Meal 7:00 pm Reform500 Movie	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Newsletter Articles Due
<b>22</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Global Lutheran presentation 10:30 am Hand bells 6:30 pm Reformation 500 Common Prayer at St. Matthew's	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 8:00 am Quilting	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  5:15 pm WBS 6:00 pm Meal 6:45 pm Confirmation & LYO (assemble college kits)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Reformation Sunday 8:15 am Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am LYO Brunch 10:30 am Hand bells	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 8:00 am Quilting 10:00 am Worship at Extended Care				

Pastor at Bishop's  
Convocation  
in Lewistown

**PELLA LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

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Email: [pella@pellachurch.net](mailto:pella@pellachurch.net)  
Facebook: Pella Lutheran Church  
Web page: [www.pellachurch.net](http://www.pellachurch.net)  
Radio Broadcast: 95.1 FM 9 a.m.  
(Service also on the MRCTV  
Community Channel 101)

**INTERIM PASTOR:**

Joel Westby  
[pastorjoel@pellachurch.net](mailto:pastorjoel@pellachurch.net)

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:**

Chole Butler  
[cbutler@pellachurch.net](mailto:cbutler@pellachurch.net)

**PARISH ASSISTANT:**

Becky Reidle  
[breidle@pellachurch.net](mailto:breidle@pellachurch.net)

**YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY  
COORDINATOR:**

Janelle Leader Lamb  
[jlamb@pellachurch.net](mailto:jlamb@pellachurch.net)

**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)**

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**WBS Christmas Program and Holiday Meal  
Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017**

**October Acolytes**

1st - Avery Iversen & Hattie Brothen

8th - Max Nicholson & Tyler Olson

15th - Sienna Boehler & Braylon DiFonzo

22nd - Drew Ellingson & Roxanne Hansen

29th - Corben Holler & Aren Larson



**Pella Lutheran Church  
418 West Main Street  
Sidney, Montana 59270**