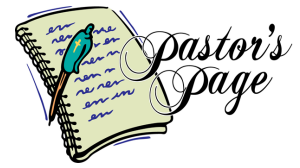


The Echo

November 2019



Attitude of Gratitude

Two old friends met each other on the street one day. One looked forlorn, almost on the verge of tears. His friend asked, "What has the world done to you, my old friend?" The sad fellow said, "Let me tell you: three weeks ago, my uncle died and left me forty thousand dollars."

"That's a lot of money."

"But you see, two weeks ago, a cousin I never even knew died, and left me eighty-five thousand dollars, free and clear."

"Sounds to me like you've been very fortunate!"

"You don't understand!" he interrupted. "Last week my great-aunt passed away. I inherited almost a quarter of a million from her."

Now the man's friend was really confused. "Then, why do you look so glum?"

"This week . . . nothing!"

That's the problem with receiving something on a regular basis. Even if it is a gift, we eventually come to expect it. If we have something consistently enough, we tend to take it for granted. For many of us, comfortable homes, beautiful scenery, clean water, electricity, working cars, and steady income have become standard. But then, when one of them is taken away, we get upset! We think we deserve these things- like we're entitled to them.

But God tells us to live a different way. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17 says, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

We were not meant to focus on the bad, but to give thanks and to praise to God. *Always*. In this we find contentment. In this we find joy. In this, we find assurance that God is always with us, in every circumstance.

This Thanksgiving, I pray you find more and more room for gratitude. In every circumstance, know that God is with you and God loves you. What are you thankful for?

Peace, Meggie

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will...

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



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Website: <http://galchuttemmanuel.weebly.com/>

EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Christine Lutheran Church
Harvest Dinner



Sunday Nov. 10 11-1:30

MENU
Grilled Pork & Beef, Baked Potato
Baked beans, Coleslaw, Dessert, Beverages
\$14- Adults \$5- Kids 6-12
Ages 5 & Under Free
Take-Out Available Bake Sale & Raffles

Christine Community Center

Come to the...
Faith Lutheran Church
42nd Annual Fall Auction

This annual event offers home-made crafts, quilts, baked and canned goods for auction. New this year... Rosemaling Art by the late Cecile Ellis donated by her family. Proceeds benefit many local organizations.

Where: Faith Lutheran Church Wolverton, MN
When: Wednesday, November 6
Time: 7:00 PM
Auctioneer: Seifert Auctioneers

the **PREACHER'S Daughters**



One Night Only: November 29th, 7pm at Eagle Valley E-Free Church !!!

Please join us for this amazing concert! The Preacher's Daughters will be performing their Christmas songs in this night of amazing music! Join us after the concert for Fellowship and Christmas treats and coffee!!

EAGLE VALLEY E-FREE CHURCH
WEST OF WOLVERTON, MN AND EAST OF CHRISTINE, ND

Free will offering will be taken!

Several of the youth from our area churches recently attended a Faith event in Fargo called Fields of Faith sponsored by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. We sang hymns, prayed, and worshipped together and then heard from speaker and author Nick Hall. The Richland High Football team, half of our confirmation students, and some of the Christian Colts attended.



Confirmation for students in grades 7-9, led by Pastor Jule & Intern Pastor Meggie for the Richland/Our Saviors/Emmanuel & Galchutt churches, has started where they are studying the Old Testament (below)

Attention all Veterans in the Richland 44 extended family and area:

We request the honor of your presence at the

Richland Elementary Veterans Day Celebration

Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 2:00 pm

Richland Elementary Gymnasium
Abercrombie, ND

Please contact Richland Elementary with any questions
701.553.8321

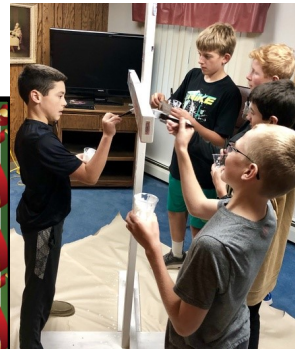
The program is open to the public.

Emmanuel Lutheran 26th Annual Meatball Dinner with Bake Sale and Raffle Fundraiser

Sunday, December 8, 2019 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Abercrombie, ND



Come join us for a meatball and mashed potatoes dinner with all the fixings. Free will donation for the meal. Buy some baked goodies from the bake sale. Raffle Prizes will be drawn during the meal. Need not be present to win raffle prizes, if drawn. Hope to see you there!!



If you have an announcement for an event or photos from a baptism, wedding, or some other special event regarding a member or former member of our parish, we would love to include the information in an upcoming issue. Please email them to lalee@rrt.net.



Several members of our community have organized a group under the Quilts of Valor Foundation whereby we recognize veterans who at some time were “touched by war.” As I have interviewed several of these veterans, I realize how much some of these veterans sacrificed both physically and mentally and how little many of the rest of us know about these sacrifices. The following article was written by Julie Shreve for the November 2018 issue of *Living Lutheran*. It reminds us of ways we can honor those veterans and show them we care.

FIVE WAYS TO HONOR VETERANS

With Veterans’ Day upon us, it’s good to remember the 20 million of them who live among us. Some are members of our congregations and worship in our midst. Each one entered the military for a variety of personal reasons. Each one was willing to put their lives at risk for the defense of our country. Of our veterans, 77 percent have served during wartime. We sometimes forget we are currently still at war.

Without the draft, our military is all volunteer. We have what is now a professional military force with many people having served multiple tours in combat zones, which can take a toll on an individual. Besides risking one’s life, there are many other risks, such as serious physical injury, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), spiritual and moral injury, and more. With an average of 20 veterans completing suicide each day, we know that some of them are struggling and need help. Of those 20, about 14 have no connection with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and its resources. All of these veterans are in our communities. As individuals and congregations, we can all be a part of the solution. Here are five ways to start helping:

Ask. Be intentional about getting to know the veterans in your congregation. The subject won’t necessarily come up if you don’t ask. . . . Care enough to find out who in your midst has served our country.

Listen. Take time to invite each veteran to share stories with you — and listen. Not every veteran will want to talk about the tough times, but if they feel safe and know you care, they just may open up. And with that, some who are suffering can move toward healing and wholeness.

Learn. Become informed about issues related to veterans. PTSD, moral injury, military sexual trauma and suicide prevention aren’t easy subjects. Some of our veterans are hurting. Your local VA, Vet Centers and Veteran Service Organizations can help you find training so you can be a caring presence for veterans in your congregation and community. . . .

Acknowledge. By acknowledging our veterans, we let them know we’re grateful for their service to our country. . . .

Pray. One can regularly pray for veterans at any time, and especially on Sundays near Veterans’ Day, Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, Armistice Day and Pearl Harbor Day. . . .

While most veterans will appreciate your efforts, it can be good to be sensitive to the fact that some may not want the attention or to be thanked. To quote one suffering from moral injury, “If you knew what I did, you wouldn’t want to thank me.” That’s why getting to know the veterans around us, listening to them and being there for them is important. Whether the person who served is a member of our congregation or in our community, we can show our gratitude. We can stand with them and be sure they know we care.

(Julia Shreve was the chief chaplain at the Fargo VA Health care system when this article was printed. The entire article can be found at <https://www.livinglutheran.org/2018/11/five-ways-to-honor-veterans/>)

LouAnn Lee

LWR News

The LWR In-Gathering in October was very successful. We delivered 86 school kits and 33 quilts to Fargo for shipment into The Cities. Once in the Minneapolis warehouse, they will be delivered to warehouses where, over the next three months, the items will can be directed to those in need. During September we also transported adult and children's quilts to Churches United and the YWCA shelter for local people in need. We have discontinued the annual quilt sale at the Emmanuel Meatball dinner but do have a limited number of children's quilts for sale, should you need them. We are planning an alternative way to offer quilts for sale in order to help support our work, so if you are require a quilt, we will gladly let you know what is available. Quilters meeting at Emmanuel will continue to make quilts on November 19th, and again in 2020.



Ellen Rittenhouse

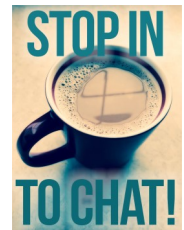
Hello all!

I have been here for several weeks now and it has been delightful to continue getting to know you all. I am so happy to serve my internship among people who willingly share their stories of faith and God.

I would love to meet you all! If we haven't met yet or you'd like to know me better, please reach out. I love visiting! Most weeks, I work from home on Mondays and Fridays and am in the office or visiting people on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. If you see my car out front, please drop in and say hello!

Peace to you all and have a great week!

Intern Pastor Meggie



With Veteran's Day this month, Pastor Meggie asked me to give a brief highlight of the Red River Quilters, a group organized under the Quilts of Valor Foundation. In April 2018, 12 area women organized this group whose mission is "to cover service members and veterans that have been 'touched by war' with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor." Since we organized, we have awarded Quilts of Valor to 70 veterans from North Dakota and Minnesota, many WWII, Korean, and Vietnam veterans, along with a few from the recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Our group is so grateful for the use of the Emmanuel Church for its monthly meeting days. We have grown to 37 members, some near, some far, who don't always make it to monthly meetings but nevertheless sew or help in other ways from their own homes. Our group is responsible for raising funds to purchase supplies and anything needed to create these beautiful quilts. We are truly grateful for all the organizations and individuals that have donated to our cause and helped us be able to honor these veterans that have been "touched by war" at some point in their lives. There are many ways non-members can also support our cause, such as by donations, memorials, Thrivent Choice donations, or even sewing with us.

For more information, check out our website at <https://redriverquiltersgovf.weebly.com/> or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/RedRiverQuilters/>.

LouAnn Lee

Emmanuel Lutheran Council Highlights



The Emmanuel Church council met on October 1, 2019, with the following members present: Kevin Paczkowski, Deb Syvertsen, Jessica Kappes, Lesley Hulne, and Intern Pastor Meggie Bjerkness. Absent: Austin Heyen, Fred Tol, and Mardee Besette.

Call to Order: President, Kevin Paczkowski, called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Meggie led the council in prayer and a breathing exercise to relieve stress.

Pastor's Report: Meggie is settling in and figuring out how to establish ministry to our churches. A visiting and mileage report was accepted by Jessica and seconded by Lesley.

Secretary's Report: NA

Treasurer's Report: Deb read the treasurer's report sent to her by Lou Ann. Lesley motioned to accept and Deb seconded. Noisy offering on the 1st and 3rd Sundays will go to the following: Oct – Richland PB&J, Nov – Richland/Wilkin Food Pantry, Dec – Backpack Program, Jan – Feed My Starving Children.

Education Committee: First class went well with 5 kids in attendance. Classes will be held the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Next classes Oct. 6th & 20th, Nov. 3rd & 17th.

Worship Committee: Will be meeting in the next week to discuss music.

Property Committee: Furnace needs to be checked to make sure it's functioning properly before winter sets in. Also, the parsonage needs to be checked for winter readiness as well. Meggie's friend offered to look at our sound system to see if there is an easy fix to the feedback issue.

Stewardship Committee: NA.

Old Business: Further discussion about meatball dinner prep and shopping. Annual meatball dinner will be December 8, 2019. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help this year, please contact a council member.

New Business: Richland School asked if Emmanuel could be used as a safe place in case of emergencies. We approved this request. Three council members are needed to start January 2020. If anyone is interested, please contact a current council member. Annual Meeting will be held January 19, 2020. Potlucks have been planned for Oct. 20th, Nov. 17th, and Jan .19th.

Closing: Next council meeting will be Tuesday, November 5th, at 6:30 PM. Deb motioned to adjourn, Lesley seconded. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Jessica Kappes, Secretary Pro Tem

Thank you to the following for your recent donations & memorials:



Emmanuel General Fund:

- Susan Rothwell
- Clifton & Donna Stedje
- Lewis Nelson Fund

Emmanuel Cemetery Fund:

- Naomi Vonhollen

Emmanuel Quilting Fund

- Clifton & Donna Stedje

Galchutt Lutheran Council Highlights



The Galchutt Lutheran Church council met on October 14th at 6 PM. The members present were Brice Bellmore, Marissa Moxness, Larry Wold, Doug Johnson, Jeff Miller, Kendra Dockter, Pamela Krump and Intern Meggie. The meeting was called to order by President Brice. The minutes of the September 10th meeting was read by Pamela. A motion by Kendra, seconded by Marissa to accept the secretary's report. Motion carried. The treasurer's report was provided by Kendra. A motion by Pamela, seconded by Marissa to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Intern Pastor Report: Intern Pastor Meggie reported she has been focusing her time on visitations and settling in. Sara has been very helpful providing her contact info for those who need visits. Meggie mentioned she met with Marsha Hendrickson, our prior Parish nurse, to touch base. Meggie reported she will be attending a retreat with other intern Pastors in the area every month. The first meeting is scheduled for October 15th. She has been teaching Confirmation class with Pastor Jule at the Colfax Church every Wednesday evening. A total of 14 students are enrolled, with 3 of them being Galchutt members.

Old Business: The Building Project (windows and siding) has been completed. Staining essentials have been purchased and a sign-up sheet will be posted in the Church dining room for members to volunteer their work. Jeff received a bid from Wahpeton Glass and Paint to repair the 2 broken windows; Dining room and entry way. The council discussed their 2 options and decided to get a second bid from Ray Norgard.

New Business: The council discussed the double oven is no longer working and options about getting it replaced or fixed. Kendra made a motion to replace the double oven, Larry seconded the motion. Motion carried. The oven will be installed within 2 weeks. Brice reported to the council the lawn mower is having steering gear issues and RDO is fixing it. Invoice is pending. Mardee Bessette has asked the church if she can use St. John Church for her wedding on September 12, 2020. Pamela made a motion to accept Mardee's request to use St. Johns church, Jeff seconded the motion. Motion carried. Pamela mentioned to the council about a Free Give App we could possibly use for offering/donations. Meggie will be asking Pastor Jule her opinion on the app as this is something Colfax/Our Saviors is currently using for their offering. Brice reported to the council our roof is experiencing a water leakage and Herzog will be coming next week to patch it. God's Acre is scheduled for November 24th. Church service will be at 10 AM in Galchutt.

Next meeting will be November 12th at 6:00 PM. Marissa made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Doug seconded. Motion Carried.

Secretary Pamela Krump

Thank you to the following for your donations & memorials:



Galchutt Building Fund (Siding/Window project):

Duane Kurtz, Pete & Karen Krump, Matt & Marissa Moxness, Eileen Overby, Paul & Jan Gorder, Mike & Sylvia Myers, Daniel & Kendra Dockter, Glenn Fixen, David Fixen.

Galchutt Lutheran Church: Lewis Nelson Fund

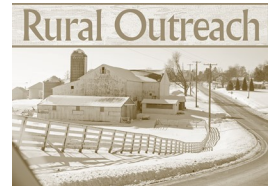
St. Johns Lutheran Church: Lewis Nelson Fund

Galchutt Building Fund:

Diane Ista – In memory of Bryan Flaa

Diane Ista – In memory of Margaret Wold

While November is normally filled with the joy of completing another year's harvest, the weather has caused many in our midst to have very little to rejoice about. For those who may not have seen the following, this message from Eastern ND Synod Bishop Terry Brandt is being shared with you. Please keep those farm families and those businesses who rely on farming in your prayers.



Dear Friends in Christ,

This has been a year when across much of Eastern North Dakota Synod, the rains were either too early or too late; too much or too little. Combined with a weak market and tariffs, our farmers and ranchers are facing another challenging year. As I drive this synod and beyond, everywhere I look, I see crops in the field waiting to be harvested. Now, as if an uncooperative planting season, low commodity prices and tariffs weren't stressful enough, the fall harvest is bringing challenges which I have never witnessed in my lifetime. As I write, North Dakota is in the midst of an early snowstorm. Harvest will be delayed, diminished, or devastated.

I cannot imagine the emotional strain and anxiety being born by our farmers/ranchers and their families. Depression will be a reality for many. Suicide rates could climb. Feelings of failure and anxiety about the future are rampant, especially when families are managing Century Farms. All these challenges, especially the current rain and snow, will put stress on our rural communities.

What can we do? Eastern North Dakota Synod is organizing a Faith and Farm Coalition. This group is dedicated to providing resources and ideas for supporting farm and ranch families. Stay tuned. In the meantime, I urge you to raise awareness in your congregation. Let people know how they can get a hold of a pastor and/or counselor. Learn more about what hurts our farmers and ranchers. Reach out to your neighbors who farm, raise livestock, run grain elevators, own farm implement dealerships, or depend on farm income to sustain their local businesses and offer them your support and assistance.

... Together, let us pray: *Gracious God, O God, The rain and snow is falling. The costs are up and the prices are down. For many, the payments are due and there's no money in the account. Lord, use us so that those who are struggling don't feel alone or feel like failures in their efforts to steward your creation. We know there are those who feel the harder they work, the worse it seems to get. Strengthen those who have lost laughter, joy or hope. Hold our farm families close as we do our best to know and act according to your will in the days ahead. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

In Christ, Bishop Terry A. Brandt



We pray for:

- Micah Moxness as he continues to seek medical treatment;
- Our former parish nurse, Marsha, in the recent loss of her brother;
- All those who struggle with all aspects of this difficult farming year;
- Our homebound members who are unable to be with us; and
- Anyone struggling with addiction, illness, or declining health.

Thanksgiving

A 10-year-old boy was sitting at the table one evening panicking over a report on birds that was due the next day. The assignment had been made three months earlier and the research was done, but the boy was only beginning to write the first sentences. The youngster was definitely feeling overwhelmed by such an enormous task. I know many of us who are procrastinators can certainly relate to that! The boy's father, noticing his son struggling, walked over to join him at the table, offering quiet support. He said, "Bird by bird, buddy. Just take it bird by bird."

As the holiday season approaches it's easy to get caught up in the planning and preparation for weeks of celebration. And much like the boy in Anne Lamott's book, Bird by Bird: Some Instruction on Writing and Life, we too can become overwhelmed with all the activity and last minute responsibilities that may have been neglected. In years past, I sometimes failed to plan ahead and got so stressed by all there was to accomplish that I forgot that God would see me through. For that constant presence, I am thankful.

As we go into this month, let us take time to reflect and thank God daily for one thing we are grateful for in our lives. Some days it might be a very simple thing, like waking up, and other times, something much bigger, like completing an overdue task. One by one, it all counts and helps us to appreciate the many things God provides for us.

Ellen Rittenhouse

ECHO SPONSORSHIP FORM

Thank you for all the support we have had for the Echo. If you are interested in sponsoring an issue, please fill out the below form. Sponsorships for June 2020 and forward are available.

Checks can be sent to *Galchutt Church*, c/o Kendra Dockter, 16860 70th St SE, Colfax, ND 58018.

Name:

_____ \$50 (half month sponsor)

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This Echo is sponsored by:

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"Noisy Offering"

Noisy Offering Sundays and beneficiaries are as follows:

Galchutt (1st Sunday of the month)

- *November - Richland/Wilkin Backpack program*
- *December - Jessy's Toy Box program in Wyndmere*
- *January - Richland/Wilkin Food Pantry*

Emmanuel (1st & 3rd Sundays of the month)

- *November - Richland/Wilkin Food Pantry*
- *December - Richland/Wilkin Backpack program*
- *January - Feed My Starving Children*

November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 RHS Coffee with Kids	2
3 Galchutt 9 AM Worship 10 AM Sunday School Emmanuel 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship "Noisy Offering Sunday"	4	5 Emmanuel Council Mtg 6:30 PM	6 AA Mtg 7PM @ Emmanuel Confirmation at Our Saviors Church 3:30 PM	7	8	9
10 Galchutt 9 AM Worship Emmanuel 10:30 AM Worship	11	12 Galchutt Council Mtg 6 PM	13 AA Mtg 7PM @ Emmanuel Confirmation at Our Saviors Church 3:30 PM	14	15	16
17 Galchutt 9 AM Worship 10 AM Sunday School Emmanuel 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 Worship & Potluck & "Noisy Offering Sunday" @ Emmanuel	18 Quilts of Valor @ Emmanuel noon-7 PM Echo Articles Due Today!!	19 Quilting at Emmanuel 9AM - 4PM	20 AA Mtg 7PM @ Emmanuel Confirmation at Our Saviors Church 3:30 PM	21	22	23
24 ** note time change Emmanuel 9 AM Worship Galchutt God's Acre 10:30 AM Worship with potluck	25	26	27 AA Mtg 7PM @ Emmanuel Confirmation at Our Saviors Church 3:30 PM	28 Thanksgiving	29	30 Emmanuel Altar Guild: November - Lesley Hulne December - Ellen Rittenhouse

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The Echo

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In loving memory of Bryan Flaa

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Just for Laughs.....

