

ERM NEWS

FEBRUARY 2016

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|---|
| Pastor Nancy Jaster: | (309) 334-2322 | email: prnancy@divcominc.net |
| Bethany Lutheran Church | (309) 334-2144 | email: bethanylc@divcominc.net |
| First Lutheran Church | (309) 593-2416 | email: flchurchsherrard@frontiernet.net |
| Grace Lutheran Church | (309) 629-9911 | email: grace.ophiem@gmail.com |
| Merigene Cooper | (309)667-2677 | email: mgcooper59@gmail.com |

ERM Office Hours: Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday afternoons 12:30-4:30pm

Bethany Office Hours: Fridays 8am-2pm

Staff Meeting Monday afternoon @ 1:30pm

Pastor Nancy's DAY OFF is Friday

Sunday Morning Worship Times:

Bethany 9am Grace 9am First 10:45am

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE 15th OF THE MONTH

(Please contact Merigene with events planned so they can be put on the ERM Calendar)

ERM ANNUAL MEETING & JOINT WORSHIP February 28th hosted by FS

Worship 10 am Meeting 11am Potluck Dinner 12pm

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR CONFIRMATION FEB. 28th

due to our ERM Annual Meeting & Worship@ First Lutheran in Sherrard.

Confirmands who attend the joint service & meeting will get counted for 2 sets of notes.

PALS LENTEN SCHEDULE

Midweek Meal served from 5:30-6:30pm Service 7pm

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---|
| Ash Wednesday | Feb. 10 th | Calvary Lutheran 10:30am Sherrard Presbyterian 12pm United Church of Woodhull 7pm |
| | Feb. 17 th | Rio Presbyterian |
| | Feb. 24 th | Calvary Lutheran |
| | Mar. 2 nd | First Lutheran |
| | Mar. 9 th | Swedona Lutheran |
| | Mar. 16 th | Sherrard Presbyterian |
| Maundy Thursday | Mar. 24 th | Sherrard Presbyterian 12pm NW Presbyterian 7pm |
| Good Friday | Mar. 25 th | Bethany Lutheran 7pm |
| Easter | Mar. 27 th | GO-7am BW-9am FS-10:45am |

**IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER WATCH WQAD CHANNEL 8
LOOK ON FACEBOOK FOR ANY CANCELLATIONS**

PASTORAL VISITATIONS

We would like to keep in touch with those members who are hospitalized, in nursing homes or home bound. If you would like the pastor to visit, please contact her or the church office.

We appreciate knowing when members are **in the hospital**, and would appreciate knowing when members are **released from hospitals**.

PASTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:

Your help and cooperation is needed in helping Pr Nancy to respond to phone calls and messages.

It is best to contact

Pastor Nancy Jaster at (309) 334-2322

prnancy@divcominc.net

ERM/Bethany Office Hours

Merigene will be in the office @ Bethany:

Mon-Tues-Wed afternoons 12:30p-4:30p

Merigene will be in the office:

Fridays 8:00a-2:00p

ERM/Bethany Phone: 309-334-2144

ERM email: edrivmin@gmail.com

Staff Meeting Monday @ 1:30p at Bethany

Pastor Nancy takes Fridays as her Day Off

ERM WEBSITE

The website is available at:

www.edwardsriverministry.org

ERM Sister/Companion Church

Emmaus Church

Rev. D. Jayakaran

40 Main Road, Nellikuppam

607 105 Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadus, India

Email: rev_jayakaran@yahoo.com

Foot Clinic

United Church, Woodhull

Thursday, **February 18th**

1:00-4:00p

Appointments may be made with parish nurses

Bev @ 334-2412 or Lynn @ 334-2672

The nurses do foot soaks and toenail clipping.

The cost is \$27.00 and you need to bring

2 bath towels and one washcloth.

AlWood Food Pantry

Open the 1st Tuesday of each month

10-11am

The Food Pantry is located in the Oxford

Township Hall in Alpha next to the

Oxford Township Fire Dept.

Contact Harriet Peterson @ 334-2276

Al Nordquist @ 334-2264

Sherrard Food Pantry

517 3rd St., Sherrard, IL

Hours of Operation:

Every Tuesday 2:00p - 4:00p

Every Thursday 5:30p - 7p

New Windsor Food Pantry

Open the 2nd Friday of each month

12:30p - 2:00p

Please contact:

Cyndi Adams @ 667-2493

ERM Churches Sunday Schedules

Bethany:

Worship: 9am

Coffee Fellowship: 10:00a

3D: Dedicated, Driven, Determined teen group

Children's Choir: 10:15a

Sunday School/Confirmation: 10:30a

Adult Bell Choir: Thurs. 5:45p

Adult Senior Choir: Thurs. 7p

Grace:

Worship: 9:00a

Bible Study/Fellowship: 10:00a

First:

Adult Bible Study: 10:00am

Worship: 10:45a

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

BETHANY

Lectors:

2/7 Verna Bergstrom
2/14 Debra Hannam
2/21 Nancy Swanson
2/28 ERM Joint @ FS
3/6 Lily McNally

Ushers:

2/7 Bob & Verna Bergstrom
2/14 Dave & Marty Johnson
2/21 Jim & Kelly Luallen
2/28 ERM Joint @ FS
3/6 Gene & Barb Colburn

Greeters:

2/7 Donita Creek
2/14 Al & Peggy Nordquist
2/21 Randy & Jan Larson
2/28 ERM Joint @ FS
3/6 Bob Eiker

Prayer Asst:

2/7 Verna Bergstrom
2/14 Mary Stiers
2/21 NONE
2/28 ERM Joint @ FS
3/6 Jeana Fors

Communion Asst:

2/7 Jim Luallen
2/21 Jason Hancock

Acolyte:

2/7 Lily McNally
2/14 Morgan Wirt
2/21 Hannah Maher
2/28 ERM Joint @ FS
3/6 Lily McNally

Funeral Committee Jan-Feb-Mar

Connie Bolduc 334-2530
Betty Swanson 334-2692
Patty Olson 334-2527

Rotation of Callers

Feb. Kelly Luallen
Mar. & Apr. Mary Stiers
May & June Verna Bergstrom
July & Aug. Harriet Peterson
Sep. & Oct. Lucy Newman
Nov. Kelly Luallen
Dec. Mary Stiers

GRACE

Organist: Elizabeth Robinson

Ushers: Greg, Rhonda & Matt Miller

Altar:

2/7 Rhonda Miller
2/21 Rhonda Miller

Assisting Minister:

2/7 Richard Peterson
2/21 Ross Olson

Greeters:

2/7 Richard Peterson
2/14 Rhea Johnson
2/21 Ross Olson
2/28 ERM Joint @ FS

Lectors:

2/7 Richard Peterson
2/14 Rhea Johnson
2/21 Ross Olson
2/28 ERM Joint @ FS

IN OUR PRAYERS

For all those who serve our nation in this time of peril, for our President and our national leaders, and those who serve in the Armed Forces, especially **Jason Brown, Lindsey Carlson, Michael Matheson, Jake Holman, Alex Frew, Tony Williams, Brad Williams, Matthew Broline, Kyle Gerber** that God may watch over us all and lead us through this time into a time of peace.

Those with continuing health problems:

Truman Nehls, Dorothy Nelson, Barb McNeil, Leland Peterson, Janis Bell, Debbie Anderson, Jocelyn Schmidt, Mike Clark, Becki Norton, Pr. Jane McChesney, Damaris Miller, Betty Hickman, Carol St. John, Dick Child, Stephanie Corken, Charlie McClaine, Tim Heyvaert, Dorothy Anderson, Shirley Norberg, Jaeleen Mooney Peck, Marge Morland, Jack Anderson, Deed Nehls

Deaths: Kenneth Shepherd, Danny Campbell, Liz Dechow, Delbert Litchfield, Jim Streeter

Southwest Conference Mission Partner:

The ELCA World Hunger Foods Resource Bank:
Chota Project in Peru

Our Companion Synod:

North Central Diocese of Tanzania, Interim Bishop

ERM Sister Congregation: Emmaus Church, India

Our Faith Fellowship: The churches and members of the Edwards River Ministry

Bethany WELCA Members:

On behalf of the Woodhull Meals on Wheels Program/Board, please accept our sincere thanks for the gift of \$130.00 for our program. With the cost of groceries rising, this truly helps our program. We have been blessed by your generous donations. Many of our great volunteers who help with our program are members of WELCA. We truly appreciate you're their help. Without these gracious volunteers, this Meals on Wheels Program could not continue. We encourage all of you to sign up as you are able to cook, donate salads or desserts, as well as deliver the meals. It is truly a community program, currently serving at least 24 recipients here in Woodhull. We appreciate everything!!! Thank you so much,

Meals of Wheels Board Members:

Pam Eiker, Nancy Swanson & Barb Elliott of Bethany Lutheran
Barb Carlson, Carol Clement & Pam Picard of United Church

February Birthdays:

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Kristi VerHeecke | 01 |
| Barb McNeil | 02 |
| Kristi Willet | 02 |
| Brent Henrikson | 03 |
| Connie Sundberg | 03 |
| Sarah Souhrada | 03 |
| Andrea Bolduc | 05 |
| Gwen Blais | 05 |
| Kevin Elliott | 09 |
| Barb Lutrell | 09 |
| Sandy Carlson | 09 |
| Kaylie Smith | 09 |
| Grace Barman | 10 |
| Jason Brown | 10 |
| Connie Lawson | 10 |
| Millie Nelson | 10 |
| Douglas Johnson | 12 |
| Greg Nimrick | 12 |
| Curt Anderson | 12 |
| Chris Lutrell | 13 |
| Luanne Krueger | 15 |
| Luann Colburn | 16 |
| Gene Colburn | 18 |
| Erik Lemon | 18 |
| Ann Watters | 18 |
| Willis Luallen | 19 |
| Cathy Lutrell | 19 |
| Josephine Wells | 19 |
| Marty Johnson | 20 |
| Kim Goodrich | 21 |
| Maurey Peterson | 21 |
| Steven Shumaker | 22 |
| Mike Maher | 24 |
| Mahlon Johnson | 25 |
| John Schmidt | 25 |
| Laura Hines | 28 |

February Baptismal Anniversaries:

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Kayden Smith | 02 |
| Owen Blais | 03 |
| Rubie Watson | 11 |
| Connie Lawson | 11 |
| Marybeth Smith | 27 |

February Wedding Anniversaries:

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Mahlon & Rhea Johnson | 07 |
| Bob & Pam Eiker | 12 |
| George & Jackie Bloomberg | 15 |
| Tex & Barb Lutrell | 21 |
| Leonard & Gladys Olson | 28 |

GRACE:

GO Council Meeting: Sunday, February 14th after worship

FIRST:

FS Council Meeting: Thursday, February 11th 7pm

Altar Guild: Diane Frew

The first Sunday of the month is designated

Food Pantry Sunday.

All loose offering goes to the Sherrard Food Pantry.

Food, cleaning supplies & paper products can be brought all month long.

Thanks to all who participate.

Anyone interested in a community garden to be started in the spring should contact Gary Dierolf @ 309-526-8930.

**We are collecting for our 3 college student care kits.
The last day to donate is February 7th.**

BETHANY CONTINUED....

Dear Friends of Bethany,

So many thanks to you all prior and after Bob's passing. Thank you WELCA for the cookies and poinsettia delivered to our home and I know Bob did enjoy the cookies.

The quilt from the Bethany Quilters brought a tear to Bob's eyes when he recognized the patriotic theme. Thanks to Pastor Nancy for bringing the prayer shawl to his hospital bed. I am the one who is using it each night after getting ready for bed. I was so touched the Bethany Choir came to my home with carols and then on to Bob's room in the ICU. Silent Night was his favorite and he heard you all I am sure and it was fitting to close his funeral with the same song.

Also thanks to you all who braved the nasty weather to attend the service and serve such a nice lunch.

God Bless you all. **Sandy Snyder**

Bethany Lutheran: Thank you for your recent gift of \$100 to Lutheran Disaster Response. Your faithful support makes a difference for families & communities in need of food and water, housing and health care, safety & security.

Daniel Rift, Director ELCA World Hunger & Disaster Appeal

Thanks so much to WELCA for the poinsettia and the cookies and to the choir for their Christmas carols.

The peace of the Lord to all. **Gladys & Leonard Olson**

Bethany WELCA: On behalf of PALS, thank you so much for your gift. Your generosity will help someone stay warm, have enough to eat or have a roof over their head. Blessings, **Pastor Nancy**

BETHANY:

Hope Unit: Thursday, Feb.18th Hostess: Harriet P.

BW Council Meeting: Thursday, Feb. 18th 8pm

**Quilting: Tuesday Mornings 9am-12pm
(Weather Permitting)**

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR CONFIRMATION FEB. 28th
due to our ERM Annual Meeting & Worship
@ Frist Lutheran in Sherrard. Confirmands who attend the
joint service & meeting will get counted for 2 sets of notes.**

**NOTICE: THE DRIVE UP LANE IN THE PARKING LOT MUST BE
KEPT OPEN AT ALL TIMES.**

THIS LANE IS USED TO DROP OFF AND PICK UP THOSE
ATTENDING CHURCH & OTHER EVENTS.

Reminder that we are still collecting "undies" and socks for the AlWood Schools. Preschool size is most needed at this time. Thanks for your continued support of this project.

Reminder: Money for **ALTAR FLOWERS** should be given to Peggy Nordquist. Checks should be made to WELCA. The cost for 2 vases is \$40.
Money for **bulletins** should be given to Jeana Fors. Checks should be made to BETHANY. The cost for bulletins is \$10.
If you mail your offering, please send it to the church and not Jeana's home address.

The confirmation class is collecting **aluminum pop tabs** for the Ronald McDonald House. Please place them in the box in the narthex. THANKS!

The **first Sunday** of each month is designated **Food Pantry Sunday** at Bethany.

Thank you to everyone for your phone calls, cards, flowers and prayers during my hospitalization and since my return home. Also, thank you to WELCA for the beautiful poinsettia and the quilting ladies for the lovely, warm quilt. A belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone at Bethany. **Emma Gerard**

Thank you for the luncheon and help after Ruby Swanson's funeral. We appreciate it very much.
Family of Ruby Swanson

Thank you to the Bethany teens who brought me the plant and cookies. **Karleen Larson**

Thank you to WELCA for the cookies & poinsettia I received and for the newsletter being sent to me at Seminary Estates this winter. **Dorothy Peterson**

WELCA Ladies: Thank you so much for the delicious Christmas cookies and beautiful poinsettia. It really brightened up my kitchen table! **Forrest McKey**

EDWARDS RIVER MINISTRY
380 W. 3rd Ave. PO Box 459
Woodhull, IL 61490-0459

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FEBRUARY 2016

Intercessory Prayer for NI Synod

O Lord our creator and sustainer of life, source of all our gifts and blessings, our hearts are full of thanks and praise for the ministry of Northern Illinois Synod. God, in your wisdom, you have extended its boundaries of friendship all the way to our companion Synods in Tanzania and India. The unity of the Spirit that we enjoy with the North Central Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and Arcot Lutheran Church in India, has now brought us together to lift our voices and pray in one accord for our beloved Northern Illinois Synod that is undergoing a great change at this time.

We thank God for the servant leadership and compassionate shepherding of our Bishop Wollersheim and his wife Polly. Lord God, we pray that you grant them many happy, healthy retirement years. We are all also thankful for those in our Synod, working toward a smooth transition to new leadership.

Abraham interceded for Lot. Moses pleaded on behalf of Israel. We are interceding for our Northern Illinois Synod at this critical juncture to provide the right shepherd for us. Direct us, O Lord, in all our efforts with your most gracious favor. We earnestly pray that all the work of the Transition team will continue and end in you to the glory of your holy name. May the Holy Spirit descend upon all those working on the transition process whether it is the Synod staff, Transition team members, sub committees and those who are praying about their role in future leadership. May the proverbial wisdom of Solomon and practical wisdom of Paul be given to all who are working towards a smooth, orderly and ecclesiastical choice of a new Bishop for Northern Illinois Synod.

Into your hands Almighty God, we place ourselves, and our leadership. Help us to find peace beneath the shadow of your mighty wings. Jesus the Good shepherd knows what we need even before we ask and is interceding for us. We thank you for your answers. In your victorious name we ask all this.

Amen.

