

FAITHNOTES

May 2022

*The Newsletter for Communities of Faith/Peace
United Parish, United Methodist*

Clarissa - Clotho - Eagle Bend – Long Prairie

Thoughts from Kali . . .



How are you doing, Easter Peeps? We are in the Easter Season, called out of the darkness of Lent to the light and celebration of

resurrection! Do you sense yourselves feeling your spirit swelling? Do you feel the urge to shout Hallelujah? Here I come, a servant and disciple of my Lord, Jesus Christ! How are you giving thanks, honoring him, and saying thanks, God...for dying for my sins, for rescuing me out of the places I have found myself in...Glory Hallelujah and Amen!

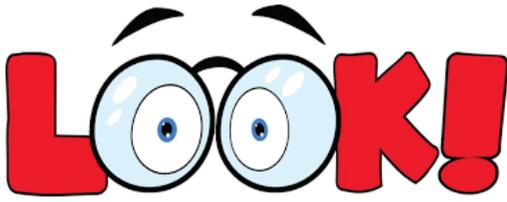
Most of us are not so flamboyant with our spiritual growth, conversation, adulation, and praise, but sometimes, don't you find yourself uttering these very sayings in the midst of prayer, when trying to find something that has completely disappeared from sight, when looking for a spot, wondering if our directions are wrong. Don't we utter those expressions of praise when the fever breaks in our little people, when the test comes back from the lab, normal...when the doctor says, "all looks good, see you next year". Aren't we likely to say thanks when the farm payment comes together...or the electric bill isn't as big as we thought it would be. We are talking to God all the time, aren't we? People talk to God who are not really sure if they believe in Him or not. And sometimes, as believers, we wonder if he hears, if he is around, if he has taken a vacation. Being Easter People does not come to us without doubts, fears, questions, cries. Being Easter People, however, does come with the HOPE that all will be well. All will not be easy or as we wish, but it will be well. We know that our lives are in the hands of a Great God who sees us, cries, rejoices, and loves us...more than we can ever know. During Easter we talked about the places we are called to show up as believers in Christ. We are called to live in the kingdom right now, today. Called to be Easter People who serve, love, extend in ways that Jesus did himself. So, how are we living in Christ? How are we serving? If in fact, we have accepted Jesus in as our Savior, then

there is kingdom work to do. We are not saved by works, we know that...but we also know that as he works in our lives, as our hearts are transformed, we find ourselves less taken with our own needs and more responsive to the needs of His Kids...or at least, that is what we strive for isn't it? We have Good News to share and we are the bearers of that Good News to others.

There is a correlation to healthy attitudes, healthy bodies and giving of ourselves to a cause that is greater than us. We are called on to have a little skin in the game, to extend ourselves, use our gifts, make a difference in the ways we can or attempt to. Summer is a time to get some play in, but it is also a time to gather outside and bring the light of Christ to others. We have great opportunities with Porch Ponderings, our local town celebrations, the parades, our church services, Vacation Bible School, and so many opportunities in our areas. Where are we being asked to shine for Jesus, to give like Jesus, to grow in Jesus? What can we do this summer that brings joy to people who are shut in? What can we do for the Kids who are hanging out? How can we contribute to make their experience at VBS full of good opportunities? What else can we do, where are we called to being the church outside of our buildings? What more can we be doing for the Mission Depot, for UMCOR, for Ukraine? Share your thoughts, ideas, heart desires...and let us be Christ to others.

We were asked to sponsor an ad on the t-shirts for Bertha-Hewitt, we were asked to give something to the LPGE Color Run, we need to find a way to share some good with the students at Browerville...Osakis...Parkers Prairie. We cannot complain about kids not being in church if we are not pursuing them and their families, making a difference in their lives, providing a village of love and support. We peruse our budget each month or every other month...and we make tough choices. Coming out of a pandemic, each of our churches are doing fine. We can choose to invest in our churches, our communities, our people...all of which are God's...or we can keep it to ourselves...and shrivel up. We are called to be good stewards, but not misers when we could make a difference for the KIN-DOM! God is knocking on the hearts of each of us...with ideas, thoughts, hopes, wants, places we feel could make the world better. Be brave, Be Bold, Speak up...attend a meeting, let your voice be heard. Say it to yourself right now...**God is good all the time...and all the time, God is good.** He is and his presence, his love, his expectation for you and

me is that we will say thanks, Lord!
Alleluia! Amen! Here I am, send me! Amen.



Look at all sections for more information.

SPRC & Communities of Faith/Peace United Parish Council



Jerry & Wanda Tepley, Russ Noland, Sharon Willie, Doris Winter, Erin Balbach, Lawrence Nelson, Paul VanGorp, Bobbi Knutson, Tammy & Marty Mueller, Eric & Mindy Denny, Dan Beach, Kali Christensen.

Opened the meeting talking about where we have been the last 10 months and where we are going as we approach the beginning of the church year. As a group, we talked about Porch Ponderings, what each individual church thought we should be doing collectively, Vacation Bible School, Confirmation, etc. Splitting up into individual churches, certain areas were mutual for each church:

Who should be contacted for baptisms?

Who should be contacted for funerals?

What are your summer hopes?

Who do you want to see at Porch Ponderings?

Each church discussed individual ideas/ concerns as they met. When we reconvened, we shared conversation about Vacation Bible School. Erin is willing to get it organized, the date was set for Saturday, August 13th, Clarissa UMC. We ask that you get it on your calendar, get your kids, grandkids, neighborhood kids rounded up, and set some time aside for you to help in any way you can as well. This will be a great resource for our kids, for their faith building, and the faith building of many. It will be up to us to volunteer, assist in the ways we can, and lend support to this 4-church opportunity to grow closer to God. Stay tuned for details. Please mark your calendar today. We will

try to set our next meeting after Annual Conference to update folks on what is happening and what took place.

Minnesota Annual Conference is scheduled for May 24th and 25th. We have the opportunity for people to participate in the gathering. The conference is in St. Cloud. We have not met in person and had an in-person conference for a couple of years. So, if you are interested and can attend, please consider it. We

should be able to reimburse the cost for you to attend. You can also attend for one day only. Information is available on the website and there are copies of information at the church. See Kali and stay in touch if you want to attend. The General Conference meeting has been pushed back to 2024. There will be churches who are asking to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church in the future. Take the time to educate yourself on the status as things develop. Information will be provided as it is received. At this time, we will continue to “be the Church”, ministering to one another, ministering to our communities, striving to do no harm, to do good, and to stay in love with God.



Confirmation students...we will begin meeting again on Wednesday, May 4th, Peace United Church, 7 p.m. We will meet on the 18th and June 1st. During May, we will set the confirmation date in consultation with

your parents. Bring your Lenten study notes to class on the 4th. Look forward to seeing you!

Ministerial Team



Erin, Janet, Pam, and I met on Thursday, April 21st. We celebrated the JOY of the Easter Worship Services and each of you. It has been

absolutely wonderful to be in ministry together since July 1st. Time has flown and we have grown. That night we seemed to turn a corner, feeling a bit more united and solid in our desire and hope to serve these four churches. We have been grateful for the training provided by the Minnesota Annual Conference. We are grateful for your support and encouragement. We have a desire to know how you feel things are going...where we can improve, where we fall short, where we are meeting your needs and expectations. You will find a questionnaire in the newsletter. We ask that you fill it out and return it to church. There will be boxes at each church to insert the survey. There will also be copies of this form at the churches, so feel free to have each family member take a form to fill out. There is no place for your signature. You do not have to sign the form, but certainly can. Please be totally honest and share as you feel free to. We want to be available to you and the four churches. At this time the Minnesota Annual Conference sees this formation as continuing into the new church year which begins July 1, 2022. Thanks for your assistance in making this

arrangement the best it can be. Together we have gifts and talents that are vital for the formation of disciples for Jesus Christ. Please invest, as we need your input and your energy. Thanks so much. The schedule for May is as follows:

May 1st...Erin and Kali

May 8th ...Pam and Kali

May 15...Jan and Pam

May 22..Erin and Kali

May 29..Jan and Kali



Church Choir - the Choir is taking the summer off from regular practice; however, we would love to have you share special music at any time. So, whether or not you are in the choir, please consider sharing your musical talent at one of our services.

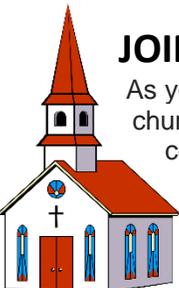


Friends To All is a local group sending cheer and kind wishes to others. This group of caring people have decided it would be great to assemble some love bags for people who are giving care to others. The

bags will serve as a reminder that we are not alone in times of challenge. If you would like to donate items, be part of the ministry, have names to share with the group, please contact: Bev Eggerth at 320-533-1814, Jane Thole at 320-291-4598, Dianne Vavra at 320-808-7979, or Kali Christensen at 320-808-6301. Bev, Jane, Dianne, Karen Eggerth, Kathy Loegering, and Wanda Rosenow are assembling the bags, delivering them and are hoping you will let them know who is in need. The group will also compliment the card sending that Wanda Tepley does for our churches. The outreach of all these people is amazing and will only be fruitful if you let them know who can benefit from the thoughtfulness.



Thanks for your generous donations to UMCOR and the people of Ukraine. Appreciate your donations of laundry detergent and dish soap to be sent to the Mission Depot in Illinois. Thanks for making a difference.



JOIN US IN CHURCH...

As you can see in the pieces of the newsletter, church is being called into assistance in our community, the broader area and the world. We are to offer prayer and support in our faith walk. We would love to have you join us in church. We are aware of folks wanting to continue to

mask, social distance, etc....and everyone is open to anything you choose to do to protect your health and everyone else's. Please consider joining us. We are thrilled to have the Facebook option and are so glad people are utilizing it to a great degree. There is nothing like fellowship, and if you can safely join us, we would be thrilled to have you in the pews. Thanks to everyone who continues to financially give as they can. Our churches are operating and have a desire to extend our presence in the communities. Your gifts support the mission and operating of our churches. Clarissa, Clotho, Eagle Bend people, feel free to send any monetary gifts to PO Box 158, Clarissa, MN. 56440. Peace United Folks, send your offering to 524 Central Avenue, Long Prairie, MN. 56347. Thanks so much! Hope to see you soon!



HeBrews is an hour of coffee, treats, and a grounding meditation, thought, devotion. It is a great way to kick off a Thursday. Consider joining the men and

women who pop in for that hour any Thursday morning, Faith Lutheran Church, Eagle Bend, 9 a.m. Everyone is welcome!



Meanderings of the Preacher...

Care Center Worship in Clarissa, May 4th, and in LP, May 11th. Meetings at HRK, morning of

May 10th. Ministerial meeting May 17th, County networking meeting, May 13th, Suicide Conference, May 3rd. Celebration of Life Services: evening of May 3rd for Bonnie Rask, Morning of May 21st for Pam Farr and Steve Szech. Afternoon of the 21st, wedding of Jordan Marcyes and Logann Regowski. Licensed Local Pastor retreat the evening of May 3rd and morning of May 4th. Preconference update on the eve of the 12th and a clergy session over zoom on May 19th. Weekend to Iowa and Worthington May 14th and 15th.

Joys & Concerns

Family of Carol Carrick
Family of Patti Hinnenkamp
Family of Nadine Maybon
Aaron and Molly Volker
Carol Denny
Jason Olson
Birth of Dayton Ray, great grandson of Ray & Rozann
Debi and Scott Nagel

People of Ukraine
 Todd Hetland
 Pat Falkowski
 Family of Pam Bauer Farr
 Family of Kurt “Lucky” Taber
 Karin Lancaster
 Julie... beginning CA treatment
 Carol Hanson
 Safety for teens
 Greg Lamusga
 Liz... testing
 Lucy Berkness
 Bev Morgan
 Joy of Lyla Becker’s baptism
 Kathy... on comfort care

26...Nancy Taft
 27...Carter Denny
 28...Michael Warner
 29...Dean Prather
 30...Shirley Carrick

**PLEASE REMEMBER
 OUR NURSING HOME
 AND ASSISTED LIVING
 FAMILY...**



Central Todd County Care Center – Clarissa

- Shirley Carrick - Marlene Taber

- Lois Johnson

Galeon – Osakis

- Donna Kotval

Meadow Place – Long Prairie

- Lois Boyer - Darlene and Orin Baxter

- Mary Ann Lawin

Valley View – Long Prairie

- Darlene Bodle

Diamond Willow – Little Falls

- Carol Broberg

Services at the Nursing homes:

Central Todd County Care Center, Wednesday, May 4th,
 10:30 a.m. and

Long Prairie Memorial Nursing Home, Wednesday, May
 11th, 9:45 a.m.

BIRTHDAYS

7...Rod Kamphenkel
 8...Carol Hanson
 8...John Frerichs
 9...Caiden Frerichs
 13...Lalo Quillo
 14...Janet Doroff
 15...Carter Hudalla
 17...Linda Kamphenkel
 17...Aaron Zierden
 21...Gary Duncan
 21...Lonnie Browen
 23...Jenna Kunerth



K-NOTES
 by
Kaeden Beach



Mother’s day. A day to express our gratefulness for the women who brought us into the world. One of the most influential people in my life is my mother. She has taught me countless things and is someone that I will always look up to. The bible is also filled with many remarkable mothers including Elizabeth, Mary, Eve and many others. God speaks of these people in the bible because they are valuable in making you do you are. Mothers are truly one of our greatest blessings, but I think this day is one to celebrate more than just your biological mom. We should always celebrate the mentors in our lives but on this day may we celebrate all of the amazing women who have guided us. They truly do so much for us and are one of Gods most special gifts. As we celebrate Mother’s day, may we feel grateful for every aunt, grandma, pastor, sister, friend, and mom who has held our hand in the tough times. May we give our thanks to our Lord for these gifts, and may we cherish the time we spend together with family, celebrating.

Proverbs 31:31: “Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.”

CONVERSATIONS. . .



Conversations will continue on Wednesday mornings, 7 a.m. Hope to see you there!

Clarissa Chatter. . .

The welcome bags are being distributed. Thanks for the assembly makers.

There was great attendance at the meeting and meal on April 24th. Thanks to all for the scrumptious food. We are moving ahead on a new door, making plans for new

siding, celebrating our beautiful new banners. We will have a short meeting after church May 15th and a bigger meeting on Sunday, June 26th after church.

Thanks for serving Jim and Carol's funerals. Appreciate your care and love.
May 22nd...Baptisms of Autumn, Paycen, Rayna Becker.

Clotho Corner. . .

Music Jam on May 2nd, 1 p.m. FUN!!!!!!

Coffee in Clotho, served, 6:30-9 a.m., May 6th. Stop in and share some time or grab a Cup and go.

Anyone interested in sitting on the Board of the LP Food Shelf? Would be a great opportunity to make an impact on food needs in our area. Call Kris Mechels at 320-630-3950.

Eagle Bend Box. . .

UMW meeting after church on May 1st.

Soup and Sandwich Supper, May 17th, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Everyone Welcome!

Peace United Update...

May 8th...Admin meeting after church

Baptism of Chloe Jenkins, May 8th!

The Long Prairie Cemetery Board is looking for a volunteer from Peace United to serve. They would be especially excited if a volunteer had some secretarial skills, finance skills, and/or handy caretaking skills. Please consider contacting Phil Gould for more information and hopefully, to say yes. Phil can be reached at: 320-290-4833.

A reminder that the LP Food Shelf is also requesting for someone from church to be on the Board. Contact Kris Mechels at 320-630-3950.

A little of this and a little of that...



Camps this summer...please be in touch if your kids are wanting to go to camp this summer. There are many great

camps offered through the Minnesota Annual Conference and many great area camps. We have some funds that will assist in the payment of camps.



Mother's Day will be celebrated Sunday, May 8th...be sure to take the time to celebrate your Mom, Stepmoms, mate, Grandmas, Great Grandmas, sisters, aunts, daughters...the people in your life who have nurtured you...may be biological and may not be. It is great to give thanks for the ways people have loved us and cared for us. It is a day to celebrate nurturing...so, do it! Hope to see you in worship so we can celebrate together!!!!!!

Memorial Day Weekend is always full of so many things. Be sure to take time to remember and give thanks for the men and women who gave their lives for our country. Take in a parade, go to the cemeteries, say a prayer, give honor in a meaningful way. For most of us, it is the weekend, we decorate the graves of loved ones, go visit the sites they are buried, and tell the stories. If you have children, teach them about the importance of Memorial Day and remembering those who have given their lives for our freedoms and about family and friends who are no longer with us. As we educate, we are teaching a valuable lesson about our heritage and giving honor to God for the people he has brought into our lives. Almost every town and many of the cemeteries have the opportunity to salute those who are fallen heroes. Take the time to remember and pass on the legacy.



Thanks to the Youth and all the adults who brought great JOY to the Easter Services. It was so good to celebrate the Risen Christ together. Thanks to Pam and all for the Sunrise Service, to Janet for the PUC service, to Marty, Tammy, and the people who brought food and worked in the kitchen serving a wonderful breakfast. Thanks for special music. Christ is Risen, He is Risen INDEED!!!!!!

Thanks for the prayers and support through this Course of Study Class. I appreciate it. The class was great and the time together very rewarding. Kali

If you would like to contribute items to the monthly newsletter, please email Kali by the end of the third week each month. The goal is to have the newsletter in your hands by the first Sunday of each month.

Thanks, Kali

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Church Services: Clotho – 8 am Eagle Bend – 9:15 am Peace United – 10 am Clarissa – 10:30 am UMW meeting following service, Eagle Bend UMC.	2 The Music Jam, 1 pm, Clotho UMC	3	4 Conversations, Facebook Live, 7:00 am. Nursing Home Service, CTCCC, 10:30 am. Confirmation, Peace United, 7:00 pm.	5 HeBrews, Faith Lutheran Church, 9:00 am.	6 Coffee in Clotho, Clotho UMC, 6:30 – 9:00 am.	7
8 Church Services: Clotho – 8 am Eagle Bend – 9:15 am Peace United – 10 am Clarissa – 10:30 am Admin Council meeting, Peace United, following the service.	9	10	11 Conversations, Facebook Live, 7:00 am. Nursing Home Service, LP Memorial Nursing Home, 9:45 am.	12 HeBrews, Faith Lutheran Church, 9:00 am.	13	14
15 Church Services: Clotho – 8 am Eagle Bend – 9:15 am Peace United – 10 am Clarissa – 10:30 am Meeting following service, Clarissa UMC.	16	17 Soup and Sandwich Supper, Eagle Bend UMC, 4:30 – 6:30 pm.	18 Conversations, Facebook Live, 7:00 am. Confirmation, Peace United, 7:00 pm.	19 HeBrews, Faith Lutheran Church, 9:00 am.	20	21
22 Church Services: Clotho – 8 am Eagle Bend – 9:15 am Peace United – 10 am Clarissa – 10:30 am	23	24 Minnesota Annual Conference	25 Minnesota Annual Conference Conversations, Facebook Live, 7:00 am.	26 HeBrews, Faith Lutheran Church, 9:00 am.	27	28
29 Church Services: Clotho – 8 am Eagle Bend – 9:15 am Peace United – 10 am Clarissa – 10:30 am	30	31				

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