



The Prairie Star



Bethel & Goshen Moravian Church

Volume 7, Issue 1

December, 2016

It's A NEW YEAR

It is December – and that means it is a new year – a new CHURCH year. We begin with the season of Advent. Advent focuses on expectation – the anticipation of Christ’s birth on Christmas Day and the expectation of Christ’s SECOND coming – his return in the clouds to be the judge of all humanity.

As Christians, and as Moravians, we celebrate Advent with different liturgies, the singing of *The Hosanna* on the First Sunday of Advent, and the lighting of candles on the Advent wreath. We sing hymns of anticipation – *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* and *Come, O Long Expectant Jesus*. We hear the words of John, the Baptizer – *Prepare the Way of the Lord!*

In many ways, it is appropriate that Advent is the first season of the liturgical year. It leads us to the birth of our Savior – but Advent also prepares us not just for Christmas but for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter as well. So I invite you during this Advent not to be so focused on Christmas, with the hustle and bustle that the secular world places on the season, but to remain attentive to Christ – and Jesus’ return in glory.

Pastor Reid

Bethel Church Council

Bethel Moravian will have their Church Council on Sunday, December 4th. We will worship at 10:30 and have a potluck meal prior to the Council Meeting. Please have reports to Pastor Reid by November 29th for inclusion in the booklet.

Goshen Church Council

Goshen Moravian will have their Church Council on Sunday, January 15th. We will worship at 10:30 AM and have a potluck meal prior to the Council Meeting – Bethel will worship at 9 AM. Please have reports to Pastor Reid by January 10th for inclusion in the booklet.

Men’s Prayer Breakfast

The December Men’s Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, December 17th at 8:00 AM at Mom’s Diner in Fargo. Join us for a time of food, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

Goshen Christmas Caroling

Goshen will go Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 18th. We will meet at the church at 3 PM. Join us for this fun annual activity as we share the news of our Savior’s birth with members of our congregation and the community.

Unity Prayer Watch

The Moravian Church has experienced spiritual renewal and strength through a covenant of prayer. In 1727, the church in Herrnhut, Germany, covenanted for an “Hourly Intercession” which continued for one hundred years with a great blessing to the entire Moravian Church. The Unity Prayer Watch established in 1957 has continued to bless us. The 1988 Unity Synod affirmed the importance of this experience for the worldwide Moravian Church. [from *The Moravian*, November, 2013]

Once again, Goshen and Bethel will participate in the Unity Prayer Watch. Our day will be Thursday, December 19th. We share this day with Canaan and Shepherd of the Prairie. We are asking folks to sign up for a 30-minute time slot – signup sheets are posted at each church.

The times for each church are:

Goshen: 1-2 AM; 7-8 AM; 11AM-12 PM; 1-2 PM; 7-8 PM; 11PM-12 AM

Bethel: 2-3 AM; 6-7 AM; 10-11 AM; 2-3 PM; 6-7 PM; 10-11 PM



December Birthdays and Anniversaries

December 2nd – Nicholle Heuer (B)
December 3rd – Rachel Barrett (G)
December 4th – Karen Plath (B)
December 7th – LeRoy Pffingsten (G)
December 8th – Rachel Dittmer (G)
December 13th – Carol Schatzke (G)
December 15th – Darleen Vining (G)
December 23rd – Becky Jahnke (G)
December 24th – Carol Jahnke (G)
December 26th – Reid & Sharon Lauderman (B-G)
December 28th – Anthony Palazzo (B)
December 29th – Troy & Nikki Roesler (B)
December 30th – Kevin & Martha Larson (G)

If we missed anyone's birthday or anniversary this month, we apologize. Please contact Pastor Reid to let him know the date of your celebration.



Christmas Food Baskets

Once again we will be collecting food for Christmas baskets. We need enough food for 30 baskets so those who need help can enjoy Christmas dinner. We are asking for 30 cans of yams from Bethel and 30 cans of fruit cocktail from Goshen. In addition, each church is asked to contribute \$50 toward the purchase of two turkeys. Food can be placed in the purple tubs at each church and the food is due by Monday, December 11th so it can be taken to the Kindred Lutheran Church.



Hospital Visitation

Pastor Reid would be happy to visit you in the hospital. Please let the hospital know your church affiliation or call the parsonage to make sure you are not missed.

Home communion is available to all who request this sacrament. Please call Pastor Reid if you would like to receive communion.

Prayers for Loved Ones

Judy Belter, Leo Wichmann, Donald Heuer, Harold Piper, Ila Vey Kickertz, Carol Schatzke, Sharon Lauderman, Thelma Baker, Ken Tangen, Lloyd Heller, Kari McLean, Jeff Radamacher, Kris and Vanessa Vanderbusch, Rick Nelson, David and Angie Ziel, Vani & Shanti Pradhan, Mohamed and Safie Braima, Garrett Grommesh, Janice Rieck, Ed Boudman, Nancy Fratolillo, Jodie Parkinson, Joe Mengel, Mary Jo Holmes, Merle Schatzke, Ann LaFortune, and all who serve the Lord by spreading the Gospel around the world; our servicemen & women, our veterans, our elected officials, our public servants, our nation, our incoming President, and the nations of the world.

Operation Christmas Child Recap

We had another successful Operation Christmas Child collection. This year, Goshen and Bethel filled, collected, and delivered 88 shoeboxes. And the countries where shoeboxes from the Upper Midwest will end up include Tanzania, where more Moravians live than in any other country. In other words, it is **POSSIBLE** that a Moravian child could receive one of our shoeboxes.



Advent, Christmas, and New Year's Eve Services

As we prepare to enter the new church year with the season of Advent, we will have many special services as well as special themes for our Sunday services in Advent.

Sunday, November 27th – the First Sunday of Advent – theme: Isaiah 9:2 – the *Hosanna* will be sung during the Liturgy

Sunday, November 27th – Advent Communion at Shepherd of the Prairie at 3 PM; Mission Society meeting following the communion service

Sunday, December 4th – the Second Sunday of Advent – theme: Isaiah 42:16

Sunday, December 11th – the Third Sunday of Advent – theme: Isaiah 49:6

Sunday, December 18th – the Fourth Sunday of Advent – theme: Isaiah 58:8



Saturday, December 24th – Christmas Eve – Service at 5 PM at Goshen; Service at 3 PM at Bethel – **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE OF THE TIME CHANGE!** – theme: Isaiah 60:1-3

Sunday, December 25th – Christmas Day – Christmas Carol Sing – Goshen worship at 9 AM; Bethel worship at 11 AM – theme: Isaiah 60:1-3

Saturday, December 31st – New Year's Eve Game Night and Watchnight Service at Goshen beginning at 7:30 PM

Sunday, January 1st, 2017 – First Sunday after Christmas – New Year's Day – Drawing of the Watchwords for 2017

Women's Fellowship Circle

The Goshen Women's Fellowship Circle will be meeting on December 14th at 7 PM at the home of Becky Jahnke. All women are invited.

Bethel Church Cleaning

Rick and Debbie Roesler are responsible for cleaning the church in December. If you are unable to clean during this month, find a replacement or call Becky Weed at 701.799.9541. Also the last person to clean should call and remind the folks who are responsible for January.



Mission Trip to Honduras

The Mission Society is organizing a Mission Trip to the Ahuas Clinic in the La Moskita area of Honduras the week of February 19 through the 26. Travel plans still need to be worked out. Contact Loren Jendro for more information. To support the work at the Ahuas Clinic there will be a benefit concert on Jan 14, 2017 at St Leo's Spirit of Life Center. The Benefit will feature Greg Hagar a western songwriter and singer from Valley City. Joining Greg on the program is Sue Ann Berntson from Buffalo. There will be a silent auction and a free will offering.

In addition, Gary Hoglund is planning a trip to North Carolina to help flood victims. That trip will be January 22 through the 28, again with travel arrangements to be worked out. Contact Gary for more information.

Central Cass Christmas Program

The Central Cass High School Christmas Program will be performed on Sunday, December 4th at 3 PM at the north gym of the High School. The Casselton United Singers will be singing with the school chorus and the 4th and 5th grade chorus.

Scenes from Around Our Churches

Goshen Women's Sunday



Carolyn Jendro



Arlis Pfingsten



Becky Jahnke



Malinda Lindstrom

Bethel Women's Sunday



The Women at the C-Store
Giving the Announcements



Sheila Wichmann



Fran Zimmerman



Heidi Zimmerman



Jeanne Ahlers



LeAnn Tallackson



Jennifer & Allyson Tallackson

December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Bethel Church Council – Worship at 10:30 with Potluck	5	6 Kindred Ministerium at 9 AM	7	8 Casselwood Worship at 10 AM; Casselton Ministerium at 12 PM	9	10
11	12	13	14 Women’s Fellowship at 7 PM	15	16	17 Men’s Prayer Breakfast at 8 PM at Mom’s Diner in Fargo
18 Goshen Christmas Caroling – Meet at the church at 2 PM	19	20	21 Goshen Board at 7 PM	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Bethel Service at 3 PM – Goshen Service at 5 PM
25 Worship at Regular Times Christmas	26	27	28	29 Unity Prayer Watch	30	31
Notes: Office Hours – Monday-Thursday, 9AM-4PM. Fridays – Pastor’s Day of Sabbath Confirmation – Wednesday Afternoons at 4:30 at Bethel						

Bethel & Goshen Moravian Churches
PO Box 336
Leonard, ND 58052



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Bethel Moravian Church - 15407 49th St SE
Leonard, ND 58052: *Phone:* 701.645.2466



Bethel Vision Statement: To Trust Christ in ALL THINGS

Goshen Moravian Church - 4201 153rd Avenue SE
Durbin, ND 58059: *On the web:*<http://www.bethelgoshen.com>



Goshen Vision Statement: To Be Faithful to Christ Through Mission