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# B - E Friends

*Newsletter of the Bethlehem — Eidsvold Parish*

This is a painting of a sister-in-law painted by a sister-in-law. Although they are a farm family down to the bone, there is a strong artistic streak too.

This is the youngest of five sisters painted by the oldest. What you can't know, is that staring at the painting can be an eire experience. It is an excellent likeness but if I blink while staring at it, when my eyes open I see her mother; my mother-in-law. The painting has a magic. It never fails to stop me in my tracks. It's a two in one portrait.

In a similar way, being a follower/disciple of Jesus is intended to bring some magic into the world.

How many people do we chance upon who could really use a dose of goodness?

Last night I ordered a pizza delivered to our house. When the person taking the order asked if I wanted to include a tip for the driver I gave an extravagant amount. When the pizza came the driver was extravagantly happy. Which made me happy too.

When you and I do acts of kindness and mercy in this world it may come at just the right time for that other person. It's some Holy Spirit magic that we are involved.

Celebrate and Serve... and be The face of Jesus in the world.

Pastor Mike



Pierce County Public Health urges the public to wear masks indoors—more information in this newsletter.

Also in this newsletter, worship schedule changes in September, the need for worship volunteers at Eidsvold, food pantry needs, Sunday School news, and more!



## Birthdays

May you have a fantastic Birthday  
and a Great Year!

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 – Francis Halverson   | 20 - Bristol Plote    |
| 3 – Thomas Helseth      | 23 - Lorna Eidem      |
| 7 – Norma Hanson        | 24 – Rachel Lewison   |
| 7 - Joan Odden          | 24 - Denice Girdeen   |
| 10 – John Willenbring   | 25 – Berkley Brenner  |
| 11 – Eric Johnson       | 26 - Pam Johnson      |
| 12 – Christopher Larson | 26 - Carsyn O’Reilly  |
| 14 – Susan Gerdes       | 27 - Janice Kearns    |
| 15 – Ruth Ann Brown     | 27 - Jackson O’Reilly |
| 16 – Dale Anderson      | 28 – Greg Andrews     |
| 16 - Jaclyn Gerdes      | 29 – Lola Johnson     |
| 16 - James Larson       | 30 – Wyatt Mark       |
| 17 – Tracy Sears        |                       |

If your birthday doesn’t appear on our  
monthly birthday calendars, please let  
Phyllis know so she can add it.

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES

The 7th grade confirmation classes will begin  
on Wednesday October 6th. There isn’t a 6th  
grade class this year. The schedule for all  
confirmation classes and letter from the  
pastor will be arriving in your e-mail soon!



The Pierce County  
food pantry can  
use any food  
items— canned  
fruit, vegetables,  
soups, tuna, etc;  
snack items, pre-  
packed foods.  
Please bring to  
church—it will get delivered to the food pantry.

## CARING FOR OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Giving of our time and talents is one way of  
serving our faith community. Thank you to the  
following individuals who will serve this faith  
community during September.

### Bethlehem

Altar Guild: Phyllis Beastrom

Church cleaning: Judy and Dale Anderson

### Eidsvold

Several positions below to be filled. Sign up at  
worship on Sunday or call /text Phyllis at 715-  
821-5847.

### Church Cleaning:

- Sept. 5 - Kathy Sears
- Sept. 12 - Dodee Bloomstrand
- Sept. 19 -
- Sept. 26 -

### Indoor Registration/Ushers

- Sept. 5 -
- Sept. 12 - Karen Brostrom, & Dodee
- Sept. 19 -
- Sept. 26 -

### Parking Lot FM Transmission Registration

- Sept. 5 -
- Sept. 12 -
- Sept. 19 -
- Sept. 26 -

**Altar Committee**—put unused communion cups in  
refrigerator after worship , discard used cups in  
garbage and wash cup containers: Fay Albarado

### SEPTEMBER READERS:

#### Bethlehem

- Sept. 5 - Joint Worship at Eidsvold
- Sept. 12 - Lora Drenth
- Sept. 19 - Leah Johnson
- Sept. 26 - Phyllis Beastrom

#### Eidsvold

- Sept. 5 –
- Sept. 12 - Michelle Plote
- Sept. 19 - Carol/Angie Peterson
- Sept. 25 - Justin Mandelkow

## Malawi Update—July 2021

Warm greetings on behalf of our friends and partners in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi. (ELCM)

After two waves of the Coronavirus, Malawi is now in its third pandemic wave. The Delta Variant has proven to be much more contagious and much more deadly than the first two. Daily cases continue to rise rapidly, deaths from Covid are substantially higher, and the government has issued another order for masks, distancing, and minimal group activity. Only 1.5% of the population are fully vaccinated.



### Ordination of the First Woman Pastor

The ELCM also has plans to celebrate the ordination of the first woman pastor in Malawi, Bertha Monkondya. She finished her studies on August 2nd and will be ordained on September 12, and is looking forward to her first call as a pastor in Evangelical Lutheran Church Malawi!

### Mission Support

As partners in the gospel, we continue to walk with our siblings in Malawi, and invite you to hold them in prayer as they face the ongoing difficulties of this pandemic.

Many throughout our synod have reached out wondering how to help in light of the extreme struggles that our friends are facing, so we have prepared an appeal and invite you to prayerfully consider a financial gift for the ELCM.

We will be designating this next transfer of funds for pastor/parish assistance, the womens' assembly/Bertha's ordination, and other covid relief as most urgently needed at this time. If you feel called to share a gift, write a check to your congregation and put Malawi relief on the memo line.

## WOMEN'S NOTES

Women of the Parish will meet for Bible Study on Wednesday, September 22 at 1:30 p.m. at Eidsvold. For the next three months we'll check the Holy Spirit's actions throughout the Bible and throughout our lives. We'll explore how the Spirit moves God's people into adventures and lives we would never dare risk on our own!

Come join us!

Looking Ahead—Women's Thankoffering service and blessing of LWR kits Oct. 12th.



### LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF REMINDER

**The listing of items for all the Lutheran World Relief kits as well as the bags for**

**the school kits are at each church.**

Discounted prices for school supplies for local schools and Lutheran World Relief School kits will soon come to an end.



Cold weather is coming so as you downsize your wardrobes, find bargains at garage sales or shopping, the following items in **baby, children, youth, and adult sizes** are requested by Basic Needs for Local Kids:

- new or gently used winter coats
- boots
- Snowpants
- warm hats
- Water resistant gloves

Kim reminds us that Basics for Local Kids helps per year on average between **400 and 500 kids**, ages 0-18, in Pierce and St. Croix counties.

Drop off locations in Ellsworth are Associated Bank, CCF Bank and at their new location 126 S Chestnut (former Pierce County Herald office).

Since its inception in 2010, Ellsworth-based Basics for Local Kids has helped more than 4,500 kids with winter wear. The non-profit has grown from \$300 in donations its first year to a \$25,000 budget

## EIDSVOLD COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY August 4, 2021 7 p.m.

Members present: Justin Mandelkow, Laura Peterson, Pastor Mike, Dodee Bloomstrand, Anne Girdeen, and Heather Brown.

Minutes from 2/9/2021 approved.  
No Old Business.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1—Phyllis delivered mail for the church and reported the refrigerator freezer is running a bit warm. Council will check and watch it.

2— Parking lot resurfacing went well. Need to replace handicap parking signs. Anne will take care of this. Cost to come from general fund.

3. The elevator was inspected, sounds like no issues to report.

4. Will try to compile a list of who is in possession of keys for the church.

5. Pastor Mike discussed creating a special music fund to hire musicians to provide opening music for worship or people to help with this project. Also discussed having special music for Eidsvold's 150th church anniversary.

6. It was discussed that we could start a special drive to fund the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and extra costs of special maintenance (painting, etc.) One way to achieve this would be to set a goal for the congregation to reach.

7. Upcoming service schedule: 9/5 is joint worship service at Eidsvold with Pastor Hasselquist at 9 AM.

Service time switch on 9/12. Bethlehem will be at 9 AM and Eidsvold will be at 10:30 AM.

8. Confirmation begins on October 6<sup>th</sup> for the 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Complete schedule will be sent to parents soon. There are no sixth graders this year.

9. The bid for the interior and exterior painting job was discussed at length. Next step is to get references and pictures of other jobs he has done, and we need to renew the bid as it was slightly over the time that the bid was valid.

10. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:30 PM.

Heather Brown, secretary.

## September 5, 2021

9:00 a.m. Joint Parish  
Worship at Eidsvold with  
Pastor Hasselquist.



Presley Salava, daughter of Madelyn Nielsen and Travis Salava will be baptized.

### Worship schedule changes September 12th.

9:00 a.m. Worship at Bethlehem

10:30 a.m. Worship and Sunday School at  
Eidsvold  
Masks will be required.

**We must protect our children who have not been able to be vaccinated as well as everyone in attendance.**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



September 12th is the first  
Sunday of Sunday School.

**We usually call this Rally Sunday** which simply is a day set aside to reassemble or "rally" for Sunday School after summer vacation. Everyone at Eidsvold will gather for worship and Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

- **Students** will be blessed
- **Bibles** will be distributed to Third Grade students: Reese Mandelkow and Theo LaFave.

Please let Megan Franklin know if you know of any students who would like to come to Sunday School. (651-815-9172)

**After Sunday School** there will be a cookout sponsored by Megan and Lee for the Sunday School kids and their families, so plan to stay!

**Check out our parish website & Facebook**

**Worship times will also be posted on these.**

<https://www.bethlemeidsvoldchurches.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Bethlehem.Eidsvold>