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## APRIL 2018 PARISH POST

### *St. Paul's & Buffalo Lutheran Churches*

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**Comments from Pastor Thea . .**

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Greetings:

*"...unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit"* (John 12:24/NRSV).

The changing climate that greets us every spring is one that stirs the instincts of every farmer who begins to contemplate the beginning of the planting season. Already busy with newborn livestock, it's time to turn attention to the miracle of crop production.

The resurrection principle is a design of the glory and magnificence of God. We see it at work when the winter retreats and the unborn grass of spring puts on its coat of green. We see it when a cocoon, after waiting in long stillness, breaks out in the winged beauty of a butterfly. We see it when the desolate evening skies come alive with the formations of gabby geese returning from their winter habitats. We see the principle of resurrection also at work in human lives as they are changed from dimness and decadence to lives that radiate the beauty and fullness of life in Christ.

I see this principle at work as young people gather at an hour of worship and embrace the faith in which they were baptized. They are the living fruit of the seed that was planted long ago before most of them "knew" anything about it. Their lives are the unfolding, the "confirming" and the daily discovering of the great gift they received, the miracle of faith.

I see this principle at work as a group of women from all ages and backgrounds gather at the beginning of spring for a women's retreat or a conference women's gathering to celebrate the birth of a renewed and vital ministry carried out by the women of our church.

I see this principle at work daily as we kneel before Christ and are lifted up by the power of his great love to serve and follow him. We live in the power of the resurrection. We have the special knowledge of seeing through the season of Lent to the light at the end of the tunnel. The cross looks like defeat. It is a place of judgment and curse. Yet the cross is actually God's place of victory.

Just as a seed produces fruit by losing its life, so we gain life by giving ours away... in love to others, all the while trusting in the all-sufficient grace of God. There we experience growth. There we experience the power of the resurrection.

To God be the glory!

Thea Monson, Interim Pastor

BUFFALO LUTHERAN CHURCH

Checking Account balance – \$3323.49  
 Parish Nurse Account balance-\$158.10

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

General Fund – \$ 7670.90  
 March Offering \$ 2939  
 March Bills \$ 3420  
 Building Fund \$ 2540.47  
 Food Drive Fund \$ 212.03

*Cares and Concerns and Activities*

**APRIL SUNDAY WORSHIP WILL BE HELD AT 9:00 AM AT BUFFALO LUTHERAN CHURCH AND AT 11:00 AM AT OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH, PAGE. TO REACH PASTOR THEA MONSON PLEASE CALL 701-668-2295, 218-820-7006 (cell), OR BY EMAIL AT [pastorthea@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorthea@yahoo.com)**

**Coffee and compliments:** Please consider join us for a time to share fellowship, coffee and treats after every worship service. We forget to remind and thank people for sponsoring this time of fellowship. May we “get together”.

**Would you like a visit from Pastor Thea or do you know somebody that would like that visit?** Please let her know or let us know at the church office! If you recommend that she visit someone make sure that person okays the visit. If you know of somebody that should be included in Sunday morning prayers be sure that person does approve of being mentioned in the prayers.

† May we remember with prayers of compassion and sympathy the family and friends of Reuben Tweed. He passed away Saturday, March 24, in Fargo. His funeral was held March 31 at Moorhead Baptist Church. [Evelyn, Reuben’s wife, is doing well and living with family at 1402 7<sup>th</sup> St. S, Fargo, ND 58103]

† May we remember with prayers of compassion and sympathy the family and friends of Marlys Kosir, formerly of Tower City. Marlys passed away Sunday, March 4 in Fargo and her funeral was held at Holy Cross Catholic Church, West Fargo on Saturday, March 10.

**Affirmation of Baptism:** Confirmed at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church on March 25 was Rachel Laci Plecity, daughter of Stephanie & Todd Blom and Brian Plecity. May we remember these people in prayer as they grow together in faith.

May we remember with prayers of healing Ervin Schmidt, Linda Besette’s brother. He has been hospitalized for a number of months on a journey toward recuperation.

Keep in prayer Tim Walker, Lavira Eggermont’s son. He has been dealing with cancer and its treatment.

Dear Family and Friends,

*“There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:13 NLT*

How much thought have you given to how you can help others? Organ and tissue donation is one way to offer help. It can be as simple as donating a pint of blood every 6 months or as complicated as donating a kidney to a relative. Even at death you have an opportunity to share life-giving measures since thousands of people across the country wait every day for another chance at life through organ donation.

Through multiple tissue and organ donation, one donor has the potential to help from 1 to over 35 people. Some common organs that are removed include the heart, eyes, skin, bones, liver, lungs, and kidneys. The people waiting for these organs suffer from conditions like heart disease, kidney disease, cancer or accident reconstruction surgery, corneal damage, incurable lung diseases, and even curvature of the spine. A donation of bone, tissue, or organ is their only chance at a better quality of life.

Although approximately 90% of Americans say they support organ donation, waiting lists continue to grow because the availability of organs and tissue is extremely low. Only 35% of those who support donation have taken steps to do so and about a third of them do not donate because of family dissention or misunderstandings. Many times the problem is the misunderstanding that donating organs creates a cost to the donor family and prevents the option of an open casket at the funeral. Neither is true.

Educating people about organ donation is an important part of the solution. If you choose to be an organ donor, discuss it with your family. Help them understand why it is important to you and how it can help others. Most all religions approve of some type of organ and tissue donation and see it as a gift to humanity. Act now and become a donor. Talk with your family today about this important act of faith, hope, and love.

Peace in Him,

Gwen Fraase RN Parish Nurse

Community Health Ministry

**Wednesday, April 11:** Buffalo Lutheran Church Council meets at 7:00 PM.

**Wednesday, April 11:** The last Confirmation Class meeting planned for 6:00 PM today--- be sure to check to make sure this time is correct!

**Sunday, April 15:** St. Paul's Church Council meets today about 10:30 AM.

**Sunday, April 22:** The Councils from Our Savior Lutheran Church, Page, Buffalo Lutheran Church, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church will meet at 2:00 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

**Upcoming—Sunday, May 6:** St. Paul's Building Fund Breakfast Fundraiser following Church Service.

**St. Paul's Church Members** are asked to watch for a letter regarding a project that would complete the inside of the church following the construction of the handicapped entrance ramp.

**Senior Quilt Presentation:** Be watching for a date that our Graduates will be presented their quilts in May.

**Please remember in prayer** Mindy Erickson and her family as Mindy copes with continuing health problems.

Sunday, April 22  
Buffalo Lutheran WELCA Annual Bazaar  
after church services at Buffalo Community Hall  
Soup & Sandwich Lunch.  
Raffle tickets are available for sale from the WELCA ladies  
for a Quilt and other prizes.

*God's Work! Our Hands!*

