

**AUGUST 2017 PARISH POST**  
*Buffalo and St. Paul's Lutheran Churches*

**PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR AANEN . . .**

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Dear Friends in Christ,

This is the first of a number of Monthly newsletters which will have the “holy experiment” as its focus. For those who have not read or heard about what this is, it can best be stated as a few months of examining the possibility of a three congregation realignment of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Page, Buffalo Lutheran Church, Buffalo and St. Paul’s, Tower City. This is the result of an area strategy meeting which took place last month at Buffalo Lutheran. Representatives from Oriska Lutheran were also there. They expressed interest in the venture at a future date. As a result of council action and overall very favorable responses from the parties involved, an effort to do a trial run with the three congregations and a possible working draft coming out of this cooperation is being pursued.

The first phase of this is an organized conversation with two representatives from each and the interim pastor. We ask everyone to pray for us as we look to the future with the Spirit as our guide. We are aware of the benefits from a financial standpoint. We are more concerned about how the logistics will work. As you probably realize you will not notice a change with worship time and this is often a point of stress for joint efforts such as this. That is one giant step forward already. The details are of confirmation, common liturgy use, housing, office space, joint service efforts, financial arrangements, and the realistic expectations of a lasting full time clergy person. The result of this cooperation should lead to a shared call process and a new pastor within a reasonable a time.

This is not the first experience like this for me. I am really excited and feel this is a very doable situation. The fact that so many events have fallen in place, to make this possible, seems almost divine. We rejoice in the time we have to work toward an amicable agreement with no real time constraints.

Please pray for us all and particularly and selfishly ME as we move forward in the truly Holy Experiment. August will be a critical time to make the fall and the beginning of all the school activities workable.

I must say that I look forward to working with the young people who will be taking confirmation instruction. That has always been one of my favorite undertakings. Confirmation should always be an uplifting and enjoyable experience. I have material which I have collected and used for many years that should be useful in that effort.

The representatives from the three congregations will set up a time schedule and meeting locations which will allow input and mutual cooperation. Again, please pray for us as we move forward, with Christ as our Guiding force.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Aanen

Buffalo Lutheran Church

Checking Account Balance \$2469.92  
 Parish Nurse Account Balance \$ 198.10  
 (paid thru May)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Checking Balance not available

*Cares and Concerns*

- **Vacation Bible School 2017, "The Armor of God"**, was held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church July 30 - August 3 and closed with a Community Potluck Supper and a VBS program. About 30 children enjoyed a time of fun and learning and what a blessing to hear this group SING! Special thanks go to Colleen Clancy and musical Karen Tabor for their leadership and all the helpers. Thanks, too, for all the financial support we received from our churches and communities. We look forward to another adventure next year!
- † **We welcome** Adalyn Grace Ziemba to our world. Adalyn, the daughter of Tim & Alicia (Lerud) Ziemba, was born in Fargo on May 29. May their family grow in faith and love!
- **2018 Youth Gathering:** This is something to think about and consider for our young people. The ELCA Youth Gathering will be happening in Houston June 27-July 1, 2018 with the theme, "This changes everything". The theme is centered in Ephesians 2:8, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not by your own doing, it is the gift of God." The gathering seeks to be a ministry that helps open pathways of discovery. Visit [ELCA.org/campaign](http://ELCA.org/campaign) to learn how we could become involved.
- **Did you know...**that – in addition to more than 475 human residents – Bethany Retirement Living is home to nearly two dozen animals. Dogs, cats, birds and fish are an important part of the whole-person care provided to residents. Countless studies have shown the positive impact of having pets around to provide entertainment, activity and improvement to a variety of health factors – as well as an opportunity to give and receive a little LOVIN'. Bethany's pets are cared for by employees and volunteers. If you'd like to help, please contact Jessica Peck at 701.239.3246 or Laurie Schnabel at 701.478.8904.
- **50 things Luther taught that you might not know**---check out [eandsynod.org](http://eandsynod.org), the synod website, to read some of these interesting points.

## PARISH NURSE NOTES - - LYME DISEASE

Dear Family and Friends,

Today I want to discuss Lyme Disease (LD) and how we can protect ourselves. We live in an area where we are exposed to ticks and the numerous diseases that they can carry.

LD is a multi-stage, multi-system bacterial infection caused by the spirochete *Borrelia burgdorferi* that is transmitted by a tick bite. April-October is considered tick season.

Symptoms are non-specific since the disease can affect every part of the body but usually appear within three to 30 days. One primary symptom is often times that of a bulls-eye rash that is pink in the center and a deeper red on the surrounding area. This can last a few hours or up to several weeks. Other symptoms include; headache, stiff neck, aches and pains in muscles and joints, low grade fever and chills, fatigue, poor appetite, sore throat, swollen glands, neurological symptoms, heart problems, skin disorders, eye problems, hepatitis, severe fatigue, weakness problems with coordination.

How can Lyme Disease be prevented? Ticks cannot bite through clothing, so dress wearing light-colored clothing, long sleeved shirts tucked into pants, socks and closed-toe shoes, long pants with legs tucked into socks. Check often for ticks, including: all parts of the body that bends, behind the knees, between the toes and finger, underarms, and groin. Check the belly button, in and behind the ears, neck, hairline, and the top of the head. Check pressure points, including: where underwear elastic waist band touches the skin, where bands from pants or skirts touch the skin, or anywhere else clothing presses on the skin. Visually check all other parts of the body and hair. Run fingers gently over skin, and run a fine-toothed comb through hair. Walk on clear paths and pavement through wooded areas and fields. Shower after all outdoor activities for the day are completed. It can take 4-6 hours for a tick to attach firmly to the skin. Use products with DEET to help reduce the risk of exposure.

To remove a tick, use a fine point tweezers, grasp the tick at the place of attachment and gently pull the tick straight out. Place the tick in a small vial labeled with the victim's name, and the date. Wash your hands, disinfect the tweezers and bite site. Watch the tick-bite site and your general health for signs and symptoms of a tick-borne illness. Alert your doctor if you have any concerns. If you become ill, bring the tick to be tested.

Don't forget to take care of your pets, since they can easily become exposed.

Peace in Him,

Gwen Fraase RN Parish Nurse CHM

What do you expect as you pray the words “your kingdom come” from the Lord’s Prayer? You might be thinking about a blessed promised future in heaven. You might be thinking ahead to the very next line of the Lord’s Prayer, considering God’s “kingdom” as whenever and wherever God’s will is being done. You might even stop to consider how odd the word “kingdom” is for us who live in 21st-century democracies.

One challenge the word poses is that we tend to associate “kingdom” with a place, specifically a place ruled by a king. Biblical scholars suggest that “reign” or “rule” may be a better translation of the Greek word as the primary emphasis is on God’s activity, rather than on the place where it happens.

What activity are we talking about? Martin Luther believed that God is at work in the world in two different ways: in and through the created world for the welfare of all, and through the gospel to bring people to saving faith in Jesus Christ. In the past, theologians often called this Luther’s “two kingdoms” doctrine, but that language can be misleading because it sounds like he is talking about two different places. But Luther meant something very different.

### UPCOMING AUGUST EVENTS

***WORSHIP SERVICES WILL BE HELD SUNDAYS IN AUGUST AT BUFFALO LUTHERAN CHURCH AT 9 AM AND AT OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH, PAGE AT 11:00 AM***

August 9: Buffalo Lutheran Church Council meets at 7:00 PM

August 16: St. Paul’s Council meets at 7:00 PM

Please have any announcements you want in our newsletter the last week of the month!

### **Published at the request of a St. Paul’s Council Member**

Wonder who the Council members are? Do you have questions or comments or suggestions regarding St. Paul’s operations? Please consider addressing them to a Council member!

Chad Wetch	President	749-2329
Terry Buringrud	Vice-President	749-2677
Matt Richman		840-8331
Colleen Clancy		749-2310
Steph Blom		490-0843
Kathy Woodward		840-4545
Rita Lerud		749-2677