



## **Gospel Seeds...**

### **A Time to Say Thank-You...**

Fall is upon us again – cooler temperatures, leaves turning and dew on the grass in the morning. With the changing season comes a time to say thanks to our Rostered Leaders both Pastors and Deacons. I am thankful for these servants who teach of God's love and grace, challenge us to connect the Jesus story with our daily lives and walk with us in times of great joy and deep grief.

I hope that you will take a moment to thank these servants as well. Let them know they are in your prayers.

### **Dishin' With the Bish...**

The last week of October Synod Staff are heading on the road for our Annual "Dishin' with the Bish". You are invited to make your way to one of these gatherings for a free meal, cooked and served by Synod Staff. We will eat together, share some time in Bible Study, talk about ministry and engage your questions.

The meal is served from 5:30pm to 6:15pm.

Our Bible Study and Conversation Time starts at 6:15.

We promise to wrap up no later than 7:30PM

Here is our schedule:

Monday, October 23 –

Lebanon Lutheran, Amidon

Tuesday, October 24 –

Bethlehem Lutheran, Ross

Wednesday, October 25 –

First, Fessenden

September 2017

Thursday, October 26 – Trinity, Steele

We look forward to hosting you and enjoying some Christ centered conversation with you all.

### **Thank-You Visists...**

Ministry does not happen alone, Christ calls us to be partners together. With that in mind Synod Staff are making 4 stops to share coffee and conversation with people. Come and have a cup of coffee and some Kuchen. All events start at 10:00AM and are very informal.

Tuesday, October 24 –

First, Watford City

Wednesday, October 25 –

Christ, Minot

Thursday, October 26 –

Bethany, Rugby

Friday, October 27 –

Zion, Beulah

We look forward to seeing you at one of these events.

### **Synod Council Meets...**

September 15 and 16 the Western North Dakota Synod Council met at Good Shepherd Lutheran in Bismarck. Below are some of the issues which came before your synod council.

-Friday evening council was joined by Lorraine Davis, Executive Director of the Native American Development Center, Scott Davis, Director ND Indian Affairs Commission and Dr. Leander McDonald, President of United Tribes Technical College. These three guests helped us engage conversation around the question: How can the church be a partner in building bridges between native and non-native people.

-Spent time in conversation around open congregational calls in the synod and creative ways ministry is being provided across the synod

-Talked about the marks of a Vital Congregation and how leaders have the ability to impact congregational vitality

-Talked about a special candidate within our synod that staff are seeking an internship site for

-Walked through plans for the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation Worship service planned for October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Bismarck Event Center

-Agreed to bring an amendment to the synod constitution which would add another seat on synod council for a person of color

-Approved a Continuing Resolution on how the Synod's Nominating Committee will seek candidates for Conference Deans and Conference Secretaries

-Appointed Rev. Chrstina Martin Heart River Conference Dean, Rev. Kathleen Nygard, Turtle Mountain Conference Dean, Rev. Carter Hill Western Prairie Conference Dean and Rev. Nicole Martin and Rev. David Maxfield as Upper Missouri Co-Conference Deans

### **Reformation 500 Worship...**

All are welcomed to a Festival Worship Service with Holy Communion on October 29, 2017 at the Bismarck Event Center. The worship service begins at 11:00am – however you are invited to come early for excellent prelude music.

Coffee will be served before and after worship. If you are unable to be present, the worship will be televised live on BEK's statewide network.

### **Rev. Mark Narum**

Serving as Bishop of the Western North Dakota Synod

