

February 2011

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!

We are in the Season of Epiphany, the season of the church year when we celebrate the light of Christ. I believe that one of the many ways that Christ's light is shining in our Parish right now is through the invitation we are extending to the Lansford United Methodist Church.

On Sat. Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, eleven leaders of our Parish came together to revise the Parish Covenant to include the Lansford United Methodist Church. Those revisions were approved by both Trinity Glenburn and Trinity Lansford in their Annual Meetings. Now the revisions are in the hands of the UMC District Superintendent, Keith Nelson, to be presented to the members of the Cabinet, which includes Bishop Deborah Kiesey and the other District Superintendents in the Dakotas Conference.

We are the first Parish in Western North Dakota to unite together as ELCA-Lutherans and United Methodists. It is hoped that our efforts will help other Lutheran and United Methodist congregations who wish to join together in ministry. Though it may feel like the process we are going through is taking time, Bishop Mark Narum and DS Keith Nelson both agree that in the end, it will be done correctly. Thanks be to God that as Lutherans and United Methodists, we can work together to shine Christ's light into our communities, the Western North Dakota Synod, Dakotas Conference and even beyond.

Please continue to pray for our missionaries, Mark and Linda Nygard. They left Cairo, Egypt for Istanbul, Turkey on Tues. Feb. 1 and were scheduled to fly from there to Minneapolis on Wed. Feb. 2. The Nygard's will stay in missionary housing at Luther Seminary in St. Paul for the time being. Many of you are aware that I, too, served as a missionary in Egypt from 1989-1993 and am very familiar with the city of Cairo, where Nygard's live. I'm sure you will join me in praying for the nation of Egypt during this time of crisis.

A big "thank you" goes out to all who helped welcome our "Rural Plunge" seminary student, Kristi Ursin, when she visited our Parish in January. Kristi had an excellent experience in Western North Dakota due to all those who hosted her, shared a meal with her, and helped her learn about ministry in our context.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Wednesdays in February** -- We will hold the After School Program for kids in grades kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> until 4:30 pm. Kids are welcome to come to Trinity Glenburn during this time for a snack, games and Bible stories (Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23).

**Sweetheart Dinner** – Our youth will serve a Sweetheart Dinner on Sun. Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm. A free-will offering will be received to support youth activities. If you plan to attend, please sign-up.

**Pulpit Swap, Sun. Feb. 27th** – Pastor Heather will preach at First Lutheran, and a pastor from First Lutheran will preach in Glenburn & Lansford.

In Christ,  
Pastor Heather