

June 2011

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ!

As I write this, Dave & I are displaced from our home due to flooding. We spent Memorial Day weekend in Decorah, Iowa attending our nephew's graduation from Decorah High School. On our way back to Minot on May 31, people started calling us to let us know that our neighborhood was being evacuated. Realizing that we were going to need to find a place to sleep that night, I called Lavern & Anna Mae Paulson and asked if Dave and I could stay with them. When we finally returned to our home around 7 pm that evening, we were met by John & Denise Gunning, Nate, Clark and three of their teenage friends. They helped us bring everything up out of our basement. At 9:15 pm the police made an announcement in our neighborhood that everyone needed to be out of their homes by 9:45 pm. Thankfully, Rick & Jan Hartle agreed to take care of our dogs while we were displaced. And so we met Jan at the airport control tower when she got off work at 10 pm that night and left Chance & Mabel in her care. (The cats came with us to Vern & Anna Mae's).

This has been a stressful couple of days, to say the least! Yet in the midst of it all, there have been blessings. We are thankful that the river didn't crest at the high level that had been predicted, which would have put flood waters 1 foot above our first floor. We are thankful for the Gunning's help with moving our stuff. We are thankful that we have had a comfortable place to stay at Vern & Anna Mae's (almost too comfortable) during this time of displacement. And we are thankful for others who have reached out to us with their prayers and offers of help during this time.

Our prayers go out to all those who have had their property damaged by flood waters and especially all the farmers who have been unable to seed this Spring. It certainly hasn't been an easy time. But it's at times like these that we need to pull together as the Body of Christ and help and support each other in any way that we can. God is with us in the midst of our trials, especially through the love and care we receive from others. Thanks be to God!

I will be on sabbatical beginning Sunday, June 12th. I will be returning on Sunday, July 24th. This will be a time of study and preparation for the upcoming program year. My study time will include reviewing a new confirmation curriculum, and learning more about stewardship & administration in rural congregations. Pastor Ken Nelson from First Lutheran in Minot has agreed to be on-call while I am away. We also have a wonderful line-up of supply preachers, which I have listed for you below.

Blessings to all,
Pastor Heather

Upcoming June Worship Schedule

Sun. June 5th – We will confirm 8 of our young people in the Christian faith during 10:30 am worship in Glenburn. They are Samantha Koetter, Taylor Peters, Nathan Gunning, Jordan Smith, Brianna Anderson, Sidney Spokely, Samantha Beauregard, and Savannah Nelson.

Sun. June 12th – Marsha Deslauriers will present her "Service in Song" at 9am worship in Lansford & 10:30 am worship in Glenburn. Come and be ministered to through her words and music!

Sun. June 19th – Steve Files will be preaching & leading worship on this day in Lansford & Glenburn. At Glenburn, we will celebrate the baptism of Conrad Wayne Gjellstad, son of Paul Gjellstad and Matia Langehaug.

Sun. June 26th – Lansford worship will take place at 10 am at the Grano United Methodist Church on the Threshing Grounds. Duane Stanley will be guest preacher. At Glenburn, Michelle Schumann will be guest preacher at 10:30 am worship.