

NOVEMBER 2011 INDEX

Section 1	Pastor	Page 1
Section 2	Worship	Page 3
Section 3	Council Notes	Page 3
Section 4	Education	Page 4
Section 5	Organizations	Page 6
Section 6	Upcoming Calendar Events	Page 10
Section 7	Congregational Announcements	Page 12
	<i>Center Section</i>	<i>Flyers</i>

Section One: PASTOR

Pastoral Epistle

The Shepherd's Crook



*Pastor's Call
Parish's Call
Christ's Call*

I was delighted by the shepherd's crook that the parish gave me, through the excellent handiwork of Tom and Ben Stepanek, upon the 25th anniversary of my ordination. It is a beautiful piece of woodwork, but that is not its only beauty.

For it signifies my call. Or is it, *your* call? Or, is it Christ's? All three?

Well, it is your call, for you are the parish that called, or asked, me to come and be your shepherd ("pastor" is Latin for "shepherd"). So, it is now my call, because I accepted.

But how poor we would be if it were only that: a contract

between two human parties. Now, covenants between humans can be great things, but concerning the Kingdom we can hope for more. We can hope that also Jesus Christ himself is committed to our pastor-parish relationship; that no less than He delegates His forgiving authority to me to exercise for your benefit. That he places his body in my hands to give to you. That He, in response to your prayers, sends His Spirit to guide my teaching and preaching so that you get the genuine Word, unpolluted by human thinking and errors. That means, your call and my call is also *His* call: His desire that I serve you as His under-shepherd.

And that signifies several important things. For one, it means my job is not to please you. Rather, it is to help you be pleasing to God. Jesus Christ is my boss, my employer, not the parish; I must follow his instructions. Now, to be effective in my work for your benefit, it is helpful for me to have good information. To know how you are doing in your following of Christ, and to know what helps you and what burdens and obstacles you have. Then I can fine tune my work, the better to help you toward holiness of faith and life.

For that reason, the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (WH: Allen Stea, chair, and Julie Johannes; MM: Tara Gibbs, John Jarvis and Sally Lungwitz) will distribute a questionnaire for feedback. In our present day, when we are drowning in "Customer Feedback," it is important to point out that this is not that! This is not a store but a church, you are no mere customers being trade but are

limbs and organs of Christ's body, and I am a pastor and no shopkeeper. So our goal, yours and mine, is that you become great Christians. The question—and questionnaire is: how can I assist you in that?

That's why you gave me the crook!



Section Two: WORSHIP

Mount Morris Lectors

A new schedule will be produced covering the beginning of the church year, the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011 to Sunday of the Transfiguration, February 19, 2012. If you wish to be removed from the roster for this schedule, let me know. If you wish to be added to this schedule, let me know. If you would be new to the lector roster, there will be a brief orientation to the ministry. Finally, if you wish to be the lector coordinator, please talk with me. I am in church most Sundays or call me.



Martin Schultz ph. 929.787.0019



Section Three: COUNCIL NOTES

There will be a **Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 4, 2011** following worship. The

HOLDEN HIGHLIGHTS – November 2011

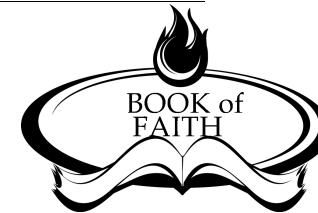
Page 3



purpose of this meeting is to elect council members, go over the constitution amendments and the budget for 2012.



Section Four: EDUCATION



Book of Faith for November: 1 Corinthians

*1 Corinthians is marvelous. It goes from the ridiculous to the sublime. For sublime we have Paul's astonishing meditation in chapter one about the foolishness of God that is wiser than human wisdom, and his weakness more powerful than human strength. We have Paul's instruction for the Lord's Supper in chapter 11, the Love Chapter (13) and the Resurrection chapter (15). For ridiculous, we have the congregation squabbling about who is the best preacher, who has the best spiritual gifts, who gets to eat the best food at pot lucks, and their questions about whether marriage is OK for Christians and whether they can eat meat that was sacrificed to an idol. Even in these almost laughable controversies, though, it is wonderful to see how St. Paul carries through from the first chapter (which is first for a good reason!) that the **wisdom of the cross** is the way to sort out all these questions!*

November 6 assignment. Read by (11/13) 1 Corinthians 1-4

November 13 assignment. Read by (11/20) 1 Corinthians 5-7

HOLDEN HIGHLIGHTS – November 2011

Page 4

November 20 assignment. Read by (11/27) 1 Corinthians 8-11

November 27 assignment. Read by (12/4) 1 Corinthians 12-16



*Adult
Confirmation
Instruction* 

... will be offered for:

- ◆ adults in our churches who are not yet confirmed,
- ◆ anyone who wants a review of basic Christian doctrine,
- ◆ Inquirers who want to hear the basics of the Christian faith, perhaps leading to baptism or confirmation

The course will begin after New Year's. It will be a 90 minutes session every two weeks or so, about six of them. It will be learning the Small Catechism, as well as reading five of the most important books of the Bible. Also, learning about Church life. It will be fun as well as instructive and educational.

Please call the church office (787.3187) if you might attend.



Section Five: ORGANIZATIONS

Holden Lutheran Parish Council Members



West Holden

Dennis Thompson	Pres.		787-3941
Laura Araiza	Sec.		787-2435
Terry Johannes	Treas		787-0013
Bonnie Patti	Fin. Sec.	2010-12	622-4009

Deacons

Gary Thompson		622-5646
Terry Johannes		787-0013

WELCA Rep.

Open

Pastor Parish Committee

Brenda Arellano		920-290-3012
Julie Johannes		622-3313
Allen Stea		787-4869

Mt. Morris

Laurie Jarvis	Pres.	2008-10	920-291-5737
---------------	-------	---------	--------------

Judy Foster	Sec.	2010-12	787-4601
Curtis Nelson	Treas.	2009-11	787-7642
Pat Hassmann	Fin. Sec.		787-5484

Deacons

Garlon Peterson			787-2486
Diedrich Bastar		2009-11	715-258-5297
Craig Starkweather		2010-12	787-3803

WELCA Rep.

Val Jarvis			787-1399
------------	--	--	----------

Pastor Parish Committee

John Jarvis			787-4208
Sally Lungwitz			566-4901
Tara Gibbs			920-622-3551

Contacting Pastor Todd

Cell: 920-268-3097 Home: 920-830-0264

tmurken@new.rr.com

Holden Parish

Website: www.holdenlutheranparish.org

E-mail: holdenparish@centurytel.net



The WELCA ladies of Mt. Morris are planning the 2012 schedule. Bible Study will continue to be the first Thursday of the month at 1:30pm with pray-ers meeting at 1:00 pm. We would love to have you join us. If you would like the

Bible study magazine "Gather" you may call the Church office to order it.

The Prayer-Chain is being updated for 2012. If you would

like to be included in our regular phone, Prayer Chain OR our new E-mail prayer chain, call Pat Kraus at 787-2015 or call the church office.

We are also continuing our Craft group which meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:00pm. This is a very informal group that works on crafts of their own and or crafts for the missions. You to teach what they know. Come Join us!

Lois Wohlfeil

**WELCA General Meeting
Saturday, November 5, at 1:30 PM**

Our November meeting is our annual General Meeting. We invite all our Church Women. We come together to celebrate God's work in our church. The agenda includes election of officers, a presentation on Christmas symbols and a lunch. Please come and join us. Mark your calendar and plan on sharing the fun.

Chris Bleisner and Lois Wohlfeil



All members of WELCA,

I wish to thank you for all the cards and the phone calls and those that came to the house, plus all the other gifts I received. Thank you for the beautiful shawl.

Thank you all.



*Thank You
Notes*

*God Bless,
Bernice Anderson*

Mt. Morris Lutheran World Relief Report

November 2011

57 quilts	50 health kits
11 blankets	20 school kits
5 sewing kits	30 layettes
\$135.00	for shipping

Merv Vatland took our 20 boxes to Hope Lutheran Church. On Saturday, October 8, 2011, Steve Norlin from Mid-State Supply, transported our boxes to the Appleton drop-off site. We thank you, Merv and Steve, for helping us with this project.

A total of 82 bags and boxes were shipped to Orphan Grain Train.

THANK YOU EVERYONE! Working together we can accomplish wonderful things for God's people in need. Thank You for helping others!

Pat Hassmann

West Holden thanks Steve and Craig Norlin of Hope Lutheran for loading our Lutheran World Relief boxes and delivering them to Appleton.

Kathy Norlin



Quilting

West Holden will be quilting after 8:30 church through December from about 9:30 to 11:00 Sunday mornings. If



QUILTING

you'd like to help, we need you! There's nothing to tying knots and you'll get the hang of laying out the backs, liners, and tops as well. Men and women are welcome!

Kathy Norlin



Section Six: UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS



Offering Time & Skills Saints Work!

We Are Offering Our Time and Skills

Last November in our churches we offered to our Lord Jesus Christ our abilities and time. Those lists of what you all like to do have been immensely helpful this year in many, many ways in our church life. New people are helping; people get to do for their beloved church the very things they like to do. The kingdom's work goes forward.

This November, **Sunday Nov. 13**, the opportunity will be given again. We have new people in our churches, and not everyone was present to make their offering last year.



Pie?

Who doesn't like a nice slice of pie? Since Thanksgiving Eve is one of our parish-wide, both-churches events, it



THANKSGIVING
Fellowship

would be nice to fellowship together afterwards. Some PIE will be just the thing to help. So, please plan, following the Thanksgiving Eve worship at **7 PM, Wednesday, Nov. 24th at West Holden Lutheran** to stay a bit longer to have a slice of pie and chat with church friends or, even better, "the other church" friends. Those of you blessed with skills to make good pies are requested please to bring an extra to this event.



An Oasis For You

Wouldn't it be great, in the middle of the week in hectic December, to have an oasis of a half hour of peace? Maybe even peace garnished with love and joy? Have I got an Evensong for you!



The Church's Vespers service is simple and thoughtful. It is also called "Evening Prayer" or, in the Anglican tradition, "Even Song." It begins with the candle and the Service of Light (familiar from Lent). A couple of Advent readings. Mary's Song (the Magnificat). Prayers.

I will sing and pray Vespers with all who join me on these Advent Wednesdays: December 7, 14, 21, from 5:30-5:55 at Mt. Morris.

Meditative. Peaceful. Christ-centered. Quietly joyful. See you there.



Section Seven: CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



John	Anderson	Stroke
Hannelore	Bauer	Chemo-therapy
Jim	Bauer	(Eugene and Hannelore's son)
Neil	Baxter	
Jim	Clark	(Jean Clark's father) Herniated disc
George	Edgren	Surgery
Irene	Edgren	Chemo therapy
Rose	Fink	Carpal tunnel surgery
Judy	Foster	Kidney disease
Griselda	Gonzales	
Bobbie Jean	Hadel	(Rose Fink niece)
Tom		(Laurie Jarvis' nephew) Neck injury
June	Lapp	Total knee replacement
Ellen	Olson	(Bernadyne West's sister-in-law) recovering from brain surgery
Myrna	Schultz	Successful transplant
Vickie	Smith	(Arnie Bliesner's daughter) Relief from Crohn's disease and pain
Eleanor		(Dennis Testin's mother)
Barb	Verburgt	(Judy Slovinski's friend) Cancer
Bernadyne	West	Hospitalized
Rachel	Zindars	Broken hand
Gary		(Cal Wilson's cousin) Heart
Nancy		Aggressive chemo-therapy

**Prayers for Patience & Strength
With Chronic Health Problems**

Arlene & Ray Jarvis
Rachel Zindars Crohn's disease

Prayers for a Peaceful End and Faith to the Lord

Dick Newhouse (friend of Pat Wiechmann)

Prayers for Work

Julie Murken

Prayers for Our Members and Friends in the Military

Devin	Barkalow	USA
Shane	Bastar	Iraq
Josh	Benbo	USA
David	Bredesen	USA
Chase	Edgren	USA
Brian	Elsch	USA
Tony	Kosco	USA
Britny	Stott	USA
Mario	Tomlin	USA
Michael	Walker	Netherlands
David	Wilson	USA
Kelly Jo	Wilson	USA

Prayers for Our Missionaries

Brian & Kristen Konkol – South Africa
Kelly Jarvis



November 2011 – BIRTHDAYS

Mt. Morris

West Holden

1	Rebecca Coerper	James Gunderson
3	Jean Armstrong	Brenda Arellano
	Kay Peterson	
	Michael Steinbrecher	
5	Beulah Dickson	
	Peyton Simenson	
6	Evelyn Vatland	
7		Nordis Anderson
		Tom Stea
9	Andrea Carter	Sidney Auck
		Casey Johannes
10	Abigail Anderson	Steven Johannes
17		Jason Holzman
		Brent Jenks
		Maureen Perry
18		Russell Butzin
19		Paula Lewallen
21	Joel Jarvis	
22		Joshua Heuer
23	John Jarvis	
25		Jane Thompson
29	Mara Jarvis	
30		Darin Arellano
		Matthew Arellano

November 2011 - ANNIVERSARIES

Jean and Dale Armstrong
Allen and Linda Stea

November 11
November 11



Annual Report Time



Annual Report
Submission Time

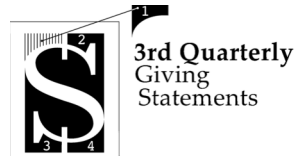
This is a reminder to all groups within the church to submit your **Annual Report** to the church office as early as possible. Reports that do not need end of year financial information could be submitted by December 15th. If you

have any questions, please call Therese at 787-3187.
Thank you!



Third Quarter Financial Statements

These statements are now available for pick up in the back of the church. Please look yours over and if there is anything on your statement that doesn't look right, please notify Pat Hassmann at 787-5484 for Mount Morris statements or Bonnie Patti at 622-4009 for West Holden statements.



Thank You,
Your Financial Secretaries



Offering Time & Skills

Mt. Morris Mission Workers Unite!

It's that time of year again to start planning our Mission efforts for the fall and winter. Many people indicated on the time and talent survey an interest in being part of our local mission work. Now is the time to mobilize! We have several great ideas for mission efforts to add to the great things we already do.

Some of the local mission work we do for the Harvest and Christmas season are:

- Community Christmas Project present tree (we want to increase the number of presents we provide from 50 to 75 this year)
- Gather the Harvest food pantry drive (an effort to expand this drive to several times a year has been suggested)
- The Mitten Tree

New ideas suggested:

- ◆ **Undies Sunday** (to collect underwear items for the needy in our area – to be distributed with the Community Christmas Project.)
- ◆ **Sock It To Me Sunday** (to collect socks)
- ◆ **Barnyard Giving** (alternative giving for Christmas) – see Pastor

- ◆ **Deacon's Fund Drive** (address heating costs for needy families)

All of these ideas are great, but we need people to spearhead, organize, advertise, coordinate, and plan to make them successful. The commitment is short-term, the rewards are lasting. Please contact Pastor, Therese, or me if you want to be part of the fun!

*Yours in Christ,
Deb Simonson (920-851-4064)*



Christmas

TWO DIFFERENT DECEMBERS *You Choose!*

Consumer's

This is LOTS of work.

- ◆ Flurries of purchasing,
- ◆ Endless baking.

Christian's

This is work, too, but it feels more *true*.

- ◆ Advent. Introspection; repentance, opening the heart to let more of Christ in.
- ◆ Hope, looking to the reliable Lord for all that is good.

- ◆ Running from party to party.
 - ◆ Up late wrapping and decorating.
 - ◆ Christ! Christ comes! Christ comes to us at Christmas—*comes for us!*
 - ◆
- What is being done? Is it all an effort to create good feelings? Will that work, either for oneself or for others? Did it work last year? Or did it lead to the

GREAT AMERICAN
DEPRESSION

Christ brings us love. Christ brings us patience. Christ brings us simplicity. And by setting our hearts on him, we are led to

GREAT JOY IN GRACE



Very Special Christmas Eve Service

Mt. Morris Lutheran Church will repeat this year on Christmas Eve the very successful Order of Service used last year. It is the famous “Nine Lessons and Carols” from the Anglican branch of the Faith. Leaders in the community read nine lessons from Scripture pertaining to Christmas and each lesson is followed by a choir anthem or hymn. More details will be provided in December but plan now to invite friends to this beautiful and moving service of worship.

Camperships as Christmas Presents

One of the very best gifts you can give to child, grandchild, godchild, niece, nephew or neighbor, is a **campership**. That is, pay part of all of the cost of their attending one of

our **excellent** church camps this summer.

- ◆ Wonderful counselors (my son was one for two years) who are smart and care.
- ◆ Hysterical worship (skits, songs with motion, great silliness: perfect for children and youth)
- ◆ Bible study—to learn the Word, from people who care and can help them get the Word into their lives.
- ◆ Good food!
- ◆ Waterfront swimming and boating, crafts, nature study, lots of big games, bike trips, etc., etc.
- ◆ Campfires!

And all on a beautiful Wisconsin lake.

You can give a child this experience that they cannot get ANYWHERE else!!

Children as young as four can come with their parents for a brief introduction to camp. Seven year olds can stay for two nights. Eights can stay the whole week: Sunday afternoon to Friday lunch.

There are the basic youth camps, with all these wonderful things. There are also *specialized* camps for art, music, and for high school students, high adventure. Week-end camps have special themes, like grandparent-grandchild.

I hope you are thinking about this great gift to the children in your life. But the camps themselves tell it better; go to their website: www.crosswayscamps.org.

Mt. Morris Collects Coins For Camp

This year **\$190.15** was collected for Crossways Camping Ministries.

Thank you for helping the youth enjoy a camping experience.

The opportunity to attend Bible Camp is one of the best gifts parents and congregations can give.

GOD'S BLESSINGS TO ALL



GROUNDS for
CREATION

Events during my time here but especially during the past two months have made me reconsider my responsibilities that I have or will accept.

Although the gardens could be considered an essential display on a public property, there are also other property responsibilities. Mt. Morris Holden properties contain various remnants of what God grew here. I consider them also to be important, maybe more so. Due to a perceived lack of responsibility in land stewardship, I will focus on these lands containing remnants of native forest, savanna, and prairie. This focus will include removal of invasive plant species, management that encourages the native plant communities, and possible replanting of native plants that have disappeared because of past land management practices.

Therefore, I am relinquishing management of the horticultural gardens around the church. Without someone, some people, some team(s) coming forward in the next weeks to assume management, I will cut them down, rototill them and grass seed them next spring. There might be a remnant of minimal management plants such as cactus and yuccas allowed to remain.

While land management can be seasonal projects with wider flexibility in work timing, gardens need weekly, and, at times, daily attention. I have found it difficult to do both land management and garden management. By concentrating on the “wild” property, I will be shifting from “square footage” to “acreage” management.

The church garden consisted of a couple annuals by the office door when I arrived here. The church can return to that display or whatever is chosen. If the gardens are returned to turf, some or all of the woody plants incorporated in those gardens may function as a more general landscape display where they are currently located or moved to a woody plant landscape grouping which I would do. The circle drive prairie will continue to be managed as prairie because it is a Memorial area.

Any discussion is appreciated and welcome. If you are new to gardens, want to learn and are *committed* to garden management, I will teach and supervise you as needed. If you are an experienced gardener but want some additional orientation, talk with me.

And the LORD God took the (wo)man, and put into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

Genesis 2:15 (modified)

Are you, will you be the one(s) to dress and keep the Mt. Morris gardens?

Martin Schultz



From: Brian E. Konkol

Sent: Monday, October 17, 2011

Subject: Climate Change and Poverty in the Household of God (edited)

Climate Change and Poverty in the Household of God

I find it necessary to offer a few observations on the topics surrounding climate change and the complexity of multi-national negotiations from the perspective of a North American Christian residing within the borders of South Africa.

- Climate Change skepticism seems to be a USA-based phenomenon.
- Climate Change and Poverty are intimately linked.
- The Christian Church has much to offer surrounding resistance and responses.

With the above in mind, the time has come to recognize that God's mission is about the promotion of sustainable livelihoods, not merely for life after death, but also for life after birth. As a result, the time for silence on matters such as climate change and poverty is finished, for as Martin Luther King, Jr. stated: "History will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transformation was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people". As a result of the crippling ecological and economic impact of climate change, the time has come for Christian Churches around the world – especially those within the USA – to seek responsible and respectful systems reversing injustices and offer life for all God has created. The time has come for churches to call upon wealthier countries to repay their climate debt by undertaking severe cuts in emissions. It is time for people of faith to model environmental values and advocate for the increased financial support of renewable energy sources such as solar and wind. In other words, it is time for churches to insist all countries involved in COP17 support legally binding legislation that values the entirety and integrity of God's creation.

The scientific evidence surrounding climate change is clear, and the implications for both the environment and humankind are many. The response to such global challenges needs to be persistent, organized, and significant. As Jesus calls upon humankind to "love thy neighbor", and as the Old Testament prophets remind us to strive for justice, we recognize within a deeply connected world "neighbor" implies all God has created, and injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere. An implication of Jesus' words and actions is to share and receive the Good News not only on Sunday mornings, but also through daily acts of long-term advocacy promoting sustainable livelihoods. The time has come when humanity can no longer afford to fight over

the limited resources remaining in our shrinking pond, and the moment is upon us to pass legally binding legislation that values the gifts of creation God has entrusted us to manage. The time is now. God has allowed humankind to serve as stewards of creation, and the time has come to embrace this sacred responsibility, value the resources that God has so graciously offered, and ensure that all of God's creation – in this generation and the next – receives the fullness of life that God has promised.

The Church Office is open Mon-Thurs from 9 AM- 2 PM.

Articles to be included in the weekly Sunday bulletin should be submitted to the office by Wednesday noon. This will provide adequate time to clarify/confirm the information and properly format and include them in the bulletin. Thank you.

The Holden Highlights Newsletter

This is the monthly publication for members and friends of Holden Lutheran Parish.

Questions, change of address, or articles may be submitted until the 15th of each month.

Everyone is encouraged to turn in any articles prior to the deadline date.

Articles not in by the 15th will not be included until the following month.

**Articles may be mailed to: Holden Lutheran Parish
 N3388 State Road 152
 Wautoma WI 54982**

-OR- e-mail to: holdenparish@centurytel.net