

St. Pauli News in Detail



Donate items for Lutheran World Relief Kits to help people in need



Each year during Lent, our congregation takes part in LWR's Baskets of Promise appeal. We collect items to form LWR Personal Care Kits that help impoverished people stay healthy in life's most challenging situations.

- March 5: Bar of Soap (4 or 5 oz. in original wrapper)
- March 12: Bath Towel (lightweight, max. size 27" x 52", dark color preferred)
- March 19: Toothbrush (adult size, in original packaging)
- March 26: Comb
- April 2: Nail Clipper (metal, attached file optional)
- April 9: Bar of Soap

Be sure to read Virginia Anderson's article in this newsletter titled "Stewardship on the Move" to see where in the world our 2016 Personal Care Kits were shipped. Virginia explains the process of how LWR is able to track our shipments. It is exciting to be able to see where they end up!

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Greeting and Ushering

- Mar. 5 Wahna Smith
- Mar. 12 Mike Stickler
- Mar. 20 Ken Cedergren (sub for Strandlie)
- Mar. 27 Skip Swanson

March Altar Preparation: Roxane Rondorf

Lenten Services 7:00 pm

Five pastors will rotate throughout their area churches providing the sermons for Lenten services. Their sermons will focus on various Old Testament characters. St Pauli's schedule, assigned pastor, and focus of the sermons are as follows:

- March 8: Pastor Gary Graf – "Solomon"
- March 15: Pr. Kristin Ostercamp – "Esther"
- March 22: Pastor Jonathan Dodson – "Elijah"
- March 29: Pastor Carl Hansen – "Judah & Joseph"
- April 5: Pastor Ale Tulu – "Ruth & Naomi"

To assist those traveling in March, Arlo Rude will videotape the sermons for viewing at a later date.

Light refreshments will be served following the services. Lydia Circles A-G and H-Z and Mary Group are assigned to serve as noted on the calendar in this newsletter. Please help out on your group's designated dates if you are available to do so.

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March Milestones



Birthdays

- Mar. 4 Ken Cedergren
- Mar. 10 Laurie Nelson
- Mar. 13 Gabe Haugen
- Mar. 14 Kjersti Halvorson
- Mar. 15 Sue Kotz
- Mar. 22 Deone Cerny
- Mar. 26 Staci Reay

Anniversaries

- Mar. 12 Sharon and Neil Bugge

Mark your calendars for Shirley Johnson's birthday celebration on Saturday, April 15. Details inside this newsletter.

Minutes of the St. Pauli Church Council

January 12, 2017

The St. Pauli Church Council held its monthly meeting on Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 7 p.m. at St. Pauli Church. Members present: Arlo Rude, Cindy Cedergren, Gary Iverson, and Kathy Alberg. Pastor Hansen was on vacation out of state. The meeting was called to order by Council President Arlo Rude. The meeting opened with the Lord's Prayer.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the December 15, 2016 meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report for the month of December, the Year-End Treasurer's Report, and the 2016 Assets Report were all approved with a motion by Gary Iverson, second by Kathy Alberg. Motion carried. The latter reports will be included in the Annual Report booklet.

Checking Account Balance as of 12/1/16	\$ 15,967.86
December Income (including \$335 in Food Shelf donations)	\$ 4,749.00
December Expenses	\$ (2,128.72)
Balance as of 12/31/16	\$ 18,588.14

Certificates of Deposit	\$ 20,000.00
Savings Account Balance 12/31/16	\$ 35,973.94
Edward D. Jones Balance 12/31/16	\$ 42,576.27
Memorial Fund Savings Account & Certificate of Deposit Balance 12/31/16	\$ 11,292.93
Mission Grant Fund Balance 12/31/16	\$ <u>2,023.53</u>
Total Church Funds:	\$130,454.81

Pastor's Report: No report; Pastor is on vacation until the week of January 22.

Reports of Members in sickness or distress: Council members shared prayer concerns of members.

New Members or Interest in Membership: No report.

Reports:

- 1) WELCA: No WELCA business meeting was held in December. Next meeting is January 26. Lydia Circle meets on Saturday, January 14 at Greenleaf Assisted Living.
- 2) Board of Education: The Sunday School Christmas Program was held on December 18th, and students and teachers did an excellent job. Thank you to those who helped lead the effort. The live nativity scene at the Christmas Eve service was also a nice addition to that evening service. Gary Iverson reported that one student who started Confirmation classes this fall is no longer attending and it is not likely that the student would be able to catch up on work in order to continue classes this year.

Old Business:

- 1) 2017 Budget: The Council reviewed the updated budget presented at the December meeting and made additional revisions for the final to be presented at the Annual Meeting.
- 2) Accounting Services: Rude reported he had brought information from the Treasurer's records to Gale Schmitz, so he can begin the process of setting up accounts and processes, starting in 2017.
- 3) Internet Service: Rude presented a detailed list of options available for internet service through Sjoberg's Cable TV, including one-time equipment costs. He will condense the information for the Annual Meeting, making it simpler to review and to make a recommendation on which option is best for the congregation's needs. Rude recommended that the service not be initiated until such time the congregation determines the need and potential use of the service, including a proposed security system.

New Business:

- 1) Luther and the Reformation video viewing: Rude brought a video that was sent to all Lutheran congregations by the Synod. The Council discussed the congregation's viewing and discussion of the video at a later date – possibly during a worship service or a special meeting at another time of day. More discussion will be held with Pastor Hansen.
- 2) Security of the church building and grounds: Rude presented costs and options for purchasing and installing an exterior video monitoring system, in addition to the option of utilizing a gate to secure the back of the churchyard. Information will be presented and shared at the Annual Meeting to obtain input from the congregation.
- 3) Annual Meeting Agenda: The agenda was reviewed and approved. The Nominations and Ballot for officers in 2017 was also reviewed.
- 4) Membership Roster: Council members reviewed and updated a membership roster presented by Rude. Rude stated he needs to report numbers of active/inactive members on a report he is preparing to submit.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Next regular meeting date: Thursday, February 16, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Cedergren
St. Pauli Church Council Secretary

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St. Pauli Cemetery Association Annual Meeting

JANUARY 12, 2017

The St. Pauli Cemetery Association held its Annual Meeting on January 12, 2017 at 8:40 p.m. at St. Pauli Lutheran Church. Board members present: Arlo Rude, Cindy Cedergren, Kathy Alberg, and Gary Iverson. Guest: Faye Auchenpaugh

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Election of Officers: Deferred until the next meeting, following the election of officers at the Church's Annual Meeting on January 29, 2017.

Secretary's Reports: Cedergren presented minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting, and regular meetings held in May, June, July, August, September, and November. Motion to approve was made by Alberg, seconded by Iverson. Motion carried

Treasurer's Report: Rude presented an annual report listing all the transactions made in the checking account in 2016. A motion to approve the report was made by Cedergren, seconded by Iverson. Motion carried.

Beginning Balance 1/1/16	\$26,788.08
Annual Income	7,500.00
Annual Expenses	(184.05)
Ending Balance 12/31/16	\$34,104.03

Old Business:

- 1) Guidelines and fees for burial: Deferred to February meeting for discussion and decision.
- 2) Application for state sales tax exemption: Accountant Gale Schmitz will be asked to handle the paperwork involved in this task.
- 3) Recommendations to improve cemetery entrance: Rude provided an update on this project and further discussion was held on how and whether or not to move the existing iron archway over the entrance. The intention was to look at acquiring streetlight poles for this project, but Rude reported there were none available through the City of Thief River Falls.

Rude plans to build a directional sign (to indicate location of church from cemetery) to be placed near the entrance, and the sign will include contact information for inquiries.

The anticipated donation of Douglas Fir trees from Larry Hurst, to be transplanted in the cemetery, was also discussed. A survey of the land may be needed prior to the trees being planted to ensure property boundaries are accurate.

New Business:

- 1) Election of Sexton: A motion was made by Cedergren and seconded by Iverson to approve the appointment of Bruce Mathson as Sexton. Motion carried.
- 2) Update on Resetting Vigen Monument: Rude gave an update and reported that repair of the monument will resume this spring or summer when weather is suitable.

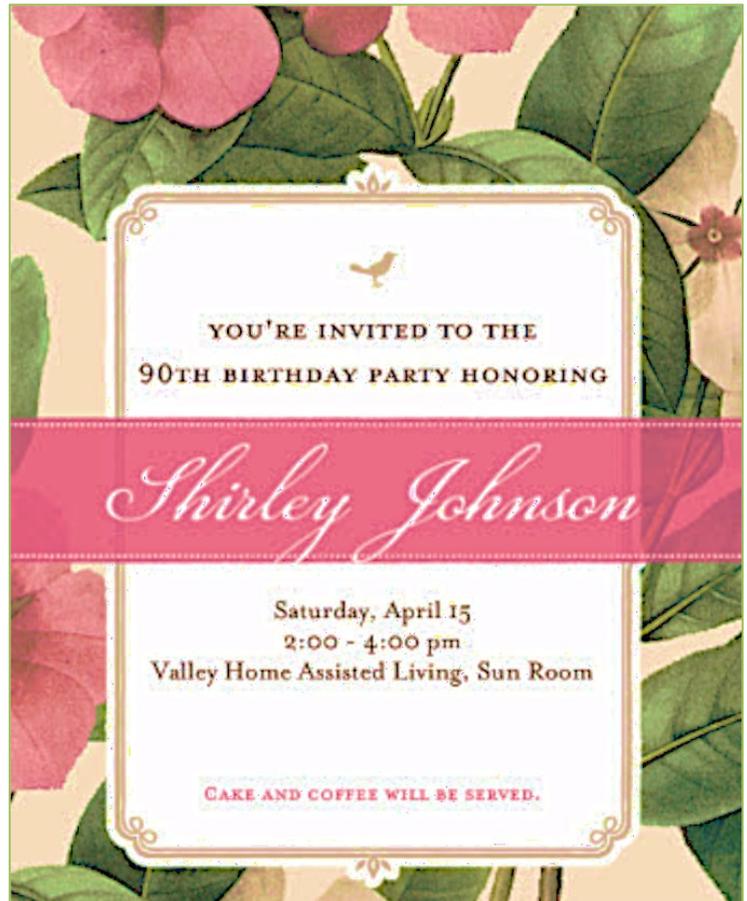
Input from guests: Faye Auchenpaugh asked that both Bruce Mathson and Marisa Benson be given updates for the cemetery map located on the church's website. Rude will provide that information to them.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Cedergren, Secretary
St. Pauli Cemetery Association Board of Directors

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Stewardship on the Move

Now that Lenten season is here; I have some exciting news for our St. Pauli members who have been faithfully bringing items each Sunday toward making Lutheran World Relief kits. Mainly the news is that we are now able to track our donated kits and quilts finding out where in the world our items go.

I will explain how this works. For years, St. Pauli has been shipping kits and quilts twice a year to the needy through Lutheran World Relief. In the past, we packed completed projects in boxes, placed our church name and contents on the box, brought the boxes to a semi-truck which delivered them to the Lutheran World Relief center in Minneapolis. That was it, we really never knew where in the world our items went.

A couple of years ago, Lutheran World Relief became more sophisticated in their handling of our donated items; now we are assigned an official church number and can log on to LWR Quilt & Kit Tracker. We are able to print out special labels in two parts with a barcode just like UPS or FedEx. We simply fill in our church number and other content information. After doing so, one part of our label goes in the box with the items, the other part goes on the outside of the box. That is done for accurate processing. Then we drop our boxes off at the semi-truck, again going to the LWR center in Minneapolis.

Later, we can log in with our congregation number and print out a report showing where in the world our items went. I was told that it takes the center about 9 months to update their records. Remember, this is a fairly new process.

Here is the exciting part! I have found that in September 2016 our Personal Care Kits went to Burkina Faso, which is a small country in western North Africa just above Ghana. Also, in January 2017, our School Kits went to Djibouti, which is in eastern North Africa northeast of Ethiopia. To date I couldn't find information on our quilts, but I am confident that we will be able to track them as well and I will report that information to you at a later date.

Isn't it a good feeling knowing that our stewardship efforts are not in vain?

Virginia Anderson
Stewardship Secretary

We Welcome the Cervantes Family



John and Shelly Cervantes and their children Josie, Macie and John Jr. were installed as new members of the St. Pauli Church congregation on Sunday, February 27th. We welcome them with joy.

Sunday, February 19th, was a Special Day at St. Pauli



Kyland James Rondorf was Baptized as a Child of God

Kyland James Rondorf, son of Jordan and Erin Rondorf, was baptized during worship services. Sponsors are left to right: John Lofgren, Katelyn Peterson, Sherry and Wallace Rondorf.

Jim and Roxane Rondorf are the proud grandparents and Edna Rondorf is Kyland's great-grandmother.



Four Generations in the Rondorf Family have now been Baptized at St. Pauli

Great-grandmother Edna (Iverson) Rondorf, Grandfather Jim Rondorf, Father Jordon Rondorf, Aunt Rachael Rondorf, Sister Ella Jae Rondorf and Baby Kyland James Rondorf.

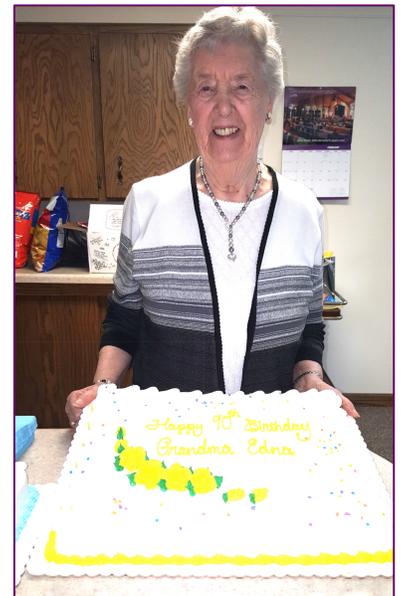
Edna Lila (Iverson) Rondorf, was born February 27, 1927. She is the daughter of Iver and Anna (Berg) Iverson and was baptized on May 1, 1927. Her sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. Tobias Stene, Joseph Torstveit, and Bertha Stene.



And we celebrated Edna's 90th Birthday!

The Rondorfs served a wonderful lunch for the entire congregation following worship services.

We were all able to join in honoring Edna on this special occasion.



Bishop Wohlrabe's March Study

Lutherans Making a World of Difference



The Reformation of the church that was triggered 500 years ago by Martin Luther's publication of his *Ninety-Five Theses* produced vast changes not just in faith communities but in the wider society as well.

For example, Luther and the Reformers influenced the spread of literacy and universal education; the transition from the Holy Roman Empire to a continent of European nation-states; the rise of market economies and the spirit of entrepreneurship; and a devotion to academic freedom that paved the way for the Age of Enlightenment in the 18th century.

Within the churches of the Reformation, the deaths of the Reformers (Luther, in 1546 and his protégé Melancthon, in 1560) inaugurated a period in which their successors sought to clarify and organize their teachings. This period of "Lutheran orthodoxy" began in 1580 with the publication of the *Book of Concord*, which brought together into one volume the primary confessional documents of the Reformation.

Luther, who was primarily a biblical scholar, did not produce a grand system of theology. That task fell to the generations of theologians who succeeded him. At the same time, strong Lutheran state-churches were being established in the emerging nation-states of northern Europe.

The Roots of Pietism

Not surprisingly, as Lutheranism was defined and consolidated as a church, it lost some of the original spark and vigor that had originally inspired the movement of the Reformation. This reality triggered a renewal movement among Lutherans called *Pietism*—a "wedding" of the head and the heart, sound theological knowledge with vigorous Christian life in the world.

This month, on March 29th, our church commemorates one of many leaders of Lutheran pietistic movements: Hans Nielsen Hauge (1771-1824) who contributed greatly to the renewal of the Lutheran church in Norway. Although Hauge never traveled to America, many of his followers did—settling in places like our own Red River Valley region. A memorial to Hauge on the campus of Concordia College in Moorhead reminds us of Hauge's strong influence on the territory of our synod.



Hans Nielsen Hauge was born on a farm in southeastern Norway in 1771. Although he had limited formal education, Hauge showed great ability in practical tasks such as carpentry, farming, the repair of mechanical devices and business. Throughout his life, Hauge supported himself through his physical labors and business activities.¹

The family in which Hauge grew up took matters of faith seriously. They read the Bible daily and had regular family prayers. Occasionally they also

attended lay religious meetings in their small village.

Despite his pious upbringing, young Hauge was not at peace with God. Although he read deeply in Lutheran catechical and devotional literature, attended worship in his local Lutheran church and participated in prayer meetings, Hans still longed for an assurance of God's love and grace.

That pious desire was answered on April 5, 1796 when Hans Nielsen Hauge had a mystical experience of God's saving presence in his life. Rather than driving Hauge deeper into himself, his experience turned him outward toward God's world:

*"I asked [God] to reveal to me what I should do. The answer echoed in my heart, 'You shall confess My name before the people; exhort them to repent and seek Me while I may be found and call upon Me while I am near; and touch their hearts that they may turn from darkness to light.'"*²

Hauge's Lay Preaching

Hauge was determined to keep the promise he had made to God. "He launched a one-man preaching crusade, beginning in his own

community and then travelling through all Norway and visiting Denmark in 1800. He also wrote about his faith, eventually producing some thirty books....The central concept of his preaching and writing was what he called 'the living faith,' the personal commitment to the Lord which transforms the believer's life."³

Hauge's ministry did not bring joy to everyone in Norway, however. His activities as a lay preacher put him on the wrong side of Norwegian law, specifically the Conventicle Act of 1741 which declared: *"It shall...be absolutely prohibited for anyone, whether a man or woman, married or unmarried, to travel from place to place, alone or in company with others, or to hold meetings. Each person shall remain in his own particular calling, live quietly, support himself honestly, eating his own bread; but people may visit each other, in order to help and edify each other. No public meeting shall be allowed."*⁴





This law—which sounds so foreign to our 21st century American ears—reflected the power and control of the Norwegian state church, the “official” Lutheran

Church of Norway of that time. The only sanctioned religious gatherings were those conducted by the state church and its official representatives. For repeatedly violating the Conventicle Act, Hauge was arrested and jailed ten times between 1796 and

1804. His eleventh arrest in 1804 was the most serious—landing him in solitary confinement, denied bail and forbidden to have all his reading materials with him.

Trial and Vindication

In October of 1811 when Hauge was finally brought to trial, the tide was starting to turn in his favor, as the Norwegian church was being renewed by the lay revival movement that Hauge started. “There was no specific accusation that could be used against him except vague application of the Conventicle Act.”⁵ Though found guilty and sentenced to two years of hard labor, Hauge’s sentence was later commuted to a heavy fine and payment of all court costs.

One hundred years after Hauge’s death the Department of Church of the Norwegian government vindicated him by declaring: “*Hans Nielsen Hauge aroused the greatest awakening that has ever taken place among us, and accomplished the breakthrough of religious freedom in the country.*”⁶

Remembering and Responding

- Why does “living faith” need both the head (e.g. sound theology and doctrine) and the heart (devotion, witness and service)?
- Hauge’s renewal movement was carried out within the Church of Norway. Rolf Syrdal observes: “*Hauge was a man of the church....He reminded [his followers], ‘In all respects you are admonished...not in anything to separate yourselves from the Lutheran church.’...He never tried to take the place of the pastor, or to assume the pastor’s duties.*”⁷ Why do renewal movements sometimes separate themselves from the church rather than work within the church?
- Hauge’s faith was formed in a family immersed in scripture, prayer and devotion. Our synod encourages all congregations to “grow in their capacity to commend the faith to the next generation of disciples of Jesus Christ” (resolution passed at the 2014 synod assembly). How is your congregation helping homes and families become seed-beds for forming faith in Christ?
- Prayer for March 29: “***Almighty God, we praise you for your servant, Hans Nielsen Hauge, through whom you have called the church to its tasks and renewed its life. Raise up in our own day teachers and prophets inspired by your Spirit, whose voices will give strength to your church and proclaim the reality of your reign, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***” (ELW, p. 60)

This is the third in a series of monthly bishop’s studies during 2017 on the theme, *Lutherans Making a World of Difference*. These columns are designed to equip the disciples and leadership groups such as church councils, for faithful and fruitful ministry. Feel free to use each column for personal reflection or group discussion, e.g. church council meeting devotions/discussion.

Lawrence R. Wohlrabe
Bishop, Northwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God’s work. Our hands.



¹ Although chiefly remembered for his religious work, Hauge also positively influenced the development of agriculture, forestry and industry in Norway. “Such efforts raised the status of the common people so that eventually they were well represented in parliament, which had traditionally been reserved for persons from the upper class.” Rolf A. Syrdal in Charles P. Lutz, ed, *Church Roots: Stories of Nine Immigrant Groups That Became The American Lutheran Church* (Augsburg, 1985) p. 62.

² From Hauge’s autobiography as quoted by Philip Pfatteicher in *Festivals and Commemorations* (Augsburg, 1980), p. 139.

³ Ibid, p. 136.

⁴ Lutz, *Church Roots*, p. 61.

⁵ Ibid., p. 64.

⁶ Ibid., p. 66

⁷ Ibid., p. 67

Four Fun Facts about Norway's King



Photo: Jørgen Gornæs / The Royal Court.

February 21 marked the 80th birthday of His Majesty King Harald V of Norway. In honor of this special occasion, here are five facts you might not know about the monarch.

1. First Norwegian king born in Norway in 567 years.

Although Norway's history dates back many centuries, the country's status as a modern independent nation is comparatively young. Due to the lengthy union with Denmark and later

Sweden, many monarchs of Norway hailed from other European countries. The election of King Haakon VII (Harald's grandfather) in 1905 marked the first monarch chosen by an independent Norway since the Middle Ages.

2. He is an Olympian.

An avid sailor, H.M. King Harald represented Norway three times in the Olympics, participating in the 1964, 1968 and 1972 games. He and his crew also won World Championship bronze, silver and gold medals in 1988, 1982 and 1987. In 2005, they won the European Championships with the Fram XV.

3. A portion of the Arctic is named after him.

Over 2,500 square miles of eastern Svalbard was dubbed "Harald V Land" by the Norwegian Polar Institute in honor of the king in 2013. King Harald is the third Norwegian monarch—preceded by Olav V and Haakon VII—to have part of Svalbard named in his honor. In 2015 he was the world's first reigning monarch to visit Antarctica.

4. His courtship was unique.

Then Crown Prince, Harald broke from tradition when he married Sonja Haraldsen, a commoner, after a nine-year courtship. After consulting with the Presidium of the Storting, parliamentary leaders and the Norwegian government, King Olav gave his permission for the couple to marry in March of 1968. On Aug. 29, 1968, Harald and Sonja were married at Oslo Cathedral.

One-of-a-Kind Ride Along

posted on Sun, Feb 12 2017 8:57 am by Melissa Johnson

[Editor's Note: Perhaps you're wondering if I'm hooked on reindeer. No, but this article came along and I just had to share it. Going to the link at the end of the article is well worth your time.]

You may not know it, but Norway has the distinction of having a one-of-a-kind police unit--the *Reinpolitiet* (Reindeer Police). Those unfamiliar with the duties of this group of officers may find the idea of reindeer policing a bit peculiar, however the mission of this unit is an important one.

Founded in 1949, Norway's Reindeer Police are tasked with oversight and environmental protection of the northernmost counties of Finnmark and Troms. Made up of just 15 officers, the unit patrols an area over 21,000 square miles and oversees and assists reindeer herding by the indigenous Sami people.

Each two-person team of officers embarks on weeklong shifts, often traveling via snowmobile from one location to another following the reindeer migration from the mountains to the coast. Along the way officers perform routine tasks like checking permits or issuing snowmobile speeding citations, but the more unique aspects of their work are helping herders move their reindeer from one island to another or settling disputes.

Rare photo opportunity documents migration

Recently, a photojournalist named Gianmarco Maraviglia ventured into the vast, snowy expanse of northwest Norway to document the work of the officers for an assignment for Vanity Fair Italy and Marie Claire France. An area not open to tourists, Maraviglia's ride-along captured an inside look at the reindeer herd migration that few experience firsthand—aside from Sami herders themselves.



Paired with a guide, Maraviglia shadowed the officers on snowmobile as they tracked reindeer and met with herders. His experiences provided him an appreciation for the landscape that stretched his boundaries as portrait photographer. "Here the subject, for the first time in my life, was nature," he told CNN. "I think it worked because I was really touched by the landscape in the same way I'm usually touched by the story of a person." Likening the vastness of the Norwegian landscape to a white desert, Maraviglia called it "breathtaking."

To view Maraviglia's photography while on patrol with the Reindeer Police, visit:

<http://www.gianmarcomaraviglia.com/reindeer-police>

Cardamom Buns

Ingredients

2 cups milk
¼ cup butter
¼ cup margarine
1 pkg. active dry yeast
¼ cup water, warm
¾ cup sugar
1 tbsp. Sugar
½ tsp. salt
6 white cardamom seeds,
crushed
7 cups flour

Scald milk. Add butter and margarine and let stand until melted, and milk is slightly cooled.

Soften yeast in warm water with 1 tablespoon of sugar added.



In a large bowl add remaining sugar, salt, and cardamom. Pour in lukewarm milk mixture. Add yeast, and enough flour to make a stiff dough. Work thoroughly.

Place in a greased bowl. Cover and let rise until double in bulk. Punch down and shape into balls--the size of ping pong balls.

Preheat your oven to 450 degrees F (230 degrees C). Place 1 inch (2 ½ cm)

apart on a greased baking sheet. Cover with tea towel and let rise until double in bulk.

Bake in 450 degrees F (230 degrees C) oven for 5 minutes. (Yes, 5 minutes is right!!) Brush with butter while still hot.

(From the Sons of Norway recipe files)

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A Concert NOT to be Missed!

Mongolian band of performers called “Anda Union”

Lincoln High School Auditorium
Saturday, March 18 at 7:00 pm

Tickets: \$5.00 per person at the door, which is amazingly cheap!



When would you ever have a chance to meet someone from Mongolia? Now you can!

Arts Midwest World Fest presents international musical ensembles in intensive week-long residencies in smaller Midwest communities. Its purpose is to foster an understanding of and appreciation for global uniqueness and differences. Thief River Falls has been fortunate to be a recipient of these residencies for the past two years. Anda Union will be the fourth and final residency as part of this series.

Anda Union is a band of performers with roots in different ethnic Mongolian tribes from across Inner Mongolia. Each performer was trained in traditional Mongolian music from a young age, and they are part of a musical movement that is finding inspiration in old and forgotten songs. As “music gathers,” Anda Union brings together ancient Mongolian music and traditions that had all but disappeared from modern life. They are on a mission to stimulate their culture and reengage young Mongols, many of whom no longer speak the language of their heritage.

Meet hear these unique instruments and throat music right in our community! We don't even know what throat music is, but we are excited to learn.

The Public Concert is Saturday, March 18 at 7:00 pm at Lincoln High School.



The Back Page

A PRAYER FOR LENT

O Lord and Redeemer
of my life

take from me
the spirit of
laziness
despair
lust
gossip
and pride
replace each one
with a spirit of

humility
patience
purity
and self-denial

with a love
for what You love

and a burden
for what burdens You
My Lord
and Saviour

help me to confront
my own transgressions

and not to condemn
my brothers and sisters

for You alone
are just and holy

now
and forever

AMEN



Inspired by The Lenten Prayer of St. Ephrem