



ST. BARTHOLOMEW NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2020



"To God be the Glory!" (1 Peter 4:11)

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

Do you have a nickname? Some people have nicknames that are derived from their full names. Some have gotten nicknames because of a physical feature (which can be very hurtful) or something they have accomplished (like "Wrong Way Marshall" who ran the wrong way to score a touchdown for the opposing team!).

"Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement)" (Acts 4:36) was a man with a nickname anyone would be proud to have. His nickname is widely known; not too many even realize his real name was Joseph. How did this steward of God earn this nickname?

The first time the Bible mentions Barnabas is in the passage above where we read that he *"sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet."* Wow! Wouldn't that provide encouragement? Knowing that someone believed in your work so much that he would give the entire proceeds from his property to support your work would surely inspire you to work even harder.

In Acts 13:2 we read, *"The Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me [the Holy Spirit] Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.'"* Here Barnabas is partnered with Saul, who later takes the name Paul. Whose name is more recognizable? In verse 42 of the same chapter, we find the names reversed: *"As Paul and Barnabas."* What has happened is that God has chosen to make Paul the leader on their missionary trips and to delegate Barnabas as his companion, his fellow-worker. Did Barnabas quit when he no longer had top billing? No way! He continued laboring beside Paul as they ministered to the early Church.

He did have a disagreement with Paul, though, that arose from his desire to encourage and his choice not to give up on people. The problem was this: Another disciple, a young man named, *"John, also called Mark"* had traveled with them but, at one point, had *"deserted them in Pamphylia"* (Acts 15:37-38). Paul refused to take Mark, so Barnabas parted company with Paul and took Mark himself to do the Lord's work. Barnabas was willing to give someone a second chance. Don't you think Mark was encouraged?

We're all in need of encouragement, and we're all equipped to give encouragement. It's easier to complain and find fault, but, even with the most disagreeable person, we can find something to commend. Make it your goal to find someone each day to encourage.



And I think that encouragement is especially important during these days of the pandemic when people have had to make all sorts of adjustments to the daily routine of life. Be an encourager!

Together in Christ,

Pastor Kuegel

Sharing, Believing, Living, Caring

FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

August 2020

Year-to-date Income: \$122,511.18
Year-to-date Expenses: \$105,305.98
Year-to-date Budget: \$111,488.00

St. Bartholomew has several special project/memorial funds set up to contribute toward.

These funds include: Landscaping
Hearing Loop
Concordia Scholarship Fund
Debt Retirement
Banners



If you would like to contribute to any of the above funds please place your contribution in an envelope and mark it with your name and envelope number as well as the name of the fund you want the contribution assigned to. You may also use the specially marked envelopes in the literature rack.

A Sunday school teacher asked her youngsters: "Wouldn't you like to go to heaven?"

"Sure," little Johnny replied, "but my Mom told me to come home right after school."

- via Rev. Dr. Ken Curtis
Fallon, NV

Voter's Meeting
October 25
8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
or Church Sancturary
Election of Officers and
2021 Budget

ST. BARTHOLOMEW MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing the Good News of salvation with others
(Matt. 28:19)

Believing in Jesus as our Savior (John 3:16)

Living our faith in what we say and do (James 2:18)

Caring for those in need (1 Peter 3:15; Mark 10:45;
Eph. 4:28; 1 John 3:17)

SHARING, BELIEVING LIVING AND CARING

KINGDOM WORKERS - OCTOBER

The following members are listed as Kingdom workers for October in the following areas:

Altar Guild: Carolyn & Roger Bladow
Jody Denor

Acolytes: Oct. 4 - Natalie
11 - Ava
18 - Alandra
25 - Addison

ADULT INFORMATION CLASS

If anyone is interested in joining our congregation from a non-Lutheran background or is interested in learning the basics of our beliefs as Lutherans, contact Pastor Krueger (756-3031) so a class can be set up beginning in October.



Portals of Prayer

If you have not received a Portals of Prayer and would like to receive a copy, please contact the church office.



Daylight Savings Time Ends:
Don't forget to turn your clocks
back 1 hour before you go to bed
on Saturday, October 31st.

It's good to start the day
with prayer and devotions.



ELDER GROUPS

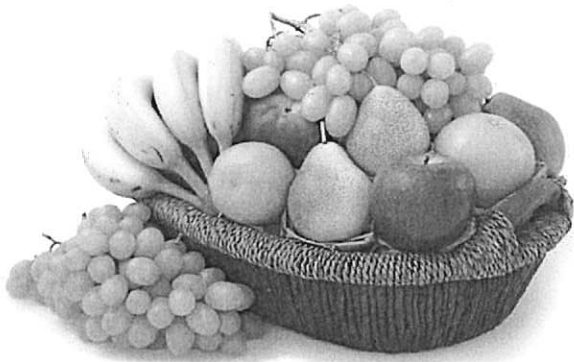
(A-G) Keith Polkinghorne 756-2370
(H-M) Tanner Behnke (920) 427-6201
(N-Z) Ron Detert 756-3439

Living Generously

The purpose of this newsletter is to share God's Word so that our members will better understand who we are to be and what we are to do in the light of the Scriptures. It is our hope that this monthly publication will help you grow in your relationship with the Lord and as a Christian steward.

God Expects Fruit

In John 15, Jesus tells us that He is the true Vine, and we are the branches attached to the Vine. When we abide in Jesus, we will bear fruit (good works). Only in Jesus is our fruitfulness true service to God. The importance of bearing fruit is the essence of the first few verses in chapter 15. God is glorified when we *"bear much fruit and so prove to be [His] disciples"* (verse 8).



This expectation of bearing fruit is also stated elsewhere in Scripture. The Apostle Paul wrote, *"Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to Him Who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God"* (Romans 7:4). With Christ living within us, we are devoted to serving God. In his letter to the church in Corinth, Paul exhorts the

Corinthians to bear fruit: *"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may*

abound in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8). With new lives in Christ, we are encouraged to bear fruit: *"...Walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God"* (Colossians 1:10).

In his letter to Titus, Paul again tells us how the grace of God is at work in our lives so we can bear fruit: *"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works"* (Titus 2:11-14). God's grace enables us to renounce sin and empowers us to pursue lives that bear fruit.

We have no excuse for not bearing fruit. All we need is supplied by God. God gives us His gift of faith by which He empowers and equips us to do good works in His name.

Following Jesus' Example

When we have done some yard work, many of us may have used a tree pruner. A tree pruner is used to reach up into a tree to lop off unwanted branches. A tree pruner is kind of like an arm

extension because it is much more convenient than getting on a ladder which may or may not reach the branch you are aiming at.



In a way, that tree pruner is a picture of what serving is like. Just as it reaches beyond your own arm's length, so do your arms and hands reach out to help others as an extension of Christ's love. Jesus walked this earth for approximately thirty years, and, during that time, His hands were always busy touching, healing, lifting, and comforting. With His ascension into Heaven, that job has been left to us.

Each of us can look around and see people who we can touch, lift up, or comfort. There are many people who would benefit from our service. What about the shy person at your place of work? Could you encourage him or her? What about the elderly person across the street who wants to share stories of his youth? Could you be a patient listener? What about people in your extended family? Maybe they would appreciate a little time with you!

Jesus was never too rushed to stop and talk to someone in need. Although He had much to accomplish, He never raced from one task to another. Jesus always spoke to people in

love, carrying out the reason for His coming into this world: "...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). God, Who gives us all we need to do whatever He asks us to do, will give you the opportunity and ability to serve others.

Following God's Financial Counsel

We make financial decisions daily. We decide whether to spend our money, give it, lend it, save it, or invest it, and we need to be diligent in the handling of our money. God expects us to be wise in the management of the money that He entrusts to us (Matthew 25:14-30). Because money is part of life, it's important to come to know what our Lord teaches us about it in His Word. While money itself is neutral, we can make it either a positive or negative part of our lives. When God has first place in our lives rather than our love for money, a big obstacle to an intimate relationship with Christ is eliminated.

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the ark?" "No" replied Johnny. "How could he with just two worms?"

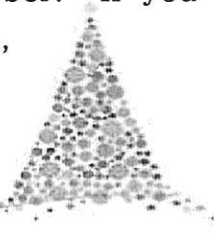
Having the Right Focus

A theme the Apostle Paul returns to often throughout his letters in the New Testament is that of putting off the Old Adam and putting on the New Self. Get rid of those things that are a hindrance to your life in Christ. "*Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. And be thankful*" (Colossians 3:2, 15). Focusing on temporal problems, we tend to get bogged down. Setting our minds on things above, however, we cannot but be thankful for all God is and all He has done and continues to do for us in Christ.

Blessings as you Live Generously!

It's that time of year again...

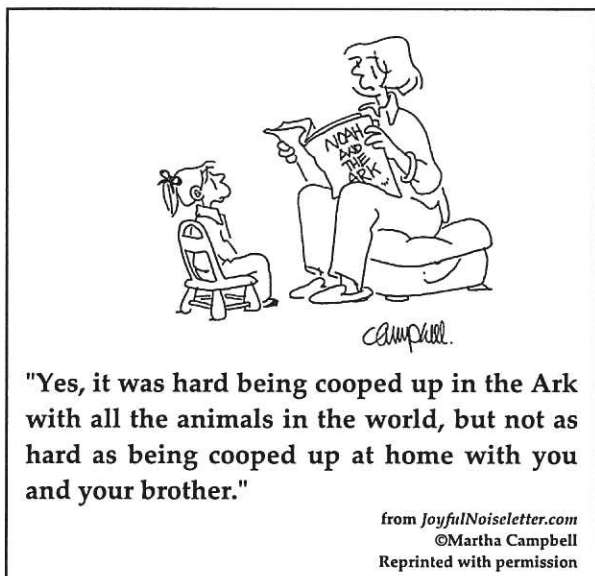
Christmas tree sellers needed in November and December! St. Bartholomew will once again be selling Christmas trees with sales beginning Friday, November 27th. Watch for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in mid-October. If you would like to help sell trees, pick a date and time. Your help will be greatly appreciated.



Pastor on Vacation ...



Pastor Krueger will be on vacation October 26-November 2. In the event of an emergency, please contact Pastor Thomas Schmitt of St. Martin, Chilton (414-477-7804) or one of the elders.



"Yes, it was hard being cooped up in the Ark with all the animals in the world, but not as hard as being cooped up at home with you and your brother."

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
©Martha Campbell
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"MY MOM SAYS THE TEN COMMANDMENTS ARE: SETTLE DOWN, STOP THAT, WASH YOUR HANDS, BE QUIET, GO TO SLEEP, EAT YOUR VEGETABLES, DRINK YOUR MILK, SIT UP STRAIGHT, PICK UP YOUR ROOM AND LISTEN TO YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER."

Pastor Appreciation

Does your pastor or minister know you appreciate them? Now is your chance to let them know: October is Clergy Appreciation Month, when churchgoers are encouraged to give thanks for their pastors, ministers, and leaders. The Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians, "Respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work" (1 Thess. 5:12-13).

Little Johnny's Sunday school class was touring the local police station, where the teacher wanted the kids to learn about the importance of obeying the law. On the bulletin board, they saw pictures of the 10 most wanted men.

On the way out, Johnny complimented the host officer: "It was so nice of you to put my daddy's picture up there. They have one in the Post Office, too."

- via George Goldtrap
Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL

Giving Thanks

How often we forget the little word of thanks, of praise, or encouragement. When we look back at our own life, we remember not the gifts we have been given, but the smile, the kiss, the praise that has helped enrich us. We must pray not to forget to give freely the 'little things' to everybody we meet today."

- Barbara Cortland
via Apple Seeds

God in the Driver's Seat

In our spiritual journeys, some of us have put God in the driver's seat allowing Him to control and steer us in the right direction, whereas many of us have pushed God into a passenger's seat where His input and guidance is ignored. Is God in the driver's seat in your life? C.S. Lewis tells us, "There are two types of people. There are those who say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and those to whom God says, 'Okay, then, have it your way.'" If God's grace has empowered you to put Him in the driver's seat of your life, His will will be done, and your life will be filled with greater joy, purposes, and fulfillment. God has a plan for our lives. He wants to lavish His favor on us, but we can experience God's transforming power only if we allow Him to be in the driver's seat.

We may be averse to allowing God to be in the driver's seat in our journeys because it means giving up control of our lives. We're often eager to relegate Him to the backseat, so we're free to do as we please. By nature, we're independent people who desire to focus on ourselves. We're more interested in living self-indulgent and self-gratifying lifestyles that focus on worldly pleasures. With God in the back seat, we go in that direction, but we'll find that path leads only to despair, defeat, and loneliness.

Empowered by grace, we place God in the driver's seat so He can be in control of our lives. God's direction will be in sharp contrast to the self-centered life that we live without Him. We go where He drives us. As the driver, He controls the speed of our journey. He's able to slow or speed things up. His destination becomes our destination. He will pick up many people along the way with whom we can build up relationships and share the Gospel. He stops along the way so we can be of help to those in need. All the time, we, through faith, are allowing Him to be in control as He steers and leads us. Our ride continues until He takes us to His heavenly home.



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Prayerfully consider serving on the Altar Guild for 2021.

Women, men, or couples; in fact, any confirmed member can serve. If you are interested, contact the church office and we will add your name to the list. We will also begin contacting the current Altar Guild members sometime in November to determine your willingness to serve in 2021.



**Bible
STUDY**
Join us!

Bible study will be on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. in the youth room beginning on October 4. All confirmed members are welcome to join.

"One man practicing sportsmanship is far better than 50 preaching it."

-The Joyful Noiseletter

For their 15th wedding anniversary, a wife, thinking that the couple needed a new car, hinted to her husband that she'd like to see an anniversary gift that goes from 0—200 in seven seconds.

On the morning of their wedding anniversary, the wife found a gift-wrapped box in the bathroom. She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale.

Her husband has been missing since then.

- via Pastor Dale Schoening
Bussey, IA



Please Support Your Local Thrift Store!

LCFS operates five thrift stores which help to support services for adoption, mental health, family counseling and substance abuse. Each store is run by amazing volunteers and support their communities by providing an outlet for clothing and household items to be reused and repurposed, offering affordable prices and by donating surplus items to local homeless or veteran shelters. All stores are now open with new safety and sanitation policies for donations and shopping. Please consider supporting these essential stores and the mission they support. Volunteers are in need at each store for a variety of tasks and services. Hours and additional information can be found at www.lcfswi.org.

Second Time Around - 102 West Franklin, Berlin, WI (920) 361-0334

The Shepherd's Attic - 10 West Main Street, Chilton, WI (920) 849-9250

The Economy Center - 7814

W. Burleigh, Milwaukee, WI (414) 442-2272

Yours, Mine & Ours Shop -1620 S.Main St., Rice Lake, WI (715) 234-1137

LCFS Thrift Shop - 2324 E. Richmond Street, Shawano, WI (715) 526-9092

Make Your Mental Health a Priority

2020 has been a challenging year and while we are focusing on our physical health and wellbeing, we also need to remember that mental health matters as well. Feelings of anxiety, sadness, being overwhelmed or isolation can be common right now. Here are a few tips from the staff of Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin:

- Limit over saturation of news and media. Being informed is important, but avoid news overload. Pick two reliable sources of information and check them once per day.
- Remind yourself to TRUST. Trust in your faith and find hope and peace there. Trust in those who love and care for you. Trust the medical experts that are working hard to do what is best for everyone.
- Practice self-care. Get enough sleep, go for walks, do online yoga. Eat healthy. Set up a schedule for a daily routine and stick to it. Maintaining a sense of normality can reduce stress and anxiety.

- Find one person who you can openly communicate with. Talk about your worries and fears and listen to theirs. Nurture and reassure each other.
- Explore what you can do to help others. Being of help to others can boost your own self-esteem and will be greatly appreciated by those you affect

Christian Counseling Services

If you or a loved one is struggling with mental health or behavioral concerns, the professional counselors at Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin (LCFS) are available to help. As a faith-based Christian agency, each counselor is professionally trained to provide expert care for issues including anxiety, depression, stress, life transitions, grief, marital issues, family counseling, substance abuse and much more. They care deeply about the Christian faith and those they serve, providing counseling with a Christian frame of reference, openly discussing God, the Bible, and understanding the importance of spiritual beliefs in putting daily activities, problems and challenges into perspective. God dealt with Peter's ego, with Paul's depression and with Mary and Martha's grief. In the same personal way, LCFS offers Christian counsel to each individual with care, compassion and love. LCFS is currently offering both one-on-one counseling as well as virtual (tele-health) counseling sessions. Please contact our office at 414-536-8333 or 800-291-4513.

Adoption Services

Whether you or someone you love is facing an unplanned pregnancy or you are considering growing your family through adoption, the professional counselors at Lutheran Family and Counseling Services of Wisconsin can help. Our staff helps everyone involved explore the social, financial and emotional issues involved in a decision to keep and raise a child or giving a child up for adoption. All of the children served in our adoption program are placed in strong Christian families and we ensure we provide the best outcome for all involved – the birth parents, the adoptive families and most importantly, the child. Learn more at www.lcfswi.org, or contact us at 414-536-8333. *God in His wisdom brings Christian families together in different ways.*

Thank you

Dear Pastor Mark Krueger,

Thank you for the gracious reception you extended to me and Phyllis on behalf of the Gideons for the service on this past Sunday

Thank you to the congregation for the generous contribution.

This enables us to purchase hotel Bibles or small New Testaments for distribution to students in schools and colleges, to prison inmates, military, medical, fire and police personnel. These will be distributed in the traffic lanes of life, and we pray that many will be helped and come to know Christ through these scriptures.

It was a pleasure to see you again. I appreciated your sermon on forgiveness very much. What a great God we have who, though omniscient, is willing to forgive and forget our sins and "remember our sins no more" (Hebrews 8:12). Would that we could be so gracious to those who wrong us.

Thank you for your fervent service for the Lord and your perseverance at this time of pandemic. If you have any prayer requests please let me know.

If you would like a Gideon presentation at your interim church in Hilbert, I would be happy to come and address them.

We are looking for new members. In your congregation, if you have any dedicated Christian business or professional laymen and, if married, their wives who might be suitable for this ministry, please call me to discuss their possible invitation for membership in the Gideons.

Sincerely in Christ,

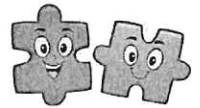



PUZZLE EXCHANGE



The puzzles have all been placed on shelves in the first room on the left-hand or east side past the hallway to the Fellowship hall.

Feel free to take one or two home to work on. If you have any puzzles you'd like to donate, please make sure all the pieces are in the box and just place them in that room.



Prayer Chain

A prayer request may be made to any member of the prayer chain. If you are requesting a prayer for someone, let the person know so that they are aware and respect their wishes if they do not want the request given to the prayer chain.

Judy Baer	756-2696
Florence Behnke	(920) 418-4315
Renee Bonick	(920) 296-9164
Sue Detert	756-3439
Lori Fels	(920) 639-3792
Rhonda Geiger	(920) 371-7375
Ralph & Sandy Haberland	(920) 524-2016
Kris Krueger	756-3912
Faith Sonnabend	756-2779
Diane Zickert	(920) 841-8951
Joan Zutz	756-2501

AUGUST SCRIP TOTALS

CARD NAME	TOTAL	PROFIT
Amazon	50	1.25
BP	600	9.00
Cabelas	25	2.75
Cobblestone	75	3.75
Culvers	10	0.50
Dairy Queen	45	9.00
Econo	1125	33.75
Exxon	150	7.50
Festival	100	3.00
Fleet Farm	125	6.25
Kwik Trip	200	8.00
McDonalds	20	0.80
Menards	325	9.75
Piggly Wiggly	175	5.25
Red Robin	50	4.00
Roundy's	200	8.00
Subway	10	1.00
WalMart	300	7.50
TOTALS	3585.00	121.05

*There was an addition in scrip profit of \$29.38 in refunds for in store purchases at Kwik Trip.



PRAYER CHAIN
MINISTRY

"This is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us" (1 John 5:14)

October BIRTHDAYS

2nd Adelyn Geiger	15th Debi Polkinghorne
4th Joel Koerth	15th Sebastian Gifford
6th Lon Fels	15th Seth Riemer
6th Brenda Geiger	17th Denise Emmer
8th Michael Fels	19th Craig Scharbarth
9th Randy Prigge	22nd Brandan Bowe
11th Alandra Grenzer	24th Linda Giese
11th Betty Zarnoth	24th Abby Krahn
12th Deacon Bonick	27th Creighton Moline
12th Beth Gilbertson	28th Nathan Levash
12th Grant Propson	28th Vanessa Reinke
14th Jennifer Bowe	29th Kim Rahn
14th Mary Eickert	

ANNIVERSARIES

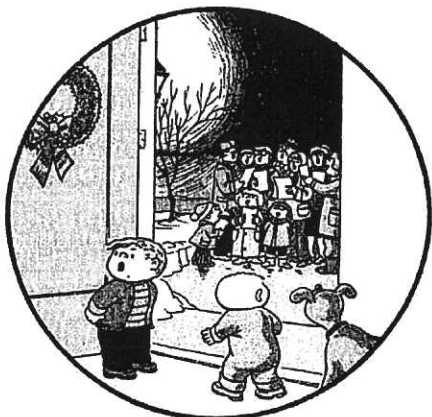
3 rd	Hank & Lori Horn
3 rd	Todd and Renee Maeder
9 th	Gary & Joan Lemke
10 th	Mitch & Morgan Krahn
19 th	Gary & Dori Reidy
19 th	Tom & Sandi Zahringer
20 th	Steve & Norma Latvala
25 th	Hank & Kit Horn
26 th	Dwane & Paula Kalies



Please forgive us and politely notify us if an anniversary or birthday is missing from the list. Thank you.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil and Jeff Keane



"Mommy! It's some trick-or-treaters – and they're SINGIN'!"

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*
©Bil & Jeff Keane
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CHURCH POSITIONS OPEN

The following positions will be open to serve on the Church council as well as several of the boards beginning January 2021.

Vice President
Elder (at least 1)
Trustee (at least 1)
Stewardship/Evangelism (2)



The Nominating Committee will be seeking capable and dedicated members to fill these positions of service. Please prayerfully consider where you might serve.

Ladies Aide

MEETING
NOTICE

Ladies Aid will be meeting in October. The meeting will be on Thursday October 8 at 12:30 p.m.

Getting Even

"The only people with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you!"

Flattering but Feeble . . .

Man to wife: "How do you expect me to remember your birthday—you keep looking younger every day!"

A woman accompanied her ailing husband to the doctor's office. After the doctor examined the husband and took some tests, the doctor took the woman aside into his office and said, "I'm sorry but I'm going to have to hospitalize your husband unless you cook him three nutritious meals a day, don't burden him with household chores, make him laugh, and let him have the TV remote control every night." When they got home, the husband asked his wife what the doctor had told her.

"He said you're going to have to go into the hospital," she replied.

- via Phil Callaway
Three Hills, Alberta Canada