

# CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

## CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

12622 US HWY 16A  
PHONE: 605-673-4691  
EMAIL: [clf@gwtc.net](mailto:clf@gwtc.net)

CUSTER, SD 57730  
FAX: 605-673-4881  
[www.custerlutheran.com](http://www.custerlutheran.com)

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Check it Out!



If you want to know the stories behind these photos... go to the church weblog and check them out!!

## And they're off....



Last Sunday morning eight high schoolers and four adults from the congregation headed to Denver to spend a week working with the Discovering Opportunities for Outreach and Reflection (DOOR). At night we will sleep on the floor of the First Mennonite Church and spend the days working at a variety of service organizations in downtown Denver. We will post our daily activities on the church weblog at [www.custerlutheran.wordpress.com](http://www.custerlutheran.wordpress.com). Please check out what we did during the week! Pictured above from left to right are: Terri Herman, Cody Martinz, Jean Witt, Greg Witt, Cody Herman, Tori Dahlstrom, Kenneth Myers, Brennan Witt, Chase Glazier, Rachel Petik, Pastor Tom and Duane Martinz. For more information on DOOR, you can visit their website at [doornetwork.org](http://doornetwork.org).



**Monday Bible Study...and the Saturday Morning Men's Breakfast/Bible Study.....** are taking a break for the summer and will resume again in September. Look for more details in the September newsletter!



### CALLING ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THURSDAY 9:30 AM CHRISTIAN BOOK STUDY:

Very soon it will be September 8<sup>th</sup>, time for our first "gathering"! What book will we be exploring? How can any book compare with "The Art of Forgiving" by Smedes, our last study? The things we learned—the discussions we had? (See a glimpse into your Evaluations of the book, below) Well, it hasn't been easy! Many books were Reviewed. Finally, I sat down with Pastor Tom and shared with him the dilemma I was experiencing! Time was drawing close! Books needed to be ordered! What kind of book should it be? Our conversation led me to know I wanted a book that would help us grow spiritually, not one that just gave us more facts. I came away from the Pastor's office with three books, any of which would be appropriate. That evening and in the following days, as I had time, I explored each book. I prayed about it and I knew eventually which one it would be—"An Altar in the World" A Geography of Faith by Barbara Brown Taylor. I was so confident this was the book for the Thursday 9:30 AM Study that the Church Office has ordered the books.

Barbara Brown Taylor is a priest in the Episcopal Church where she spent fifteen years in the parish ministry. She was named one of the twelve most effective preachers in the English speaking world by Baylor University in 1996. She is presently serving as a Professor of Religion and Spirituality. She has traveled the world in pursuit of sacred wisdom, finding most of what she needed in her own backyard. She lives on a working farm in rural Georgia with her husband, Ed.

And, now just a brief glimpse into what the book is about—her struggles to leave full-time ministry and become a professor stretched the boundaries of her faith. In this book "An Altar in the World" A Geography of Faith she shares how she learned to encounter God beyond the walls of the church. A question asked is, how does one discover the sacred in the small things we say and do—the things of our everyday lives?

Watch the "September Crossroads Newsletter" for further information on "An Altar in the World" A Geography of Faith and how you can secure your book. For more information contact Shirley Overland 673-4671.

#### \*\*\*EVALUATION\*\*\*EVALUATION\*\*\*

The Thursday 9:30 AM Christian Book Study completed a very successful study "The Art of Forgiving" by Smedes before taking a summer recess. At the last meeting each participant completed an Evaluation. Following are some of their quotes as to the success of the Study:

- "I was thinking in terms of God's forgiveness of our sins in general, and found myself more involved in forgiving."
- "The openness of everyone involved was a comfort to me knowing we are not alone in our deepest hurts."
- "The Study brought some closure to me and a better understanding of what forgiveness really means."
- "Before the Study began, I wanted to know if after I forgave someone, was it still wrong to remember the wrong. This was cleared up for me."
- "The Study helped me to be more helpful and understanding of other's dealings with the problem of forgiveness."
- "What did I expect of this Study? I could never have anticipated what would happen—God made it happen!"

And in closing if you or anyone you know might be interested in a repeat of "The Art of Forgiving" phone me at 673-4671. ~ Shirley Overland

**CLF Gets “Vibrant Faith”**

**FIVE PRINCIPLES for living & passing on faith:**

1. Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships, often in our own homes.
2. The church is a living partnership between the ministry of the congregation and the ministry of the home.
3. Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too.
4. Faith is caught more than it is taught.
5. If we want Christian children and youth, we need Christian adults.



**FOUR KEYS for daily living:**

1. Caring Conversation
2. Devotions
3. Service
4. Rituals & Traditions

**Vibrant Faith Events in Rapid City (8/24) & Hermosa (8/25)**

Wondering how you might pass on a vibrant faith to children, grand-children, co-workers or friends? Two “Vibrant Faith” events (led by dynamic speakers from *Vibrant Faith Ministries*) will take place as follows:

- ❖ **Atonement Lutheran Church** (602 Auburn Drive; Rapid City) on Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30 PM – **presentation highlights include: *How mentors and teachers can model a vibrant faith and teach faith practices to children as well as ten ideas for equipping parents and grandparents to practice faith with their loved ones; how to introduce caring conversations into all facets of life; ways to Four Key worship, meetings, Sunday School, small groups & Confirmation; and ways to make cross+generational events a form of community outreach.***
- ❖ **Our Savior’s Lutheran Church** (386 East Main Street; Hermosa) on Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30 PM – **presentation highlights include: *Ten tips for creating a culture that nurtures vibrant faith formation; how to make evangelism a way of life (and have fun doing it!) as well as how to help households view faith formation as a life-long process; ways to go deeper with milestones ministry; and why a common language for faith formation is essential.***

These events are free and available to all! If you’re interested in more information or if you’d like to car-pool to one or both of the events, please speak with one of the pastors.

**“Jumping feet-first into a great Sunday School Year!”**

Anyone interested in helping with Sunday School (in any way shape or form), please join us for the planning meeting on August 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM! The meal is provided. We are hoping to include young/old, men/women, boys/girls, teacher/ non-teacher – all in our Sunday School program this year. If you feel the ‘calling’, please join us for a ‘jumpin’ good picnic and a fun planning meeting!



Sunday School Planning

**Opportunity to ‘Grow in Faith’...**

Are you interested in taking an online course to help deepen your faith and understanding on topics such as the New Testament, the Augsburg Confession & Small Catechism, Money Leadership or the American Religious Experience? These topics and others are taught by seminary professors online for about 6-10 weeks starting the second week of September or the first week of February 2012. If you’d like to learn more, you can either check out the website [www.selectlearning.org](http://www.selectlearning.org) or speak with Pastor Kent.



## Physics, Parables and Baseball...

*“Jesus told them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.’”*

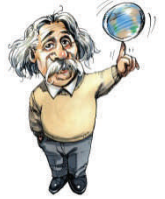
--- Matthew 13:33 ---



The following is adapted from a sermon on July 24, 2011...

Parables and the kingdom of heaven are like physics and baseball. Just when you think you've got them figured out, just when you write the law in a nice little equation (remember  $f = ma$  from high school physics?)... someone comes along and shatters your world of understanding with something like a theory of relativity where you're told that  $e=mc^2$  and you're told that if you look closely during batting practice, a bat actually experiences time differently than the baseball that's sent hurling towards it. It's small to us, but scientists tell us that there *really is* a fundamental difference in the way time ticks for each.

If that doesn't make sense to you, that's OK. Even those we call "geniuses" don't always get it. The author of the theory of relativity, Albert Einstein, spent years working on what became his theory of general relativity, but as he was applying this theory to the universe, making observations and running numbers, something wasn't adding up. As Einstein used the equations he developed, when he made observations, the results seemed to suggest that the universe was actually expanding. Literally every atom was (if you look closely) moving apart from every other atom. *Well, that can't be right!* Einstein thought. *Everyone knows the universe is static, not expanding or contracting, but staying still. Things might be moving around inside of it, but if you could somehow look at it as a whole, you'd see that it's just like a baseball – it's not getting bigger or getting smaller.*



But Einstein had stumbled on a parable of physics. Like the parables of Jesus, this parable of physics which Einstein was investigating revealed something about the universe in which we live which was *counter-intuitive*. And even though the math suggested one thing, everything he knew was shattered by this suggestion. So in 1917, Einstein just modified his equations and included what he called "the cosmological constant" which led Einstein down a wrong path in his research for several years.

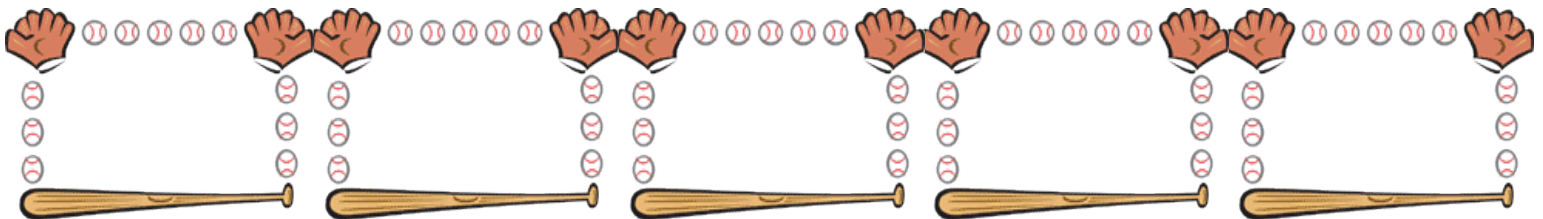
Maybe it's not that different from the Christian church's insistence for many years that the earth was at the center of the universe until Galileo came along. There's much more to that story too, of course. But it didn't just happen overnight that we came to believe collectively, the counter-intuitive notion that the earth actually revolves around the sun and not the other way around.

*The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and hid in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.* The parable is as simple and elegant as  $e=mc^2$  or the rules of baseball, but like baseball and physics (some might suggest) invites us deeper into the mystery of the universe. I don't mean to make the claim that Jesus was really a physicist nineteen hundred years ahead of his time, but I also wouldn't put it past the "Son of God" with a sense of humor as keen as it is. I only mean to invite you into the mystery of the parable and ask together with you, "What if?" What if the universe is unfolding, expanding like a huge amount of dough on a counter, with God's very presence hidden mysteriously in every atom of every molecule.

What if the things we aspire to as followers of Christ (belief and faith and trust) are best exemplified in a child who waits patiently next to a divine Baker-woman God trusting the dough to rise. There's nothing for us to do except to be patient that things are unfolding as they should, and then to be present for the meal and enjoy it! Or, if that doesn't do it for you, maybe we're just called to wait patiently for the perfect pitch so that our hands might connect in service to the bat and the bat in service to the ball in a perfect synergy, which allows us the journey around the field of life and finally arrive where we started... at home!



~ Pastor Kent



**PowWow on August 27<sup>th</sup>...**

All are invited to a PowWow on August 27<sup>th</sup> (1 PM) at Woyatan Lutheran Church (522 Anamosa, Rapid City). Woyatan is a multicultural ministry which serves with Native American people in Rapid City and the surrounding area. Please mark your calendar and watch bulletins for more information! **Also, if you can't make it on August 27<sup>th</sup>, but you'd like to go to Woyatan for worship... Pastor Kent will be going to Woyatan on Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> to help out with the 5:30pm worship service and meal. Please talk with Pastor Kent if you're interested in going with him.**

**LAST BBQ OF THE SUMMER...**

The last community BBQ of the summer will be held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. CLF member, Mark Thompson, has repeatedly reminded one of the CLF pastors that Outlaw Ranch has really "good food" on Wednesday evenings during the summer, so in order to give the squeaky wheel a little grease, one of the pastors moved our final BBQ to a Tuesday so that Mark could enjoy both meals that week. Please note the change to Tuesday. We will once again have a short worship service in the outdoor worship area and good BBQ. Please bring a dish to pass.

**— I Was in Prison and You Visited Me —**

We at Custer Lutheran Fellowship have a chance to worship and visit at the St Dysmas Congregation behind the walls of the State Penitentiary. The date is **September 1<sup>st</sup>**. This is a Thursday evening.

If you have gone before, you know what a wonderful experience it is. If not, you are in for a fantastic experience.

See Glenn or Marlene Sellevold or the church office for the paperwork. The completed paperwork **MUST** be returned to the church by Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. The St Dysmas people need to have the paperwork in their hands 2 weeks plus 2 days prior to the scheduled visit which is Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. In order to ensure they have it by that date, it needs to be mailed by August 12<sup>th</sup>. This is a must!!! If you have any questions, please contact the Sellevold's at 673-5467.

**Worship & Music Meeting...**

The Worship and Music ministry team will meet on **Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Room. If you're interested in being a part of this meeting as we do some fall planning or if you'd like to be a part of the Worship and Music Team, please come to the meeting or visit with Margaret Tretheway or one of the pastors.

**MEAL & PRESENTATION ABOUT COLOMBIA & INDIGENOUS GROUPS ON AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup>...**

On **Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>**, after the second service, Christine Nervig will give a presentation on her recent month-long stay in Colombia. She lived with a family of our sibling congregation (San Pablo Lutheran) and worked with Pastor Jairo Suarez. She will talk about her stay in Bogota, as well as a conference she attended with various indigenous groups fighting for religious freedom. There will be a Colombian style meal as a fundraiser for two families Christine met that are in dire need of help. Everyone is welcome to attend!

**Prayer Event for 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of September 11, 2001**

The week following September 11, 2001, Custer Lutheran Fellowship offered a place for prayer for our members and others in the community to come and pray for our country and the victims and those involved in rescue efforts...and for the world. Seeking God and his comfort and guidance was meaningful and hopeful then....and we believe it could be now.

We are planning to host a prayer time again this fall in reflection about that time in our history and those affected and involved....and in contemplation of the events that have followed these past 10 years in our country and the world.

We would welcome anyone to join us in the planning of this activity that we hope will be meaningful to everyone, whether you participate in prayer at home or in the church. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or please call or email either one of us.

Cozy Dorton 673-4974 [didirector@goldenwest.net](mailto:didirector@goldenwest.net) or Gail Knudson 673-2770 [eknudson@gwtc.net](mailto:eknudson@gwtc.net)





## 2011 Baby Bottle Boomerang Wrap-Up Report

**Thank you....Thank You....THANK YOU!**

This year's Baby Bottle Boomerang was a huge success. I am so grateful to the Custer-Fall River County Board for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for being excited about this

project and asking if they could be a part of it and host it in their churches as well.

Look what a combined effort can do:

Bethesda Lutheran Church, Hot Springs	\$729.86
Custer Lutheran Fellowship, Custer	\$930.69
Our Redeemer Lutheran, Custer	\$603.38
Our Savior's Lutheran, Hermosa	\$950.95
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran, Custer	\$242.00
St. John's Lutheran, Hot Springs	\$400.65

The total amount given to Care Net Pregnancy Resource Center was a whopping \$4,557.53 because Thrivent supplied \$500 in supplemental funding AND the Custer-Fall River County Board decided to donate the \$200 check that they received for being a Chapter of Excellence to Care Net as well. WOW!

What is the most exciting thing about this is that this money will be SAVING LIVES! It gives me goose bumps to even think about it! This comes at such a critical time for Care Net because this is when they are experiencing a summer slump in charitable giving. Again, thank you for your generosity and concern for those in crisis pregnancies. May God bless you richly for your sacrificial giving.

~ Beth Spitzer, Baby Bottle Boomerang Coordinator



### Summer Sack Lunches and Backpack Food Program

The Storehouse is continuing one food program for children and initiating another this year. On May 31<sup>st</sup> the Storehouse began implementing the Summer Sack Lunch Program for its third year. For twelve weeks, nutritious, free, sack lunches are made available to elementary school and middle school children. Twelve teams of volunteers sign up for a week where they gather and assemble the supplies to make the lunches. The lunches are available by 11 AM each morning Monday thru Friday at the YMCA. Children are asked to check in with YMCA staff then are free to grab a lunch and drink. There is no sign-in required. The food supplies are provided by donations from the community.

Also, in the planning, is a Backpack Food Program to be implemented this fall for the 2011-2012 school years. The program this year will begin with providing three days of snacks on the last Thursday of each month. These food bags will be distributed to elementary school children on the free/reduced lunch program. The plan is to begin the first year with one weekend a month then double it each year until the program provides food sacks each Thursday of the school year. This program will function with the same plan as the summer sack lunch program with teams volunteering for one month. An application for a grant to provide for the food items has been made. But, again, this program will depend on donations from the community.

Donations to the Storehouse to provide for Summer Sack Lunch items and/or Backpack Food Program items are greatly appreciated. Donations can be sent to The Storehouse, PO Box 652 or dropped off at the Storehouse during open hours: Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10am to 1pm. Call the Storehouse at 673-3565 or Kim Canete 673-3753 for questions or anyone wanting to form a volunteer team.

### **CLF Memorial Fund**

*Please remember Custer Lutheran Fellowship  
when deciding where to donate memorial funds.*

#### **Memorial Fund Needs List:**

- \* Bibles (NRSV)
- \* Outdoor Landscaping — received \$2,240 — plans presented at Annual Meeting — are now on kiosk in Narthex
- \* Pew Chairs for Sanctuary
- \* Elevator
- \* Discretionary Fund to help local people in need
- \* Tinting/covering, etc for sanctuary windows — received \$30

#### **Recent Memorials:**

- \* Received to the glory of God and in memory of Betty Shaw, Dianne Wegner's sister from John & Sharon Kayser
- \* Received to the glory of God and in memory of Don Stofferahn from Frank & Doris Bryant, Dorothy Delicate and Karen Schleining

**W/ELCA HAPPENINGS:****NEXT MEETING:****WHEN:** Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> — 5:30 PM Supper meeting at Outlaw Ranch**HOSTESSES:****PROGRAM:** Beth Massa — Lutheran Social Services

A sign-up sheet will be on the Welcome Table by Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>—we will need a head count by Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to all who donated food and money for the sack lunches!!

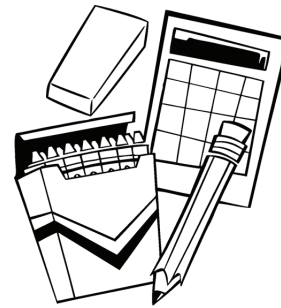
W/ELCA at CLF is an active group of women who get together once a month for a meal, fellowship and programs of interest in the church and community. We invite all women to join us (you don't have to be old!).

**July/August Mission Project:****School Kits for Lutheran World Relief, Pine Ridge & Custer Children**

We will gladly accept any and all donations to make up these kits. You can bring in one item or a complete kit. A box will be in the Narthex to collect donations. We will hold a work session the beginning of August to compile the kits.

**Shopping List:**

- ★ 4 spiral notebooks (70-sheet, either wide or college-ruled)
- ★ 5 ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- ★ 5 unsharpened #2 pencils
- ★ 30 cm (12 inch) ruler
- ★ 1 pencil sharpener
- ★ Box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ★ 2 1/2 inch eraser
- ★ 1 blunt scissors



We hope we will continue to be blessed with the generosity of the congregation to be able to make up these kits for the children.



**THE STURGIS GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN INVITE YOU TO  
"NO SCAREDY CATS ALLOWED"  
BEAR BUTTE CONFERENCE WELCA FALL RETREAT at OUTLAW RANCH**

**Friday and Saturday, September 9-10, 2011**

**Registration 4:00-6:00 PM      Dinner at 6:00 PM on Friday evening**

**Registration for all Attendees—\$5 (by September 7, nonrefund-**

**able)**



**Our Family Labels for Learning®** is a program designed to help schools, churches or other nonprofit organizations receive additional funding. UPC barcodes are redeemed at a rate of five cents per bar code. We are going to start collecting the UPC barcodes from Our Family® products. The money raised from this program will be used to update our playground equipment. How does this work? Simply save the UPC barcode from any of the more than 2,000 Our Family® items. Each bundle of 500 UPC barcodes sent in will earn us a \$25 check. So start saving and place your UPC barcodes in the marked container in the Narthex!



**OFFICE HOURS.....**

The church office is open Monday—Friday from 8:30 AM—3 PM. The office hours for individuals are as follows:

Pastor Tom: Monday—Thursday 9 AM—12 Noon  
 Pastor Kent: Tuesday—Thursday 9 AM—12 Noon  
 Donna: in office Monday, Wednesday—Friday

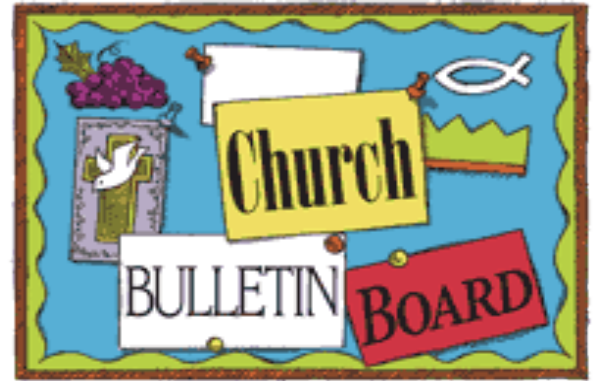
**THANK YOU TO LISA PICKFORD...**

Please join us for cake and coffee **on Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>** between worship services to thank Lisa for her more than six years of work at Custer Lutheran Fellowship as the Office Assistant. Lisa has resigned and will be greatly missed.



**Church E-Mail Addresses**

If you would to e-mail someone in the church office, our e-mail addresses are:  
 Pastor Tom — tom\_clf@gwtc.net  
 Pastor Kent — kent\_clf@gwtc.net  
 Donna — clf@gwtc.net



RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:  
**TURN IN YOUR ARTICLES EARLY!**  
 REMINDER:  
**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IS**  
**AUGUST 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**In The Mailbag**



**May 29<sup>th</sup>...was the start of our summer worship schedule...**

- † Sunday services are at 8:30 & 10:00 AM
- † No Sunday School or Adult Class
- † Coffee & Fellowship between services
- † Texas-style barbecues/potlucks & worship services on August 16

Please join us as we celebrate!  
 Our 40<sup>TH</sup> Wedding Anniversary

You all have been a very important piece of our life together! We would like to share our joy and also thank you for your support and friendship!

Please join us for an open house on Sunday, August 14, 2011 2:00 PM

Custer Lutheran Fellowship

Eldon and Gail Knudson  
 No gifts please ☺

*Please help us celebrate Pat Hattervig's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday!*

*Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> 1:30—4:00 PM*

*1204 Pine Street*

*No gifts please*



**CLF Photo Directory is now finished!!**

Copies are now available!!! You may pick one up between services or during the week in the church office. **In order to cover the cost of printing in color, there is a suggested donation of \$5-10.**

**Thursday Men's Breakfast 6:30 AM — "Our Place"**

Come join us for breakfast. There's always good conversation and good food! Open to newcomers!



2 Offering Counters needed for the month of August!! If you are interested or need more information, contact Donna in the church office.

Open House on September 4<sup>th</sup> from 2—4 PM at Custer Lutheran Fellowship to celebrate Ken Hanson's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. No gifts please... your presence is the gift!

**Council Meeting Highlights—June 28, 2011**

*Treasurer's Report* — Lonnie reported that the budget is looking good.

*Unfinished Business:*

- ✦ Thrivent Choice – June Amount – \$190/Total – \$1,636
- ✦ 2010 Audit Committee – Will audit 2010 books on June 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM
- ✦ Narthex Makeover – the wiring bid for the audio/video connection to the sanctuary was discussed. Lonnie made a motion that we table the bid to get some additional information. It will be discussed at the July meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.
- ✦ Custer Highlands Lot – The paperwork for selling Custer Highlands Lot was discussed.
- ✦ Youth House Property – President Studt discussed the sale of the Youth House. Studt suggested that the council appoint a task force to research and work on this issue. Members discussed who would be good candidates to serve on this four person task force. A motion was made to form a four person task force to work on the sale of the youth house property; it was seconded and carried. Pastor Kent will contact the suggested members.
- ✦ New Member Directory – Lonnie Hosman talked with members about the new member directory and about showing appreciation to those who made this project possible. Studt made a motion that we give Paul Horsted, Denny McConnell, Mickey Schlecht and Donna McConnell each a gift certificate. Lonnie will work on getting cards. Council again expressed their gratitude to these individuals for their work on this project.

*Committee & Ministry Team Concerns:*

- ✦ Auditing – the auditing committee was meeting tonight. Pastor Tom will let council know which members will be able to serve again at our July meeting.
- ✦ Christian Ed Board – Sue Studt informed members about VBS and planning for next year's Sunday School. Sue complimented Joey Kortemeyer on the great job she did in leading VBS.
- ✦ Health Ministry – Gary Williams reported that the health survey was completed and the bike/hike series has started.
- ✦ Men's Group – Gary Williams reported that the group doesn't meet in the summer but will resume in the fall.
- ✦ Pastoral Support – Kent reported that there were no concerns.
- ✦ Social Ministry – Plans are underway for the fall mission festival.
- ✦ Welcome & Outreach – Lonnie Hosman reported that most of the Narthex makeover is done.
- ✦ Worship & Music – Pr. Kent informed members about summer musical guests. He reports that it is good to welcome back the staff from Outlaw and AMR at the late service.

**Council Meeting Highlights—July 20, 2011**

*Treasurer's Report* – Lonnie reported that the offerings are a little down but so are our expenses.

*Unfinished Business:*

- ▶ Thrivent Choice – July Amount – \$73/Total – \$1,709
- ▶ 2010 Audit Report – Lonnie reviewed the audit report done by Jan Thom and Alan Canete. The report stated that the records appear to be in good order. Lonnie complimented Donna's fine work.
- ▶ Narthex makeover – Blaine commented how well the high tables and desk work in the narthex. Lonnie informed members that currently \$2,342.00 has been spent on the make-over and we approved \$4,000. Members discussed the possibility of accepting the wiring bid from Audio-Video Solutions to complete the audio visual portion of the make-over. Lonnie made a motion that we accept the bid and if the amount goes over the \$4000 budgeted that we use the undesignated memorial fund to pay the balance. The motion was seconded and carried.
- ▶ Paperwork for selling Custer Highlands Lot – an addendum to clarify the listing agreement was completed.
- ▶ Sale of Youth House Update – Pastor Kent reported from President Studt that an appraisal will be done on the property tomorrow. The city will pay for half of this appraisal. In order to coordinate the details of this project a committee has been formed. Members are Blaine Kortemeyer, Denny McConnell and Bob Kopp. Blaine will try to meet with this committee during the next few weeks.
- ▶ Vibrant Faith Follow-up Training Event – Pastor Kent reported that the final training events have been planned on August 24<sup>th</sup> and August 25<sup>th</sup>. Members can go to one or both of the events. The topic will be "Bringing Faith Home."

(Continued on page 10)

## Supersized Bike and Hike Events...

Two big Bike and Hike events are coming in August and September. For those men who would like to climb a pretty big mountain, CLF will be hosting a three day backpacking trip to climb Cloud Peak in the Bighorns on **August 18<sup>th</sup>—20<sup>th</sup>**.

On **Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>** we will be doing our BIG one day Mickelson Trail ride. This year participants will be given the opportunity to ride only half the trail instead of the entire 100 plus miles. Talk to Pastor Tom or Gary Williams if you would like to be part of either of this "supersized" events.

By popular demand we are also bringing back our hike to Beecher Rock just south of Custer. It was one of the most popular hikes last season. We will meet at the Custer County Library at 1:00 PM on **Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>** for this hike.

Other biking events in August are...

On **Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>**, we will ride from Dumont to Mystic, a 20 mile ride. Riders may also continue to Custer to make the ride 50 miles. Meet at the Custer County Library parking lot at 8:00 AM.

On **Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>** we will ride from Minnekata to Edgemont for a 16 mile ride. Meet at the Custer County Library parking lot at 8:00 AM.



**A Prayer Board** is being compiled for all Military and First Responder men and women and their families.

Please send a photo of your family member (preferably in uniform) with their family, information on title and/or position, and present place stationed or on patrol.

Please send all of the above to CLF, Kim Canete at [kimberlycanete7@gmail.com](mailto:kimberlycanete7@gmail.com), or to Linda Fennell at [lindafennell@hotmail.com](mailto:lindafennell@hotmail.com).

All the photos and info will be placed on a board in the Narthex as a reminder to pray for these families.

When the rest of us run away, they rush in---they need our prayers.



## Council Meeting Highlights—July 20, 2011 cont'd...

### *New Business:*

- ▶ Membership changes: Transfer – Roger & Wanda Moser to Norway Lutheran Church, Glenham, SD.
- ▶ Riding lawnmower – Pastor Tom reported that we will probably need to consider purchasing a new mower for next summer.
- ▶ Fall Mission Festival Speakers – Pastor Tom asked the council how they felt about paying to have a few speakers come to speak to the congregation and attend the Fall Mission Festival. Members talked about how these speakers might be of interest to other service groups and churches in our area.
- ▶ Office Assistant Position – members discussed Lisa Pickford's resignation and the office assistant position. Blaine assigned Donna McConnell, Pastor Tom and one council member to interview and hire someone for this part time position. Members also discussed how we can cover this position's duties until a new person is hired.

### *Committee & Ministry Team Concerns:*

- ▶ Youth – the RAP group is all set and excited for their summer trip.
- ▶ Christian Ed Board – Linda Fennell has set Tuesday August 9<sup>th</sup> as the date for the planning meeting for Sunday School.
- ▶ Pastoral Support – the pastors reported that there were no concerns.
- ▶ Worship & Music – the barbecue and fellowship went well tonight. The last barbecue will be August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Members gave their best wishes to our youth council representative Byron Dahlstrom as he moves to Alaska for college and a career in fire fighting. Byron was thanked for his service to the council.

## ELW Devotions from the Daily Lectionary

### Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Monday, August 1: Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29, Deuteronomy 8:1-10, Romans 1:8-15

Tuesday, August 2: Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29, Deuteronomy 26:1-15, Acts 2:37-47

Wednesday, August 3: Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29, Exodus 16:2-15, 31-35, Matthew 15:32-39

### Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Thursday, August 4: Psalm 85:8—13, 1 Kings 18:1-16, Acts 17:10-15

Friday, August 5: Psalm 85:8-13, 1 Kings 18:17-19, 30-40, Acts 18:24-28

Saturday, August 6: Psalm 85:8-13, 1 Kings 18:41-46, Matthew 16:1-4

Sunday, August 7: 1 Kings 19:9-18, Psalm 85:8-13, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33

Monday, August 8: Psalm 18:1-19, Genesis 7:11—8:5, 2 Peter 2:4-10

Tuesday, August 9: Psalm 18:1-19, Genesis 19:1-19, Romans 9:14-29

Wednesday, August 10: Psalm 18:1-19, Job 36:24-33; 37:14-24, Matthew 8:23-27

### Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Thursday, August 11: Psalm 67, Isaiah 45:20-25, Revelation 15:1-4

Friday, August 12: Psalm 67, Isaiah 63:15-19, Acts 14:19-28

Saturday, August 13: Psalm 67, Isaiah 56:1-5, Matthew 14:34-36

Sunday, August 14: Isaiah 56:1,6-8, Psalm 67, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15:[10-20]21-28

Monday, August 15: Psalm 87, 2 Kings 5:1-14, Acts 15:1-21

Tuesday, August 16: Psalm 87, Isaiah 43:8-13, Romans 11:13-29

Wednesday, August 17: Psalm 87, Isaiah 66:18-23, Matthew 8:1-13

### Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Thursday, August 18: Psalm 138, Ezekiel 28:11-19, 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

Friday, August 19: Psalm 138, Ezekiel 31:15-18, 2 Corinthians 10:12-18

Saturday, August 20: Psalm 138, Ezekiel 36:33-38, Matthew 16:5-12

Sunday, August 21: Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

Monday, August 22: Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32, 1 Samuel 7:3-13, Romans 2:1-11

Tuesday, August 23: Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32, Deuteronomy 32:18-20, 28-39, Romans 11:33-36

Wednesday, August 24: Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32, Isaiah 28:14—22, Matthew 26:6-13

### Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Thursday, August 25: Psalm 26:1-8, Jeremiah 14:13-18, Ephesians 5:1-6

Friday, August 26: Psalm 26:1-8, Jeremiah 15:1-9, 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12

Saturday, August 27: Psalm 26:1-8, Jeremiah 15:10-14, Matthew 8:14-17

Sunday, August 28: Jeremiah 15:15-21, Psalm 26:1-8, Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28

Monday, August 29: Psalm 17:, 2 Samuel 11:2-26, Revelation 3:1-6

Tuesday, August 30: Psalm 17:, 2 Samuel 11:27b—12:15, Revelation 3:7-13

Wednesday, August 31: Psalm 17:, Jeremiah 17:5-18, Matthew 12:22-32

### Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Thursday, September 1: Psalm 119:33-40, Ezekiel 24:1-14, 2 Corinthians 12:11-21

Friday, September 2: Psalm 119:33-40, Ezekiel 224:15-27, Romans 10:15b-21

Saturday, September 3: Psalm 119:33-40, Ezekiel 33:1-6, Matthew 23:29-36

Sunday, September 4: Ezekiel 33:7-11, Psalm 119:33-40, Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20



### Ready to Rebuild, After the Flood...

Pastor Kent is considering the possibility of taking a work group to help with clean-up and or rebuilding of homes affected by the flood in Minot, North Dakota earlier this summer. About one third of homes were flooded and thousands of people have been left with their homes unusable. The dates are still 'up in the air,' but one possibility is the week of September 4<sup>th</sup> and following. If you're interested, please speak with Pastor Kent for more information.

### COMING IN THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER... INFORMATION ON....

- WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIFE
- CONFIRMATION
- SUNDAY SCHOOL
- AND OTHER FALL PROGRAMMING!!





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## Custer Lutheran Fellowship

**Our Mission ...** is to plant the word of God, nurture growth in children and adults, and scatter the seeds of joy and faith in a diverse community.

**We envision Custer Lutheran Fellowship** to be like the Black Hills themselves, an inviting community in which God's Spirit blows through people – like wind through the pine – life that is forever new! God's spirit inspires us to be:

A **worshipping** community, hearing the life-giving Word of God receiving Christ's very presence in the Sacraments, and raising our voices in joyful songs of praise and prayer;

A **growing** community, with building and grounds spacious enough for all;

An **intergenerational** community, nurturing children and youth, young adults, people in mid-life, and older people as one family of God;

A **learning** community, in which people of all ages take advantage of multiple opportunities to deepen their understanding of the grace and justice of God;

A **giving** community, generously offering our time, talent and treasure to support each other and share in Christ's ministry;

A **servicing** community, reaching beyond ourselves to stand with the poor, the sick, the hungry and the oppressed;

A **witnessing** community, eager to share with everyone the joy we have received from Christ.

***We believe in the Cross and our risen Lord and that through Christ we have eternal life***

### **Our Bedrock Beliefs are...**

We grow in faith through worship and sacraments

The Word of God is our hope, Support comes from within our family of believers who see and serve Jesus in others

Through prayer we evoke God's love and power as the Spirit intercedes for us "with sighs too deep for words to express"

In crisis God is our strength. He is all loving and accepting and He helps us through these times.

We have faith only through God's grace.

### **Our Core Values are:**

*Faith, Family, Fellowship,  
 Mission, Welcome*



**Ministering at  
 Custer Lutheran Fellowship**  
 Senior Pastor: Tom Opoien  
 Associate Pastor: Kent Narum  
 Office Admin: Donna McConnell  
 Office Assistant: Lisa Pickford  
 Parish Nurse: Rosemary Chappell  
 Custodians: Ken & Arbutus Hanson  
 Music: Margaret Tretheway  
 Choir Director: Marlene Sellevold  
 Financial Secretaries: Karen  
 Schleinig & Ann Snow  
 Treasurer: Lonnie Hosman

**Ministers: All Members of CLF!**