

CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

12622 US HWY 16A

CUSTER, SD 57730

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APRIL 2023

Inside This Issue

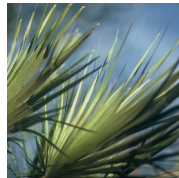
| | |
|---------|---|
| 2 | Happenings at CLF |
| 3 | Pastor's Ponderings |
| 4 | Youth |
| 5 | Worship Ministry |
| 6 | From the Church Office |
| 7 | Miscellaneous |
| 8 | Pictures |
| 9 | Health Ministry |
| 10 | CLF Youth Life Activities |
| 11 | This and That |
| 12 | Holy Week |
| 13 | The Women of CLF |
| 14 | Council Meeting Highlights |
| 15 | Daily Devotions |
| Inserts | - April Calendar - Birthdays & Anniversaries |



PASTOR SHANNON'S INSTALLATION

Please join us on Sunday, April 2nd for the Ordination of Pastor Shannon Witt. It's a very important day in Pastor Shannon's life, as she will be installed as our new pastor here at CLF on Palm Sunday at 9:30 AM. The Associate Bishop, Rev. Renee Splichal Larson will be here to assist with the installation. Please stay and join us for coffee, cake and fellowship following worship.

PALM SUNDAY ACTIVITIES



On Palm Sunday, to those who are able will gather outside to receive Palms, the service will begin outside. If it is too cold, we will gather in the fellowship hall and Narthex.

Weather permitting, we will gather in the parking lot and process in the church building, while singing "All Glory, Laud and Honor" ELW # 334, waving our palms and finding our seats ... lyrics only will be printed in the bulletin.

GOOD FRIDAY CROSS WALK — APRIL 15TH AT 6:30 AM



One of the favorite traditions at CLF is the "Good Friday Cross Walk" around Stockade Lake. We gather at the church at 6:30am to carry the cross together in remembrance of Jesus journey through the streets of Jerusalem. The pace is not fast, and we stop several times to hear scripture and pray together for those who suffer near and far. Back at CLF, we celebrate the beginning of this best and worst of all days with a potluck breakfast. There are sign-up sheets at the Welcome Center for people to read a scripture, carry the cross and pray, as well as bring breakfast items.

Palm Sunday – April 2nd at 9:30 am
Maundy Thursday – April 6th at 6:30 pm
Good Friday – April 7th at 6:30 pm
Easter Crosswalk — April 7th at 6:30 AM
Easter Sunday – April 9th
Easter Sunrise service at 6:30 am
Easter Worship at 9:30 am



EASTER LILIES



If you would like to have a lily given in honor or memory of someone, or to the Glory of God for Easter, please let the office know by April 3rd, so that the name can be listed in the bulletin.

Email clf@gwtc.net or call the church office at 605-673-4691.

EASTER VIGIL AT OUTLAW RANCH



EASTER

You are invited to attend an Easter Vigil at Outlaw Ranch on Saturday, April 8th from Noon until 3pm. The Easter Vigil service is a celebration of Jesus' passage from death to life using deep symbols (new fire, spreading light, waters of baptism, etc.) and profound stories (creation, flood, dry bones, etc.) that proclaim God's salvation and love! We will explore these symbols and stories in creative ways at Outlaw Ranch. If you plan to attend, please register at this link. It is important to register because lunch will be served the organizers want to make sure there is enough food and enough materials for the vigil. <https://www.losd.org/easter-vigil-2023>

SPARK KIDS IN ACTION

During the school year on Wednesdays, children from Kindergarten through Grade 5 are picked up at the Elementary building after school is dismissed and brought to the church. Parent Pickup is 5:00-5:15. We have so much fun using games, crafts, and snacks that go with the Bible story.

Last month we reviewed our Bible stories by drawing them into shaving cream spread across the tables! Bonus-it cleaned the tables too! They did such a great job remembering the lessons and even look for ways to include sharing God's love in their own lives. We had a communion class and many of the kids are looking forward to having the Lord's Supper in a special part of the Maundy Thursday service during Holy week.

There is NO cost for this program! Children need to be registered by their parents/guardians in order to participate. Registration materials are available through the office. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to join the 31 signed up so far! All are welcome! Contact Wendi Rusch 509-494-3236 for more info!



EARTH DAY 2023 IS APRIL 22

Did you know - Americans use over 100 billion plastic bags each year. More than 500 billion are used worldwide. Of that amount, approximately 4 billion plastic bags become litter. The average person uses between 350 to 500 plastic bags each year. The average reusable bag has a lifespan of more than 700 plastic bags.

Earth Day (Saturday, April 22) will be celebrated at CLF on Sunday, April 23 by making available to you our green cloth reusable shopping bags. Take as many as you think you can use - they're free. If you would like to leave a free-will offering, \$1/bag is suggested. Happy 53rd Anniversary, Earth Day!



RAP YOUTH GROUP

Every Wednesday night 6:30-7:30 we have Youth Group for 9th-12th graders. We have had deep conversations and also lots of fun playing games. We had a Group of 15 volunteers to pack food boxes at Feeding SD from 1-4pm. Then we had dinner and watched our CHS choir sing the national anthem at the Rush hockey game. What a fantastic, full day! All are welcome for faith, fun and fellowship!

Graduation Breakfast is coming up on May 20th! Seniors & their families interested in participating can sign up. We also need help setting up and bringing food...egg bakes, muffins, fruit trays, juice, etc. Contact Wendi at 509-494-3236 for more info!



The energy that comes at the beginning of Spring in a climate where Winter often feels long and cold is contagious! The energy that is in the people of CLF is contagious! As we enter into Holy Week and the Easter season, there are so many Spring activities! As you will see from the calendar there is a lot to keep track of with important dates and times for both worship and fellowship.



Many of you have spoken these words, or similar words, to me quite a few times in the last couple of weeks. "Pastor, we are so glad you are here! But are you pacing yourself?" Each time I am asked I have tried to reassure you that indeed, I am, but there are just so many wonderful things happening at CLF! You may have

discovered already that I have been known to suffer from a little FOMO (Fear of Missing Out)! I shared with one of my daughters that some of you have expressed this concern and her response to me was very wise. She reminded me that this is not the first time I have run this race, and that I did have to learn the hard way and one point in my life what "burn out" looks like. She said, "You know this race now, and you have a steady pace." I was grateful for her words of wisdom. I am also grateful for the wisdom of the leadership of this congregation, who also knows that it is important, for your Pastor to have a healthy rhythm of work and rest. It will take some time, but eventually I will figure out a steady schedule.

When I met with the church Council to discuss the terms of my contract, I was pleasantly surprised to see that a lot of consideration has gone into allowing for me to have time to rest and rejuvenate in order to be able to serve this place with energy and creativity! I was encouraged, to make sure to use vacation time and additional Sundays off, from worship leadership and preaching. Many of the retired Pastors, who are members of CLF, have also graciously reminded me that they can be available. What a gift. You know who never takes time off though? You correctly answered God. Psalm 121: 4-6 says, "Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep; the Lord watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night." When we forget this, it is tempting to forget who is the source of our energy and strength.

As we enter this busy time of year, I will encourage you to also find time to rest and take care of yourself. There is much truth and wisdom to the words that we can not care for others if we are not first caring for ourself and staying healthy. There is much truth to finding a steady pace so we have enough energy to finish this race we call life with strength. As we enter into Holy Week, we are invited to keep our focus on the one who conquers this race for us on the Cross. We are invited to receive the new life of Resurrection through the one who is the source of our energy and hope.

In Peace,
Your sister in Christ, Pastor Shannon



PLEASE NOTIFY PASTOR SHANNON WHEN:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ There is a hospitalization in your family ✦ You would like a pastoral visit ✦ Someone becomes homebound ✦ There is a cause for sorrow or a cause for joy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a death in your family There is a birth or adoption Someone becomes unemployed |
|---|---|

Hospitals don't notify the pastor that a member is in the hospital, even if they ask your church membership when you arrive. So please let the pastor know if you or a family member is in the hospital. Custer Lutheran Fellowship, the body of Christ, wants to bring you Christ's love in all the seasons of your life.

Pastor Shannon Witt
(563) 542-6080 (cell)

pastor_clf@gwtc.net
673-4691 (church)

My preferred method of communication for regular information is through email, which I check twice daily. You are welcome to call or text my cell phone during the day/regular work hours, but I ask that please only call or text after 7pm if it is an emergency. I also would love to meet with you at the church or in your home. It's probably a good idea to call the office first to see if I am there, as I am trying to get out and about in the community as much as I can! I am looking forward to getting to know each and every one of you!



REMINDER

There will be no Confirmation classes until after Easter.
Watch the bulletin or emails for more information.

SAVE THE DATE—RITE OF CONFIRMATION

The Rite of Confirmation will be on Reformation Sunday, October 31st at 9:30 AM.



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES—CONTACT US!

A special Graduation Breakfast will be on **Saturday, May 20th**, for all 2023 high school graduates who are members of CLF. We want to celebrate with your graduate and your family. We want to be sure we are aware of all who are graduating and that we have their names spelled correctly. Please let the office know if your child will be graduating this year and how many people will attend the breakfast. Email clf@gwtc.net.



NATIONAL CRAYON RECYCLE PROGRAM

Why recycle crayons?

Unfortunately, most crayons end up in landfills. **Crayons are made of paraffin wax, a petroleum by-product that is toxic to our environment.** In the U.S. alone, more than 60 million crayons are discarded each year. That is over 500,000 pounds of waxy sludge that won't decompose for decades. Thankfully, like other oil based products, crayons can be recycled. Even the paper wrappings are recycled by the National Crayon Recycling Program.

The *National Crayon Recycling Program* recycles unwanted, rejected, broken crayons into new crayons through their partnership with *Crazy Crayons*. This keeps thousands of pounds of waxy sludge out of the landfills.



The Storehouse has decided to coordinate this program in Custer. They will collect and pay the shipping costs to the NCRP where crayons are recycled into fun new shapes to be reused again.

WORSHIP AND NOISY OFFERING



As you know, we collect a noisy offering on the second Sunday of each month, that we send to a mission or to do something special with it. We are currently collecting noisy offering that will be going to the SPARK Kids Program to help with supplies, snacks and etc. Thank you for your support to help with SPARK Kids.



EASTER LILIES

If you would like to provide lilies to help decorate the church for Easter, please bring them to the church by Saturday, April 3rd. You can also order them at Jenny's Floral (605-673-3549) and have them delivered to CLF. If given in honor of or in memory of someone, please let the Office know as soon as possible, so the name will be listed in the bulletin. Email clf@gwtc.net or call 673-4691.



WORSHIP & MUSIC

As we embrace the gift that God gave us - the gift of His Son, we are preparing to celebrate the love that God showed us by giving the gift of His Son. The 6:30 a.m. service will be Easter songs. The pianist will be Cozy Dorton, along with soloist, and song leader Bob Timperley.

Our Choir is very blessed to be doing a beautiful Cantata, under the direction of Jennifer Doyle. We are doing songs that tell the days of Jesus, His death on the cross and His resurrection. It is gentle and yet powerful. There will also be a few hymns to sing. The Choir is accompanied by Cozy Dorton. We will have some additional music by a trumpet player, Jonathan Jacky.

Come and celebrate the gift from God to us.

Blessed Easter from Margaret Tretheway, Music Leader

POWER OF PRAYER

EDDIE STARR LOVE POETRY

The power of prayer, is the greatest gift that God gave to us.
 For this gift with Faith added can move the biggest mountains.
 It can cause damaged relationships to become fixed and renewed.
 It shall heal damaged people and fix them so they will live.
 For the power of prayer with Faith is our greatest weapon.
 That we can use against the evil demons from the bowels of Hades.
 For Christ has given us these weapons to battle the darkness.
 So whenever you see hurting broken people use them.
 To transform and repair them so that they shall see Christ.
 Thus then joining us at the feast of the Lamb our God.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIFE SCHEDULE



Meal at 5:15 pm

- April 5th – No meal today
- April 12th – Jackie's Surprise
- April 20th – Potluck
- April 27th – Pizza

Worship at 6:00 pm

- No Worship today
- Holden Evening Prayer
- Prayer Around the Cross
- Communion Service

CONFIRMATION

There will be no Confirmation until after Easter. Watch the bulletin and your emails for more information.





CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES..

If you would to e-mail someone in the church office, our e-mail addresses are:

Pastor Shannon — pastor_@gwtc.net
Main address (Mary) — clf@gwtc.net

MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have articles for the May Newsletter to the office by April 20th. Thank you!

OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open Monday to Thursday from 8:30 AM—4:00 PM. The office days for individuals are as follows but hours may not be until 4:00 PM.:

Mary: in office Monday—Thursday



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



If you have someone in your life who needs some extra comfort and prayers, please pick up a prayer shawl from the office. Everyone is welcome to do so at any time—just let someone in the office know when you do, as we keep a journal of all activity.

CLF WEBSITE OFFERS ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS...

On Custer Lutheran Fellowship’s website, www.custerlutheran.com you will find the option to support Custer Lutheran Fellowship’s mission and ministry through the “ONLINE GIVING” link. Whether you’d like to make a one-time donation or set-up regularly scheduled donations, you can do this easily through a secure server by following the instructions. At this time, CLF accepts bank account (ACH) transactions only. You can set up your own login/password and make changes with your giving at any time.



CLF YTD NON-RESTRICTED BUDGET STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FEBRUARY 28, 2023 YTD

| | Actual | Budget | \$ Over Budget | % of Budget |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|
| Income | | | | |
| Offering Contributions | 57,421 | 48,368 | 9,053 | 119% |
| Total Income | 57,421 | 48,368 | 9,053 | 119% |
| Expenses | | | | |
| Pastoral Leadership | 1,565 | 2,333 | -768 | 67% |
| Guest Pastor | 5,883 | 5,841 | 42 | 101% |
| Pastoral Leadership | 7,447 | 8,173 | -726 | 91% |
| Worship | 2,292 | 3,328 | -1,036 | 69% |
| Education | 4,000 | 4,658 | -658 | 86% |
| ELCA Mission Support | 4,616 | 4,220 | 396 | 109% |
| Other Mission Support | 1,526 | 1,581 | -56 | 96% |
| Support/Care | 27,584 | 24,450 | 3,133 | 113% |
| Total Expenses | 47,465 | 46,411 | 1,053 | 102% |
| Net Ordinary Income | 9,957 | 1,957 | 8,000 | |



CUSTER MEET & GREET

The next Custer Meet & Greet meal will be held on Tuesday, April 11th from 5-7 PM.
at the Custer Community Church located at 6th & Harney.

Gather for a meal with friends and neighbors
(no charge and for more information call (605)673-4090)

MISSING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

If you have noticed that your birthday or anniversary has been missing from our birthday and anniversary list, please do not be offended! We are not omitting you on purpose! It is because we do not have the information sheet we need that has birthdays, updated phone numbers, and email addresses. This is true even if you have filled out information for your children through the confirmation or SPARK Kids program. We may have children's birthdays, but not the parents. Please stop by the office and fill out a form so we may update our lists to include your very important dates! You can also give us your birthday without providing the year! Thank you!

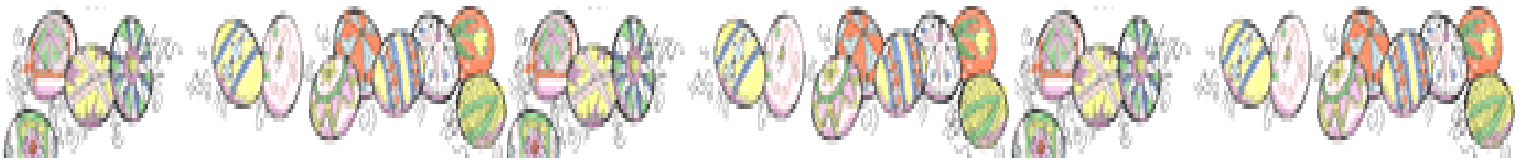
"CHRIST IN OUR HOME" DEVOTIONALS

The "Christ in Our Home" daily devotional booklet is issued quarterly by Augsburg Fortress. The **April through June issue** is here. We give thanks to W/ELCA for providing this devotional for your personal use.

If you would like an issue, you can stop by the office to pick one up, or contact the church office to have a copy mailed to you.

LYNN'S RECEIPTS

We are still collecting receipts from Lynn's Dakotamart. We appreciate so much everyone who brings their receipts. We wanted everyone to be aware that we do not collect the gas discount receipts, though. We want you to keep those to get your gas discount! But continue to drop off your receipts in the office or in the can at the Welcome Center. Thank you!



CLF LIFE IN PICTURES



PARISH NURSE UPDATE

I apologize for missing a few newsletters but I have been laid up, but now ready to begin again! It's April which means April showers (or snow), longer, warmer days and the tourists are coming. We are all ready to get out for some fresh air and walks and soon some gardening. All are great for our health!



This month I am discussing "brain games". Apparently like everything else, you can find these on the internet. I was reading a Mayo Newsletter about studies comparing benefits of the online games vs doing crossword puzzles and other word games. The study compared the benefit to MCI (mild cognitive impairment) which is the stage expected age-related declines in memory and thinking, and serious decline (dementia). When they compared 55-95 year old people they found that crossword puzzles were the better choice showing greater benefit in cognitive scores. Other mentally stimulating activities such as card games, crafting activities, quilting and sewing, going out to the movies with friends, or simply using the computer were linked to a lower risk of MCI. Keeping your brain busy, eating nutritious food, exercising regularly, staying socially engaged, moderation of alcohol, managing sleep problems and wearing your hearing aids are all great for our brain health.

Healthy brain/ healthy life
Mary Klein RN/ Parish Nurse

MENTAL HEALTH NEWS

Why is there still such a stigma surrounding mental illness? There has been much education out there, we hear more and more about movie stars and athletes discussing mental health issues, yet most people are very uncomfortable about discussing a family member or themselves having mental health issues. Being open and honest with others will not only help you come to terms with it, but will help others feel more comfortable and understanding. We cannot expect help if we don't ask and speak about these issues. We are all humans and we are not expected to be perfect. Some of the brightest minds, the gifted artists and writers lived with mental illness. Please contact me if you ever have questions.

Healthy mind/ happy life
Mary Klein RN/ Parish Nurse



THURSDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY

These lovely ladies are enjoying the book study held on Thursday mornings 10:00 AM at Monument Health Assisted Living (formerly Wedgewood).

They are currently reading "Life is in the Transitions" by Bruce Feiler. Sounds like it's a great book!

They welcome anyone that would like to join them.



The confirmation kids and the Youth Group worked together to make communion bread! It will be used for the Lord's Supper during the Maundy Thursday worship service.



SPARK KIDS

During the school year on Wednesdays, children from Kindergarten through Grade 5 are picked up at the Elementary building after school is dismissed and brought to the church. Parent Pickup is 5:00-5:15. We have so much fun using games, crafts, and snacks that go with the Bible story. Last month we reviewed



our stories by drawing them into shaving cream spread across the tables! Bonus-it cleaned the tables too! They did such a great job remembering the lessons and even look for ways to include sharing God's love in their own lives.

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There is NO cost for this program! Children need to be registered by their parents/guardians in order to participate. Registration materials are available through the office. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to join the 31 signed up so far! All are welcome! Contact Wendi Rusch at 509-494-3236 for more info!

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CLF CHOIR ~ APRIL

Rehearsals:

Wednesday, April 5th @ 6:30 PM
 Wednesday, April 12th ~ NO CHOIR

Performance:

Sunday, April 2nd @ 9:30 AM Palm Sunday
 Thursday, April 6th 6:30 PM Maundy Thursday
 Friday, April 7th 6:30 PM Good Friday
 Sunday, April 9th 9:30 AM Easter Service
 with Cantata pieces

2023 OUTLAW RANCH
 JOB OPENING

Outlaw Ranch is seeking assistant cooks for our summer camp season May 28th — August 4th. Prior cooking experience is a plus, and we will provide paid training. Convenient shifts are available and can be as little as one, six-hour shift, up to 40 hours a week. Pay is \$13 to \$15 per hour depending on experience. Please contact Matt Rusch at matt_@losd.org or 605-673-1014, if interested.



CONFIRMATION UPDATE

Pastor Shannon and the parents of the confirmands have come to the decision that we are going to postpone the Rite of Confirmation Ceremony to Reformation Sunday (end of October). This will give the students more time to work with Pastor Shannon and with their mentors. They are also hoping to plan a confirmation camp/retreat this summer. Please continue to pray for and support our Confirmation students and their families!

“RAISE THE ROOF FUNDRAISER”

IN HONOR OF THE INSTALLATION OF PASTOR SHANNON, WE ARE INVITED TO GATHER A SPECIAL OFFERING FOR THIS MISSION. The Bear Butte Conference has accepted this challenge. If each congregation in our conference can raise approximately \$300 we can exceed this goal. There will be a basket during the fellowship time following the Service on April 2 where you can leave your donation. Please include “Raise the Roof” in the memo if you write a check. Pastor Shannon will be donating the first \$150.

RAISE THE ROOF FOR OUR COMPANION SYNOD CHURCHES IN CAMEROON!



To celebrate 100 years of Lutheran missions in Cameroon, let's **raise our hands** and **raise the funds** to build roofs on our Companion Synod partner churches in Cameroon. **Prairie Rivers Conference** has already voted to raise enough money to build one roof (\$8000). South Dakota has 7 Conferences = **Let's build 7 Roofs!**
JOIN THE CHALLENGE! MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

WHAT IS HOLY WEEK?

What is Holy Week?

Many people wonder why there are so many worship services before Easter, and it is a good wondering! As Christians many of us call ourselves Easter People. However, if it wasn't for the events leading up to Jesus death, there would be no Easter. We begin Holy Week on Palm Sunday as we hear the story from Matthew's Gospel of Jesus entering into Jerusalem.

Jesus rode into Jerusalem on what we now call Palm Sunday; palm branches, which symbolize triumph or victory, were strewn in Jesus' path, as He rode into the city. He rode into town on a humble donkey, fulfilling the prophecy in Zechariah 9:9: "Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your kings comes to you, righteous and victorious, low and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The people welcomed Him, echoing the words of Psalm 118:25-26: "Lord, save us! Lord, grant us success!" more popularly recognizes as "Hosanna! Hosanna!" During this service we will be given palm branches to wave as we sing songs and hear the story to remind us of this event in Jesus life. However, Jesus' fame did not last, as people were afraid of his power and of what it meant for the Empire.

On Holy, or Maundy, Thursday, we continue hearing about the last days of Jesus. Jesus was in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover, the Jewish tradition of remembering when God "passed over" and protected the Jewish people from death. Jesus shares a last supper with his disciples and asks them to continue sharing the meal together knowing that when we do this Jesus is present with those who eat the bread and drink the wine or juice together. As he is teaching him, he also tells them what it means to be his followers and disciples by following what we now call the Greatest Commandment. Maundy comes from the Latin word "mandate" or commandment. Jesus demonstrates his love by washing the feet of his disciples and then says these words: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another." -John 13:34

On Good Friday, we will gather early to walk and read together the Passion Story, the story when Jesus is confronted, accused, brought to trial and crucified. On Friday evening we will have the opportunity to hear the story again. We read this story and remember that when he died Jesus was completely abandoned by all but one of his disciples and his mother, and felt abandoned by God, his Father. Yet, even as he died, he offered forgiveness. We have an opportunity to pray for the ways in which his death has power to take away our own sin.

This year, Outlaw Ranch is hosting an Easter Vigil (see announcement for registration information). The tradition around an Easter Vigil on the Saturday before Easter is a time of meditation, scripture reading and prayer as we wait for the Resurrection of Jesus.

And finally, we come to the empty tomb, where we find that Jesus is not there, he has been raised from the dead! On Easter Sunday we celebrate the mystery and glory of God through the reality that through Christ, death has been conquered and the gates of eternal life have been open! We will have two services here at CLF to celebrate this gift from God, 6:30am and 9:30am. All are welcome!

MORE PICTURES



MEET
NEW
FRIENDS
AT
CUSTER
LUTHERAN
FELLOW-
SHIP



W/ELCA HAPPENINGS

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 17th at 11:30 am. It will be a sack lunch in the Fireside Room. The women are encouraged to bring a quilt or quilts that mean something to them. You can make it, grandma can make it, or you could have gotten it on a special trip. Just bring it and this will bring our program.



The speaker for our March meeting was Jessica Lillebo, from Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota. She spoke about all the programs they offer state wide. The fundraiser for this year is "South Dakota Cares" and the Day of Giving will be April 13th at The Park in Baken Park, from 5-7 pm with door prizes, appetizers and a silent auction. Should be a fun time for all.

REMINDER: The "Auction of Talents" will be held on Sunday, April 16th following church. All are welcome to bring an auction item or two. Please bring your talent to church, we will auction it off. We have had photographs, quilts, paintings and etc. It is a fun time for all.

Everyone has a talent!!! You may bring it early and leave it in the Sewing Room. We will be setting up on Saturday, April 15th from 10 am -12 noon, if you wish to drop it off early.

W/ELCA Mission Project for April — June is for W.E.A.V.E.

Items needed are:

Paper products — tissues, toilet paper
Shampoo, soaps, and lotion

Feminine products
Laundry Soap

QUILTING

Thank you so much for your response to our needs of fabric. We are well stocked again. If you would be interested in sewing together pre-cut fabric squares at home let us know.

As you do your spring cleaning, keep in mind that we can use flat sheets, thin blankets, and mattress pads, also.

Bad weather has kept us home and safe some Tuesdays, but when together we enjoy the fellowship, the laughter, the coffee and we get a lot done!
"The Busy Quilter's"

EASTER VIGIL AT OUTLAW RANCH

You are invited to attend an Easter Vigil at Outlaw Ranch on Saturday, April 8th from Noon until 3pm. The Easter Vigil service is a celebration of Jesus' passage from death to life using deep symbols (new fire, spreading light, waters of baptism, etc.) and profound stories (creation, flood, dry bones, etc.) that proclaim God's salvation and love! We will explore these symbols and stories in creative ways at Outlaw Ranch. If you plan to attend, please register at this link. It is important to register because lunch will be served the organizers want to make sure there is enough food and enough materials for the vigil. <https://www.losd.org/easter-vigil-2023>



Council Minutes – March 21st, 2023 Meeting

Treasurer and Finance Committee's Report: The offerings thru February were 118.7% of budget (\$9,053) and expenses were 109% of budget (\$5,021).

Christie moved, John seconded to approve the budget adjustments as recommended by the Finance Committee. Motion approved.

Unfinished Business:

- ❖ **Thrivent Choice –** March \$389.00 YTD – \$407.00
- ❖ **Amazon Smile –** March \$ 6.81 YTD – \$ 6.81
- ❖ **Lynn's Dakotamart Receipts –** March \$100.00 YTD – \$100.00
- ❖ **Review worship and activities –** Pastor Shannon shared the following:
 - ✦ She will do First Communion instruction with the SPARK Kids on March 22nd. Also that night the Confirmation & RAP youth will make communion bread which will be used on Maundy Thursday. First Communion youth will be acknowledged at that service.
 - ✦ At the Bear Butte Conference Leaders meeting they decided to challenge the other conferences in SD for each to raise funds to complete a roof for a church in our companion synod in Cameroon. We will do a special offering on April 2nd.
- ❖ **Studebaker Group Request for Building Use –** Consensus of the Council that they may use the building but must follow the guidelines in the Building Use Form.
- ❖ **Finish Assigning Liaisons to each Committee –** Remaining committees were assigned a liaison. Pastor Shannon would also like to form a Christian Education Committee.
- ❖ **Approve Sexual Harassment/Youth Policies –** Christie moved, Helena seconded to approve the Sexual Harassment and Youth Policies as amended. Motion carried.

New Business:

- ❖ **Membership changes:** None
- ❖ **CMA – Community Worship, 5th Sunday, April 30th –** Has been cancelled. Community Church is hosting a Cantata that day.
- ❖ **Leadership Retreat –** Pastor Shannon would like to hold one sometime in the next 5 months. Council members need to let her know dates not available.
- ❖ **VBS – June 19-21 –** First planning meeting will be on May 10th.
- ❖ **Pastor Dan Appreciation –** Discussed plans to show Pastor Dan our appreciation for his help on Wednesday nights.
- ❖ **Worship & Music Funding –** Discussed the amount the accompanists receive for playing during the service.
- ❖ **Pamphlet Organizer –** In order to organize the lower table at the Welcome Center, will have Mary purchase an organizer to hold the brochures and pamphlets.
- ❖ **Other –** None

Reflections on Mission and Ministry: None

Committee & Ministry Team Reports:

- ❖ **Endowment,** Blaine Kortemeyer – Nothing to report
- ❖ **Health Ministry,** John Kirk – Nothing to report
- ❖ **Mutual Ministry,** Dave Mertz – Nothing to report
- ❖ **Outreach,** Helena Buehler – Nothing to report
- ❖ **Property,** Mark Thompson – New siding for the parsonage will be ordered soon – will take about 10 days to receive.
- ❖ **Social Ministry,** Christie Behlings – Nothing to report
- ❖ **W/ELCA,** Shana Hindman – Nothing to report
- ❖ **Worship & Music,** Donna McConnell – Nothing to report

Next Meeting: April 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM

ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY

Passion Week

Thursday, March 30: Psalm 31:9-16; 1 Samuel 16:11-13; Philippians 1:1-11

Friday, March 31: Psalm 31:9-16; Job 13:13-19; Philippians 1:21-30

Saturday, April 1: Psalm 31:9-16; Lamentations 3:55-66; Mark 10:32-34

Sunday, April 2: Palm Sunday: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11;
Matthew 26:14-27:66

Monday, April 3: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11; Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11

Tuesday, April 4: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36

Wednesday, April 5: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32

Holy Week & Easter

Thursday, April 6, **Maundy Thursday**: Exodus 12:1-10; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Friday, April 7, **Good Friday**: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 1:16-25; John 18:1—19:42

Saturday, April 8: Romans 6:3-11; John 20:1-18

Sunday, April 9, **Easter Sunday**: Acts 10:34-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-18

Monday, April 10: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21; Colossians 3:5-11

Tuesday, April 11: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 15:1-18; Colossians 3:12-17

Wednesday, April 12: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Joshua 3:1-17; Matthew 28:1-10

Easter 2

Thursday, April 13: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 2:8-15; Colossians 4:2-5

Friday, April 14: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 5:9—6:3; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Saturday, April 15: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 8:6-7; John 20:11-20

Sunday, April 16: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

Monday, April 17: Psalm 114; Judges 6:36-40; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Tuesday, April 18: Psalm 114; Jonah 1:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:19-28

Wednesday, April 19: Psalm 114; Jonah 2:1-10; Matthew 12:38-42

Easter 3

Thursday, April 20: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:1-5; 1 Peter 1:8b-12

Friday, April 21: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 26:1-4; 1 Peter 1:13-16

Saturday, April 22: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:6-9; Luke 14:12-14

Sunday, April 23: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

Monday, April 24: Psalm 134; Genesis 18:1-14; 1 Peter 1:23-25

Tuesday, April 25: Psalm 134; Proverbs 8:32-9:6; 1 Peter 2:1-3

Wednesday, April 26: Psalm 134; Exodus 24:1-11; John 21:1-14

Easter 4

Thursday, April 27: Psalm 23; Exodus 2:15b-25; 1 Peter 2:9-12

Friday, April 28: Psalm 23; Exodus 3:16-22, 4:18-20; 1 Peter 2:13-17

Saturday, April 29: Psalm 23; Ezekiel 34:1-16; Luke 15:1-7

Sunday, April 30: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

Monday, May 1: Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34: 17-23; 1 Peter 5:1-5

Tuesday, May 2: Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:23-31; Hebrews 13:20-21

Wednesday, May 3: Psalm 100; Jeremiah 23:1-8; Matthew 20:17-28



THANK YOU

Thank you so much to the anonymous donors for the donation to the church of a blower.
The blower will be used with light snowfalls, leaves and etc.

THANK YOU

Thank you so very much to the anonymous donors that purchased two smaller coffee pots for the kitchen.



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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, Mission,
Service, Worship*

**Ministering at
Custer Lutheran Fellowship**
Pastor: Shannon Witt
Office Manager: Mary Winter
Parish Nurse: Mary Klein
Custodian: Augie Heyne
Music: Margaret Tretheway
Choir Director: Jennifer Doyle
Financial Secretary: Janice Albers
Steve Baldwin
Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky
Youth Coordinator: Wendi Rusch
Ministers: All Members of CLF!