

CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL THANK YOU



Thank you to everyone who made VBS such a wonderful experience of God's love! We especially want to thank Linda Fennell for being the driving force behind the organization of VBS. Thank you to everyone who helped plan, and those who volunteered their time during these three days. This would not have happened without you!

Planning Committee:

Linda Fennell
Carol Niemann
Cozy Dorton
Wendi Rusch
Donna McConnell
Jackie Hartwick
Kim Webster
Bonnie Thompson
Gail Knudson
Mary Winter

VBS volunteers:

Carol Nieman
Mary Hoscheid
Cozy Dorton
Jackie Hartwick
Gail Knudson
Rae Mooney
Donna McConnell
Karen Kraus
Bonnie Thompson
Gene Fennell
Eldon Knudson

Brandon Suelflow
Koleden Niemann
Ayden Dooley
Mindy Dooley
Linda Zachow
Wyatt Alfson
Linda Fennell
Wendi Rusch
Denali Rusch
Lucas Netzley



Hello August!



MEET JENNIFER DOYLE, OUR NEW CHOIR DIRECTOR

Hello! I am super excited to take on the role as CLF's new choir director in the fall. Music has always been a passion of mine and has always served as one of the most important aspects of the worship service for me. Music brings people together no matter the language spoken. It speaks to our souls and tells a story all on its own to enhance any worship service. Music has always been a major part of my life. I began playing piano for churches and various ensemble performances at a young age. I later obtained a minor in music and put it to use in many areas of my personal and professional life. I served as the senior choir director for the church that I grew up in for many years and even began a teenage choir called the Savior Singers when my girls were that age. I served as the director for our Sunday School children's choir for many years as well. I continue to teach piano lessons and currently serve as the Custer School District Accompanist. Our home has always been full of music and will always be a love and focus of mine.

I am blessed with a beautiful family. My husband, Jess, is the County Highway Superintendent. We have four children who have begun families of their own as we recently became empty-nesters! That may just be one of the major reasons that I decided that choir would be a wonderful opportunity to keep me busy! Our oldest daughter, Michaela, is the 7-12 choir director at Custer High School. She is the mother of our first grandchild, Declan. One of our twin daughters, Morgan, is a nurse for the NICU at Sanford in Sioux Falls. Our other twin daughter, Kaylee, is married to Cole Staples who is an electrician for Climate Control in Rapid. Kaylee is a nurse for Dr. Joy at Monument Health in Custer and gave us our beautiful granddaughter, Sawyer. Our son, Justin, recently graduated and is currently working for Muth Electric. He will begin to study to become an electrician in the fall at Western Dakota Tech. He and his girlfriend, Elyse, blessed us with another granddaughter, Nora. These individuals are my world!



I wish to invite each and every one of you to come and sing in the choir with me. We will be doing things a little bit different this year. I am hoping with a little bit less of a time commitment, we can enlist new members to join the dedicated musicians we already have on the roster! Even if you don't know anything about music, please come! We would love to blend our voices together to praise our Lord and Savior. We will practice the first and second Wednesday nights of each month and sing on the Sunday that follows the second practice. I'd like to have said, "Just remember 1, 2, 3," but the calendar doesn't always agree with me! Join us in September in the CLF sanctuary following worship service at 6:30 PM. Our first practices are listed below. I look forward to making a joyful noise together!

PRACTICE: SEPTEMBER 7TH @ 6:30 PM – CLF SANCTUARY
 PRACTICE: SEPTEMBER 14TH @ 6:30 PM – CLF SANCTUARY
 PERFORMANCE: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH DURING 9:30 AM CHURCH

"Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us enter His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him in song..." Psalm 95:1-2



WORSHIP IN AUGUST

Join us on Sunday's at 9:30 AM for some fun worship experiences!



August 7th – Bluegrass with Holy Communion
 August 14th – Victory Feast
 August 21st – Chicago Folk with Holy Communion
 August 28th – Campfire Theme Songs



A message from the Apostle Paul, who wrote to the church in Thessalonica while traveling with Silas and Timothy:



Every time we think of you, we thank God for you. Day and night you're in our prayers as we call to mind your work of faith, your labor of love, and your patience of hope in following our Master, Jesus Christ, before God our Father. It is clear to us, friends, that God not only loves you very much but also has put his hand on you for something special. (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 The Message Bible)

As I return to CLF after my time off, this passage spoke to me about all of you. I thank God for all of you and all you do to share the love of Christ. And I know that "God not only loves you very much but also has "put his hand on you for something special." The people of CLF are certainly something special. You show it in so many ways, both within the church and out in the community. God is working in and through you in ways you may not even see, but others do.

I am thankful for all the ways you continue to carry out Jesus mission, and our mission at CLF to *plant the word of God, nurture growth in children and adults, and scatter the seeds of joy and faith in a diverse community.* I am excited, for example, that you have put together a team of people to make sure that we have a Vacation Bible School program this year. That shows your love of the children in our community and your desire to share Jesus love with them. And that's only one thing that I am aware of during my time off.

Always remember that everything you and I do reflects our faith and devotion to Jesus. It's not just coming to worship on Sundays or Wednesdays. It's not only the things we do in the church building. It's **everything** we do and say. You and I live our faith all the time, even when we're not thinking about it. It's in our interactions with other people, whether it is family, friends, or strangers we encounter. It's in all the different ministries and organizations you are involved with, whether with financial support or your time, or both.

I am also thankful for all of your prayers, which surround so many people, not just in Custer, but all over. I ask for your prayers now for my husband Chas and I as we travel to Mayo Clinic for him to be evaluated by the Neurology department. We will be there the week of August 8th, but hope to be back by Saturday the 13th so I can be in worship with you on the 14th. We are hoping for good answers from them about his various symptoms, and for a plan of action to deal with them.

Always remember that *that God not only loves you very much but also has put his hand on you for something special.* **You** are something special to me, to this congregation, and to God.

Blessings to you always,
Pastor Pam

PLEASE NOTIFY PASTOR PAM WHEN:

- ✦ There is a hospitalization in your family
- ✦ There is a death in your family
- ✦ You would like a pastoral visit
- ✦ There is a birth or adoption
- ✦ Someone becomes homebound
- ✦ Someone becomes unemployed
- ✦ There is a cause for sorrow or a cause for joy

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 Pam Power
701-955-5282 (cell)

pam_clf@gwtc.net
673-4691 (church)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIFE STARTING SEPTEMBER 14TH



Our Wednesday Night Life activities will begin on **September 14th** with Spark Kids at 4:00 PM, followed by a meal at 5:15 PM. We will then gather for a short 30 minute worship at 6:00 PM, followed by Confirmation, RAP Group, and Choir, all at 6:30 PM. We will need help with a variety of things to make Wednesday Night Life run smoothly:

- Helpers during Spark Kids for crafts, snacks, etc.
- People to set up for the meals
- Help with RAP Group leadership

SPARK KIDS

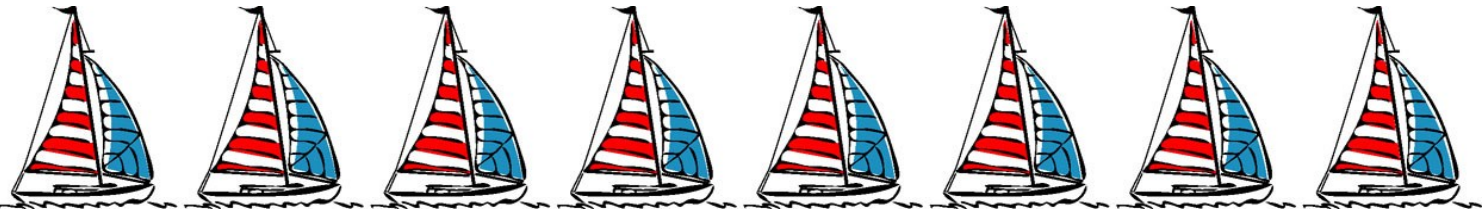


We are so excited to begin Spark Kids again this year! All of our Wednesday NightLife activities will begin on **September 14th**, including Spark Kids. Children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade are invited to be part of this ministry on Wednesday afternoons after school. Please contact the church office for registration forms and with any questions.

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION



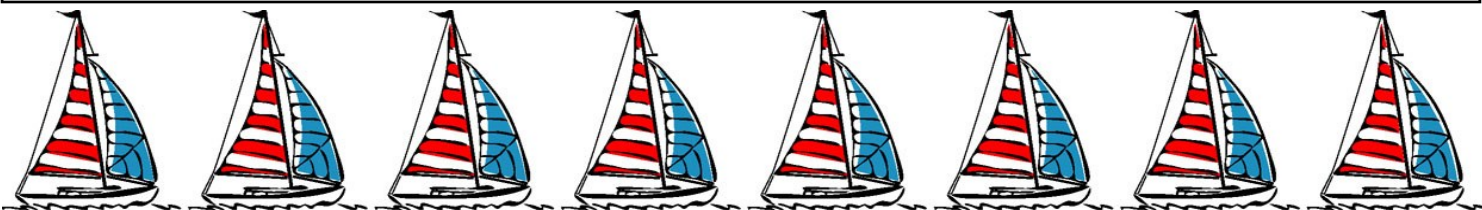
Mark your calendars for Confirmation Orientation on **Wednesday, Sept. 14th at 6:30 PM. This is a mandatory gathering for all parents and students.** You will be receiving a letter in August from Pastor Pam with an invitation to be part of Confirmation this school year. If you have a child entering 6th to 8th Grades and you do not receive a letter, please let the office know. We are excited to be in ministry with the youth of our community and look forward to seeing you at Orientation!



BLACK HILLS MONTESSORI

The Church Council has been discussing ways to utilize our space for quite some time. The idea of some sort of child care has been raised on several occasions. Earlier this year a Day Care Committee was formed following an inquiry from Black Hills Montessori Preschool.

At the June 21st Council meeting, the Day Care Committee recommended CLF become the host site for Black Hills Montessori Preschool as an opportunity to support the community and utilize our space. Black Hills Montessori Preschool would use the upstairs Sunday school rooms. The recommendation was approved and a one year agreement was signed July 1st. The upstairs Sunday school space is being cleaned to ready it for the preschool. Black Hills Montessori is helping get the space ready for their use and is starting to publicize the preschool in Custer at CLF. There will be several open house events at CLF for prospective preschoolers. If you have questions, please talk with Scot Hoscheid at church or call him at 605-517-0254.



PARISH NURSE UPDATE



Sleep anxieties keeping you up at night? You are definitely not alone. About a third of us suffer with at least periotic insomnia. When insomnia lasts for a month or more it is considered chronic. Anxiety, often caused by stress can interfere with our sleep. After a few nights of poor sleep we go to bed stressed, wondering if we are going to get to sleep that night. Age can also trigger sleep anxiety. As we get older, we often have multiple awakenings throughout the night. It begins with menopausal hormone shifts causing discomfort or restlessness. For men it is often related to prostate changes causing multiple trips to the bathroom during the night. We also have other chronic conditions leading to chronic pain which often affect our sleep. Some medications can also cause insomnia. These include some blood pressure meds, beta-blockers and antidepressants. Another condition is sleep apnea, which may constrict your air or cause you to pause breathing for a short time. Our circadian rhythm also shifts as we age, when we tend to go to bed earlier and wake up earlier. Caffeine and alcohol can also affect our sleep.

How do we break this cycle? Try to reduce evening stress by closing our laptops and phones earlier. Don't watch the news at night or watch a stimulating movie or show later at night. Aim for 30 minutes of quiet before bed-time. Go to bed at the same time each night and try awakening at the same time in the morning. Skip sleeping pills such as benzodiazepines (Xanax, Valium, Ambien or Lunesta) as they can become addictive and can also cause falls and confusion during the night. Staying awake as much as you can during the day will also help you sleep better at night. If you lie awake for more than 15-20 minutes after going to bed, get up and sit quietly in a dimly lit room, trying to relax yourself with some deep breathing exercises and other relaxing methods for at least 20 minutes or until you feel yourself tired and relaxed before going back to bed.

I know these suggestions sound too easy. I have to admit that after years of working the midnight shift and rotating shifts, I became quite sleep deprived. It has taken me more than 12 years to finally get a better night's sleep. I relax more in the evening, go to be at the same time every night & wake up around the same time every day. Instead of just getting 6 hours of sleep a night I now get around 8 hours. I'm not waking up feeling tired like I used to. I have been using many of the same suggestions I have given you here (from an AARP magazine). I think it's worth a try for a least some of them. Have a good night's sleep!

Mary Klein RN, Parish Nurse

MENTAL HEALTH UPDATE

The helpline for mental health is now live! 988 is the number to call if you are having a difficult time or are contemplating suicide. There are specially trained personnel manning the helpline. It is a good idea to write this phone number down where you will find it in time of need. Don't count on remembering it as you may be too stressed to recall it. Better yet, put the number in your phone so it's always handy.



CUSTER COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, August 4th from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM at the Masonic Temple located at 220 North 6th Street Custer.

There is an urgent need for all blood types.

1. Make an appointment to call Jared at 605-517-2046 or Ralph at 605-673-3892.
2. Visit donors.vitalant.org and click "Locate a Blood Drive and enter the code **custermasons** to schedule online.

Appointments suggested but Walk-ins welcomed!

Sponsored by Custer Mason Lodge #66 and American Legion Post #46.





CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES

If you would to e-mail someone in the church office, our e-mail addresses are:
 Pam — pam_clf@gwtc.net
 Main address— clf@gwtc.net

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have articles for the September Newsletter to the office **by August 15th**. Thank you!



OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open Monday to Thursday from 8:30 AM—4:00 PM.

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.



2022 BUDGET THRU JUNE 2022

	Non-Restricted	
	Actual	Budget
Income		
Offering Contributions	130,779	148,750
Special Offerings/Inc	2,651	1,445
Interest	0	150
Total Income	133,430	150,345
Expenses		
Pastoral Leadership	46,929	47,357
Worship	5,055	6,074
Education	380	2,448
Mission Support	20,475	20,916
Support/Care*	61,368	73,835
Total Expenses	134,207	150,629
Net Ordinary Income	-777	-285
Other Income/Expense		
Misc Unbudgeted Exp	396	0
Additions to Reserve		
Cap Imp Fund Set Aside	4,200	4,200
Youth Coord Set Aside	7,416	7,416
Total Additions to Reserve	11,616	11,616
Total Other Expense	12,012	11,616
Net Other Income	-12,012	-11,616
Net Income	-12,789	-11,901

“CHRIST IN OUR HOME” DEVOTIONALS

The “Christ in Our Home” daily devotional booklet is issued quarterly by Augsburg Fortress. The **July — September 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.



BON VOYAGE PARTY

I purposefully left out the names of the kids to protect the innocent. There will be a Bon Voyage party for the kids after church on **August 7th**. We do not yet know the day of the kids departure but want to ensure they get a chance to say good-bye to the people who mean so much to them. Come and wish the kids well on their next journey. Please have all your scrapbook pages turned in by this day.

If anyone has suitcases that they are no longer use, Emily will collect them that day. If the suitcases are not used by the kids, they will be given to other children in need of them. You may also bring cards or simple recipes to send with the kids. Please be sure to put your name on the recipe card so they can think of you when they make the food.

Emily is grateful for all the love and support the kids have received from the members of the church. As once said over a full plate after church "I have 50 grandparents and they are all at church!" Emily understands there are questions about why the kids are continuing their journey but she can't discuss publicly.

Please consider helping other children in our community. There are several ways to do this including being a CASA advocate for children in foster care. CASA workers look out for the kids interests in an imperfect system. You may also consider becoming a TeamMates Mentor to kids needing a positive role model and safe adult.

Again, thank you for demonstrating God's love so no matter where the kids go they have seen and experienced God in a loving, welcoming and supportive church that allowed them to bloom.



Happy Trails to You Until We Meet Again!

OUTLAW RANCH VOLKSMARCH

Outlaw Ranch along with the Black Hills Volkssport Club is sponsoring a volksmarch at Outlaw Ranch east of Custer on **Saturday, September 3rd**. Start time will be from 8:30 until 11:30 AM with finish by 2:30 PM. There are two distances of 5k (3.1 miles) and 10k (6.2 miles). All walkers will be required to pay a \$3 registration fee. The new trails have been improved over the last year and this walk gives walkers a chance to see more of Outlaw's property. For more information you can contact Pastor Duane Neugebauer at 303-489-9313 or donman1948@gmail.com.

WOYATAN – WAMBLI SKA FUNDRAISER



Wambli Ska is the youth center affiliated with Woyatan Lutheran Church. School is quickly approaching, and it is Wambli Ska's vision to sponsor students in need. So we have a challenge for you! We will sponsor 15 students and we are looking for people to match that 15 for a total of 30 students. We will purchase socks, shoes, underwear, and two outfits per student. We are estimating \$300 per student, so that means we need help to raise \$4,500 to match our \$4,500. You will be helping students that would otherwise go without.

Are you up for the challenge to make a difference in a youth's life? If so, you can donate at <https://venmo.com/u/wambliska> or drop a check off (or mail a check to) our Teen Center at 534 Anamosa Street, Rapid City, SD 57701. The Teen Center is behind Woyatan Lutheran Church. For more information, email tcwambliska@gmail.com

Thank you for your support of our youth!

988 HAS LAUNCHED IN SD

On July 16, 2022, we in South Dakota joined the rest of the United States in beginning to use the 988-dialing code. 988 is the new three-digit number for call (multiple languages), text or chat (English only) that connects people to the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, where compassionate, accessible care and support are available for anyone experiencing mental health–related distress. In South Dakota, the 988 Lifeline will be answered by the Helpline Center.

People can use 988 if they are having thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crises, or any other kind of emotional distress. People can also dial 988 if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.

WORSHIP & MUSIC BY MARGARET TRETHERWAY

"This Little Light of Mine, I'm Gonna Let it Shine". This week, the light did shine at Vacation Bible School. When I heard what wonderful activities happened at Bible School, I was amazed. It will be remembered by those that attended for a long time. Thanks Linda Fennell and all of the people that helped make it so successful. I was so pleased to hear that music did prevail.

I, too am thankful for the special music we have been able to have this summer. We have been blessed with several guest singers and also our very own members who helped keep music going. God has a plan for each of us. We will keep working with music in our church.

Music has been a part of my life since I was 3. I am so grateful to God for giving me the gift of music. It has helped many of us with comfort and healing. Our love for Jesus greatly blesses the lives of families, friends and all those around us.

I look forward to giving my all to continue to work and have many more music ideas. Thank you to the song leaders, the soloists, instrumentalists, pianists, and all of the congregation who appreciate the music.

We continue to have our Wednesday night campfire services and enjoyment of peace and quite of the beautiful scenery that surrounds us. We have been blessed by Bob Timperley and Bill and I do the other Wednesdays. We will have campfire services thru August 24th.

We welcome back Pastor Pam and pray that she has had time to relax and take care of herself.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. God Bless.



CARING HANDS MINISTRY

Custer Lutheran Fellowship has as many caring hands as we have worshipers and members....this body of Christ is often caring for others without any connection to this committee. We are grateful to know that is always going on....CLF folks are always extending those caring hands here at church and within the community.

One example of this is when the Reetz family (former owners of the Purple Pie Place) requested that we serve pie and coffee after Arle's memorial service. We knew this would be a large service because the Reetz family had many years of connections in Custer: Arle was head nurse at the nursing home; Terry worked at the Forest Service; there were four children and their active lives in school; and then there was the Pie Place. So we put out the word that we needed 30—35 pies for that day....people were so happy to share their caring hands in making and baking pies.... it was not a big task to have enough pieces of pie for everyone to have a selection and maybe more than one with their coffee. It was a joyous thing to be able to respond to their request and to hear the happiness during that coffee time after the service. Many, many caring hands were serving the Lord that day! I have had more than one thank you from the members of the Reetz family for helping us honor Arle (and Terry) that way....and each time a request to share that with the CLF people for a beautiful service with meaningful music as well as the special coffee time.

The Caring Hands Ministry at CLF is full of gratitude for those who reach out to us and allow us to connect in Jesus' name with love.

We continue to most often work through three main categories:

- ◇ Transportation for anyone who needs it to Rapid or within Custer.
- ◇ Meals for those we know about for whom they would be helpful—illness, surgery, sorrow, or accident.
- ◇ Prayers are offered for anyone for whom we have received a request....sometimes people ask that the prayer message is confidential and some are glad to have the message shared with other praying people.

These committees are always open to new members. Please contact Cozy Dorton if you wish to join the transportation team or the meals team or the prayer team. These committees are open to suggestions and requests for help of any kind.

Thank you for carrying on, way beyond these committees in Jesus' name.

Cozy Dorton
605-673-1187

didirector@goldenwest.net

W/ELCA HAPPENINGS:

The next W/ELCA meeting will take place on **Monday, August 15th at 11:30 AM** in the Fireside Room. Ladies attending the meeting are asked to pack a lunch for themselves. Coffee and water will be provided.

In place of a program, we will learn more about how to proceed with Operation Christmas Child. We are fortunate that we have members who have participated in this program in the past. They will share ideas about how to best proceed with the program at CLF.

During the week of July 11th, the children in Custer ate fifty-five of the sack lunches that we provided for the Summer Sack Lunch Program. Thanks to the ladies that came in on Monday and/or Wednesday to help pack those lunches. Many hands and the addition of support for one another made short work of that task.

The "W/ELCA Salads to Go" event that had been planned for August 21st has been cancelled. After considering the spike in Covid cases and the affect that the hot weather would have on salads to go, it was decided to put the event off until perhaps sometime next year.

Speaking of events, thanks to all who supported the Silent Auction of Talents that was held during the month of June. The products that were donated and the bids that were made, helped add over \$1,000.00 to our treasury. Thank you so much for your generous support of the auction. We appreciate each of you!

We will continue to collect school supplies as our August Mission Project.

QUILTING



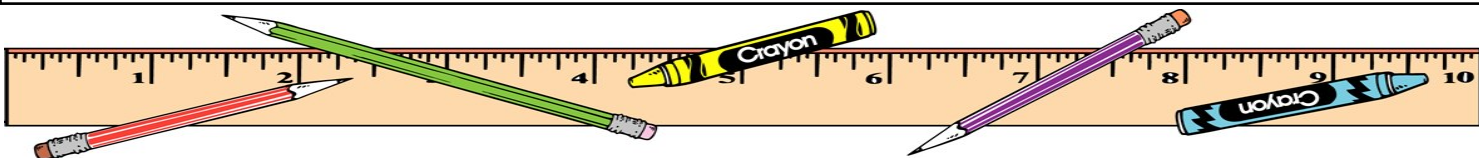
Quilting will continue on its summer schedule, meeting the first two Tuesdays in August, the 2nd and 9th. Two new faces have joined us this summer. Coffee time brings much sharing, laughter, and tears. All is confidential. Quilts given this month have been to WEAVE and the Activities program at Custer Monument Hospital. Thanks to all who keep us supplied, especially with good flat sheets for backs and fabric, which is starting to be in short supply. ~ THE JOYFUL QUILTERS

JULY & AUGUST MISSION PROJECT: SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Items needed are as follows:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Notebooks of ruled paper | Unsharpened pencils | 30 cm rulers |
| Boxes of 24 Crayons | Pencil sharpeners | 2 1/2 inch eraser |
| Boxes of 12 Twistable Crayons | 4-Pack Highlighters (Usually yellow, blue, orange and green) | |

In the past these items have been shared with LWR, Pine Ridge, WEAVE and children at Custer Elementary.



GENTLE YOGA WITH JACKIE



Gentle Yoga with Jackie will take a break this summer and not return until after Labor Day. Watch for any further announcements in the bulletin or newsletter.

SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS BY BRAD MCKINNEY

God's Work. Our Hands.

We will be celebrating GWOH this year (**September 11**) by inviting our community first responders, medical staff, and search and rescue to a recognition luncheon from 11 AM to 1 PM. Other activities we will conduct include: putting together birthday bags for W.E.A.V.E., work in the hospital Healing Garden, writing letters to our military family, and picking up roadside litter. This is an excellent opportunity for our congregation to work together to honor and reach out to our larger community doing God's Work. More in the September Newsletter.

Here's a look at some pages in the August 2003 Newsletter...enjoy!

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Heartfelt Thanks from our Youth...

TAG Trip - We are home from Atlanta and grateful for the experience! There were thirteen of us that went on the trip to the National Youth Gathering: Pastor Dave, Jared Black, Joey Ford, Rachel Canete, Nicole Loosbrock, Chris Heyne, Ashley Bryant, Katie Carson, Nikki Canete, Jordan Black, Lilly Schaupp, Nicolette Rohr, and myself. We drove to Nashville the first day and had a grand ole time tromping around the incredibly humid city. The next day we rolled into Atlanta where the gathering began right away. We had a fabulous time going to the mass gathering events with 23,000 other Lutheran high school kids—what a sight to see. We had daily Bible studies, services, inspiring talks and music. We also had an abundance of choices for our afternoon time. We ended up splitting our time between the gathering classes in the Learning Village, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, shopping in Atlanta, and catching a Braves vs. Mets game. We capped the trip off with a 33 hour non-stop bus ride home.



Personally, I came away with the memories of spending my week with 12 absolutely fabulous people, some faith-filled, spirit-filled worship and music experiences, and a new respect for a good night's sleep. I am so thankful to the congregation because you gave us the opportunity to go on this trip with all of the financial support and prayers that you have given us. Thank you so much and God's blessings!

- Emily

* Thanks to everyone who supported us by eating our flapjacks. This trip has given me mounds of motivation and inspiration for life. Being with so many people in Atlanta was great but it is much easier to breathe when I'm back in Custer. Thanks again!

- Joe Ford

* First I would like to just thank everyone for all your support that you have given me. I would just like to say that in Atlanta it was amazing at how people just had fun and you didn't care who was looking. And I would just like to say that it has changed my life.

- Jordan Black

* Once again through Rap group and the congregation backing it, I have made my way through a trip and been left feeling changed. Wandering the city of Atlanta and experiencing its history and friendly residents, spending 30 hours straight on a bus, and witnessing thousands of people clapping, smiling and all belting out the same song have given me the experience this life is meant for. Thank you CLF!

- Rachel Canete

* I'm so glad that I was given the opportunity to accompany the CLF Rap Group to Atlanta. I had fun being with all of them and exploring Atlanta. I had a great time!

- Nicolette Rohr

More from our Youth

Pg. 12

* I will never forget the feeling I had seeing 23,000 people coming together to praise God. Atlanta is a fun city and we all had a great time together! Thank you for helping make this trip possible. I had an awesome time!

- Katie Carson

* Wow! Atlanta was such an awesome experience. It was incredible walking into the Georgia Dome for our first service and seeing thousands of kids like me on their feet, hands lifted up, praising God. It was an amazing sight to see. I am very thankful that we had the chance to attend the gathering. We couldn't have done it without everyone at CLF. Thank you so much!

- Nikki Canete

* Atlanta was a life changing experience. I would like to thank you for allowing me to have it. It was amazing to see thousands of people, Lutherans, going to worship at the same time. My faith grew and so did I. Thank you!

- Lilly Schaupp

* The awesome feeling of praising God with 23,000 other teenager was an experience I'll never forget. The gathering really helped me grow in my faith. It taught a kind of prayer that our age group would understand and learn. Thanks to everyone who helped to get us to Atlanta so that we could praise God with so many incredible people.

- Nicole Loosbrock

* I would like to thank everyone who supported our trip to Atlanta. It was a trip that none of us will forget. The Georgia Dome was awesome, and we also had fun seeing the city. Thanks!

- Ashley Bryant

* My trip to Atlanta is one I will never forget. I met so many new people that changed my life. I also loved the dances and workshops. Thank you for the chance to grow in my faith!

- Chris Heyne

* Thank you to all of you who supported the 13 of us not only financially, but with prayers and encouragement. The gathering in Atlanta was an awesome experience we will not soon forget. Ubuntu was the theme for the week. Part of the meaning of this African word is working together in community, and without the support of you, our church community, we would have never gotten to Atlanta. Thanks!

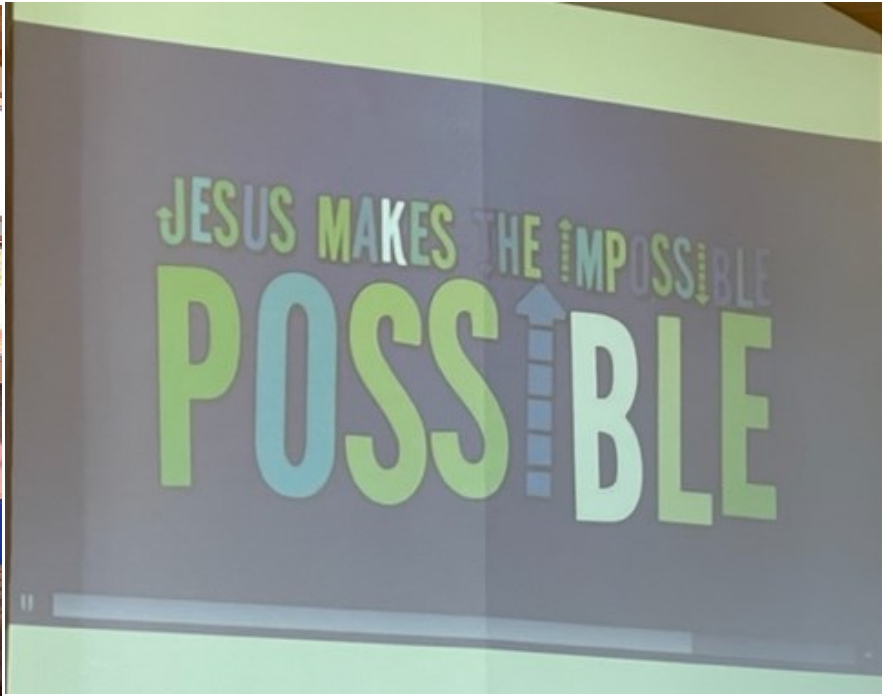
- Jared Black

* Dear CLF – Please know that all of your eating pancakes, buying coffee, and “renting” youth laborers funded a unforgettable 8 day experience for 11 Custer Youth, Emily and me. We crowded into subway trains, stood in loooooonnnnnngggg lines, listened, studied, danced, ate, slept and sang. We learned, among other things, that many of the disciples were probably teenagers and they changed the world. The theme of the gathering was “ubuntu” – a South African word we translated as “I am – we are – because Christ is”. We come home believing that, renewed as Jesus' disciples. Thank you for your prayers and your support.

- Pastor Dave







VBS =
VACATION BIBLE SNACKS!



COUNCIL MINUTES – JULY 19, 2022

Treasurer's and Finance Committee's Report: The offerings thru June were 87.9% of budget (-\$17,971) and expenses were 93% of budget (-\$11,556) thru June.

- **Mid-Year Giving Statements** – Pledge analysis shows YTD pledge receipts are 77.69% of expected receipts. After statements were sent out there have been some discrepancies in the recorded pledge amounts. An audit will be conducted to verify that all pledges have been entered accurately.
- **YTD Budget vs Actual** – Discussed areas of expenses that have increased which are member synod travel, gifts, propane and electricity. Joy requests that an energy audit be conducted to determine why electrical costs have increased so much.

Unfinished Business:

- **Thrivent Choice** – June \$ 0.00 YTD – \$295.00
- **Amazon Smile** – June \$ 0.00 YTD – \$ 5.00
- **Lynn's Dakotamart Receipts** – June \$600.00 YTD – \$800.00
- **Financial Secretary Position** – Still looking for possible names
- **Custodian Substitute Update** – Things have been going smoothly while Augie has been gone.
- **Review Worship & Activities** – Things are back to normal. The last campfire worship will be August 24th and Wednesday Nightlife will resume on September 14th.

New Business:

- **Membership changes:** Allen & Kim Canete to Our Redeemer Lutheran, Custer (LCMS)
- **Vacation Bible School** – Is going well. There are 22 children registered.
- **Montessori Pre-School Update** – Rooms are pretty much cleared out. They will be holding open houses periodically. Fall session will start after Labor Day.
- **Mutual Ministry Committee Update** – They have met once. They will meet with Pastor Pam on July 28th.
- **Outreach Committee Update** – A committee has been formed and they are working on various ideas.
- **Youth Coordinator Update** – Have names of two possible candidates.
- **Sabbatical Policy** – Need to work on our own policy. Can use the Synod's policy and others as a starting point.
- **Office Manager Absence** – work days of July 21, 24-28, (Back on Sunday, July 31st) – A plan has been worked out for her days off.
- **Wambli Ska Okolakichiye** – A Back to School Fundraiser sponsored by Woyotan. The information will be included in the August newsletter.
- **YMCA Day Camp** – They have requested the option to bring their water slide out to church for the two weeks they are there. The request was declined due to concerns of being on a well and the shortage of rain.
- **SPARK Kids** – Sara Mooney will help again this year but will not be the head person.
- **Education Committee** – Discussed creating one, will wait until a Youth Coordinator is hired.

Reflections on Mission and Ministry:

- **Pastor's Report** – Will have one next month
- **Review of Educational Time** – Did a lot of reading. Has recommended that the Council study one of the books she read – Lasting Impact by Carey Nieuwhof. Donna moved, Shana seconded and the motion was approved to use the book in place of devotions.
- **Review Time Off** – Pastor Pam appreciated the time off. She spent time relaxing, reading, hiking and doing "touristy stuff".



ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY

Pentecost 8

Monday, August 1; Psalm 127; Ecclesiastes 2:1-17; Colossians 3:18-4:1
 Tuesday, August 2; Psalm 127; Ecclesiastes 3:16-4:8; Colossians 4:2-6
 Wednesday, August 3; Psalm 127; Ecclesiastes 12:1-8, 13-14; Luke 12:22-31

Pentecost 9

Thursday, August 4; Psalm 33:12-22; Job 21:1-6; Romans 9:1-9
 Friday, August 5; Psalm 33:12-22; Ecclesiastes 6:1-6; Acts 7:1-8
 Saturday, August 6; Psalm 33:12-22; Genesis 11:27-32; Matthew 6:19-24
 Sunday, August 7; Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40
 Monday, August 8; Psalm 89:1-18; 2 Chronicles 33:1-17; Hebrews 11:1-7
 Tuesday, August 9; Psalm 89:1-18; 2 Chronicles 34:22-33; Hebrews 11:17-28
 Wednesday, August 10; Psalm 89:1-18; Jeremiah 33:14-26; Luke 12:41-48

Pentecost 10

Thursday, August 11; Psalm 82; Joshua 7:1, 10-26; Hebrews 10:26-31
 Friday, August 12; Psalm 82; 1 Samuel 5:1-12; Hebrews 10:32-39
 Saturday, August 13; Psalm 82; 1 Samuel 6:1-16; Matthew 24:15-27
 Sunday, August 14; Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56
 Monday, August 15; Psalm 32; Jeremiah 23:30-40; 1 John 4:1-6
 Tuesday, August 16; Psalm 32; Jeremiah 25:15-29; Acts 7:44-53
 Wednesday, August 17; Psalm 32; Jeremiah 25:30-38; Luke 19:45-48

Pentecost 11

Thursday, August 18; Psalm 103:1-8; Numbers 15:32-41; Hebrews 12:3-17
 Friday, August 19; Psalm 103:1-8; 2 Chronicles 8:12-15; Acts 17:1-9
 Saturday, August 20; Psalm 103:1-8; Nehemiah 13:15-22; Luke 6:1-5
 Sunday, August 21; Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17
 Monday, August 22; Psalm 109:21-31; Ezekiel 20:1-17; Hebrews 3:7-4:11
 Tuesday, August 23; Psalm 109:21-31; Ezekiel 20:18-32; Revelation 3:7-13
 Wednesday, August 24; Psalm 109:21-31; Ezekiel 20:33-44; Luke 6:6-11

Pentecost 12

Thursday, August 25; Psalm 112; Proverbs 15:13-17; 1 Peter 3:8-12
 Friday, August 26; Psalm 112; Proverbs 18:6-12; 1 Peter 4:7-11
 Saturday, August 27; Psalm 112; Proverbs 21:1-4, 24-26; Matthew 20:20-28
 Sunday, August 28; Proverbs 25:6-7; Psalm 112; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14
 Monday, August 29; Psalm 119:65-72; 2 Chronicles 12:1-12; Hebrews 13:7-21
 Tuesday, August 30; Psalm 119:65-72; Isaiah 2:12-17; Titus 1:1-9
 Wednesday, August 31; Psalm 119:65-72; Isaiah 57:14-21; Luke 14:15-24



90 YEAR OLD GUYS WITH SWEET WIVES!



LUNCH WITH NEW LSS CEO REBECCA KIESOW-KNUDSON





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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: Pamela Power
 Office Manager: Mary Winter
 Parish Nurse: Mary Klein
 Custodian: Augie Heyne
 Music: Margaret Tretheway
 Choir Director: Jennifer Doyle
 Financial Secretary: Ann Snow
 Steve Baldwin

Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky
 SPARK Kids:

Ministers: All Members of CLF!