

CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP
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CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Christmas Eve Dec. 24th

4:00 PM and 6:00 PM

Candle Lighting at Both Services

ADVENT SPIRALS

During the Wednesdays of Advent, we will be using Advent Discussion Spirals to explore the journey toward Jesus' birth on Christmas Day. Each week, you will be given a spiral that we will use in worship, then you may take it home and continue the conversation with the "Some Things to Notice This Week" part of the spiral. This will help us all to be engaged in the journey, not only in worship, but throughout the week with our families. Come, join us starting December 4th.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to help decorate the altar area with poinsettias for the Christmas season, you may bring them by **December 23rd** and place them in the Family Room off the Narthex. They will be placed in the Sanctuary for the Christmas Eve services. Please let the office know if your plant is in memory or in honor of someone. You may take them home after Christmas Eve. Thanks!



ABUNDANT JOY, OVERFLOWING GENEROSITY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



Thank you to everyone who participated in our stewardship series that has helped us see the importance of giving to God in all areas of our lives. As of the printing of the newsletter, we have received 65 commitment cards totaling \$227,692 in financial support for 2020.

If you have not yet returned your commitment card, please do so as soon as you are able, so that the Church Council may accurately develop the mission plan and budget for 2020. Thank you again for your commitment to God and to CLF!

ELCA GOOD GIFTS—GOD’S GLOBAL BARNYARD



The Social Ministry Team is sponsoring ELCA Good Gifts on December 1st, 4th, 8th and 11th. An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need. Animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell at the market. With one gift, you can help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good.

Contributions can also be made toward projects such as safe water development and educational opportunities. There will be a table set up in the Narthex on those dates to help you select your gifts.

CLF CONSTITUTION CHANGES

Our Constitution recommends that a Constitution Review Committee be appointed to review the constitution every five years. Attached to this newsletter is a page with recommended changes to the CLF Constitution. These will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on January 26, 2020. If you would like to see the full constitution, please request a copy from the office or pick up one at the Welcome Center.



THE GREAT CLF WOOD HAUL—

Our CLF Wood Haul is a part of the fabric of this place. It has been a fall event for years! Twelve people “trucked” out to Red Shirt on Saturday, November 23, with two trailer loads and three truck loads of firewood. We stockpiled firewood at Christ Episcopal Church for future use this winter and took a few truckloads to individual homes. We enjoyed a delicious potluck meal and fellowship with

the Two Bulls family and residents of Red Shirt. It was a beautiful day for a drive and a great time of renewing friendships. Join the group next year!



SHARING THE DREAM GIFTS SALE

The Social Ministry Team would like to thank the congregation for their support of the Sharing the Dream event. We benefited from a variety of unique hand-crafted items including beaded jewelry, baskets, hand-woven scarves, ornaments, and ceramics. With your participation, we were able to raise \$1,064 to assist Guatemalan artists in supporting their families. Thank you.

STEWARDS OF CREATION



The CLF Church Council, in an effort to be good stewards of God’s creation, is recommending that we strive to eliminate or reduce the use of single-use plastic wares and styrofoam products when using the CLF kitchen. Instead, please consider using the Corelle dishes and silverware provided. Thank you for your consideration.

ANNUAL MEETING DATE & ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

The Custer Lutheran Fellowship Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26, at 12:30 PM, after a potluck meal.

All Committee, activity group, and Team leaders should submit their information for the Annual Report by Friday, January 10th. Thanks!

Worship Survey Update



Thank you all so much for participating in the worship survey! So far, 73 people filled out the survey online, 29 people filled out the paper survey, and quite a few people attended the forums. We also had 43 people make additional comments at the end of the survey, which I appreciate very much. That's amazing! Typically when surveys are introduced, only a small percentage of people complete them, so you are all awesome!

It also tells me that worship is very important to you. Worship is where we connect with God and with each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. It is where we encounter the Holy Spirit through music and the Word. It is where we celebrate and support one another in our faith and life journeys.

The Worship Survey Team has been working and praying together to help discern where the Holy Spirit is leading our worship life here at CLF. I wanted to share some of what we learned in our discussions. We looked at the Pro's and Con's of two services vs. one service:

Two Services Pro's	Two Services Con's	One Service Pro's	One Service Con's
More opportunity to serve	Need more people to serve	Need to find fewer members to serve	Less opportunity to serve
More choice	Not welcoming to visitors if too empty	More energy and enthusiasm	Less choices in time, style
No change if keep two services	Less energy from members if too empty	Sanctuary more full	Perception of church dying
Two types of worship	May lose members if don't change	More attractive to visitors when full	May lose members if change
Healthy things grow			Sanctuary too full

As you can see, there are benefits and drawbacks to both choices. There truly is no clear, obvious choice for one option or the other. And as I said in my article last month, it is also not about our personal preferences or what we personally want. It's all about what is best for our congregation as a whole, as well as what is best for the people in the community who are not here in our congregation yet.

How can we best serve God? How can we best praise and celebrate God's work in and through all of us? How can we best be inviting and attractive to people in the community who are searching for a church home? And most importantly, what does the Holy Spirit want us to do and be? Those are the questions we are struggling with and praying about.

Of course all of your responses are being taken into account as well. I do care deeply about each of you and welcome all of your comments and insights. I will keep you all updated on what the Worship Survey Team discusses. There is no set deadline for making any decisions because you can't put a deadline on the Spirit. But I will certainly keep you all informed of what the team recommends to the church council.

Thank you again for your input into our worship life here at CLF!

Pastor Pam

PLEASE NOTIFY PASTOR PAM WHEN:

- *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
- *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 Pam Power 701-955-5282(cell)
 pam_clf@gwtc.net 673-4691 (church)

THRIVENT FINANCIAL BENEFITS

Are you a Thrivent member? If so, there are ways you can help CLF and the community. One way is to assign your Thrivent Choice dollars to CLF.

You can also apply for a Thrivent Action Team Project. "Thrivent Action Teams make it easy to live generously." The idea is to plan a project and get others involved in helping out and being generous. Each Thrivent member can apply for two Action Team projects a year. Each approved project will receive \$250 in seed money towards the project, which can be a fund-raiser, a hands-on project to support a worthwhile cause, or an educational event. CLF members have done projects for the Custer elementary backpack program, Summer sack lunches, quilting projects, God's Work. Our Hands. support, the light bulb project, and other projects at CLF or in the Custer community.

Thrivent wants their members to help their favorite charities by using their Action Team projects. For more information, ask Phil and Barb Lewison, Ginny Myers or the church office how to apply.

CONFIRMATION SCAVENGER HUNT



The Confirmation students had a great time at the Scavenger Hunt on November 20th! They collected 160.5 pounds of food and ran all over town taking group selfies! Thank you to the students and parents for helping with this fun and important night to support The Custer Storehouse!



COMMUNITY ADVENT CONCERT— DECEMBER 15

The annual Community Advent Concert will be held here at CLF at 2:00 PM Sunday, December 15th with the French Creek Folk doing pre-concert music at 1:30 PM. There is no admission. Coffee, punch and cookies are served after the program. Come and attend a concert of musicians from various churches in Custer. It is a great way to celebrate Advent and the Christmas season.

CHRISTMAS AT CHAPEL IN THE HILLS IN RAPID CITY

December opportunities:

Lighting & Decorations – The grounds are open until 9:00 PM Friday through Sunday in December.

Gift Shop – Open December 7 & 14 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM; Sunday December 15, 4:00 – 7:00 PM

Advent Worship – Sunday, Dec. 15, 4:30 & 6:00 PM

W/ELCA HAPPENINGS:



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!

NEXT MEETING: Monday, January 27, at 11:30 AM at CLF.

HOSTESSES: Arbutus Winter and Pat Hattervig

PROGRAM: Continuation of gratitude discussion that was begun with our Thank Offering Program

At our October meeting, we had an in-depth discussion about our support of missions and organizations in general. In 2020, we will continue to be aware of financial as well as physical needs of folks and organizations in and around Custer and to offer help as we are able. We are fortunate to have the support of the congregation at CLF as we strive to make a difference in our community.

Motions were made and passed to give \$100 to the Custer YMCA for the scholarship campaign. We had sent \$300 earlier in the year for scholarships. We also sent \$200 to St. Dymas and \$200 to WEAVE to be used for needs as they see fit.

Cookies for Christmas for Kids will be held on Saturday, December 14. W/ELCA has been asked to supply 30 dozen cookies for that event. Many women have signed up to bake cookies. If you have offered to make cookies, please have them labeled and in the church kitchen by 3:00 PM on Thursday, December 12th. Thanks to all who will be helping with this project!



Quilting takes place the first and second Tuesday in December at 9:00 AM. Our quilters provide a valuable outreach and are greatly appreciated. Anyone is welcome to attend quilting — there are jobs for every level of talent — even those who do not know how to quilt.

Bingo at Custer Senior Care—December 6th. The first Friday of each month, four to five people gather to call and help residents enjoy an hour of Bingo from 2:00—3:00 PM. We welcome new people to join us for a fun afternoon! Any questions, please call Arbutus Winter, 673-5283.



MAKING LEFSE AND KRUMKAKA

It was a great day of mixing, rolling, flipping, and baking the lefse and krumkaka for the W/ELCA Craft and Goodie Sale. They were delicious and sold quickly. Thanks for supporting our missions!



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
- Mary — clf@gwtc.net
- Sara — sara_clf@gwtc.net



OFFICE HOURS.....

The church office is open Monday to Thursday from 8:30 AM—3:00 PM. The office hours for individuals are as follows:

- Mary: in office Monday to Thursday
- Sara: in office Tuesday afternoon & Wednesday

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY...

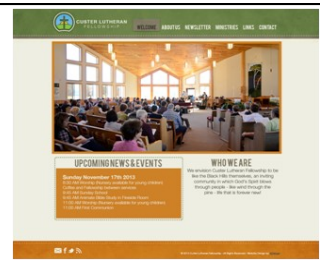


If you have someone in your life who needs some extra comfort and prayers, please pick up a prayer shawl from the office.

Everyone is welcome to do so at anytime—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.



LET’S GET NOISY!

The “*Noisy Offering*” continues one Sunday each month. This month it is December 8th. The November offering was \$96. Offerings from September through December go to Native American Ministries at the Pine Ridge Retreat Center. Your spare change **does** make a difference. Thanks so much!



2019 BUDGET THRU OCT. 31

	<u>Jan-Oct 2019</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income		
Offering Contributions	284,999	305,000
Special Offerings	<u>10,617</u>	<u>2,683</u>
Total Income	295,616	307,683
Expenses		
Pastoral Leadership	75,731	78,717
Worship	7,946	9,211
Education	9,050	11,137
Mission Support	32,814	34,639
Support/Care*	<u>138,491</u>	<u>176,778</u>
Total Expenses	264,032	310,482
NET	31,584	(2,799)

*Support/Care Expenses budgeted but not yet expended:
 Prepay Mortgage 10,000
 Special Projects (Parking Lot) 9,918
 Special Projects 7,000
 (Parsonage Deck & Window A/C)
Subtotal Delayed Expenditures: 26,918

THURSDAY MEN’S BREAKFAST

7:00 AM — “Our Place”

Come join us for breakfast each week. There’s always good conversation and good food! Open to all! Bring a friend!

THURSDAY MORNING CHRISTIAN BOOK STUDY

New people always welcome. No study in December. We will start again on January 9th. Meets weekly on Thursdays, 9:30—11:30 AM with coffee, treats and good conversation. We are currently reading Waking Up White: and Finding Myself in the Story of Race by author Debby Irving. Please join us!

THURSDAY WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Meets Thursdays December 5, 12, and 19, at 5:30 PM. We are currently studying the Gospel of John. All are welcome to join us. Call Ginny Myers at 673-3056 or Joy Smolnisky at 605-929-1244 for information.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIFE!

This program is a mid-week faith recharge for your family. Our weekly schedule is:

SPARK Kids from 4:00 to 5:15 PM
Family Meal from 5:15 to 6:00 PM
Worship from 6:00 to 6:30 PM
Confirmation from 6:30 to 7:30 PM
RAP Group from 6:30 to 7:30 PM
Choir Practice at 6:30 PM

The December Wednesday NightLife Meals follow this schedule:

December 4th—Potluck meal—Chicken provided by CLF
 *Bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share.
December 11th—Meal prepared by Jackie Hartwick and Women of the ELCA
December 18th—Pizza!!
December 25th & January 1—No Wednesday NightLife Activities

Worship will rotate between different styles of worship. The December worship schedule is as follows:

December 4th—Prayer Around the Cross
December 11th—Communion
December 18th—Holden Evening Prayer & Bibles given to Youth

Hope to see you all on Wednesdays!

SELECT-A-GIFT TREE

The Select-a-gift tree for the Christmas community project is now set up. Please take a tag from the tree and buy a gift for the adult or child listed. Gift ideas are listed on the back of each tag. **Gifts are needed for all ages!** Gifts should be returned to the church **unwrapped** with the tag attached by **Wednesday, December 18th**. Thank you so much for your generosity this Christmas season!!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

No practice Sunday, Dec. 1st

Rehearsal on Friday, Dec. 6th at 9:00 AM.

On Sunday Dec. 8th: Rehearsal & Program:

9:30 AM rehearsal in sanctuary.

11:45 AM Potluck Lunch after second service.

Christmas Program at 1:00 PM.



SPARK KIDS

There were 26 kids last week from Pre-K thru 5th grade! We're having a great time learning and growing in our faith! The kids ride over to the church after school each Wednesday and play before heading inside. We enjoy our group circle time where the kids ask thought-provoking questions and offer such insightful replies to learning how to love others. There is always a tasty snack before we read the Bible story for the week. Sometimes we act out the story, play a game or do a craft to reinforce the lesson. We have such great kids, helpers, and drivers who all contribute to making SPARK Kids so special!

There is NO cost for this program. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors. All are welcome! Every child needs to be registered by a parent in order to participate. Registration materials are available through the church office. It is never too late to register! The Bible story themes for December are as follows:

- ✦ December 4—*Angels Visit*—Luke 1:26-38
- ✦ December 11—*Mary Visits Elizabeth*—Luke 1:39-58
- ✦ December 18—*Jesus is Born*—Luke 2:1-20

Join us on Wednesdays and experience the fun!

PARISH NURSE NEWS

At our last Health Ministry meeting, we had a discussion about giving hands-on training for the “AED” (**Automatic External Defibrillator**) that we have at our church. This can be a life-saving device for anyone in our church. In the case of a cardiac event in our church, it is important to have as many people as possible trained on its use. It is designed for a lay person to utilize, as it gives step-by-step instructions during use. At this time, we are having discussions about scheduling this training in January with a trained instructor. We will keep you updated.

EXTRA! EXTRA! The CLF Health Ministry Team will be changing out our information table. Our next display will have valuable information about **Strokes and Circulation** problems. Strokes, or a “Cerebral Event” are rather common, not only in the elderly, but in the younger generations as well. The consequences can be devastating. The more you know what to do in the case of a stroke, the better the outcome can be. Reminder: any information we leave on the table can be taken.

Healthy Body, Healthy Soul

Mary Klein RN, Parish Nurse

MENTAL HEALTH NEWS

We have been hearing more and more, how detrimental **social media** can be to people’s emotions. Anyone is susceptible, but younger people are more apt to succumb to bullying, negative talk, and shaming. Younger people have not fully developed their **emotional health**. It can destroy their ego and self-worth and send them into a deep depression and even suicide. We need to tell our children and grandkids that we are available for support if they ever feel threatened by social media. Hopefully, in time, there will be better regulation of these social media threats. The digital world is here to stay, like it or not, so we need to learn to keep any negative attacks out of it.

Healthy Talk, Healthy Emotions,

Mary Klein RN, Parish Nurse

RAP GROUP NEWS



RAP Group Mission Statement: *To provide a safe, fun, learning environment for all young people to navigate through life with and for God.*

In a November meeting, the RAP Group began a discussion about the reason that we all come to RAP Group. We landed on some values that we all think we have in common. From that, we developed the mission statement that is shown above.

We took a trip to Flags and Wheels in Rapid City and had a great time. We were happy to serve in Care & Share on November 24 and look forward to doing it again in the future.

SATURDAY MEN’S BREAKFAST—DECEMBER 14

This opportunity, available to all, meets the second Saturday of each month from 8:00 - 10:00 AM in the Fire-side Room. Breakfast is served, then we discuss a NOOMA DVD. Join us for a great breakfast and discussion. No book required. Questions? Contact Allen Canete at 673-3753.

OUTLAW RANCH PASSIONATE QUILTERS RETREATS IN JANUARY

Three relaxed weekends in January/February of quilting, home cooked food, making new friends, and sharing creative ideas and expertise. Beginning and advanced quilters are welcome! Bring your own projects. Ask Karen Kraus, Pat Hudson and Ginny Myers how much fun these weekends are!
To register for these retreats, go to www.losd.org/events-and-retreats.

NOTES FROM MARGARET

Our special Christmas programs will be coming up soon. The Children's Christmas Program, directed by Gene and Linda Fennell, will be on Sunday, December 8th at 12:30 PM. Come and enjoy the talents of the young people whose joy can be passed on to all in the congregation.

The Custer Community Advent Program will be on Sunday, December 15th at 2:00 PM at CLF. It is a time to celebrate the coming of our Lord with music provided by many churches and individuals in Custer.

Keep those two dates on your calendar. You will not regret coming to these concerts.

May god bless you. Margaret Tretheway

THANK YOU NOTE

1 Thessalonians 5:11 – *Therefore encourage one another and build each other up.*
This is exactly what our "FAMILY" at CLF has done for me (and Dave) following my knee replacement surgery. Your visits, meals and especially your prayers have been greatly appreciated. God Bless—Jan Thom

CUSTER MEET & EAT DECEMBER 10TH

Meet your neighbors from Custer and enjoy a meal together. The free supper is at Custer Community Church, 529 Harney St. Join your neighbors on December 10th from 5:00—7:00 PM.

LYNN'S RECEIPTS

Thank you for continuing to save your Lynn's Dakotamart sales receipts. Once receipts total \$10,000, the church will receive \$100. So far this year, we have earned \$1,000. Thank you!

AMAZON SMILE

Remember to support Custer Lutheran Fellowship by shopping at smile.amazon.com or smile.amazon.com/ch/46-0374233. Amazon donates a percentage to CLF.



OUR FAMILY UPC CODES EARN MONEY

CLF was a winner of the August "Direct Your Labels" contest! This is the program where we collect and send in UPC codes from Our Family products. We were pleased to find out that CLF won a drawing and received a surprise check for \$500. The check came from Spartan Nash, and they expressed thankfulness for our participation in the community support program. The codes can be cut from bags, boxes, cans, bottles or any Our Family products. What we need is the black & white UPC code, not the Our Family words. Please continue to save and bring in these UPC codes so we can earn more dollars for the needs in our congregation and community.

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!

COUNCIL MINUTES – NOVEMBER 19, 2019

SD Synod Council Representative—Bonnie Lange represented Bishop Hagmaier and the SD Synod to say thank you for the support of CLF. Of the 23 congregations of the generous Bear Butte Conference, CLF was third in Undesignated Mission Support. (and ranked 15th in the SD Synod.) \$24,090.00 was given in 2018 .

Endowment Committee—Dave Thom discussed the current year's proposals for expenditure of the 2018 interest. This endowment is dedicated to youth activities. After disbursement, should there be residual amounts of money, they will be transferred to the Restricted Funds Account for Council-directed distributions.

Another endowment fund is being developed to use for other congregational needs. Currently, there is about \$5,500 in this account with \$25,000 being the minimum for opening another fund.

Treasurer's and Finance Committee Report—The council reviewed the treasurer's report submitted by Joy. The 2019 contributions YTD are at 94.8% of the budgeted amount. The updated strategic plan is successfully cutting expenditures to balance the projected shortfall in revenue. Council supported a recommendation by the treasurer to reformat the budget report to differentiate restricted and unrestricted income and expenses. The council considered and took action on the following Finance Committee recommendations:

- ✦ It was moved and seconded that Benefits/Compensation Guidelines for Lay Staff be altered to read: "4. *Paid Holidays. Seven paid holidays will be paid based on the average number of scheduled hours per five-day workweek.*" The council approved this measure. (M/S/A)
- ✦ The Council supported the Finance Committee recommendation that CLF consider developing Guidelines for Personal Gifts, to ensure reasonable and equitable limits and transparency when giving personal gifts purchased with church funds to individuals to mark occasions or express gratitude.
- ✦ Two years ago the council began setting aside \$700 per month for future Capital Improvements. There is currently \$21,164 in the restricted capital improvement fund. The Council endorsed the recommendation to continue setting aside a monthly amount to maintain and build those restricted reserves so the cost of big ticket capital items or repairs can be spread evenly over multiple budget years.
- ✦ The council supported a target carrying amount of \$50,000 for capital improvement Fund and \$20,000 for Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment Fund. Council will include withdrawals of restricted funds for known building needs in the annual budget and could approve emergency withdrawals for unanticipated building expenses. Council will budget non-restricted funds for routine maintenance and repairs, and equipment.
- ✦ Council approved moving Capital Improvement and Memorial Accounts to Black Hills Federal Credit Union.

Unfinished Business:

- ✦ **Thrivent Choice**—Received in November —\$24; received \$1,965 year-to-date.
- ✦ **Nominating Committee Update**—three people have been recruited to serve on the CLF church council.
- ✦ **Financial Review Committee Update**—Allen Canete, Donna McConnell and Teresa Obenauer have agreed to provide this service.
- ✦ **Stewardship**—Pledge cards are being collected and council members volunteered to call members to collect information for budgeting purposes by early December.
- ✦ **Building Updates** —Paul Horsted and Dave Thom have agreed to chair the Properties Committee. Paul and Dave Pickford removed the sheet rock and foam insulation from the utility room in the basement and determined the probable cause of the leak into the basement. The mold in the basement has been removed. The completion of the acoustic tile in the Down Under will be completed soon.
- ✦ **Review of Active Shooter/Safety Training**— It was well-conducted. It was noted that the "escape" door on the south side of the sanctuary does not have a pressure lock mechanism, making it difficult to open in a panic situation. Gene volunteered to seek a possible solution.

New Business:

- ✦ **Annual Meeting** —Set for Jan. 26, 2020. Budget forum Jan. 12th at 9:30, Annual Reports due Jan 10th.
- ✦ **Endowment Recommendations**—The council voted to approve the Endowment Committee's recommendation to disperse funds as follows: 1) \$600 to CHS Student Council to rent the Custer Beacon for 5th Quarters for three events this school year. 2) \$1000 to Custer County Library to help with teen book club, pre-school story hour, and summer reading program. 3) \$1200 to fund ten YMCA Youth Scholarships. 4) \$1300 to Lifeways. 5) \$500 to RAP group for expenses associated with youth activities.
- ✦ **Reducing Paper and Plastic Use in the kitchen**—a reminder to use Corelle ware dishes and cups will be placed in the kitchen area.

Reflections on Mission and Ministry—Pastor Pam has been busy with the usual church activities as well as serving with the Custer County Long Term Recovery Group as a manager for the case managers. She has also been working with the Worship Survey Team regarding the one service/two service discernment.

The next council meeting will be December 17, 2019, at 7:00 PM.

ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARYAdvent 1

Thursday, November 28: Psalm 122; Daniel 9:15-19; James 4:1-10
 Friday, November 29: Psalm 122; Genesis 6:1-10; Hebrews 11:1-7
 Saturday, November 30: Psalm 122; Genesis 6:11-22; Matthew 24:1-22
 Sunday, December 1: Psalm 122; Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44
 Monday, December 2: Psalm 124; Genesis 8:1-19; Romans 6:1-11
 Tuesday, December 3: Psalm 1124; Genesis 9:1-17; Hebrews 11:32-40
 Wednesday, December 4: Psalm 124; Isaiah 54:1-10; Matthew 24:23-35

Advent 2

Thursday, December 5: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 1:12-17, 21-26
 Friday, December 6: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 30:19-26; Acts 13:16-25
 Saturday, December 7: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 40:1-11; John 1:19-28
 Sunday, December 8: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-29, Isaiah 11:1-10
 Monday, December 9: Psalm 21; Isaiah 24:1-16a; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12
 Tuesday, December 10: Psalm 21; Isaiah 41:14-20; romans 15:14-21
 Wednesday, December 11: Psalm 21; Genesis 15:1-18; Matthew 12:33-37

Advent 3

Thursday, December 12: Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 1:6-18; 2 Peter 3:1-10
 Friday, December 13: Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 4:13-17; 2 Peter 3:11-18
 Saturday, December 14: Psalm 146:5-10; 1 Samuel 2:1-8; Luke 3:1-18
 Sunday, December 15: Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55; Jams 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11
 Monday, December 16: Psalm 42; Isaiah 29:17-24; Acts 5:12-16
 Tuesday, December 17: Psalm 42; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Jude 17-25
 Wednesday, December 18: Psalm 42; Zechariah 8:1-17; Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34

Advent 4

Thursday, December 19: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:1-17; Galatians 3:23-29
 Friday, December 20: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:18-22; Galatians 4:1-7
 Saturday, December 21: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:23-29; John 3:31-36
 Sunday, December 22: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25
 Monday, December 23: 2 Samuel 7:18, 23-29; Galatians 3:6-14
 Tuesday, December 24: Psalm 96; Isaiah 9:2-7; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20
 Wednesday, December 25: Psalm 97; Isaiah 62:6-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2: 1-20

1 Christmas

Thursday, December 26: Psalm 148; Acts 7:59—8:8
 Friday, December 27: Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:22-31; 1 John 5:1-12
 Saturday, December 28: Psalm 148; Isaiah 49:13-23; Matthew 18:1-14
 Sunday, December 29: Psalm 148; Isaiah 63:7-9; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23
 Monday, December 30: Psalm 20; Isaiah 26:1-9; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
 Tuesday, December 31: Psalm 20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19
 Wednesday, January 1: Psalm 20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19

**CLEAN SIDEWALK CLUB**

“Captain Snow” says...

Volunteers are needed for the CLF/CSC-that's the "Clean Sidewalk Club." There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center in the Narthex for week days or week-ends through mid-May. There are two spaces for each grouping.

It has been hard to train the dogs to do the shoveling, so we need your help. Thanks!!





Custer Lutheran Fellowship, ELCA
12622 US Hwy 16A
Custer. SD 57730

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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 Stutz
 Office Assistant: Sara Janson
 Parish Nurse: Mary Klein
 Custodian: Augie Heyne
 Music: Margaret Tretheway
 Choir Director: Marlene Sellevold
 Financial Secretary: Ann Snow
 Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky

Ministers: All Members of CLF!