

CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

12622 US HWY 16A

CUSTER, SD 57730

PHONE: 605-673-4691

EMAIL: clf@gwtc.net

www.custerlutheran.com

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Inside This Issue

2	CLF Happenings
3	From Pastor Pam
4	Social Ministry & Misc
5	Health Ministry
6	From the Church Office
7	Worship & Music
8	SD Synod News
9	The Women of CLF
10	Council Meeting Highlights
11	Daily Devotions
Inserts	- December Calendar - Birthdays & Anniversaries

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP...



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2020

4:00 P.M. AND 6:00 P.M.
BOTH WITH HOLY COMMUNION AND CANDLE LIGHTING

Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus, the Light of the World!

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!



Longest Night Blue Christmas

Join us on the longest night of the year for evening prayer. We will lament the struggles of this year, even as we anticipate the joyous birth of our Savior on Christmas. This is a service of readings, music, and prayer stations with the opportunity to lift up our struggles and joys together.

DECEMBER 21, 2020

6:30 P.M.

JOIN US FOR AN ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

TIDINGS
of
COMFORT
& JOY

Wednesday's at 6:00 p.m.

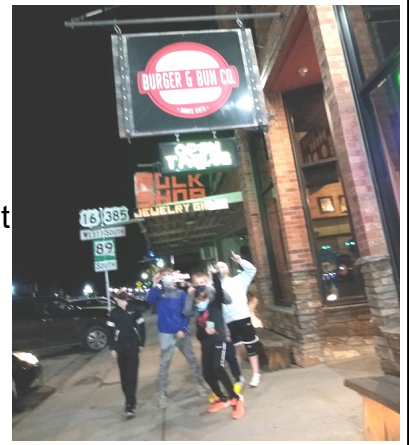
Dec. 2, 9, & 16, 2020

These services acknowledge responses of fear, confusion, doubt, and curiosity, while the coming of Jesus promises comfort and joy for all of us.

2020 SCAVENGER HUNT PICS...



The Confirmation students had a great time with the Scavenger Hunt on November 18th. They collected 98 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 Storehouse!



Stewardship is WORK

EXCEL IN THE GRACE OF GIVING



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 53 commitment cards totaling \$157,928 in financial support for 2021. 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 2021. Thank you again for your commitment to God and to CLF!

PA HELP URGENTLY NEEDED...



We are looking for new people who are able to help run the PowerPoint slides during worship, both on Sundays and Wednesdays. Due to a few illnesses, and of course COVID-19, we have a smaller pool of people to call on to help. It is not a difficult job, but it is so important. We will train you in all you need to know. Please contact Pastor Pam or the church office for more information, or to sign up to be trained. Thank you!



Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. These will be our focus during the Advent season. And then we celebrate the birth of our Savior on Christmas. Jesus embodies all of these things for us and for the whole world. In this uncertain and anxious time, though, it often feels like we are living in despair, conflict, misery, and hate. How can you and I possibly live in hope, peace, joy, and love now?

We can live in hope because we know that we do not walk this journey alone. Jesus is walking alongside us, bringing us comfort and hope when we feel like all is lost. And whether you realize it or not, you bring hope to people around you. God uses each of you to bring His hope to others who have none.



How do we live in peace in the midst of turmoil? Remember, Jesus is the Prince of Peace. He can bring us peace in our hearts even when we are surrounded by chaos. When we embrace the presence of Jesus surrounding us, we find peace. I know for me, I find peace through prayer. Without my prayer time, it is too easy to fall into worry and anxiety.



Where do you find joy? There are so many ways you and I experience joy, but we sometimes don't recognize it for what it is. One simple example is the joy I have when I'm snuggling with my dog Bear. He brings me a great deal of joy. As does my husband and son (most of the time!). I find joy in all of you, too! I feel joy when we worship together, even if it is online. I know you are there on the other side of the screen lifting your voice and heart in song and prayer along with me.

How do we live in love? Where do you experience love? How do you show your love? Jesus teaches us what it looks like to live our lives with love toward all of his children. How are you doing that now when so many of us are anxious and worried? I know you do it because I have experienced it!



In this world where so many are feeling lost, alone, and despairing, Jesus calls us bring His Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love to every corner of our lives and the world. Especially right now when so many of us are not able to gather with our families to celebrate Christmas like we want to, it is important that we embody this life of love and hope.

May we all experience the hope, peace, joy, and love of Jesus during this Advent season, and especially as we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus the Christ on Christmas.

Blessings to you as we experience this holy time together.

Pastor Pam



PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND



I am not sure how many at CLF realize that we have a Pastor's Discretionary Fund that I use to help people, both in this congregation and in the community. I help with a variety of things from rent/mortgage, utilities, grocery items that are not available at the Storehouse like diapers, toilet paper, etc., and more. This account is entirely funded by donations. It is not part of the yearly budget. CLF is also part of the Custer Ministerial Alliance (CMA), who also helps with utilities and rent. I encourage all of you to contact me or the CMA if you are in need in any way. The discretionary fund is completely confidential – I am the only one who knows who is helped. And of course I always welcome donations in any amount to the fund! Again, the money I use in that account is funded entirely by donations. It is a blessing to be able to help someone in need in this way. Please pray for those who I and the CMA have helped, and continue to support in the future. Blessings, Pastor Pam

ELCA GOOD GIFTS – Christmas shopping?



gg63731381 GoGraph©

Consider ELCA Good Gifts—goodgifts.elca.org

The Social Ministry Team is sponsoring ELCA Good Gifts in December. The dates will be **December 6th and 13th**. Looking for a thoughtful gift for that special someone? 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 market. With such a 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 developments and educational opportunities. Simply go online (goodgifts.elca.org) select your gift(s) and place your order!

CARING HANDS MINISTRY...

Cozette Dorton is working to update the caring hands teams due to precautions regarding the virus and in recognition that many people still have important needs that we can meet.

The three Caring Hands Teams are:

- ❖ Caring Hands Meals Team
- ❖ Caring Hands Transportation Team
- ❖ Caring Hands Prayer Team

If you were previously serving on one of these teams and would like to be removed, let Cozy know.

If you would like to be added to any of these teams, please let Cozy know for more information and questions answered.

Cozy Dorton 673-4974 673-1187 dididirector@goldenwest.net

Thank you for all the caring that each one is doing now-- for our church family, for our pastor and for our world-- whether or not you are on one of these teams.



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!

ANNUAL MEETING DATE & ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

The Custer Lutheran Fellowship Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 24th**, 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 8th. Thanks!

ARE YOU LEAVING FOR THE WINTER?

If you are leaving for the winter, please let the office know your address so your newsletter will get delivered. We would like to know approximate departing and returning dates. Thank you for your help!



PARISH NURSE NOTES



How to safely go to your Doctor during the COVID-19 pandemic:

Many people are wondering about this. In fact there are people postponing treatments and necessary follow-ups with their Provider, which can be actually is more dangerous. The clinics and hospitals have a number of safeguards they follow to keep you safe. Before a visit, check their website or portal to see what's being done.

- Requirements for wearing a mask by staff and visitors
Cleaning protocols and sanitizing measures in all patient care areas, including exam rooms, waiting areas, restrooms and other frequently touched surfaces
Social distancing practices at check in & waiting areas
Limits on the number of people who can be in the clinic at one time.
Screening questions and temperature checks at entrances
Special measures, isolating or instructions for those who may have been infected.
How the Doctors and staff are using personal protective equipment
The increasing use of "Telemedicine" for some appointments

You may be contacted prior to your clinic visit, checking on any symptoms you may have & given special instructions if you are having symptoms

Expect to wear a mask and check on the number of people that may accompany you to your visit

Once you are checked in, stop at the restroom & wash your hands thoroughly.

Avoid touching your face, including eyes, nose & mouth

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or into your elbow.

If there are other questions, check ahead of time with the clinic staff.

Although it's natural to have concerns about receiving care during the pandemic, it's possible to visit your Doctor safely.

Be well, be safe...

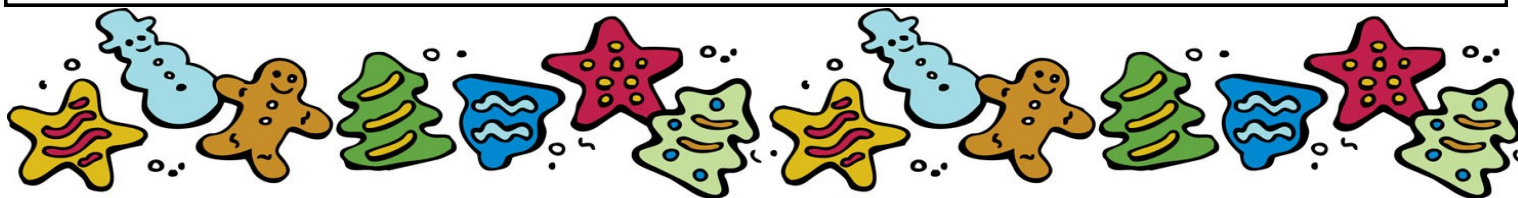
Mary Klein RN , Parish Nurse

MENTAL HEALTH NEWS

I was very happy to read about the additional training and involvement of the Mental Health community for our Sheriff's Office a few weeks past. This is such a great opportunity for our community. For too many years, when a person with mental illness got into trouble, or had unusual behavior, the knee jerk reaction was to take control of them, which often escalated the situation. In the end they would lash out at the law enforcement, trying to defend themselves. That usually ended up in incarceration and no treatment ultimately for the real problem, which was mental illness. If they receive training, it will give Law Enforcement the tools to identify symptoms of mental illness and provide appropriate treatment. It is a win-win situation. We truly hope they follow through with the training & guidance to give us a much safer community for those with mental illness and the citizens.

Healthy mind, healthy body

Mary Klein RN, Parish Nurse



CLEAN SIDEWALK CLUB

LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW!

It will be coming soon enough and we need shovelers

Here's how it works:

There's no longer a sign-up sheet at Church.

Instead, we're using a dedicated Google Calendar for signing up volunteers.

To view the calendar, go on-line and visit: bit.ly/cfnsnow

Find an open slot(s) that works for you.

THEN, contact bradmckinney@gmail.com; (308) 641-1741

(or paul@paulhorsted.com; 673-7898)

Brad or Paul can then edit the Google Calendar to show your dates. Thank you!





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
- Sara — sara_clf@gwtc.net

JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have articles for the January Newsletter to the office by December 21st. 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.:

- Sara: in office Tuesday afternoon & Wednesday
- Chris: in office Monday, Tuesday & 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.



“CHRIST IN OUR HOME” DEVOTIONALS

The “Christ in Our Home” daily devotional booklet is issued quarterly by Augsburg Fortress. The **October to December 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.

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

2020 BUDGET THRU OCT. 31ST

	Oct. 2020	Budget
Income		
Offering Contributions	264,436	289,919
Non-restricted Special Donation	6,127	2,022
Interest	445	0
Total Income	<u>271,007</u>	<u>291,941</u>
Expenses		
Pastoral Leadership	72,548	77,690
Worship	7,256	8,929
Education	3,956	9,520
Mission Support	34,382	37,477
Support/Care	115,941	155,244
Total Expenses	<u>234,082</u>	<u>288,860</u>
Net Ordinary Income	36,925	3,081

Merry Christmas



MUSIC REPORT FOR DECEMBER

“LET US BE BEARERS OF HOPE IN THE MIDST OF PAIN AND SUFFERING”

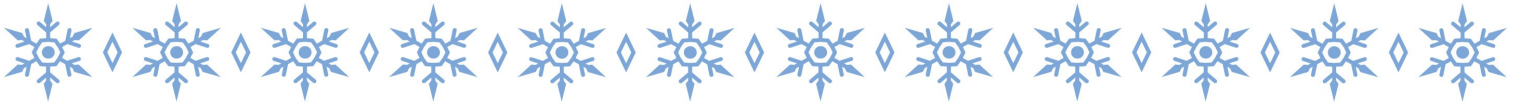
I read these words and they linger in my mind and in my heart as a reminder that I have not always been very good at practicing waiting, yet we are called during these times to wait, listen, and hear what God will finally speak to us. We do not wait alone. We are a congregation filled with love in the church and beyond the walls of the church building. As I work on the December music and find song choices, accompanists, special music and song leaders, I am aware of the work that Pastor Pam is doing to make the Advent and Christmas services to continue to be a celebration of Jesus birth. We hear - we are preparers -whether sent in the world or inside our home. We are still the living embodiment of the gospel wherever we go. The COVID-19 has reached our world. It has forced us to look at our fragility. Sometimes I think that God's best work might be done as God's way for us to find deep intimacy in a still small voice and intimate fellowship with our Lord and hearing God's voice. We are the church—whether dispersed in the world, inside our homes, inside the church or watching our services on livestream. I know the struggle can be so very hard for those that are confined or are lonely within their own homes . Each of us needs to find the source of strength to help others as well as keeping our minds and hearts guided toward our beautiful Savior and feel His presence. God did not save us with a decree from heaven. God's only son came to dwell among us. It was about touch. Each of us can sometimes find something new to help us survive loneliness we might feel. I find myself going into the music room almost daily to sing and play for hours . We send prayers to you that you might know that God is there, that He loves you and that we strive to survive. I think about our wonderful choir who at this time cannot be a part of the service. Lots of adjustments. Pastor Pam has listed all the services in the December calendar.

WE KEEP YOU ALL IN OUR PRAYERS. GOD BLESS YOU , GOD GRANT YOU HEALING, GOD LOVES YOU.

Thank you Pastor Pam and all the people who are helping the church continue to send out the message

MERRY CHRISTMAS. PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD.

Peace, Margaret Tretheway



FROM THE BISHOP'S DESK:

Siblings in Christ of the South Dakota Synod, Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. I am a woman of many lists, I have a running grocery list, I have a weekend to do list and a list of tasks to be completed at work. Lists keep me focused and organized; but they also give me reason to celebrate my small achievements when I check a completed item off my list. I work in a field where the work is never done, but most days more things get added than crossed off. So, I learned to celebrate the little victories of even the smallest of tasks being completed. You, the people of the South Dakota Synod are on my December ministry list. As we near the end of the year, I would like to take the opportunity to share a few things with you. So in a good old list fashion here it goes:

1. THANK YOU! Thank you for your continued support, whether it is through your financial participation in the ministry we undertake together, or the gift of giving of self to a South Dakota Synod ministry or event. Thank you for showing up to strengthen the proclamation of the Gospel among the people of South Dakota.

2. Have you had a chance to listen to the Synod's Advent podcast? We joined forces with Joel and Aimee Pakan, Tangled Blue to celebrate the Advent of Christ with #reluctanthope. The podcasts air every Wednesday through Advent and are available to you to enjoy and share with others who may also enjoy them. They are based on the daily lectionary and have a focus on a current event. These podcasts include music, scripture and a faithful conversation based on the scripture of the day. Check it out. Share it widely. May it help you to celebrate the season of Advent as we await the Savior's birth.

3. You may have been able to join us for Synod Day on November 7th, where we celebrated and learned about synod ministries and the vision for our "Journey together in Christ", based on Luke 24:13-35. If you didn't have an opportunity to join, please know that a recording of the day's events is available to you. You may access the Synod Day resources here: sdsynod.org/synodday.

4. Last but not least, please remember that I had promised you to "show up." Your synod staff is committed to accompany you in your congregation's needs. Please, reach out to us, if you would like to be in conversation with us, to bounce of an idea or if you have questions. Our numbers and email addresses can be found on the synod's website www.sdsynod.org.

I would like to close by saying thank you again for your trust, support and continuing to show up. Now, let's #JourneyTogetherinChrist.

Rev. Constanze Hagmaier, Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA

GENEROSITY X 10.5

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Or is it? For some, it's the absolute worst time of the year. Wherever we fall in the Christmas Joy-ometer, there are ways to give and receive that honor our faith and the Greatest Gift of All. Here are 10.5 ideas for you:

- 1. A gift of time:** Make a phone call to 1 or 2 or 5 seniors who have lived the past several months in isolation. The sound of a caring voice is a priceless, beautiful gift that costs nothing.
- 2. A gift of skill:** Think about a single parent who might need an oil change or a door hinge repaired. In this time of COVID, is there a safe way for you to show up with a hammer or screwdriver for an hour?
- 3. A gift of grain or livestock:** As you think about year-end giving, consider a gift measured in bushels or head rather than dollars and cents. Your effort to be more tax-efficient means there are more dollars to give and less sent to the IRS.
- 4. A gift of life:** The need for blood donations is very real. Roll up your sleeve—this gift can save the lives of three people.
- 5. A gift of stock:** If you own stocks that are worth far more today than when you made the investment, you can hold onto them until you die, or sell the stock and pay the capital gains tax, or gift the stock through Lutheran Planned Generosity of SD to your favorite ministry(ies) and pay zero tax. Thinking you should still own that company? Just buy it back the same day and reset your basis at today's price!
- 6. A gift of words:** Send a letter to a military person stationed away from family this year in thanks for their service and sacrifice. While you're at it, remember that a note to their family waiting at home would be a welcome gift as well.
- 7. A gift of hope:** There are no Required Minimum Distributions from your IRA in 2020 because of the CARES Act, but an IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution is still allowed, and an efficient way to make a gift of cash through the ELCA Good Gifts program. Maybe it's a cow, or chickens, or an entire farm. Whatever you choose, the opportunity to hope for a better future that comes from your generosity is priceless.



W/ELCA HAPPENINGS...

Next Meeting: Monday, January 25, 2021 @ 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall

Hostesses: To Be Announced

Program: To Be Announced

Despite Covid and smaller attendance for Sunday services, WELCA had two events during the month of November. All during the month we had a Silent Auction featuring 8 beautiful items. The auction ended after the November 29 service and we took in \$350.00 from the auction. On November 15 we had a Craft Fair - no goodies this year. We made \$516.00 from the Craft Fair. We are so thankful for everyone who took part in these two events. As you know, most of the money we make, we give away! Thank you also to everyone who donated to the WELCA Storehouse food drive.

We have been asked to supply 30 dozen cookies again for the Custer Christmas for Kids. It was decided at the meeting that we will purchase cookies this year instead of asking folks to bake them. Christmas for Kids will be held on Saturday, December 12th. We could use some Christmas Oreos to go with the cookies that we will purchase. If a person would like to donate Christmas Oreos, please leave them on the counter in the kitchen with a label for Christmas for Kids. We need the Oreos by Sunday, December 6th. Thank you for any help that is given to support this special day for kids! Check with Jackie to see if cookies are still needed.

Wishing you all blessings in this Advent season. Stay safe.

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**QUILTING** — Quilting continues each Tuesday morning. We have fulfilled our commitment to Lutheran Social Services and Lutheran World Relief and are currently working on Christmas lap robes for our nursing home residents. Thanks for all your help: the gifts of fabric, thread & sheets, the Thrivent money which allows us to purchase large pieces of fabric and middle padding, and the people sewing, cutting and piecing at home. There are many "surprises" left in the sewing room: What Fun! Blessings—The Quilters



## SD SYNOD NEWS CONTINUED...

**8. A gift of pride:** Talk with your local social services agency and offer to buy Christmas gifts for a parent who can't bring Christmas to their children this year. Let them make the list, and wrap the gifts and put their name on the tags.

**9. A gift of love:** Who do you know, but don't really like? Who has a way of rubbing you the wrong way at every turn? Make a cake, bake a loaf of bread, buy a box of shiny apples, and stop by with a smile and "Merry Christmas!"

**10. A gift of faith:** Who have you been meaning to ask to worship with you? Can you invite them to share a Christmas Eve service together via Zoom or Facebook? If your congregation worships in person, can you share a socially distanced pew?

**10.5. A gift of legacy:** What will your estate plan teach your children? How will it tell the story of your faith? How will your life's work have made a difference? Wrap a box containing a note that shares the gift of knowing that your will is current, your powers of attorney are in place, and your living will is written. For those you love, this is peace of mind tied up with a bow.

If you'd like more ideas about how to make generosity a part of your Christmas, contact Kathy McHenry at Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota at 605.274.5030 or [kmchenry@sdsynod.org](mailto:kmchenry@sdsynod.org).

## COUNCIL MINUTES – NOVEMBER 17, 2020 MEETING

*Treasurer's & Finance Committee's Reports*—Joy's submitted reports reviewed the current statement of financial position and the offering trends. The October giving rate was slightly higher so the overall giving levels are approximately 10.4% YTD below budget. Given the current PPP Loan authorization, CLF may well receive the full forgiveness of the \$26,667 loan. With parking lot deferment and unexpected savings, the budget should be balanced by the end of the year. (Thank you to Joy for managing these items so comprehensively.)

The Finance Committee reviewed three over-budget accounts and offered recommendations that were addressed by the council as follows: —Dave moved and it was seconded to make up the \$220 difference between budgeted (\$611) and Bear Butte Conference Dues(\$831) by using \$204 budgeted but not used dollars for the Synod Assembly offering and \$16.00 of unbudgeted dollars designed by Council. This motion passed.

- ✦ Confirmation Gift Expenses: The cost of \$33.85 per confirmand exceeded the nominal fee which had previously been earmarked as \$25. Scot moved and it was seconded to cover this amount for this year, with an assignment given to the Finance Committee to develop a less specific yet binding policy regarding gifts for Rites of Passage. This motion passed. Likewise, Laura moved and it was seconded that an additional \$194.99 in gifts that had been ordered be paid as a one time exception with plans in place to have a more formal right of passage policy in the future. This motion passed.
- ✦ Given a variety of unforeseen issues, the cost over-runs for the parsonage deck exceeded the \$4,991.07 that had been approved on 9/19/2020. (The final project was 189% of original estimate.) Dave moved and it was seconded to cover the cost override of \$1,042.93. This motion passed with plans to keep a tighter system in place for future contracts.

### *Unfinished Business:*

- ✦ **Thrivent Choice**- \$21 received in November—\$1949 YTD
- ✦ **Review Worship & activities**, Review of worship and activities—Worship in-person and on-line has remained steady. Plans will continue to be monitored at least monthly.
- ✦ **Special Congregational Meeting plan**—Since a quorum was not reached for the November 1 meeting, council considered future meetings. It was determined that the Annual meeting would be scheduled with a Potluck Dinner and more attention to time of gathering would be made. An agenda item for the annual meeting would include the use of online meeting formats as an option.

### *New Business:*

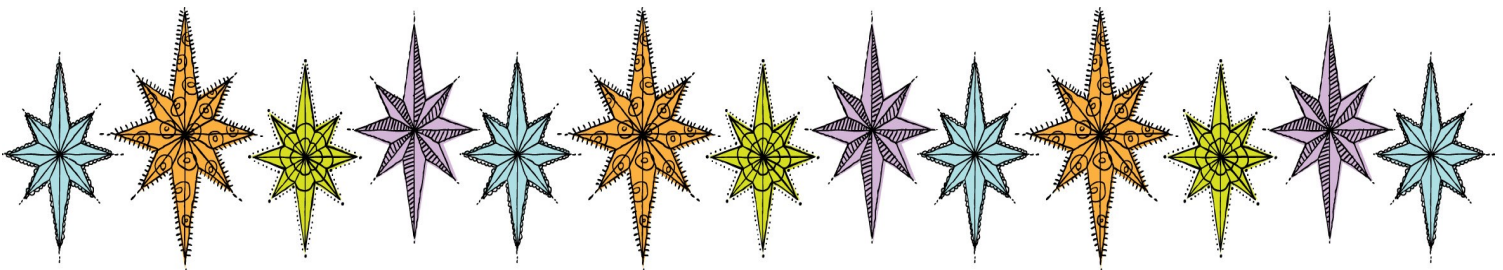
- ✦ **Nominating Committee:** Going off council at the end of year: Laura Burden (completing 3 year term) Christie Behlings has just completed one year as president. She will serve another 3 years. This leaves one position to fill; as one of the current council members will move into the president position
- ✦ **Tree Trimming**—It has been noted that a number of trees need to be removed or pruned on the church property. An estimate of \$900-\$1500 within the next 1-2 years is expected. There may be some possibility of getting a grant from SD state for up to 50% of the cost.

*Reflections on Mission and Ministry*—Pastor Pam's husband and son had both been diagnosed with Covid-19 so Confirmation was re-scheduled to December 6<sup>th</sup>. A "Longest Night/Blue Christmas" service is being planned for December 21<sup>st</sup>, the longest night of the year. Thankfully, Chris Baker has been working as part-time office manager.

### *Committee & Ministry Team Reports:*

- ✦ **Property Committee**—Gutters were cleaned recently. Need for re-painting windows on the north side of the Fireside Room was noted. A general property walk through of parsonage and church is indicated.
- ✦ **Social Ministry**—Had met with plans to advertise for Sharing the Dream as an on-line sales project; Possibly having a "Virtual" pancake feed in February, and re-building the mountain again for the Lent project.
- ✦ **Worship and Music**—Margaret is busy getting vocalists and musicians to sign up for the many services in the next couple of months. Two services will be held for Christmas Eve.

The next Council Meeting is December 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM.



## ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY

### Advent 1

Tuesday, December 1: Psalm 79; Micah 4:6-13; Revelation 18:1-10

Wednesday, December 2: Psalm 79; Micah 5:1-5a; Luke 21:34-38

### Advent 2

Thursday, December 3: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Hosea 6:1-6 1; Thessalonians 1:2-10

Friday, December 4: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Acts 11:19-26

Saturday, December 5: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Ezekiel 36:24-28; Mark 11:27-33

Sunday, December 6: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 2; Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Monday, December 7: Psalm 27; Isaiah 26:7-15; Acts 2:37-42

Tuesday, December 8: Psalm 27; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 11:1-18

Wednesday, December 9: Psalm 27; Malachi 2:10—3:1; Luke 1:5-17

### Advent 3

Thursday, December 10: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 2:1-5; Philippians 3:7-11

Friday, December 11: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 3:2-6; Philippians 3:12-16

Saturday, December 12: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 3:13-19; Matthew 21:28-32

Sunday, December 13: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55

1; Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday, December 14: Psalm 125; 1 Kings 18:1-18; Ephesians 6:10-17

Tuesday, December 15: Psalm 125; 2 Kings 2:9-22; Acts 3:17—4:4

Wednesday, December 16: Psalm 125; Malachi 3:16—4:6; Mark 9:9-13

### Advent 4

Thursday, December 17: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; 2 Samuel 6:1-11; Hebrews 1:1-4

Friday, December 18: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; 2 Samuel 6:12-19; Hebrews 1:5-14

Saturday, December 19: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Judges 13:2-24; John 7:40-52

Sunday, December 20: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26;

Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

Monday, December 21: Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Samuel 1:1-18; Hebrews 9:1-14

Tuesday, December 22: Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Samuel 1:19-28; Hebrews 8:1-13

Wednesday, December 23: Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Mark 11:1-11

### 1 Christmas

Thursday, December 24: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Friday, December 25: Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

Saturday, December 26: Psalm 148; Jeremiah 26:1-9, 12-15; Acts 6:8-15; 7:51-60

Sunday, December 27: Psalm 148; Exodus 33:18-23; 1 John 1:1-9

Monday, December 28: Psalm 148; Jeremiah 31:15-17; Matthew 2:13-18

Tuesday, December 29: Psalm 148; Isaiah 49:5-15; Matthew 12:46-50

Wednesday, December 30: Psalm 148; Proverbs 9:1-12; 2 Peter 3:8-13

### 2 Christmas

Thursday, December 31: Psalm 148; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19

Friday, January 1: Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 4:4-7 or Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 2:15-21

Saturday, January 2: Psalm 148; Proverbs 1:1-7; James 3:13-18

### 1 Epiphany

Sunday, January 3: Psalm 110; Proverbs 1:20-33; James 4:1-10

Monday, January 4: Psalm 110; Proverbs 3:1-12; James 4:11-17

Tuesday, January 5: Psalm 110; Proverbs 22:1-9; Luke 6:27-31

Wednesday, January 6: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12



## MEALS ON WHEELS

For years, CLF has taken the responsibility for delivering Meals on Wheels on Fridays. We are now down to four volunteers and can really use some more! We will be happy to train you and show you the ropes if you can commit to one weekend a month! The recipients are always so appreciative, but more than that we are doing our Father's work and are always so very blessed for doing so! Please contact Mark Hogg or the church office if you know of anyone who can help. Thank you!!





**Custer Lutheran Fellowship, ELCA**  
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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 Sellevoid  
Financial Secretary: Ann Snow  
Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky  
SPARK Kids: Wendi Rusch

**Ministers: All Members of CLF!**