

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2021

CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

12622 US HWY 16A
PHONE: 605-673-4691
EMAIL: clf@gwtc.net

CUSTER, SD 57730

www.custerlutheran.com

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CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to help decorate the altar area with poinsettias for the Christmas season, you may bring them by **December 22nd** 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

Worship

December 21, 2021 at 6:30 pm

A SERVICE OF
HEALING AND
HOPE



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

Join us for worship on Christmas Eve as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!

4:00 pm Family Service
6:00 pm Evening Service

Both services will have Holy Communion and Candle Lighting as we sing Silent Night, Holy Night.



WAIT UPON THE LORD — ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

*Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!—Psalm 27:14*



The season of Advent is characterized by waiting—waiting upon the Lord for his presence to be revealed to us on Christmas. In this worship series for Advent, we look back in Scripture at those who waited upon the Lord for his promises to come to pass through the Christ Child. We also look forward, contemplating how we should wait upon the Lord in this present moment of our lives, as God continues to make himself known to us. Each Sunday of Advent, beginning with Nov. 28th, we will explore different themes of waiting in worship. We wait upon the Lord with Faith, Hope, Rejoicing, and Gratitude. Join us as we Wait Upon the Lord together.

ELCA GOOD GIFTS – CHRISTMAS SHOPPING?

Consider ELCA Good Gifts — goodgifts.elca.org



Your Social Ministry Team is sponsoring ELCA Good Gifts. The dates will be **Sunday, November 28th, Wednesday, December 1st and Sunday, December 5th.**

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.

Need a gift for that “hard to buy for” someone? When you purchase your *Good Gifts*, you’ll get an ornament and/or card for that special someone to show you’re honoring them by giving to those in need with their name in mind. There

will be a table set up in the Narthex on those dates to help you select gifts.

Caring Hands Ministry — Is It For You?

Custer Lutheran Fellowship has always been a caring church through prayers, providing meals or transportation. We hope everyone will know they are part of these missions of our church, even if you are not on one of these teams. All these ministries depend on CLF members sharing their concern for someone else or themselves. Then partners can act in prayer, or support with rides for food. These teams are always open to new people.

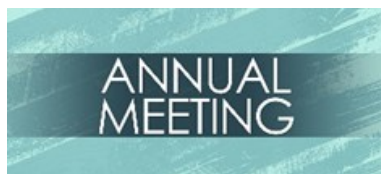


Enclosed in this newsletter is a Caring Hands Team 2022 Volunteer Reply page. Please look it over and see if one of these areas could be for you to use your gifts and talents. Toward the end of each year, we renew our interest in these...or decide to try another area of service.

It is a privilege to be part of this ministry of caring here in our church...just as it is a privilege to serve in any of the many missions we have at Custer Lutheran Fellowship. All the best to you in finding your place of dedication and commitment. One purpose that our Body of Christ shares is drawing nearer to our Lord and Savior. May we continue to grow together in love and service throughout 2022.



ANNUAL MEETING DATE & ANNUAL REPORTS DUE DATE



The Custer Lutheran Fellowship Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 23rd**, after worship at 10:30 AM, with a Brunch Potluck. All Committee activity group, and Team leaders should submit their reports to the church office by **January 4th**. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center to sign up for the potluck. Join us for this important day in the life of our faith community

YOUR WINGS ARE READY

I found this picture the other day on Pinterest – which I love! – and it actually made me think of Advent. And, of course, Christmas. Advent has always been a time of waiting and watching – of anticipation. We spend the four weeks before Christmas waiting for Jesus to be born. We also talk about when Jesus will return again.



But I'm feeling something different this year. It feels in some ways that Advent is truly a new beginning. We've all had a difficult couple of years in many different ways. It feels like we've been stuck in the cocoon of the past, of wishing things would go back to the way they used to be, of grieving all the things that have changed, and all the people we have lost.

But now is a new day, a new season, a new opportunity to grow. An opportunity to break out of our cocoon and spread our wings. Those wings of opportunity, of joy and of hope are ready and waiting for us to spread them and soar!

Advent is the beginning of a new church year. No, we don't make resolutions during Advent, but it is also a time of new beginnings and new opportunities. As I think about who we are as a faith community, I am reminded of all the amazing ministries we have here, and all the ministries around the community, and even the world, that we are involved in.

But I'm wondering in what new ministries, in what new ways we are being called to spread Jesus love, hope, and joy. What big dreams do we have to make a difference in people's lives that we've been afraid to try? What needs do we see in our own community, and around the world, that we feel called to serve?

How is God calling you to spread your wings? How is God calling us together to spread our wings? During this season of Advent, let us dream together about all the possibilities that God is opening up for us as we break out of our cocoons and spread our beautiful wings of love, joy, and hope!

Blessings to you during this holy season!

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
pam_clf@gwtc.net

701-955-5282(cell)
605-673-4691 (church)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIFE SCHEDULE

Meal at 5:15 pm

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Dec. 1st | Make-Your-Own Sandwich Bar |
| Dec. 8th | Women of the ELCA meal |
| Dec. 15th | Potluck |
| Dec. 22nd | No meal – Christmas break |
| Dec. 29th | No meal – Christmas break |

Worship at 6:00 pm

| |
|-------------------------|
| Prayer Around the Cross |
| Holden Evening Prayer |
| Holy Communion |
| No Worship |
| No Worship |

Confirmation at 6:30 pm



| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Dec. 1 st | Apostles Creed 3 |
| Dec. 8 th | Christmas Party |
| Dec. 15 th | No Class |
| Dec. 22 nd | No Class |
| Dec. 29 th | No Class |



ACOLYTES NEEDED

We are looking for an acolyte for the Christmas Eve Services. One acolyte at 4 PM and one at 6 PM. If you are able to help, call the church office at 605-673-4691.

ELCA Youth Gathering

Hello, faithful families of the ELCA across South Dakota! I bring you a message of glad tidings this December. As we are all preparing for Christ's birth and all the love and blessings (and cookies and presents) that surround our special advent season, I want to encourage you to think about how you might be able to sustain the growing faith in the young people in your congregation by supporting them and their trek to the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering next July.



Thirty thousand young people and their adult leaders will gather to hear the Word, serve their neighbors, make friends, hear they are loved unconditionally by God our creator, and of course, have some fun at US Bank Stadium in downtown Minneapolis. I ask you to pay attention to how you might be able to help the teens in your pews experience this moving and sustaining experience. Are their fundraising efforts going on in your congregation? Is there a call out for volunteers to be adult leaders? Can you pray for this mission to build faith in Jesus Christ at the Gathering next summer, remembering, "We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person--questions, complexities, and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world." -from www.elca.org/YouthGathering

May God bless your congregations as you celebrate this Advent season. And Merry Christmas!

Tami Steffensen
SD Synod Gathering Coordinator



The Confirmation and RAP Group students collected **379.5 pounds of food** for The Storehouse during their Scavenger Hunt this year! And they had a lot of fun doing it, too! Great job everyone!



WORSHIP & MUSIC

"My Lord What a Morning" ... This is what I said as we arrived at church last Sunday. It was wonderful to see all the cars there and then to go into the church and see all the people. I came in with tears in my eyes — tears of joy. Through the whole service, I was finding my tears falling down my cheeks. The service was a good reminder of who we have in our church. When I heard Mindy singing her song — I remembered the little 3rd grader that I started giving lessons to and then all the way through graduation was singing so beautifully, the tears came again.

This is such a time of the year when we celebrate the birth of our Jesus. We intend to celebrate His coming in our services. Advent services will be starting November 28th at 9:30 AM.

Wednesday night services begin at 6 PM

Advent services — 9:30 AM

A special service called "Longest Night/Blue Christmas will be on December 21st at 6:30 PM
Christmas Eve Services — 4 PM and 6 PM

I am working on special music for the coming months and hoping to have some young people to help us with Christmas music.

It is a privilege to have the job of music coordinator. Working with the staff, and all the musicians and Pastor Pam, has been a privilege and I thank everyone. The board has been very helpful also.

We have had many friends and relatives who have passed away, and that has not been easy. We thank God for His love and care to see us through.

God Bless you.
Margaret



LADIES THURSDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY



Are you interested in a book study? The ladies at CLF started meeting again on November 4th at 9:30 AM in the Fireside room. At that time, they will discuss what book that they will be studying. Everyone is welcome to attend. There's nothing like a cup of coffee, a book, and a ladies gathering. Please join us!

If you have any questions, contact Bonnie Thompson at 605-673-1047.

PARISH NURSE UPDATE BY MARY KLEIN



Parish Nurse Notes

I hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving. There is much to be grateful for, but I know it's difficult for some to see the good this year brought. Also I want to wish everyone a blessed Christmas, especially during our time of Advent as we anticipate the birth of our savior. I love the stories surrounding this time, especially the depth of trust in our God, for Mary, our Lord's mother. I always felt honored to have her name.

Take this time to reach out to others who may be alone, some for the first time and do what you can to lift their burden of sorrow, despair and loneliness. We all hear about the season of giving, but it is so much more than presents, it is the giving of our love and hope this season. If you know someone who may need help, reach out and touch them with kindness and caring.

On the note of Christmas time, it is an easy time for us to sample all the goodies out there. Think twice about that next cookie or piece of candy, especially if you are pre-diabetic or diabetic. We all need to give ourselves a taste here or there, but be very careful you do not "indulge".

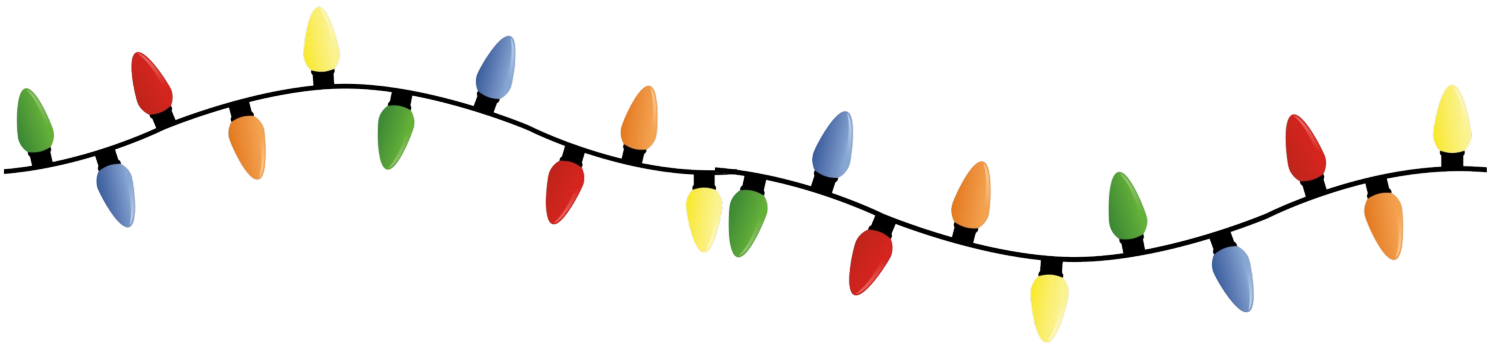
Mary Klein RN
Parish Nurse

Mental Health News

With our Health Ministry Team this month we had a lively discussion about our next information board. We decided to get information together on Mental Health. There are some exciting new information coming out. We will also highlight the special needs of Mental Health needs of our veterans and their families.

As I wrote above, it is especially difficult time for those suffering with Mental Illness. We often have high expectation which end up failing and then they fall into a deeper hole of despair. Help that person with reasonable expectations and be there for them s best you can.

Mary Klein RN
Parish Nurse



THE GREAT CLF WOOD HAUL

Our CLF Wood Haul is part of the fabric of this place. It has been a fall event for years! Nineteen people "trucked" out to the Red Shirt community on Saturday, October 30th, with over seven cords of firewood. We also brought along food for assembling sack lunches and a box of donated school supplies. We were met by Pastor Twila Two Bulls and 10 community residents who helped with the unloading of the wood. Sack lunches and school supplies were then distributed throughout the community by residents of the Red Shirt Village. After the wood was unloaded, we shared an outdoor lunch and fellowship before returning home. A BIG THANKS to Larry Peterson and Dave Thom for coordinating the event.

**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

**OFFICE HOURS**

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

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.

**JANUARY NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

Please have articles for the
January Newsletter to the office by
December 15th. Thank you!

DO YOU HAVE ANY CHANGES?

Please let the church office know of any recent address changes, new email addresses or changes in your phone numbers whether home or cell phone. We are trying to keep our records up to date. Thank You for your assistance!

W/ELCA HAPPENINGS

Next meeting: Monday, January 17, 2022 @ 11:30 in the Fireside Room.

Hostesses: We will each pack our own lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided.

Program: Sherry Broderick—Case Manager for LSS Blessing Bags and Jessica Lillebo LSS Director of Donor Relations will be our speakers. Sherry will tell us more about “Blessing Bags”. Who gets them and how the recipients are identified. Jessica will be here to give information and to answer questions in general concerning LSS.

If you do not know what a Blessing Bag is, please come to our meeting to learn and to share in quality fellowship.

The Thank Offering Service during our meeting in November was a combination of members sharing some of their favorite inspirational readings and a service entitled “Light the Way for Justice, Light the Way for Love”.



Members left the meeting with positive thoughts to ponder and a reminder of the power of Jesus' love.

Motions were made and carried to give \$200 to each of the following local missions:

The Custer YMCA, WEAVE and Outlaw Ranch. It is a pleasure to be able to provide financial assistance to these organizations. Thanks to your support of our Auction of Talents and the Craft and Goodie sale.

We will provide 30 dozen cookies for the Custer Christmas for Kids on December 18.

Our mission project for December is to collect warm socks and bars of soap for the Cornerstone Mission in Rapid City.

The ladies of W/ELCA wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy new year!

THANK YOU TO ALL

A **BIG THANK YOU** to all who answered the call to bring food for the funerals. The families are so appreciative of our taking care of that important part of their loved one's memorial.

The Funeral Committees

JOYOUS QUILTERS

The quilters will take a break until January 11th.

Thank you for all the ways you help us: fabric, sheets and the monthly projects.

December's project will be “Soap & Socks” for the Cornerstone Mission. Socks should be of new or good used sturdy quality.

Thank You,
“The Joyous Quilters”



FROM THE BISHOP'S DESK

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit! I am inviting you to tune in to our second annual South Dakota Synod Advent Podcast. The title is plain and simple "Shortage." It seems that much of our life these days is determined by what we don't have, whether it is in material, emotional, physical, mental, or spiritual sense. The world is always right at hand to shout at us loud and clear what we are short of, what we are not, and where we miss the mark. The Bible calls these shortcomings sin.

As we wait for more than packages to arrive at our doorstep, as we try yet one more time to pull ourselves up by our bootstraps, as we take a deep breath hoping that tomorrow will be better, I invite you to tune in this Advent season and listen to Tangled Blue's tunes and synod staff's faithful conversations with partners in ministry. And as we arrive every week to listen, we trust that the Holy Spirit will open our ears and hearts to the message of hope-filled abundance so that we are ready to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus the Christ at Christmas time. So, watch and wait with me, as details for our annual Advent podcast are unfolding abundantly in the midst of shortages in the World. Peace be with you!

Journeying in Christ with you,
Rev. Constanze Hagmaier
Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA



Rural Ministry Liaison Position

As the South Dakota Synod, we are committed to journeying together in Christ. This commitment is rooted in Luke 24 where Jesus attentively accompanied the disciples on the road to Emmaus for as long as they needed him. Once their eyes were opened and they discovered that their hearts were burning within them they picked up ministry again and Jesus vanished from their eyes. But as long as their trust was shaken, they felt alone, uncared for, and desperate. Jesus walked with them, listened to them, and taught them. In the same manner, our rural congregations often feel alone, uncared for, shaken and desperate. If our mission is to accompany each other on the journey, we must find a way to do so.

The South Dakota Synod identified that we would journey together in Christ through relating with intentionality, networking across the church, equipping leaders, and sharing leadership, because we are confident that Christ loves all. Through prayer and discernment, the executive board of the synod has affirmed the pilot effort to provide a 'Rural Ministry Liaison' to congregations who are currently without a rostered minister working through the call process.

The 'Rural Ministry Liaison' would build intentional relationships with our rural ministry sites through immersion in 14-day increments. During these extended stays they would listen, learn and care for our rural ministry partners. They would network these rural sites with other sites and the wider church, as well as recognize and foster leadership gifts in local people. They would, like Jesus on the road, listen to the people in the faith community, and at the same time teach them through scripture about the hope that lies within the waters of baptism; so that, in turn, they can rediscover that their hearts were burning inside them all along for the purpose of revitalizing ministry and becoming once again bearers of the Good News that Christ loves all. Stay tuned for further news about the 'Rural Ministry Liaison'!

Rev. Renee Splichal Larson

Ayden Dooley played piano for Special Music!



The Ainsley Family were given a blessing and sending as they move to MN. We will miss you!



Dwight and Mary Klein 50th Anniversary



Vicar Alisha Unga, who is serving as a pastoral intern in Edgemont, preached on Nov. 14.

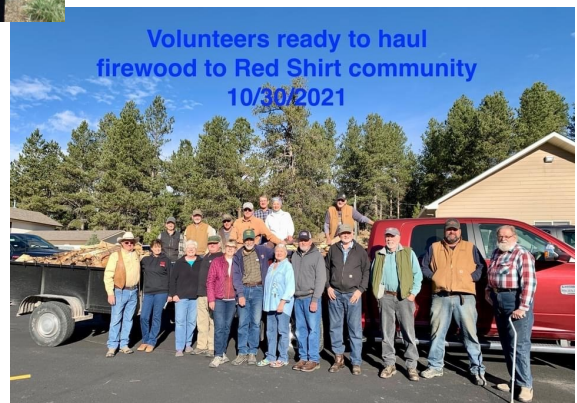


Merry Christmas

ANNUAL WOOD HAUL TO PINE RIDGE



Volunteers ready to haul firewood to Red Shirt community 10/30/2021



CLF MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Breakfast/Bible Study group resumed meeting. Fueled by pancakes, bacon and fruit and a theme "wherever 2 or more are gathered, I am with you..."; we're not "just" visiting, it's intentional conversation about our lives and happenings, in the framework of Christ's presence. Participants shared recent life events and recollections from 9/11 20 years ago. The next breakfast is **December 11th** (eat at 8:30) centered around video, discussion and prayer (and of course, food!). Just show up, or call Dave Thom (673-3953) or Phil Lewison (673-2172).



LADIES' BIBLE STUDY



Yes, this fall there will be a ladies Bible Study happening on Thursday nights at 5:30 PM in the Fireside Room. Joy Smolnisky is the leader of this group. If you have any questions about the bible study give Joy Smolnisky a call at 605-929-1244.



YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

The Youth Ministry Coordinator is a 20-hour-per-week position responsible for coordination of all youth programs. Teaching and administrative support are important aspects of this position. Program areas include Wednesday Spark Kids after school program, Confirmation, and Senior High Ministry. Experience working with various ages of youth required. This position requires the ability to interact with youth of all ages, be detail oriented to plan and execute all areas of youth ministry, and a passion for sharing the love of Christ. Please contact Pastor Pam for more information at pam_clf@gwtc.net.

PA HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED

We are looking for new people who are able to help run the PowerPoint slides during worship on Sundays. Due to 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!



GENTLE YOGA CLASS

Gentle yoga with Jackie classes will be meeting on Mondays and Thursdays in December at 11:30 AM in the Narthex. Masks will be optional. A six foot distance between participants will be practiced. All abilities welcomed.

OUTLAW RANCH FOOD SERVICE MANAGER



Outlaw Ranch is seeking a Food Service Manager to join our year-around team! This person must be able to craft the meals and menus for which are known, as well as train, supervise and guide the kitchen staff, maintain inventory and order food. Anticipated starting salary \$31,000 plus health benefits, paid time off and holidays along with retirement contribution. Please visit our website for a job description: <https://www.losd.org/year-round-employment>. Email your cover letter, resume and references to matt@losd.org

CLEAN SIDEWALK CLUB

"Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow"

It's already showing up, isn't it. And we need volunteer sidewalk shovelers for the Church. There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center in the Narthex - and you can sign up for whatever days work for you. (If you can't make a weeklong commitment, that's fine. Sign up for two or three days.)

If you need to be shown how to operate the John Deere snow blower, contact Brad McKinney at 308-641-1741 or any number of "experienced" snow shovelers.



CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP PROFIT & LOSS BUDGET VS. ACTUAL January through October 2021

| Profit & Loss Detail | Non-restricted | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| | Actual | Budget |
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | |
| Income | | |
| 40000—Offering Contributions | 245,570 | 225,000 |
| Total 40014—Non-restricted Special Donation | 31,483 | 27,317 |
| 40300—Interest | 276 | 333 |
| Total Income | 277,930 | 252,650 |
| Expense | | |
| Total 61000—Pastoral Leadership | 74,123 | 76,972 |
| Total 62000—Worship | 7,069 | 7,498 |
| Total 63000—Education | 1,357 | 2,812 |
| Total 64000—Mission Support | 33,973 | 34,961 |
| Total 65000—Support/Care | 119,573 | 120,075 |
| Total Expense | 236,094 | 242,318 |
| Net Ordinary Income (see note below) | 41,836 | 10,333 |

Note: Includes \$26,666 income from Payroll Protection Plan received in 2020 but booked in 2021 when loan forgiveness granted by Federal Program. Does not include pending 12-31-2021 budgeted one-time mortgage prepay expense (\$12,000).

ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY

December Daily Lectionary

Advent 2

Thursday, Dec. 2, Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 3:5-12; Philippians 1:12-18a
 Friday, Dec. 3, Luke 11:68-79; Malachi 3:13-18; Philippians 1:18b-26;
 Saturday, Dec. 4, Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 4:1-6; Luke 9:1-6
 Sunday, Dec. 5, Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6
 Monday, Dec. 6, Psalm 126; Isaiah 40:1-11; Romans 8:22-25;
 Tuesday, Dec. 7, Psalm 126; Isaiah 19:18-25; 2 Peter 1:2-15;
 Wednesday, Dec. 8, Psalm 126; Isaiah 35:3-7; Luke 7:18-30



Advent 3

Thursday, Dec. 9, Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 6:1-8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15
 Friday, Dec. 10, Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 8:4-12; 2 Corinthians 9:1-15
 Saturday, Dec. 11, Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 9:8-15; Luke 1:57-66
 Sunday, Dec. 12, Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18
 Monday, Dec. 13, Isaiah 11:1-9; Numbers 16:1-19; Hebrews 13:7-17;
 Tuesday, Dec. 14, Isaiah 11:1-9; Numbers 16:20-35; Acts 28:23-31
 Wednesday, Dec. 15, Isaiah 11:1-9; Micah 4:8-13; Luke 7:31-35

Advent 3

Thursday, Dec. 16, Psalm 80:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 10:10-18;
 Friday, Dec. 17, Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 42:10-18; Hebrews 10:32-39
 Saturday, Dec. 18, Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 66:7-11; Luke 13:31-35
 Sunday, Dec. 19, Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55, Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-55 [
 Monday, Dec. 20, Psalm 113; Genesis 25:19-28; Colossians 1:15-20;
 Tuesday, Dec. 21, Psalm 113; Genesis 30:1-24; Romans 8:18-30;
 Wednesday, Dec. 22, Psalm 113; Isaiah 42:14-21; Luke 1:5-25;
 Wednesday, Dec.22, Luke 1:46b-55; Micah 4:1-5; Ephesians 2:11-22;

Advent 4

Thursday, Dec. 23, Luke 1:46b-55; Micah 4:6-8; 2 Peter 1:16-21
 1st Nativity: Friday, Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20
 2nd Nativity: Saturday, Dec. 25, Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:1-20
 3rd Nativity: Saturday, Dec. 25, Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-14
 Sunday, Dec. 26, Psalm 148; 2 Chronicles 24:17-24; Acts 6:1-7; 7:51-60
 Monday, Dec. 27, Psalm 148, Proverbs 8:32-36; John 21:19b-24
 Tuesday, Dec. 28, Psalm 148; Isaiah 54:1-13; Revelation 21:1-7
 Wednesday, Dec. 29, Psalm 147:12-20; 1 Chronicles 28:1-10; 1 Corinthians 3:10-17

1 Christmas

Thursday, Dec. 30, Psalm 147:12-20; 2 Chronicles 1:7-13; Mark 13:32-37
 Friday, Dec. 31, Psalm 147:12-20 1 Kings 3:5-14, John 8:12-19
 Monday, Jan. 1, Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 4:4-7; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 2:15-21
 Tuesday, Jan.2, Psalm 147:12-20; Proverbs 1:1-7; James 3:13-18;
 Wednesday, Jan. 3, Psalm 72; Job 42:10-17; Luke 8:16-21



COUNCIL MINUTES —

Custer Lutheran Fellowship Council Minutes— November 16, 2021

Members Present: Christie Behlings, Jackie Hartwick, Emily Hiatt, Scot Hoscheid, Liz Kleffner, Carol Niemann, Dave Pickford, Joy Smolnisky and Pastor Pam Power. Not Present: Samuel Ainsley

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Dave Pickford.

Gathering of Personal Concerns and Joys

Reading of CLF Mission Statement and Council Covenant

Devotions and Prayers

Carol led the devotions

President Christie Behlings joined and conducted the remainder of the meeting.

Agenda Additions/Approval

Two items were added to the agenda. Liz moved, Jackie seconded and the amended agenda was approved.

Secretary's Report: The correspondance was reviewed. A revised copy of the October minutes were distributed. Dave moved, Carol seconded and the revised minutes for the October meeting were approved. Worship attendance records were reviewed.

Treasurer's and Finance Committee's Report: The year to date offering is 16% over budget. October expenditures were under the monthly budget and are 91% of budget year to date. Carol moved, Jackie seconded to authorize Joy to complete the refinancing of the church mortgage. Non-restricted funds will be used to buy down the amount needed and will be replaced when pledges for the buy down are received. A draft of the 2022 budget was reviewed and discussed. The goal is to approve the 2022 budget at the December council meeting.

Special Agenda Items: There were no special agenda items.

Unfinished Business:

- The November and December worship schedule was reviewed.
- The nominating committee will meet November 21.

New Business:

- Nine people attended a new member class and are scheduled to join the church 11/21.
- Liz moved, Dave seconded to approve the Endowment Committee recommendation to distribute funds from the Lila Van Wie memorial fund for 2021. Council recommends the Endowment Committee conduct additional research, in the future, of how recipients will spend the donated funds.
- The December council meeting was rescheduled to December 14.
- The annual meeting on January 23, 2022 will include a breakfast/brunch potluck.

Reflections on Mission and Ministry:

Pastor Pam reviewed her report. She is scheduled for surgery December 6th and is making arrangements for guest pastors during her recovery.

Committee & Ministry Team Reports:

- Endowment, Liz Kleffner – Presented Endowment Committee recommendations during new business.
- Evangelism, Pastor Pam – Nothing to report.
- Health Ministry, Carol Niemann – Nothing to report.
- Property Committee, Dave Pickford – Reviewed recently completed projects. There is a punch list of projects needing to be completed.
- Social Ministry, Scot Hoscheid – Reviewed committee activity.
- W/ELCA, Jackie Hartwick – Reviewed the Loads of Love project, Blessing Bags, progress of the kitchen clean up project and the craft and goodie sale 11/21.
- Worship & Music, Emily Hiatt – Discussed potentially paying guest musicians during 2022 budget review.

Next Meeting: December 21, 2021:

Treats – Liz Kleffner. Devotions – Jackie Hartwick.

December 2021 Care & Share Calling Coordinator – Liz Kleffner.

Closing Prayer, Lord's Prayer

Scot Hoscheid, Council Secretary



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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 **serving** 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 Moe
Parish Nurse: Mary Klein
Custodian: Augie Heyne
Music: Margaret Tretheway
Choir Director: Marlene Sellevold
Financial Secretary: Ann Snow
Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky
SPARK Kids:
RAP Group:

Ministers: All Members of CLF!