

# CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

## CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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DECEMBER 2022

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### ADVENT PROGRAM

An Advent tradition that has happened in the past, will be happening again this year, here at Custer Lutheran Fellowship. The Custer Community Churches have all been invited to participate in the Advent Program. We will hear many different types of music from singing, to instrument playing and others. We hope that all of you will attend this special program and get your holiday music start here at Custer Lutheran Fellowship.



Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the program.

Join us for a service, on **December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM** 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. All are welcome.



### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

children's program



We are planning a Children's Christmas Program for **December 11, 2022**, following fellowship after church. Will your child/children/grandchildren be part of this, we need children for the program & adults that would help with getting the children ready. This will be a no rehearsal play, the children will be directed on when it is their turn to come into the scene. We will sing lots of Christmas Carols between scenes, so everyone will participate, what fun it will be to get into the true Christmas spirit. I will send more information out with the Spark Kids. Thanks in advance.

You can contact Carol Niemann at 605-673-5454 or 605-209-5748.

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Would like to help decorate the altar with poinsettias for the Christmas season? You may bring them by **Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>** 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 the Christmas service. Thanks!

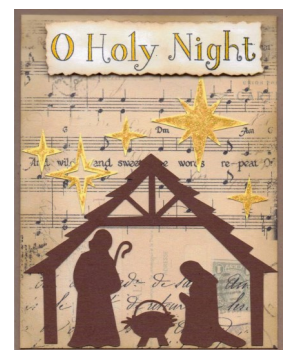


Join us for worship on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Christmas Eve Worship: 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.

Christmas Day Worship is at 9:30 AM on Sunday.



## ELCA GOOD GIFTS – CHRISTMAS SHOPPING?

Consider ELCA God Gifts — [goodgifts.elca.org](http://goodgifts.elca.org)

Your Social Ministry Team is sponsoring ELCA Good Gifts. The dates will be **Sunday, November 27th, Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.**

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.

## CALLING A NEW PASTOR ...WHAT’S NEXT?

Calling a  
New Pastor



A Call Committee was appointed and approved by the Council. The members are:

Craig Black  
Mindy Dooley  
John Kirk  
Dave Mertz

Sara Mooney  
Paul Niemann  
Teresa Obenauer  
Scott Olson

Denali Rusch – Youth Rep  
Joy Smolnisky  
Dean Suelflow

The ministry site study that was originally scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup> has been re-scheduled for **Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**. At this meeting, Pastor Renee Splichal Larson from the Synod office will be present to explain the call process, answer questions and review the draft Ministry Site Profile (MSP) with the congregation. After the meeting, the Call Committee will take any suggestions made and revise the MSP. Once the final MSP is approved, it will be submitted to the Bishop for approval and then will be available in the Mobile Database System for prospective pastors to see.

I have copies of the draft MSP available for anyone who wishes to review before the meeting. Also, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Donna McConnell, Chair  
605-440-0518.



## SPARK KIDS



Join us for SPARK Kids! During the school year on Wednesdays, children from Kindergarten through Grade 5 are picked up at the Elementary building after school is dismissed and brought to the church. Pick up is 5:00-5:15. Last month we talked about the Battle of Jericho, David & Goliath, Johan and a Child called Immanuel. This month we will continue the Christmas story each week with a birthday party for Jesus at the end. We have had so much fun learning about Bible Heroes with games, crafts, and snacks that tie into the Bible story.

There is NO cost for this program! Children need to be registered by their parents/guardians in order to participate. Registration materials are available through the office. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to join the 24 signed up so far! All are welcome!

Dear CLF Members,

We find the wonderful meaning of Christmas summarized in John 3:16 -"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Elsewhere in John's gospel, Jesus proclaims that He is: "the light of the world", "the way", "the truth", "the resurrection and the life". Imagine what your life would be like if Jesus had not come to earth! The Christ Child is the most precious gift any of us can ever receive.

We invite all of you to join us Christmas Eve with guest pastor Shannon Witt on Saturday, December 24th at 4pm or 6pm for a service with scriptures, carols and candles. Pastor Dan Johnson will be guest pastor for worship on Sunday December 25, Christmas morning at 9:30am.

As we send cards, sing carols, light candles, and exchange gifts, may we do so in the spirit of Jesus Christ – who came so that we may have eternal life.

Merry Christmas!

The CLF Council

## COMMUNITY ADVENT CONCERT

Custer Lutheran Fellowship is the sponsor and the host this year for the return of the Custer Community Advent Program. The joy of the season's music will fill the air—from bells to trumpets to the piano and voices all praising our God and his love for us through Jesus. Margaret Tretheway is the Coordinator of this exciting event at CLF.

As the sponsor of the event's return after two year absence due to COVID, we look forward to hosting and welcoming the community with the hospitality for which we are known. We look forward to having your help to be prepared and assure everyone All Are Welcome here.

If you have not been contacted yet but would want to help, please contact Margaret (605-673-1470) or Cozy (605-673-1187) to assist that day, December 4, 2022, or in the many preparations needed before-hand.

Thank you for joining in prayer for this event at our church. Together it will be a marvelous day of Glory to God.



## PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE 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.

605-673-4691 (church)



## WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIFE SCHEDULE

## Meal at 5:15 pm

<b>Dec. 7th</b>	Make-Your-Own Sandwich Bar
<b>Dec. 14th</b>	Jackie's meal
<b>Dec. 21st</b>	No meal – Christmas break
<b>Dec. 28th</b>	No meal – Christmas break

## Worship at 6:00 pm

First Week Service
Holden Evening Prayer
No Worship
No Worship

## Confirmation at 6:30 pm



Dec. 7th	Other Religions
Dec. 14th	Christmas Party
Dec. 21st	No Class
Dec. 28th	No Class



## ACOLYTES &amp; PA HELP NEEDED

We are looking for **an acolyte and a PA person** for Christmas Day at 9:30 AM and **an acolyte** for the Longest Night/Blue Christmas Service on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM. If you are able to help, call the church office at 605-673-4691.

## NEW ELCA YOUNG ADULT GATHERING

The ELCA Youth Gathering and Young Adult Ministries are excited to announce the first-ever **Young Adult Gathering**, taking place in New Orleans during the 2024 Gathering from July 16 to 20. With the cancellation of the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering, MYLE and the table, many young people were not able to participate in these life-changing faith-formation events, which prompted the Gathering to think creatively about how these now-young-adults can be involved. Be sure to check Gathering communications on Oct. 24 to hear what theme the Gathering, MYLE, the table and the new Young Adult Gathering will gather under in 2024. Find event details at [ELCA.org/gathering](http://ELCA.org/gathering)

Due to the cancellation of the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering, MYLE and tTable, many young people were not able to participate in these life-changing faith formation events. In partnership with [ELCA Young Adult Ministries](http://ELCA.org/youngadultministries), we are thrilled to open the first-ever ELCA Young Adult Gathering to individuals who will be 18 to 35 at the time of the Gathering. We recognize that 18-35 is a wide age range and anticipate that most of our programming will be geared toward those 18 to 25 years old.

The Young Adult Gathering will take place in New Orleans during the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering (July 16-20, 2024). Programming and content are still being discerned. Young adult participants are invited to join the ELCA Youth Gathering's Mass Gathering and closing worship. Follow Gathering communications to learn more and follow ELCA Young Adult Ministries for the latest updates.

The ELCA Young Adult Gathering registration is \$260 per person, which will increase to \$310 per person on Nov. 2, 2023 and then again to \$360 on Feb. 15, 2024. A nonrefundable, per-person deposit of \$150 is due at registration and must be paid within the registration rate you expect to pay.

Individuals interested in attending the ELCA Young Adult Gathering will need to register apart from any congregational group attending the ELCA Youth Gathering. Childcare will be available for those attending the ELCA Young Adult Gathering. Please note that children are not allowed to attend Mass Gathering programming.

More information regarding event programming and logistics will be shared in spring 2023. Connect with ELCA Young Adults:

[Fb.com/ELCAYoungAdults](https://www.facebook.com/ELCAYoungAdults)  
@elcayoungadults

## YOUTH SCAVENGER HUNTS

On Wednesday, November 16th, 4 confirmation and 18 RAP Group youth held separate scavenger hints after the worship service for The Storehouse. The 4 Confirmation youth were allowed 30 minutes to obtain as many items on the sheet as possible where the RAP Group Youth were allowed around 45 minutes. The 22 youth were able to collect 350 pounds of food which will be used for the Christmas Baskets along with general distribution from the food pantry. Way to go!!!



**WOW!!  
Great  
Success  
CLF!**

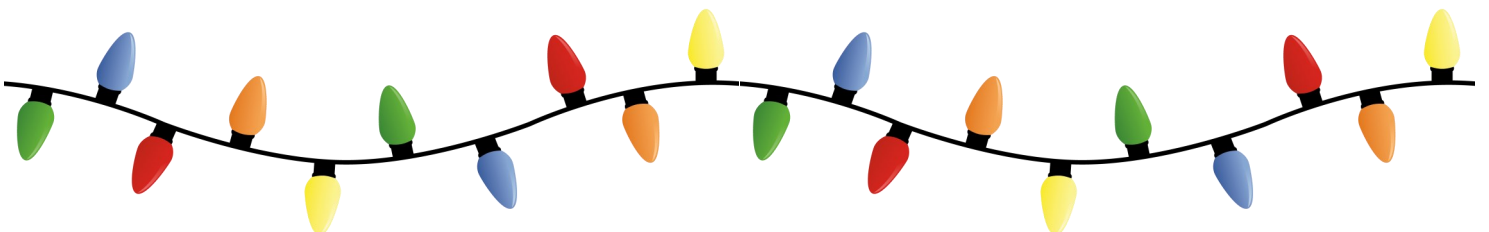


## RAP YOUTH GROUP



Every Wednesday night 6:30-7:30, we have Rap Youth Group for 9th-12th Graders. All are welcome for faith, fun and fellowship! Then each month we have a fun weekend activity. We had a great time at the October 28th Lock-in! The youth played fun mixer games and camp-style team building activities. There was a worship where we wrote things we wanted to let go of on rice paper and then dissolved them in water. We had two different snack times and the 19 youth that came all seemed to have a blast! Our November weekend activity was a Progressive Dinner. There were 14 youth, plus me as the driver, so we fit into the Church's Fun Bus perfectly! We went to the Lehman's for appetizers, the Drews for soups & salad, the Pulscher's at Outlaw Ranch for the main course, and the Rusches at CLF for desserts!

Thanks to the families for hosting! The youth always have fun continuing their Confirmation tradition of collecting non-perishables during the Scavenger Hunt for the Storehouse the week before Thanksgiving. We look forward to Christmas Caroling this month too. Mark your calendar for our weekend activity: Christmas Parade Hayride on December 3rd @ 5:30pm. Contact Wendi 509-494-3236, for more information.



## WORSHIP & MUSICAL MOMENTS

Custer Lutheran Fellowship is the sponsor and the host this year for the return of the Custer Community Advent Concert. The joy of the season's music will fill the air—from bells to trumpets to the piano and voices all praising our God and his love for us through Jesus. Margaret Tretheway is the Coordinator of this exciting event at CLF.

As the sponsor of the event's return after the two year absence due to COVID, we look forward to hosting and welcoming the community with the hospitality for which we are known. We look forward to having your help to be prepared and assure everyone "All Are Welcome Here".

If you have not been contacted yet, but would want to help, please contact Margaret (605-673-1470) or Cozy (605-673-1187) to assist that day, December 4, 2022, or in the many preparations needed beforehand.

Thank you for joining in prayer for this event at our church. Together it will be a marvelous day of Glory to God.



## LADIES THURSDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY

The Thursday Morning Christian Book Study ladies have permission and plan to meet at Wedgewood Assisted Living Center each week from 9-11:00. The book we are now reading is "What We Talk About When We Talk About God" by Rob Bell.



*New York Times* bestselling author Rob Bell, whom *The New Yorker* describes as "one of the most influential Christian leaders in the country," does for the concept of God what he did for heaven and hell in his book *Love Wins*: He shows how traditional ideas have grown stale and dysfunctional and how to return vitality and vibrancy to lives of faith today. Pastor Rob Bell explains why both culture and the church resist talking about God, and shows how we can reconnect with the God who is pulling us forward into a better future. Bell uses his characteristic evocative storytelling to challenge everything you think you know about God. *What We Talk About When We Talk About God* tackles the misconceptions about God and reveals how God is with us, for us, ahead of us, and how understanding this could change the entire course of our lives.

Please bring your own coffee/water. It isn't known at this time if we can bring in treats. When arriving at Wedgewood, press the handicap door opener to get in. You will need to sign in, take your temperature, and wear a mask. They do have masks for use, but you can wear your own. All ladies are welcome.



## PARISH NURSE UPDATE BY MARY KLEIN



### Parish Nurse Notes

Our Health Ministry Team is switching out our information table soon. Our next topic will be regarding local health resources. We will be providing information on where and how to get the help you need with equipment, places to get extra help with recovery and local services to keep you in your own home longer. There are resources out there but the difficulty comes in identifying places and contact information. We continue to do our best to help our congregation and community be safer and in good health.

With our new information table I would also like to collect used medical equipment for people to use on a temporary basis. I am looking for used crutches, walkers, high rise toilet seats, shower chairs, wheelchairs and any other equipment you have laying around your house. If or when you need it back, just contact us and we will get it back to you. I will find a place to store it all and then if anyone has a surgery coming up or an unexpected accident, just call me to see if we have what you need available. We hope this will make it more affordable and convenient for members of our congregation. If anyone has suggestions for info you feel would be helpful, contact me or anyone else on our committee. Thank you

Let's work together for our congregation

Mary Klein RN Parish Nurse

### Mental Health News

Well once again we are heading into the holidays. Seems like we just did that! Most of us look forward to the holidays with parties, family get togethers, good food and presents! But, not everyone looks forward to the holidays. When you are depressed or anxious or have other mental health issues it is difficult being around people and having a good time. We often have unpleasant thoughts of past Christmases and painful memories of lost ones. We feel lonely, inadequate and unlovable. Some of us are out of jobs and cannot afford to get presents for others or help with family dinners. Many would just as well skip the whole season. If this is you, I am sorry you are feeling that way. Do your best to keep as active as possible. Don't put too many expectations on yourself. Let a trusted friend or relative know how you are feeling. Mental Illness does not take a holiday, but you can get through this.

Healthy mind, healthy soul

Mary Klein RN Parish Nurse

## RAP YOUTH PROGRESSIVE DINNER PICTURES



## THE GREAT CLF WOOD HAUL

Our CLF Wood Haul has been a fall event for decades! Twenty-four people caravanned to the Red Shirt community on November 5th. Nine pickup trucks/trailers delivered nearly 12 cords of split firewood. Children from the community jumped in to help unload and stack the wood. Seventy-five lunches were prepared ahead of time using a team of volunteers and Thrivent funding. Our Friend in Christ, Rev. Twila Two Bulls was on hand to lead us in fellowship and to assist in the distribution of donated socks, stocking caps, blankets, quilts and school supplies. Following the firewood stacking, we shared an outdoor lunch and fellowship with members of the community before returning home. Many thanks to Larry Peterson and Dave Thom for coordinating this event.



### CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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

Main address— [clf@gwtc.net](mailto: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](http://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 23rd. 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**

The next W/ELCA meeting will occur on Monday, January 16th, 2023, at 11:30 AM. We will meet in the Fireside Room. Please bring a sack lunch. The program will be announced in the January Newsletter.

The program for our November meeting was the Thank Offering Service. The theme of the program was :With Our Whole Hearts, We Give You Thanks". Readings came from Psalm 111 and 1st Thessalonians 5:12-24. We all realize that we have much for which to be thankful. We follow the readings and rejoice concerning all that we have.

Speaking of all that we have. The Craft & Goodie Sale was held after the worship service on Sunday, November 20th. We appreciate the support of the congregation both in the items that were donated and the fact that so many shoppers almost cleared the tables! Thank You! The sale brought over \$900 to our treasury. Your generosity made it possible for us to give the following: \$100 to St. Dymas, \$100 to the Abbott House in Rapid City, \$300 to LSS to be used however needed in the Black Hills, and \$100 to Marge Baldwin to help as she works to be able to move back into her home after the fire that occurred in June. Again, we appreciate each of You and your support!

A reminder that we will be filling sacks to be put into backpacks on Tuesday, December 13th at 9:30 AM in the Fireside Room. The filled sacks will be used for the Backpack Program at Custer Elementary School. Any help Will be greatly appreciated on the 13th.

We will also supply 30 dozen cookies to the Custer Christmas for Kids on Saturday, December 17th. This is another way that we have used the funds from the Craft & Goodie Sale. We wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas!

**W/ELCA December Mission is:**

The Project for December is Bar Soap & Socks for the Cornerstone.



**CRAFT & GOODIE SALE 2022**



**THANK YOU FROM PASTOR PAM**

Thank you so much for the farewell gathering for me in October. It was hard to say goodbye, but I know I will see many of you in town since we are staying in Custer. All the cards and gifts have been wonderful, too, and have made me feel very loved. Blessings to you all as God leads you into the future.







## THE LILA VAN WIE MEMORIAL FUND 2022 DISTRIBUTION

Twenty years ago, a farsighted, faith-filled woman left a legacy. Lila Van Wie bequeathed a gift of \$100,000 The Custer Lutheran Fellowship Endowment Fund. The annual interest of this fund is designated to be used for children and youth of Custer County. Twenty years later, her legacy of generosity lives on.

On Sunday, December 4th, members of the Endowment Committee will present the following distributions to representatives of the following programs:

- \$545: YMCA After School Programming
- \$545: Custer County Library Youth Reading Programs
- \$545: Outlaw Ranch Camper Scholarships
- \$545: Lifeways "Too Good for Drugs" programming for Custer County students
- \$545: Freshman Impact Program

# A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and Happy New Year!

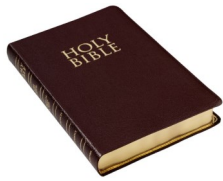
### ANNUAL WOOD HAUL TO PINE RIDGE PICTURES



NOV.  
2022







### CLF MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Breakfast will be meeting on December 10th at 8:00 AM in the Fireside Room. The men gather for a breakfast first then move on to their Bible study for the day. All are welcome to join this group. We have great discussions.

### LADIES' BIBLE STUDY



The Ladies Bible Study happens on Thursday nights at 5:30pm in the Fireside Room. If you have any questions about the bible study give Joy Smolnisky a call at 605-929-1244.

### THURSDAY MEN'S BREAKFAST

**7:00 AM — "Calamity Jane's"**

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



REMEMBER THE REASON FOR THE SEASON.

### ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY REMEMBRANCES



LI FJERESTAD

ARLENE "ARLE"  
REETZ



STEVE HAMMER

RICHARD "DICK"  
SERINO



WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIFE



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

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES, GENERAL FUND BUDGET VS. ACTUAL

January through October 2022

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

40000—Offering Contributions

Total 40014—Non-restricted Special Donations

40300—Interest/rebates/etc.

Total Income

Expense

Total 61100—Pastor

61400-Guest Pastor

Total 61000—PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

Total 62000—WORSHIP

Total 63000—EDUCATION

Total 64000—MISSION SUPPORT

Total 65000—SUPPORT/CARE

Total Expense

Net Ordinary Income

Additions to Reserves

Capital Improvement

Youth Coordinator

Total Set Asides

Net Cashflow 10-31-2022

Non-Restricted	
Actual	Budget
218,018	247,917
5,295	2,022
604	250
<b>223,916</b>	<b>250,189</b>
75,853	78,096
7,251	833
<b>83,104</b>	<b>78,929</b>
8,724	9,314
5,046	6,367
34,130	34,102
91,464	107,424
<b>222,469</b>	<b>236,136</b>
<b>1,447</b>	<b>14,053</b>
7,000	7,000
10,382	9,798
-17,382	-16,798
<b>-15,935</b>	<b>-2,745</b>

## COUNCIL MINUTES – NOVEMBER 15, 2022

**Treasurer's and Finance Committee's Report:** The offerings thru October were 88% of budget (\$29,899) and expenses were 95% of budget (\$13,015). Finance Committee met and reviewed this year's budget and started work on next year's budget. Finance Committee recommendations were reviewed by Council. Initial 2023 budget will be presented at December Council meeting.

### Unfinished Business:

- ❖ **Thrivent Choice** – YTD - \$963.00
- ❖ **Amazon Smile** – YTD - \$ 5.00
- ❖ **Lynn's DakotaMart Receipts** – YTD - \$900.00
- ❖ **Financial Secretary Update** – Now have two financial secretaries
- ❖ **Sabbatical Policy** – The proposed policy was handed out. Emily moved, Carol seconded to approve as written. Motion carried.
- ❖ **Stewardship Campaign Update** – To date have received 63 cards for \$196,728.
- ❖ **Boiler Update** – Dave Thom working with Witt's. May have used parts from another boiler for us to have in reserve.
- ❖ **Guest Pastor Update** – Pulpit supply is covered through the end of the year except for the two Christmas Eve services.
- ❖ **Christmas Program Review** – Carol reviewed the program, called "No Stress, No Fuss". It will be for children in #K-8. Have 6 parent volunteers to help with the program which will be held on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> after the fellowship hour.

### New Business:

- ❖ **Membership changes:** None
- ❖ **Approve Call Committee Members** – The members are: Donna McConnell, Chair, Craig Black, Mindy Dooley, John Kirk, Dave Mertz, Sara Mooney, Paul Niemann, Teresa Obenauer, Scott Olson, Denali Rusch (youth rep), Joy Smolnisky and Dean Suelflow. Donna moved, Jackie seconded to approve the members. Motion carried.
- ❖ **SPARK Drivers** – Scot had checked about using Outlaw Ranch's van, but not able to due to their insurance concerns.
- ❖ **Approval of Finance Review Committee Members** – The members are: Denny McConnell, Sara Mooney, Paul Niemann. Donna moved, Carol seconded to approve the members. Motion carried.
- ❖ **Nominating Committee** – Members are Dave Pickford and Jan Thom who were appointed at the annual meeting. They will work with the outgoing council members listed next.
- ❖ **Council Member Terms Expiring** – Scot Hoscheid, Jackie Hartwick, Carol Niemann
- ❖ **Finance Committee** – Steve Baldwin & Dave Pickford have agreed to return in 2023.
- ❖ **Christmas Tree** – Dates for setting up the Christmas tree are listed:
  - Pick-up – November 20-21
  - Set-up – November 21-23
  - Decorating – November 28-December 2
- ❖ **St Dysmas Letter** – Received invitation letter to attend worship at St Dysmas again. Taking dates now for 2023.
- ❖ **Other** –
  - **Pastor Pam Letter** – Received letter requesting an extension to the end of the month. Scot to contact Bishop Hagmaier and Pastor Renee about possible costs.
  - **Vice-Pastor Status** – Contract states he is to check in every month. Everything is going well.

### Reflections on Mission and Ministry:

- ❖ **Canceling Church – when & how** – Council had discussed this at the April meeting. In the event Sunday worship needs to be cancelled due to inclement weather, the Council President upon a visit to the church would make the call along with the Council members (by email vote). Members would then be notified by CLF Facebook page, Custer Connect Facebook page, the prayer chain and possibly scrolling on local TV stations.

Donna McConnell, Council Secretary





## ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY

### Advent 2

Thurs. December 1: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 1:12-17, 21-26  
 Fri. December 2: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 30:19-26; Acts 13:16-25  
 Sat. December 3: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 40: 1-11; John 1:19-28  
 Sun. December 4: Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19, Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12  
 Mon. December 5: Psalm 21; Isaiah 24:1-16a; 1Thessalonians 4:1-12  
 Tues. December 6: Psalm 21; Isaiah 41:14-20; Romans 15:14-21  
 Wed. December 7: Psalm 21; Genesis 15:1-18; Matthew 12:33-37

### Advent 3

Thurs. December 8: Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 1:6-18; 2 Peter 3:1-10  
 Fri. December 9: Psalm 146: 5-10; Ruth 4:13-17; 2 Peter 3:11-18  
 Sat. December 10: Psalm 146: 5-10; 1 Samuel 2:1-8; Luke 3:1-18  
 Sun. December 11: Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11  
 Mon. December 12: Psalm 42; Isaiah 29:17-24; Acts 5:12-16  
 Tues. December 13: Psalm 42; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Jude 17-25  
 Wed. December 14: Psalm 42; Zechariah 8:1-17; Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34

### Advent 4

Thurs. December 15: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:1-17; Galatians 3:23-29  
 Fri. December 16: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:18-22; Galatians 4:1-7  
 Sat. December 17: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:23-29; John 3:31-36  
 Sun. December 18: Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25  
 Mon. December 19: 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Genesis 17:15-22; Galatians 4:8-20  
 Tues. December 20: 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Genesis 21:1-21; Galatians 4:21-5:1  
 Wed. December 21: 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Genesis 37:2-11; Matthew 1:1-17

### Days Around Christmas

Thurs. December 22: Luke 1:46b-55; Isaiah 33:17-22; Revelation 22:6-7, 18-20  
 Fri. December 23: Luke 1:46b-55; 2 Samuel 7:18, 23-29; Galatians 3:6-14  
 Sat. December 24: Nativity of Our Lord I: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14  
 Sun. December 25: Nativity of Our Lord II: Isaiah 62:6-12; Palm 97; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:1-20  
 Sun. December 25: Nativity of Our Lord III: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-14  
 Mon. December 26: Psalm 148, Solomon 4:7-15; Acts 7:59-8:8;  
 Tues. December 27: Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:22-31; 1 John 5:1-12  
 Wed. December 28: Psalm 148; Isaiah 49:13-23; Matthew 18:1-14

### Name of Jesus

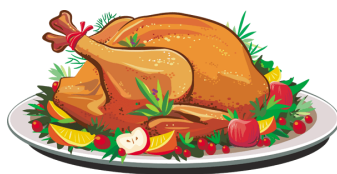
Thurs. December 29: Psalm 20; Jeremiah 31:15-22; Luke 19:41-44  
 Fri. December 30: Psalm 20; Isaiah 26:1-9; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18  
 Sat. December 31: Psalm 20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19  
 Sun. January 1: Name of Jesus: Number 6:22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:15-21  
 Mon. January 2: Psalm 72; Genesis 12:1-7; Hebrews 11:1-12  
 Tues. January 3: Psalm 72; Genesis 28:10-22; Hebrews 11:13-22  
 Wed. January 4: Psalm 72; Exodus 3:1-5; Hebrews 11:23-31



## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Custer Community Church at 6th & Harney will be hosting a Community Christmas Dinner to be held on Dec. 13th from 5pm to 7pm.

They will be serving a Turkey Dinner with all of the fixings.



*Merry Christmas*





**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:

Office Manager: Mary Winter

Parish Nurse: Mary Klein

Custodian: Augie Heyne

Music: Margaret Tretheway

Choir Director: Jennifer Doyle

Financial Secretary: Janice Albers

Steve Baldwin

Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky

Youth Coordinator: Wendi Rusch

**Ministers: All Members of CLF!**