

# CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

## CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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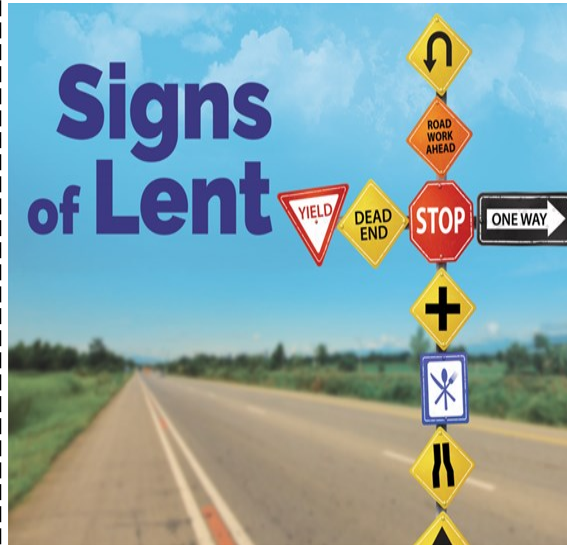
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FEBRUARY 2019

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## LENT BEGINS WEDNESDAY, March 6



Join us at 6:00 PM on Wednesdays during Lent for a worship series, "Signs of Lent," based on the concept of road signs and how their messages apply to our life in Christ during the season of Lent. Like signs we see along the roads that tell us what to do, we see signs along the way on our Lenten journey that show us the way to Christ. We will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, with the reminder to make a U-Turn, turning away from our sins and turning back to God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## LEADERSHIP RETREAT—SAVE THE DATE!

All leaders from every area of ministry at CLF are invited to be part of the Leadership Retreat on Saturday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> at Outlaw Ranch. We will begin with exploring the early church in an Acts Bible Study, then talk about who we are as a congregation. I am also looking forward to hearing from you about what needs you see in our community, and how we can use our gifts to help fill those needs. From there, we will set goals and priorities for the year. And, of course, enjoy some great food and fellowship! A light breakfast starts at 8:30 AM. We will be done no later than 2:00 PM. Please let Mary know by the 18<sup>th</sup> that you will be able to be part of this fun day!

## BEAR BUTTE CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

The yearly spring assembly of the Bear Butte Conference will be held on Sunday, February 24, 2019, at 3:00 PM at Calvary Lutheran Church in Rapid City. A main item will be information and referrals for the Synod Bishop election this year. Other agenda items will include conducting the business of the conference and discussion of any items to be referred to the Synod Assembly at the end of May. All are welcome to attend. Come join with fellow members of ELCA churches in western South Dakota and get a bigger picture of what the work of the conference is all about.

## CARE & SHARE...

We are creating a list of people to help with worship duties on Sunday mornings. Areas to serve include Greeter/Usher, Reader, Communion Server, and Coffee Hosts. If you are willing to help, please sign up at the Welcome Center. We need your name, phone number, which service you prefer and the areas in which you will help. You will get called when help is needed for a particular week. Thanks in advance for your help . . . we appreciate it!

## LENTEN SEASON OFFERINGS - HELP US BUILD THE MOUNTAIN!

Your Social Ministry Team has planned an exciting way for us to participate in a Lenten Season Offering. Various and sundry items needed by non-profits, who are conducting God's Work in our community, will be collected during five weeks of Lent beginning March 10th. Each week we will focus on one of the following organizations: Operation Black Hills Cabin, W.E.A.V.E., The Storehouse, Pine Ridge Diaper Drive, and Battle Mountain Humane Shelter.

Each Sunday and Wednesday service, in addition to our usual offering, you will be asked to bring your offering for that particular non-profit up to the altar. For example, one week we might be asking for diapers, another week might be canned goods. There will also be an opportunity for you to bring a special monetary offering for the non-profit to the altar as well. We will let you know in advance what our focus offering will be for the following week. It will be fun watching the mountain of our collective offerings grow this Lenten season!

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST—FEBRUARY 24TH



PLEASE JOIN US for a Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, February 24th, between services. The Social Ministry Team will be hosting this annual fundraiser and will be cooking up not only pancakes, but biscuits and sausage gravy, along with mixed fruit cups and juice. This year's freewill offering will be going to support Cornerstone Mission and to assist the Pine Ridge Hail Recovery effort. Last summer's hail storm damaged over 560 homes, breaking windows that have yet to be repaired. FEMA is unable to assist with this disaster relief.

## CARING HANDS MINISTRY UPDATE

Custer Lutheran Fellowship has always carried on a caring hands ministry including prayers, meals, transportation, and hospitality for travelers.

The Caring Hands Ministry will continue to do just that, with your help.

Cindy Anderson and Cozy Dorton are leading this ministry together. Cindy has organized the Meals Team and Transportation Team and will use a phone calling system. Please consider adding your name to our list as you will be given an option to say yes or no at any time. With more names on the list, it's easier to find those who can help.

Cozy will continue the Prayer Team ministry, and use an email communication system.

All of these ministries depend on CLF members sharing with us their concern for someone else or for themselves. Then partners can act in prayer or support. If you think you would enjoy being part of one of these hospitality teams, please contact Cozy at [didirector@goldenwest.net](mailto:didirector@goldenwest.net) or Cindy at 651-245-3316.

## LSS DINNER.— HOPE GROWS IN THE BLACK HILLS

**Save the Date—Sunday, May 5, 2019**

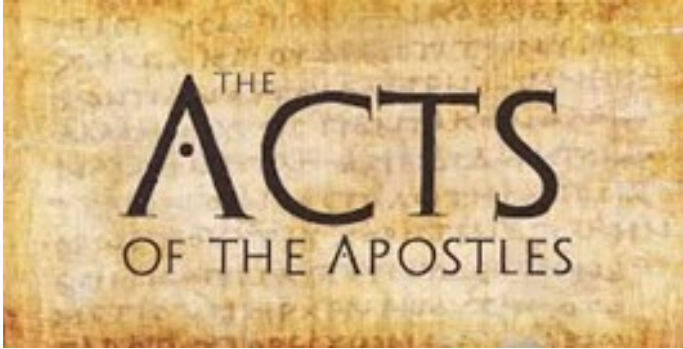
LSS will be hosting an annual fund-raising dinner at the Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn on May 5th. Your help is needed to care for, support and strengthen lives in the Black Hills. Join together with others. Try hosting a table!

## DEAR CLF CHURCH FAMILY

On behalf of the Storehouse, we want to thank you for all the support you give us. We appreciate the office support, making our thank you notes and the copying. As well as your support of our backpack program—The Wildcat Pantry—youth making cookies for the community Christmas food baskets and so much more. We deeply appreciate how you walk out your faith to help those in need. Thank you!

—Michelle Watland, Board President, and the Storehouse Board

Part of growing in our faith and our spiritual lives is exploring the Bible with new eyes. It's about reading familiar stories and seeing them anew, and connecting them to our lives. It's exciting to read a story from the Bible, look at what the people were doing, what God was doing, and then exploring how those stories apply to us today – because they do! We can learn so much from the stories in the Bible and especially how the early church grew in faith and community.



In the next month or so, you will be given many opportunities to be part of an Acts Bible Study. The Transformational Ministry Team will be offering the Bible Study at different times and days so that everyone can find a time that they can come. Some of the questions we will explore are: "Who has God used to bring me healing or hope?" "When have I struggled with my faith?" "What is my purpose?" "What was God doing in this story and what can CLF learn from it?"

These, and others, are questions that make us dig deeply into who we are, how we live out our faith, and

who CLF is as a community of faith. You are never too old or too young to be part of a Bible study. You do not need to know anything to be a valuable member of any Bible study! I have heard people say, "I don't know enough to go to a Bible study." Or "I'm afraid I'll say something stupid." No one knows everything – including me! And I've said some pretty silly things!

Your voice, insight, and viewpoints are so important! Join with us as we explore the early church and how we live out our faith today. Even if you have never come to a Bible study before, come to this one. I want to hear what you think! Keep your ears and eyes open for opportunities to learn and grow!

Blessings,  
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](mailto:pam_clf@gwtc.net)

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

### DEAR CLF FAMILY,

I was overwhelmed by all the love and caring I received after falling and injuring both ankles on August 18. Thank you for all the calls, visits, cards, and reading materials, and especially all your hugs! God's blessings to everyone of you.  
Helen Sandberg!

### THANK YOU

I would like to thank all of you, dear friends, for the many prayers, cards, flowers, food and the visits during my hospital stay and recovery. Bill and I have been so blessed by everyone at CLF and in the community. God bless you all.  
Margaret and Bill Tretheway

## THURSDAY CHRISTIAN BOOK STUDY GROUP...

The Christian Book Study group meets weekly on Thursday mornings. The group gathers in the Fireside Room from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. Coffee and treats are provided by group members. We read aloud from the book we have selected, so you do not have to read or prepare ahead of time! The reading is interrupted regularly with questions, comments, laughter, challenging thoughts and reflections, faith and life stories. It is a fun, free-flowing discussion. We are currently reading Leap Over a Wall: Earthy Spirituality for Everyday Christians by Eugene H Peterson. Hope to see you there!

## THURSDAY LADIES BIBLE STUDY...

A new women's Bible Study meets each Thursday evening at 5:30 PM. We are currently doing a 10-lesson study called **Meeting the Spirit** (Life Guides Bible Studies). If you are interested in joining, please contact Joy ([smolniskyjoy@gmail.com](mailto:smolniskyjoy@gmail.com)) or Ginny ([danbyprk@gwt.net](mailto:danbyprk@gwt.net)) so we can order a study guide for you and put you on the email reminder list.

## SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S BREAKFAST/BOOK STUDY...

meets the **second Saturday of each month from 8:00 to 10:00 AM** in the Fireside Room at CLF. Our next session will be on **February 9<sup>th</sup>**. Breakfast is served, then we will watch and discuss a NOOMA DVD. Come to one, or come to all...no book required! If you have any questions, contact Allen Canete at 673-3753.

## LET'S GET NOISY!

The **"Noisy Offering"** continues on the second Sunday of each month. This month it will be on February 10th. The noisy offerings from September thru May will go to Lutheran Disaster Relief. Our offerings from September thru December totaled **\$367.90**. Your spare change **does** make a difference. Thanks so much!



## ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS —January 20, 2019...

✱ **Good food, fellowship and meeting! 57 in attendance. Thanks to all who attended!**

### Elections and Appointments Approved:

- ✱ Congregation Council—Dave Pickford, Carol Niemann, Liz Kleffner 3-year terms, Gene Fennell 1-year term
- ✱ President—Brad McKinney
- ✱ Vice-President—Christie Behlings
- ✱ Synod Assembly—Laura Burden, Joy Smolnisky, Duane Martinz
- ✱ Bear Butte Conference Assembly—Mary Stutz, others please sign up at Welcome Table
- ✱ Nominating—Steve Baldwin, Kim Canete
- ✱ Finance—Allen Canete, Gene Fennell
- ✱ Endowment Fund—Dave Thom, Rick Hudson

**2019 Mission Plan/Budget**—The 2019 Mission Plan & Budget was presented by Joy Smolnisky. We expect the income to increase by 2.8%. Changes for 2019 include: 1.4% salary increase, 1.4% increase in budgeted missions, additional \$1,000 each month to debt retirement, conducting background checks, parking lot resurfacing, parsonage deck materials, A/C in the parsonage bedroom, upgrade computer software. (M/S/A 2019 Mission Plan.)

### Old Business:

- ✱ **Parsonage Committee**—Rex reported that the fencing is complete. Thanks to Chas for his work.
- ✱ **iMatch**—Rex reported on the process of matching up skills with serving at the church. It is a work in progress.
- ✱ **CLF Energy Plan**—Let Your Light Shine! - Carol Laverick reported that the parking lot and sanctuary lights have been changed.

### New Business:

- ✱ **Transformational Ministry Team**—Pastor Pam reported that the team and all of us will be looking at who we are, the needs in the community, what God is calling us to do. It will end with a Mission & Vision statement.
- ✱ **Endowment Committee**—Linda reported that the committee withdrew \$7,000 from the Lila Van Wie Fund for disbursement, and that \$25,000 is needed to set up a General Endowment Fund.
- ✱ **Constitutional Review Committee**—Members will be Donna McConnell chair, Dave Thom, Pastor Pam, Brad McKinney, and Joy Smolnisky.

Installation of new council members and officers was held.

**W/ELCA HAPPENINGS:****NEXT MEETING:****WHEN:** Monday, February 25, 2019, 11:30 AM in the Fireside Room**HOSTESSES:** Barb Lewison and Jackie Hartwick**PROGRAM:** Matt Rusch, director of Outlaw Ranch, will tell us the program highlights of 2018 and what will be happening in 2019.

Rex Jorgensen, director at the Custer YMCA, was the speaker for our January meeting. Rex is very proud of what is happening as far as programs at the Y. He summarized the main events that occurred at the Y in 2018. His focus was the child development center. We are so fortunate to have that facility and its staff here in Custer. We also got a sneak preview of what the Y will be like when it is moved to the Custer Community Center. Rex also discussed the Annual Campaign: last year, donations were given that put the dollars collected above the anticipated goal. Folks certainly see the worth of the Y in our community and are more than generous with their support!

Be watching for signs with information regarding the **W/ELCA Auction of Talents**. The auction will be held on April 7th. It is always a fun time. Folks enjoy seeing all of the donated talents. They also enjoy bidding on those talents. Money collected from the auction supports local W/ELCA missions as well as some national and international concerns. Just a reminder that donated talents do not have to be a tangible item. People have shared talents in cutting and delivering wood, babysitting, providing a meal or a dessert. Excavation has also been offered a few times over the past years. Be creative and add to the fun with an item or a service to offer, or just come to watch our talented auctioneers!

A reminder that **Quilting** takes place every Tuesday morning at 9:00. Our quilters provide a valuable outreach and are greatly appreciated. Anyone is welcome to attend quilting—there are jobs for every level of talent—even those who do not know how to quilt.

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

W/ELCA at CLF is an active group of women who get together once a month for a meal, fellowship and programs of interest in the church and community. We invite all women to join us!

**January to March Mission Project:  
Quilts for Lutheran World Relief & Local Needs**

- ✂ Thread
- ✂ Cotton fabric suitable for making quilts
- ✂ Cotton blankets, and/or mattress pads for inside quilts

Your donations may be left in the sewing room.

**HELP NEEDED FOR SOUP SUPPERS....**

**SOUP SUPPERS** begin starting with **Ash Wednesday** on March 6<sup>th</sup>. We gather for a simple, but hearty meal of soup and bread from 5:15 — 6:00 PM on Wednesdays. Lenten soup suppers go from March 6<sup>th</sup> through April 10<sup>th</sup>. Please consider signing up to bring a batch of soup one of these weeks! Sign-up sheets are located at the Welcome Center.

**ALTAR GUILD COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED...**

Our Altar Guild Committee needs new members! There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center. We ask for two people signed up for each 2-month period. Duties include: filling the candles with liquid wax and changing the banners to match the church season. If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Pam or anyone in the office. HINT: Confirmation families—this is a great way for you to help...these items can be done while your child is in Confirmation Class. ☺





## CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES..

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

- Pam — pam\_clf@gwtc.net
- Mary — clf@gwtc.net
- Sara — sara\_clf@gwtc.net

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY...

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

Everyone is welcome to do so at anytime—just let someone in the office know when you do, as we keep a journal of all activity.



## OFFICE HOURS.....

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

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

## 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.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED...

We are in need of volunteers to help with the Nursery and Sound System on Sunday mornings. Both positions involve one Sunday a month at either the early or late service. The Sound System includes running the PowerPoint and recording the sermon besides managing the Sound Board. Don't worry . . . we will train you!! If you are interested in helping with these two areas or have questions, please contact the church office.

## 2019 Approved Mission Plan & Budget

	2018 Actual	2019 Budget	The detailed Budget can be Found in the 2018 Annual Report book.
<b>Income</b>			
Offering Contributions	\$ 355,871	\$ 366,000	
Non-Restricted Special Donations	\$ 2,295	\$ 3,450	
Temporarily Restricted Use Donations	\$ 15,016	\$ 11,174	
Endowment Distribution	\$	\$ 7,000	
SPARK Kids	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,243	
Release of Temp. Restricted	\$	\$ 4,000	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 375,185</b>	<b>\$ 392,867</b>	
<b>Expense</b>			
Pastoral Leadership	\$ 91,451	\$ 94,482	
Worship	\$ 10,021	\$ 11,046	
Education	\$ 11,008	\$ 21,562	
Mission Support	\$ 53,956	\$ 40,937	
Support/Care/Facility	\$ 202,971	\$ 219,863	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 369,408</b>	<b>\$ 387,891</b>	

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIFE...**

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

**SPARK Kids** from 4:00 to 5:15 PM  
**Family Meal** from 5:15 to 6:00 PM  
**Worship** from 6:00 to 6:30 PM  
**Confirmation** from 6:30 to 7:30 PM  
**Choir Practice** at 6:30 or 7:30 PM  
**RAP Group** from 7:00 to 8:00 PM

The **first Wednesday of every month the Family Meal is usually a Pot-Luck**. The church supplies fried chicken and drinks (lemonade, water and coffee). Please bring a favorite food item to share (side, salad or dessert). You may prepare something at home to bring OR you are more than welcome to pick up something at the grocery store on your way to church. The **February Wednesday NightLife meals** follows this schedule:

**February 6<sup>th</sup>** — Pot Luck meal  
**February 13<sup>th</sup>** — Meal prepared by Jackie Hartwick & Women of the ELCA  
**February 20<sup>th</sup>** — Make-Your-Own Sandwich Bar  
**February 27<sup>th</sup>** — Pizza! supplied by CLF

Worship will rotate between different styles of worship. For February, the schedule is as follows...

**February 6<sup>th</sup>** — Communion  
**February 13<sup>th</sup>** — Holden Evening Prayer  
**February 20<sup>th</sup>** — Prayer Around the Cross  
**February 27<sup>th</sup>** — Communion

Hope to see you all on Wednesdays!

**RAP GROUP NEWS...**

RAP Group Makeover – We have started something new. The idea is to make RAP Group a fun and safe place where we can laugh, play games, and have conversations of issues that are going on in the teenage world.

We meet every Wednesday, 7:00 PM. There will be pizza and pop provided for a \$3 donation. All are welcome. Invite your friends, even if they don't go to CLF. We are done by 8:00 PM.

For fund-raising, we plan on continuing wood splitting and other projects. We also plan on doing more mission work locally this year to help out those in need in our own community.

Questions? Contact Tim Wicks (605) 673-1223 or Tammy Wicks 673-1287.

**SPARK KIDS...**

In our Fifth Year of SPARK Kids, we have 41 children registered! Wow! Every Wednesday afternoon, children in Kindergarten through Grade 5 will be picked up at school and transported to church. Our time together goes fast! We have a wide variety of learning activities including snacks, Bible stories, games, arts and crafts, and more. This winter, we will explore Bible stories using a new curriculum based on The SPARK Kids multi-age classroom. The program concludes each Wednesday at 5:15 PM. The children and their families are invited to join us for a meal followed by worship. We are done by 6:30 PM.

There is NO cost for this program. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors. All are welcome. All children need to be registered by their parents in order to participate. Registration materials are available through the church office. It is never too late to register! The themes and Bible stories for February are as follows:

- ✦ February 6 — “*Jesus’ Baptism*” -Matthew 3:13-17
- ✦ February 13 — “*The Disciples*” - Matthew 4:12-23; 9:9-13; 10:1-4
- ✦ February 20 — “*The Lord’s Prayer*” — Matthew 6:9-15
- ✦ February 27 — “*Woman at the Well*” - John 4:5-42

With this many children registered, we could use more adult assistants and drivers. If you would like to help or need more information, please contact the church office.

## SPOTLIGHT ON CONFIRMATION

February is going to be a fun month for Confirmation!

- ✦ Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> — Class
- ✦ Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> — Mentor Night
- ✦ Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> — Class
- ✦ Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> — Fun Night

Throughout Lent, there will be no scheduled classes, but confirmation youth are expected to be at the Lenten services each Wednesday. Also, mentors are expected to meet with their youth three times. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday on March 6<sup>th</sup> and goes through Palm Sunday on April 14<sup>th</sup>, so you have plenty of Wednesday opportunities to meet. Parents and mentors need to be in contact to schedule which weeks you will meet. My hope is that this flexibility will help in making the last three mentor nights more convenient for everyone.

## CONFIRMATION TEACHERS NEEDED...

Thank you to those who taught confirmation in the Fall! Now I am looking to fill the calendar for this winter and spring. It is so important to have parents and mentors involved with the youth in different ways, and teaching is a wonderful way to connect with our youth. If you are nervous about teaching by yourself, team up with someone! It's more fun with two! I have all the lessons ready to go, so you don't need to plan anything.

I need your help for Confirmation to be successful and fun for everyone. Please consider supporting your child and all of our youth by choosing one or two dates to teach. Email or call me with questions and to talk about available dates. Thank you!

Pastor Pam

## WOYATAN RETREAT CENTER UPDATE

The months of December and January are not an ideal time of the year to begin a building project. Because winter so far has been mild, good progress has been made on the build. By the end of January, the site will have been cleared, the excavation done, footings and walls poured, utilities brought to the building, underground plumbing installed, and the concrete floor poured. Soon the wood construction will begin!

On this next phase of the project, volunteers will be a vital part of moving the project forward. Over one-half of all the church volunteers who signed up to help are members of CLF!

In February, we will be constructing the basement walls, installing the trusses, nailing down the plywood flooring and raising the main floor walls. Please watch for emails sent out from Jeff Rohr letting you know what days volunteers are needed.

Before closing, I want to express a huge THANK YOU to the ladies of CLF for all the snacks and treats they have provided.

— Larry Peterson, Building Coordinator





## PARISH NURSE NEWS...

The Health Ministry Team & I are gearing up for our next “**Information Table**”. We hope you have been checking out all the great information on food choices on our current table! In the next month, we will be changing out all of the information. We are going to focus on **Health & Fitness**. Here are some tips for fitness I got through the Mayo Clinic. Always check with your Doctor first!

- ✦ **Heart Disease:** Regular exercise, including aerobic and interval training, will lower your risk of dying from heart disease and also help you maintain a healthier blood pressure.
- ✦ **Diabetes:** Regular exercise helps maintain a healthy weight, controls blood sugar levels and boosts your energy level.
- ✦ **Back Pain:** Regular low-impact exercises can increase muscle strength and endurance for your back. “Core Strengthening Exercises” may especially reduce symptoms and increase function.
- ✦ **Arthritis:** Keeping your joints moving will reduce joint stiffness and improve physical function and quality of life. Working with hand weights will improve strength and endurance.
- ✦ **Dementia:** exercise can improve cognition in dementia. People who are active on a regular basis are at less risk of impairment.

Let’s all get out and exercise as we are able in order to live a fuller and happier life!

Mary Klein RN, Parish Nurse  
Health Ministry Team

## MENTAL HEALTH NEWS...

Keeping on topic from the above article, regular exercise and activity is known to improve mood and brain function. Endorphins are naturally occurring hormones that, when released, elevate the mood. Even better is having a friend go along with you. Socializing also improves your mood! Don’t think you can do it? Begin with baby steps, making the effort to devote 10-20 minutes a day to caring for yourself.

Healthy Body, healthy mind . . .  
Mary Klein RN, Parish Nurse

## SUMMER CAMP—LUTHERANS OUTDOORS

Come—enjoy a week of fun, faith-growth, and making new friends at camp this summer. Week-long programs for 3rd through high school: try Youth camp for 3rd—6th, Black Hills Adventures, Servant Camp in the Black Hills, Native American Experience at Red Shirt, Peer Ministry for high school, or Family Camp. Register at [www.losd.org](http://www.losd.org). For more information, talk to Pastor Pam or Mary.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT—OUTLAW RANCH

March 1 – 2, 2019  
Friday 7:00 PM to Saturday 5:30 PM  
For youth in grades 6—9.

This retreat provides middle schoolers the opportunity to step away from their routines and take a deep breath in God’s creation. Our theme is “Where You Are.” We will explore how God meets us at each point in our journey and promises to be with us always. Understanding God’s unconditional love through Jesus Christ transforms our lives and perspectives as we are emboldened to pray, love, serve, and grow right where we are.

Come alone or with a friend, or come with a group to grow in community, worship together, share in uncovering who and whose we are, and adventuring boldly at Outlaw Ranch with hiking, 9 Square, Bible study, group games, worship, and endless hot chocolate!

Call Outlaw Ranch at 673-4040 for more information.  
Register at <https://www.losd.org/middleschoolretreat>

## COUNCIL MINUTES – JANUARY 15, 2019

**Treasurer's Report**—Joy explained the changes reflected the inclusion of the accounts that had not been previously included in the general budget. 2018 offering contributions closed the year at 101.7% of budget, exceeding expectations by \$5,870.62. CLF closed the fiscal year with a net positive operating cash flow position of \$5,778. (Some of this money does have ear-marked obligation.) .

### Unfinished Business:

- ✦ **Thrivent Choice**—\$153.00 had been contributed in January to CLF from Choice Dollars.
- ✦ **Attendance/Financial Statistics** were reviewed.
- ✦ **Background Checks**—Many of the forms sent out have been returned. The next step will be to enter information with the designated company, Shepard's Watch. All information will be confidentially held with Pastor Pam .
- ✦ **Finance Committee Update**—
  - a. The council approved the addition of new council members and removing of people no longer authorized to sign checks at the two banks involved. **(M/S/A)**
  - b. The council reviewed changes in the 2019 Proposed Budget, which reflect all of the many subgroups and categories that have been spending monies outside of the official budget. These changes will assist CLF in having a better understanding of how much money is actually received and spent per year.
  - c. The Stewardship Drive update indicated that 86 pledge cards had been handed in; up from last year's 74 handed in.
- ✦ **Nominating Committee Update**—David Pickford and Carol Niemann have accepted the call to be on the council. Two other names are needed. Thanks to the members going off the council.
- ✦ **Active Shooter Information**—Tabled until Rosemary returns in the Spring.

### New Business:

- ✦ **Membership Changes**—No changes noted.
- ✦ **Report from Budget Forum held January 13**—Joy reviewed information shared at the Budget Forum. \$500.00 more was earmarked for the SPARK kids as a result. Council approved the updated modifications to the 2019 budget proposal for submission to the congregation at the annual meeting. **(M/S/A)**
- ✦ **Snow Removal Bids**—No action has been taken
- ✦ **Purchase of Microphones**—Agreed to allow Bill Tretheway to make a free-will offering for acquiring two microphones for personal use.
- ✦ **Draft Agenda of Annual Meeting**—Reviewed and approved.
- ✦ **Financial Review Committee Report**—The council approved the Financial Review Committee's report with follow-up to be completed by the Finance Committee to address the issues uncovered in the review. **(M/S/A)**
- ✦ **Parsonage Furnishings Allowance**—The council voted to designate \$500 of the total cash salary for 2019 to be paid to Rev. Power as a furnishing allowance in response to pastor's request.
- ✦ **2019 Bank Signature Authority**—Resolution was approved. There is an attachment describing specific names/actions. **(M/S/A)**

**Reflections on Mission and Ministry**—Pastor Pam reported on the conference she attended in Chicago which is designed to develop community programs..

### Committee & Ministry Team Reports:

- ✦ **Property** — Paul reported that monitoring of the snow build-up on the east side of the church needed to be an ongoing activity during the snow months. Rex will check it out currently.
- ✦ **Social Ministry**—A pancake breakfast fundraiser is scheduled for Feb. 24 with proceeds to be split between the Pine Ridge Hail Damage project and the Cornerstone Mission. The Lenten mission offerings will again promote five local organizations.
- ✦ **Transformation Ministry Team**—will meet January 24.



## ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY

### 4 Epiphany

Thursday, January 31: Psalm 71:1-6; 2 Chronicles 34:1-7; Acts 10:44-48  
 Friday, February 1: Psalm 71:1-6; 2 Chronicles 35:20-27; Acts 19:1-10  
 Saturday, February 2: Psalm 71:1-6; 2 Chronicles 36:11-21; John 1:43-51  
 Sunday, February 3: Psalm 71:1-6; Jeremiah 1:4-10; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30  
 Monday, February 4: Psalm 56; 1 Kings 17:8-16; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16  
 Tuesday, February 5: Psalm 56; 2 Kings 5:1-14; 1 Corinthians 14:13-25  
 Wednesday, February 6: Psalm 56; Jeremiah 1:11-19; Luke 19:41-44



### 5 Epiphany

Thursday, February 7: Psalm 138; Numbers 20:22-29; Acts 9:19b-25  
 Friday, February 8: Psalm 138; Numbers 27:12-23; Acts 9:26-31  
 Saturday, February 9: Psalm 138; Judges 3:7-11; Luke 4:42-44  
 Sunday, February 10: Psalm 138; Isaiah 6:1-13; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11  
 Monday, February 11: Psalm 115; Judges 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 14:26-40  
 Tuesday, February 12: Psalm 115; 1 Samuel 9:15—10:1b; 1 Timothy 3:1-9  
 Wednesday, February 13: Psalm 115; Isaiah 8:1-15; Luke 5:27-32

### 6 Epiphany

Thursday, February 14: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 13:12-19; Acts 13:26-34  
 Friday, February 15: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 13:20-27; 1 Peter 1:17—2:1  
 Saturday, February 16: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 17:1-4; Luke 11:24-28  
 Sunday, February 17: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 17:5-10; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26  
 Monday, February 18: Psalm 120; 2 Kings 24:18—25:21; 1 Corinthians 15:20-34  
 Tuesday, February 19: Psalm 120; Ezra 1:1-11; 2 Corinthians 1:12-29  
 Wednesday, February 20: Psalm 120; Jeremiah 22:11-17; Luke 11:37-52

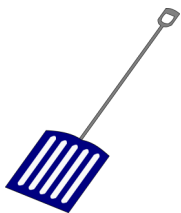
### 7 Epiphany

Thursday, February 21: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; Genesis 43:16-34; Romans 8:1-11  
 Friday, February 22: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; Genesis 44:1-17; 1 John 2:12-17  
 Saturday, February 23: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; Genesis 44:18-34; Luke 12:57-59  
 Sunday, February 24: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; Genesis 45:3-11, 15; 1 Cor 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38  
 Monday, February 25: Psalm 38; Genesis 33:1-17; 1 Corinthians 11:2-16  
 Tuesday, February 26: Psalm 38; 1 Samuel 24:1-22; 1 Corinthians 11:17-22, 27-33  
 Wednesday, February 27: Psalm 38; Leviticus 5:1-13; Luke 17:1-4

### Transfiguration of Our Lord

Thursday, February 28: Psalm 99; Deuteronomy 9:1-5; Acts 3:11-16  
 Friday, March 1: Psalm 99; Deuteronomy 9:6-14; Acts 10:1-8  
 Saturday, March 2: Psalm 99; Deuteronomy 9:15-24; Luke 10:21-24  
 Sunday, March 3: Psalm 99; Exodus 34:29-35; 2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2; Luke 9:28-43a  
 Monday, March 4: Psalm 35:11-28; Exodus 35:1-29; Acts 10:9-23a  
 Tuesday, March 5: Psalm 35:11-28; Ezekiel 1:1—2:1; Acts 10:23b-33  
 Wednesday, March 6: Psalm 51:1-17; Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

## CLEAN SIDEWALK CLUB



"Captain Snow" says...

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





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

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## **Custer Lutheran Fellowship**

**Our Mission ...** is to plant the word of God, nurture growth in children and adults, and scatter the seeds of joy and faith in a diverse community.

**We envision Custer Lutheran Fellowship** to be like the Black Hills themselves, an inviting community in which God's Spirit blows through people – like wind through the pine – life that is forever new! God's spirit inspires us to be:

A **worshipping** community, hearing the life-giving Word of God receiving Christ's very presence in the Sacraments, and raising our voices in joyful songs of praise and prayer;

A **growing** community, with building and grounds spacious enough for all;

An **intergenerational** community, nurturing children and youth, young adults, people in mid-life, and older people as one family of God;

A **learning** community, in which people of all ages take advantage of multiple opportunities to deepen their understanding of the grace and justice of God;

A **giving** community, generously offering our time, talent and treasure to support each other and share in Christ's ministry;

A **servicing** community, reaching beyond ourselves to stand with the poor, the sick, the hungry and the oppressed;

A **witnessing** community, eager to share with everyone the joy we have received from Christ.

***We believe in the Cross and our risen Lord and that through Christ we have eternal life***

### **Our Bedrock Beliefs are...**

We grow in faith through worship and sacraments

The Word of God is our hope, Support comes from within our family of believers who see and serve Jesus in others

Through prayer we evoke God's love and power as the Spirit intercedes for us "with sighs too deep for words to express"

In crisis God is our strength. He is all loving and accepting and He helps us through these times.

We have faith only through God's grace.

### **Our Core Values are:**

*Faith, Family, Mission,  
 Service, Worship*



### **Ministering at Custer Lutheran Fellowship**

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

**Ministers: All Members of CLF!**