

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. There are always coffee and treats 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...

The Thursday night women's group has started a new Bible Study, meeting on Thursdays at 5:30 PM called **Meeting the Spirit** (Life Guides Bible Studies). It is a 10-lesson study. We'll resume in January on the 3rd.

If anyone is interested in joining, please contact Joy (smolniskyjoy@gmail.com) or Ginny (danbyprk@gwt.net) so we can order a study guide for you and get you on the email reminder list.

Saturday Morning Men's Breakfast/Book Study...

meets the **second Saturday of each month from 8 to 10 AM** in the Fireside Room at CLF. Our next session will be on **January 12th**. Breakfast will be 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 every month on the second Sunday of each month. For the month of January, it is **January 13th**. 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!



Worship Assistant Needed. . .

We are looking for someone to assist with worship once a month to give Mary, our Office Manager, one weekend off just as Donna had. Pat Hattervig has been serving the church in this way, but is looking to step back and allow someone else to take on this role. It would involve one Sunday a month from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM to help make sure worship runs smoothly. There is a stipend available for this ministry. Please talk to Pastor Pam or Mary with questions, or to take on this position.

Volunteers Needed...

Starting some time next year, we will be implementing Offering Counters on Sunday morning and Wednesday. Details have not been finalized yet, but it would involve having two unrelated people count the cash after each service before it is sealed in a cash bag and put in the safe in the office. For more information, interested people can talk to Pastor Pam or the Council Treasurer, Joy Smolnisky.

Missing Birthdays & Anniversaries...

If you have noticed that your birthday or anniversary has been missing from our birthday and anniversary list, please do not be offended! We are not omitting you on purpose! It is because we do not have the information sheet we need that has birthdays, updated phone numbers, and email addresses. This is true even if you have filled out information for your children through the SPARK Kids program. We will have your children's birthdays, but not the parents. Please stop by the office and fill out a form so we may update our lists to include your very important dates! Thank you!



Council Representatives &
Committee or Ministry Team Leaders, please note:

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Annual Reports Due in the Office no later than January 9<sup>th</sup>  
direct any questions to Mary in the office. Thanks! J

**THE GREAT CUSTER WOOD HAUL —**

More pictures from the Wood Haul held on **Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**.



**elca good gifts recap...**

On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> the Social Ministry Team sponsored ELCA Good Gifts and sales totaled \$7,494. Thanks for your patronage of this worthy project! Here is the breakdown for the ELCA Good Gifts:

|                                          |         |                                             |         |
|------------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------------|---------|
| 19 Piglets.....                          | \$ 570  | 7 School Supplies for a Child.....          | \$ 70   |
| 2 Cows.....                              | \$1,000 | 1 Stock a Health Clinic for a Week.....     | \$ 75   |
| 1 Fish Farm.....                         | \$ 250  | 1 Vaccinations for a Child.....             | \$ 30   |
| 15 Goats.....                            | \$ 750  | 4 Blankets.....                             | \$ 40   |
| 7 Pairs of Goats.....                    | \$ 700  | 1 Feed a Refugee Family for One Month.....  | \$ 100  |
| 39 Chicks.....                           | \$ 390  | 5 Shares of a Well.....                     | \$1,250 |
| 15 Honeybees.....                        | \$ 300  | 2 Water Filters.....                        | \$ 60   |
| 8 Roosters.....                          | \$ 120  | 1 Latrine.....                              | \$ 150  |
| 31 Mosquito Nets.....                    | \$ 310  | 7 Bibles.....                               | \$ 84   |
| 1 Mosquito Nets for a Small Village..... | \$ 250  | 1 Textbook for an International Leader..... | \$ 45   |
| 2 Community Vegetable Gardens.....       | \$ 400  | 1 Feed 50 at a Soup Kitchen.....            | \$ 100  |
| 3 Microloans.....                        | \$ 375  | 4 Stock a backpack with food.....           | \$ 40   |
| 1 Farming Field School.....              | \$ 75   | Total.....                                  | \$7,494 |
| 2 School Fees & Uniform for a Girl.....  | \$ 80   |                                             |         |

Dear CLF Family,

I have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and kindness I received after breaking my ankle August 8. Thank you for the supportive calls, cards, and visits, the delicious meals, and rides. I am especially grateful to John Culberson for rescuing me when the wheel fell off my walker, leaving me stranded, and to Kim Canete for the comforting fleece throw. May God bless you all  
~ Liz Kleffner

Hello Everyone!

I just wanted to stop in to tell you all thank you so much for my care package! It was such a nice surprise to find in the mail! Everything is gone and it was all well enjoyed! I have also sent my "Pocket Prayer Quilt" to one of my friends who has moved to work on a Young Life ranch in Oregon. She was so happy to receive it and felt very blessed. Thank you again!! Love—Mattisen Kelley



## Happy New Year!!!



For some of us, the new year is filled with excitement and possibilities. We are excited about what this new year will bring; excited to see where God will lead us and how God will be working in our lives. For some of us, the new year is scary or depressing, filled with dread. Or it may not be that dramatic, but it may be yet another year with nothing to be especially excited about, or another year filled with grief or pain or loneliness.

The most important thing for me to always remember, no matter what is going on in my life, is that I am never alone. That God is **always** with me, and will **never, ever** leave me. That God is actively working in my life and in the world. I may not always see God working or feel God's presence, but I know He is there. And I have a lot of people around me who are more than happy to remind me of God's love for me.

We don't know what this new year will bring, but one thing we can be sure of is that it will be filled with God's presence. No matter what, no matter where, God will be there. We just walked through the season of Advent with its themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. And because of God's son Jesus, whose birth we just celebrated, we can be filled with all of these things, no matter what happens in our lives. We know the hope of Christ, we can be filled with peace, we can shout for joy, and be overflowing with love, all because of the birth of this tiny baby.

The journey of the church year is an interesting one. We begin not with the month of January, but with the journey to Bethlehem and the birth of our Savior. We will hear the story of the Magi following the star to see the young Jesus. Before long, we will begin our journey through Lent to the cross and Jesus' resurrection. We will hear about the giving of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We hear all of the stories of the adult Jesus and his mission and ministry through the year – all the healing, casting out of demons, all the miracles. All the ways Jesus ministers to those that the rest of the world would ignore or demean or put down. And we hear of his ultimate sacrifice for us.

All of this – from Advent through Pentecost and beyond – ultimately are stories of the love God has always had and always will have for His creation and His children. From the beginning of time to now and beyond, God continues to show all of us how much we are loved just as we are – because we belong to God and we reflect this same God of love. Even when we are struggling or grieving or lonely, this same God of love goes with us wherever we are.

Let us keep our eyes and hearts open to see and experience all the ways God shows His love to all of us, and all of His creation. And let us then be the witnesses and examples of His love in everything we do and all that we are.

Blessings to us all as we begin this New Year, filled with the love of Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Pastor Pam

### Please notify Pastor Pam when:

- <sup>a</sup> There is a hospitalization in your family
- <sup>a</sup> There is a death in your family
- <sup>a</sup> You would like a pastoral visit
- <sup>a</sup> There is a birth or adoption
- <sup>a</sup> Someone becomes homebound
- <sup>a</sup> Someone becomes unemployed
- <sup>a</sup> 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)



### Altar guild committee members needed...

Our Altar Guild Committee needs new members! We have had members move away or no longer able to help. There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center. We ask that there are 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. J

**W/ELCA HAPPENINGS:**



**NEXT MEETING:**

**WHEN:** Monday, January 28, 2019, 11:30 AM in the Fireside Room

**HOSTESSES:** Arbutus Winter and Li Fjerestad

**PROGRAM:** Rex Jorgenson will give an update concerning programs available at the Custer YMCA

The Custer Christmas for Kids took place on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. W/ELCA was asked to provide 28 dozen cookies for that event. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all who baked cookies to make that happen. When the congregation was asked to help provide the cookies, we actually received more than the 28 dozen. As always, your donation of time and talent is greatly appreciated.

The October-November Mission Project of food for the Storehouse totaled 171 pounds. Thank you!

The quilters well be back to their regular schedule beginning Tuesday, January 8, 2019, at 9:00 AM. The quilts that are made during that time always find a home where they are appreciated. It might be here in Custer or placed in another country through LSS. Our quilters provide a valuable outreach and are greatly appreciated!

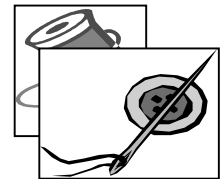
**Bingo at Custer Senior Care**—The first Friday of each month 4-5 people gather to call and help residents enjoy an hour of Bingo from 2—3 PM. We welcome new people to join us! Any questions, please call Arbutus Winter, 673-5283.

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—March Mission Project:  
Quilts for LWR & 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.



To my CLF Family...

Wow! I am overwhelmed and grateful for all the cards given to me at my retirement celebration! Your kind words touched me deeply...I am flattered. Thank you also for the beautiful table that I received...it will have a place of honor in my home and every time I look at it, I will remember all of you. I have thoroughly enjoyed my 12 1/2 years working at CLF. I have learned much from all of you, grown a lot, but most important, I have made many lasting friendships with all of you! This is not "good-bye, but see you" because I still will be around!  
~ Donna McConnell



**2019 Giving Envelopes...**

If your family used the numbered giving envelopes in 2018, we have re-issued a new box for 2019. The envelopes are on a table in the Narthex. Please pick them up soon. The number may not be the same as last year, so please be sure you use the new envelopes.

If you would like to start using the numbered giving envelopes, please sign up on the sheet which is located on the same table in the Narthex. We will issue a box to your family to be picked up the following week.



**Church E-Mail Addresses...**  
 If you would to e-mail someone in the church office, our e-mail addresses are:  
 Pam — pam\_clf@gwtc.net  
 Mary — clf@gwtc.net  
 Sara — sara\_clf@gwtc.net



### Office hours.....

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

Pam: in office Tuesday—Friday  
 Mary: in office Monday—Thursday  
 Sara: in office Tuesday Afternoon & Wednesday



### Prayer Shawl Ministry...

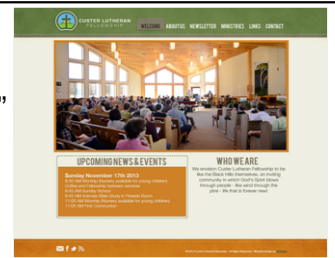


If you have someone in your life who needs some extra comfort and prayers, please pick up a prayer shawl from the office. Everyone is welcome to do so at anytime—just let someone in the office know when you do, as we keep a journal of all activity.



### CLF website offers online giving options...

On Custer Lutheran Fellowship’s website, [www.custerlutheran.com](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 though...we will train you on the sound system!! If you are interested in helping with these two areas or have questions, please contact the church office.



### 2018 Budget thru November, 2018

|                                       | 2018 Actual          | 2018 Budget          | \$ Over Budget     | % of Budget   |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| <b>Income</b>                         |                      |                      |                    |               |
| Offering Contributions                | \$ 323,122.62        | \$ 320,833.34        | \$ 2,289.28        | 100.7%        |
| Special Offerings                     | \$ 5,429.08          | \$                   | \$                 |               |
| Special Offerings/Unbudgeted Missions | \$ 1,233.59          | \$ 2,978.25          | \$ (1,744.66)      | 41.4%         |
| Additional Debt Retirement            | \$ 585.00            |                      |                    |               |
| Church Use Donations                  | \$ 804.00            | \$                   | \$                 |               |
| Endowment Fund/Wed SPARK Kids         | \$ 2,000.00          | \$                   | \$                 |               |
| <b>Total Income</b>                   | <b>\$ 333,174.29</b> | <b>\$ 323,811.59</b> | <b>\$ 9,362.70</b> | <b>102.9%</b> |
| <b>Expense</b>                        |                      |                      |                    |               |
| Pastoral Leadership                   | \$ 84,665.55         | \$ 89,298.66         | \$ (4,633.11)      | 94.8%         |
| Worship                               | \$ 8,704.70          | \$ 9,982.44          | \$ (1,277.74)      | 87.2%         |
| Education                             | \$ 9,385.99          | \$ 9,569.44          | \$ (183.45)        | 98.1%         |
| Mission Support                       | \$ 42,033.68         | \$ 39,985.93         | \$ 2,047.75        | 105.1%        |
| Support/Care                          | \$ 182,922.93        | \$ 174,974.24        | \$ 7,948.69        | 104.5%        |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                  | <b>\$ 327,712.85</b> | <b>\$ 323,810.71</b> | <b>\$ 3,902.14</b> | <b>101.2%</b> |



## Wednesday NightLife...

is now in full swing! This program is a mid-week faith recharge for your family. Our weekly schedule goes like this:

- 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

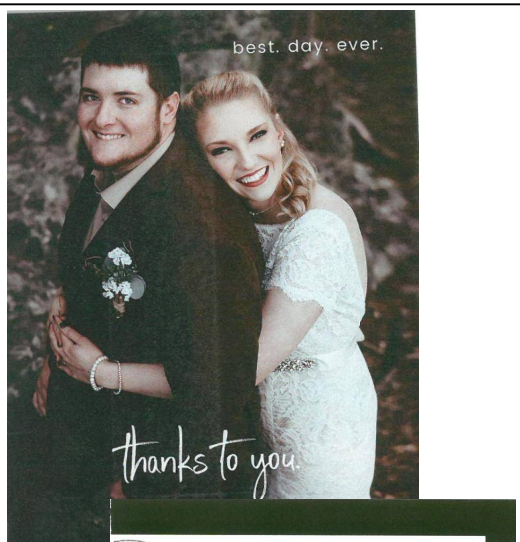
The **first Wednesday of every month the Family Meal is usually a Pot-Luck.** We will supply fried chicken and drinks (lemonade, water and coffee). Please bring a favorite food item to share (side, salad or dessert). You may prepare something at home to bring OR you are more than welcome to pick something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

- January 2<sup>nd</sup>—Christmas Break—No Wednesday Nightlife Activities**
- January 9<sup>th</sup> — Pot-Luck meal**
- January 16<sup>th</sup> — Meal prepared by Jackie Hartwick & Women of the ELCA**
- January 23<sup>rd</sup> — Make-Your-Own Sandwich Bar**
- January 30<sup>th</sup> — Pizza!!**

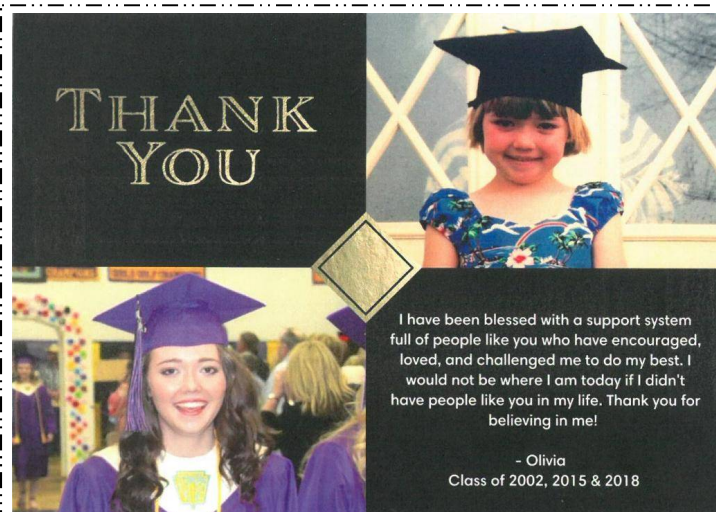
Worship this winter will rotate between different styles of worship. For January, the schedule is as follows...

- January 2—Christmas Break—No Wednesday Nightlife Activities**
- January 9<sup>th</sup> — Prayer Around the Cross**
- January 16<sup>th</sup> — Communion**
- January 23<sup>rd</sup> — Holden Evening Prayer**
- January 30<sup>th</sup> — Prayer Around the Cross**

Hope to see you all on Wednesdays!



Pastor Pam & everyone at CLF,  
 Thank You so much for allowing us to use your amazing church for our wedding!  
 We are so thankful that everything worked out the way that it did!  
 Thank you again, for everything! We appreciate it!  
 Love,  
 Eregory & Aleah



I have been blessed with a support system full of people like you who have encouraged, loved, and challenged me to do my best. I would not be where I am today if I didn't have people like you in my life. Thank you for believing in me!

- Olivia  
 Class of 2002, 2015 & 2018



## SPARK Kids...

Our Fifth Year of SPARK Kids has started with a bang! We now 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 the month of January are as follows:

- <sup>a</sup> January 2 — **Christmas Break—No WNL Activities**
- <sup>a</sup> January 9 — “*Wiseman*” — Matthew 2:1-12
- <sup>a</sup> January 16 — “*David and Goliath*” — I Samuel 17:4-11, 32-50
- <sup>a</sup> January 23 — “*Elijah and the Widow*” — I Kings 17:8-16
- <sup>a</sup> January 30 — “*Jonah and the Big Fish*” — Jonah 1-4

With this many children registered, we need more adult assistants and drivers. If you can help or need more info, please contact the church office.

P.S. I would like to thank those volunteers who have been drivers for SPARK Kids...you made my job a little easier! Thanks goes to: Augie Heyne, Gary Roberts, Richard Todd, Bill Nichol, Anita Swanson, Joel Behlings, Sara & Mike Janson, Phil Lewison & Gary Williams. ~ Donna

## Spotlight on Confirmation...

Confirmation for our Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Grade Youth is now underway. We have 27 youth registered, which is wonderful!

The schedule for January is as follows...

- <sup>a</sup> January 2—**Christmas Break—NO CLASS or WNL Activities**
- <sup>a</sup> January 9 — Class
- <sup>a</sup> January 16 — Mentor Night
- <sup>a</sup> January 23 — Class
- <sup>a</sup> January 30 — Class

## Confirmation Teachers Needed...

Thank you to those who taught confirmation in the Fall! Now I am looking to fill the calendar for this year. 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 make up 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

## Background Checks for Working with Youth

Because we care deeply for all of the children and youth who are part of this congregation, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, we are starting a new process for those who have any contact with our children. All adults who help with any of our ministries at CLF that involve children or youth will be receiving a letter explaining that we need a “Volunteer Application” form, an acknowledgment of the “Guidelines for Interaction Between Volunteers and Youth/Children at Custer Lutheran Fellowship,” and that we will be performing background checks. This includes everyone who is involved with Spark Kids (both volunteers in the classroom as well as drivers), Confirmation teachers, Confirmation mentors, RAP Group parents (both volunteers with the group as well as drivers), and nursery volunteers. This is both to protect our children, and to comply with our insurance company policies. All of the information collected will be kept confidential, and Pastor Pam will be the only one with access to the forms and results of the background checks. If you have questions or concerns about this new policy, please contact Pastor Pam.



### Parish Nurse News...

Well, Christmas is over, and I hope everyone was able to share in Christmas by either going to Church services, or celebrating with family or with friends. There are many people in our area that do not have family close by. We need to reach out to them. We are one, but we usually head to the kids & grandkids for Christmas. Unfortunately, we were unable to go, as we developed car problems the day before we planned to go. It was also a blessing from God, as we may have developed problems along the way. God works in mysterious ways.

As I write, I am hoping everyone has gotten their flu shot this season. It is bound to come to town and can be devastating to those with fragile health especially. We learned last year, that it isn't just the young and elderly, as there were quite a few who even died, who were not in a high risk category. As science develops new treatments for these ailments, the bugs also alter their makeup to resist these treatments! It still has been shown that getting the flu shot lessens the severity of the flu and that can make the difference between life and death.

I want to make sure that people take the time to check out the latest information table from the Health Ministry Team. We are now focusing on nutrition with a lot of great information! Any items we have out, are free to anyone!

**I want to wish everyone health and prosperity in the New Year!**

Mary Klein RN, Parish Nurse  
Health Ministry Team

### Mental Health News...

We are finally hearing more concern about treating those who live daily with Mental Illness. I hope it is not just talk, but action in providing proper treatment, especially in our area of South Dakota, where help is very limited. Most people with Mental Illness don't have the means to get the help, as well. I'm still looking at ways where not just me, but our community begins to take care of those who often suffer in silence, for fear of rejection. If you think someone is troubled, reach out, talk with them about it. It will not hurt, but may open lines of communication, and help them seek treatment.

If anyone is hurting, or worries about someone, or even just wants to learn more, I have a great deal of information. Please contact me!

Healthy Mind, Healthy Soul . . .  
Mary Klein RN, Parish Nurse



### Hello CLF Sweethearts —

After missing one year, we have the December Anniversary Dinner scheduled. We have reservations at the Alpine Inn in Hill City for **January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 PM**. This is just a "Save the Date" reminder—please put it on your schedule. We will make phone calls, to get numbers of attendees in January.

Happy Anniversary & Merry Christmas!

~ Jan Thom & Judy Baldwin



### Rap Group news...

RAP Group Makeover – We are trying something new with RAP Group this year. The idea is to make RAP Group a fun and safe place where we can laugh, play games, and maybe have conversations of issues that are going on in the teenage world. We have changed the meeting time to every Wednesday at 7 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. Meetings will conclude by 8 PM. RAP meetings will resume starting January 9<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please contact Tim Wicks (605) 673-1223 or Tammy Wicks (605) 673-1287.



### Council Minutes – December 18, 2018

*Treasurer's Report*—The treasurer's report was deferred to finance committee item on the agenda.

#### *Unfinished Business:*

- <sup>a</sup> **Thrivent Choice**—\$31.00 has been contributed to CLF from the Choice Dollars during this monthly time period. \$1,204.00 has been contributed through this fund year-to-date. \$69 of this money was given for LSS support, leaving a total of \$1,135.00. Brad moved that of the remaining plus the AmazonSmiles donations, totaling \$1,195.59, half be given to Custer Ministerial Alliance (CMA) and half to the Hail Damage Repair needed on Pine Ridge. This was seconded and approved. **(M/S/A)**
- <sup>a</sup> **Attendance/Financial Statistics** were reviewed.
- <sup>a</sup> **Background Checks**—Pastor Pam has found a church based background check system —Group Publishing: Shepard's Watch—which provides basic and more comprehensive searches. The expenditures are covered by the allotment set aside.
- <sup>a</sup> **Finance Committee Update**—Joy has worked to consolidate accounts. Sue moved and council approved motion to “approve finance committee obtain CPA consultation and assistance to implement accounting process to meet 2018 audit recommendations.” **(M/S/A)** A number of employees are working without contracts. Rosemary moved, it was seconded and council approved motion “that a trial for one year using the proposed contract format be used.” **(M/S/A)**
- <sup>a</sup> **Fall Stewardship Campaign Update**—Increased commitments of \$12,000 noted so far.
- <sup>a</sup> **Nominating Committee Update**—Jan Sweere and Carol Neiman have graciously accepted the call. 1-2 more positions are still open.

#### *New Business:*

- <sup>a</sup> **Membership Changes**—No changes noted. Two people have had recent training.
- <sup>a</sup> **Church Use Fees**—After discussion, Sue moved that “church use fees (funerals, weddings, etc.) be applied to Debt Retirement.” **(M/S/A)**
- <sup>a</sup> **Snow Removal Bids**—A range of bids were reviewed. A number of factors are involved. Rex will discuss variables with current provider.
- <sup>a</sup> **Annual Meeting Reports** —Due January 9<sup>th</sup>
- <sup>a</sup> **Active Shooter Information**—Rosemary is pursuing “active shooter on premises” actions that CLF may need.
- <sup>a</sup> **2019 Budget** – The Finance Committee submitted the ongoing budget projections for 2018 and projected budget income and expenses for 2019. The Council then reviewed and approved projected expense changes, adjusted the 2019 budget income projections based on latest stewardship information, and selected recommendations for one-time use of funds for 2019 to submit to the Congregation for approval at the annual meeting. After discussion, Brad moved, it was seconded, and council approved that “a standard benchmark of the 12-month CPI trailing of the Midwest Region CPI-U be used, understanding that a given year may require changes.” **(M/S/A)** Sue moved, it was seconded, and council approved that “1.4% CPI COLA be used for staff increases this coming year.” **(M/S/A)** Paul moved, it was seconded, and council approved that 1.4% COLA also be used for current ongoing mission projects. **(M/S/A)**

#### *Committee & Ministry Team Reports:*

- <sup>a</sup> **Auditing** — Three members have been selected to audit reports.
- <sup>a</sup> **Evangelism Committee**—The committee continues to work on pamphlets.
- <sup>a</sup> **Social Ministry**—\$4000+ has been raised for “Good Gifts” ELCA ministries.
- <sup>a</sup> **Youth**—RAP group has moved to Wednesday nights with a number attending, including non-members.



## ELW Devotions from the Daily Lectionary

### 1 Christmas

Tuesday, January 1: Psalm 8; Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:15-21

Wednesday, January 2: Psalm 147:12-20; Proverbs 1:1-7; James 3:13-18

### Epiphany of Our Lord

Thursday, January 3: Psalm 72; Job 42:10-17; Luke 8:16-21

Friday, January 4: Psalm 72; Isaiah 6:1-5; Acts 7:44-53

Saturday, January 5: Psalm 72; Jeremiah 31:7-14; John 1:1-18

Sunday, January 6: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Monday, January 7: Psalm 72; Daniel 2:1-19

Tuesday, January 8: Psalm 72; Daniel 2:24-49; Ephesians 5:15-20

Wednesday, January 9: Psalm 72; Numbers 24:15-19; Luke 1:67-79

### Baptism of Our Lord

Thursday, January 10: Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 1:1-99; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Friday, January 11: Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 2:1-10

Saturday, January 12: Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 3:1-15; 1 Corinthians 2:11-16

Sunday, January 13: Psalm 29; Isaiah 43:1-7; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Monday, January 14: Psalm 106:1-12; Judges 4:1-16; Ephesians 6:10-17

Tuesday, January 15: Psalm 106:1-12; Judges 5:12-21; 1 John 5:13-21

Wednesday, January 16: Psalm 106:1-12; Numbers 27:1-11; Luke 11:33-36

### 2 Epiphany

Thursday, January 17: Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 3:1-5; Acts 8:18-24

Friday, January 18: Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 3:19-25; 1 Corinthians 7:1-7

Saturday, January 19: Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 4:1-4; Luke 11:14-23

Sunday, January 20: Psalm 36:5-10; Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

Monday, January 21: Psalm 145; Isaiah 54:1-8; Romans 12:9-21

Tuesday, January 22: Psalm 145; Song of Solomon 4:1-8; 1 Corinthians 1:3-17

Wednesday, January 23: Psalm 145; Song of Solomon 4:9—5:1; Luke 5:33-39

### 3 Epiphany

Thursday, January 24: Psalm 19; Isaiah 61:1-7; Romans 7:1-6

Friday, January 25: Psalm 19; Nehemiah 2:1-10; Romans 12:1-8

Saturday, January 26: Psalm 19; Nehemiah 5:1-13; Luke 2:39-52

Sunday, January 27: Psalm 19; Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

Monday, January 28: Psalm 119:89-96; Jeremiah 36:1-10; 1 Corinthians 14:1-12

Tuesday, January 29: Psalm 119:89-96; Jeremiah 36:11-26; 2 Corinthians 7:2-12

Wednesday, January 30: Psalm 119:89-96; Jeremiah 36:27-32; Luke 4:38-44

### 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

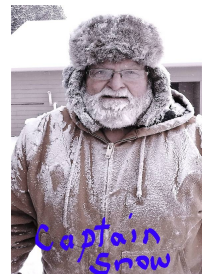
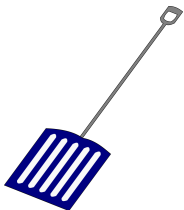
Wednesday, February 6: Psalm 56; Jeremiah 1:11-19; Luke 19:41-44



## 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. 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 Trethewey  
 Choir Director: Marlene Sellevold  
 Financial Secretary: Ann Snow  
 Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky

**Ministers: All Members of CLF!**