

CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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

CUSTER, SD 57730

www.custerlutheran.com

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2023

Inside This Issue

| | |
|---------|---|
| 2 | This and That |
| 3 | Pastor's Ponderings |
| 4 | CLF Happenings |
| 5 | Worship & Music |
| 6 | From the Church Office |
| 7 | Miscellaneous |
| 8 | God's Work, Our Hands |
| 9 | The Women of CLF |
| 10 | Council Meeting Minutes |
| 11 | Daily Devotions |
| Inserts | - March Calendar - Birthdays & Anniversaries |

MEET YOUR NEW PASTOR!!



At the special congregational meeting on Sunday, February 5th, an overwhelming vote was confirmed to extend a call to Pastor Shannon Witt, for the position of being our new pastor. Pastor Shannon, did accept the call, and has been busy unpacking with her husband Darryn since the recent move to Custer, SD. Pastor Shannon has also led her first worship service last Sunday, February 26th. Pastor Shannon and Darryn are very excited to be back in Custer. Stop by, say hello and introduce yourselves to her.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS



Soup Suppers began starting with Ash Wednesday on February 22nd. We gather for a simple, yet hearty meal of soup and bread from 5:15 — 6:00 PM on Wednesdays. Lenten Soup Suppers go from February 22nd through March 29th. Please consider signing up to bring a batch of soup one of these weeks! Sign-up sheets are located at the Welcome Center.

Lent



LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Plan to join us for Lenten Worship at 6:00 PM on Wednesday's

March 1st
March 22nd

March 8th
March 29th

March 15th

Looking Ahead to Holy Week

Palm Sunday-April 2nd-9:30 Worship/Installation of Pastor Shannon
Maundy Thursday-April 6th 6:30 Worship
Good Friday-April 7th-6:30am Cross Walk; 6:30pm Worship
Easter Sunday April 9th-6:30am Sunrise Service; 9:30 Worship Service

EASTER LILIES



If you would like to provide lilies to help decorate the church for Easter, please bring them to the church by Thursday, April 6th. If given in honor or in memory of someone or to the Glory of God, please let the office know by Monday, April 4th, so the name will be listed in the bulletin. Email clf@gwtc.net or call 673-4691.



TIME CHANGE IS COMING SOON!



Don't forget to change your clocks ahead on Saturday, March 12th before bed or you could be late for church on Sunday, March 13th. Remember to spring forward!

LENTEN SEASON OFFERING - HELP US BUILD A MOUNTAIN

“On the **mountain** of the Lord it will be provided.” Genesis 22:14

Your Social Ministry Team is once again planning an exciting way for us to participate in a Lenten Season Offering. As in recent years, we will be building a mountain at the altar with our offerings. Various items needed by non-profits conducting God's work in our community will be collected during Sunday and Wednesday services for five weeks beginning February 26. We will focus on the following organizations: W.E.A.V.E., Operation Black Hills Cabin, The Storehouse; Pine Ridge Diaper Drive and Humane society—Custer.

Listed below is a list of items needed by each of these non-profit organizations:

Shopping List

W.E.A.V.E. (Women Escaping a Violent Environment):

A very special organization in our community that has been helping women and children in need for over 20 years.

- ✦ Toilet paper, Paper towels, shampoo and conditioner, new or gently used baby sleepers sizes 6-24 months, gently used jeans for teen boys.

Operation Black Hills Cabin:

Their mission is to provide a comfortable, peaceful and supportive respite to qualified, combat-injured veterans and families. Small inexpensive items are given to each family member visiting the cabin. The cabin can host 17 families each year.

- ✦ The children's book, "Who Pooped in the Black Hills" to be given to boys; Locking journals/dairies to be given to girls.
- ✦ Family-oriented games, puzzles, and simple toys that will remain in the cabin library. Items would need to be appropriate for toddler to teenagers.
- ✦ There are also 7 games that need to be replaced at the cabin: Operation, Chutes and Ladders, Littlest Pet Shop Monopoly, Chess, Checkers, Backgammon, and Chinese Checkers.

If you are planning on offering one of these replacement games, please contact Connie at bradmckinney@gmail.com to avoid duplication.

The cabin has about a dozen puzzles appropriate for small children, 2 decks of regular playing cards, and the following games that are in good condition (so OBHC **does NOT** need these): Connect 4, Sequence, The All American Trivia Board Game, Challenge Yahtzee, Horse Sense, Disney Edition Memory Game, Dominoes, Such a Thing?, Outburst II, Monopoly, Candy Land, Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?, and Scrabble.

- ✦ Any kind of Black Hills souvenir, gender neutral and without sizes, would also be appreciated—small things that can be put into the gift bags each family receives. Volunteers do not know the sizes of guests.

The Storehouse:

Their mission is to serve people in Custer County by receiving and distributing with respect and compassion donated food and household items.

- ✦ Canned fruit, canned vegetables, peanut butter, pasta, spaghetti sauce, boxed cereals, 32 oz. shelf milk, canned peaches, canned meat and soups.

Pine Ridge Diaper Drive:

Diapers are as essential to a child's basic needs as food and shelter—yet state and federal programs do not offer special funding for those in need.

- ✦ Sizes 5's & 6's diapers

Humane Society—Custer:

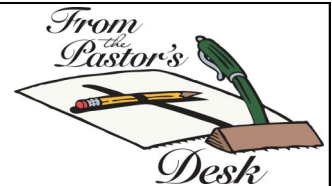
A no-kill, animal shelter serving Custer County. At present they are caring for 35 dogs, 25 cats, a blind horse, a cow with a broken hip, a donkey, birds and even a squirrel with seizures. Most of the animals are older or have health issues and will live out their lives at the shelter.

- ✦ Dry Cat food
- ✦ Monetary donations to cover costs of medicine and veterinary bills.



Remember... "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." Genesis 3:19 NRSV

What other phrases with the word dust in it are you familiar with? Some that I am are: a gentle dusting, shake off the dust, another one bites the dust, dust up on my skills, dust bunny, let the dust settle, kick up dust.



In a recent welcome letter from a new colleague in the Bear Butte Conference, these words were written when she found out my first day was the Monday before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent, "You're a crazy pastor...try to catch your breath!" On Monday and Tuesday Mary, our Office Administrator, the Music & Worship team, and I worked really hard to get a service pulled together. I had a sermon ready by Tuesday evening...then a gentle dusting of snow began to fall. You know what happened on Wednesday. This note is being written shortly after the decision to cancel the Ash Wednesday service was made. I had barely shaken the dust off my shoes with our move to Custer and big decisions had to be made. I hope I don't bite the dust here before I even begin! It's been awhile since I've written a sermon, so I really had to dust up on my study and writing skills. Thanks to the hard work of so many people, Darryn and I were able to move our belongings into our new home and there wasn't a dust bunny to be found! Now, together, we at CLF let the dust settle from the journey we have been on during this call process. I really don't think there is a better time to do this than the Lenten Season.

Lent is a time of reflection, introspection, and preparation for the Resurrection of Jesus. Maybe the big snow storm of Ash Wednesday 2023 can remind us that here in Western South Dakota, we are still in the season of Winter during Lent. Winter, as we know, is a time when the earth rests. When we know that what is happening under the rock and dirt under the snow, is the miracle of the new life of Spring. It's a reminder for us to trust that God is up to things that we can't even imagine. It is a time to remember that God is God, and we are not. Spring isn't here, not yet. Lent is a time to remember that 'we are dust, and to dust we will return'. The Good News we are waiting for as we prepare for Easter is this: God isn't finished with us, not yet anyway!

During the Lenten Season, I will be using the theme for my sermons from a Lenten project from Church Anew called, *Unfinished: Discovering God's Call in the 'Not Yet.'* The author, Rev. Dr. Charlene Rachuy-Cox wrote this overview of the theme: "We can probably all think of a host of experiences from our own lives in which we occupy the space between no longer and not yet. But we are not left alone in this space. God is here - present-tense, each and every day - calling to us, accompanying us, renewing and recreating us - over and over again. This Lent, you are invited into the spiritual practice vocare, a practice designed to help you discover and embrace various ways that God calls you in everyday life so that even amid the not yet, you can more intentionally live life on purpose for the common good." The titles of the sermon for each week in Lent are:

Feb. 26—CALLED TO VALUES
 Mar. 5—CALLED TO OPENNESS
 Mar. 12—CALLED BY GOD
 Mar. 19—CALLED TO ATTENTIVENESS
 Mar. 29—CALLED TO REGRET

As we gather each week to hear God's word during Lent, we begin the beautiful process of beginning together as a Congregation and Pastor. I am honored and excited to be on this journey with you! Let's kick up some dust together!

Peace and love to you,
 Pastor Shannon



PLEASE NOTIFY PASTOR SHANNON 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.



CONFIRMATION DURING LENT



During Lent, mentors are asked to meet with their student three times to have conversations. The discussion sheets are on the tall cocktail table next to the Confirmation Table. You may meet with your student before worship, after worship, or make arrangements with the student's parents to meet with them another time. Enjoy this time of building stronger relationships between mentors and youth! Please let Pastor Shannon know if you have any questions.

8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

Pastor Shannon needs to meet with the 8th Graders twice during Lent to begin working on their projects for confirmation. We will meet in the Large Sunday School Room at 6:30 pm after worship on **March 8th and March 29th**. **We will also meet on April 19th after Easter for final preparations.**



RAP YOUTH GROUP

Every Wednesday night 6:30-7:30 we have Youth Group for 9th-12th graders. We have had deep conversations and also lots of fun playing games. A highlight last month was packing lunch bags for Lutheran Social Services to give to foster kids aging out of the system. We decorated the bags with encouraging words and Bible verses. Then we filled them with soup, crackers, pudding, cookies, fruit cup, and fruit snacks! The SPARK and RAP youth packed 48 bags and it was so meaningful to be able to share God's love with others. If you haven't been to church in awhile, know that we would love to see you! Let me know if you have ideas for service projects or field trips. All are welcome for faith, fun and fellowship! Contact Wendi 509-494-3236 for more info!

SPARK KIDS BY WENDI RUSCH

It's not too late to 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. Parent Pickup is 5:00—5:15 PM. We have so much fun using games, crafts, and snacks that go with the Bible story. This month we will talk about Jesus blessing the children, Jesus healing the Bling and Jesus feeding the 5,000. All of the miracles will lead to talking about Easter — the greatest miracle of all!

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 27 signed up so far! All are Welcome! Contact Wendi Rusch at 509-494-3236 for more information.

REMINDER OF WORSHIP TIMES

We would like to remind you of the worship times here at Custer Lutheran Fellowship.

Our Sunday worship starts at 9:30 AM ,followed by fellowship time.

Our Wednesday Evening Vespers start at 6:00 PM.

2023 OUTLAW RANCH JOB ANNOUNCEMENT!!!!

Outlaw Ranch is seeking assistant cooks for our summer camp season May 28—August 4th, 2023. Prior cooking Experience is a plus, and we will provide paid training. Convenient shifts are available and can be as little as one, six-hour day, up to 40 hours a week. Pay is \$13 to \$15 per hour depending on experience. Please contact Matt Rusch at matt_@losd.org or 605-673-1014, if interested.

We Welcome our new Pastor, Shannon Witt.

We are entering our Lenten Season, it is a time to reflect on spirituality and focus on God's mercy. As I reflect and pray for guidance in choosing music, we think of what gift God gave us. I pray for guidance by the Holy Spirit. Our emphasis during Lent is Jesus returning to Jerusalem and Calvary. It is about the suffering servant and it leads us to salvation.

After Ash Wednesday, we use songs that are more prayerful and songs of love by our Savior. The Choir, under the direction of Jennifer Doyle, is working with the choir on a Cantata which reflects beautiful pieces that you want sing because they're beautiful. It will be given on Easter morning during the worship service at 9:30 a.m.

Here is a format for the services that we are working on:

LENTEN SERVICE

Feb. 26 Through March 26 (reflection and repentance that prepares Christians for Easter)

HOLY WEEK- April 2-April 9

(Palm Sunday)- April 2 - Jesus Enters Jerusalem.

MANUNDY THURSDAY - 6:30 p.m. - April 7 (A service that commemorates the Last Supper.)

(Washing of the Feet)

GOOD FRIDAY- 6:30 p.m. April 7 (Crucifixion of Jesus) Choir Sings

EASTER - April 9th (Jesus is Risen - Hallelujah)

6:30 a.m. - Sunrise Service

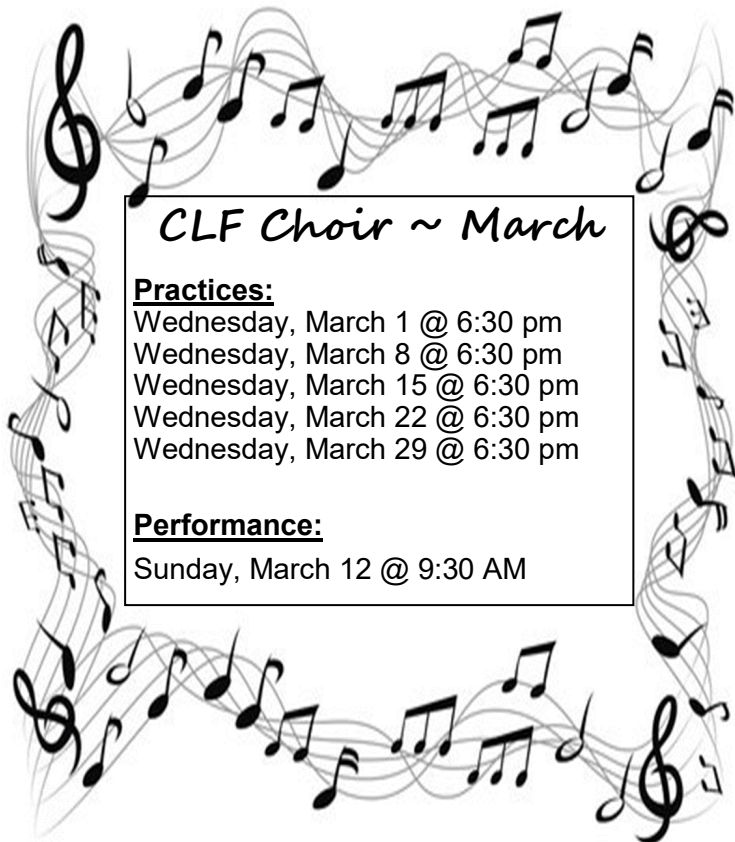
9:30 a.m. Second service with the Choir doing the Cantata "Risen This Day"

Directed by Jennifer Doyle, Accompanied by Cozy Dorton

AT THE CROSS , JESUS PAID IT ALL

Thanks to all of you that do so much to help music be a part of our service.

Blessings to you,
Margaret and Bill Tretheway



CLF Choir ~ March

Practices:

Wednesday, March 1 @ 6:30 pm

Wednesday, March 8 @ 6:30 pm

Wednesday, March 15 @ 6:30 pm

Wednesday, March 22 @ 6:30 pm

Wednesday, March 29 @ 6:30 pm

Performance:

Sunday, March 12 @ 9:30 AM



EQUAL EXCHANGE PRODUCTS

Please note that there are a few products (coffee and tea) that will be on a separate table that are outdated that are free for the taking! The rest of the products on the red cart are labeled with their price. If there is a product that you enjoy that isn't on the cart, please let Mary know and she can order them.



CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES

If you would to e-mail someone in the church office, our e-mail addresses are:
 Pastor Shannon: pastor_clf@gwtc.net
 Main address (Mary): clf@gwtc.net

APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

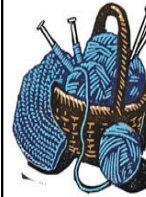
Please have articles for the April Newsletter to the office by March 15th. Thank you!

OFFICE HOURS



The church office is open:
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 8:30 AM—4:00 PM.
Wednesday's open from 10 AM—6:30 PM.
 Phone number is: 605-673-4691

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



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

CLF WEBSITE OFFERS ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

On Custer Lutheran Fellowship's website, www.custerlutheran.com you will find the option to support Custer Lutheran Fellowship's mission and ministry through the "ONLINE GIVING" link. Whether you'd like to make a one-time donation or set-up regularly scheduled donations, you can do this easily through a secure server by following the instructions. At this time, CLF accepts bank account (ACH) transactions only. You can set up your own login/password and make changes with your giving at any time.



UPDATES ON THE CHURCH BUDGET

by Treasurer Joy Smolnisky

| <u>CLF 1-31-23 Stmt of Activities</u> | | January 2023 YTD Budget Summary | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Preliminary DRAFT for Council | | ACTUAL | BUDGET | +/- Budget | % of Budget |
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | | | | |
| Income | | | | | |
| Offering Contributions | 30,855 | 24,184 | 6,671 | 128% | |
| Non-restricted Special Donation | 388 | 0 | 388 | | |
| Temp. Restricted Donations | 2,031 | 300 | 1,731 | 677% | |
| Interest | 0 | 25 | (25) | 0% | |
| Total Income | 33,274 | 24,509 | 8,765 | 136% | |
| Expense | | | | | |
| Guest Pastor Expenses | 3,107 | 3,107 | 0 | 100% | |
| Total WORSHIP | 1,536 | 2,244 | (708) | 68% | |
| Total EDUCATION | 2,121 | 2,522 | (401) | 84% | |
| MISSION SUPPORT | | | | | |
| Total ELCA Mission Support | 2,506 | 2,110 | 396 | 119% | |
| Total Other Mission Support | 791 | 791 | 0 | 100% | |
| Total MISSION SUPPORT | \$ 3,297 | 2,901 | 396 | 114% | |
| Total SUPPORT/CARE | 7,408 | 7,780 | (373) | 95% | |
| Total FACILITIES EXPENSE | 12,761 | 10,120 | 2,641 | 126% | |
| Total Expense | 30,230 | 28,674 | 1,556 | 105% | |
| Net Ordinary Income | \$3,044 | \$ (4,165) | \$7,209 | | |

PANCAKE BREAKFAST 2023 THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Pancake Breakfast - February 26th Benefit

Nearly 90 people enjoyed sharing breakfast and fellowship this year. A total of nearly \$1,000 was collected from the free will offering that will be passed on to the Wambli Ska Mission/ Woyatan which is going to great lengths to help folks who are living on the streets of Rapid City.

Thank you for your generosity!



Thank You!

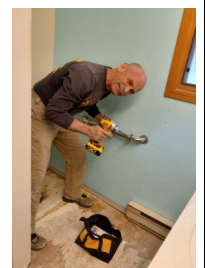
Thank you, Members of CLF, for the very warm welcome! The cards, phone calls, meals, prayers, and words of support and encouragement meant so much to us. We are beginning to get settled into the parsonage. To those who worked so hard and put in many hours on the remodel, it is beautiful!

With much gratitude and love,
Pastor Shannon and Darryn

LYNN'S RECEIPTS

We are still collecting receipts from Lynn's Dakotamart. We appreciate so much everyone who brings their receipts. We wanted everyone to be aware that we do not collect the gas discount receipts, though. We want you to keep those to get your gas discount! But continue to drop off your receipts in the office or in the can at the Welcome Center. Thank you!

Parsonage Workers:



PARSONAGE UPDATES

Pastor Shannon and Darryn Witt were welcomed into the newly renovated parsonage, on February 19th, during an open house. What started as a window replacement project in early 2022, the property committee did a total review of maintenance needs while the parsonage was vacant. Originally constructed in 1991, updating was needed. With a project budget of about \$20,100, volunteers embarked on December 12th to remove carpet, wipe and paint walls, wash and refinish all woodwork, and replace most fixtures (towel bars, rods, several doors, blinds, smoke alarms, some lights, etc.). Outlaw Ranch volunteers replaced five windows and added a sixth that were modern energy efficient double-hung and slider styles to improve lighting and circulation and reduce solar gain. Durable, yet comfortable "vinyl plank" flooring was installed by Shanklin's Flooring. Black Hills Energy installed an upgraded demand controller that reduces electricity cost during peak periods. The entire house was professionally cleaned. Left-over insulation and sheeting was installed on the garage walls.

The project was substantially completed on February 15th. In summary, twenty volunteers tallied about 590 hours. Expenses paid from the Capital Improvement Fund totaled \$18,689. Members also donated \$4,493 resulting in a total of \$23,182 for the improvements at the parsonage. Yet to be completed pending weather are siding on walls around windows and insulation of an energy efficient "mini-split" heat pump/air conditioner (donation). Volunteers reflected on the satisfaction of completing needed updates, but perhaps equally as important was the fellowship of Conversation and day-brightening laughter and knowing that we are preparing a home for Pastor Shannon and Darryn.



CARING HANDS MINISTRY

What is the purpose of the Caring Hands Ministry? With our hands and hearts we offer hope as others receive God's love through our care. God calls us to a life of hope.... And to encourage others to know the hope of Jesus Christ in their lives.

The Caring Hands Team for Prayer, Transportation, and Meals were active again this month. Praise God for this help we can give others... and remember we do God's Work with Our Hands.

A few times this month, the transportation drivers were all busy on the same day. If you would be willing to drive someone to an appointment occasionally within Custer, to Hill City, Hot Springs, or Rapid City, please let me know.

If you know of someone who might need a meal whether in sorrow or joy, please let me know. If you know someone who just needs a coffee or visit of time, please contact me. We have so many who are good at being a friend when needed.

Ephesians 6:18 says "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all of the Lord's people."

In this way, everyone at CLF is part of the prayer team for the body of Christ. There is also an email prayer team to handle urgent messages and ongoing care for some. Some messages are confidential and some are to be shared for prayer.

All of these teams are open and would welcome your partnership.
Cozy Dorton 605-673-1187 didirector@goldenwest.net





W/ELCA HAPPENINGS

The next WELCA meeting is Monday, March 20th at 11:30 AM in the Fireside Room. It will be a POTLUCK. The speaker will be Jessica Lillebo, from Lutheran Social Services, talking about the new services they will offer.

After telling us there are 27 youngsters signed up for Spark Kids and all is going well, Wendi Rusch showed beautiful pictures and told about all of the places she had been and the things she learned on her trip to the Holy Land. It was so interesting because wherever Jesus had been, they built a beautiful church. She also told of the different cultures living there.

QUILTING

We are in very short supply of fabric which gets cut into squares for the quilt tops. Some of our quilts were just Shared with Cornerstone Mission & lap quilts with patients at Custer Monument Health Care. We are few in numbers right now because of snowbirds & surgeries!, but still get a lot done. *“The Busy Quilters”*



THANK YOU

I would like to say a special thank you to those that sent cards, phone calls, meals, flowers and etc. while I was recuperating from my knee surgery. A special thank you to Donna McConnell for covering for me in the office while I was gone. My recovery is very slow but keeps getting better.
Mary & Jack Winter

YARN FOR ST. DYSMAS

When Pastor Jeff Backer of St. Dysmas was here recently, he talked a little about the yarn ministry for those men currently incarcerated at the South Dakota State Penitentiary (SDSP) in Sioux Falls and Mike Durfee (MDSP) in Springfield. He talked about how that ministry serves not only the local community but how it also serves the men. In hearing Pastor Jeff, I felt a little tug and found myself asking, “how can I help?”

Here is a little information on this ministry in case you were not able to attend that particular Sunday that Pastor Jeff spoke or are not familiar with this ministry.

St. Dysmas of South Dakota, an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) prison ministry, has collected yarn donations for many years since the ministry was established in South Dakota in 1989. For many years, yarn donations have been provided to selected inmates approved for the program. Some of these inmates have special needs and this is something they can do to feel productive and make a contribution to society.

They crochet or knit, producing hats, scarves, prayer shawls and a few stuffed animals. In addition, they are now also making caps for newborns that end up in the neonatal units of local hospitals. Some of their other projects are also donated to food pantries in Yankton and Bon Homme Counties.

All types of yarn are accepted for this ministry including baby yard. Inmates select the colors and patterns of items they create.

Starting March 1st, there will be a box in the Narthex under the Prayer Board to collect yarn for this ministry. It will be clearly marked. It will remain there for as long as donations seem to be coming in. I will coordinate efforts to get the yarn to St. Dysmas when needed.

Thank you in advance for your help with any contributions you may make. Be sure to spread the word to others who may have yarn laying around from past projects they don't need anymore. Feel free to contact me with any questions and I'll do my best to get you an answer.

Teresa Obenauer 605-440-2241 tobenauer@icloud.com

“CHRIST IN OUR HOME” DEVOTIONALS

The “Christ in Our Home” daily devotional booklet is issued quarterly by Augsburg Fortress. The **April through June issue** is here. We give thanks to W/ELCA for providing this devotional for your personal use. If you would like an issue, you can stop by the office to pick one up, or contact the church office to have a copy mailed to you.

COUNCIL MINUTES – FEBRUARY 21, 2023 MEETING

Secretary's Report:

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Dave Mertz.

Gathering of Personal Concerns and Joys: Members shared concerns and joys.

Reading of CLF Mission Statement and Council Covenant: Members read the mission statement and council covenant.

Devotions and Prayers: Mark led the devotion and prayer.

Agenda Additions/Approval: There were two additions to the agenda. Mark moved, Blaine seconded and the agenda was approved as amended.

Secretary's Report: The correspondence was reviewed. Mark moved, John seconded and the minutes for the January meeting were approved as. Worship attendance records were reviewed.

Elect Council Secretary – Motion by Mark, seconded by Blaine to elect Donna McConnell as Secretary. Motion carried.

Treasurer's and Finance Committee's Report: The offerings thru January were 105.6% of budget and expenses were 91% of budget.

Joy informed Council that our insurance company, Guide One, will no longer be doing business in South Dakota. Joy is getting bids from other companies.

- ✦ **Review & Approve 2023 Bank Authorization –** Joy reviewed who is authorized to sign checks. Mark moved, John seconded to approve. Motion carried.
- ✦ **Review & Approve 2023 e-payment Authorization –** Mark moved, John seconded to approve e-payment authorization. Motion carried.
- ✦ **Review the Pastor's Discretionary Fund Policy –** the policy was reviewed John moved, Helena seconded to approve. Motion carried.

Special Agenda Items: There were no special agenda items.

New Business:

- ✦ **Council Rotation Sheet –** Sheet was passed around for members to correct personal info and to sign up for each month.
- ✦ **Assign liaison from Council to each committee.**
 - ◆ Endowment
 - ◆ Health Ministry
 - ◆ Mutual Ministry – Dave Mertz
 - ◆ Outreach
 - ◆ Property – Mark Thompson
 - ◆ Social Ministry
 - ◆ W/ELCA – Shana Hindman
 - ◆ Worship & Music – Donna McConnell
- ✦ **Installation Date –** Pastor Shannon's installation date has been set for April 2nd. Pastor Renee Splichal Larson is tentatively scheduled to do the installation.
- ✦ **Other**
 - ◆ **Studebaker Club Request –** received letter from them wanting to use our facilities for their banquet. Will vote on this at the March meeting after reviewing our Building Use Form.
 - ◆ **Installation of Officers/Council Members –** will be done on Sunday, March 5th.

Next Meeting: March 21, 2023

Closing Prayer, Lord's Prayer

Adjournment

Donna McConnell, Council Secretary

OUTLAW RANCH 2023

Lutherans Outdoors has opened registration for summer 2023. Program sizes will be smaller and Covid precautions will be in place, but at the core it will be the same summer camp experience that our campers know and love. Visit www.losd.org to register for your summer adventure!

ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY

Lent 2

Thursday, March 2: Psalm 121; Isaiah 51:1-3; 2 Timothy 1:3-7

Friday, March 3: Psalm 121; Micah 7:12-20; Romans 3:21-31

Saturday, March 4: Psalm 121; Isaiah 51:4-8; Luke 7:1-10

Sunday, March 5: Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

Monday, March 6: Psalm 128; Numbers 21:4-9; Hebrews 3:1-6

Tuesday, March 7: Psalm 128; Isaiah 65:17-25; Romans 4:6-13

Wednesday, March 8: Psalm 128; Ezekiel 36:22-32; John 7:53-8:11



Lent 3

Thursday, March 9: Psalm 95; Exodus 16:1-8; Colossians 1:15-23

Friday, March 10: Psalm 95; Exodus 16:9-21; Ephesians 2:11-22

Saturday, March 11: Psalm 95; Exodus 16:27-35; John 4:1-6

Sunday, March 12: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Roman 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Monday, March 13: Psalm 81; Genesis 24:1-27; 2 John 1-13

Tuesday, March 14: Psalm 81; Genesis 29:1-14; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Wednesday, March 15: Psalm 81; Jeremiah 2:4-13; John 7:14-31, 37-39

Lent 4

Thursday, March 16: Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:10-21; Ephesians 4:25-32

Friday, March 17: Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:22-31; Ephesians 5:1-9

Saturday, March 18: Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:32-34; John 1:1-9

Sunday, March 19: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Monday, March 20: Psalm 146; Isaiah 59:9-19; Acts 9:1-20

Tuesday, March 21: Psalm 146; Isaiah 42:14-21; Colossians 1:9-14

Wednesday, March 22: Psalm 146; Isaiah 60:17-22; Matthew 9:27-34

Lent 5

Thursday, March 23: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2:8-3:3; Revelation 10:1-11

Friday, March 24: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 33:10-16; Revelation 11:15-19

Saturday, March 25: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 36:8-15; Luke 24:44-53

Sunday, March 26: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Monday, March 27: Psalm 143; 1 Kings 17:17-24; Acts 20:7-12

Tuesday, March 28: Psalm 143; 2 Kings 4:18-37; Ephesians 2:1-10

Wednesday, March 29: Psalm 143; Jeremiah 32:1-9, 36-41; Matthew 22:23-33

Palm Sunday

Thursday, March 30: Psalm 31:9-16; 1 Samuel 16:11-13; Philippians 1:1-11

Friday, March 31: Psalm 31:9-16; Job 13:13-19; Philippians 1:21-30

Saturday, April 1: Psalm 31:9-16; Lamentations 3:55-66; Mark 10:32-34

Sunday, April 2: Palm Sunday; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66

Monday, April 3: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11; Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11

Tuesday, April 4: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36

Wednesday, April 5: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32

LENTEN ASHES





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

Return Service Requested

U.S. Postage Paid
 Non Profit Organization
 Permit #5
 Custer, SD 57730

Place label here.

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: Shannon Witt
 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!