

## **CROSSROADS**

Monthly Newsletter for:

#### CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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## VOLUME 18, ISSUE 11 **NOVEMBER 2020**

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## **CONFIRMATION 2020...**

Confirmation for our current 9<sup>th</sup> graders certainly hasn't turned out the way we planned – not the first time, and not the second! Their original confirmation In May was canceled because of COVID-19, so we planned their confirmation for Reformation Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020.

Unfortunately, my family was hit with COVID-19, with my husband Chas and son Matt both testing positive. Although I tested negative, I still needed to quarantine with them. And of course this happened just two days before their confirmation service! So they've missed being confirmed again. I will work with the families to determine the best course of action at this point.

One of our 9<sup>th</sup> graders, Kai Rusch, was confirmed on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, though! The Rusch family is distancing through this pandemic, so we arranged to confirm him through Zoom along with his Mentor Bonnie Thompson. Join me in congratulating Kai on his confirmation! He holds a unique place now as the only 9<sup>th</sup> grader confirmed so far this year.

We did enjoy the Confirmation banquet and worship, though! It was scaled back a bit, but it was fun nonetheless. I loved hearing the students describe their stoles. The banguet worship service is on our church Facebook page and YouTube channel if you would like to hear them talk about what they put on their stoles. Those participating in the banquet were:

Drew Lehman **Emily Lent** Kaiyah McDonnell Lauryn Robb Abby Studt Sierra Swanson

I will let everyone know when we re-schedule confirmation so we can all celebrate together.













## SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING— November 1, 2020



On the recommendation of the SD Synod, the CLF Church Council is calling a Special Congregational Meeting to approve the addition of C10.08 to the CLF Constitution on **Sunday, November 1, 2020** after worship at approximately 11:00 AM.

This action is recommended so that, if the situation arises that we need to hold an online Annual Congregational Meeting, we will be able to do so. Our current constitution does not have a provision allowing it. This is the Resolution that the congregation would need to approve:

Be it resolved that Custer Lutheran Fellowship amend the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions by addition of C10.08 of the Model Constitution for Congregations, stating:

**C10.08**: This congregation may hold meetings by remote communication, including electronically and by telephone conference, as long as there is an opportunity for simultaneous and aural communication. To the extent permitted by state law, notice of all meetings may be provided electronically.

Please make every effort to be present for this Special Meeting so that we have a quorum to vote on this Resolution. If you can't come to service or are not comfortable coming in the church, you can stay in your vehicle to vote and someone in council will bring out a ballot to you. Thank you!

## THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Come to Custer Lutheran Fellowship for a worship service of giving thanks and praise to God. We will gather at 6:00 PM on November 25<sup>th</sup> for a service of song and prayer, to hear God's Word and taste God's goodness. All are invited to bring an offering of non-perishable food to help support the local food pantry at The Storehouse as well as a financial offering to support the global ministry of ELCA World Hunger. As we give thanks for such abundance, we encourage you to take time to offer thanks and praise to God for the blessings of life, breath, faith, and the ability to serve in Christ's name. World Hunger offering envelopes will be in the Narthex during November.

## **EXCEL IN THE GRACE OF GIVING**



Thank you for participating in our stewardship series this month. Your commitment will further God's work at our church. Our "Excel in the Grace of Giving" stewardship program focused on giving as one response to God's immeasurable love. Throughout the program, we were reminded that giving expresses our gratitude to God for who he is and what he has done for us through his son, Jesus. Thank you to those who have returned your Commitment Cards so far. If you have not done so, please return it as soon as you can,

even if you are unable to give financially at this time. There are blank forms in the Narthex and in the church office.

## **COMMUNION KITS FOR HOME...**



Holy Communion is such an important part of our faith journey, and I know many of us are missing it during this time of COVID-19, including me! We have begun celebrating Holy Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday's of the month, but for those who are not comfortable attending worship in person, Communion kits will be available on those Sunday afternoons at the church.

The kits have everything you need to have Communion at home. It has wafers, grape juice, disposable cups, and a sheet with the liturgy you can say alone, or with your family. **I do** 

ask that you return the plastic containers some time after you use it so that they can be re-used. And if you do not feel comfortable coming to church to pick up a kit, let me know and I can drop one off for you.

I have always felt Holy Communion is so important in my faith life as a tangible reminder of God's love for me and for everyone. I am hoping we can all gain the comfort and hope revealed to us in this sacrament.

## REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR PAM



I was reading the November Gather magazine, (which everyone should have a subscription to!), and part of the Bible Study really resonated with me:

"The Bible is filled with imaginings of the future and expectations of times to come. The future is at the very heart of God's promises, because promises, by definition, deal with things that are not yet but will be. And how should we feel about the future? Despite the many passages in the Bible that warn of troubles, trials and tribulations to come, we are still enco



Bible that warn of troubles, trials and tribulations to come, we are still encouraged not to worry about tomorrow (Matthew 6:34), for, as Jesus promised the disciples, "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). Jesus is not telling us to forget about tomorrow or ignore the future. Jesus is giving us a foundation for facing the future. Rooted in the promises of God in Jesus Christ, we do not need to be afraid to face the future – even when the unknown scares us, even when the future looks bleak. We are freed by the gospel not to worry about the future, but to build and work together with God for the future that will come after us, trusting that as we plant, our children will eat."

The writer, Meghan Johnston Aelabouni, was talking about living in Jerusalem and how the people plant trees that don't produce fruit for 10 to 20 years. So the people plant so their children will eat. They know that they won't enjoy the fruit themselves, at least not right away, but they trust that they are providing for future generations.

Right now – and for the last 7 months at least – the future is so uncertain and perhaps scary. We don't know what is going to happen or how long we are going to have to deal with COVID-19 and all the changes and stress of that. I know for me, now that COVID has hit my family, I am worried and stressed out about this disease and any long-term effects it will have on my family.

But Jesus says we are not to worry or be afraid of the future. Jesus is giving us a foundation for facing the future. "Rooted in the promise of God in Jesus Christ, we do not need to be afraid to face the future – even when the unknown scares us, even when the future looks bleak." Over and over in the Bible, tragedy happens, scary things happen, but God is always present, walking with the people in the midst of those things.

Jesus does promise to be with us always. The Apostle Paul in Romans 8 talks about all the things that we think might separate us from Jesus, but assures us that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The future may be uncertain, and even scary at times, but we trust that God is with us, Jesus walks along-side us, and the Holy Spirit fills us and gives us strength to face whatever the future holds. Are we going to worry? Are we going to be stressed? Are we going to be afraid? Sometimes we will. We're only human. But Jesus is constantly telling us to turn to him, trust in him, and he will get us through whatever we face.

May we all feel Jesus walking along side us today and always, and may we look with hope to the future rather than fear.

Blessings, Pastor Pam



## SHARING THE DREAM IN GUATEMALA

As with everything else during this time of Covid, our Sharing the Dream will be different this year. There will be no merchandise but information will be available on how to continue to be a part of this very special ministry.

We'll have an information table available on **Sundays**, **November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>**. We hope to have a short video on our FaceBook page. There are two ways you can help.

Send a donation via online or a check made out to Sharing the Dream in Guatemala to Sharing the Dream in Guatemala

10 W. Main Street

Vermillion, SD 577069

Shop at the online store where there are many new items available.

www.sharingthedream.org/online-store

Thank you - and please know that whatever you do will be greatly appreciated.

## ELCA GOOD GIFTS - GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD



answered.

The Social Ministry Team is sponsoring ELCA Good Gifts in December. The dates will be: **December 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>**. An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need. Animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell at the market. With one gift, you can help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good. Contributions can also be made toward projects such as safe water development and educational opportunities. There will be a table set up in the Narthex on those dates to help you select your gifts.



### CARING HANDS MINISTRY...

Cozette Dorton is working to update the caring hands teams due to precautions regarding the virus and in recognition that many people still have important needs that we can meet.

The three Caring Hands Teams are:

- Caring Hands Meals Team
- Caring Hands Transportation Team
- Caring Hands Prayer Team

If you were previously serving on one of these teams and would like to be removed, let Cozy know. If you would like to be added to any of these teams, please let Cozy know for more information and questions

Cozy Dorton 673-4974 673-1187 dididirector@goldenwest.net

Thank you for all the caring that each one is doing now-- for our church family, for our pastor and for our world-whether or not you are on one of these teams.



#### **CLEAN SIDEWALK CLUB**

Captain Snow" says...Volunteers are needed for the CLF/CSC-that's the "Clean Sidewalk Club." There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center in the Narthex for weekdays or weekends through mid-May. There are two spaces for each grouping. Thanks!!



#### **ARE YOU LEAVING FOR THE WINTER?**

If you are leaving for the winter, please let the office know your address so your newsletter will get delivered. We would like to know approximate departing and returning dates. Thank you for your help!



### **HEALTH MINISTRY**

## **PARISH NURSE NOTES**

Last Call! This is a reminder to those who have not gotten your Flu shot yet this fall.

Time is running out, and this year it is even more important. COVED-19 is running rampant in our community with new cases every day. Having your Flu shot, may lessen the severity of COVID and may make it easier to treat you. We think this will never happen



to us, but we don't know who may have been exposed, as we still need to live our daily lives. Having your Flu show is a no-brainer, unless you have an allergy. I know some people may have some discomfort for a few days, I always do, but it doesn't last. Do yourself and your family a favor & get it done. Also, check & encourage your family members to also get their Flu shot. They do not know when the vaccine for COVID will be available to the general public, so do not think you can wait until then.

Stay Strong, Stay Safe, Stay Healthy

Mary Klein RN Parish Nurse

#### MENTAL HEALTH NEWS

The other day I received a facebook posting from my daughter. She also had a lot of difficulty with Depression and Suicidal Ideation for several years as a teenager. She is acutely aware of the need to take care of your Mental Health. Here goes:

Covid has been here for 9+ months now...and winter is coming. Mental Health issues related to our lock downs and the pandemic, are especially hard for people with Depression and other Mental Health disorders. **NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness**, has a 24 hour helpline: **800-950-6264**. Put this number where it is easily found. **The relapse and overdose rate has increased by 30% since March**. Please spread this info!

I have been very involved with NAMI as well. They were there when me & my family needed help in time of crisis, when I was being treated for severe depression. They saved my life, my marriage & ultimately my family. If anyone wants more info on this amazing group, please give me a call. I also will listen and talk with you, if you or a family member is dealing with Mental Health issues.

Healthy body, mind and soul

Mary Klein RN Parish Nurse 673-4424



#### CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES.

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

Pam — pam\_clf@gwtc.net Main address— clf@gwtc.net Sara — sara\_clf@gwtc.net



#### OFFICE HOURS.....

The church office is open Monday to Thursday from 8:30 AM—4:00 PM. The office days for individuals are as follows but hours may not be until 4:00 PM.:

Sara: in office Tuesday afternoon & Wednesday Chris: in office Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have articles for the December Newsletter to the office by November 16<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

#### 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, <a href="www.custerlutheran.com">www.custerlutheran.com</a> 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.





## "CHRIST IN OUR HOME" DEVOTIONALS

The "Christ in Our Home" daily devotional booklet is issued quarterly by Augsburg Fortress. The **October to December 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.

# PLEASE NOTIFY PASTOR PAM WHEN:

- → There is a hospitalization in your family
- → There is a death in your family
- → You would like a pastoral visit
- → There is a birth or adoption
- → Someone becomes homebound
- → Someone becomes unemployed
- → There is a cause for sorrow or a cause for joy

Hospitals don't notify the pastor that a member is in the hospital, even if they ask your church membership when you arrive. So please let the pastor know if you or a family member is in the hospital. Custer Lutheran Fellowship, the body of Christ, wants to bring you Christ's love in all the seasons of your life.

Pastor Pam Power pam\_clf@gwtc.net 701-955-5282 (cell) 673-4691 (church)

## 2020 BUDGET THRU SEPT 30TH

|                               | Sept. 2020 | Budget          |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Income                        |            |                 |
| Offering Contributions        | 239,718    | 260,927         |
| Non-restricted Special Donati | ion 10,549 | 1,733           |
| Interest                      | 445        | 0               |
| Total Income                  | 250,712    | 262,660         |
| Expenses                      |            |                 |
| Pastoral Leadership           | 62,454     | 70,161          |
| Worship                       | 6,789      | 7,938           |
| Education                     | 3,349      | 8,497           |
| Mission Support               | 30,323     | 31,255          |
| Support/Care                  | 106,617    | <u> 147,813</u> |
| Total Expenses                | 209,577    | 265,664         |
|                               |            |                 |
| Net Ordinary Income           | 41,135     | -3,004          |





Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour

Daylight- before you go to bed on Saturday,

Ends

October 31st.

## FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Well, what can be said about 2020? It has definitely been a year of change, challenge, confusion, isolation, and fear. The council made many hard decisions this year. Whether for better or worse, every vote taken was unanimous. We closed the church early on in the year for protection of our members and pastor. It was a heavy hearted time for all.

When the virus didn't show up in our part of the country, we were all a little disappointed that we had closed so early. Discussion was had about having some sort of service outdoors and we discussed the option of using the outdoor space as well as the option of a parking lot service. Both of these services were ruled out because of technical challenges, i.e. no portable speaker system. Looking back, maybe we should have just made due. But we cannot go back, we must go forward. We voted to start services with a requirement to wear masks, then we voted to allow confirmation. Right now, the Dakotas are among the first in the nation of per capita positive COVID-19 cases. But yet, we must go forward.

We have discussed making masks a choice, not a requirement. We have discussed starting fellowship after service. Although no decisions have been made as of right now, please know, the council is trying to push forward.

If you have any thoughts or concerns, please feel free to call me at 605-673-1196, or the church office at 605-673-4691. I look forward to your calls!

~ Christie Behlings, Council President



 $oldsymbol{\mathcal{A}}$  Blast from the Past...

It's been a while! This one is from November, 1999



## A Recipe for THANKS

Please and thank you are sometimes called magic words.

Read I Thessalonians 5:16.

The scripture says that it is God's will for us to be a thankful person. This is one of the two ingredients for being a joyful person. The other ingredient is prayer. Try this recipe and see if you become a more joyful person.

- Take two people that you love and let them know how thankful you are that they are with you.
- Add one thing every day to your list of the great things that God has created in the world.
- Mix in a thank you note to your parents for all the love that they give you.
- Stir in a thank you for God giving you such a wonderful life.

Pray for all of the above, and....

In a short time JOY will be the result.

This is a recipe that has been done for many years and is still one of God's favorites. You will see that

and is still one of God's favorites. You will see that it will be one of your favorites as well.



#### HAPPY THANKSGIVING...



"I have never understood why anyone would roast the turkey and shuck the clams and crisp the croutons and shell the peas and candy the sweet potatoes and compote the cranberries and bake the pies and clear the table and wash the dishes and fall into bed exhausted when they

could just as easily sit back and enjoy a hamburger or a pork sandwich." ~ The Turkey

#### SELECT-A-GIFT, 2020

2020 has been a year of change for all of us. And so it is with Select-A-Gift. In order to protect everyone, the Custer Ministerial Alliance has made significant changes to the program. We are sorry we cannot accept pre-purchased gifts this year but monetary donations are urgently needed! All gift recipients will now be able to request a gift or gift card with a value up to \$25. All gifts and gift cards will be purchased locally whenever possible by the Select A Gift Committee. This church has been incredibly supportive in the past and we hope we can count on you this year as well. Prior to December 1st, please take a red envelope from your tree, insert your cash or check (made out to the Custer Ministerial Alliance), and then drop it in the secure red lock box near your tree. The red boxes will only be available for a short time prior to and after your weekend services. Other donation boxes can be found at the Chamber of Commerce, (M-F, 9-4), Highmark Federal Credit Union, First Interstate Bank, and Dacotah Bank or you can mail checks to Select A Gift, PO Box 366, Custer, SD 57730. **THANK YOU** for making Christmas special for over 100 families in Custer County who may not otherwise receive a Christmas gift.

#### FROM THE BISHOP'S DESK: "COME AND SEE!"

In John 1:39 Jesus invites two of John's disciples to find out more about him after John the Baptist sparked their curiosity. Jesus simply says; "Come and see." I extend the same invitation to YOU. "Come and see" how we are synod together and why it matters. On November 7th the people of the South Dakota Synod, and those who are curious about us, are invited to gather for a day of celebration. Best part, you may come as you are. Your commute will be short as you will be joining us via Livestream for a day of worship, celebration and learning. Please watch for details as they are forthcoming and share this opportunity widely. YOUR invitation YOU extend to others matters. "Come and see" can come in the form of a text you send to someone that always wondered about the ELCA and the South Dakota Synod. "Come and see" can come in the form of a social media post where you share the information about how to join from all ends of the world by staying where you are. "Come and see" can come by an old fashion phone call you initiate with someone that is lonely and needs a sense of community. "Come and see" what God's done in South Dakota through your community of faith and what the Spirit is leading us forth to be next. I am looking forward to being with you on November 7<sup>th</sup>. **Come and see, you will not be disappointed.** 

#### FROM PASTOR JONATHAN STEINER

#### DIRECTOR FOR EVANGELICAL MISSION, ASSOCIATE TO THE BISHOP

Psalm 7:17: "I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High."

This verse is the ending to a Psalm singing of trouble. The psalmist mentions enemies waiting to rip him apart like a lion, and deep trouble in the land. Then he begs God to intervene.

Yet the psalmist ends with a promise to thank God. Not even dependent on God's actions, the psalmist sings praise to God. God's faithfulness endures even in the worst of times. God's love is stronger than any evil the world might have. Through Christ, we are given grace, no matter what.

Although there are tough things going on in our world, we still have reason to give thanks to God. We can still sing praises, even though there is brokenness around us.

## THANK YOUR PASTOR, DEACON, OR SAM!

#### REV. RENEE SPLICHAL LARSON

More than ever in 2020, your Spiritual leaders are adjusting, learning, daily making difficult decisions, interceding, and caring for those who are ill in mind, body, or soul. Just a few months ago, pastors, deacons, and SAMs were leading in-person worship. Now, our leaders are making worship available on-line, through transmitters, in parking lots, and over the radio, while they work with congregational leadership to figure out ways to gather as safely as possible as the winter months approach. They are working hard to listen to people's opinions, knowing that no matter what decision is made, not everyone will be happy.

Yes, your minister is gifted, trained, equipped, and capable; yet, congregations and individuals cannot underestimate how acts of kindness and intentional gratitude for a called leader can foster longevity in a call, and give a boost to a person's ministry. Now that you know this, how might you, or your congregation think about a word or a gesture of appreciation and encouragement for your Pastor, Deacon, or SAM?

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23a



Just like the world around us, LPGSD has a new look! Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota is now Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota.

You might ask, "Why bother? It's just one word!" But changing just one word to include a scriptural fruit of the Spirit was intentional. With great respect for our history and in recognition of a new era, it is our hope that the message of this ministry will be enveloped in **generosity** as a spiritual act and a way of living that leads to growth and new life in the your life can make a difference church and for the benefit of our neighbors.

When you see our new logo, I hope you'll recognize uplifted hands creating a deep-rooted trunk that supports new growth centered in the Cross. As you share your resources of time, talent and treasure, know that those acts of generosity, in all forms and at all stages of your journey with Christ, are a vital part of this tree of life. (Continued next page.)

### THE WOMEN OF CLF

## W/ELCA HAPPENINGS...

Next Meeting: Monday, November 23rd @ 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall

Program: Thank Offering Service

At our meeting in October, we finalized plans for the W/ELCA Craft Sale that will be held on Sunday, November 15th after the worship service. Craft items will be set on tables in the Fellowship Hall. The tables will be six feet from each other and folks will be asked to wear masks. We have dish cloths, microwave bowl holders, guilts for babies, shopping bags, aprons and more simple craft items to offer.

The silent auction items will be set up on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and will be available for bidding on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings through November. The bidding will end on **Sunday, November 29**<sup>th</sup>. The high bidder for each item will be notified during the afternoon of the 29th. At this time, silent auction items include 2 pictures painted by Wanda McClanahan, a framed photograph from Wind Cave that was taken by Jim Hattervig, a basket with a garden them from the Rusch family, a piece of Hardanger from Barb Lewison and a rhubarb pie from Marge Baldwin.

We have bee asked to supply 30 dozen cookies again for the Custer Christmas for Kids. It was decided at the meeting that we will purchase cookies this year instead of asking folks to bake them. Christmas for Kids will be held on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. We could use some Christmas Oreos to go with the cookies that we will purchase. If a person would like to donate Christmas Oreos, please leave them on the counter in the kitchen with a label for Christmas for Kids. We need the Oreos by Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for any help that is given to support this special day for kids!

We also worked on the W/ELCA budget at our meeting. We cut back a bit on our budgeted items so that we will have a little extra if there are needs in our area over the next year that we can support.

Obviously, this year has seen many changes, but we still feel that we can be there and help in our community as much as possible. As with everyone else, we just need to be mindful about what we do and how we do it. As always, thank for your support. We wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving. Remember to count your blessings! ~ Jackie

**QUILTING**—We continue to gather on Tuesdays at 9 AM to quilt. There are a couple of things we could use; top sheets in good condition for backs and thread of all colors. Also, mattress pads, all sizes and conditions. We have had gifts of Thrivent money by members that really helps as we can order backing fabric that is wide enough to cover the whole quilt back making the process go faster. Though small in number we put 5 quilts together last week--small but mighty! A request from LSS for quilts for their returning female prisoners will be filled soon along with 25 quilts to be sent off to LWR. Thanks for all your gifts. ~ Ginny Myers

## October—November Mission Project: The Storehouse

Canned food – meats, vegetables, fruits, soups Spaghetti, pasta & sauce Soaps – laundry, dish, body Paper towels & toilet tissue

Cereals Instant Potatoes Peanut Butter Macaroni & Cheese

Any other food items you'd like to bring

### SD SYNOD NEWS CONTINUED...

In this season of gratitude, we offer great thanks to those whose legacies continue to support God's work in new and exciting ways across South Dakota and around the world.

If you'd like to know more about how your life can make a difference with planned generosity, visit our website at www.lpgsd.org or contact Kathy McHenry at 605.274.5030 or kmchenry@sdsynod.org.

#### CONFIRMATION NEWS

We have some fun weeks coming up in November!

- ❖ November 4 Mentor Night
- ❖ November 11 Class
- ❖ November 18 Scavenger Hunt!
- ❖ November 27 No Class Thanksgiving Eve Worship at 6:00 PM

CLF,

Thank you for your continuing partnership.

Your donation is critical to our success.

Blessings,

Pastor Dan

Pine Ridge Retreat Center

## COUNCIL MINUTES — OCTOBER 20, 2020 MEETING

*Treasurer's & Finance Committee's Reports*—Joy submitted reports reviewed the current statement of financial position and offering trends. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter was down 11.3 %. The payroll protection funds & the savings from cancelled programs will offset planned expenditure adequately to balance the budget for 2020. Awaiting 2021 pledge cards so they can set up budgets for 2021. Baseline expenditures would be about \$306,000 for 2021.

#### Unfinished Business:

- ❖ Thrivent Choice- \$40 received in October. Received \$1941 year to date
- ❖ Review Worship & activities, More people show up to worship when we have confirmation, telephone surveys discussed, we will continue wearing mask for worship, may sing with mask on, will try having coffee in future, possible fellowship in future also, will see how things progress. Special meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup> to vote on C10.08 to Constitution, will be held after service, those who can't come to service can stay in vehicle to vote someone in council will bring out a ballot to you.

#### New Business:

- ❖ Membership Changes: New members: Emily Hiatt, Steve & Susan Wood, and Gary & Tracy Jones. Baptisms: Emily, Madisyn & Logan Lent. Transfers: Erv & DeMaris Nesheim to Community Lutheran Church, Hill City.
- ❖ Sharing of the Dream: info tables set up for November 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ W/ELCA Craft & Goodie sale: is November 15<sup>th</sup>, there also will be a silent auction set up on November 1,8 &15, winners to be announced on the 29<sup>th</sup>, I understand there will be pies included.
- ❖ Wood Haul to Pine Ridge: undecided always looking for volunteers.
- ❖ Financial Review Committee, looking for people who would like to be on this committee one-time commitment.
- ❖ Nominating Committee: anyone who would like to join council or nominate someone contact Brad McKinney, Rex Jorgensen, Laura Burden or Christie Behlings.
- ❖ Annual Meeting: January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 with a backup date January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Planning in place for Thanksgiving Eve 1 service, & Christmas Eve 2 services.

Reflections on Mission and Ministry—Pastor Pam, has been having Confirmation classes, Confirmation Sunday will be October 25<sup>th</sup>, for those whom were to be confirmed in the spring. New temporary PT Office Manager has been hired (Chris Baker.) Doing some counseling in person, by phone and text. Planning for November & December is in the works.

#### Committee & Ministry Team Reports:

- Property: Water Shutoff valve fixed. Rain gutters need cleaned. Need volunteers for snow shoveling. Possible pile burning. Nothing new on new Boiler.
- ❖ Social Ministry: ELCA Good Gifts December 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast???
- ❖ W/ELCA: Craft & Goodie Sale & Silent Auction

The next Council Meeting is November 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM.





## WELCOME TO THE COMMUNION TABLE...

We welcome Samual Shepard to the Communion Table! He completed his First Communion Class on October 17<sup>th</sup> and is now able to celebrate Holy Communion with our faith community. Let us celebrate with him!

## MISSING BIRTHDAYS AND 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 confirmation or SPARK Kids program. We may have 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! You can also give us your birthday without providing the year! Thank you!

## **ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY**

#### All Saints Day

Thursday, October 29: Psalm 43; 1 Samuel 2:27-36; Romans 2:17-29

Friday, October 30: Psalm 43; Ezekiel 13:1-16; 2 Peter 2:1-3

Saturday, October 31: Psalm 43; Malachi 1:6—2:9; Matthew 23:13-28

Sunday, November 1: Psalm 34:1-10,, 22; Revelations 7:9-17; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

Monday, November 2: Psalm 5: Jeremiah 5:18-31: 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20

Tuesday, November 3: Psalm 5; Lamentations 2:13-17; Acts 13:1-12

Wednesday, November 4: Psalm 5; Proverbs 16:21-33; Matthew 15:1-9

#### 23 Pentecost

Thursday, November 5: Psalm 70; Amos 1:1—2:5; Revelation 8:6—9:12

Friday, November 6: Psalm 70; Amos 3:1-12; Revelation 9:13-21

Saturday, November 7: Psalm 70; Amos 4:6-13; Matthew 24:1-14

Sunday, November 8: Psalm 70, Amos 5:18-24; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Monday, November 9: Psalm 63; Amos 8:7-14; 1 Corinthians 14:20-25

Tuesday, November 10: Psalm 63; Joel 1:1-14; 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Wednesday, November 11:Psalm 63; Joel 3:9-21; Matthew 24:29-35

#### 24 Pentecost

Thursday, November 12: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12; Ezekiel 6:1-14; Revelation 16:1-7 Friday, November 13: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12; Ezekiel 7:1-9; Revelation 16:8-21

Saturday, November 14: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-22] 12; Ezekiel 7:10-27

Sunday, November 15: Psalm 90:1-8[19]11]12; Zeph 1:7, 12-18; 1 Thess 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

Monday, November 16: Psalm 9:1-14; Zechariah 1:7-17; Romans 2:1-11

Tuesday, November 17: Psalm 9:1-14; Zechariah 2:1-5; 5:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

Wednesday, November 18: Psalm 9:1-14; Job 16:1-21; Matthew 24:45-51

#### Christ the King

Thursday, November 19: Psalm 95:1-7a; 1 Kings 22:13-23; Revelation 14:1-11

Friday, November 20: Psalm 95:1-7a; 1 Chronicles 17:1-15; Revelation 22:1-9

Saturday, November 21: Psalm 95:1-7a; Isiah 44:21-28; Matthew 12:46-50

Sunday, November 22: Psalm 95:1-7a; Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

Monday, November 23: Psalm 7; Esther 2:1-18; 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Tuesday, November 24: Psalm 7; Esther 8:3-17; Revelation 19:1-9

Wednesday, November 25: Psalms 7; Ezekiel 33:7-20; John 5:19-40

#### 1 Advent

Thursday, November 26: Psalm 65; Deuteronomy 8:7-18; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Luke 17:11-19

Friday, November 27: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 14:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

Saturday, November 28: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Micah 2:1-13; Matthew 24:15-31

Sunday, November 29: Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19; Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

Monday, November 30: Psalm 79; Micah 4:1-5; Revelation 15:1-8

Tuesday, December 1: Psalm 79; Micah 4:6-13; Revelation 18:1-10

Wednesday, December 2: Psalm 79; Micah 5:1-5a; Luke 21:34-38



## **MEALS ON WHEELS**

For years, CLF has taken the responsibility for delivering Meals on Wheels on Fridays. We are now down to four volunteers and can really use some more! We will be happy to train you and show you the ropes if you can commit to one weekend a month! The recipients are always so appreciative, but more than that we are doing our Father's work and are always so very blessed for doing so! Please contact Mark Hogg or the church office if you know of anyone who can help. Thank you!!







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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 he:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### Our Bedrock Beliefs are...

We grow in faith through worship and sacraments

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

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

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

We have faith only through God's grace.

#### Our Core Values are:

Faith, Family, Mission, Service, Worship



## Ministering at Custer Lutheran Fellowship

Pastor: Pamela Power
Office Manager: Mary 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
SPARK Kids: Wendi Rusch

Ministers: All Members of CLF!