

CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR



We are excited to announce that we are searching for an enthusiastic Youth Ministry Leader! This is a contract position for 20 hours a week.

The Youth Ministry Leader will coordinate and lead Spark Kids, help Pastor Pam with Confirmation, and provide leadership for our RAP Group. Please be in prayer about this very important position to help strengthen and grow our youth ministry at CLF, and encourage those who love youth to contact Pastor Pam to apply for the position.

SOCIAL MINISTRY'S GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS Sunday, September 12, 2021



We look forward to celebrating God's Work, Our Hands on Sunday, September 12th. Following COVID-19 CDC guidelines for areas of high community spread, the Social Ministry Team has decided to postpone the first responder and medical personnel recognition meal. However, there will be plenty of fun and meaningful ways for all of us to participate. The following events are planned:

- Birthday Bags/Kits for WEAVE residents will be assembled following service. The kits contain cake mix, frosting, candles and other items for resident who are celebrating birthdays.
- We will be doing our annual highway cleanup following the God's Work, Our Hands service. Please bring your own water, gloves and snacks.
- Quilting: "Quilters will be focusing their efforts toward making quilts that will eventually be donated to Lutheran World Relief."
- Volunteers will meet at the hospital's Healing Garden after Sunday Service. Those willing and able to work on this project are asked to bring their own tools. If unable to work in the garden on GWOH Sunday, you're more than welcome to work in the garden on your own schedule. (NOTE: Dr. Joy will be providing details as far as the work to be done and maybe a photo. We'll forward you the text when we receive it.)
- Volunteers are needed to write cards to our military, nursing home residents, and anyone you feel could use an uplifting card. Cards could be written at home, or in the Fellowship Hall after the service. Blank cards, will be available at the office, as well as a list of military addresses. (NOTE: Linda Fennell—asking if she'd have access to a list of military personnel to be shared with the Office.) Cards may be written at home can be returned to the office for mailing, and to receive a special blessing on GWOH Sunday.

Brad & Connie McKinney

PAY DOWN THE DEBT CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Now is the time to get your Pay Down the Debt Capital Campaign cards turned back into Ann Snow as soon as possible for the budgeting purposes.

Thank you for your Consideration.



BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



Bring your backpacks — and briefcases! — to worship on Sunday, September 12th at 9:30 AM or Wednesday, August 15th at 6:00PM to receive a blessing for the school year. All are welcome to receive a blessing, even the adults!

BLESSING OF TEACHERS

Along with blessing backpacks on September 12th, we will be offering a blessing for all teachers as they begin the school year. If you are a teacher or staff at school, please come to worship to receive a blessing!

LADIES BIBLE STUDY



Yes, this fall there will be a ladies Bible Study happening on Thursday nights (Sept. 16th) at 5:30pm in the Fireside Room. Joy Smolnisky will be the leader of this group. If you have any questions about the bible study give Joy Smolnisky a call at 605-929-1244.

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION



We are excited to welcome the 7th and 8th graders back to Confirmation, and to welcome the 6th Grade class as we begin this time of exploring our faith. Our Wednesday Night Life activities begin on Sept. 15th, and Orientation for Confirmation begins that night, too. Join us for a meal at 5:15 pm, worship at 6:00 pm, and then orientation at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is a mandatory meeting for both parents and youth.

It is vital that everyone is here to learn what we will be doing, and what the expectations are for everyone. We are looking forward to growing in our faith together, and supporting one another along the way! If you are unable to be at orientation, please contact me at 701-955-5282 or pam_clf@gwtc.net. See you soon! Pastor Pam

ARE WE HAVING CHOIR?



Yes, we are planning to start choir, when all the fall activities start, on Wednesday, Sept. 15th at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. We look forward to gathering and singing for the Lord with all who want to be in Choir.

Marlene Sellevold, Director & Cozy Dorton, Accompanist

SPARK KIDS DRIVERS NEEDED

We need additional drivers to help pick our SPARK Kids up from school on Wednesdays starting Sept. 15th. We meet at the Elementary school at 3:30 pm, collect the kids, and bring them to the church. Please contact Mary in the church office if you are able to help, even once a month. Thank you!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIFE BEGINS SEPTEMBER 15TH

We are so excited to begin Wednesday Night Life again!. We have missed all the activities, and especially all the children, over this last year. All the Wednesday Night Life activities will begin on Wednesday, September 15th:



Spark Kids — Down Under	4:00pm
Meal — Fellowship Hall	5:15pm
Worship — Sanctuary	6:00pm
Confirmation — Fellowship Hall	6:30pm
RAP Group — Down Under	6:30pm
Choir Practice — Sanctuary	6:30pm

Please register your youth for Spark Kids and/or Confirmation as soon as possible so we can plan for the appropriate number of children for our ministries.

The Wednesday Night Life schedule for meals:

Sept. 15th	Sandwich Bar
Sept. 22nd	Potluck
Sept. 29th	Pizza (provided by CLF)

Out last campfire worship will be Wednesday, Aug. 25th, and we will begin our Wednesday Night Life worship on Sept. 15th. **The schedule for worship in September:**

Sept. 1st	No Worship
Sept. 8th	No Worship
Sept. 15th	Prayer Around the Cross
Sept. 22nd	Holden Evening Prayer
Sept. 29th	Holy Communion

Welcome back to Wednesday Night Life!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIFE MEAL SET-UP NEEDED

As our Wednesday Night Life kicks off on Sept. 15th, we will need help setting up for our meals each week. Please contact Mary in the church office if you are able to help, even if only once a month. Thank you!



Thank you so very much

We recently held our previously cancelled gathering in Custer. Many meals and events were held here, along with worshipping together at CLF. We were able to do an afternoon And pictures at the new Outlaw Pavilion (what a nice addition to our camp). Our family expressed appreciation for our facilities, welcoming atmosphere and fellowship of the congregation. We are so thankful for our church and the people of CLF. God's blessings were all around.

Thanks Be to God!
Bob & Cozy Dorton 8-30-70 And beyond

THANK YOU' S

I would like to take this time to say "Thank You" to everyone from CLF for the very warm welcome that I received since coming to be your Office Manager. All the warm words of encouragement, flowers, gifts and etc. were greatly appreciated. I look forward to continuing to meet all of the members of CLF and to worship God with you. CLF is a great place to work! Mary Moe

*Thank You!
Your kindness is appreciated.*



“The Lord be with you, slimeball.” “Also with you, jerk.” This is how a devotion in “The Funny Shape of Faith” book begins. The author goes on to quote Philippians 4:7 – *The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

The devotion goes on to say:

“What happens when we are left on our own to care about each other? The mood never comes. The thing is, our peace is fickle. If it’s our peace we’re supposed to dish out, we’ve got long lists of people who we think shouldn’t share in our peace. But it’s the peace of God that we share at worship. An there’s plenty of that to go around. God’s peace works. It heals you and the person you share it with.” Although we are not actively sharing the peace in

worship right now, just by being together in worship, we are sharing God’s peace with one another. And I doubt any of us would say, “The Lord be with you, slimeball.” Or “Also with you, jerk.” At least I hope not! Even though we may be asked to share the peace or a word or gesture of love and encouragement to someone we may not particularly like, we typically don’t respond with insults.

Too often in our culture right now, that’s what people do, though. We all see and hear such negative things posted on social media or said on different news stations. I have to admit that it’s kind of depressing to hear so many of us (including me sometimes!) speaking such negative and demeaning words to and about each other. As the devotion states, we all have long lists of people who we think shouldn’t share in our peace, or maybe even deserve God’s love.

But God makes no such distinctions. God’s love and peace are for everyone. And God calls on us to live together in community with all of our neighbors, both near and far. *“You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness.” (James 1:19-20)*

We offer God’s peace not just for others, but for ourselves. When we speak words of love and peace to someone, it changes us. “It heals you and the person you share it with.” Just as with our prayers. When we pray for healing and wholeness for others, we ourselves receive healing, too. When we stop and listen rather than begin quick to speak, we show the other person that we value them. We are not always going to agree with what others are saying, but it’s important to stop and listen rather than talking over each other or immediately speaking negatively toward them or about them.

You and I don’t understand how deeply and broadly God’s peace and love work. But we don’t need to. All we need to do is receive God’s love and grace and peace, and then share it with everyone. And in the process, all of us will receive healing and wholeness.

Blessings to you all in the name of God’s peace and love,
Pastor Pam

Social Ministry Project

The next Social Ministry wood splitting event is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 3, 9:00 to 11:00. Please join the service and fun! We had a nice gathering of 6 folks and 3 splitters on Aug 6 and got a lot done in prep for the Great Pine Ridge Wood Haul later this fall. Bring gloves, ear protection (we do have foam ear plugs) and something to drink. Treats provided 😊. If you have any questions, contact Dave Thom at 673-3953.



OUTLAW RANCH RETREAT HOST & PROGRAM ASSISTANT



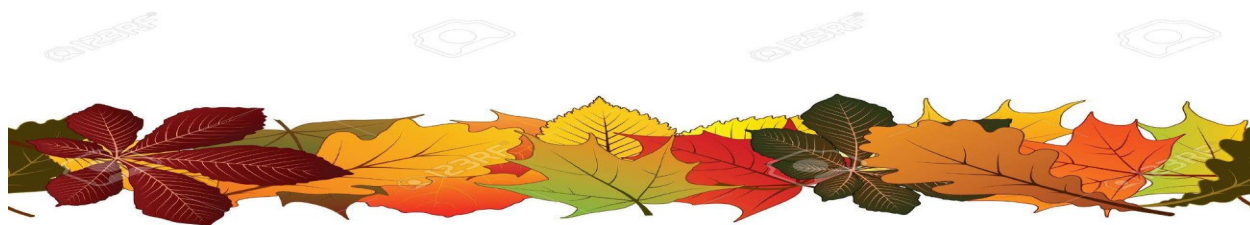
This position is the primary host for retreats and conferences at Outlaw Ranch. Principal responsibilities include set up, clean up, welcome, orientation, housing, cleaning camp facilities, and doing dishes. Includes some planning, coordinating, and leading of programmed retreats. The position includes a weekly stipend plus room and board. Ideal for a recent college grad or someone who is taking time off from school! If you are interested, please contact Matt Rusch at the OR Office at 605-673-4040 or his Cell at 605-673-1014.



Custer Meet & Eat Being Offered Once Again!



We are excited to announce that the Custer Meet & Eat is being offered. Meet your neighbors from Custer and enjoy a meal together. The free supper is offered the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Custer Community Church, 529 Harney Street. Join us from 5:00pm — 7:00pm.



Let's Get Noisy Update!



Our noisy offering has gone to many different ministries over the years. We would like your input into who we should bless with our Noisy Offering for the rest of the year. Drop a note in the offering plate, email or call the office with your suggestion. The Noisy Offering will be collected on the second Sunday of each month. Your spare change does make a difference. Thank you so much!

UPDATE!! We have had suggestions to use our offering to bless the people in Haiti, whose lives have been disrupted by earthquakes and Tropical Storm Grace. Our second suggestion has been, Tennessee for their flooding. The Noisy Offering will be divided up between these two disasters. Your help would be greatly appreciated with your Noisy Offering through the end of the year 2021.

You can find more information on this at: www.elca.org or Lutheran Disaster Response.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

GOD gave us the ability to enjoy the gift of music. I was thinking about an article I read many years ago. How did church music really start? There were no specific instructions on how churches should worship. We have Psalms, which the Jews sang for centuries before Jesus was born. Jesus quoted them repeatedly. The Apostles sang (Matt. 26:30). They sang after the Lord's Supper. GOD did not really tell us how or what to do for Church music. He gave us flexibility and He entrusted it to us. I believe that He wanted us to do various types of music that praised Him and that gave us comfort, joy and understanding who He is to us.

Our Church has hymnals that incorporate songs that we can refer to. We love to sing the familiar songs that were introduced to us many years ago and are still loved. We have been fortunate in our church to use the old songs but we have learned many beautiful contemporary songs. Jesus loves us and trusts that we will honor Him with old songs, new songs and various liturgies.

Why am I bringing this up? Our music committee will be meeting with Pastor Pam this week as we discuss the services and get ready for Sept. through Advent.

When working on music selections and outlining the service, I go through scriptures and tie the music into the service. I feel blessed to have some wonderful musicians in our church who are willing to be a part of the services. I am praying that we can have more young people involved. We enjoy the youth and all they can offer.

Choir will be starting up again and that is exciting. Marlene Sellevold will be directing and Cozy Dorton will be her accompanist. I have to mention our librarian of our music staff - Glen Sellevold. I like to give him a bad time. We are always open to receiving people, young and old, to be a part of the services. Any ideas that you have are welcome.

Let's get ready to use all the gifts God has given us. "I will sing of the Lord's unfailing love forever! Young and old will hear of your faithfulness." PSALM 89:1

God's blessings to you and receive His loving hand watching over you . You are all important to us.

Margaret Tretheway
Music Director

CLF YTD Financials 7/31/21	Jan.—Jul 21	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
40000 — Offering Contributions	179,751.00	157,500.00
40014 — Non-restricted Special Donations	28,953.35	26,667.00
40020 — Temp. Restricted Donations	18,954.92	14,000.00
40300 — Interest	227.71	233.35
Total Income	227,886.98	198,400.35
Expense		
61000 — Pastoral Leadership	51,730.24	54,005.12
62000 — Worship	5,002.28	4,887.31
63000 — Education	1,189.83	1,234.10
64000 — Mission Support	24,648.53	24,889.40
65000 — Support/Care	82,110.65	107,894.07
Total Expense	164,681.53	192,910.00
Net Ordinary Income	63,205.45	5,490.35
Replacement)	-71,990.68	112,922.00
Net Income	-8,785.23	-107,431.65
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PARISH NURSE UPDATE



Many of you may have already read my letter to the editor in the Custer Chronicle. For the rest, I want to share what I had to say.

As a community Parish Nurse, who cares deeply for our community, I feel compelled to give the facts to keep our community safe. What are you doing as a “hometown” newspaper is harming the people right here in our community.

Our death rates in South Dakota have gone down and so far staying fairly steady, but 2,052 South Dakotans, 13 right here in Custer County have died. South Dakota COVID numbers had drastically fallen mainly due to the vaccine.

As of July 6th, barely a month ago, our numbers were in the 20’s. A month later, on August 4th, they were up to 429 in our state! This is mainly due to the rapidly spreading Delta Variant. What viruses do is evolve and mutate in order to remain virulent. If we don’t get this under control quickly, there could likely be a variant that our vaccines will not be effective on.

If everyone would be responsible, we would have been done with this whole pandemic instead of having our hospitals overrun with very sick people.

As a former Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Registered Nurse (RN), I understand what it means when all of the ICU beds are full. You may have a heart attack, serious accident or emergency surgery, but there will not be a bed available. If there is an open bed outside the area, that is where you will be sent.

The vaccine will not kill you! If you do die, it is likely from a serious allergic reaction or already had COVID.

The vaccine does not have the “live virus”. Instead over the past 10+ years, researchers and scientists have been developing a more effective vaccine.

The vaccine has proteins on it to attach to the receptors on the virus. That is who they were able to get effective vaccines our quicker than in the past.

It is time for responsible community leaders to heed the warnings and protect themselves and others. We can then get back to life as we knew it sooner with less heartache.

Mary Klein RN, Parish Nurse



Remembering the Children



There is an orange cloth draped on the altar to honor all of the Native children who have died at the many Indian Boarding Schools here in the United States and in Canada. Orange is the color to remember and honor these children, especially until all the graves are all found. There are at least 50 graves, and most likely many more, right here in Rapid City at the old Rapid City Indian Boarding School. Let us remember the children, and pray for the families who lost children, some of whom never knew what happened to them.



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

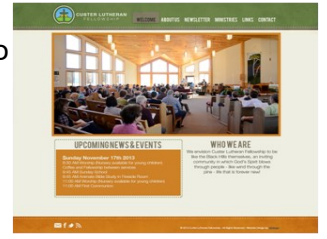


OFFICE HOURS

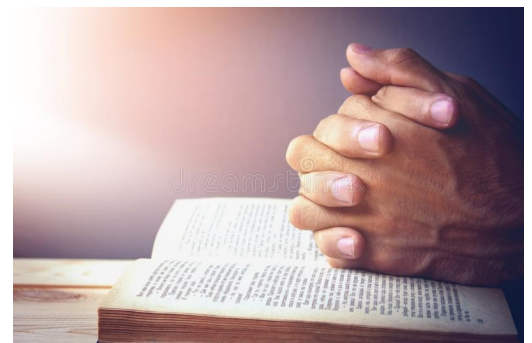
The church office is open Monday to Thursday from 8:30 AM—4:00 PM.

CLF WEBSITE OFFERS ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

On Custer Lutheran Fellowship’s website, www.custerlutheran.com 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.



Don't miss Clarinne Koeppe's art displayed at the back of Mount Rushmore brewery!



W/ELCA HAPPENING

Next meeting: Monday, September 20th at 11:30 AM in the New Pavilion at Outlaw Ranch

***Notice this is a week earlier than our scheduled meeting date.

Hostesses: Pack Your Own Lunch then head to Outlaw Ranch Dessert and Beverages will be served.

Program: Our speaker for the day will be Pastor Larry Peterson.

Pastor Larry will share events that occurred in our lives over the summer that involved youth and older folks who visited Outlaw Ranch from Woyatan.

Our August meeting was a casual time for visiting and catching up with each other about events that occurred in our lives over the summer. We shared a marvelous pot luck and enjoyed the company of friends.

We also discussed future projects that we will be involved with over the next year. Look for more information concerning those events in the October newsletter.

Our September Mission Project will be announced in the bulletin during the first week in September. We will also have information on "the cart".



QUILTING:

We will be quilting weekly on Tuesday's after Labor Day, starting September 7th. Come join us at 9am on Tuesday morning. We have lots of fun. Oh, boy they do. You should come check it out!

Help is needed to sew the quilt tops together. If you can sew two pieces of material together, you can do this.

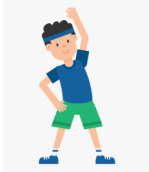
Good sheets of any size and color are needed for quilt backing.

~ "The Joyful Quilters"

September Mission Project:

Donations for Haiti and Tennessee

Cans will be placed on the Cart for your donations.



GENTLE YOGA CLASSES

Gentle yoga with Jackie

Classes will be starting on September 9th at 10:30 AM in the Narthex.

Masks will be optional. A six foot distance between participants will be practiced.

All abilities welcomed.



SAVE THE DATE! NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS

New Members Class

Pastor Pam will be offering a New Member class on Saturday, October 16th from 9:00 AM—12:00PM. We will learn about CLF, what it means to be a Lutheran Christian, and look at the gifts that God has given us. We will explore what it means to be part of a community of faith, the ministries here at CLF, and ways to use our gifts in ministry and throughout our lives. We would love to have some current members be part of this class to begin

building relationships with our new members, and share your experience here. Please register on the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center.

THE LIFE HE PROMISES WILL PREVAIL

By Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

I planted a garden last summer during the pandemic. Here in Chicago, March and April 2020 were cold and dreary. And it snowed. All around us was the oppressive reality of COVID-19: the lock-down, the fear, the daily grim statistics of rising cases and deaths, the isolation. I longed for a project that would look to the future and be life-giving. A garden would be just the thing.

I planted green beans and tomatoes, basil and lavender. I even planted raspberry canes, which turned out to be a challenge because there was a run on them—everybody must have been planting their own patch of Eden. I also planted petunias for a splash of color. When all was in, I admired the colors and waited for vegetables to grow.

With human beings in quarantine, the rest of creation had a chance to breathe and thrive. The smog had abated so much in India that people could see the Himalayas for the first time in decades. Penguins roamed the streets of Cape Town, South Africa, and mountain goats strolled through towns in Wales. I heard coyotes howling at night in my urban neighborhood. Rabbits and squirrels had the run of the place. At first this was a welcome sign of life flourishing despite the pandemic. But soon the rabbits and squirrels became brazen, and they turned their attention to my garden.

The squirrels chewed the raspberry canes down to a nub. The rabbits treated my petunia bed and green beans like an all-you-can-eat salad bar. Just as the tomatoes were beginning to ripen, the squirrels took them right off the vine. It was maddening. I tried all kinds of deterrents—Tabasco sauce mixed with dish soap, chunks of Irish Spring soap tied to stakes, constant vigilance—all to no avail. I even considered the possibility of an air rifle, but I'm pretty sure that there is an ordinance prohibiting the discharge of weapons in the city limits.

Legend has it that Martin Luther once said: "If I knew that the world were to come to an end tomorrow I would plant an apple tree today."

Eventually I came to believe that the rabbits and squirrels had formed an unholy alliance and were organizing against me. My suspicions were confirmed when I found tiny copies of *Watership Down* (the rabbit liberation manifesto) tucked in the bushes. All that was standing by the end of the season was the lavender, which I found remarkable because I was sure they would have taken the opportunity to fashion little wreathes to adorn their burrows and nests. To add insult to injury, the rabbits kept producing more little bunnies. They were adorable! Darn it!

I planted a garden this summer. Green beans, tomatoes, lavender, basil, zucchini, sage, rosemary and thyme. Flowers will follow soon. The rabbit and squirrel populations are robust, and it doesn't help that my husband feeds the squirrels and has given them names. I thought about constructing a garden compound topped with razor wire, but I'm not going to do that. I will try the traditional methods of Tabasco sauce, dish soap, Irish Spring soap and vigilance. I will also place some fencing around the green beans and tomatoes. And I will hope.

Legend has it that Martin Luther once said: "If I knew that the world were to come to an end tomorrow I would plant an apple tree today." This is a powerful statement of faith in the God who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ. This is the confidence that, when "he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end" (Nicene Creed), God will restore all of creation and this will be a good end.

This is the faith which declares that through pandemics, droughts, floods, famine, deadly bigotry, war, all the death-dealing things in nature and the human heart, life—the abundant life that Jesus promises—will prevail.

Plant something in the summer.

From the Bishop's Desk

Friends in Christ,

How does the old saying go? Time flies when you are having fun! I hope you are enjoying your summer. Part of the end of summer is to look forward to starting Fall activities. As congregations, we usually plan for Rally Sunday, Fall dinners and next year's budget. Before you dive deep into budget planning, I would like to extend an invitation to you as a leader in the church.



Please join your synod staff for a zoom evening of all things stewardship, budgets, and mission planning. We had a leadership hour in the winter and over 100 leaders attended, surveys showed that "fun was had by all". So, we are doing it again, showing up in your world via a Zoom leadership hour **Tuesday, September 7 from 7 PM CT to 8 PM CT**. Sign-up at sdsynod.org. This free event is meant to accompany your congregation on preparing for ministry in 2022. As a bonus, please check out our revitalization resources on the synod website, which will help you to stewardship ministry post-pandemic. I hope to see you on Zoom!

Journeying together in Christ,
Bishop Constanze Hagemeyer



Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Rev. Renee Splichal Larson

Whenever I have the privilege of installing a pastor or deacon, I am always moved by these questions to the congregation: "Will you pray for your rostered minister? Will you help and honor them in carrying out this ministry? In all things, will you strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?"

All who are gathered respond: "We will, and we ask God to help us."

As we steep ourselves in God's Word, God teaches us how we are to strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ. From Ephesians 4.31:

"Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you."

Perhaps we could all benefit from inscribing this living Word on our doorposts and on our hearts. What I keep hearing over and over, even from people who have lived much longer than me, is that never before have they felt such division. The church is not immune to the decision we experience in our communities and world, and yet, we are called to live differently. We are claimed by Christ in baptism, and called into communities of faith who practice what it means to be part of the Kingdom of God. The reality in the Kingdom of God here on earth, is that we strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ; that we communally live out Ephesians 4.31, with the help of God.

We continue to step into unfamiliar territory in 2021. Some things seem to be exactly the same. Other things, especially for those who have lost family or friends to COVID, or other causes, appear that they will never be the same. Our children are not yet vaccinated and remain vulnerable to infection (as well as those who are unable to be vaccinated for whatever reason), as new variants become known. To be frank: It is exhausting to continually weigh every decision, and wonder whether or not people will ever come back to worship. This. Is. Hard.

We need to hear, again and again, Christ's promise at the end of the Great Commission: "And remember, I am with you always to the end of the age (Matt. 28.20)."

Be gentle on yourselves, dear people of God. Be gracious and merciful with one another. Honor the Sabbath and keep it holy. You will need weekly rest, as you trust that God holds you and all our congregations. God sustains God's church! Know that your Synod staff remembers and prays for you.

In these difficult times we treasure and cling to these words of Christ: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light (Matt. 11.28-30)."

ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY

Pentecost 15

Thursday, Sept. 2, Psalm 146; Isaiah 30:27-33; Romans 2:1-11
Friday, Sept. 3, Psalm 146; Isaiah 32:1-8; Romans 2:12-16
Saturday, Sept. 4, Psalm 146; Isaiah 33:1-9; Matthew 15:21-31
Sunday, Sept. 5, Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146; James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17; Mark 7:24-37
Monday, Sept. 6, Isaiah 38:10-20; Joshua 6:1-21; Hebrews 11:29—12:2
Tuesday, Sept. 7, Isaiah 38:10-20; Joshua 8:1-23; Hebrews 12:3-13
Wednesday, Sept. 8, Isaiah 38:10-20; Judges 15:9-20; Matthew 17:14-21

Pentecost 16

Thursday, Sept. 9, Psalm 116:1-9; Joshua 2:1-14; Hebrews 11:17-22
Friday, Sept. 10, Psalm 116:1-9; Joshua 2:15-24; James 2:17-26;
Saturday, Sept. 11, Psalm 116:1-9; Joshua 6:22-27; Matthew 21:23-32
Sunday, Sept. 12, Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38
Monday, Sept. 13, Psalm 119:169-176; Kings 13:1-10; Romans 3:9-20
Tuesday, Sept. 14, Psalm 119:169-176; 1 Kings 13:11-25; Colossians 3:1-11
Wednesday, Sept. 15, Psalm 119:169-176; Isaiah 10:12-20; John 7:25-36

Pentecost 17

Thursday, Sept. 16, Psalm 54; Judges 6:1-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Friday, Sept. 17, Psalm 54; 1 Kings 22:24-40; Romans 11:25-32
Saturday, Sept. 18, Psalm 54; 2 Kings 17:5-18; Matthew 23:29-39
Sunday, Sept. 19, Jeremiah 11:18-20 ; Psalm 54; James 3:13—4:3; 7-8a, Mark 9:30-37
Monday, Sept. 20, Psalm 139:1-18; 2 Kings 5:1-14; James 4:8-17
Tuesday, Sept. 21, Psalm 139:1-18; 2 Kings 11:21—12:16; James 5:1-6
Wednesday, Sept. 22, Psalm 139:1-18; Jeremiah 1:4-10; John 8:21-38

Pentecost 18

Thursday, Sept. 23, Psalm 19:7-14; Exodus 18:13-27; Acts 4:13-31
Friday, Sept. 24, Psalm 19:7-14; Deuteronomy 1:1-18; Acts 12:20-25
Saturday, Sept. 25, Psalm 19:7-14; Deuteronomy 27:1-10; Matthew 5:13-20
Sunday, Sept. 26, Psalm 5; Zechariah 6:9-15; 1 Peter 1:3-9
Tuesday, Sept. 27, Psalm 5; Zechariah 8:18-23; 1 John 2:18-25
Wednesday, Sept. 28, Psalm 5; Zechariah 10:1-12; Matthew 18:6-9

Pentecost 19

Thursday, Sept. 29, Psalm 8; Genesis 20:1-18; Galatians 3:23-29
Friday, Sept. 30, Psalm 8; Genesis 21:22-34; Romans 8:1-11
Saturday, Oct. 1, Psalm 8; Genesis 23:1-20; Luke 16:14-18
Sunday, Oct. 2, Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 8; Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16
Monday, Oct. 3, Psalm 112; Deuteronomy 22:13-30; 1 Corinthians 7:1-9
Tuesday, Oct. 4, Psalm 112; Deuteronomy 24:1-5; 1 Corinthians 7:10-16
Wednesday, Oct. 5, Psalm 112; Jeremiah 3:6-14; Matthew 5:27-36



COUNCIL MINUTES —

Custer Lutheran Fellowship Council Minutes— August 17, 2021

Members Present: Samuel Ainsley, Christie Behlings, Jackie Hartwick, Scot Hoscheid, Pastor Pam Power and Treasurer, Joy Smolnisky. Not Present: Emily Hiatt, Liz Kleffner, Carol Niemann, Dave Pickford
The meeting was called to order by President Christie Behlings.

Members shared concerns and joys.

Members read the mission statement and council covenant.

Devotions and Prayers: There were no devotions and prayer.

Agenda Additions/Approval: Joy added two items to the agenda as part of the Treasures report. Samuel moved, Jackie seconded, and the agenda was approved as amended.

Secretary's Report: The correspondence was reviewed. Jackie moved, Samuel seconded and the minutes for the July meeting were approved. Worship attendance records were reviewed.

Treasurer's and Finance Committee's Report: The year to date offering is 3% over budget. July expenditures were under the monthly budget and are 85% of budget year to date.

Joy discussed the capital fund drive and the funds available for a youth leadership position.

Jackie moved, Scot seconded, to authorize Pastor Pam to search for a youth leadership person and fill the position if a qualified applicant is found. Funds to pay a youth leadership position are available from non-restricted accounts. The non-restricted accounts would be replenished as pledges are received. The motion was approved.

The council recognizes the treasurer has the authority to manage non-restricted cash flow and mission Investment funds (commercial loan) to pay off the mortgage on the church building.

Samuel moved, Jackie seconded, to accept the church rate of \$1.51/gallon of propane from Stern, Inc for the 2021/2022 heating season.

Special Agenda Items: None.

Unfinished Business:

- Reviewed the impact of COVID 19/Delta Variant on worship activities. The council agreed to continue worship services as we have. Masks during worship will not be required at this time.
- The council will appoint an audit committee to complete an audit this fall and in January next year.

New Business:

- Pastor Pam reviewed the upcoming Stewardship Campaign.
- The Property Committee is working with Western States Fire Protection Co. on replacing the fire pump controller. More information is being gathered. The estimated cost of repairs exceeds \$10,000.

Reflections on Mission and Ministry:

Pastor Pam reviewed the importance of a youth leadership person for Sparks and the Rap group.

Committee & Ministry Team Reports:

Endowment, Liz Kleffner – Nothing to report.

Evangelism, Pastor Pam – Nothing to report.

Health Ministry, Carol Niemann – Nothing to report.

Property Committee, Samuel Ainsley, and Dave Pickford – Report is included in new business.

Social Ministry, Scot Hoscheid – Reviewed the Social Ministry's meeting discussion.

W/ELA, Jackie Hartwick – Reviewed upcoming meeting activities.

Worship & Music, Emily Hiatt – A meeting is scheduled to discuss plans for the next four months worship Services.

Next Meeting: September 21, 2021: Treats – Jackie Hartwick. Devotions – Scot Hoscheid.
September 2021 Care & Share Calling Coordinator – Christie Behlings.

Closing Prayer, Lord's Prayer Adjournment

Scot Hoscheid, Council Secretary



VBS COMPASSION
CAMP 2021





Thank You
Ms. Joy and all
your VBS
Helpers!





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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 Moe
Parish Nurse: Mary Klein
Custodian: Augie Heyne
Music: Margaret Tretheway
Choir Director: Marlene Sellevold
Financial Secretary: Ann Snow
Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky
SPARK Kids:
RAP Group:

Ministers: All Members of CLF!