

CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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VOLUME 21, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2023

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SEPTEMBER 10 - OUR TENTH ANNIVERSARY "GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS." SUNDAY!

This year we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the ELCA's God's Work Our Hands event. We have decided to focus much of our effort to working with our ministry partner Outlaw Ranch, but we will also be doing some of the traditional outreach for our college students, military personal, members living in care facilities and some other local ministries.

This is a general outline of the day:

8:45-9:15 Sunday School Theme: God's Got the Whole World in His Hands!

9:30-10:15 Worship and Blessing of the Quilts—wear your work clothes!

10:15-10:30 Transition to Outlaw Ranch

10:30 Move to Work Stations: There will be tables set up in the CLF Fellowship Hall for letter writing, care package preparation, card making, etc. At Outlaw, Shannon Pulscher will be dividing people up into work groups throughout the Camp. Tools will be provided.

12:30-1:00 lunch break---Bring your own lunch and water bottles. Cookies will be provided by our wonderful W/ELCA group

1:00-3:30 Work groups continue for those willing to stay

3:30 Ice Cream Social and Closing Prayer

The one thing we can all do all is Pray! Please pray for seasonable weather, good health and strength, and lots of energy to work together and enjoy this time of fellowship!

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIFE IS GEARING UP

The Wednesday NightLife is gearing up to start on September 6th with: SPARK Kids from 4-5 PM, a meal to follow from 5-6 PM, and Choir from 6:30 –7:30 PM. The RAP Youth Group will start on September 13th at 6 PM in the DownUnder with a meal of Pizza. They will continue on then to their RAP Youth Group schedule. All High School Youth are welcomed to attend!

HEAVENLY HARP SERVICE

Karin Gunderson with Heavenly Harp will be leading our worship service held on September 24th at 9:30 AM.

"Lift the World" An Inspiring Experience of Love's Transformative Power." As a passionate advocate for change, I believe that this program aligns perfectly with the values and mission of your church.

Led by Karin Gunderson, a Christian International English teacher, author, musician, songwriter, and founder of Heavenly Harp, this program offers a unique and unforgettable experience, Karin's presentation, will take attendees on an extraordinary journey to the heart of Afghans and the refugees crisis, shedding light on the lives of those she has taught and revealing unimaginary bravery and strength.

One of the highlights of this program is the enchanting sound of the harp, accompanying uplifting songs performed by Gunderson herself. These melodies have the power to touch and uplift spirits. Attendees will find themselves singing along and being inspired by the universal language of love in music.

Gunderson emphasizes that true change in the world starts with the individual and how we choose to value each person that exists. This program is not limited to a specific demographic. Whether you are a parent, student, retiree, young adult, or a passionate advocate for change, "Lift the World" will leave you feeling motivated, enlightened, and ready to be a bright light in your everyday world.

CONFIRMATION MEETING

On Wednesday, Sept. 13th, new confirmation students and parents are expected to meet with Pastor Shannon to discuss scheduling and plan for the year. This does not include the students who will be confirmed in October. Please bring your calendars! Confirmation is offered for students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. We will meet in the Fireside Room. You are welcome to come and eat with the Spark Families between 5-6pm.

SOCIAL MINISTRY FUNDRAISER: BUFFALO ROUND UP BREAKFAST BURRITOS

On Friday, Sept. 29th at 5:00am we will be setting up in our parking lot to sell Breakfast Burritos to people driving into the park to attend the Roundup. This will be a drive-through service. Our goal is to sell 1,000 burritos for \$5 each. We will need volunteers to help cook the burritos on Thursday afternoon, then to come get them heated up at 4:00am and sell them beginning at 5am. There will be a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center and more details will be given at a meeting held for those who have signed up. The proceeds of the sale will be given Mission and Outreach opportunities designated by the Social Ministry Committee.



OUTLAW RANCH VOLKSMARCH

Outlaw Ranch along with the Black Hills Volkssport Club is sponsoring a volksmarch at Outlaw Ranch east of Custer on Saturday, September 2nd. Start time will be from 8:30 until 11:30 AM with finish by 2:30 PM. There are two distances of 5k (3.1 miles) and 10k (6.2 miles). All walkers will be required to pay a \$3 registration fee. The new trails have been improved over the last year and this walk gives walkers a chance to see more of Outlaw's property. For more information you can contact Pastor Duane Neugebauer at 303-489-9313 or donman1948@gmail.com.

MEN'S SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY

After a summer layoff, the men's monthly breakfast and Bible study will meet again starting on Saturday, September 16th at 8:00 am - 10:00 am in the Fireside Room.

We make it a practice to meet on the second Saturday each month. Due to schedules, we will meet on the 16th September (third Saturday) and resume our normal schedule for the second Saturday starting again in October.

The men have enjoyed breakfasts, fellowship and studying the parables of our Lord Jesus Christ and the kingdom in the first half of 2023.

We will continue in our study of the Parables of the Kingdom through the end of the year.

NEW MEMBER CLASS



CLF will be offering a 2nd New Member class on **Sunday, September 17th**, from 10:45-11:45 AM in the Fireside Room. 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.

PASTOR SHANNON'S SHENANIGANS

September has always been such an exciting month for me! While I love summer, I also love the new beginnings that a new school year brings. However, this year for me personally, September is especially exciting! Not only am I looking forward to seeing the Spark kids, starting Confirmation, and getting to spend time with our Rap Group kids, I get to spend extra time with my own kids!

This month Darryn and I will be traveling quite a bit to celebrate some big transitions in the lives of our children. I thought I would save Mary from having to answer the question, "Where is Shannon now?"

From Aug. 29th to Sept. 6th we will be in Petaluma, California. Our son, Eli, is graduating from the US Coast Guard Aviation Rescue Swimmer Advanced Training School. This has been a goal of his for several years and we are thrilled for him to begin this career. He will be stationed in Kodiak, Alaska. Lucky for us, he will get a few weeks off before he has to report for duty. Not only will it be a much deserved break from a very intense last year, but will allow him to be with us for our next big family event.

From Sept. 19-Sept. 24 we will be in Longmont, Colorado celebrating the marriage of our daughter Grace to her Fiancé Nate. Not only will I be a very happy Mother of the Bride, I also will have the special honor of officiating the wedding.

I'm grateful for the people who will be stepping in to leadership positions to help get all of the September planning off to a good start. CLF is so blessed with willing volunteers and enthusiastic leaders! Thank you to all of you who will be holding the reins while our family spends time together! As you will see from this newsletter, there is a lot happening and I hope you find ways to participate in some shenanigans of your own!

Your Sister in Christ,
Pastor Shannon

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE 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 church office 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 Shannon: pastor_clf@gwtc.net

Phone: 1-563-542-6080

WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIFE BEGINS SEPTEMBER 6TH

We are so excited to begin Wednesday Night Life again!

SCHEDULE FOR SEPT. 6TH

Spark Kids – DownUnder	4:00 pm	
SPARK Meal – Fellowship Hall	5:00 pm	BBQ's
Choir Practice – Sanctuary	6:30 pm	



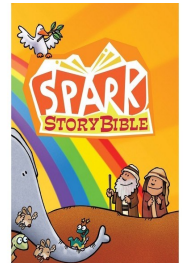
SEPT 13TH –

SPARK Kids – DownUnder	4:00 pm	
SPARK Meal – Fellowship Hall	5:00 pm	Pizza
RAP Youth Meal — DownUnder	6:00 pm	Pizza
RAP Youth Group — DownUnder	6:30 pm	
Choir Practice — Sanctuary	6:30 pm	

Welcome back to Wednesday NightLife!

SPARK KIDS BEGIN

Join us for SPARK Kids! During the school year on Wednesdays, children from K - Grade 5 are picked up at the Elementary building after school is dismissed and brought to the church. We have a wide variety of learning activities beginning with a snack that usually ties into the Bible story. It is always a fun time of learning and laughing, with also some great questions and deep thinking! Pickup is 5:00-5:15. 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 us! All are welcome! Contact Wendi with any questions #509-494-3236.



RAP YOUTH GROUP MEETS

Rap Group/High School Youth Group will begin Sept. 13th at 6:00pm with a pizza party in the Down Under. Then we will discuss the future times and dates that we will meet. At this meeting we will also hopefully find out who will be joining us for the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2024. We are so excited that we finally will be taking another group for this amazing experience with around 30,000 other high school students from around the country! We will be planning our activities and selecting a Bible Study topic for each quarter of school. All high school students are welcome to attend, regardless if they are members of CLF or not. Volunteers are needed to be the second adult each week. Wendi and Pastor Shannon will be either taking turns or co-leading, but on the weeks that one of them isn't there, we will need another adult. We also need some ideas and help with providing meals when we meet.



MEALS ON WHEELS NEEDS YOUR HELP



Mark Hogg of the Meals on Wheels Program is immediately needing some volunteers to help with delivering the meals for the Meals on Wheels Program on Fridays. Mark stated “that several of his volunteers aren’t able to help for the next few months and he is looking intently for some volunteers to help 1 Friday to 4 Fridays a month”.

If you are willing to help out with this much needed program, please contact Mark Hogg at 605-673-5509 or the church office.

PARISH NURSE NOTES BY MARY KLEIN, RN PARISH NURSE



I know I am not alone in wondering where summer went! Hope we all got out and had some fun! The topic I want to cover is **Atrial Fibrillation**. I am using information from the Mayo Clinic. More than 3 million Americans live with atrial fibrillation.

What does this mean? Our heart has four chambers, the upper are called atria and the lower ones are ventricles. The atria has altered electrical activity which causes the upper chambers to beat very fast and irregular. The atria “quiver” and thus do not pump blood through the heart effectively. This erratic behavior can cause blood clots to form, possibly breaking loose and traveling to the brain. When this happens it can cause a stroke. Atrial fibrillation can also cause the heart to be overworked and stressed leading to new heart failure or worsening of existing heart failure.

Common symptoms include lightheadedness, heart palpitations, fatigue, and shortness of breath, chest discomfort or confusion. It may last for minutes or hours and then go away or become intermittent triggered by emotional or physical stress. Sometimes you are not even aware of it until a check-up or after a stroke, so it’s important to have regular checkups.

What are the risk factors that put you at higher risk? As we age the electrical & structural properties of the atria may change, which can lead to the breakdown of your usual heart rhythm. Other preexisting conditions include; obesity, high cholesterol, sleep apnea, high blood pressure, diabetes, smoking and alcohol overuse.

What can be effective treatments? Lifestyle changes is a big factor by losing weight, getting more exercise, getting treatment for sleep apnea and high blood pressure, quitting smoking and reducing alcohol intake. Another important treatment is anticoagulants. These medications reduce the risk for blood clots, reducing the risk of stroke. Another important treatment aims at restoring a regular heart rhythm. Sometimes this can be done by medications (chemical cardioversion) or by using an electrical shock, “electrical cardioversion” to restore a regular rhythm. Another option may require a procedure which involves inserting a catheter into the interior of the heart for an “ablation”. The catheter tip burns the specific are of the heart that is causing it to misfire. Another needed treatment may be inserting a pacemaker to maintain a regular rhythm.

Healthy heart/ Healthy body



MENTAL HEALTH UPDATE BY MARY KLEIN, RN PARISH NURSE

Mental Health challenges can be complex and requires professional care for months, even years. Since the pandemic, just like everything else, mental health has been greatly affected. Getting care can also be challenging as Mental Health Professionals have been very busy with many having a backlog of clients. One good thing did come out of the pandemic, not all visits need to be in person. The initial visit(s) should be in person, but once things stabilize, talk with your provider about the possibility of an online visit, where you can still see each other. This makes it much easier on the Provider as well as the client. This also helps to streamline the process and ease the backlog. Another new option being discussed is what they call a “single-session intervention”. It takes a “less is more” approach to the time spent with the professional and focuses on teaching effective strategies to help you navigate your mental health challenges. This approach will hopefully get more help out to more people in a shorter period of time. They are still doing some studies on this method and remember this is not for everyone. Stay safe.



CLF LIFE





CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have articles for the October Newsletter to the office **by noon, September 21st**. Thank you!



OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open
Monday to Thursday from 8:30
AM—4:00 PM. Wednesday
10:00 AM--5:30 PM

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.



SNOWBIRD INFORMATION

Snowbirds, if you would like to continue to receiving the Crossroads Newsletter while you are away, please make sure that the office has your snowbird address and the beginning and ending dates.
Thank You from the Office!

LADIES THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY FALL SCHEDULE

Please consider checking out the Ladies Bible Study which is held at 5:30 pm each Thursday afternoon. Interested folks can just stop by and give it a try or come regularly. We use a guided lesson format as we study bible chapters or faith related topics. Call Joy Smolnisky if you have any questions at 605-929-1244. Everyone is welcomed!

Calendar: Finishing current study of Genesis
9-14 Genesis Lesson 25

9-26 Genesis Lesson 26

New Study Begins: Heaven

10-6 Heaven Lesson 1
10-20 Heaven Lesson 3
11-2 Heaven Lesson 5
11-16 Heaven Lesson 7
11-30 Heaven Lesson 8

10-13 Heaven Lesson 2
10-27 Heaven Lesson 4
11-9 Heaven Lesson 6
11-23 THANKSGIVING

Christmas Break — Next study begins January 4, 2024

CUSTER MEET & EAT

The monthly Meet and Eat will happen on September 12th at 5:00 PM— 7:00 PM.

It is located at Custer Community Church at 6th & Harney in Custer.

Gather for a meal with friends & neighbors. (No Charge) Everyone is Welcomed to attend.

W/ELCA HAPPENING

Next meeting: Monday, September 18th at 11:30 AM in Fireside Room.

Hostesses: This meeting will be a Potluck Lunch.

Program: Larry Peterson will be talking about Red Shirt Happenings.

At the August meeting they approved giving the collected school supplies to Wendi Rusch for the SPARK Kids and the rest will be taken to Red Shirt Table.

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 The Mission for September & October is:

**Children of Red Shirt Table**

We are collecting socks and mittens/gloves.  
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QUILTING

In September & October Quilting will return to every Tuesday at 9 AM.

Holly Mitchell and daughters Lorelei & Emma Jean visited from Rapid City. Holly represents Thrivent and wanted to see how we have used funds received for quilting. They worked with us all morning.

Many quilts are ready to go and after the September showing of them in the sanctuary, they will be distributed.

The beauty around us this spring/summer has been spectacular, especially the wild flowers. "Have you taken time to smell the roses"?

All are welcome — come and join us — we are ready to go.....

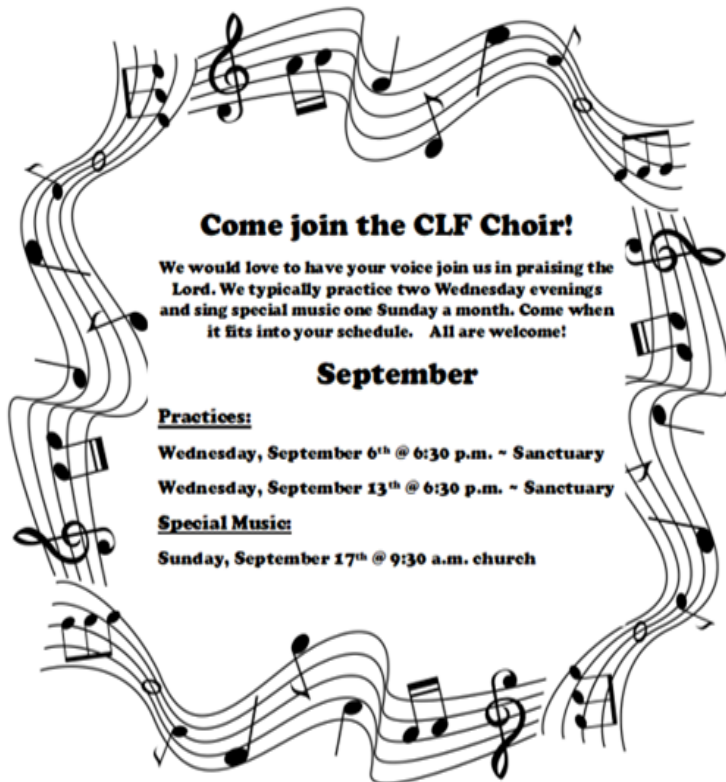
The Busy Quilter's

LUTHERAN OUTDOORS

ADULT TRAVEL MINISTRY EVENTS

Register now for some fun and educational Adult Travel Ministry with Lutheran Outdoors in SD. Travel by charter transportation to North Shore of Lake Superior for 5-days in September.

In November, experience Christmas in Branson for 5 days enjoying 7 shows plus more. More information can be found at www.losd.org or Gayle at (605)274-5326. Register soon!



Come join the CLF Choir!

We would love to have your voice join us in praising the Lord. We typically practice two Wednesday evenings and sing special music one Sunday a month. Come when it fits into your schedule. All are welcome!

September

Practices:

- Wednesday, September 6th @ 6:30 p.m. ~ Sanctuary
- Wednesday, September 13th @ 6:30 p.m. ~ Sanctuary

Special Music:

- Sunday, September 17th @ 9:30 a.m. church



Ribbon Cutting & Open House for Growing Roots Preschool
 Custer Lutheran Fellowship
 12622 US Hwy 16A
 Custer, SD

Will be held on Friday, Sept. 1:
 With Ribbon Cutting at 4:45 PM
 Open House from 5-7 PM

Church Members are encouraged to visit Sunday, Sept. 3rd after church.



WORSHIP & MUSIC BY MARGARET TRETHERWAY

I have been meeting with Pastor Shannon and the music people to help with ideas for the next 3 months. Our Choir Director, Jennifer Doyle, will be starting choir with accompanist, Cozy Dorton. We can always use new people. I will be working on the bulletins and special music, hymns, and scheduling. I am so thankful for all these helpful and talented people who give of their talents to help the church music. We thank the musicians who use their voices and their instruments.

The summer Campfire service was filled with some guests and some congregation people. Pastor Shannon led the services with occasional help when she was gone. Helping Bill and Margaret with the music was Bob Timperley, and Dave Pickford and Pastor Shannon. We enjoyed and thank those who helped with the wood, starting the fire, and helping to get the S'mores ready. On the Wednesday that we could not be outside, we made Root Beer Floats.

We are excited to have 5 pianists - Jennifer Doyle, Cozy Dorton, Tranda Nelssen, Janice Albers, and Carol Torgerson. We also thank all those voices who helped us.

The music in church consists of full Liturgy, Contemporary and Special Liturgy and all kinds of music. We love to have instruments and lots of singing.

We are hopeful to be adding the young people who have Sunday School, and SPARK KIDS sang also. I hope to add young people for special music. We love all ages. We have many people from our church and guests from other areas, who have given their talents to our service. Music is such a way to thank Our Lord.

Prayers for the many who have lost people they love.

In ending.....

I will end with praying

"Dear Lord, joy is my strength, my source of healing Where would we be without endless supply of Mercy. Lord you never get tired of my asking for you to lean closer to help us retain our dignity. We give thanks for the gift of music for us to pray, sing, and just praise our Lord. We hear your voice and know that we can sing your songs of love because you love us.

Happy September as we draw closer to it.



CLF LIFE



Card Shower for Pastor Jonathan Steiner

As we announced earlier this summer, Pastor Jonathan Steiner's service as Director of Evangelical Mission and Associate to the Bishop will conclude at the end of this month. We wanted to publicly thank him again for his work as a member of the Synod staff and wish him and his family all the best as he begins a new call this fall. We also wanted to invite you to join us in a card shower for Pastor Jonathan to share your well-wishes, gratitude, and prayers for him and his family in their time of transition.



Cards and well-wishes for Pr. Jonathan can be sent to the Synod Office:
 South Dakota Synod, ELCA
 2001 S. Summit Avenue
 Sioux Falls, SD 57197

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JONATHAN STEINER

August 9, 2023

Thank you for your generosity as we share the Gospel together in the South Dakota Synod. As I prepare to end my time working here in South Dakota, I'm reflecting on the incredible partnerships and ministry I have witnessed here.

In so many ways and in so many communities, the Holy Spirit is most certainly at work. Because we trust one another, and because we have committed ourselves to the work of the church together, we are doing incredible things. The stories are out there, and I hope you are sharing them in your congregation!

If I can leave South Dakota with one message, it is to continue to trust that God will provide. As we hear in the story of the Feeding of the 5,000, we are called to have a mindset of abundance rather than scarcity. Instead of saying "there isn't enough," we can remember that Jesus calls us to share what we have, and find that God makes it more than enough.

Please share with your congregation that you have been a blessing to your neighbors, and that because of your support, we are able to Journey together in Christ!

Peace and blessings to you.
 Pastor Jonathan Steiner

Custer Lutheran Fellowship Statement of Non-Restricted Activities YTD 7-31-2023

Ordinary Income /Expenses	
Income	
4000—Offering Contributions	
Total 40014—Non-Restricted Special Donation	
40300—Interest	
Total Income	
Expense	
Total 61000 - Pastoral Leadership	
Total 62000 - Worship	
Total 63000 - Education	
Total 64100 - ELCA Mission Support	
Total 64200 - Other Mission Support	
Total 64000 - Mission Support	
Total 65000 - Support/Care	
Total Expense	
Net Ordinary Income	
Net Other Income/Expense	
Net Income (ordinary and off-budget inc & Exp)	
*numbers may not = 100% due to rounding	

Inc & Expense by Fund	
Non-Restricted	Budget
184,121	169,288
3,083	0
1,290	175
188,494	169,463
36,062	39,570
7,078	7,176
12,595	12,801
16,260	15,569
6,983	6,483
18,777	22,052
75,560	76,380
150,071	157,979
38,423	11,484
-5,208	-4,900
33,215	6,584



Thank you to all the men and women that helped with getting Custer Lutheran Fellowship ready for "The Growing Roots Preschool" on September 5th in the DownUnder.

COUNCIL MINUTES — August 22, 2023

Secretary's Report: The correspondence was reviewed. There was consensus and the minutes for the July meeting were approved. Worship attendance records were reviewed.

Treasurer's and Finance Committee's Report: The offerings thru July were 120% of budget (\$4,729) and YTD remains above budget by 109% (\$14,833). Expenses were 101% of budget (\$1,538) due to paying third quarter business insurance bill in July.

Council Action:

- **Approve Treasurer's report & budget calendar**
- **Add Preschool Rider to Insurance Policy** – Joy to find out cost of rider
- **Select & approve bid for propane** – Stern is \$1.83/gal – McGas is \$1.89/gal. Consensus was to continue with Stern.
- **Approve beginning bid processes noted in Budget Calendar**

Mark moved, Blaine seconded to approve the council action items, motion approved.

Special Agenda Items:

There were no special agenda items.

Old Business:

- **Thrivent Choice** – August \$ 0.00 YTD - \$417.00
- **Amazon Smile** – August \$ 0.00 YTD - \$ 18.44
- **Lynn's Dakotamart Receipts** – August \$100.00 YTD - \$700.00
- **Firewood – Red Shirt Table** – Larry Peterson will contact Twyla at Red Shirt Table about doing the wood haul on the first Saturday in November.
- **Christian Education Committee** – has met. SPARK, Sunday School, Confirmation and RAP will all be starting in September.
- **Preschool: Who pays for what improvements** – Pastor Shannon will itemize all the improvements and council will determine who pays for them.
- **Sprinkler System** – Will wait for Western States to call to schedule inspection. A suggestion was made to get a second bid from another company to compare costs.
- **Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator** – this position will stay at 20 hours/week until the job description has been finalized.
- **Other Fundraiser: Boiler?** – Downstairs boiler needs replacing. A new boiler will cost around \$25,000 for the first phase with budgeting \$5,000 a year after for maintenance. Water heater by kitchen also needs replacing at an estimated cost of \$4,300. Need to look at ways to help pay for them.
- **Other** – None

New Business:

- **Membership changes** - None
- **Phone System:** Out dated Upstairs & Downstairs – Our phone system is old and starting to have problems. Looking at new options for replacement.
- **Internet Cable – Hardwire** – Looking at bids to install a hardwire internet cable from the modem to the sound room in the Sanctuary.
- **Mutual Ministry Committee** – Pastor Shannon and Dave Mertz will meet to compile a list of prospective members. Blaine will also serve on committee.
- **Fundraiser for Red Shirt Table Coffee Shop** – Church cannot do a fundraiser for a "For profit". Will look at other ways to help.
- **Wednesday NightLife Worship** – Blaine moved, John seconded to discontinue Wednesday night worship thru the annual meeting date and then re-evaluate. Motion approved.
- **Wednesday NightLife Meals** – Will continue meals for the SPARK Kids and their families. There will be a separate meal for RAP youth as they get to church later.
- **Water Testing Results** – Were good. Will need to continue testing on a regular basis.
- **Other** – None

Pastor's Report

- **Review Worship & Activities** – Will be gone quite a bit in September. Will be gone from 8/27-9/6 for son's graduation in Coast Guard and from 9/19-24 for daughter's wedding. Pastor Phil Lewison will be filling in for her on 9/3 and Pastor Larry Peterson on 9/24.

Reflections on Mission and Ministry:

Council Highlights continued next page.

ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY



Pentecost 14

Thursday, Aug. 31: Psalm 26:1-8; Jeremiah 14:13-18; Ephesians 5:1-6
Friday, Sept. 1: Psalm 26:1-8; Jeremiah 15:1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12
Saturday, Sept. 2: Psalm 26:1-8; Jeremiah 15:10-14; Matthew 8:14-17
Sunday, Sept. 3: Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28
Monday, Sept. 4: Psalm 17; 2 Samuel 11:2-26; Revelation 3:1-6;
Tuesday, Sept. 5: Psalm 17; 2 Samuel 11:27b—12:15; Revelation 3:7-13;
Wednesday, Sept. 6: Psalm 17; Jeremiah 17:5-18; Matthew 12:22-32

Pentecost 15

Thursday, Sept. 7: Psalm 119:33-40; Ezekiel 24:1-14; 2 Corinthians 12:11-21
Friday, Sept. 8: Psalm 119:33-40; Ezekiel 24:15-27; Romans 10:15b-21;
Saturday, Sept. 9: Psalm 119:33-40; Ezekiel 33:1-6; Matthew 23:29-36
Sunday, Sept. 10: Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20
Monday, Sept. 11: Psalm 119:65-72; Leviticus 4:27-31; 5:14-16; 1 Peter 2:11-17
Tuesday, Sept. 12: Psalm 119:65-72; Deuteronomy 17:2-13; Romans 13:1-7
Wednesday, Sept. 13: Psalm 119:65-72; Leviticus 16:1-5, 20-28; Matthew 21:18-22

Pentecost 16

Thursday, Sept. 14: Psalm 103:1-13; Genesis 37:12-36; 1 John 3:11-16
Friday, Sept. 15: Psalm 103: 1-13; Genesis 41:53—42:17; Acts 7:9-16
Saturday, Sept. 16: Psalm 103: 1-13; Genesis 45:1-20; Matthew 6:7-15
Sunday, Sept. 17: Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:1-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35
Monday, Sept. 18: Psalm 133; Genesis 48:8-22; Hebrews 11:23-29
Tuesday, Sept. 19: Psalm 133; Genesis 49:29—50:14; Romans 14:13—15:2
Wednesday, Sept. 20: Psalm 133; Genesis 50:22-26; Mark 11:20-25

Pentecost 17

Thursday, Sept. 21: Psalm 145:1-8; Nahum 1:1, 14—2:2; 2 Corinthians 13:1-42
Friday, Sept. 22: Psalm 145:1-8; Nahum 2:3-13; 2 Corinthians 13:5-10
Saturday, Sept. 23: Psalm 145:1-8; Zephaniah 2:13-15; Matthew 19:23-30
Sunday, Sept. 24: Jonah 3:10—4:11; Psalm 145:1-8; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16
Monday, Sept. 25: Psalm 106:1-12; Genesis 27:1-29; Romans 16:1-16
Tuesday, Sept. 26: Psalm 106:1-12; Genesis 28:10-17; Romans 16:17-20
Wednesday, Sept. 27: Psalm 106:1-12; Isaiah 41:1-13; Matthew 18:1-5

Pentecost 18

Thursday, Sept. 28: Psalm 25:1-9; Ezekiel 12:17-28; James 4:11-16
Friday, Sept. 29: Psalm 25:1-9; Ezekiel 18:5-18; Acts 13:32-41
Saturday, Sept. 30: Psalm 25:1-9; Ezekiel 18:19-24; Mark 11:27-33
Sunday, Oct. 1: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32
Monday, Oct. 2: Psalm 28; Judges 14:1-20; Philippians 1:3-14
Tuesday, Oct. 3: Psalm 28; Judges 16:1-22; Philippians 1:15-21
Wednesday, Oct. 4: Psalm 28; Judges 16:23-31; Matthew 9:2-8

Committee & Ministry Team Reports:

- **Outreach**, Helena Buehler – Helena will try to set up a meeting with the members. Need to look at renaming the committee to reflect what they do.
- **Property**, Mark Thompson – Still discussing size and scope of building to house the log splitters.
- **Social Ministry**, Christie Behlings – Pastor Shannon reviewed committee activity concerning “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday.
- **W/ELCA**, Shana Hindman – Nothing to report.
- **Worship & Music**, Donna McConnell – Reviewed committee activity.

Next Meeting: September 19, 2023 – 7:00 PM

Treats – John Kirk Devotions – _____
 September 2023 Care & Share Calling Coordinator – Christie Behlings

Closing Prayer, Lord’s Prayer

Adjournment

Donna McConnell, Council Secretary



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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: Shannon Witt
 Office Manager: Mary Winter
 Youth Coordinator: Wendi Rusch
 Parish Nurse: Mary Klein
 Custodian: Augie Heyne
 Music: Margaret Tretheway
 Choir Director: Jennifer Doyle
 Financial Secretary: Janice Albers
 Steve Baldwin
 Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky
 SPARK Kids: Wendi Rusch