

# CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

## CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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### MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICES



Please join us Wednesday evenings in December at 6:00 PM to contemplate and prepare for the birth of Jesus. The Midweek Advent Service will begin with a meal at 5:15 PM, followed by a service at 6:00 PM in the sanctuary. Please join our SPARK Kids and youth

### LONGEST NIGHT/BLUE CHRISTMAS

On Saturday, **December 21<sup>st</sup>** we observe the first day of Winter and the Winter Solstice, which is the day of the year with the least amount of daylight hours. For many, these long, dark days of winter can intensify the feelings of grief, sadness, loneliness, and loss. Sometimes, this makes it difficult to participate in the joyous celebrations of the Christmas season. In an effort to name, honor, and perhaps participate in the healing of this pain, we will have a special worship service of lament and healing. **Please join us at 6:30 PM** in the Sanctuary where we will take time to hear words of hope and promise in the midst of the naming of your pain. If you know of someone who is grieving or for whom Christmas can be a difficult time, please share this information with them, and perhaps even offer to join them. All are welcome to attend.



### CHILDREN'S PRE-CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



Please join the Spark Kids in presenting "The Little Christmas Tree" on **December 8<sup>th</sup>** during the **9:30 worship!** We will have the story, costumes and songs to remember the reason for the season! THANK YOU to Linda Fennell, Wendi Rusch and the volunteers for leading the program!

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Would you like to help with decorating the altar with poinsettias for the Christmas season? You may bring them by **Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>** and place them in the Fellowship Hall in the corner behind the cart. A table will be set up. They will be placed in the Sanctuary for the Christmas Eve services.

Please let the office know if your plant is in memory or in honor of someone. You may take them home after the Christmas service. Thanks!



### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Join us for worship on Christmas Eve as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Christmas Eve Worship: 4:00 PM Candlelight Service  
7:00 PM Candlelight Service

Both evening services will have Holy Communion and Candle Lighting as we sing Silent Night, Holy Night.



### IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT THE CROSSROADS NEWSLETTER

In this month's newsletter, you will find a pink card with some preferences for you to think about. Due to the rising cost of postage as well as paper, we would like to ask folks to consider receiving your newsletter via email, or by having you pick yours up at the Church on the first Sunday of the month. If you don't have access to email, we will happily get you a printed copy. Please return your this card to the office letting us know your preference. Our hope is that most of you will be willing to receive a digital copy. Thank you in advance!

### NEW PICTURE DIRECTORY

There is still time for you to have your picture taken for the new picture directory. We will be setting up again in December. **So please mark your calendars for December 1<sup>st</sup>, December 4<sup>th</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup>.** Pictures will be taken before and after worship on the two Sundays. You are also welcome to send in a picture that you have of you and/or your family to the church office. If emailing, it needs to be a .jpg sent as an attachment. You can also bring in a picture and it can be scanned. The deadline to submit a picture will be December 15<sup>th</sup>. You will have the opportunity to get all the photos that were taken at church. If interested, a sign-up sheet will be posted on the Welcome Center and they will be put on a jump drive for you. To cover the cost of the jump drive, we are asking you to pay \$2.00.

### ELCA GOOD GIFTS

Christmas Shopping? Your Social Ministry Team is again sponsoring ELCA Good Gifts. This program provides more than 50 different gift-giving options that fight hunger and transform lives. Such gifts, starting at \$10, provide direct support for the churchwide ministries of the ELCA.

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 market. With such a 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 developments and educational opportunities. Need a gift for that "hard to buy for" someone? When you purchase your Good Gifts, you'll get an ornament and/or card for that special someone to show you're honoring them by giving to those in need with their name in mind. Say "goodbye" to traditional gift-giving and hello to meaningful gifts that really make a difference in the world. There will be a table set up in the Narthex on **Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>** to help you select gifts.



### SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL

While CLF has a contractor to keep the parking lot clear of snow, we need volunteers to keep the sidewalks clear. CLF has shovels and two snow blowers on site. (As well as chicken grit for icy spots.) If you need a lesson on how to operate the snow blowers, contact Brad McKinney at 308-641-1741 or any number of experienced CLF snow shovelers.

You choose which days work best for you. If you can't commit to a full week, that's fine. Sign up for the days that work for you. Sign-up at the Welcome Center in the Narthex.

*A clean sidewalk reflects a clean heart. - Expectations 1:1*



### MINISTRY FAIR

Thank you all for your support of the November 10<sup>th</sup> Ministry Fair. Your offering of time and talents will transform a good church into a great church!



### A CHRISTMAS REQUEST



We are looking for volunteers to bring cookies to the church on December 7th to be served after the service on Dec. 8th, as well as for after the Christmas Advent Program that afternoon at 2:00 PM.

### CHRISTMAS GOODIE BAG VOLUNTEER NEEDED

A request for a volunteer to put together Christmas goodie bags for the children in worship on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> to be passed out after the program/worship service is over. Please contact the office.



Happy Advent Season! We are starting off this month with lots of really fun activities. We will continue to take pictures for our new photo directory, and hope that if you aren't able to stay and have one taken here at the church that you will have one sent to the church office so you can be included!

The church looks so beautiful and festive and ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus. It will be a lot of fun to begin the month with the pre-Christmas program during worship on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> and then that afternoon there will be an Community Advent Program at 2pm.

As you get going with all of your holiday preparations, I would like to encourage you do add another special tradition to your list. Did you know that there are 24 chapters in the Gospel of Luke? If you were to read one chapter a day during the month of December, you will have finished the whole book by Christmas Eve. Then you will be ready for our deep dive into Luke's Gospel beginning in January. So many of you enjoyed reading the Gospel of Mark together last year, that I'm trying to find a day that we can all gather in January for a couple of hours to read it together. Stay tuned!

As you read Luke, I would like you to think about this question. If you were to narrow down what was the most important thing that Jesus tried to focus on and do during his ministry according to the author of this Gospel? With a new year quickly approaching, that will be a question that CLF will continue to ask. What is our most important mission as a congregation? What are our priorities? What gifts do we have to offer to the world in the name of Jesus?

As the pace of the holidays picks up, please remember to take some time to soak in all of the joy and hope of the season. And as the season of winter descends upon us, let the natural pace guide us into moments of stillness and peace. Let the Spirit of Christmas fill you with deep abiding hope.

Grace and peace to you,  
Pastor Shannon



### PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE WHEN:

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

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.

Please contact Pastor Shannon Witt at 563-542-6080 or 605-673-4691 (church).

### COMMUNITY ADVENT CONCERT

An Advent tradition that has happened in the past, will be happening again this year, here at Custer Lutheran Fellowship. The Custer Community Churches have all been invited to participate in the Advent Program. We will hear many different types of music from singing, to instrument playing and others. We hope that all of you will attend this special program and get your holiday music start here at Custer Lutheran Fellowship on Sunday, December 8th at 2:00 PM.

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the program.



## WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIFE SCHEDULE

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>  
Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>  
Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>  
Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>

**Meal at 5:15 pm**  
Chicken  
Taco Bar  
Pizza & Salad  
No meal – Christmas break

**Worship at 6:00 pm**  
1<sup>st</sup> Week in Advent  
2<sup>nd</sup> Week in Advent  
3<sup>rd</sup> Week in Advent

### Confirmation at 6:30 pm

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> — Class  
Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> — Class  
Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> — Class  
Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> — No Class



## SPARK KIDS

Join us for SPARK Kids! During the school year on Wednesdays, children from Kindergarten through Grade 5 are picked up at the Elementary building after school is dismissed and brought to the church. We sing songs, have a snack, and do a game or craft that 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! You just need to register. We have 28 kids signed up so far! All are welcome! Contact Wendi for more info #509-494-3236!



ALL Middle School and High School Youth are invited! **Sat, December 7<sup>th</sup> for the Custer Christmas Parade @ 5:30 PM!** We will go on the Outlaw hayride and pass out candy. Hope to see you there! For more info contact Wendi 509-494-3236



## RAP HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

We love to see all 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders join us for Youth Group! We meet every week on Wednesday at 6:30 PM. It's a great time of support and silliness! Last month we had our annual Scavenger Hunt to collect non-perishable food times for the Storehouse! There were two middle school and three high school teams that collected more food than last year! The Youth started this in Confirmation and continue it on to high school! Another highlight was our Lock-In! The 15 kids that came had a meaningful candlelit worship, played group games and ate great snacks! THANK YOU to Matt Rusch, Pastor Shannon, Nancy Suelflow, Mindy Dooley, Keri Cochran and DesiRae Dinnius for their help! Contact Wendi Rusch for ways to bring fun and faith to our youth! #509-494-3236



## CHRISTMAS-GRAMS

The High School Youth will be offering **Christmas-grams** once again! We will travel to sing a few Christmas carols during Youth group on **Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM.** For a donation, the first five who sign-up can request the youth come to your house or order a Christmas singing telegram for someone else! Help us share the joy of the season and contact Wendi #509-494-3236 to get on the "nice list"!



### THE GREAT CLF WOOD HAUL



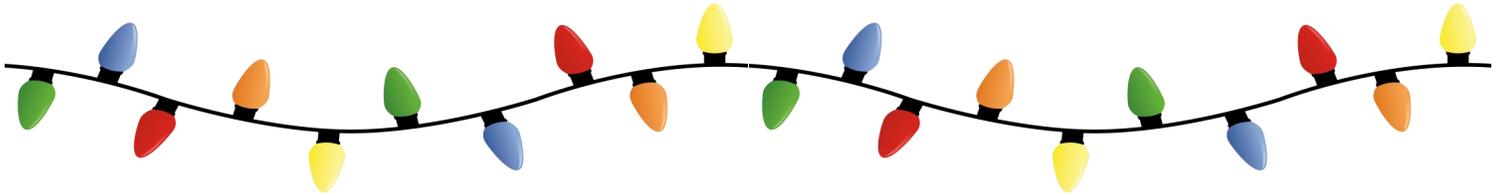
On a sunny November 2<sup>nd</sup> morning, seventeen CLF'ers gathered at the church to finish loading firewood on nine trucks/ trailers for the journey to the Red Shirt community. Additionally, Social Ministry folks prepared 90 lunches for sharing with local residents. Participants shared lunch with a few Red Shirt residents after unloading 12 cords of firewood that will warm homes this winter.



The 2024 wood haul continues a nearly 30-year CLF ministry starting with St. Andrews Episcopal Church at Wakpamni Lake and continuing with Christ Episcopal Church, Red Shirt Table on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

### SAFE NEEDED!

Do you have a fireproof safe that you are not currently using? It has come to our attention that we should be storing our Red Historical Documentation Books a little more carefully. They are too big to fit into a fireproof filing cabinet. If you have one you are willing to donate, please call the office and let Mary Winter know what the dimensions are. Thanks!



### WORSHIP & MUSIC...

Hello, December!

We will be singing a song to help prepare us for the birth of our Savior called *"Prepare Your Heart."* *It is a beautiful, uplifting melody that reminds us to prepare for the coming of the Messiah.*

The CLF choir will be meeting during the following times in December:

- Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> ~ Practice @ 6:30 PM in Sanctuary
- Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Community Advent Concert @ 2 PM @ CLF
- Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Practice @ 6:30 PM in Sanctuary
- Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Special music @ 9:30 AM church service

The Community Advent Concert is still in the works for Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. Our church choir will be singing, along with a few other representatives of CLF. We will also be hosting a time of fellowship following the program. If you would like to help out by providing cookies or bars for this fellowship time, please let me know or call the church office so that we can add you to our list. It will be a music-filled afternoon designed to get everyone in the Christmas spirit and celebrate the birth of Christ our Savior.

#### Special Services in December:

- Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> ~ Longest Night/Blue Christmas @ 6:30 PM
- Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Eve Services @ 4:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Preparing the way of the Lord,

Jenn Doyle

[jenniferkaydoyle@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferkaydoyle@gmail.com) or (605) 864-1322





### CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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

Pastor Shannon: pastor\_clf@gwtc.net  
Main address— clf@gwtc.net



### OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open Monday  
Tuesday, Thursday from 8:30  
AM—4:00 PM.  
Wednesday 9:30 AM—6:00 PM

### CLF WEBSITE OFFERS ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

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

### JANUARY NEWSLETTER

#### DEADLINE

Please have articles for the January Newsletter to the office by **December 20<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you!

### DO YOU HAVE ANY CHANGES?

Please let the church office know of any recent address changes, new email addresses or changes in your phone numbers whether home or cell phone. We are trying to keep our records up to date. Thank You for your assistance!





The W/ELCA meeting in November was filled with three main agenda items.

We had the installation of officers for the new year. Our officers for 2025 are as follows: President—Jackie Hartwick; Secretary—Bonnie Thompson; Treasurer—Barb Lewison; Mission and Action Community—Julie Taylor.

We set our budget for 2025. That led to discussing program speakers for the new year and revising our W/ELCA booklet. We are looking forward to a gentle combination of the old activities with some new twists.

We had our Thank Offering service. The title was Light the Way for Justice, Light the Way for Love. The program can be summed up with this verse from the Great Thanksgiving Prayer:

“We pray, compassionate God, for all in need: For those who hunger and thirst for peace, for belonging, for love, for righteousness, shine your light of justice. For those who mourn or suffer in any way, shine your light of comfort. Amen.”

W/ELCA will help serve cookies and coffee after the Advent Concert on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. We will also be responsible for the Wednesday Night Life Supper on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

One of our fun-filled activities was held on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. We had our annual Craft and Goodie Sale. Thanks once again for the support of the congregation. To those of you who brought items to be sold and to those of you who bought those items, we sincerely thank you! A special show of appreciation goes to the folks who came in on Saturday to make lefse and krumkake. Such a treat! We added \$1,427 to our ability to support local, national and international missions, because of the generosity of each of you. We are blessed to have such a giving congregation!

The ladies at W/ELCA wish you peace, joy and love as we enter the beautiful Christmas season!

### THE THANKFUL QUILTERS

A BIG THANK YOU TO everyone who has gifted Thrivent cards, fabric, cash and other supplies to our quilting group this past year, it is much appreciated.

*so very thankful*

Ginny has decided to step out of her role as our leader. We thank her for her leadership, but she will still be quilting. Wanda Omodt and EJ Reid will be taking over the leadership position.



Quilting dates and times for December:

12-3 9 AM—11AM

12-10 9AM—11AM

12-17 (potluck) 9AM—???

We will resume January 7<sup>th</sup>!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



### LIVE NATIVITY AT OUTLAW RANCH

Outlaw Ranch will be putting on their annual fundraiser sharing their Live Nativity on December 15<sup>th</sup> from 3-6 PM. Activities will include live animals, a baked goods sale, photo booth, and hot cider and cocoa. If you would like to donate baked goods for the event, or assist in the Nativity experience itself, please contact Outlaw Ranch at [outlaw@losd.org](mailto:outlaw@losd.org).



Come for the afternoon to visit, drink coffee, do a little Christmas shopping, see Baby Jesus in the manger, and just be together for a time. There is no cost to this event, but we will have donation boxes everywhere as we accept gifts to support spring and summer programming.

### CUSTER MEET & EAT

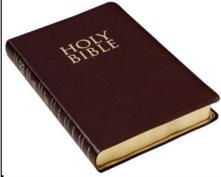
The Custer Community Church at 6th & Harney will be hosting a Custer Meet & Eat Meal to be held on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 7pm.

Gather for a meal with friends and neighbors.

No charge for the meal. Everyone is Welcome to attend

### LYNN'S RECEIPTS

Thank you to everyone that turns in their Lynn's Dakotamart receipts. To date so far we have brought in \$1,100 for CLF.



### CLF MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Breakfast will be meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM in the Fireside Room. The men gather for a breakfast first then move on to their Bible study for the day. All are welcome to join this group. We have great discussions.



### LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

The Ladies Bible Study happens on Thursday nights at 5:30pm in the Fireside Room. If you have any questions about the bible study, please give Joy Smolnisky a call at 605-929-1244. Everyone is welcome!

### THURSDAY MEN'S BREAKFAST

**7:00 AM — "Outlaw Ranch"**

Come join us for breakfast each week. There's always good conversation and good food! Open to all! Bring a friend!



REMEMBER THE REASON FOR THE SEASON.

### FALL CRAFT & GOODIE SALE



### YOUTH SCAVENGER HUNT

On Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 11 Middle School youth and 11 RAP Group youth held separate scavenger hunts after the worship service for The Storehouse. They were allowed 45 minutes to obtain as many items as possible in the time allowed. The 22 youth were able to collect 392 pounds of food (up from last year) which will be used for the Christmas Baskets along with general distribution from the food pantry. The 7-8 grade youth collected the most points and were awarded the CLF Scavenger Hunt trophy. Thanks to all for participating!!!



**Custer Lutheran Fellowship**  
 Statement of Activities  
 For the Year-to-Date Ending October 31, 2024

|   | Actual        | Budget         | Difference   |
|---|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Total Contribution Revenues</b>          | \$ 358,129.58 | \$273,359.00   | \$ 84,770.58 |
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>                   |               |                |              |
| Pastoral Leadership                         | \$ 64,351.21  | \$ 61,002.00   | \$ 3,349.21  |
| Worship                                     | 19,959.85     | 17,918.00      | 2,041.85     |
| Education                                   | 44,472.64     | 43,839.00      | 633.64       |
| Mission Support                             | 35,746.78     | 29,483.00      | 6,263.78     |
| Support/Care                                | 38,129.46     | 36,934.00      | 1,195.46     |
| Office Operations                           | 25,035.32     | 16,224.00      | 8,811.32     |
| Facilities Expenses                         | 90,722.05     | 100,924.00     | (10,201.95)  |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>             | \$ 318,417.31 | \$306,324.00   | \$ 12,093.31 |
| <b>Other Revenues</b>                       | \$ 24,744.85  | \$ 1,502.00    | \$ 23,242.85 |
| <b>Other Expenditures</b>                   | 1,830.34      | -              | 1,830.34     |
| <b>Net Other Revenue &amp; Expenditures</b> | \$ 22,914.51  | \$ 1,502.00    | \$ 21,412.51 |
| <b>Total Net Revenue(Loss)</b>              | \$ 62,626.78  | \$ (31,463.00) | \$ 94,089.78 |



October contributions increased approximately \$10,900 from September, with 2/3 being unrestricted. October year-to-date unrestricted contributions and operating expenses were 95% and 96% to budget, respectively.

**A VERY MERRY  
 CHRISTMAS  
 and Happy New Year!**

## GLOBAL VOICES BROADCASTING EVENT

Dear Pastor Shannon and People of God at Custer Lutheran Fellowship:

Thankful greetings to you here from Texas.

Someone has said that “no person can whistle a symphony. It takes the whole orchestra to play it”. As Fundacion Camino de Emmaus celebrates 34 years of God’s empowering mission in Colombia, we praise God for all and each one of you our mission companions in Colombia and outside Colombia. Because of you, the life-giving and joyful symphony of God’s mission keeps playing and bringing hope, joy and sustainability to the very people we serve together.

**To celebrate this joyful milestone, a 35-minute Global Voices Broadcast will take place December 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 Mountain Time Zone. We are all invited! Given our long-standing mission relationships with Custer Lutheran Fellowship, this broadcast will include the voice of Pastor Shannon. Hope to see you December 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM Mountain Time.**

We are forever grateful for your generosity for God's mission in Colombia throughout so many years. Here is the link!

<https://youtube.com/live/ntBHStoVmal>

Pr. Natanael Lizarazo  
 Founder & President Board of Directors  
[www.fundacioncaminoemaus.org/en](http://www.fundacioncaminoemaus.org/en)  
 512-484-5167

## COUNCIL MINUTES – NOVEMBER 19, 2024

**Secretary's Report:** The correspondence was reviewed. There was consensus and the minutes for the October meeting were approved. Worship attendance records were reviewed. Kathy Bradeen remarked that her son, Tim Hartmann commented on how nice our facilities are and the Growing Roots parents all really appreciate the use of this space for their children.

**Treasurer's and Finance Committee's Report:** The offerings thru October were 95.47% (-\$13,764.77) of budget and expenses were 96.33% (-12,494.36) of budget.

Joy discussed estimated expenditures for the rest of 2024 and presented a draft budget for 2025.

- **Educational Assistance Plan** – An Educational Assistance Plan was presented to the council. After discussion, Shana moved, Mark seconded to approve the Educational Assistance Plan. Motion carried.

### Special Agenda Items:

There were no special agenda items.

### Unfinished Business:

- **Thrivent Choice** – October \$ 0.00, YTD - \$ 965.00
- **Lynn's Dakotamart Receipts** – October \$ 0.00, YTD - \$1,100.00
- **Pictorial Directory Update** – Two additional dates have been set for taking pictures – December 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, before and after worship. Will get signed up this week for the new software.
- **Internet/Phones** – Joy looking on TechSoup for phone systems. Still working on internet solutions.
- **Safe for Large Record Books** – Will put an article in December newsletter asking for a donation. Will also check prices for a new one.
- **Dave Versteeg – Council Development** – Will have him come again and work with new council in February.
- **Update Website** – Helena is now set up as an administrator for the website.
- **Other** –

### New Business:

- **Membership changes:** Dwight & Mary Klein to Trinity Lutheran Church, Tea, SD
- **Replacement for Mary Klein on Nominating Committee** – Will not replace as there are 3 outgoing council members.
- **Wartburg Student** – Pastor Shannon talked to Pastor Renee in the Synod office about taking an intern student. Look at maybe doing so in 2025-26. Discussed ways Julianna Jiminez can be supported as she attends Wartburg.
- **Fence for Preschool Outdoor Space** – They are looking at possible fencing in part of their outdoor space. Darryn will be the liaison to their committee.
- **Office Manager Job Description** – Discussed revisions to the job description. Donna moved, Kathy seconded to finalize the Office Manager Job Description. Motion carried.
- **Newsletter Postage** – Bulk mailing prices have increased so looking at ways to reduce the number of newsletters that are mailed. Will suggest email, online or by picking up at church. Article & card to be included in December newsletter.
- **Set Date for Annual Meeting** – Date was set for January 26<sup>th</sup> with snow date set for February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- **Other** –
  - **Vanco Credit Card Use/QR Code** – There is a 2.9% fee to use a credit card for Vanco Online giving. Also discussed setting a QR code. Sara moved, Mark seconded to set up using credit cards on Vanco. Motion carried.
  - **Early Learner dba** – They no longer need CLF to act as their fiscal agent as they will be under the Custer Area Economic Development Corporation. Sara moved, Shana seconded to close their account under CLF and transfer it to CAEDC. Motion carried.
  - **Parish Nurse** – Jean Witt has agreed to be our new Parish Nurse. Will be paid a monthly \$100 stipend. Sara moved, Mark seconded to approve the appointment as Parish Nurse. Motion carried.

### Pastor's Report:

- **Review Worship & Activities** – Will be gone November 24<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Sharee Johnson will cover. She plans on taking an on-line class for continuing ed.  
Confirmation is going great.  
For December agenda, need to find staff performance evaluation forms.

### Committee & Ministry Team Reports:

COUNCIL MINUTES CONT'D NEXT PAGE

## ELW DEVOTIONS FROM THE DAILY LECTIONARY

### **Advent 1**

Sunday, Dec. 1: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25: 1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13;  
Luke 21:25-36

Monday, Dec. 2: Psalm 90; Numbers 17-1-11; 2 Peter 3:1-18

Tuesday, Dec. 3: Psalm 90; 2 Samuel 7:18-29; Revelation 22:12-16

Wednesday, Dec. 4: Psalm 90; Isaiah 1:24-31; Luke 11:29-32



### **Advent 2**

Thursday, Dec. 5: Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 3:5-12; Philippians 1:12-18a

Friday, Dec. 6: Luke 11:69-79; Malachi 3:13-18; Philippians 1:18b-26

Saturday, Dec. 7: Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 4:1-6; Luke 9:1-6

Sunday, Dec. 8: Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Monday, Dec. 9: Psalm 126; Isaiah 40:1-11; Romans 8:22-25

Tuesday, Dec. 10: Psalm 126; Isaiah 19:18-25; 2 Peter 1:2-15

Wednesday, Dec. 11: Psalm 126; Isaiah 35:3-7; Luke 7:18-30

### **Advent 3**

Thursday, Dec. 12: Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 6:1-8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Friday, Dec. 13: Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 8:4-12; 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

Saturday, Dec. 14: Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 9:8-15; Luke 1:57-66

Sunday, Dec. 15: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

Monday, Dec. 16: Isaiah 11:1-9; Numbers 16:1-19; Hebrews 13:7-17

Tuesday, Dec. 17: Isaiah 11:1-9; Numbers 16:20-35; Acts 28:23-31

Wednesday, Dec. 18: Isaiah 11:1-9; Micah 4:8-13; Luke 7:31-35

### **Advent 4**

Thursday, Dec. 19: Psalm 80:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 10:10-18

Friday, Dec. 20: Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 42:10-18; Hebrews 10:32-39

Saturday, Dec. 21: Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 66:7-11; Luke 31-35

Sunday, Dec. 22: Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-55

Monday, Dec. 23: Luke 1:46b-55; Micah 4:6-8; 2 Peter 1:16-21

Tuesday, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve): Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

Wednesday, Dec. 25 (Christmas Day): Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:1-20

### **Christmas 1**

Thursday, Dec. 26: Psalm 148; 2 Chronicles 24:17-24; Acts 6:1-7, 7:51-60

Friday, Dec. 27: Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:32-36; John 21:19b-24

Saturday, Dec. 28: Psalm 128; Isaiah 54:1-13; Revelation 21:1-7

Sunday, Dec. 29: Psalm 147:12-20; 1 Chronicles 28:1-10; 1 Corinthians 3:120-17

Monday, Dec. 30: Psalm 147:12-20; 2 Chronicles 1:7-13; Mark 13:32-37

Tuesday, Dec. 31: Psalm 147:12-20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19

Wednesday, Jan. 1: Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:15-21

### **COUNCIL MINUTES CONT'D**

- **Endowment**, Sara Mooney – Committee has met. The following disbursements totaling \$5,500 will be made: Library – \$1,000; Kid Stop – \$2,500; Freshman Impact – \$1,000; Camperships – \$500; Scholarships – \$500
- **Health Ministry**, Kathy Bradeen – Still looking at putting this committee under Caring Hands.
- **Property**, Mark Thompson – Most outdoors projects have been completed. Working on water issue which will be completed in 2025.
- **Social Ministry**, Craig Black – Committee will serve the SPARK Meal on December 4<sup>th</sup>. CLF will be taking over the plastic recycling from the Lions Club. Phil will need help with picking up the bags at the various locations around town.
- **W/ELCA**, Shana Hindman – Installed the 2025 officers at the November meeting.
- **Worship & Music**, Donna McConnell – The Community Advent Program will be held at CLF on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Donna McConnell, Council Secretary



**Custer Lutheran Fellowship, ELCA**  
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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  
Parish Nurse: Jean Witt  
Custodian: Augie Heyne  
Worship & Music Director:  
Jennifer Doyle  
Youth & Family Coordinator:  
Wendi Rusch  
Financial Secretary:  
Janice Albers &  
Steve Baldwin  
Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky

**Ministers: All Members of CLF!**