

CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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CUSTER, SD 57730

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GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all the many hands that helped with the GWOH event this year. The 12th annual GWOH event was productive, fun and worthwhile. Here's a brief synopsis of the many activities that the Social Ministry Team coordinated with the congregation's help:

- ✦ Birthday Bags for WEAVE: Seven volunteers assembled 26 bags. E.J. Reid made beautiful greeting cards to add to the bags of birthday "fixings". Bags were delivered to WEAVE on the following Tuesday and were well received.
- ✦ Teacher Appreciation Trays: Eight trays were prepared with each containing 3 varieties of sliced cheese, pepperoni, summer sausage, red grapes and crackers. Also included were a jar of green olives and bags of apples. Seven volunteers were on hand for this project. Trays were delivered on Monday to Custer Elementary, Junior High, Senior High, the ACE program and Custer Administration office.
- ✦ Letters of love and support were written to our CLF military, homebound, care center residents and college students. Twenty-five \$10 Subway gift cards will be included in college and our ELCA seminary student's cards. Thank you THRIVENT!
- ✦ Roadside Trash Collection: Six souls collected 5 bags of trash along both sides of the highway from the CSP boundary east to Dakota Greens Nursery.
- ✦ Healing Garden: Three volunteers spent several hours weeding the public garden at the Hospital. Four large contractor bags of weeds were collected.
- ✦ Quilters: Following a blessing of the quilts, many quilts were sent, through Pastor Dan, to the Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center. Crocheted "hug rugs" were also given to our CLF high and junior high students.

Remember to Fall back
 November 2nd.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIFE

4:00 PM: SPARK Kids
 4:30 PM: 3rd and 4th
 Wednesday Choir Practice
 5:15 PM: Meal
 6:00 PM: Worship
 6:30 PM: Confirmation and
 RAP Group



SHARING THE DREAM

October 19, 22 & 26 - Mark Your Calendar

Looking for that Special Gift? Once again, the Social Ministry Team is sponsoring the "Sharing the Dream Alternative Gift Market". It will be held at CLF on Sunday, October 19, Wednesday the 22nd, and October 26th. "Sharing the Dream" is a volunteer based fair trade organization that works to reduce poverty in Guatemala by providing a living wage to artisans. We will have available a wide variety of unique hand-crafted items including beaded jewelry, hand woven scarves, and ceramics. Your purchases will go to provide support for families in need. So join us and get a jump on your Christmas shopping!

USHER TEAMS

We are looking to create usher teams and separate out the greeter duties from them. We would love to have 4 teams of 2 people each. We are looking to create consistency and the ability to have familiar faces for people to reach out to if they have any questions. Please let Jean in the office know if you are interested in being on a team by calling 605-673-4691 or emailing clf@gwtc.net!

ABOUT GROWING ROOTS PRESCHOOL

For the third school year, Custer Lutheran Fellowship is hosting the Growing Roots Preschool program. Growing Roots is a SD state licensed child care provider with a Montessori-inspired classroom and beautiful outdoor classroom. They are a 501c3 nonprofit governed by a board of directors and run by paid staff. The board members are unpaid volunteers who donate their time and expertise. This structure ensures that all of their resources go directly toward their mission: providing high-quality, child-centered education to the Custer community. The Growing Roots current board and staff consist of:

- Tanessa Paulsen - Programming Director and Lead Teacher
- Shelee Warner - Operations Director
- Mya Glenn - Assistant Teacher
- Valena Perreault - Assistant Teacher

Board Members: Nora Smolnisky: President

- Eliza Raney: Vice President
- Sarah Wedge: Treasurer
- Sonja Tennyson: Secretary
- Sam Smolnisky: At Large
- Jessica Hartmann: At Large
- Kate McCoy: At Large

Growing Roots would like to thank the congregation and staff of CLF for your continued support of our program!

THANK YOU SO MUCH

Dear Pastor Shannon:

It has been good to listen to you teach every Sunday. I would like to thank you, Pastor Shannon, for your great teachings this summer and I am looking forward to hearing you teach/preach in 2026 when I come back to work at Broken Arrow Horse Camp.

I would like to thank you and the whole church for the friendship that was shown to me this summer, even though I am not a member. I look forward to coming back next year.

Take care and God Bless.

Leo Ridgway

MISSION OF THE MONTH

The mission of the month for October is Lutheran Campus Ministries. Lutheran Campus ministries hopes to build community, deepen faith, and inspire service to others through God's grace. Their mission is to engage students, faculty and staff with the teachings of Jesus Christ through worship, study, fellowship and service.

For the last few months it feels like every morning I wake up I have a sense of dread in the pit of my stomach wondering what story of violence will show up in my news feed. I have significantly reduced the amount of time I spend listening to or reading the news, but feel as though I have a responsibility to stay informed. My quandary is always wondering what to actually believe. Political affiliation aside, it truly does seem that those in power on both sides of the isle, especially those on the far edges, those who are making the most noise and grabbing the most media attention, would like us to believe that the world is on fire and will burn up if we don't listen to "them." What about you? Are you getting drawn in to all of the turmoil and drama and wild accusations and hateful rhetoric? If so, I'd like to share with you my practice for the last few months.

Several times a day I take a pause to remind myself that my faith calls me to not be afraid, but to trust Jesus from the cross and his words, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43), and "Father, forgive them (*me included*) for they know not what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). I trust and believe that Jesus is truly present on Earth through the power of the Holy Spirit, and is walking with each of us imploring us to follow him. I daily confess my own sin, my own tendency to be swayed by other leaders in the world to save me and those I love, and I trust and believe that Jesus forgives me.

I have also been regularly contemplating and practicing the words and discipline that Martin Luther wrote about in his Small Catechism. Here are those words in case you have forgotten them:

In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross and say:

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then, kneeling or standing, repeat the Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you choose, you may also say this little prayer:

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Then go joyfully to your work, singing a hymn, like that of the Ten Commandments, or whatever your devotion may suggest.

As part of my practice, I also contemplate Jesus rejection of violence. Right now, with so many world leaders, including many in our own country, calling us to violent rhetoric, I am completely resisting and standing against any and all violence, in both word and deed. This is not easy, especially the words part. Whenever I feel tempted to use my words in a way that could be interpreted as violent, I choose to refrain from speaking until I can find loving, or at the very least, constructive, words.

Please, I implore you, members of Custer Lutheran Fellowship, and followers of Jesus Christ, to remember your baptismal promises, to regularly confess your own sins, and to trust that God is calling us to remember Jesus' call to a new commandment—to Love God and to Love Neighbor.

Your sister in Christ, Pastor Shannon

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP/CONFIRMATION:

Our first Mentor night will be Oct. 15th. Please reach out to your mentors and invite them to join you for supper beginning at 5:15, worship at 6, and class from 6:30-7:30pm.

One our projects that we are working on this month is painting and redecorating the Large Sunday School room. Feel free to stop in and check out the progress!

Below are opportunities in October to support our MS Youth when they will be participating in home activities:

October 6th: MS Volleyball 4:30 PM

October 9th: MS Cross Country 11:00 AM

October 16th: MS Football 4:30 PM

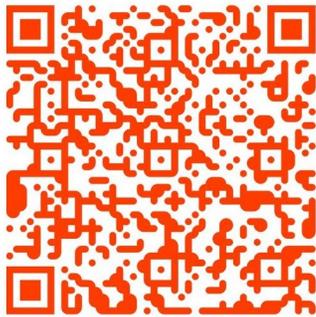
October 21: MS Football 4:30 PM

CLF SPARK KIDS

Join us for SPARK Kids! During the school year on Wednesdays, children from Junior Kindergarten through Grade 5 are picked up at the Elementary building after school is dismissed and brought to the church. During the fall, we will learn about the Old Testament and many of the Bible Heroes that come from those stories. As we approach Christmas, we will move into the New Testament which tells us of the birth of Jesus. The rest of the year we will continue in the New Testament to learn about the life of Jesus and how we can live and love like Him!

We have a wide variety of learning activities beginning with a snack that goes with the Bible story. It is always a fun time of learning and laughing, with also some great questions and deep thinking! Thank you to all of the wonderful assistants that help each week. 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. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to join the 14 kids signed up so far! All are welcome! Contact Wendi Rusch #509-494-3236 for more info!

*Spark Kids are enjoying their snack and crocheted "prayer hugs" to wrap around them to remember they are loved by our church and especially by God!



RAP GROUP

All 9th-12th graders are invited to join us for Youth Group! We have our weekly Wednesday night gatherings at 6:30pm. The meal time is extended until 6:30 to allow for youth to eat after school activities. We kicked off the school year with our usual campfire! The kids roasted hot dogs, jumped on the trampoline, shot hoops and rode the plasma cars. It's always a good time! This month we plan to carve pumpkins and begin a Bible Study! We will have our Fall Lock-in October 18th from 7pm-12am! All are welcome! Contact Wendi #509-494-3236 for ways to be involved!





CUSTER MEET & EAT

The next Custer Meet and Eat is October 14th. Meet your neighbors from Custer and enjoy a meal together. The free supper is offered the second Tuesday of each month at Custer Community Church, 529 Harney Street.

Join us from 5:00pm — 7:00pm. Everyone is Welcomed!

RAP GROUP LOCK IN

Saturday, October 18th @ 7 PM—12 AM will be our annual High school Youth Lock-in at CLF! We will have a fun night at the church that begins with a candlelit worship followed by games and sacks! Contact Wendi for more info!
#509-494-3236



OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Pastor Appreciation Month is October with Pastor Appreciation day being October 12th. This is a time that we can show our gratitude for Pastor Shannon's commitment, her care and spiritual guidance she provides CLF! Please take a moment sometime in October to celebrate Pastor Shannon, a simple thank you, hand written note, or special gift are some ways you can show your appreciation!

Galatians 6:6 "But let him who is taught in the word share all good things with him who teaches."

Hi Pastor Shannon and CLF family,

I write with joy and love to share with you a summary of these past few months of my seminarian formation. This summer, I completed my clinical pastoral education (CPE) at the Sioux Falls VA Hospital. Despite the long hours, the physical, mental, and emotional demands, this was an enlightening and inspiring experience that allowed me to develop new skills as a ministerial leader, share and listen to stories from diverse veterans and family members, and engage in dialogue, acceptance, and enjoyment with people of different denominations, beliefs, and perspectives on God, life, and reality. I have no words to describe how grateful I feel for the opportunity to serve these incredible veterans who gave their lives, health, and minds for the safety and love of their country and its citizens. Being able to accompany them through their affliction, moral and spiritual conflicts, and confusion, and being able to accompany their families through moments of grief, pain, joy, and vulnerability, helped strengthen much of my theological, Lutheran, and social knowledge, while also allowing me to recognize my weaknesses and areas for growth.

I'm sending photos from the beginning of my second year in the Word and Sacrament program at Wartburg Seminary. With enthusiasm and eagerness, I begin this new phase of my pastoral formation while simultaneously preparing for the Endorsement with the South Dakota Synod. Thank you, and a thousand thanks for your prayers, accompaniment, and support during this process. In my moments of weakness and doubt, I find comfort in thinking of you and all the support you have given me. I lovingly ask that you continue to pray not only for me, but also for my fellow seminarians, with whom we seek to continue bringing and delivering the living Word of God, the good news of Jesus Christ, and the inspiration of the Spirit to every corner, especially in these times of intimidation, violence, and confusion. Thank you again, I appreciate and love you all.

Hugs and blessings,

Juliana M. Jiménez A.



NEW MEMBER

We will be celebrating and welcoming new members on October 12th during Worship. Please join us in celebrating with them after Worship with cake and fellowship!

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Confirmation Sunday will be October 26th during our Worship Service. Please join us in celebrating this important milestone with our youth! We will have cake and coffee during fellowship time following Worship!

Greetings!

Our busy season is well underway. It is exciting to be back in the routine. I love it when the church comes alive with so much activity happening in every corner.

Wednesday Night Life is in full swing as well. We are trying a different format for the services on Wednesdays and are excited about some of the feedback we are receiving. The first three services of the month will be contemporary-based with recorded contemporary Christian music. After attending the National Youth Gathering, we listened to our youth and are trying to incorporate some of that worship style into our services. We will also have communion on the first Wednesday of the month. The fourth Wednesday of the month will be the Prayer Around the Cross service. If there is a fifth Sunday, we will not have worship. That time will be reserved for an evening with fellowship amongst your families.

We also changed up our Sunday morning routine a little to accommodate choir practices and singing schedules. We will now have Communion at the Rail on the first Sunday of the month instead of the last Sunday. The first Sunday will also be designated the Youth Sunday, the second Sunday will remain the Noisy Offering Sunday.

Our choir will meet on the following Wednesdays in October. We will be singing an upbeat gospel piece entitled *"I Go to the Rock."* Please join us if the spirit moves you!

October Choir Schedule:

Rehearsal ~ Wednesday, October 15 @ 4:30 PM

Rehearsal ~ Wednesday, October 22 @ 4:30 PM

Special Music ~ Sunday, October 26

Righteous & ready for the season,
Jenn Doyle

jenniferkaydoyle@gmail.com or (605) 864-1322





CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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



OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open Mon., Tues., and Thurs. from 8:00 AM—4:30 PM. Wed. hours are 10:00 AM — 7 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 and debit and credit cards. You can set up your own login/password and make changes with your giving at any time.



SNOWBIRD ADDRESSES

If you are planning to go away from Custer for the winter months, please let the church office know your address and when you are planning on leaving. We want you to receive your newsletter and any other mailings. We do get charged a fee for every returned newsletter on top of what it costs to mail it. You can call the office at 605-673-4691 or email at clf@gwtc.net to update your information. Thank you!

Custer Lutheran Fellowship

For the Year-to-Date Ending August 31, 2025

	Actual	General Fund Budget	Variance	Capital Assets, Designated, Restricted & Endowments	Total
Total Revenues	\$245,637.63	\$236,432.00	\$ 9,205.63	\$ 108,368.50	\$ 354,006.13
Total Operating Expenses	211,339.95	233,680.00	(22,340.05)	48,123.45	259,463.40
Other Revenues & Expenses, Net	570.22	-	570.22	19,595.77	20,165.99
Transfers	(24,763.00)	-	(24,763.00)	24,763.00	-
Net Change of Funds	\$ 10,104.90	\$ 2,752.00	\$ 7,352.90	\$ 104,603.82	\$ 114,708.72

YTD general fund contributions were \$103.89% of budget and operating expenses were 90.44% of budget.

Did you know our Mission Support is 23.58% of total expenses thru August? (Includes General & Restricted Funds). Below is how we supported our local community and beyond!

	General	Restricted	Total
Lutheran Outdoors/Dayspring	\$ 1,033.25	\$ 34,124.98	\$ 35,158.23
SD Synod	16,385.53	-	16,385.53
Lutheran Disaster Response/Relief/LA Wildfires	963.00	572.75	1,535.75
ELCA World Hunger	1,285.60	-	1,285.60
Pine Ridge Mission & Diapers	-	1,226.00	1,226.00
Lutheran Social Services	756.60	241.18	997.78
Wyoatan	794.10	-	794.10
Lutheran Lakota Ministries	790.85	-	790.85
St Dysmus	505.90	-	505.90
Lutheran Campus Ministry	445.65	-	445.65
Bear Butte Conference	431.00	-	431.00
Operations BH Cabin	-	353.16	353.16
Good Samaritan Program	-	292.48	292.48
Warm Heart Snack Bags	-	216.24	216.24
WEAVE	-	185.00	185.00
Storehouse	-	184.00	184.00
Select-A-Gift	-	150.29	150.29
Humane Society	-	146.00	146.00
Warming Bus	-	103.12	103.12
	\$ 23,391.48	\$ 37,795.20	\$ 61,186.68

And there is more to come! Sunday, October 5th (Youth Sunday), the Endowment Committee will be presenting distributions to local organizations supporting youth programs!

W/ELCA HAPPENINGS

At our September meeting, we were privileged to have Juliann Gramkow as our speaker. Juliann is the founder and coordinator of RISE here in Custer. RISE stands for Recovery, Intervention, Support and Education. It pertains to drugs and alcohol. Juliann and the folks who are part of her organization focus on helping and educating adults and children. The intervention is to help those who are addicted and also to be proactive as far as folks are concerned. Educating children through the schools is part of this. RISE has existed for eight years. Thanks to Juli for seeing the need and putting the programs into action. We were able to give \$300 to RISE thanks the support from our congregation.

The Craft and Goodie Sale will be on Sunday, November 23rd after the worship service. Everyone is invited to participate. Participation comes in the form of donating items for the sale and/or shopping during the sale. Please leave craft items in the sewing room with a label anytime before the sale. One of the most popular items at the sale is lefse.

There will be a lefse making party in the church kitchen beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 22nd. Everyone is invited to attend. Bring your lefse making equipment and your "made ahead" dough with extra flour. Bonnie Thompson has graciously volunteered to coordinate this effort. If you have questions about participating, please see Bonnie. We appreciate the fact that so many of you are willing to help make lefse and also to donate craft and food items in general!

Proceeds from the craft and goodie sale help us to support a variety of W/ELCA missions during the year. Our missions focus mainly on our church and community but as we become aware of needs nationally and internationally, we send our love and financial support in those directions also.

At our meeting, we discussed officers and programs for next year.



QUILTERS

We are back to our normal schedule! We will be quilting Tuesdays from 9-11AM. We donated 8 quilts to the Children's Home in Rapid City along with 10 quilts to Pastor Dan at Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center. There were 2 rolls of batting donated by an anonymous donor! (Thank You!)

We have purchased a new extra wide iron board! We donated our old iron board/iron to the Store House.

As always thanks to everyone for their donations!
Wanda Omodt



W/ELCA MISSION

Our mission focus for October and November is the Storehouse. Items that we collect are canned food, spaghetti pasta and sauces, cereals, instant potatoes, stuffing mix, cake mixes/frosting, sugar, flour, peanut butter, laundry soap, dish soap, body soap, macaroni and cheese, paper towels, toilet tissue, and large packages of Jello (not sugar free). You can drop these items off in the church office or the wagon in the Narthex. Thank you!



Custer Lutheran Fellowship**Council Minutes — September 16, 2025**

Members Present: Karen Barness, Craig Black, Kathy Bradeen, Helena Buehler, Donna McConnell, Dave Mertz, Sara Mooney, Dave Ruen and Pastor Shannon Witt.

Not Present: Joy Smolnisky

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Helena Buehler.

Gathering of Personal Concerns and Joys

Members shared concerns and joys.

Reading of CLF Mission Statement and Council Covenant

Members read the mission statement and council covenant.

Devotions and Prayers

Craig Black led the devotion and prayer.

Agenda Additions/Approval

There were two additions to the agenda. There was consensus and the agenda was approved as amended.

Secretary's Report: The correspondence was reviewed. Craig moved, Dave M seconded and the minutes for the August meeting were approved. Worship attendance records were reviewed.

Treasurer's and Finance Committee's Report: The offerings thru August were 103% (\$7,405.63) of budget and expenses were 90% (-\$22,340.05) of budget.

Mortgage balance is \$36,582.40. We have received some restricted memorial dollars for the new sign. Craig moved, Kathy seconded to use designated memorial dollars for the remaining cost for the new sign. Motion carried.

Dave R moved, Craig seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Special Agenda Items:

There were no special agenda items.

Unfinished Business:

Thrivent Choice – August \$ 0.00, YTD - \$1,378.00

Lynn's DakotaMart Receipts – August \$ 0.00, YTD - \$ 900.00

Sprinkler System Update – Bid from second company was less than Western States Fire but didn't recommend splitting the maintenance of things between two companies. Craig moved, Dave R seconded to continue using Western States Fire for the updates. Motion carried.

Policy and Procedures Update – Progress is being made will all the areas.

Potential Custodian Candidate – Have interviewed one candidate – may have one more person interested.

Other –

New Business:

Membership changes: There will be a new member welcome on Sunday, October 12th.

Discussion to build a storage closet in the S.E. corner of the Fellowship Hall – Council consensus was to pursue building a storage closet

Discussion of Property Insurance bid from State Farm Insurance – Decision was made to stay with Grinnell – will check out making quarterly payments rather than monthly.

Growing Roots Contract – Dave M moved, Dave R seconded to continue and sign the contract with Growing Roots. Motion carried.

Discuss the bids for painting the church – Have received a couple bids for painting the outside of the church. Tabled until next month's meeting.

Other –

Portico – We have from October 1-14 to pick our coverage with Portico. Sara will continue researching and after meeting with Pastor Shannon will send an email for a vote.

Church Security – Discussed what level of security we should have at church.

Pastor's Report:

Review Worship & Activities – Attended the Fall Theological Conference last week – had a good time and was informative.

Committee & Ministry Team Reports:

Caring Hands, Helena Buehler – Nothing to report.

Christian Education, Kathy Bradeen – Need to meet. SPARK numbers are down. Went from 35 (year ago) to 28 (in May) to 14 currently. May go up to 20.

Endowment, Sara Mooney – Meeting tomorrow.

Mutual Ministry, Dave Mertz – Will meet before the end of the month.

Continued on next page:

Sunday, October 5, 2025, Exodus 16:1-18
God Provides Manna
 Monday, October 6, 2025, Exodus 18:13-27
Jethro's Advice
 Tuesday, October 7, 2025, Exodus 20:1-21
The Ten Commandments
 Wednesday, October 8, 2025, Exodus 25:10-22
The Ark of the Covenant
 Thursday, October 9, 2025, Exodus 32:1-35
The Golden Calf
 Friday, October 10, 2025, 1 Samuel 1:1-28
Samuel's Birth and Dedication
 Saturday, October 11, 2025, 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Hannah's Prayer
Sunday, October 12, 2025, 1 Samuel 3:1-21
God Calls Samuel
 Monday, October 13, 2025, 1 Samuel 4:1-11
The Ark of God Captured
 Tuesday, October 14, 2025, 1 Samuel 5:1-12
Philistines and the Ark
 Wednesday, October 15, 2025, 1 Samuel 6:1-16
The Ark Returned
 Thursday, October 16, 2025, 1 Samuel 8:1-18
Israel Demands a King
 Friday, October 17, 2025, 1 Samuel 9:27-10:8
Samuel Anoints Saul as King
 Saturday, October 18, 2025, 1 Samuel 15:10-34
Saul Rejected as King

Sun, Oct 19, 2025, 1 Sam 16:1-13; Ps 51:10-14
God Calls David
 Monday, October 20, 2025, 1 Samuel 17:1-11
Goliath
 Tuesday, October 21, 2025, 1 Samuel 17:12-23
David Visits His Brothers
 Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 1 Samuel 17:31-40
David Prepares for Battle
 Thursday, October 23, 2025, 1 Samuel 17:41-54
David Slays Goliath
 Friday, October 24, 2025, 1 Kings 1:28-31
Solomon Becomes King
 Saturday, October 25, 2025, 1 Kings 3:3-15
Solomon's Prayer for Wisdom
Sunday, October 26, 2025, 1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13
Solomon's Temple
 Monday, October 27, 2025, 1 Kings 17:1-7
Elijah Predicts a Drought
 Tuesday, October 28, 2025, 1 Kings 17:8-16
The Widow Zarephath
 Wednesday, October 29, 2025, 1 Kings 17:17-24
Elijah Revives the Widow's Son
 Thursday, October 30, 2025, 1 Kings 18:1-19
Elijah's Message to Ahab
 Friday, October 31, 2025, 1 Kings 18:20-40
Elijah's Triumph over the Priests of Baal
 Saturday, November 1, 2025, 1 Kings 18:41-46
The Drought Ends

Property, Karen Barness – New sign will now go where the original sign is. A window in the down under that was damaged has been replaced. Karen moved, Dave M seconded to include commercial carpet cleaning in the 2026 budget. Motion carried.

Social Ministry, Craig Black – Reviewed committee activity.

W/ELCA, Dave Ruen – Nothing to report.

Worship & Music, Donna McConnell – Need to meet.

Next Meeting: October 21, 2025:
 Treats – Karen Barness Devotions – Karen Barness
 October 2025 Care & Share Calling Coordinator – _____

Closing Prayer, Lord's Prayer
Adjournment

Donna McConnell, Council Secretary

DELTA DENTAL MOBILE PROGRAM

The Delta Dental Mobile truck program was recently in Custer at our schools. They served 39 kids for a value of \$51,627 worth of dental care! The care provided is as follows: Diagnostic procedures which include exams and x-rays—92, Preventive procedures which include cleaning, sealants, and fluoride varnish—312, and Restorative Procedures which include cavity fillings, crowns, and extractions—130. Each child was provided a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss and a lesson on how to use them and better care for their teeth at home. Previously the Delta Dental program was funded by an anonymous church member donor, but we are searching for new funding for the program. If you have any questions about the funding for this program please reach out to Jean in the office and she will put you in touch with someone who can provide answers.



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

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Custer, SD 57730

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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: Jean Pulscher
Parish Nurse: Jean Witt
Custodian: Augie Heyne
Worship & Music Coordinator:
Jennifer Doyle
Choir Director: Jennifer Doyle
Financial Secretary: Janice Albers
Steve Baldwin
Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky
Sara Mooney
Youth Coordinator: Wendi Rusch
Ministers: All Members of CLF!