

CROSSROADS

Monthly Newsletter for:

CUSTER LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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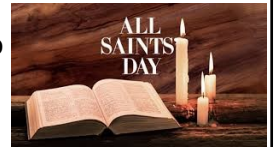
NOVEMBER 2024

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ALL SAINTS SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 3RD

All Saints Sunday is held the first Sunday after November 3rd (All Saints Day) and we remember and commemorate of all who have died in the past year. At Custer Lutheran Fellowship, we remembered these loved ones through prayer and song and all had the opportunity to light a candle in remembrance during the service. All Saints Sunday is also a chance to remember all of the "saints" in our lives and to give thanks for the unending grace of God.



MINISTRY FAIR



Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 10th. Ever wonder how you might best participate in one or more of the many ministry activities happening at CLF - but have unanswered questions? Attend the Ministry Fair to be held in the Narthex, as they will have tables/stations set up with knowledgeable representatives from the various areas of the church (music, Meals on Wheels, audio/visual, altar guild, PA Tech, social ministry team, and much more!)

The Great Wood Haul Event - November 2nd

The Annual Wood Haul Event is woven into the fabric of CLF and has been an important part of our ministry for many years. We continue to work in partnership with the Red Shirt Community on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Please feel welcome to join in the experience lending a hand where you can.

Wood will be loaded into trucks and trailers at CLF on Friday, November 1, at 10:30 AM. If additional wood is needed, we'll load at Outlaw Ranch thereafter and again on Saturday at 8:00 AM if needed.

Also at 8:00 AM, help in the CLF kitchen will be welcome preparing lunches to be taken along to Red Shirt. By 9:00 AM we're planning on heading out with wood and lunches.

This is a great opportunity to meet, mingle and enjoy fellowship with our neighbors.

NEW PICTURE DIRECTORY

The last time Custer Lutheran Fellowship printed a directory of contact information with everyone's picture in it was 2017. I don't know about you, but most of us have changed a bit in the last 7 years, and there are many new faces to add! **Please mark you calendars for Nov. 3rd, Nov. 6th and Nov. 10th.** Before and after the worship services, there will be an opportunity for you to have your picture take here at the church. **There will be a congregational picture taken following service on Nov. 10th.** If you are not able to attend any of these times, you are welcome to send in a picture that you have of you and/or your family to the church office. The deadline to submit a picture will be Nov. 17th. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the Welcome Center for you to choose a date to have your picture taken.



Saturday Night before bed one hour November 2nd.

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



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. Keep this opportunity in mind - dates will be announced soon.



Sharing the Dream in Guatemala was a big success this year. We had beautiful items to purchase and gave them checks totaling \$2,862. Thanks to everyone who made this possible!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH LOCK-IN



Friday, November 8th @ 7 PM—12 AM. 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, snacks and more! Contact Wendi for more info! #509-494-3236

RAP HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP



We would love to see all 9th-12th graders join us for Youth Group! We have our weekly Wednesday night gatherings at 6:30 PM. Highlights from October were meeting at the football field for "Fields of Faith", pumpkin carving, and the Progressive Dinner! A favorite activity this month will be our annual Storehouse scavenger hunt for non-perishable food items on the 20th! There is a new mix each week of about 14 of the 28 kids signed up. Contact me if you would like to help with an activity that brings faith and fun to our youth! Wendi Rusch #509-494-3236 for more info!

Now that the election is almost over, how are you doing? Some of you are probably sad, and nervous, maybe even mad. Some of you are excited and feeling very hopeful. Either way, very soon, hopefully, we can get back to the business of focusing on our part as active citizens of the US and good neighbors of those we might disagree with.

As Christians, however, hopefully at no point have you forgotten not only your true identity, but the identity of those you don't agree with...that identity is Child of God, and perhaps even Disciple of Jesus.

That being said, how does this identity help us move forward? Let me suggest two possibilities...with gratitude and hope. Let's think about the many ways that we are blessed beyond measure with the freedom that being a Christian gives us. When others are yelling back and forth because they are at odds with each other, Christians are given the freedom of love and grace. This enables us to see the bigger picture, to hear people's stories and to listen to each other. We are all humans with our own fears and vulnerabilities. If we let our fear dictate our behavior, we all lose.

This month at CLF we have so many things to focus on that demonstrate this freedom. At the beginning of the month, we will gather and share our resources of firewood with our neighbors in Red Shirt Table. We will have an opportunity to gather to listen to stories about how Christians are supporting medical advancement for children in Tanzania. We will have the opportunity to help complete a new picture directory so that our many new members can have access to information to help them feel more welcome. We will gather our commitment cards and declare our support of the mission of this congregation. We will have the opportunity to learn about all of the ministry options we have to work together to serve our community and the world. The list could go on and on!

The point is, we are stronger and healthier together when we can find the common ground that Jesus leads us on. What can hold us together is our worship, our joy and love to be brothers and sisters in Christ, and our hope in the presence of God at all times and all places. Finally, we remember that we are all members of the same body. The apostle Paul reminds us, "Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it" (1 Corinthians 12:27).

Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Shannon



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!

SATURDAY MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY

November 11 from 8:00 - 10:00 AM in the Fireside Room. Breakfast is served first, then we will continue with our study. Questions? Contact Allen Canete at 673-3753.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE 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 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.

605-673-4691 (church) Pastor Shannon: pastor_clf@gwtc.net Phone: 1-563-543-6080

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. This fall we have been talking about Bible Heroes from the beginning of the Old Testament like Adam & Eve, Noah, Abraham & Sarah, Isaac, Jacob and Moses! There is NO cost for this program! Registration materials are available through the office. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to join the 28 signed up so far! All are welcome!



WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIFE SCHEDULE

4:00 PM Spark Kids

5:15 PM Meal

6:00 PM Worship Service—

November 6th—Communion

13th—Holden Evening Prayer

20th—Prayer Around the Cross

6:30 PM RAP High School Youth Group

Choir (Nov. 6, Nov. 13; perform Nov. 17 @ 9:30 PM



*****No Wednesday Night Activities on Wednesday, Nov. 27 due to Thanksgiving.**

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS HOLD TITLE

This year we have 10 fantastic Middle Schoolers who are participating in the Middle School Youth Group/Confirmation program. On November 13th the middle school mentors are invited to join us for supper, worship, and class. We are blessed this year with the presence of Scot and Mary Hoscheid as our MS Youth Group assistants. We are also really grateful that many of the families of the middle schoolers have been sticking around to help clean up the meal. As you will read in a different article, on November 20th the Middle Schooler's will be trying to hold onto the title of Best Scavengers for the annual scavenger hunt for food for the Storehouse Food Pantry. Don't be surprised if we show up between 6:30 and 7 PM to see if you have non-perishables to donate! Help the MS kids hang on to their title!

YOUTH GROUP SCAVENGER HUNT

November 20th — Scavenger Hunt. Middle School and High School will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 PM then Middle School Youth will travel as a group, and High School will divide into separate groups. They will then travel to different homes of people we know in the community to collect food for the Holiday Food Boxes and for the Storehouse Food Pantry. Drivers are needed. We will be competing for the coveted trophy for most points against the High School classes.

CHILDREN'S PRE-CHRISTMAS PROGRAM!

Be sure to mark your calendars for **December 8th 9:30 AM during church.** We will be having a special Advent service —A pre-Christmas Children's program. The service will be led by all ages of our CLF youth!





International Health Partners, U.S. & IHP-TZ



Dennis Lofstrom, M.D. and Paula Lofstrom, RN and Mary Ellen Kitundu, RN answered the call to bring health care to underserved people in Tanzania in 2002. Both Mary Ellen and Dennis have passed away. However, **Paula Lofstrom and her son, David West** are carrying on their legacies through the continued work of International Health Partners, U.S., & TZ.

In 2002 IHP began the restoration of Iambi Lutheran Hospital in the Central Diocese of Tanzania, near Singida. Over the next four years the hospital went from seeing 2-3 patients a day in the clinic and having only 3 patients in the 170 bed facility, to seeing an average of 110 patients a day and 80-90% occupancy in the rehabilitated hospital. The facility was then turned over to the church, fully staffed, fully equipped, and **self-sustaining**.

In 2006 IHP began building Nyakato Health Center near Mwanza, in the East of Lake Victoria Diocese of the Lutheran Church. Over the following 6 years, the clinic was seeing 120 patients a day, and the birthing center, surgery suite, eye center and wards were utilized and the clinic had 122,000 active charts. This facility was handed over to the diocese, fully staffed, fully equipped, and **self-sustaining**.

Seeing the needs for more nurses, IHP founded St. John's University School of Nursing in Dodoma. It opened in 2007. Under Mary Ellen's supervision it grew to graduate an annual average of 130 nurses with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Now there are 1400 students in various healthcare programs.

It was the dream of Paula and Denny and Mary Ellen along with Mary Ellen's brother-in-law, the chief pediatrician in Tanzania, to build a pediatric hospital to serve the 22 million children under 15 years of age in Tanzania. Land was purchased, infrastructure brought in and building began at Zinga, about 35 miles north of Dar es Salaam, on the coast of the Indian Ocean. That facility opened in April 2016. Teams and medical students visited, served, and learned and then in 2020 Covid hit and visitors from other countries could no longer come. However, in Zinga, the services continued and still do. The staff felt ready to take over this project and IHP, as before, turned over a fully functioning, fully staffed, fully equipped healthcare facility to the Tanzanians trained to run it.

Now, another challenging area is going to be served by IHP-US & TZ. Chihoni is about 24 miles northwest of Dodoma, in the central part of Tanzania. Women in this area are dying because they cannot reach a medical facility in time if they are in protracted labor. Working aged adult males have fled to the cities to find work leaving the elderly alone at home with no medical resources or transport to them. IHP is determined to change this, to serve the underserved, and to again be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in the world today to bring healing and hope to God's children of all ages.

In her presentation Paula and her son David West will talk about the needs of the Tanzanian people and their own spiritual, mental, professional and geographic journey which has sustained them and brought them to Chihoni.

In addition to bringing education and inspiration, Paula and David will bring Tanzanian handicrafts to admire and sell them to raise funds in support of the facility at Chihoni. For more information, see their web page at <http://www.ihptz.org>.



paula@ihptz.org 870-404-4491



ADDRESS CHANGES

Due to a number of newsletters returned to the office, we would like to remind people to please notify the church office (605)673-4691 in the event of an address change. In addition, if you know of anyone that would like to receive the newsletter (college student or other) OR if you are receiving a newsletter and desire to have it discontinued please let us know. Thanks your help is greatly appreciated.

Stately Ponderosa Pine Comes Down - But Lives On



The saws were buzzing on October 12, a warm day when the dead stately ponderosa pine was felled by professional arborist, Rich Barry. It grew on the hillside between the parsonage and church, leaning over the propane tank and powerline and threatening buildings. The grizzled monarch inhabited the forest and meadow edge for about four centuries (estimated at 415 years). It stood about 75 feet tall and was 41½ inches across the stump. An obituary for this monarch may go something like this...

Our treasured pine was born about 1609, likely on a warm, pollen filled summer day in the Black Hills. It germinated among the rocky, shallow soil on a warm south slope. There it grew slowly but steadily in the warm Black Hills climate nurtured by summer thunderstorms and wet spring snows.

Much of its life it likely sheltered Indigenous people, including most recently the Lakota. It certainly witnessed Custer's expedition followed by the Gordon party's building of the stockade in the nearby meadow in 1874. Homesteaders soon followed.

Eventually in about 1965 Custer Lutheran Fellowship acquired the land beneath the stately pine, and upon it grew a congregation to serve Christ, its members and the community. That pine, the days after its removal, saw *Growing Roots Pre-School* children playing among the very large chunks of wood that will remain for their enjoyment. A portion will likely be converted to a table, and a crew processed the remainder into firewood to warm residents of the Red Shirt Community. Truly, that pine is emblematic of CLF as envisioned, "God's spirit blows through people – like wind through pines – life that is forever new!"

Figure 1 - Arborist, Rich Barry, at work on dead pine.



Figure 2 - Scot Hoscheid, Shannon Pulscher and Dave Versteeg preparing firewood. Other helpers included Eldon Knudson, Phil Lewison, Darryn Witt, Larry Hoegermeyer, Denny McConnell, and Dave Thom



MISSING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

If you have noticed that your birthday or anniversary has been missing from our birthday and anniversary list, please do not be offended! We are not omitting you on purpose! It is because we do not have the information sheet we need that has birthdays, updated phone numbers, and email addresses. This is true even if you have filled out information for your children through the confirmation or SPARK Kids program. We may have children's birthdays, but not the parents. Please stop by the office and fill out a form so we may update our lists to include your very important dates! You can also give us your birthday without providing the year! Thank you!

PARSONAGE GARAGE PROJECT



Scot Hoscheid, Brian Albers, Larry Noem and Joel Ziebarth work to install sheet rock and insulation on the parsonage garage ceiling on Oct. 24. This project, remaining from the major updating over the last several years, will make the space more usable year-round. Also participating were Bob Dorton, Denny McConnell, Dave Pickford and Dave Thom.

RAP HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Thank You to the Lehmans for Appetizers, Pulchers for Soup & Salad, Diniuses for the Main Course, and Fredericks & Cochrans for Desserts! The HS Youth Group had a great time traveling to each stop, enjoying the food and making memories!





Custer Lutheran Fellowship			
Statement of Activities			
For the Year-to-Date Ending September 30, 2024			
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Total Contribution Revenues	\$ 316,606.84	\$ 273,359.00	\$ 43,247.84
Operating Expenses			
Pastoral Leadership	\$ 58,236.64	\$ 61,002.00	\$ (2,765.36)
Worship	18,420.93	17,918.00	502.93
Education	41,986.52	43,839.00	(1,852.48)
Mission Support	32,877.17	29,483.00	3,394.17
Support/Care	34,339.96	36,934.00	(2,594.04)
Office Operations	24,762.05	16,224.00	8,538.05
Facilities Expenses	82,274.03	100,924.00	(18,649.97)
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 292,897.30	\$ 306,324.00	\$ (13,426.70)
Other Revenues	\$ 23,690.42	\$ 1,502.00	\$ 22,188.42
Other Expenditures	1,872.40	-	1,872.40
Net Other Revenue & Expenditures	\$ 21,818.02	\$ 1,502.00	\$ 20,316.02
Total Net Revenue(Loss)	\$ 45,527.56	\$ (31,463.00)	\$ 76,990.56

September contributions increased approximately \$9,700 compared to August. With the facility projects and the school year starting September, expenses had increased approximately \$20,500 from August, but overall remain under budget. Thank you for your generous support!





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

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE

Please have articles for the **December Newsletter** to the office by **November 25th at 8 AM**. Thank you!



OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open Mon. Tues. and Thurs. from 8:30 AM—4:00 PM. Wed. hours are 9:30 AM—6 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.



"CHRIST IN OUR HOME" DEVOTIONALS

The "Christ in Our Home" daily devotional booklet is issued quarterly by Augsburg Fortress. The **October to December issue** is here. We give thanks to W/ELCA for providing this devotional for your personal use.

If you would like an issue, you can stop by the office to pick one up, or contact the church office to have a copy mailed to you.

ARE YOU LEAVING FOR THE WINTER?

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



Thank You!

Thank You so very much for all of Your support to help make the "Sharing the Dream" possible again this year.

We raised a total of \$2,862.



SELECT-A-GIFT, 2024

LAUNCHES GIVING SEASON WITH NOVEMBER 2ND BENEFIT CONCERT.

The Select-A-Gift program has made Christmas special for many families from the Custer area for over 38 years. Please help us continue to spread Holiday Joy as we launch the 2024 Select-A-Gift giving season.

Last year, with your help we gifted 247 families in Custer County with Christmas presents. For some this may be the only present they receive and they are truly grateful.

Help us kick off this year's giving season by attending our Benefit Concert at the Custer Beacon on November 2nd, starting at 5:30 PM starting with local artists Hannah Honors and her friend Kristyn. Next up at 6:30 PM auctioneer Heath Lowrey will launch us into our live auction plus fun games. To top the evening off we scored in having Rapid City's fun and famous The Wilt Brothers band entertain and get us up dancing. The Wilt Brothers band starts at 7:30 PM.

Many generous businesses and individuals have donated amazing items for you to bid on during our silent and live auctions during the concert. Not into auctions? Simply grab an envelope off the Select-A-Gift tree, enclose a donation, and deposit it in the red donation box.

Starting November 1st, Custer Lutheran Fellowship will have a tree in the Fellowship Hall. Just place your check or cash in one of the envelopes provided, then drop it in the secure red lock box. If donating by check, please make it out to **Custer Ministerial Alliance with Select-A-Gift in the memo space.**

The day of gifting will be held at CLF Saturday December 21st from 10 AM—Noon.
Questions?? Call or text Juli Ames-Curtis at 970-391-9921.

November greetings!

We will be singing a simple song of thanks this month called "Now We Thank You, Lord." It is a simple melody that focuses on the blessings God has given us.

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

Wednesday, November 6 ~ Practice @ 6:30 PM in Sanctuary

Wednesday, November 13 ~ Practice @ 6:30 PM in Sanctuary

Sunday, November 17 ~ Special music at 9:30 AM church service

I have gotten several lists of favorite hymns from people. We really do try to include music that speaks to everyone, so if you have an idea or a favorite you would like to sing, please let me know. You can email me ideas as well. I appreciate those that have reached out with suggestions already.

The ecumenical Advent Program is still in the works for Sunday, December 8th at 2 PM. Our church choir will be singing. In the past, we have had vocal and instrumental soloists that represent our church as well. If you would be interested in preparing a piece for this program, please let me know by October 31st. 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 that as well. It will be a music-filled afternoon designed to get everyone in the Christmas spirit and celebrate the birth of Christ our Savior.

Blessings in Christ,

Jenn Doyle

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



OUTLAW RANCH ADVENT FESTIVAL DECEMBER 6-8

The prophet Isaiah writes, "A voice cries out in the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord!"

Please join us in the very comfortable wilderness of Outlaw Ranch for an Advent festival weekend, December 6-8. We will begin Friday night at 6:30 PM with a huge table of snacks, cider, hot chocolate, and, of course, cookies, followed by games, singing, worship, and then more eating.

On Saturday, we will do crafts, dip candles, make Advent wreaths, visit the animals at the stable, and play outside, weather permitting—sledding or gaga ball or both! We will have a Christmas tree cutting expedition (we will get the permit for you!) hayrides, and then go to the parade of lights in Custer at 6 p.m. Kids are welcome to ride on Outlaw's float in the parade! We will return to a late supper of soup and bread and a candle-light worship. Sunday will include brunch at 9 and worship with Holy Communion. Come with your children and grandchildren for this time of rest, singing, shopping (who doesn't want an Outlaw Ranch sweatshirt and jar of hot chocolate mix?!) and fellowship in the quiet winter beauty of the Black Hills.

Weekend includes a 2 night stay, 5 meals, and all program activities and supplies. Tree permits \$10 extra.

Adult Lodge: \$168

Youth (4-12): \$135

Adult Barn: \$161

Youth (4-12): \$ 128

Adult Cabin: \$144

Youth (4-12): \$ 124

Children 3 and under stay and eat for free!

LIVE NATIVITY AT OUTLAW RANCH



Outlaw Ranch would like to invite you to our live nativity on December 15th from 3 pm—6pm. Activities will include a baked goods sale, craft fair, hot cider and cocoa.

If you would like to help as an actor bringing the scene to life (no speaking involved), please call Mary Kettl at 605-673-4040.



W/ELCA HAPPENINGS:

The women of WELCA met on October 21st and decided to donate \$1,000.00 to the Lutheran Disaster Response Fund to help the flood and hurricane victims where ever needed. They also gave \$500.00 to Growing Roots and the "Y" for scholarships. The "Craft and Goodie" sale is Sunday November 24th after the church service. Start planning baking and crafting now.

The women will be making Lefse Saturday morning at 10:00 AM—please bring your own equipment and dough.

"Prayer Ribbons" will be given out Sunday November 3rd. Wanda Omodt will give a brief explanation at the service. The ribbons are different colors for what you want to pray for. Then you tie them to a frame, this will continue for the month and we end up with a beautiful picture of everyone's prayers.

The next meeting is a potluck on Monday November 18th at 11:30. It is the Thank Offering service and the installation of officers.

TUESDAY MORNING QUILTING

A lot is getting done on Tuesday mornings. Many more are in different stages of being finished, but will be completed soon.

We could use THREAD, all colors, and some QUILTING NEEDLES. We are also in need of some good flat sheets for our backings on quilts.

All are welcome. Come join us. We have fun.

"THE JOYOUS QUILTERS"



November Mission Project: The Storehouse

Canned food – meats, vegetables, fruits, soups
 Spaghetti, pasta & sauce
 Sugar, Flour
 Peanut Butter
 Paper towels, toilet paper & tissues

Cereals
 Stuffing Mix
 Soaps – laundry, dish, body
 Macaroni & Cheese
 Cake Mixes/Tubs of Frosting

Any other food items you'd like to bring.



REFORMATION SUNDAY SPECIAL MUSIC

*Back Row: Lonnie White,
 Lise' White, Barb Lewison
 and on the
 Ukelele is Amelia Wiederholt.*



COUNCIL MINUTES – OCTOBER 15, 2024 MEETING

Early Learner Custer – Aleah Witt (Fiscal Sponsorship)

Aleah gave some info about Early Learner Custer. They are requesting that CLF continue to act as the Fiscal Sponsor and Agent. This would allow them to use our EIN to apply for grants for funding. Decision to be made at the November meeting.

Board Development – Dave Versteeg

Council will be doing some training with Dave using a book called, “Good to Great and the Social Sectors”.

Secretary’s Report: The correspondence was reviewed. The minutes were amended to add the Property Committee report: Waiting for help from the individual to cut down the tree behind church. Dave Thom will attend the October meeting to discuss the water problem in front of church. Craig moved, Helena seconded and the minutes for the September meeting were approved as amended. Worship attendance records were reviewed.

Treasurer’s and Finance Committee’s Report: The offerings thru September were 95.4% (-\$12,359.00) of budget and expenses were 95.6% (-\$13,426.70) of budget.

Approval of Portico Benefits – Need to select which level of Portico Benefit we want to use in case we have the need for it. Decided to continue with the Silver + level. Craig moved, Shana seconded to approve the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

Special Agenda Items:

There were no special agenda items.

Unfinished Business:

Thrivent Choice – September \$ 0.00, YTD - \$ 127.00

Lynn’s Dakotamart Receipts – September \$ 0.00, YTD - \$1,100.00

Pictorial Directory – Donna gave an update on the procedure that will be used.

Upper Bathroom Update – Costs for the update were \$18,000 – Bathrooms – \$12,000 and Kitchen – \$6,000. The Growing Roots fundraisers totaled a little over \$6,000

Internet/Phones – Still have not heard back from Golden West. To upgrade internet access throughout the church will be around \$15,000 without security cameras and \$21,000 with cameras.

Western States Fire Protection – Pastor Shannon discussed some of the issues we’ve had with the fire system and the costs involved.

New Business:

Membership changes: None

Schedule Budget Meeting – Will be held on Tuesday, November 12th at 5:30 PM.

Western States Fire Annual Report/Proposed Fire System – Need to replace the Fire Alarm Control Panel at a cost of \$12,360. Craig moved, Shana seconded to approve this expenditure. Motion carried.

Safe for Large Record Books – We should have a fireproof file cabinet or safe large enough to fit the Red Membership Books as these records go back to the beginning of CLF. Will ask for a possible donation first.

Delta Dental Mobile Bus Program – October 21-24, 2024 – There is still enough funds left to hold this for at least one more year.

Update Website – Helena will work with Donna on keeping the website updated.

Building Use Policy – Discussion was held on how fees are determined.

Stewardship/Commitment Sunday – Will be held on Sunday, November 10th along with the Ministry Fair.

Christmas Service Times – Christmas Eve services this year will be at 4:00 and 7:00 PM.

NOVEMBER 2024 DAILY LECTIONARY**All Saints Sunday**

Thursday, October 31: Psalm 119:1-8; Exodus 22:1-15; Hebrews 9:1-12

Friday, Nov. 1: Psalm 119:1-8; Leviticus 19:32-37; Romans 3:21-31

Saturday, Nov. 2: Psalm 119:1-8; Numbers 9:9-14; Luke 10:25-37

Sunday, Nov. 3: Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Psalm 119:1-8; Hebrews 9:11-14;
Mark 12:28-34

Monday, Nov. 4: Psalm 51; Deuteronomy 6:10-25; Romans 12:17-21; 13:8-10

Tuesday, Nov. 5: Psalm 51; Deuteronomy 28:58—29:1; Acts 7:17-29

Wednesday, Nov. 6: Psalm 51; Micah 6:1-8; John 13:31-35

**Pentecost 25**

Thursday, Nov. 7: Psalm 146; Numbers 36:1-13; Romans 5:6-11

Friday, Nov. 8: Psalm 146; Deuteronomy 15:1-11; Hebrews 9:15-24

Saturday, Nov. 9: Psalm 146; Deuteronomy 24:17-22; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24

Sunday, Nov. 10: 1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

Monday, Nov. 11: Psalm 94; Ruth 1:1-22; 1 Timothy 5:1-8

Tuesday, Nov. 12: Psalm 94; Ruth 3:14—4:6; 1 Timothy 5:9-16

Wednesday, Nov. 13: Psalm 94; Ruth 4:7-22; Luke 4:16-30

Pentecost 26

Thursday, Nov. 14: Psalm 16; Daniel 4:4-18; 1 Timothy 6:11-21

Friday, Nov. 15: Psalm 16; Daniel 4:19-27; Colossians 2:6-15

Saturday, Nov. 16: Psalm 16; Daniel 4:28-37; Mark 12:1-12

Sunday, Nov. 17: Daniel 12:1-3; Psalm 16; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-8

Monday, Nov. 18: Psalm 13; Daniel 8:1-14; Hebrews 10:26-31

Tuesday, Nov. 19: Psalm 13; Daniel 8:15-27; Hebrews 10:32-39

Wednesday, Nov. 20: Psalm 13P; Zechariah 12:1—13:1; Mark 13:9-23

Christ the King

Thursday, Nov. 21: Psalm 93; Ezekiel 28:1-10; Acts 7:54—8:1a

Friday, Nov. 22: Psalm 93; Ezekiel 28:20-26; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Saturday, Nov. 23: Psalm 93; Daniel 7:1-8, 15-18; John 3:31-36

Sunday, Nov. 24: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93; Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

Monday, Nov. 25: Psalm 76; Daniel 7:19-27; Revelation 11:1-14

Tuesday, Nov. 26: Psalm 76; Psalm 63; Ezekiel 29:1-12; Revelation 11:15-19

Wednesday, Nov. 27: Psalm 76; Ezekiel 30:20-26; John 16:25-33

Advent 1

Thursday, Nov. 28: Psalm 25:1-10; Nehemiah 9:6-15; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Friday, Nov. 29: Psalm 25:1-10; Nehemiah 9:16-25; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22

Saturday, Nov. 30: Psalm 25:1-10; Nehemiah 9:26-31; Luke 21:20-24

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

More Council Highlights:**Pastor's Report:**

Review Worship & Activities – Would like to hold an AED/CPR class this fall. Discussed possible instructors.

Working with Donna and Helena on compiling a Policy and Procedure Manual.

Next Meeting: November 19, 2024

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:

Custodian: Augie Heyne

Music & Worship Director:

Jennifer Doyle

Financial Secretary: Janice Albers

Steve Baldwin

Treasurer: Joy Smolnisky

Youth Coordinator: Wendi Rusch

Ministers: All Members of CLF!