



the Clarion

Volume 51 No. 8
August 2022

Watford City Area Parish-ELCA
Banks, First & Garden Lutheran Churches
P.O. Box 441
212 2nd Street NW
Watford City, N.Dak. 58854
Office Phone: (701)444-3244
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Facebook: *First Lutheran Church/Watford City
Lutheran Parish*
and *Banks & Garden Lutheran Churches*
Website: www.wclutheranparish.com
Email: office@wclutheranparish.com
Rev. Paul D. Balaban, Interim Pastor
Ardyce Alveshere, Secretary



Watford City Area Lutheran Parish August Worship Schedule

Sunday, August 7th

9:00 AM – Banks Lutheran Church
11:00 AM – First Lutheran Church

Sunday, August 14th

9:00 AM – ALL-Parish worship at Banks Lutheran Church

Sunday, August 21st

9:00 AM – Garden Lutheran Church
11:00 AM – First Lutheran Church

Sunday, August 28th

9:00 AM – Garden Lutheran Church
11:00 AM – First Lutheran Church

Locations of Banks, Garden & First Lutheran:

Banks - Located along Highway 1806 (17 miles northeast of Watford City)

Garden - Located at 35th Street NW (12 miles northeast of Watford City)

First - 2nd Street NW in Watford City

Unable to make it to
Sunday morning
worship? No worries...
Join us on

facebook

Our Facebook pages are:
Banks/Garden - Banks &
Garden Lutheran Churches
First - First Lutheran Church/
Watford City Lutheran Parish

Worship will be broadcasted
live from Banks & First
Lutheran Churches and can
be watched anytime
thereafter.



✝ *Family & Friends of
Sigrid "Siggy"
Hermanson*

✝ *Family & Friends of
Marvin M. Nelson
(Sue Jorgenson's
father)*

✝ *Family & Friends of
Niel Nelson*

✝ *Family & Friends of
Dale Orf*

✝ *Family & Friends of
Ellis Ross*

✝ *Family & Friends of
Judy Wollan*

✝ *Danell Dougherty*

✝ *Reinhard Hauck*

✝ *MeLinda Haugeberg*

✝ *Sid Moore*

✝ *Micah Moxness*

✝ *Mary Jane Rhodes*

✝ *Melany Sanford*

✝ *Donald Schmidt*

*If you know someone needing
prayers, please contact the
Watford City Area Lutheran
Parish office by calling
(701)444-3244 or emailing
office@wclutheranparish.com*

Worship Dedications



Thank you to the following for
their sponsorship of Sunday
worship during the month of
August:

Aug 14th - Ed & Charlotte Schilke

If you would like to dedicate a
Sunday morning worship in
honor or memory of someone
special, please contact the
church office by calling
(701)444-3244 or emailing
office@wclutheranparish.com.

Cost of sponsorship is \$100,
which will be used for any
Facebook broadcasting
needs.



ADVENT CANDLES/ QUILTING

Agnes Johnson \$1,835.00

BELL TOWER FUND

Bev Hildre \$20.00

Clarence & Julia

Leiseth \$25.00

Sylvia Leiseth \$25.00

Meetings for the

Women of the ELCA



Wednesday, Aug. 3rd

10:00 am – FLC General WELCA
at FLC

Wednesday, Aug. 3rd

2:00 pm – Banks Ladies Aid at
Carol Moore's

Tuesday, Aug. 9th

2:00 pm – Garden WELCA at
Senior Citizen Center

**Hope & Peace Circles will join
together for their meeting this
month – Date & time to be
announced.**



*We would like to welcome the
newly baptized within our
Parish:*

Garden Lutheran Church

Jordan Joseph Spacher

Son of

Patrick & Alecia Spacher

on July 20th, 2022



Bells will be ringing!!!

Construction has begun
replacing the bell tower
at First Lutheran
Church and is projected
to be finished by the
middle of August.



Welcome to the team!



We are happy to announce and would like to welcome Matthew Rolfson as our new Family Ministry Coordinator. Matthew will start his new position on August 15th. Here is a short bio on Matthew:

Matthew Rolfson was born and raised in Watford City North Dakota. He graduated from Watford City High School in 2004. Matthew continued his education at Williston State College where he received his Associates Degree in 2006. He then attended Minot State University where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice in 2008. Later that summer, Matthew, became POST board certified through Lake Region State College.

From 2004 to 2020, Matthew was employed with Lutheran Social Services helping at risk youth in western North Dakota. Using his POST certification, he worked as a Deputy Sheriff in North Dakota from 2008 to 2010. In 2010, Matthew had the opportunity to move back to Watford City to farm the family homestead and has continued to do so ever since. Matthew not only farms, but also works as a Certified

Nurses Assistant for the Horizon Assistant Living. He has no intention of giving up the job of "Bus Chauffeur" for the residents of the Horizon. He enjoys his time with the residents too much to let it go. With his job skills and community involvement from his previous positions, Matthew is well suited for Family Ministry Coordinator at First Lutheran Parish.

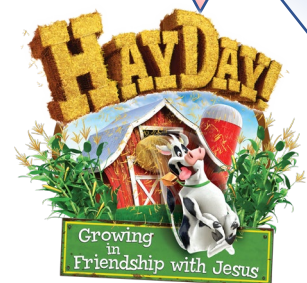
When accepting the position of Family Ministries Coordinator, he responded by saying: "I love my Parish, my relationship with God and this community have always gone hand in hand. When it comes to being a Christian in Watford City, I always think of Matthew Chapter 22. Jesus was asked which commandment was the greatest. He replied by saying, Love the lord your God and love your neighbor as yourself. My goal is to make Matthew 22 a guide for making a difference in the families of McKenzie County."



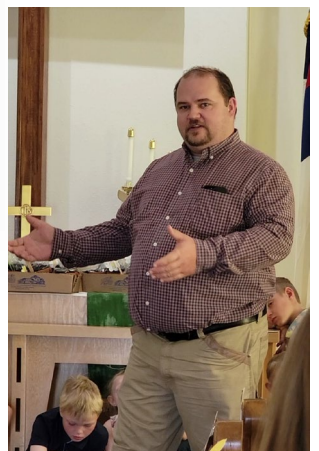
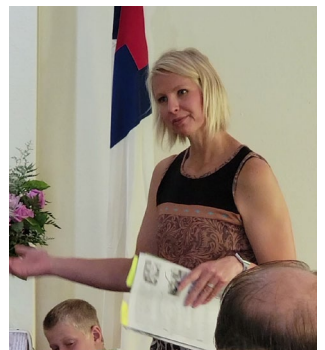
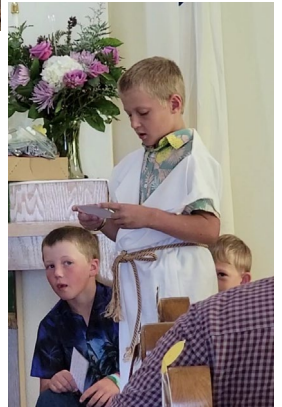
Join us for an ALL-Parish worship at Banks Lutheran Church on Sunday, August 14th at 9:00 am. A lot of us haven't had the opportunity to attend worship at the other churches in the parish so this summer we have been trying to have at least one all-parish worship a month. June was at Garden, July was at First and now August will be at Banks. Hope to see you there!



Adrock & Poppy Schwartz were all smiles being among the recipients who received treats from the Stewardship & Evangelism Committee following worship on July 3rd.



This year's Vacation Bible School was hosted by Garden Lutheran Church and had an outstanding attendance of over 30 students. A HUGE thank you to all the people who volunteered to help make this happen. A special thank you to Cassie Haak for coordinating everything! The students put on a wonderful program at Garden on June 26th – which also served as an All-Parish Worship! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves – those performing and those watching! A delicious potluck meal and fun fellowship were shared following the program. Pictures on the next page are from that day.





Pictured front row (L to R): Cora Sorenson, Sari Sorenson, Sophie Murray, Marrah Langford. Back row (L to R): Marcia Hellandsaas, Cory Crites, Willow Northrop, Addi Foster, Brianna Rink.



If you stopped by First Lutheran Church any Friday morning this past month you have been greeted by the comforting aroma of down home cooking...The McKenzie County Extension Service held a baking school for local 4-Hers. They learned to make (from scratch) pancakes, pretzels, bread, tortillas & scones. Thank you to the leaders, Marcia Hellandsaas & Shantell Jepson for sharing their time & inspiring these young chefs!



Pictured above is the St. John Lutheran Church Youth Group from Charles City, Iowa. First Lutheran Church had the honor & privilege of hosting this remarkable group of young people & their leaders for a week in July as they came to North Dakota for their annual mission trip. While here, they assisted in many different areas including the Theodore Roosevelt National Park and McKenzie County Food Pantry. They were very thankful to have a place to sleep at night between working and sight-seeing and we were thrilled to have them here!

Special Congregational Meeting



There will be a **special congregational meeting** for the **members of First Lutheran Church** for the purpose of deciding whether and how to continue as a member of the Watford City Area Lutheran Parish. This meeting will be at **First Lutheran Church on Wednesday, August 10th at 6:00 pm.** All voting members are strongly encouraged to attend so that their opinions can be considered in making this important decision.

WHILE YOU WAIT PRAY...

- For the workers at the place where you wait & the people waiting in line with you:
 - "Only you, O God, know what is going on in their life, make whole what is broken, give strength for whatever they face this day..."

AND PRAY SOME MORE...

- For family and friends, lifting them up one by one to Jesus:
 - "Jesus this is Sarah, Sarah this is Jesus."

IF STILL WAITING PRAY...

- For medical personal & support staff, public servants; For people who are sick, alone, facing food/housing insecurity; Or for anyone who comes to mind:
 - Use either suggested prayer starter above or another.

TIME TO SAY "AMEN."

- "May it be so," leave it in God's hands. God cares for you, strengthens you, and watches over you while you wait. (Isaiah 40:31)