



the Clarion

Volume 52 No. 1
January
2023

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: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
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
Matthew Rolfson, Family Ministries Coordinator
Ardyce Alveshere, Secretary

Watford City Area Lutheran Parish January Worship Schedule

Sunday, January 1st

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

Sunday, January 8th

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

Sunday, January 15th

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

Sunday, January 22nd

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

Sunday, January 29th

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

Locations of Banks, Garden & First Lutheran:

Banks - Located along Hwy 1806 (17 miles NE of WC)

Garden - Located at 35th St NW (12 miles NE of WC)

First - 2nd St NW in Watford City

Sunday School January Schedule

Sunday, Jan. 1st

No Sunday School

Sunday, Jan. 8th

10:00 AM – Banks & First

Sunday, Jan 15th

No Sunday School

Sunday, Jan. 22nd

10:00 AM – Garden & First

Sunday, Jan. 29th

10:00 AM – Banks & First

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



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, Garden & First Lutheran
Churches and can be watched
anytime thereafter.



- † Family & friends of Linda Beard
- † Family & friends of Rich Christensen
- † Family & friends of Danell Dougherty
- † Family & friends of David Jones
- † Family & friends of Calvin Parrish
- † Family & friends of Gary Thorson
- † Jessica Wisness Burns
- † Jacob Faulkner
- † MeLinda Haugeberg
- † Ron & Nina Jore
- † Eleanor Kostad
- † Bev Leom
- † Micah Moxness
- † Ron Peterson
- † Ron & Barb Quale
- † 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

Worship Dedications



Thank you to the following for their dedication of Sunday worship during January:

January 8th – In memory of Dan Baker by Calvin & Sharon Brown

January 15th – In memory of Dan Baker by the Estate of Daniel A. Baker

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.



Meetings for the Women of the ELCA



Wednesday, January 4th

10:00 am – FLC General WELCA at FLC

Monday, January 9th

5:00 pm – Hope Circle at FLC

Wednesday, January 11th

1:30 pm – Peace Circle at FLC

No meeting for Banks Ladies Aid or Garden WELCA in January



Confirmation/Youth Group (LYO)

January Schedule

Sunday, Jan. 1st – No Confirmation Class

Sunday, Jan. 8th – LYO meeting at 1:30 pm

– Movie "Luther" & popcorn at 2:30 pm (in place of regular Confirmation class at 6 pm)

Sunday, Jan. 15th – No Confirmation Class

Sunday, Jan. 22nd – Confirmation Class at 6 pm

Sunday, Jan. 29th – Confirmation Class at 6 pm

Please Pray For...

Ron and Nina Jore. They are past long-time Watford City residents who now reside in Montana. They lost their home and everything in it as well as their two dogs in a fire two weeks ago. Thankfully both Ron and Nina are physically fine. A donation help fund is being set up at First International Bank and a GoFundMe on Facebook.



Sunday, January 8th is a big day at First Lutheran Church!

12:30-1:30 PM – Clean-up/Undecorate Church

1:30 PM – Pizza with Youth meeting & Tithe.ly app informational meeting

2:30 PM – Movie, “Luther”, & popcorn

Everyone is invited to participate!



Sunday, Jan. 15th – Garden Lutheran Church following worship

Submit reports by Wednesday, Jan. 4th!

Sunday, Jan. 22nd – First Lutheran Church following worship

Submit reports by Wednesday, Jan. 11th!

Sunday, Jan. 29th – Banks Lutheran Church following worship

Submit reports by Wednesday, Jan. 18th!



Dear everyone at First Lutheran,
Thank you so much for your love and support throughout my time at seminary! I graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary at the end of May and it was amazing! These last 3 years were tough with a pandemic and some health problems, but I never had to worry about financial struggles because of the scholarship I received from First Lutheran. Your financial support helped me to be able to focus on school and not have to worry about how I would pay for the next semester.

I worked at a church for 2 of my 3 years while at school and I will be moving to New York City to be their intern in October! I am so glad and so grateful to be from North Dakota and I will continue to bring those experiences with me when I move to New York! Thank you again – for everything!

♡ Hayley Moe



A huge thank you to the family of Agnes Johnson for their donation to purchase new refillable liquid wax candles for Advent in loving memory of Agnes.



Banks & Garden Sunday School Christmas Program on Sunday, December 18th.





First Lutheran Sunday
School Christmas Program
on Sunday, December 18th.



***Thank you to the following people for donating poinsettias to
First Lutheran Church this Christmas...***

Jayson, Amy, Jory, Rowdy & Brady Lund in memory of Mary Lou & Virginia Lund, Howard Sickler and all loved ones gone.

David & Celeste Berg in honor of our grandchildren Teddy, Abigail, Charlie and Katelyn

Don Stenberg in memory of Ray & Jessie Stenberg

Glen & Anne Beard Family in memory of Daryl Beard & Russell Beard (Glen's brothers) and Linda Beard (Glen's sister)

Donald & Swany Schmidt in memory of loved ones: Cori, Beth Sollom, Darlene Schmidt, William & Estella Schmidt, David & Ivan Hought

Cleo Kirkland & family in memory of John Kirkland

Steve & Gretchen Stenehjem in honor of grandchildren Charlie, Evelyn, James, Jacob and Lillie Beau

Mark & JessAnne Knutson in honor of our grandchildren: Shadai, Shia, Kanyon, Birch, Griffin, Hudson, Sebastian, Maddox and Mavin

Riely family in memory of Knut & Hazel Hoversten, Willis & Alice Riely

Caroline Schwartz in honor of children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, First Lutheran Cantata Choir and in memory of Wayne Schwartz, Eleanor & Spencer Schwartz, Thorwald & Lucille Larson

First Lutheran Cantata Choir in honor of our director, Caroline Schwartz and accompanists, Jane Swenson & Anna Schwartz

Lloyd, Ardyce & Trevor Alveshere and Austin, Tillie & Brayden Haugen in honor of Marvin & Diane Alveshere and in memory of Arnold & June Peterson, Melvin & Ella Alveshere, Larry Austin, Darlene Hurt, Ole & Julia Mathistad, Martin & Tillie Peterson, Emil & Emma Tabbert