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# THE CLARION

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August 2023

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FIRST  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
*Watford City*

**Matthew Rolfson: Synod Authorized Minister of the ELCA**  
**Sunday Worship 9:30 AM**  
**212 2nd Street NW, Watford City ND 58854**  
**701-444-3244 mrolfson@flcwc.church**  
**Website: flcwc.church**

## A WORD FROM OUR NEW SYNOD AUTHORIZED MINISTER (SAM)

Grace and Peace to You.  
It has been a journey these  
last 3 years and I am humbled  
to be called the Synod  
Authorized Minister at First  
Lutheran Church of Watford  
City. The Church Council,  
representing the  
Congregation, has put their  
trust in me to Honor the  
Sacraments. Every week I will  
do everything in my power to  
cement that trust.

I am looking forward to this opportunity while we  
journey together, understanding our faith in Christ. To  
Rev Paul, I am grateful for the ministry he has provided  
and will continue to provide for the ELCA Church. His  
guidance made me realize the best way I could serve  
God's people."

The changes in McKenzie County should overwhelm us  
with celebration as we see the Spirit's work across our  
area. As we move into this Fall season, we are going to  
be listening for what God might be calling us into next.  
My first year with you has been a challenge but I am  
looking forward to building upon the activities we have  
done over the course of last year.

**[www.flcwc.church](http://www.flcwc.church)**

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**First Lutheran Church 212 2nd  
St NW, Watford City ND 58854**

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**701-444-3244**



# Pews News

McKenzie County Food Pantry is thankful that the First Lutheran Church allows the pantry to operate out of the church's basement as one of their missions.

1. The food pantry has worked out of the FLC for many decades.
2. The McKenzie County Food Pantry services the whole county which includes:  
WC, Mandaree, New Town, Keene, Killdeer, Grassy Butte, Fairview, & Cartwright.
3. MCFP is operated 100% through donations.
4. Many families in our community have food insecurity concerns and the food pantry is an invaluable resource to help those families by supplementing their food needs.
5. The needs in our community have grown along with the growth of our town.  
15 years ago serving 3-10 families per week.  
9 years ago servicing 30-60 families per week.  
2 years ago servicing 60-80 families per week.  
Currently servicing 70-100 families per week.  
Approx. 300 to 400 individuals per week.  
Highest handout has been 128 families/1 week.
6. In 2013 when the FLC remodeled and added onto the church, the church allocated 595 sq ft for the pantry to operate out of. With the additional needs due to the rapid growth of our community, the church increased the pantry's useable space in 2016 to 807 sq. ft. Again in 2019 it increased to 1103 sq ft. In February 2023, the FLC allowed the pantry to again increase its footprint in the church by allowing the pantry to place an additional 8 freezers throughout the basement which included taking more control of one of the classrooms.
7. MCFP has historically been operated 100% by volunteers.  
It takes approximately +100 volunteer hours per week to make it run efficiently.  
Currently there are between 40-50 regular volunteers who help at the food pantry on a monthly basis.
8. The McKenzie County Food Pantry continues to operate due to the many contributions from the community.  
Monetary donations  
Volunteer labor  
Food Recovery Program – receives day old food or expired dates from local businesses.  
Great Plains Food Bank – subsidized food from the regional food bank out of Fargo.  
Local food drives  
Other donations.

This ministry depends on donations and volunteers. Donations for this ministry are much appreciated. Donations may be dropped off at the church office or mailed to FLC at PO Box 441, Watford City ND 58854





We would like to thank all of our volunteers that help make the church and worship run smoothly. You are all greatly appreciated!! Those who have volunteered for the month of July are:

Ardyce Alveshere	Laura Dahl
Arlys Frazer	Robin & Anna Schwartz
Cindy Geiger	Donna Rauser
Kevin Sullivan	Matthew Beard
Marcia Hellandsaas	Eldon Beard
Sonja Prestangen	David & Celeste Berg
Val Swensrud	Ed & Charlotte Schilke
Jim & Jan Riely	Ann Beard
	Cliff & Tarri Wenstad

*Truly  
Grateful  
for you.*

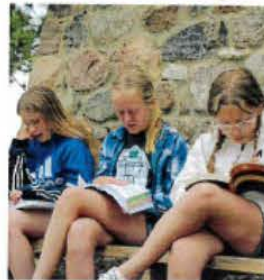
If you would like to volunteer there is a sign up sheet in the narthex. We always need help with greeters, readers, ushers/communion assistants, powerpoint, and coffee hour. Also, when we have a meal, people to serve, and do dishes. There is always something to do!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2023 | 12PM - 3PM



# SWEETCORN & QUILT FESTIVAL

ANNUAL CELEBRATION



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**WHAT: SWEETCORN & QUILT FESTIVAL**

**LOCATION: CAMP UMM (UPPER MISSOURI MINISTRIES)**

\*ADDRESS: 12601 58TH ST NW EPPING, ND 58843

**DATE: SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2023**

**TIMES: 12:00PM - 3:00PM CST**

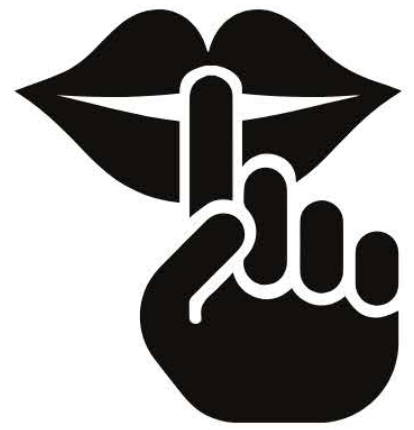
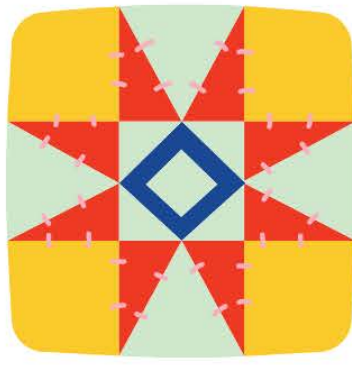
- 12:00PM - FOOD SERVED; SWEET CORN AND FIXINGS (SERVED UNTIL 2PM)
- 12:00PM - SILENT AUCTION BEGINS
- 12:30PM - LAWN GAMES & ACTIVITIES
- 1:00PM - LIVE QUILT AUCTION

ALL ARE WELCOME TO CELEBRATE THE 77TH  
SUMMER OF SPARKING FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS!



SCAN ME!  
RSVP AND  
MORE DETAILS





From the ELCA website:

"Katie's Fund, established to mark the tenth anniversary of Women of the ELCA, is a permanent endowment fund set up to provide programs, resources and opportunities for women in the areas of global sharing, leadership development and faith. The fund is named after Katharina "Katie" von Bora, wife of 16th century German reformer Martin Luther."

### Katie's Fund

There is currently a campaign across the ELCA to bring the total endowment to \$1 million, to provide programming funds for the next 100 years.

Katie's Fund will be the theme for the fall gathering of the Upper Missouri Cluster of Women of the ELCA units in McKenzie, Williams and Divide counties. Units are being asked to have a fund raiser, with the money to be turned in at the fall gathering, tentatively set for early October.

First Lutheran WELCA is planning a silent auction for a quilt and other items during Rally Sunday activities on September 10th.

Rally Sunday will be on Sunday, September 10th. Be ready for some fun! We will have a BBQ after worship along with bouncy houses, games and a silent auction. It will be a great day for family fun!





## Summer Pasta With Zucchini, Ricotta and Basil



### INGREDIENTS

Yield: 4 to 6 servings

- Extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 small onion, finely diced
- 2 pounds zucchini, sliced into ¼-inch-thick pieces (for larger zucchini, cut in half lengthwise before slicing)
- Salt and pepper
- 2 garlic cloves, minced, or 2 tablespoons chopped green garlic
- 1 ounce basil, about 2 cups loose leaves
- 1 pound ziti or other dry pasta
- 8 ounces ricotta, about 1 cup ([see recipe](#))
- Pinch of crushed red pepper
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 2 ounces grated Parmesan, pecorino or a mixture, about 1 cup, plus more for serving

### PREPARATION

1. Step 1
2. Put a pot of water on to boil. In a large skillet over medium-high heat, cook the onions in 3 tablespoons olive oil until softened, 5 to 8 minutes. Reduce heat as necessary to keep onions from browning. Add zucchini, season generously with salt and pepper, and continue cooking, stirring occasionally until rather soft, about 10 minutes. Turn off heat.
3. Step 2
4. Meanwhile, use a mortar and pestle to pound garlic, basil and a little salt into a rough paste (or use a mini food processor). Stir in 3 tablespoons olive oil.
5. Step 3
6. Salt the pasta water well and put in the pasta, stirring. Boil per package instructions but make sure to keep pasta quite al dente. Drain pasta, reserving 1 cup of cooking water.
7. Step 4
8. Add cooked pasta to zucchini in skillet and turn heat to medium-high. Add ½ cup cooking water, then the ricotta, crushed red pepper and lemon zest, stirring to distribute. Check seasoning and adjust. Cook for 1 minute more. Mixture should look creamy. Add a little more pasta water if necessary. Add the basil paste and half the grated cheese and quickly stir to incorporate. Spoon pasta into warm soup plates and sprinkle with additional cheese. Serve immediately.

**Church clean-up will be each Sunday in August. 'Clean Sweep August' Asking anyone able to stay and spend an hour or two after service/coffee hour whenever you have time to spare. There will be a list of areas to clean.**

## *Ann's Corner*

ATTENTION: Hope and Peace Circle meets once a month. Many of our members are retired and we enjoy our visit and Bible study very much. As we know our ages are 60 and 70 years old and a few are even older. The subject comes up, we need the "The working Gals with professions" to meet and have a common bond. Peace and Hope circle started almost 40 years ago when these ladies were employed and set up a day or time which works best for them. Now we wish to encourage the younger gals of our congregation to come together.

Purpose: Bible lesson and Projects. What projects? Rummage Sale? Flower bed on the west side of the front doors of the church. No need for formality, lunch, simply good friendship. When would a suitable time be for meeting? That would be your decision. Saturday morning? Perhaps Thursday evening? Maybe ZOOM at 7 AM on a weekday or weekend. Where could you meet? A ZOOM, Fellowship Hall, or a restaurant? All you need is a couple of Gals to get names and come together to continue the work of the church. Yes, did I mention a person could be a contact for WELCA? Someone from WELCA will phone your contact and loop you in on what is going on. You do not have to come to the WELCA meetings to start a CIRCLE. Pray and think about what I have written. Visit with you later.





## Upcoming Activities

### Aug 1

Worship Meeting 10:00 AM  
Food Pantry 5-7 PM  
NA Meeting 8:00 PM

### Aug 2

WELCA Meeting 10:00 AM  
Youth & Ed Meeting 11:00 AM

### Aug 3

Youth for Christ 4:00 PM  
NA Meeting 6:30 PM

### Aug 6

Worship 9:30 AM  
Coffee Hour 10:30 AM  
Clean church  
NA Meeting 8 PM

### Aug 7

FLC Quilters 1:00 PM

### Aug 8

NA Meeting 8:00 PM

### Aug 9

Peace Circle 1:30 PM

### Aug 10

Youth for Christ 4:00 PM  
NA Meeting 6:30 PM

### Aug 13

Worship 9:30 AM  
Coffee Hour 10:30 AM  
Clean Church  
NA Meeting 8:00 PM

### Aug 14

Hope Circle 5:00 PM  
FLC Quilters 1:00 PM

### Aug 15

Food Pantry 2-4 PM  
NA Meeting 8:00 PM

### Aug 16

FLC Council Mtg 5:30 PM

### Aug 17

Youth for Christ 4:00 PM  
NA Meeting 6:30 PM

### Aug 20

Worship 9:30 AM  
Coffee Hour 10:30 AM  
Clean Church  
NA Meeting 8:00 PM

### Aug 21

FLC Quilters 1:00 PM

### Aug 22

NA Meeting 8:00 PM

### Aug 24

Youth for Christ 4:00 PM  
NA Meeting 6:30 PM

### Aug 27

Worship 9:30 AM  
Coffee Hour 10:30 AM  
NA Meeting 8:00 PM

### Aug 28

FLC Quilters 1:00 PM

### Aug 29

NA Meeting 8:00 PM

### Aug 30

BBQ Bible Study 6:00 pm



## August Birthday's and Anniversaries

### Aug.1

Hudson Tschetter  
Brittni Tank  
Gary Beagles

### Aug.2

Jenna Bauer  
Gary & Linda Melland

### Aug.3

Duke & Sharon Olson  
Robby & Renae Lindley

### Aug.4

Larry Larsen  
Anna Thompson  
Leah Rolfson

### Aug.5

Phillip Olson

### Aug.6

Steve & Elizabeth Holen  
Ross & Tricia Sundeen

### Aug.7

Delaine Hill  
Matthew & Kimberly Rolfson

### Aug.8

Erica Douglas

### Aug.9

Ed Evenson

### Aug.10

Trevor Alveshere  
Garrett Nelson

### Aug.11

Scott Dodge

### Aug.12

Cindy Geiger  
Ryan Hansen  
Doug Rolfson

### Aug.13

Ethan Renbarger  
Kade Quale  
Avery Pelton  
Sebastian Tschetter

### Aug.15

Lori Nordby  
Maxwell Meyer  
Orrin & Joyce Moe  
Gene & Marcy Hilleren

### Aug.16

William Forbes

### Aug.17

Amber Adams  
Calvin Brown  
Eva Sanford  
Einar Prestangen  
ReiAnn Cook

### Aug.18

Dave & Kay Jarland

### Aug.19

Mikka Haugeberg  
Owen & Laurie Hamre

### Aug.20

Dave Hansen  
Wyatt Voll  
Tucker Shelley  
Dave & Celeste Berg  
Monty & Chelsea Bulzomi

### Aug.21

Erik Stenehjerm  
Denton Zubke  
Glen & Karla Quale

### Aug.22

Cheryl Maynard  
Larry & Debbie Larsen  
Mark & Jessann Knutson

### Aug.23

Shane Homiston  
Rogen Colegrove  
Jackson Voll

### Aug.27

Erica Johnsrud  
Norman & Eleanor Kostad  
Einar & Sonja Prestangen  
Neal & Lisa Shipman  
Ed & Tammy Evanson

### Aug.28

Melissa Frick

### Aug.29

Joy Brew  
Declan Burns  
John & Brenda Fulwider

### Aug.30

Doreen Orf  
Brandi Garmann  
Nora Rolfson  
Walton VanDyke

### Aug.31

Ron Broderson  
Cary Garmann  
Gary Kleppen  
Steve Kummer



harvest  
time

## **First Lutheran Church Council July 12, 2023 Draft**

The meeting was called to order by President Jennifer at 5:15PM. Council members present were Jennifer, Cindy, Joy, Robin, Kevin, Gretchen and Marcia. Also present was Matthew.

Gretchen led a beautiful and very appropriate devotion on how God does not want us to keep looking in the rearview mirror. He wants us to rise up and move forward.

Approval of the agenda. Jennifer added that it is necessary to add her and or Laura from the Property committee to be delegated to sign for real estate since the sale of the old parsonage is soon to be closed. With that addition Joy motioned to approve, Robin 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Approval of the June 28<sup>th</sup> minutes. Marcia motioned to approve, Kevin 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Staff Reports. Matthew reported that the Synod voted to accept Matthew as a SAM for First Lutheran and this will be effective August 1, 2023.

**WELCA:** no report this month

### **Committee Reports.**

**Finance:** Gretchen reported a larger negative number on the Profit and Loss due to paying our annual insurance premium. Credit card statements will be sent to Johnson and Co. and Gretchen. Gretchen will review of each transaction. Gretchen is requesting a receipt for each transaction and an explanation of each charge. Going forward receipts are required. Marcia motioned to approve, Joy 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

**Property:** Bell tower is currently being worked on. No completion date set. The fence at the new parsonage has been torn down. Talk of planting trees or just leaving as is. If we continue to own the new parsonage, we can plan on lilac bushes in the 2024 year. We also discussed whether we should sell the new parsonage or hold on to it. According to the Synod, we may be waiting a while for a new pastor and would need to continue the maintenance of the property and utilities. Gretchen mentioned that some churches are offering a housing stipend instead of owning a Parsonage. Also mentioned was to rent it out but we cannot since we are a Non-Profit Organization. Cindy motioned to have a CMA done on the new Parsonage, Gretchen 2<sup>nd</sup> motion carried.

At 5:46 Lynn joined the meeting.

Cindy motioned to approve Jennifer Sorenson or Laura Dahl permissions to sign for the sale of the parsonage at 504 4<sup>th</sup> St NE, Watford City, ND. Gretchen 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.



All carpets and pew cushions have been shampooed by 701 Clean. The trees at the new parsonage have been trimmed. The next meeting will be August 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM.

**Worship:** Marcia reported that the remainder of July we will have simplified services. There will be no Communion until August and the services will start with music but the remainder will be in acapela. All announcements will be in the bulletin and we will go back to the traditional Kyrie. Communion will be the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays starting in August. Ann Beard requested new chalis and communion trays be ordered. This will cost about \$500.00. Gretchen motioned to approve, Lynn 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

**Stewardship and Evangelism:** Everyone enjoyed the ice cream sandwiches and popcicles that were handed out on July 2<sup>nd</sup> honoring the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. It was asked if the Care Team would be reaching out to non-members. Discussion was held and it was decided to assist members of our church only at this time. Our next meeting will be held after Bible Study on July 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Youth and Education:** Rally Sunday will be September 10<sup>th</sup>. Paul Hanson, Lutheran Seminary, will be our pulpit supply that morning. Bibles will be handed out to the kindergarten class. Kits will be put together before the service by the Sunday School youth and given out to the First Responders. We will have a bouncy house and bbq after service.

Sunday School will be held after service. Noisy buckets will begin the first Sunday in October. The TEAM program requires a congregational approval. Matt is feeling a call would fulfill his pastoral desire. We will discuss this later as the program is filled for this fall's trainings. The next meeting will be August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 AM.

**Call Committee:** Joy discussed getting a video of our church and community created which may help in getting a pastor. She will reach out to Daniel Stenberg, Doug Bolken. Jennifer spoke to Pat Bertagnolli, who is the executive director of the ND Job Service. Pat would be willing help create a promotional video for us. Gretchen and Joy will meet with the Trust Committee on their feelings on offering debt forgiveness to a currently working Pastor, should one contact our church. Another option would be to offer a sign on bonus.

#### **Unfinished Business.**

Jennifer will reach out to Ardyce regarding the online team/committee descriptions.

Ardyce is still making updates to our website so it is more user friendly and more attractive.

#### **New Business.**

Matthew and Jennifer, along with guidelines from the Bishop, are creating a job description for Matt. Compensation also needs to be adjusted since Matt will be doing his normal Family

Ministry work along with the newly added SAM duties as our Pastor. Matt will be assigned an ELCA coach through the synod. The bishop has authorized Matthew to become a SAM (Synod Authorized Minister) effective August 1. His hours will be Sunday through Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM each day. Friday evenings he plans on some youth events. After much discussion, Gretchen motioned to raise Matt's salary to \$50,000 per year which is what we had budgeted previously. Cindy 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Some from our congregation are learning Lay Ministry. Joy, Ann, Laura and Matt will be taking an 8-week online course beginning September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Our next meeting will be August 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.

Cindy motioned to adjourn, Robin 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

We ended with the Lord's Prayer

Cindy Geiger, Secretary