



THE CLARION

A Word From The Minister

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Grace and Peace to You,

November for me, has always been a month of warm memories. Most of the congregation are probably thinking of Thanksgiving already. Thoughts are turning toward where we meet, who are the friends and family that are coming. Then there are the thoughts of the meal itself. I picked Thessalonians for this monthly message mainly because of the Thanksgiving holiday but also as a reminder that Thanksgiving does not just happen once a year. Thanksgiving happens every day. May we all look to God in all circumstances so that any time of year our tables of Thanksgiving are not ever empty, but fully attended.

Yours in Christ,

Minister Matthew Rolfson

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 2

9:30 am – Worship

10:30 am – Fellowship

Wednesday, November 5

5:30 pm – Meal

6:00 pm – Worship/Communion

Sunday, November 9

9:30 am – Worship/Communion

10:30 am – Fellowship

Wednesday, November 12

5:30 pm – Meal

6:00 pm – Worship

Sunday, November 16

9:30 am—Worship

10:30 am—Fellowship

Sunday, November 23

9:30 am – Worship/Communion

10:30 am – Fellowship

Sunday, November 30

9:30 am – Worship

10:30 am – Decorating
the Church

What's Happening in November

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
2 <i>All Saints Sunday</i>	3	4 Food Pantry 5-7 pm	5 Worship Meeting 9 am -Worship Service- 5:30 pm meal 6 pm Worship w/Communion	6 Finance Meeting 11 am S&E Meeting 5 pm (Teddy's)	7 Property Meeting 1 pm	1 ALL SAINTS DAY 8
9	10 Lefse Prep in AM: Peel & Boil Potatoes	11 Lefse Making-Rolling & Grilling 1 pm	12 -Worship Service- 5:30 pm meal 6 pm Worship	13	14	15
16 Council Meeting 10:45 am	17	18 Food Pantry 2-4 pm	19 Movie Theater Night, 5 pm	20	21	22
23 Special Meeting After Church: Replacement of Church Pews Youth Bowling After Church	24	25	26 No Worship Service	27 Office is Closed. <i>HAPPY Thanks Giving</i>	28	29

Nov. Special Events:

- Nov 2nd: All Saints Sunday
- Nov. 10th: Lefse Prep
- Nov. 11th: Lefse Cook
- Nov. 19th: Movie Theater Night
- Nov. 23rd: Special Meeting: Replacement of Church Pews

Youth Bowling
- Nov. 27th: Office is Closed Happy Thanksgiving
- Nov. 30th: Hanging of the Greens

Recurring Monthly:

Monday: Quilting, 1 pm
Thursday: Text Study w/Minister Matthew, 10 am



BUILDING USAGE:

Monday: Cub Scouts
Thursday: Classical Conversations, 8:30 am
NA Meeting, 7 pm



CONTACT US AT:

Mailing: P.O. Box 441, Watford City, ND 58854
Physical: 212 2nd Street NW, Watford City, ND 58854
Office Phone: (701)444-3244
Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9:00 am—2:00 pm
Friday, By Appointment Only
Facebook: First Lutheran Church
Website: www.flwc.church
Email: office@flwc.church
Synod Authorized Minister - Matthew Rolfson
Secretary - Lindsay Thall
Website & App Manager - Ardyce Alveshire



Giving Online!



SCAN ME

Giving has never been so easy! Just scan the QR code & follow the instructions for a safe & secure way to give. Your donation will appear on your year-end giving statement.

Thank You for your donation!

Birthdays of the Month



Cheryl Renuille 11/1
 Marcia Hellandsaas 11/3
 Keith Helmuth 11/3
 Hayley Moe 11/3
 Joy Patten 11/3
 Rhylie Ledahl-Berger 11/4
 Ardyce Alveshere 11/6
 Matthew Rolfson 11/6
 Michon Sax 11/6
 Bryan Fulwider 11/7
 Colton Jore 11/7
 Donald Stenberg 11/8
 Katie Tschetter 11/8
 Lloyd Alveshere 11/9

Jesson Homiston 11/9
 Terry Moe 11/9
 Cassandra Bellon 11/11
 Peggy Leiseth 11/11
 Kristen Stenehjerm 11/11
 Tucker Sanford 11/12
 Anna Schwartz 11/12
 Eldon Beard 11/15
 Glen Beard 11/15
 Sean Larsen 11/17
 Benjamin Haugeberg 11/18
 Avery Holen 11/20
 JessAnne Knutson 11/20
 Stefanie Russell 11/20

Curtis Sorenson 11/20
 Marlene Fowler 11/21
 Jill Helmuth 11/21
 Sharon Olson 11/21
 Jane Swenson 11/21
 David Berg 11/23
 Rocky Prestangen 11/23
 Grace Alex 11/24
 William Langford 11/26
 Donald Olson 11/29
 Jenna Wahlstrom 11/29
 Aryls Frazier 11/30
 Landon Ledahl 11/30
 Richard Wisness 11/30



Glen & Anne Beard 11/1
 Rockey & Sharon Prestangen 11/15
 Kelly & Peni Peterson 11/26



OCTOBER CHURCH ATTENDANCE

-SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES-

OCTOBER 5:	56
OCTOBER 12:	41
OCTOBER 19:	62
OCTOBER 26:	55

-WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICES-

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1:	54
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8:	NA
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22:	NA

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY



SALVATION ARMY DONATION – On October 14th, Minister Matthew Rolfson had the honor of presenting a check for \$10,000 to the McKenzie County Salvation Army. We know these funds will be put to good use for the people in need within our community. Pictured left to right: Gene Heck, Kayla Ruby & Matthew Rolfson.



ANNUAL TABLE PARTY



ANNUAL TABLE PARTY – On Sunday, October 13th was our 4th annual table party. Everyone’s tables were uniquely decorated with their own special stories. Minister Matthew opened with a prayer. We enjoyed a meal of charcuterie cups & delicious desserts while listening to our speaker, Lynn Welker-Fevold share her journey with us about Brian, her husband & how cancer changes your lives not only as the person fighting but also the caregiver. We also were gifted journals that had Brian’s own photography on them! All donations will go towards McKenzie County Cancer Center to the Compassionate Care Fund. If you would like to make a donation, please contact McKenzie County Hospital.



QUILT SUNDAY

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS – Our quilters have been busy this year! Sunday, October 19th, our sanctuary was decorated with over 50 quilts. Throughout the year, our quilters met once a week & created all of these beautiful blankets. We took a moment during worship service to bless all of the quilts as they journey into others homes to provide warmth & comfort all over the country. If you would like to help with quilting, they meet every Monday at 1:00 pm.



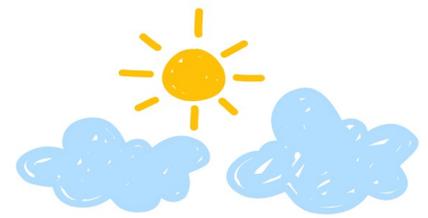
CARE TEAM AT WORK



CARE TEAM – Do you know that we have a care team at FLC-WC?? If you didn't, then you are probably asking yourself, "What is the care team??" Our care team is a group of individuals who have had a calling to want to help individuals or families in their time of need. Whether that be a meal, card or just a ear to listen, they are there for you! On October 20th, our care team got together to stock the freezer with 14 hot dish meals, 2 spaghetti pie meals, 17 apple crisps & dozens of homemade cookies!! If you know of someone that is struggling with the burdens that life puts on us at times, contact the office at 701-444-3244.



YOUTH MINISTRY



WELCOME TO THE
YOUTH MINISTRY
corner!!



Message from the Minister

By Minister Matt

Hello Beloved Children of God,

As Thanksgiving fast approaches, I was thinking about the Parable of the Great Banquet in Luke 14. The parable talks about invited guests that have made excuses why they could not come. So, the host then sends his servants to invite everyone from the streets—the poor, crippled, blind, and lame—to fill the table. This parable is showing us God's desire for all people to join, especially those marginalized by society. The parable also reminded me of a tradition I heard of when I was young. One of my friends always kept an empty seat at their dinner table and I asked why.

They told me they do this because we are called to be like the host in the parable of Luke. It is now our turn to create our own tables of fellowship and extend that same invitation from Jesus' message to others. Remember children of God, always be an inviter and you will be surprised how God's presence will fill the empty spaces at your table and life.

The logo for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child, featuring a white airplane flying over a globe with the text "Samaritan's Purse" and "OPERATION Christmas Child".

**Turn In Date:
November 23rd**

**Good News!
Great Joy!**

Pack a box. Impact a life.

A photograph of a young girl with pigtails, smiling and holding a wrapped gift box with a red and green design.

STATE LYO GATHERING



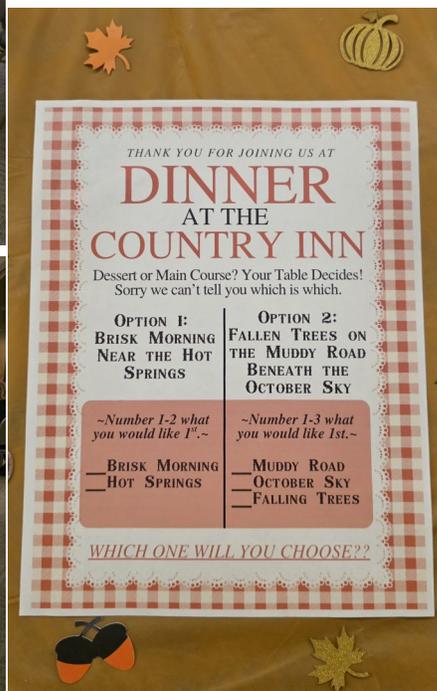
STATE LYO GATHERING – October 16th-18th, some of our youth took the opportunity to go to the ELCA State LYO Gathering that was in Dickinson, ND this year. These are such important events for our youth that provides them with a sense of community & helps to provide support for their spiritual journey & future lives. We are so blessed that the ELCA provides these opportunities to our youth. Thank you to all chaperones & the ones that helped transport our youth to & from the gathering. It takes a village!!



LYO MYSTERY DINNER



DINNER AT THE COUNTRY INN – On October 29th, 6:00 pm, was our Mystery Dinner. This is a fun, LYO fundraiser we have yearly. This years theme was, “Dinner at the Country Inn”. Our Fellowship Hall was decorated in fall-themed colors to give that homey feeling. Each table was started off with a salad but had to choose 1-5 when they would actually get it. Would their silverware come 1st or their drink? Once completed, it was the 2nd part of their meal. They had to decide which different course to go without having any idea whether it was dessert or the entrée. This years entrée was lasagna with breadsticks followed up by homemade apple crisp with vanilla ice cream. While enjoying your meal, you also were able to do some shopping for canned veggies & fruits along with baked treats. We had a completely sold out event this year! Thank you to all who were able to attend!





Giving a Helping Hand Spotlight

We just wanted to take the time to recognize all of our October Volunteers & Special Musical Performers to say,

“Thank You!! We couldn’t do it without you!”

Sue Jorgenson	Joy Patten	Steven Holen
Ed & Charlotte Schilke	Val Williams	The Church Choir
Kevin Sullivan	Donna Slais	Kathleen Beard
Carol Sanford	Matthew Beard	Cara Transtrom
Val Swensrud	The Polivka Family	Vonnie Tarnausky
Donna Rauser	Lynn & Mitch Haugeberg	Jeremy Olson
Ardyce Alveshere	Cindy Geiger	Anna Schwartz
Jennifer Sorenson		

NOVEMBER VOLUNTEER SIGNUP

2nd

Reader: Benjamin Bradley
Greeters/Ushers: David & Celeste Berg
Slideshow: Ardyce Alveshere
Fellowship: Carol Sanford

9th Communion

Reader: Anne Beard
Greeter: Cindy Geiger
Usher/Communion: Jan & Jim Riely & Cindy Geiger
Slideshow: Kevin Sullivan
Fellowship: Curtis & Jennifer Sorenson

16th

Reader: ****AVAILABLE****
Greeter/Usher: Donna Slais
Slideshow: Ardyce Alveshere
Fellowship: ****AVAILABLE****

23rd Communion

Reader: ****AVAILABLE****
Greeter: ****AVAILABLE****
Usher/Communion: Barb Quale & Diane Golany
Slideshow: Kevin Sullivan
Fellowship: ****AVAILABLE****

30th Hanging of the Greens

Greeter/Usher: ****AVAILABLE****
Fellowship: **Church Decorating**

Reach out to the office to get signed up today!!



RECIPE CORNER

The recipe this week is by Kevin Sullivan.

Chili (Feeds Approx. 60)

Ingredients:

10 lbs. Ground Beef	3 Cans Bush’s Baked Beans
5 Cans Chili Beans	5 McCormick Chili Seasoning Pkgs.
5 Cans Dark Kidney Beans	5 Tomato Soup
5 Cans Light Kidney Beans	5 Onions, Chopped
5 Cans Pork & Beans	Seasoning Salt

Directions:

Dump opened cans of beans, tomato soup & chili seasoning pkgs. into 2 slow cooker roasters. Brown meat with onion & use seasoning salt to season at your discretion. Drain excess grease & split meat between the 2 roasters. Cook at 350 degrees for approx. 3 hrs. Top with sour cream & cheese for a tasty bite!

Do you have a recipe you would like to share? Drop it off at the office or email it to office@flwc.church



The meeting was called to order by President Joy at 7:20 PM.

Council Members present included: President Joy, Jennifer, Kevin, Ardyce, Lynn, Minister Matthew, Cindy, and Robin. Glenn Beard and Krista Walz, from the Food Pantry, also joined the meeting.

Lynn led devotions and read from Psalms 100:1-5. It focused on the idea of being called to work joyfully when doing God's work. When called to serve on committees, we should willingly give of our time and gifts. We are to be excited and thankful we have opportunities to do God's work within our church as well as within our communities. We need to share God's joy.

Approval of Agenda: President Joy requested to add the following items to the agenda: Congregational Survey for Wednesday Night Service, addition of Quilt polling, Krista Walz to speak on behalf of the Food Pantry, and review delegates to the McKenzie Health. A motion was made by Robin to approve agenda with the proposed additions; seconded by Lynn.

Motion carried.

Approval of the September 21st minutes: Cindy indicated a correction needed to be made regarding changing spelling of the Fall Table Party's guest speaker's name from Weller to Welker. Jennifer moved to approve as corrected. Ardyce seconded. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS:

Minister Matthew noted FLC has a very busy agenda the next few weeks which includes Fall Festival, Mystery Meal, and Reformations Sunday, and Lefsa Making. President Joy reminded Minister Matthew to get funeral numbers to Anne Beard as she is working on reports. The FLC has been averaging 1 – 3 funerals monthly.

Lindsay's report was reviewed and not any questions were generated. President Joy noted Lindsay is working hard on the Directory. There are quite a few individuals on the non-active list whose information is still needed. Members are to check in with Lindsay to give assistance.

WELCA: President Joy reported that WELCA is asking the congregation for input regarding "who" should receive a quilt at baptism. Council members need to encourage FLC members to express their opinions. Should quilts just be given to babies that are baptized or do adults also receive them? Does one have to be a member to receive a quilt at baptism? There was a strong consensus among Council members that anyone baptized at our church, member or non-member, should receive a quilt.

TRUST: Kevin and Ardyce will attend the Trust meeting and visit with them about investing.

FINANCE: Kevin reviewed the financial report with the Council. He indicated financially FLC is well above where we were last year. People have been very generous monetarily and non-monetarily.

The Financial Reimbursement was discussed. Cindy made a motion to approve the September reimbursements from the Ruth Iverson Trust to the general fund for expenses outside FLC's regular operating budget for September of 2025. Robin seconded. Motion carried.

Jennifer made a motion to approve the Finance Report. Cindy seconded. Motion carried. The next Finance Committee meeting will be on November 6th at 11:00 AM.

GUEST REQUEST:

Krista Walz, Chairperson of the McKenzie Co Food Pantry, attended the meeting to inform the Council of the status of their giving and elaborated on the upcoming needs for the Holiday meal boxes which are given out annually in November & December. The Food Pantry is experiencing an increase in families. If the government shut down continues, the SNAP program will be discontinued. This will affect 30% of the Food Pantry's participants and would cause further increase in supply & demand. Krista inquired if FLC would let them use the 3rd & 4th grade classrooms for the next couple months. The Council members agreed that the Sunday School kids will not need those classrooms as they will be practicing for the Christmas program. Also Krista is concerned about the rising costs of meats and has had some monetary donations coming, but was inquiring if the FLC could also assist monetarily. The Council thanked Krista for coming forward with her concerns and indicated consideration will be given.

PROPERTY: Robin reviewed progress on the multiple projects on-going at FLC. We need to address the lighting issue in the fellowship hall. Too much light comes in through the ceiling windows and it significantly affects the projection on the big screen, especially during mid mornings & afternoon events such as funerals. Glenn reiterated the options of either purchasing blinds or tinting the windows. Discussion was held. The Council decided tinting would probably be the most appropriate solution. Glenn will get samples and lock in a date on tinting.

Jennifer continues to research ordering new pews for the sanctuary. It would take 120 days from the time the pews are ordered to the final installation. We could have them for Easter if we proceed with this project soon. Joy and Jennifer have fabric samples and will advance with the plan to get visuals and make it available to the congregation.

WORSHIP: Discussion has been held on the Wednesday night services to get input from the attendees. President Joy indicated there were lots of ideas presented such as having a brief order of service, possibly implement more bible camp songs, etc. The need for a Youth pastor or Wednesday night music coordinator positions are evident.

STEWARDSHIP & EVANGELISM: Cindy reviewed the planned activities such as the Fall Bazaar and the Mystery Meal. The group will get together to make the Apple crisp on Oct. 28th at 5:00. November 11 will be Lefsa making so encourage others to attend. President Joy will text the group to see what time works best for all involved. The next Stewardship and Evangelism meeting will be held on November 6th at 5:00. PM.

YOUTH & EDUCATION: Minister Matthew expressed the need for a committee to be developed that could assist in the Wednesday night service and spear head ideas and help Minister Mathew coordinates this church service based on the input from the participants.

The next Youth & Education meeting will be held after church on October 26th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Council Committee Job Descriptions: Joy continues to need some of the Council Committees' job description guidelines for her to finalize them. **Homeland Security Visit & Report:** Caroly Jappe from McKenzie County Homeland Security was at FLC on September 16th. A report was reviewed and discussion was held. Concerns were similar to those discussed before at Council meetings such as no safe rooms, no cameras, no view from Matthew's office, no escape plan, etc. Jappe indicated there is grant money available, so applications need to be filled out.

NEW BUSINESS:

Staffing Changes / Additions/ Costs: Addressed under WORSHIP report.

Volunteering for Church Service- mini interviews, friendly faces of FLC- Discussion was held on doing commercials for volunteering on FaceBook as well as interviews to encourage people to sign up. Lynn questioned if a calling tree would work as it did in the past and Council members could each be in charge of a couple months and personally call members and ask if they could usher or greet on particular Sundays.

McKenzie County Health Delegates- Lindsay received a call to see if FLC wanted to change their representatives. 6 individuals are needed. Discussion was held. The Council decided to keep the current delegates who consist of the following individuals: Marcia Hellansaa, Sonja Prestangen, Ardyce and Lloyd Alvshere, Jennifer Sorenson, and Matthew Rolf

Recruiting New Council Members – Individuals who have expressed interest include Matthew Beard, John Yale, Steve Sanford, & Elizabeth Holen.

The next Council meeting will be held on Sunday, November 16th at 11:00.

Devotion leaders will be as follows: November – Cliff; & December - Cindy.

Lynn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robin seconded. Motion carried.

The Council concluded the meeting by reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Haugeberg First Lutheran Church Council Secretary