

# THE CLARION

*A Word From The Minister*

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.” Romans 12:12

Grace and Peace to You,

Over the past few weeks, we have been in the middle of tribulation as a nation of people and as a Christian community. Political violence has made headlines and global conflicts rage on. It almost seems when we look at social media or turn on the TV, we have not seen many voices that bring us closer together. However, maybe those are the voices that get the most attention. I truly believe and have faith in that the majority of people in this world want peace, hope and understanding. I think those hopeful voices are not coming through. Roman 12 is a reminder to make your hope of peace loud as you rejoice. Calm down in tribulation while being patient with others in their hurt. Above all, be constant in prayer. Listen to the Lord, for the Lord is listening to you.

Yours in Christ,

Minister Matthew Rolfson

## WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 1

5:30 pm – Meal

6:00 pm – Worship

Sunday, October 5

9:30 am – Worship/Communion

10:30 am – Fellowship

Wednesday, October 8

5:30 pm – Meal

6:00 pm – Worship

Sunday, October 12

9:30 am – Worship/Communion

10:30 am – Fellowship

Sunday, October 19

9:30 am—Worship

10:30 am—Fellowship

Wednesday, October 22

5:30 pm – Meal

6:00 pm – Worship/Communion

Sunday, October 26

9:30 am – Worship/Communion

10:30 am – Fellowship

# What's Happening in **October**

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			Worship Meeting 1 9 am -Worship Service- 5:30 pm meal 6 pm Worship	Text Study 2 w/Matthew, 10 am S&E Meeting 5 pm	3	4
5 Property Meeting 10:45 am	6	7 Food Pantry 5-7 pm	8 -Worship Service- 5:30 pm meal 6 pm Worship	9 Text Study w/Matthew, 10 am Finance Meeting 11 am	10	11
12 4th Annual Table Party 2 pm	13 WELCA Meeting 2:30 pm	14	15 No Worship Service	16 	17 LYO Convention - Dickinson October 16th-18th	18
19	20	21 Food Pantry 2-4 pm	22 -Worship Service- 5:30 pm meal 6 pm Worship w/Communion Council Meeting 7:15 pm	23 Text Study w/Matthew, 10 am	24	25
26	27 Trust Meeting 5:30 pm	28	29  MYSTERY DINNER 6 PM	30 NoText Study	31 	

**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

## Oct. Special Events:

- Oct. 12th: 4th Annual Table Party
- Oct. 16th-18th: LYO Conv. in Dickinson
- Oct. 29th: Mystery Dinner



### CONTACT US AT:

Mailing: P.O. Box 441, Watford City, ND 58854  
 Physical: 212 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.flwc.church)  
 Email: [office@flwc.church](mailto:office@flwc.church)  
 Synod Authorized Minister - Matthew Rolfson  
 Secretary - Lindsay Thall  
 Website & App Manager - Ardyce Alveshere



## 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



Elizabeth Jones 10/1  
 Miles Wollan 10/1  
 Jackie Sullivan 10/2  
 Warren Renbarger 10/4  
 Adrock Schwartz 10/5  
 Lisa Shipman 10/5  
 Angie Moe 10/6  
 Austin Patten 10/7  
 Douglas Nordby 10/8  
 Miles Wollan II 10/9

Leston Johnson 10/10  
 Gene Fedorenko 10/12  
 Birch Tschetter 10/12  
 Kylee Pederson 10/13  
 Beverly Leom 10/14  
 Mark Knutson 10/15  
 Richard Jore 10/16  
 Noel Quale 10/17  
 David Fredrickson 10/22  
 Alex Chaffee 10/23

Travis Wollan 10/23  
 Ryan Chaffee 10/25  
 Dale Patten 10/27  
 Erin Fjeldahl 10/28  
 Seth Forbes 10/28  
 Brady Leiseth 10/29  
 Artis Stevens 10/29  
 Cari Forbes 10/30  
 Dennis Sanford 10/30  
 Elizabeth Holen 10/31



Calvin & Sharon Brown 10/6  
 Lloyd & Ardyce Alveshere 10/17  
 Tim & Erin Fjeldahl 10/19  
 Kevin & Jackie Sullivan 10/21



## SEPTEMBER CHURCH ATTENDANCE

### -SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES-

SEPTEMBER 7:	113
SEPTEMBER 14:	56
SEPTEMBER 21:	67
SEPTEMBER 28:	57

### -WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICES-

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10:	56
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17:	64
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24:	NA

## First Lutheran Church Coat Drive

**Turn in by 1<sup>st</sup> of November**

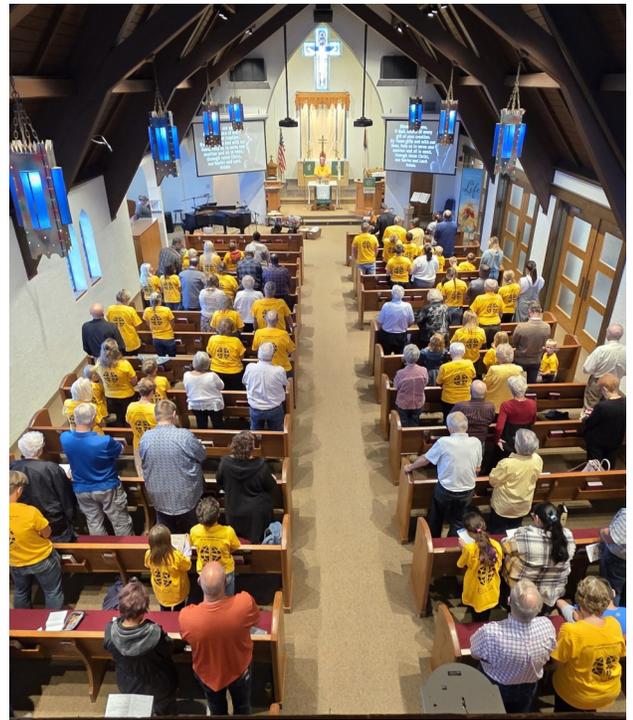
Drop off times:  
 Mon.-Thurs.: 9-2 pm  
 Sunday: 9-12 pm

**Turn In Date: November 23rd**

**Good News! Great Joy!**

*Pack a box. Impact a life.*

# RALLY SUNDAY



**RALLY SUNDAY** – September 7th was our Rally Day celebration this year. We started off the day with a beautiful service. We then enjoyed delicious food with our friends & headed outside for the real fun to begin! This year we had bounce houses, jumbo bubble making station & homemade tie-dye t-shirt activity. The best was watching Minister Matthew get dunked at least 10 times in the dunk tank! Thank you to everyone that helped organize this special day & was able to attend. We couldn't do it without all of you!!



# 4TH ANNUAL TABLE PARTY

In the Valley, He Leads:

*A Caregiver's Story of Love*

Guest Speaker:  
Lynn Welker Fevold

First Lutheran Church  
4<sup>TH</sup> Annual Table Party  
October 12, 2025 2:00

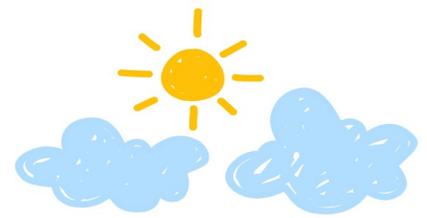
Free Will Donation: proceeds  
benefit MCHS Cancer Center  
"Compassionate Care Fund"

Limited seating  
please RSVP by Oct 1st  
701-770-6858

FEVOLD

**IN THE VALLEY HE LEADS, A CAREGIVER'S STORY OF LOVE** – On October 12th, 2:00 pm, will be our 4th Annual Table Party hosted by the women of First Lutheran Church. This year our guest speaker will be Lynn Welker-Fevold. Come enjoy her story while eating different food arrangements including: pumpkin, apple & strawberry pretzel dessert & charcuterie boards. There will even be a personalized gift given to each attendee! Please RSVP to the office at 701-444-3244 to reserve your seat or the signup sheet to reserve your seat is located right outside of the Narthex. Please note that seats are limited. This is a freewill donation & all proceeds will go to MCHS Cancer Center 'Compassionate Care Fund'.

# YOUTH MINISTRY



WELCOME TO THE  
YOUTH MINISTRY  
corner!!



## Message from the Minister

By Minister Matt

“But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles.”-Isaiah 40:31

Hello Beloved Children of God,

Growing up, I loved playing outside in the fall. Playing in the falling leaves or making campfires. Many of those times, playing as a child, I would play outside for long hours without coming in until it was time to eat to renew. As this Fall comes, think of what renews your strength. What makes you, “mount up with wings like eagles”? What is good for your mind, body, and soul?



**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**WND LYO YOUTH GATHERING**  
ASTORIA HOTEL DICKINSON ND

**WANTED: YOUTH**  
**HIGH SCHOOL - OCT 16<sup>TH</sup> - 17<sup>TH</sup>**  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL - OCT 17<sup>TH</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup>**

**JOIN US FOR:**

**SPEAKER: DANI VOGEL**

**WORSHIP PRAYER FRIENDS**  
**MUSIC GAMES SERVICE**

A collection of western-themed icons: a brown horse head, a pink cowboy hat, a blue and white cowboy boot, and a yellow sheriff's star with the word "SHERIFF" on it.

# WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP



**WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP** – September 10th, was our first Wednesday evening worship service & we had a room full of adults & children. We begin each Wednesday Worship off with a meal at 5:30 pm that has been provided by committees & youth families. We then go into our Worship Service at 6:00 pm where afterwards we go straight into our classes. We want to thank WELCA & the Rolfson family for providing Slush Burgers on September 10th & the S&E Committee along with the Beard family for providing Chili with all the fixings for September 17th. Just a reminder, the last Wednesday of the month is our designated “fun night”. This month, we had a board game night with delicious pizza. Our youth also put together close to 40 Apple Crisp Kits to sell. We hope to see you in October for more Wednesday night fun!



# LYO MYSTERY DINNER



**MYSTERY DINNER** – October 29th at 6:00 pm, LYO will be having their annual “Mystery Dinner”. Be prepared to be surprised at the unique dinner plans LYO has “cooked” up for you! You can now purchase your tickets for only \$10 each. Spots are limited so don’t miss out on this fun evening!



## GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS. FOOD DRIVE

**GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS.** – During the month of August, we held a food drive as our service project for “God’s work. Our hands.” and the total is in!! We were able to donate 574 lbs. of food to the McKenzie County Food Pantry!! Our contribution as a congregation is going to help so many families in need right here in McKenzie County.



# Giving a Helping Hand Spotlight

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

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

Laura Dahl	Cindy Geiger	Val Swensrud
Curtis & Jennifer Sorenson	David & Celeste Berg	Tarri Wenstad
Kevin Sullivan	Eldon Beard	Vicki Karpnyak
Nathan Dahl	Ann Beard	Levi Sanford
Ardyce Alveshere	Elyce Linseth	Kathleen Beard
Donna Slais	Miles Wollan	Duane Sanford
Anna Schwartz	Elaine Simpson	Children’s Choir

## OCTOBER

### VOLUNTEER SIGNUP

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Reader: S2l Jñ' /l μ ř ñ μ

Greeters/Ushers: Eπ & C> a' kññ  
Sc> -h j l

Slideshow: Kt ū-μ S2 kñūaμ

Fellowship: Ca' ñkSaμ j ñ' π

☪ 6 Communion

Reader: VakS\_ l μ ř' 2 π

Greeter: **\*\*AVAILABLE\*\***

Usher/Communion:

Kt ū-μ S2 kñūaμ

Slideshow: A' πúcti Akñi ř> l ' l

Fellowship: **\*\*AVAILABLE\*\***

ñ 6

Reader: VakW-kkað ř

Greeter/Usher: Dñμ μ a Sla-ř

Slideshow: **\*\*AVAILABLE\*\***

Fellowship: **\*\*AVAILABLE\*\***

3 7 6 Communion

Reader: MaññBi a' π

Greeter: **\*\*AVAILABLE\*\***

Usher/Communion:

**\*\*AVAILABLE\*\***

Slideshow: **\*\*AVAILABLE\*\***

Fellowship: **\*\*AVAILABLE\*\***

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



## RECIPE CORNER

*The recipe this week is by Deb Wisness. You can find it in the Treasures from Heaven WELCA Recipe Book.*

### Hñ6D-ř>

#### **Ingredients:**

- |                               |                                    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1-1/2 lbs. ground beef        | 1 can mixed vegetables (use juice) |
| 2 tbs. minced onion           | 2 cups chow mein noodles           |
| 2 tbs. chopped celery         | 2 tbs. soy sauce                   |
| 2 cans cream of mushroom soup | 1 can of mushrooms with juice      |
| 1 can chicken & rice soup     |                                    |

#### **Directions:**

Brown meat, onion & celery. Drain. Put in a casserole pan & mix remaining ingredients in. Bake in oven at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

*Do you have a recipe you would like to share? Drop it off at the office or email it to [office@flwc.church](mailto:office@flwc.church)*



The meeting was called to order by President Joy at 11:02 AM.

Council Members present included: President Joy, Sue, Jennifer, Kevin, Ardyce, Lynn, Minister Matthew, Cindy, and Robin. Glenn Beard also joined the meeting to give a report.

Robin led devotions by enlightening the Council on the Arc of the Covenant. We are reminded that without the shedding of the blood of the Lamb, there would be no forgiveness of sins. Jesus is the sacrifice for our sins. Through his death and resurrection, we have forgiveness of our sins. No matter how tough life gets, we have forgiveness through our Lord & Savior.

**Approval of Agenda:** Joy suggested to add an update of the Food, Fellowship, and Faith Table discussion to New Business. A motion was made by Jennifer to approve agenda with the proposed addition; seconded by Cindy. Motion carried.

**Approval of the August 13, 2025 minutes:** Jennifer moved to approve the minutes. Ardyce seconded. Motion carried.

Glenn Beard gave an update on current building projects. The signage has been fixed. There is a 2-year warranty on the sign and a 5-year warranty on parts and labor. Problems with the drainage system were discovered as the pipes are all rotted. All Ash trees on the church property may have to be removed according to a “proposed” City Ordinance.

**STAFF REPORTS:** Since Minister Matthew had not yet entered the Council meeting, President Joy initiated discussion on his Performance Review. He earned good reviews. A suggestion was to add one more goal recommending Minister Matthew to communicate more consistently with the Council. Kevin commented on how Minister Matthew has had extra duties added to his plate and should possibly be compensated. Kevin made a motion to award Minister Matthew with \$1,000 bonus, following a positive performance review. Ardyce seconded. Discussion was held. Motion carried with one opposed vote as it was felt some kind of rationale is needed to determine “if and when” to award this type of bonus. Members agreed that a personnel committee needs to be formed to set up guidelines for giving out bonuses. Minister Matthew came into the Council meeting as it was time to give his report. He is working on a plan to implement an Adult Bible Study on Wednesday nights or possibly even Thursdays at 10:00 AM. He would like to start this up in 2 weeks. Discussion was held on various people who could lead these text studies and names were offered up. President Joy offered to contact a couple of prospects to see if they would be interested. Upcoming events were discussed– Lefse making, Fall Festival, & Mystery Meal. It was suggested to have the Fall Festival coincide with the Mystery Meal to generate increased participation. Lindsay’s report was reviewed. It listed the dates of the Wednesday meals, the confirmation parent, and the committee that is in charge of the meal preparation. Suggestions were made to have Lindsay print more bulletins as we have been running out each Sunday due to increased attendance. Robin requested the pages of the Church Council Meeting Packet be numbered on the “top” of the page for ease of reading and organization.

**WELCA:** The fall gathering of the Upper Missouri Cluster of the Women of the ELCA is on Saturday, October 4 at the Fire Hall In Wildrose. Contact Val Swensrud if interested.

**TRUST:** Kevin informed the Council the direct deposit for the Trust’s portion of Minister Matthew’s salary is going smoothly. The Trust Committee meets on October 27 at 5:30.

**FINANCE:** Kevin reviewed the financial report with the Council. He indicated money collected from the free will offering will be deposited directly into the FLC account. Council members were reminded that there are 2 separate offerings collected on Wednesday Church nights. The Financial Reimbursement was discussed. Jennifer made a motion to approve the August reimbursements from the Ruth Iverson Trust to the general fund for expenses outside FLC’s regular operating budget for August of 2025. Lynn seconded. Motion carried. Robin made a motion to approve the Finance Report. Cindy seconded. Motion carried. The next Finance Committee meeting will be on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

**PROPERTY:** Robin reviewed progress on the multiple projects that are on-going at FLC. The windows will soon be completed. Security camera locations were discussed as there is not any view to either the front parking lot or the office door. The Altar step is becoming a hazard, so discussion was held on just removing it. Robin will check on other options with some being as simple as moving the communion table down from the altar area. The Property committee is looking into replacing the projector in the Dining Hall as there is a significant amount of daylight interference in the morning or early afternoon. Options were discussed such as tinting the window on the ceiling, putting a blind up in that area, etc. Jennifer has been doing some research on purchasing new kneeling pads, refinishing the pews, or even replacing the pews. Refinishing the pews will take a long time as the company would only do 8 pews at a time and this would take 6 weeks / 8 pews. She has been doing some cost analysis with 2 different companies in regard of purchasing new pews vs. refinishing the old pews; there is not a significant difference in cost. Robin suggested repurposing the old pews & donating them to the Spring Brooke Bible Camp to use in their Chapel… if we replace our current pews. The carpet in the church is also getting worn, so if the pews are removed to refinish, it may be a good time to update the carpeting.

**WORSHIP:** President Joy indicated the Blessing of the Hound Service will be tabled.

**STEWARDSHIP & EVANGELISM:** The Table Party will be held on October 12<sup>th</sup> and will feature Lynn Weller as the guest speaker. The Committee is planning to help the youth make Apple Crisp Kits for their Fall Fundraiser. Operation Shoebox’ project will be done again this year. Jennifer will have these boxes available to the congregation in the next couple weeks. The next Stewardship and Evangelism meeting will be held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00. PM.

**YOUTH & EDUCATION:** Wednesday Church school is underway and going well as attendance has been ranging from 50 – 58 people. There are 14 confirmation students at this time. The Fall Youth Gathering will be in Dickinson on October 16 – 18 and registration is open at this time. The Mystery Dinner fundraiser is set for October 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Council Committee Job Descriptions:** Joy continues to need some of the Council Committees’ job description guidelines in order for her to finalize them.

**Homeland Security Visit & Report:** Caroly Jappe from McKenzie County Homeland Security was at FLC on September 16<sup>th</sup> and did a walk through. Kevin indicated an evacuation plan is needed. The review of what was discussed will be tabled until the next meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Recruiting New Council Members** Jennifer will term out this year. Robin and Lynn’s terms expire, but they are both eligible for another 3- year term. Cindy indicated she is stepping down for personal reasons and she has 1 year left of her term. Committee members need to be encouraging new nominees to serve on these committees. Steve Sanford has expressed an interest.

**Food, Fun, & Fellowship–** President Joy reviewed comments from FLC members. People indicated our church is warm and welcoming. Some commented on how they like a song leader. There also was interest in a Men’s Bible Study or another book study.

The next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:15 PM. Devotion leaders will be as follows: October – Lynn; November – Cliff; & December—Cindy. Robin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cindy seconded. Motion carried. The Council concluded the meeting by reciting the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Haugeberg

First Lutheran Church Council Secretary