



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Watford City*

## the Clarion

September 2023



On Sunday, August 13, sisters Gavyn and Gracyn Darrington blessed us with their "Mabel and Marge" 4-H Dramatic Presentation during coffee hour. The girls played (including dress) the part of two older Norwegian, Lutheran friends having a typical coffee break visit. Changing 30-year-old church curtains, lefsa, lutefisk and jello were all part of the visit the ladies had one fine morning.

The state winning presentation was written by Norwegian, Lutheran mom Nikki Darrington.

The Darrington Family lives on a farm near Arnegard. The girls go to school at Watford City with Gracyn entering the 7th grade and Gavyn the 6th.

We thank them for so graciously sharing their talents and providing us with the opportunity



Sunday School will start  
on September 17th at  
10:30 am following  
worship



## RALLY SUNDAY

SEPT. 10, 10:30 AM @  
1ST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**BOUNCY HOUSES**

**FELLOWSHIP**

**DUNK TANK**

**LYO FUNDRAISER**

**PICKLE BALL**

**CORN HOLE**

**OTHER GAMES**

**BBQ**

**FREE WILL OFFERING**



**BRING THE FAMILY FOR A DAY FULL OF FUN!**



Confirmation classes will begin on Sunday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the First Lutheran Church fellowship hall following . All students, along with their parents, are invited to attend. Parent attendance is strongly encouraged as we will go over the list of trips/activities we have planned and the requirements/expectations of our Confirmation students.

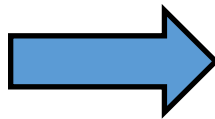




We will continue with the BBQ Bible Study the last Wednesday of the month until it gets to cold. When that happens we will change the menu and move inside.



Looks like the Schwartz family is full of Artists! This is a drawing Poppy Schwartz left us after worship.



A word from our Minister Matthew Rolfson  
Grace and Peace,

I am a rookie when it comes to organizing a sermon or looking up scripture readings for a Sunday. However, a small miracle happened when doing research on Jeremiah who I thought was going to be my focus for my Sermon. When I started to read about Jeremiah, I found that he had been called the, “Weeping Prophet”, by Biblical Scholars. The reason for this is because he was so honest about his woes as a Prophet. However, in Jeremiah 15:15-21, Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words from God; I am with you. Throughout this next month as we move deeper into Fall, remember those words. Remember them in your grief and celebration or when rewriting a sermon. He is with you.

Minister Matthew Rolfson



From Val Swensrud: I'm excited to share with you the Upper Missouri Cluster Fall Gathering will be in Watford City at First Lutheran Church on October 7, 2023. Registration is at 9:30 am. Our Theme will be Katie's Fund in honor of Katharina Von Bora Luther.

Her passion for the work of Martin Luther is evident. When you are in a monastery and escape with other nuns in herring fish barrels, this shows how badly you want to follow Luther. A person caught leaving their monastic vows could be tortured and imprisoned for the rest of their lives.

Is there something in your life that you are passionate enough to go to all lengths to make it happen or see it through? This type of commitment needs a strong faith in Jesus Christ.

Katie's Fund is an important means of financial support for ministries and activities in three areas: leadership development, global connections and living theology. Katie's fund was established as an endowment.

Will you support Katie's Fund so that this community of women will continue to impact other women all over the world?

# SILENT AUCTION



There are 3 quilts and a piece of pottery up for silent auction out in the hallway. A 30" flat screen TV is also up for auction. This is to raise money for Katie's Project which is 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 16<sup>th</sup> century German reformer Martin Luther. Auction will run until Sept 10th, Rally Sunday.

Make sure to stop in and put your bid in!



# Lay Preaching Academy

**Purpose:** Equip lay members of congregations to preach and lead worship with confidence

The intent is that participants will learn to preach and lead worship with a fuller understanding of our unique ELCA Lutheran framework and a solid grounding in the Bible. To that end, the content will include attention to the following four questions:

- What is a sermon?
- How do we read and understand scripture through a Lutheran lens?
- What is the practical task of creating a sermon?
- Why do we worship as we worship, i.e. what is the shape of worship and what does it all mean?

## Course Materials

Handouts provided ahead of time by instructors, as well as two books that participants will be required to purchase. The books are:

*"A Lay Preacher's Guide: How to Craft a Faithful Sermon"* by Karoline Lewis - You may purchase it at [www.amzn.to/45FDfaJ](http://www.amzn.to/45FDfaJ)

*"Lutheran Trump Cards: Playing Our Best Hand in the 21st Century"* by Dave Daubert - You may purchase it at [www.bit.ly/DaveDaubert](http://www.bit.ly/DaveDaubert)

## The expectations for being a part of the Lay Preaching Academy are:

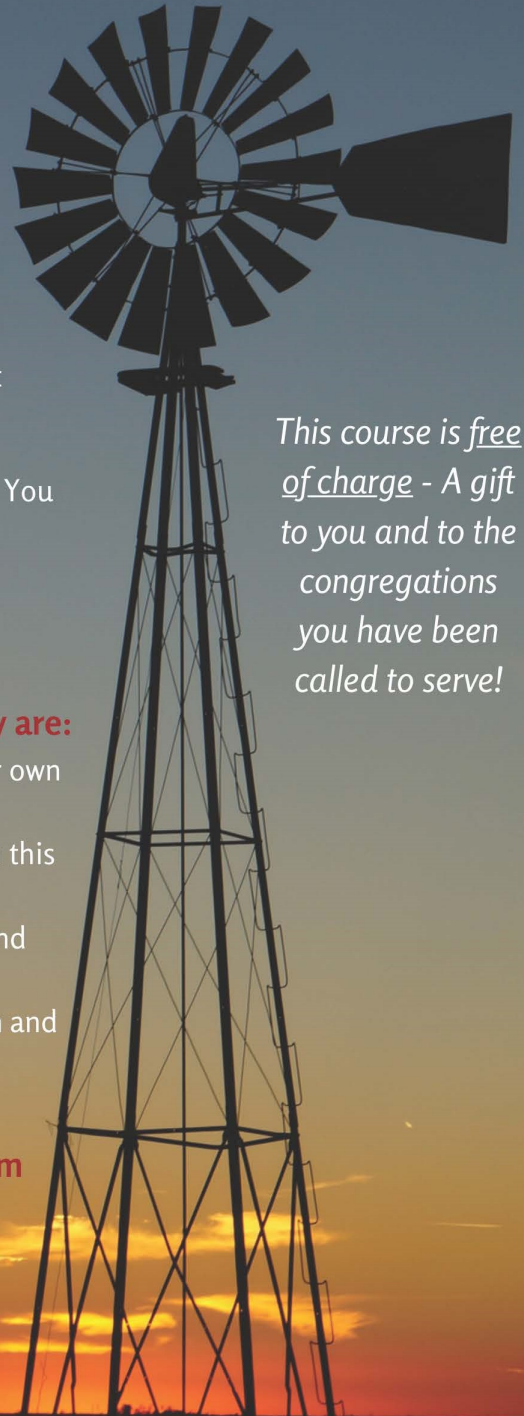
- Connect with an ordained leader of an ELCA congregation, either your own pastor or deacon, or a vice-pastor or nearby leader, if your church is currently without. The hope is for you to be affirmed and supported in this journey to preach.
- Faithfully attend each session, honoring the commitment of leaders and peers.
- Read assigned material ahead of time to participate fully in discussion and learning during sessions.
- Ask questions without fear of judgment from peers or leaders.

The 8 sessions will meet on **Tuesday evenings** from 7:00-8:30 pm on the following dates:

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| September 19 | October 17  |
| September 26 | October 24  |
| October 3    | November 7  |
| October 10   | November 14 |

*This course is free of charge - A gift to you and to the congregations you have been called to serve!*

To register for the Fall 2023 Lay Preaching Academy visit:  
[www.bit.ly/LayPreachingFall2023](http://www.bit.ly/LayPreachingFall2023)





# September 2023

| Sunday                                  | Monday               | Tuesday            | Wednesday                                       | Thursday  | Friday                                    | Saturday   |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|---|---|---|--|
|   |                      |                    |   |   | 1<br>Brinden Kostad                       | 2<br>Alyssa Johnson<br>Maycie Lass                         |
| 3                                       | 4                    | 5                  | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9  |
| 10<br>Janelle Berg<br>Caroline Schwartz | 11                   | 12<br>Ashley Holen | 13  | 14<br>Alvin Gravos<br>Carol Sanford                 | 15<br>Jeffery Schwartz<br>Addison Sundeen | 16<br>Karn Pederson  |
| 17                                      | 18<br>Brian Anderson | 19<br>Nyla Dahl    | 20<br>Cari & Justin Forbes<br>Ken & Milana Berg | 21  | 22<br>Cliff Wenstad<br>Brian Zingleman    | 23<br>Mithcael Haugeberg<br>Donna Sanford<br>Steve Sanford |
| 24                                      | 25                   | 26                 | 27<br>Sue Jorgenson                             | 28<br>Olivia Dwyer<br>Kolby Sailor<br>Britnee Sweet | 29  | 30<br>Cody Bellon  |
|   |                      |                    |   |   |   | First day of fall  |

Notes:



# September 2023

## Activities

| Sunday  | Monday                         | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday                                | Saturday                               |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <p>3</p> <p>Worship 9:30 AM<br/>Coffee Hour 10:30 AM<br/>NA 8 PM</p>  | <p>4</p> <p>Quilting 1 PM</p>  | <p>5</p> <p>Worship Mtg 9 AM<br/>Food Panty 5-7 PM<br/>NA Mtg 8 PM</p> | <p>6</p> <p>WELCA 10 AM<br/>Youth &amp; Ed Mtg 11 AM<br/>Stewardship &amp; Evan 5 PM<br/>@ Teddy's</p> | <p>7</p> <p>Youth for Christ 4 PM<br/>NA 6:30 PM</p>  | <p>1</p> <p>Property Mtg 11:30 AM</p> | <p>2</p>                               |
| <p>10</p> <p>Worship 9:30 AM<br/>Rally Sunday 10:30 AM<br/>NA 8 PM</p>  | <p>11</p> <p>Quilting 1 PM</p> | <p>12</p> <p>NA 8 PM</p>   | <p>13</p> <p>Peace Circle 1:30 PM</p>  | <p>14</p> <p>Youth for Christ 4 PM<br/>NA 6:30 PM</p> | <p>15</p>                             | <p>16</p>                              |
| <p>17</p> <p>Worship 9:30 AM<br/>Coffee Hour 10:30 AM<br/>Sunday School 10:30 AM<br/>FLC Council Mtg 10:45 AM<br/>Confirmation 6 PM<br/>NA 8 PM</p> | <p>18</p> <p>Quilting 1 PM</p> | <p>19</p> <p>Food Panty 2-4 PM<br/>NA 8 PM</p>                         | <p>20</p>  | <p>21</p> <p>Youth for Christ 4 PM<br/>NA 6:30 PM</p> | <p>22</p>                             | <p>23</p> <p>First day<br/>of fall</p> |
| <p>24</p> <p>Worship 9:30 AM<br/>Coffee Hour 10:30 AM<br/>Sunday School 10:30 AM<br/>Confirmation 6 PM<br/>NA 8 PM</p>                              | <p>25</p> <p>Quilting 1 PM</p> | <p>26</p> <p>NA 8 PM</p>   | <p>27</p> <p>BBQ Bible Study</p>   | <p>28</p> <p>Youth for Christ 4 PM<br/>NA 6:30 PM</p> | <p>29</p>                             | <p>30</p>                              |

Notes: