



the Clarion

Volume 51 No. 12
December 2022

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 Alveshire, Secretary

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



Watford City Area Lutheran Parish December Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 4th

9:00 AM – Banks Lutheran Church

11:00 AM – First Lutheran Church

Sunday, December 11th

9:00 AM – Banks Lutheran Church

11:00 AM – First Lutheran Church

Sunday, December 18th

11:00 AM – First Lutheran Church (S/S Program)

4:00 PM – Garden Lutheran Church (S/S Program)

Saturday, December 24th (Christmas Eve)

4:00 PM – Banks Lutheran Church

6:00 PM – First Lutheran Church

Sunday, December 25th (Christmas Day)

9:00 AM – Garden 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 December Schedule

Sunday, Dec. 4th

10:00 AM – Banks & First

Sunday, Dec. 11th

10:00 AM – Banks & First

Sunday, Dec. 18th

10:00 AM – Garden & First

11:00 AM – Christmas Program at First

4:00 PM – Christmas Program at Garden

Sunday, Dec. 25th

No Sunday School

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

facebook

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 Russell Beard*
- ✝ *Family & friends of David Jones*
- ✝ *Family & friends of Nancy (Quale) Lee*
- ✝ *Family & friends of Thoralf Sax*
- ✝ *Jessica Wisness Burns*
- ✝ *Danell Dougherty*
- ✝ *Jacob Faulkner*
- ✝ *MeLinda Haugeberg*
- ✝ *Micah Moxness*
- ✝ *Ron Peterson*
- ✝ *Mary Jane Rhodes*
- ✝ *Melany Sanford*
- ✝ *Donald Schmidt*
- ✝ *Gary Thorson*



If you know someone needing prayers, please contact the Watford City Area Lutheran Parish office by calling (701)444-3244 or emailing office@wclutheranparish.com



Meetings for the Women of the ELCA



Wednesday, December 7th

10:00 am – FLC General WELCA at FLC

Monday, December 12th

5:00 pm – Hope Circle at FLC

Tuesday, December 13th

2:00 pm – Garden WELCA at the Senior Citizen Center

Wednesday, December 14th

1:30 pm – Peace Circle at FLC

No meeting for Banks Ladies Aid in December



*If you would like to donate a poinsettia to decorate First Lutheran Church's Sanctuary for Christmas, please pick up a poinsettia order form at First Lutheran Church and drop (along with payment) in the offering plate or by the office. Cost is \$11.00 per plant. **Deadline to order is Sunday, December 18th.***

Worship Dedications



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

December 4th – *In memory of Arnold & June Peterson by the Alvesshere & Haugen families*

December 11th – *In honor of Elaine Fedorenko's birthday by her family*

December 25th – *Ed & Charlotte Schilke*

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.



There is a special "Giving Tree" located in the Narthex of First Lutheran Church. You can place caps, gloves, mittens or scarves on the tree to give to others in need. Both adult & youth sizes of these items are needed. Deadline to add items to the tree is Sunday, January 1st, 2023.



First Lutheran Church will be having an Advent Festival following worship on Sunday, December 4th! We'll start with a potluck lunch of sandwiches & bars then decorate the church. There will be fun activities for the kids and even an ugly sweater contest! Join us for a fun day of fellowship that will get us all in the Christmas spirit!



**First Lutheran Church
Presents
"Celebrate! The Joy and
Wonder of Christmas"
Annual Christmas Cantata
Wednesday, December 14th
6:30 pm
First Lutheran Church
Fellowship following the
concert with apple cider,
cocoa, coffee & goodies...**

All are welcome!



Sunday School Christmas Programs



December 18th

**First Lutheran Sunday School
11:00 pm (during regular worship)**

**Bank/Garden Sunday School at Garden
4:00 pm (in lieu of regular worship)**



December 24th

**4:00 pm ~ Banks Lutheran Church
6:00 pm ~ First Lutheran Church**

Watford City Community Blood Drive

Give the gift of
life this
Christmas!



Wednesday, Dec. 7

12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 8

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Watford City Civic Center
213 E. 2nd Street, Watford City, ND



It's the Season of Giving!

Schedule your life-saving donation today!

Contact Kathy Skarda at 701-421-2733

Or Scan the QR Code to access the online schedule



Bringing Help and Hope
Donations for those effected by Hurricane Ian

Thank you to everyone who made a donation to Lutheran Disaster Response to help the victims of Hurricane Ida. Total collected was \$1,773.10!



Says...Thank You 



A HUGE thank you to everyone who participated in the Operation Christmas Child project this year! Over 50 boxes were collected and \$440 was donated for postage.



Photo above: All the boxes that have been dropped off in Sidney, packed up ready to go (approx. 1,500 boxes)!
Photo below: All the boxes from Watford City Area Lutheran P.arish (over 50 boxes)! \$440 was donated for postage.



The offering taken on Sunday, November 20th was given to Upper Missouri Ministries, and totaled \$2,241.00. UMM expresses their deepest gratitude for everyone's donations!



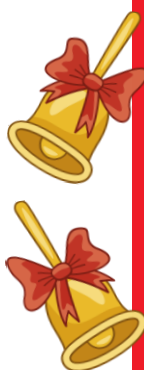
We had the privilege of visits from Bishop Craig Schweitzer this past month. On Nov. 13th he visited with folks at Banks & Garden Lutheran Churches and on Nov. 20th he visited with folks at First Lutheran and then joined the Confirmation for a meal & fellowship. We are very grateful for the time Bishop Craig spent with us!



LYO having fun bowling at the Strike Zone in Williston on Nov. 27th



Bell ringers needed...



Sign up to
Ring the Bell
at
calendly.com/ringthebell

90% of the funds raised stay in Watford City!



Endowment Trust funds education, mission and some capital projects...



The First Lutheran Endowment Trust Fund, established by a bequest from Clara Rothie, has 4 missions: funding Christian Education at First Lutheran; donating to religious activities in ELCA supported organizations; providing college scholarships to First Lutheran member students; and supporting capital projects of the congregation by matching donations up to 25% of the total project cost.

Within those missions, the Fund pays for Sunday School and confirmation materials, assists with costs for LYO activities and provides camperships for Bible camp. The fund recently provided additional support to Upper Missouri Ministries.

The Trust Committee is in full support of the bell tower project, has provided 25% of project costs to date and is committed to providing additional funds as the full cost become known, contingent on additional donations to the project from others.

As support for religious activities within the congregation and beyond, the Trust will fund the entire upgrade to the Audio-Visual system at the church and donated to the Gideons.

Application forms from donations from the Trust are available. Scholarship application forms have a deadline of July 1, and the school must be ELCA sponsored or approved.

The committee does it's work quietly, but helps our congregation in many important ways!



Thank you to everyone who came to help put together a float for the Parade of Lights and a special thank you to Jerald Leiseth for the use of his hay wagon and Kris Kubol for driving the wagon with his team of horses! It was a great time of fun & fellowship had by all!

*Wishing you and yours a
very Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year!*

O COME LET US
Adore

HIM

