



the Clarion

Volume 51 No. 7
July 2022

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: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

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
Ardyce Alveshire, Secretary



Watford City Area Parish July Sunday Worship Schedule

Banks Lutheran Church

Located along Highway 1806
(17 miles northeast of Watford City)

July 10th & 31st at 9:00 am

Garden Lutheran Church

Located at 35th Street NW
(12 miles northeast of Watford City)

July 17th & 24th at 9:00 am

First Lutheran Church

Located at 2nd Street NW in Watford City
July 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st at 11:00 am
(Join us for coffee hour at 10:00 am)



Independence Day PRAYER

Dear God our Father,
we praise You today for who You are—a God of love,
who reveals to us that love is truth and freedom.
Thank You for our country, the United States of America,
conceived in liberty, and for all those who have
sacrificed that we might enjoy these freedoms.

Like a city on a mountaintop, help us to share our blessings
with the world, and to allow the light of Your Holy Spirit
within us to set others free in spirit, soul, and body.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

Have a Blessed Holiday





- ✝ *Family & Friends of Agnes Johnson*
- ✝ *Family & Friends of Peter "Pete" A. Stenehjelm*
- ✝ *Family & Friends of Richard "Rick" Sanford*
- ✝ *Family & Friends of Christina Kimble*
- ✝ *Danell Dougherty*
- ✝ *Reinhard Hauck*
- ✝ *Rolf Mogster*
- ✝ *Sid Moore*
- ✝ *Micah Moxness*
- ✝ *Mary Jane Rhodes*
- ✝ *Melany Sanford*
- ✝ *Donald Schmidt*

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



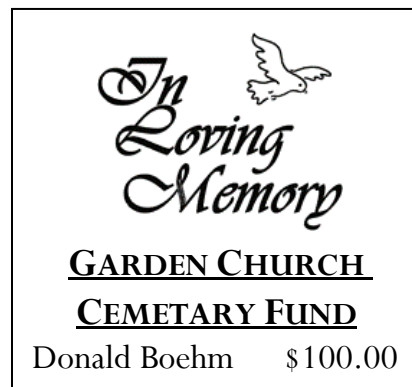
If you are unable to make it to Sunday morning worship, please join us on Facebook! Our Facebook pages are:
Banks/Garden – Banks & Garden Lutheran Churches
First – First Lutheran Church/Watford City Lutheran Parish
Worship will be broadcasted live from Banks & First Lutheran Churches and can be watched anytime thereafter.

Worship Dedications



Thank you to the following for their dedication of Sunday worship during the month of July: Banks WELCA in honor of Banks Church; 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.



Meetings for the

Women of the ELCA



Wednesday, July 13th

2:00 pm – **Banks Ladies Aid** at Jody Renbarger's

Tuesday, July 12th

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

NO FLC-WELCA, Hope Circle or Peace Circle in July



Congratulations to Milo & Chaunci Mell on the birth of their daughter, Lyrah Audrey, on May 31st. Lyrah was 7 lbs 3 oz and 20³/₄ " long. She joins two brothers at home named Ole & Flynn. Proud grandparents are Randie & Toni Auen and Linda Berquist.



Congratulations to Sheldon & Jenna Wahlstrom on the birth of their son, Axel Jamison on June 4th. Axel was 8 lbs 5 oz and 20¹/₂ " long. Proud grandparents are Larry & Debbie Larsen and Kay Larsen.



Congratulations to you all!



Pastor Paul will be out of the office until Thursday, July 14th. SAM Garrett Gudmunsen will be providing pastoral care for our Parish while Pastor Paul is away.



*We would like to welcome the
newly baptized within our
Parish:*

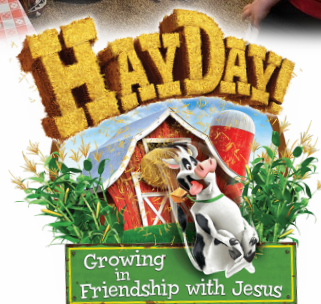
*First Lutheran Church
Oliver Emery Roscoe
Son of
Seth & Samantha Roscoe
on June 19th, 2022*



Banks, Garden & First Lutheran Churches all came together for an All-Parish Worship at the McKenzie County Fairgrounds on June 19th. It was a beautiful day that was kicked off with a delicious breakfast of scrambled eggs, ham & muffins (thank you Cindy, Jennifer & Jay) followed by worship including a special baptism (congratulations Roscoe family) and music with guitars (thank you Ari & Rex)! It was well attended and enjoyed by all. Offering totaled \$720, which was given to the Bakken Oil Rush Ministries. We hope to see you at "Worship at the Fairgrounds" next year!



2022
Vacation
Bible School





Volunteers
do not necessarily
have the time;
they just have the *heart*.



Garden Lutheran Church hosted Vacation Bible School on June 22nd & 23rd with an awesome attendance of over 30 students! The theme was "Growing in Friendship with Jesus". Everyone had a blast learning more about Jesus those two evenings while singing songs, playing games, doing crafts, listening to lessons, watching skits & eating food! They all left with smiles on their faces and the love of Jesus in their hearts! On Sunday, June 26th, the VBS students led an all-parish worship at Garden Lutheran Church showing everyone what they had learned. THANK YOU to all the wonderful volunteers who made this happen!!



First Lutheran Church once again participated in "Pick Up the Patch". A huge thank you to Cindy Geiger, Jennifer Sorenson, Gretchen Stenehjerm & Kevin Sullivan for their hard work & dedication to help clean up the ditches from the Visitor Center to the Heritage Park. Also, thank you to Gretchen Stenehjerm for treating the group to pizza & beverages after they were done.



First Lutheran Church Council requests that all congregation members provide input on the question of whether to formally incorporate the Watford City Area Lutheran Parish. Please speak with a council member (Laura Dahl, Cindy Geiger, Marcia Hellandsaas, Ari Johnson, Joy Patten, Jan Riely, Jennifer Sorenson, Gretchen Stenehjerm or Kevin Sullivan) or Pastor Paul for more information about the alternatives to incorporation and let us know your thoughts and wishes. The Council plans to make a decision at its July 27 meeting and, as always, welcomes congregation members to attend. Thank you for helping manage your church.

Parents & students...

**your
input is
needed!**

The Youth & Education Committee will be holding a special meeting for all 7th & 8th graders, along with their parents/guardians, interested in attending Confirmation this fall on Tuesday, July 19th at 6:00 pm at First Lutheran Church. There will be discussion of curriculum, schedule & expectations among other things. YOUR input is very IMPORTANT, so please make plans to attend so your voice is heard!

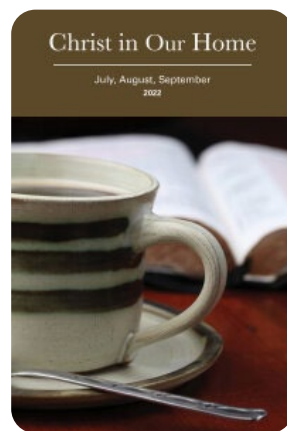
Whatever you do,
work at it with
ALL YOUR HEART,
as working for the Lord,
NOT for men.

Colossians 3:23



On the lighter side...

On a thundering rainy day, a Mom went to pick up her 6-year-old son from school, thinking that he was afraid of lightning. But she found him smiling at the sky after every lighting strike. "Why are you smiling?" she asked. "Because God is taking my pictures and I need to look good," he answered.



The 3rd quarter *Christ in Our Home* devotionals are here! Pick up your free copy at Banks, Garden or First Lutheran Church. Take some for your friends, too!