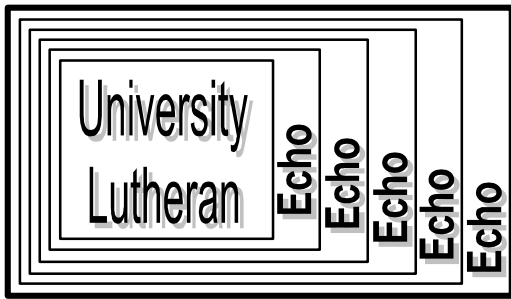


November 2024

The Echo

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2122 University Avenue
Grand Forks, North Dakota 58203



Recently, I was standing at Seanne's desk doing some work, when I reached for my cup of coffee. As I went to set the mug back down, I accidentally bumped it on the edge of her desk and the mug broke. I was left holding the handle, and the rest of the mug and the coffee were on the floor. I was doubly upset. Yes, I was upset at the coffee on the new carpet in the office, but there was more. The broken mug was my favorite, one that Jen had given me with pictures of my three grandchildren on it. I did not use any bad language, but as I cleaned up the mess, I had some harsh words for myself.

Of course, this is happening all over the church. Food is spilled in the fellowship hall at funeral receptions and Wednesday evening meals. Coffee is spilled in virtually every room as we northern people enjoy one of our favorite drinks. We have a pop machine upstairs that is well used, and I am sure more than a couple cans will be knocked over or dropped. Where there are people there will be messes. People are messy, life is messy, and ministry is messy too. In some ways, we might even admit that we put in our new carpet to spill on it. Otherwise, no one could ever enter the building, including the pastor.

I am not trying to justify spilling my coffee. In fact, I will admit to you that I am more upset at my mug being broken than spilling my coffee on the new carpet. I think spilling coffee on the carpet is more embarrassing than upsetting. The carpet is still usable, and the spot is mostly gone, but my mug is in our dumpster, no longer usable, and gone forever. However, maybe we can use this silly thing that happened to me as a way of talking about ministry at ULC going forth. I mean, did we not install new carpet to do ministry, and does not doing such ministry mean we will spill lots of things on it?

Later this month, we will be dedicating our 2024 remodeling project during Sunday morning worship. Deacon Erin Power will be present with us from the synod office and will preach at the service. We will thank God for the gift of this new carpet and tiles, paint and wallpaper, ceiling tiles and lighting. We will also thank Charlie and Theresa Christenson for their generous bequest which has made this project possible. At the same time, we will look forward to future ministry together. Perhaps this new carpet, our new fresh look at ULC, can lead to some fresh and new ministry for our congregation.

I casually entitled our Dedication Service, "With Grateful Hearts We Look Forward". It reminds me of the words ULC chose at its very beginning in 1950 as a motto. It comes from Hebrews 12:1-2, and says, "Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith." In other words, God has ministry in mind for us in our future. We are looking forward to it, and in some ways running toward it. Of course, we do not run alone. We run with each other, and we run with the Lord Jesus Christ, who is slightly out in front of us and leading the way.

We begin, however, with thankfulness, with grateful hearts for God who has always been with us and who will always be with us. This is a who God brought Charlie and Theresa to us, and through them we have been gifted with funds to do ministry. Carpet, believe it or not, before and after spills, is ministry. As people enter into our building and experience our new carpet and all the remodeling, they will be drawn to the fresh, new look, and to the fresh, new ministry we will be doing together. Every spill will just be a sign that we are in building, worshipping God, serving people, and enjoying fellowship.



Imagine with me our future at ULC – people younger and older, families with children, service and mission projects, salad luncheons and fish fries, visitation and prayer team meetings, Church School and youth meetings, worship services and baptisms, Bible studies and concerts, weddings and funerals. There is much ahead of us that is bright and good, and underfoot will be carpet and tile, alongside us will be paint and wallpaper, overhead will be ceiling tiles and lights. These things are not our ministry, but they are certainly part of it. So, when we spill while doing ministry, perhaps we can smile.

God will be smiling! You are in my prayers, *Pastor Dan*



November Worship Matters

Dedication for Main Level Remodel

With Grateful Hearts We Look Forward



You are invited to a Dedication Service for our 2024 main floor remodeling on Sunday, November 24, at the 10am worship service. We invited **Deacon Erin Power** from our synod office as our preacher for this event. Deacon Erin is the Eastern North Dakota Synod's Director for Evangelical Mission and has been working with Grand Forks congregations.

At this service, we will thank **God** for our new fresh look, be grateful to **Charlie and Theresa Christenson** for their generous bequest which made remodeling possible, and look forward to future ministry opportunities this remodeling provides for ULC. After worship, we are having a classic, delicious **potluck meal**, so please bring a dish or two to share.

Later that day at 6:30pm, in honor of our dedication and just for the fun of it, we are hosting **Gordy "Crazy Fingers" Lindquist** for his third annual fall concert at ULC. We have enjoyed getting to know this very uniquely talented man as part of our fall routine. Invite your friends, neighbors, and coworkers to join us for the fun and the extraordinary talent of Crazy Fingers!



Thanksgiving Eve Worship *"It is good to give thanks to the Lord"*

The traditional holiday season begins with our Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 27. Our service this year uses passages from Psalm 92 to remind us that it is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord not only at Thanksgiving but throughout the year. Through word and song, this service will serve as a way to acknowledge that living a life of gratitude to God is good for us physically, mentally and spiritually. So let us celebrate the goodness of God!

The ministry of worship will serve a soup and bread supper with a pumpkin dessert before the service at 5:00 and of course, the worship service will begin at 6:00. As is our custom, we will collect food items for the Salvation Army Food Pantry all month long. May we suggest **canned soup, canned fruits, canned vegetables, cold cereal, peanut butter, jelly, boxed or canned meals, spaghetti and noodles, and boxed desserts.**

There will also be children's time, and a "Wall of Thanks" for you to write down what you are thankful for this year. Please join us this evening in-person or on Facebook.

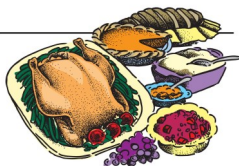
Ministry of the Month *Valley Senior Living*

Our Mission of the month for November is Valley Senior Living. In October VSL service to the people of Grand Forks. It all began in 1924 with the original Home for the Aged on Almonte Street, a facility which was lost in the Flood of 1997. However, still today through its facilities on Columbia, 42nd, and Cherry, the people of Grand Forks, as well as the surrounding region, are receiving excellent senior care. Of course, ULC is one of the 25 local congregations which oversees VSL. All our Noisy Offering will go to the Valley Senior Living Foundation, which supports the chaplaincy program and more.

celebrated 100 years of



The Love Feast *Tuesday, November 26*



This is the 23rd year of Love Feast! Wow, what a great legacy! ULC has been active serving one monthly meal for all these years. This meal is a wonderful opportunity for churches to provide delicious food for a wide variety of people. We do this at Zion United Methodist on 24th Avenue South in Grand Forks. The meal is served from 5:30-6:30 pm.

This is our second year back with in-person dining. People are welcome to come inside Zion where we will be serving our usual turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, corn, roll and pumpkin dessert. Please stay tuned for more details later in the month of November, and when we ask for volunteers, please call us, or let us know if you might be able to help.

Advent Worship Begins December 1

Sunday Worship Series "The Word Made Flesh"



Our theme for Advent this year is, "The Word Made Flesh". In this worship series for Advent, we are reminded that Jesus came to us in the flesh and revealed his divine nature to us in physical substances we experience on earth. The basic Bible text for the four weeks is from John 1:14, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth." Here are the weekly themes:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Week 1: Bread of Life | (December 1 and 4) |
| Week 2: Salt of the Earth | (December 8 and 11) |
| Week 3: Rock of Ages | (December 15 and 18) |
| Week 4: Light of the World | (December 22) |

There will be devotion books for adults, Bible bookmarks, sticker books for children, and even a Bible study for those who might be interested.



Sundays

November 10

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Greeter/Ushers: | Cliff and Dee Crawford |
| Lector: | Anna Buskness |
| Communion Preparers: | Darrell Iverson, Wayne Larson |
| Communion Servers: | Carrie Hanson, Anna Buskness |
| Fellowship: | Bev Lunde, Marlene Anderson Marcia Nordmark |

November 17

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Greeter/Ushers: | Evelyn Clark, Ragna Hanson |
| Lector: | Debbie Watts |
| Communion Preparers: | Kevin and Shelly Meyer |
| Communion Servers: | Candice Palm, Stella Palm |
| Fellowship: | We need volunteers |

November 24 (Dedication Sunday)

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Greeter/Ushers: | Judy and Lee Larson |
| Lector: | Greg Vandeberg |
| Communion Preparers: | Judy Westerman, Dee Crawford |
| Communion Servers: | Dean and Janine Groseth |
| Fellowship: | (Potluck) Joyce Austin, Sandy Norby, Sharon Pederson |

Wednesdays

November 6

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Greeter/Ushers: | Jessi Saylor Jennifer Frederikson |
| Lector: | LeAnn Barendt |
| Communion Preparers: | Cindy Strom, LeAnn Barendt |
| Communion Servers: | Cindy Strom, LeAnn Barendt |

November 13

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Greeter/Ushers: | Kevin Wixo, Dan Melberg |
| Lector: | Paula Cox |
| Communion Preparers: | Wayde Anderson, Pastor Tom |
| Communion Servers: | Cindy Strom, Patty Olsen |

November 20

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Greeter/Ushers: | Linda Giedd Delanie Hirschmann |
| Lector: | Alyssa Denman |
| Communion Preparers: | Cindy Strom, LeAnn Barendt |
| Communion Servers: | Mike and Katie Hess |

November 27

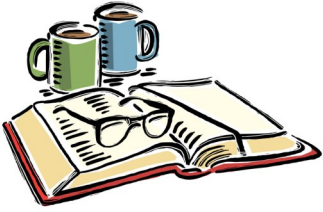
| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Greeter/Ushers: | (Thanksgiving Eve) Angie Thomasson Brad Gunderson |
| Lector: | John Neal |

ULC Volunteers!

Thank you for your willingness to assist at worship at ULC! Please check the schedule for your name and write the dates you are serving on your calendar. If what we have scheduled does not work for you, then please try to switch dates with someone else on the list. If you do switch dates or are unable to find a replacement, call us at the church office (775-4745). We appreciate you and your service!

ULC Adult Education in November

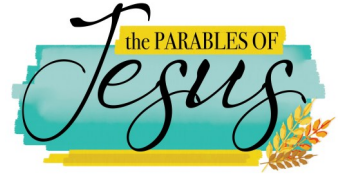
Sunday Morning Adult Class: "Jesus: The Early Years"



We will look at stories around the birth and boyhood of Jesus in the month of November and into December. You may feel familiar with these stories, but please join us to see all the fascinating details from Jesus in the womb to Jesus as a 12-year-old boy. We will use texts from Matthew and Luke to guide us along the way. Can knowing the younger Jesus draw us even closer to our Savior Jesus Christ, and of course, to God our Father, in heaven? Please join us on Sundays at 8:45am for the class. The coffee and the conversation are always hot!

Thursday Morning Bible Study: "Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew"

During the month of November, we will conclude our study called, "Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew". Our task this month is to look at the parables of Jesus that are unique to Matthew. Jesus told a lot of parables as his preferred way of teaching, and some of these parables are only seen in Matthew. Maybe we can learn not only about Jesus through these parables, but about Matthew too, since he determined to make them part of his extensive work about Jesus. Please join us at 9:30am on Thursday mornings in the fellowship hall.



Calling All Men: "The Letter of James"



Calling All Men is studying the Letter of James. This letter reminds us that life with God is not simply about having faith but also about doing faith in the world. We sometimes call these works. While we are never saved by our good works (only Jesus and his saving work on the cross save us), we are nevertheless called to love and serve the neighbor. Such works of love and service are critical to the world. Our topic for November: Favoritism is Forbidden. Please join us on Saturday, November 16, at 8:30am for breakfast pizza and our study.

Women of the ELCA Bible Study: "Receiving Grace: A Study of Ephesians"

Rev. Heidi Haverkamp has written this fall's Bible study. It is a study of Ephesians entitled, "Receiving Grace". All women and friends of ULC are welcome to attend. Our topic for November is "Living as children of the Light". What concrete advice can Ephesians give us on how to live a fuller, happier life? What poetic inspiration can it offer us for living as Christians. Please join us Friday, November 22, 10:00am, in the lounge, as we conclude this study.



New Member Events

December 8 and 11

We hope to receive members into our ULC family on Sunday, December 8 and Wednesday, December 11. If you would like to become a member of ULC or you know someone who would, please contact Pastor Tom or the church office. We know there are a few of you out there waiting for this, so if you would be so kind, let us know if one of these dates works for you. Pastor Tom will contact you about a date and time for New Member Orientation.

ULC Picture Directory Is your picture there yet?

Our ULC Picture Directory is now available in hard copy form for you to pick up in the church office. If you would like one, simply stop in the office and get it. Pastor Tom, Seanne, and Jen can also help you get the same directory onto your phone if you would like it.

We are still also interested in people who would like to turn in pictures and be added to the online version. At some point, we will be taking pictures again at ULC so we can add as many people as possible. One day we hope to have the whole congregation in our directory!



The Youth Page

We are looking to build a youth program at ULC! Will you join us and be part of the fun? At first glance it may look boring to you, but if you join us, you may find us and what we are doing to be a lot of fun, and along the way you might learn to pray, grow your faith, and serve someone who needs your help. Why not come some Wednesday and start with a sundae?



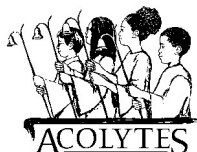
Confirmation Sunday was amazing!

We had 8 young people (3 women and 5 men) affirm their baptisms on Sunday, October 27. At the same time, we confirmed their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. It was an amazing day full of beautiful music, the Word of God, and the faith of these young people. Afterward, lots of pictures were taken and delicious cupcakes eaten. Here are the names of our confirmands:

Tucker Arens, Cooper Barendt, Henry Bonn, Claire Fiala
Paris Gierszewski, Kaden Sailer, Blake Solberg, and Cordie Wifall

Confirmation Classes in November

Regular Wednesday classes are set for November 6, 13 and 20. There will be no class on November 27, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Please come to class at 7:15, and don't forget to come to worship beforehand at 6:00pm to write your worship notes. Some of you have 4-5 done already, and some of you have not started yet. There is no reason why everyone should not have at least 6 done by Christmas. See you at worship and class!



Acolyte Training

Did you know that the word acolyte means worship assistant? Please note Pastor Tom cannot do acolyte training on November 9. He will be celebrating his granddaughter's birthday that day. Please stay tuned for the announcement of an alternative day in the near future. We are hoping to train all youth in grades 5-8 to be part of the acolyte program.

Phoebe Burke

It has been a joy to start serving alongside Phoebe. By the time you read this, she will have had her first lock-in (November 1-2). We thank her and Isaac Strom for all their hard work. Our kids are so excited to have her among us, so they can relate to someone closer than their own age than Pastor Tom! Please stop in to see her any Wednesday night as she is usually here with us all evening.

Sundaes on Wednesdays

The anchor for our youth program has become our Sundaes on Wednesdays each week after confirmation. Please join us on November 6, 13, and 20 in November. We will take November 27 off for the Thanksgiving holiday. Each week we begin with ice cream sundaes with delicious toppings, have some sort of activity, and finally, close with flashlight devotions.



Service Project for Dakota O'yate Kids

ULC youth will be asked to take part in a service project for the Dakota O'yate kids who are part of Dakota O'yate Lutheran Church. We will be looking to purchase \$10-\$15 gifts for 10 kids, as well as purchasing basic care items for them too. Please join Pastor Tom at church for this project on Sunday, November 10, at 4:00pm. We will go shopping and grab a bite to eat.

Wednesday Meals:

November 6: Hot dog and chips
November 13: Tacos
November 20: Corn dogs
November 27: Soup and bread (Thanksgiving Eve)





November WELCA News

Preparations are being made for the fall festival, November 16th. The menu this year will be baked potatoes with assorted topping, vegetable tray and dessert. The cost of this meal will be \$10.00. There will also be a bake sale and a raffle.

53 personal care kits, 26 baby care kits, 37 school kits, and 36 quilts were sent to Lutheran World Relief this month. Seven quilts were also sent to Florida for use by hurricane victims. The total for the year are 106 personal care kits, 38 baby care kits, 85 school kits and 87 quilts. A big thank you for all who have donated supplies, sewed and tied quilts and given their time to make this happen!

WELCA also sent a \$1,000 check to Lutheran World Relief to be used for the hurricane victims.

Our next meeting will be November 4th at 6 pm.

Pauline Lileng, Co-President

WOMEN OF THE ELCA Purpose Statement

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit,

We commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the Church, the society, and the world.

Quilting Opportunities

Tuesday Night Quilters 5:30-8:30pm

This group focuses on quilts for fundraising, donations to benefits/local charities, and baptismal quilts.

Thursday Quilting Group 1:00-3:00pm

This group focuses on quilts, health kits, school kits, and layettes for Lutheran World Relief. These items are shared with our sisters & brothers around the world.

All women are invited to attend. All skill levels are welcome. We are happy to teach you!



University Lutheran Church WELCA

FALL FESTIVAL

Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:00am - 1:00pm

Fall Luncheon - \$10.00

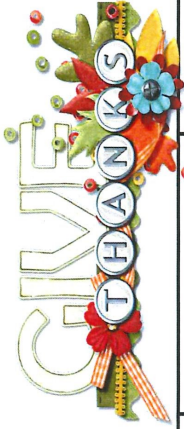
Menu: Baked Potato Bar, Veggies, Roll and Dessert

Fall/Holiday Bake Sale & Craft/Quilt Sale/Quilt Raffle

There are several ways to be involved.

- ∞ **Help set-up, Friday, November 15, 1:00pm.**
- ∞ **Bake items to sell at the bake sale. Please have items at church by 10am Saturday.**
- ∞ **People are needed to help serve in the kitchen and dining room (10am - 1pm) and with clean-up (11:30am - 2:00pm.)**
- ∞ **Come, bring a friend, eat and enjoy!**





November 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| <p>3 All Saints' Sunday</p> <p>8:45 Adult Class 9:00 Sunday School Confirmation 10:00 WORSHIP 11:00 Fellowship 1:00 Joy Circle Game Day 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p> | <p>4</p> <p>6:00 WELCA Board Mtg. 6:30 Game Fellowship 7:00 Al-Anon 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p> | <p>5</p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 5:30 Quilting</p> | <p>6</p> <p>11:00 TOPS 5:00 Supper - Hot dog 6:00 WORSHIP & WWJ 7:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:15 Confirmation 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous 8:15 Sundaes on Wednesday</p> | <p>7</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 6:30 MOMCO</p> | <p>1</p> <p>6:30 Youth Lock-in</p> | <p>2</p> <p>10:00 Baptism Haven Kartes</p> |
| <p>10</p> <p>8:45 Adult Class 9:00 Sunday School Confirmation 10:00 WORSHIP 11:00 Fellowship 4:00 Youth Service Project 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p> | <p>11</p> <p>6:30 Game Fellowship 7:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Girl Scouts 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p> | <p>12</p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 5:30 Quilting</p> | <p>13</p> <p>11:00 TOPS 5:00 Supper - Tacos 6:00 WORSHIP & WWJ 7:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:15 Confirmation 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous 8:15 Sundaes on Wednesday</p> | <p>14</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 1:30 Edgewood Worship</p> | <p>15</p> <p>1:00 Set-up for Fall Festival</p> | <p>16</p> <p>8:30 Calling All Men 11:00-1:00 WELCA Fall Festival</p> |
| <p>17</p> <p>8:45 Adult Class 9:00 Sunday School Confirmation 10:00 WORSHIP 11:00 Fellowship/Potluck 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p> | <p>18</p> <p>6:30 Game Fellowship 7:00 Al-Anon 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p> | <p>19</p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 5:30 Quilting 5:30 Worship Ministry 7:00 Church Council</p> | <p>20</p> <p>11:00 TOPS 5:00 Supper - Corn dogs 6:00 WORSHIP 7:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:15 Confirmation 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous 8:15 Sundaes on Wednesday</p> | <p>21</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 7:00 Franklin Group</p> | <p>22</p> <p>10:00 WELCA Bible Study</p> | <p>23</p> |
| <p>24 Dedication Sunday</p> <p>8:45 Adult Class 10:00 WORSHIP 11:00 Fellowship 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p> | <p>25</p> <p>6:30 Game Fellowship 7:00 Al-Anon 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p> | <p>26</p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 5:30 Love Feast at Zion United Methodist 5:30 Quilting</p> | <p>27</p> <p>11:00 TOPS 5:00 Supper - Soup and Bread 6:00 THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p> | <p>28 Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed</p> | <p>29</p> | <p>30</p> |

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November


WORSHIP & EVENT SCHEDULE

SUNDAY WORSHIP & EDUCATION

8:45am Adult Class
9:00am Church School
9:00am Confirmation
10:00am WORSHIP
11:00am Fellowship

WEDNESDAY WITH JESUS

5:00pm Supper
6:00pm WORSHIP & WWJ
7:00pm Chapel Choir
7:15pm Confirmation
8:15pm Sundaes on Wednesdays
(Youth Group)

Thursday Morning Bible Study

9:30am

Calling All Men

Saturday, November 16 8:30am

WELCA Bible Study

Friday, November 22 10:00am



Youth Service Project

Sunday, November 10
4:00pm

WELCA Fall Festival

Saturday, November 16
11:00am-1:00pm

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 27
Supper 5:00pm
Worship 6:00pm

Sundaes on Wednesdays

November 4, 11, and 18
8:15pm

See inside for much more!

ULC STAFF

Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation
Missionaries: Willie and Anne Langdji
Pastor: Thomas W. Colenso
Education Coordinator: Jen Wolf Cummings
Administrative Assistant: Seanne Voracek
Custodian: Harold Stoller

Choir Director: Mary Splichal
Organists: Lauri Shimpa and Jane Traub
Stephen Ministry Leaders:
Evelyn Clark, Wayde Anderson,
Jane Traub

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