

# UNITED MONTHLY

Volume 10, Issue 9

September 2020

We are United to  
**EXPERIENCE** Jesus,  
**SERVE** others and  
**LIVE** the Word!

We live out this mission statement with our core values of  
**Joyful Worship,**  
**Authentic Community,**  
**Faithful Witness and**  
**Ridiculous Generosity.**



United Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran



Church in America.  
God's work.

## Journey Through the Bible

Our Sunday service lessons will take us on a journey through familiar and unfamiliar stories in the Bible this school year, each with a clear theme, starting in Genesis on September 13.

A few years ago, we were intentional in having our Sunday school curriculum overlap with the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) readings which we use for Sunday worship, reinforcing those Bible stories by hearing them twice. As the Education Committee looked at what this year would look like, it became apparent a different curriculum would be needed (more on this, page 4) and that it was important to continue having that reinforcement.

Biblical literacy is an important part of understanding our Christian faith and the Bible which we base our beliefs on, so that we can live our faith out in our daily lives. I am very excited to be able to "journey through the Bible" with United Lutheran in our worship services, and that Sunday school will follow these same Bible stories when they resume, October 4.

Some weeks, these lessons will be long and will be spread out among the readings.

Other weeks, they will be short, with additional complementary readings.

These are the stories and their themes we will focus on the next few weeks:

- Sept. 6—Our last week in the RCL for a while
- Sept. 13—Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:4-25; 3:1-24...consequences)
- Sept. 20—Baby Moses (Exodus 2:1-10...safe)
- Sept. 27—The Burning Bush & the Plagues (Exodus 3:1-15, 7:14-32...Go)
- Oct. 4—The Red Sea (Exodus 14:1-30...Power)

The Bible is the written word of God. In Mark 13:31, Jesus—the living Word of God—tells us, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." I look forward to our continued journey together into God's Word as we worship in-person and online.



~ Pastor Karl

*Join us for*  
**"God's work. Our hands."**  
 A dedicated day of service in our community.

Join us after worship Sunday, September 13 for "God's Work. Our Hands," the ELCA's annual day of service. Our Stewardship Committee is organizing one more active and one less active service activity: making cards for care center residents and cleaning outside windows for Wheatland residents. Both service activities can also be done regardless of Covid-19!

Thank you for the many ways your hands serve as God's work in the world, each and every day!

# September 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 12PM Al-Anon (via zoom - see page 7 for info)	4	5
6 10AM Worship with Holy Communion	7	8	9 Parent/Student Confirmation Mtgs 6PM 7-8Grade 7PM 9th Grade	10 12PM Al-Anon (via zoom - see page 7 for info)	11	12 10AM - 1PM Fellowship Hall reserved 3-5PM Fellowship Hall reserved
13 10AM Worship "God's Work, Our Hands Sunday"	14 4PM P.E.O. (attentively)	15	16 Confirmation 6PM 7-8Grade 7PM 9th Grade	17 12PM Al-Anon (via zoom - see page 7 for info)	18	19
20 10AM Worship with Holy Communion	21 6PM Church Council	22	25 7:50AM "See You at the Pole" - youth event Confirmation 6PM, 7-8 Grade 7PM, 9th Grade	24 12PM Al-Anon (via zoom - see page 7 for info)	25	26
27 10AM Contemporary Worship	28	29	30 Confirmation 6PM 7-8Grade 7PM 9th Grade			

## Faith & Care #3 Will & Skyler Moline, chair

Mitchell & Melissa Almen	Larry & Linda Olson
Dorothy Adam	Steve & Jamie Olson
Dennis & Linda Balsdon	Tom Olson
Leland & Carolyn Balsdon	Justin Overby
Tyler Balsdon	Dennis & Norma Pengilly
Alvin Carlson	Lynn Peterson
Aaron Dahl	Ronald & Marie Peterson
Darryl & Bev Dahl	Jason & Melanie Reidhammer
Keith Dahl	Hans & Diane Reinhardt
Ted & Linda Dahl	Shirley Robinson
Mark & Laura Dease	Elroy & Marilyn Rude
Jerry & Bev Domres	Lance & Megan Schill
Kendall & Carla Gemmill	Mike & Connie Schrader
Don Gerth	Bob & Patricia Scott
Steve & Kim Hart	Arlaine Short
David & Jan Haslekaas	Burnell & Renae Skjervheim
Shane & Kari Henderson	Kevin & Jan Stein
Scott & Tina LaPorte	Daryl & Linda Timian
Steven & Kristin McDonald	Brian Vikan
Tara McFadden	Jeff & Betty Vikan
Leota Mikkelsen	Jim & Faye Wilhelm
Randy & Phyllis Mikkelsen	
Cheryl Muhs	

## ULC Leadership 2020

President	Josh Overby
Vice President	Deidre Long
Secretary	Tara McFadden
Financial Secretary	Julie Johnson

### Committee Council Representatives

Education	Carla Gemmill
Endowment	Dan Fischer
Hospitality	Terry Jacobson
Property	Dean Hakanson
Stewardship	Brynn Fischer

### Non-voting Representative

Pastor	Karl Breddin
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## Council Notes 08-19-20 Mtg

With generous giving and reduced spending, finances are currently very healthy. Council moved to make our next HVAC loan payment now to help with interest accrual.

Sunday school will start October 4, with 9:15 am start times (no music) and a more flexible “all kids” curriculum.

Chuck Downs will be installing off-peak electric meters at the church by the end of September. Dan Fischer will provide a few north-south trees this fall along the parking lot between the church and the mailbox. Pastor has scheduled contractors to give bids and recommendations for ongoing moisture issues in the parsonage.

Stewardship is coordinating “God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday, September 13, with cards for Maple Manor and outdoor window cleaning at Wheatland (both after morning worship).

Council will allow outside groups to bring individually-served food and beverage.

United Women leadership would like to remove their group from church bylaws as a sitting member of council; council approved and will make recommended bylaws changes for congregation.

*Council minutes, treasurers reports and pastors’ reports are posted monthly on the bulletin board in the hall across from the church kitchen.*

## Financial Update 07-31-20

July Offering \$18,559.98

	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>
Offering Income	\$94,526.58	\$98,735.00
	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
*Total Income thru July	\$115,208.26	\$105,441.09
Total Expenses thru July	\$ 97,674.05	\$112,096.86

\*Please note, our total yearly income includes \$17,400 from the federal government’s Payroll Protection Program (PPP) and this is not considered offering income.

**Your financial support this year has been inspiring!**  
**Thank you for supporting our congregation’s ministry!**

## Endowment

As of August 2, our Endowment Fund balance was \$114,000.94. If you would like to make a contribution to the United Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, please make checks payable to “InFaith Foundation” (which manages our endowment fund).

## Sunday School

Hello again to our Sunday School families!

As we begin the start of the school year in these ever-changing times, I wanted to provide an update to you all in regards to the decisions that have been made by the Education Committee and Pastor Karl as far as our Sunday School year.

A few big changes to note: First, our start date for Sunday School is pushed back to October 4<sup>th</sup>. This will allow us some time to see how things are going with the schools, etc. As we are finding out, these things are changing daily and we want to be as prepared as we can be when we bring our kids back to Sunday School. In addition, our start time for Sunday School will now be 9:15, instead of our usual 9:00, as we won't be having music portion of the morning.

Another change is that we will be utilizing an "All-Kids" curriculum this year. This means that instead of having kids in their classrooms by grade, we will have all students in the fellowship hall. We will have them separated by grade/tables there so we can make sure we are spaced correctly and safely. There will be three teachers each week to work with all the kids and teach the lesson. \*We will not be asking our older students (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade) to Shepherd, just to keep our numbers limited.

With that being said, we are still in need of Sunday School teachers. If you have any interest in teaching, please reach out to myself, or any other member of the Education Committee: Kristin McDonald, Kim Hart, Laura Dease, Brittanie Mostad or Angie Sanders. The lessons are very easy to follow and you will always be teaching with two others. When we get enough volunteers, the schedule is very flexible and you can pick and choose which Sundays you want to teach. Many hands make light work! We appreciate all of our volunteers!

As a last note - if you have a child that is in Kindergarten and you would like them enrolled in Sunday School, or if you have a new student in K-6 you would like to enroll, please reach out to myself or the church office.

Please look for updates to follow - they will be posted on our ULC Sunday School Facebook page, as well as the main ULC Facebook page, at Sunday worship and here in the newsletter. We hope you are all staying safe and healthy; we look forward to welcoming the kids back to Sunday School soon!

Grace & Peace,  
Carla Gemmill  
Education Committee Chair

## Confirmation

Confirmation sessions for the 2020-2021 school year begins Wednesday, September 9, with informational meetings for 7-9 grade students and parent(s)/guardian(s). We are hoping to meet in-person every week, but will shift to Zoom if necessary. Regardless, we look forward to learning and having fun together!

This school year, our 7th-8th grade students will focus on the Bible. Our September schedule is below, with 6pm start times for 7th-8th grade and 7pm start times for 9th grade.

### September 9

6pm, Parent/student mtg.  
7pm, Parent/student mtg.

### September 16

6pm, Wacky Olympics & Acolyte training  
7pm, Stole-Making

### September 23

6pm, Genesis  
7pm, Stole-Making

### September 30

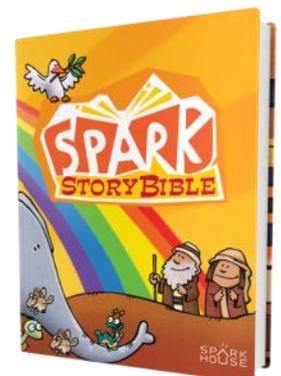
6pm, Exodus  
7pm, Students pick topic

**9th graders will be confirmed during worship on Sunday, October 18.**

## Bibles for Three-year-olds

During our September 27 worship, we will be giving Spark Story Bibles to three-year-olds in our congregation. We have contacted families with three-year-olds, to join us for worship September 27 as we celebrate this gift with them and live into our baptismal promises by placing in their hands the holy scriptures.

We will be giving 4<sup>th</sup> graders Bibles this spring during their first communion instruction.



# See You at the Pole

**Who?** Middle School and High School youth.

**What?** A nation-wide day of student prayer. Gather with other students to pray, sing, and enjoy some donuts!

**When?** Wednesday, September 25, 7:50am.

**Where?** Outside around the LAHS flag-pole.



# ELCA National Youth Gathering

After much prayer and consideration, the ELCA has decided to **postpone next summer's ELCA Youth Gathering to 2022** due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next ELCA Youth Gathering will be held July 24-28, 2022.

We give thanks for prayers and patience as Gathering planners have worked through the details with their partners in Minneapolis and across the country. The hope is that by postponing the Gathering for a year, individuals and congregations will feel more comfortable and prepared to attend the Gathering in 2022.

The Gathering is open to high-school age youth. If there is interest in a 2021 summer youth mission trip (middle school/high school/mixed), and with hopes of Covid-19 being gone by then, Pastor Karl would love to get one on the calendar. There are opportunities with Youth Works and other organizations.



EaND Synod Campus Ministries Present

# WELCOME (IN-A-BOX!)



## Do you know a student heading to NDSU or UND this fall?

We'd love to welcome them! *Fill out a form TODAY!*

*Students, you can fill out your own form. Youth Directors, Pastors, Parents can fill out the form as a referral. One box per student - while supplies last! Check out the incentive giveaways for filling out the form!*



*Scan to find the google form!* →



# Synod Assembly Reports

Our Eastern North Dakota Synod (ELCA) Assembly was held August 14-16. Thanks to Linda and Lisa for being United's lay representatives and for sharing these reports with the congregation.

## Linda Timian

I attended the Eastern ND Synod Assembly as a voting delegate this year from home. Due to Covid, it was conducted virtually through Zoom. The main order of business this year was election of a new Bishop for the Synod. The election of the Bishop was presided over by our national Bishop, Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, and conducted through the Zoom platform.

Prior to Assembly, we got to know the nominees for Bishop through their profiles, introductory video and devotional (which they each wrote and recorded themselves) and four 90 minute Question & Answer sessions streamed and posted on the Synod website.

I am excited for our new Bishop, Rev. Tessa Moon Leiseth. She has 22 years of experience as an ordained minister and a background in young adults and global mission. She was a campus pastor at Concordia College and country coordinator for Young Adults in Global Mission in South Africa. She is currently Interim Senior Pastor at Horace Lutheran Church and is part of the Eastern ND Synod Coaching Network.

Although virtual assembly was maybe not as dynamic or personal as our usual assembly, it did allow us to *have* our Synod Assembly and conduct the needed business. Thank you for allowing me to represent United Lutheran as one of your voting delegates this year.

## Lisa Schuler

Unlike Pastor Karl and Linda Timian, I attended the 2020 Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly for the first time. Linda had commented to me in the past that it was a good experience for her and being I had been on the last two call committees that brought Pastor Bob and Pastor Karl to United Lutheran, I felt it would be interesting to see the next level of our church, the synod level. I thought I was going to attend sessions in Fargo in June but of course those plans changed and the assembly came to me instead, virtually on my iPad/phone, in August.

It was exciting to be a part of the voting process for our new bishop! Like being on the call committee for United, I was able to meet new people, seven new people who were the nominees. This time I met the prospects by watching videos they had made to introduce themselves, by reading their biographical information and by watching four question and answer sessions. It was an investment of time with note taking but I found it rewarding to be making logical decisions that would bring us our next bishop. I thought the committee in charge of the technology did an outstanding job in keeping the sessions running smoothly and it was fun to text Pastor Karl and Linda once in awhile being we couldn't meet in person. So I learned a lot about the synod constitution, compensation guidelines and how to elect a bishop. I feel grateful that our church is in such good hands, being our synod looks out for us and does so by the workings of the Holy Spirit and many faithful people.

The cherry on the top of this experience was seeing and hearing our praise band play a few of our contemporary songs during preludes and filler moments throughout the assembly. Pastor Karl had sent them to the synod to be played if needed. I encourage other members of our congregation to consider attending an assembly in the future! Hopefully yours will be in person :)



## Haiti Update

Despite current challenges of connecting in person, Seeds of Support has continued ministry with Redemption Lutheran Church in Pasquette.

The new water tower is finally complete! The new tower (pictured to the left) is made of concrete to better withstand the elements and includes a 1,600 gallon tank and new solar panels. There are also plans to install solar-powered street lights around the well and in front of the church for additional safety and security.

There are currently no Covid-19 cases in Pasquette, but soap and facemasks are being distributed to the village, along with resources promoting the importance of social distancing and hand-washing.

## At-a-Glance and General Announcements

### Thank you to:

Dorothy Adam for donating a punch bowl and silver service set to the church kitchen.

Ashton Hedger, Sara Goodman and others who donated disposable masks that have been left at the church.

Those who donated school supplies for the local schools. The supplies were dropped off this week by Deborah Circle.

### Periodicals

The new "Living Lutheran" periodical is available in the narthex.

### Youth Ministry Coordinator

ULC is still seeking an adult who loves Christ and youth to engage with youth, primarily grades 7-12.

### Binders Available

We have updated the black ULW binders for our contemporary worship services and are reducing the number of binders. If you could use any binders, feel free to pick them up from the church library. They still have the old song sheets in them and measure 8.5"x7".

### Offering Envelopes

2020 offering envelopes may be picked up in the fellowship hall.

### Al-Anon

Al-Anon meets via zoom on Thursdays at noon and provides support for relatives and friends of alcoholics. Please call 701-270-2254 with questions.

### Deborah Circle

Deborah Circle will not meet in September but will meet Tuesday, October 13 at 3PM at the Senior Center.

### Getting Worship to You

Dale Klein continues to make DVDs of our services. We are also streaming our 10am Sunday worship services live on our church Facebook page. These services and their sermons are also edited and posted to our YouTube and church websites.

### PRBC Ham & Meatball Dinner

September 27, 11am-2pm, TAKE OUT ONLY from Our Saviour's LC in Park River. Includes ham, meatballs, mashed potatoes, corn, lefse, buns, cranberries, and dessert. Call PRBC for pre-sale tickets (\$20) or lutefisk (\$10/lb). \$25 tickets at-the-door.

### Gifts of Grain

Did you know that farmers may find significant tax savings through donating grain directly to United Lutheran or another favorite charity? By doing this, the church or other charity gets the proceeds of selling the donated grain and the donating farmer gets tax deductions at a better rate than just cash donations. To learn more about this "bountiful" way of giving, visit with your tax advisor and be sure any donations are processed properly through the elevator.

### Shared from Lisa Almlie

I'm afraid I have some bad news about Sandy. We learned [Sept.24] that she has lung cancer and it isn't curable. We will learn more in two weeks about what treatment and life expectancy will be after they do further testing of the fluid. I will continue to keep you posted. Prayers will be most appreciated. And if you feel up to giving her a call to bring a little cheer, that would be greatly appreciated as well. She is taking it like a champ, of course.

## Prayers of...

### Healing

Kerlange Aristide in Haiti, her husband Armstrong and baby Zeke, Lois Jones (Val Olson's sister, cancer), Sandy Almlie

### Joy

Shelly Messner and Dean Agnes on their marriage at United Lutheran on August 1.

Kacy Larson and Cody Schlittenhard on their marriage at United Lutheran on August 8.

*We invite you to pray for those people listed. Please call the church office if you have additions to our prayer list.*

### Covid-19 Updates

As we continue to monitor the number of active Covid-19 cases in our area, any **decisions to suspend in-person worship** will be made on Wednesdays by Pastor Karl and Josh Overby (church council president).

Council has approved outside groups which are using the church building to bring in **food and beverage**, so long as they are either "bring your own" or individually plated, poured and served.

Frustrated with the technical issues we've had in putting our in-person services online? We're excited to share **we will be purchasing digital equipment and a camera** to improve access and quality for those worshipping from home. Initial funding will come from the church's dedicated music fund; \$700 in additional gifts have already been given toward this project, more **gifts are welcome** (please write "camera fund" in the memo).

Visit United online at [www.unitedlangdon.org](http://www.unitedlangdon.org) or call us at 701-256-2594.



1216 9th Avenue, Langdon, ND 58249

[www.UnitedLangdon.org](http://www.UnitedLangdon.org)

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Return Service Requested

## Worship and Ministry - September Schedule

### September 6 - Worship with Holy Communion

Reader - Laura Dease  
Ushers -  
Communion Prep - Skyler Moline  
Communion Assistant -  
Projectionist - Victor Long

### September 13 - Worship

Reader - Kim Hart  
Ushers - Jerry & Bev Domres  
Projectionist -

### September 20 - Worship

Reader - Linda Balsdon  
Ushers - Scott LaPorte family  
Communion Prep - Skyler Moline  
Communion Assistant -  
Projectionist - Nathan Kitchin

### September 27 - Contemporary Worship

Reader - Tara McFadden  
Ushers - Ted & Linda Dahl  
Projectionist - Addy Reidhammer

As we worship in person during this time of Covid-19, we continue to balance the physical, spiritual and emotional health of those who choose to gather in-person. These steps are based on recommendations from the CDC, ND Public Health and ELCA synod and church wide resources. As you can see in the schedule above, we did resume Holy Communion distribution in July. We are still not gathering in the fellowship hall after worship for coffee and refreshments.