

UNITED MONTHLY

Volume 11, Issue 2

February 2021

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.

Looking Forward

Thank you. Thank you for welcoming our family to United Lutheran and Langdon in 2014. Thank you for being willing to try new things. Thank you for allowing me to be part of your loved ones' baptisms, weddings, learning, struggles, deaths and funerals. It has truly been an honor and a blessing to serve as your pastor.

United Lutheran is a fantastic congregation. I've "bragged you up" with my peers over the last 6+ years, and continue to do so. I have every confidence the Holy Spirit will move with United as you form a call committee and prayerfully work toward calling your next pastoral leadership.

As the letter mailed in January stated, my last Sunday at United will be February 28. We've arranged to load our belongings and head to Madison, South Dakota on March 11. While I'll be officially done at United the end of February, I will be available for pastoral emergencies until we move.

As of this writing, we don't know what United's pastoral interim will look like, although the hope is to have an interim in place shortly after Easter. We will know more after our February 15 council meeting.

With this in mind, looking forward it will be important that United makes preparations for ministry. Our hospitality committee will be finding people to lead worship after I leave, for Sundays, as well as our midweek Lenten services. Confirmation does not meet during Lent but our education committee is working on how to complete the confirmation school year without an interim if necessary.

There are a few areas of technology I've taken a lead on which United will want to address. If you have some tech ability, I'd love to visit with you if one or more of these would be of interest to you and to provide any training before I leave. I'm sure there are people more skilled than I am! It would be great to have a few people.

Worship Recording and Streaming

- Dale Klein has transitioned his long-time video skills to using our new iPad system to record worship services and "Switcher" software to stream them to our church Facebook site.
- Dale is doing great, but we need others to know how to do this for when he isn't available and to help with maintaining the iPads.
- This has become essential to providing worship for those unable to attend in person and I anticipate it will continue post-Covid.

YouTube and Website

- Currently, I've been taking the sermons from our worship services and saving the sermons to our church YouTube site.
- That is the primary use of our YouTube site, which then has those sermons linked to, from our church website.
- The church website is on the "Weebly" platform, which is very user-friendly. It would be nice to be able to continue these or at minimum to have someone able to do updates on our church website as needed.

United in Christ,
Pastor Karl

February 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 6PM 7&8 Grade Confirmation	4 12PM Al-Anon in the youth room	5	6
7 9:15AM Sunday school 10AM Worship with Holy Communion	8 4PM P.E.O.	9	10 3:45-5PM Mobile Food Bank 6PM 7&8 Grade Confirmation	11 12PM Al-Anon in the youth room	12	13
14 9:15AM Sunday school 10AM Acoustic Worship	15 6PM Church Council meeting	16	17 9AM-1PM Preschool Screening 7PM Ash Wednesday Communion Service	18 12PM Al-Anon in the youth room 2PM Bible study at Wheatland	19	20
21 9:15AM Sunday school 10AM Worship with Holy Communion	22 4PM P.E.O.	23 7PM Hospitality Committee meeting via zoom	24 7PM Lenten Worship Service	25 12PM Al-Anon in the youth room	26 Scrapbooking	27 Scrapbooking
28 9:15AM Sunday school 10AM Contemporary Worship						

Faith & Care #3 Will & Skyler Moline, chair

Mitchell & Melissa Almen	Cheryl Muhs
Dorothy Adam	Larry & Linda Olson
Dennis & Linda Balsdon	Steve & Jamie Olson
Leland & Carolyn Balsdon	Tom Olson
Tyler Balsdon	Justin Overby
Alvin Carlson	Dennis & Norma Pengilly
Aaron Dahl	Lynn Peterson
Darryl & Bev Dahl	Ronald & Marie Peterson
Keith Dahl	Jason & Melanie Reidhammer
Ted & Linda Dahl	Hans & Diane Reinhardt
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 Wilhelmi
Randy & Phyllis Mikkelsen	

Financial Update 12-31-20

December Offering	\$20,453.00	
	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>
Offering Income	\$160,567.70	\$169,260.00
	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
*Total Income thru December	\$184,029.79	\$182,791.46
Total Expenses thru December	\$169,316.53	\$175,130.80

*Please note, the 2020 yearly income includes \$17,400 from the federal government's Payroll Protection Program (PPP) and this is not considered offering income.

January Memorials

Sandra Almlie - Pat Jensen (general), Corey & Julie Johnson (general), David & Marilyn Almlie (general), Carol Hart (endowment), John & Kathie Johnson (endowment), Linden & Helen Johnson (music), Jim & Faye Wilhelmi (music)

Verna Erickson - Jim & Faye Wilhelmi (music)

Memorials may be given to the Church Office at ULC at any time.

ULC Leadership 2021

President	Deidre Long
Vice President	LeeAnn Knudson
Secretary	Diane Simmons
Financial Secretary	Julie Johnson

Committee Council Representatives

Education	Carla Gemmill
Endowment	Dan Fischer
Hospitality	Terry Jacobson
Property	Steve Hart
Stewardship	Brynn Fischer

Non-voting Representative

Pastor	Karl Breddin
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Council Notes 01-18-21 Mtg

ULC ended 2020, \$15,000 in the black and have had our PPP loan forgiven.

Lutheran Social Services of ND is no longer operating. A motion was carried to stop payment for the \$1,000 yearly mission check that was just sent, with the intent to resend the pledge to another area.

An iPad was purchased from Sunday school dedicated funds for seamless video mirroring and other possible Sunday school needs.

Marcotte Builders has submitted a bid for church window replacement, which will be reviewed by the property committee.

Council approved the praise band to sing live in front of the church January 24 and for congregational singing. We will continue requiring face coverings.

A member has asked about a memorial in the form of a church bell. Council is in favor and will ask property to take responsibility.

A motion was carried to suspend the inactive member policy for 2021, due to Covid.

Pastor Karl announced his resignation to take a call in SD. He will serve ULC through 2/28.

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

Looking to Lent

United Lutheran Church will have midweek Lenten services at 7:00 pm each Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Our hope is to offer these both in-person and on Facebook.

Our current plans for Ash Wednesday service are to include both imposition of ashes and Holy Communion, both with added precautions to minimize any potential spread of Covid-19.

Following Ash Wednesday, our midweek Lenten theme will be "You Shall Love the Lord Your God." In Mark 12, a scribe comes to ask Jesus, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answers, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength'" (Mark 12:28-30). Jesus responds to the scribe's question with words from the *Shema*, the passage from Deuteronomy 6 that is recited daily by many of the Jewish faith. These words form a covenant between God and God's people and show us a way to respond to this God who so extravagantly loves us through the cross.

The first week of this series sets the stage with the Shema from Deuteronomy and the encounter between Jesus and the scribe in Mark 12. The following weeks center on how we can love the Lord our God with all our hearts, our souls, our minds and our strength. Thank you to Michelle Wagner, in advance, for leading the Wednesday evening Lenten worship services, starting March 3 after Pastor Karl leaves.

There are currently no plans this year for ecumenical community Lenten worship services.

Hunger Help

The Great Plains Mobile Food Pantry will be at our church parking lot, distributing food baskets for our community Wednesday, February 10, from 3:45-5:00 pm. Come if you are in need! Volunteers are needed to help, from approximately 3:30-5:15pm.

The Langdon Week-END Kids' Hunger Project continues to supply food each week for elementary students to take home, ensuring they have adequate food for the weekends. They currently serve 36 elementary students each week. They also provide punch cards at LAHS for students to access free, healthy snacks at the school snack shack after school. The Week-END Kids' Hunger Project has a small committee which helps coordinate these and it needs more people to be part of its committee. If you're interested in serving on that committee, please visit with Sarah Overby or Pastor Karl.

Sunday School Newsletter

Another month has come and gone and we are happy that we are still able to meet face to face for Sunday School. To keep everyone safe, we will continue to have the kids wear masks to Sunday School. We also continue to disinfect tables, crayons, etc. each week as a precautionary measure. Thank you for helping us with all of these things! A big thank you to our teachers as they are doing such a great job handling all the changes we've had this year - we appreciate you!

Our February lessons are "Jesus Raises Lazarus," "Jesus Heals Ten with Leprosy" and "The Woman at the Well." We will not be having Sunday School on February 14th, as this is a four-day weekend for the school. As always, please continue to check our Sunday School Facebook page for announcements and don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions!

Grace & Peace,
Carla Gemmill
Education Committee Chair

Lenten Suppers

Since we cannot share a simple supper as a church community this Lenten Season, we invite you to share a simple meal in your home each Wednesday night during lent before worshipping either in person or virtually. We will have weekly recipes available for your use, which will be printed and available at church on Ash Wednesday (February 17) and later. These will also be posted each week on United's Facebook page.

Each recipe is designed to be quick and easy to cook and can be adapted to family tastes. Or, feel free to choose to cook something else! If your soup kettle overflows, share your abundance with a neighbor or a friend.

Along with the weekly recipes, our brief devotions offer discussion questions and a prayer focusing on food and those who are hungry in our world.

The first two recipes/devotionals are inserted in this newsletter. Thanks to Janet Jacobson for providing these Lenten devotionals and suppers for use in your home. Please join our United family as we prepare for Easter in our hearts and minds.

Confirmation

Students in 7-8 grade meet for confirmation instruction most Wednesdays at 6pm.

February 3

Luke

February 10

John

February 17—Ash Wednesday

We will not meet during Lent. Students will be working on Lenten projects and are encouraged to attend Lenten worship.

Giving Hearts Day

Giving Hearts Day, February 11, is a day of extravagant giving throughout our state, which continues to grow as a vital avenue to support the ministry of our Eastern North Dakota Synod.

Our synod provides resources which support ULC and the other congregations in our synod, and helps pool our resources to provide greater ministry for our ministry partners in the Central African Republic, Dacotah O'yate and more.

You don't need to wait until Feb 11 to give - scheduled giving is now available! Just go to www.givingheartsday.org, search for "Eastern North Dakota Synod ELCA" or another non-profit, and schedule your donation. Just be sure that the "Pay on Giving Hearts Day, February 11th, 2021" box is checked.

If giving to an organization by check, please make out and send to that organization and indicate "Giving Hearts Day" in the memo line. Checks MUST be received by 5pm on 2/11/21 to be counted.

From Park River Bible Camp

PRBC wasn't able to have summer camp this past summer, so instead they had Camp Restoration which included:

- leading 14 Nursing Home concerts;
- four concerts for the Life Skills and Transition Center in Grafton;
- restoring an old shed to be the new canteen for summer 2021;
- creating space for pastors to come for sabbatical;
- building more campfire spaces;
- creating and updating highway signs;
- updating the bathhouse and pump station;
- adding a bathroom to the Memorial Cabin;
- putting touchless faucets in all bathrooms;
- putting in sandboxes and four horse-shoe pits;
- removing pavers to Chapel and putting in a concrete sidewalk;
- leading church summer services for Lutheran Rural Parish;
- putting a new floor in the Athens cabin;
- replacing a water-damaged wall on the crafts barn;
- putting full beds in cabins.

Outdoor Ministry is hard-holy work, but it is easier with you all that support and pray for PRBC and other Bible camps!

HELP US IGNITE THE FIRE FOR MINISTRY

DONATE *Feb. 11* AT GIVINGHEARTSDAY.ORG



Eastern North Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.



Journey

Our Journey through the Bible theme continues in February with the following passages:

Feb.7: Jesus Raises Lazarus

Feb.14: The Lost Sheep and Coin

Feb.21: Jesus Heals Ten with Leprosy

Feb.28: The Woman at the Well



Annual Meeting

Thank you to those who participated in our annual meeting on January 24. In addition to approving the budget and voting for new committee and council members, we approved the WELCA recommended changes to our constitution. Following our 2020 year-end budget surplus, it was voted on to make the final payment on the HVAC loan (\$11,331.99). The HVAC project is completed. 2020 Annual Reports are available on the magazine carousel outside the sanctuary.

Prayers of...

Healing

Lois Jones (Val Olson's cousin, cancer), Jodi Hipp, Diane Reinhardt (cancer), Phoebe DeKrey (Sarah Badging's mother, cancer), Marjorie Jacobson, the people of Haiti.

Joy

Congratulations to Nathan Howatt and Samantha Hegg, married on January 2 in Reynolds, ND.

Congratulations to Andrew & Caitlin Kreklau on the baptism of their son, Holden. He was baptized on January 9.

Congratulation to Devon & Katie Johnson on the birth of their son, Clayton David Allen.

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

A Letter to United Women

Dear Friends and Church Women in Christ, (dated 1/11/21)

I've been glued to my television the past few days. On Wednesday evening, I broke down in tears as I watched the storming of the Capitol. I thought of our right to freedom of religion, freedom of speech and all of those other things I have taken for granted in the U.S. Constitution. Then I switched the station and saw that it was a day of record high deaths from COVID-19. As I was, I'm sure you were praying through all of this. The word new popped into my head. I found these verses and I hope you will look them up. 1 Corinthians 11:25, "This cup is a new testament in my blood" and 2 Corinthians 5:17, "He is a new creation, the old is gone." We are a new creation in Christ. Let us remember that God makes all things new and that no matter what happens, we have redemption in Christ.

Things to know:

Churchwide, women are cutting expenses by decreasing full-time employees to two, hiring churchwide to do books and making everyone else part-time. Revenue has been falling for several years and they can no longer afford full staff.

Synod Council meeting this Friday February 5th, 4-8 PM and Saturday, February 6, 9-noon. I know this is important; but they meet at times that do not work for me. If any of you would like to take in this meeting, following are Zoom links. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89586379567> pwd=am5Mnk5jVUIXaFpDTmc2UEOrd21WUT09 Meeting ID: 895 8637 9567 Passcode: 848130. Churchwide is contacting all voting delegates from the last Triennial Convention to vote on constitution changes so voting and meetings may be done via technology.

Remaining Council dates are April 24, July 13, November 12-13 and Synod Assembly August 13-15. Remaining treasury monies will need to be donated at a board meeting. I pray for your health and happiness in 2021. God Bless.

Julie Hudson, President
Eastern ND Synod Women's Organization

Covid-19 Updates

Testing on Wednesdays, 9am-11am, Schedule an appointment by calling 256-2402 or online at <https://tinyurl.com/y3j7sjwo>. Appointments can be made at this online address to schedule a vaccination for individuals older than the age of 75 and individuals 65+ with one or more high risk health conditions. You may also call 256-3911 (Cavalier County Emergency Management) for assistance with the online scheduling.

At-a-Glance and General Announcements

Thank you to the following people who completed terms of service on councils and committees at United Lutheran in January:

Abby Borchardt (Nominating)
 Larry Crockett (Endowment)
 Linda Dahl (Hospitality)
 Laura Dease (Education)
 Carey Freer (Hospitality)
 Greg Goodman (Audit, Nominating)
 Ashton Hedger (Nominating)
 Kathie Johnson (Property)
 LeeAnn Knudson (Nominating)
 Deidre Long (Council VP)
 Tara McFadden (Council Secretary)
 Josh Overby (Council President)
 Randy Rude (Stewardship)
 Connie Schrader (Stewardship)
 Mike Schrader (Property)

Thank you to those who have accepted nominations to serve in 2021 and ahead. We look forward to doing ministry together!

Address Information

If you are leaving to go south and would like to receive the ULC newsletter, please let the church office know.

Offering Envelopes

2021 offering envelopes are available to be picked up from the table in the fellowship hall. Please remember to not use your 2020 envelopes in the new year as each year the envelopes are renumbered.

If you have not used offering envelopes in the past and wish to but do not see a packet with your name, please let the church office know.

Periodicals

The new "Living Lutheran" periodicals have arrived and are available in the narthex.

Weather Cancellation Notice

If inclement weather should arise, Pastor and Council President will make any decisions to cancel worship by 7AM Sunday morning. A post will be made on our Facebook page. TV (WDAZ) and radio (KNDK) will also be notified.

Visitation

Last winter United Lutheran formed a loosely-organized visitation group. The purpose was to remember shut-ins with visits, phone calls or notes. Thank you for continuing this important ministry!

Almlie Family Addresses

For anyone wishing to send condolences to the family of Sandra Almlie on her death, there are two addresses: John Almlie, New Perspectives, 2750 Victoria Street North, Roseville, MN 55113 or Lisa and Paul Riihiluoma, 4619 Alm Road, Moose Lake, MN 55767.

Al-Anon

Al-Anon meets Thursdays at noon in the youth room, providing support for relatives and friends of alcoholics. Please call 701-270-2254 with questions.

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.

Mobile Food Pantry

The Great Plains Mobile Food Pantry will be at our church parking lot, distributing food baskets for our community Wednesday, February 10, from 3:45-5:00 pm. Come if you are in need! Volunteers are needed to help, from approximately 3:30-5:15pm.

Congregational Singing in Church

As active Covid-19 cases have remained low in Cavalier County, ULC church council has approved congregational singing in worship again. If cases increase, we will again not have congregational singing. Face coverings and distancing are still required.

Pregnancy Health Center

The Pregnancy Help Center in Park River welcomes financial contributions for their work with the babies, mothers and families they serve.

Lost Items

Miscellaneous items can be found on the lost & found shelf in the narthex. Also unclaimed coats on the coat rack.

Thank you to:

DeLynn Carlson, John & Kathie Johnson for taking down the sanctuary Christmas decorations.

Fundraiser

The Wales Fire Hall will be hosting a Breakfast at the St. Michael's parish hall in Wales, this Sunday, February 7. They will be serving 9AM - 1PM. Items to be served are scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice. Free will offering. Pick up orders will be available and the ND State COVID guidelines will be followed. Masks required for eating in.

Visit United online at www.unitedlangdon.org or call us at 701-256-2594.



Non-Profit Organization
US Postage
PAID
Langdon, ND 58249
Permit #46

Return Service Requested

Worship and Ministry - February Schedule

February 7- Worship & Communion

Reader - Faye Wilhelmi
Ushers - Ted & Linda Dahl
Communion Prep - Faye Wilhelmi
Communion Asst - Carla Gemmill
Acolytes - Theo Romfo & Tyson Gemmill
Projectionist - Kaylee Lowery

February 14 - Worship

Reader - Kim Hart
Ushers - David & Jan Haslekaas family
Projectionist - Danny Hart

February 21 - Worship & Communion

Reader - Linda Olson
Ushers - Skyler Moline & Shelly Agnes
Communion Prep - Skyler Moline
Communion Asst - Dennis Balsdon
Acolytes - Jayden Lee & Brock Freer
Projectionist - Xavier Breddin

February 28 - Contemporary Worship

Reader - Steve Hart
Usher -
Projectionist - Brenna Schuler