

UNITED MONTHLY

Volume 11, Issue 5

May 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.

A Word From Pastor Chuck

God's Church is the hope of the world! Its important to note that this isn't Pastor Chuck's comment; this is in essence what our Lord and Savior said about his church. To quote Jesus directly he said, "The gates of hell will not prevail against my church." (Matthew 16:18) That is a bold vision for a group of people who come together in Langdon, North Dakota, to form a church called United Lutheran. We are called as God's church to be a light in this community, to be a beacon of hope and good news for all. God uses us as His church to join with Him in His work in this world; when we come together as a worshipping community, as well as tending to the ministries that are a part of who we are. So, with that in mind, let me share with you the ministry opportunities that are before us in the month of May.

Pray for the call committee and their work to call a pastor to serve United Lutheran into it's future. The call committee has been doing the necessary work to move that call process forward. A long term pastor would be best with a vision for youth and family ministry. Also, a capable preacher to preach the word of God week after week, to inspire and encourage the good people of faith here, to live into what it means to be a follower of Jesus. Your prayers added to the call committee's work is vital to joining with God in His work in this place.

In preparation for a pastor to come serve at United, we will have a clean-up day that includes some necessary work at the parsonage. Clean-up day will also include spring cleaning outside and around our church building. So plan to "get involved"

with this moving from winter to spring clean-up scheduled for May 16th following worship. Feel free to wear jeans and work clothes to church that day. A reminder, this is a great opportunity for the youth to fulfill "Hands & Feet" projects or even gain volunteer hours!

Covid basically shut down the visitation ministry here at United, but its time to get that ministry back up and running again. Interested people from a pre-covid meeting have been called and invited to a visitation meeting on May 2nd following worship. If you have a heart for visitation ministry, you are invited to attend that meeting. We will focus on natural connections for visitation, the purpose of visitation, as well as other pertinent ways to make the most of the visitation we do as a church; reaching out to shut-ins and others who need that ministry.

Also, United Lutheran 4th graders will receive their First Communion on May 2nd. Lets rally around them and their families as a congregation to celebrate this important moment in their faith walk by making worship a priority on May 2nd.

On May 16th, during worship, we will be acknowledging and pray for the graduating seniors as they take the next step into their future. Join the graduating seniors and families in worship that day, as we lean on Gods' promise for them, "I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, to give you a future filled with hope". (Jeremiah 29:11)

(continued on page 4)

May 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 9:15AM Sunday school 10AM Worship with Holy Communion (First Communion) 11AM Visitation Ministry Meeting 2PM Sydney Crockett piano recital	3	4	5 6PM 7&8 Grade Confirmation	6 12PM Al-Anon by zoom (more info on page 7) 2-4:00PM Mobile Food Pantry	7	8
9 9:15AM Last Day of Sunday school 10AM Blended Worship Happy Mother's Day!	10 5PM P.E.O.	11 5:30PM Esther Circle	12 6PM 7&8 Grade Confirmation (Last day)	13 12PM Al-Anon by zoom	14	15
16 10AM Worship with Holy Communion ULC 2021 Senior Class Recognition (Spring Clean-up Day following worship)	17 6PM Church Council meeting	18	19 7PM Baccalaureate at New Hope Fellowship for 2021 Senior Graduates along with family & friends	20 12PM Al-Anon by zoom	21	22
23 10AM Contemporary Worship	24	25	26	27 12PM Al-Anon by zoom	28	29
30 10AM Worship	31 Memorial Day	Vacation Bible School	Vacation Bible School	Vacation Bible School		

Faith & Care #2 Carol Hart, chair

Gerald & Sue Anderson	Jim & Connie Kjos
Steven & Michele Anderson	Caitlin Kreklau
Gene & Barb Arens	Robert & Lillian Lowery
David & Teri Bodnar	JoAnn Mueller
Arvid & Sandy Boe	Grant & Betty Nelson
Rick & Carolyn Crockett	Eldon & Karen Pederson
Ben Crockett	Paul Peterson
Daniel Crockett	Bill Reinhardt
Tara Domres	Stephen Ridley
Brittany Farris	Darrin & Becca Romfo
Dean & Connie Hakanson	Troy & Rachelle Romfo
Travis & Megan Hakanson	Bill & Kathy Roy
Seth & Beth Hansen	Randy & Kim Rude
Lawrence & Katie Henry	Angie Sanders
Kyle & Tiffany Hetletved	Brandon & April Smith
Tom & Lynda Hoyt	Kathy Snortland
Zane Jacobson	Gordon & Sharon Sondeland
John & Kathie Johnson	Carl & Rebecca Tollefson
Robert & Nadine Kempert	

ULC Leadership 2021

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

Committee Council Representatives

Education	Carla Gemmill
Endowment	Tyler Balsdon
Hospitality	Terry Jacobson
Property	Steve Hart
Stewardship	Troy Romfo

Non-voting Representative

Pastor	Chuck Olmstead
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Interim Pastor

Contact information for Pastor Chuck is by phone 701-235-7847 or email at chrslcrlmstd@gmail.com

Financial Update 03-31-21

March Offering \$11,570.80

	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>
	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Offering Income	\$44,851.49	\$41,011.25
Total Income thru March	\$45,422.27	\$38,912.42
*Total Expenses thru March	\$55,327.49	\$48,213.26

*Please note, 2021 expense includes a transfer from the general check book to the dedicated fund to pay off the HVAC note of \$11,332.45.

As of April 26, our Endowment Fund balance was \$117,247.61. 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). Interest accrued yearly from this Endowment fund has been used at the end of each year to give back to needs within our community or special projects within the church.

Council Notes 04-19-21 Mtg

Pastor Chuck is working on a summer worship series with Janet and Kathie. He is helping re-start the visitation ministry group.

Julie stated that the United Women (formerly WELCA)/funeral account money, along with quilting funds have been combined and has been deposited in the kitchen dedicated fund.

Carla reported that VBS will be held June 1-3, times 9AM-3PM. She also gave details from the call committee meeting and that they are finalizing the ministry profile, working on the "defined compensation" portion.

Steve reported that property had met and spoke about items to be looked after at the parsonage and church. Priorities right now are the leaking church roof and completing the sewer pipe replacement in the church parking lot.

Council made a few changes regarding Covid guidelines (page 5).

Spring cleaning for the church and parsonage will be May 16 following worship.

Outdoor worship is in the plans, whether the picnic will follow has been tabled until next month.

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

First Communion

ULC students in fourth grade who participated in communion instruction on Sunday, April 25 will be recognized with first communion during our Sunday morning worship, May 2.

Congratulations to these young people on this step in their faith:

Ella Goodman, Liam Johnson
Olivia Bredeson, Hailee Hakanson
Korbyn Rollness, Jesse LaPorte
and Austin Wenzel



A Word from Pastor Chuck

(continued from page 1)

Just on the other side of May, beginning June 1-3 is VBS, (Vacation Bible School). VBS is open to the children of United as well as the community and it's a great outreach opportunity to invite a grandkid or a neighbor child to participate in this year's event. Carla Gemmill has recruited volunteers to serve the VBS kids in a variety of ways, so lets rally around our kids with our gifts and talents by getting involved. I would remind us all of what Jesus said about experiences like VBS, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them for such to these belongs the kingdom of God." (Matthew 19:14)

Finally, as you may know, we have a leaky roof that needs to be repaired. The property team has done research and made a decision with council's approval to get the roof fixed. Summer is short and now is the time to get it fixed. The bid that was approved to fix the roof is for \$28,420. We will be receiving a special offering, targeting this project during the month of May and would invite members of United to participate. Together, with goodwill and generous hearts, we should be able to pay for the necessary repairs as we seek to take care of our church home. To give a special offering, simply indicate your gift is for the roof project on the memo line of your check or on your envelope.

Your ownership is the vision to be God's church. That hope of the world, needs every member's gifts, talents and generosity. And so, thank you, people of United Lutheran for being a church that makes God smile.

Pastor Chuck

Sunday School

Greetings!

Here we are at May already, which means we're at the end of our Sunday School year! Looking back on this year, it has definitely been challenging, but also full of blessings. I want to extend a big thank you to all of our Sunday School leaders that have given their time and talents to lead our kids each week. Our Sunday mornings changed quite a bit, but our leaders did a fantastic job helping things run as smoothly as possible! And, we all learned a few things along the way!

We will meet the first two Sundays in May, with our lessons being "False and True Fasts" on May 2nd and "Justice and Jubilee" on May 9th. May 9th will be our last Sunday for the school year. We will also be doing our spring service project that day, which will be coloring and preparing cards to send to our friends and neighbors in local nursing homes.

You saw the dates last month, as well, but a reminder that VBS is coming soon! It is scheduled for June 1-3, Tuesday through Thursday. Metigoshe Ministries will be with us for a full day on Tuesday, June 1st. The remaining two days Metigoshe will provide us with materials and we will have folks from our congregation leading the kids. We are looking forward to this week! Watch for more details as we get closer.

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

Confirmation

We will close out the school year for our 7-8 grade confirmation students with two May sessions, both at 6pm:

May 5: Group Service Project, Ditch Cleaning
May 12: Adventure Night - Trivia/End of year party

Thanks for a great year!

Roof Project

The Property Committee met on April 15th to discuss the ongoing leaky roof in the fellowship hall and other areas of the church building. Several options were suggested for the roof including a pitched system that would involve using wood rafters and metal roofing, repair of the existing rubber roof and replacement of the existing rubber roof with a urethane foam roofing system. A preliminary estimate of \$220,000 was considered and rejected due to the high cost of materials and the need to eliminate the south facing windows in the sanctuary, to accommodate the pitch of the roof. The current rubber roof has been problematic since it was installed. Property decided to accept a bid from The Insulation Place in Grafton to install a urethane foam roofing system on the west portions of the flat roof area. This portion of the roof covers the fellowship hall, narthex, church offices, kitchen, restrooms and entry. The proposal will build pitch on the low areas of the roof allowing water to move to the drains to eliminate ponding on the roof. Additional insulation will be an added value to the use of a foam roofing system. The total cost of this project is \$28,420. Church council approved the project on April 19th and there will be a special offering to pay for the repairs.

Senior Graduate Recognition

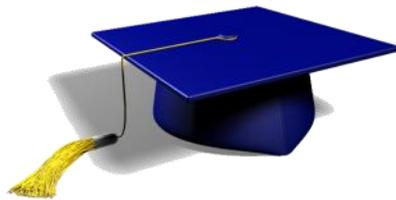
The Langdon Area Ministerial will be holding a Baccalaureate Service for all the area graduating seniors, Wednesday, May 19, at 7pm at New Hope Fellowship. This service is open to friends and family of each graduate with refreshments.

We will be honoring our United Lutheran Church high school graduates at our 10am worship service on **Sunday, May 16**. At this service, we will be gifting our graduates with a quilt, hand-made by United Lutheran's quilting group.

Congratulations to our graduating seniors and may the Lord's face shine upon them and the Lord look upon them with favor as they continue with their next chapter!

ULC Seniors are:

Sydney Crockett
Payton Henderson
Kaylee Lowery
Grant Romfo
Simon Romfo
Daniel Hart
Isak Dease
Lexis Olson



Covid-19 Updates

Council met on April 19 and has updated a few of the Covid-19 policies. Coffee is being offered following worship services. The sanctuary and fellowship hall are at 75% capacity and the tape from the pews has been removed from within the sanctuary. Masks are still recommended. Other current precautions include:

Continuing to refrain from handshakes and passing the offering plates, precautions still taken when distributing Holy Communion and continuing to be ushered out following worship services.

If the funeral committee is called to serve a funeral, they may serve food requested by the family, done in a sanitary manner.

Potlucks are on hold yet and the picnic following the outdoor worship is still being discussed.

Memorials

Lawrence Thielbar - David & Ardyce Hennager (general), Friends & family of Lawrence Thielbar (general & building), Anna Olson (general), Kevin & Jan Stein (general), Gordon & Sharon Sondeland (building), Gary & Carla Togstad (general), Ron Robillard (general), Karen Kloster (building), John & JoAnn Mueller (building)

Dorothy Adam - David & Ardyce Hennager (music), Charles & Marie Jordan (music), Anna Olson (general), Dan & Peggy Fischer (building), Bub & Janice Knudson (general), Carol Hart (endowment), Lenora Olson (general), Don & Elaine Haugen (music), Mathew & Ashton Hedger (building), Steve & Kim Hart (music), Wayne & Nancy Coyle (music), Edwin Olson (music), Leland & Carolyn Balsdon (music), Tara & Chad Ekren (music), Dennis & Linda Balsdon (general)

Marjorie Jacobson - Steve & Kim Hart (music), Leland & Carolyn Balsdon (music), Dan & Peggy Fischer (building), Carol Hart (garden), Lenora Olson (general), Rick & Carolyn Crockett (general), Paul & Debbie Peterson (quilting), the family of Marjorie Jacobson (quilting), Val & Randy Darling (quilting)

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

Prayers of...

Healing

Lois Jones (Val Olson's cousin, cancer), Diane Reinhardt (cancer), the people of Haiti, Connie Hakanson

Joy

Congratulations to Tyler & Emily Balsdon on the baptism of their daughter, Gigi Joelle. Her baptismal sponsors are Cory & Katie Keegan. Gigi has two big brothers, Jamison and Brooks.

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

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee had its initial meeting via zoom with the Associate to the Bishop, Shar Gumke. Shar talked with the group about the call process and will be available anytime for questions and advice.

Since then, the committee has had two more meetings to discuss and update the Ministry Site Profile. The profile is a document that clearly shows what United Lutheran is all about. Pastors who look at our profile will learn about our congregation, staff, budget, mission, programs, goals, partnerships, gifts, community and what we are looking for in a pastor.

Once the profile is finalized, it will be sent to the Synod. If the synod feels an interested pastor may be a good fit for United Lutheran, that pastor will receive our profile and we will receive a profile of the pastor. If the Call Committee is interested in the pastor, an interview will be set up.

The church council did an excellent job in selecting the 10 members of the Call Committee. It is a group that works well together as a whole; the committee is excited about United Lutheran and what it has to offer to an incoming pastor. Please continue to pray for the committee members: Ashton Hedger, Andrea Jacobson, Abby Borchardt, Steve Hart, Ted Dahl, Linda Olson, Kyle Rollness, Carla Gemmill, Julie Johnson and Lisa Schuler.

Lisa Schuler
Call Committee Chairman

Journey

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

May 2 - Who do You Say I Am? A Declaration of Faith

May 9 - Blessed Are You? Called to be a Light to the World!

May 16 - The Ascension

May 23 - Pentecost: What Difference does the Spirit Make in My Life?

May 30 - Unity: Living in Faith Together

Blue Jean Sunday

Council has set May 16 as "Spring Cleaning" day. Feel free to wear jeans and work clothes to church that day. Stay after worship to chip in around the church and parsonage for a variety of indoor and outdoor clean up. "Many hands, make light work" and thank you for your consideration to lend a hand in keeping our properties beautiful. This is a great opportunity for the youth to fulfill their "Hands & Feet" projects or even gain volunteer hours!

Scholarships

There are great college scholarship opportunities through the InFaith Foundation, which manages ULC's endowment fund. The money from these scholarships comes from InFaith, not from our endowment.

More information can be found at <https://www.infaithfound.org/newsgrants/scholarships>. **Application deadlines are April 30.**

ULC also has our own scholarship fund for students attending a Lutheran college or considering future ministry. Please let the church council know if you would like consideration for assistance.

Vacation Bible School

2021 VBS will be held at ULC, June 1-3. More information will be coming available soon and posted in the bulletins and the ULC Facebook page.

At-a-Glance and General Announcements

Thank You to:

Dan & Peggy Fischer for storing the nativity set this past year.

Don & Elaine Haugen and Terry & Janet Jacobson for providing the wine and wafers for communion Sundays.

Lisa Schuler, Kathie Johnson, Rebecca Tollefson and Jenny Schroeder (Jeremy Schuler's cousin) for their special music provided in the month of April. Our Praise Band for their special music each month. All of these individual's time is most appreciated.

Faye Wilhelmi, Ardyce Hennager and Helen Johnson for faithfully helping each month fold newsletters.

The family of Dorothy Adam that recently donated a wheelchair to be used for transferring anyone in need.

Offering Envelopes

2021 offering envelopes are available to be picked up from the table in the fellowship hall. If you do not see a packet with your name, please let the church office know.

Visitation Ministry

Last year, United Lutheran formed a loosely-organized visitation group. The purpose was to remember shut-ins with visits, phone calls or notes. A meeting will be held following worship this Sunday, May 2 to continue with this important ministry. Please come if you are interested, open to anyone!

Mobile Food Pantry

The Great Plains Mobile Food Pantry will be at our church parking lot, distributing food baskets for our community Thursday, May 6, from 2-4:00PM. Come if you are in need! Volunteers are needed to help, from approximately 1:45-4:15pm.

Pastor Breddin's Mailing Address

Karl and Rebecca Breddin, 118 North Grant Avenue, Madison, SD 57042.

Al-Anon

Al-Anon meets Thursdays through zoom, providing support for relatives and friends of alcoholics. Please call 701-270-2254 with questions.

Periodicals

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

Park River Bible Camp

PRBC will have 2021 summer camps operating at half-capacity, following Covid safety precautions! Keep in mind, United Women pay 1/4 the cost of campership fees and the church pays 1/4 also. Go to the PRBC website to view the upcoming camps, www.parkriverbiblecamp.org/summercamp/

Vaccinations - More Dates/Walk-ins

Cavalier County Health District is offering vaccinations for individuals aged 18 and above, with more days starting in May (M,W,F). Appointments are preferred but walk ins will be accepted. CCHD may be able to arrange additional times for vaccination on M-W-F by special arrangement. 16-18 year olds can call and be placed on a waiting list. Call 256-3911 for assistance to schedule an appointment or online at <https://tinyurl.com/yxn9aa2e>.

New Church Home

Are you are looking for a new church home and would like more information about becoming a member at United? Please fill out the tear-off card in the church bulletin and place it in the offering plate. You can also let Pastor Chuck or Julie know in the church office.

Easter/Peace Lilies

Many thanks to all who donated the Easter/Peace lilies which beautified our worship space, given in memory or honor of loved ones. **We apologize if your loved ones names were not listed in the Easter insert due to the printing time frame.**

Marjorie Olson

by the Ole L.E. Olson family
Ole E.M. & Helga Olson
by the Ole L.E. Olson family

Ralph & Ruby Welsh

by the Ole L.E. Olson family

Olson Brothers - Andrew, Henry, Erling, Olin, Lloyd & Hans
by the Ole L.E. Olson family

Lawrence Thielbar

by the family

Kevin Boe

by John & Karen Boe

Greg Olson

Herb Olson

by Val Olson & family

Sharon Olson

by Edwin Olson & family

Adam Olson

By Larry, Linda, Chris, Meagan,
Gabby & Jocee Olson

Lost Items

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

Cancer Rummage Sale

Tuesday, April 27th through Saturday, May 1st. Langdon American Legion Downtown building. Volunteers are welcome. More information posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

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



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www.UnitedLangdon.org

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Return Service Requested

Worship and Ministry - May Schedule

May 2 - Worship with Holy Communion

Reader - Rachele Romfo
Usher - Bob & Nadine Kempert
Communion Prep - Carol Hart
Communion Asst - Paul Peterson
Acolytes - Sophia Nuelle
& Jaymee Reidhammer
Projectionist - Brenna Schuler
Coffee - Tom & Lynda Hoyt

May 9 - Blended Worship

Reader - Rebecca Tollefson
Ushers - Travis Hakanson family
Acolyte - Theo Romfo
Projectionist - Brenna Schuler
Coffee - Sue Anderson

May 16 - Worship with Holy Communion (ULC Senior Recognition)

Reader - JoAnn Mueller
Ushers - Karen Pederson & JoAnn Mueller
Communion Prep - Karen Pederson

May 16 - Worship with Holy Communion (ULC Senior Recognition)

(continued)
Communion Asst - John Johnson
Acolytes - Justin Schroeder
& Jaymee Reidhammer
Projectionist - Victor Long
"Spring Cleaning" Day

May 23 - Contemporary Worship

Reader - Adam Hart
Ushers - Angie Sanders family
Acolyte - Catelyn Goodman
Projectionist - Nathan Kitchin
Coffee - Carolyn Crockett

May 30 - Worship

Reader - Rebecca Tollefson
Ushers - Willie Thom & Duane Olson
Projectionist - Addy Reidhammer
Coffee - Sandy Boe