

Our Mission Statement

Called by God's love to serve our neighbors and glorify God.

Pastor's Message

May 2024

We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us! But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.

1 Corinthians 13:12-13

Did you know that Bill Nelson was blind in one eye? And he still flew a plane? I have been obsessed with seeing things since my cataract surgery last week. It is truly amazing what new technology in medicine can do with correcting your vision. I have been *peering through a mist* for years and without my trusty 'readers' I would have been unable to read any words on the page except for the largest, **in font 16!!** Now, I find myself grabbing pieces of paper and examining them for the smallest script to see if I can read it. And I can! I am so thankful for this new ability to see the world around me without the aid of those glasses that I could never seem to find – even when they were on my head!

And yet. As the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians, who were at odds with one another, "*We don't yet see things clearly.*" There is another kind of seeing which requires more than twenty/twenty vision. When Jesus healed the man born blind and gave him his sight back, he also led him to insight – that Jesus came from God and called him into a place of belonging. There is the beautiful hymn, Be Thou My Vision that is like a prayer: *Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art: Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.* How do we learn to see as Jesus sees? How do we learn to trust that God has called us into a mission to see where the needs are all around us and even among us?

To be intentional about this calling to gain insight into where God may be leading us, the Trustees are forming a Vision Committee. In our partnership

Meetings

- Trustee Meeting
- Men's Group Gatherings
- Stephen's Ministry
- ULCW Business Mtg.
- MOPS Meetings
- Quilters Meet
- Circle of Hope
- Morning Circle Meeting

Happenings

- ◆ May's Community Meal
- ◆ May Calendar
- ◆ June Newsletter
Deadline
- ◆ Hospitality Listing for
May, June and July
- ◆ Graduating Senior
Recognition Sunday
- ◆ Peace Book Club

Education/One Youth

- Wiggle Worship
- VBS @ United
- **One Youth Information**

ULC Staff

Pastor: Jean Ohman
SAM: Natalie Hanson
(Synod Assigned Minister)
Worship & Music Coordinator
Theron Jeppesen
Office Manager/Secretary:
Julie Johnson
Janitor: Beth Schneeberger

Church Council

President: Eli Reeve
Vice President: Witney Willard
Secretary: Pam Holsen
Treasurer: Karen McGee

with Peace, I have come to realize that would be helpful for us to do some intentional work towards improving our vision at United. Both Peace and Messiah have a Vision Committee. Our desire is to also work with those two congregations to see what other things we might accomplish together in order to strengthen our ministry and mission. First and foremost, we need to keep our eyes on Jesus. God is at the center. If you have an interest in the vision for United and in working in collaboration with others, please speak to one of the Trustees or Pastor Jean.

In this life the Apostle Paul has given us some good advice for improving our vision:
Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. Amen. Yes.

Be thou my vision, O ruler of all.

Pastor Jean



Senior Recognition Sunday

May 12th

Join us for a Senior Celebration in the Fellowship Hall
Please join our seniors, and their families, as we
celebrate their graduation.

ULC Graduating Seniors:

Halleigh Brendmoen, Brina Beyer,
Mitchell Dewey, Bryce Kjesbo, David Larson,
Carter Lohse, William Rustan

Community Meal

May 15th

Serving from 5-6:30p.m.

Menu: Hot Dogs, Brats, Beans & Chips

Donation: Grant County Social Services for kids
12-18 years of age

- The Men's Group is asking for members to donate
Salads and Desserts
- Sign-up sheet is by the large bulletin board.

**Please come join us for wonderful food
and conversation. All Are Welcome!**

Grilling Time

ULC's Members in Care Centers, Assisted Living and Home Shut-ins



✦ Barrett Care - Barrett

Norlin Westrom

✦ Veterans Home - Fergus:

Clayton Hauglie

Dale Mickelson

✦ Maplewood Senior Living - Elbow

◆ Dwaine & Jean Haraldson	Room	8
◆ Marion Mobraaten	Room	107
◆ Sam Coleman	Room	128
◆ Helen Knutson	Room	131

✦ Lyle Huseh - Ashby

Ashby Living Center
112 Iverson Avenue
Ashby, MN 56309

✦ Barb Berg - Colorado

Brookdale Lowry
150 Quebec Street #271
Denver, CO. 80230

The Men's Group will gather on
 May 2nd & 16th at 8a.m. in the Fireside Room.
 If you would like to join this group, please call
 the church office at 685-4179 to have
 your name added to the email list.



Board of Trustees Pg. 3
 will meet on May 19th after worship.
 You will meet in the Choir Room.
 Grab some coffee and a treat and
 then we'll begin the meeting.



MAY Birthdays

- 1 Bob Lohse
- April Richards
- 02 Zoey Jeppesen
- Myron Westrom
- 03 Andria Gardner
- Halle Grosz
- 04 Norman
- Gronwold
- Kurt Myron
- Heidi Olson
- 05 Owen Gruchow
- Teagan Nelson
- 06 Joshua Anderson
- Gary Fosberg
- 07 Jason Lohse
- Mark LaValley
- 08 Brooke Eisel
- 09 Morgan Andersen
- Robin McNamar
- Robert Olson

- 12 Nola Sax
- 13 Danielle Baker
- 15 Andrea Frykman
- 15 Tanner
- Skinmoe
- 17 Micheal Burgess
- 18 Brett Amundson
- Brina Beyer
- Kurt Pikop
- 19 Theron Jeppesen
- Piper Loeks
- Chad Mickelson
- Jim Warde
- 20 Carla Benson
- 21 Hannah
- Anderson
- Mary Boyack
- 22 Eric Hubbard
- 23 Judy Hams

- 24 Tyler Nelson
- Christy Oachs
- 25 Joshua Nelson
- Amya Acklin
- 26 Kim Olson
- 28 Denise Baker
- Adley Johnson
- 29 Gene Karger
- 31 Dana Bevins

Please inform Julie of
 any changes or
 corrections.
 218-685-4179



Quilters will meet
 on Wednesdays
 at 9a.m.

Everyone is welcome -beginning
 quilters to experienced quilters.
 For more information contact Susan
 Frykman at 320-760-4887.



United MOPS will
 meet on May 6th
 and 15th.

6p.m. at United
 Lutheran Church
 215 10th Ave. SE
 Elbow Lake

All Are Welcome!



**You will meet on May 9th at 9a.m. in the
 Fireside Room.**

Philippians 4:6-7

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every
 situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
 present your requests to God.

And the peace of God, which transcends all
 understanding, will guard your hearts and your
 minds in Christ Jesus."



Family Caregiver Support Group

Meets on the 4th Tuesday of each
 month at United Lutheran Church.

The next meeting is May 28th at 10a.m.

Newsletter Deadline is



Our Website:

www.unitedlutheranelbowlake.com

Facebook Page:

United Lutheran Church, Elbow Lake

Trustee Minutes March 17, 2024 Pg. 4

Members present: Scot Beyer, Scott Johnson, Witney Willard, Rose Danielson, Pam Holsen, Pastor Jean and Karen McGee. Brian Kjesbo from the Personnel committee also joined the meeting.

Vice President Witney Willard called the meeting to order.

Due to timing of the meeting, we first discussed under Old Business the finalization of the SAM job description and letter from Bishop Bill Tesch. In his letter, Bishop Tesch shared with the trustees the professionalism, responsibilities, and how compensation for the SAM position usually works. With the changes in mind and the previous motion to approve \$25,000.00 for the SAM position and Messiah Church contributing another \$10,000 towards the youth portion, Scot B. moved to amend the salaried SAM position to \$35,000 for ten weeks based upon 25 hours a week for pastoral responsibilities and additional SAM hours beyond ten weeks shall be compensated at \$28/hr. Pam H. seconded the motion. Due to President Eli Reeve not being present, we held off on the vote until he could join in. Via email, the motion was carried.

Secretary's report: Scot B. moved to accept the minutes from the February meeting; Scott J. seconded the motion. MCU.

Treasurer's report: Scot B. moved to approve the treasurer's report and payables; Pam H. seconded the motion. Motion carried. Nothing out of the ordinary was reported for the month.

Old Business: See above.

New Business:

Senior Quit Day: Sunday, May 12, 2024 during services.

Lock boxes on thermostats have been installed.

Vision Board committee: Pastor Jean, Natalie Hanson, along with others interested, will serve on the committee. We will get the word out via Facebook, announce in church, newsletter, to see who else would like to be on the quest of vision for the future of United. We would like a variety of ages. It would be good to have this committee by May.

Vacation Bible School: Pastor Jean would like to do a musical. Witney W. will reach out to the Education board to see when would be the best time for VBS this summer.

We set the quarterly all committee meeting dates as follows:

Sunday, June 23, 2024 after church

Sunday, September 15, 2024, after church

Sunday, January 19, 2025 after church.

Our next monthly meeting will be Sunday, April 21, 2024, after church.

Scot B. moved to adjourn the meeting; Witney W. seconded the motion. MCU

Pam Holsen, Secretary

Prior to the Trustees' meeting, an All Committee meeting was held. Reports are as follows:

Worship: Pastor Jean reported that the Lenten services are going well and the congregations love having the youth involved. A Vision board Committee is something the Worship committee would like to invoke. Messiah and Peace are doing the same. We need to get back to the things we were doing pre-covid. The Worship Committee will also help out with the Alter Guild in getting people to help set up communion.

Alter Guild: Found out apple juice had gotten old so smaller bottles will be purchased. An email will be sent out for help to set up communion each week. Would like to get the youth to participate in communion. As stated above, the Worship Committee will help the Alter Guild in getting people to set up communion.

Building and Grounds: Zach J. will program the automatic door by the kitchen with ten different codes and those codes will be given out to those committee members who need code numbers.

The bathroom work should be started in approximately one month. The countertops and stall partitions have been ordered. Kitchen – a substantial donation from the Liz Schroeder family has been given. Once the bathrooms are completed, we will start on the kitchen phase. There will need to be some fundraising done. Pat Soberg will work with Joanne Swenson on the appropriate floor mat to order for specific places in the kitchen. (Don't want mats that will discolor the new floor once installed) ULCW will pay for the mats.

Exterior window sills. They will need to be completed this summer. It may cost approximately \$4,000 to complete the project.

Mulch by the bell tower. Bill LaValley will take care of getting the mulch.

Youth will paint the gutters this summer.

Education/One Youth: Lent is awesome! Mission trip was wonderful and they will present to the congregation soon. The high school kids are going to Cheyenne Reservation July 28-August 3. One Youth is planning what the summer will look like.

Endowment: They have taken care of several requests. Please have the people fill out the request form prior to their meeting so they can have an idea of what people need. We need to explain to the congregation what exactly Endowment is as it has been around for a long time but the newer members may not be aware of what it is about. Perhaps post a "ways to give" in newsletter, Facebook, short video for all of the things happening.

Personnel: Brian Kjesbo talked about finalizing the details for the SAM position.

Stewardship: There hasn't been a stewardship drive in many, many years. The committee thinks we should do a postal mailing – get the word out somehow! An Operational Endowment is also something to think about as it would be for operating expenses – not special requests. They are also asking if Spiritual Life and Growth could communicate with the recent church graduates while in college or the work force saying we haven't forgotten about you and that we are your church family and care for you. Could the youth do a video for Facebook showing what our church is about? Different committees doing short clips/videos showing United at work.

Spiritual Life and Growth: They do a fantastic job! They are going to supervise the new church directory. Also, Lisa Pikop informed Pastor Jean that the school does have release time which is held inside the school. We were not aware of this and is something we could work on with the youth.

Funeral Service Group: We have put together a very specific guideline for future funerals at United.

Hospitality Teams: Pat Soberg has updated the list, which is ongoing. Pat and Pam Holsen will make a checklist of items to be completed when using the kitchen by all groups and post it in several places in the kitchen and also let others know there is a checklist to be completed!

Witney Willard said if anyone wants something on Facebook to send the information to her and she will post it. Facebook reaches so many and it gets shared so let's take advantage of this social media and Witney's expertise!

With the All Committee meeting completed, Pastor Jean led us in prayer.

The next all committee meeting will be Sunday, June 23, 2024 after church.

Respectively submitted by Pam Holsen

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN – MAY 2023

The Gather magazine study for May is a devotional on Mental Illness. The author is Elise Seyfried. As long as humans have existed there has been mental illness. Some estimate that 20% of all adults live with a mental health issue. We will look at people from the Bible and read some passages that relate to mental illness. These scriptures will remind us of Jesus' compassionate care for those who struggle.

You are all invited to come to the circle meetings. You are welcome to bring a friend. The Circle of Hope will meet on Tuesday, May 21, at 7:00 PM at the parsonage. The Morning Circle will meet on Thursday, May 23, at 9:30 AM in the fireside room. We always have coffee and goodies as we enjoy fellowship with one another. There are Gather magazines in the narthex that you are welcome to take if you don't have one.

We will not have a Spring Tea this year. Hopefully, we can have one next year.

The Sunday morning coffee donations will be given to Grant County Mental Health in May. Thank you for your generosity.

Pam Lyson, president
Home: 218-685-4004
Cell: 701-301-0095



Women's Bible Studies
All Are Welcome!

+ **Circle of Hope** will meet on Tuesday,
May 21st at 7p.m. at the Parsonage.
(814 1st Street SE, Elbow Lake)

+ **Morning Bible Study** will meet on
Thursday, May 23rd at 9:30a.m.
in the Fireside Room. All Are Welcome!



Hospitality
Teams

May 2023 - Team 5 Leaders:
Darrell & Susan Frykman and Kurt &
Lisa Pikop

June 2023: Team 6 Leaders:
Jeff & Pam Holsen

July 2023: Team 1 Leader:
Bonnie Harstad



Vacation Bible School will be at United Lutheran Church in August. Please watch for more details in June's Newsletter.

May 19th @ 9a.m.



Come for a fun, enjoyable and engaging worship! Please stay for our Gather Together Fellowship with treats, beverages, crafts for everyone and friendly conversation.

Everyone is Welcome!

Come Join Us!



May 2024 ~ ONE Youth Updates

- Confirmation quickly coming to an end with our last day on April 24. It has been an amazing year of learning, connection, and relationship-building. We are so grateful for all the youth who have attended and to all of the amazing small group leaders. Confirmation will resume in September, so stay tuned for details.
- Breakfast Club—we have one more Breakfast Club on Friday, May 17. Thank you to all of the groups who have so generously contributed time and food to support this awesome outreach ministry. A big thanks to Messiah Lutheran Church for serving food in April.
- HS Mission Trip—we are gearing up for our HS Mission Trip this summer, July 28-Aug 3, to the Cheyenne River Reservation. In addition to pre-trip gatherings, we are planning several fundraisers throughout the summer. One of those fundraisers includes offering service work to our members who would in turn donate funds toward the trip. See information below:

Service Work Fundraiser for Church Members—

In addition to serving a few meals and concessions to raise money for the trip, we are inviting church members to “hire” our youth to do work they have around their homes, such as cleaning windows, raking yards, tending to gardens, or any other odd jobs. You can call Natalie Hanson at 701-730-6760 to sign up or there will be a sign-up sheet at church inviting members to write down the number of youth needed, the work to be done, and the estimated hours of work. Please note, we can’t guarantee work within a certain timeframe, but will certainly do our best to coordinate with you and the youth. We are looking forward to serving our members who have so graciously supported the youth throughout the years.

ONE Youth Summer Schedule—please stay tuned for details on summer activities. We are hoping to plan some events to stay connected throughout the summer!



MAY 2024



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Color Codes for the Tri-Church's
 United Lutheran, Peace Lutheran,
 Messiah Lutheran, Tri-Churches



1 9a.m. - Quilters Meet

2 8a.m. - Men's Group Gathering
 1:30p.m.-Quilting Mission Fellowship

3 Building Closed

4 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study

5 9a.m. - Worship
 10a.m. - Gather Together Fellowship

6 10a.m.-Bible Study
 6p.m.-MOPS Meeting
 6p.m.-Bible Study on their Facebook

7 9a.m.-Bible Study
 7p.m.-Spiritual Growth Support Group

8 9a.m. - Quilters Meet
 2p.m.-Barrett Care Service

9 9a.m. - ULCW Business Meeting

10 Building Closed

11 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study

12 **Senior Recognition Sunday**
 9a.m. - Worship
 10a.m. - Senior Celebration Fellowship

13 10a.m.-Bible Study
 6p.m.-Bible Study on their Facebook

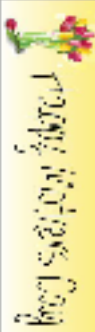
14 9a.m.-Bible Study
 9a.m. - Stephens Ministry Meeting
 10:30a.m. - Maplewood Manor Service
 7p.m.-Spiritual Growth Support Group

15 9a.m. - Quilters Meet
 2p.m.-Barrett Care Service
 5-6:30p.m. - Community Meal

16 8a.m. - Men's Group Gathering

17 Building Closed
 7:10a.m. - Breakfast Club at Peace Lutheran

18 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study



19 **PENTECOST**
 9a.m. - Wiggle Worship
 10a.m. - Gather Together Fellowship with Treats, Beverages, Crafts and Friendly Conversation

20 Newsletter Deadline-June
 10a.m.-Bible Study 5:30p.m.-Ruby's Party
 6p.m.-MOPS Meeting 6p.m.-Bible Study on their Facebook

21 9a.m.-Bible Study
 7p.m. - Circle of Hope at 814 1st Street SE.
 7p.m.-Spiritual Growth Support Group

22 9a.m. - Quilters Meet
 2p.m.-Barrett Care Service
 10a.m.-Peace Book Club @ Knotty Pine

23 9:30a.m.- Women's Morning Circle Meets

24 Building Closed

25 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study

26 9a.m. - Worship
 10a.m. - Gather Together Fellowship

27 **Memorial Day Building Closed**

28 9a.m.-Bible Study
 10a.m.-Family Caregiver Support Group
 10:30a.m.-Maplewood Manor Service
 7p.m.-Spiritual Growth Support Group

29 9a.m. - Quilters Meet
 9a.m.-June Newsletter Assembly

30

31 Building Closed



Congratulations to our Graduation Seniors!
 Brina Beyer, Mitchell Dewey, Macy Grosz, Bryce Kjesbo,
 David Larson, Carter Lohse, William Rustan



Hello Spring

TAB

TAB

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH
215 - 10th Avenue SE.
Elbow Lake, Minnesota 56531

**Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 47
Elbow Lake,
MN.**



God's Beautiful Spring

*May Newsletter 2023 of
United Lutheran Church*

Faithnews