

Our Mission Statement

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

Pastor's Message

October 2024

O sing to the Lord a new song...! Psalm 98:1a

Gather is a magazine published by the Women of the ELCA. The articles are always thought provoking and excellent, but the September/October issue had an article that really resonated with some of the current issues the institutional church is struggling with. As we navigate changes in the culture around us it also brings about change in the church. That is nothing new, I suppose, because change can always cause some resistance and anxiety.

Christa Von Zychlin wrote the article, *Holy Experiments: Offering up new songs to the Lord*, and I will quote her extensively because I can't improve upon her insights.

"Whereas I'm pretty sure that God likes old and new songs, I don't believe we're ever commanded to sing old ones, because most of us do that by nature. Just ask my family about songs I belt out in the shower! And just ask church musicians which songs most people prefer to sing!"

New songs can be challenging. New ideas, new assignments, new stages of life, new friends, new computer software, new ways of church outreach – those too can be strange, abrasive, frustrating, and not all that immediately successful. And trying new things doesn't get easier with age, does it?"

Still, no less than five Psalms and the prophet Isaiah encourage us to sing to God a new song. None of these passages say it has to be a great song, just a new one. Whenever we attempt unfamiliar skills, ask fresh questions, and experiment with novel ways to do things, can we offer these up to God as a form of "singing a new song to the Lord"?"

She says that these 'new songs' are Holy Experiments. Wiggle Worship, Breakfast Club, One Youth, community meals, worshiping together during the season of Lent, funeral policies, and three faith communities sharing in ministry are all holy experiments that we have undertaken. There are things to iron out and figure out along the way, but these new songs have been a blessing for us.

When these new songs unfold, there is a human tendency to want to go back to the way we've always done it and lament the changes in our culture, technology, sports schedules, and hectic pace. When we are stretched beyond our comfort zone – the way we've always done it and what we're used to – there can be some rough spots. *And*, there can be a whole lot of joy.

There is a word I say all the time, and just recently discovered that no one knows what it means: *Adiaphora* (ah-dee-off-or-a). *It is a useful word when it comes to matters of tradition, taste and preference.* The author states:

In Christian teaching, adiaphora refers to things neither commanded nor forbidden by scripture; things which may hold value, but are not, finally, of ultimate importance: not to our salvation in Christ, nor to love of neighbor, nor to scriptural guidance to seek God's glory above any other.

Over the years, I've had many opportunities to identify and attempt to practice Christian charity, freedom and occasional light-heartedness in matters of adiaphora.

Meetings

- Trustee Meeting
- Men's Group Gatherings
- Stephens Ministry Mtg.
- Women's Bible Studies
- Quilting Schedule

Happenings

- Youth Sunday
- ULCW Soup & Sandwich Luncheon
- Confirmation Sunday
- October Community Meal
- October Calendar
- November Newsletter Deadline
- Hospitality Team Listing for Oct., Nov., Dec.
- Nov: All Saints Sunday

Education

- ❖ Sunday School Information

One Youth

- Information and Updates

ULC Staff

Pastor: Jean Ohman
 SAM: Natalie Hanson
 Worship & Music Coordinator: Theron Jeppesen
 Secretary: Julie Johnson
 Janitor: Ashley Kurzman

ULC Council

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

There was the summer I lived in Jerusalem. I discovered I was not allowed into a certain historic church unless my knees and elbows were covered. I was a young, privileged American. What? I fumed. I'm a lifelong Christian, how dare anyone turn me away from a church? But I needed to learn that what was in one sense adiaphora, was at the same time a way of showing respect and love of neighbor in that particular place. I got over myself, returned the next day with a long skirt and gauzy shawl, and was graciously ushered in.

"All things are permitted, "but not all things are beneficial. "All things are permitted," but not all things build up. Do not seek your own advantage but that of the other...whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:23-24; 31b

Christa Von Zychlin ends her article by writing, "I give thanks to God for all the church folk, throughout the years, who are willing to sing old *and* new songs, who lovingly try to separate adiaphora from essentials, who conduct holy experiments, who are unafraid to throw out what is no longer fresh, and who help us all embrace new seasons of life with the One whose "...mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning."

And to that sentiment, I say, amen.

Pasta Jean



Youth Worship @ 9a.m.

Sunday, October 6th
Come Celebrate Christ with Our Youth!
Everyone is Welcome!
Come Join Us & Support our Youth!

Community Meal

Wednesday, **October 18th**
From 5p.m. - 6:30p.m.

Free Will Offering given to:
Knute Nelson

Menu: Baked Potato Bar

With all the fixings, side dishes, desserts, coffee, lemonade and water

Please sign-up to donate desserts and/or side dishes. Sing-up sheet is by the large bulletin board.

Your generosity is truly a blessing!

ALL ARE WELCOME!



ULC Members in
Care Centers,
Assisted Living,
Home Shut-Ins

Barrett Care Center
800 Spruce Street
Barrett, MN. 56311
•Norlin Westrom

Veterans Home-Fergus
1821 N. Park Street
Fergus Falls, MN. 56537
•Clayton Hauglie
•Dale Mickelson

Maplewood Manor Senior Living
1010 1st Street NE.
Elbow Lake, MN. 56531

•Dwaine & Jean Haraldson Room 8
•Helen Knutson Room 131

Ashby Living Center
•Lyle Huseth
112 Iverson Avenue
Ashby, MN. 56309



Coat Exchange Update

There are coats available to anyone who is need of warmth this winter. There are coats from kids to adult sizes. Please bring your slightly used coats for our exchange program, thank you.

Affirmation Sunday

Reformation Sunday

October 27, 2024

Please join these students and their families as they Affirm their Baptism. Following the service, there will be a Celebration Fellowship in their honor.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ✝ <i>Aubrey Amundson</i> | ✝ <i>Mia Gulbrandson</i> |
| ✝ <i>Kyra Beyer</i> | ✝ <i>Ava Lohse</i> |
| ✝ <i>Karleigh Brendmoen</i> | ✝ <i>Benjamin Myron</i> |
| ✝ <i>Hailey Fleischfresser</i> | ✝ <i>Amelia Pollard</i> |
| ✝ <i>Owen Gruchow</i> | ✝ <i>Hayden Schei</i> |

October Birthdays



Daniel Bah	Kari Huseth	Grace Stobbs
Rod Bumgardner	Tom Krusemark	Scott Swenson
Lane Coleman	Etta Magnuson	Toby Weigand
Nicholas Coleman	Hattie Magnuson	Norlin Westrom
Frank Davison	Dale Mickelson	
Mike Flint	Garland Mickelson	Please inform Julie of any corrections or changes. 218-685-4179
Garlyn Giffey	Sean Mickelson	
Pam Greiner	Sarah Nelson	
Jean Haraldson	Roxi Nordby	
Ryan Haraldson	Rachel Pikop	
Sandra Helseth	Jane Rath	
Tom House	Hayden Schei	
Elsie Huseth	Brayden Stark	
Jenni Huseth	Kendra Stark	

Quilting Schedule

United Quilters will meet on Wednesdays, at 9a.m. Everyone is welcome! For more information contact Susan Frykman at 320-760-4887.

MOPS

Meeting on Oct. 7th & 21st. You can find them on Facebook @ United MOPS. **ALL Moms are welcome to join United MOPS!**



The Men's Group will gather on October 3rd & 17th 8a.m. in the Fireside Room. If you would like to receive reminders, please call the church office at 218-685-4179 to have your name added to the email list.



Attention Board of Trustees
You will meet on _____
_____ at 6p.m. in the choir room.



Trustee Minutes June 17, 2024

Members present: Eli R., Scot B., Scott J., Beth P., Pam H., Karen McGee.

Secretary's report: A change in the May minutes under the Treasurer's report: the term **dedicated** funds should be used rather than general funds regarding the windowsill. Beth P. moved to accept the minutes from the May meeting, Scott J. seconded the motion. MCU.

Treasurer's report: The income for the first two weeks of June was not good. Karen did transfer some money to cover the normal payables. Hopefully the rest of June will be better. Scot B. moved to approve the Treasurer's report, Pam H. seconded the motion. MCU.

❖ Committee Reports:

- **Alter Guild:** They have requested more help setting up communion on Sundays. Julie put a notice in the bulletin. Pam H. will help them. There needs to be a new lock on the cabinet. We will purchase a paddle lock as they do not make the type of locks on the cabinet anymore. The drain in the sink in the communion room is slow draining. Jody Kruize will be notified. Eli said he could also bring a snake to see if he can get it cleaned out.
- **Buildings and Grounds:** Men's bathroom is pretty much done. Maybe a new towel dispenser for both bathrooms as the keys aren't working? The women's bathroom is in renovation at this time with the flooring completed as of today. The baby changing station needs to be checked to see if it is stable.
- Beth will power wash the outside when she has time. Scot B. has the windowsills glued together. He will contact people to help install them. Danny Erickson accidentally sprayed and killed the grass on the backside of the church. He will reseed this fall.
- Parsonage: John Ohman isn't mowing or trimming anymore and needs someone to take over the maintenance. Kelly Biss had been mowing the lawn but not trimming for some time. Karen will check with Gro Green to get an estimate. There is a tree that is close to falling into the shed which needs to be removed. The basement should be checked for water.
- **Education:** VBS is all set. Nothing else to report at this time.
- **Endowment:** Nothing new at this time.
- **Personnel:** Questions about janitorial work and check list. Eli will check out.
- Pastor Jean work comp.: Pastor Jean fell at Maplewood Manor while working. She suffered a severe concussion and cannot return to work until after her doctor's appointment on June 25 with an ok to come back. She will need to come back slowly. Karen did pay her on June 15th and it was decided to pay her next pay period. Karen will check out more with the work comp, which pays only 66 3/8th percent. John and Pastor Jean were concerned about the premiums going up and the Portico health benefits.
- **Stewardship:** Nothing to report.
- **Spiritual Life and Growth:** Busy as usual.
- **Worship Committee:** Tabled

❖ Old Business:

1. Cooling for kitchen: It will probably need to be something that comes through the ceiling. Jody Kruize still needs to be contacted.
2. Web Page: Nothing new at this time.
3. Church Logo: Nothing new at this time.
4. Inspect and Fix pews: Witney W. is going to reach out to John Kreft.

❖ New Business:

1. Pastor Jean's work comp: See under personnel.
2. Parsonage Exterior: See under Buildings and Grounds.
3. Microphone Quote: John Ohman picked up some of the new microphones as the Trustees agreed via email that new ones were needed. Natalie used it on Sunday. More are coming.
4. Church sign on Highway 79 is in bad shape and very small. Eli will check with MNDOT to see if we can get a blue highway sign.
5. Funds from Messiah: Eli was going to check with Pastor Mark to see when Messiah was going to give us the \$10,000.00.

We will not have a meeting in July. Our next meeting will be Monday, August 19, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the church.

Our next all committee meeting will be Sunday, September 15, 2024 after church.

Scot B. moved to adjourn the meeting. Scott J. seconded the motion. MCU

Respectfully submitted by Pam Holsen, Secretary



Sunday, October 6th ULCW Annual

Soup & Sandwich Luncheon
After worship in the
Fellowship Hall

**All Are Welcome! Please invite your
friends and family to join us!**



We are saddened by the
passing of our
church family member
Barb Berg

Please keep her family and friends in
your prayers as they grieve her loss.

The family is planning a spring
Celebration of Life for Barb.

United Lutheran's Bountiful Blessings



Our Bountiful Blessing food shelf is still in existence and your help is needed.
Please continue to bring in food products that we can make available for those in need.

There is a blue tub, by the front doors, where you can place your food items.
Thank you all for your generosity and help with this important endeavor!

- ❖ The Bountiful Blessings Pantry is located in the Coat Exchange area off the Fellowship Hall.
- ❖ The pantry is available Monday - Thursday while the church building is open.
- ❖ If you partake in this blessing, **please** only take items that you need.
- ❖ **Please** be considerate of others who are also in need of this important service we provide!



**Stephen Ministers will meet
on October 8th at 9a.m.
in the Fireside Room.**

Newsletter Deadline for November is



Hello ladies of United Lutheran. We welcome you to our Bible study in October which is the second in a series entitled, "Receiving Grace: A Study of Ephesians" by the Reverend Heide Haverkamp. The session is called "God's Power Works in Us." Even when we don't see or feel God's grace, it's there working in each of us.

We have two circles that meet every month. We invite you to come to the Circle of Hope that meets on Tuesday, October 15, at 7:00 PM at the parsonage. Also, the Morning Circle will meet on Thursday, October 24, at 9:30 AM in the fireside room. We always have the coffee on and yummy treats to enjoy, so we hope you'll come and be a part of our fellowship and Bible study.

The ULCW business meeting was held on Thursday, September 12.

There were eight women in attendance, which was wonderful. All women of ULC are welcome. The main topic of discussion was the upcoming Soup and Sandwich Luncheon (Bruncheon) on Sunday, October 6 after church. There will be many different kinds of soup, ham sandwiches and dessert to enjoy. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you'd like to bring soup or dessert or both. Thank you ahead of time for volunteering. Remember that you can get the meal to go if you like. We will have containers available. The donations for the meal will go toward updating the kitchen at some point in time. If you have questions, you can call Pam Lyson.

The Conference 8 Fall Gathering will be at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Parkers Prairie on Tuesday, October 8, 2024. The registration fee is \$15.00 which includes coffee, muffins and lunch. Please let Pam Lyson know if you are interested in attending. Registrations are due by September 30. A flyer concerning the conference is on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Operation Merry Christmas was brought up. The date for that is Saturday, December 7, 2024. More information on that will be in the next newsletter.

Thank you to those who donated school supplies. They were given to the Elbow Lake Elementary School to be used by the students.

The October coffee donations will go to the Grant County Fuel Assistance program. We appreciate your generosity.

Enjoy the autumn days. God bless you!

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



Dear Lord,
Please protect the farmers, and their
crops, this harvest season.

Amen



Women's
Bible Studies
All Are Welcome!

+ Circle of Hope will meet on Tuesday,
October 15th at 7p.m. at the Parsonage.
(814 1st Street SE, Elbow Lake)

+ Morning Bible Study will meet on
Thursday, October 24th at 9:30a.m.
in the Fireside Room. All Are Welcome!



Monthly
Hospitality Teams

October 2024: Team 5 Leaders:
Susan & Darrell Frykman, Lisa & Kurt Pikop

November 2024: Team 6 Leaders:
Jeff & Pam Holsen

December 2024: Team 1 Leaders:
Melissa Anderson

ULC Sunday School News

Starting this year, Sunday school will be offered on the first Sunday of every month. We'll begin with church service at 9a.m., featuring either Wiggle Worship or a Youth-led Worship, and then continue with Sunday School class at 10a.m.

We warmly invite all families to join us for a meaningful worship experience and a fun, faith-filled Sunday school session. While the kids are in Sunday school, we invite families to stay for coffee and fellowship.

This year, our Sunday school theme is "Armor of God"! Each month, we'll dive into this empowering curriculum to help our kids build faith and learn about God's protection and strength.



Schedule

Oct. 6th - The Belt of Truth

Nov. 3rd - The Breastplate of Righteousness

Dec. 1st - Advent Celebration



Ephesians 6:13-17

13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

14 Stand firm then, with the

belt of truth buckled around your waist, and the ***breastplate of righteousness*** in place,

*15 and with your **feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.***

*16 In addition to all this, take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.*

*17 Take the **helmet of salvation** and the **sword of Spirit**, which is the Word of God.*

October 2024 Information

MISSION Statement: Empower youth to KNOW God, GROW in faith, SPEAK truth, SERVE with love, and LEAD others to do the same. **VISION Statement:** To see the lives of youth deeply transformed by Christ, confident and courageous in who they are and what they're living for.

❖ 7th-9th Grade Faith Formation—OPEN TO ALL! Invite your friends!

Formally known as confirmation, Faith Formation is designed to not only nurture the faith growth and curiosity of 7th-9th grade youth, but also to help them build trusting relationships with one another and adult volunteers and create a safe, fun community of faith where they feel accepted, heard, and valued. Faith Formation will consist of snacks, large group time, worship, games, interactive activities, small group time, prayer, and group blessing. Like last year, Faith Formation will take place at Peace Lutheran Church in Barrett on Wednesdays after school from 3:30-5:15 p.m., except for on the first Wednesday of the month, which is an early-out day for West Central Area Schools. **Faith Formation will be on October 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th.** We encourage kids to walk to Peace during nice, fall weather. More details to come on possible winter transportation options. An official calendar will be released soon via email and social media with all the dates through December.

- Please keep in mind, ONE Youth Faith Formation is an opportunity for outreach, therefore is open to **ALL** youth, 7-9 grade, from our churches and from those beyond our church doors. In other words, all youth are welcome, whether they are members or not, so we encourage you to share this faith-building opportunity with others you may know who are interested in faith formation for their children.
- For anyone interested in providing snack for our Faith Formation youth, please stay tuned for sign-up details, which will be shared on our social media platforms.
- Confirmation for Peace Lutheran 10th graders will take place on Sunday, October 6, during worship at 10:30 a.m. Confirmation for United Lutheran 10th graders will take place on Sunday, October 27 during worship at 9 a.m.



Continued Information

❖ HS Youth Group—10th-12th Grade

HS ONE Youth is designed to not only nurture the faith development and maturity of 10th-12th grade youth, but to also provide a safe, fun place for them to build relationship, be real with themselves and one another, take a step away from the busy pace of life and expectations and just BE with friends, mentors, and the Lord. We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 5:45 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church. **HS Youth Group gatherings for the month will be on Wednesdays October 9th and 23rd.** These evenings are filled with supper, group game, worship, large group message, interactive activities, life application, small group discussion, prayers, and blessings. It's hard to find the words to describe the atmosphere and energy that takes place during this time.

❖ HS Wednesday Morning Prayer Time—10th-12th Grade

New this year—Wednesday Morning Prayer time for the 10th-12th grade youth on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 7:20 a.m. at Peace Lutheran Church. **Morning Prayer Time will take place on Wednesday, October 2nd & 16th.** The youth have experienced the transforming, heart-warming power of prayer, therefore, we want to continue to nurture this faith practice of prayer by providing a time to gather with others to seek prayer or to offer prayers for friends.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is back for another great year! **Breakfast Club will be Friday, October 25th, from 7-8 a.m. at Peace Lutheran Church.** Youth, grades 5-12, are welcome to come and enjoy a warm breakfast prepared by countless, awesome members of our churches and communities. It's a wonderful opportunity for intergenerational connections and as an intentional way to show our youth the incredible encouragement and support they have from their community. Thank you to all the groups who have already committed to giving of their time and food to support this awesome outreach ministry.

❖ Junior High & High School Special Event & Trip Opportunities

ONE Youth has experienced and acknowledges the incredible value and faith growth that comes from providing ongoing special event and trip opportunities for our youth. Therefore, we are in the process of not only planning a fall event for 7th-12th grade youth, over the MEA break, October 17-19, but also looking to the summer to plan another mission trip.

- Approximate Cost - \$125
- Leave Thursday, Oct. 17th around noon, return on Saturday Oct. 19th in early afternoon
- Stay in hotel rooms.
- Transportation - chaperone car pool

❖ Summer Mission Trip

ONE Youth is in discussions about a high school mission trip for the summer of 2025.

- Stay informed with the REMIND app. Or our by our Facebook page

❖ BEST WAY to Stay Informed

If you have a child in ONE Youth or are interested in staying up to date on all the happenings with ONE Youth, we encourage you to join our REMIND app. Instructions are below:

Send a text to this number: 81010

Text this message: @oneyouthgr

If you haven't already, we highly encourage you to follow us on Instagram and Facebook as we post weekly updates. On occasion, when needing to communicate on specific program/trip details, we send emails from our ONE Youth Gmail account. If you have a child in ONE Youth, we encourage you to add our email address to your contacts to ensure you receive the emails.

Our email address is: oneyouthforchrist@gmail.com.

➔ Donation Opportunities



We are continuously overwhelmed by the generosity of our church community. We consistently receive an outpouring of monetary donations and memorials, and we want to thank you for your loving support. These donations support our on-going expenses, but also are used for supplies, activities, and trips.

Donations can be made payable to ONE Youth and mailed to: United Lutheran Church, ATTN: ONE Youth, 215 10th Ave. SW, Elbow Lake, MN 56531.



October 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Color Codes for the Tri-Churches: United, Messiah Peace, Combined</p> <p>6 9a.m.-Youth-Led Worship 10a.m.-Sunday School 10a.m.-after worship-ULCW - Annual Soup and Sandwich Luncheon</p>	 <p>7 10a.m.-Bible Study 6p.m.-MOPS Mtg. 6p.m.-Bible Study on their Facebook</p>	<p>1 9a.m.-Bible Study 7p.m.-Spiritual Growth Support Group</p>	<p>2 7:20a.m.-Morning Prayer 9a.m.-Quilters Meet No Confirmation</p>	<p>3 8a.m. - Men's Group Gathering 1:30p.m. Quilting Mission Fellowship</p>	<p>4 Building Closed</p>	<p>5 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study</p>
<p>13 9a.m.-Worship 10a.m.-Gather Together fellowship</p>	<p>14 10a.m.-Bible Study 6p.m.-Bible Study on their Facebook</p>	<p>15 9a.m.-Bible Study 7p.m. - Circle of Hope at the Parsonage 7p.m.-Spiritual Growth Support Group</p>	<p>16 9a.m.-Quilters Meet 7:20a.m.-Morning Prayer 3:30p.m.-Confirmation 5-6:30p.m.-Community Meal → 5:45p.m.-2024 Confirmands meet with Pr. Jean</p>	<p>17 8a.m. - Men's Group Gathering One Youth-Youth convention Trip departs</p>	<p>18 Building Closed</p>	<p>19 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study One Youth-convention Trip returns</p>
<p>20 9a.m.-Worship 10a.m.-Gather Together fellowship</p>	<p>21 Deadline Newsletter 10a.m.-Bible Study 5:30p.m.-Ruby's Party 6p.m.-MOPS Mtg. 6p.m.-Bible Study on their Facebook</p>	<p>22 9a.m.-Bible Study 10:30a.m.-Maplewood Manor Service 7p.m.—Spiritual Growth Support Group</p>	<p>23 9a.m.-Quilters Meet 1p.m.-Peace Book Club @ Knotty Pine 3:30p.m.-Confirmation 5:45p.m.—HS One Youth Gathering</p>	<p>24 9:30a.m.- Women's Morning Circle Meets</p>	<p>25 Building Closed 7:10a.m.-Breakfast Club at Peace Lutheran</p>	<p>26 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study 11:30a.m. Celebration of Life for Larry Stephens</p>
<p>27 Reformation Confirmation 9a.m.-Worship 10a.m.-Confirmand Celebration Fellowship</p>	<p>28 6p.m.-Bible Study on their Facebook</p>	<p>29 9a.m.-Bible Study 7p.m.—Spiritual Growth Support Group</p>	<p>30 9a.m.-Quilters meet 9a.m.-Newsletter Assembly 3:30p.m.-Confirmation</p>	<p>31 </p>		



Confirmation Students:
 Aubrey Amundson, Kyra Beyer, Karleigh Brendmoen, Hailey Fleischfresser, Owen Gruchow,
 Mia Gulbrandson, Ava Lohse, Benjamin Myron, Amelia Pollard, Hayden Schei



TAB

TAB

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Faithnews
October Newsletter 2024 of
United Lutheran Church