

Our Mission Statement

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

APRIL 2025



Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the gift of this season. Thank you for knowing our hearts and our need for rhythms in our lives and drawing us into a deeper communion with you throughout the coming 40 days.

Lord, it can be disheartening to read on Ash Wednesday that all come from dust, and to dust all return ([Ecclesiastes 3:20](#)), yet we know that there is more to our stories. We know that you created man and woman from the dust at the very beginning of time ([Genesis 2:7](#)) and that you breathed life into them to transform them into living creatures. We know that you are in the business of resurrection-- your very Son went to the cross to show us that no death is final and that ultimate transformation comes through your gift of salvation. Though we were made from dust, and our bodies will return to dust again, we can live in eternal glory with you through the blood of your Son.

May we remember the gift of salvation in this season.

May these weeks leading up to the tragedy of Good Friday and the glory of Resurrection Sunday remind us of who you are, how you love us, and who you have created us to be as your followers.

May we walk through this season intentionally, removing distractions that take our gaze away from your glory. May we quiet the noise that pulls us from adoration of you and puts our attention on lesser things. May we simplify where we have been stressed, may we surrender what has been burdensome, may we repent of what has been sinful, Lord Jesus.

May we see your goodness and your glory in new ways throughout this season of Lent. May we know the depths of your love for us more fully. May we feel the pain you endured for our sake, Jesus, and may we rejoice that you conquered every bit of evil when you rose to life again.

Draw us closer to your heart, so that we might know you better and understand you more completely. We pray that we would not only give things up for Lent but also give you glory through Lent, Lord. May our actions reflect our hearts, and may we worship you through all that we say and do throughout the coming weeks. Amen.

Meetings

- Men's Group Gatherings
- Stephens Ministry Mtg.
- Women's Bible Studies
- Quilting Schedule
- Morning Circle Mtg.
- Trustee Meeting
- United MOPS Meetings

Happenings

- ◆ Community Meal
- ◆ Lenten Schedule
- ◆ Holy Week Schedule
- ◆ New ULC Directory Information-pg. 9
- ◆ April Calendar
- ◆ May Newsletter Deadline
- ◆ Message from United's Stewardship Committee
- ◆ Hospitality Team Schedule

Education

- † Sunday School Monthly Information
- † Your Help is Needed

One Youth

- † Alaska Mission Trip Update & Information
- † Fundraiser Information
- † Lenten Schedule

ULC Staff

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

ULC Council

President: Witney Willard
 V.P: Joel Coleman
 Secretary: Beth Pikop
 Treasure: Karen McGee

We Are One with the Risen Christ

Lord we lift our hearts to you. As the dawn breaks, may we carry the unity we share into every moment knowing that we are one with the risen Christ. Lord, we lift our eyes to you. As the sunrises, may this moment stay with us, reminding us to look for the beautiful colors of promise in your word. Lord, we lift our prayers to you. As the dew air falls, may we breathe this morning in and know that like the earth, you sustain us, keep us and work within us always. And so, we lift our voices to you. We celebrate the greatest day in history, when Jesus rose from death, defeated darkness and bathed the world in stunning resurrection light. May we ever live to praise you! Amen.

— Author Unknown



Are you ready to take on a new role and love kids?



Immediate Job Opening for Youth Director.

This is a paid position with an average monthly commitment of 15 hours.

This will be for 5th & 6th graders, after school on Wednesdays.

Please contact Liza Long for more details: 320-815-6651



The Men's Group

will gather on April 3rd & 17th at 8a.m. in the Fireside Room.

If you would like to receive meeting reminders, please call the church office at 218-685-4179, to have your name added to the email list.

Community Meal

Wednesday, April 16th

From 5p.m. - 6:30p.m.

Menu: Hot Dishes, Buns, Desserts, Beverages

Free Will Offering will be given to:
One Youth Program

**Please sign-up donate:
Crockpots of Hot Dishes and/or Desserts
Sign-up sheet is by the large bulletin board.**

All Are Welcome!

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



Barrett Care Center
800 Spruce Street
Barrett, MN. 56311

- Norlin Westrom
- Lyle Krusemark

Mill Street Residence

802 S. Mill Street
Fergus Falls, MN. 56537

- Jean Walwick - Apt. 307

Maplewood Manor Service

1010 1st Street NE.
Elbow Lake, MN. 56531

- Dwaine & Jean Haraldson - Room 8
- Helen Knutson - Room 131
- Vicki Bruns

Food Shelf Representative

The Grant County Food Shelf has asked our church to join other churches in the area to have a representative on their board. If you would be interested in doing this, please contact the church office at 218-685-4179. They meet one time per quarter.

Thank you for your consideration.

April Birthdays



01 Andy Clauson Tim Olson Danielle Swenson	13 Dwaine Haraldson Arlene Huseth	28 Rylee Peterson Brady Schneeberger
02 Hunter Burchill Rose Danielson	14 Chad Walwick	29 Tanner Davison Katie Poyzer Michelle Toso
04 David Jacobson	15 Caitlyn Hayward	30 Josh Baker John Ohman
05 Noah Rapp Kelsey Schumm	18 Judy Johnson	If there are any corrections to this listing, or anyone I missed, please call
06 Tayler Christenson Bradley Larson	19 Rhett Christenson	
09 Courtney Lock	20 Sierra Fosness Nancy Hahn Mark Huseth	
10 Kari Krusemark Roger Mickelson	22 Hunter Gruchow Pam Holsen	
11 Roger Toso	23 Kim Hotovec Brian Kjesbo	
12 Allen Frykman	25 Gail Hedstrom Addisyn Pikop	
13 Peyton Hanson	26 Ginny Billing 27 Mitchell Dewey	



Your 2024 Financial Statements are ready and have been placed in your church mailbox.

If your statements are not picked up by April 15th, they will be removed and disposed of.



Quilting Schedule

United Quilters meet on Wednesdays, at 9a.m.
Everyone is Welcome!
For more information, please contact Susan Fryman at 320-760-4887

Attention Board of Trustees

You will meet on Wednesday, April 16th @ 6p.m. Join us for the Community Meal between 5-6:30p.m., then we'll meet in the choir room at 6p.m.



Meetings on April 7th & 21st at 6p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at United Lutheran

May Newsletter Deadline is



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

Lenten Season Calendar Wednesday Evening Lenten Meal & Worship



April Schedule

- April 2nd: United - "Living Light" Natalie & Meagan's 8th Graders
5:00p.m.-Meal-provided by the Men's Group, 6:30p.m. Lenten Worship
- April 9th - United - 5:30p.m.-Meal - One Youth Fundraiser
7p.m. - One Youth Easter Drama Service
8p.m. - Raffle Prize Drawing and Silent Auction

Holy Week

- April 13th - Palm Sunday @ United
9a.m. - Worship with Communion
10a.m. - Gathering Together Fellowship
- April 17th: Peace - Maundy Thursday - 6:30p.m. Service
- April 18th: United & Messiah - Good Friday - 6:30p.m. Service
- April 20th: United Easter Sunday
9a.m. - Worship with Communion

Trustee Minutes of February 9, 2025

Mission Statement

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

Members present: Eli Reeve, Scot Beyer, Scott Johnson, Beth Pikop, Witney Willard, Pam Holsen, and Karen McGee. President Reeve called the meeting to order.

Secretary's report: Witney W. moved to accept the minutes from the January meeting; Scot B. seconded the motion. MCU.

Treasurer's report: Karen gave the Treasurer's report. Regarding the budget, which is up for approval at the annual meeting, she slightly increased only a few categories such as ministry, insurance, and administration. Scot B. moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the payables for the month; Scott J. seconded the motion. MCU

ALL Committee Reports:

- **Stewardship:** It was discussed to combine the Stewardship and Endowment committees. Scot B. moved to combine the committees; Beth P. seconded the motion. MCU. Witney is going to be talking to the congregation quarterly this upcoming year about giving. We discussed a page regarding giving and what is needed for the budget in the newsletter. We are also going to start passing the offering plates again.
- **Worship Committee:** There was not a worship report due to Pastor Jean being unable to be at the meeting.
- **Alter Guild:** All good.
- **Buildings and Grounds:** We discussed the janitorial position, what we expect, and how many hours we can pay each week. Eli is going to check with Julie on the duties list. Pam will put together a list of what the janitors are expected to do for funerals which is separately paid.
- **Education/One Youth:** No one has offered to be on the Education committee. We would like to have more updates from One Youth. They have requested funds to go on the mission trip to Alaska in July from the Endowment fund.
- **Endowment Fund:** They approved \$17,000 for the SAM position for this past year. We talked about having a United Lutheran operating endowment to help with the budget. More will be discussed with the Endowment/Stewardship committee when the new board meets.
- **Personnel:** Eli will fine tune things with the janitors.
- **Spiritual Life and Growth:** They want to put together a church directory and shared what it would look like. The board was all in agreement that it was a great sample and to go ahead with the project. It was suggested that they go to Endowment if there are funds needed. They indicated that they were also checking into a Thrivent grant.
- **Pastor Jean's report:** No report.

Old Business:

- ◆ All committees, with the exception of Education/One Youth, have been filled for the annual meeting vote. If no one steps up for the Education, there will be no Sunday School after this spring.

New Business:

- ◆ The SAM contract should be reviewed and signed after the annual meeting on February 16, 2025.
- ◆ We did not discuss the next regular meeting due to new board members being elected next Sunday at the annual meeting.

Scot B. moved to adjourn the meeting and Beth P. seconded the motion. MCU

Pam Holsen

Secretary

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN - March 2025

In April we will continue our Gather Bible study entitled, "Faithfulness." This month we'll read how Jairus and the Faithful Woman relied on God's faithfulness in times of difficulty. The scripture reading we'll study is found in Mark 5: 21-43.

We invite you to come and join us, as all are welcome in fellowship and love. Bring a friend, too. The Circle of Hope will meet on Tuesday, April 15, at 7:00 PM at the parsonage. The Morning Circle will meet on Thursday, April 24, at 9:30 AM in the fireside room. We enjoy coffee and treats and fun fellowship as we gather together to study God's Word.

Five women attended the Conference & Gathering on Saturday, March 1, at Calvary Lutheran Church in Alexandria. They were Pat Soberg, Nancy Hahn, Pat Norby, Linda Rupp and Pam Lyson. We enjoyed coffee and treats and visiting as we arrived. Then the Pastor presented the Bible study from Acts which was a history of the early church and how God's inviting us to make room for something new: a renewal. A business meeting was held where they announced the NWMN WELCA Synod convention will be September 19 and 20, 2025, at First Lutheran Church in Alexandria. All are welcome to attend. United Lutheran women will help host the conference. The guest speaker was Amber Holmstrom from West Central MN Communities in Action. She spoke on Homelessness and how the communities and volunteers are helping. Calvary's worship leader, Nolan Weisz, led the women in singing. He rewrote many of the old familiar hymns like Amazing Grace, How Great Thou Art and Just as I Am. We all enjoyed singing and praising God. The Gathering concluded with a delicious lunch.

The Sunday morning coffee donations will be given to Someplace Safe in April.

Thank you!

Pam Lyson, President

Cell: 701-301-0095



Women's Bible Studies All Are Welcome!

- ✝ Circle of Hope will meet on April 15th at 7p.m. at the parsonage.
- ✝ Morning Bible study will meet on Thursday, April 24th at 9:30a.m. in the Fireside Room.

Monthly Hospitality Teams

- **April 2025** **Team 6**
Leaders: Pam & Jeff Holsen
- **May 2025** **Team 7**
Leader: Melissa Anderson
- **June 2025** **Team 2**
Leaders: John & Kari Kreft



ULC Sunday School News



Our Sunday School year is quickly coming to an end, and we have two pieces of armor left to learn about. Join us for the last two Sundays in April and May! The current Education Committee asks that you prayerfully consider joining the committee. There will be 2-3 open positions moving forward. If interested, please contact the church office, Pastor Jean, or an Education Committee Member.



Schedule

***April 6th - Helmet of Salvation**

Sparks Story - Zacchaeus

***May 4th - Sword of the Spirit - Last Day of SS**

Sparks Story- Paul's Letters



† **The current Education Committee asks that you prayerfully consider joining the Education/Youth Committee. There will be 2-3 open positions moving forward. If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact the church office, Pr. Jean or an Education Committee member. Thank you for your consideration!**



April 2025 Information

ONE Youth News & Updates

Faith Formation (confirmation), which meets after school from 3:30-5:15 PM on Wednesdays will now be meeting for supper and Lenten worship on Wednesdays, beginning March 5 through April 9. The meals will begin at 5:30 PM with a Lenten worship immediately following at 6:30 PM. As we did last year, each faith formation small group will be leading one Lenten worship service. The schedule is below. The expectation for each youth is to attend all the Lenten worship services with their family. Last year, we enjoyed worshipping as a large community of faith as we brought our congregations together for six weeks of Lent. We look forward to another Lenten season filled with connection and relationship.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

April 2—Lenten Meal & Service at United

Meal at 5:30 PM, Service at 6:30 PM

“Living Light” Natalie & Megan’s 8th Graders are leading the worship

April 9—Easter Drama, Dinner, & Silent Auction at United

Meal at 5:30 PM, Easter Drama/Service at 7 PM - Fundraiser for the youth going on the Alaskan Mission Trip

Raffle Prize Drawing at 8 PM

April 25th—Breakfast Club

7-8 AM at Peace Lutheran Church (5-12th graders)

April 16—NO CONFIRMATION—Holy Week

April 17—Maundy Thursday Worship 6:30p.m. @ Peace Lutheran

April 18—Good Friday Worship 6:30p.m. @ United & Messiah Lutheran

April 23—Confirmation resumes at Peace Lutheran Church, 3:30-5:15 PM.



HS ONE Youth Mission Trip—Anchorage, Alaska, July 12-18, 2025

We now have 21 youth, currently in grades 9-12, who are registered to go on our mission trip to Alaska this summer. In addition, we have two junior chaperones (alumni from previous trips) as well as five adult chaperones attending this trip for a total of 28 people. We have met a couple of times as a group with the intention of building relationships with one another, growing as individuals, preparing our hearts for the experience, and planning various fundraisers.

RAFFLE FUNDRAISER—Our current fundraiser is a Prize Money Raffle. Alaskan Mission Trip Youth will be selling raffle tickets for \$10/ticket until April 1. The prizes are as follows: 1st place is \$1,000; 2nd place is \$500, and 3rd and 4th place winners will each receive \$250. The drawings will take place at United Lutheran Church on Wednesday, April 9, in conjunction with another fundraiser that evening.

EASTER DRAMA, DINNER, & SILENT AUCTION—The Alaskan Mission Trip Youth, as a way to pay for the expenses of this trip as well as give back to their church communities, will be performing an Easter Drama at United Lutheran Church on Wednesday, April 9 at 7 PM. More details to come.

ONE Youth Fundraiser—“God is Greater than the Highs & Lows” T-Shirt & Sweatshirt

If you missed your chance at Christmas, our “God is Greater than the Highs and Lows” merchandise is back by popular demand for a limited time only. All T-shirts are \$23; Sweatshirts youth sizes are \$30 and adult sizes are \$35. The order deadline is Wednesday, April 30. All orders go to support the ministry of ONE Youth! Here is the link to order the shirts:

ONE YOUTH
clothing fundraiser

All orders go to support the ministry of ONE Youth!

50/50 Cotton/Poly

Tri-blend

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT!

T-SHIRTS SIZES & COSTS:
Youth—XS-L—\$23
Adult—XS-4XL—\$23

SWEATSHIRT SIZES & COSTS:
Youth—S-XL—\$30
Adult—S-3XL—\$35

ORDER DEADLINE: April 30

ORDER NOW

The image means: “God is greater than the highs and lows.”

Interested in Helping?

If you're interested in being involved in and supporting ONE Youth ministry, here are some ways you can help:

Snacks for Faith Formation: Every week at Faith Formation, the youth come hungry, so we feed them! We spend the first fifteen minutes having snack and chatting, which is a great way to connect and build relationships. We have received monetary donations specifically for snacks, which we greatly appreciate. However, we are always looking for volunteers to bring snacks or come and serve. It's a great way to get to know the kids and see what we are doing at ONE Youth on Wednesdays!

HS Suppers—If you and other members are looking for ways to help support ONE Youth, we invite you to find some friends and consider serving a meal to our HS Youth on the Wednesdays they meet, which is usually twice a month. We have on average 20-25 kids. This would be a wonderful way for you to not only get to know more of our amazing youth but also to see what we do during youth group. If you're interested, please contact Natalie at 701-730-6760.

Share Your Testimony—One of the most powerful ways to help build and encourage faith is through personal testimonies. If anyone feels moved or inspired to attend Faith Formation or HS Youth Group to share his/her faith testimony, please reach out to Natalie. We'd love to hear your story.

Prayer—As we continue to navigate what our youth ministry looks like among our three churches, please continue to pray for all those involved and in leadership at the three churches as we seek to do God's will in this place.



Dear Fellow Member of United Lutheran Church,

We, the Stewardship Committee, are asking for your help in funding the general account. This account pays all the daily bills for the church, like pastors salary, youth ministry, electricity, snow removal, insurance, secretary, etc.

The last 10 years we have been short by an average of around \$10,000 and have had to borrow from large gifts given (savings accounts), or have had the endowment fund cover the shortfall. These funds are all hoped to be used for many other things, including youth trips, building upgrades, mission trips, education, etc.

We are asking all members of United Lutheran Church to give what you are willing and able to for the general fund. If you are not aware, once you are confirmed at the church, you are an active and voting member of the church. It is expected that members give something to the church, as in offerings, attending services, and the annual meetings.

Currently, we have 798 listed members of United Lutheran Church. Typically we have 50-105 sitting in the pews on Sunday. So, we also would ask those members that moved away if they want to stay as members, or if they have found another church, or just do not want to be members any longer. If you let us know, this can help with our annual meeting attendance requirements among other things.

Lastly, United Lutheran Church has a completely open door policy. We will never turn anyone away. All are welcome to bring their hearts and minds to worship. To contact the church, please email the church office at ulc@unitedlutheranelbowlake.com or call at 218-685-4179.

Thank You,

The Stewardship Committee

John Ohman, Scott Swenson, Joel Coleman, Scot Beyer, Pat Soberg, Trustee Liaison: Joel Coleman

United Lutheran Church Directory Information

The Spiritual Life and Growth Committee is working on a new budget friendly church directory. Please fill out this form, giving us the contact information that you are willing to include in the directory. You may choose to contribute a family photo or have it taken by one of the Spiritual Life and Growth Committee members. We will schedule photo dates after church and a few evenings in the coming months.

Family Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Adult Information

Name:	Birthdate:
Cell phone:	E-mail:
Name:	Birthdate:
Cell phone	E-mail:
Wedding Anniversary	

Dependent Children

*Adult children who are members should fill out their own form.

Name:	Birthdate:
Name:	Birthdate:
Name:	Birthdate:
Name:	Birthdate:
Name:	Birthdate:
Name:	Birthdate:
Name:	Birthdate:

Please return this informational sheet to Susan Frykman either in her church mailbox, basket on the narthex table or by emailing it to her at dskfrykman@runestone.net **by May 11th.**

____ We will provide a family photo. Place it in Susan’s box (hard copies will be returned) or email them. Please make sure if you provide a professional photo, you have permission to use it in this situation.

____ We would like our photo to be taken at church. Watch for upcoming dates in the bulletin and newsletter.

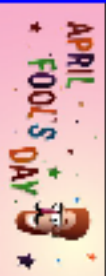


April 2025



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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



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

2 9a.m.-Quilters Meet At United Lutheran
5:30p.m.-Lenten Meal
6:30p.m.-Lenten Worship

3 8a.m. - Men's Group Gathering
9a.m.-WCCA Tax
1:30p.m.-Quilting Mission Fellowship

4 Building Closed

5 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study

6 5th Sunday in Lent
9a.m. - Worship
10a.m. - Sunday School
10a.m. - Gather Together Fellowship

7 10a.m.-Bible Study
6p.m.-MOPS Meeting
6p.m.-Bible Study on their Facebook

8 9a.m.-Bible Study
9a.m. - Stephens Ministry Meeting
10:30a.m. - Maplewood Manor Service
7p.m.—Spiritual Growth Support Group

9 9a.m.-Quilters Meet
2p.m.-Barrett Care Service At United Lutheran
5:30p.m.-One Youth Fundraise Lenten Meal
7p.m.-One Youth Passion Play

10 9a.m.-WCCA Tax

11 Building Closed

12 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study
8a.m.-3p.m. Daycare First Aid Classes

13 6th Sunday in Lent
Palm Sunday

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

14 10a.m.-Bible Study
6p.m.-Bible Study on their Facebook

15 9a.m.-Bible Study
7p.m.-Circle of Hope at the Parsonage
7p.m.—Spiritual Growth Support Group

16 9a.m.-Quilters Meet
2p.m.-Barrett Care Service
5-6:30p.m. - Community Meal
6p.m. - Board of Trustee Meeting

17 8a.m. - Men's Group Gathering
6:30p.m. Maundy Thursday Service at Peace

18 6:30p.m. Good Friday Service @ United

19 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study

20 **Easter Sunday**

9a.m. Worship with Communion

21 *May Newsletter Deadline
Building is closed for the staff recognized holiday

22 9a.m.-Bible Study
10:30a.m. - Maplewood Manor Service
7p.m.—Spiritual Growth Support Group

23 9a.m.-Quilters Meet
3:30p.m.-Confirmation
5:45p.m.-HS Youth Group

24 9:30a.m. - Women's Morning Circle Meets

25 Building Closed
7-8a.m. - Breakfast Club @ Peace

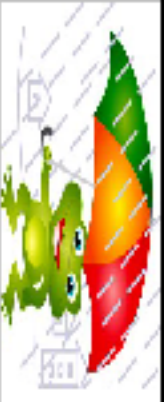
26 7:30a.m. Messiah Men's Bible Study

27 9a.m. - Worship
10a.m. - Gather Together Fellowship

28 10a.m.-Bible Study
6p.m.-Bible Study on their Facebook

29 9a.m.-Bible Study
7p.m.—Spiritual Growth Support Group

30 9a.m.-Quilters Meet
9a.m. - May Newsletter Assembly
3:30p.m.-Confirmation



April Showers Brings May Flowers





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

Non Profit Org.
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