

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

Pastor Ricardo's Message

November 2026

We are celebrating All Saints Day; we remember those who have died this past year. We miss them and the contributions they made to our lives. Some of us are still grieving their departure from this world, others celebrate their lives and are happy for them being with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We as Christians know that we will see them again on resurrection day. But until that day we who are still alive continue to face life and its many difficulties and opportunities. We are reminded to fight the good fight until that day. I encourage each and all of us to celebrate those who have died before us and follow their example to live a life worthy of our calling as disciples of Christ.



We would like to thank the endowment fund for paying our registration for a conference on Oct. 3rd at Calvary Lutheran Church in Alexandria. The conference title was Reimaging Rural Ministry Together. The team heard some great speakers and came home with some ideas to try at our church. We will be sharing the information with the church council to discuss possible implementation.

Those attending the conference were: Tammy Nelson, Carla Coleman, De-Lores Foss, Susan Frykman, Tom Foss and Lisa Pikop

Meetings:

- Trustee Meeting
- Men's Group Gatherings
- Women's Bible study
- Quilting Schedule

Information:

- Call Committee Update
- November Calendar
- Dec. Newsletter Deadline
- Hospitality Listing
- Nov. Birthdays
- Community Meal
- ULCW Hat & Mitten Tree
- Operation Merry Christmas
- Hanging of the Greens
- Advent
- Christmas Poinsettias
- All Saints Sunday

Education/S.S.

- Weekly Sunday School Schedule
- Coloring Sheet

Youth Coordinator

- Katie Koplin
- 5-12 grade

ULC Staff

Pastor: Ricardo Alcoser
Worship & Music Coordinator
Theron Jeppesen
Secretary: Andria Spranger
Janitor: Ashley Kerzman

ULC Council

President: Joel Coleman
Vice President: Andy Clauson
Secretary: Beth Pikop
Treasurer: Marita Johnson

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee continues to pray and wait as we proceed through the process of calling a new pastor. We are grateful for your patience and prayers during this important time in our congregation's life.

Please keep the Call Committee, our congregation, and the pastor God is preparing for us in your prayers. We trust God to guide this process and look forward with hope to what lies ahead.



Monthly Hospitality Teams

Nov. 2026: Team 2 Leaders:

John & Kari Kreft

Dec. 2026: Team 3 Leaders:

Pat & Mark Soberg

Jan. 2027: Team 5 Leaders:

Susan & Darrell Frykman
Lisa & Kurt Pikop

December Newsletter Deadline

**November 12th
2026**

Readers Needed:

In need of people to sign up to be readers on the days where the Teams cannot find a reader. Your help would be greatly appreciated! Please contact Andria at 218-685-4179 if you would like to be on the backup list.



New Testament Discussion

Join us during coffee time
in the Fireside Room
Nov. 8th and Nov. 22nd
Everyone is welcome!

Members in Care Centers, Assisted Living and Home shut-ins

Brandon Assisted Living

304 Central Ave. So
Brandon, MN. 56315

Bill Paulson	Room 111
Karen Paulson	Room 113

Mill Street Residence

802 S. Mill Street
Fergus Falls, MN. 56537

Jean Walwick	Apt. 307
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Maplewood Manor

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

Carroll & Jean Anderson	Apt. 1
Dwayne & Jean Haraldson	Apt. 8
Candace Johnson	Apt 319

Glacial Trails Memory Care

109 E. 7th Street
Starbuck, MN. 56381
Judy Hams



Women's Bible Study

Business Meeting

Nov 12th- ULCW Business meeting

Nov 19th – ULCW Morning Bible
Study in the Fireside room.





3- Tony Koep
 5- Mary Davison
 Betsy Ostenson
 6- Joel Coleman
 7- Jaxon Pollard
 8- Joseph Pikop
 10- Jett Johnson
 Gary Nelson
 Leah Schei
 Beckett Scheeberger
 12- Rick Lock
 13- Lonnie Olson
 14- Sarah Myron
 Beau Nordby
 15- Kyra Beyer
 Joslyn Gunderson
 16- Ami Bonrud
 Tammy Nelson
 17- Karleigh Brendmoen
 Jeff Holsen
 18- Julie Soberg
 23- Jeff Guttormson
 Jarred Lock

24- Maddison Larsen
 Michelle Swenson
 25- Tammy Lock
 26- Betty Mickelson
 28- Amy Benson
 Carla Coleman
 Katie Hunter
 David Larson
 29- Glenda Ascheman
 Brad Dally
 Candy Johnson
 30- Sheila Olson

If there are any corrections
 or names missing, please
 contact Andria in the
 Church office.



**The Men's Group will gather on
 November 5th & 19th at 8a.m. in
 the Fireside Room.**

If you would like to receive reminders,
 please call the church office and talk with
 Andria to have your name added to the list.



Trustee Minutes
Trustee Minutes from Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Mission Statement

Called God to serve our neighbors and Glorify God

Members present: Andy Clauson, Tammy Nelson, Stacy Deering, Eli Reeve, Karen McGee, Marita Johnson, Joel Coleman and Beth Pikop. Absent: Jonathan Pikop and Pastor Ricardo Alcosar

President Joel opened the meeting with a devotion about unity.

Pat Soberg reported that the hospitality teams now need to find a Reader for their Sundays. She suggests creating an Extra Mile list or get our youth for this as a backup plan. She says we need better communication between committees of the church. Also, each committee should have one leader as a contact for their group as a spokesperson for said committee.

Nancy Hahn presented a petition to keep Pastor Ricardo and listed his attributes and how important he was to older members. Linda Rupp asked if the board could reconsider accepting Pastor Ricardo as our Pastor.

Secretary's Report:

Eli made a motion to accept the minutes from the August 20, 2026, meeting; Tammy seconded the motion - MCU

Treasurer's Report:

Karen is still training Marita. They are having a few difficulties with REALM (the computer accounting program) and Direct Deposit. Solutions were discussed.

Discussion of computer issues dealt with.

Marita suggested we stop spending bulk rate sending out the monthly newsletter. Discussion followed brainstorming ideas such as to put it online as well as still mailing out to some members for a savings.

Andy moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the Payables for the month; Eli seconded the motion - MCU

Committee Reports:

Endowment - They want written referrals, not verbal requests. They are creating an online form for this as well.

Stewardship - No report

Spiritual Life & Growth - Busy with usual projects

Personnel - No report

Worship - Beth will look into who is on the Committee currently

Altar Guild - Tammy will reach out to them as to how things are going

Buildings & Grounds - Jared Anderson will do snow plowing of the church parking lot and one of the driveways at the parsonage for winter fuel delivery. Beth gave an update on the painting at the parsonage. Ceiling panels need replacing in various rooms in the church. Quilting room needs the leftover building supplies sorted and removed from the room.

Education - No report

Pastor's Report - Joel reported that Children's Sermons are coming. Also Children's Bibles need to be presented to the kids.

Old Business:

One Youth - Tammy and Bonnie Harstad are still auditing the books. October 1st will be the start date for the new checkbook signing. Any requests for reimbursement must be received by the end of this month.

Andy made a motion to add Katie Koplin as a signer for the One Youth checkbook along with Marita Johnson; seconded by Stacy MCU

Eli made a motion to get a \$1,000.00 debit card for Katie Koplin to use; seconded by Andy MCU

Contract with Katie Koplin was approved and signed.

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 - the Youth Program begins at 6:00 p.m. at Peace Lutheran open to all! A meal is being provided.

Ministry Contract between all three churches was signed last week.

New Business:

Call Committee has interviewed a pastoral candidate and decided not to call him.

Kitchen renovation discussed.

FYI to any interested Board Members - Re: Church Conference on October 3, 2026 at Calvary Lutheran Church in Alexandria from 9:00 to 3:00.

Eli moved to adjourn the meeting; Tammy seconded the motion MCU

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Pikop

Youth Information (5th-12th)

Youth Coordinator: Katie Koplin

Youth Ministry Update: Growing Together in Christ

Each Wednesday after school, more than 40 students 5th-6th, 7th-9th, and high school youth gather together, and it has been an absolute joy to walk alongside these students as they learn who Christ is and discover the work He has done, is doing, and will continue to do on their behalf. Week after week, we return to the beautiful reminder that we can come to Christ again and again, trusting **not** in our own strength or faithfulness, but in His.

One Wednesday, we explored the First Commandment and the things that can become idols in our lives. Students openly shared the things that can take the place of God in our hearts and daily lives. Together, we were reminded that while we often turn toward lesser things for security, identity, and comfort, our hope rests in Christ. **Our security is not found in our ability to hold on to God, but in His promise holding fast to us.** God has claimed us as His own, and Christ remains faithful to us even when our hearts wander.

We are so grateful for everyone who makes Wednesday's youth gathering possible! Thank you to those who lead small groups, organize activities, prepare games, and bring the much-needed snacks and supper for our students. Your time, generosity, and willingness to serve make a meaningful difference in the lives of these young people. These young people are impressive, engaged, and have a deep desire to engage with scripture. It's absolutely beautiful.

Looking Ahead: As we continue meeting on Wednesdays, we look forward to growing together in God's Word, building relationships, diving into what it means to be a church member, and foundationally and most importantly leaning into the grace we have in Christ. If you are interested in helping with **activities** or serving our youth in another way, please reach out to Katie Koplin. There is always room for more hands and hearts to be part of this ministry!

Thank you, United, for supporting our youth and helping create a place where students can hear the good news of Jesus and be reminded that they belong to Him.

ULC Sunday School News +

No Sunday School on November 29th





**November
Community Meal
Wednesday, November 18th
Serving from 5p.m.-6:30p.m.**

**Menu: Turkey, Potatoes, Gravy,
Dressing, Vegetables, Salads,
Cranberries, Desserts, & Beverages**

**Free Will Offering will be given to
Ronald McDonald House of Fargo and
Minneapolis (in honor of Charlie
Simon)**

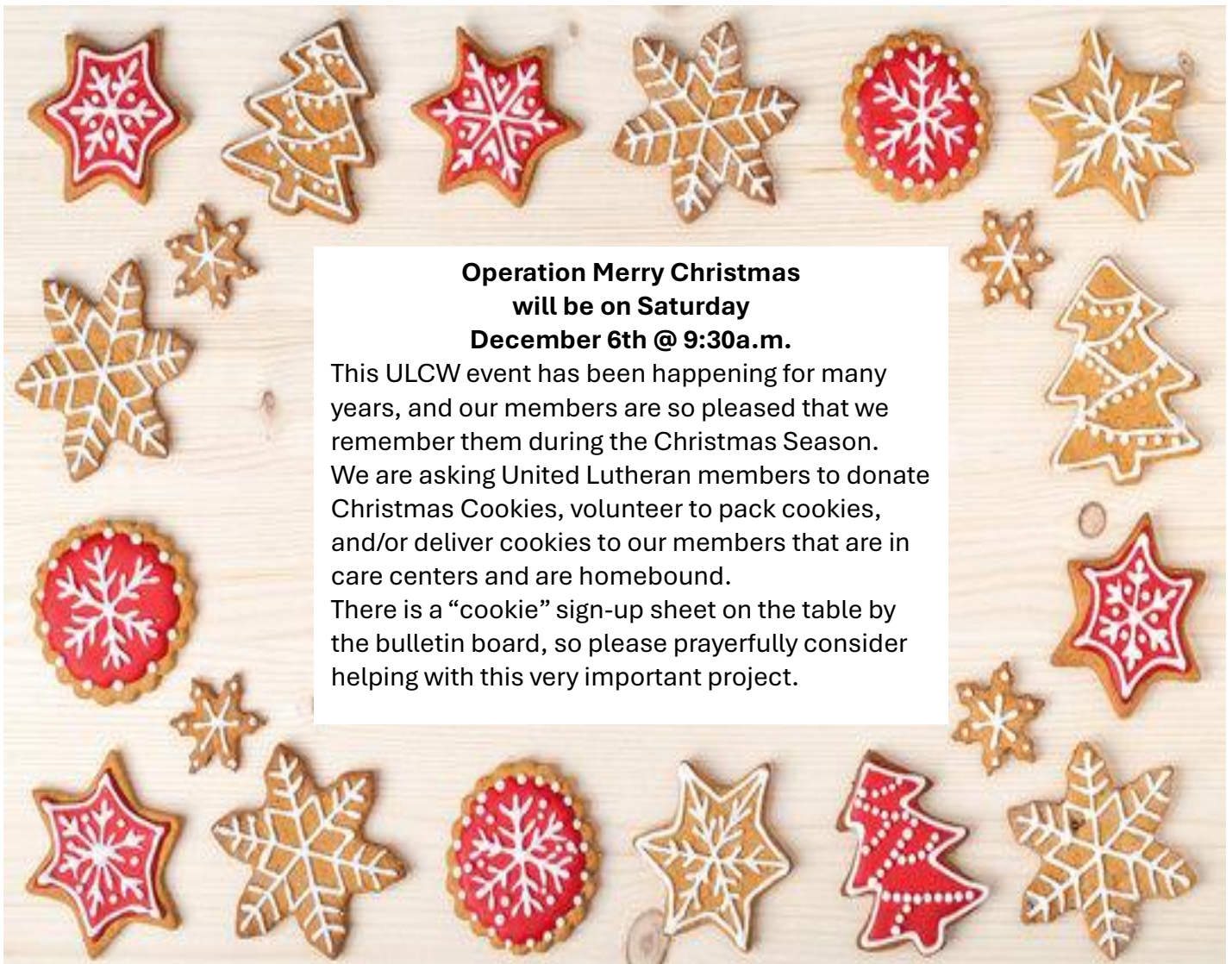
All Are Welcome!



United Lutheran Church Women's



ULCW was able to collect enough school supplies to have a total of 3 boxes (25 kits) to send to Lutheran World Relief. They would like to thank everyone for their donations.



**Operation Merry Christmas
will be on Saturday
December 6th @ 9:30a.m.**

This ULCW event has been happening for many years, and our members are so pleased that we remember them during the Christmas Season. We are asking United Lutheran members to donate Christmas Cookies, volunteer to pack cookies, and/or deliver cookies to our members that are in care centers and are homebound. There is a “cookie” sign-up sheet on the table by the bulletin board, so please prayerfully consider helping with this very important project.



ULCW Annual Hat & Mitten Tree Drive

Items will be donated to the WCA schools for children who need them. Please donate new or gently used items. Thank you!

Collecting starts November 12th and goes until Dec 14th.

November 2026

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Fri. Sat.



Come Join us as we lift-up our
members who have passed away

1 All Saints Sunday 9a.m.-Worship with Communion 10a.m. Sunday School 10a.m.-ULCW Soup & Sandwich Luncheon	2	3	4 9a.m.-Quilters Meet +3:15p.m. -Confirmation @ Peace 3:15p.m.- 5 th & 6 th grade @ Peace 5:45-8p.m.- youth group peace	5 8a.m.-ULC Men's Group Gathering	6 Building Closed	7
8 9a.m.-Worship with Communion 10a.m. Sunday School 10a.m.-Fellowship Bible Recap +PR. Ricardo @ Peace	9	10 +10:30a.m.- Maplewood Manor	11 9a.m.-Quilters Meet + 2p.m.- Barrett Care Center 12:30-3:30p.m.- Youth Service Project +6 p.m. ULC Trustee Mtg	12 9:30a.m.- ULCW Business Meeting Deadline for December Newsletter	13 Building Closed	14
15 9a.m.-Worship with Communion 10a.m.-Sun. School 10a.m.-Fellowship	16	17	18 9a.m.-Quilters Meet +3:15p.m.-Confirmation @ Peace 3:15p.m.- 5 th & 6 th grade @ Peace 5-6:30 p.m. ULC Thanksgiving Community Meal 5:45-8p.m.- Youth Group	19 8a.m.-Men's Group Gathering 9:30a.m.-ULCW Morning Bible Study	20 Building Closed 7-8a.m.- Breakfast Club @ Peace	21
22 9a.m.-Worship with Communion 10a.m.-Sunday School 10a.m.-Fellowship Bible Recap +PR. Ricardo @ Peace Christmas Decorating	23	24 +10:30a.m.- Maplewood Manor	25 9a.m.- Quilters Meet 9a.m.-December Newsletter Assembly No confirmation, 5 th & 6 th grade, or youth group	26 Thanksgiving Building closed 	27 Building Closed	28
29 1st Sunday-Advent 9a.m.-Worship with Communion 10a.m.-Fellowship	30				Dates & Times subject to change	



Please Join us on November 1st at 9 am as we lift up our faithfully departed members of our Church Family.



On Sunday November 22, 2026

The Altar Guild will be decorating the church for Christmas. They are asking members to volunteer their time with this enormous task!

Please stay after worship and lend a helping hand!

→Your Time & Talents will be GREATLY APPREICATED!



Christmas Poinsettia Orders

**We are accepting poinsettia donations to beautify the sanctuary
for Christmas.**

Price is \$15

Order forms are on the table by the bulletin board.

Deadline to order is December 13th



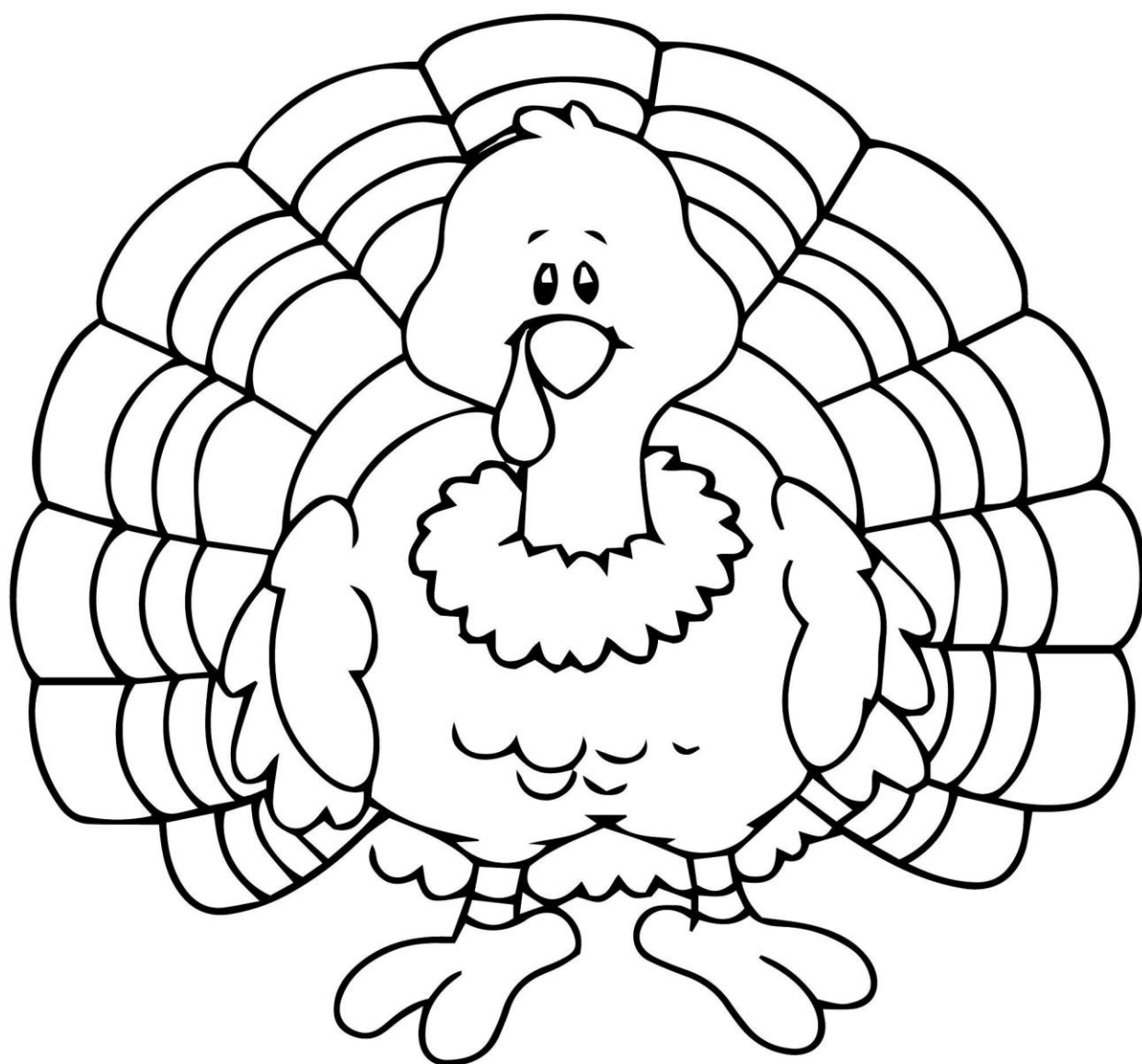
Advent 1: November 29th

Advent 2: December 6th

Advent 3: December 13th

Advent 4: December 20th

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING



United Lutheran Church
215 – 10th Avenue SE.
Elbow Lake, MN. 56531

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