

PASTOR'S CORNER

God's Call to Gideon

There's a lot of talk about racism these days. It seems to be a go-to accusation, that is thrown around very loosely.

Please humor me, as I share two quick thoughts.

First, an observation: There are approximately 400,000 graves in Arlington National Cemetery. That includes, servicemen, servicewomen, and members of their families.

There is one glaring flaw in these cemeteries. The color of the skin of the dead is not mentioned on a single one of the grave markers. Not one.

Maybe, just maybe – ashes have no color. Maybe, just maybe, dust has no color.

Secondly: What is the Bible's stance on Race? It appears that Heaven doesn't take note of skin color, either. All nations get in. Observe, please:

Revelation 7:9 NIV: “After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.”

Check it for yourself – there is not one word about skin color, describing or qualifying who may stand before the Throne of God!

So, who does get into heaven? **1 John 5:13** NASB puts it this way. “These things I have written to you who believe in the Name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

I thank God for His color-blindness. May we be equally so.

**First United
Lutheran
Church is
a Sanctuary
grounded in the
Biblical
Truth of God's
Word, committed
to
inspiring Spiritual
Growth,
and reaching out
to all to Proclaim
Salvation through
Jesus Christ.**

Sweet Devotions

Childlike Faith

Mark 10:15 Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

So, what is childlike faith? As I ponder this question, I think of the trust a little child has in his parents. Consider a little child learning to swim. The parent says jump into the water and I'll catch you. In complete trust the child jumps into his parents' arms. Jesus wants us to have that same innocent faith and trust.

I believe Jesus is imploring us to come before the Father with complete trust and a willingness to leap into His loving arms. Our Father wants us to come before Him with faith as a child. Trusting Him, staying in His word and seeking Him as we grow in our Christian faith.

Dear Heavenly Father, give me a heart to completely trust You and to love You. To ask You about things I don't understand and to wait expectantly for Your wisdom and understanding. And then one glorious day I will leap into Your Glory and You will catch me! Amen!

What's News

Calendar

Grief Support

Youth News

Upcoming Events

Women of the Word

Our Community

Missions and Outreach

From the Council

Testimony

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am Adult Sunday School - Parsonage 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service with Communion 6:30pm The Chosen - Season 5	2 5:30pm Deacon meeting 5:30pm Trustee meeting 6:00pm Church Council	3 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:00am Quilting at the Old Courthouse	4 7:00am Men's Community Breakfast 5:30pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	5	6	7
8 9:00am Adult Sunday School - Parsonage 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Mission/Outreach meeting 6:30pm The Chosen - Season 5	9	10 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:00am Quilting at the Old Courthouse	11 3:30pm Gr. 4-6 Youth Group 5:30pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	12	13	14
15 9:00am Adult Sunday School - Parsonage 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service with Communion 6:30pm The Chosen - Season 5	16	17 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:00am Quilting at the Old Courthouse	18 5:30pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	19	20	21
22 NO Sunday School 9:00am Adult Sunday School - Parsonage 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service 6:30pm The Chosen - Season 5	23	24 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:00am Quilting at the Old Courthouse	25 5:30pm Confirmation Class 5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	26	27	28

February 2026

Youth News

Youth Groups Meeting times:

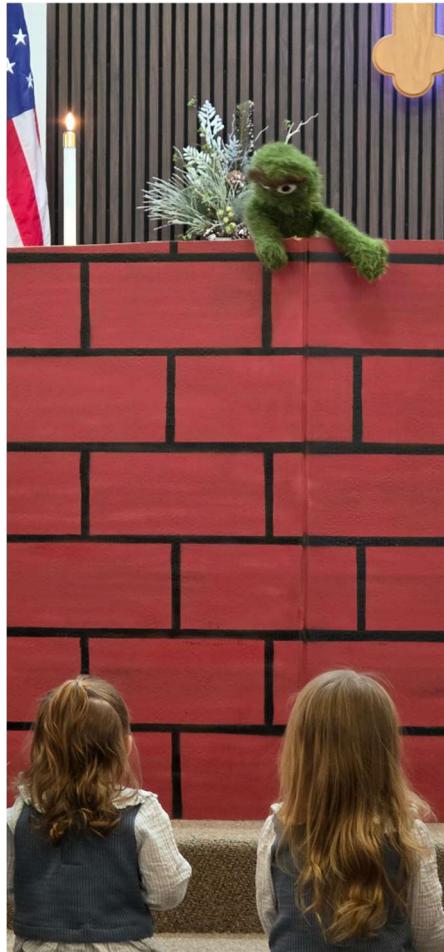
4th-6th grade meets 2nd Wednesday of the month 3:30-5:00 pm. transportation provided from school to church.
7th-12th grade meet every Wednesday 7:00-8:30 pm.

Contact Paula if you'd like to join. All are welcome!

Youth Director

Paula Baumgartner
218-469-9001
paula.baumgartner@yahoo.com

Children's Sermon



Women of the Word

(WOW) meets six times a year, on the second Monday at 6:30 pm.

We meet in February, April, June, September, November and December.

At our meetings we have a devotion and prayer and then discuss any necessary old business and whatever is coming up in the future. We try very hard to keep our meetings short and so are usually done by 7:30 – 8:15

Quilting meets every Tuesday through April at 9:00am in the old Court House building. You don't have to be a quilter – come join the group at 10am for coffee.



Missions and Outreach

We meet the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11:00am after the church service.

We are active in our Community

- + Financial relief for local families with illness or disaster.
- + Support and organize benefits.
- + Provide free inspirational and faith growing books.
- + Roseau Community Food Shelf
- + Gideons
- + Provide opportunities for member to be involved in missions.

At First United we tithe 10 percent of our offerings to Missions and Outreach.

We provide disaster relief to local families for serious illness, accident, fire, etc. We support Psalm FM Radio on a monthly basis. We donate to the Sunshine House in Grand Forks. We donate to the Salvation Army; all donations stay local.

We support Feed My Lambs International in Mexico with Gary and Minnie Sandman and Chio and Betty and Jacob Broten in Chad Africa as our partners in the global outreach. We are grateful for the opportunity to support missions and through them bring God's Word and good works in our local area and throughout the world.

Team members: Collin and Doreen Jensen, Dorothy Monsrud, Esther Welin, Keith Rourke, Janet Hetteen, Mary Hites, Bruce Baumgartner, Jane Evans, Kim and Dave Reynolds.

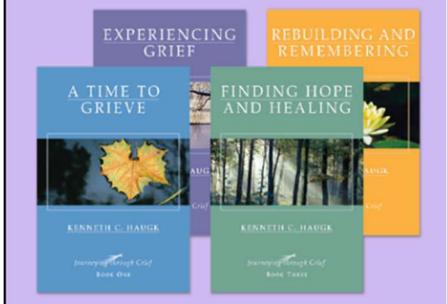
Shared Testimony:

A testimony is a solemn declaration used to witness to others what God has done in your life. Testimonies can serve as inspiration and great encouragement to others.

Please consider sharing your testimony in this space.

Grief Support

"Journeying through Grief" series is available for anyone who would like to reach out to a friend or family member grieving the loss of a loved one. Please contact any Missions and Outreach committee member.



Sunshine Girls

If you would like to be involved, call Helene Wiskow at 218-242-1246 or contact the Church Secretary for more information.



Roseau County Grief Support

13 week sessions using Grief Share materials at the Roseau Evangelical Covenant Church.

Current session is Mondays at 1:30pm

Contact Connie Berg for more information.
218-242-0803



Join in this grief ministry by sharing a book with someone you know who is suffering loss.

Upcoming Events

MEN'S BREAKFAST



The first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 am. (at a different church each month). All are welcome to attend. There will be food and a devotional to help get your day started.

Short enough to get you to work by 8:00 am or earlier if you need to. If you can stay longer, there is fellowship until 8:30 am.

Hope to see you there!



Communion is offered the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month

Our Community



From the Council

First United Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes: December 1, 2025

Present: Jenna Baumgartner, Rick Peterson, Rich Frederickson, Brad Fevold, Scott Mooney, Norm Hayes, Dean Hedlund
Absent: Dave Reynolds, Norm Berg, Dewey Hites, Bruce Baumgartner

- **Secretary's report: (Brad)**
 - November 3, 2025 Minutes. Motion by Rich to amend the report on Narthex project to "consider selling" the parsonage; Jenna seconded. Motion carried.
- **Treasurer's report: (Norm B, Norm H)**
 - \$49,571 in all accounts (11/30/25) Checking: \$6,459; Savings: \$1,662; Ameriprise: \$4,160; Edward Jones: \$37,290.
 - Major improvements are reasons for change from 2024. All costs are up 4% over last year.
 - Receipts are up approximately 3-4% over 2024 YTD.
 - Need a meeting to determine adjustments to staff payroll. Scott will schedule an executive meeting.
 - Capital expenses for 2025 – TBD.
 - Brad motioned to accept Treasurer's report; Rich seconded; motion carried.
- **Office report: (Connie)**
 - On vacation – no report.
- **Youth: (Paula)** From Jenna per Paula's notes:
 - 13 youth went to Rescue Mission in Grand Forks.
 - Youth Group will deliver collected food to Local Food Shelf this week.
 - Serving Christmas meal at Four Seasons.
 - Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser Meal Dec. 21 after Worship.
- **Pastor's report: (Dean)**
 - Dean will be out of the office: Scott will cover Wed., Dec. 10 Confirmation class & Advent Service; Mike will cover Sunday, Dec. 14.
 - Food for the Poor went well.
 - Confirmation class: finished first book. Attendance is very good.
 - Julie requested that Christmas Eve service be moved to 5:00 pm instead of 5:30. Scott motioned to change the time of the service, Rich seconded. Motion carried.
- **Media & Music: (Scott)**
 - Going well! Youth are supporting and Scott continues to recruit and train.
- **Property: (Norm)**
 - Parsonage appraisal by Nels Grafstrom (Phalen Realty): taxable value is \$225,000. Appraisal fee was \$500.
 - Move speaker for Christmas tree?
- **Mission and Outreach: (Bruce)**
 - None
- **Stewardship: (Dewey)**
 - None
- **Education: (Brad)**
 - None
- **Old Business:**
 - Northern Plains District: tabled for more research. No more discussion.
- **New Business:**
 - 2026 Nomination committee – Scott will contact members again. Committee reports for the Annual Meeting packet due in the office by Jan. 9.
- **Adjourn Meeting:** Closed with the Lord's Prayer.