

PASTOR'S CORNER

God's Call to Gideon

Do you feel unimportant? Inconsequential and irrelevant? Check out God's call to Gideon:

Judges 6:11 "Then the angel of the Lord came and sat under the oak that was in Ophrah...as Gideon was beating out wheat in the wine press, in order to save it from the Midianites... and (the angel) said to him, "the Lord is with you, O valiant warrior."

Our first observation is that Gideon was a timid man, afraid of the Midianites. He was hunkered down in a 'holler,' as it were, kind of slinking around in the shadows, trying to winnow grain down in a wine press, where there wasn't even any wind to blow the chaff, so that the Midianite marauders wouldn't catch him.

And in fine irony, the angel of the Lord addresses this bashful boy as 'O valiant warrior!' God saw something in Gideon.

Gideon accepted the Lord's call, and the rest is history. He sought the Lord, spent time with the Lord, listened for the Lord's voice, and carefully followed the direction of the Lord.

The rest is history. Gideon became one of the most daring and inspirational of God's leaders of Israel, confounding and defeating armies vastly superior to his own.

Are you timid? Do you feel small and insignificant? Do you feel like you don't have what it takes to do things for the Lord? That's natural for most of us. But here's the thing. Often, God sees something in us that we don't even see in ourselves.

Be a Gideon! Seek the Lord. Spend time with Him. Listen for His Voice, and carefully follow His direction (which is always consistent with Scripture).

He will lead you to victories you can't even imagine!

**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

Matthew 20:28 Jesus said, "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many."

To live a Christlike life is to manifest God's Glory in the way we serve and interact with others. We have been created with purpose. As the seasons in our lives change so do our purposes. The key is to remain faithful to God so that you can hear Him and discern what His purpose is for you in your current moment in time.

Ephesians 2:10 explains that we were created for works which God prepared in advance for us to do. God has known the purpose for which He created you in this moment in time. All that you have experienced He has brought you through to prepare you for this moment. Pray to Him to reveal the purpose He has in mind for you.

Dear Father, You created me for Your purpose; Lord, reveal to me what my purpose is in this moment in time so that I can manifest Your Glory in the way I serve and interact with others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Amen and Amen.

What's News

Calendar

Youth News

Women of the Word

Missions and Outreach

Testimony

Grief Support

Upcoming Events

Our Community

From the Council

First United Newsletter

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 No Adult Sunday School No Sunday School 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service	29	30 7:30am Men's Fellowship 10:00am Gr 4-6 Youth Group/Grand Forks	31 No Youth Activities	1 	2	3
4 No Sunday School 9:00am Adult Sunday School - Parsonage 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service with Communion 6:30pm The Chosen - Season 5	5 5:00pm Property Committee meeting 5:30pm Deacon meeting 5:30pm Trustee meeting 6:00pm Church Council	6  7:00am Men's Community Breakfast at Roseau First Baptist Church 5:30pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	7 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:00am Quilting at the Old Courthouse	8	9	10
11 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	12	13 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:00am Quilting at the Old Courthouse	14 3:30pm Gr. 4-6 Youth Group 5:30pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	15	16	17
18 9:00am Adult Sunday School - Parsonage 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service with Communion 11:00am Annual Congregational Meeting 6:30pm The Chosen - Season 5	19	20 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:00am Quilting at the Old Courthouse	21 5:30pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	22	23	24
25 9:00am Adult Sunday School - Parsonage 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service 6:30pm The Chosen - Season 5	26	27	28 5:30pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	29	30	31

January 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



Youth serving at Roseau Food Shelf on Dec 3rd. Serving the Four Seasons Christmas meal on Dec 2nd, and last picture is group that served at Northlands Rescue Mission in GF.



Christmas party fun for high school youth group.



Christmas party for 4th-6th grade. We had some beautiful houses created before we ate them!! Lots of fun and laughter with games and gifts.



January 2026

Sunday School Christmas Program



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 PM.

Quilting starts January 6th meeting 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.

Next session is December 29th 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.

January 7th 7:00am at Roseau First Baptist Church

Hope to see you there!



Our Community



Pancake Breakfast at 4 Seasons

January 10th starting at 7:30am.

From the Council

First United Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes: November 3, 2025

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

Opening Prayer/Devotion: Scott

Secretary's report: (Brad)

October 6, 2025 Minutes. Jenna motioned to accept the minutes; Dave seconded; motion passed.

Treasurer's report: (Norm B, Norm H)

*\$50,660 in all accounts (10/31/25) Checking: \$7,679; Savings: \$1,662; Ameriprise: \$4,144; Edward Jones: \$37,175.
\$7,000 YTD ahead of LY.*

Brad motioned to accept Treasurer's report; Dewey seconded; motion passed.

Office report: (Connie)

Upcoming calendar dates: Thanksgiving Eve Service (11/26) at 6:30 pm; Advent Sunday Nov. 30; Wednesday Advent Services (12/3, 12/10, 12/17) at 6:30 pm. Cider/cookies will be served. Sunday School Christmas Program is Dec. 21 during the Worship.

Annual Meeting is January 18, 2026. Nominating Committee: DJ, Mike, Harold, Jeff & Jane. Bruce & Dewey go off council this year.

Connie is out of the office Nov. 26-Dec. 5 – early deadline for bulletins/worship info (11/19).

A letter was received from Faith Lutheran Church, Hartwell, Georgia informing us that their church family had prayed for our church family during their worship service on Oct. 19. It will be posted & read in church.

Youth: (Paula)

Mission Trip fundraising is over \$2,000 & Jewelry sale was \$600.

Bake Sale at Diva Days went well.

Gr. 4-6 had a Halloween party.

November 14: Service & Fun Day trip to Grand Forks Northlands Rescue Mission is planned.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes shipping is covered by the 2 quilt raffles.

Dec. 3: Gr. 7-12 Youth will work at the Roseau Food Shelf. Youth are sponsoring a Food Drive during the month of November.

Pastor's report: (Dean)

Food for the Poor will share their mission on Nov. 23 during Worship.

Confirmation: 5 youth attending classes, doing well. 9th Grade Mentorship meeting (pastor, students, parents & mentors) is Nov. 23 at 11 am.

LCMC Gathering: 1,034 congregations (165 w/o a pastor with only 16 available). Most have a 50-80 weekly attendance and majority of congregations are in North & South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa.

LCMC staff is 6 (low overhead). Breakout sessions were good. Info on a District In ND – Dean will follow up on this.

Media & Music: (Scott)

5 youth are interested in learning about the sound booth – a short training session will be held.

Property: (Norm)

Carpet Cleaning: still waiting for a date.

Snow Removal/shoveling: a sign-up sheet will be used.

Replaced some light bulbs.

Sprayed lawn for weeds.

Narthex Task Group: update provided. Discussion held about next steps: Sell the parsonage to pay for expansion, need estimate of parsonage value and new building cost.

Motion by Scott, seconded by Rich to proceed with determining the value of the parsonage. Motion carried.

Add a spring closure to the sanctuary hall door.

Move speakers out for the Christmas tree.

Mission and Outreach: (Bruce)

Discussion about the Northlands Rescue Mission/GF

Stewardship: (Dewey): None

Education: (Brad): Adult Sunday School continues.

Old Business: Northern Plains District: tabled for more research.

New Business: 2026 Nomination committee – Scott will contact members.

Adjourn Meeting: Closed with the Lord's Prayer.