

PASTOR'S CORNER

The Measure of Love!

Pastor Dean

2 Samuel 18:33: *"And the king was deeply moved and went up to the gate and wept. And as he went, he said, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!'"*

It's natural for us to love our children. That's a good thing, a God-given thing. Sometimes the people we love grieve our hearts and we wish we could change how things turn out. We refuse to believe that they are as wicked as we are told they have become. We want the best for them, and we want to believe there is hope for them.

Absalom was not a good man. He was ruthless and ambitious; for years he had been working on a plot to overthrow his father, King David, murder him, and take over as king in his place. He almost succeeded. In fact, David had found it necessary to abandon the capitol city of Jerusalem and flee for his life. Absalom and his army pursued him and it finally came down to a civil war in which 20,000 were killed.

And yet David loved his son. He wished him no harm. He asked the three generals of his army to 'deal gently with' Absalom, as they marched out to the battle. And when the news came to him that Absalom had been killed, he was heartbroken. "Oh, I wish I had died instead of you, my son," he wept.

Love is a good thing, but even love has a right shape and a wrong shape to it. The first commandment says, "You shall have no other gods before Me." Luther's catechism explains the commandment, "We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things." *"Lord, help me to love the ones I love, each one in Your way. Keep my heart straight and clean, and deliver me from the false, counterfeit idea of love that the world offers. Bless my love life, Father. Amen."*

**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

A Repentant Heart

Genesis 19:26 *But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.*

The sin in the city of Sodom was repulsive and absolute; it had permeated every corner and every person. The angels

had warned Lot that God would destroy the city and that he should flee with his family and not look back. Lot's wife didn't look back out of curiosity; she looked back with desire for the sinful city she loved.

We like to convince ourselves that certain little sins are not really all that bad. When those 'little sins' become a habit, they can be really tough to turn away from. When we are comfortable in our sin the desire to repent is out of our reach. Be very cautious on those slippery slopes.

Dear Father, give me a repentant heart, Lord, to never be comfortable in my sin. Give me a willing Spirit to sustain me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

What's News

Calendar

Youth News

Women of the Word

Missions and Outreach

Testimony

Grief Support

Upcoming Events

Our Community

From the Council

All committees and groups are encouraged to submit their information for the newsletter by the end of each month to Connie Berg at ncberg@mncable.net

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:00am Adult Sunday School - Parsonage 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service 5:30pm Sunday Evenings w/Dean	28	29 7:30am Men's Fellowship	30 5:45pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12 - Com Maze	1	2	3
4 9:00am Adult Sunday School - Parsonage 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service w/Communion 11:00am Informational Meeting re: Natheex	5 5:30pm Deacon meeting 5:30pm Trustee meeting 6:00pm Church Council	6 7:30am Men's Fellowship	7 7:00am Men's Community Breakfast at Roseau Community Church 12:30pm Lunch @ Dahlia's (gr. 7-12) 5:45pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	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 5:30pm Sunday Evenings w/Dean	12	13 7:30am Men's Fellowship	14 3:30pm Gr. 4-6 Youth Group 5:45pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	15	16	17
18 NO Sunday School 9:00am Adult Sunday School - Parsonage 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service w/Communion 5:30pm Sunday Evenings w/Dean	19	20 7:30am Men's Fellowship	21 5:45pm 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 11:00am Mission Trip 2027 Fundraiser Meal 5:30pm Sunday Evenings w/Dean	26	27 7:30am Men's Fellowship	28 5:45pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Youth Group Gr. 7-12	29	30	31 4:00pm No Tricks! ... Just Treats!

Youth News

Youth Director

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



High School Music Worship



Youth staining parsonage deck



4th – 6th Grade Youth Teamwork Water Game

The goal is to fill the jug with water while making sure it doesn't leak out the holes! Each person takes a turn pouring the water while the others cover the holes.

Women of the Word



Quilting is done for the year. Be sure to join in on the fun next January.

(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.

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.

What God has done for me:

All things that lead us to God are a blessing. All things, even pain, hardship, illness, rejection; and yes, even death; all things that lead us to God are a blessing. Amen? Yes, amen! Hebrews 6:19 tells us that we have our hope in Jesus Christ, Who is our anchor for our souls, firm and secure. With Christ as your anchor, you can weather any storm; He will carry you through. In the painful seasons, when you stand firm in the Word of God, you will find your strength in the joy of the Lord and you will feel His peace. In all seasons spend time communing with the Lord; allow Him to use this time to bring you joy and prepare and equip you to carry out the purpose that He has created in advance for you to do. Don't worry about what that purpose is, don't stress that you're not fulfilling right now; God will reveal your purpose to you in His perfect timing. Some seasons are for resting and preparing; other seasons are for producing fruit. We need both.

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.

Currently ongoing. 6:30pm – 8:00pm

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

Upcoming Events



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



Project Constellation with Steve Soklela

October 1st 6-7:30pm
Roseau County Museum
Cost is Free



Civil War Historian Steve Hoffbeck

October 8th 6:00pm
Roseau City Center



Afrocontigbo – African Dance

October 10th 6-7:00pm
Roseau City Center



Scandinavian Music, Stories and Dance
October 17th 6:00pm Malung Community Center
Ross Sutter, Art Bjornjeld and Rose Arrowsmith

From the Council

First United Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2026 (September meeting)

Present: Rich, Scott, Joyce, Dave, Brad, Rick, Norm B, Norm H, Paula, Dean. Not Present: Jenna, Gary, Connie

- Opening Devotion/Prayer: Scott “A life set Apart ~ 1 Corinthians 6:18-19”
- Secretary's Report: Discussed August 2026 Council notes and motion was made to approve (Dave, Rick). Motion passed by UVV.
- Treasurer's Report:
 - Norm H reviewed Aug 2026 YTD financials compared to prior year and the approved 2026 budget.
 - Account balances 8/28/26 – CSB: \$21,589, Ameriprise: \$95,360, Edward Jones: \$34,305
 - Motion (Brad, Scott) to approve the report. Council approved via UVV.
- Office Report: In Connie's absence, Paula shared Connie's written report:
 - Janet and Julie will not be available for the “No tricks, Just Treats” Halloween event FULC puts on for the area kids. As this approaches, other volunteers will need to be identified to support this fall.
 - A confirmation meeting will be held on September 9 for parents and confirmation students with the first class beginning on September 16.
 - Fall schedule for church services and youth and adult Sunday School begins September 13. Sunday School at 9 am, service at 10 am.
 - Need a new person to deliver the box of donated goods to the Food Shelf. Place into the church bulletin to see if another volunteer will step up.
 - Still looking for two people to take the lead for the upcoming Halloween “Treat, no Tricks” event for kids on October 31.
 - Next Council Meeting will be held on October 5.
- Youth Report: Paula provided an update including:
 - Working on preparation for fall youth group schedule.
 - Prepping for “Operation Christmas Child”.
- Pastor's Report: Dean provided an update including:
 - Plans to attend the LCMC Annual Conference in West De Moines, IA in October.
 - Plans to continue offering Sunday evening education sessions to FULC members starting in September.
- Media and Music: Scott shared the following update.
 - Working on adding additional support for the sound booth.
- Property Report: Norm provided a brief update.
 - Paula and youth volunteered to stain the parsonage deck and have made significant progress.
 - Moving forward with adding “friction plates” to the front sidewalk entrance from the street. Stoskopf Redi-Mix have quoted and committed to completing this project this fall.
 - Property committee finished the organization of the lower stair storage area and thanked staff and others for assisting in identifying what was important to keep and what was not needed anymore.
 - Scott will prepare a congregational presentation to update members on the “expanded Narthex” pending project. This will provide an update and time for feedback. This is planned for September.
- Mission and Outreach: Dave provided the following update.
 - Tuesday September 15 at 6 pm, Gary Sandmann will be our guest and he will share his mission with “Feed My Lambs”. Those attending will be able to “Build your own BLT” in advance of Gary's message.
- Growth (Stewardship): Dave provided the following update.
 - Several ideas are being considered including holding a “winter carnival” in February 2027. It was suggested that council members may also be able to pitch in on the Halloween event in late October.
- Adult Education: Luke 2 with JD Greer will be the topic at our upcoming “Adult Sunday School”, scheduled for 9 am, September 13.
- Old Business: NTR; New Business: NTR; Adjourn Meeting - Closed with the Lord's Prayer
- Next Council Meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2026.