

United Lutheran Church of Proctor

Thoughts from Pastor Liz



Dear People of United and Friends,

We have entered the holy season of Lent. This is a time for deepening faith, engaging in spiritual practices, and exploring how we can more fully live out our faith in our choices and actions. For our worship and devotions, we are using a series from A Sanctified Art.

Seeking: Honest Questions for a Deeper Faith is our theme. "This Lent we are seeking: seeking clarity, seeking wisdom, seeking a love that makes us whole. Christians have a long tradition of embarking on a spiritual quest, which invites us to look with fresh eyes at our life and the world, and listen for the longing in our souls. All you need to begin is a willing heart."

This theme allows us to sit with those who were seeking throughout scripture. We realize that in our own wondering and questioning, our own wrestling and realizing that we don't have all the answers, we are in good company. The people of faith before us and the people of faith around us are also seekers.

Our God promises that those who seek will find. It's not only us who are seekers: God is as well! Jesus seeks us out. Jesus seeks out those who are in need of healing, community, purpose, and hope, and invites us to receive from him.

Lent is an opportunity for us to focus on seeking. Otherwise, we go through life just not noticing what is already around us. Since my husband has gotten into birding, he sees things that I don't. We can be driving down the highway and he'll identify a bird perched on a post that I didn't even see. I think of Lenten practices as something like birding: a way to grow in awareness. This year, don't think of your Lenten practice as being about proving you're spiritual enough or giving up something because Jesus gave up his life. Think about what you could commit to doing for the next month and a half that might help you grow in awareness of God's great love for you and God's great love for your neighbors. What will help you seek and find what might already be there for you?

Blessings to you this Lent!

God is with you!

-Pastor Liz



Pastor Liz drop in hours:

March:

11-1 Thursday March 9

9-11 Monday March 20 & 27.

Appointments are always welcome!

You can reach her via Email:

pastorliz@proctorlutheran.org

or on her cell (Sun-Thurs 9-5 or

leave a voicemail or text anytime in an emergency : 218-461-0933

Secretarial office hours

are currently suspended.

Please contact Pastor Liz or Janis with any needs. ULCP Office 218-624-4255
office @proctorlutheran.org

March Birthdays

3 Dennis Palm

5 Robert Schwarz

6 Marty Jonland

12 Susie Johnson

13 Gerald Grote

16 Sheryl Romano

21 Wayne Fechner/ Marsha Sather

22 Terri Malec

23 Sue Schwarz

26 Bonnie Timm



In Our Prayers

Mary Towers

Addie Dardis

Wayne Halvorson

Bill Berglund,

Ashley Carlson,

Rev. Alan Kitto.

Julie Landsverk

Travis Mattison

Bob Pedersen

Patricia Peterson (Larry's sister)

Tom Stauber

Alice Sommer

David Wolf

Shawn McCrady (John Benson's sister)

Military serving our country



Christ in Our Home

Daily Devotional March

Pick up the latest copy just inside the back door of the church on little table.

seeking:

honest questions
for deeper faith

Worship 9:00 am Sunday Mornings

Sunday School:

March 5th & 19th at 10 am

Confirmation: Sunday March 19 & 26 at 12:45pm

Wednesday Lent services

6:15pm Supper & 7pm Worship

Alternating Locations

A sign up sheet is at the entrance for help.

March 1 United

March 8 Our Savior's

March 15 United

March 22 Our Savior's

March 29 United

Paper Lent Devotionals with our theme "Seeking" are available at church.

You can also access them in color online at: <https://online.flippingbook.com/view/928029194/>

Living Faith Study :
Church History & Denominations

Thurs March 9 at 1 pm

Monday March 20 at 1 pm

Choir Practice: Saturday March 4 & 18 at 9:30 am

Council Retreat: March 12 at 12:30-2:30

Holy Week schedule

April 2: Palm Sunday: regular Sun worship times as well as 2pm ACT
Proctor churches worship at Forbes United Methodist in Proctor

April 6: Maundy Thursday 7pm at United

April 7: Good Friday 7pm with West Duluth Churches at United Protestant
in Morgan Park



Church Cleaning

The Council would like to thank Kathy Jazdzewski for her conscientious work as our church custodian for the past three years. Her service began during the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic. With her resignation from that position, the Council has decided to ask volunteers to clean, similar to how the cleaning was done before Covid-19. Volunteers are asked to sign up at church, or by contacting the church office, to clean the church for a month at a time. Naturally, this could be done by a small group in place of one particular person. There is a checklist, with a section for each week of the month, that should be completed. The checklist can be found at the church in the lower left slot of the mailboxes outside the office, labeled "Church Cleaning." During the month of cleaning, the checklist could be left there as well. At the end of the month, the cleaner/cleaners are asked to complete a "Reimbursement/Donation Form" which can be found in the top left box of the mailboxes. The cleaner/cleaners can then request to be reimbursed \$100 (a monthly maximum) for their services or they can request that their \$100 be entered as a "donate back", where \$100 would then be entered as a donation which would appear on their annual personal contribution statements. The Council greatly appreciates any person, family, or group willing to help the church out by donating their time in this way.

Defining Stewardship &

Online Giving Costs



Stewardship expenses include processing fees we pay to have online giving. For example, an online donation (via Vanco) of \$100 per month, would cost us \$.80 in processing fees. A \$100 credit card donation results in a \$3.40 reduction from the donation for transaction and other fees.

Stewardship costs also include the cost for individualized envelopes and generic pew envelopes.

Despite these costs, on-line donations are definitely encouraged because they provide us with a steady income throughout the year, helping us pay our bills in a timely fashion.

Audrey L. Berglund, Treasurer

Mission Engagement: March 1, 5pm

The United Mission Team spent 2022 collecting research about our congregation and neighborhood. We compiled our research into a report that was included in the annual meeting report. On March 1, we will use this data in a fast-paced guided session that will lead us from generating ideas into forming work groups for short and long term actions and projects that will use our gifts and assets as a congregation, potentially partner us with outside organizations, and meet an identified need in our community. A document that explains this process and presents our research is now also available at church and will be emailed out. It's vital that you participate in this event in order for the work of our congregation to match your passions. We hope this will be an opportunity for our congregation and members to be reinvigorated as we make a difference in our neighborhood.



ANNUAL MINNESOTA MARCH FOOD CAMPAIGN



It is that time of year again when our community takes part in the Minnesota March Food campaign to benefit our local Proctor Food Shelf. This endeavor helps to keep the shelves stocked for those experiencing circumstances that make it difficult to feed a family. In 2022 our food shelf provided 51,107 pounds of food to 761 families in need. These families include those with job losses, those working but don't receive wages necessary to meet their needs, those who are disabled and can't work through no fault of their own and seniors living on a minimal fixed incomes.

The Proctor Food Shelf is an all volunteer staff. The food shelf is open every Wednesday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. A very faithful group of volunteers worked 1,858 hours in 2022. These volunteers mostly come from three area churches. United Lutheran Church works twice a month. St. Rose Catholic Church and Forbes United church each work once a month. Because of the all volunteer staff, all donations go to maintaining the food shelf and procuring food.

The campaign begins March 1st. Donations will be accepted for this campaign through April 9th. The Proctor Food shelf will receive funding from the state campaign sponsors according to how many pounds of food and how many dollars are collected during this time.

You may donate food or money through your local church at any Sunday service during these dates. You may also bring nonperishable food or monetary donations to the food shelf any Wednesday throughout the campaign.. If you prefer, mail checks written to Proctor Food Shelf at 100 Pionk Drive, Proctor, MN 55810. We are located in the PACC building.

If you donate through your church, you will help your congregation win the "Campbell's Soup Can Trophy". This is a yearly competition. Currently United Lutheran is holding the trophy. Last year they donated \$2,370 and 213 pounds of food.



HARBOR MISSION WARM CLOTHING DRIVE RESULTS

United Lutheran responded generously to the needs of our community through our clothing drive in January. 36 hats, 28 pairs of socks, 12 pairs of gloves and mittens, 9 jackets, 4 pairs of boots, 4 blankets, 13 tops, 3 pairs of pants, 9 scarves, 3 bags of hand warmers and 1 pair of pants were delivered to Duluth Harbor Mission. Some items were new and some gently used. All were welcomed and appreciated. Thank you for spreading God's love through these donations.



We had an awesome group of youth, friends, & families out for tubing at Mont du Lac! It was a great time to have fun together & grown in relationship!



A wonderful group of women gathered for a retreat around the theme "In Christ All Things Hold Together" at Camp Vermilion. We enjoyed time in fellowship, study, hiking/snowshoeing in God's Great Northwoods, and crafting.



Prayer Chain



We've reorganized the prayer chain list and are continually committed to lifting those in need up in prayer.

Call Candy Schuh: 218-451-8304 with any prayer requests.

We welcomed Candys Schuh in baptism on February 19th.

Chimes will meet Mondays March 13 & 27 at 1:00 at Our Savior's Entrance at the side (elevator) door

United Lutheran Church of Proctor

Northeastern Minnesota Synod – ELCA
Congregation Council Meeting Agenda
Sunday, Jan 8th , 2023

Present: Janis, Audrey, Larry, Dan, Gordy, Alice, Dennis, Pr. Liz

I. Devotions

II. Approval of Minutes: motion Audrey, second Janis, approved

III. Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee

- Emailed Wed. Jan. 4th
- motion to accept Janis, second Larry, approved
- Chris P or Claudia will be on call for any financial issues at the end of the month

IV. Pastor's Report

- Emailed Wed. Jan 4th

V. President's Report –

VI. Committee Reports

A. Worship and Music

- committed choir- singing 2 Sundays/ month
- Looking for additional people for special music

B. Christian Education

- Sunday School is good on curriculum and looking to connect more with Our Savior's

C. Fellowship

- Report on the Women's Luncheon: Nancy G, Deb V., and Gwen will head it up next year; will need to connect with them about learning regarding charging enough to cover expenses, number of orders, and tracking sales

D. Evangelism and Service to Others

- Duluth Harbor Mission collection right now

E. Property

- Everything is working now, but there is an opportunity for us to relook at the boiler system because of past problems, will seek someone to say if there is a problem or if it works as is

VII. Staff Reports

- Mary's accident means she's out, on call for anything we need, taking time for healing
- Kathy finished; what do we want to do for janitor services in the future?
 - \$1500 is the budget for the year - \$15/ hour with a 1099
 - re-communicate with groups to clean up after themselves
 - Ask congregation if they are enough people who might volunteer or just pay them \$100ish a month to take care of the cleaning. Pr. will sit down with Kathy and write a cleaning task-list of what she does and then ask the congregation to sign up for month and get the \$100.
- Need a personnel committee- put on the agenda for next council meeting

VIII. Unfinished Business/ New Business

- Approval of Budget of 2023 recommended by the Finance Committee
 - Janis motions to accept proposed budget, Larry second, passed.
- Mary-How to handle the office work while she is out of the office
- Girl Scouts- Pr. will connect with Theresa re: troop 007
- Boy Scouts- April 16 church breakfast from the Boy Scouts
- Council Person of the week/month
- Mission Engagement with the Congregation
 - Do the engagement over dinner during Lent; maybe shorter service; Holden Evening during Lent
- Lent- committees used to do the soup/sandwiches, will need to figure out what OSELC is doing together
- New Council members
 - people willing to continue on in their roles
 - Evangelism, Education, Worship, President
- Annual Meeting – Agenda
 - Pastor is working on reports with Janis and Linda. The goal is to have them compiled electronically and then to be emailed out as well as have printed ones at church. They should be out beginning Jan. 15th. Preferably people will send reports in .doc format that can be combined into one document.
 - Pizza lunch, will have a basket for donations- Audrey following up re ordering
 - Just in person, no Zoom
 - Synod Assembly/ Lake Superior Conference- maybe announce at worship now until then; VLM Rep

IX. Announcements and Correspondence

X. Calendar

XI. Next meeting: _____ Feb 12, 12:15 via Zoom_____

XII. Adjournment Dennis, Janis,

Letter from the editor: Please send all submissions to Marty **no later than the 20th** of the month to **martjj@aol.com**. You can also reach me at 218-213-1060 Cell 218-624-4322 Landline.

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 United 5 pm Mission Mtg 6:15 Soup Supper 7 pm Worship	2 10 am Quilting	3	4 9:30 Choir Practice
5 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School	6 5:45 Cub Scouts 7pm Boy Scouts	7 7pm Proctor AA	8 Our Savior's 6:15 Soup Supper 7 pm Worship	9 10 am Quilting 11-1 Pastor Drop in hours 1pm Living Faith Study	10	11
12 9 am Worship 12:30pm Council Retreat	13 1pm chimes Our Saviors 5:45 Cub Scouts 7pm Boy Scouts	14 5:30 Girl Scouts 7pm Proctor AA	15 United 6:15 Soup Supper 7 pm Worship	16 10 am Quilting	17	18 9:30 Choir Practice 9-3 Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby
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WE WELCOME EVERYONE!
United Lutheran Church of Proctor
701 Third Avenue
Proctor, MN 55810

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US POSTAGE
PAID
DULUTH, MN
PERMIT NO 122

Northeastern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's Work: Our Hands.

Address Service Requested

Welcome to United Lutheran

Sunday worship 9:00 am

Serving our community and the world
as we connect with one another and God.

COVID SAFETY:

Masks will be optional in all church spaces.

If you feel sick, Please Stay Home

or wear a mask.

Within this newsletter are various events hosted by United during the month. You are invited to all. We look forward to seeing you.

United Lutheran Church of Proctor

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Find us on Facebook:

Facebook.com/proctorlutheran
