

WE WELCOME EVERYONE!

United Lutheran Church of Proctor

701 Third Avenue

Proctor, MN 55810

Northeastern Minnesota Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's Work: Our Hands.

Welcome to United Lutheran of Proctor

Sunday worship 9:00 am

Serving our community

and the world

as we connect with

one another and God.

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](https://www.facebook.com/proctorlutheran)

April 2026

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

			1 4:30pm Confirmation	2 9am Pastor drop in hours 10am Quilting 5:45 Maundy Thursday Worship at United	3 5:30pm Choir Practice 6pm Good Friday Worship at Elim	4
5 9am Easter Worship 10am Sunday School	6 7pm Proctor AA	7	8 4:30pm Confirmation	9 9am Pastor drop in Hrs 10am Quilting	10	11
12 9am Worship 5pm WRK	13	14 1pm Visit & Chat 7pm Proctor AA	15 4:30pm Confirmation	16 9am Pastor's Drop in Hrs 10am Quilting 1pm Bible Study	17	18 Eco Faith Summit at First Lutheran
19 9am Worship 10am Sunday School	20	21 7pm Proctor AA	22 4:30pm Confirmation	23 9 am Pastor's Drop In Hrs 10am Quilting 1pm Bible Study	24	25
26 NEMN Synod Assembly 9am Worship 10am Two Truths + A Lie Event	27	28 7pm Proctor AA	29 4:30pm Confirmation	30 9am Pastor's Drop in Hrs 10am Quilting 1pm Bible Study		



**United Lutheran Church of Proctor
Thoughts from Pastor Liz**

Blessed Holy Week and Happy Easter!

We turn the calendar and enter in to the most dramatic week of our annual spiritual journey. We move from the Palm parade to the Table and wash basin; from the garden to the cell and trial; from public murder to shroud and tomb; from death to resurrection. This whole movement is Jesus working good news for us. Jesus declares his love for us and shows the depth of his commitment to be with us through the worst of human experience and draw us into a better future.

Jesus' response in each of these episodes shows us that we have a choice in our response to the world around us. Jesus leads the way into a new life that is unfolding now. He enters Jerusalem in a parade for all people. It is an altered mirror of the Roman empire's parades, which are meant to show domination and power. Jesus shows the power of love, entering with humility as the answer to the people's cries of "Hosanna! Save us!" It is Jesus' path that leads to our salvation, not the empire's false promises of security and peace.

Jesus chooses to serve in love rather than seeking his own glory. Sometimes, like when he kneels and washes his disciples' feet, it's scandalous how humble he is! He gives up not only power, but his very life in order to show his love and commitment to his path of peace.

Jesus cries out to God in his most despairing moments: in the garden as he senses the violent approaching to apprehend him and on the cross as he dies. In these moments, Jesus shows us that we can bring our pain to God in prayer. Even when we don't feel God's presence, or we feel abandoned because things are so bad, we can continue to shout out to God. Because God didn't leave Jesus in death, we are assured that God never abandons us.

Jesus chooses nonviolence and pays the ultimate price for this choice. While the powers collude to make him the sacrificial victim to keep the peace, uniting people by creating a shared enemy in Jesus and then destroying him, there are people even within the Biblical story who recognize what is truly happening. Jesus' death shakes them out of their complacency, unravelling the empire's story of peace through violence. As they see the innocent killed, they, and we, begin to question what we have accepted as the necessary cost for our well-being.

These days are packed with so much, it's important to set aside time each day to reflect on Jesus' actions in the last days of his life. What do you notice anew this year? How do these stories challenge and comfort you? What is the good news Jesus is speaking to you? Read on for the worship times and join with your siblings in Christ to reflect in these days.

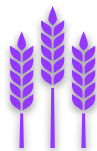
God is with you!
Pastor Liz

Pastor Liz's Drop In Hours

Thursdays 9-11am

Others by appointment. To ensure a meeting, please email her at pastorliz@proctorlutheran.org or leave a voicemail at 218-461-0933.

In Our Prayers



Wayne Fechner
Joyce Rosen
Peg Sweeney
Peggy Jugasek
Julie Saatoff-Betty & Jim's daughter
Char Reno Audrey's sister
Ardythe Graves
Shanna Dan's daughter in law

We keep all our friends at United & all in need in prayer. This prayer list includes those with emergent needs.

Call or email Paster Liz with any prayer requests.

Unless requested to Pr. Liz with an update, names will be removed from this immediate need list after 2 months

Visitation List:

Would you like to receive regular visits in your home or care center? Or do you know someone else who might? Email or call Pastor Liz to be included on the list.

Note from the editor:

Please send all submissions to Marty,
No later than the 20th of the month.
martjj36@gmail.com



Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 am

Sunday School: 1st & 3rd Sundays 10:00 am

Confirmation Class: 2nd Year Cohort of Confirmation:
April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 4:30-5:15.

Quilting: Every Thursday at 10 am

Visit & Chat at Lifestone: Tuesday April 14th

Holy Week

March 29: Palm Sunday 9am Worship at United
11am Worship at Our Savior's

Palm Sunday Path: Power of Love event at First Lutheran Church, 1100 E Superior St Duluth/ Leif Erickson Park, March 29 3-5pm

April 2: Maundy Thursday 5:45pm Worship at United

April 3: Good Friday 5:30pm Choir Practice
6pm Worship at Elim Lutheran Church 6101 Cody St, Duluth

April 4: Easter Vigil Consider joining a different worshipping community to celebrate this day: First Lutheran, Duluth at 7pm or Concordia Lutheran, 2501 Woodland Ave, Duluth at 7pm

April 5: Easter 9am Worship at United,
11am Worship at Our Savior's

Bible Study: A Storytelling Series

In January, I attended a training with the Austin Story Project to explore how we might build a stronger connection to each other and to Jesus. Through this project, we have been sent out to implement and reflect on a specific model of gathering, listening, sharing, and reflecting. You are invited to join in! This experience will be a bit different from our traditional Bible study, but our goal is the same: to grow in faith and connection. You won't need to bring anything: just yourself, a willingness to listen, and an openness to sharing as you are comfortable doing so. It's best if you can commit to all six sessions. April 16, 23, 30, 1pm at United.

April 12: WRK (Women Raising Kids) 5pm Stay tuned for details!

Two Truths and a Lie. What's That?

Plan on staying after church on **Sunday, April 26th**. The Evangelism Committee will provide refreshments and beverages and invite you to sit at a table according to a color assigned to you when you get downstairs. (If you don't want to go by yourself, grab a friend and sit together at the table with the color assigned).

Our goal is to encourage members to meet other members. Each person will tell "two truths and a lie." So I (Karen Linné) might say, "I enjoy traveling, I play the harmonica and I collect Hummels." Then we'd go around the table and each person would say what they thought was my lie, the statement that was not true. When all have given their guess, I would say, "I don't play the harmonica" as that was not true. So this is just a fun way to learn more about each other. You can include information about your family, hobbies, interests, nicknames, where you've lived, etc. Remember to wear your nametag to church and coffee hour that day!

We often sit with the same people and visit with folks we know. This will allow us to meet others in our faith community and maybe have some laughs in the process! Hope you can join us on Sunday, April 26th.

Annual Candy Bar Sale

Each Sunday from April 12 to May 3 Equal Exchange chocolate bars will be sold for \$5 each. The profit will be donated to Lutheran World Disaster Response. This organization shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. If you do not wish to buy a candy bar, any donation to this very important project would be appreciated. Candy bars have been purchased with Thrivent Action money. Any purchase or donation can be in cash or check written to United Lutheran Church with Lutheran Disaster Response in the memo line.

NEMN Synod Assembly is April 24-26. At this meeting, voting members will be calling a new bishop and electing a new vice-president. Our voting members are Cheryl and Paul Fleckenstein and Pastor Liz. Learn more here: <https://nemnsynod.org/2026-synod-assembly/> and <https://nemnsynod.org/home/2026-bishop-election-committee-bec/>



Day Camp “Wear Love” July 13-16, 9-3pm at United. Staff from Camp Onomia will lead us in fun, games, Bible study, worship, and other activities. Kids completed grades K-5 are welcome. Free for everyone!

Please spread the word! Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/7Aj5ACuXB19EaNLp7>

We also welcome volunteers! Sign up here:

Adult volunteer sign up: <https://forms.gle/G3dtzayLYWcuB2xk9>

Youth volunteer sign up: <https://forms.gle/MEUhrA6rbHmMPAs88>

Summer Camp is a powerful time of connecting to God outside the regular routine. Consider spending a week at one of our great Lutheran camps! They even offer family camp or grandparent-grandkid camp options! Our church offers camperships to make the experience accessible to everyone! Contact Pastor Liz for an application or camp suggestions.



2026 EcoFaith Summit of the Upper Midwest:
 From Fear to Fire: Igniting Community for a Planet in Peril:

Saturday, April 18, 9:30am - 5:00pm,

First Lutheran Church in Duluth and Zoom

Livestream. The day includes inspiring speakers, spoken word artist, painting artist, action stations, afternoon engagement sessions, children’s programming, youth and young adult specific community time, table exhibits, group livestream experience guide, and networking time to equip disciples in congregations, camps, campuses and communities to respond to our planet in peril. To register and for more information including a group discount, free registration under age 30: <https://www.ecofaithnetwork.org/ecofaith-summit-2026>

THANK You
Thank You
Thank You

Thank you to all who participated, prepared food, and led worship through song and skit during our Wednesday night Lent services! Thank you: Dan, Chris, Linda, Janis, Susie, Laila, Claudia, Greg, Kathy B, Dennis, Karen, Cheryl, Howard, Shannon and Mark!

Treasurer’s Report Narrative for 2/28/2026

Receipts for February were \$7,057.82 for the General Fund and \$518 directly to Capital Improvement Special Fund from a Thrivent Gift.

Expenses paid in February were \$8,820.49 from the General Fund and \$100 from the Irving Youth Special Fund for VLM.

That puts us over YTD budget for revenues by \$1,357 and under YTD budget for expenses by \$ 12, for a net gain of \$1,369.

The balance in special funds is \$26,492.54. Our CD at Mission Investment Fund is valued at \$215,806.28, with interest of \$2,637.61 added on February 28, 2026, our next accrued interest will be posted at the end of May, 2026, and \$10,207.09 in a CD at Mission Investment Fund, with interest of \$102.96 added on December 18, 2025 while our next accrued interest will be posted on March 18, 2026. This CD is designated for future repairs to the driveway and parking lot and originated from funds received from Hillside Gardens for that purpose due to their use of the driveways and parking lot while under construction. Please note that neither the principal nor interest in these CDs is available for spending at this time.

General Fund	Feb 2026 Budget	Feb 2026 Actual	YTD 2026 Budget	YTD 2026 Actual
Income	\$8,415	\$ 7,058	\$16,830	\$ 18,187
Expenses	\$8,415	\$ 8,820	\$16,830	\$ 16,818
Net Income (Loss)		(\$ 1,762)		\$ 1,369

Audrey L. Berglund

**United Lutheran Church of Proctor
Northeastern Minnesota Synod - ELCA
Congregation Council Meeting
Minutes: Sunday, February 8, 2026**

Present: Pastor Liz, G. Westendorf, A. Berglund, M. Kimball, M. Linne, S. Sweeney, H. Simula, J. Anderson, C. Fleckenstein

Absent: none

Came to Order: 7:37 a.m.

Devotions: Responsive reading on 1 Cor. 12:4-6 by led by G. Westendorf.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by M. Linne moved, A. Berglund second. Approved.

Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee: written reports.

Approval of Treasurer's Report: written reports. Motion to accept by J. Anderson, second by M. Kimball. Approved.

Pastor's Report: written report. Discussed church governance handouts.

President's Report: Motion to approve congregational meeting of January 25, 2026 by A. Berglund, J. Anderson second. Approved.

Committee Reports

- **Property:** 1. The first of three inspections of the elevator was done on January 29, 2026. This is part of our annual maintenance agreement with Arrow Lift. The elevator was also inspected for its weight capacity, which is required by the state every 5 years. We will be invoiced \$795 because it is not an annual routine maintenance. 2. Hillside Gardens will be invoiced for their share of the November and December parking lot snowplowing. Based on the area of the parking lot, Hillside's easement is 27% of the entire church parking lot. Hillside's share of maintenance is 50% of the easement which is 13.5% of the entire snowplowing expenses. There is also a billing of \$350 for the annual amount due to the church for easement use of the parking lot, per the Access Easement Agreement.
- **Christian Education:** Start thinking about day camp.
- **Fellowship:** Lenten suppers at United are March 4th and 18th. Want to have potluck brunch after worship on Palm Sunday, March 29. Want to do "Truth and Lie" event after worship April 26.
- **Evangelism and Service to Others:** January warm clothing drive items have been delivered to the Harbor Mission. March is food shelf donation time. Usually sell candy bars in April and funds could be donated to food shelf.
- **Worship and Music:** none

Staff Reports: Will have Executive Committee meet to function as Personnel Committee.

Unfinished Business: Discuss Two Truths and a Lie day at next meeting.

New Business: 1. Updated council person of the month and reviewed opening and closing duties. 2. Cub Scouts use of church basement for Pinewood Derby on March 14 from 9-3 pm. 3. Installation of council will be March 1. 4. Discussed and planned for a Fall congregation meeting to revisit history of funds from the sale of Immanuel. The CD would next be renewed February 2027.

Ideas/Requests from Congregation: none

Announcements and Correspondence: none

Calendar: March 8 at 7:30 am; C. Fleckenstein assigned devotions.

End Meeting: G. Westendorf led closing devotion.

Adjournment: J. Anderson moved and H. Simula second. Approved at 8:43 a.m.

Minutes Submitted: C. Fleckenstein