

Light of Christ Lutheran Church



Pastor Kevin R. Beard

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www.locw.org

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lightofchristwilliston



JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Sunday School at 10 am (During school year) Coffee Hour at 10 am - Services at 11 am

512 17th St. W. Williston, ND 58801 Church Phone: (701) 774-3827 Cell Phone: (701) 580-7030

Prayer Requests

Prayers for this country, our leaders, law enforcement, fire

departments, and EMTs around the country. Prayers for our family, friends, and community. Pray for persecuted Christians in all places.

Prayers for Ukraine. Prayers for nursing home and assisted living residents as well as shut-ins.

MEMBERSHIP – Talk to Pastor Kevin if you are interested in becoming a member of our church. Remember to invite your friends and neighbors to "come and see".



ONLINE OFFERING now available!



We now offer ONLINE OFFERING on our church website. Just go to www.locw.org and look at the bottom of any page. Click the button to securely give to the general fund of Light of Christ. Thank you!

IT IS IMPORTANT that the church has your correct contact information, cell phone numbers, home phone, email addresses, birthdays, and anniversary, etc.





Bible Study January 10th and 24th at 7:00pm.

LOC MONTHLY CHURCH BREAKFAST – JAN 13th at 9 am. Please come and invite a friend or two!



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

During the month of November, our congregation has prayed for the following parishioners. Please continue to pray for:

Pr. Steve Lundblom Darrin Baker



WOMEN OF L.I.F.E. MEETING is January

3rd at 7 pm. All women of LOC are encouraged to attend their meeting and Bible Study.



(Dec 5^{th}) The youth of our center gladly met Saint Nicholas with songs and dances, who treated them with sweet gifts O O Q



JOY 4 UKRAINE

Joy 4 Ukraine is the ministry of Pastor Scott Yount and his wife Lena in

Billa Tserkva, Ukraine. If you would like to support Pastor Scott and Lena and their ministry to the handicapped in Ukraine, you can give online by going to the following link. *https://SONetwork.org/give/*

SEMINARY SUPPORT - American Lutheran Theological Seminary (ALTS) is the seminary for the AALC. They have begun a fundraising campaign, **SOLA 500**, to financially support their work of training up future pastors for the AALC. You can support them at **www.alts.edu/sola_500**.



CONFIRMATION IS UP AND RUNNING!

January 4th and 18th at 6:30pm. For students in the 7th and 8th grade.

LOC ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK will be held on **Jan 28**th following the Worship Service. Annual and Committee reports are to be given to Pr. Kevin two weeks prior!

CHURCH COUNCIL – If anyone would like to serve on church council this coming year, please contact Dwight E. or Pr. Kevin.

BENEFIT FOR DARRIN BAKER - Feb 4th. A free will offering lunch will be offered to assist with medical expenses. Soup, bread, and bars will be served after the 11am worship service starting at noon. We ask for members to bring a pan of bars to share. A silent auction will also be held during the lunch with assorted items on the auction tables. All are welcome.

LOC CHURCH COUNCIL meets **JAN 9th** at 5:30. We start with a light meal followed by our meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

JANUARY 2024 READINGS								
DATE	1 ST LESSON	PSALM	2 ND LESSON	GOSPEL				
Jan 7th	Gen 1:1-5	Psa 29	Rom 6:1-11	Mark 1:4-11				
Jan 14th	1 Sam 3:1-10	Psa 139:1-10	0 1 Cor 6:12-20	John 1:43-51				
Jan 21st	Jon 3:1-5, 10	Psa 62	1 Cor 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20				
Jan 28th	Deu 18:15-20	Psa 111	1 Cor 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28				

YFC "CAMPUS LIFE"

Open Youth Center: Fridays 3-6 pm at the Campus Center. Gr. 7-12



Snacks, games, and discussions!

STEPHEN's MINISTRY!



Stephen's Ministry is a wonderful service for people who are hurting and need someone to talk to and care about them. Renee G. and Pr. Kevin will begin the interview process soon and work out a training schedule for this Fall and Winter.

LOC SOUP MINISTRY!

You are invited to take a quart of soup to someone you think may need it. Someone living alone, recovering from an illness or surgery, someone experiencing loss or grief, or anyone in need who might benefit from some warm soup. The soup is located in the kitchen freezers. THANK YOU to the Women of LIFE for this ministry!



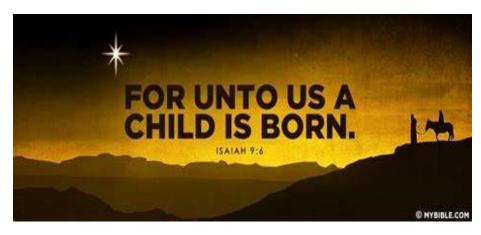
Worship Services, Bible Studies, Bulletins, and **Newsletters are online!** Light Of Christ Website: locw.org. Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/ lightofchristwilliston.



A new ministry opportunity for LOC! We will soon be collecting empty prescription bottles and over-the counter medication containers for distribution to other countries. Look for a collection box at the back of the church.



The 2023 LOC Lutheran Kids' Christmas program.



GREEN SERVICE GROUP (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)

Tex Alton Derek and Erin Bearce Brian and Misty Beard Clint Chamberlin Bob and Dianne Cummings Seth and Kayla Fenster Wendy Johnson Josh and Erin Olson David and Kim Oyloe Amber Park Lois Redka Rick and Linda Tofte Garry Tveter

Thank you for serving!

Note: The Service Groups are shuffled around at the beginning of each year.





JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Seth Fenster 1	/04
Kayla Fenster 1,	/06
Wendy Johnson 1,	/08
Bev Quale1	/11
Steve Ginther 1,	/18
Oliver Haugen1	/30
Jed Ríder 1,	/30
JANUARY ANNIVERSARIE	<u>.</u> 5
None that we're aware of.	
If we don't have your birthday or anniver please let the pastor know.	sary,

Light of Christ Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, December 12th, 2023 These minutes are abbreviated. If you would like the full minutes, ask a council member.

The meeting was called to order by President, Dwight Ebel. Pastor Beard opened with a prayer.

A motion to accept the September 5th minutes was made by Rick. Motion passed.

Pastors report: Pastor Beard advised that Abiding Grace Church in Gillette, WY sent a thank you note for the \$5,000 that was sent to them in 2022. Rev. Clark Brown is now leading Abiding Grace Church and has prior experience as a chaplain with the civil air patrol academy.

Pastor advised that he is enjoying services and preaching and that Sunday school is going well.

There will be no MORNING service on December 24th instead there will be a candle light service at 7:30pm that night. Alexander's night service will be at 5:00pm.

Recently Pastor Beard has been assisting those in need with funds, but would like the congregation to possibly consider giving funds directly to the Salvation Army. This would be one point of contact for assistance and they could possibly have more resources to help.

Treasurers report: Rick went over the financial report. The church currently has \$294,781.73 in savings/checking. Advised that the church paraments have been paid off and that \$23,583 in total benevolences have been given out. Kayla made a motion to accept. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

<u>AED</u>: Classes are on the Williston Fire Department website and starting back up in January. It was suggested that whomever wants to attend can set up a time to attend a class from the website.

NEW BUSINESS:

Vicar: Pastor Beard has been talking with AALC about possibly assisting in funding a Vicar (similar to an intern) for 1 year. This Vicar would possibly do part time at Our Redeemers and Light of Christ. This would be an opportunity for our congregations to take a larger role in the church.

<u>Stained glass:</u> Pastor beard has been approached about the possibility of stained glass in the sanctuary. This would add some color to our church. Pastor beard is looking into this.

<u>Women of life / Darin Baker:</u> The Women of Life will be having a soup/bread/bars fundraiser with a free will offering sometime in January.

<u>Christmas service</u>: The Christmas service will be put in the Herald.

<u>CD/savings:</u> Rick spoke about possibly putting \$200,000 into a CD at American State Bank (ASB). The money would come out of savings, \$80,000 from the building fund and \$120,000 from other savings at ASB. This CD could be short term up to 13 months. M/S/A

Annual Meeting: The annual meeting will be the 28th of January. Reports need to be sent to Pastor Beard before and he will compile them for the meeting, 2 weeks in advance.

<u>2023 council members:</u> Rick will be looking into the terms for the outgoing members. The position of president is up (2 year term) and there are two other spots (3 year term) that will be open.

<u>2024 budget:</u> Budget requests need to be put out and Rick will put together the numbers for the upcoming years budget.

<u>2024 salary:</u> Wendy motioned to raise Pastor Beard's salary \$6,000 to help cover insurance and cost of living. This motion was seconded by Kayla. Motion approved. A motion to adjourn this meeting was made by Gary and seconded by Bev. Passed.



When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a Son. And he called His Name Jesus. (Matthew 1:24-25)

The English Standard Version of the Bible gets a bit shy in this verse. It says that Joseph "knew her not" when he brought Mary home to be his wife. Of course, what it really means is that they did not have marital relations. Mary remained a virgin, so no one would have any reason to doubt Jesus' miraculous conception.

But this is just one way that Joseph acted as caretaker for both Mary and Jesus. By going through with the wedding, Joseph gave them the protection of his name and his home. Joseph guarded them with love under God's direction, and deserves all honor for it.

It makes me wonder if, humanly speaking, Jesus learned His caretaking love from Joseph. Here is a father who would encourage his Son to be gentle with people, especially those who are in trouble. Here is a father who lived faithfully, caring for others at his own expense and protecting them from danger.

Because, of course, that's what we see Jesus doing—for us!—as an adult. He came to us, people scarred by sin and full of shame—and what did He do? He had mercy on us. He taught, fed, healed, corrected, forgave, and comforted us. And He put His own body between us and danger. On the cross, He broke the power of the devil and set us free. And when He rose from the dead, He shared that everlasting life with us.

WE PRAY: Lord Jesus, thank You for taking care of us. Amen.

Reflection Questions:

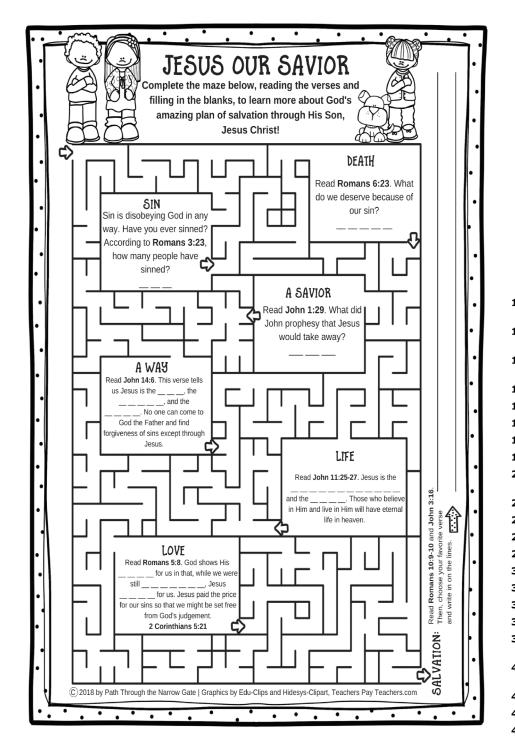
* Who has taken care of you in your life?

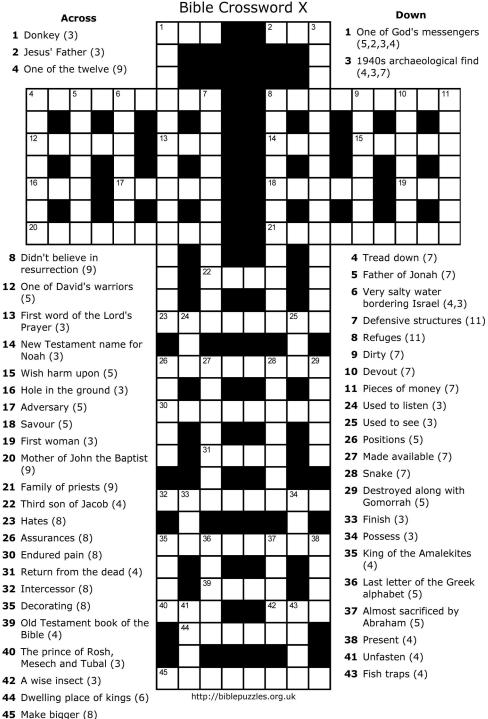
* What specific ways did they care for you?

* How can you reflect Jesus' love and care to someone you know who needs it?

Advent Devotions were written by Dr. Kari Vo.







January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year	2	3 7:00pm Women Of Life	4 6:30pm Confirmation	5	6
7 10am Sunday School. 11am Worship Communion.	8	9 5:30pm Church Council Meeting	10 7:00pm Bible Study	11	12	13 9:00am Breakfast at the church.
14 10am Sun- day School. 11am Worship	15	16	17	18 6:30pm Confirmation	19	20
21 10am Sun- day School. 11am Worship Communion	22	23	24 7:00pm Bible Study	25	26	27
28 10am Sun- day School. 11am Worship NO Commun- ion.	29 Next ser- vice group meets.	30	31	Feb 1 6:30pm Confirmation	2	3

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