CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

From the Pastor – January 2026

What!! Can you believe that we are beginning a New Year. I wonder what happened to this past one. I see so much growth, so much to be proud of, and so much hope and love in each of you. My dad always told me that the older you get the faster the time goes. I would laugh at the words and yet now understand what he was saying and would agree.

Let me share some facts, that shows how amazing our Creator is:

Jesus died at 33 – the human spine has 33 vertebrae. The same structure that holds us up is the same number of years He held this Earth.

There were 12 disciples, 12 tribes of Israel – we have 12 ribs on each side. Heaven has been written into each of us.

Think about the cross – the vagus nerve runs from brain to heart and gut. It calms the storms inside the body, every time your body heals, every time your heart slows in prayer, every time peace shows up when it shouldn't.

Jesus rose on the 3rd day – science tells us that when you fast for 3 days, your body starts regenerating. Old cells die, new ones are born....healing begins. Your body literally resurrects itself....is that a coincidence....NOT, it's by design, His design.

Just imagine that your heart has an electrical rhythm, your brain lights up when you pray, your tears contain different chemicals depending on if you are crying tears of grief or joy, the blood speaks, the bones store memory, the body worships whether we realize it or not.

You are fearfully and wonderfully made, you are a walking miracle, you are telling the prophecy, you are a walking tabernacle. You are dust and divinity all in one. God's didn't just create you, he carved Himself into you. He shaped you with a potter's hand and is within you at all times.

As we enter Lent, let this time be one of renewing, of recreating, of spending time to see the beauty within you.

Remember that during Lent, things will change in worship. We will be removing some of the familiar words and songs, but they will return when we bring the Alleluia's back on Easter. This is a season of reflection, of contemplation, of remembering. Let's slow down and enjoy the journey and see what God is doing in our lives and the life of the congregation.

God's Peace in this time, Pastor Cindy

HEALTH MINISTRY

A guide to information about prostate and testicular cancers. Only 3 in 5 men get annual physicals, and 40% of men only see a doctor when they suspect a serious medical condition.

This article is to raise awareness about health issues that affect men. The prostate and testes are exclusive to men. It is important to bring attention to prostate and testicular cancers.

The testes are small, egg-shaped glands that are responsible for making and releasing male sex hormones for growth of muscles, body hair and bone. They also make and move semen and sperm for reproduction.

It's believed that testicular cancer occurs when cells in the testicles grow to form a tumor, which is rare. More than 90% of testicular cancers begin in germ cells that are responsible for producing sperm. This can happen at any age, but testicular cancer occurs the most between the ages of 15-45. It is first noticed as a bump or lump on the testicle. It is highly treatable even if it spreads.

Prostate cancer is one of the most common types of cancer. Oftentimes prostate cancers grow slowly and are confined to the prostate gland, but some types are aggressive and can spread quickly. By catching prostate cancer in its early stages when it is localized, it greatly improves the odds that treatment will prove successful. Ethnicity plays a role in prostate cancer, with African American men having a higher risk of the disease. Also, men over the age of 55 as well as those who have a grandfather, father or brother with prostate cancer face a higher risk as well.

Sometimes prostate cancer has no symptoms but in other cases, dull pain in the lower pelvis, frequent urination, trouble passing urine, blood in the urine and painful ejaculation may be associated with this cancer. These symptoms also can be associated with a non-cancer condition called benign hyperplasia (enlarged prostate). With any of these symptoms it is best to talk to a doctor. Doctors will use prostate specific antigen (PSA) tests and other information to check for prostate cancer. Some men never need to have treatment other than watchful waiting especially if they are of advanced ages when a slow growing prostate cancer is detected.

As with any health issues, individuals should know their bodies and what is normal for them. Anything that seems out of the ordinary, particularly lumps, bumps, pain, blood or issues around the groin, should be brought to the attention of a physician.

Donna Young

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2025

All council members were present: Jared Weich, Greg Moes, Linda Shaffer, Lu Carter, Brenda Beaudette, Al Boelman

Jared opened the meeting with prayer.

The October Council meeting minutes were discussed. Greg motioned to approve the minutes. Linda seconded. The motion carried.

The minutes for the Congregational meeting were read and discussed. A couple of grammatical and spelling errors needed to be corrected. Linda motioned to approve the minutes with the corrections. Greg seconded. The motion carried.

Financial Report

Greg went over the October financial report. There were a few additional expenses such as 3 pay periods, gift card purchases for pianist/organist. Al motioned to approve the October financial report. Linda seconded. The motion carried.

We discussed the new furnace. We did receive a donation from LCMC Men in Mission for the entire amount. Two additional anonymous donations were also received. We need to begin to save for future utility repairs as the other furnaces are the same age as the one that was just replaced. We discussed since we have more donations than the cost of the furnace repair, we need to repay part of the donation back to Men in Mission and half of the yearly donation to LCMC. Greg motioned to send $800 to Men in Mission and $300 for annual donation to LCMC. Linda seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Cindy and Ron will be on vacation from November 24-30.

Jared will cover the Hanging of the Greens Worship on November 30.

The Mosaic Worship on November 13 had approximately 140 in attendance.

January 10, 2026, several will meet to select hymns for the next several months. Anyone is welcome to attend the meeting to assist.

Sunday, November 23 we will be putting up the Christmas tree and the outdoor nativity.

January 11 will be installation of officers.

Mission and Outreach

We have a full cart of food for the Food Pantry this month. We may need to find someone else to deliver the food as Sau Man is now working full time.

Thank Offering will be accepted until December 6. This year the Thank offerings will be donated to the Food Pantry/Good Neighbors.

Jared mentioned that his Adult Transition students will not be helping at our church at this time.

Old/New Business

We need to get the Call/Transition Committee in place. Both Katrina and Riley have offered to be on the committee. Brenda and Lu have also offered. We could have 1-2 more on the committee.

We discussed that we sill need the Call/Transition Committee even if we do a Contract Call with Jared.

A background check will need to be done for Jared.

Ordination for Jared will be on Easter Sunday 2026

We need a Council President since Jared is moving in to the church leadership role. Several individuals were mentioned to possibly take the this position.

Pastor Cindy closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting will be December 18.

Submitted by Brenda Beaudette, Council Secretary

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Jan. 6 Warren Bennett
Jan. 22 Tammy Buckendahl
Jan. 25 Lucas Petersen, 18

NEW ADDRESS
Dean and Doris Hoffart
500 South 18th St. apt. 221
The Meadows, Norfolk

PASTORAL ACTS
Wedding of Katrina Lombard and Riley Ingebritson, Dec. 20, 2025

WORSHIP SERVANTS NEEDED IN ALL AREAS
Sign-up sheets are on the table at the back of the sanctuary; training will be provided.

FOOD PANTRY SUGGESTIONS
Cereal and breakfast items

THANK OFFERINGS
$286.19 to Good Neighbors

MID-WEEK ADVENT OFFERINGS
$256.05 to St. Vincent de Paul

November financial report

Income	$18,205.64	YTD	$141,408.26
Expenses	$20,760.19	YTD	$144,799.56
Net	-$2,554.55	YTD	-$3,391.30

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January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday school 9am Worship 10am * Communion				1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 630 Girl Scouts	3
4 Take down decora-tions	5 7 Bible study	6	7 6 Bible study	8	9	10 9 hymn selection
*11 Council installation Potluck	12 Pastor Cindy on vacation Jan. 12-20	13	14 Kathy vacation day	15 630 Council	16 630 Girl Scouts	17
18 Jared preaching	19	20 6 MOPS	21 6 Bible study	22	23	24
*25 Food Pantry	26 7 Bible study	27	28 6 Bible study	29	30	31

JANUARY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	GREETERS	USHERS	LECTOR	COMMUNION	FELLOWSHIP	OFFERINGS
4	Doug & Pat	Al Ron	Lu		Sau Man	Doug & Pat
11	Connie	Greg Doug	Greg	Linda Megan	Kathy	Charlie & Louise
18	Donna	Warren Al	Brenda		Sau Man	Doug & Pat
25	Al & Sharon	Ron Greg	Charlie	Sau Man Mary	Kathy	Charlie & Louise

Membership Care: Doris Hoffart Altar Guild: Lu Carter

If you are unable to serve when scheduled, please trade with someone