THE UNITER

United Lutheran Church Newsletter | Vol. 51 Issue No. 11 | November 2026

Join us for Worship in November at United Lutheran Church
Sunday Mornings at 10:15am | sanctuary

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP WITH US!
Sunday Mornings
Worship with Communion
10:15am | Sanctuary
Facebook Live
1310AM KNOX
****
Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
8am - 4pm

In this issue:

Sundays in November....pg. 1
Pastors Page……..pg. 2
Coffee & Devos…...…..pg. 2
Capital Campaign…...…...pg. 3
Prayer Vigil…… ..pg. 4
Packing Event....……...pg. 5
Bread Auction……....pg. 5
United in Serving….....pg. 6
Good Gifts…….pg. 6
Upcoming Concerts..….pg. 7
Celebrating our Joys…..pg. 7
Youth Education……pg. 8
2026 Confirmands…....pg. 9
Council Minutes……..pg. 10
Financial Summary…..pg. 11
Pastoral Acts/Memorials..pg. 12
Radio Broadcast……...pg. 12
Calendar……...pg. 13
Missional Narrative….pg. 14

We are a
Reconciling in Christ
Congregation



On all Saints Sunday, Nov. 1, 2026 we will remember with thanksgiving those members and friends of United who have died since last All Saints Sunday. There will also be the opportunity for all of us to light a candle in memory of the saints in our lives.

- **Nov. 1: All Saints Sunday** - Worship with Communion, Remembrance of the Saints, and special music by the Cathedral Choir, directed by Michael Marcotte, and Yen Lee Loh.
  Join us for a Prayer Vigil at 7pm in the sanctuary!
  Nov. 1 is also Daylight Savings - turn your clocks back!
- **Nov. 8: 24th Sunday after Pentecost -** Worship with Communion and special music by the Sing & Ring Choir, directed by Ruth Ann Tuseth, and Kathleen Thompson. Following worship, join us in the fellowship hall for our **Phoenix Packing Event** (pg. 5).
- **Nov. 15: 25th Sunday after Pentecost -** Worship with Communion and special music by Becky Vakoc and Ann Radi.
- **Nov. 22: Christ the King Sunday** - Worship with Communion and special music by the Cathedral Choir, directed by Michael Marcotte, and Yen Lee Loh. Following worship, join us in the fellowship hall for our annual **Bread Auction** (pg. 5).
- **Nov. 29: First Sunday in Advent** - Worship with Communion and the lighting of the first advent candle, with special music by Richard McGurran and Rebecca Heigaard McGurran, and Ann Radi.



Pastors Page

Greetings United Lutheran community,

It is so very good to be among you! A couple of things: First, as initial steps begin for United's Call Process to call your next settled pastor, a **Ministry Site Characteristics Survey is now available for members to complete in November**. The survey gives the United community an opportunity to share what kind of pastoral leadership you sense would fit well with you all. It also gives you all a time to indicate the kind of ministry tasks and strengths you would be looking for in your next settled pastor. This feedback will be given to the Council and will belong to the church. **Please turn in your survey by December 1, 2026**.

The survey will be available at the North and East entrances to the Sanctuary at United, where you can turn it in when completed. If you'd like one mailed to you, let us know. Should you have any questions, I am glad to receive them and answer them as best I can. This is an important first step in the Call Process for United!

Secondly, Thanksgiving will be here soon! Thanksgiving Day in the U.S. has roots in New England in the early 1620's. It grew from a commemoration of the year's harvest and blessing and now includes a civic time of national thankfulness and togetherness: food, folks, and soon-to-be prepping for Christmas…and football. We'll have time together as a worshipping community as well right before Thanksgiving.

Thankfulness is a significant part of Christian life. We're called to be thankful to God on more than one day in November or even a few weeks near the end of each calendar year.

Martin Luther's Morning Prayer, intended to be prayed as we wake each day, helps one thank God for protection during the night, and asks God for protection and presence throughout the day. I'm not as consistent at praying this prayer as I'd like to be. Some days I jump right into the day's activities. Still the prayer is near my bedside and on the door going into the big wide world. What I've come to notice is that this kind of gratitude prayer helps me to set my compass for the day. I pray it because it connects me with God and adjusts my spirit for the day ahead, whatever will occur that day. It's rather like spiritual eyeglasses. I offer it here for you:

"I give thanks to you, my heavenly Father through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected me this night from all harm and danger, and I ask that you would also protect me today from sin and every evil, so that my life and actions may please you, completely. For, into your hands, I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen." (Minister's Prayer Book: An Order of Prayers and Readings, Revised Edition, Timothy J Wengert, gen. ed., Fortress Press, 2020, 435.)

Peace to you all,

Pr. Rich



Coffee and Devos for November



Join as we continue the series:

Women of the Bible

Wednesdays, Nov. 11 and 18

10:30am | ULC Lounge

Living Love Forward: Capital Campaign

As we celebrate how God is moving through United Lutheran Church, we are excited to announce the launch of our **18-month capital campaign, "Living Love Forward," beginning November 1**.

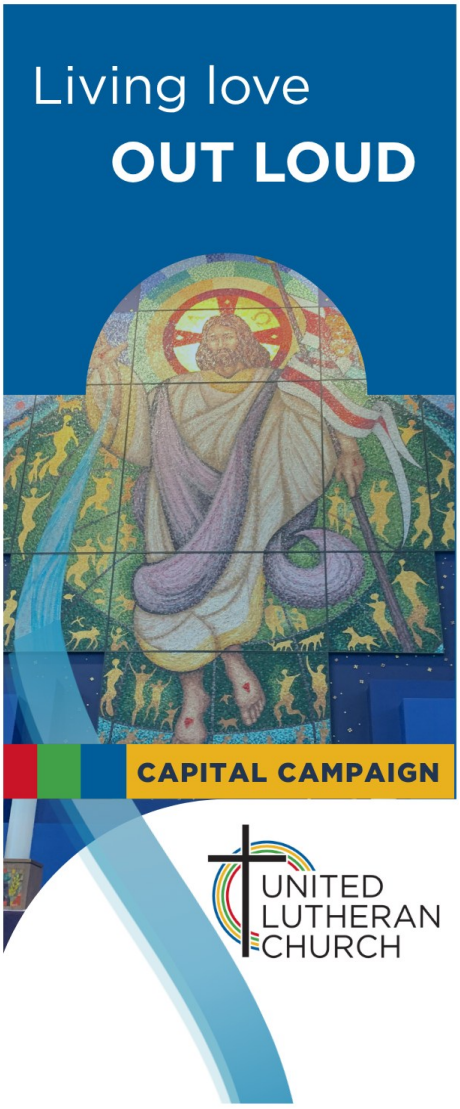
Building on our mission to live love out loud, this campaign seeks to raise $450,000 above and beyond our regular stewardship commitments to invest in three vital areas:

- **Campus Care (50%):** Addressing critical building repairs and exploring modifications for greater community use.
- **Day Facility Exploration (25%):** Investigating the possibility of offering weekday care and education within our walls.
- **Invitation (25%):** Enhancing our outreach so neighbors can more easily discover and connect with our community.

Important Dates:

- **Campaign Begins:** November 1
- **Commitment Sunday (Pledges Due):** November 22

Pledge cards will be mailed to your homes and are also available in the church office, at the sanctuary entrances, and on our website. These cards include a place to pledge both to our "Living Love Forward" capital campaign and to our annual stewardship (regular offering) for the coming year.
We invite you to dream with us, pray about your part in this journey, and submit your pledge cards by **November 22**. Together, let's carry faithfulness forward for generations to come!



New United Logo!

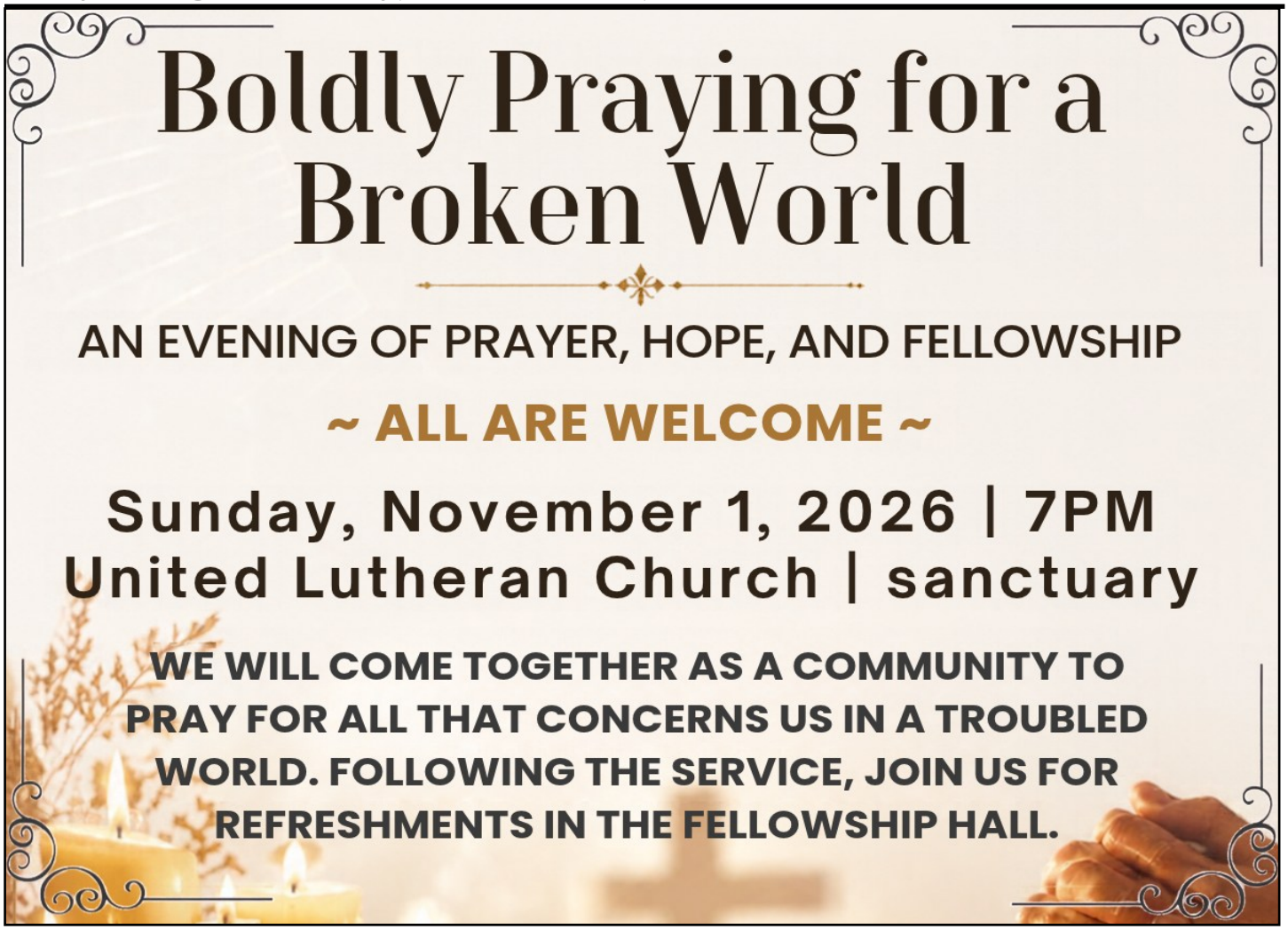
UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE VOTE FOR UNITED'S NEW LOGO! OPTION 2 IS THE WINNER.

We chose this design for the meaning behind its symbols. The circle surrounding the cross represents our belonging in Christ and reflects our commitment to being a truly welcoming congregation where people can find connection and community. The four colors in the circle are the colors of the ELCA, reminding us that United is part of a larger church.

This new logo brings a shared visual identity to the story of who we are, what we value, and how we live out our mission together.

Prayer Vigil: Sunday, November 1, 2026



Thanksgiving Together at Calvary Lutheran Church



Phoenix Packing Event



Bread Auction set for November 22!



United in Serving: Winter Quarter Begins

What is United in Serving?

United in Serving gives each member of United Lutheran Church the opportunity to step forward and be a part of assisting in the worship life of the congregation. Every Sunday morning, people are needed to serve the following roles: **Lector, Ushers, Communion Servers, and Coffee Hour hosts.**

What if it's not my assigned quarter? Can I still serve? Absolutely! If you like to read, enjoy ushering, find serving communion to be a meaningful experience, or find baking to share with others brings you joy – great! Even if it is not your assigned quarter, please check the sign up for the upcoming Sunday. If we're in need of worship assistants, your involvement and service is welcome at any time!

How do I volunteer?

For more information on where help is needed and to sign-up, go to https://signup.com/go/UyFBjVj which can be found at the QR code below or by checking out the binder located at the **United in Serving sign-up station** (see picture) located down the hall from the office. Here you can see what is needed the for the following weeks and sign-up. You are encouraged to check it out weekly and if you see a need, please sign-up to help where you can! Thank you!



Thank you to our Fall Volunteer Leaders!

Thank you to Ross & Lexy Hammer, Scott & Lana Beaton, and Donna Pearson for leading the charge for the fall quarter, and to all those who volunteered!

The Winter Quarter Volunteer Leaders are:

Rick & Linda Westby, Ken & Loretta Svedjan, Joel Walz & Hayley Svedjan-Walz, and Nick & Lanae Brown. If you have any questions about United in Serving, visit with any of the leaders or contact the church office.

Mark Your Calendars for the Good Gifts Christmas Fair: Dec 13

GOOD GIFTS
CHRISTMAS FAIR

Sunday, December 13, 2026

11:30am – 1pm | ULC Fellowship Hall

SHOP FOR GIFTS ONLINE DEC. 1-25, 2026
WWW.UNITEDGF.ORG

Please note: the Phoenix Angel Tree will be set up in the fellowship hall on Wednesday, Dec. 2. Watch for a list of needs to come. Deadline to drop off your gifts will be on Good Gifts Christmas Fair Sunday, December 13.

Upcoming Concerts at United Lutheran Church!





Celebrating Our Joys!





Youth Education in November

Breakfast Club – Family-style breakfast for everyone!

Meeting every other Sunday from 9am – 10am in the lounge unless otherwise noted.



- **Nov. 1** - No Breakfast Club
- **Nov. 8** - Breakfast Club meets/Christmas Program Practice
- **Nov. 15** - No Breakfast Club
- **Nov. 22** - Breakfast Club meets/Christmas Program Practice
- **Nov. 29** - No Breakfast Club

Faith Friends and Pizza meets Wednesdays at 6pm in the fellowship hall

- **Nov. 4** - Faith Friends meets/Christmas Program Practice
- **Nov. 11** - No Wednesday activities - Veterans Day
- **Nov. 18** - Faith Friends meets/Christmas Program Practice
- **Nov. 25** - No Wednesday activities - Thanksgiving Break - please attend Thanksgiving worship on Tuesday, Nov. 24 with your family

Confirmation meets Wednesdays at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall

- **Nov. 4** - Confirmation meets
- **Nov. 11** - No Wednesday activities - Veterans Day
- **Monday, Nov. 16** - Volunteer at Thanksgiving Together, 6pm at Calvary Lutheran Church
- **Nov. 18** - Confirmation meets
- **Nov. 25** - No Wednesday activities - Thanksgiving Break - please attend Thanksgiving worship on Tuesday, Nov. 24 with your family

Breakfast Club and Faith Friends





Children's Christmas Program Practices



The Christmas Cupcake will be presented during the 10:15am worship on Sunday, Dec. 20th!



The Yum Yum food network has selected 4 contestants from our Christmas program to bake their cutest Christmas Cupcakes for prizes! But conflicts arise, and the real Christmas story gets pushed to the back burner.

Come help us tell the Story!

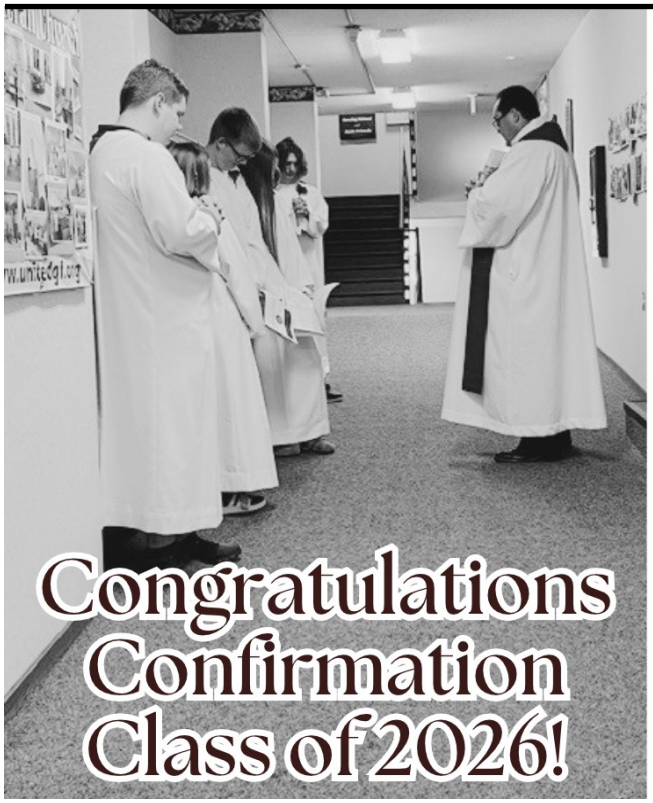
Preschool through 5th grade

NOVEMBER REHEARSAL TIMES

Sundays at Breakfast Club: Nov 8 and 22

Wednesdays at Faith Friends: Nov 4 and 18

Congratulations to Our Confirmands!



Congratulations to the United Lutheran Confirmation Class of 2026 who were confirmed on Sunday, Oct. 25!

Logan Feist, Jonah Helseth, Zoey Lafferty, Ava Styles, Max Styles, Tenley Suedel, and Jaxon Wilson



ULC Council Meeting Minutes from September 22, 2026

Present: Ross Hammer, Shannon Hjelseth, Cathy Williams, Nancy Hughes, Joel Walz, Becky Vakoc, and Lucas Kindseth
Staff Present: Pastor Rich Kramer

1. Opening Prayer: An opening reflection was offered by Pastor Rich Kramer.

2. Meeting called to Order: President Ross Hammer called the meeting to order.

3. Approval of the Agenda: A Motion to approve the Agenda was made and seconded. **MSC**

4. Approval of Minutes of August 18, 2026: A Motion was made to approve the minutes from the August 18, 2026, Council meeting. The motion was seconded. **MSC**

5. Old Business:

A. Ministry Chair Roles/Responsibilities: Ross Hammer provided a recap of last month's information and discussion about the roles and responsibilities. There were no questions or requests for further information indicated.

B. Capital Campaign:

i. Leadership Meeting: Preparations for the Leadership meeting/meal that will be held on October 4th were discussed. Letters have gone out and should have/will be arriving.

i. Logo: The options for a new Logo have been provided to the congregation for opinion. There were 76 people who expressed an opinion. One of the options was preferred by approximately two thirds and it was agreed that we would go forward with incorporating this design into United's communions and media going forward.

C. Youth Director Position: The positions for a Youth and Family Director and alternatively for a hybrid Youth and Family Director/Daycare Director have been posted on Synod website. Lucas will be posting these positions on some alternative sites. There was one applicant for the Youth Director position last week.

D. Shalom Endowment Account: There will be a withdrawal from the account tomorrow that will bring the balance down to $32,700 (approx.). Becky is looking at other options/opportunities for funding once the Shalom account is gone.

E. Radio Broadcast: Nancy Hughes reported that the weekly cost of the weekly radio broadcast is $178. The cost has not increased since 2012, when there was a decrease in the weekly cost. Council agreed that the radio broadcast is not having the impact that we would hope for. There are other platforms available for little or no cost. Despite the longevity of the broadcast, it was agreed that continuing the radio broadcasts is no longer a responsible use of United's resources. There are funds left in the Suby Radio Endowment and there will need to be communication with the Foundation as to what should properly happen with these funds if there is no longer a radio broadcast. There was discussion about ending the broadcasts immediately or ending the at the end of the year. It was moved that mindful of the history and tradition associated with the United Lutheran's radio broadcast, the final broadcast will be Sunday, December 27, 2026. The motion was seconded. **MSC**

6. New Business:

A. Budget Worksheet:

i. November 1st Deadline To Approve At November Council Meeting: The proposed ministry budgets had been distributed and were briefly reviewed. Lucas Kindseth, Ross Hammer and Becky Vokoc are available to assist ministries next years requests are considered.

B. UDN Playground

i. Phoenix Inquired About Using: Phoenix Elementary has approached United about using the daycare playground. It was indicated that Phoenix would pay for the use. Ross Hammer indicated that Executive Committee discussed the request at its last meeting where concerns about assuming liability, increased insurance costs and costs associated with the use of the equipment were raised. Members of Council suggested that it could be something that could be beneficial to the Church in terms of income. The matter will be forwarded to the Property Ministry. Ross will ask Brian Strom to review this and bring more information about cost/benefits back to Council.

C. Pr. Rich's Time:

- Pastor Rich shared that there are 30-40 confirmation students that began classes last week. Lay leaders are leading the Sunday morning and Wednesday evening education programing. Breakfast Club will be held every other Sunday morning, and Faith Friends & Pizza will be Wednesday evenings.
- Pastor Rich has presided at 8 funerals in past 6 weeks. He observed that United should be proud that we are very impactful for people when they come here in times of need.
- It was observed that Pastor Rich's contract with United will expire in October. He is ready and willing to extend that contract for another term, even though the full year may not be needed.

7. Treasurer's Report: Becky Vakoc reviewed the Treasurers Report attached. The report shows a monthly surplus of $22,362.94. There were not out of the ordinary expenses or incomes during the month. The surplus is the result of the timing of invoices received and payments made.

8. Sharing & Thanksgiving

- Becky Vokoc is grateful for Council's willingness to have meaningful discussions about difficult topics. It's this ability to disagree in respectful and mindful ways will allow facilitate Councils ability to make well reasonable decisions.
- Pastor Rich shared "Way To Go!" with Summer Lunches and Party on the Blacktop. He said that these events were amazing to see and experience. United should be very proud of what we have created and nurtured.
- Cathy Williams is very grateful for all who volunteered to participate in hosting the Mission BBQ earlier this month.
- Lucas Kindseth shared that Silje and Aria Kindseth supported United Lutheran's participation at the Pride in the Park event held last Saturday. The event was great!
- Pastor Rich shared a child's observation during last Sunday's service that "there are no smarty-pants in heaven."

Financial Summary as of September 2026

Income/Expense Statement

	Sept 2026 Actuals	Sept 2026 Budget	Sept 2025 Actuals	2026 YTD Actuals	% OF BUDGET YTD	2026 Annual Budget
Income:						
Regular Offering	17,656.62	30,416.67	29,063.58	202,862.61	56%	365,000.00
Other Receipts	2,289.90	10,375.00	5,064.93	20,227.72	16%	124,500.00
Restricted Contributions***	39,012.55	17,060.25	26,903.85	256,106.53	125%	204,723.00
TOTAL	**58,959.07**	**57,851.92**	**61,032.36**	**479,196.86**	**69%**	**694,223.00**
Expenses:						
Administrative Ministry	2,999.84	2,916.67	1,747.82	36,790.12	105%	35,000.00
Generosity Ministry	0.00	116.67	0.00	0.00	0%	1,400.00
Evangelism & Congregational Care	3,246.46	2,547.92	1,837.49	19,779.98	65%	30,575.00
Community Outreach Ministry	2,698.81	1,718.75	1,000.00	15,313.47	74%	20,625.00
Physical Property Ministry	9,045.06	16,091.67	14,783.25	146,982.20	76%	193,100.00
Staff Support Ministry	25,148.74	32,739.42	33,480.26	285,361.12	73%	392,873.00
Youth, Family & Education Ministry	635.50	1,720.83	0.00	13,873.84	67%	20,650.00
TOTAL	**43,774.41**	**57,851.92**	**52,848.82**	**518,100.73**	**75%**	**694,223.00**
Surplus / Short fall	**15,184.66**	**0.00**	**8,183.54**	**-38,903.87**		**0.00**
***** Shalom transfers**	36,476.55		23,832.85	210,706.05		

Balance Sheet - General Fund Cash Assets

Assets:	
Checking Account	42,814.10
Thrivent Investment Acct - Restricted	29,276.00
TOTAL	**72,090.10**
Liabilities:	
Payroll Taxes	2,677.40
Accounts Payable	8,723.88
Dedicated/Restricted Funds	158,005.26
TOTAL	**169,406.54**
Fund Balance Operating	**-97,316.44**

SBA Loan	
Beginning Loan Amount	480,000.00
Principal balance as of September 2026	21,776.64
Total Principal and Interest paid since origination	789,336.00
Monthly Principal and Interest payment	2,308.00

- Evangelism and Congregational Care includes an increase in funeral luncheon costs and remaining expenditures for the Party on the Blacktop.
- Community Outreach includes our annual contribution to the GF Mission and expenditures for the Mission BBQ.
- Administrative includes Kairos and Associates (Jeff, our consultant) costs in Professional Services.

Becky Vakoc,
ULC Treasurer

Memorials and Gifts

UNDESIGNATED

In Memory of Cliff Busch (of Arizona) by Jon & Carol Campbell

In Memory of Joel Berg by Rodney & Marlys Kjellberg

In Memory of Jerry Rolland by Chuck & Linnea Griffin, Jack & Cindy Deo, Lorie & John French, Scott Skavlem, Donn & Linda Satrom, Larry Satrom, Carol Christiansen, Mick & Vicki Trepanier, Cheryl Malm, Judy Hams, Dave & Peggy Jeffrey, Lois & Lanny Moore, Casey & Marla Moore Spies, Kelli Schmiess, Doug Johnson, Phil & Bonnie Ask, Stan & Joann Miller and family, Paulette Swartz and Tera Vanyo, Greg Peterson and family, Ted Hauser and family, Denise Enger, Mary Backmeier, Ruth & Robert Turner, Megan & Dan Pflepsen, Jana & Jeremiah Danel, Debbie Passa and family, Gwen Ellen Morgal Henrich, Perry & Denise Garske, Janelle Hansen, Emily & Forrest Nielsen, Jon & Carol Campbell, Dennis & Kay Larson, Rick & Linda Westby

In Honor of Christine Barta by Duane Nelson

RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORSHIP

October 4, 2026 given in honor of Christine Barta on her 20th Work Anniversary at United

October 11, 2026 given in memory of Marlys & Mel Rosholt by Judy Hams

October 18, 2026 given in memory of Mary Rosholt by Judy Hams

October 25, 2026 given anonymously

Pastoral Acts



Weddings

Zachary Tomczik and Trevor Weiland
October 10, 2026



Baptisms

William Lyle Demester
October 25, 2026

thrivent®

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

As a member of Thrivent, you can add a gift to United. It is as easy as designating your quarterly Thrivent Choice Dollars to United Lutheran Church.

You can direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars by calling Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836 or online at www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Reach out to your Thrivent representative with any questions.

Radio Broadcast Update

After careful consideration and due to financial constraints, it is with heavy hearts that the ULC Council has made the difficult decision to end the radio broadcast of our Sunday morning worship services, effective at the end of this year, December 31, 2026. **The final radio broadcast of our Sunday morning worship will air on 1310AM KNOX Sunday, December 27, 2026.**

We will continue to livestream our worship service on Facebook and offer the recorded service on United's YouTube channel. If you haven't already, please be sure to follow us on **Facebook at *United Lutheran Church in Grand Forks - ELCA*** and subscribe to our **YouTube channel at *United Lutheran Church in Grand Forks, ND*.** Please contact the church office for any assistance.

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **All Saint's Sunday** **Daylight Savings ends** **10:15am-Worship with Holy Communion (SA, Facebook LIVE or 1310AM KNOX Radio)** **11:15am - Coffee Fellowship (FH)** **7:00pm - Prayer Vigil: Boldly Praying for a Broken World (SA/FH)**	2 **1:00pm - PEO (LG)**	3 **9:00am - Quilting (FH)** **11:00am - Staff Meeting (106)**	4 **5:15pm - Sing & Ring (CR)** **6:00pm - Faith Friends and Pizza (FH/Upper Level)** **7:00pm - Confirmation (FH)** **7:00pm - Cathedral Choir (CR)**	5	6 **Office Closed**	7
8 **Phoenix Packing Event** **9:00am - Breakfast Club (LG)** **10:15am-Worship with Holy Communion (SA, Facebook LIVE or 1310AM KNOX Radio)** **11:15am - Coffee Fellowship/Packing Event (FH)**	9	10 **9:00am - Quilting (FH)** **11:00am - Staff Meeting (106)**	11 *Veterans Day.* *No regular evening activities.* **10:30am - Coffee & Devos (LG)**	12 **7:30pm - Great Plains Harmony Concert (SA)**	13 **Office Closed**	14
15 **10:15am-Worship with Holy Communion (SA, Facebook LIVE or 1310AM KNOX Radio)** **11:15am - Coffee Fellowship (FH)** **7:00pm - Classic Swing Band Concert (SA)**	16 **1:00pm - PEO (LG)** **6:00pm-Thanksgiving Together (Calvary Lutheran)**	17 **9:00am - Quilting (FH)** **11:00am - Staff Meeting (106)** **12:00pm - Community Outreach Ministry (RM 106)** **5:30pm - ULC Council Meeting (LG)**	18 **10:30am - Coffee & Devos (LG)** **5:15pm - Sing & Ring (CR)** **6:00pm - Faith Friends and Pizza (FH/Upper Level)** **7:00pm - Confirmation (FH)** **7:00pm - Cathedral Choir (CR)**	19	20 **Office Closed**	21
22 **Christ the King Sunday** **Bread Auction** **9:00am - Breakfast Club (LG)** **10:15am-Worship with Holy Communion (SA, Facebook LIVE or 1310AM KNOX Radio)** **11:15am - Coffee Fellowship/Bread Auction (FH)**	23	24 **9:00am - Quilting (FH)** **11:00am - Staff Meeting (106)** **7:00pm - Thanksgiving Worship (SA)**	25 *Thanksgiving Break.* *No regular activities.*	26 **Happy Thanksgiving** **Office Closed** 	27 **Office Closed**	28
29 **First Sunday of Advent** **10:15am-Worship with Holy Communion (SA, Facebook LIVE or 1310AM KNOX Radio)** **11:15am - Coffee Fellowship (FH)**	30					

SA: Sanctuary; **LG:** Lounge located on the lower level; **FH:** Fellowship Hall located on the lower level; **RM 106:** Room 106 located down the hall from the office; **LB:** Library located at the end of the hall opposite the office; **CR:** Choir Room located on the upper level; **YR:** Youth Room located on the upper level; **PL:** Parking lot *All events subject to change.*

United Lutheran Church
324 Chestnut Street
Grand Forks, ND 58201
Phone: 775-4279
Website: www.unitedgf.org
Email: reception@unitedgf.org

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Interim Pastor: Pr. Rich Kramer
Church Secretary: Christine Barta
Bookkeeper: Becky Knutson
Council President: Ross Hammer
Custodian: Darren Lee
Music Ministries Coordinator: Gretchen Kindseth
Cathedral Choir Director: Michael Marcotte
Sing & Ring Director: Ruth Ann Tuseth

DONATE ONLINE!

To make an online donation to United Lutheran Church now, please scan the QR code above.

Like us on facebook at United Lutheran Church in Grand Forks, ND

Loved by God. United in Christ. Living Love Out Loud.

United Lutheran Church Missional Narrative

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH
LIVING LOVE OUT LOUD

OUR CALLING

Because Jesus calls us into love that restores, shows up, and is lived out loud.
We are grounded in the truth that we are already loved by God. From that love flows hope - hope for restoration, healing, and new life in a world longing for wholeness. We believe the Gospel is not meant to be quiet or contained, but embodied through lives shaped by grace, courage, and compassion.
Because God's love shapes and moves us, we have something to offer: hope where there is despair, love where there is division, and presence where voices have gone unheard. Following Jesus calls us into God's ongoing work of restoration by loving our neighbors, standing with the vulnerable, and choosing unity over separation.

OUR POSTURE

We embody this calling through love that restores, draws us together, and is lived out loud.
Shaped by Christ, we seek to be a genuinely welcoming community where each person is received as they are and where belonging is practiced. We remain attentive to the realities of our world and to the lived experiences of our neighbors—creating space where those who have felt overlooked are recognized and drawn into community, and where all are invited into authentic connection and shared growth.
Rooted in God's love, we intentionally cultivate relationships within our walls and beyond them, trusting that faith, healing, and restoration grow when people are present for one another. We do not seek to erase difference, but to honor it, engaging one another with grace and honesty and believing unity deepens when people are seen, valued, and loved in their fullness.
Living love out loud requires courage. We are willing to take faithful risks, remain flexible, and adapt as needs emerge—trusting that the Spirit continues to guide us toward wholeness, reconciliation, and hope.

OUR WELCOME

United Lutheran Church embraces the gift of God's love for all creation. We rejoice in the way diversity informs, nurtures, and enriches the life and ministry we share. In a world that is often unloving, we are called by the Gospel to be workers for justice, peace, and healing. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we welcome all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, physical and mental abilities, educational levels, family configurations, and economic realities. We commit to the ongoing work of Jesus' welcome for all.