

THE MESSENGER

Arendahl | Grace | North Prairie | Pilot Mound

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES: That we at United Lutheran Parish may be open to God's will, strength and healing for...

- **Health:** Laura Eide (wife of Gary Eide), Judy Graham, Wayne Haug, Emily Charlebois, Sandy Thompson, Karolyn Boyum, Michele Pelz, Val Haseleiet, Pat Mattson, Wanda Gathje...
- **On Going Health Concerns:** Tom Haugstad, Dean McConochie (lives in California), Janine Lange...
- **Homebound:** Arlene Holtegaard
- **Assisted Living and Care Centers:** Marlow Boyum, Harold and Arlene Jensen, Sandy Thompson...
- **Our Military:** Tom Moen, Dustin Willcox (grandson of Bob & Ardis Willcox), Dakota Winkelman (nephew of Tom & Deb Haugstad) and their families.



Congregational Annual Reports are due!



“Do Not Be Afraid...”

The angel Gabriel spoke these words, “Do not be afraid,” to Mary upon her hearing that she was with child. How many time have you heard or spoken these words? Perhaps these words were spoken to you as you prepare to board a roller coaster ride or the Tower of Terror at Walt Disney World, or maybe, as you boarded an airplane for the first time. There are plenty of things for us to be afraid of in our current world—we find ourselves unable to live on our income with rising costs of food prices, rent, utilities, and the list goes on. A few weeks ago a neighbor, who is on fixed income, shared his struggle with the increasing food prices in our area. He is not alone in his struggle. Food shelves are seeing an increasing number of people filling out forms for food assistance in our county and surrounding counties of Minnesota.

Other fears may be loss of job, loss of love or a new found love, afraid of death, loss of memory, diminished physical capabilities, and the list goes on.

As a child I recall being afraid of the “boogey man” that dwelled under my bed. Once the lights went off I would scramble to my bed and did not want to place my feet on the floor again til daylight. And I always made sure that my feet were covered with the bed sheet for fear the “boogey man” would grab them and pull me down. *continued on next page*

Pastor Sarah's at "Dusk" ZOOM
BOOK CLUB LIST **2026**

Thursday, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

1/22 - **The Women**, Kristin Hannah

2/26 - **Raising Hare**, Chloe Dalton

3/26 - **The Latehomecomer (A Hmong Family Memoir)**, Kao Kalia Yang

4/23 - **The Man Who Sold America**, Jo-Ann Reid

5/28 - **My Friends**, Fredrik Backman

6/25 - **The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store**, James McBride

7/ 23 - **Falling Upward**, Richard Rohr

8/27 - **Endling**, Maria Reva

9/24 - **Twice**, Mitch Albom

10/ 22 - **The Storyteller's Death**, Ann Davila Cardinal

11/19 - **The Director**, Daniel Kehlmann

12/17 - **Secret of Secrets**, Dan Brown



There are some fears that are justified, or order to protect us. For instance, you do not swim in a Florida pond because that is where alligators and snakes reside. Chances are you would not come out alive. And when you drive the back roads of the hills of Appalachia you would not want to drive too close to the outside edge of the hill because your car or motorcycle may very well drop off the precipice. And in the region of southeastern Minnesota it would be reaching the crest of the hill or a bend on the road braking to avoid a collision with a deer, stray livestock, or a combine.

Throughout the Scriptures God tells his children *"Do not be afraid."* God knows all too well how we become slaves to our fears. Being a slave to our fears is a state of not being able to move forward, and yet, that is what God calls us to do—to move and to take action. What we do with our fears speaks volumes of our faith.

Mary and Joseph embraced the mission that they were given with faith. They could not explain to others how it could be that she, a virgin, was bearing a child—God's only Son. Mary and Joseph knew that they were not alone, but that God was right beside them on their journey. Because of their faith they were able to move forward with courage and boldness into unknown territory.

Let us together with faith, journey forward with action remembering that we do not journey alone, but that Jesus is indeed walking with us!

Merry Christmas and a Blest New Year!

In Christ's Love, Pastor Sarah

UNITED LUTHERAN PARISH
Sunday, November 9, 2025 11:30 am
Arendahl Lutheran Church

Members present: Paul Boyum (Arendahl President/ULP Council President), Dana Knudsen, (A); Doris Horsman, Sonia McCabe (Pilot Mound President), (PM); Brad Gorder, Allan Kingsbury (Grace President), (G); Diane Drinkall (North Prairie President/ULP Council Secretary), Brent Olson, (NP); Pastor Sarah Walker Brown. Absent: Keith Agrimson (A), Tim Hallum (G), Anita Brown (NP), Steve Erickson (PM).

President Paul Boyum called the meeting to order at 11:25 am.

The secretary's report had been previously approved via email/text.

There were no comments regarding the treasurer's reports.

The first order of business was the salary review for Pastor Sarah. Following a brief discussion a motion to approve a 4% increase effective January, 2026 was made by Allan Kingsbury. Brent Olson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The 2026 ULP church calendar was reviewed. No corrections or additions were made at this time.

Pastor's notes: Pastor Sarah attended an Alzheimer's workshop in Lanesboro. Pastor has also taken the Confirmation class on two educational outings with a couple more planned. Zoom confirmation classes are being held and service projects are being developed. Confirmands are also asked to read lessons, assist with offering, etc as part of the Confirmation requirements.

Allan brought up the bulk mailing permit which is due the end of the year. It was decided to not renew as the majority of the monthly newsletters are now emailed. Allan will get the permit cancelled.

The council looked over the events listed through January. There will not be a Thanksgiving Day service. Christmas Eve services will remain the same as previous years – Grace at 4:00 pm, Pilot Mound at 5:30 pm. No service is scheduled for Christmas Day. Regular services on Sunday, Dec 28th will be at Pilot Mound/North Prairie. Congregational annual meetings are scheduled for: January 4 – Arendahl, January 18 - Grace, January 25 – Pilot Mound and North Prairie.

Pastor Sarah will be out of town from Sunday, November 23 to Sunday, November 30.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Feb 8, 2026 at North Prairie following worship at 11:30 am with election of 2026 officers.

A motion to adjourn was made by Allan, seconded by Sonia McCabe. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Drinkall, Secretary



Next month's newsletter "The Messenger" will be a combined January-February issue. Please have your newsletter items turned into: unitedlutheran@yahoo.com by December 17th.

UNITED LUTHERAN PARISH Congregations

2025 Annual Meetings following worship services:

Arendahl – January 4

Grace -- Sunday, January 18

Pilot Mound – Sunday, January 25

North Prairie – Sunday, January 25

Please have your reports submitted to the secretaries as soon as possible!



AS WE CONTINUE TO KEEP OUR MEMBERSHIP LISTS CURRENT, PLEASE CONTACT US WITH ADDRESS CHANGES or if you are a member of another church or do not wish to remain a member at Arendahl, Grace, North Prairie or Pilot Mound, let us know so your name can be removed from the membership and mailing address lists.



You can contact our church secretaries:

Linda Kingsbury at secretaryglc@goacentek.net or leave a message at Grace (and Arendahl) Lutheran Church office – 507-875-2218 or

Sheri Holtegaard at holte@acegroup.cc or leave a message at North Prairie (and Pilot Mound) Lutheran Church office – 507-875-2460.

Thank you in advance for helping to keep the memberships at United Lutheran Parish up-to-date!

CHRISTMAS at ARENDAHL
Sunday, December 7th
10:30 a.m.
Arendahl Lutheran Church

All are welcome and invited to a special service, Christmas at Arendahl, on December 7 at 10:30. There will be music by HWY 30 during the service and an opportunity to sing some of your favorite hymns and carols of the season. After the service, a delicious meal will be served downstairs.

All are welcome!



“HWY 30” -- Pictured L – R: Willa Holger, Keith Agrimson, Beth Vitse, JoAnne Agrimson, Barb Morrison



**Children's
Christmas Program**

**ARENDAHL/NORTH PRAIRIE SUNDAY SCHOOL
 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**
 SUNDAY DECEMBER 14 at 10:30 AM
 AT NORTH PRAIRIE

**GRACE SUNDAY SCHOOL
 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**
 SUNDAY DECEMBER 21 at 9:00 AM

**PILOT MOUND SUNDAY SCHOOL
 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**
 SUNDAY DECEMBER 28 at 9:00 AM

North Prairie WELCA Announcements for DECEMBER, 2025

***Thursday, December 11th** -- Drop off and pack items for Holiday Bake Sale; "Pre-Orders" Bake Sale for ULP members and pre-order pick-up, 2:00-4:00 pm

***Friday, December 12th** -- 34th Annual HOLIDAY BAKE SALE at Sterling Drug Lobby, Rushford --- 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (or gone)

***Monday, December 15th** -- 10:00 am WELCA meets to allocate funds for the year.



STEWARDSHIP GOALS:

Mission Quilts (locally and LWR) and School Kits (LWR)

PARAMENTS for Sep/Oct/Nov/Dec: Eileen Koljord, Lynne Clarke

BULLETIN BOARD for Sep/Oct/Nov/Dec: Circle # 3

BOOKS CLOSE – DECEMBER 14th.....If you haven't been able to participate in WELCA during the year, please consider giving a donation in support of our "Women's Ministry". Donations can be sent to North Prairie Lutheran Church, or given Gayle Burdick, WELCA Treasurer or Diane Drinkall, WELCA President

Upcoming events for WELCA include:

December 11th (Thursday): Drop off your bake sale items at church between 1-4 pm. (Contact Diane if the scheduled drop off time is not convenient for you, we will figure a different time). Pre-Orders will be ready for pickup from 2:00 – 4:00 pm.

December 12th (FRIDAY): Holiday Bake Sale fundraiser at Sterling Drug Lobby, Rushford from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (or gone)

December 15th (Monday): 10:00 am NP WELCA Allocation of Funds

Please add these dates to your calendar. Your participation makes for a great opportunity to volunteer and support the work of our Women of the ELCA at North Prairie.

EVERYONE is encouraged to participate by providing bake sale items and/or working at the bake sale event. If you have questions and/or can help, contact President Diane at 507-875-2339 or dedrinkall@hotmail.com .





“Pre-Order” CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

NORTH PRAIRIE WELCA will be taking orders for your holiday entertaining and enjoyment. We are taking orders for:

**Rommegrot, Sweet Soup,
Krumkaka, Rosettes and Sandbakkelsers**

**ORDERS CAN BE PLACED BY calling: 507.875.2339
by Friday, December 6th, 2024**

Orders will be available for
PICKUP on Thursday, December 12th from 2:00-4:00 pm
at North Prairie Lutheran Church, 35957 State Hwy 30, Lanesboro, MN.

**ULP members are welcome to come Thursday
and purchase items. Pre-orders for
Norwegian items preferred.**

2025 – 35th Annual
HOLIDAY BAKE SALE

9:00 am – 2:00 pm (or gone)
Sterling Drug Lobby, Rushford

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12th

Lefse -- Flatbread
Sweet Soup – Rommegrot
Norwegian Baking

Decorated Christmas
& Holiday Cookies
**Plus other goodies



We are also taking **PRE-ORDERS** for
**Rommegrot, Sweet Soup,
Krumkaka, Rosettes, and Sandbakkelsers**

ORDERS CAN BE PLACED BY calling: 507.875.2339
by Friday, December 5th.

Orders will be available for
PICKUP on Thursday, December 11th
from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
at North Prairie Lutheran Church
35957 State Hwy 30, Lanesboro, MN

TO: NORTH PRAIRIE WOMEN.....
35th Annual Christmas Bake Sale

NORTH PRAIRIE WELCA will be holding a "Christmas Holiday" bake sale on Friday, December 12th in the lobby of Sterling Drug, Rushford from 9 am – 2 pm (or gone).



We are looking for **YOUR** favorite holiday bakings, including decorated cookies, breads, candies, and Norwegian pastries – Spritz, Krumkaka, Sandbakkelsers, Rosettes, Lefse, etc.

If you have questions, feel free to call Diane at 875-2339.

PLEASE BRING your unwrapped items to the church on Thursday, December 11th
from 1-4 pm OR call to make other arrangements.

GRACE WELCA – DECEMBER 2025

WELCA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 7th 2:00PM

Grace Welca Christmas Party: Potluck, Attendees please bring a dish to share, any tasty tidbit will do. Also, bring a gift to exchange(valued around \$10.00)

Christmas in Peterson: Sat. Dec.13th 10-3 p Members bring Christmas baking to sell



Peterson, MN

Christmas in Peterson

Presented by Friends of Peterson

**Dec.
13**
10AM-3PM

For more information on upcoming events, visit petersonmn.com



Shop. Eat. Create.

Enjoy a fun-filled day of holiday activities for the entire family

- * Scandinavian treats
- * Shop handcrafted items + gifts
- * Bake sales
- * Horse-drawn wagon rides
- * Holiday music
- * Gingerbread Village

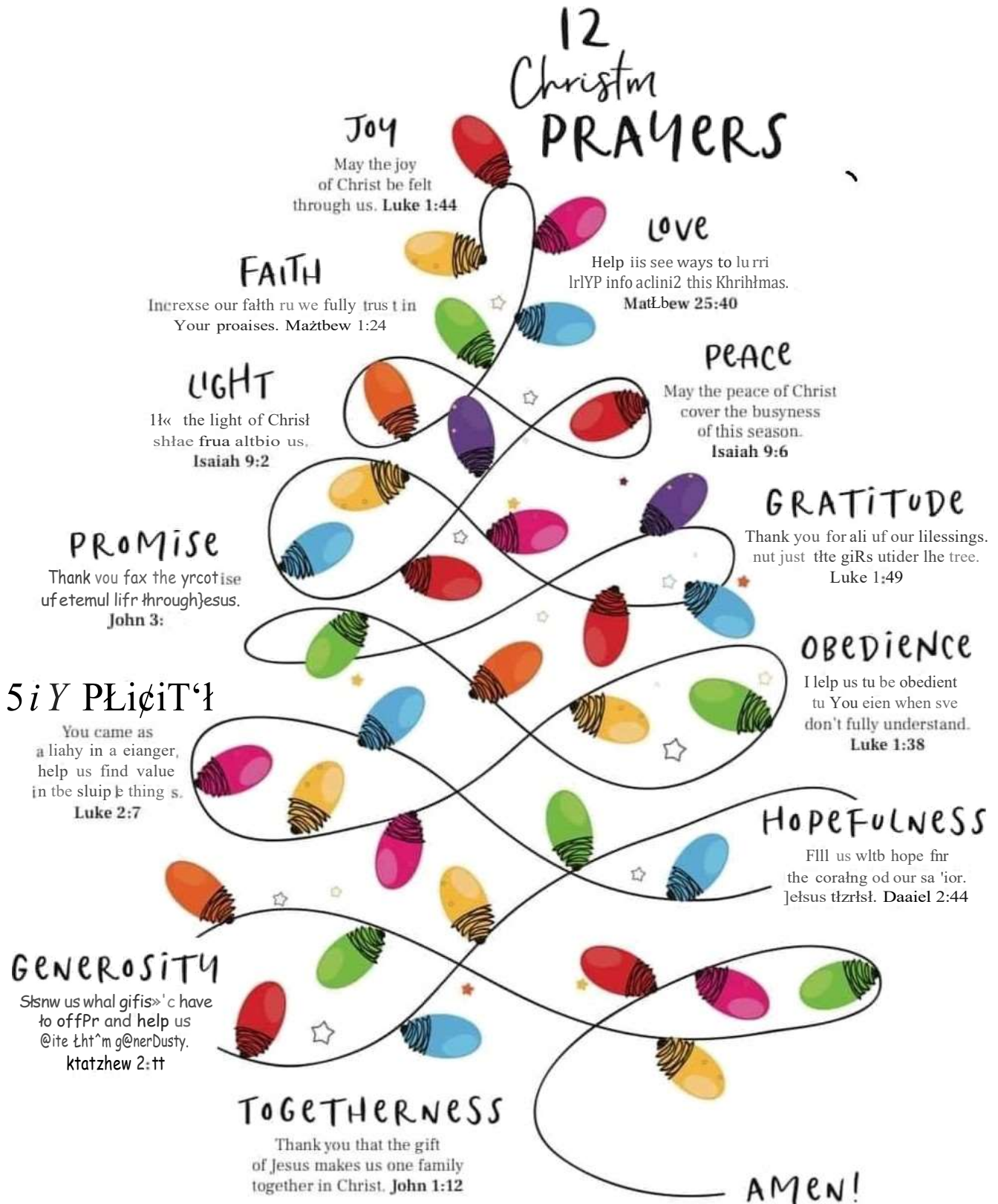
Kids' ACTIVITIES

Kids' activities for all ages at City Hall

10:00-10:45AM **Storytelling puppets with Bonnie**
& 10:45-11:30AM

12:00-2:00PM **Little Elves Workshop & Santa**

2:00-3:00PM **Santa & Mrs. Claus in his sleigh at the bandstand**





Mayo Clinic Hospice

Hospice adult grief support groups

Available for either in-person or online Zoom attendance

Are you or someone you know grieving? Consider participating in an upcoming six week in-person or online Zoom grief group. These groups provide a safe way to connect with other people who are grieving, to be understood, and to share needs, concerns and feelings.

Grief Group participants **must be at least three months to three years** into their journey with grief after the death of their loved one.

Winter 2026: Week of January 19th - Week of February 23rd
(Make up session held the week of March 2nd)

AUSTIN

First Congregational Church
1910 3rd Ave NW
Austin, MN 55912

Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30pm
CST (time zone)

ROCHESTER

Mayo Clinic Hospice Office
4115 W Frontage Rd
Rochester, MN 55901

Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
CST (time zone)

Thursdays, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
CST (time zone)

RED WING

Seminary Professional Building
906 College Ave
Red Wing, MN 55066

Thursdays, 10:30a.m.-12:00p.m.
CST (time zone)

ONLINE ZOOM*

Tuesdays, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
CST (time zone)

*To attend via Zoom you will need:

- Access to a computer with internet access, microphone and camera
- A private place without other people present because the conversations during grief groups are to be kept confidential
- An email address for receiving materials and the Zoom link



DETAILS

To register for a group, please contact us or use the QR code below:

(507) 284-4002

(800) 679-9084 (toll-free)

rsthospicebereavement@mayo.edu



Registration closes December 12, 2025

If a group meeting needs to be canceled due to unforeseen circumstances, a make-up session will be held the week of March 2nd.

Health and Safety, (COVID, transmissible illnesses)

For the health and safety of yourself and others during in-person attendance, we ask that you follow current Mayo recommendations.

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FOOD SHELVES

Food Shelf



Children and families still need our support and donations. We have a cart located in the entryway of North Prairie church. Whatever you donate, whether it be just one item or several, we can make a difference in the lives of many.

Please join us in doing what we can to make sure families in need don't go to bed hungry. Items will be delivered at the end of each month to the local food shelf.

Cash Donations to local food shelves are encouraged at this time. Checks can be mailed to:
SEMCAC Rushford Food Shelf 113 E Jessie St, PO Box 549 Rushford MN 55971 (OR a local food shelf where you live).
NP WELCA

**CANCELLATION OR
POSTPONEMENT of
Worship services, meetings
or events will be posted on
KTTC TV as “United
Lutheran Parish” and also
on Facebook pages:**



**Grace Lutheran Church or
North Prairie Lutheran Church.**





UNITED LUTHERAN PARISH

Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

ARENDAHL

Birthdays

01-Jessica Boyum
02-Shari Boyum
06-Rachel Boyum
07-Jay Morrison
16-Megan Boyum

Anniversaries

18-Jay & Barb Morrison

GRACE

Birthdays

02-Tammy Mathison
03-Jessica Vande Zande
04-Mike Agrimson
05-Jenny Kahoun
07-Janette Vande Zande
08-Sandy Thompson
09-Aaron Lee
09-Susie Norby
09-Tom Paulson
10-Chris Grindland
14-Terri Mathison
15-Joanne Pederson
17-Cindy Grindland
17-Stanley Thompson
19-Domanick Corcoran
19-Lynda Gorder
19-Ardell Lee
20-Jessica Howe
23-Cindy Byer
23-Nikki Hegland
26-Brandon Benson
27-Ryan Graham
28-Wendy Jenkins
30-McKinley Holien
31-Wuanita Carter

Anniversaries

10-Josh & Sally Poepping
23-Wayne & Valerie Hasleiet

NORTH PRAIRIE

Birthdays

03-Jacob Vitse
07-Kari Hanson
08-Adam Drinkall
08-Bryson Nichols
12-Timothy Hatlevig
12-Cassidy Ruud
20-Taige Kruger
20-Rachel Rye
21-Tina Mayer
25-Nora Eide
27-Cathy Haug
28-Brenda Kroening
29-Harvey Bue, Jr.
29-Macy Rye

Anniversaries

PILOT MOUND

Birthdays

02-Laci Nelson
04-Amanda McCabe
07-Debbie Swanson
08-Katherine Strande
09-Rachel Dahl
10-Natasha Borst
15-Katelyn Luehmann
16-Nick Charlebois
19-Jaxon McCabe
23-Nikkole Minter
31-Mark Huper

Anniversaries

31-Nick & Emily Charlebois

The Birthday/Anniversary lists are not complete.
Please help us keep accurate lists of these special days for our members

December 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 10:00 am – 12:00 pm SEMN Synod Advent Worship Service and Meal, St Peter's Church, Northfield MN	3 6:30-7:30 Zoom ULP Confirmation Class	4	5	6
7 9:00 am Worship and SS at Grace 10:30 am Worship at Arendahl 11:30 am Arendahl Christmas Party 12:30 pm Confirmation Class – leave Pastor Sarah's home to visit B'nai Israel in Rochester 2:00pm Grace WELCA Christmas Party, Potluck	8 10:00am-11:00 am "At the Well" Bible Study, Norsland Lefse, Rushford	9 9:30 am - 12:00 pm - Root River Clergy Conference, Christ Lutheran, Preston, MN	10 6:30-7:30 Zoom ULP Confirmation Class	11 2:00 -4:00 pm NP Pre Order Bake Sale pickup	12 9:00 am-2:00 pm NP Holiday Bake Sale, Sterling Drug Lobby, Rushford	13 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Grace WELCA event -- Christmas in Peterson
14 9:00 am Worship at Pilot Mound 10:00 am PM SS 10:30 am Worship and SS at North Prairie (SS Christmas Program) 11.30 am NP Council Meeting	15 10:00 am NP WELCA Officers meet to allocate funds	16	17 6:30-7:30 Zoom ULP Confirmation Class	18 7:00 -8:00 pm Pastor Sarah's "At Dusk" Zoom Book Club, 'Next Year in Havana' by Chanel Cleeton	19	20
21 9:00 am Worship and SS at Grace (SS Christmas Program) 10:30 am Worship at Arendahl	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 4:00 pm Worship at Grace 5:30 pm Worship at Pilot Mound	25 Christmas Christmas Day (no services)	26	27
28 9:00 am Worship at Pilot Mound (SS Christmas Program) 10:30 am Worship at North Prairie	29	30	31	 ALL WORSHIP CANCELLATIONS will be posted on KTTC TV as "United Lutheran Parish" and also on Facebook pages Contact officers for meeting updates Calendar events will be reviewed regularly		

THE MESSENGER NEWSLETTER

Arendahl-Grace-North Prairie-Pilot Mound
United Lutheran Parish
P. O. Box 36
Peterson, MN 55962

Online at www.unitedlutheranparish.com

