



# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## OPENING LITURGY

Confident in God's generosity and gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us praise God and give thanks...

God, we praise you and give thanks.

**You are good, and your mercy endures forever.**

You gave us a garden with good food to eat.

**We praise you for food that nourishes us.**

You rescued your people from slavery.

**We praise you for freedom.**

You gave us prophets to correct, rebuke and encourage us.

**We bless you for your justice and mercy.**

You gave us your Son, Jesus, to love, redeem and save us.

**We praise you for his death and resurrection.**

You gave us your Holy Spirit to be our Advocate and Comforter.

**We bless you for the gifts of every tribe and nation.**

Strengthen your church with every spiritual gift.

**and commission us again to be your servant people.**

Multiply in us the fruit of the spirit:

**love, you, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.**

Send us in your love and mercy,

**that the world may know and praise you.**

### Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voice,  
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way  
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day,  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next,  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878  
Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you are the giver of every good gift. Bless us with all that we need for ministry in your name, that we might be a blessing to others. In the name of the one who broke bread and fed the multitudes, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

# Clementson Lutheran Church Annual Meeting-February 1, 2026

- I. Call to order
- II. Devotions
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Minutes - February 9, 2025
- V. Reports
  - A. Pastor/Sam Report
  - B. Statistical
  - C. Financial
  - D. Treasures
  - E. Church Women
  - F. Sunday School
- VI. Unfinished Business
  - A. Building improvements
    1. Painting
    - 2.
    - 3.
  - B. Grounds
    1. Tree cleanup
    - 2.
- VII. New Business
  - A. Approval of Mission Plan
  - B. Election of officers (2-year terms/total of 10)  
Open seats: Vice President, Financial Secretary, Property  
President - Gary Swenson 2017  
Vice President - Marla Hasbargen 2020\*  
Secretary - Carrie Hasbargen 2023  
Treasurer - Sue Hasbargen 2019  
Financial Secretary - Gary Hasbargen 2022\*  
Property - Kit Hasbargen 2020\*
  - C. Election of 2 voting members and alternates
    1. Great Synod Get Together
    2. Northwestern MN Synod Assembly
  - D. Service Project - Hospice
- VIII. Adjournment and Lord's Prayer

## **Clementson Lutheran Church Annual Meeting - February 9, 2025**

Members present: Calistia Wolf, Char and Jill Hasbargen, Peggy Hasbargen, Rod and Marla Hasbargen, Gary and Roseann Swenson, Theresa Courchaine, Eileen Howdahl with Sue and Kit Hasbargen calling in.

President Gary Swenson called the meeting to order at 12:20.

II. Devotion was given by Calistia along with meal time prayer.

III. Approval of the Agenda: MSC / Gary H. and Char

IV. Approval of Minutes dated 2/22/24: MSC / Gary H and Jill

V. Reports:

- a. Synod: letters from Bishop Bill Tesch, Rev. Rebel Hurd, Mission Support report and listing of Synod staff.
  - b. President: letter
  - c. Sam: Faith Friday - Calistia starts the day for the kids (8 kids) with a bible study then Kelsey Armstrong takes the rest of the Day. Confirmation is going well with 10 very active students. Korbin is receiving confirmation from Gary and Roseann.
  - d. Statistical: correction - names reported under Deaths/Funerals, remove Pernell Sather and add Etta Erickson
  - e. Financial: Calistia shared that per the pending Parish agreement the Parish budget will now be included in annual reports. She reported that the Parish budget is at the highest amount for staffing - she expects it to run lower. Gary H. walked us through the Financial Secretary report - no questions were asked.
  - f. Treasurer: Sue shared that the checks for Hospice for the Red River Valley were all cut after the 1st of the year.
  - g. Church Women: no questions
  - h. Sunday School: no questions
- MSC / Char and Roseann to approve all reports

VI. Unfinished Business

- a. Building improvements
  1. Painting building - Gary will make calls for the cost of painting inside and lineup for summer painting outside.
  2. Rain gutters - Kit will work on getting bids for partial and full gutters
  3. Double doors - Brady would like to correct the insulation of the double doors.
- b. Grounds:
  1. Tree clean-up - still need to remove 6 to 8 trees.

## VII. New Business

- a. Approval of Mission Plan - visited about changing amounts listed for insurance and building supplies. Increase insurance to \$2,500 and lower building supplies to \$15,000.  
MSC / Gary H. and Roseann
- b. Parish Agreement - tabled until everyone has the opportunity to read.
- c. Election of officers: open seats: President, Secretary, Treasurer  
Gary H. made a motion to re-elect Gary Swenson President (2017), Secretary Carrie Hasbargen (2023), Treasurer Sue Hasbargen (2019).  
MSC / Gary H and Peggy
- d. Election of 2 voting members  
Great Synod Get Together will be in Moorhead at Concordia with the election of a Bishop.
- e. Service Project  
Hospice - Janet will contact Lois Lewis on the possibility of a fundraising breakfast.

## VIII. Adjournment MSC / Kit and Jill Closed with the Lord's Prayer

## **Financial Secretary Report 2025**

January	\$2,400.00
February	\$1,505.00
March	\$3,225.00
April	\$4,191.00
May	\$2,930.00
June	\$2,392.00
July	\$2,325.00
August	\$3,275.00
September	\$2,462.00
October	\$3,497.00
November	\$2,750.00
December	<u>\$4,965.00</u>
	\$35,917.00

Lent	\$185.00
Hans	\$200.00
Breakfast	<u>\$1,107.00</u>
2025 Total	\$37,409.00

2024	\$36,416.00
2023	\$34,954.00
2022	\$42,060.00
2021	\$38,260.00

CHURCH OUTREACH

1152 12/25 Northwestern MN Synod \$3,000.00

Clementson Benevolence

1130 5/17 Hospice \$2,000.00

1136 7/15 Dietrich & Olivia Howe 500.00

1145 10/16 Calista –appreciation 500.00

1147 10/21 KBHW-sponsor a day 840.00

Total \$3,840.00

WINE

1140 8/28 Total \$18.69

SNOW PLOWING Total \$. 00

ELECTRICITY

EFT 1/21 North Star Electric \$153.00

EFT 2/21 159.00

EFT 3/21 146.00

EFT 4/22 152.00

EFT 5/19 138.00

EFT 6/21 109.00

EFT 7/22 93.00

EFT 8/21 67.00

EFT	9/20	Capital credits applied \$174.59	.00
EFT	10/20		25.00
EFT	11/21		120.00
EFT	12/23		125.00
		Total	\$1,287.00

CHURCH INSURANCE

EFT	1/10	North Star Insurance	\$ 148.00
EFT	2/10		148.00
EFT	3/10		148.00
EFT	4/10		156.25
EFT	5/12		156.25
EFT	6/10		156.25
FT	7/10		156.25
EFT	8/11		156.25
EFT	9/10		156.25
EFT	10/10		156.25
EFT	11/10		156.25
EFT	12/10		156.25
			\$1,850.25

INTERNET

EFT	1/10	Sjobergs internet	\$36.95
EFT	2/10		36.95
EFT	3/10		36.95
EFT	4/10		36.95
EFT	5/12		36.95

EFT	6/10		36.95
EFT	7/10		36.95
EFT	8/11		36.95
EFT	9/10		36.95
EFT	10/10		36.95
EFT	11/10		36.95
EFT	12/10		36.95
		Total	\$443.40

MISSION SUPPORT

1121	january	Baudette Lutheran Parish	1,251.91
1122	february	Baudette Lutheran Parish	1,176.43
1123	march	Baudette Lutheran Parish	1,081.58
1125	april	Baudette Lutheran Parish	1,015.46
1131	may	Baudette Lutheran Parish	1,435.50
1133	june	Baudette Lutheran Parish	516.04
1135	july	Baudette Lutheran Parish	1,399.71
1139	august	Baudette Lutheran Parish	1,569.80
1142	september	Baudette Lutheran Parish	713.54
1149	october	Baudette Lutheran Parish	1,490.09
1150	november	Baudette Lutheran Parish	942.33
1121	december	Baudette Lutheran Parish	1,297.59
		Total	\$13,889.98

LAWN MOWING

1137	07/20	Tim Cook	\$200.00
1144	09/14	Tim Cook	100.00
1146	10/13	Tim Cook	50.00
		Total	\$350.00

MUSIC

1151	12/29	Jody Horntvedt	225.00
1148	11/1	Gary Gambill-piano tuning	160.00
		Total	\$385.00

FUEL

1126	4/13	Northdale Oil-tank monitor deposit	32.06
1132	6/4	Northdale Oil	348.83
1141	9/2	Cenex-propane prebuy 1400 gallons @\$1.49 per gallon	\$1,580.96
		Carry over credit	\$505.04
		Total	\$1,961.85

BUILDING & SUPPLIES

1127	5/6	Duane Lafky-painting	\$ 300.00
1134	6/17	D K Frank- gutter down payment	1,000.00
1138	7/20	D K Frank-gutters	5,366.00
		Total	\$ 6,666.00

MISC EXPENSE

	Deposit tickets	\$104.09
1128 5/17	Birchdale hall-rent for fund raiser	30.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$134.09</b>

Total 2025 disbursements \$ 33,826.26

Checking Account funds 1-1-25 \$18,638.40

Checking Account funds 12-31-25 \$18,209.52

CD for \$25,000.00 purchased 8/9/23 due 3/9/26 \$27,511.89

CD for \$50,000.00 purchased 10/10/24 due 10/10/26 \$52,025.10

Memorial Fund 1-1-25 \$13,554.45

Memorial Fund/ 12-31-25 \$13,602.14

Total funds 12/31/25 \$111,348.65

Total Interest earned in 2025 \$3,212.19

2,025.10 CD 1,139.40 CD 47.69 Savings

CLEMENTSON LUTHERAN CHURCH EXPENSES 2025 and MISSION PLAN for 2025

CHURCH OUTREACH	Actual 2024	Proposed 2025	Actual 2025	Proposed 2026
Synod Benevolence	\$3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Synod Assembly	.00	.00	.00	.00
World Hunger	.00	.00	.00	.00
LOW Food Shelf	.00	.00	.00	.00
Clem. Benevolence	2,250.00	2,500.00	3,840.00	2,500.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$5,250.00</b>	<b>\$5,500.00</b>	<b>\$6,840.00</b>	<b>\$5,500.00</b>
<b>CHURCH HOME</b>				
Stamps	0	0	0	0
Flowers	.00	250.00	.00	350.00
Wine	.00	75.00	18.69	75.00
Piano Tuning	130.00	150.00	160.00	150.00
Misc Expenses	649.16	1,000.00	134.09	1,000.00
Electricity	1,245.00	1,300.00	1,287.00	1,300.00
Insurance	1,687.50	1,300.00	1,850.25	1,300.00
Internet	443.40	450.00	443.40	450.00
Fuel	2,378.36	2,300.00	1,961.85	3,500.00
Building Supplies	10,827.55	5,000.00	6,666.00	5,000.00
Snow Plowing	.00	300.00	.00	300.00
Lawn Mowing	250.00	350.00	350.00	350.00
Music	315.00	250.00	225.00	500.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$17,925.97</b>	<b>\$12,725.00</b>	<b>\$13,096.28</b>	<b>\$14,275.00</b>

,BAUDETTE LUTHERAN PARISH    Actual 2024    Proposed 2025    Actual 2025    Proposed 2026

Mission Plan Support	\$16,303.98	\$25,000.00	\$13,889.98	\$25,000.00
Totals	\$34,229.95	\$37,725.00	\$26,986.26	\$39,275.00

Funds from the sale of the bible camp	\$26,037.53
Ruby's Pantry 8-16-22	672.25
Ruby's Pantry 8-21-22	924.73
Ruby's Pantry 11-08-22	336.03
Ruby's Pantry 11/28-22	206.84
Ruby's Pantry 5-7-23	117.54
Peoples Church-meals 10-9-24	750.00
Hospice of the Red River Valley 11-21-24	5,000.00
Hospice of the Red River Valley 05-07-25	2,000.00
Balance left	\$16,030.14

## **Clementson Lutheran Church Women 2025**

### Checking Account

Balance 1-1-2025 \$14,759.18

### Deposits:

Father's Day Picnic \$1,970.00

Santa Anonymous \$ 250.00

Janet Hasbargen \$ 85.00

Total \$2,305.00 \$ 2305.00

\$17,064.18

### Disbursements:

Hugo's \$ 679.00

Nelson's Store \$ 259.75

Northern Light \$ 48.00

USPS \$ 14.00

Joe's Pest Control \$ 160.31

Dollar General \$ 79.61

Santa Anonymous \$ 300.00

\$1,541.36 -\$ 1,541.36

End Balance 12-31-25 \$15,522.82

### Savings Account

Beginning Balance 1-1-25 \$13,063.61

Interest earned \$ 33.26

End Balance 12-31-25 \$13,096.87



**Northwestern Minnesota Synod**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

*-- Matthew 2:11*

Dear Beloved in Christ of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod,

When the Magi first saw the child Jesus, their first instinct was to *pay him homage*. The word translated “homage” comes from the Greek *proskyneō*—from *pros* (“toward”) and *kyneō* (“to kiss”). Their worship was literally a *kiss toward Jesus*—a gesture of love, humility, and devotion.

That image captures what we long to be about in Northwestern Minnesota. Our vision—to be “a people wholly devoted to Jesus and our neighbor in love”—is another way of saying that we want everything we do together to be a kiss toward Jesus: a homage to the gentle One who heals, forgives, and sends us out in love.

This past year, our shared ministry offered many such kisses toward Christ:

- We **welcomed 15 new Synod Authorized Ministers**, ensuring that Word and Sacrament continue to touch lives in every corner of our synod.
- We **entrusted 14 new candidates for ordination**, nurturing leaders who will teach and serve in the spirit of Jesus’ humble strength.
- We **walked with congregations in transition and conflict**, showing that reconciliation itself can be an act of homage.
- We **sparked renewal** in rural congregations through our *Rural Revival Journey*, breathing hope and fresh imagination into places where Christ’s light still shines bright.
- And through *Jeremiah 29* and *F.A.C.E.S. of Leadership*, we are **equipping 41 leaders** to guide their communities toward deeper devotion—a daily kiss toward Jesus.

Friends, thank you. Your prayers, offerings, and faithful witness make these stories possible. Every kindness shared in Jesus’ name, every act of generosity, is another kiss toward the Savior we adore.

And in a time when Jesus’ name is sometimes used to divide us from one another or demean vulnerable neighbors, let us be clear about the One we worship. We pay homage not to a Lord of domination or fear, but to the humble Christ who welcomes the stranger, lifts the poor, blesses our most vulnerable siblings and honors the image of God in every person. The world has seen that kind of power come and go. The Magi journeyed far to worship a *different* kind of king—the one who reigns through mercy, not might.

As this year draws to a close, I invite you to join me in one more act of homage—a gift that becomes a kiss toward Jesus. Your congregation’s support and your personal generosity sustain ministries that bear Christ’s love to every corner of Northwestern Minnesota.

May our every gift, and every act of love, be a kiss toward the One who reigns from a manger and calls us to follow him in humility, justice, and joy.

In Christ,

Bp. Bill Tesch  
Bishop of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA



**Northwestern Minnesota Synod**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## **Synod Staff**

Our synod staff is made up of both full-time and part-time team members who work together to support congregations, leaders, and ministries across Northwestern Minnesota.

Full-time staff serve in ongoing roles and provide leadership, support, and coordination across a wide range of synod ministries and operations. You'll find them regularly engaged in day-to-day synod work, available for questions, and present at most synod events.



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Bishop  
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*Rev. Keith Pearson*  
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Northwestern Minnesota Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## Part-Time and Contract Staff

Part-Time staff serve in part-time or specialized roles. They bring unique gifts to the synod for a particular project, area of ministry, or time-limited need. While they may not be involved in all aspects of synod life, their contributions are essential to our shared mission.

### Engagement Ministers

<b>CONFERENCE 1</b> <i>Roseau</i>  Rev. Dave Swonger	<b>CONFERENCE 2</b> <i>Thief River Falls</i>  Rev. Genelle Netland/ Rev. Bill Tesch	<b>CONFERENCE 3</b> <i>Crookston</i>  Rev. Chris Leach	<b>CONFERENCE 4</b> <i>Bemidji</i>  Rev. Chris Leach
<b>CONFERENCE 5</b> <i>Moorhead</i>  Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson	<b>CONFERENCE 6</b> <i>Detroit Lakes</i>  Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson	<b>CONFERENCE 7</b> <i>Fergus Falls</i>  Rev. Dennis Preston	<b>CONFERENCE 8</b> <i>Alexandria</i>  Rev. Dennis Preston

**Financial and Data-Systems Specialist**

Joan Meulebroeck

**Synod Authorized Ministers Coordinator**

Kip Fontaine

**Minister for Vocations**

Rev. Jon Olson

**Minister for Mental Health & Wellness**

Rev. Dr. Aaron Suomala Folkerds

**Minister for First-Third Ministry**

Kristina Johnson-Dernier

**Behold The New Has Come!  
Project Coordinators**

Jody Johnson  
Rev. Melissa Pickering

Members of Clementson Lutheran Church,

Though our numbers are small our gratitude is great for the many blessings God has given us. May the Lord fill us with wisdom as we plan our congregation's mission and ministries,

Thank you for your continued support for our church, both financially and spiritually this year. Thanks also to everyone who has volunteered their time and talents to serve on the council, and those who help maintain our church building.

We are so grateful for Calista - you are a blessing. Thank you to Joyce for your help in the Parish office.

In Christ,  
Gary Swenson  
Council President

## 2025 SAM Report

Thank you for another year of support as I continue serving you as a full-time minister and part-time student at Luther Seminary. Our 2024 Star Word for the parish was relationship and our 2025 Star Word was Leadership and I carried that with me as I continued my studies and my path to ordination. We have a new Star Word this year, but even though we move forward we can still hold onto what we've built on. There are many ways to use those words within the church and I view this parish as true relationship builders and leaders in our community, and I hope you do too. We lead with welcome, we lead with love, we lead with engagement and now we can remind ourselves to lead with enthusiasm. Our 2026 Star Word is *Enthusiasm* and I'm excited to see how the Holy Spirit guides us through this year enthusiastically.

This year we went back to basics with worship and events. For Lent we leaned into our theme of *Unbroken: A Living Faith* and watched as how the Holy Spirit guided us to have God revealed to us through the lectionary readings through the gospels of Luke and Matthew. We've continued to show up for our community and beyond through quilt making, pizza baking, pantry fillings, special collections and more. I'm proud of how we have kept our stability in the community and am excited to see the new ways that we show up for our neighbors in the future.

This summer we had so much fun during our annual Vacation Bible School. We had about 35 kids come out to learn about how *God's Word Comes Near* through crafts, games, snacks and water fun! A big thank you to all the youth and adults that showed up to make the week so fun!

I had the honor of confirming 4 parish youth this year: Keira Ferrier, Carter Husbands, Ali Plourde and Jack Cook. During the 2024-2025 confirmation year we wrapped up our Old Testament curriculum and started our New Testament curriculum. We had an average of 10 Confirmation students each year. We are blessed to have such active youth in all three churches!

Right now there is a lot of fear and uncertainty in the world, and I often wonder what the church's role is in all of this. One thing I am certain of is that we keep doing God's work with our hands: loving our neighbors, ALL of our neighbors, spreading the gospel even when it feels like we are being drowned out, and showing how God's love is boundless at all times, especially when it feels the hardest to show it.

I'm not sure what 2026 will bring, but I'm feeling grateful and blessed to move through the year with you all.

Your sibling in Christ,  
Calista Wolf



# Clementson Lutheran Sunday School

Beginning balance 1/1/25 ----- \$468.48

Ending balance 12/31/25 ----- \$468.48