

Blessing of the Animals

As we've done for a few years now, we're planning on having our yearly "Blessing of the Animals" the first Sunday in October. The common joke is usually something along the lines of, "Oh, good. My dog needs a good exorcism."

I make no promises about your pet's behavior following the blessing.

To bless something, including our animals, is to give thanks for them, not try to change their actions. When we gather together, shortly after Saint Francis' day, to bless our animals, it's a way we can collectively give thanks to God for them, and all the things they do for us. They are our friends, our companions, and our protectors, and our lives are enriched by their presence.

We also give thanks for all the animals that influence our lives, from our pets, who we love and care for, to service animals who love and care for us. We give thanks for animals that provide food for us, and animals that prolong and even save our lives. We give thanks for animals in zoos, in the wild, in our homes, and in our world. It's much more than an exorcism – our animals stand in for all the animals of the world, and in blessing them, we give thanks for our whole family here on earth.

And yes, I do mean family. Saint Francis (whose feast day we celebrate as near as possible to this) talked about these animals as our brothers and sisters, preaching to his "sisters, the birds", and his "brother, the wolf". As we gather to give thanks for and bless our animals, I hope that we can see a glimmer of what Francis saw in his brothers and sisters.

Even if you don't have a pet, I hope that you can join us as we give thanks for the animals that do so much for us, and bless them with us.

Pastor Joshua





Thrivent Financial for Lutherans™

Let's thrive:  Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®

Post-Game Party & UW – CSU Football

Thrivent Financial members and their personal guests are invited to a Hog Roast Post-Game Party!

Event Details

Saturday, October 19, Laramie, WY

3:00pm to 5:30pm - Thrivent Member hosted Complimentary Picnic: Washington Park, shelter #1, located at 18th St. and Sheridan, four blocks south of the UW football field.

~Featuring a Hog Roast with all the fixings.

~ Door Prizes. Bringing adult non-members = more entries. ~ Open to all Thrivent Members 18yrs. of age and up, and must be present to win.

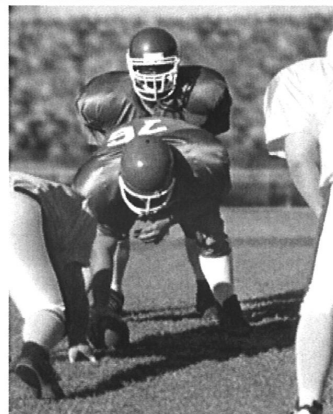
~We will have a band, and some activities for children.

12noon - UW vs. CSU "Border War" Football Game: reduced price block of tickets: \$32 (adults 19 & up) and \$17 (children 3-18) per ticket plus \$3 per order for handling. Children under 3 are free sitting on a lap.

Buy game tickets from the UW Ticket Office! Group football game tickets must be ordered by Friday, October 11 at 5 pm:

Call 1-800-922-9461 or 307-766-4850. Mention the promotional code **THRIVENT** for the discounted price: or on-line: <http://bit.ly/1bvd9Zo>

RSVP and Questions? Call (307)778-3076 or (307)214-0495.



- We will be taking donations for the Red Cross to benefit the recent flood victims.

From the Platte County Memorial Nursing Home

Halloween is just around the corner and it is time for the annual Nursing Home Halloween Fundraising Drive. The Nursing Home residents have been passing out candy to Wheatland children for the past 13 years. The children have fun and receive lots of candy and the residents are thrilled to be able to interact with the local children all dressed in costumes. 621 visitors participated in Halloween Safe Trick or Treating at the nursing home in 2012.

Please consider making a donation to the Halloween Fundraising Drive. The money that is donated goes towards candy for the children and/or holiday activity supplies for the residents. You may leave your donation in the Activity Room at the nursing home or call 322-6404 (ext 2271) and Theresa or Christy will pick it up. Please make checks payable to PCMNH Activity Department.

Please help us make this a memorable Halloween for both our residents and the children!



WOMEN'S BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES FOR October

1st—Teresa Jenkins
4th—Lorretta Lauck
6th—Joan McKee
8th—Sharon Catchpole
11th—Arlene Robbins
14th—Anda Johnson
20th—Marya Mitchell
22nd—Cheryl Meier
23rd—Jonie Laney
30th—Mekayla Garcia

Anniversaries this month are:

15th Dave & Donna Wood
25th Terry & Nancy Lubeck
28th David & Amy Windmeier



A potluck supper was held on Friday, September 20th in honor of Crystal Rueb and Dick and Pat Morrison. There was a lot of good food and good fellowship. Best of luck Crystal, Dick and Pat; you will be missed!!

VISITATION COMMITTEE

The mission of the Visitation Committee is to visit our shut-in members with our Sunday service bulletins and CDs. We are available to visit any member who might be confined to their home by illness or as they recover from surgery. We also welcome visitors and new members with information about our church. If you or someone you know is in need of our services, please contact the church office.

Currently, the Visitation Committee has four active members who rotate the responsibilities. New members would be very welcome! If you are interested in serving on the Visitation Committee, even on a short-term basis, please contact the church office. Thank you!

**COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
September 9, 2013**

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm

Devotions:

Devotions were led by Jim Lockwood.

Roll Call:

Thad Ehde, Melissa Garcia, Pastor Joshua, Jim Lockwood, Nancy Lubeck, Red Taylor, Reno Taylor, Stu Hammersmark, Rick Robbins, C.A. Thomas, Connie Thomas, Christy Watkins, Joel McKee, Cody Garcia

Absent: Sarah Rodocker, Lee Morrison.

Additions to Agenda: Platte County Record Times church directory.

Thrift Store: Checking balance \$2,520.76. Savings balance \$11,401.04. Gave assistance in the amount of \$1,611.16. Took in receipts totaling \$7971.17, \$906.00 came from Grandma's Attic. Transferred \$2,500.00 to Grandma's Attic checking account to get them started. Still looking for help to run Grandma's Attic.

Correspondence: None

Reports:

Secretary: Joel moved, and Nancy 2nd to accept the secretary report as corrected, motion carried.

Financial Secretary: Reno moved, and Red 2nd to accept the financial report as written, motion carried.

Treasurer: Rick moved and C.A. 2nd to accept the treasurer's report as written, motion carried.

President: No report

Elders: Hanging tough.

Trustees: Cleaned weeds on south side of sanctuary. Fixed water leak in west parking lot. One more leak to fix by valve box in front of church.

Pastor: Written report available on bulletin board. Arm is healing well thanks for the many prayers. Please check out the new church website.clcwheatland.weebly.com

Committee Reports:

Education: Had 17 elementary kids and 2 youths for Sunday school. Great job.

Youth: Nothing to report, but will try to attend the youth night scheduled for Sept 22.

Stewardship: No meeting this month.

Worship: No meeting this month will meet 9/17.

Women of ELCA: Led adult Bible study 9/16.

Hospitality: Getting ready for first communion for Peter J. Regan E. and Mekayla G.

Men of Covenant: 8 men met at Tasty Treats and had a good meeting and fellowship.

Outreach: Still doing cd's and bulletins, have added Dorothy L. to the list.

Altar Guild: Still green.

Landscape: Have finished retaining walls in front except for small area around valve box. Still need to finish work on sprinklers and then will put down ground cover cloth, then chips.

Old Business:

Platte County Foster Care checking account is now open. It requires 2 signatures and has 3 signatories. Reno T. Nancy L. and Christy W.

New Business:

Mary Seim submitted a schedule for tuning the 3 pianos in the church. She recommended that we hire John Castle to do the work. Cost per year will be \$120 for the first three years. Rick moved and C.A. 2nd to accept the schedule as submitted by Mary S. motion carried.

Pastors Benefit package has changed with the affordable care act. We had the choice to choose between a gold package, and the platinum package. Both packages are cheaper than what we are currently paying. Stu moved and Jim 2nd that we go with the platinum package, motion carried.

The Platte County Record Times asked if the church would like to be in their annual Church Directory. The directory is published one time and distributed with the newspaper. It is not available at the chamber of Commerce in their "Welcome to Wheatland" packet. Cost to be in the directory \$159.00. Jim moved and Nancy 2nd not to be in the directory. Motion carried.

Christy W. and Connie T. are putting together a book sale for a fundraising project. If you are interested in donating books please bring them to the church office during business hours.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting October 10, 2013

Devotions for next Meeting: Thad Ehde

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Lockwood, Secretary

“Like” us on facebook at
www.facebook.com/CovenantLutheranChurchWheatland
AND
[Check out our new website at clcwheatland.weebly.com](http://clcwheatland.weebly.com)

CHILDREN'S NEWS

Sunday, October 13th

12:30 - 2:00 pm

Come and decorate a pumpkin with your family for the Pumpkin Silent Auction. Materials will be provided - just come and have fun decorating!

Bidding on pumpkins: Sunday, October 20th and 27th in the Fellowship area.

Awarding of pumpkins: Sunday, October 27th during Fellowship time.

All proceeds will go towards Vacation Bible School for Summer 2014.



The children trying Pastor's tea cake cookies during the children's sermon.

YOUTH FUN NIGHT

The first Youth Fun Night was held Sunday, September 22 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the church. About 15 kids from Covenant, United Methodist, All Saints Episcopal and the United Church of Christ came for supper, games, and treats.

Our next gathering will be on Sunday, October 20th. We will be having a cookout and bonfire at Steve and Carrie Paisley's. Parents can drop kids off at the church at 4:00 and we will car-pool from there. Parents can pick kids up at the church at 7:00.

Kids in grades 6-12 are welcome to attend. We're looking forward to a great night of fun, food and fellowship. We hope to see you there!!

What are the kids up to?

As we start a new school year, we want to acknowledge, promote, and celebrate the activities that our young people are involved in through the schools, sports, and other community events. Please help us stay informed about what our kids are up to by informing the office of any activities and events that may be taking place. Tell us about all of their sporting events, concerts, school plays, recitals, and anything else they're involved in. Even if we can't attend each activity we still want to share in their successes and other causes for celebration. It's important for all of us to support the positive actions of the young people of our congregation and community.

Please call or email the office with dates and times of activities that can be added to our calendar, and any announcements that can be added to our weekly bulletin, monthly newsletter, and website.

Thank you!

RESPONDING TO U.S. FLOODING

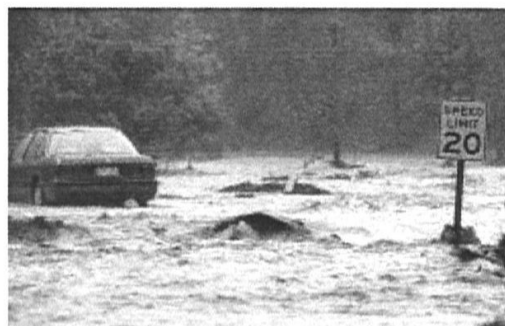
LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE ALERT

Sept. 2013

These floods have consumed parts of Colorado, damaging or destroying over 18,000 homes and businesses. Three ELCA church buildings have also been affected. Some areas continue to experience mudslides, damaged roads and downed power lines.

Your help is needed to bring help and hope to our sisters and brothers in need. Lutheran Disaster Response is at work, assessing the immediate and long-term needs of those affected by the floods. We already know it will be a long road to recovery, and your gifts are needed now to begin coordinating relief efforts.

Gifts designated to “U.S. Flood Relief” through Lutheran Disaster Response will be used entirely – 100 percent – to help survivors of floods rebuild their lives and livelihoods. Our church is reaching out in response to these devastating storms and assessing the needs – working together for as long as it takes. Thank you for your gifts, your prayers and your partnership.



Yes, I want to help!

☐ Lutheran Disaster Response: *U.S. Flood Relief* \$ _____ DDF0069

☐ Lutheran Disaster Response: *Where Needed Most* \$ _____ DDF0010

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email Address _____

Give through your congregation or send your check directly to:
Lutheran Disaster Response, 39330 Treasury Center, Chicago, IL 60694-9300
Write “U.S. Flood Relief” or “Where Needed Most” on your check’s memo line.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Bishop Jim Gonia

Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA

THE POWER OF BEING CHURCH TOGETHER

Dear Beloved in Christ in the Rocky Mountain Synod,

These have been difficult days for many communities in our region as historic flooding continues to impact the lives of countless people in northern Colorado, from the mountains and the Front Range towns, to the Denver metro area and out onto the eastern plains. Flooding has been taking place in northern New Mexico as well. For an area that has been stressed more recently by wildfires because of long-standing drought conditions, it feels perplexing to suddenly be dealing with the overwhelming power of too much water.

But it is at times like these we are reminded of the power of being church together. I want you to know of the many words of greeting, support and prayer that I have received on your behalf from every corner of the ELCA, including those regions that know firsthand the challenges of recovering from floods. Bishop Hanson and members of the Churchwide staff have also been in touch to let us know of their concern and their readiness to accompany us during this time.

Here are some of the practical steps we are taking as the ELCA Rocky Mountain Synod to respond to the current situation.

Communication: As the rains were falling, we began reaching out to our pastors in the areas most immediately impacted. We have asked our rostered leaders and congregations to continue sharing information and stories, and our most immediate place for those posts is on the [Rocky Mountain Synod Facebook page](#). We will continue to share information and stories in the days ahead.

Disaster Response Coordination: This week we will continue the conversation with our primary ministry partners – Lutheran Disaster Response and Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains – in determining the next steps for responding to this disaster. We will seek to be in touch with pastors and congregations in all impacted areas both to assess needs and to provide resources. Within the Office of the Bishop, Pastor Ron Roschke (Synod Minister for Shared Ministries) will be the contact person for our efforts.

Funds for Disaster Response: We are encouraging funds to be sent either directly to the Rocky Mountain Synod (for Flood Relief) or to [Lutheran Disaster Response](#) (Flooding in Colorado). While funds channeled to Lutheran Disaster Response will allow for a larger-scale response to communities in need (often in partnership with other agencies), funds that come directly to the Synod allow us

the flexibility of assisting with specific local situations that come to our attention.

Prayer and Support: We invite the intentional prayers and support of all our congregations and members for those impacted. A disaster like this leaves many people uprooted, disoriented, and experiencing grief and stress. Resources for worship and care will be shared, and if we learn of hands-on opportunities to assist in certain areas, we will communicate those as well. We know that the needs will continue long after the headlines have faded. It's our commitment as a church to walk with people throughout the whole period of recovery. We are grateful for the ways that so many of our congregations have already begun serving as God's hands of compassion and healing in their local communities!

While it takes the collective efforts of government, community organizations and relief agencies to respond adequately to a large-scale disaster, faith communities have a unique role to play. Not only are we well positioned by our grassroots location in communities to share stories and help leverage resources for recovery, but also we are called as people of faith to help our neighbors navigate this experience emotionally and spiritually.

I've been speaking recently to congregations about the particular gift that comes with our Lutheran Theology of the Cross. As people ask, "Why did God do this?" or "Why did God allow this?" we respond with the unexpected perspective of the cross, that insists that far from being the cause of our suffering, God instead always suffers with us. Indeed, it is in the midst of our most difficult and challenging moments, that the crucified Christ is revealed again as a sign of God's unfailing presence and abiding love for each of us. We as the Body of Christ, have the sacred calling of embodying that presence and love to our neighbors.

During these difficult days, I am filled with gratitude for each of you and especially for the gift of being church together.

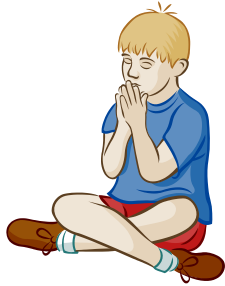
Yours in Faith,
Bishop Jim

Two girls in a family visiting Rejoice, Erie, on Sunday morning were nearly swept away in fast water. Members of the church helped them stay safe. Here they are wrapped in acolyte albs and Pastor Ruby Narucki's sweater blanket to stay warm.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2nd	Bob Seidel
	Sam Sherrill
4th	Rich Bohm
10th	Zack Rose
11th	Samuel Laney
14th	CA Thomas
22nd	Dick Morrison
	Zeb Rose
23rd	Frank Jesse
28th	Matthew Lubeck



PRAYER CHAIN 2013

Would you like to be added to the Church Email Prayer Chain? Let us know at

CLCWheatland@gmail.com and we'll add you to the list. Don't have an email address? We can add you to a separate telephone list and give you a call when prayer requests are added. Just contact Sarah at the church office (307-322-9423).

Never underestimate the power of prayer.

MISSION STATEMENT

We covenant ourselves to gather around Word and Sacrament for mutual support and strength in Christ, that by God's grace we:

- Proclaim the gospel of the Kingdom
- Nurture the community through Christian Education
- Provide settings for Christian fellowship, and
- Equip the membership to be Christ's servant people

MEN'S GROUP

**MEETS AT
7:30 AM
SATURDAY,
October 5th**



**AT
Tasty Treats**

Godfathers

ALL MEN ARE INVITED TO COME !

MUSIC NEWS



Bell Choir practice will be starting soon. Current members should expect a call from Connie Thomas regarding practice times. If you're not a member of the bell choir, but would like to join, contact Connie or the office.

Choir practice is scheduled for October 9, 16 and 23 at 6:00 PM. New members are always welcome — just show up for practice!

OCTOBER SERVERS

ELDERS

10-6 Christy Watkins
10-13 Joel McKee
10-20 Rick Robbins
10-27 Connie Thomas

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

10-6 Connie Thomas
10-13 Christy Watkins
10-20 Joel McKee
10-27 Rick Robbins

ACOLYTES

10-6 Abby Sherrill
10-13 Mekayla Garcia
10-20 Peter Jesse
10-27 Amy Sluss

USHERS

10-6 Jack & Verna Hilderbrand
10-13 Stu & Reva Hammersmark
10-20 Jeff & Shari Brown
10-27 Joel & Dawn McKee

READERS

10-6 Jennifer Bruns
10-13 Teresa Sherrill
10-20 Dorothy Stevenson
10-27 Dawn McKee

GREETERS

10-6 Liz Bachmeier
10-13 Dan & Teresa Sherrill
10-20 Stu & Reva Hammersmark
10-27 Cindy Kahrs

MUSICIAN

10-6 Sarah Rodocker
10-13 Gwen Seidel
10-20 TBA
10-27 TBA

ALTAR CARE

10-6 Rena Kittleson
10-13 Gail Mattern
10-20 Lorretta Lauck
10-27 Suzanne Strom

VISITATION

10-6 Nadine Morris
10-13 Cheryl Meier
10-20 Bill Windmeier
10-27 Rich Bohm

FELLOWSHIP/TREATS

10-6 Gail Thompson & Liz Bachmeier
10-13 Sherrills & Windmeiers
10-20 Browns
10-27 Windmeiers & Sharon Whipple

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, please contact someone in that category to arrange a trade. This is your responsibility. Please call or email Sarah at the church office (322-9423 /CLCWheatland@gmail.com) with your trade info so that it can be included correctly in the Sunday Bulletin. THANK YOU!

October 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 NO PRAISE BAND	2 NO CHOIR PRACTICE	3 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	4	5 MEN'S GROUP @ TASTY TREATS 7:30 AM
6 FIRST COMMUNION BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS	7	8 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	9 CHOIR 6:00 PM	10 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING 7:00 PM	11	12
13 12:30—2:00 PM PUMPKIN DECORATING	14	15 DIAPER DAY 9:00 AM WELCA B-DAY LUNCH 11:30 PRAISE BAND 5:30 PM WORSHIP COMMITTEE 6:30 PM	16 CHOIR 6:00 PM THRIVENT MEETING 8:00 PM	17 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	18	19
20 BIDDING FOR PUMPKINS YOUTH FUN NIGHT 4:00—7:00 PM	21	22 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	23 CHOIR 6:00 PM	24 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	25	26
27 NURSING HOME SERVICE 2:00 PM AWARDING OF PUMPKINS	28	29 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	30	31 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM		

Covenant Lutheran Church
 1863 South Road
 Wheatland, WY 82201
 Office: (307)322-9423
 Fax: (307)322-4577
 Office: CLCWheatland@gmail.com
 Pastor: pastorjoshua@wyomingwireless.com
 clcwheatland.weebly.com

Office Hours:

Pastor Bruns—Mon - Thurs.: 9 am - 12 pm
 Office: Mon & Wed: 9 am - 11 am
 Tues: 9 - 10 am
 Thurs & Fri: 9 am - 12 pm
 Sunday Worship: 9:00 am Sunday
 Sunday School: 10:30 am Sunday
 Adult Bible Study: 10:30 am Sunday