



Kindred Connections

FEBRUARY 2026 | KINDREDLUTHERAN.COM

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.” – Numbers 6: 24-26 (NIV)

Siblings in Christ,

February often feels like a month of thresholds. We stand with one foot still in the quiet of winter and the other stepping toward the movement of spring. This year, that sense of transition feels especially close to home for me.

As many of you know, I have been on paternity leave following the birth of our son, Alex, on January 2. Katie, Calvin, and I are overjoyed and deeply grateful for this time together as a family. Thank you for your prayers, your kindness, and the many ways you have supported us during this holy and tender season of life. I will begin returning to the office gradually starting February 3, and I will be back leading worship beginning February 8.

That **Sunday, February 8, will also be our Annual Meeting.** During worship, I will share a State of the Congregation address. This will be a time to reflect on where we have been, where we are now, and where God may be leading us together. I hope you will plan to join us for this important moment in our shared life.

On February 2, we will be blessed to hear from Jen Engquist, one of my former youth directors and now the Synod's Disaster Capacity Builder, who will be preaching. I am grateful for Jen's ministry and for the ways God weaves relationships across generations and seasons. Following worship, Jen will be available during fellowship time to share more about her work and how we as a congregation can be involved in supporting disaster response and preparedness.

Later in the month, we will enter the season of Lent, a time when the church slows down to tell the truth about who we are and who God is. **Lent begins on February 18 with Ash Wednesday.** We will gather for a meal at 6:00 pm, followed by worship at 7:00 pm with communion and the imposition of ashes. In the weeks that follow, we will continue with Wednesday evening Lenten worship at 7:00 pm, where we will be going Back to the Basics for our preaching series, and using Holden Evening Vespers to guide our worship, with a meal at 6:00 pm each week. **Lent invites us into reflection, repentance, and hope, not as individuals alone but as a community walking together toward the cross and the promise of resurrection.**

This February also comes with heaviness. The deaths of Renee Good and Alexander Pretti during ICE operations in neighboring Minnesota are tragic and unjust, and they should grieve us deeply. The taking of human life in these circumstances violates the dignity God gives to every person and stands in conflict with our call to love our neighbors. **As Christians, we are not called to remain silent in the face of such harm, but to speak truth, to lament, and to seek accountability shaped by compassion rather than fear.** As your pastor, I want to name this pain honestly and faithfully, trusting that God's love holds us even as we wrestle with these realities. Statements from our Synod's Bishop, Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth, and our Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Bishop Yehiel Curry, are available in the entryway for those who wish to read and reflect.

In all of this, new life and loss, rest and return, gathering and disagreement, **God remains present.** God's blessing does not promise the absence of difficulty, but it does promise that we are not alone. God's face still shines upon us, and God continues to offer peace even when the world feels unsettled.

Peace,

Pastor Kyle



Kindred
Lutheran Church

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Gather/Grow • P. 2,3

Sent/Serve • P. 4

Youth • P. 5

Prayers • P. 6

Council Notes • P. 7,8

Calendar • P. 9


Ash
Wednesday
Feb. 18



Gathered to Grow



Help Make Fellowship Happen

The Fellowship Committee invites you to sign up to bring treats for fellowship after church. It's a simple way to help create a welcoming space and it's always appreciated!

Sign-up is available in the narthex, or you can call or email Leah at 701-428-3630 or admin@kindredlutheran.com.

Fellowship time after worship gives us a chance to connect, support one another, and share life together. It's one of the ways we strengthen both our faith and our KLC family.

Thank You



While Pastor Kyle was on paternity leave, Gavin Rude & Sally Erickson each took a Sunday to share the Word with us. Because of weather, the Sunday Gavin was scheduled to preach was canceled and a recording of his sermon was posted on Facebook. He will be preaching again soon! A huge thank you to both of them for being willing to share their gifts with us!



Gathered to Grow

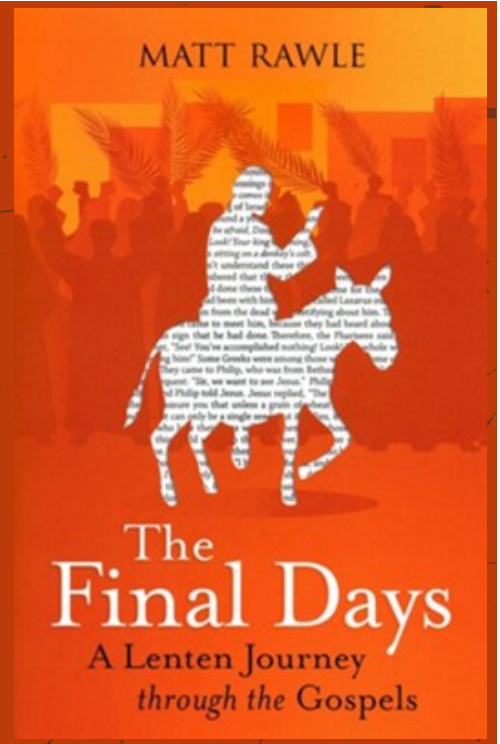
Lenten Bible Study

Each Gospel writer details Jesus' last week in Jerusalem—but through a different lens. Join us as we explore how each perspective shares an abundant picture of God's work in Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection.

Tuesdays at Noon

Other times available if there is interest.

Cost: \$15



Lenten Midweek Series

BACK

our salvation



to the

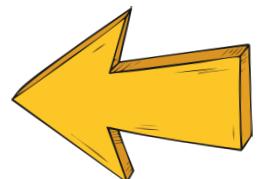
BASICS



God's story



ANNUAL MEETING - SUNDAY, FEB 8TH





Sent to Serve

KLC is collaborating with Norman Lutheran and St. Maurice Catholic Church to support our local charities. We have established a rotating schedule, and here are the items required for this month. Thank you immensely for your generosity!

Community Closet

Dish Soap
Toilet Paper

Viking Village

deodorant
men's/women's

Food Pantry

pancake mix, syrup
Pop tarts, cereal

We have donation tubs available for all locations that are requesting items.
You can find them located downstairs in the Sunday School hallway.

LENTEN DINNERS

Ash Wed, Feb 18	–	Church Council
Wed, Feb 25	–	Altar Guild
Wed, Mar 4	–	Sunday School (parents & teachers)
Wed, Mar 11	–	Parish Life/Missions
Wed, Mar 18	–	Fellowship
Wed, Mar 25	–	Altar Guild/Worship

Please join us for Lenten Dinners beginning on Ash Wednesday, Feb 18th. All dinners start at 6pm followed by our Lenten Worship Service.

Lenten Worship Offering will go to Community Care sponsoring our local nurse.

Lenten Dinner Offering will be given to a local family who lost a child due to an illness.



Youth

Confirmation

Upcoming Confirmation Events:

No Confirmation from February 18th - April 5th.
We will see you all back on April 8th !

Upcoming Youth Events:

Serving a meal at NDSU Crossroads March 1. 6-12 grade, join us!



Roadtrip for 9-12 graders this summer! July 7-14, 2026

Questions? Email Lannah youth@kindredlutheran.com



**FAITH FELLOWSHIP FUN
SUMMER
YOUTH ROADTRIP**

JULY 7-14, 2026

KLY (Clay.)

Senior High Winter Camp

Are you a 9-12 grader? Would you like to "Recharge" from the daily stresses? Please, join us for a Senior High Winter Retreat to "Recharge"
February 20-22, 2026 at Luther Crest Bible Camp in Alexandria, MN. Cost is \$210/participant.
Please Email Lannah if you are interested!



SIGN UP HERE

RETREAT

RETREAT

SIGN UP HERE



Prayers & Healing

Please lift up the following in your prayers:

Healing for:

John Carlson
Maverick Wilson
Joan Pratt
Tonna Horsely

Healing for:

Carol Mitskog
Pastor Karin Moberg
Pastor Ryan Patenaude
Joan Hoffarth

Comfort for:

Katie Giermann, whose
grandfather recently passed
away.

KLC Prayer Chain



If you have a private prayer request, please call Pastor Kyle (701-429-1413) and he will communicate with our list of prayer warriors on your behalf.



KINDRED LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor:
Rev. Kyle Giermann
pastorkyle@kindredlutheran.com

Admin. Assistant:
Leah Lundquist
Hours: 9am-3pm M-Th
admin@kindredlutheran.com

Youth Director:
Lanah Akvik
youth@kindredlutheran.com

Music Coordinator:
Cheryl Rostad

Choir Director:
LaVonne Nokleberg

Contemporary Worship Music:
Eldon & Amy Johnson

Custodians:
Mike & Karla Jostad



Love Offering

Sunday, Feb. 8th



Council Notes

Council Minutes Sunday, November 9, 2025 Kindred Lutheran Church

2026-3 Caitlin Perhus 2027-2 Sally Erickson 2027-2 Laurie O'Keefe 2026-3 Bryan Halvorson
2027-2 Verne Wolf 2028-1 Michele Hillman 2027-2 Justin Fiesel

Called to Order by: Caitlin at 11:16 am

Present: Pastor Kyle, Caitlin, Justin, Bryan, Sally, Laurie, Verne, & Michele

Opening Prayer

Secretary's Report/Approval of prior Minutes: Motion to approve October Minutes by Bryan, Seconded by Sally. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report/Approval of Report: Motion to approve Report by Sally, Seconded by Laurie. Motion approved.

- We're low on contributions for our budget, but it's typical for this time of the year and are hopeful the next couple months will bring us up to where we need to be.
- CD's have been renewed.
- Christmas Closet would like an account listed on the balance sheet for transparency.
- Need a new treasury computer as updates are not able to work on the old one anymore.

Pastor's Report:

- 16-9th graders were confirmed Sunday, 10/26 and we had lots of visitors in attendance.
- Baptism for one of the confirmands was also held Friday, 10/24.
- New fridges in the kitchen came Friday, 10/24.
- On Halloween night, 95 Reese's were taped to the front of the church door for trick or treaters to enjoy as inspiration for Martin Luther's 95 Theses.
- Had a few visitations this month, and was planning on going to Fergus Falls next month for a visit.
- Possible baptism on Sunday, 12/7.
- New member luncheon next Sunday, 11/16. There are 7 families interested in joining.
- New members will be honored in joining our church on Sunday, 11/23.

Financial Giving to the General Fund:

Annual Budget: \$

Needed Each Month: \$

Donations given through January 2026: \$ 7679

Continued on next page..



Council Notes

Updates from Directors:

Faith Formation & Growth:

- **Kindred Kids-**
 - Kicked off a new lesson series, *Unsung Heroes*, which is based on the book of Ruth.
 - Had their first Sunday school wide art project activity that revolved around the story of Elijah and the chariot of fire.
 - Will start working on the Christmas program soon.
- **Youth-**
 - Friday, 11/21 there will be a GAME night for students 6-12 grade.
 - Are currently doing the lessons for “Wonder” in confirmation.
 - Senior High “Recharge” winter camp at Luther Crest is Feb. 20-22.
 - Bible study, “How I’m wired!”, for 6-12th graders is starting Monday nights, November 10th-December 15th from 7-8pm and led by Lanah.
 - Lanah’s interested in a youth leader training on Jan. 30th-Feb. 2nd in St. Louis. We’ll look into the cost of the virtual attendance for this year and try to budget it in-person the next year when it’s in Minneapolis. Pastor Kyle would also be interested in attending the one in Minneapolis in 2027.

Management & Grounds:

- MDU payments need to be set up.
- Furnace schedules need to be updated for cooler temps in the church.
- Will reach out to set up snow removal.
- Have had some mice issues recently, and will add extra traps, etc. Deep cleaning was also done in the kitchen thanks to some volunteers.
- Lights on the outside of the church, lights on the trees, and banners outside need some addressing.

Social Ministry & Outreach:

- The Christmas Closet and Ham Dinner both had a successful weekend.
- Fellowship might have a potluck for new members on Sunday, 11/23 (but it’s also the tour of homes and Christmas Market at the High School that day).

Old Business:

- Improvements Committee-no new updates.
- Misconduct Prevention Policy-sent council a draft to review, and will check with our insurance and the State for recommendations too.
- Directory-looking for volunteers to help create a new one.
- Nominating Committee- Caitlin and Bryan will stay on Council for another term and we’ll add a youth position too.

New Business:

- Stein’s has a new rep that was here recently and tested our water. He said it’s hard and that’s what’s causing the film on our glasses from the dishwasher.
- New member luncheon- Parish life will provide the lunch.
- Back up custodian list- needed for emergency situations.

Motion to adjourn by Laurie, Seconded by Bryan. Motion approved.

Adjourned at 12 :41pm

Respectfully submitted by: Michele Hillman

Next meeting: Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 6pm



Calendar

2026

February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship Service 11am - Fellowship	2	3	4 6th, 7th, 8th Confirmation 6pm Choir Practice 5:30pm	5	6 Church Office Closed	7	
9am - Sunday School 10am - Contemporary Worship Service 11am Annual Mtg	8	9	10 6th, 7th, 8th Confirmation 6pm Choir Practice 5:30pm	11	12 Church Office Closed	13 14 	
9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship Service 11am - Fellowship	15 Senior Meal 11:45am 	16	17 Noon-5 pm Food Pantry	18 6pm Lenten Dinner 7pm Lenten Service	19	20 Church Office Closed	21
9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship Service 11am - Fellowship	22	23	24 Noon-5 pm Food Pantry	25 6pm Lenten Dinner 7pm Lenten Service	26	27 Church Office Closed	28



Lent Begins - February 18

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 18, inviting us into a sacred season of reflection, repentance, and renewal. Through prayer, fasting, and acts of love, we prepare our hearts to walk with Christ toward the hope of Easter. Join us as we receive ashes and begin this meaningful journey together.



391 SPRUCE ST.
PO BOX 115
KINDRED ND 58051

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Kindred
Lutheran Church


Kindred Connections
February 2026



**Kindred
Lutheran Church**

Pastor:
Rev. Kyle Giermann
pastorkyle@kindredlutheran.com

Church Office Hours:
Monday -Thursday
9am-4pm

 701-428-3630

www.kindredlutheran.com




Hello
February