

# Merry Christmas

AND  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

DECEMBER 2024 | KINDREDLUTHERAN.COM

## Kindred Connections

**For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

- Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)

Greetings of Joy and Peace this Advent Season!

Advent is here, and with it, the thrill of anticipation that leads us to the celebration of Christmas. Can you feel it? The sparkling lights, the familiar carols, and the stories of hope and redemption that draw us closer to the heart of God. Advent calls us into the holy tension of waiting—waiting for Christ's birth in Bethlehem and for the promise of Christ's return to make all things new.

This year, our Advent series, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," invites us to reflect on the deep longing the Israelites felt as they waited for the Messiah. Their yearning resonates with us today, as we hold our own hopes and prayers while waiting for the fullness of God's kingdom to come. Isaiah 9:6 reminds us that this waiting is not in vain. God is faithful, and through Jesus, the Prince of Peace, we find joy, hope, and light.



Amid this season of joy, we also acknowledge its complexity. For some, the holidays are a difficult time—filled with grief, loneliness, or unfulfilled expectations. On **Wednesday, December 18, at 7:00 PM**, we will gather for our Blue Christmas service, a time to pause, acknowledge the hard things, and hold space for healing and hope. This quiet and reflective service reminds us that God's light shines in the darkness, and the darkness will not overcome it.

There are so many ways to immerse yourself in the beauty of the season. Here are some highlights to look forward to this month:

- Kindred Kids Christmas Program: On **Sunday, December 15, during worship**, the children will present the story of Christ's birth, through their Christmas Program *The New Star*. Their joy and wonder will surely brighten your heart! We will also take a special offering this day to support those impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton.
- Christmas Eve Services: Join us on **Tuesday, December 24, at 4:00 PM or 6:00 PM** for our candlelight services. These gatherings are a cherished time to sing, pray, and celebrate the wonder of Emmanuel, God with us.

As we prepare for Christmas, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the ways you have given generously this year—through your time, talents, and financial gifts. Your faithfulness has supported our ministries, reached those in need, and helped spread the message of Christ's love in countless ways. Thank you for being part of this mission.

At the same time, I want to encourage us all to consider how we might give even more generously in this season of giving. We remain behind on our annual budget, and your contributions are essential to sustaining and growing our ministries. Whether it's through a one-time gift, a special year-end offering, or increasing regular support, every gift makes a tangible difference in the life of our church and our community.

The Advent season reminds us that God's promises are true and God's love is endless. So, let us rejoice together! Let us anticipate with excitement the birth of Jesus and carry that joy into every part of our lives. I look forward to celebrating this season with you—in worship, in service, and in the love we share.

May your hearts be filled with peace, your homes with joy, and your spirits with the hope that only Christ can bring.

With glad Christmas tidings,

Pastor Kyle Giermann



# Kindred Lutheran Church

## Table of Contents



Gather/Grow • P. 2,3,4

Sent/Serve • P. 5

Prayers • P. 6

Council Notes • P. 7,8

Calendar • P. 9





# Gathered to Grow



Experience the warmth and joy of this special evening as we come together in fellowship and reflection. Gather with family and friends in the glow of candlelight, where the spirit of love and peace fills the air. Our time-honored tradition of singing beloved carols will lift your spirits and remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas. We look forward to sharing this magical evening with you and spreading the joy of the season.

## What is Advent?



Advent is a 4-week Christian season of preparation for Christmas and the Second Coming of Christ, marked by lighting a candle each Sunday during worship. Each candle represents a theme for each week of Advent — hope, peace, joy, and love. The First Candle, called the Prophecy Candle, represents hope and the anticipation of Christ's coming, recalling the prophecies about the Messiah and the hope He brings to the world. Stay tuned for next Sunday.

 **Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Parish** invited you to an event

### In Celebrating Dr. Karin Moberg's Retirement

December 8, 2024 at the Hickson Community Center, Hickson  
11:00 am - 1:00 pm  
(Following worship at Hickson Lutheran Church)

*At KCC, we have a cherished tradition during Christmas time. We fill the sanctuary with poinsettias to honor the memory of our loved ones. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for Christmas, the cost is \$13. Sign up is in the entryway. XOXO*





# Gathered to Grow



Kindred Kids will present their "NEW STAR" Christmas Program on Sunday, December 15, during the Worship Service. We encourage you to invite your friends and family to this delightful event. Following the service, join us in the church basement for cake and cookies!

**HUGE THANK YOU** to Erin Kub and Tarrand Fiesel for organizing this amazing Program.



No Sunday School: Dec 22 & 29. We resume class on Jan 5 at 9am.

If you would like to help teaching or organizing some classes please give Pastor Kyle a shout 429-1413

## Blue Christmas

December 18 • 7pm

### KLC Prayer Partner

Sunday, Dec. 8th @ 11am

Would you appreciate having someone dedicated to sending a heartfelt prayer to the heavens on your behalf? Someone who remembers you specifically—a personal prayer warrior. Join us next Sunday to sign up for the "Extra Love" program and experience this unique support. We will meet after worship in the church basement.



Kindred Kids Sunday School

is joyfully collecting donations for the Kindred School Viking Village this Christmas, seeking socks, underwear, and pajamas (Kindergarten to High School) up to size 3X for boys and girls. Collecting until Sunday, December 15.





# Gathered to Grow



We're on the hunt for donations for the fabulous 2025 Christmas Closet! Swing by the church with your goodies before January waves goodbye!

A multitude of hearts to express gratitude for the splendid ham dinner at KLC. The turnout was truly remarkable, the ham divine, and indeed, those baby carrots that Jeff ventured to Grand Forks for were a treasure worth the journey. Thank you, everyone!

## CHRISTMAS CLOSET, 2024

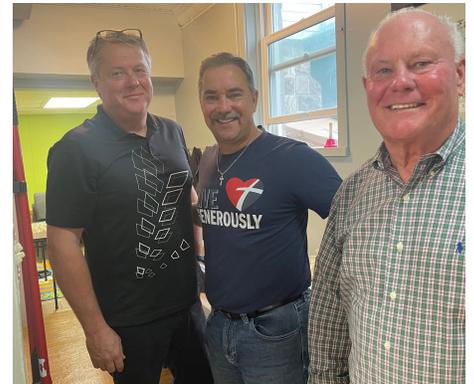


The very first Christmas Closet was an absolute BLAST! 🎉 We pulled off a holiday miracle with all the coordinating and organizing of Christmas goodies, transforming the space into a festive wonderland for bargain hunters! The bake sale was a sugary dream with treats galore! 🍪🍰 The fabulous committee raised over \$2,000! A generous \$1,000 went to the Viking Village at KHS, while another \$1,000 found its way to the Kindred Area Food Pantry. Talk about spreading holiday cheer! 🌲🌟

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# Sent to Serve



We prepared baskets for 20 families. It may sound simple, but organizing and assembling the baskets took us an entire morning. Kindred True Value generously donated the reusable bags for delivering the food. Most families came to collect their baskets, while a few were delivered directly to them. Pastors Kyle, Katie, and Jonas distributed the baskets on behalf of KAMA.

*grateful* ❤️

In addition, nine individuals in the community live alone. We wanted to do something special for them, so PK and Leah devoted a morning to taste-testing pumpkin pie and preparing individual meals for these community members. We were grateful to witness their appreciative smiles and share heartfelt hugs. All of this was made possible through KAMA, which includes nine neighboring churches.

KAMA = Kindred Area Minstrial Association

Come jingle with us at the community choir for the dazzling tree lighting in downtown Kindred on December 15 from 3 to 5 PM! If you're ready to belt out some carols with our merry crew, give Lavonne a ring at 361-8712!



have  
YOUSELF  
MERRY  
LITTLE  
Christmas

## Kindred Area Food Pantry

New hours in 2025: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, Noon-5pm. Donations accepted at the church entryway and Hawk's Market. Thank you for your generosity! Donations can also be made via VENMO - @kindredfoodpantry.

password: @kindredfood pantry

## Christmas Food Baskets

Kindred Lutheran is collecting money for

- 20 gallons of Milk
- 20 pounds of butter
- 10 individual meals

Please have any money donated to the Christmas baskets by Dec 16. Thanks!!



# Prayers & Healing



*Please lift up the following in your prayers:*

## Healing for:

Prayers for healing:



Pr. Phil Larsen  
Garrett Fenner  
Leo Kannas  
Shawn Johnson  
Wyatt Simley  
Carlotta Spelhaug  
Polly Roe  
John Carlson  
Alicia Hildebrand  
Maverick Wilson

## Comfort for:

The families and friends of Arlen Blumer who passed away in November.

During this Christmas season, we must remember our family, friends, and neighbors who may be facing difficulties. Whether they are grieving the loss of a loved one or navigating strained family relationships, it is important to offer support and compassion.

## Help for:

Lend A Hand Up  
Donations for:



Shawn Johnson  
Polly Roe  
Wyatt Simley

All families are in the Kindred Area. Links below

**Shawn Johnson:**

<https://lendahandup.org/give/shawn805/>

**Polly Roe:**

<https://lendahandup.org/give/polly770/>

**Wyatt Simley:**

<https://lendahandup.org/give/wyatt768/>

# LOVE, PEACE, JOY

*If you, or anyone you know, would like to be added to this list of prayers for healing, please call or email the church office.*

### KINDRED LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF:

**Pastor:**

**Rev. Kyle Giermann**

[pastorkyle@kindredlutheran.com](mailto:pastorkyle@kindredlutheran.com)

**Admin. Assistant:**

**Leah Lundquist**

**Hours: Noon - 5pm**

[admin@kindredlutheran.com](mailto:admin@kindredlutheran.com)

**Music Coordinator:**

**Cheryl Rostad**

**Choir Director:**

**LaVonne Nokleberg**

**Contemporary Worship Music:**

**Eldon & Amy Johnson**

**Custodians:**

**Mike & Karla Jostad**

## Christmas Prayer:

"Lord, we give you all the praise for this significant season where we celebrate your birth. We thank you as we reflect on your joy, peace and grace. May you give us wisdom and the opportunity to give back this Christmas and be a blessing to each other".





# Council Notes



## **Council Minutes**

**Sunday, October 13, 2024**

### **Kindred Lutheran Church**

2025-3 Michele Hillman 2026-2 Caitlin Perhus 2027-1 Sally Erickson

2026-2 Bryan Halvorson 2027-1 Verne Wolf 2027-1 Laurie O'Keefe

2027-1 Justin Fiesel

Called to Order by: Caitlin at 11:32 am

**Present:** Pastor Kyle, Caitlin, Justin, Bryan, Sally, & Michele

**Absent:** Laurie & Verne

### **Opening Prayer**

**Secretary's Report/Approval of prior Minutes:** Motion to approve September Minutes by Justin, Seconded by Bryan. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report/Approval of Report:** Motion to approve Report by Justin, Seconded by Sally. Motion approved. Multiple Errors found from 2022-2024 in the Portico benefits have been corrected.

### **Pastor's Report:**

- Had a busy month with a Wedding, a Funeral, and 4 visitations.
- Confirmation is going well and we have 39 6-8 grade confirmation students (a few new additions from Leonard & Walcott this year). We have 15 9th graders getting confirmed on Reformation Sunday 10-27.
- Thanksgiving food basket details will be coming soon. They will be delivered on 11/26.
- Looking into a Bible study for Advent.
- All Saints Sunday will be 11/03.
- Printer was serviced recently and the contract is up in a couple years.

### **Updates from Directors:**

#### **Faith Formation & Growth:**

- Kindred Kids-has around 25-30 kids and the new curriculum is going well. They would like to get more "kid" bibles for the younger grades to use. The printer in the office doesn't work all the time.

#### **Management & Grounds:**

- Snow blower is ready to go.
- New coffee maker was delivered this week.
- Found a 2nd sump pump in the choir closet that was rusty and unused. Not sure when it was running last.



# Council Notes



## **Management & Grounds continued...**

- Montana/Dakota said the Natural Gas should be ready in December. We have 5 years to get things changed over to utilize it.

## **Social Ministry & Outreach:**

- Fellowship is working on some new ideas.
- Worship committee is having good participation with the sign up sheet each Sunday.

## **Old Business:**

- Youth Director-no new applicants.
- Directory-finishing up final details and hoping to be completed soon.
- Wifi-talked to MLGC and it would cost \$500/year and a \$500 set-up for their services. For a more cost effective plan they suggested buying our own system for a one time price, but then we'd have to fix it ourselves when issues arise.
- Portico/benefits-looked at our options and decided to have Pastor & Calvin on Portico through the church and Katie will have her own benefits through work.

## **New Business:**

- Pastor's laptop stopped working and he purchased a new one. Since he uses his personal laptop for work we will add a laptop reimbursement to the 2025 budget.
- Improvements Committee-looking for volunteers to be part of a committee to help get ideas for improvements/updating the church.

Motion to adjourn by Michele, Seconded by Sally. Motion approved.

Adjourned at 1 :29 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Michele Hillman

Next meeting: 11-10-24

2 Months out: 12-08-24

3 Months out:

## **Financial Giving to the General Fund:**

**Annual Budget: \$232,930.54**

**Needed Each Month: \$19,411**

**Received in 2024: \$ 132,648**



# Calendar



2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p><i>Advent</i></p> <p>No Sunday School 9am- Bible Study 10am - Worship Service 11am - Fellowship</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Noon Bible Study</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6 pm Confirmation 7:30 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9am Sunday School 9am Bible Study 10am - Contemporary Worship Service Baptism 11am - Fellowship 11am -Prayer Partner Party</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Noon Bible Study</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6 pm Confirmation 7:30 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9am Sunday School 9am Bible Study 10am - Worship Service Kindred Kids Sunday School Program X-mas Offering</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>Senior Meal 11:45am</b></p> <p>\$\$\$ due for Christmas Food Baskets</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Noon Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>No Confirmation 7 pm Blue Christmas Service</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Food Basket Assembly 2:30pm 3pm-4:30pm Pickup</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>No Sunday School 9a Bible Study 10am Worship Service 11am Fellowship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Deadline for Newsletter Articles</p>	<p>24</p> <p><i>Christmas Eve</i></p> <p>4 pm &amp; 6 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>Christmas Day</i></p>  <p>Merry Christmas</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>No Sunday School 10am "Lesson &amp; Carols" Worship Service</p> 	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>Church Office Closed</p>			



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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Kindred**  
Lutheran Church

Kindred Connections  
DECEMBER 2024



**Kindred Lutheran  
Church**

**Pastor:**  
**Rev. Kyle Giermann**  
[pastorkyle@kindredlutheran.com](mailto:pastorkyle@kindredlutheran.com)

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

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