



CLEARWATER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER – January 2023

Carol Halvorson, Editor,

Carol e-mail: clwtax@frontiernet.net

Carol cell phone - text or call 320-493-4997

WORSHIP SERVICE:

Sundays at 9:30 AM

Come and join us in worship – our attendance is down – we would love to have your presence.

Plan to stay for coffee after in the fellowship hall.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY:

Mondays at 10:30 AM

MONTHLY: United Methodist Women in Faith –UMWIF

January 3, 2023 –(1st Tuesday of every month at 2:00 pm

MONTHLY-POTLUCK AND MOVIE NIGHT:

First Saturday of each month- (January 7)at 5:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share

and after dinner will be a movie. We'll have popcorn also.

Invite your friends and family.

PRAISE GOD!

For a blessed Christmas Season! Praise God for sending his Son to us.

Winter is now here. Let's enjoy this beautiful country that God has given us during this winter season.

OUR CHURCH WEBSITE:
www.clearwaterumcmn.org
– Please remember to log in and check it out.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Our projected budget for 2023 shows \$600 more per month of expenses than our projected income. Our

utilities and insurance have increased and our giving is down – not a good combination. Please pray about this problem. We do have \$ in the bank because in 2021 we did receive the 2 PPP Grants of about \$7,800 each plus a small grant from the county. We do need more giving dollars to cover our expenses though.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Jan Pearson – Jan 5

Jim Heinks – Jan 22

In memory of Don Miller – Jan 23

If we are missing your birthday, please call, text or e-mail Carol and we will add.

RECIPES

Lefse

Here is a good lefse recipe for all of you Scandinavians! It is so much better than any lefse you can buy! Warning, it may take some equipment that you do not have – you may need to beg, borrow or obtain cheaply on facebook marketplace, garage sales etc.

A large round grill of some kind – the electric lefse grill is the best!

A lefse turner

A large cloth covered board for rolling the lefse – the round lefse board is the best!

Any rolling pin

A loose short sleeved shirt – needed for peeling, boiling, rolling

There!

10 large russet potatoes – peel, boil until tender, drain well, smash, then rice

(or mix with electric mixer until very smooth.

Measure mashed potatoes with a 1 cup measure. If you have 9 cups of potatoes then use the following (if less then decrease the following accordingly)

1 cup whipping cream

6 tablespoons butter

2 teaspoons salt – mix into potatoes, cover with a towel and **cool overnight in refrigerator – very important.**

Next day, add flour – start with 3 cups if you had 9 cups of the original mashed potatoes. Mix in with a pastry blender first, then add more flour if too wet and roll into a ball and knead until smooth.

Cool again several hours in the refrigerator-very important.

Heat grill to 400 – increase to 425 later if necessary.

Use 1/3 cup of the dough and knead, then place on cloth covered board which

has been floured. Pat dough down and turn over to cover with flour. Roll very thin, using flour on rolling pin as necessary.

Slide turning stick under the round working to the center so stick is under the round all of the way.

Transfer to the grill.

Turn as soon as the large bubbles rise. Both sides should have light brown spots.

Place between clean dish towels or waxed paper and cool. When well cooled you can slice each round into 4 pieces and refrigerate.

Serve cold with butter or butter, sugar and cinnamon.

A warning: Making lefse will make you crazy! Open the doors when heat and steam fills the house! Rip the sleeves out of your shirt if it makes you feel better.

From Pastor Alison Hendley

I write this as we are in the middle of our 'bomb cyclone,' the weather feels like minus 35, and has for a few days, and I try to work out how to get the dog outside long enough to get his business done and keep the heat high enough to be effective and not too high as concerns of the bill enter my head. I worry about friends who have to be out in this, driving for work on the slick roads, those who clear the snow as best they can, those who fix the things that enable me to stay warm inside. I worry about those who have no shelter, especially as news about the shelters in town come through.... They are overflowing or have to turn people away because of a rule of how many staff to guests they need to have that is unreasonable. I worry about the wildlife.... Although I think they have ways of hunkering down and staying cozy.... But this has been a long spell and I wonder what they do for

food. And I try to visit my neighbor, homebound in this weather, more regularly.

And then I remember what this season is about. We have just celebrated the birth of Christ! The One who came to walk among us, fully human, fully divine. The One who brings light and hope to our worries. The One who had no place to call home for the first few years of his life as his family fled Herod. And the thought comes into my mind.... He knows. He knows what it is to live on this earth with all the problems and heartache and challenges that face us. He knows what it is to be uncomfortable. He knows what it is to feel lost. He knows.

Somehow, with this refrain, he knows, running through my head, My eyes are drawn outward. Suddenly a sun dog appears in the icy sky, the sun low on the horizon shining on the white snow, the shadows long and blue on the ice.

'He knows.' I remember that hope surrounds us and lives within us. 'He knows.' I feel the stillness of the world as everything slows and hunkers down. 'He knows.' I feel the beauty of life running through my veins. 'He knows.' I sense the love of God, who sent a child to be born among us so this can be true! 'He knows.' And my heart turns to prayer instead of worry, to loving action instead of hopelessness and despair, to looking for the good instead of imagining the worst. 'He knows.' And peace, peace, peace begins to beat with my heart.

How are you remembering that Christ knows in these days? How are you feeling solace, even though there is plenty in the world to worry about? Where are you seeing the beauty? Where are you finding peace?

[http://
www.alisonhendleyhealing.c
om/](http://www.alisonhendleyhealing.com/)

"My soul is striving to remember who I am, to

make who I am
compatible with who I
was born to be, to bring
who I am into synch with
who I will be." *Steven
Foster*