



Blizzard Bingo in September

This year we are going to add one more opportunity to play Blizzard Bingo. We are hoping many ULC members and friends will come together on **Sunday, September 27, at 5:00pm** for supper and 16 games of Bingo for Dairy Gift Cards. The first 15 games will be for \$10 gift cards and at the end blackout Bingo will be \$40. This is simply a fun way to get together as a church family and have some fun. The meal at 5:00pm will be delicious - pulled pork sandwich, baked beans, potato salad, chips and dessert. Blizzard Bingo will begin at 5:30.

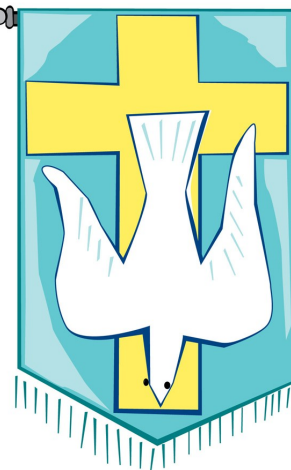
Bring the whole family!!

Confirmation 2026-27

As school begins in Grand Forks, confirmation classes are back as well. We hope to provide our young people with faith tools for their lives. Here are some fall details:

Grade 10 – the Final Paper

We will meet **Wednesday, September 9, 7:00pm**, to get you started on your final paper. This paper, "What Does It Mean for Me to Be a Christian?", is due Wednesday, September 30, 5pm. It will be the basis of an interview with Pastor Tom sometime in October. Confirmation Sunday is October 25, with the Confirmation Banquet at 6pm the night before. We have eleven 10th graders preparing for confirmation. God bless them as they prepare.



Grades 7-9 Confirmation Orientation

Parents and students are to attend this class together on **Wednesday, September 16**. We will meet at 7:15pm in the fellowship hall after worship. At this event, we will go through the upcoming year and outline all the requirements and expectations for this new year. This is an important meeting to make sure parents and students understand our program.

Bible Basics for Grade 3

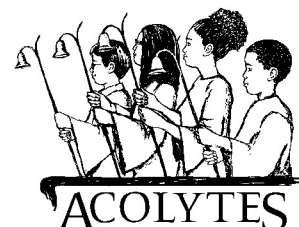
Grade 3 parents and students are invited to attend a Bible Basics class on Sunday, **October 4, 6:30pm**. We will introduce the Bible to the third-grade class preparing them to receive their new Bibles on Bible Sunday and Wednesday. For your information, we give the students a SPARK Bible, a child friendly version of the New Revised Standard Bible.

Bible Sunday and Wednesday

The B-I-B-L-E, yes, that's the book for me! This fall **Bible Wednesday is October 7 and Bible Sunday is October 11**. On these dates, we give SPARK Story Bibles to preschool students, Bible story books to grade 2 students, and SPARK NRSV Bibles to grade 3 students.

Acolyte Class

It's time to train acolytes! We are asking youth (grades 5-8) to train for this ministry at ULC. The word acolyte means helper, and we need youth to help lead worship! If this is something you want to do, join us at church on **Saturday, October 3, from 10-12:00pm**.



Youth News



Sundaes on Wednesday

Our Wednesday evening youth ministry night "Sundaes on Wednesday" will continue. Each week we gather at 8:00pm for ice cream sundaes and conversation, transition to some sort of program or service project, and conclude with our flashlight devotions. **In September, we will meet Wednesdays, September 9, 16 and 30.** We are off the 23rd because of the God's Work Our Hands event downtown Grand Forks.

Do Good Be Better Eastern North Dakota Fall Youth Retreat at Castaway Club September 25-27

We are excited for the Eastern North Dakota Fall Youth retreat September 25-27 at the Castaway Club. This retreat is geared toward students in grades 6-10.

This year's theme is **IMAGINE MORE**—inspired by the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering theme. At the heart of this theme is the invitation to trust that God is always at work beyond what we can see, understand, or expect. This theme calls us to imagine a faith that expands beyond Sunday, a love that reaches beyond our comfort zones, a justice that transforms communities, and a God whose possibilities are greater than our limitations. This weekend, we'll invite young people to wonder: What does it mean to imagine more for my own faith journey? Where is God calling me beyond what feels safe or familiar? How can the church imagine more for our neighbors, our communities, and the world?

The retreat is at Castaway Club, which is located in the heart of Minnesota's beautiful lake country, 13 miles south of Detroit Lakes. Fall in the lake country is gorgeous! There are game rooms, a climbing wall, waterfront frisbee golf course, soccer field, basketball courts, tennis & volleyball, and a gaga pit, as well as great food and coffee shop.

The event begins at 8:00pm, Friday, September 25, and we will be home Sunday afternoon. Cost is \$191, but if you want to attend, we will find \$100 scholarships for every youth who goes. So, your cost is \$91. Please let Pastor Tom or Phoebe know if that \$91 is also a hardship.

We are behind in registering youth, and it could fill up quickly, so please contact Pastor Tom or Phoebe as soon as possible to pick up the proper forms.

ELCA National Youth Gathering **IMAGINE MORE** Minneapolis, Minnesota June 28-July 2, 2027

Hey ULC Youth currently in grades 8-12, you are invited to attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering in the summer of 2027. The theme is **IMAGINE MORE – Courage, Grace, Joy, Love and Welcome.** We will have our organizational meeting about this on Wednesday, September 30, at 8:00pm during our Sundaes on Wednesday event. On this night, we will have parents join us for this initial informational and potentially sign-up event.