

Northland Lutheran Church Parish Messenger

February 2026

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From the Desk of Pastor Bill

“How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.” These are the first two stanzas of a famous poem by Elizabeth Barrett Browning. In the poem she goes on to declare her unending love and devotion to her beloved.

Too often, if we were to ask a similar question about our beloved, the question would better be, “Why do I love thee? To that question a man’s answers might be something like, “I love you because of the way you make me feel when I am tired.” “I love you because of the way you take care of the kids.” “I love you because you wash my clothes (separating the whites from the darks).” “I love you because of the way you cook...especially when you prepare my favorite meals.” Or even, “I love you because you are beautiful.” Or a woman may say things like, “I love you because you are such a hard worker.” “I love you because you are able to fix things around the house.” “I love you because you take care of me and the kids.” Or “I love you because you let me buy the things I want.” These certainly are statements of appreciation and I’m sure our spouses would like to hear these kinds of things, but let’s go back to Browning’s question, “**How** do I love thee?”

The Bible actually has a lot to say about how we should love others. In the book of Philippians, we are told to have the same mind that Christ had, and in that, to “**consider others more important than yourselves.**” That’s the driving force behind real love. In the Bible we learn that we love by being kind and forgiving. We love by being patient. We love by seeking the best for others and we love others by serving.

As we enter February, the month remembered most for its focus on love, perhaps the question each of us should ask is, “How can I love others, better?” Whether that other is a spouse, a friend, a neighbor, a child or even a stranger, our goal as imitators of Christ should be to love as Christ loved.



1st Katie Moen
2nd Connie Benson
3rd Kristi Dippel, Tom Kellnhauser
9th Kali Finch, Mark Finch, Carl Thompson
11th Tracey Allred,
13th Brody Fisher, John Lashua, Jack Lashua, Mark Moen
15th Kristin Allred, Ryan Finch
17th Gerald Witkowski
18th Peter Timdal
21st Patricia Melum
22nd Morgan Hahn
24th Randall Peterson
25th Chase Timdal
27th Stuart Wogsland
28th Lisa Nerlien



FEBRUARY 2026 AT A GLANCE

Altar Guild: Terri Fischer

February Ushers Confirmation Students

AA Meeting: every Thursday at 7:00 PM in basement.

Men's Ministry February 1 Following Worship

February 1 Communion at rail

Council Meeting February 8 after Worship

Tuesday Quilter Tuesday 17, 9:00 am – 3:00pm

February 15, communion intinction

Valentines Day Spaghetti Dinner after Church February 15

Menu : Spaghetti, Ceaser salad, Garlic bread.

All members to bring potluck dessert

February 18, Ash Wednesday 7:00PM with Communion

Projector February 1 Bruce M. Projector February 8 Carl T.
Projector February 15 Kevin D. Projector February 22 Bruce M.

Northland Lutheran Church 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes
January 18th, 2026

President Bill Hahn called the meeting to order at 11:28am and opened with prayer.

Quorum was met with 38 members in attendance.

Secretary's Report was read by Secretary Jessie Glodowski. Motion to accept made by Dick Lashua, second by Catelin Fischer. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report from Bill Stukenberg was he is still pleased to be serving as pastor of Northland Church. He verbalized the importance of encouraging attendance and membership of younger families to secure a future for the church.

Treasurer's Report for 2025 Checkbook Summary, Memorial Summary and 2025 Fiscal Report was reviewed as printed in meeting packet. Proposed 2026 Budget was reviewed. Line Item Property Tax changed to increased to \$450.00 from \$130.00. Motion to accept 2025 Reports and 2026 Budget to adjusted total of \$116,480.00 made by Dianna Anderson. Second by Pam Dahle. Motion carried.

Benevolence designations reviewed, with worship offering collection dates to remain as follows:

2026 Lenten Service to Project Backpack

May 10, 2026 (Mother's Day) to Agape

June 21, 2026 (Father's Day) to Foundations For Living

November 8th Thank Offering to Samaritan's Purse.

Lutefisk supper was discussed. Motion to hold Annual Lutefisk Supper for the 3rd Saturday in October (October 17, 2026) made by Bill Stukenberg, Second by Amber Olson. Motion carried.

Mandatory MFL thinning of Church's 45-acre forest was completed in 2025. Property is re-enrolled in the MFL Program for another 25 years.

Northland Lutheran Church was awarded a grant for a new well to eliminate nitrate contamination, which must be installed by the end of July 2026. Still waiting on source tracking results.

The elevator remains out of service. Contact with area elevator services were made and only verbal quotes were recently given to repair and/or replace elevator with a commercial grade elevator. Written quotes are being requested. Motion to retrieve quote for a new hydraulic elevator system made by Roger Olson, second by Sherman Wogsland. Motion carried.

Nomination for Auditing committee opened for 2 positions. Vicki Allred and James Wroldstad received nominations. Motion to close nominations and accept nominees made by Catelin Fischer and second by Amber Olson. Motion carried.

Nominations for Council President opened. Nomination was made for Robbie Lashua. Motion to close Council President nominations and accept nominees made by Dick Lashua, second by Roger Olson and Lori Barikmo. Motion carried.

Nominations for Council Vice President opened. Nomination was made for Tom Kellnhauser. Motion to close nominations and accept nominees made by Dianne Erickson, second by Roger Olson. Motion carried.

Nominations for 3 Council Members opened. Nominations were made for Pam Dahle, Amber Olson and Doug Thompson. Motion to close nominations and accept nominees made by Dick Lashua, second by Jessie Glodowski.

Thank you to Richard Kirchhoff and Bill Hahn for serving on the council.

2026 Ballot results as follows:

President: Robbie Lashua (34 votes)

Vice President: Tom Kellnhauser (34 votes)

Members: Amber Olson (34 votes)

Doug Thompson (32 votes)

Pam Dahle (31 votes)

Confirmation Day at Northland will be Sunday April 26th, 2026.

Inquiry was made for air conditioning considerations.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Richard Kirchhoff and second by Larry Barikmo.

Meeting closed at 12:41 with The Lords Prayer.

These minutes have not been approved. Council Secretary, Jessie Glodowski