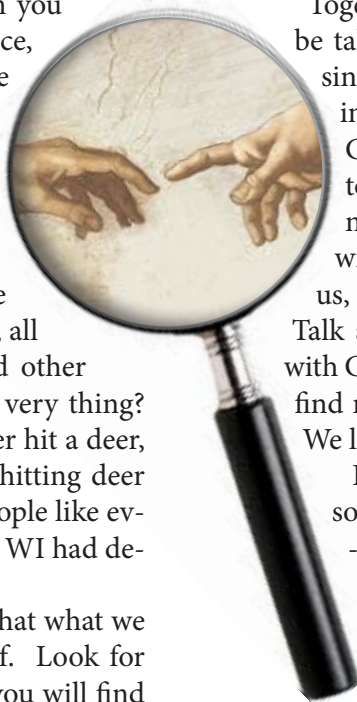


We're on a God Watch! **Where is God in Our Lives & Community?**

You know how when you have a certain experience, all of a sudden, you notice other incidences of it? When you or your wife was pregnant, you noticed every other pregnant person around? When your child chose to marry a non-Lutheran, all of a sudden, you noticed other conversations about that very thing? And when your co-worker hit a deer, the stories about people hitting deer seemed to pour out of people like every buck or doe in MN & WI had descended on Taylors Falls?

I am fully convinced that what we look for, we find more of. Look for the good in people, and you will find more, (teachers, can you say PBIS*?) Look for hopeful news stories, and you will find many of them. Not Pollyanna here, still aware of the pain, and the betrayal, and the unkindness and the challenges real around us. But I believe that if what you see on your computer or television scares you, it is not time to bury your head in the sand - or snow - but maybe time to turn those things off, and talk with the people around you.



Together, this Lent, we will be talking, and praying, and singing, and contemplating, and acting to see God's work in our midst, to sort out where God might call us to be, to talk with the people closest to us, or a stranger at Coffee Talk about their experiences with God - and I believe you'll find more than you thought. We look together!

I trust God will teach us something new this Lent - and prepare us for the joy of Easter! Invite friends, family, co-workers to join you in this journey.

In God's presence, as we all are,

Pr. Mary Kaye

*stands for Positive Behavior Intervention & Support
- ask a teacher :)

LENT WEDNESDAY WORSHIP
@ 11:00am or 6:15pm

SEE PAGE 1 FOR FULL SCHEDULE.

LENT

WEDNESDAYS (Through March 25)

11:00am Mid-day Lent Worship

followed by a simple Lunch

~ or ~

5:30pm Simple Supper

6:15 - 7:00pm Lent Worship

7:00-8:00pm Youth Group

Lent 2015 Theme:



LENT OFFERINGS

Council voted to share Wednesday Lent service giving equally between the *FELC Samaritan Fund* and the *Food-4-Kids Backpack Program*. Thank you!

ADULT CHOIR...

We would LOVE to have you sing with us this spring! **Jr high and High School Youth are invited to come! We love to mentor young singers!**

If you need help with a ride please contact Michelle Lynch.

March Choir Schedule

4/1 - Not singing (Michelle n/a)

4/3, 10, 17, 24, 31 = Rehearsals

Singing for worship: 4/8 15, & 29

Holy Week:

April 2nd Maundy Thursday @ 7pm;

April 3rd Good Friday @ 7pm;

April 5th Easter Sunday @ 9am.

Lent SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

We welcome those interested in helping to prepare or serve a simple lunch or supper on Lent Wednesdays to be in contact with Pastor Mary Kaye or the church office. A sign-up is also available on the bulletin board.

We can expect 10-20 for a simple lunch and between 35-50 for a simple supper. A slow cooker of soup with crackers bread, or sandwiches or would be welcomed. Kitchen clean-up help after 6:15 worship is available.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 29

Worship at 9:00am

Breakfast at 10:00am

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 2

Worship at 7:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 3

Worship at 7:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 5

Worship at 9:00am

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Halstrom, Michael	03/03
Kirchoff, Taylor	03/04
Peterson, Gloria	03/04
Eilertson, Darin	03/05
Anderson, Rob	03/06
Landgreen, Benjamin	03/06
Loen, Craig	03/07
Schumann, Jason	03/08
Clippard, Andre	03/11
Miers, Caleb	03/11
Johnson, Bjorn	03/14
Grover, Verna	03/16
Miller, Sarah	03/16
Puffer, Julie	03/16
Loen, Abby	03/17
Woeltge, Ashlyn	03/17
Krueger, Randall	03/18
Keto, Pamela	03/19
Peterson, Aynslee	03/19
Goranson, Theodore	03/23
Loen, Brenna	03/23
Berthiaume, Darrin	03/24
Carlson, Daryl	03/24
Goranson, Rebecca	03/25
Krueger, Glenda	03/25
Lundholm, Chase	03/25
Vodenka-Reed, Hanichka	03/25
Schultz, Arlen	03/26
Carlson, Marinda	03/30
Hasselquist, Tammi	03/30
Johnson, Delano	03/30
Johnson, Anna	03/31
Landgreen, Natalie	03/31

Please let the office know of errors or omissions. Thank you!

Preschool DANCE PARTY!



Friday, March 13, 6:00-7:30!

Little people and their adults are invited for a time of music, movement, Bible story, and healthy snack with Pastor Mary Kaye Ashley and friends! No actual dancing will be required - okay, maybe the Hokey Pokey! We'll have fun & build relationships; neighbors & other family members surely welcome!



Monthly Sunday Bible Study & Lunch

Noon-1:30pm, Mar. 22, and Apr. 26.

Bring your own lunch.

Open for all ages, but especially appropriate for Senior High through adult.

Watch bulletins for March & April foci.
Meet in the Library.

NEW!

As part of learning more about giving as a congregation, Duane Olson and PMK will lead book discussions on the book *Not Your Parents' Offering Plate* by J. Clif Christopher. Two copies of the book have been left in our library, and you are welcome whether you've finished the book or not.

Sunday, March 15, 10:15-11:15a

Tuesday, March 17, 7-8p

Let us know (email, phone call, note), if you'd like to read the next copy available-and we'll let you know when one is returned. Please contact the church office, Duane, or Pr. Mary Kaye if you have questions.



FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion has traditionally been celebrated by children 4th grade or older on this **Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015**. If parents have a child who they feel is ready, please contact Pastor Mary Kaye or the church office to help determine dates for a time of learning about the blessings of communion.

COUNCILCORNER

Spring is right around the corner, I am confident of it, even though it is -15F outside as I write this article.

Pastor Mary Kaye and I attended the annual one day workshop on February 21 entitled “Toolkit for Congregational Leaders” sponsored by the St. Paul Area Synod. We spent the day visiting with leaders of other Congregations from the Synod, sharing and learning about their mission, joys, and concerns, and the day-to-day challenges and opportunities.

I attended an afternoon session led by Dr. David Webb, Superintendent of the South St. Paul School System. The theme of the session was “Improvement”. He shared, that as a leader in the School System and in the Church, our role is to improve. Dr. Webb asked 3 questions, regarding improvement: 1) What is working well in the church; 2) What is not working well; and 3) Based on answers in 1 and 2 what areas would you like to improve. His message was: “in order to improve, we must change”. Change is difficult and he explained a process/tool to use to help with improvement and change in our church and daily lives.

My “take away” from this one day session was that all Churches in the Synod, no matter the size or budget, have similar challenges and similar strengths. The challenges included budget shortfalls, declining memberships and participation. The strengths included Youth Programs and Activities, Music programs, and Community Outreach.

The Council is completing the review of the Constitution and bylaws and by this spring we will have those prepared for Congregational approval. Stay warm and connected in God’s Love.

Blessings,
Don

March
COUNCILMEETING

The March Council meeting will held **Sunday, March 8, at 4:00pm**. The Constitution Meeting will precede it at **2:00pm**.

MONTHLYGIVING REPORT

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. —2 Cor. 9:7 (NIV)

Budgeted Monthly Expenses: \$ 13,030.00	
Needed per week: \$3257.50	
02/01 Giving:	\$3,514.00
02/08 Giving:	3,626.75
02/15 Giving:	1,852.75
02/22 Giving:	1,922.43

Thank you for your faithful giving. Please contact FELC Treasurer, Joe Landgreen with any questions or concerns at:
715-417-1429 or
jlandgreen.jl@gmail.com.

SIMPLY GIVING

Did you know that you are able to direct deposit your giving to First Lutheran? With one simple phone call or a quick form to fill out, your giving can arrive confidentially, regularly, and safely at whatever intervals or amounts that you set. Changing or cancelling the service is as simple as another phone call to the church office. Help us to keep the heat paid this winter with your regular giving.

Archiving CHURCH HISTORY

The work being done by Bruce Carlsted and Duane Olson has begun by unloading and sorting the storage rooms. Bruce has acquired shelving and have changed some things for efficiency. Unbeknownst to them, they found that a great deal of work on organizing FELC's archiving documents was done by Julie Magnuson at the time of our 150th Anniversary Celebration. We are very thankful to her for her many hours of work.

As we move forward, if there is anyone who has past information that we should know, please communicate it to us. We hope to get information and history of our church completed so there will be easy access to our church history going forward.

~ Duane Olson

Relay**FOR**LIFE

Am. Cancer Relay for Life Pancake breakfast, **Saturday, March 21, 8:30am-noon**, Trinity Lutheran Church, N. Branch

Save the Date for Synod Assembly!

Fri., April 24—Sat., April 25, 2015
Prince of Peace, Burnsville



Educator APPRECIATION Thanks!

Thank you to all who served and provided food. Please see the card of thanks on the bulletin board from the TF elementary school staff.

J oy in the J ourney

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CONNECTION
a ministry of stonecroft.org

Mon • March 16th • 11:30am

\$10.00—inclusive • First United Methodist
30828 Irene Avenue, Lindstrom, MN 55045



*Music &
Special Feature*
Raymond Berg
"Rock & Roll Review"

—*Speaker*—
Suzanne Berg
Ultimate Destination

WEAR 50's & 60's APPAREL!

RESERVATIONS AND CANCELLATIONS NECESSARY.

Please call for reservations at least one week prior.

651-257-4741 (Carrie)
715-554-2330 (Mary)

CONNECT

to a Christian Community;

INVITE

into the life and love of God;

EQUIP

*to make God-honoring choices
in their lives and to put their
faith into practice.*

First Lutheran Youth

*March
Schedule*



YOUTH, GRADES 6-12 WELCOME!

YOUTH SCHEDULE CHANGES THROUGH MARCH 25TH

Our church is in the season of LENT which will change our Wednesday evenings slightly ~ adding a simple supper, worship time, and youth group time. During these 5 Wednesdays we are inviting FAMILIES to come together on Wednesday nights to have a meal and worship together. This is not just “youth” nights -- but rather “family” nights. We would love to see many parents, siblings, and invited friends coming together in the middle of the week to PAUSE and take time together to enjoy a meal and time to connect with God. The schedule will look like this:

5:30 - 6:15pm Supper

6:15-7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer Service

****it would be wonderful if youth could put a couple dollars in their pocket for the offering each week. Our Council voted to equally support First Lutheran's Samaritan Fund and Food-4-Kids Backpack program.**

7:00-8:00pm Youth Group

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25TH: Special 30 Hour Famine Event Presentation for Parents & Youth in the sanctuary

WEDNESDAY MARCH 4TH: Special Sap Season Presentation by Don Hansen for Parents & Youth in the Sanctuary.

NEXT MANDATORY MISSION TRIP TEAM MEETING: Sunday March 22nd 2-3pm for youth and chaperones.

HEADS UP! THE 30 HOUR FAMINE EVENT for youth has been bumped up one week earlier than the date published last fall: The event will be an overnight event at church Friday April 17th 7pm through 5pm Saturday April 18th.

PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST!

Immediately following the 9am Worship on **Sunday, March 29th**

This is one of our main fundraisers to support the Mission Trip Team and is a Free-Will Offering. Mission Trip Team Members (and any family members that are able and willing) are in charge of serving and cleaning up this wonderful time of fellowship. We are looking for adult help with the preparation of the food. If you are willing and able to lend your skill, time and abilities please let Caroline know in the office.

KIDS-ON-BOARD Scheduled to lead worship on Sunday March 22nd. Plan to have a rehearsal on Saturday March 21st ~ time to be determined.

2015



First Lutheran Youth

**WINTER
RETREAT**

FEED MY
STARVING
CHILDREN



PACKING
FOOD W/PMK



MORE



RETREAT



Chisago Lakes Area Food Shelf

We served 2,324 households in 2014, 209 being new families

We served 6,726 individuals:

2,468 were children & 456 were 65+ years old

247,039 pounds of food was distributed

4,659 hours were worked by volunteers

Chisago Lakes Area
Food Shelf
10586 Liberty Lane
PO Box 45
Chisago City, MN 55013
651-257-1308

Hours:
Monday 9 AM - 6 PM
Tuesday 9 AM - 6 PM
Wednesday 9 AM - 3 PM
Thursday 9 AM - 6 PM



St. Croix Falls Food Shelf

We served 3,588 households in 2014 533 being new families

We served 10,229 individuals:

3,503 were children & 828 were 65+ years old

303,476 pounds of food was distributed

3,868 hours were worked by volunteers

St. Croix Falls Food Shelf
2000 US Highway 8
St Croix Falls, WI 54024
715-483-2920

Hours:
Monday 9AM - 5 PM
Tuesday 9AM - 5 PM
Wednesday 10:30 AM - 6 PM
Thursday 9 AM - 5 PM
Friday 9 AM - 5 PM
Saturday 9 AM—Noon





Greetings from Luther Point

March 2015

Summer Camp Registration:

The big news for March is that summer camp registration is ready with an Early Bird incentive by April 1. Camp sign-up has never been easier – all you have to do is click on the “Register Online Now” link at www.lutherpoint.org and create an account to begin. Since this is a new system, we welcome any and all suggestions you might have to make improvements. Don't hesitate to contact us if you need any assistance! The choices include Traditional In-Camp, Horse Camp, Adventure Trips, Fishing Camp, Family Camp, Grandparent/Grandchild Camp, and Specialty Camps for Guitar, Drama, and Art. Visit our website to view our 2015 schedule and pricing. Updates and information are added daily.

Summer and Family Camp brochures are on their way to the printer.

You will can also view or download copies at www.lutherpoint.org.

Elementary (3rd-5th Grade) Weekend Camp – March 13-14. Details and on-line registration are available at www.lutherpoint.org. Weekend Camps are 24 hours jam-packed with faith, fun, and friends. Our Summer Camp Staff will be on hand to care for and lead the campers in all the great activities. This is a great opportunity to introduce “camp” – registration deadline is March 6.

OTHER NEWS:

Prayer Shawl & Knitting Ministries Retreat, Thursday, April 23, 2015

Join knitters from all over our area from 9am-3pm for a fun day of fellowship! This is an excellent opportunity to gain new skills and ideas for prayer shawls and other knitting ministries. Enjoy devotions and fellowship in the comfort and stillness of Luther Point Bible Camp. Cost is \$30/knitter and includes a delicious camp meal! Don't forget to bring yarn, knitting needles or crochet hooks, and a friend! Visit www.lutherpoint.org to register.

Applications are available for our 2015 Summer Staff. We are busy interviewing candidates at college fairs during the month of February and welcome any candidate referrals you might have for us. A summer spent serving at camp is more than a job – it's an opportunity to grow in faith and help hundreds of youth do the same! Complete information can be found on the Employment page at www.lutherpoint.org

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Mark T. Peters, Executive Director
www.lutherpoint.org

Church Office
651-465-5265
www.tflutheran.org



Pastor Mary Kaye Ashley
c: 612-532-7083
felcpastor.mk@gmail.com

Michelle Lynch,
Youth Minister/Choir Director
c: 715-220-2782
felcyouthminister@gmail.com

Caroline Greene
Ministry Coordinator,
parishc@tflutheran.org

2014-2015 Council/Officers:

Don Hansen—President
Sharna Braucks—Vice President
Joe Landgreen—Treasurer
Gayle Langer —Secretary
Julie Valez
Duane Olson
Pastor Mary Kaye Ashley

Financial Secretary
Jerry Rhoads

Please hold the ministers and officers in your prayers that God would give them the wisdom, strength, courage, patience and perseverance to serve this community of faith as they lead us in our mission for the sake of the world and the glory of God.

Next council meeting is Sunday, March 8th @ 4pm in the Library.

Mission Statement

Gather. Grow. Go.

Gather—all people into the saving faith through Jesus Christ
and to worship together;

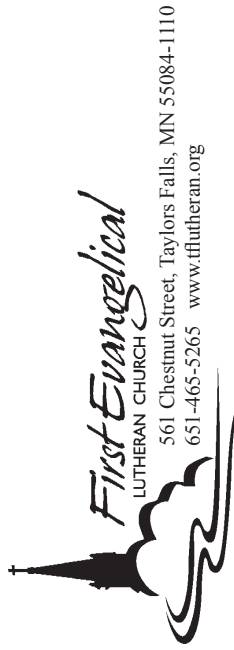
Grow—through the Word of God in faith, understanding, and love with God and
one another;

Go—as the Holy Spirit sends us to care, serve, and witness;
For the sake of the world & for the glory of God!

(Mission Statement approved 2009)

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations." Psalm 90:1

Please send submissions to: parishc@tflutheran.org
Articles Due the 15th of each month.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NOT FOR PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

US

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PERMIT NO.5