

Learning over & over how much God loves

For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his graces as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

(Romans 3: 22b-24)

Micah 6:8

Why are you Lutheran? Why am I? What does it mean to be Lutheran? When some of us were growing up, it meant memorizing the entire Small Catechism, oral examinations in front of the congregation, and being very clear about how Lutherans were/are different from Catholics/Methodists/

Baptists, etc. Now our focus is much more on how we as Christians can work together in a world where we are aware of so many more options, and might wonder more what we have in common or in contrast with our Muslim/Jewish/Baha'i neighbors. And certainly, we need to work & live so that, as Bishop Patricia Lull said today, "Our children, our youth and our college students need to know that the deep faith in us makes room for the deep faith in others.

But in this year of the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Lutheran church, we have the opportunity to learn again about those understandings of vocation, grace, justification, simul justus et peccator & yes, the parts of the Small Catechism, too: baptism, the 10 Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, and holy communion. Martin Luther wrote the Small Catechism so that the families in his churches would learn what the Bible said about us and our lives, and about God's love for us. So, each of the Lenten Wednesdays, we will talk a little more about one of these – we might have even come up with a fun way to memorize some valuable truths, but no oral exams in front of the congregation, we promise,

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Good News In Your Neighborhood—*continued from page 1*

just digging into what makes us authentically Lutheran, and what gifts we bring to the rest of a hurting world.

And if you're reading this on the web, here's another of my favorite Lutheran preachers, (Pr. Nadia Bolz-Weber) talking about some of what being truly Lutheran is about; (this was at the ELCA youth gathering in 2012.) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kM9Y5S3UYi8> Can't promise to be as good a preacher as Nadia, but we'll share truth & love & soup! Join us Lenten Wednesdays!

In God's grace, as you are, Pr. Mary Kaye

LENT ^{Theme:} LEARNING AGAIN

Wednesdays

March 8th through April 5th

11:00a Worship

Soup Luncheon to Follow

LENTEN WORSHIP & MEAL

5:30p Soup Supper

6:15-7pm Worship

7-8pm Youth Group

LENTEN WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

@ 11:00am or 6:15pm

MAR BIRTHDAYS



Halstrom, Michael	03/03
Kirchoff, Taylor	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
Grover, Verna	03/16
Miller, Sarah	03/16
Puffer, Julie	03/16
Loen, Abby	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
Linggren, Levi	03/30
Johnson, Anna	03/31
Landgreen, Natalie	03/31

Please contact the church office if there are any errors or omissions. Thank you.

MONTHLY GIVING 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 Weekly Expenses: \$3114.

2/5 Giving:	\$2,866.00
2/12 Giving:	\$2,743.00
2/19 Giving:	\$2,209.86
2/26 Giving:	\$1,555.75

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.



SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 9

Worship at 9:00am

Pancake Breakfast to follow

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 13

Worship at 7:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 14

Ecumenical Worship at 7:00pm
at FELC

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 16

Worship at 9:00am

Saint Paul Area Synod Bishop Patricia
Lull will be preaching.

SIMPLYGIVING



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 salaries & utilities paid with your regular giving to our ministries.



In cooperation with Family Pathways, we help to supply 51 elementary school kids (10% of the school's population) with weekend food: 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, a vegetable, a fruit and 2 snacks. The cost is only \$2.50 per week per child, and is ongoing throughout the school year.

Contact Deb Rhodes 257-1658

Yes, you can!!!

Our worship planning team (PMK, Michelle Lynch & Pete Lindgren) meets once a month, on a Tues. morning to pray, discern and plan for our congregational worship. If you have any ideas or would like to serve as part of this group, please let any of us know!



I M P O R T A N T !

SAP SEASON

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

is being held immediately after the Wednesday Evening Lenten Service on **Wednesday March 8 at 7 pm** in the sanctuary for ALL YOUTH, PARENTS, and other CONGREGATIONAL FRIEND & MEMBERS who have helped out in the past or would like to get involved in this wonderful ministry this spring! Sapping is just around the corner! Start finding your boots and gloves and flexing those arms to get ready to haul buckets of sap! Fun times! Hope to see many here for this meeting to kick off our spring! Any Questions? Contact Don Hansen at 612-201-1086 or Michelle Lynch 715-220-2782.

**Save the Date
for SPAS Synod Assembly!**

Fri., May 19—Sat., May 20, 2017
Prince of Peace, Burnsville

March

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We meet **every Saturday from 8a-9a.**
at the Chisago House in Taylors Falls.

Everyone is welcome!

PHOTOS

Youth Winter Retreat

Luther Point Bible Camp in Grantsburg, WI

February 3-5, 2017



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Youth Winter Retreat

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February 3-5, 2017



First Lutheran Youth

YOUTH, GRADES 6-12 WELCOME!

MARCH SCHEDULE

Wednesdays ~ 6:15-8:00pm

Wed 3/1: 7p-8p

ALL YOUTH & FAMILIES invited to the very sacred and special Ash Wednesday Lenten Service. This is the special service where you get ashes put on your forehead in the shape of a cross to remind you of your baptism and we also participate in Holy Communion.

Wed 3/8:

5:30p Soup Supper

6:15p Holden Evening Prayer Service for ALL

7p: ALL YOUTH & PARENT SPRING SAPPING MEETING

**Please stay after the Holden Evening Prayer service which starts at 6:15pm; as the service is over we will remain in the sanctuary for a special talk and presentation by Don Hansen.

****Tree Tapping Time is around March 15th**!**

Wed 3/15:

5:30p Soup Supper

6:15p Holden Evening Prayer

7-8p: Youth Group "All Access": "Jesus gives you all access to God" ~ video and small group discussion with group prayer time.

Sun 3/19:

11:30a-12:30p Mandatory Mission Trip Meeting Youth Room

Wed 3/22:

5:30p Soup Supper

6:15p Holden Evening Prayer

7-8p Youth Group "All Access" Session #2 "When your willpower runs out, you have access to His". Video, small group discussions, and group prayer time.

Wed 3/29:

5:30p Soup Supper

6:15p Holden Evening Prayer

7-8p Youth Group "All Access" Session #3 God's will for you is to be you, and love others. Video, small group discussions, and group prayer time.

Summer 2017

Mission Trip Fundraising Breakfast

Palm Sunday Morning April 9th:

Reminder that we would love to keep up this wonderful tradition to help raise funds for our mission trip youth going to Minneapolis June 11-16th for their first Urban Mission Experience through Youthworks. Mission Youth and their parents help serve and clean up for a free-will offering. We are looking once again for a GREAT TEAM OF MEN to help head up the cooking! Please contact Michelle Lynch if you are willing and interested in keeping this great breakfast going this year! 715-220-2782.

CONNECT

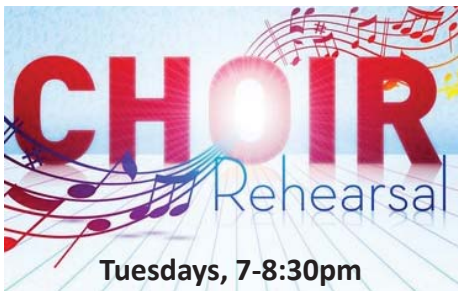
to a Christian Community;

INVITE

into the life and love of God;

EQUIP

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



Help to keep the choir alive during the winter months. Share your voice while the snow birds head south.

ADULT CHOIR Schedule

Rehearsals: 7pm Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28

Service Schedule

3/1-7p Ash Wednesday

4/9-9a Palm Sunday

4/13-7p Maundy Thursday

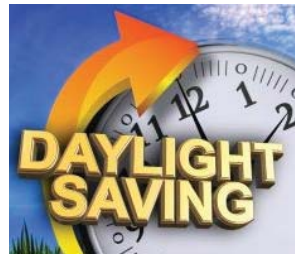
4/14-7p Good Friday (Ecumenical)

4/16-9a Easter Sunday

Beginning with our Tuesday rehearsals in March on the 14th, we will be dividing up our time by inviting area singers once again to join us in rehearsing a very meaningful Good Friday Service being held at First Lutheran called "My God, O My God" a Holy Friday Service following Psalm 22. We learned this two years ago and I was unable to direct it. We will begin rehearsals with community singers March 14, 21, 28, April 4 & 11 from 7-7:45pm. **If you know of people whom you know would be a wonderful addition to this special choir/service please invite them personally!** Then our choir will finish rehearsing until 8:30pm as we prepare for Lent and Holy Week.

First Lutheran will be hosting the community Good Friday Service on Friday April 14th @7pm "O God, O My God" A Holy Friday Service following Psalm 22 CALLING THE ROLL OF THE WORLD'S SUFFERING.

Michelle Lynch is looking for extra singers to join the choir to help lead the special musical parts of the service along with an anthem or two. There will be 5 rehearsals on Tuesdays March 14th, 21st, 28th, April 4th and 11th from 7-7:45pm. All you have to do if you are interested in singing in this beautiful service please contact Michelle and we'll see you at the first rehearsal! THERE IS ALSO A PART FOR A PERCUSSIONIST/ DRUMMER needed during what is called the "speaking choir" part.



SPRINGAHEAD!

Daylight Savings Time...spring ahead, Sunday March 12th!

SAMARITAN Fund

The Samaritan Fund needs volunteers!

As you know, the Samaritan Fund is dedicated to emergency assistance to families in need. We provide emergency funds to pay for gas cards, utility bills, groceries, school supplies and occasional temporary living arrangements. We need volunteers to help revamp how we effectively reach out to the community we serve. Do you have a caring heart and a great imagination for how we can re-do our Samaritan Fund program? We are taking volunteers now who are interested in helping us with this important program. **Please contact Don Hansen at 612-201-1086 for details.**

SARAH CIRCLE.

Meetings are held on **Tuesdays at 9:30am** at the Chisago House.

New Member

W E L C O M E !

Want to join First Lutheran Church? If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Pastor Mary Kaye Ashley at 612-532-7083

March

COUNCIL MEETING

Council will meet again, **Sunday, March 12th, at 10:30 am.**

OFFICE HOURS

**Monday—Tuesday—Friday
8:00a-12:00p**

QUILTERS



Quilting meets each 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 9:30am. No experience needed to join this enjoyable group!



CHURCHSCHEDULE

Wed Mar 1 Ash Wednesday

7p - Worship

Sun Mar 5 Lent

9a - Worship

10:15a - LifeGroup

10:15a - Sunday School

10:15a -Confirmation

11:45a -Trouble I've Seen book study

1:30-5:30p -Council Strategic Plan

Wed Mar 8

11a -Worship

Soup Luncheon to follow

5:30 p - Soup Supper

6:15p - Holden Evening Prayer Service

7p-FLY Event

Sun Mar 12 Lent

9a - Worship

10:15a - LifeGroup

10:15a - Sunday School

10:30a-Council Meeting

Wed Mar 15

11a -Worship

Soup Luncheon to follow

5:30 p - Soup Supper

6:15p - Holden Evening Prayer Service

7p-FLY Event

Sun Mar 19 Lent

9a -Worship

10:15a - LifeGroup

10:15a - Sunday School

11:45a -Trouble I've Seen book study

Wed Mar 22

11a -Worship

Soup Luncheon to follow

5:30 p - Soup Supper

6:15p - Holden Evening Prayer Service

7p-FLY Event

Sun Mar 26 Lent

9a - Worship

10:15a - LifeGroup

10:15a - Sunday School

1:30-5:30p -Council Strategic Plan

Wed Mar 29 Lent

11a -Worship

Soup Luncheon to follow

5:30 p - Soup Supper

6:15p - Holden Evening Prayer Service

7p-FLY Leader Meeting

UPCOMING Community Events

Thu Mar 2-7p

History of Taylors Falls Baptist Church

Place: Taylors Falls Community Center

Presented by Rev. Kevin Schuman

Sat-Sun Mar 4&5

Volunteers Needed! 651-213-4280

Chisago Lakes Home Show

Place: Chisago Lakes High School

To help staff the Hazelden booth

Volunteers Needed! 651-213-4280

Youth First Program

Spend one hour after school providing

activities to groups of 6-8 students

Mon Mar 6 - 6p

Lions Club Bingo

Place: Taylors Falls Community Center

All profits stay in the community for

community-based projects.

Chisago Lakes

Community Center

38790 6th Ave.

North Branch, MN 55056

Senior Center 651-674-8658

Public Health 651-213-5200

NAPS - 8:30a first Wed of the Month

Painting - 1p Mondays cost: \$8.00

Foot Clinic - 8a call center for details

Excercise - 10a Tues. & Thurs.

*NAPS=Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors.

Senior Linkage

Questions about Medicare, insurance and resources available, Amy is available last Wednesday of the month in the nurses office. Call 1-800-333-2433 and ask for Amy. Wednesdays, if the door is open, feel free to come in.

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

Roberta Young
Ministry Coordinator
parishc@tflutheran.org

**2016-2017
Council/Officers:**

Don Hansen—President
Duane Olson—Vice President
Joe Landgreen—Treasurer
Gayle Langer —Secretary
Riley Linngren
Sharna Braucks
Rose Anderson
Pastor Mary Kaye Ashley

Financial Secretary
Jerry Rhoads

Please hold the ministers and council members 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 12, 10:30 am 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.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Holidays in United States

Mar 2017 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 8am - Pr. Hours 8a-9am - Worship 10:15am - Confirmat 10:15am - LifeGroup 10:15am - Sunday 11:45am - Trouble	27	28 11:30am - Worship 7pm - Choir	1 ASH WEDNESDAY 7pm - Worship	2	3	4 8am - Men's Bible
5 9am - Worship 10:15am - Confirmat 10:15am - LifeGroup 10:15am - Sunday 11:45am - Trouble 1:30pm - Strategic	6	7 7pm - Choir	8 11am - Worship-5:30pm - Dinner 6:15pm - Worship 7pm - FLY Event	9	10	11 8am - Men's Bible
12 Daylight Saving 9am - Worship 10:15am - LifeGroup 10:15am - Sunday 10:30am - Council	13	14 7pm - Choir	15 JUBILEE (TENTATIVE) NEWSLETTER 11am - Worship-5:30pm - Dinner 6:15pm - Worship 7pm - FLY Event	16	17	18 8am - Men's Bible
19 JUBILEE (TENTATIVE) 9am - Worship 10:15am - LifeGroup 10:15am - Sunday 11:45am - Trouble	20	21 7pm - Choir	22 11am - Worship-5:30pm - Dinner 6:15pm - Worship 7pm - FLY Event	23	24	25 8am - Men's Bible
26 JUBILEE (TENTATIVE) 9am - Worship 10:15am - LifeGroup 10:15am - Sunday 1:30pm - Strategic	27	28 7pm - Choir	29 11am - Worship-5:30pm - Dinner 6:15pm - Worship 7pm - FLY Leader	30	31	1 8am - Men's Bible



Meeting Agenda

Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

January 15, 2017

Members Present: Joe Landgreen, Don Hansen, Sharna Braucks, Rose Anderson **Members Absent:** Pastor Mary Kaye Gayle Langer, Riley Linngren

A. Opening Prayer-Don

B. Pastor's Report-

C. President's Report- Difficult Conversations training schedule for team leaders and congregational meeting.

Team Leader training scheduled for February 12 at 1pm. Council meeting will be at 10:30am.

Working with Roberta with Newsletter and group email is going well. Michelle attended Youth Recharge this past week, February youth winter retreat will have 100 White Flags group coming again.

D. Property Committee-Needs that Don suggested- update men's and women's bathrooms in basement, new sink and toilets, beneath entry way. There was conversation regarding the use of those as low and perhaps abandoning those and updating the ones in the education wing. Decision regarding this was tabled. Completion of Fellowship Hall including painting and window trim is scheduled for Saturday February 25th. Beginning at 9am. Joe mentioned that the concrete needs to be repaired.

E. Finance Report- Giving for the first 6 months of the fiscal year was \$4,200 above budget. The \$11,000 deficit at the end of November was wiped out over the last 5 Sundays in December. Special thank-you for your generosity and additional gifts. We are able to now pay our bills.. Joe distributed the 6 month Report on budgeted vs. actual expenses. Duane moved, Rose second motion carried.

F. Other Business- Energy Audit/internet thermostats-Joe will report on this in February. Duane will look into advertising in the newsletter.

G. Motion by Rose , seconded by Joe to approved December 11,2016 Council Minutes

H. Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted, Don Hansen
FELC Council President



Meeting Minutes

Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

February 12, 2017

Members Present: Gayle Langer, Pastor Mary Kaye, Don Hansen, Duane Olson, Sharna Braucks
Rose Anderson **Members Absent :** Joe Landgreen, Riley Linngren

A. Opening Prayer- Don

B. Pastor's Report- new members will be welcomed next Sunday. Wednesday Lenten services will be a daytime service at 11am with lunch to follow at noon, a 5:30pm soup and sandwich supper, followed by worship at 6:15 pm. The youth group will meet at 7pm. The St. Paul Area Synod Tool Kit Work shop is scheduled for February 25th. All Council members have prior commitments as well as the painting project on that date.

C. President's Report- Synod Assembly will be held May 19 & 20th. A 2017 Council goal was to send the maximum number of attendees. Don and PMK will attend and there is room for one youth (confirmed to 18); one young adult, (18-26); and one more adult. And if anyone can only come one of the days, or part of one of the days, we can split the registration between 2 people. See Don or PMK for details.

D. Property Committee- Painting the fellowship hall is scheduled for February 25.

E. Finance Report- Joe-report deferred until March Council meeting because of Joe's absence.

F. Other Business-

New Council member recruitment- Don will explore the interest of potential new Council members. The Council reviewed of 2017 Goals set at Council retreat in August.

1)Strategic Planning Session- Sharna, Duane,

Sharna scheduled a 5 year strategic planning meeting, this needs a 4 hour session. March 5th 1:30 to 5:30pm was scheduled for this meeting. A follow-up meeting was scheduled for March 26th 1:30-3:30pm.

G. January 15th, 2017 Council Minutes. --A motion was made by Rose to approve the January Council minutes, seconded by Duane. motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Don Hansen
FELC Council President