



Gather



Grow



Go



May we be awestruck... and changed

“At the crack of dawn on Sunday, the women came to the tomb carrying the burial spices they had prepared. They found the entrance stone rolled back from the tomb, so they walked in. But once inside, they couldn’t find the body of the

Master Jesus. They were puzzled, what to make of this. Then, out of nowhere it seemed, two men, light cascading over them, stood there. The women were awestruck and bowed down in worship. The men said, ‘Why are you looking for the Living One in a cemetery? He is not here, but raised up. Remember how he told you when you were still back in Galilee that he had to be handed over to sinners, be killed on a cross, and in three days rise up?’”

(from Luke 24, *The Message*)

We know the stories. We know the endings. We know how we often feel during this Lenten, and then the Easter season. We go thru the motions of lives that may or may not acknowledge that anything could make a difference to us.

Are we happy with what is going on in our country? Or maybe we have enough in our lives that we aren’t even looking beyond the confines of our own lives... Is it the medical report we’re waiting on - and afraid to know the outcome of? Is it the behavior of someone we love that we just can’t live with anymore? Maybe the pressures of our work - or our friends - or what our parents expect of us - are just too much. Or maybe we love someone who is suicidal - or cutting themselves - or medicating emotional pain. Perhaps we know someone who has fabricated a story so big that we’re sure it’s going to come apart pretty quickly.

What would happen if we listened & watched for how we might share in the awe of the women at the tomb? Can Jesus’ resurrection make a difference in our lives today? That is it’s promise! For all of us! To quote a colleague, ELCA pastor

continued on page 2

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

Nadia Bolz-Weber, “God simply keeps reaching down into the dirt of humanity and resurrecting us from the graves we dig for ourselves through our violence, our lies, our selfishness, our arrogance, and our addictions. And God keeps loving us back to life over and over.” from the book Pastrix: The Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner & Saint

Open our hearts, Lord, to all You have to give us, to all You wish to make of us, that we may see You, and let Your loving kindness infect us and the world around us.

May we live lives that help others know Christ’s resurrection, too! Thankfully,
Pr. Mary Kaye

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

HOLY WEEK

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.

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!

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

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

Join Us!

FOR A DELICIOUS

Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

Palm Sunday, April 9

immediately after worship.



**Palm Sunday Breakfast
Fundraiser**

Invite friends and family for April 9 and give your time and support to the Palm Sunday fundraiser for the upcoming youth mission trip to Minneapolis this year. This is a great help in getting our youth on their way. Thank you! Your contributions help!

April

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Our Saturday morning Men's Bible Study wants to invite you to join us at the **Chisago House** in Taylors Falls each **Saturday morning at 8:00 am.** Contact Jerry Rhoads with any questions.

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. Thanks for 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

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.

03/01 Giving:	\$273.00
03/05 Giving:	\$4,789.98
03/12 Giving:	\$2,303.75
03/19 Giving:	\$2532.00
03/26 Giving:	\$1,915.95

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. **We are looking for Monday morning volunteers to help with counting. Please see Jerry Rhoads for details.**

Thrivent CHOICE GIVING

Thank you! First Lutheran Thrivent Choice participants chose to direct Choice dollars to First Lutheran. The Thrivent Choice program helps Thrivent members make a positive impact in their communities.

April COUNCIL MEETING

Council will meet again, Sunday, April 2nd at 10:30 am.

2017 LENTEN GIVING

Lenten offerings for this season will be split between Together-with-Friends and the Family Pathways Food Shelves, and the March giving to Family Pathways will be matched dollar for dollar!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Carlson, Amanda	04/01
Schrock, Ashley	04/01
Agar, Tristen	04/02
Lindgren, Marvin	04/03
Heyers, Justyne	04/05
Braucks, Sharna	04/06
Olson, Rod	04/06
Bisel, Jenni	04/07
Keto, Drew	04/07
Swenson, Silas (Andy)	04/07
Hasselquist, Gunner	04/08
Vitalis, Kristian	04/08
Miller, Nicholas	04/09
Nelson, Mark	04/09
Moberg, Molly	04/11
Vitalis, Carol	04/14
Casterton, Josiah	04/16
Tverberg, Vincent	04/16
Vodenka-Reed, Dustin	04/18
Olson, Paul	04/24
Vitalis, Andrew	04/24
Fick, Jeanne	04/26
Heyers, Terrance	04/27
Stolp, Loretta	04/28
Lundholm, Carver	04/30

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

First Lutheran Youth

YOUTH, GRADES 6-12 WELCOME!

APRIL SCHEDULE

Wednesdays ~ 6:15-8:00pm

April 5

11a - Worship (soup luncheon to follow)

5:30p – Soup Supper

6:15p – Lent Holden Evening Prayer
Service

7-8p – Youth Group

April 12

Wed – NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES; NO
Lent Worship

***The Great Bucket Brigade Clean Up**

Day will be scheduled around this time of
the month. Watch for details!

April 19

6:30 - 8p – Regular Youth Group Resumes

April 23

11:30a - 12:30p – Mandatory Mission

Trip meeting following Life Group in the
Youth Room. Please bring your bibles and
folders.

April 26

7 - 8:30p – Adult Leader Meeting at
Coffeetalk

Summer 2017

**Mission Trip Fundraising Breakfast
Palm Sunday Morning April 9th:** Invite
friends and family to the breakfast of
pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee
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. Joe Landgreen and Rose
Anderson will be leading. Please
contact Michelle Lynch if you are
willing and interested in helping!
Michelle Lynch: 715-220-2782.



100 White Flags is giving a **FREE
CONCERT!!** Saturday April 8th
@7pm at Crosspoint Church
10936 Foley Blvd. Coon Rapids,
MN 55448. There is a sign up
on the bulletin board for those
interested in going so we can set
up a car pool. Just a reminder the
next morning is our Palm Sunday
Breakfast! But I do not want that
to deter anyone from going! This is
open to **EVERYONE!!**

If you have any questions please
contact Michelle Lynch at
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.*

Maple SYRUPTIME

Sapping began March 14! Thanks to all who can support this ministry!





What a sapping crew today!! Wow!!! 1,200 gallons hauled and carried by hand out of the woods on the WI side and West St. of Taylors Falls; then another crew continued on to Hazelden and harvested another 600 gallons! 1,800 total....way to go everyone!! We couldn't have done it without you!



Member Bio

ANNIE LINDGREN



I was born in Taylors Falls and graduated from Taylors Falls School in 1937. I have never moved from beautiful Taylors Falls. Most of my life I worked for the Muller Boat Company. Most town people remember hearing me on the loud speaker announcing "no parking in the turnaround", and announcing boat departure times.

One of my past times is cooking. I collect recipes. I put some of those in a cook book I published. I have been a lifetime member of Taylors Falls

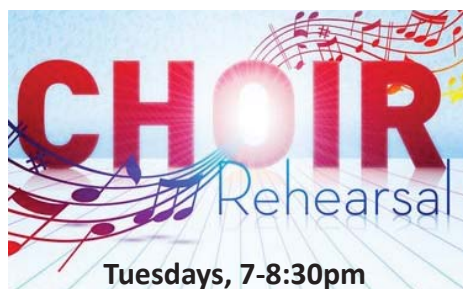
Evangelical Lutheran Church. I am also a member of the Taylors Falls Historical Society and was a member of the Civic League. I worked with a St. Croix Falls student, where I was featured in a small book called, "Generations".

My favorite Bible verse:

"I was a stranger and you took me in;..." (Matthew 25:35b)

I would love phone calls, letters and visits from anyone.

Annie Lindgren
613 River Street
Taylors Falls, MN 55084
651-465-7811



Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm

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

ADULT CHOIR *Schedule*

Rehearsals: 7pm Apr. 4, 11, 25

Service Schedule

4/9-9a Palm Sunday

4/13-7p Maundy Thursday

4/14-7p Good Friday (Ecumenical)

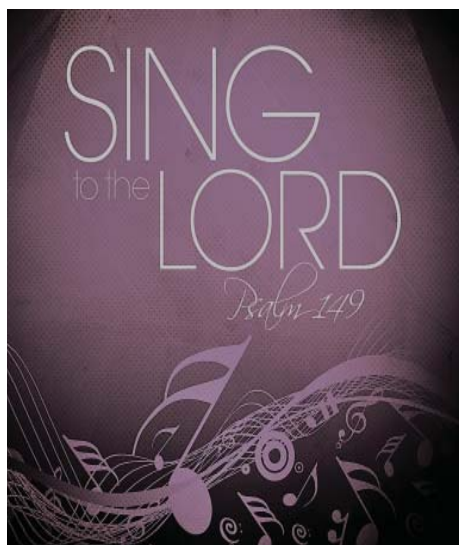
4/16-9a Easter Sunday

4/18-NO CHOIR PRACTICE

We've begun 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 have rehearsals with community singers 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!** More tenors and basses are needed; as well as more sopranos as our anthem divides sopranos into two parts. 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.

THERE IS ALSO A PART FOR A PERCUSSIONIST/DRUMMER needed during what is called the "speaking choir" part.



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.

April Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 4 at 9:30am** at Edna's house.

DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Donate old eye glasses to the Lions Club, there is a box in the back vestibule. Also, coupon and used cartridges are being collected. Please see Duane Olsen if you have any questions.

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

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

Sun Apr 2 (Pr. Hours: 8a-6p)

9a - Worship

10:15a – Life Group

10:15a – Sunday School

10:30a – Council Meeting

4:00p – PMK and Michelle lead

worship at Good Sam, SCF

Mon Apr 3

Ministry Coordinator Out Of Office.

Call PMK or FELC if you need building access. (PMK will be in and out between visits)

Tue Apr 4

Ministry Coordinator Out Of Office.

Call PMK or FELC if you need building access. (PMK will be in and out between visits)

April 9, 16 & 30

NO LIFE GROUP meetings . We will resume a better schedule in May.

UPCOMINGCommunity Events

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

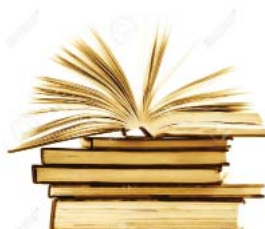
Questions about Medicare, insurance and resources available, Amy is available last Wednesday of the month in the nurses office. Call 1-800-333-2433 and ask for Amy. Wednesdays, if the door is open, feel free to come in.

Our church is having a Reformation 500 Bookstore!

The 500th anniversary of the Reformation is fast approaching! Do you want to learn more about Martin Luther, his writings, and their impact on Christianity? Do you want to reflect on the ongoing impact of the Reformation today? Stop by our Reformation 500 Bookstore outside the Fellowship Hall to shop for engaging books on the Reformation for readers of all ages and interests! Save up to 50% plus receive free shipping on all Bookstore titles.

Stop by First Evangelical Lutheran Church through March 26th between 8am to noon, Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays to get fascinating books on the Reformation for you and your family.

Our Bookstore is sponsored by Augsburg Fortress, the publishing ministry of the ELCA. The books will include bestselling biographies like Luther the Reformer as well as an atlas of the European Reformations, a graphic novel for young readers, and primary sources from The Annotated Luther series.



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, April 2, 10:30 am in the Library.

Mission Statement

Gather. Grow. Go.

The mission of FELC is to worship God as an intergenerational community, to learn God's word, and to build lasting relationships as we grow in God's love and grace.

(Mission Statement approved 2017)

"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.



Meeting Minutes

Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 12, 2017

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

Opening Prayer- Don- Read the new Mission Statement: The mission of FELC is to worship God as an intergenerational community, to learn God's Word, and to build lasting relationships as we grow in God's love and grace.

- A. Pastor's Report-** Both Lent services going well. Book study going well, new one planned at local coffee shops. Four are attending first group.
- B. President's Report- Designation of Lenten offering.** Together with friends and World Hunger was designated in 2016. 2nd Harvest Minnesota currently provides match for Family Pathways. Joe moved to give March giving to Family Pathways and April giving to Together with Friends. Rose seconded. Motion carried. There is a need for a policy for the amount of cash stored in the Church. PMK made a motion to instruct the Ministry Coordinator to open all mail and stamp all checks "for deposit only". Also when cash on site exceeds \$300.00, the Ministry Coordinator will call the Council Chair, Financial Secretary, or Treasurer for a bank deposit. Duane seconded. Motion carried. Don gave an update on the computer fixes. BitWorks repaired the current desktops and all are working. **Revelations entries for giving.** Joe made a motion that all identified gifts of record have a Revelations account set up and that donors receive an end of year statement giving. Rose seconded. Motion carried. We also need to acknowledge all those who give special gifts to the church. PMK made a motion we, as grateful recipients, on behalf of FELC, make it a practice for the Council to acknowledge gifts from nonmembers and gifts that appear noteworthy from members, within one month of receipt. Rose Seconded. Motion carried.
- C. Property Committee- Update-** Ceiling paint completed, Bruce and Joe wants to complete walls by Palm Sunday.
- D. Finance Report-** Bills are paid and the current. Actual giving is below budget giving. There was discussion regarding pledge cards and giving envelopes. Giving envelopes will be distributed to all new confirmands.
- E. Other Business-**

Confirmation Board- We need to buy a new stand for the confirmation photos- Joe

Elevator-Emergency call numbers need to be updated. PMK will update card

AED defibrillator for church. -Duane will follow up with Becky

Lions Glasses donation box-in place

Newspaper ad for showing worship times for Church- Duane and Don will check on Costs.

Palm Sunday Brunch- Joe and Rose taking the lead on the Brunch

Respectfully Submitted, Don Hansen

FELC Council President

(minutes approved by council majority)

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Holidays in United States

Apr 2017 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
						8am - Men's Bible Study @
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9am - Worship 10:15am - LifeGroup 10:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Council Meeting		9am - Worship Team Meeting @ 9:30am - Sarah Circle-Edna's 7pm - Choir Rehearsal	11am - Worship Soup luncheon 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6:15pm - Worship 7pm - Youth Group			8am - Men's Bible Study @
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Palm Sunday 9am - Worship 10am - Palm Sunday Breakfast 10:15am - Sunday School	FELC Anniversary	7pm - Choir Rehearsal		Maundy Thursday Thomas Jefferson's Birthday 7pm - Worship	Good Friday 7pm - Worship	NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS DUE 8am - Men's Bible Study @
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Easter Sunday 9am - Worship 10am - BISHOP LULL PREACHING 10:15am - Sunday School			6:30pm - FLY Event			8am - Men's Bible Study @
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9am - Worship 10:15am - LifeGroup 10:15am - Sunday School 11:30am - Mission Trip Meeting 2pm - Worship @ the Lodge		7pm - Choir Rehearsal	7pm - FLY Leader Mtg			8am - Men's Bible Study @
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
9am - Worship 10:15am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School						