



Gather



Grow



Go

561 Chestnut Street, Taylors Falls, MN 55084-1110

651-465-5265 • www.tflutheran.org

“Kind words heal and help; cutting words wound and maim”

Proverbs 15:4 (*The Message*)

By Pastor Mary Kaye Ashley

Go and love someone exactly as they are. And then watch how quickly they transform into the greatest, truest version of themselves. When one feels seen and appreciated in their own essence, one is instantly empowered.

~wes angelozzi~

“But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

Ephesians 4:15-16 (NRSV)

Dear friends in Christ,

A while back, some of us came together to practice listening to and hearing each other, to help everyone feel heard. While some took advantage of the opportunity, many did not. And yet, I believe that this ability to talk with each other will be the make or break of most communities - yup, really!

So I’d like to offer one more insight that I hope will be helpful. You know, of course, that wisdom from many places can be brought to bear on living together well, and this sharing comes from a book we’re studying as teachers in the district where I teach. The book is called *Conscious Discipline*, and is by Dr. Becky Bailey. (Go here: (<https://consciousdiscipline.com/bookstudy/chapter-9.asp>) to read more. Here’s the skill I think could serve us: presume

positive intention. This means that we begin our conversations or interactions, presuming that the other person has good reasons for what they’re saying or doing, even if we don’t agree with them. And when we begin this way, we set up our brains & hearts to look for those positive intentions in others. Does this mean I think people are always good? Nope. I’m saying, let’s begin by looking for and speaking to the good in each other. The more research we do into brains, the more we find out how they work. Remember when you were going to have a baby, and suddenly, you saw people everywhere having babies? Or when you were far from home, and lonely, and would have given anything to see someone in a familiar Vikings or Packers or Twins jersey, and sure enough, you found them? You began your struggle with cancer, and suddenly, everyone & their brother had a story about fighting cancer? We see more of

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what we look for. Our brains are set up to make patterns.

If I listen to you without presuming that you wish me ill, I can better hear your thoughts and feelings and concerns - and that's a great place to meet and find common ground, because I have thoughts and feelings & concerns, too. Our brains operate at their highest potential when we feel safe & loved, and so do our communities. This is my hope for us, because together, we are called to share the Good News that Jesus loves us, one and all, and I think we share that best when we live it. Jesus lives! Jesus calls us to love! Jesus loves thru us! How cool is that?

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

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

New Member
W E L C O M E !

If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Pastor Mary Kaye Ashley.

GIVING SIMPLY Simply Giving
Did you know that you can fill out a simple form & have an amount transferred from your bank account to FELC's ministries on a schedule that you choose, (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly)? And that you can change that giving amount, or stop it, just as easily? Look for the Simply Giving cards at the bulletin baskets at our worship entrances, or call the church office for assistance. Consistency in giving helps us plan for all the good things we want to have happen here to share God's love. THANKS for the intentionality & faithfulness of your giving!



QUILTERS



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

SARAH CIRCLE

Sarah Circle will meet **Tuesday, May 2nd at 9:30am** and will be hosted by Marcielle Rogers. All are welcome!

A dull

CHOIR SCHEDULE

Tuesday Rehearsals:

2nd, 9th & 16th @ 7-8:30pm

Worship Sundays:

May 7th, 14th, (Mother's Day) & 21st.

Sing for Worship:

Sundays May 7th, & 14th 21st

Annual Rhubarb Dessert

Celebration Night:

Tuesday May 23rd -7pm. and Pete and Donna Lindgren's Spouses invited!

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.

04/02 Giving:	\$3,042.37
04/09 Giving:	\$4,436.00
04/16 Giving:	\$5,849.65
04/23 Giving:	\$1,968.50

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.

May COUNCIL MEETING

Council will meet again, **Sunday, May 7th, at 10:30 am.**

OFFICE HOURS @ FELC

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

MAY BIRTHDAYS



Clasen, Lisa	05/01
Goetz, John	05/02
Lundsted, Ethan	05/02
Johnson, Kevin	05/03
Vodenka-Reed, Sunshine	05/03
Vodenka-Reed, Daytona	05/03
Hansen, Donald	05/04
Collins, Eleanore	05/06
Grover, Donald	05/06
Johnson, Steven	05/06
Johnson, Gail	05/06
Magnuson, Julie	05/06
Vetter, Morgan	05/06
Rogers, Chieko	05/07
Anderson, Barbara	05/09
Halstrom, Callie	05/09
Langer, Spencer	05/10
Vitalis, LeeAnn	05/11
Bjork, Jacqueline	05/15
Dahlquist, Jeremy	05/15
Hasselquist, Daniel	05/15
Miller, Chase	05/15
Schumann, Jana	05/17
Thorson, Steven	05/18
Lundholm, Sally	05/20
Carlson, Michael	05/22
Lindgren, Hjalmer	05/22
Donahue, Timothy	05/24
Nelson, Jeremy	05/24
Johnson, Rita	05/25
Enebak, Tom	05/26
Johnson, Zachary	05/26
Loen, Jacob	05/27
Vodenka-Reed, Poppy	05/27
Vogt, Anthony	05/30
Alden, Ava	05/31

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

DINNER with PASTOR:

Last summer, I invited people in unique groups to meet me for ice cream about once a week. It was really fun! This summer, welcome to dinner with the pastor! On Sunday, May 28, at 5pm, 6 people are invited for dinner/supper at FELC. You don't need to bring anything, but you can if you want to. Here's what I hope you'll bring; a friend. But sign up & come, friend or no. We'll have a good meal, time to get to know each other, and maybe some valuable sharing about things that matter. (There will be 6 more opportunities over the summer, but please choose one, so I can get to talk to many people. Call or email me, and I'll let you know if the list is full, (and if you want to bring something, let me know that, too.) (And also, please, if you have any food allergies, food intolerances, or strong preferences.) This will be fun!

HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES:

Classes for children (of any age: yes, adults welcome, too) who are interested in receiving Holy Communion: The last time we did communion classes, we invited a baker to join us, Nate Houge - and we had fun! (And learned.) Now, Nate & a partner own a bakery in Saint Paul, and we've been invited there for a class again. This class will be on Saturday, May 13th, from 2-5pm at Brake Bread, 1174 7th St W. St Paul, MN 55102. You do NOT need to go to this class to receive Holy Communion - if this time, or location, doesn't work for you, please call or email Pr. Mary Kaye, and she will set up a class that is at a time at FELC that

will work for you in the next couple of months. (Fun & learning to occur here, too!) Please have your calendar in hand when you call. Thanks! love, PMK

FROM Pastor Mary Kaye

A gift for parents! FREE Child care! Looking for unique ways to bless with my time & gifts, and also to get to know families better, here's an offer: 4 hours of free child care to every family with children 14 & under - to be used between now and end 2017. I'll bring crafts &/or games &/books, as you or your child(ren) indicate. My schedule is not enormously open, so pipe up soon with an intended date, if you'd like one. I'd prefer not to watch kids sit at computers, play video games, or watch TV or movies, but am happy to bake or cook with them. You know how to find me :)

River Valley Christian Connection invites women to

Purposeful Journey Spring Tea



11:30 LUNCHEON

Monday, MAY 15, 2017

Reservation by Tuesday NOON, May 9

\$12 Inclusive Pay at door.

Wear a hat and gloves, if you can. Bring your favorite tea cup.

CHISAGO LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1 Summit Avenue, Center City, MN 55012

Special Feature: "PURPOSELY FASHIONED"

The Whole Look we want. By Sarah Bechard

Music: Janelle Anderson and daughters

Speaker: "HANDLING LIFE WITH DETOURS"

By Gina Stanley

Reservations and cancellations necessary.

Call Diane, 651-808-8579 or Shirley, 715-755-2656.

Specific questions? Call Barb 651-465-6635.

An affiliation with Stonecroft, www.stonecroft.org

First Lutheran Youth

YOUTH, GRADES 6-12 WELCOME!

FLYSchedule

Wed. May 31: Mission Trip Mtg.

6:30-7:30 for all youth and leaders

Wed, May 3, 10 & 17

Youth Event, 6:30-8:30p

Sunday, June 4, 9am Baccalaureate

Honoring our graduates: Each graduate will receive a handmade quilt from the church. Cake & refreshments to follow.

21th Anniversary of Together With Friends will kick off in June!

June 8th

Jr. Staff Orientation

June 20th

First day of camp at Baptist Church



"End of the Year Picnic"!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24TH

from 6-8:30pm at Kent and Sally Lundholm's home: 23845 Pomroy Ave. N. Scandia, MN 55073. **ALL YOUTH GRADES 5-12 are welcome!** We especially welcome 5th graders who will be coming in next year to youth group as 6th graders. We would love to have you and your parents join us so we can get to know you! Michelle will supply the meat/buns, condiments, paper supplies, and beverages. It would be great if some youth families could bring a fruit plate, veggie tray, chips, cookies/bars. Please let Michelle know if you can help with this! We will have our Annual Mighty Mighty Scoop Noodle Challenge Game again!

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.

Worship Committee Meeting:

Tuesday May 2nd 11:30am

Sunday May 21st 2pm ALL

are invited for an afternoon of a wide variety of vocal and piano performances when Michelle Lynch's students hold their annual "Spring Fling" in the sanctuary. Refreshments served during the program!

Sunday May 14th, & 21st 10:15

Life Group

Saturday May 6th 9am

Luther Point Bible Camp's Annual Pancake Breakfast and Jump in the Lake!

Wednesday May 10th at 10am

Together With Friends Planning Meeting: If you are interested in getting a bit more involved in this wonderful summer bible day camp ministry, we are having a planning meeting at Pastor Kevin Schumann's home on West St. in Taylors Falls.

TREMENDOUS THANKS

TO ALL who helped this spring in the Maple Syrup Sap Collection Season and the Palm Sunday Breakfast to help sponsor the 11 people going on the June Mission Trip! There are too many of you to even begin to name, and I do not want to forget someone! All of you have played a vital role in keeping this ministry thriving and we could not do it without you! As the Youth Minister I am deeply grateful for your support, love, and prayers for the youth of our community and congregation, and this wonderful Maple Syrup Ministry! It is just an absolute pleasure to work with you!



*Bucket Washing Day!
35 people came
and we were done
in record time! 90
minutes! Thank you
everyone for all of
your hard work and
dedication this sap
season. 300 gallons
harvested!
Praise God!*



PALM SUNDAY

WE JOINED THE PALM SUNDAY CROWD, SINGING PRAISE TO JESUS - AND SERVED A PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST!



The Palm Sunday breakfast tradition has become a favorite to hold right after the sap season and the harvesting of fresh maple syrup. Men of the congregation, (now men and women) plan together cook breakfast as a gift to the youth going on the mission trip, who would set up, serve and cleanup. The free will offering from the breakfast helps pay for the mission trip. This year, we received free will gifts of \$416, which goes toward our final payment for the trip of \$908. Thanks to all who contributed and/or worked and/or ate!



EASTER SUNDAY

A GLORIOUS EASTER! CHOIR, ORGAN, KIDS ON BOARD, BISHOP PATRICIA LULL PREACHING, A DELIGHTFUL DAY CELEBRATING JESUS'S RESURRECTION, AND THE BEGINNING OF OUR LIVING IN THAT NEW LIFE.



Church Office
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Pastor Mary Kaye Ashley
c: 612-532-7083
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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, May 7th, 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 10th of each month.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Holidays in United States

May 2017 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2 10:30am - Staff Meeting 11:30am - Worship Team 7pm - Choir Rehearsal	3 6:30pm - FLY Event	4	5	6
7 9am - Worship 10:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Council Meeting	8	9 10:30am - Staff Meeting 7pm - Choir Rehearsal	10 6:30pm - FLY Event	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day 9am - Worship 10:15am - LifeGroup 10:15am - Sunday School	15 NEWSLETTER	16 10:30am - Staff Meeting 7pm - Choir Rehearsal	17 6:30pm - FLY Event	18	19-20 Synod Assembly	
21 9am - Worship 10:15am - Confirmation 10:15am - LifeGroup 10:15am - Sunday School 1pm - Spring Recital	22	23 10:30am - Staff Meeting 7pm - Choir Party	24 Picnic 6pm - FLY Year-end Event	25	26	27
28 9am - Worship 10:15am - Sunday School	29 Memorial Day	30 10:30am - Staff Meeting	31 6:30pm - Mission Trip	1	2	3