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First Things

NOVEMBER
2022

The Newsletter of
First Evangelical
Lutheran Church
561 Chestnut Street
Taylors Falls, MN
55084-1110
651-465-5265
www.tflutheran.org

SUNDAYWORSHIP

Worship 9:00am
Online Worship
available every
Sunday, please
check out our
website:
www.tflutheran.org
or our YouTube
Channel:
First Evangelical
Lutheran
Church of TF.

*This is the day that
the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and
be glad in it.*

Psalms 118:24



A group of students was asked to list what they thought were the present Seven Wonders of the World. Though there was some disagreement, the following got the most votes:



1. Egypt's Great Pyramids
2. The Taj Mahal
3. The Grand Canyon
4. The Panama Canal
5. The Empire State Building
6. St. Peter's Basilica
7. China's Great Wall

While gathering the votes, the teacher noticed that one student hadn't turned in her paper yet, so she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many." The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help."

The girl hesitated, then read, "I think the Seven Wonders of the World are:

to see
to taste
to touch
to hear

She hesitated a little, and then added,

to feel
to laugh
and to love

The room was so silent you could have heard a pin drop. Those things we overlook as simple and "ordinary" are truly wondrous. This is a good reminder that the most precious things in life cannot be bought. They are God's gifts to us.

May you be filled with the joy of God's gifts for you and may you reflect that joy to others. Remember, you have been blessed to be a blessing.

God's peace!!

Pr. Dwight Rudquist



New Members **Welcome!**

If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact the office at 651-465-5265.

SUNDAYWORSHIP

Worship every Sunday at 9:00am. Recorded services from Sunday morning worship are available on our website Sunday afternoons.

LIBRARYHOURS

Sunday 8:00am-10:30am

COUNCILMEETING

Council will meet November 13, 2022 at 10:15am.

QUILTINGGROUP

First and third Thursday mornings at 9:30am.

BIBLESTUDY

Bible Study will meet downstairs on Sunday mornings following fellowship.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/03 Derek Nelson
11/06 Mariah Kaiser
11/06 Janna Loen
11/16 Diane Goetz
11/16 Richard Peterson
11/22 Joel Langer
11/27 Jeff Rogers
11/28 Annalise Parks
11/30 Cassidy Luschen

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

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 Weekly Expenses: \$2771.60

09/25 Giving:	\$3,337.00
10/02 Giving:	\$ 768.00
10/09 Giving:	\$2,970.00
10/16 Giving:	\$2,662.00

Thank you for your faithful giving. Please contact FELC Treasurer, Becky Hulden with any questions or concerns at: 651-465-3631 or rhulden@gmail.com.





What's Happening in Our Church!



Bible Study: Sunday mornings
Bring your Bible and we'll dive into
next week's readings. Printed
materials will be available.

Dates: To be announced in
upcoming bulletins.

Quilting Group



First and Third Thursday
mornings at 9:30am

No experience needed!

Craft Day Saturday, Nov. 5th 9am to 4pm



Bring your crafts to work on!
Coffee will be brewed and
ready! Bring a dish, snack or
treat to share! Drop in for a bit
or stay the entire time!!



Thursday, November 24th

Time: TBD | Place of Worship: TBD



FIRST EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 6TH | 10:15 AM

Downstairs following worship

Saturday, November 26th, 9am-11am

Join us for a

Pancake Breakfast

Free Will Offering going to
the Backpack for Kids/Family
Pathways.

Invite friends, family &
neighbors! If you are
interested in helping, please
talk to a council member!



what's happening

IN OUR COMMUNITY

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT LUNCHEON



BECOMING BRAVE

Featuring Kris Langworthy, RN

Sunday, Nov 13, 2022

1:30pm-3:00pm

Doors open and
Registration at 1:00pm |
Program begins at 1:30pm

This inspiring event brings together women from all walks of life to celebrate one another and make a difference. This annual fundraising event supports Family Pathways Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services.

The Uncommon Loon Brewing Company Event Center
10825 Lake Blvd, Chisago City



MIRACLE AT BIG ROCK

ST CROIX FALLS, WI

NOVEMBER 25TH - JANUARY 1ST

FIREWORKS, SHOPPING VENDORS,
FOOD TRUCKS, COOKIES WITH SANTA,
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT & MORE!

DRIVE THRU: MON & TUES 5-9PM

WALK THRU NIGHTS: WED - SUN

MORE INFO CAN BE FOUND AT
WWW.MIRACLEATBIGROCK.COM

TAYLORS FALLS

Lighting Festival

Friday, November 25th

All Day FREE ENTRANCE at Interstate Park
1-8 pm Wassail Craft Fair
3-6 pm Hot Chocolate and Cookies at Juneberry Cafe
3-8 pm 3rd Grade Exhibit Chisago House Restaurant
4-8 pm Christmas at the Folsom House
5 pm Chili, Hot Dogs & Bonfire, St. Joseph's Catholic Church
5 pm Booya at Romaines
5:30 pm Pleasant Valley Cloggers
6 pm Grand Lighting of the Village and Santa Parade
6:30 SantaLand at Schoony's Face Painting, Balloon Animals
7-9 pm Judging of the Outdoor Lights Displays

Saturday, November 26th

9 am-3 pm Wassail Craft Fair
9 am-3 pm Taylors Falls Historical Society in the History Center
4:30 pm Ecumenical Vespers @ 1861 Methodist Church, Taylors Falls
10-7 pm Christmas at Folsom House
10 am Medallion Hunt Clues every 1/2 hour via Facebook
6:30 pm Bingo for CASH

Sunday, November 27th

1-4 pm Green Fire Irish Dancers at the Memorial Community Center.
1-4 pm Christmas at the Folsom House
2-3 pm Royal Lady's Tea at the First Baptist Church
3 pm St Croix Valley Orchestra at Methodist Church (masks required)
7:30 pm Festival Theatre: "Gift of Magi"

The Lighting Festival
theme this year:
**Wannigan: Trailblazing
the St Croix**





Council Meeting Minutes

Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

October 16, 2022, 10:15am- 11:00am

Next meeting: November 13, 2022

“To worship God as an intergenerational praying community, learning God’s Word, and building lasting relationships as we grow in God’s love and grace.”

Members Present: Wendy Szczepanski, Rose Anderson, Miriam Flysjo, Craig Loen, Becky Hulden, Kathy Carlsted, Pastor Dwight Rudquist. **Members Absent:** none

A. Opening Devotions - Becky November - Miriam

B. Sharing Story- Wendy, Miriam, Becky

C. Pastor’s Report - Pastor Dwight

Confirmation was supposed to start in mid September but the students have all joined other confirmation groups.

Pastor Dwight will work on getting a Vision group started.

The Planting Hope campaign went well. We collected about \$3,000 and will send it to the Synod.

Pastor Dwight will check with other churches about doing a community Thanksgiving Eve service. We will invite others to join our choir.

Pastor Dwight will be here for the Christmas Day service (on Sunday) but will be gone for the New Years Day service. The New Year’s Day service will be readings and hymns.

D. Treasurer’s Report - Becky

Our income in September was \$11,273 which is adequate for our budget.

The Property Accounts have been corrected.

We spent \$347.47 from our Samaritan Account. Pastor checked on this... might be an error. He will connect with Janelle.

Motion- Miriam/Kathy made a motion to transfer a gift of \$2000 into the general fund. Motion passed.

E. Ministry Coordinator position

Pastor advertised in the paper. Angie has posted it on FB. Wendy checking on a website to post on.

Angie continues to do the bulletin, record the service and the newsletter.

We talked about what jobs could be done by others. Pastor will start to do the bulletin. Becky can process the bills.

We are thinking about having volunteers open the office a couple hours a week.

F. Fall social events -

October – a meal for church and community fell through the cracks

November 6 brunch potluck 10:00.

November 26 – Advent event for Lighting Festival- making advent wreath. Birch logs needed, talk to Wendy if you have some.

Community pancake and sausage breakfast from 9:00-11:00 with a free will offering for Backpacks for Kids or the food shelf. Jerry R. will flip pancakes. Don H will help.

December 10- lefse making with possible St.Lucia connection. Kathy C will head up the event.

We are looking into having a Community Event Committee so the council won’t be responsible for planning events.

G. Choir

We need to remind Toni to add choir practice to her time sheet.

H. Next year’s projects-

Pastor will contact the Property Committee for advice on the following projects: parking lot, back doors to the fellowship hall, kitchen and fellowship floors, kitchen update and an update on the bathrooms in the education area.

I. Motion to adjourn, second Kathy

Faithfully submitted,

Miriam Flysjo, council secretary



What is Gratitude?

The **Hebrew term for gratitude is hakarot ha'tov** and it means, quite literally, "recognizing the good". When we examine our lives, the world around us, and recognize at all we are blessed with (recognizing the good) and we look for reasons to express our gratitude to God and to those around us, then we are truly living a life of gratitude.

So, what does a gratitude journal do?

A gratitude journal can help you stay on top of this habit of thankfulness by providing a **way to capture your thoughts about what God** has done in your life. Gratitude journals can actually improve your mood, health, and even sleep! And there is a reason for that.

It's pretty simple – gratitude journals help you focus on all the good things in your life, and paying attention to what is positive helps people become more optimistic. Being optimistic can make it easier to experience joy, be more healthy, more motivated and less stressed out throughout the day!

Your November challenge: Start a gratitude journal!!!

Use a notebook or journal from home, purchase a beautiful new notebook or use a printed one at the church (located in the library)...use whatever you'd like! ♥

There is a kids gratitude activity available in the library, too!!!!



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651-465-5265
www.tflutheran.org

Pastor Dwight Rudquist
 c: 651-829-4884
pastorrudquist@gmail.com

Angie Linngren
 Ministry Coordinator,
parishc@tflutheran.org

2022-2023

Council/Officers:

Wendy Szczepanski—President

Craig Loen—Vice President

Becky Hilden—Treasurer

Miriam Flysjo —Secretary

Kathy Carlsted

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 will be on November 13 at 10:15am.

Mission Statement

The mission of FELC is to worship God as an intergenerational praying 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.