



First Things

OCTOBER 2023

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

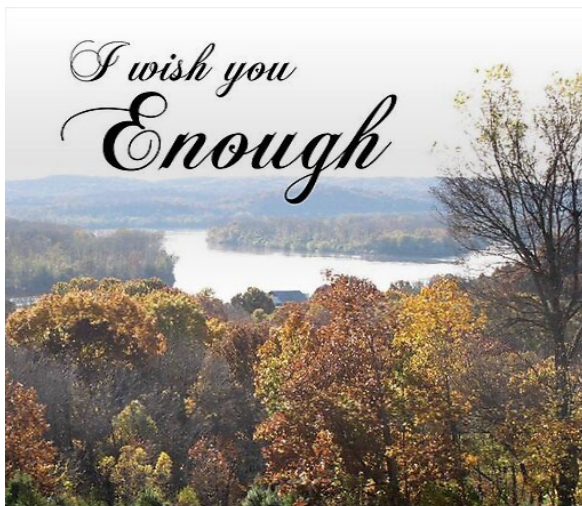
In the midst of much uncertainty in our present day lives, this story, from an unknown source, certainly helps put life and relationships into perspective.

Recently, I overheard a father and daughter in their last moments together. They hugged and he said, "I love you. I wish you enough." She in turn said, "Daddy, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Daddy." They kissed and she left.

He walked over toward the window where I was seated. Standing there, I could see he wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on his privacy, but he welcomed me in by asking, "Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?" "Yes, I have," I replied. Saying that

brought back memories I had of expressing my love and appreciation for all my Dad had done for me. Recognizing that his days were limited, I took the time to tell him face to face how much he meant to me. So I knew what this man was experiencing. "Forgive me for asking, but why is this a

*I wish you
Enough*



forever good-bye?" I asked.

"I am old and she lives much too far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is, the next trip back would be for my funeral," he said. "When you were saying good-bye I heard you say, 'I wish you enough.' May I ask what that means?" He began to smile. "That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone." He paused for a moment and looked up as if trying to remember it in detail, he smiled even more. "When we said, 'I wish you enough,' we were wanting the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them," he continued. Then turning to me, he shared the following, reciting it from memory.

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright. I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more. I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive. I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger. I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting. I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess. I wish you enough hellos to get you through the final good-bye.

He then began to sob and walked away.

Dear friends, I wish you enough!

Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Wishing Pastor Dwight Happy Birthday this month!

New Members **Welcome!**

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

If you are interested in becoming a member, please join us for Bible Study on Sun, Oct. 1st and again on Sun, Oct. 8th during worship to welcome you!

SUNDAYWORSHIP

Worship every Sunday at 9:00am. Recorded services from Sunday morning worship are available Sunday afternoons on our website www.tflutheran.org and can also be found on our YouTube Channel: First Evangelical Lutheran Church of TF - 2nd.

LIBRARYHOURS

Sunday 8:00am-10:30am

COUNCILMEETING

Council will meet October 8, 2023.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/14 Kent Johnson
10/16 Dwight Rudquist
10/16 Lucille Tverberg
10/20 Kullan Parks
10/23 Kelly Luschen
10/23 Karen Olson
10/24 Dennis Buchholtz
10/29 Bruce Carlsted
10/31 Abraham Belisle

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

08/27 Giving:	\$2,134.00
09/03 Giving:	\$2,195.00
09/10 Giving:	\$1,733.00
09/17 Giving:	\$2,042.00
09/23 Giving:	\$1,840.00

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.

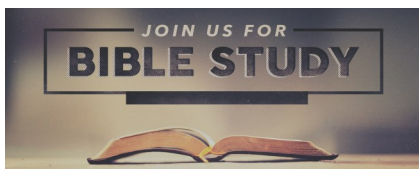


What's Happening in Our Church!

Every Sunday: Worship at 9am followed by Fellowship at 10am.



We are planning to do a special service to welcome new members. If you are interested in becoming a member of FELC, please speak with Pr. Dwight!



Bible Study: Sunday mornings following fellowship.

Grab a cup of coffee & join us for Bible Study. Print outs available.



A prayer shawl enables the recipient to be surrounded by prayer, and is a tangible reminder of God's care and love, encouragement and inspiration.

If you'd like to be part of this new ministry or have any questions, please talk with Becky Hulden.

Church Choir



**Tuesday evenings at 6 - 7pm
in the sanctuary! No
experience needed! We'd
love for you to join us!!!**



CRAFTING SATURDAYS ARE BACK!

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH
9:00AM - 2:00PM**

**BRING YOUR CRAFTS, A SNACK
TO SHARE AND BE READY FOR
SOME GREAT CONVERSATION!
INVITE A FRIEND!**



**First and Third
Wednesday mornings
at 9:30am**

No experience needed!

**We welcome new
quilters!!!**



Upcoming Events At Our Church Times:TBD

**Lumberjack Pancake Breakfast
& Advent Wreath Making
November 25th**

**Snack & Paint Event
Date:TBD**

**Lefse Making Event
Date:TBD**



Prayer Shawl Blessing

Members blessed the prayer shawls during worship on Sunday, September 24th.

These shawls are available at church, located in the Resource Room across from the library.

Prayer shawls gather and disperse blessings and prayers throughout their several stages of life.

First, the shawl is prayed over and filled with blessings by their creators. Next, the shawl is a blessing to the giver. The giver prays for healing, comfort or strength that spills over the shawl. Finally, the shawl is a blessing to the receiver. It's placed upon the shoulders bringing warmth, comfort, healing, and real presence of all the prayers and blessings gathered into that shawl.

Who can be a “creator”? Anyone can! Talk with Becky Hulden for more information!

Who can be a “giver”? All of us can be! Anytime you see or hear of a need, please come, and get a shawl and take it to the receiver.

Who can be a “receiver”? Often prayer shawls are given when someone is grieving or has just gotten a difficult diagnosis, like cancer. But prayer shawls can be given to new mothers, someone transitioning to a new home, birthdays or wedding gifts.





We need volunteer kitchen assistants to help pack meals for delivery. You can support your community by volunteering a couple mornings a month from 9:00 and 11:30 at Parmly on the Lake in Chisago City. We appreciate your flexibility. For more details and to register, call Coordinator Jackie Law at 651-257-0582

Family Pathways is prepping to assemble Thanksgiving Meal boxes in early November! Last year, 136 meals were put together and this year, the need is greater! Each church in our Chisago Lakes area have been asked to contribute an



item for the meal kits. Our church has been asked to collect 150 cans of corn (regular or creamed) and also collect money to purchase turkeys. Please bring in cans of corn now through October 29th and place them in the Thanksgiving Food Drive bin near the usher stand!!!



The backpack program is in full swing and Family Pathways continues to need our help stocking their shelves!!! Here is a list of the items that kids receive in those bags, any support in restocking their shelves would be greatly appreciated

**Canned Complete Meals like Ravioli, Spaghetti-O's,
Beef-a-Roni, and Chili Mac ~ Macaroni & Cheese
Ramen Noodles | Flavored Oatmeal Packets
Small Cereal boxes | Chicken Noodle and Tomato Soup
Individual Snack Packs | Peanut Butter
Pop Tarts | Canned Vegetables and Fruits**

There is a bin at the church located in the Resource Room

what's happening

IN OUR COMMUNITY



St. Croix Falls, WI

Public Library Plaza
Saturdays, May-October
10AM-1PM

Lindstrom, MN

Parking Lot of St. Bridget's
July 6th to October 22nd
Wednesday 3 pm to 6 pm
Saturday 8 am to 12 pm



EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Monday Evenings
4:00pm - 6:00pm

Zion Lutheran Church
in Chisago City

FRANCONIA sculpture park

Franconia Art & Farmers Market

Sun, Oct 1st | 10am-2pm

The first Sunday of each month,
May-October from 10am-2pm,
local farmers and artists come
together to provide a variety of fresh
produce and handmade crafts.



Saturday Oct 7
10am - 4pm

Free to the Public
Schedule for the day:
10 am to 3 pm Art, Craft & Vendor
Fair, 2 pm Pie Eating Contest -
same day registration available,
11 pm to 1 pm Live Music at The
Overlook, 10 am to Noon SCF
Library Activities, 10 am to 3 pm
Velcro Axe Throwing and other
bouncy play toys, and Food Truck

Main Street in St. Croix Falls, WI

Bi-Annual Recycling is approaching!!

*Start setting your
items aside for the
Chisago Lake Lutheran
Church Recycling Day.*

**Saturday, October 7th
8am-2pm in the lower
parking lot.**



Joy Lutheran WELCA Bazaar

Saturday, October 7, 2023
10:00am - 1:00pm

Come and have coffee or lunch with us! Then shop for lefse, garden produce, pies & baked goods (bars, cookies, breads), preserves or canned foods, theme baskets, & hand-made/craft items!

Joy Lutheran Church
State Hwy 35, Centuria, WI



The Sharing Shop

CLOTHING MINISTRY

Free Fall Clothing Event

Friday, October 20th
9am-12pm

Sat, October 21st
9am-12pm

**Lakes Free Church in
Lindstrom, 296 Olinda Trl**
We have gathered gently used fall and winter clothing for men, women and children including clothing, coats, snow pants and boots. There will be a small charge for each clothing item. All proceeds will be used to fund Lakes Free MOPS.



Join the MiChiLu churches on

**Sunday, October 29th from
4:00pm - 6:00pm**

at The Uncommon Loon
Brewery in Chisago City

Time to Book Your Vacation Cabin!

Luther Point is home to 5 "Family Cabins." Little cabins nestled on Akermark Bay on Big Wood Lake in Grantsburg, WI. Each cabin is a little different, but each have their own fire pits, parking spaces, privacy, kitchen and relaxing space!

They start at \$85 per night for the whole cabin! Reserve yours today by visiting our website or calling the camp office 715-689-2347.

They fill up fast!



Pleasant Valley Orchard 17325 Pleasant Valley Road, Shafer Hayrides to the Pumpkin Patch

Saturdays & Sundays through October 29. Take a hayride to the pumpkin patch & pick-your-own pumpkin. Hayrides drop you off in the patch; & will circle back & pick you & your pumpkin up. Tickets: \$5.00 per person; 3 & under free.

Twelve Days of Halloween – October 20-31st. Spooktacular celebration with special events, activities & daily special sales the twelve days before Halloween! Events include spooky story time for the kids, scavenger hunt for all ages, pie baking & pumpkin carving! Celebrate the Halloween Season with us!

- **October 20th** – Spooky Story Time. Join us for story book readings & crafts for kids in the loft of the Barn. Time: 11 am & 12:30 pm. Halloween at the Orchard by Phyllis Alsdurf. Co-sponsored by Twinflower Books. Free.
- **October 21 & 22** – Kids crafts & scavenger hut. 10:30am – 2:00pm. Free.
- **October 28th** – Pumpkin Pie Baking Contest. Using real pumpkin (not canned), this contest is a yummy way to showcase your baking smarts. Contestants will be eligible for bakery related prizes. Co-Sponsored by The Oven Mitt.

Attention - Singers Needed during Taylors Falls Lighting Festival

This will be Tyler Olson's third year directing the community chorus for the Choral Vespers to be held Saturday, November 25, 4:30 PM, during Taylors Falls Lighting Festival. Pat Remer is the accomplished accompanist.

***This is a wonderful opportunity
for singers wanting a short-term
commitment.***



We need singers, past participants and first timers, both men and women, for this unique service. There are five Sunday evening rehearsals: October 22, 29, November 5, 12 and 19, starting promptly at 6:30 PM to 8 PM at the 1861 United Methodist Church, 190 W Government St., where the service is also held.

Please pre-register using wwymd@aol.com to sign in. Leave your **name, voice range and telephone number**. You will receive direct email communications and additional information. Thank you for your consideration and participation.



Saturday, Nov. 4 - 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Christus Victor, Apple Valley

The synod is offering a Spiritual Gifts Retreat for anyone who is interested in finding out for themselves: "Who has God created me to be?" This retreat will provide you with an opportunity to look deeply at who you are and how God has uniquely blessed you with certain gifts.

Using spiritual gift inventories, conversation and other tools, you'll go home with a better sense of who you are and how you might best serve your faith community and the world! The cost is \$30 per person and includes lunch. For more information, visit the St. Paul Synod website.



Council Meeting Minutes

Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

September 10, 2023, 10:30 am

Next meeting October 8, 2023

“Proclaim the Gospel and Serve our neighbors.”

Members Present: Rose Anderson, Miriam Flysjo, Becky Hulden, Kathy Carlsted, Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Members Absent: Craig Loen

Pastor Dwight opened the meeting with devotions. Becky volunteered to lead devotions for the October meeting. Stories of God’s work in our midst were shared by Kathy and Miriam.

The election of officers was tabled until October.

Pastor Dwight reported that the MiChiLu committee met. They are sponsoring a Beer and Hymn sing on October 29 from 4:00-6:00 and a pancake supper on Fat Tuesday (February 13) from 4:00-7:00. The next meeting is November 9.

Kathy made the motion (seconded by Rose) that we pay Emily Rudquist for accompanying the service on August 27 and Michelle Lynch for accompanying service on October 8. Motion passed.

Treasurer Becky Hulden reported that our August income was less than adequate for our budget. She was unable to compare our income and expenses to our budget because Janell is having trouble with our new budget program and hasn’t sent reports. We spent around \$10,000 from the Undesignated Memorial fund for the new furnace. There is about \$9,000 more in our General checking account than there was two months ago. The Audit committee is meeting quarterly; their next meeting is October 16th.

The Property Committee will be working on regrading the south side lawn. The committee will purchase new toilets to remodel the bathrooms off the fellowship hall. We still haven't gotten a bill for the removal of the pine tree.

Having the mission statement as part of Sunday Worship was discussed. It was decided that we should start a Mission Moment that would be a time for someone to share how the Gospel was proclaimed or how neighbors were served. For example, someone from the quilt group could share about quilts made for others. Becky volunteered to start by sharing about the Prayer Shawls ministry on September 24. The council decided to continue to discuss how we are living our mission statement and how we could do better.

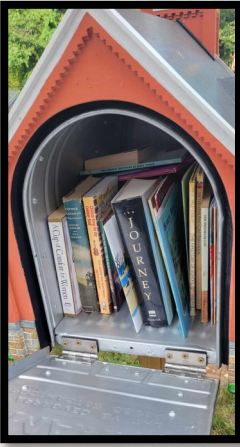
Becky motioned (Kathy seconded) that we sponsor a free Lumberjack pancake breakfast and Advent Wreath making event as part of the Taylors Falls Lighting Festival on November 25, offer a free Lefse making day in December open to the community and let Angie use the fellowship hall to host a painting class, Motion passed.

Kathy motioned to adjourn at 11:05. Becky seconded the motion.

Faithfully submitted,

Miriam Flysjo, council secretary



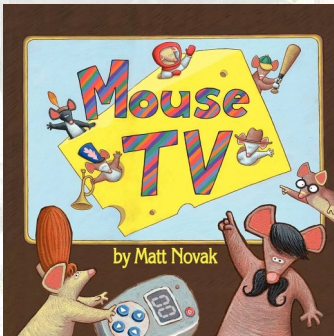
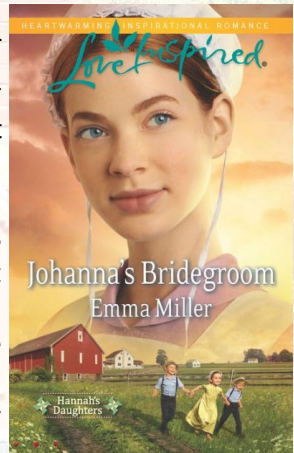


WHAT'S INSIDE OUR LITTLE LIBRARY?

Johanna's Bridegroom

by Emma Miller

Bold widow Johanna Yoder stuns Roland Byler when *she* asks *him* to be her husband. To Johanna, it seems very sensible that they marry. She has two children, and he has a son. Why shouldn't their families become one? But the widower has never forgotten his long-ago love for her; it was his foolish mistake that split them apart. This could be a fresh start for both of them. Until she reveals she wants a marriage of convenience only. It's up to Roland to woo the stubborn Johanna and convince her to accept him as her groom in her home *and* in her heart.



Mouse TV

by Matt Novak

The mouse family is up at night, glued to the TV. But there is many a squeaky squabble because all ten mice favor different channels. History, mystery, how-to, where-to, comedy, drama, sports ... This viewer-friendly romp shows how, one night, they all get happy with new favorites they'd hardly imagined.

Stop by and take a look at what is in our library! There are plenty of good reads! Take a book and / or leave a book!!!!

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



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

Angie Linngren
Ministry Coordinator,
parishc@tflutheran.org

2023-2024

Council/Officers:

Undetermined—President

Craig Loen—Vice President

Becky Hulden—Treasurer

Miriam Flysjo —Secretary

Kathy Carlsted

Rose Anderson

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 October 8, 2023 at 10:30am.

Mission Statement

Proclaim the Gospel and Serve our Neighbors.

(Mission Statement approved 2023)

"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.



561 Chestnut Street, Taylors Falls, MN 55084-1110



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US

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PERMIT NO. 5