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ORGANIZATION

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TAYLORS FALLS, MN
PERMIT NO. 5

First Evangelical
LUTHERAN CHURCH

561 Chestnut Street, Taylors Falls, MN 55084-1110



SEPTEMBER 2021

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

SUNDAYWORSHIP

Sept. 5: Outdoor
Sept. 12: Outdoor
Sept. 19: Outdoor
Sept. 26: Outdoor
Weather Permitting

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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday
8:30am—1:30pm
Tuesday
8:30am—12:30pm
Thursday
8:30am—11:30am
Hours may vary - please
visit the website for
updates.



I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1-2)

Here's how Eugene Peterson translates those verses from Romans in The Message:

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

This is a pivotal point in Paul's words to the church in Rome. Having made it clear in the prior chapters who they were because of God's love for them in Jesus, Paul says "therefore" get on with it or as Peterson says "here's what I want you to do." Having been freed by God, it's time to be bound in service to the world. That was Paul's message to his church and that is my message to you. As we begin a new chapter in our relationship together, I am committed to walking with you, pushing you a bit, and helping you to discern what it means for each of us to be Christ's disciples here and now. We all know there are plenty of needs within and outside our community of faith. We also know that when we work together, we can make a significant difference.

I don't have a clear plan of how to determine a course of action. Some questions to ask might be: What gifts has the Holy Spirit given us? Where are those gifts most needed to be shared? What will help us discern God's voice? How can we fix our attention on God? How will we Live Into the Future Together?

I'm guessing we all have a lot of questions. May God open our hearts to be moved by the Holy Spirit, to roll our sleeves, and get to it!

Pastor Dwight Rudquist



New Members **Welcome!**

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

LIBRARYHOURS

Monday 8:30am-1:30pm
Tuesday 8:30am-12:30pm
Thursday 8:30am-11:30am

COUNCILMEETING

Council will meet September 12, 2021 at 10:15am.

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

08/01 Giving:	\$3,475.00
08/08 Giving:	\$2,759.00
08/15 Giving:	\$2,135.00
08/22 Giving:	\$2,132.00

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.



Sunday morning worship will take place outside every Sunday, weather permitting. If we need to move indoors, we ask that you wear your face mask. Hand sanitizer will continue to be available. If you are feeling unwell, please stay home and take care of yourself, but please let us know if you need anything. Thank you.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Joan Johnson	09/01
Ryan Bjorklund	09/02
Ethan Landgreen	09/05
Torger Olson	09/05
Jonah Landgreen	09/06
Donna Lindgren	09/07
David Donahue	09/08
Taylor Miller	09/08
Caleb Moberg	09/09
Sheldon Magnuson	09/16
Bailey Hansen	09/19
Ingrid Olson	09/19
Mark Clasen	09/22
Cleo Stomberg	09/24
Ethan Bjorklund	09/27
Timothy McDonald	09/28
Caitlyn Vitalis	09/29
Joe Landgreen	09/30

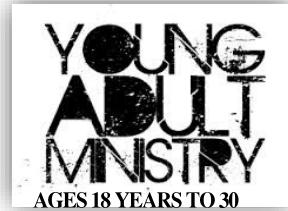
Please contact the church office if there are any errors or omissions. Thank you.



Youth Group & Confirmation Class

Stay tuned for more information!

Would you like to have to be part of the Intergenerational Sunday School? What would you like to see happen this year? Let Pr. Dwight or Angie know if you would like to be included in the planning for this year!



Calling all young adults!!!

We'd love to hear from you - share with us what you are up to! Have you gotten married? Started a family? Are you in college? What things are you doing in your life ~ we'd love to hear from you and see pictures! Please email, mail or call us with anything you'd like to share!

Summer Reading Program Prize Winners

Whitney Loen

2 Tickets to Fawn-Doe-Rosa

Carli Linngren

4 Ice Cream Cones from the Drive In Restaurant

Julie Valez

Annual Minnesota State Park Pass



What things do you want to see on our wish list?

Short Term:

1. Outside Sign Landscaping
2. Weekly Weeding - Throughout property.
3. New American Flag for out front.

Long Term:

1. Foundation Maintenance
2. Parking Lot Repair
3. Fellowship Hall Chairs
4. Paint the Outdoor Shed
5. Re-Build the Nativity Structure

What I Love About First Lutheran

Spotlighting: Natalie Landgreen

I have attended First Lutheran since I was born in 1966. I was baptized, attended Sunday School, was confirmed and married here with the support of this amazing congregation. I have one memory of sitting near the front of the church when I was seven (which, not incidentally, was the day my mother discovered in horror that my eyesight was so poor I couldn't read the large hymn numbers on the wall right in front of me), but the majority of my memories are of sitting next to my dad in the fifth row from the back, south side. To this day I think my children believe it is "our pew."

Though much has changed over those 55 years, and my heart aches to have more Sundays sitting next to my dad, my love for this congregation and this church remains strong. Thank you to all who have made us a part of this wonderful family.

We would love to spotlight YOU! If you'd like to submit something for this new section, please contact Angie in the office!

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS



Turkey Dinner
Beer Tent ~ Burgers
Brats ~ Kids Games
Silent Auction
Hwy 8 Lindstrom, MN
For more info:
stbridgetofsweden.org



Pleasant Valley Orchard Shafer, MN

Anniversary Vendor
and Art Fair
Saturday, September 22
10:00am to 5:00pm

Craft Vendors ~ Music
Food ~ Hayrides & More!



FELC's Weekly Farmer's Market

Maple Syrup
Don's Sugar Shack
Farm Fresh Eggs
Becky Hulden

St. Croix Falls, WI

Every Saturday
May through October
10:00am to 1:00pm

Lindstrom, MN

2021 Season Begins July 7
Open July to October
Wednesdays 3pm to 6pm
Saturday 8am to 12pm



Weekend After Labor Day

Friday, September 10th -
Sunday, September 12th, 2021

Almelund AppleFest

Sunday, September 19, 2021
11a - 4p

Lots of great things to eat! ~ Craft Vendors!

Special Events & Entertainment
(including River City Cloggers at 11:30am, featuring our
church member: Carli Linngren)



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteer openings for Bingo callers (Monday afternoon), read and discuss devotions (Wednesday mornings), and painting nails (Thursday afternoons). Please let us know if you have other volunteer ideas, or would like to provide music, crafts, or fitness opportunities, as well. The Lodge of Taylors Falls, 651-240-0140.



Annual Meeting Minutes

of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, August 8, 2021

- I. Declaration of Quorum and Call to Order- Council President, Wendy Szczepanski declared a quorum (greater than 16) and called the meeting to order.
- II. Gathering Prayer- Becky Hulden
- III. Appointment of Tellers- Julie Valez, Bruce Carlsted and Mary Ann Mattson
- IV. Acceptance of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes Don Hansen motioned to accept the 2020 minutes. Rose Anderson seconded. Motion passed
- V. Elections:
 - a. Council Members- Miriam Flysjo has agreed to serve another term. Kathy Carlstad is nominated by the nominating committee. Leo Nelson motioned for a Consensus ballot. Craig Loen seconded. Motion passed
 - b. Nominating committee- There are three positions. Don Hansen and Joe Landgreen have another year to serve. No one was nominated for the remaining position.
 - c. Auditing committee- Carol Nelson's term has ended; she is willing to serve again. There were no other nominations for other positions
 - d. Memorial committee- Darlene Mueller and Wendy Szczepanski are on the committee. There were no nominations for additional members.

Pastor Dwight has agreed to help us move toward shared ministry. We can't afford to have a pastor on our own because of our finances.

VII. Reports:

- a. President- no need to add to written report
- b. Pastor- written report was submitted
- c. Intergenerational Sunday School.-- Julie Magnuson has done a great job despite the restrictions during Covid. There were many amazing events outside.
- d. Treasurer- Becky we've maintained our financial stability through the pastor change and pandemic which were two huge events. \$133,000 total assets.
- e. Auditing Committee- nothing to report because no meetings were held.

VIII. Acceptance of Reports-Bruce Carlsted motioned to accept the reports as printed and presented. Rose Anderson seconded. Motion passed.

IX. Budget Proposal for 2021/2022- Don Hansen made a motion to adopt the 2021-2022 proposed budget. Joe Szczepanski seconded.

Discussion-

- a. We need to look at our worship diversity since most of our budget is for worship. How can we make our worship reach out to everyone who enters the door? We have 300 people on our membership list, including 29 young adults. What are we doing to reach out to them?
- b. Parking lot- we need to have a conversation about how to fix the parking lot before all of it needs to be replaced.
- c. Why isn't there any mention of an online worship coordinator in the budget?

We are now recording the service live. During Covid people came into church at different times Angie spent hours editing the pieces of the service together. Currently Angie is paid to record the service and post it online. If the virus gets worse we might have to consider returning to online worship and Angie will be paid to be the online worship coordinator.

- d. Are the PPP loans or grants? PPP start out as loans and can turn into grants if certain conditions are met. After a period of time paperwork was submitted and our first PPP loan was forgiven. The second PPP loan cannot be forgiven yet, but Becky and Janelle will fill out the paperwork to get that loan forgiven too.
- e. When will the choir start again? We hope the choir will resume in September but it depends on the virus. If we can't start choir and need to return to online worship then the money allotted for the choir director could be moved where it is needed for staffing.
- f. Where is the PPP money in the budget? The money is not in the budget. It was deposited in our checking account. It shows up on the balance sheet. The Audit committee will meet in August and look at the accounts.

Proposed budget motion passed

- X. Election Results - The tellers reported that the counted votes were unanimous to call Pastor Dwight Rudquist
- XI. Adjournment motion- Dennis Buchholtz made a motion to adjourn. Bruce Carlsted seconded. Motion passed
- XII. The Lord's Prayer

Fellowship Resources at First

- ✚ Nursery (rocking chair, changing table, busy bags)
- ✚ Youth room (games, books, music)
- ✚ Lending library
- ✚ Outdoor playground, sports lawn, yard games lawn, basketball hoop
- ✚ Prayer chain, visitation, mobility equipment loaners

Faith Resources at First

- ✚ Weekly Worship
- ✚ Faith Stepping Stones
 - * Baptism
 - * First Communion
 - * Confirmation
 - * Ministry Leadership Training
 - * Marriage
 - * Parenting Resources
 - * Care Ministry
- ✚ Summer Programs
 - * Bible camp – Together with Friends, Luther Point
 - * Summer Reading Program



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

2021-2022

Council/Officers:

Wendy Szczepanski—President

Craig Loen—Vice President

Becky Hulden—Treasurer

Miriam Flysjo —Secretary

Rose Anderson

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 September 12, 2021 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.