



First Things

SEPTEMBER 2023

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



Beginning on September 10th we will be switching from the Revised Common Lectionary to the Narrative Lectionary. On Sundays from September through May this year the scriptural texts follow the sweep of the biblical story, from Creation through the early Christian church. The

texts show the breadth and variety of voices within Scripture. They invite you to hear the stories of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and the prophets, Jesus, and Paul. The hope is that in listening to the many different voices within Scripture you will grow in your overall appreciation and knowledge of the Biblical story as well as enrich your life of faith.

This lectionary was started back in 2010 by a few professors at Luther Seminary in St. Paul along with the consultation of pastors throughout the church. The texts that are selected lend themselves well to the proclamation of what God is doing. The stories tell of hope and disappointment, suffering and redemption. In all these varied contexts, we find God dealing with the complexities of human life. This is a four year cycle of stories with a focus on a different Gospel each year. This year we will discover the richness and distinctive character of Mark's Gospel and his account of the life of Jesus.

The Church Year also helped shape the flow of the Narrative Lectionary. Old Testament readings move through the story of God's dealings with Israel and culminate in Advent with the prophets who speak of longing and hope. Readings from the Gospels fit the movement from Christmas and Epiphany to the Transfiguration, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week and Easter. Selections from the book of Acts and Paul's letters trace the outward movement of the resurrection message, culminating on Pentecost with readings focusing on the Spirit.

The two biggest changes you will notice will be that there may be only one reading each week (often a Psalm or other responsive reading will be included) and that up until Advent, there will be no Gospel reading. Trust that Jesus shines throughout the entire Bible and we will discover together many connections to Jesus from those 1st Testament stories. The hope is that the overall biblical story becomes more familiar to you and you are able to speak more fluently the first language of our faith.

Pastor Dwight Rudquist



God gave to us
the Autumn season
so we could have
a respite and rest
for it is the season
for our beset souls
to see how much
we are blessed

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 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 September 11, 2023.



**First Day of Autumn
September 23rd**

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

09/01 Joan Johnson
09/02 Ryan Bjorklund
09/05 Ethan Landgreen
09/05 Torger Olson
09/06 Jonah Landgreen
09/07 Donna Lindgren
09/07 Paul Linnerooth, Jr
09/09 Caleb Moberg
09/15 Eleanore Belisle
09/16 Sheldon Magnuson
09/24 Cleo Stomberg
09/27 Ethan Bjorklund
09/30 Joe Landgreen

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

07/30 Giving:	\$3,042.00
08/06 Giving:	\$2,542.00
08/13 Giving:	\$2,547.00
08/20 Giving:	\$2,470.00

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.

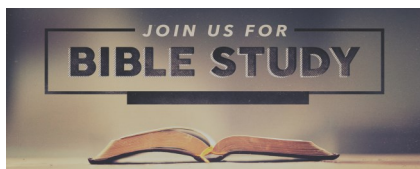


What's Happening in Our Church!

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.
Fall start up date: September 18th



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



Fall Start Up date:

September 12th

Tuesday evenings at 6 - 7pm

**in the sanctuary! No
experience needed! We'd
love for you to join us!!!**



**SATURDAY CRAFT DAYS
WILL START BACK UP
ON OCTOBER!**



**First and Third Thursday
mornings at 9:30am
No experience needed!**

**We will start to meet again
starting September 20th!**

We welcome new quilters!!!

North Cluster Fall Gathering

Women of the ELCA

September 23, 2023

Registration & Coffee at 9am

Meeting begins at 9:30am

**More information on our
bulletin board at church!**

THANK YOU

**Thank you to Joe &
Wendy Szczepanski for
their continued attention
to our lawn care! It's
much appreciated!**

**A big thank you to Pete
Lindgren for refinishing
the picnic tables!
They look great!**



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



The backpack program is in full swing and Family Pathways continues to need our help stocking their shelves!!! The backpack program ensures kiddos have food on the weekends and days where there is not school. 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 to place donations in.

**Thank you for all the school
supplies and backpacks donated to
Family Pathways!!!!**





Backpack Blessings

We have backpack blessing tags available for you at the church! Get one on Sunday before or after worship!!!



Apple Pie Crescents

Ingredients

1 small Granny Smith Apple, peeled, cored, cut into 8 (1/2 inch) slices

3 Tbsp butter, melted

1 can (8oz) Pillsbury Original Crescent Rolls (8 count)

1/3 cup packed brown sugar

1 tsp apple pie spice



Steps

1. Heat oven to 375. Line cookie sheet with parchment paper or grease cookie sheet.
2. In a small bowl, toss apple slices in 1 Tbsp melted butter; set aside. Separate dough into 8 triangles.
3. In small bowl, mix brown sugar and apple pie spice. Divide mixture evenly among triangles. Top each triangle with one apple slice. Starting at short side of each triangle, wrap dough around apple. Place on cookie sheet. Brush with remaining 2 Tbsp melted butter.
4. Bake for 10-12 minutes or until crescents are deep golden brown and apples are softened. Cool 5 minutes before serving.

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 22th

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, Sept 3rd | 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.

**ST. BRIDGET OF SWEDEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**BLOCK
PARTY**

SATURDAY, SEPT 2 • 6-10 PM

Featuring
**BOOGIE
WONDERLAND**
Get Down Tonight
6-10 PM

**TURKEY DINNER • BEER TENT
BURGERS • HOT DOGS • BRATS
KIDS GAMES • SILENT AUCTION**

***\$5K CASH RAFFLE • FREE ADMISSION**

Hwy 8, Lindstrom, MN
For more info: stbridgetofsweden.org • 651-257-2474



Unexpected Company Chorale Rehearsals Starting for Winter Concert

Calling all singers! Rehearsals for our winter concert, "Shines a Star", begin on Mon, Sept 11th, at 7PM (registration & music hand-out will start at 6:30), at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lindstrom (13025 Newell Avenue -- come through the door at the back of the church in the parking lot). Rehearsals are every Monday & the concerts are

Friday evening, Dec 1st, & Sunday afternoon, Dec 3rd. Membership dues are \$60 per concert cycle, & purchase of concert attire may be required. We look forward to having you sing with us!! No audition is required.

Live Indoor Concert Tues. Sept. 12th at 6:30pm



Local Gospel Band

Glory Bound

Stay for Treats

Invite a friend or neighbor!

Free will offering

First Methodist Church
290 W Government St
Taylors Falls, MN 55084

Allemansrätt Park



Nature Party!

Sunday, Sept. 17th
1-5pm

31316 Olinda Trail North Lindström

Save the date for the Friends of Allemansrätt's annual Nature Party! Games, prizes, & more. Details to come in late August. Free to attend & fun for all ages.
See you there!

AMERY FALL FESTIVAL

September 14-17, 2023

FLANNEL & FIRE

Food Truck Village ~ Carnival Rides
Live Music ~ Arts & Craft Fair on Saturday
Flannel Dress Up Contest on Saturday
Pancake Breakfast on Sunday
More information can be found:
www.ameryfallfestival.org



ALMELUND'S 28TH APPLE FESTIVAL

Sunday, September 17, 2023
11 A.M - 4 P.M.

AMADOR HERITAGE CENTER
& Swedish Immigrant Log Farm



ALMELUND, MN

Located between North Branch and Taylors Falls on State Highway 95
at the intersection of Co. Rd. 12 & Hwy. 95 Follow the bright green signs!




MAKING HISTORY FUN FOR EVERYONE!

GREAT THINGS TO EAT!

- Scrumptious APPLE Desserts, ala mode with homemade apple butter!
 - Rod's Swedish Sausage on a Stick!
 - Almelund Lion's Burgers, Brats & Dogs
 - Kettle Korn
 - Taco in a Bag & More!
- Buy a bag of apples to bring home!*

SPECIAL EVENTS!

- Visit Local History Museum
- Three Restored Log Cabins & Log Farm Buildings on Site
- Arts, Crafts & Produce Vendors
- Displays in 1869, 1850 & 1880 log cabins
- Model T Rides / vintage cars on display
- Log Barn Cinema
- Old Time Craft Demonstrations
- Farm petting zoo & more
- Silent Auction
- Kids "Hands On" Activities!



*Options for Women
invites you to the Annual*

Fall Banquet

Dinner & Live Auction

September 28, 2023

Access Church, 4359 392nd St.,

North Branch, MN 55056

Doors open at 6:00 pm Dinner at 6:30 pm

\$50 per ticket \$400 per table Wine included

RSVP by phone, email, or website by September 21st.

651-674-2121 info@pregoptions.org

<https://www.pregoptionsfriends.org/events>

Free child care - must register in advanced.

Options | CHICAGO
for Women COUNTY
A PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER





2022-2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2023

Declaration of Quorum and Call to Order- Council President, Wendy Szczepanski Quorum met at 16 members. Meeting called to order at 10:07.

Gathering Prayer- Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Appointment of Tellers. Jerry Rhodes, Joy Buchholtz and Bruce Carlsted volunteered to be tellers, if needed.

1. Acceptance of 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes and Special Meeting minutes

Motion made by Roger Boleman, seconded by Rose Anderson, to accept the minutes of the 2022 annual meeting. Motion passed.

Jerry Rhodes made a motion, Rose seconded, to accept the minutes from the Special Congregational meeting on May 21, 2023. Motion passed.

2. Elections:

Council Members

No one has agreed to be on the council. There were no nominations from the floor. If no one comes forward, the council has the power to appoint a member.

Rose Anderson volunteered to be on the council.

Bruce Carlsted made a motion, Dennis Buchholtz seconded it, to approve Rose Anderson as a member of the council.

Motion approved.

Nominating committee

Wendy Szczepanski and Rita Johnson volunteered to be on the committee.

Kathy Carlsted made a motion, Julie Valez seconded, to approve Wendy and Rita for the nominating committee. Motion approved.

Memorial committee

Joy Buchholtz volunteered to join the committee.

Dennis Buchholtz made the motion, seconded by Rose Anderson, to approve Joy Buchholtz for the memorial committee. Motion passed.

3. Reports:

- a. President nothing to add
- b. Pastor: Pastor Dwight talked about the What's Next task group. We are in conversation with Immanuel church in Almelund. Pastor Dwight met with Pastor Justin from Immanuel and Justin and Rolf from the Synod. A preliminary meeting was held with a couple of council members, pastors from both churches and Rolf and Justin from the Synod. Both churches decided we were interested in continuing the conversation about what shared ministry might look like. Members from the What's Next task Group and additional members from Immanuel will meet on Aug 30. Pastor Justin is enthusiastic about shared ministry; however his congregation is more reluctant because they are worried about Pastor Justin taking on too much responsibility. The spirit is working to figure out what is next. Pastor Dwight's greatest joy will be getting First to a place where we will have long term ministry.
- c. Treasurer: Becky Hulden reported there was an typo in treasurer's report: budget should be \$121,680.
- d. Auditing Committee: The committee has decided to meet quarterly so there's not so much to review at the end of the year.

VII Acceptance of Reports:

Kathy Carlsted made a motion, second Verna Grover, to accept reports as printed. Motion passed

VIII Budget Proposal for 2023-2024

Dennis Buchholtz made a motion, second by Pete Linngren, to adopt the proposed Budget. Pastor Dwight presented the budget and explained some of the items

IX Acceptance of Budget

After the discussion the motion to accept the budget was brought to a vote. Motion passed.

X Adjournment

Bruce made the motion to adjourn and Jerry seconded the motion.

XI The Lord's Prayer

Faithfully submitted

Miriam Flysjo

Council secretary



The pine tree that stood mighty and proud in front of church was removed on Monday, August 21st. Tim Nelson counted the rings after it was cut down....35!!!



It's been retold a few times that Everett Moberg and perhaps others had planted that tree before he went off to fight in World War I.

This tree has been a part of our history at First Lutheran where congregational & wedding pictures were taken, Together with Friends and Vacation Bible School games played under that tree. There have been countless stories of neighborhood children climbing that tree.

The tree may be gone, but the memories remain!



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 September 11, 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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ORGANIZATION

US

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TAYLORS FALLS, MN

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