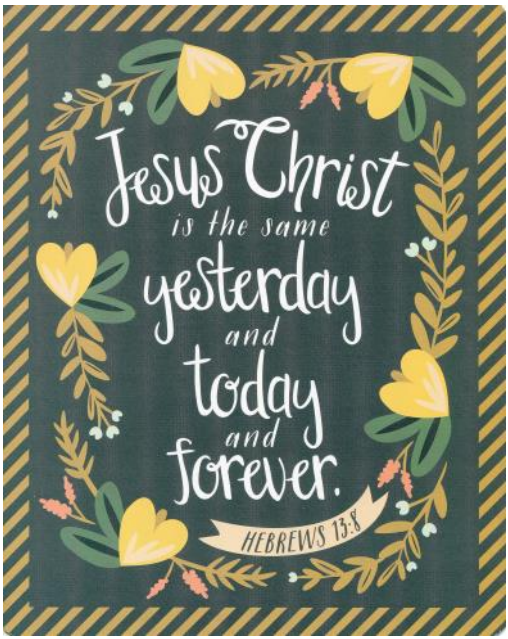
First Things

JUNE 2025

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



Change is never easy. It can stir up emotions we didn't expect—joy, sorrow, gratitude, even uncertainty. And yet, in the midst of change, we are reminded again and again that God is faithful. As Scripture says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). While seasons shift, God's love remains steadfast—and it is that love which carries us forward.

We have just come through a beautiful and meaningful moment in the life of this congregation: the celebration of Pastor Dwight's retirement. What a gift he has been to this church and community over the past five years. His pastoral care, his calm wisdom, his presence in both everyday moments and sacred milestones—these have left a lasting imprint on First Evangelical. And what a celebration we had! From the abundance of food at the potluck to the joy of music and memories shared, the event was nothing short of a fitting tribute to his ministry. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making it a day worthy of the love and legacy Pastor Dwight leaves with us.

At the same time, we find ourselves leaning into another transition—from spring into summer. Memorial Day marks that unofficial turning point when Taylors Falls begins to bustle with visitors drawn to the beauty of our town. Let us welcome them with warmth and hospitality. Every new face is an opportunity to share the light of Christ in a simple greeting, a helping hand, or an open door.

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We will also celebrated another transition for our Seniors Graduation Sunday, a moment filled with hope and holy sending. Our graduating seniors will stand among us, and —literally—be wrapped in the love of this congregation, with quilts made by your hands are more than fabric and thread; they are prayers stitched together, blessings they will carry into their next chapters.

What a powerful witness to the kind of community this is.

And speaking of witness, I continue to be moved by the way you, the people of First Evangelical, step up time and again. Whether it's organizing a celebration, preparing worship, helping a neighbor in need, or simply showing up—you live out what it means to be church. You make this congregation a place of welcome, of service, of faith in action.

So as we enter the rhythms of summer, let us do so with grateful hearts—acknowledging what has been, embracing what is, and opening ourselves to what God is doing next. There is much ahead, and we will walk it together, with Christ at our center and the Spirit as our guide.

Blessings,

Pastor Justin

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

06/01 Grason Linnerooth
06/01 Don Mueller
06/06 Lucas Rogers
06/10 Joe Szczepanski
06/11 Allen French
06/12 Dan Petersen
06/21 Roger Boleman
06/23 Miriam Lagus
06/27 Les Smith
06/29 Roger Gustafson

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

New Members **Welcome!**

If you are interested in becoming a member, please talk with Pr. Justin or contact the office at 651-465-5265.

SUNDAYWORSHIP

Worship every Sunday at 11:00am. 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.

COUNCILMEETING

Next council meeting will be announced soon. May meeting minutes are unavailable at this time.

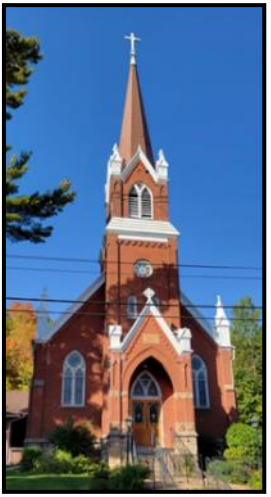
MONTHLYGIVING REPORT

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

05/04 Giving:	$2,932.00
05/11 Giving:	$2,168.00
05/18 Giving:	$2,524.00
05/25 Giving:	$2,862.01

Thank you for your faithful giving. Please contact FELC Treasurer, Craig Loen with any questions or concerns at: 715-553-0519 or cloen@federatedcoops.com



What's Happening in Our Church!

Fellowship at 10am
followed by Worship at 11am

Church Choir

No experience needed! Watch for more details! We'd love for you to join us!!!

Quilting

First & Third Wednesday mornings at 9:30am. No experience needed! We welcome new quilters!!!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

SundaySCHOOL

Monthly Sunday school class for children ages 3-6. Meets the second Sunday of the month right after the children's message.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, June 22nd following worship.

Annual reports will be available June 8th

29th Annual Together With Friends

Bible Day Camp

Dates: June 17th – 26th

Who can be a TwF Day Camper?
Any child entering grades 2-6 in the fall of 2025

What happens at TwF Day Camp?
Games, crafts, singing, Bible stories, snacks, outdoor activities, miniature golf, water carnival, meeting friends, having fun and more!

Cost
$5 per child per session
$20 per child for all 10 sessions
$50 maximum per family for all 6 sessions

(Financial scholarships easily available at your request. No one will be turned away because they cannot pay.)

*** NEW SCHEDULE ***

TWO weeks in JUNE!
Meeting Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
At the Taylors Falls Churches listed below
**Please pick up children promptly at noon!

Tuesday, June 17th	Baptist Church
Wednesday, June 18th	Lutheran Church
Thursday, June 19th	Lutheran Church
Tuesday, June 24th	Methodist Church
Wednesday, June 25th	Methodist Church
Thursday, June 26th	Baptist Church

Summer 2025

As a ministry within the ELCA, Luther Point Bible Camp is called to live into the wonder of God's creation. We strive to create a safe and nurturing environment for all people to come and have an experience with the Holy Trinity: God the Creator, Jesus the Redeemer and the Spirit who sustains us.

Brochures are available at the church.

Luther Point BIBLE CAMP

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

St. Croix Falls Public
Library Plaza
Saturdays, May-October
10am to 1pm
We are looking forward to another great season of abundant fresh produce, sustainably raised meats and cheese, preserves, honey, flowers, body care, and more!

Parking Lot of St. Bridget's in Lindstrom, MN
Wednesday 3 pm to 6 pm
Saturday 8 am to 12 pm

Local vendors offer seasonal vegetables, flowers, home canned goods, soap, eggs, baked goods & more.

FRANCONIA sculpture park

Franconia Art & Farmers Market
Sunday, June 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.

CHISAGO LAKES COMMUNITY MEAL

Monday Evenings
4pm - 6pm
Zion Lutheran Church
in Chisago City

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2025

10 AM – 3 PM

Town- wide celebration of Rhubarb! Craft Fair, Huge pie and bake sale, Lions Club rubber duck race over the falls, many rhubarb treats all over town...more to come!
Millpond Park, Osceola WI

If you are interested in applying to be a vendor, please contact Khrissy Linnerooth via call or text at 763-447-7540.

St Croix Fall,s, WI -
Serverson Memorial
Overlook Park
June - August
Friday evenings at 6:30pm
FREE Friday Summer Concerts at the overlook. Bring a lawn chair. FREE ADMISSION!

Wednesday Nights at 6:30pm
Lions Park Band Shell, Lindstrom
Events start at 6:30pm
ALL Concerts FREE to the Public!

FAITH CONVERSATIONS

LIVING IN THIS MOMENT

FOURTH THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

6:30 PM

WILD MOUNTAIN WINERY

BROUGHT TO YOU BY IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

June 1st we celebrate the graduating high school students. Please join us for a special worship service and cake downstairs BEFORE the service.

Jonah Landgreen
Osceola High School

In high school, Jonah was active in Future Business Leaders of America (qualifying for state his junior and senior year), concert, jazz and marching band, and participated in baseball (4 years) and soccer (senior year).

This fall he will be attending UW-Eau Claire in the Business program, and will be performing with the BluGold Marching Band. He plans to continue working at Watershed Cafe in Osceola through the summer.

Carli Linngren
Wisconsin Virtual Academy H.S.

In high school, Carli successfully carried a 4.0 GPA, was honored to be part of National Honors Society and created a Creative Writing Club and co-hosted with a teacher for two years. She enjoys recreational clogging!

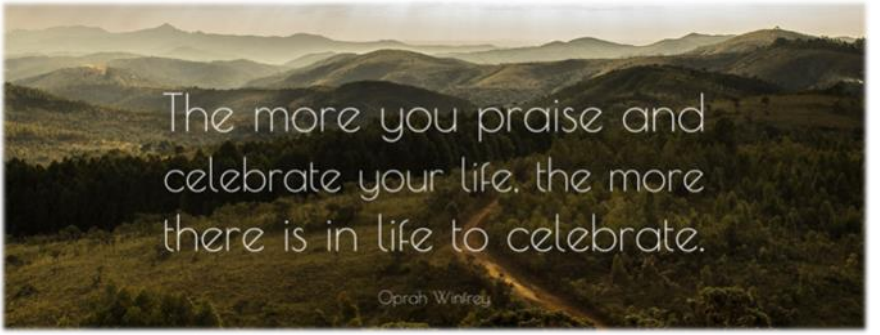
This fall she will be attending Southeran New Hampshire University to pursue Creative Writing and Editing. Carli has wrote her first novel and is in the editing process! She continues to edit the worship videos for FELC and has a craft booth at a local shop!

Not pictured: JonTae Hackmann, Chisago Lakes High School

Congratulations to Benjamin Landgreen for completing a 1-year certificate in Information Technology - Systems Administration from Lake Superior College in 2022, and just graduated with his Associate Degree in the same program through Northwood Technical College.

Benjamin is employed with Bernicks for the summer while applying for positions in IT.

Congratulations to Megan Lappe and Nelson King on their engagement!!!



Do you have something special you'd like to share with the congregation? Email felctf@gmail.com or talk to Angie!

WOW!!!! What a special day May 18th was! Lisa and I cannot fully express the deep appreciation we have for the joyous celebration of both the culmination of my years of ordained ministry and especially these last five plus years we have shared together at First, as well as Lisa's 65th birthday. I hope we were able to convey to you how thankful and blessed we have been to be in partnership with you. You are dear to us in so many ways. Thanks especially for the luncheon, cards and gifts. Your generosity is amazing! Blessings to you all. You will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.

Thank You!!

Dwight & Lisa

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

Pastor Justin Fenger
c: 651-308-7717
pastor@immanuelalmelund.com

Angie Linngren
Ministry Coordinator
felctf@gmail.com

First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Taylors Falls

2024-2025 Council/Officers:

Becky Hulden—President
Kathy Carlsted—Vice President
Craig Loen—Treasurer
Don Hansen—Secretary
Julie Valez
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 announced

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: felctf@gmail.com
Articles due the 10th of each month.

First Evangelical
LUTHERAN CHURCH

561 Chestnut Street, Taylors Falls, MN 55084-1110

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