

NOVEMBER MESSENGER

2017

**First Lutheran Church
Fergus Falls, MN**

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BEARERS OF GOD'S IMAGE

In many congregations the word “stewardship” is code language for talking about money, specifically financial support of the church’s ministry. It’s not that talking about money is wrong. After all, it’s a reality in our lives and the Scriptures talk about it (as Jesus did in the Gospel reading this past Sunday). But I’m convinced that we miss the more important messages that God has for us in the Scriptures when we talk only about raising funds for a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

So, last Sunday we started a four-week series by paying attention to what it means to be a bearer of God’s image in the life of the world. (I did talk about coinage, because that’s what Jesus used to make his point.) The emperor’s image is on this piece of metal. God’s image is on you. You carry God’s image into the world wherever you go.

Or to say it another way, God is using you—individually and collectively—to bring love and mercy to a world that so desperately needs it.

The next three Sundays we’re going to continue to give our attention to what it means to be a steward: stewards of the Gospel message (a timely theme for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation on October 29); stewards of the memory and witness of the saints (on All Saints Sunday, November 5); and stewards of the diversity of gifts that God gives us for the common good (Nov 12).

I promise you are going to hear some new things, so please join us these next three Sundays.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Marcus Kunz

COFFEE HOUR

Thank you for participating in this important ministry of hospitality to members and visitors! Our coffee hour between services has been seeing a lot of changes recently, but we think we’ve come up with a plan to help it go more smoothly. We are no longer assigning our youth families, instead, we are asking for volunteers to sign-up. We have split this task into 2 easy shifts. You can sign up by calling the church office or at the volunteer table in the Narthex. Call the church office with any questions at 218-739-3348.

Here is a brief list of duties that make the coffee hour possible.

Set up

- 8 am-pick up donut holes from Service Food (prepaid)
- Start the coffee pots and set up the self-serve area
- Collect donations after the initial rush and place in office safe (10:15 ish)

Clean up-after second service (12:15)

- Unplug coffee pots and wash out
- Clean up and put away all of the self-serve items
- Collect any remaining donations and place in the office safe

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Don't forget to turn your clocks **BACK ONE HOUR** this Saturday, Nov. 4th !



Deadline for the



**December
Messenger
Is Tues., Nov.17th.**

WORSHIP PLANS

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 5

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. Our worship will call us to remember and give thanks for all who have died in Christ. We will remember members of FLC who have died in the last year as well as members of your family and friends that remain in your hearts. The congregation will be invited to light candles in memory of these beloved saints during the singing of *For all the Saints*.

CHRIST THE KING

Christ the King will be celebrated on Sunday November 19. We will gather this day to remember that Christ is King like no other. This special service will be filled with hymns that take us through the seasons of the church year, scripture readings proclaiming the rule of Christ and thanksgiving to God for Christ our merciful ruler. Several readers of all ages are needed for this service. Please sign- up in the Narthex if you are willing to assist with this.

COMING HOME - ADVENT 2017.

SUNDAYS - First Lutheran Church will be observing an Extended Advent Season beginning **Sunday November 26 continuing through December 17**. Each Sunday we will be using a beautiful Communion liturgy based on the tunes of Advent and Christmas hymns. This is the season where we gather in this, our church home, to hear the stories of Christ coming to make his home with us. Do you know someone who needs the warmth, love, hope and joy that we share here at FLC? Perhaps you could invite them to our Advent worship, invite them to come home with you!



WEDNESDAYS - November 29 - December 20

12:10 - Advent Worship and lunch

5:15 - 6:45 p.m.- Supper
7:00 p.m. - Advent Vespers -
 Holden Evening Prayer



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve - 10:00 a.m. one service, Holy Communion
no Sunday School

3:00 p.m. Candlelight with Holy Communion

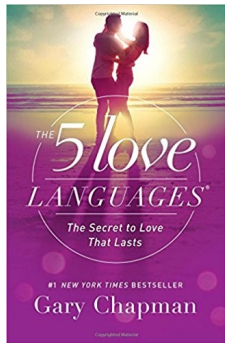
5:00 p.m. Candlelight with Holy Communion

Monday, December 25 Christmas Day - 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday, December 31 - 10:00 a.m. one service, no Sunday School, Holy Communion

5 Love Languages Workshop

You can still join Pastor Martha and Pastor Marcus for a workshop that will help you identify your love language and the love language of your partner. We will read the book, *Five Love Languages* by Gary Chapman, have discussion and learn with each other. Childcare is provided. Please call the church office 218-739-3348 or email firstlutheran-churchff@gmail.com to help us plan for childcare providers. The sessions will be 6 – 7:30 pm Thursday 11/9 and 11/16. Everyone is Welcome. Please pick up a book from the office as soon as possible!



Come join us in the Narthex for a

Soup Lunch

Following the Noon Advent Worship

November 29, December 6, 13 and 20

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy a delicious

bowl of soup or grab a lunch bag to go following the Noon Advent Worship services.



Thank you OWLS—We had good attendance at the Oct 12 Reformation Gathering with Pastor Nancy Monke. A special thank you to the people that helped serve the meal, the good sports that were in the skit, and the willing people that stayed to help with dishes and clean up were greatly appreciated by Margaret and Marlene.

First Lutheran OWLS will NOT be taking a coach to the Concordia Christmas Concert this year. Watch the Sunday bulletin and the kiosk for the next OWLS Event!!



Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

**Wednesday,
Nov. 22nd at 6 pm**

**Remember to bring your
items for our local food
shelf that night.**

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION REQUESTS FOR 2018:

The requests should be approved by the Church Council. The written request for funds should be sent to Orrie Leabo, Foundation President, before **December 10th, 2017**. This will help the Foundation Board to prepare for the Foundation's Annual Meeting. If you have any questions or comments please contact the board members. They are as follows: Chad Felstul, Vicki Hanneman, Leonard Hatzenbuehler, Tim Johnson, Orrie Leabo, Missy Mattson and Linda Mellon.

First Lutheran Church

November 2017



FLY News

Harvest Dinner—November 2nd—5-7 pm

This year marks the sixteenth year that First Lutheran has hosted this fabulous FREE community dinner featuring an entire Thanksgiving meal (turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, corn, bars and rolls!) . The Youth Committee works hard to get the word out to the community, but if you know of someone who would like to experience this fun evening with you, please invite them. Over 500 people came through the church doors between the 2 hours we served last year!! This is a unique opportunity for people to come together to share a meal. Our church youth, along with a few special volunteers, (Linda Mellon, Harriet Wicklund, Jason & Randi Resler, Tom & Lisa Wolfe, Leland Potter, Jenny Stumbo and Debbie Opatz to name a few!) are to thank for the work they put



into setting up, peeling potatoes and prepping food, serving the meal, clearing and cleaning up. This is truly a special way for us to serve others. Special thank you to all of the First Lutheran Members who signed up to provide food and give their time to help at the dinner!

Game Night: FAMILY FEUD!!!

November 15th @ 7:20 pm

First Lutheran Youth, grades 8-12, are invited for some friendly competition playing Family Feud, a game show that will be specially designed for lots of fun and learning about our Lutheran faith. Even if you've never watched the game show or don't know how to play, feel free to come check it out . There will be options for those that don't choose to play Family Feud. I have a feeling, once you see how much fun the rest of us are having, you'll want to try it out for yourself!!! If all goes as planned, we might make this a monthly event.



Ashley Shuck

FLY 8-12 SCHEDULE

Meet in Youth Room after confirmation class (7:20-8:15pm)

November 1

Harvest Dinner Prep 6:30-8:30pm

November 2 HARVEST DINNER!

November 8 FLY 8-12

November 15 FLY 8-12

FAMILY FEUD GAME NIGHT!!

November 22 No FLY

Happy Thanksgiving!

November 29 FLY 8-12

No Confirmation Class, attend Vespers at 7 pm—FLY afterwards in the Youth Room!

FLY K7 SCHEDULE

Meet Pastor Martha & Maddy Trosvig after Children's Choir in the Choir Room (4:40-5:15 pm).

November 1, 8, 15 & 29

November 22 No FLY K7



TACO 'BOUT FAITH

@ Taco John's

FLY 10-12

Join Ashley at Taco John's every other **Tuesday** morning at **7:15 am**

November 14 & 28

FREE BREAKFAST!

FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS

WELCOME TO COME!

Txt or call Ashley with questions at 218-280-2608

CINDY LARSON

NOVEMBER

Sunday School News

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Enjoy the beauty of
the season!



NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS

Harvest Dinner	1
Kdgn. Milestone Class with parents	12
"Butterflies"	12
7th grade Milestone Class with parents	12
Kindergarten Milestone Blessing in worship	19
7th grade Milestone Blessing in worship	19
No Sunday School	26

WILD about Jesus!

Maybe you've heard them from the Chapel! I hope so! The voices of the children's' giggling, shouts, shrieks and singing are billowing through the Education wing on Sundays. Every Sunday, the Sunday School kids gather for Opening in the Chapel. They hear a message, sing,

move and pray together. It's excitement and maybe a little "WILDness". Let's not forget to appreciate the childlike enthusiasm for God that is exhibited in our Youth.

The 7th grade and parents will have a Milestone class this month to excite them and remind them that they are bearers of God's image :)

**NO SUNDAY
SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 26
Happy
Thanksgiving!**



All creatures on earth
Come praise the Lord
Every wild and tame animal
All people, young and old
together,
Come praise the Lord!
Psalm 148

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PLANS

Our Christmas Program will be held on **Sunday, December 17 at the 11:00 service**. Character and speaking part tryouts are taking place now! There will be practices every Sunday, so keep the kids coming to

Sunday School. We want them to feel comfortable and confident for the Program. It's time to mark your calendars!



THANKOFFERING 2017

Love Days Quilters

Every Monday

9:00-3:00

JOIN US!

WELCA Board

No Meeting in Nov.

CIRCLES

Sarah—Wed. Nov. 15th
9:30am @ Pioneer Pointe
Social Room

Hannah -Wed. Nov. 15th
1:00pm @ PioneerCare
Center, for their regular
meeting



Following their meeting, Hannah Circle, and anyone else who would like to serve "PioneerCare Sunshine Aid" for our residents should gather at 3:00 p.m. for a program. Enjoy fellowship with our members who reside at PCC!

Lutheran women have given thanks to God and dollars to mission through Thankofferings for more than 100 years. Last year, Thankofferings totaled almost one million dollars to support Women of the ELCA church-wide ministries, with offering coming from over 2,450 congregations. First Lutheran sent \$910.00 in 2016 and \$1,055 in 2015. Let's try to reach the goal of \$1,000 again in 2017.

Thankofferings are sent in full to the church-wide women's organization and help do mission and address concerns of women and children in crisis—especially the crisis related to poverty, health/AIDS and domestic violence.

Please use the blue Thankoffering envelope you receive in the November Messenger and place it in the Sunday offering plate or bring it to the office in November. Questions? Call Margaret Kratzke 736-3697.

Women of First Lutheran

You are invited to an

APPRECIATION
Tea



**At "A Place to Belong" on
Tuesday, November 14th, at 2:00 pm**

The folks at "A Place to Belong" wish to show their gratitude to us for our continued financial support.

This is a great time to meet them personally and learn more about their mission!

Please RSVP by signing up at the Information Counter by Nov. 5th.

Any questions? Just call Gayle Fitz (736-3058)
AP2B is located at 109 N. Court Street, Fergus Falls.
Learn more at www.aplace2belongmn.com