



# First Lutheran Church

November

Worship Sun. 9:30 am  
Sunday School 10:00 am

Listen on the radio 1020am or FM 97.7  
[www.channel977.com](http://www.channel977.com)

402 South Court Street  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537  
Phone: 218-739-3348  
[www.firstlutheranchurchff.org](http://www.firstlutheranchurchff.org)  
[office@flcfff.org](mailto:office@flcfff.org)

## *A Message from Pastor Gretchen*

The theme for our Stewardship Sunday, which is **November 18th**, is **TEAM**.

**T-together**  
**E-everyone**  
**A-accomplishes**  
**M-more**

We invite all ages to wear their favorite team jersey to worship that Sunday. The hope is that as a congregation, we will show our TEAM spirit as we are infused by the Holy Spirit to be more open to hearing God's promptings.

I was reminded that First Lutheran is historically known as a generous congregation. At the recent Cultivating Generosity seminar that I, along with 4 congregational leaders attended, we were taught that, "Generosity is grounded in a profound understanding that we are in this together...It is only in fruitful alliances with others that we can do great things". It is my belief that we are about 'great things' at First Lutheran through faith and service. We also learned that frequent worship attendance is both a strong indicator of volunteering and has a strong correlation to charitable giving. Martin Luther is quoted as saying, "What people of faith do with their money is indicative of what they believe about God". What do you believe about God?

My invitation to you is to attend worship regularly, or continue to do so, and to pray for the willingness to be open to participating in the life of the church in a more TEAM spirited way. Invite God into your heart while considering the question, "How am I fulfilling my part on the First Lutheran Church TEAM"? If you would like to meet with me to consider, on a one to one basis, of what this may look like for you personally, please call the church office to set a time to meet with me. I would be happy to help you consider some of the needs of First Lutheran while making a connection to your gifts and talents.

**Go TEAM!**

*Pastor Gretchen*



## Looking ahead to Advent & Christmas

**Advent Services will be on December 5, 12, and 19**  
**12:10 p.m.—Worship followed by soup lunch**  
**7:00 p.m. - Vespers—Holden Evening Prayer**

If you need a bus pass to join us for the 12:10 p.m. Advent Service, please let the church office know— 739-3348

**Sunday School Christmas Program—Dec. 16 11:00 a.m.**  
**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services—3:00 & 5:00 p.m.**  
**Christmas Day Service—10:00 a.m.**

## Communion EVERY Sunday

**9:30** Worship followed by coffee & fellowship  
**10:00** Children K-8th will be dismissed from  
worship for Sunday school  
November 4—All Saints Sunday  
November 18—Stewardship Sunday  
November 25—Christ the King Sunday



**Wednesday, November 21**  
**Thanksgiving Eve Service at 6:00 p.m.**



# Sunday School

Hooked on Jesus



## Calendar

11/11- "Butterflies"

For children ages birth- K  
and their favorite adult

11/25- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

12/16- Program rehearsal at 10:00  
Christmas Program at 11:00\*  
(\*There will be two church  
services this day, please  
note program time.)



Thank you to all for bringing your children to church and Sunday School. We have been greatly blessed with many excited children in Sunday School this year. During the month of November, we will be practicing for the Sunday School Christmas Program and working through our Lectionary lessons. This month the lessons will include:

11/4- A Message from God (Deuteronomy 6:1-9)

11/11- A Widow's Offering (Mark 12:38-44)

11/21- Be Ready (Mark 13:1-8)

May God bless you this Thanksgiving season!

Kristy Wicklund, Sunday School Superintendent

## Little Free Library

Thank you for all the book donations to add to our Little Free Library and a great BIG thanks to the anonymous donor that made our library! It will soon be posted on the North side of the church along Junius Ave. You are all encouraged to check out the book selection and either take, borrow, or exchange a book.

## November 2018: Youth News!

### Upcoming Events:

- Wednesday November 7: FLY K-6 meets at 3:30 p.m.
- Wednesday November 7: FLY 7-9 meet in kitchen at 6:30 p.m. for Harvest Dinner prep.
- Thursday November 8: FLY 7-9 serve at Harvest Dinner 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday November 14: FLY K-6 and 7-9.
- Friday November 16—Saturday November 17—Middle School (6th-8th Grade) Synod Youth Gathering at Luther Crest Bible Camp, Alexandria.
- Wed. November 21: No FLY. Come to Thanksgiving Eve worship at 6:00 pm.
- Wed. November 28: FLY K-6 and 7-9



We are looking for a 7th-12th grade Youth Director. If you or anyone you know is interested, please have them inquire in the office or with Pastor Gretchen.



LYO Senior High Retreat will be at Luther Crest Bible Camp  
January 12-13

Watch for sign-up information.

First Lutheran Church 16th Annual

# Harvest Dinner

from First Lutheran Church & served by our  
Youth and their Families

First Lutheran Church is offering a **FREE Harvest Dinner** with turkey, stuffing and the works for the entire community! It will be a time of fellowship and giving. We invite you all to come and join us for dinner together!



**Thursday, November 8, 2018**  
**Fellowship Hall (Lower Level)**  
**5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

## REQUEST TO CONGREGATION FOR HELP IN GATHERING ITEMS FOR BLESSING BAGS!!

Middle School Youth attending the LYO Youth Gathering November 16 and 17 are asking the congregation's help in gathering items to make Blessing Bags. These bags will be brought back to the community for distribution. Please leave items in the designated box in the Narthex before November 14.

Suggested items:

- New warm socks, gloves or hats
- Travel size toiletries
- Wrapped soap bars
- Chewable multivitamins
- Travel size wet wipes, tissues, band-aids
- Unscented hand lotion, chapstick
- New nail clippers/files
- Hand/feet warmers
- Small bags beef jerky, granola or cereal bars
- Packaged crackers with cheese or peanut butter
- Mints/gum/hard candy

**THANK YOU  
VERY MUCH**

Hinge Arts at the Kirkbride Homecoming Residency

World Premiere of

## **A Prairie Cantata**

By Marya Hart

**Saturday, November 17**  
**3:00 p.m.**

**First Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls**

Free admission, donations accepted

*A beautiful nature walk at the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center will proceed the concert at 12:30 p.m. led by Teresa Jaskiewicz. Call 998-4481 to reserve your spot.*

### *Featuring*

Select singers from the M State Chamber Chorale

### *Guest artists*

Laura Hynes, soprano

Cheryl Paschke, nyckelharpa

Mark Solie, cello

### *With*

the M State Chamber Chorale

under the direction of Teresa Ashworth



## *An Invitation to an Appreciation Brunch*

To: First Lutheran Women  
From: Sue Wilken, AP2B "A Place to Belong"  
109 North Court Street, Fergus Falls, MN

**Tuesday, November 13, 2018  
10:30 a.m.**

The folks at AP2B wish to thank us for our continued support, saying "you ladies are so good to us, and we enjoy the special friendship we have with you. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

Please RSVP with **YES** if you plan to attend  
(no need to reply if you cannot attend).  
Call Gayle Fitz at 736-3058.



Women <sup>of the</sup> **ELCA**

### THANKOFFERING—2018

Lutheran women have given thanks to God and dollars to mission through Thankofferings for more than 100 years. Last year, Thankofferings totaled nearly a million dollars to support women of the ELCA church-wide ministries, with offerings coming from 2,450 congregations. First Lutheran sent close to \$1,000—let's try for \$1,000 in 2018!

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. If you receive your Messenger via e-mail, there are envelopes on the Info counter for your use. Thank you for participating in this worthwhile project. If you have questions, call Margaret Kratzke 736-3697.

*WELCA*

### LOVE DAYS

Every Monday 9 am to 3 pm

### WELCA Board

No meeting

### CIRCLES

**Sarah**— Wed. November 14  
at 9:30 am at Pioneer Pointe

**Hannah**— Wed. November 28  
at 1 pm at PioneerCare, followed by hosting Sunshine Aid at PioneerCare at 3:00

### **WELCA Love Days**

Love Days takes place every Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Our mission is to donate quilts to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and various local organization, as needed. Last year we donated over 90 quilts. **Everyone is welcome to come to our Love Days.**

No sewing skills needed!  
We do appreciate donations of fabric.





# CONCORDIA COLLEGE™

## 92nd ANNUAL CONCORDIA CHRISTMAS CONCERT

### *"For the Beauty of the Earth"*

We'll travel with Ottertail Coaches to the 2 p.m. concert **Saturday, December 1**. Coach will load in the lower level parking lot at 12:05 and leave promptly at 12:15. Sign up at the Info Counter before Nov 18 and pay \$20 by check payable to First Lutheran Church-- Christmas concert on the memo line. The Emmy Award-winning Concordia Christmas Concert has 350 singers in four ensembles and a symphony orchestra to create the most beautiful collection of Christmas music you'll hear during the holiday season. We'll stop at The Village Inn for supper before returning home.

**All ages welcome—this is not limited to OWLS!**

Thank you to First Lutheran Foundation for sponsoring the coach.

**Questions?? Call Margaret Kratzke at 736-3697**

## Creating Caring Cards

**Tues. Nov. 27th 1:30-3:30 pm**

Please mark your calendar and plan to join me on Tuesday Nov. 27th, 1:30-3:30 in Fellowship hall as we create caring cards for our church to use. I'm looking for help stamping, punching, cutting, scoring, folding and gluing. Let's see if we can create 100+ Thinking of you and Sympathy cards. With a \$5 donation to help cover a portion of the costs, as a thank you for helping create the cards, you can have 2 cards to take home for your own use.

See you on the 27th!

*Michelle Lembcke*



## MEALS BY WHEELS

First Lutheran is scheduled to deliver meals the weeks of November 26—November 30, and December 3—December 7. Please contact Jennifer Frank at 701 238-0276 if you are able to help or sign up in the Narthex.



## Quick Easy Eating

Planning Healthy Meals  
Made Easy

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11  
1:30 P.M.**

Fellowship Hall

Speaker: Kary Sytsma, Certified Health  
and Wellness Coach and Nutrition  
Dietician at Lake Region

Serving Mason Jar Salads &  
providing yummy recipes!

Sign up in Narthex or call the church  
office at 739-3348.



### New Member Class

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2018**

**6:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

please call to register by October 31

218-739-3348 or [office@flcff.org](mailto:office@flcff.org)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018 9:30 a.m.**

New members will be celebrated in worship

## *Thanksgiving Eve Worship*

**Wednesday, November 21**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Food items for the local food  
shelf will be gathered at  
the service.**



## **T.E.A.M.**

**Stewardship Sunday is November 18**

**Together Everyone Accomplishes More**

After worship, we will have a Chili Meal in Fellowship Hall.

Please see the sign up sheets in the Narthex for bringing  
salads, crackers & bread, desserts and for doing clean-up. You  
are encouraged to wear the jersey or t-shirt of  
your favorite team!

### **First Lutheran Foundation Requests 2019**

The Foundation will hold its annual meeting on January 7, 2019. Any requests from the Foundation should be approved by the Church Council. Written requests for funds should be emailed to Chad Felstul ([c.felstul@pemplaw.com](mailto:c.felstul@pemplaw.com)) or dropped off at the Church office, before December 21, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact any Foundation Board members: Chad Felstul, Vicki Hanneman, Leonard Hatzenbuehler, Tim Johnson, Missy Mattson and Linda Mellon.

**CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS**—The First Lutheran Church council will deliver Christmas Food Baskets to community members on Saturday, December 15th. Food items include a frozen turkey breast, bread, fruit cocktail, margarine, Jello, cranberries, potatoes, etc. If you or someone you know could benefit from a Christmas Food Basket, contact the church by Monday, December 3. Please include the name, number of children and ages (if applicable), phone number and address. If you are interested in helping deliver the food baskets on the morning of Saturday, December 15, please contact the office at 739-3348.

## **Staff Directory**

Office phone: 218-739-3348

**office@flcff.org**—please use this email the most!!! All bulletin, Messenger, volunteer, general office etc. inquiries. Laurie & Katrina both have access to this email!

**Katrina@flcff.org**—Operational and Finance inquiries

**Kristy@flcff.org**— Sunday School, FLYK6

To call or Kristy: 218-531-9544, or use the use Remind Sunday School Class

**Pastorg@flcff.org** — Pastor Gretchen, call or text 218-321-0995 , FLY 79

**Kelsee Macintosh-Ellig** — Children's Choir- please subscribe to the remind app for call and texting communications



**Don't forget to turn your  
clocks back ONE HOUR on  
Saturday, November 3**