First Lutheran Church

Worship Sun. 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:00 am
Listen on the radio 1020am or FM 97.7

www.firstlutheranchurchff.org
office@flcff.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.
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.

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.)

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Kristy Wicklund, Sunday School Superintendent

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

LYO Senior High Retreat will be at Luther Crest Bible Camp January 12-13
Watch for sign-up information.

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.
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.

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

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.
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

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.

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