

Fellowship Report submitted by Terry Gervais

We are planning to serve supper before Ash Wednesday evening service. Also we are serving lunch and supper March 13th for our Church and the other ELCA Churches in town.

Education Report submitted by Abbey Kwapinski

I am unable to attend next Wednesday. A written report is included below. Thank you!

Upcoming Events:

The education committee is busy preparing for our Palm Sunday event. We plan on having several stations for an intergenerational event similar to those held the past couple of years. We are currently reaching out to church members who may be interested in helping with this event. Please let us know if you are interested in hosting a station or volunteering to help in any capacity.

Update:

After further research into travel arrangements for the 2019 Orange Conference, it was determined that it is not possible for Kristy and Calie to attend on such a short notice for registration and travel arrangements.

Outreach Report – March 12, 2019 meeting submitted by Jennifer Frank

- Met with Pastor Gretchen February 25 for conversation.
 - Discussed including a “Mission Moment” in the Messenger each month to highlight various organizations we serve.
 - Will contact committee volunteers to schedule a meeting and hopefully delegate some write up responsibilities.
 - Discussed reaching out to the Synod to ask a representative to speak at FLC about Mission Support. It seems there is some misunderstanding about how funds directed to the ELCA are used. We feel it would be beneficial to highlight the important causes fund are directed to.
- Attended re-scheduled conference assembly March 3 at FLC as a council representative with Dick Felstul and Pr. Gretchen.
- Blood Drive at FLC Thursday, March 14 1-7 pm

Building usage research submitted by Steve Guttormson:

Fergus Falls should be providing day care for an additional 294 children, according to a child care capacity gap analysis done last year. For many parents, the inaccessibility of local child care affects their ability to live and work here. While there is no one solution for the community, First Lutheran Church can make a difference. A small group of congregants, staff, and community members met to explore possibilities of freeing space within unused or underused parts of the building for a licensed provider. Before continuing the conversation, the group seeks input and guidance from the Church Council.

First Lutheran Church Worship Committee

Notes from meeting 1/23/19

Hymn selection schedule:

February: Pam March: Anne April: Harriet
May: Linda June: Keith July: Pam
August: Anne September: Harriet October: Linda
November: Keith

Liturgies:

Lenten season: setting 3
Easter Sunday: setting 4
Easter season: setting 8 (new)
Linda will write Messenger articles on liturgical purpose/history.

ELCA Wednesday Lenten services:

"Journey with Jesus"

- 5:30 supper, 6:30 worship
- March 6: Ash Wednesday at home churches
 - March 13: First Lutheran
 - March 20: Zion
 - March 27: Augustana
 - April 3: Hope
 - April 10: Bethlehem

Holy Week services:

- Maundy Thursday
 - Good Friday
 - Easter Sunday: 9:30 and 11:00
- (no Easter Vigil)

Next Worship Committee meeting

February 28 @ 3:30

Agenda: Holy Week services + April 28 boys' choir details

Minutes from Worship Committee meeting 2/28/19

Present: Nancy Swenson, Keith Melberg, Gretchen Enoch, Linda Mellon, Pam Schroden,
Anne Taylor, Harriet Wicklund

AGENDA:

1) MN Boys' choir concert 4/28, details:

- A meeting is set for Monday, 3/11, at LB Homes to plan for the Boys' Choir. We believe that Jeanne Trosvig and Teri Gervais will be attending (possibly Pastor Gretchen, too)
- The choir will have breakfast at the hotel
- We will provide brunch for approx. 118 (we believe Fellowship Committee is working on this)
- Performance is at 1:00pm with departure planned for 3pm
- # of ushers needed (they'll need to know plan for offering, etc.)
- Announcement should be placed in the April Messenger and some bulletins prior to the concert date.

2) Holy Week Services

Notes were made for Laurie W. regarding the number of volunteers required for each service during Holy Week.

Palm Sunday: Anne will contact Pastor Gretchen regarding having the Worship Team lead this service (they have not been assigned this Sunday in the past.)

- palm branches ordered?

Maunder Thursday service:

- Linda will ask Dale about singing "You Are Mine" as a solo again this year
- Will use kneeling rails for communion with two 'stations' at the front
- Will Kristy help with challis' for fifth graders receiving First Communion?
- need to ask two volunteers for foot washing
- Linda volunteered to sing the Psalm during stripping of the altar
- The Altar Guild will be responsible for stripping the altar

Good Friday service

- The committee reviewed last year's bulletin and decided to follow the same format
- This will be a Tenebrae service with extinguishing of 7 candles following scripture readings and musical response
- Harriet will ask Michael W. if he'll play cello responses as done last year

There will not be a Vigil service this year.

Easter Sunday services @ 9:30 and 11:00

- The committee reviewed last year's bulletin and made some suggestions as to how the service could be shortened.
- Linda suggested we have a meeting with ushers and other volunteers as necessary to be sure they understand how to direct communion with 4 stations, etc., since we anticipate a large attendance at each service for Easter.

Ash Wednesday Service

- Janel agreed to ask the Adult Choir to sing "Ancient Words" as an anthem when we host the other Lutheran churches.
- ashes prepared?

Organ Project: at the last council meeting, Dick F. discussed plans to "catch up" on their financial commitment that apparently was lost in the transition of council members last year. Last year's contribution will appear on statements soon, with this year's contribution coming later in the year.

3) Business not addressed this meeting / tabled to next month:

- Binder of details for each service
- Confirmation—robes ready by date?



February 25, 2019

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;
for he has founded it on the seas,
and established it on the rivers.

Psalm 24: 1-3

Dear Membership:

Good day to you. We hope this note finds you well and interested in learning how you may grow with us in the life and mission of First Lutheran Church.

On Discipleship Sunday, November 18, 2018, the congregation was invited to complete Discipleship Giving cards to help determine the 2019 congregational budget. At this time the church office does not have record of your 2019 giving commitment.

The giving goals of our congregation are an important piece in planning for the year ahead. The 2019 budget was approved with some uncertainty due the shortage of such information. While we're already into the new year, you have not missed the opportunity to prayerfully consider your financial commitment to First Lutheran Church. Please join us in this discipleship by giving this consideration, completing the enclosed card, and returning it to the church office.

If it would be helpful to have a conversation with Pastor Gretchen regarding this request, please consider contacting her. She is more than willing to have this conversation with you.

It's an exciting time to be a part of the life and ministry of First Lutheran Church and through your generosity we can continue do many great things together as God's people. We also wish to thank you for your past generosity in the giving of your time, talents, and resources to the mission of First Lutheran Church.

Sharing Christ's Service,

Stewardship Chair,

Pastor Gretchen Enoch

Rick West