



First Lutheran Church September 2019

Worship Sun. 9:30 am
Listen on the radio 1020am or FM 97.7
www.channel977.com

402 South Court Street
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
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www.firstlutheranchurchff.org
office@flcff.org

Mission Statement: "As faithful disciples, we serve God and welcome all people with open hearts".

*Pastor Gretchen would like to share this article from **The Northern Lights E-Newsletter** :*

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton was re-elected presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Aug. 6 at the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. On the first ballot, 897 votes were cast and 670 votes were needed for election. Eaton received 725 votes, which is 81.19% of the vote.

Eaton is the first ELCA presiding bishop to win re-election on the first ballot. She was elected to a first term as presiding bishop at the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Pittsburgh.

The first ballot for presiding bishop was cast during the first plenary Aug. 5. The vote was declared invalid because of an unconstitutional early vote on the amendments to the bylaws of the ELCA constitution. This included an amendment that gave the ELCA Church Council the right of vote at a churchwide assembly, which included the election of the presiding bishop.

"Thank you, Vice President Horne. And thank you to all of you, and thank you to the voting member who rightly brought to our attention that we were not following our own procedures," said Eaton, addressing the assembly after the election results were announced. "The law is in place for a reason, but I'm really happy for the gospel part right now."

"We're church, church first," Eaton said, recalling the first of the four emphases she introduced after her election in 2013. "Our lives are not only supported but our lives are surrounded, and our lives have their basis and meaning in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And especially as we experience that in our lives and are changed by that in word and sacrament. That's where we get any authority or certainly any integrity to do works of love and justice, because we're church."


Rally
SUNDAY *September 8, 2019*



Sunday School

Sundays 10:00 to 10:45 a.m. in the Chapel
Preschool through 8th Grade
All are welcomed!



“Love Never Fails.” 1 Corinthians

“God’s Work, Our Hands”

It is Sunday School time again, and we are so excited to kick off this year! Our theme this year is “God’s Work, Our Hands”.

September 8th happens to be the ELCA’s “God’s Work, Our Hands” day, but we love this so much, we are going to make this our theme for the whole year! We are going to be sharing God’s love through our actions. If you have read any of Bob Goff’s books such as *Love Does* or *Everybody Always*, you may know what we are talking about. It’s about kind deeds, helping out your neighbor, loving people for who they are, and reaching out into the community to help those in need. Sharing God’s love might be as simple as sharing your cookie with a friend, or pulling weeds out of Grandma’s garden. It could also look like donating food to the food shelf, putting together a care package for someone that lost a loved one, or delivering Meals on Wheels. To kick off our Rally Sunday we will be collecting items for the Lake Region Halfway Home.

Items needed include:

1. Disposable razors
2. Shaving cream
3. Toothbrush
4. Toothpaste
5. Roll-on deodorant
6. Shampoo & conditioner, or shampoo with conditioner in it
7. Soap
8. Soap box

9. Fingernail clipper
10. Toenail clipper
11. Lotion

On Rally Sunday, bring your donations to the Narthex.

Our 3rd-6th grade classes will be assembling the kits and the Preschool-2nd graders will be making cards to add to the kits.

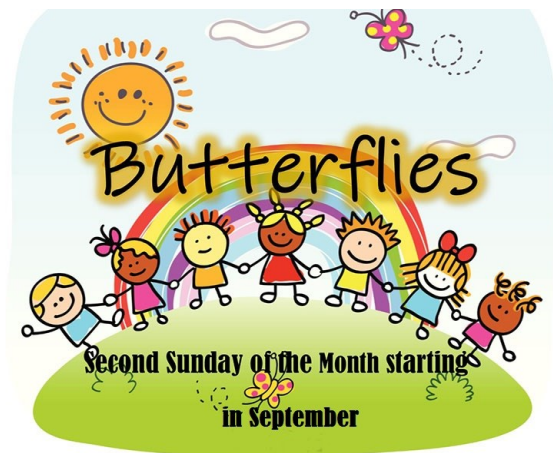
We will also have lots of other exciting things planned to go with our theme this year, you will just have to come to find them out!

Thank you for your open hearts and your commitment to surround your child(ren) in God’s love at First Lutheran and to share that love throughout the world.

God Bless,

Kristy Wicklund
Director of Children’s Ministries

How to contact Kristy,
Director of Children’s
Ministries
(218) 531-9544,
Kristy@flcflf.org
Subscribe to Remind App
by texting
@flcss18 to
81010



10:00-10:45

Fellowship Hall

ages birth though Preschool & favorite adult

What’s coming up!

Sunday, Sept 8.—Rally Sunday

Butterflies for ages birth– Preschool
Preschool I receives Story Bible in worship

Sunday, Sept. 15– Lesson: The Lost Sheep and Lost Coin (Luke 15:1-10)

Sunday, Sept. 22– Lesson: Two Masters (Luke 16:1-13)

Sunday, Sept. 29– Lesson: The Parable of the Rich Man (Luke 16:19-31)



FLY K-6



What is FLY? It is First Lutheran Youth. We meet on Wednesdays after school to play, learn, build friendships, and worship God. All children Kindergarten through 6th grade are invited, and you can bring your friends! We welcome all! This year we will be playing some new games, sharing God's love by going out in our community, and learning about God's love as we explore the Bible. We will be joining the Sunday School with the theme, "God's Work, Our Hands" as we explore how kindness, generosity, and open hearts can spread God's love through our lives and the world. Be on the lookout for more information regarding FLY coming your way this month.

To stay up-to-date on all FLY K-6 happenings, use Remind App by texting @flyk6 to 81010.

You can reach Kristy, Director of Children's Ministries, at (218) 531-9544, Kristy@flcff.org, Remind App FLYK6



FLY K-6 Happenings

Wednesday, September 18- First Day of FLY!!!

Lesson: The Lost Sheep and Lost Coin
(Luke 15:1-10)

Wednesday, September 25- Lesson:
Two Masters (Luke 16:1-13)

Saturday, September 28- National
Public Lands Day. 8:45-10:00 a.m.
Prairie Wetlands Learning Center

FLY K-6

God's Work, Our Hands

Taking care of our Earth!

Saturday, September 28 is National Public Lands Day. Kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to help take care of our Earth at the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center. We will be assisting with habitat restoration projects that day. This is a free event, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and to get a little dirty. Parents, you are welcomed to join us.

Where: **Prairie Wetlands
Learning Center**

When: **8:45-10:00 a.m.**

**Contact Kristy to register or
Sign up in the Narthex.**



September

FLY 7-9 & 10-12

September 8- meet at the church at 11:00 a.m. to head up to Fargo for some fun at Thunder Road!

FLY 7-12 will start meeting in October on the first Wednesday of the month from 5:30 p.m. to 6:20 p.m. Supper provided. Watch for more details next month!!!

Dates set so far: October 2, November 6, February 5, April 1

Contact Calie at Calie@flcff.org or use Remind App by texting @fly79 or @fly10-12 to 81010, or call or text cell 218 321-0970.



Confirmation Dates to keep in mind:

Wednesday, September 11, 2019—Parent Meeting from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Confirmands are asked to attend with their parent.

Wednesday, September 18, 2019—First confirmation class for grades 7-9 at 6:30 p.m. in Chapel then to Fellowship Hall.

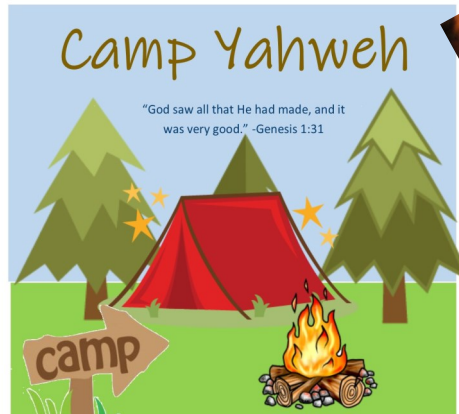


Photo Fun!



Valleyfair







Jesus 180

Luther Crest Day Camp





Preparing to Meet our Lord

Our service
begins with the
singing of a
hymn of praise
to God.

The Worship Corner

by the Worship & Music
Committee

The Invocation: We summon God to
bless our worship and give
testimony that we believe in a triune
God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Confession and Absolution: Before
we can draw near to God, we cast off
our sins. Through Jesus Christ, our
Savior, the pastor, as God's
representative, speaks words of
comfort and forgiveness to us.

**Meals by Wheels
Fundraiser will be held at
First Lutheran on
Thursday, September 26
in Fellowship Hall.**

**Come and enjoy an
Underwood Lions pork
chop meal (baked beans,
coleslaw, bread, bars &
beverage) from 5 p.m.
until the food is gone,
and at the same time,
support Meals by Wheels!**



**Cost:
\$9.00**

**Take Out
Available**

**Looking ahead.....
Sunday, October 6, 2019
1:00 p.m.**

Celebrate!

**A Pipe Organ
Fundraising Concert
at First Lutheran**

Free will offering

**Refreshments
following concert**



Cancellation Notice for the OWLS

Our trip to the Bagg
Bonanza Farms had
to be cancelled due
to low sign-up.

Keep an eye out for
future adventures!!!



News from the Property Committee

1. The parking lot has been freshly re-coated and striped.
2. Thank you to a generous member of our congregation for funding the re-furbishing of our sign on Union Avenue with new lighting and a fresh coat of paint.



September

LOVE DAYS

Starting up on September 9
and every Monday after from
9 am to 3 pm

Join us for quilting, mission
projects, and fellowship!

WELCA Board

Tuesday, September 10 at
10:00 a.m. in Kairos Room

CIRCLES

Sarah—Wednesday,
September 25 at
9:30—10:30 a.m. at
Pioneer Pointe

Hannah—Wednesday,
September 25 at 1:00 p.m.
Kairos Room



All women are
encouraged to
join our Love
Days and/or
Circles!!!



Lutheran World Relief School Kits

The quilters have made drawstring
backpack style bags and the following
supplies are needed for each Lutheran
World Relief School Kit:

- Four 8 1/2 x 11 inch wide-ruled notebooks (70 sheets in each)
- One 30 centimeter ruler (inches on one side, centimeters on the other)
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors
- Five ballpoint pens (NO gel ink)
- One box of crayons (16 or 24 count)
- NOTE: Pencils or erasers are **NOT** needed this year.

The help of the congregation is appreciated!
There is a collection basket in the Narthex.
Monetary donations are also welcome.

For all 1st Lutheran Women
***Loving the Least of
These***

*"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for
one of the least of these sisters and
brothers of mine, you did for me."*
Matthew 25:40

**NW MN Synodical Women's
Organization**

**31st Annual Convention
September 20-21, 2019
Luther Crest Bible Camp
Alexandria, MN**

**You are invited to attend!!
Please call Donna (736-4294)
to learn more.**





Northwestern Minnesota Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Installation of Reverend William T. Tesch

Sunday, September 8, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

210 7th Street South, Moorhead, MN

Pastor Tesch's personal mission statement is: "A Follower of Jesus: Creating Gospel Collaborations with Faithfulness, Authenticity and Love."

Pastor Tesch has served in South Dakota since his Ordination in 1989. Before his election to Bishop, he served first as Pastor of a two-point rural and small-town congregation (St. Paul and St. Peter in Humboldt and Orland) and then as the Founding Pastor and later Sr. Pastor of Messiah New Hope in Sioux Falls, and finally as Director of Evangelical Mission and Associate to the Bishop on the South Dakota Synod staff.

Pastor Tesch also serves in the United States Military (South Dakota Air National Guard) and is a senior leader holding the rank of Colonel. Pastor Tesch's responsibilities with the military will come to a close near the end of 2020.

Pastor Tesch is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Madison and Luther Seminary as well as the USAF Air War College, Air Command and Staff College, the Air Force Basic Chaplain's Course and Officer's Training School.

He is married to Chris Tesch who teaches Nursing at the University of South Dakota. He and Chris have two adult children. In his spare time Pastor Tesch enjoys exercise, hunting, fishing, book club, entertaining friends and family... and a host of other hobbies for which he really has no time!

"I'm incredibly excited!" Bishop-elect Tesch said. "This is an amazing call, it's an amazing honor. I'm deeply humbled and I'm still processing it and will be doing so for a while. I'm grateful to God and to the people of this synod for this opportunity."

"This is the beginning of an exciting collaboration with the people of this synod as we explore how to be the church in the twenty-first century, how to reach people with the exciting good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ." Bishop-Elect Tesch says. "I'll be collaborating with the people of this synod to explore how we can raise up leaders, both rostered and lay leaders, across our synod to serve congregations, especially our rural congregations. I'll also be exploring how we can collaborate and reach out to people who have experienced marginalization, including our Native American brothers and sisters."

Church Council First Lutheran

Term ending 2020

Richard Felstul, Suzanne Demuth, Joe Ellig, Jennifer Frank, Mark Hermes, Rick West, Deb Opatz

Term ending 2021

Abbey Kwapinski, Harriet Wicklund, Sara Koch, Fellowship (open), Membership (open)

Executive Committee

Richard Felstul, President, Steve Guttormson, VP, Deb Opatz, Secretary, Suzanne Demuth, Treasurer

Hello, September!

Office hours return to Monday—Thursday
from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. beginning
September 3. Office closed September 2 for
Labor Day.

Hygiene Kits for Lake Region Halfway Home

We would like to gather items to help the Lake Region Halfway Home with their need for hygiene kits. The following items are needed:

1. Disposable razors
2. Shaving cream
3. Toothbrush
4. Toothpaste
5. Roll-on deodorant
6. Shampoo & conditioner, or shampoo with conditioner in it
7. Soap
8. Soap box
9. Fingernail clipper
10. Toenail clipper
11. Lotion

Our quilters will be making bags to store the items.

The congregation's help to fill the bags is appreciated! Your donations can be brought to the church and be left in the collection basket in the Narthex.



Lake Region
Halfway Homes, Inc

Offering envelopes: Katrina is getting the 2020 envelope order ready. If you would like to receive envelopes, or if you give on-line and no longer want to receive envelopes, please update your preference by calling 739-3348 or emailing katrina@flcff.org by September 23. Thanks!!

Please check the October Messenger for more information about the **Mutual Ministry Team**.

They have been meeting since April 2019. Members are: Steve Fitz, Leslie Flugstad, Steve Guttormson, Linda Mellon, Ann Rotto, Michael Wicklund and Pastor Gretchen. Their mission statement is: "The Mutual Ministry team of First Lutheran Church shall support and encourage the ministers and ministries of First Lutheran Church". Please contact any team member with questions.



Sound Board Operators—there will be a refresher course on Thursday, September 5 at 5:30 p.m. in the balcony. We request that all current sound board operators attend, and welcome anyone else interested in learning to attend this session.

meeting

- Mutual Ministry meets Tuesday, September 3 at 11:30 a.m.
- Altar Guild meets Tuesday, September 3 at 1:00 p.m. in Kairos Room.
- Executive Committee meets Wednesday, September 4 at noon.
- Foundation meets Monday, September 9 at 5:15 p.m.
- WELCA Board meets Tuesday September 10 in Kairos Room.
- Church Council meets Tuesday, September 10 at 6:00 p.m.
- Nominating Committee meets on Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. in the Staff Conference Room.