



First Lutheran Church



2022

In-Person Worship Sunday at 9:30 am
Listen on the radio 1020 am or FM 97.7
www.channel977.com; PEG Access Channel 8
Livestream on YouTube, link found on website

402 South Court
Street
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Phone: 218-739-3348

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

The Calling of Easter

"...live a life worthy of the calling" -Ephesians 4:1

My sister called the other day and said, "I can't believe it's almost Easter already!" It's true, Easter almost catches us off guard when the winter is long like this year! Yet, the **Good News of Easter really cannot come soon enough for us.** We can't wait any longer in sharing this news! We are in a world starving for God's unconditional love and hope, and we are **called to live out the calling to share Good News right now.**



The promise that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead means that we have received so much more than we could possibly imagine. God calls us to share our money, time, and talents so that together we can make a difference in our community and the world. **The community looks to First Lutheran Church as a leader in extending God's love** and grace, forgiveness, and mercy every day. Because God turned the world upside down with the resurrection of Jesus, we, too, are called into changing the world with God's love. Jesus **calls us to be messengers of hope**, love, peace, and justice in a world that seems consumed with hate, competition, and revenge. It's dangerous living out the Gospel, but God is with us and will strengthen and preserve us in Jesus' name.

Our calling is to live our lives to the fullest in Jesus' names. First Lutheran Church has a 150-year history of doing that through local and global missions, opening our space to community groups, plus supporting youth and families through many stages of life, singing the Words of hope. Once again, **we are called to live our lives worthy of this Easter news.**

As we approach Staff/Council Retreat, Confirmation Sunday, Mother's Day, Senior Sunday, Bible Studies, Sunday School and Baptisms and so much more, I am overjoyed as I watch so many of you serve God and God's people with such love. You are faithful to each other, to our neighbors, and faithful to God. May God guide us in this faith walk and help us rise together in faith.

I look forward to our journey ahead because we are called in Jesus' name.

Have a Joyful Easter Season! *Pastor Tiffany Sundeen*

Worship with us in April!

Sunday, April 3—9:30 am Blended Worship with Holy Communion & Holy Baptism

Wednesday, April 6—12:10 pm & 6:30 pm Lenten Service at Hope Lutheran

Sunday, April 10—9:30 am Palm Sunday Worship & Festival with activities & brunch

Thursday, April 14—6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship & Holy Communion & 1st Communion

Friday, April 15—6:30 pm Good Friday Worship

Sunday, April 17—9:30 am & 11 am Easter Sunday Worship with Holy Communion
& Easter Egg Hunt and Coffee/Fellowship at 10:30 am

Sunday, April 24—9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion and 11:00 am Confirmation Service



Sunday School

text @flcss18 to the number 81010 for notifications



Jesus said, "Let the children come to me." -Matthew 19:14

What's coming up!



Sunday, April 3rd— Sunday School/Butterflies

Wednesday, April 6th—FLY K-6

Sunday, April 10th—Palm Sunday Worship and Festival 9:30-12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 13th— FLY K-6
Bread baking with the 5th graders
5:30-6:30

Maundy Thursday, April 14th—
Pictures with 5th graders 6:00 p.m.
First Communion 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 17th— Easter
Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 Narthex

Wednesday, April 20th— FLY K-6

Sunday, April 24th— Sunday School/Butterflies

Wednesday, April 27th— FLY K-6

On the Road Back to God

I hope you have been following our Lent Journey on your road at home. You will soon be making a stop at Palm Sunday. We invite all of you to come celebrate the day at the Palm Sunday Festival at First. Starting with worship at 9:30, there will be a brunch to follow, a scavenger hunt, and activities for all ages!

As we continue to travel along, our 5th graders will be embarking on a milestone, their First Communion. The chalices have been made, and instruction has been given, all that is left is some bread baking and the Maundy Thursday service. All are invited to the Maundy Thursday service and to be a part of this milestone for these students.

The Road continues on with Good Friday service, and then Easter. We invite all of you to join us for Easter at 9:30 or 11:00 and an Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30 starting in the Narthex. The Road Back to God will take us all over, but it also brings us all together. We hope to see you this Lenten season.

—Kristy Wicklund
Director of Children's Ministry



SAVE the DATE!



VBS Day Camp with Luther Crest
(K-6th grade)

July 25-28 8:45a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Butterflies VBS (0-5 years old)

July 25-28 9:00 –10:30 a.m.



Easter Egg Hunt

Join us at 10:30 in the Narthex
on Easter





Wednesdays are our special day to play, learn, and have fun as a church family. The invitation is always open to friends that want to join us.

Transportation is provided from Kennedy School to the church, or children can be brought to church after school.

Events and lessons in April include:

⇒We are deeply loved.

⇒Jesus is the King

⇒Jesus is alive!

⇒Palm Sunday Festival—Sunday, April 10, 9:30-12:00

⇒Easter Worship & Easter Egg Hunt—Sunday, April 17, 9:30 or 11:00

Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 a.m. Narthex

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

Palm Sunday Festival



A visit from
Dolly the Chicken



Confirmation Schedule

- **Wednesday, April 6 5:30 to 6:15 pm** —7th & 8th Grade youth meet for a working supper! Eat and highlight influential scriptures in our Bibles, and then get rides to Hope Lutheran for the 6:30 service. 8th graders select their Confirmation verse this evening.
- **Sunday, April 10 after worship** —3 or 4 8th graders will have individual Faith Conversations with Pastor Tiffany after church. Vicki available in Narthex.
- **Wednesday, April 13**—No official Confirmation fellowship or meal.
- **Thursday, April 14 at 6:30 pm** —confirmands and parents strongly encouraged to attend Maundy Thursday service at First Lutheran.
- **Friday, April 15 at 6:30 pm** —confirmands and parents strongly encouraged to attend Good Friday service at First Lutheran.
- **Sunday, April 17 at 9:30 and 11:00 am**—Easter Sunday Worship
- **Wednesday, April 20**—6:00 pm Confirmation Banquet for 8th Grade Confirmation students and parents in Fellowship Hall, served by 7th grade confirmands (they will eat also).
7:00 pm Confirmation Pictures—Group & individuals in the Sanctuary, with a short practice for the April 24th Confirmation Service



Sunday, April 24 Confirmation Sunday

10:30 am Confirmands meet in Fellowship Hall

11:00 am Confirmation Sunday Worship

Congratulations to our Confirmands!

Available for First Lutheran Youth: Young Life and Wyldlife. Please watch for updates to the club schedule , or check the Young Life website <https://ylotc.younglife.org/events/>

WYLDLIFE CLUB SCHEDULE GRADES 6-8

6 TO 7:30 PM AT THE UNDERGROUND (225 W CAVOUR)

April 3 and April 24—Club

YOUNG LIFE CLUB SCHEDULE GRADES 9-12

7:37 TO 8:37 AT THE UNDERGROUND (225 W CAVOUR)

April 3 and April 24—Club

April 10—Supper and Club at Castaway Club

Final Lenten Service

Wednesday, April 6

Hope Lutheran Church—1309 Stony Brook Road

12:10 pm & 6:30 pm



Holy Week at First Lutheran

Palm Sunday, April 10, 9:30 am worship with Holy Communion & Palm Sunday Festival until 12 pm

Maundy Thursday, April 14, 6:30 pm worship with Holy Communion & First Communion

Good Friday, April 15, 6:30 pm worship

Easter Sunday, April 17, 9:30 am & 11:00 am worship with Holy Communion
10:30 am Easter Egg Hunt & Coffee/Fellowship in the Narthex

YOU CAN STILL HELP TO FILL THE CUP!

We are filling the cup WEEKLY during Lent and bringing it each SUNDAY or WEDNESDAY to reach our goal.

\$10,000 by EASTER SUNDAY

Your support helps local and global ministries.

It is a great way to teach giving and make a difference together.

Make donations via check, loose change, cash, dollars, and larger gifts are greatly appreciated.
Together we make a difference!

P.S. We welcome matching donors for the Sundays in Lent! See Katie for more information or call the church office at 218-739-3348.



The Worship Corner

by the Worship &
Music Committee

The word worship is both a noun (the acts or rites that make up a formal expression of reverence for a deity) and a verb (to take part in a religious ceremony).

When we arrive at worship, we expect to see smiles and welcomes from people who care. We expect to hear meaningful music and messages. We expect to participate in communion with fellow believers. We expect a good cup of coffee with a treat and conversation with friends. (Not part of praising God, perhaps, but we ARE Lutherans!)

All these things require all of us as members of the church to participate! It requires a number of volunteers each time we open the doors.

In the coming months, we'll take a look at the people we need to make worship happen. Hopefully each one who reads these little articles will find a place and says, "Hey, I can do that!"



The church is all of us together and we NEED you! Blessings to you!



WELCA Board meeting Tuesday, April 19 at 10:00 am in the Kairos Room.
Hannah Circle meets Wednesday, April 27 at 1:00 pm
in Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome!



The Love Day Quilters gather each Monday from 9 am to 3 pm in the Quilting Room (note: quilters won't gather on Monday, April 18). If you would like more information, contact Katie at 218 826-6791. We hope you will come and see what we do, then think about joining us!



You're invited!

**The NW MN Synod Conference 7
Gathering for Women of the ELCA**

“We All are One in Mission”

Saturday, April 30, 2022

1:00 to 3:00 pm

First Lutheran Church Fergus Falls



If you plan to attend, please
sign up at the Information
Counter in the Narthex and
include your check for \$5.00
written to
First Lutheran WELCA.
Deadline to sign up is April 12.
Thank you!!



First Lutheran Church 1872 - 2022

150 Years of Spiritual Growth

A monthly Messenger feature as we head
towards the 150th Celebration of
First Lutheran Church

“FIRSTS” at First

- ♦ Baptism—the first sacrament of Holy Baptism was for Mary Gunderson, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Arne Gunderson. Mary was born January 25, 1873 and baptized March 6, 1873.
- ♦ Holy Communion—the first Sacrament of Holy Communion was administered for the first time at the farm of Ole Huseby. The wine glass which was used at this service was brought from Norway by Arnt’s mother.
- ♦ Confirmation Service—the first confirmation service was held on December 8, 1875. 8 students were confirmed. The first names of those confirmed are Lars, Magnus, Nels, Andor, Theo, Amalie, Louise & Osine.
- ♦ Marriage—the first marriage performed at First Lutheran was that of Bernt Nicolas Johnson and Inger Larson Lune, who were united in holy wedlock on September 4, 1875.
- ♦ Ladies Aid—a desire to help in the building of a larger church moved the women to establish a Ladies Aid in 1878. Charter members of the Ladies Aid pledged to raise funds for missions and charities.
- ♦ Ordination—Rev. Dr. O.A. Norman was most likely the first “son of the congregation” to be ordained a Lutheran pastor. He was confirmed in 1894 by Rev. Fosmark and graduated from Park Region Luther College in 1895. He received his theological degree from Luther Seminary in 1903 and was ordained that same year.
- ♦ Youth Group—the youth group, called YPS (Young People’s Society) was organized in 1906. With the church in rubble following the 1919 cyclone, the YPS joined other church organizations in pledging funds to rebuild.
- ♦ Men’s Group—the Men’s Club submitted a financial report for the annual report for the first time in 1929, however, previous church histories maintain that the men of the congregation formally organized prior to this time.
- ♦ Radio Ministry—combining resources and talents, pastors from First Lutheran & Bethlehem went on air for the first time September 18, 1939. The broadcast was called Park Region Lutheran Hour and aired on Monday evenings. In 1940, Augustana and Zion joined the broadcast and the name was changed to Lake Region Morning Watch.

Let's Gather

at

U N I O N P I Z Z A

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

6:00 P.M.

First Lutheran Ladies



Men's Bible Study with Pastor David

We hope you will join Pastor David in the Kairos Room April 11 and April 25 at 7:00 am for Men's Bible Study. The study will continue every other Monday at 7:00 am.



Community Prayer Service for God's Peace in the World will be held at Hope Lutheran Church (1309 Stony Brook Rd) at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, April 5th. This service is sponsored by the ELCA and Federated Churches of Fergus Falls. All are welcome. There will be an offering which is designated to Lutheran Disaster Response for Eastern Europe Relief.



Please be sure to complete a Time & Talent sheet. There are copies available in

the church office. We hope you will share your talents and time with the congregation.

Thank YOU!

Also, some of the council committees are looking for additional members to join their team. Please contact the chair of the committee you are interested in joining for more information.



Executive Committee

David & Lorri Holt, Co-Presidents
Leslie Flugstad, Secretary
Rick & Linda West, Co-VP
*Treasurer

Council Members

Michael Wicklund, Discipleship/
Outreach
Leslie Flugstad, Finance
Harriet Wicklund, Worship
*Youth
JoAn Whitlock, Fellowship
Tara Wagner, Education
Tedd Steenbock, Property
Kris Werner, Membership
Steve Fitz, Personnel

* These are open positions on the Council. Please contact Council President if interested.

Note: Leonard Hatzenbuehler is temporarily filling in as Treasurer.