



First Lutheran Church



2022

In-Person Worship Sunday at 9:30 am
Listen on the radio 1020 am or FM 97.7
www.channel 977.com; PEG Access Channel 8
Livestream on YouTube, link found on website

402 South Court Street
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Phone: 218-739-3348 office@flcfff.org
www.firstlutheranchurchff.org

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

JOINT ELCA THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Join us on Wednesday, November 23 at 6:30 at Hope Lutheran as we gather for worship as the ELCA ministries of Fergus Falls. Our guest speaker will be Christi Dickey from the Fergus Falls Food Shelf. Our offering will go to the food shelf to support their vital work to our community. We also encourage you to bring non-perishable items to donate to the food shelf such as peanut butter, pancake mix, canned fruits, veggies, or meats. Following worship, we will gather in the fellowship hall for pie and conversation. Our worship service will also be live-streamed on Hope Lutheran's YouTube Channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXQkYjt6QOmjmbSOaEqr4_g)

Stewardship 150- Celebrating the Joy of Giving

November 6 – Giving thanks for the Saints Please bring a framed photo of a loved one you would like to remember on All Saints Day. We will have electric candles to place next to the photo in the narthex area. We give thanks for the legacy the saints have passed on to us.

November 13- Giving thanks for Service We will recognize our veterans for their service on 11/13. We also recognize the many ways people give through serving at FLC and beyond these doors. We will have time and talent sheets available to experience the joy of giving through service.

November 20- Giving thanks for Sharing: Generosity Sunday Worship/Potluck We can do more together than we can separately. We will share our promise cards this day, share in worship and top it off with a good 'ol Lutheran Potluck!

A Budget is a Statement of Faith

What does your church's annual budget represent? Is it a proud menu of the hopes, dreams and missionary ministries your congregation wants to accomplish in the year to come? Or is it a life-support prescription for how the congregation expects to pay the staff, keep the lights burning, the staff paid, and property maintained?

In a workshop when she was stewardship officer for the Episcopal Church, the late Terry Parsons gave this "Devil's Dictionary" definition of a church budget: "It is the means by which we notify the Lord of the limitations we intend to impose on his gifts for the coming year."

If we view the budget — and present it to our congregations — as an administrative necessity to ensure proper financial management, then we shouldn't be surprised to wind up with bare-bones measures that are grudgingly funded. If funded at all. But if we present the budget to our congregations as opportunities to invest in the Reign of God and stretch ourselves to see how much we can do with even the nickels and dimes God has given us, then the possibilities increase.

In the end, a budget is a statement about how a congregation views the future. Do your people trust that ours is the God of abundance who rewards faithful stewards and will stand behind servants who proclaim the Reign of God? If an outsider looked at your budget, what would he or she conclude about your congregation's faith? And what would be a "God's Dictionary" definition of a church budget? How about, "It is the means by which we make the most of the abundance the Lord is giving us." Hmmm. That will look nice on the cover of the annual report.

--Rob Blezard (Copyright © 2016, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission.)

Pastor Tiffany's article continued next page

Worship with us in November

Wednesday Night Dinner Church, 5:30 to 6:30 pm (except on November 23)
Joint Thanksgiving Eve Worship November 23 at 6:30 pm at Hope Lutheran Church
Sunday worship with Holy Communion at First Lutheran at 9:30 am

Services are also live-streamed on YouTube and on-air on KJJM AM 1020 or Channel 977 FM97.7 at 9:30 am on Sundays. To access YouTube go to the First Lutheran website: www.firstlutheranchurchff.org. You can livestream or watch later. Our worship services are being aired on PEG Access Channel 8. The schedule does change, so be sure to check the website at <http://pegaccess.com/channel8programming.html> for current times.

Dear Friends,

Money talks. But we have a hard time talking about money. Why? We use it every day. We need it to live. Money can be used to

- influence
- persuade
- motivate
- build up
- show compassion and so much more.

Money talks

But how odd that we don't like to talk about money! We talk about the stuff we buy with our money. We talk about the new car, computer, or clothes we've purchased. Yet, money itself is difficult for most of us to talk about.

I recently heard

- 82% of those who went to church hardly ever discussed their personal finances with friends
- 88% had not talked with fellow co-workers about it
- 93% had not had conversations with clergy
- 95% had not talked with other congregational members about money

And yet Jesus talked about money more than anything else

There are 2,200 verses when Jesus talks about possessions and money, while only 1,400 verses about prayer, love and believing combined. Jesus talked about money and calls us to do so as well.

Through November, but also throughout the year, we will be exploring how money and our faith life are connected. An Old Testament scholar once said, "Please share with me your checkbook, your credit card bills and your tax forms, then I'll understand your faith and your view of stewardship." If you pulled those documents out, what would they say about your faith and stewardship right now? How do they reflect what you believe in? Do you feel it is accurate? Is there anything you would like to change? Most of us want to keep growing in our stewardship. Let's keep growing together, in the name of Christ.

Peace, *Pastor Tiffany*

Joint ELCA Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday ~ November 23, 2022 ~ 6:30 pm

Hope Lutheran Church ~ 1309 Stony Brook Road

Guest Speaker Christi Dickey from the Fergus Falls Food Shelf

Offering will go to support the food shelf

Also, please bring non-perishable items for food shelf

Pie & conversation after worship

Service will be live-streamed on Hope's YouTube channel

Giving Thanks

SHARE THE WARMTH

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

OCT. 19- NOV. 9



Bring in new or gently used winter coats, hats, gloves/mittens, snow boots, and snow pants. All sizes for children and adults are needed. Items collected will be set out during the Harvest Dinner for anyone that needs something to take. The rest of the donations will be brought to the Blessing Closet.



First Lutheran's *Harvest Dinner*

is coming soon!

This is First Lutheran's gift to the community. We need the help of the congregation to provide this free dinner.

Please sign up to bring food items for the dinner.

The sign up sheets are located in the Narthex.

Thanks SO much!!



Harvest DINNER

Free Dinner for the Community
All Are Welcomed

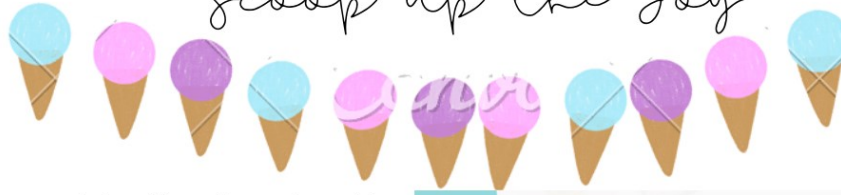
Thursday, November 10th
5-7pm

First Lutheran Fellowship Hall



SUNDAY SCHOOL

"Scoop up the Joy"



It was such a joy celebrating the church's 150 anniversary and thank you all for being apart of it. The celebration continues as we enter into November and start thinking about Christmas. Starting this month, we will be working on Christmas songs in preparation for the Christmas Program which will be Sunday, December 18th at 9:30am. Check out our Spirit Sundays as we work our way closer to the Christmas program.

We will also be learning about the fruits of the spirits of gentleness, faithfulness, goodness, and kindness in our Sunday School classes. Please text @flcss18 to the number 81010 to receive all Sunday School communications.

Kristy Wicklund
Director of Children's Ministries
(218) 531-9544
Kristy@flcff.org



Spirit Sundays

November 6 COLOR DAY Butterflies Orange Pre-K Yellow 1st-3rd Green 4th-6th Blue	November 27 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL/BUTTERFLIES
November 13 HAT DAY Wear a hat to Sunday School.	December 4 JOY DAY Dress in red and white, 150th Celebration of Joy colors.
November 20 SPORTS DAY Dress in your favorite sports shirt.	December 11 PAJAMA DAY Come to Sunday School in your comfy pajamas.

First Lutheran Church
FERGUS FALLS, MN
Since 1872



- Nov. 1- Luther Crest Summer Camp Registration open
- Nov. 9- Service Night for FLY K-6 & Confirmation
- Nov. 10- Harvest Dinner 5-7pm
- Nov. 18-19- 6th-8th grade Middle School Youth Gathering
- Nov. 23- No FLYK-6/Confirmation/Dinner Church
- Nov. 27- No Sunday School/Butterflies
- Dec. 18- Christmas Program 9:30am
- Jan. 20-22- 3rd-6th grade Luther Crest Retreat
- Feb. 24-26- 6th-9th grade Luther Crest Retreat





Wednesday FLY K-6

We will plan on meeting at Roosevelt when the weather is nice, otherwise we will be at First Lutheran in the youth room.

Last month, we sent cards to some shut-ins. This month, we will be helping prep for the Harvest Dinner and learning about the fruit of the spirit: gentleness, kindness, goodness, and faithfulness.

Stay up-to-date on FLY K-6 communications, text @flyk6 to the number 81010.



Northwestern Minnesota Synod's
2022 Middle School Youth Gathering

Who is my Neighbor?

Luke 10:22-37

@Luther Crest Bible Camp in Alexandria



Dates: Friday, Nov. 18-
Saturday, Nov. 19

Cost: \$75 before Oct. 25th,
\$180 after

Deadline: Nov. 2nd

**6TH-8TH
GRADE**



LUTHER CREST SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPENS NOV. 1ST

Ever cooked over a fire? Ever paddled a canoe? Ever sung a song about a hippopotamus? Climbed a rock wall? Worshipped under the stars? Caught a squamster? Kids who spend time at camp build confidence, long-lasting friendships, and faith for life. We

partner with Luther Crest Bible Camp in Alexandria, MN to give kids and youth (grades 3-12) an unforgettable experience filled with faith, tight-knit community, and fun in God's creation. It's an experience that can grow with them, even into high school—check out the leadership opportunities available for high schoolers through Luther Crest's Blazer program! You can register online starting Nov. 1st, or find out more information at luthercrest.org.

A week at camp fosters faith that lasts. And not only that, it's a blast! As a Luther Crest camper, you'll play all-camp games, sing songs, make new friends, learn new skills, read the Bible (it's fun, we promise!), overcome new challenges, and learn to work together with your cabinmates. You can make crafts, jump in the lake, play some gaga ball, and draw a chalk picture—all in one afternoon! What are you waiting for?

Parents, got kids who are too young for Luther Crest's weeklong camps? Or just wish you could come with to camp? Family camp options are also available on select dates! Know any young adults that want to make a difference? Spread the word that working the summer at camp teaches leadership skills, provides opportunities for professional development, and just plain matters. Camp work is challenging, rewarding, and—quite often—life-changing. Apply at luthercrest.org.



**Council Co-Presidents
taking a little break!**



● Having some FUN on ●
Family Day
at Thea's Pumpkin Patch!



150 years

1872-2022

Celebration of Joy!
First Lutheran Church ~ Fergus Falls, MN





Thank You!

To all who made the 150th Anniversary Celebration such a special time at First Lutheran!!



Getting ready for the group photo!

Check it out next page!



150 years
1872-2022

Celebration of Joy!
First Lutheran Church ~ Fergus Falls, MN

Group Photo at Worship Service October 9, 2022



WELCA Board

No November Board meeting

Executive Board meeting Tuesday, December 13, 10:00 am Kairos Room

Hannah Circle

No meeting in November

Christmas Gathering Wednesday December 14, 1:00 pm Narthex

---All are welcome!---

Love Day Quilters

Quilters continue to meet
each Monday from

9 am to 3 pm

Feel free to join as time permits!

Call Katie (218 826-6791) for
more info.



Lutheran Women have given thanks to God and dollars to mission through Thankofferings for way over 100 years. Last year, Thankofferings totaled nearly a million dollars to support women of the ELCA church-wide ministries, with offerings coming from over 2,450 congregations. First Lutheran sent over \$1,100 last year—let's try to see if we can match or exceed in 2022! 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 related to poverty, health/AIDS, and domestic violence. The need is greater every year.

We are not using the blue Thankoffering envelopes this year, so please place your Thankoffering for 2022 in an envelope, and mark "Thankoffering" on the front of the envelope. Please make checks out to First Lutheran WELCA and in the memo line indicate Thankoffering. Mail or bring to the church office before December 1st.

I hope you will respond to this very important mission project that First Lutheran has been a part of for many years. If you have questions, call Judy Mouritsen at 763 438-6332.



Special thanks to the WELCA for their generous gift of a portable sound system and cart to First Lutheran Church in recognition of the 150th Anniversary!



The Worship Corner

by the Worship &
Music Committee

Coffee Hour Volunteers are highly valued at First Lutheran! What would a Sunday morning be without fellowship over doughnuts and coffee? The coffee hour volunteers can be individuals or families or a small group of friends. The treats are usually provided by Service Food and need to be picked up on Sunday morning. Instructions are laid out in the coffee area, and the time required is minimal. It's a great time to see all your friends and family on a Sunday as they go through the line and everyone always has a smile on their face! Please call the office or sign up in the volunteer book on the information counter if you are willing to serve coffee on any given Sunday.



NOVEMBER BOOK STUDY



WHO: First Lutheran Church (FLC) readers - all are welcome to join any month!

WHAT: Light lunch and lively discussion. This month we will be discussing the book **Just Mercy** by Bryan Stevenson. Several copies are available in the church library for free check-out.

WHERE: FLC's Kairos Room

WHEN: Monday, November 21, at 11:45 a.m.

For more information, please contact
Susanne Ronning at 218-205-6370.



First Lutheran— A Family

So, what does it mean to be a member of the family within a church? Among other things, it means that we worship our Lord together. We also provide for the support and education of our children, care for our church building, support our pastor, teachers, musicians, staff. We also pray for those in special need of prayer and, very importantly, support members of our church family who have lost loved ones.

One of the ways we can do this is by surrounding them with love and by feeding the family and friends following the funeral/memorial service.

Assisting has been divided into three 1 1/2 hour shifts: set-up, serving, clean up. With enough volunteers, the work load is shared and therefore not heavy. Both men and women are welcome and needed. It is a meaningful time for those who grieve and answers Jesus' request that we comfort those facing painful times.

Won't you PLEASE offer to help on occasion by signing up to help? You can contact Terry Gervais at 952-250-0432 to get signed up. If you are only available on Saturdays, please specify that when you contact Terry.

In addition, the fact is that many life-long friendships have been made in our church kitchen. Divine gift? Could be! In gratitude to those who have served our family in the past. *Ann Mathison*



Many enjoyed
the wonderful
organ concert by
Daniel Aune
on October 2



Executive Committee

David & Lorri Holt, Co-Presidents
 Leslie Flugstad, Secretary
 Rick & Linda West, Co-VP
 Leonard Hatzenbuehler, 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
 * Notes open positions on the Council.
 Please contact Council President if interested.



**Sun coming through the Rose window in the Narthex
 leaves a reflection of a cross on the
 "Man of Sorrows" woodcut by Charles Beck.**

A Tribute to Veterans

Monday, November 7 at 7:00 pm
 at Bethel Lutheran Church,
 702 West Alcott Avenue

Enjoy special patriotic music from
 the Carlisle band & more
 Veterans Speaker Panel
 Reception to follow



FLC



You can discover several books and resources in First Lutheran's library that have unique connections to our church's history or are recommended by our members. The following new books are available for check-out:

23rd Psalm
 Heart of a Samurai
 Shadow on the Mountain
 Village of Scoundrels

23rd Psalm is written by Holocaust survivor George Salton. This book was first written 20 years ago and has now been rereleased as a special edition with more comments from various authorities. In 1942, when George was only 14, he was among 465 prisoners. After three years, he was one of less than 50 survivors liberated.

The other three are books by author Margi Preus, daughter of Reverend C.K. Preus. Margi's books have won multiple awards, including a Newbery Honor. They are written for middle school readers and equally enjoyed by adults.

