



The Messenger

January 2023

First Lutheran Church

402 South Court Street • Fergus Falls, MN 56537

218-739-3348 • office@flcfff.org • www.firstlutheranchurchff.org

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

First Lutheran Made Room!



Worship with us in January

Wednesday Dinner Church at 5:30 pm

Sunday Worship with Holy Communion 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.

“I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.”

-Jesus, in John 14:2b-3

Dear First Lutheran Friends,

Happy New Year! YOU ARE INVITED and BRING FRIENDS!!! It's an open invitation and we always love having you over at God's house! At FLC, there is room around the table for everyone. We enjoy welcoming new friends and sharing God's grace. Plus, our New Member Sunday will be on January 29th.

God continues to work through the people of First Lutheran Church. There is hospitality in offering people a place to live, breathe and be together. God's place (a.k.a. FLC) is...

Where we feel at peace. Where we belong. Where we are loved...no matter what.

All are welcome as we extend hospitality to non-profit groups, as we extend the sacraments of baptism and communion, as we offer healing and hope to those who are hurting. We look forward to sharing:

A warm welcome to Pastor Kate Bruns as our Visitation Pastor as she begins January 2nd. She brings compassion, care, and knowledge of the Fergus Falls community. Many of you know her already and we are grateful to welcome her to the team.

This January, the Transition Team will start Listening Circles. This is a place where we will listen to what you feel are strengths, growth areas, and dreams for our congregation. The Transition Team is also doing research about the needs in the Fergus Falls area and that may inform FLC ministry opportunities.

FLC's New Member Sunday and Annual Meeting is also set for January 29th after worship. I am looking at how to create a fun annual meeting. Come and discover what that means for this year! Parents of recently confirmed youth, this is a place where they can vote with you and discover how their leadership matters.

If you are feeling out of place, turn to John 14 in the Bible. God wants us to know that we are wanted, loved, cared for unconditionally forever. If you have felt out of place before, trust there is place for you here and now...accepting you just the way you are. There is a place for you at FLC and plenty of space to welcome everyone you know.

Peace in the place,

Pastor Tiffany Sundeen



Interim Pastor Tiffany Sundeen
pastortiffany@flcgg.org



In addition to our cozy church library, there is another inviting spot that holds both adult and children's books. Our **Little Free Library** is located right outside the northeast church doors. It was custom designed and built by First Lutheran member Ralph Peterson.

Little Free Library is a non-profit organization with a mission to "build community, inspire readers and expand book access." It is a free book exchange with simple instructions. Take a book and/or leave a book! When FLC's library receives duplicate book donations, the books are often made available through our **Little Free Library**. Community members also stock the shelves of our **Little Free Library**.

Thanks to Reverend Peterson's talents and generosity, FLC's **Little Free Library** serves both our church and neighborhood.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

*Get to learn more about the
holy scriptures with us!*

**2ND & 4TH MONDAYS OF THE MONTH
7AM
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
KAIROS ROOM**

Starting Monday, January 31st
Everyone is welcomed!

Visit us at firstlutheranchurchff.org or call the church office at
(218) 739-3348 for more information.
First Lutheran Church is located at
402 S Court St, Fergus Falls

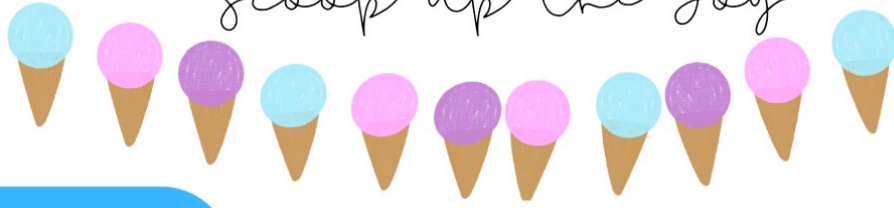
Adult Bible Study

**MONDAYS AT 1:00PM
KAIROS ROOM**

*Each Monday we'll meet in the Kairos Room to
look over the texts for the upcoming Sunday. NO
experience necessary! Questions? Just ask in
the office.*

'SUNDAY 'SCHOOL

"Scoop up the Joy"



Mark Your Calendars

- Jan. 1- No Sunday School/Butterflies
- Jan. 22- No Sunday School/Butterflies
- Jan. 29-Library Day
Family Game Day
11:30-1:30- Youth Room
- Jan. 20-22- 3rd-6th grade Luther Crest Retreat
- Feb. 14- Luther Crest Summer Camp Early Bird Registration Ends
- Feb. 24-26- 6th-9th grade Luther Crest Retreat
- July 16-21- Fergus Falls Camp week at Luther Crest
- July 24-27- Day Camp with Luther Crest at First Lutheran & Butterflies VBS

We held our Sunday School Christmas Program titled, "The Gifts of Christmas" on December 11th. It was a joyous celebration! Thank you to all the children that practiced and participated in the program. Thank you to the parents/grandparents that brought their children each week to practice. Thank you to our wonderful Sunday School teachers, who bring God's Word to our First Lutheran Children every Sunday! Thank you to the families that bring their children on Sundays to hear the Good News! Thank you to all the volunteers and staff that help to do God's work and bring God's Word to the community every week!

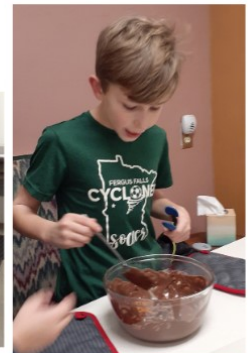


Wednesday FLY K-6

We will plan on going to First Lutheran, unless you hear otherwise through Remind.

This month, we will finish up the Fruits of the Spirit, and start looking into the Lord's Prayer. We hope to be able to go sledding.

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



YOU ARE INVITED TO A

FAMILY GAME PARTY

Sunday, January 29
11:30-1:30pm
Youth Room



LUTHER CREST WINTER YOUTH RETREAT

3-6 Grade Retreat: January 20-22, 2023

6-9 Grade Retreat: February 24-26, 2023

REGISTER ONLINE AT [HTTPS://WWW.LUTHERCREST.ORG](https://www.luthercrest.org)



LUTHER CREST Summer
**CAMP REGISTRATION IS
OPEN!**

FERGUS FALLS CAMP
WEEK IS
JULY 16-21

REGISTER ONLINE AT [HTTPS://WWW.LUTHERCREST.ORG/](https://www.luthercrest.org/)
EARLY BIRD DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 14!





The Worship Corner

by the
Worship & Music Committee

The Decorating Committee has the fun job of adorning our beautiful church for holidays! Creating an atmosphere that enhances our worship on special days is a wonderful way to lend your creativity and artisanship to the church. All hands are welcome and if you enjoy decorating, please contact Jody Hanson at (218) 731-1012 or call the church office. You would be a most welcome addition to the crew!



Need Some Support?

The First Lutheran Support Group will be meeting Wednesday January 11th, at 10:30 in the conference room. This group is for anyone who has lost and misses a loved one. Please come join us for supportive conversation and loving comradery.

We meet for an hour or so and then go out to eat a meal together wherever the mood strikes us. We will meet the second Wednesday of every month. Same time, same location. Hope to see you there. If you have any questions, feel free to call Terry Gervais at: 952-250-0432.



INCLEMENT WEATHER

It's winter in Minnesota and you know what that means...SNOW DAYS!
Here is FLC's policy for cancellations.

On weekdays all activities will be cancelled according to the Fergus Falls Public School District. This applies to cancellations, late starts and early releases due to weather.

Saturday activities may be cancelled due to inclement weather. The Senior Pastor and Executive Committee will make this determination as early as possible.

Sunday worship services may be cancelled due to inclement weather. The Senior Pastor and Executive Committee will make this determination by 6:00 am of the day of service.

FLC weather closing information will be conveyed to the local radio and TV stations, posted on Facebook, and put on our website.

JANUARY 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 Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michelle Richardson. Several copies are available in the church library for free check-out.

WHERE: FLC's Kairos Room

WHEN: Monday, January 16, at 11:45 am

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



GIVE

altar flowers

The sign up for sponsoring flowers and the radio broadcast in 2023 is in the church office. Please plan to make payment at time of sign up. Flower sponsorship cost is \$45 and radio broadcast sponsorship cost is \$100. If you have already signed up for a spot in 2023 please drop your payment off in the church office.

**Mark your Calendar—Annual meeting
will be Sunday, January 29, 2023!**



Executive Committee

David & Lorri Holt, Co-Presidents
Leslie Flugstad, Secretary
Rick & Linda West, Co-Vice Presidents
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.*



**Blessings in the
New Year to all!**

Love Day Quilters, WELCA Board, and Hannah Circle will not be meeting in the month of January.

**11TH DAY OF
CHRISTMAS**

Hannah circle will have an **"Eleventh Day of Christmas" Gathering** in the narthex at 1:00 pm on Thursday, Jan 5. All First Lutheran women are invited to attend.

Love Day Quilters *All are welcome!*

The quilters are taking a break but will resume on February 27.

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

