



The Messenger

September 2023

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

CONTENTS

- 1**
Pastor's Column
- 2**
Worship
- 3, 4**
Children's Ministry
- 5**
Youth & Family Ministry
- 6**
Adult Education
- 7**
Community Life
WELCA
- 8**
Other

A publication of
**First Lutheran Church
 ELCA**
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Rise up and Build!

We did it. We met our goal of \$7,050 and had a successful build day. Great Job FLC!



“For we are God’s coworkers, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building.”
I Corinthians 3:9

Dear Friends,

Building something with others brings such exhilaration, joy, meaning, and purpose. Remember building a race car for a pinewood derby and then competing? Or creating a bigger model airplane, car, or large Lego building you designed together with others? There is a feeling of awe, sense of worth, and relationship when we do it with friends or family because we become a part of something bigger than ourselves. Church, we are called to be coworkers with God, and I cannot think of anything bigger than that in our lifetime! We are building upon the foundation of Jesus! ALL of us.

We continue to build through these areas of ministry we all participate in...

- **Property Committee** who painted and caulked windows in the education wing; prepared the parking lot and are stewarding the building in many ways to invite people.
- **Community Life Committee** who served Sunday School teachers, confirmation guides and FLY (First Lutheran Youth) volunteers as we did training and kicked off our year; and will be participating in Rally Sunday and New Member Sunday
- **Outreach Committee** who helped us raise awareness for Habitat for Humanity and excitement for our fall outreach with Salvation Army
- **Children Youth and Family Committee** who held training, are preparing classrooms and lessons, have held service events like 4-6th graders delivering Meals by Wheels and 7-12th graders having game nights and Bible and Bonfire.
- **Adult Education Committee** lining up fall Bible Studies and Book Studies and events.
- **The Stewardship Committee** explores educational resources for all ages that include stewarding our time and space as well as money.
- **Finance Committee** keeping faithful track of stewarding resources and preparing for long term, anticipated needs.
- **The Personnel Committee** staying on top of trends and ways our paid and volunteer staff can be most faithful and effective for our call together in ministry.
- **Call Committee** preparing our Ministry Site Profile with your help on the surveys they asked you to fill out.
- **Worship Committee** who prepares, plans, and invites us to worship Sundays and Wednesdays. Starting September 13 interactive worship will be from 5:30-6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall followed by a meal from 6:00-6:30pm. We will be teaching the small catechism through art, music, Word, and prayer stations.

We are under construction as we join doing God’s work through our hands and hearts. What a privilege and honor! Building up is more than paint, bricks, lumber, and concrete. God builds up the very heart of Christ within us to SHARE JESUS wherever we go in the neighborhood; be it on Lincoln Avenue or Central Avenue, at Center for the Arts or Rockefeller Center, in the center of school or the senior center.

Get your hard hats ready! Rally Sunday is September 10 and we are MORE than ready with ways we grow the footprint God has provided us in Jesus the Christ.

Peace,
Pastor Tiffany



Ways to Worship with Us



KJKK AM 1020, Channel 977,
FM 97.7



**Sunday Worship Service
with Holy Communion at
9:30 am**



Go to the First Lutheran website:
www.firstlutheranchurchff.org.



PEG Access Channel 8



Have you ever considered being an usher at church? If so, we are ready to teach you how. Two “veteran” ushers have been assigned to each worship service for the next 12 months and they are ready to “show you the ropes”. Give it a try and see if it’s for you. Sign up on the sheet on the kiosk in the narthex, come a little early that day, and learn a new way to serve at church! If you have ushered in the past but are not currently on the list of “veterans” please feel free to sign up for any of the open spots on the list at any time.



**JOIN THE
CHOIR!**

SINGERS

Our Adult Choir rehearses Wednesday evenings from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. and usually provides an anthem for our worship services twice a month.

All are welcome to add their voices – please come and sing!



The Worship Corner by the Worship & Music Committee

In the north transept, where the choir loft is located, is the Nativity window. Celebrating Jesus’ birth, the nativity window also foreshadows his later life and death. In the center, shepherds kneel before the holy family at Bethlehem. Above, the Nativity Star leads the magi to the stable, where an ox and ass remind us of our Savior’s humble birth. Jesus will later ride into Jerusalem in triumph, an event foretold by the donkey image. In Jerusalem, Jesus will be whipped, symbolized by the scourge and pillar, and then die—the sacrificial lamb—for our sin.

In the south transept, where you can find the handbell choir, is the crucifixion window. Jesus’ betrayal and death – before his ultimate triumph—are represented here. Reminding us of the betrayal by night and Jesus’ suffering are a lantern and a “mockery crown” of thorns. Soldiers cast lots for Christ’s garments, depicted here; and after our crucified Lord was taken down from the cross, women anointed his body, an act symbolized by the jar of spices.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

BIRTH- 6TH GRADE

WE ARE BUILDING A SOLID FOUNDATION WITH CHRIST.



**WE ARE BUILDING
A SOLID FOUNDATION
WITH CHRIST.**



**SUNDAY SCHOOL'S
RALLY SUNDAY**

SEPTEMBER 10

**OPEN HOUSE, FIND THE CONSTRUCTION CONES, AND
BUILD YOUR SNACK FOLLOWING 9:30 WORSHIP.**

FOR WE ARE GOD'S SERVANTS WORKING TOGETHER. YOU ARE GOD'S FIELD.
GOD'S BUILDING. - 1 CORINTHIANS 3:9

WELCOME

Join us September 10th on Rally Sunday as we kick off a new school year. This year we will be "building a solid foundation with Christ," and working together doing God's work. On Rally Sunday, everyone is invited to worship for some "building" surprises and an open house to follow. Come and check out the classrooms, library, new youth room, chapel, and rec room while playing find the construction cones. Everyone is invited to build their own snack in the Narthex. You will not want to miss out on the fun!

FLY K-6 starts on Wednesday, September 13th from 3:30-5:00pm. Sunday School and Butterflies starts Sunday, September 17th. *Remind* is used to communicate information regarding these programs to participants. To subscribe for *Sunday School and Butterflies* text 81010 to @flcss18. To subscribe for *FLYK-6* text 81010 to @flyk6. Worship is every Sunday (in the sanctuary) at 9:30am and Wednesdays (Dinner Church in the Fellowship Hall) at 5:30pm. Children and their families are encouraged to come to worship. A child in worship is always a blessing, although they might not participate in the same ways adults do. Children do not always sit still or quietly during worship, and that is okay. They are still hearing, seeing, loving, and a part of the church community. Worshiping at church reaffirms that God loves all of you and that you all belong to this special group of people. It shows that the sights and sounds of worship are good. It also teaches that everyone, no matter what age, is able to participate in worship through praying, singing, or listening.

Our Children's Ministries volunteers, Pastor Tiffany, and I are looking forward to getting to know you and your children this year and joining with your child(ren) in building a solid foundation with Christ.



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

BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies is for children birth-4 years old and an adult. It meets on Sunday mornings from 10:30-11:30 in the lower Education wing classroom #3. Children will play, sing, dance, and learn about God.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Ages 4 years- 6th grade are invited on Sunday mornings from 10:30-11:30 in the lower education wing for Sunday School. This year we will dig in and explore: the Bible and God's character. Children will learn what it means to reflect God's love in their everyday lives. We will be using "Dig In's The Heart of God" Sunday School Curriculum as we build a solid foundation with Christ. This curriculum is adaptable to in-person and at home exploration. A weekly lesson will be texted to families through *Remind* for families to engage with at home. Friends are welcomed to join!



FLY K-6

Grades Kindergarten-6th grade on Wednesdays from 3:30-5:00pm. During our time together we have a blast playing games, serving our community, learning about God, and exploring how God's teachings apply to our daily lives. Kristy will meet the children at Kennedy school and then they will walk over to Roosevelt Park or ride in the church van to church if weather doesn't permit us to be outside. Friends are welcomed to join!

DIG IN @ HOME

Dig In @ Home is a weekly take home that let's you know what the lesson was, follow activities, discussion ideas, and what keeps you up to date on what is happening at First Lutheran Church. Dig In @ Homes is sent home in paper form on Sundays and texted through *Remind* on Tuesdays.

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

7TH - 12TH GRADE
YOUNG ADULTS
FAMILIES



The Building Continues

🚧 - our Youth Hangout Room is ready. This space will be used for small group gatherings and Sunday School. Our former youth room is now the church's Rec Room and will be a shared space used for games and larger gatherings of youth and children. What a wonderful thing to have these spaces to meet the different needs of our students.

🚧 - our program exists for youth! But we need to build the connections to them. If you have a teen in your world, please connect with Jen to get them registered so that they can be in the know about our activities and opportunities.

🚧 -building a faith foundation will be happening during Sunday School for grades 7-12. We are excited to partner with adults in our congregation for this time. Please meet in the Youth Hangout Room starting September 17.

🚧 -building multigenerational connections is important. If you would like to be a prayer partner (in person or virtually with a college student) please reach out to Jen.

Thank you for your commitment to the youth and their families – we are building a very important ministry one experience and connection at a time- Jen

Coming in October

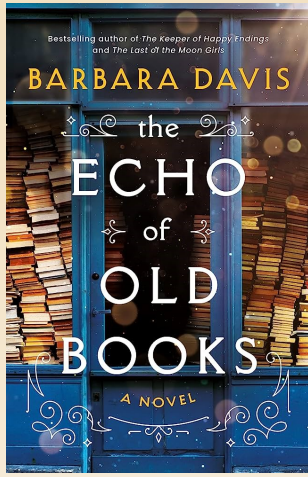
A book conversation on the book “She Deserves Better” by Shelia Wray Gergoire. If you are interested in joining the conversation, books to borrow will be available in the church library or connect with Jen Enstad-Petersen. All are welcome to join- date and time coming soon.



SHEILA WRAY GREGOIRE
REBECCA GREGOIRE LINDENBACH and JOANNA SAWATSKY



Jen Enstad-Petersen
Director of Youth & Family Ministry
youth@flcff.org
(218) 288-7584



FLC's Book Study is Back

We invite all to join us for another year of great reads and thought-provoking discussions! We will meet the third Monday of each month at 11:45 am in the Kairos room and lunch will be provided. Everyone is welcome whether you attend on a regular basis or occasionally.

For our meeting on September 18, we will be discussing "The Echo of Old Books" by Barbara A. Davis. Copies of this book are available for check out in the church library. Contact Susanne Ronning at 218-205-6370 for more information.



In the July Messenger we introduced you to church governance and showed you the proposed organizational structure for FLC. It creates opportunities for members to get involved with creating ideas and making decisions about their church. **Here's your chance!**

We are still looking for members to be on the following committees: Stewardship, Adult Education, Community Life, Outreach, and Worship. All you need is a willing spirit and a desire to help shape the ministry of your church.

Please contact Pastor Tiffany if you think you may be a fit for one of these committees. She will help you prayerfully consider the options.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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

Visit us at firstlutheranchurchff.org for more information.

DINNER CHURCH RETURNS

New this year... ways to pray, art as worship, and remembering the small catechism.

STARTING SEPT. 13
WEDNESDAYS | 5:30 PM
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

We will also be in a new location in the church, the Fellowship Hall. Please park in the lower level lot and enter the west side door.

402 S Court Street | Fergus Falls, MN



OWLS

Older Wiser Lutherans
Age 55+

Are you on our contact list?

Sign up for the OWLS; we do fun things together! You will not be obligated, but if we have a quick notification or some event coming up you would be notified via email or we will call you. There is a contact list on the kiosk in the narthex. If your name is not on in please add it.



Need Some Support?

The First Lutheran Support Group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am 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. If you have any questions, feel free to call Terry Gervais at: 952-250-0432.



Love Days Quilters All are welcome!

Quilters meet each Monday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the quilting room. Join us! We need those who sew, iron fabric, cut fabric, tie knots, and more. Come for all day or as time permits for you. Enjoy some good conversation, coffee and treats (bring your lunch if you'll be there during lunchtime).

Call Joanne Peterson
at 218-205-1189
for more info.

Hannah Circle

We are meeting on **Wednesday, September 27 at 1:00 pm** in the Narthex. Come & enjoy fellowship and refreshments followed by our Bible lesson led by Pastor Tiffany.

what's coming up in OCTOBER

Our annual "Coins, Cash, & Checks" Fundraiser
for those in need.

Please watch for more details!



Thank you for your continuing generosity of donated items and cash for the LWR School Kits!

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee has begun their work and are meeting regularly. They have elected Bob Ronning and Connor West as co-chairs and Elizabeth Abrahams as secretary. Please continue to keep these members in your prayers.

Elizabeth Abrahams	218-998-2535
John Demuth	218-731-9422
Joe Ellig	701-741-5147
Jen Enstad-Petersen	218-205-0151
Noah Link	
Bob Ronning	218-736-6399
Siiri Smestad	
Connor West	218-205-9639

Learn more about the call process [here](#).
We are currently at Step 6.

Ways to give:



In Person

Whether it's cash or check, we appreciate your kindness. Please place your offerings in an envelope and drop them in the offering plate.



Online

Visit firstlutheranchurchff.org and click Offering to set up a one-time or recurring donation.



Mobile App

Download the Vanco Mobile app from your app store to set up a one-time or recurring donation. **Search Fergus Falls** and then choose **First Lutheran Church**.



QR CODE

Scan the QR code to visit our online giving page.



Become a Sponsor

Each week there is an opportunity to remember a special person or honor a special event by sponsoring the altar flowers and the radio broadcast. The sign up for this 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.



Altar Flowers

CHURCH COUNCIL




Officers

Rick & Linda West, Co-Presidents
Leslie Flugstad, Vice President
Lorri Holt, Secretary
Leonard Hatzenbuhler, Treasurer, Property/Finance

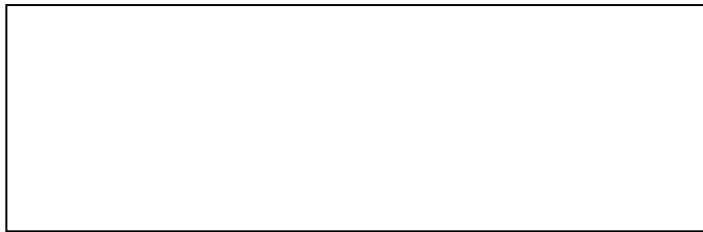
Council Members

Vicki Berdan-Adult Education
Kristi Dinsmore-Children, Youth, & Families
Steve Fitz-Personnel
Terry Gervais-Community Life
Ann Mathison-Outreach
Kris Werner-Stewardship
Harriet Wicklund-Worship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		<p style="text-align: center;">MORNING WATCH (15 minute devotional program) MONDAY— FRIDAY 8:45 am KBRF AM 1250</p>
<p>3 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee & Fellowship</p>	<p>4 Holiday-Church Offices Closed 9:00 am NO Love Days Quilting</p>	<p>5 11:00 am Staff Meeting 12:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting 5:15 pm Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Property Committee Meeting</p>
<p>10 RALLY SUNDAY! 9:30 am Worship Service Baptism of PaeLynn Douglas Overbeke 10:30 am Coffee & Fellowship Sunday School & Butterflies Open House</p>	<p>11 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am WELCA Love Days Quilting</p>	<p>12 11:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Church Council Meeting</p>
<p>17 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee & Fellowship Sunday School & Butterflies 7:30 pm Sr High FLY-Grade 9-12</p>	<p>18 9:00 am WELCA Love Days Quilting</p>	<p>19 11:00 am Staff Meeting</p>
<p>24 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee & Fellowship Sunday School & Butterflies</p>	<p>25 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am WELCA Love Days Quilting</p>	<p>26 11:00 am Staff Meeting</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: center;">Our Calendar is Now Online!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Click Here for the most up-to-date information.</p>		1	2
<p>6</p> <p>10:30 am Caregiver Support Group-LSS 12:00 pm Exec Committee Meeting Personnel Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Hosanna Handbells Rehearsal 7:45 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	7	8	9
<p>13</p> <p>10:30 am First Lutheran Support Group 3:30 pm FLY K-6 5:30 pm Confirmation-Faith Night Dinner Church 6:30 pm Hosanna Handbells Rehearsal 7:45 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	14	15	16
<p>20</p> <p>10:30 am Caregiver Support Group-LSS 3:30 pm FLY K-6 5:30 pm Confirmation Dinner Church 6:30 pm Hosanna Handbells Rehearsal 7:45 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	21	22	23
<p>27</p> <p>1:00 pm Hannah Circle 3:30 pm FLY K-6 5:30 pm Confirmation Dinner Church 6:30 pm Hosanna Handbells Rehearsal 7:45 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	28	29	30

After 5 days return to
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
402 South Court Street
Fergus Falls MN 56537
Address Service Requested

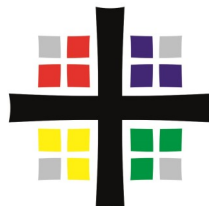


Staff Directory

Interim Senior Pastor	Pr Tiffany Sundeen	pastortiffany@flcff.org
Visitation Pastor	Pr Kate Bruns	pastorkate@flcff.org
Director of Children's Ministry	Kristy Wicklund	kristy@flcff.org
Director of Youth & Family Ministry	Jen Estad-Petersen	youth@flcff.org
Organist	Keith Melberg	melberke@prtcl.com
Choir Director	Harriet Wicklund	wicklund@charter.net
Hosanna Handbells Director	Linda Mellon	lindamellon@mac.com
Worship Team Director	Anne Taylor	annemltaylor@gmail.com
Church Administrator	Jen Hubrig	office@flcff.org
Office Assistant	Mary Johnson	maryj@flcff.org

First Lutheran Church

402 S Court Street
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
218-739-3348
www.firstlutheranchurchff.org



Worship Times
Sundays at 9:30 am
Wednesdays at 5:30 pm

Office Hours
Mon–Fri, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm