



The Messenger

April 2024

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

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A publication of
**First Lutheran Church
ELCA**

402 South Court Street
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www.firstlutheranchurchff.org

Heartfelt 
THANKS

TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

We would like to thank all of our volunteers for their time, effort, and hard work at First Lutheran Church. You are greatly appreciated by the congregation, its leaders, and staff. You have strengthened the mission and ministry of this church and you have been a great blessing to the congregation. We want to celebrate you!

On Sunday, April 14, everyone is invited to coffee fellowship in the narthex after the worship service for a special treat from the Stewardship Committee. Various church committees and leaders will be here to thank volunteers and give information to potential new volunteers. We will also have Time and Talent Surveys available to help everyone find a way to serve at FLC.

Thank you!



*"⁸ I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.
⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them." – Isaiah 42:8-9*

Dear FLC Friends,

Where there is Easter, new life springs forth! When things seem bleak and dying, don't give up. Something new is about to spring forth. Our faith walk often means trusting in things we cannot see or understand at the present time, but it still stands as truth.

TRUST! NEW LIFE WILL SPRING UP!

As I write this, 8 inches of snow blankets the landscape. Snowplows just pushed aside the snowy obstacles on Lincoln Avenue and pathways are being created all over the city with hyperactive snow blowers and shovels. Despite the late appearance of winter, the new life of Spring and Summer gather strength under the weight of winter. Grasses gather their roots, trees signal the leaf buds, gardeners start seedlings in makeshift nurseries with the certain hope that new life will yield abundant fruits.

April is a month of trusting the new life of Easter and being prepared for the growing time of faith as the Holy Spirit who urges us to grow. Seedlings need constant encouragement, nourishment, and intentional care so that they don't wither and die. When we think of our faith life as faith seedlings that need care, we may yield to a greater faith understanding.

Water your faith as you remember the baptismal promises that God forgives you, loves you, and gives you eternal life in the name of Christ. Start each day by making the sign of the cross on your forehead.

Feed your faith through regular worship, Bible study, and prayer. Revelation Bible Study happens every Thursday in April at noon with a lunch included. Hannah Circle Bible Study considers Scripture and nature as teachers of faith on April 24 at 1:00 pm.

Deepen your faith roots through service to others. Habitat for Humanity events happen constantly, ushering, greeting, serving communion, or being a lector helps with every worship service, VBS volunteers always help, and spring outdoor cleanup will be here before we know it.

Witness your faith on Easter Sunday both at 9:30 and 11:00 am worship services, Synod Sunday on April 7 as Bishop Bill Tesch joins us in worship, during coffee hour and Sunday School chapel, Volunteer Sunday on April 14 as we celebrate volunteers and learn how to get involved, and Confirmation Sunday on April 28 as we witness 11 amazing young people affirming their faith.

Trust in the new life that God promises... no matter what obstacles come your way. Faith needs community and our community needs faith as we live and love our lives in Christ. Celebrate the many ways resurrection is made real and the seeds of faith bear fruits of the Spirit.

Peace,

Pastor Tiffany





God has given each of us gifts for ministry. Have you talked with God to ask for help in discerning what your gifts can bring to the ministry of First Lutheran Church? It takes many willing hands for worship to happen. It takes many willing hands to bring to fruition ALL the ministries of our church. There is a place for YOU! You are invited to be an active part of all that happens at FLC. Find your place! Thanks be to God for all he provides.



MOVIE MAGIC

FAMILY FUN!
SAVE THE DATE!

- Costumes
- Popcorn
- Cotton Candy
- Lemonade
- Photo Booth

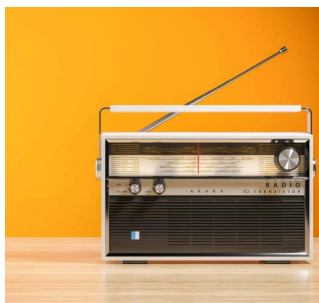
Hosanna Handbells will present a mini-concert on Sunday, May 12 from 10:45 to 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

DINNER CHURCH

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

WEDNESDAYS | 5:30 PM
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ways to Worship with Us



KJK AM 1020, Channel 977,
FM 97.7



Sunday Worship Service
9:30 am

Wednesday Dinner Church
5:30 pm



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



PEG Access Channel 8



Palm Sunday Festival





CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

BIRTH- 6TH GRADE

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



SUNDAY SCHOOL & FLY K-6

This month we will be diving into how God is everywhere, God is faithful, and God is our creator. We will also be finding opportunities for our incoming 4 year olds to have a little taste of Preschool Sunday School, and our 6th graders will have an opportunity to experience HQ with Ms. Jen. On Wednesday FLY, we will enjoy the nice weather when possible.

Thank you everyone for the food donations and helping to build up our community food shelf. The 4th-6th grade students will be delivering the food items and helping shelf food on Thursday, April 4th after school until 5:00.



Join us for a

Tea Party

Toddler-3rd grade families



SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST

11:30-12:30

FELLOWSHIP HALL

Come in your "fancy" clothes (aka costumes or whatever they want to be - superhero, princess, cowboy, etc.)

Join us for some tea party activities and yummys!



VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN

FERGUS FALLS ELCA CHURCHES PRESENT

22-25 JULY
8:45am-5:00pm

DAY CAMP WITH LUTHER CREST

FOR CHILDREN GRADES K-6TH

ACTIVITIES:

- Games
- Arts & Crafts
- Bible Dives
- Snacks
- Water Play

DAY CAMP REGISTRATION FEE

\$30 Per Camper
\$75 Family Max

Please register at participating churches: Augustana, Bethlehem, First, Hope, or Zion Lutheran Churches by Sunday, July 8th.

Augustana Lutheran Church
308 E Douglas St, Fergus Falls

FERGUS FALLS ELCA CHURCHES PRESENT

BUTTERFLIES VBS

JULY 22-25
9:00- 10:30AM

AGES 0-5 YEARS & FAVORITE ADULT

ENJOY A MORNING OF PLAY, STORIES, SONGS & DANCE, TREATS, AND FUN WITH FRIENDS!

BUTTERFLIES REGISTRATION FEE
\$10 FAMILY

Please register at participating churches: Augustana, Bethlehem, First, Hope, or Zion Lutheran Churches by Sunday, July 8th.

Zion Lutheran Church
202 E Summit Ave, Fergus Falls

Looking Ahead

4/4- Food Shelf 4th-6th grade 3:30-5:00

4/17- 6th grade at HQ

4/21- Tea Party Toddler-3rd grade families 11:30-12:30

4/28- NO Butterflies/Sunday School

5/12- Movie Magic Mini Bell Concert 10:45-11:30

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

7TH - 12TH GRADE
YOUNG ADULTS
FAMILIES

“Building” Update

What HAS happened in March...

- Awesome attendance of our confirmands at the weekly Lenten services.
- Practice days for our 6th graders to be ready for all the fun stuff that awaits them as 7th graders.
- FUN escape rooms that brought together some E.P.I.C. laughs and teamwork.
- Great connections being made in all areas of our youth and family department.

What WILL be happening in April...

- Return to Confirmation- so excited to be together again and have some great things happening Wednesdays for our 7th and 8th graders.
- Confirmation Retreat - April 12 and 13th - we are going to have so many great experiences for the kids as they deepen their faith through physical movement, creative expression, service to others, and JOY.
- E.P.I.C. trivia with Brian is back- you won't want to miss this. April 14, 11:30-1:00. Lunch and then the game master will test your knowledge. Bring friends for even more fun.
- April 17 after school all current 6th graders are invited for a special Fly - meet Jen in HQ.
- Then we have our Confirmation special night to celebrate and prepare on April 24.
- Confirmation Sunday is April 28 and we hope the whole church family comes out to celebrate these 11 students.
- Adult Conversation Night is April 28, 7:00-8:30 and our focus is JOY. Come ready to play some games and talk about ways to add more JOY to your own life and share it with others. ALL adult members of the community are welcome and please come comfy. It's a low-pressure time to fill your cup before a busy week ahead.

It's going to be a great month!

Jen Enstad-Petersen



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

The \$100,000 Pyramid?



ESCAPE ROOM



Baccalaureate for all area seniors is at the Kennedy Auditorium May 5 at 7:00 pm.

Senior Recognition Sunday at FLC is May 19 at the 9:30 service with a light brunch for families following the service.



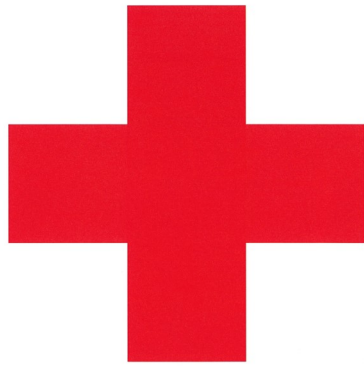
SCHOLARSHIP

Students- are you currently attending or planning to attend an ELCA college? Our foundation has a scholarship to bless you in your journey. Please see Jen E.P. for the form.

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Blood Drive
First Lutheran Church

402 South Court Street - Fergus Falls

Tuesday, April 16, 2024
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Fergus First Lutheran to schedule an appointment.



Spring into action: Come give blood April 8-28 for a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of your choice. PLUS, automatically be entered for a chance to win a \$7,000 gift card, there will be two lucky winners! Terms apply: rcblood.org/spring



1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

©2016 The American National Red Cross



OWLS

Older Wiser Lutherans
Age 55+



OWLS Event was a HOOT!

What a fun time! Thanks for inviting me for this event and for the Apple-bee's gift card to boot! Great people. All of you. From Jim Bjork.



April "Blessing Box"

Many items are needed by people going to the Blessing Closet located at 201 North Union. The Outreach Committee has decided to help by collecting a specified item each month in the Blessing Box located inside the canopy entrance.

**In April we are collecting
Kitchen Dishes & Cookware.**

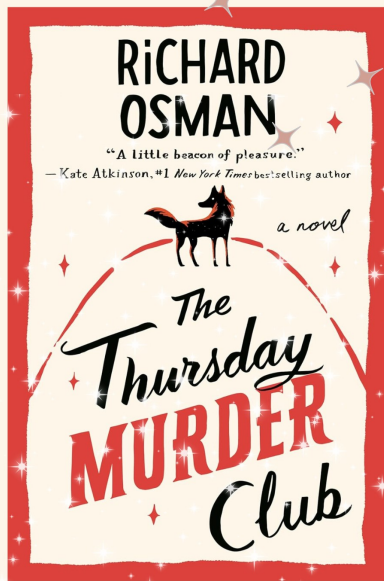
Thank you—FLC is blessed to be a blessing!



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.

Adult Education



FLC Book Study

Monday, April 15 11:45 a.m.

Lunch and Discussion

Join Us!

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.

FIRST LUTHERAN
CHURCH



JOIN US!

LUNCH BIBLE STUDY

WITH PASTOR TIFFANY

DEMYSTIFYING THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Every Thursday in April

Kairos Room at noon

Lunch Provided - Free Will Offering

Women of the ELCA

Love Days Quilters

We meet each Monday in the Quilter's room, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Bring a lunch if you are there over lunch time. You are welcome to come as your time permits!

Board Meeting

No meeting in April.

Hannah Circle

We will meet on Wed., April 24 at 1:00 pm in the narthex. Come for fellowship and refreshments, with Bible study found in the March/April Gather magazine. Copies can be found on shelves by the office if you don't have a subscription.

Call Committee Update

Greetings from the Call Committee,
 I wanted to give an update as of March 18. The Call Committee had an opportunity to conduct two Zoom interviews on March 17. A third initial Zoom interview will be conducted on March 19 with a potential Sr. Pastor candidate. After one of the interviews on March 17 we determined that one of the candidates showed great strength and an in-person interview was needed. We are working at scheduling this interview in the coming weeks.

~Connor West

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

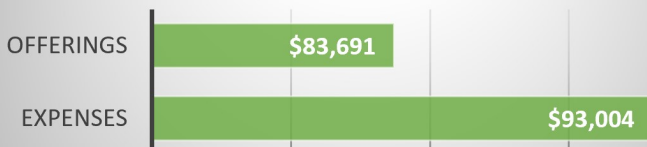
Scan the QR code to visit our online giving page.

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 book is in the church office. Cost is \$45 for altar flowers and \$100 for radio broadcast. Please plan to make payment at the time of sign up.



As of February 29, 2024



Officers

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

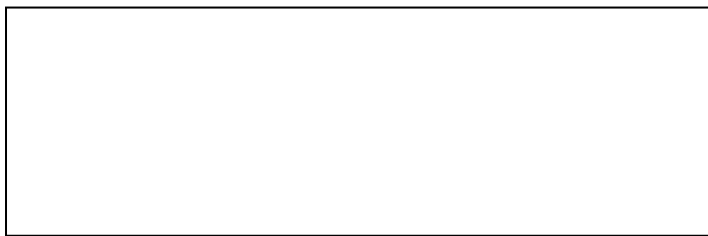
Council Members

- Vacancy-Adult Education
- Kristi Dinsmore-Children, Youth, & Families
- Sue Toso-Community Life/Fellowship
- Ann Mathison-Outreach
- Steve Fitz-Personnel
- Kris Werner-Stewardship
- Harriet Wicklund-Worship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>Our Calendar is Online! Click Here for the most up-to-date information.</p>	<p>1 Church Offices Closed 9:00 am NO WELCA Love Days Quilting</p>	<p>2 11:00 am Staff Meeting 12:00 pm Worship Committee Mtg</p>
<p>7 Synod Sunday 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee & Fellowship Sunday School & Butterflies Youth Connection Outreach Committee Meeting 11:45 am CYF Committee Meeting</p>	<p>8 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am WELCA Love Days Quilting 10:00 am Community Life Committee Mtg</p>	<p>9 11:00 am Staff Meeting 5:15 pm Finance Committee Mtg 6:30 pm Property Committee Mtg</p>
<p>14 Volunteer Sunday 9:30 am Blended Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee & Fellowship Volunteer Appreciation Sunday School/Butterflies Youth Connection 11:30 am E.P.I.C.-Trivia with Brian</p>	<p>15 9:00 am WELCA Love Days Quilting 11:45 am FLC Book Study</p>	<p>16 Red Cross Blood Drive 11:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Church Council Meeting</p>
<p>21 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee & Fellowship Sunday School/Butterflies Youth Connection 11:30 am Tea Party-Toddler to 3rd Grade</p>	<p>22 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am WELCA Love Days Quilting</p>	<p>23 11:00 am Staff Meeting</p>
<p>28 Confirmation Sunday 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee & Fellowship NO Sunday School/Butterflies NO Youth Connection 7:00 pm Adult Conversation Evening</p>	<p>29 9:00 am WELCA Love Days Quilting</p>	<p>30 11:00 am Staff Meeting</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3</p> <p>10:30 am Caregiver Support Group-LSS 3:30 pm FLY K-6 5:30 pm Dinner Church Confirmation 6:30 pm Hosanna Handbells Rehearsal 7:45 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>4</p> <p>4:30 pm Stewardship Committee Mtg</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>10</p> <p>10:30 am First Lutheran Support Group 12:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting 3:30 pm FLY K-6 5:30 pm Dinner Church Confirmation 6:30 pm Hosanna Handbells Rehearsal 7:45 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>17</p> <p>10:30 am Caregiver Support Group-LSS 3:30 pm FLY K-6 5:30 pm Dinner Church Confirmation 6:30 pm Hosanna Handbells Rehearsal 7:45 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>24</p> <p>1:00 pm Hannah Circle 3:30 pm FLY K-6 5:30 pm Dinner Church Confirmation-Dessert & Photos 6:30 pm Hosanna Handbells Rehearsal 7:45 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>MORNING WATCH (15 minute devotional program) MONDAY— FRIDAY 8:45 am KBRF AM 1250</p>			

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



Staff Directory

Interim Senior Pastor

Visitation Pastor

Director of Children's Ministry

Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Organist

Choir Director

Hosanna Handbells Director

Worship Team Director

Church Administrator

Office Assistant

Pr Tiffany Sundeen

Pr Kate Bruns

Kristy Wicklund

Jen Enstad-Petersen

Keith Melberg

Harriet Wicklund

Linda Mellon

Anne Taylor

Jen Hubrig

Mary Johnson

pastortiffany@flcff.org

pastorkate@flcff.org

kristy@flcff.org

youth@flcff.org

melberke@prtcl.com

wicklund@charter.net

lindamellon@mac.com

annemltaylor@gmail.com

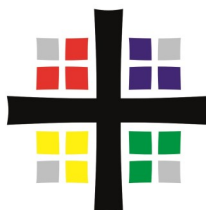
office@flcff.org

maryj@flcff.org

First Lutheran Church

402 S Court Street
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
218-739-3348

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

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