

THE FIRST MESSENGER

First Lutheran Church

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

October 1

Theology on Tap

October 9

New Member Wednesday

October 13

New Member Sunday &
234 Fellowship

October 14

FLC Office closed | Indigenous Peoples Day

October 16

Fall Break – No Wednesday service or Wed School

October 19

WELCA Fall Gathering

October 20

Fall Break – No Sunday School

October 27

Reformation Sunday
Adult Faith Formation class

The Good News!

A Thought Tidbit from Pastor Matthew :

We recently practiced Lectio Divina as the sermon on a Sunday a few weeks ago. If you haven't heard of this practice, just do a quick Google search and read about it. There was good feedback, and as a leader, it was tremendously life giving. It is amazing how the church, in general, feeds off of society and its norms for overscheduling and constant 'production' and busyness. This practice, at least for me, reminded me that the church is counter-cultural. In this instance, counter-cultural meant we slowed down, we embraced silence, and we sat with the Living Word, with Scripture. Too often we believe being church, being community means we must be busier, have more events, do more. But God tells us we are loved as we are. There is no need to prove anything, to be a certain level of productive, to be loved fully by God. What Good News that is and I was thankful for the practice of Lectio Divina to remind me and us all of that Good News.

(continued on page 2)



From Pastor Matthew...

...continued from page 1

What I've been doing:

I offer here the books, films, and other art forms I'm engaging in for the month. These are in no way a recommendation for anything listed, just an offering of what I've explored in the last month. I believe art and the imagination to be a Truth telling device as we live out the Gospel together. Engaging in and consuming art together is a way to be the Kingdom of God, here and now, together. So here is what I've been reading, viewing, and listening to this month:

- The Quickening: Creation & Community at the Ends of the Earth (Book by Elizabeth Rush)
- Speyside (Song & Upcoming album by Bon Iver)
- Every Shade of Blue (Music album by The Head and the Heart)

As always, my door is always open, stop in for a chat and a warm or cold beverage.

Best,

Pastor Matthew Engum

President's Post | Carla Solem, Vision Council President

Dream Big update

I am excited to announce that our Master Planning Committee met with Vanman staff on September 16th to share feedback from the Dream Big envisioning exercises. Over the next few months, the Vanman architect and design consultant will be working with the committee on an interactive process to develop a vision to enhance First Lutheran Church facilities, one that helps better support our ministries and mission. Key areas highlighted were:

- **Education Wing:** Creating a dedicated space for our growing youth programs, ensuring a safe, functional, and inviting environment.
- **Community Spaces:** Upgrades to our entries, kitchen, dining hall, meeting rooms, and gathering areas to facilitate improved functionality for programs, education, and community building, and events.
- **Accessibility Improvements:** Ensuring our facilities are welcoming and accessible to all members of our community.

While the committee was selected to represent the many programs and ministries of the church, we will be doing targeted outreach throughout this process to assure the draft designs represent the vision and needs of the congregation. Although we likely won't be able to finance our entire dream for FLC facilities, together we will be able to create a space that better supports our strategic goals.

Look for updates on the progress of this exciting work in the months ahead. I will close my article with the opening prayer for our committee meetings, *'Lord, as we embark on this exciting journey of renovating our church, we thank You for the vision that has brought us together and pray that You guide our decisions and keep our focus on serving You and our community. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.'* I invite you to also pray for the Lord's guidance in this process.

Women of the ELCA

THANKOFFERINGS

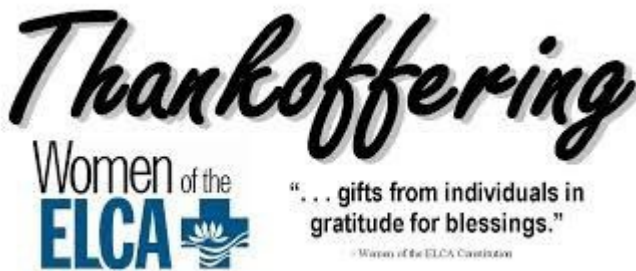
Thankofferings are a [long-standing custom](#) and spiritual practice among all Lutheran women. We give in thanksgiving for blessings received—and we do receive so many blessings, don't we? And we are so grateful. That's why we give Thankofferings

What do our FLC Thankofferings support? The founders of Women of the ELCA decided back in 1988 that Thankofferings are to support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization. Our founders would be amazed to see what that covers these days.

Our ongoing ministries include our many online and printed communications channels, our justice and advocacy work, training and development for elected leaders throughout the women's organization, our constant work in support of congregational and synodical women's organizations, the administration of our grants and scholarship programs. *During the months of October & November we will be collecting Thankofferings at First Lutheran Church. Please make out your check to: Women of the ELCA and write Thankoffering on the memo line. Just drop it in the Sunday morning offering.*

It's been shown time and again that gratitude is good for us – spiritually, mentally, and even physically. Making a Thankoffering is gratitude in action. And Women of the ELCA is grateful to you for taking that action. **Thank you.**

GIVE THANKS FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS



Congratulations!!

Cheri Haderly recently received the Mary Magdalene award at Synod women's convention in Moorhead. The winners were nominated and selected based on ways they have demonstrated the command in John 20:17 to **"Go and Tell"**. As a recipient of the Mary Magdalene award, Cheri, received a certificate, a rose and a monetary donation to a charity of their choice that is associated with the Women of the ELCA.

FALL CONFERENCE

The WELCA Fall Gathering will be held at Lake Park Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 19 at 9:15am. Special speaker : Tanya Todd who will be speaking on "Dispatched: In Pursuit of Purpose – A dispatch cop's wife's view of what Jesus calls us to do".

Cost: \$15 / Includes coffee & lunch

Pre-register by October 12.
Registration forms are on the volunteer table.

Meet at FLC @ 8am to carpool.

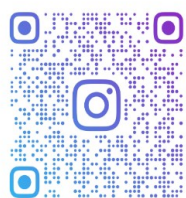


September Highlights

Thank you to all who made Rally Sun/Wed possible. Psst, that means you! I know I had a blast, and hope you all did too. We are in the thick of this programming year now, and oh how I have missed it. I'm looking forward to another amazing year with all of our FLC kids!



Follow First Lutheran Youth and Family Ministry on Instagram!



FLC_YFM

Looking Ahead

Service Projects
3rd Grade - Nov. 6th
Helping the Homeless
Held on Wednesdays
6:30-7:30 in the chapel.

Parents and Guardians are encouraged to attend with their child

PUPPET MINISTRY

FYM is looking for volunteers to help out with our puppet ministry. If interested, please reach out to Olivia.




High School

We had our first High School Hangout this month. Although we are small, we can only grow from here. Pr. Matthew and I had a blast on Sunday afternoon with our high school kids. Played games, had snacks, and created lasting relationships. See you in October!



TURKEY BINGO

Youth Fundraiser

 **Wednesday Nov. 20th** 

Dinner 5pm-6pm -- Bingo 5:30pm-7pm

Dinner will be turkey sandwiches and sides w/ pumpkin pie.

Bingo cards will be sold at the door.

10 cards for \$10

\$5 per person

(one card per round)

(kids under 5 are free)



All money raised from this evening will go to Youth and Family Ministries to help fund future youth trips and activities.

October News

Children's Ministry Service Projects

Kindergarten: Oct. 9th - Helping Those in Crisis

Held on Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 in the chapel; Parents and Guardians are encouraged to attend with their child

High School

October 10th - Lunch w/ Pastors @ Pizza Ranch

October 27th 4:30-6pm - HS Hangout in Youth Room

Fall Break - No Classes on Wednesday Oct. 16th and Sunday Oct. 20th

Stewardship Team Update

Giving is Good for Us

Even though we are months away from the “season of giving”, we can give in big and small ways to make positive impacts on our family, church, community, and ourselves. In a recent article by authors Jason Marsh and Jill Suttie in Greater Good Magazine there are five major ways that giving is good for us.

1. Giving makes us feel happy. A Harvard Business School study in 2008 concluded that giving money to someone else, rather than spending it on ourselves, lifted the giver’s happiness level. A study in 2006 by the National Institutes of Health found that when people give to charities, it activates regions of the brain associated with pleasure, social connection, and trust.

2. Giving is good for our health. According to author Stephen Post, a professor of preventative medicine at Stony Brook University, giving to others provides health benefits to people with chronic illness, including HIV and multiple sclerosis. Other research suggests that giving improves physical health and longevity by reducing stress.

3. Giving promotes cooperation and social connection. Several studies point out that giving promotes a sense of trust and cooperation that strengthens our ties to others and has a positive effect on mental and physical health. Giving to a common cause helps develop a sense of belonging and connection.

4. Giving evokes gratitude. Giving or receiving gifts brings feelings of gratitude. Barbara Fredrickson, a pioneering happiness researcher, says that cultivating gratitude in everyday life is one of the keys to increasing personal happiness. Other studies discover that college students who “count their blessings” exercise more, are more optimistic, and feel better about their lives overall.

5. Giving is contagious. Giving creates a ripple effect of generosity. Generous people inspire others to behave generously. If one person inspires two people to be generous, and those two cause four more to act generously, the gifts have a multiple effect in an entire community. The impact of a generous gift can go far beyond the initial action.

Giving allows us to grow and develop and, if we believe the research, giving has a positive impact on our health and wellness. Ultimately, giving is one more way for us to develop our relationship to others and to God.

Jesus was teaching on the plain when he said, “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”(Luke 6:38)

Submitted by Tom Neuenfeldt

MEMORIAL GIFTS

FLC acknowledges with grateful appreciation these memorials which have been received this past month.

FLOWERS

In Honor of: Jim Elletson
Given by: Patti Cummins

UNDESIGNATED

In Memory of: Marilyn Weiler
Given by: Family of Marilyn Weiler

In Memory of: Jim Elletson
Given by: Friends of Jim Elletson, Darrell Bauder & Ruth Olson, Viggo & JoAnn Thomsen, Rebecca & Nicholas Williams, Lowell Wenberg

In Memory of: Charles Scherzer
Given by: Family of Charles Scherzer, Kurtis & Laurie Fong

WFLC

In Memory of: Jim Elletson
Given by: Ardys Horner

AGAPE

In Memory of: Jim Elletson
Given by: Lenn & Beverly Hummel, David Eiesland & Jeannine Driscoll Eiesland

KITCHEN

In Memory of: Charles Scherzer
Given by: Pat Zurn

MUSIC

In Memory of: Bernie Maday
Given by: Cliff & Karen Bimberg

In Memory of: Michelle Gaard
Given by: Cliff & Karen Bimberg

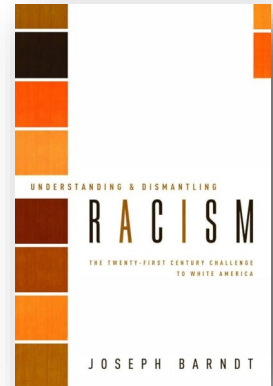
Reminder: when giving memorials to the FLC Foundation or FLC Quilters, please make separate checks.

Adult Faith Formation

UNDERSTANDING AND DISMANTLING RACISM

On **Sunday, October 27** and **November 3**, Pastor Roy Hammerling will lead sessions during the “education hour” – 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. – in the FLC Chapel. The book by Joseph Barndt, *Understanding and Dismantling Racism – The 21st Century Challenge for White America*, will be the central focus.

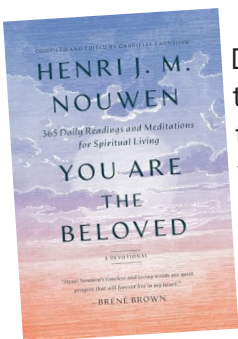
These two sessions will lead off the adult faith formation here at FLC for the 2024/25 programmatic year. The theme of “**learning to love and serve our neighbor**” will be incorporated into the various adult faith formation sessions planned. This theme for the year’s sessions was taken from the early May sermon of NW MN ELCA Synod Bishop William Tesch when Pastor Matthew was installed here at FLC. Remain watchful for the AFF sessions from now through summer 2025.



In this 2007 book from Joseph Barndt, he tries to present new learnings about systemic racism from the late 1990s and early 2000s that offer exciting organizing opportunities for transforming structures of systemic racism. Barndt attempts to show how changes have brought about both progress and regression in the struggle to end racism. Pastor Hammerling encourages but is not requiring the reading of the book prior to the October 27 and November 3 sessions.

In Romans 13:9 and 10 we are reminded “. . . are summed up in this one command: *love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law.*” Just maybe these two sessions will offer opportunities to assist you in understanding and practicing loving and serving our neighbor. Please plan to attend , if you have questions or concerns, visit with staff members. **SEE YOU THERE . . .**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT DEVOTIONAL



Do you feel like you are rushing from one task to another? Are you always busy with something that just can't wait? Is it difficult to find a space where God can allow “something” new to take place? If so, take a break from the craziness of life for a time of connections and devotions **every Wednesday, from 6:30 –7:30 pm in the library, beginning October 2.**

The Henri Nouwen book, *You Are the Beloved*, will be used during these sessions, and consists of 365 short daily devotions that can also be done at home. Participants will be encouraged to acquire the book, which will be available at the Wednesday, October 2, session on a first come – first served basis with no cost to the participant.

It has been shared that the daily devotions in this book “empower readers to claim their central identity as the “beloved” of God and live out that truth in their daily lives”. Let's give it a try and join us on Wednesday evenings!

NEW AT THE LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Cummins

We have been so blessed with donations of wonderful books, that I haven't been able to get them all in the newsletter. This catch-up list is the most current donations that can inform, brighten, enlighten, increase compassion and understanding, grow our faith, and help us find God's path in our lives.

Amish Grace: How forgiveness Transcended Tragedy by Donald B. Kraybill

Amity and Prosperity by Eliza Griswold

Beautiful Mercy: Experiencing God's Unconditional Love So We Can Share It with Others
by Pope Francis

Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters at the End by Atul Gawande

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, Ministering to Returning Combat Veterans
by David A. Thompson & Darlene Wetterstrom

Big Thoughts for Little People by Kenneth N. Taylor

Blessed in the Mess by Joyce Meyer (study guide also available)

Braided Lives – Minnesota Humanities Commission

Bravo Maurice! by Rebecca Bond

Brides of Lehigh Canal by Wanda E. Brunstetter

Caste by Isabelle Wilkerson

Choosing to SEE: A Journey of Struggle and Hope by Mary Beth Chapman

Consider the Women by Debbie Blue

Courage After Fire – Coping Strategies for Troops Returning from Iraq and Afghanistan and Their Families by Keith Armstrong, L.C.S. / Suzanne Best, Ph.D. / Paula Domenici, Ph.D.

Encounters with Silence by Karl Rahner

Evicted by Matthew Desmond

Fierce: Women of the Bible and Their Stories by Alice Connor

Gracias: A Latin American Journal by Henri Nouwen

High Expectations: Understanding the ELCA's Early Years by Edgar R. Trexler

How to be an AntiRacist by Ibram X. Kendi

Jennifer: An O'Malley Love Story by Dee Henderson

Jesus the Servant by Karen Melang

Letters and Papers from Prison by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis

Little Book of Race and Restorative Justice by Fania Davis

Locket by Richard Paul Evans

Love Does Study Guide by Bob Goff

Margin: Restoring Emotional, Physical, Financial, and Time Reserves to Overloaded Lives by Richard Swenson

Moral Ground – Ethical Action for a Planet in Peril by Kathleen Dean Moore & Michael P. Nelson, Editors



Check out these new reads!

My ABC Bible Verses: Hiding God's Word in Little Hearts
by Susan Hunt

Mystical Way in Everyday Life by Karl Rahner

Necessary Endings by Dr. Henry Cloud

Noah Built His Ark in the Sunshine by James W. Moore

Perfect Day by Richard Paul Evans

Prayers for Married Couples by Renee Bartkowski

Ragman: And Other Cries of Faith by Walter Wangerin

Red Earth, White Earth – Will Weaver

Sabrina (Big Sky Dream) by Lori Wick

Saving Us – A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World by Katharine Hayhoe

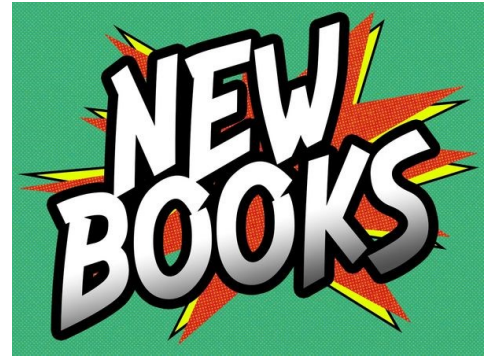
Taking the High Ground: Military Moments with God by Jeff O'Leary

Tending to Eden: Environmental Stewardship for God's People by Scott C. Sabin

This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger

Two-Part Invention: The Story of a Marriage by Madeleine L'Engle

Understanding & Dismantling Racism by Joseph Barndt



Please leave a note in the office or the Library mailbox if you have suggestions for books you'd like to see in the library. Just a reminder to return books to the library once you've finished them so another person can enjoy them. Thank you and ENJOY!

HIGH SCHOOL HANGOUT

SUNDAY OCT 27TH
4:30-6 IN YOUTH ROOM

Every Buddy

But love your enemies and do good ... and you will be sons (and daughters) of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful men. Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.

The tables turned when she asked us not to talk to her while she was fixated on the paper in front of her. Our gregarious, chatty 6-year-old was typically the one asked to “shush”. Her music teacher counseled them not to make any mistakes on the main song in their kindergarten graduation program, and Oaklyn was resolute in her determination to know every word perfectly. She wrote the words from memory so she could practice – “This is it. Perfect fit. Everybody is united,” was how it was supposed to start. But Oaklyn had spelled Everybody “Every buddy”.

I explained the difference between the terms, but she insisted every buddy was correct because all the kids in her class were her buddies. Only one “Bestie” but they were all her buddies, no mention of enemies. About a month later she pointed out a boy from her class in the grocery store, told me his name, and gave him and his sister big hugs. Then she told me there was another boy with the same name in her class. When our paths crossed the second boy’s one day, Oaklyn pulled back, partially obscuring herself from his view, stating “He’s not nice to me.”

We remind our kids that *“a gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger,”* hoping their actions will be reciprocated, but knowing that won’t always be the case. Just as Jesus told the disciples, if they aren’t received well they are to *“go out of that house or city, shake the dust off your feet.”* Jacob heaped rocks up to denote a “safe” boundary between his people and Laban’s, so they could all dwell in peace. We try as hard as we can, for as long as we can, to shield our kids from some of the harshness on earth.

Last night, I caught sight of a small deer enjoying the buffet at the edge of my back yard. I knocked on the window, but the deer barely acknowledged the startling noise. I raised the window and yelled through the screen warranting a slight response from the deer. Going outside, I found it fearlessly inspecting the window I had just occupied, and it finally took off. Its curiosity had been stronger than any concern for safety, but my proximity finally propelled him in a different direction.

Ephesians tells us *“Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other just as God in Christ has forgiven you.”* We try to go forward being kind, tender-hearted, cautious, curious, forgiving, grateful, observant of boundaries, and most of all – loving. With God’s help, may these be examples to help guide our children as well.



By Patti Cummins

Bags & Beers

**JOIN
254
FELLOWSHIP**

**SUNDAY 10/13
4:00-6:00**

GRAB A PARTNER AND JOIN US UPSTAIRS AT BUCKS MILLS
FOR BAGS, BEERS AND FLC FELLOWSHIP.
RSVP BY 10/6

Theology On Tap

7:00 PM
the first Tuesday &
third Tuesday of the month

Questions about Life?
Questions about God?
Questions about Both?

Come ponder over a cold,
local brew with a curious community.

BUCKS MILL BREWING

Located at the New
Bucks Mill Brewing
824 Washington Ave
Detroit Lakes

Best
Rootbeer

Area churches leading study: First Lutheran, Detroit Lakes; St. Peter's Lutheran, Audubon; First Lutheran, Audubon

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS STORE

Save the date... Saturday, December 7th!

During the Christmas season, there are families in our community for whom gift giving is a luxury they cannot easily afford. Parents may be able to provide a gift for their children, but also buying gifts for their children to *give* really adds up! Here is how we get to bless them! The Children's Christmas Store provides children in these families the opportunity to 'shop' for family members at a price they *can* afford! Through the generosity of others, these children get to experience the joy of giving to their parents, siblings and grandparents.

Nurturing the joy of

giving!

All gifts for sale at the Christmas Store are provided by donations. Whether you are cleaning out your closets, recycling your children's toys, re-gifting gifts you received from Auntie Ethel or donating a gift purchased just for this event, each 'gift' is priceless to the child that gets to buy it and give it.

All gifts are priced and sold for \$1.00. Imagine a family with 3 children. If each child bought a \$10 gift just for Mom, Dad and each of their siblings, it would cost \$120. Shopping at the Children's Christmas Store, each child can pick out their own gift to give each of their siblings and each of their parents for a cost to the family of only \$12 dollars! Each child can even add two Grandmas & Grandpas for only \$4 more!



FAQ'S

Who is invited? All children are welcomed! We will send an informational poster to organizations in our community that can best identify and invite families who would be the most blessed by this ministry, but we can't advertise to the community at large, simply because we cannot accommodate that number of shoppers. Children of our church family and friends are encouraged to participate for the fun of it. Our mission is to 'nurture the joy of giving' in our young people! Additionally, if you know of a family that would benefit from the Children's Christmas Store, please tell them about it and invite them to sign up!

How does the sign-up work? Parents can call the church office or go online to our website to sign children up for a shopping time. There are 10, one hour time slots each half hour from 10:00a.m. to 3:30p.m. for a total of 120 openings. (More can be added if needed.)

Is there an age limit? We do need children be at least 4 years of age. Younger children are typically not able to go with a 'shopper helper' they are unfamiliar with and can't always understand that they are shopping for other people! All these gifts are so appealing and fun to play with ;)

How many children usually shop at the Christmas Store? An average of 100 children; buying over 900 gifts!

How can I help? This ministry relies entirely on volunteers to run the store and donations to create it!

How can I volunteer? There will be sign-up sheets for setting up, shopper helpers, wrapping helpers, greeters, schedule coordinators and clean up crew! (When we're done, the church has to be ready for Sunday worship!)

What types of gifts are needed? Any item, new or gently used, that a child could give as a gift to a family member. No clothing, since a child would not likely know what size to get. Socks, hats, gloves and that sort of *generally* sized items are fine. The store is always, particularly, in need of gifts for teens and men.

What kinds of supplies are needed? small and medium gift bags and tissue paper (colored tissue is extra fun), boxes to wrap their gifts in, bows, tape, (we have wrapping paper), batteries and money for random supplies.

When and where can I donate gift items? The church office any time, we accept & store gifts all year.

What is done with the money children spend at the Christmas Store? The majority of funds from 'gift sales' are returned to the community to help families in need through agencies such as the Crisis Center, Becker County Food Pantry, Boys & Girls Club and Agape Ministry of First Lutheran. Ten percent is given to First Lutheran to cover the cost of resources used to host the Christmas Store. A portion is also allocated to the FLC youth account, relative to youth who help out at the store.





MAKING CONNECTIONS

Meet Pihlaja family!



We are the Pihlaja family – Joe, Krista, Alex, and Carson!

Joe grew up near Snellman and graduated from Park Rapids and Krista is originally from Alexandria. They both went to NDSU as Civil Engineering majors and that’s where they met! After completing college, they lived in Minot, ND; Bottineau, ND; Pocatello, ID; Portland, OR; and Anchorage, AK before moving to Detroit Lakes in 2018.

Joe works from home for an engineering firm located in the Twin Cities where he is a cost estimator and scheduler for construction projects. In his spare time Joe enjoys fishing, golfing, playing and watching hockey, snowmobiling, and ATVing. He loved living in Alaska where he went halibut and salmon fishing numerous times and even harvested a caribou!

Krista retired from the United States Public Health Service in 2023 where she worked as an engineer serving American Indians/Alaskan Natives throughout the country during her career. She now enjoys catching up on home projects, supervising Joe while he completes said projects, personal finance, event planning, organization, reading, and, of course, chasing the kids.

Alex is 10 years old and in the 5th grade at Rossman. He is a red belt in Taekwondo, plays soccer, is on the alpine ski team, and has attended several classes at Minnesota Flyers. He likes to play piano, his favorite subject is math, and he wants to join the military when he grows up.

Carson is 8 years old and in the 3rd grade at Rossman. He is a green belt in Taekwondo, plays soccer, flag football, and basketball, and is in Master Ninjas at Minnesota Flyers. He enjoys drawing and coloring, his favorite subject is reading, and he wants to be a police officer when he grows up.

As a family we enjoy camping, travelling, and downhill skiing together. Over the past two summers, Krista and the boys have visited 72 of the 74 Minnesota State Parks and camping over 130 nights. Joe and Krista have visited nearly 100 National Park Sites and would like to visit all 400+ sites in their lifetime.

We have enjoyed volunteering for various ministries throughout the church, attending Sunday School (boys), adult faith formation, Theology on Tap, multiple Luther Crest camps, and, most of all, getting to know our church family!



The Making Connections section is made possible by the hard work of the Adult Faith Formation committee. They encourage you to read these “get-acquainted” stories of our First Lutheran Church (FLC) members. Because we are such a large congregation that attends separate weekly worship services “Making Connections” is an opportunity to get better acquainted with the FLC family members that you don’t get to see often and then, when you do see them, you will be able to greet them by name! (and maybe even find something in common).

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Meet the Shipley Family!

Hi, We are Carol and Kevin Shipley. We have been members of FLC for about 10 years.

Carol has lived her entire life in Detroit Lakes and has always been very involved in music. At DLHS she played alto sax in the band and in the stage band (now known as the jazz band). She still plays her saxophone in the Lakes Area Community Concert Band (with her high school director, Gene Gaffney) and in Doc & the Scrubs. Carol sings alto in the Jubilate choir and says it's because the people are so much fun (not because she can sing). Carol is a 1978 graduate of Concordia College, where she majored in accounting. Following graduation Carol was employed in public and private accounting. In 1983, she graduated from MSUM with a business education degree, and began teaching at DLHS. After six years she was "transferred" to what is now known as MState, where she taught accounting for 17 years. She finished her career back in accounting as CFO of Community Development Bank. In the summer, Carol loves spending time at the lake cottage on her paddleboard and her pedal kayak. In the winter, Carol skis at Detroit Mountain and enjoys an annual Amtrak trip to Whitefish, Montana, with her ski buddies.



Kevin's family moved to Detroit Lakes in 1970, when his dad accepted a position as a principal at DLHS. In high school, he was involved band, choir and football. Kevin is a 1977 graduate of Concordia, where he majored in education and played fullback for the Cobbers. After graduation, Kevin was employed as vice president of real estate and commercial lending for Lakeland Federal Savings Bank and First Security Bank. Kevin was later hired as senior vice president for Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation (MMCDC). When MMCDC purchased the Ogema State Bank Kevin became the bank president (and yes, he became Carol's boss, at least in Ogema!). Kevin finished his career as president of MMCDC. Kevin has been involved in the community having served as chairperson of the DL Park Board, chairperson of the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary board member, and officer of the Elks club. Kevin is a member of the Vision Council and serves as FLC treasurer.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME



We will be welcoming new members to FLC on Wed, Oct 9 at the 6pm worship service and Sun, Oct 13 during the 8:30am and 10:45am worship services. If you would like to become a member of First Lutheran Church, please complete the **Membership Form** located on our website by clicking on 'Membership' under the 'About Us' tab (www.firstlutheranchurch.com). Please note, if you are unable to make those new member dates, you can still become a member at any time! Please call the office and talk to Sarah Nelson for more information (218-847-5656) or email at sarah@firstlutheranchurch.com. >>If you have been considering becoming a member of FLC, but, "just haven't got around to it" - now's the time! >>

Opportunities to Serve

The gifts He gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

At baptism, all the children of God are given the privilege and responsibility to participate in Worship rather than just be spectators. There are many ways in which we can participate during Worship as well as outside of Worship times.

Worship Assistants – Each week we are in need of worship assistants (Communion Assistants, Ushers, Greeter and Reader) to serve during and prior to church services. These individuals are essential in the functions of worship and welcoming members and guests into the church.

Audio & Video Ministry - worship sound and slides – We are in need of assistance with running the sound, doing livestreaming and doing the slides during service.

Audio Ministry: Operating the sound board allows people in worship to hear the spoken & sung Word.

Video Ministry: Live streaming worship so that others can see, hear, and participate online. This has opened up the door for outreach, as well as serving God's people who can't physically come to church.

Slide Operation: Running the slides on the screens during worship.

Sunday Fellowship Hour - Thank you to those who have kept this important together time going! We are in search of volunteers to cover the month of September as well as ongoing months. We would welcome ministry groups to participate together or other individuals as well. If you have an interest in signing up, please do so on the sign-up sheet on the volunteer table. Volunteer positions include: set-up, break down (clean and put away), donate baked or store-bought treats and donate cheese and crackers. Come join this special time down in the Fellowship Hall 9:30-10:30 AM for coffee, tea, water, treats, cheese and crackers!

Funeral servers – Thank you to those that have volunteered for our most recent funerals! We are always in need of individuals interested in volunteering for funerals.

Serving the family in the library – come early prior to the funeral and visitation and prepare coffee, water, and bars for the family to have

Greeter – welcome guests as they enter the church for the visitation or funeral and guide them to the sanctuary (usually arrive a little prior to the visitation or funeral)

Server – set-up plate ware, silverware, napkins and beverages. Assist the caterer if there is one or prepare food and/or bars and serve to guests in the dining room following the funeral



If you are interested in being involved in serving in any of these ministries please reach out to Sarah Nelson, Ministry and Social Assistance Coordinator at 218-847-5656, via email at: sarah@firstlutheranchurch.com . Or please sign-up on the volunteer sign-up table on the main level.

Thank you!

Sarah Nelson, Ministry and Social Assistance Coordinator

OCTOBER



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29 8:30a Traditional Worship Service 10:30a Contemporary Worship Service	30 5p Al Anon 5:30p Tae Kwon Do	1 8:30a Quilters 9a Office Staff Mtg 10a LSS Morning Out 1p Tai Ji Quan 2p Rachel Circle 7p Theology on Tap	2 6:30a Men's Bible Study 5p Worship Tm Reh. 5p Oasis Meal 6p Worship Service 6:15p Alleluia Ringers 6:30p Wed Sch & Conf 6:30p Adult Devotions 7:15p Jubilate Choir Re	3 8a Woman's Bible Stdy 9:30a Co Council 1p Tai Ji Quan 6pm Tae Kwon Do	4 12p AA Meeting	5
6 Communion 8:30a Traditional Worship Service 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Contemporary Worship Service	7 5p Al Anon 5:30p Tae Kwon Do	8 8:30a Quilters 9a Rebekah Circle 9a Office Staff Mtg 10a LSS Morning Out 1p Tai Ji Quan 2p Adult Faith Form. 4p Sons of Norway	9 <i>New Member Wed</i> 6:30a Men's Bible Study 5p Worship Tm Reh. 5p Oasis Meal 6p Worship Service 6:15p Alleluia Ringers 6:30p Wed Sch & Conf 6:30p Adult Devotions 7:15p Jubilate Choir Reh	10 8a Woman's Bible Stdy 1:30p Ruth Circle 1p Tai Ji Quan 6pm Tae Kwon Do	11 12p AA Meeting	12
13 <i>New Member Sunday</i> 8:30a Traditional Worship Service /Baptism of J. Berg 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Contemporary Worship Service	14 <i>Office Closed Indigenous Peoples Day</i> 5p Al Anon 5:30p Tae Kwon Do 6p Dream Big Meeting	15 8:30a Quilters 9a Office Staff Mtg 10a LSS Morning Out 1p Tai Ji Quan 7p Creation Care Tm Mtg 7:30p Theology on Tap	16 <i>Fall Break -No Wed School /Conf/meal/ worship service</i> 6:30a Men's Bible Study 9:30a Co Council 5p Worship Tm Reh. 6:15p Alleluia Ringers 7:15p Jubilate Choir Reh	17 8a Woman's Bible Stdy 1p Tai Ji Quan 6pm Tae Kwon Do	18 12p AA Meeting	19 8a WELCA Fall Conference 2p AA Social Event
20 <i>Communion No Sunday School</i> 8:30a Traditional Worship Service 10:45a Contemporary Worship Service &	21 5p Al Anon 5:30p Tae Kwon Do	22 8:30a Quilters 9a Office Staff Mtg 10a LSS Morning Out 1p Tai Ji Quan 5:30p Vision Council	23 6:30a Men's Bible Study 5p Worship Tm Reh. 5p Oasis Meal 6p Worship Service 6:15p Alleluia Ringers 6:30p Wed Sch & Conf 6:30p Adult Devotions 7:15p Jubilate Choir Reh	24 8a Woman's Bible Stdy 1p Tai Ji Quan 6pm Tae Kwon Do	25 12p AA Meeting	26
27 <i>Communion Reformation Sunday</i> 8:30a Traditional Worship Service 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Contemporary Worship Service / Baptism of A. Camrud	28 5p Al Anon 5:30p Tae Kwon Do	29 8:30a Quilters 9a Office Staff Mtg 10a LSS Morning Out 1p Tai Ji Quan 6p Stewardship Meeting	30 6:30a Men's Bible Study 5p Worship Tm Reh. 5p Oasis Meal 6p Worship Service 6:15p Alleluia Ringers 6:30p Wed Sch & Conf 6:30p Adult Devotions 7:15p Jubilate Choir Reh	31 8a Woman's Bible Stdy 1pm Tai Ji Quan 6pm Tae Kwon Do	1 12p AA Meeting	2

Please note: this Newsletter Calendar showcases and prioritizes the basic ministry schedule at First Lutheran and does not contain every congregational activity or the multiple ways our building is being used throughout the month.

Calendar is correct at time of printing.
UP-TO-DATE CALENDAR AVAILABLE at:
firstlutheranchurch.com/calendar

NOISY OFFERING TOTALS

The total from the August Noisy Offering, going to **Cornerstone Community and Youth Center \$495.62**

Check back next month for noisy offering total for September going to **VBS & Future Missions Trips/ FLC Youth & Family Ministries**

In the month of October, the Noisy Offering will go towards: **Churches United for the Homeless- Moorhead.**

CONGREGATIONAL STAFF

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OFFICE HOURS

(Monday-Friday)
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM



Opening Doors to Life in Christ!



The First Messenger is published monthly and mailed to the members and friends of First Lutheran Church. The purpose of this publication is to inform the congregation of church activities and upcoming events.

Articles for publication are to be submitted to the church office by the 20th of each month.

Vision Council

President: Carla Solem
President-Elect: Tom Neuenfeldt
Secretary: Paula Schulz
Treasurer: Kevin Shipley

Erin Erickson, Mike Pladson,
DeAnne Udby, Jon Freeman,
Catharine Weisenburger &
Matt Ask

Foundation Board

President: Ryan Manke
President-Elect: Les Perry
Secretary: Patti Cummins
Treasurer: Susan Schaffer

Shar Arvig, Alex Hagedorn,
Don Busker, Ted Heisserer &
Pam Orth

**Worship is broadcast on
KDLM-1340 AM and
on 93.1 FM Radio
each Sunday Morning at
10:00 AM.**

**Worship is also webcasted on
the church website
www.firstlutheranchurch.com**

**Worship is also broadcast on
T.V. on Saturdays at 9:00 AM
on Arvig Cable channel 14.**