



THE PARISH NEWS



December, 2020

*First Lutheran Church
PO Box 218, 709 5th Ave
Washburn, ND 58577-0218*

Pastor: Pastor Chuck Mann

Phone:

*701-462-3775 Church
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701-462-3785 Fax*

E-mail address:

flc@westriv.com

Web-site address:

www.flcwashburn.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

*Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 AM to
12:30 PM and 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM*

**OFFICE & NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL
STAFF:**

Jeannette Rost, Administrative Secretary

CUSTODIAN:

Jeff Schmidt

YOUTH DIRECTOR:

Laura Gardner

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

*Pastor Chuck Mann
Kris Schmidt, President
Matt Gardner, Vice President
Leilani Olafson, Secretary
Donna Sommer, Treasurer
Aaron Vorland, Property Trustee
Jeff Schmidt, Worship Deacon
Stacy Boeshans, Education Chair
Melanie Beckman, Evangelism Deacon
Kathy Keller, Stewardship Trustee*

**NEWSLETTER INFORMATION/
ARTICLES DEADLINE is 20th of each
month.**

**Our Mission. . . "Working hand in hand to
know Christ and make Christ known through
Worship, Christian Education, Evangelism,
Fellowship, Caring Ministries, and Service."**

"The Parish News" a monthly publication of
First Lutheran, linking Church and members'
homes, is mailed from Washburn, ND 58577, Bulk
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¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give
thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God
in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV)

Happy new year! We are at the start of the new church year as we journey together towards the end of 2020. What a year it has been and we are so glad you are here. The last Sunday of November, we have entered into the season of Advent, where we focus on a time of waiting and expectant watching for the coming of the Messiah.

The words of Saint Paul from 1 Thessalonians can guide our path as we move forward as a community on the important call to unity as God's people. We hear in verse 16 through 18 this call to Joy, Prayer and Thanksgiving. Joy is a Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) where Paul describes joy not as something we need to strive for through our own energy. But it is the Spirit's work that is made manifest in the community. The fruit of the Spirit is not able to be manufactured by human effort; but must be an out-growth of life-giving energy of the Spirit. We can respond and desire the fruit of the Spirit, but only after faith has been given to us. We can have joy in the midst of affliction because joy is not focused situational in nature. So, Paul is imploring us to look to the future, whether the near future or those promised at the end of the age.

We continue to "pray without ceasing," offering prayers for one-another in times of trial, supplication, and petition but also in times of thanksgiving & praise. We pray for the end of COVID-19 in our country and the world. We pray for unity as a nation and that there would be peace and not violence. No matter where you find yourself, God is with you, and your brothers and sisters in Christ are here at FLC with you & for you. This passage calls for us to see joy, prayer and thanksgiving in this new light. Now as we continue into our new church year and the season of Advent, we are able to wait and be watching for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. I am so thankful that our church family is on this journey with each of you and gets to discover what the Lord has prepared for us.

Looking at what is coming up, there are some ideas now being developed on ways to better CONNECT those who are joining FLC Online and those who are participating in-person. Please, look for the article CONNECTIONS and Coffee Hour Fellowship that will begin in December.

At the November council meeting, the council approved a technology special committee to be formed. The Mission/Objective of the technology special committee will evaluate current technology resources (program & equipment), use of social media platforms and will make recommendations to the council for better ways to use technology in the future. (Areas to be included but not limited to, church website, administration software, Social networking, audio/visual email, network

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etc.). We are looking for a few members to serve on this committee that will meet as needed. If you are interested or have questions please let me know!

With expectant joy, prayer and thanksgiving, we sit on the edge of our seats as we wait and watch for our Lord!

In Christ,

Pastor Chuck



THANK YOU

- ☺ Thank you LeAnn Richard and Jackie Olson for helping fold and tape the November newsletter for mailing.



- ☺ Thank you Orlin Larson, LeAnn Richard, Bell Choir, Wendy Miller, Choir, Randy & Gwen Hall, and Brent & Theresa Petersen for your special music this past month.
- ☺ Thank you Matt Gardner for taking on the responsibility of making sure we have Facebook Live every Sunday and other special services.
- ☺ Thank you Pastor Curt Hanson & Rick Richard for filling in while Pastor Chuck was in quarantine.
- ☺ Thank you to everyone that filled a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. FLC filled 66 boxes. Thank you Melanie Beckman and Amanda Vetter for taking on this project.



- ☺ Thank you Colleen Reinhard for leading worship at our Fall Harvest Festival Worship Service.
- ☺ Thank you to everyone for the prayers, flowers, food and cards that were sent to me. I am slowly recovering from the stroke but have a few tests left to see if they can figure out why it happened.

Thanks again,
Kitty Tweeten



All subject to change due to Covid-19.
Please watch bulletins, FLC Facebook page,
and www.flcwashburn.com for updates.

December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM - Worship w/Holy Communion

10:45 AM - Sunday School

10:45 AM - Bible Study

w/Alexis Solomonson

7:00 PM - Coffee Hour Fellowship (Online)

December 13 - Third Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM - Sunday School

(Christmas Program Practice)

9:30 AM - Bible Study

w/Alexis Solomonson

**Watch Bulletin for times of
Sunday School Christmas Program**

Please note change in time of
Sunday School and Bible Study.

**No worship at 9:30 am. - S.S. Christmas
program will take place of worship.**

7:00 PM - Coffee Hour Fellowship (Online)

December 20 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM - Choir Cantata

7:00 PM - Coffee Hour Fellowship (Online)

December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:30 PM & 9:00 PM

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
w/Holy Communion**

December 25 - Christmas Day

No Worship Service

Merry Christmas



NOVEMBER 12 2020 COUNCIL MEETING

(Please note that minutes are not approved until voted on by the council at the next meeting.)



- President Kris Schmidt called the meeting to order
- Members present: Pastor Chuck, Kris Schmidt, Matt Gardner, Kathy Keller, Leilani Olafson, Aaron Vorland, Stacy Boeshans, Jeff Schmidt, Melanie Beckman, Donna Sommer
Administrative Secretary - Jeannette Rost

Devotions – Pastor Chuck – John 15: Call for prayer – With everything going on as the holidays are approaching. There needs to be Spiritual leadership within the church and Jesus must be the fountainhead.

- Approval of previous council meeting minutes – October 8, 2020
1st Matt Gardner, 2nd Donna Sommer – Motion carries
- **Treasurer's Report – Donna Sommer**
(Motion to approve future audit, and to pay any "non-budgeted bills.")
1st Aaron Vorland, 2nd Melanie Beckman – Treasurer's Report approved

CD's	\$200,000.00
Checking	\$80,598.36
Building	\$42,436.89
Cemetery	\$617.40
Interest	\$790.90
Music	\$1,505.80
Parking Lot	\$47,756.11
Worship	\$2,189.56
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney	\$11,992.40
Total Assets	\$387,887.42

- **Pastors Report – Pastor Chuck**
 - Has been in quarantine for the past three weeks
 - Two baptisms scheduled for Saturday, December 5 (Sophia Jean Marie Hanson & Bradley Calvin Hanson, children of Krissy and Devin Hanson)
 - There is another baptism to schedule waiting for further information
 - One family will be transferring into FLC, schedule to be determined

Visitation

- Meet with staff and council
- Other member visits (6)
- Visits/Phone visits: Nine and Attempted: Nine

Other ideas to consider

- Will start doing home communion as soon as quarantine is lifted on Monday, November 16, 2020
- Thanksgiving service will be at 7 p.m. November 25th and there will be communion
- Pastor met with shut ins and suggestions were made to do something for these members

Committee Reports:

Stewardship Committee - Kathy Keller

- Kathy ordered flowers for Pastor Owen Gaasedelen's funeral, former Pastor of First Lutheran
- There is a need to fill the ushers for Christmas Eve services and we will not be needing coffee servers
- Thank you to Jeff Schmidt, Matt Gardner and Kris Schmidt on the Tricorne projector and sound system project

Worship Committee – Jeff Schmidt

- Need readers for Christmas Eve services – Leilani Olafson offered to read during Christmas Eve service and Kathy Keller and Matt Gardner offered to be readers in December as well

Education Committee – Stacy Boeshans

- 12/13/2020 Christmas program for Pre-K – 2nd grade will be led by Sue Winter and a Play will be done by 3rd grade – 6th grade
- 11/29/2020 – There WILL BE Sunday school
- No SUNDAY SCHOOL ON 11/22/2020, there will be a Sunday School Teachers meeting on this day

Evangelism Committee – Melanie Beckman

- Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes will be delivered to Bismarck on 11/15/2020
- Melanie Beckman will be putting together something for the Sunday School children following the Children's Christmas program

Property Committee – Aaron Vorland

- Exterior lights on the garage and front porch of the parsonage was fixed

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- Light switch in the Balcony was fixed
- One pew was needing repair
- Repaired basement swinging door with the help of Mac Beaudry
- Elevator repair was done, but the door mechanism is needing a full repair with an estimate of \$2,500.00. The company providing repair weren't able to find the source of the issue, however, if we replace the mechanism, they would apply the bill towards the replacement. It is still usable, but have to open the door manually up-stairs, but it is very heavy to open manually.
- A motion was made to replace the door operator on the elevator, 1st Matt Gardner, 2nd Kathy Keller

OLD BUSINESS

- We have \$1,189.77 in Thrivent Choice Dollars
- Motion was made to use Thrivent Dollars to cover shipping cost of \$9/box not covered. 1st Donna Sommer, 2nd Jeff Schmidt – Motion carries
- Covid update - Attendance in person at church has been between 80-100. Facebook live there has been around 130-200 views each Sunday
- Christmas Eve services will be at 4:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.
- Tricorne Audio – Vivian Merkel Memorial Money – Jeff Schmidt and Kathy Keller met with Tom on the update on cost for having the system in the basement. Hookups will be done in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall with a retractable screen. Kathy will contact Tom Merkel as when the project will get started and the family of Tom and Vivian Merkel will be covering the costs of this project as a memorial to Vivian
- Lavern Johnson Trust Money
 1. Parking Lot has been completed. Discussion about paying the invoice from A&C Land Development by drawing first from the Parking Lot fund with the remainder coming from Lavern Johnson Trust money, including what was left in savings. A motion was made to cash in one of the \$50,000 Laverne Johnson CD's to pay for the remaining balance and other approved Laverne Johnson Trust projects. 1st Matt Gardner, 2nd Kathy Keller – Motion carries
 2. Security Cameras will be outside. The quotes from Caves and WRT were between \$8,300-\$8,400. The remaining amount over what was approved at the

2020 annual meeting of \$5,000 will need to be approved by the congregation at the 2021 Annual Budget meeting

- Mutual Ministry Committee have had 4-5 members to volunteer and will be looking to have a few more
- NALC Ratification – A notice for annual meeting for executive notes will be provided at the annual meeting. The NALC constitution proposed amendments to be voted on can be found on the NALC website

New Business

- LCMC Three Days of Prayer is in its 9th year. There will be materials available and may have a prayer service on January 5th - 7th, 2021
- Streaming music compliance – will be looking at the type of agreement needed to utilize CCLI and Pastor Chuck will have more information for the December council meeting
- Technology Special Committee - Mission/Objective: The technology special committee will evaluate current technology resources such as: (program & equipment), use of social media platforms and will make recommendations to the council for better ways to use technology in the future. (Areas to be included but not limited to, FLC website, administration software, Social networking, audio/visual email, network etc.)

Motion was made to establish a Technology Special Committee as a continuing resolution with Pastor Chuck as committee chair along with either 3 or 5 additional committee members to be sought to complete the committee. 1st Matt Gardner, 2nd Kathy Keller – Motion carries
- Policy for Facebook page – what type of content, delegate a person who has authority of the content on our Facebook page – Will fall under Technology Special Committee
- Pastoral absence due to COVID was discussed
- Prayer Service, this would be a short devotion on the internet for members to feel connected, if they don't have access to computers members could listen in on their phones. Name will be changed to Coffee Hour Fellowship.
- Stephen's Ministry/Phone ministry – this is a nonprofit training for hospitals or shut ins. This is a formal program that allows the

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trained recipient to conduct communions. Pastor Chuck has stated there are approximately 2-3 people needing visitation. Pastor will be speaking with the congregation if there would be interest in moving forward with this program.

- Parade of Lights will be December 5th, 2020 at 6 p.m. downtown Washburn. Brent Petersen will be pulling FLC float.
- Start Thinking where we want 4th quarter benevolences to go:
 1. Relief Missions - \$250
 2. World Hunger - \$125
 3. US/Local Missions - \$375
 4. Global Missions - \$375

Transfer Requests:

Transfers In

None

Transfers Out

None

By Affirmation of Faith

None

Remove from Membership List:

None

Next Budget Meeting:
December 8, 2020 at 5 pm

Next Council Meeting:
December 8, 2020 at 7pm

Adjourn meeting
1st Matt Gardner, 2nd, Kathy Keller - Motion carried

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Leilani Olafson



VIDEO/PROJECTION SYSTEM

Update: At FLC we are immeasurably blessed by many members who generously provide for improvements, upgrades and new equipment for the betterment of the ministry through memorial donations. A memorial was given in remembrance of Vivian Merkel, by Tom Merkel and family to purchase new equipment. Following the final bids and agreement of council and Mr. Merkel, we are moving forward with the plan to add three cameras with a new video system. This will allow us to have High-Definition Video to live-stream to Facebook and also install a long-throw projector and screen. For the projection system, the screen case will be stained to match the woodwork and should blend in when not in use. The same company (Tricorne) that installed our sound system will be installing the new equipment. The three-camera video system we are expecting to be installed sometime in December and hope it will be complete by Christmas Eve so those who will be joining us online for services that evening will have an improved experience. The projector and screen will be installed sometime in January 2021. There will be many opportunities for us to use this new equipment. The best use of technology is when it does not become a distraction, but enhances and expands what we are able to do. What a blessing it will be to FLC. We would like to thank the Merkel family for their donation to improve ministry here.



Please have all committee reports for the annual meeting booklet to the church office by noon on January 7, 2021.

Drop them off at the office or email them to flc@westriv.com. Email is preferred.

Annual booklets will be ready to pickup one week before the annual meeting which is yet to be determined as of the printing of this newsletter.



Jeannette will be getting the 2021 offering envelopes ready to hopefully be put out by December 13th. If you have been receiving a set and do not wish to get them anymore, please let her know soon. Likewise, if you have not received envelopes and would like some, let Jeannette know.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH UPDATES REGARDING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2020

UPDATE regarding **Orders from ND Governor's Office and ND Dept. of Health:**

As a religious organization, the FLC executive committee has reviewed the subject COVID 19 related materials, and in prayerful consideration we are moving forward with the following guidelines:

Church Services- in-person

- Facemasks will be required in accordance with the Governor's/State Health Officer's orders
 - Masks must be worn when *entering* or *exiting* the sanctuary. Please bring your own mask if able, if you do not have one available, the church will continue to provide disposable masks barring any supply/availability issues.
 - This does not apply to those who are exempt from ND health order, such as those with medical conditions, children 4 years old and under (children under 2 years old should never wear face coverings), etc.
- Social distancing will be observed, by family unit (maintaining six feet apart).
 - Pews will remain in usual position to allow for the most space per family unit
- Circumstances where mandatory face coverings may be temporarily removed (from state health officer order part 6) that are applicable to our services
 - Pastor Chuck (or others using mics up front) while socially distant in leading the service
 - Musicians to play instruments (as long as they are able to be socially distance)
 - While a family unit is sitting in the pew during the service when social distancing is possible
- After the service has finished, please fellowship outside for adequate space for social distancing.

Sunday School/Confirmation/Other small group activities held at the church

- All small groups are still welcome to meet
- Facemasks will be required when attending any of these activities at the church
- To accommodate more families to come see the Sunday School Christmas Program safely, we will be splitting the program into two separate programs with 20 minutes in-between, more information on this coming soon!

All previous guidelines remain in place:

- Every family is encouraged to attend church, Sunday school, or other activities in the manner that they feel most comfortable (whether on-line or in person)
- Hand sanitizer is available at multiple locations within the church.
- No food is to be prepared in the kitchen at this time, and there will be no coffee hour.
- The FLC website (www.flcwashburn.com) and Facebook will be updated as we continue to monitor the situation and any new developments. Please check these sites for updates or concerns. If you do not see an answer to your concern, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Chuck or Jeannette.
- If you are joining online and would like the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please contact Pastor Chuck.

“May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.” Numbers 6:24-26

In Christ,

First Lutheran Church



**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 13th**

(Sunday School Christmas
Program Rehearsal
at 9:30 am)

“The Symbols of the Season”
Pre-K thru 2nd grade

“Twas the Night Before Christmas”
3rd thru 6th grades

Watch bulletin for times of each program.
They will be the same day but different times.



CONNECTIONS

We are looking at ways to better connect our members, especially those who are participating online with those who are participating in-person. Many have expressed how much they miss the fellowship time between the service and Sunday School. I have seen it first hand when I was finishing my internship how much the members who were participating in my senior project really missed having time to chat with one another back in March 2020. Today, whether someone is in isolation due to quarantine or it is felt due to other mitigating circumstances, we want to help you all connect with one-another during this time. Even though we are in uncharted territory, we can share in each other's burdens and find new ways to fill the void that has been created through social distancing. You are not alone. We are in this together!

We would love to see everyone able to meet face-to-face and spend time catching up. Until it is possible to do this safely for everyone, we would like to announce a new weekly time to do this. Starting on Sunday, December 6th at 7:00 pm, we will be holding our first **Coffee Hour Fellowship** time online for you to join to spend some time in Christian Fellowship with all who join.

Coffee Hour Fellowship:

- *Purpose:* This new opportunity is for you to CONNECT with your beloved friends of the church and is to offer a time and space where you are able to see people face-to-face, enjoy conversation, catch up with what has happened/is happening in your lives. This is a ministry of FLC that will enable everyone who meets to share joys and concerns, prayer requests and great Christian fellowship. Our hope is that this

gives many people opportunities to meet with fellow members who have been away and may feel isolated.

- *Who is this for?* Everyone! This is for anyone in the congregation and any visitors who want to chat (especially those in isolation or feeling isolated by what is happening in the world around us).
- *What is needed to join?* Technology needed: 1) a camera and 2) microphone and 3) an internet connection. Many devices would automatically work to connect such as laptops, smartphones, iPads/tablets). Desktop computers would need a webcam plugged into the computer.
- *Is it difficult to join?* Not at all. It is a one-click link that will open the program and meeting.
- *How will the time work?* Depending on the number of people joining, we will try to keep it so that everyone who would like to talk or share is able to speak. If we get more than 8-10 people joining, we can decide to split and share in smaller groups. All you need to do is come ready to see, listen and talk to your friends in Christ.
- **Schedule:** To start we scheduled 3 times to meet in December in-between the holidays, you are welcomed to come to all or just give it try.
 - ◇ December 6, at 7:00 pm ONLINE
 - ◇ December 13, at 7:00 pm ONLINE
 - ◇ December 20, at 7:00 pm ONLINE
- Have questions? or need help getting set up? -- do a trial call with Pastor Chuck before December 6!
- *How do you sign-up?* Please call Jeannette in the office or Pastor Chuck (c: 701-891-9443) or email pastorchuck@westriv.com and a link will be sent to you.

Bible Studies:

- Join existing Bible studies via ZOOM to join in the conversation. Please let us know in advance if you would be interested.

Please let us know if you would like to join us to find ways to stay CONNECTED during the upcoming weeks and months!



Our sympathy goes out to:

- ⇒ Dick & Jackie Olson and family on the death of Dick's sister, Patricia Hanson
- ⇒ Family of Pastor Owen Gaasedelen (previous pastor of FLC)

May God give them comfort in this time of sorrow.

The Silence

— AND THE —

SOUND

By Heather Sorenson

Presented by the

First Lutheran Church Choir

December 20, 2020

9:30 AM





Education Report

Stacy Boeshans

Hello everyone!

I have to say, for as crazy as 2020 has been, Sunday School is going great! We have the BEST teachers (you should see these people in action...they are amazing), and FANTASTIC KIDS! We have had a ton of fun together and you just can't beat a good connection with God amongst friends. The music, the message, the crafts and activities ~ so inspiring. Thank you to all who make this program tick!

Masks and Social Distancing

Masks are great! We are asking that the kids in grades 1 and up wear their masks to Sunday School for the time being. We also realize that some kids cannot tolerate masks. No worries! Just wear them if you can! Kids are not socially distanced during Sunday School, so we will do our best to be masked.

Christmas Program

In an effort to adhere to the recent Executive Orders from the Governor regarding social gatherings, we will be splitting our Christmas program into two parts. They will both be December 13th with practice at 9:30 am. Exact times of the program to be announced in the bulletin.

"The Symbols of the Season"
Pre-K thru 2nd grade

"Twas the Night Before Christmas"
3rd thru 6th grades

December Schedule

November 29 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
PRACTICE and PreK/K
Advent Party
December 6 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
PRACTICE
December 12 Possible Christmas Program
Practice – TBA
December 13 **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**
December 20 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
December 27 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL



FLCW NEWS

December, 2020

Executive Board:

LeAnn Richard
Donna Gunderson

Secretary:

Marlys Knell

Treasurer:

Wendy Miller

Action (Quilts, LWR Kits):

Gwen DeMontigny
Sylvia Thompson

Altar Guild:

Theresa Petersen

Audit:

Mary Ann Beeks

Camp of the Cross:

Peggy Moran

Community:

Kathy Keller
Meals on Wheels
Lions Bake Sale
Alli Sheldon
Goodies From the Heart

Good Cheer:

Mary Ann Beeks

Growth (Confirmation & Graduation Tea and 3rd Grade Bibles):

Janet Hanson
Margaret Rasmussen

Kitchen:

Arlene Schwarz
Kathy Keller
Linda Zeller

Kuchen, Lefse, Cards, etc.:

Donna Kroll
Marlys Knell

Library:

Sharon Chrest
Sande Wagner
Norma Petersen
Arlene Schwarz

Prayer Chain Chairmen:

Sande Wagner
Arlene Schwarz
Norma Petersen

Receptions/Bulletin Board**Decorating:**

Donna Gunderson

Service Secretary:

Sharon Chrest
Melissa Chrest

If you are willing to have your **cell phone number** listed in the Women's booklet, please let Jeannette know by December 11th.

If you know of someone who is **hospitalized or recovering at home**, please let Mary Ann Beeks know and she will send them a card.

Thank You to Judy Beaudry for volunteering to co-chair with Donna Gunderson and also to those who willingly agreed to be an officer, committee chair or work group chair.

The Executive Board met and made plans for 2021. We have some wonderful events scheduled contingent on COVID. Watch for your Women's booklet in your church mailbox.

UPCOMING EVENTS for January 2021

January

January 5-7

January 28 & 29

Meals on Wheels - Kathy Keller, Chairperson

Three Days of Prayer - more information to come

Quilting - 9:00 am



Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!

LeAnn Richard and Donna Gunderson co-chairs



QUILTING GROUP

No quilting in
December

Women's Bible Study



Deborah Bible Study

December 17, 2020

9:30 AM

at the church

Please study chapters 11 and 12 of the Bible Study.

This will be a potluck with no host.

Bring 6 or more Christmas cards that we will be mailing out to members of our congregation.



STEWARDSHIP

CENSE



"One mightier than I is coming after me.
I am not worthy to stoop and loosen
the thongs of his sandals."
Mark 1:7

In this season of Advent, John makes it clear to the people that he is only the messenger. He shares the good news of Jesus with others and we are called to do the same through our words and actions. As a Church together during Advent we are to point the way to Christ for others. They must be able to learn that Jesus is compassionate and loving even in these difficult times. We need people to see this in us, especially at Advent and Christmas. How do we do this? By our caring words and actions. We are to reach out to other people to let them know that indeed the mightier one has indeed come in the form of a baby so that we might turn our lives toward God. A tall order perhaps in a time when brother seems to be

fighting against brother and even families against families! Remembering to wear our masks and wash our hands and self-distance is wearing on all of us, our choice for president may not be what others wanted, but through it all we **must** remember who we are and all we do comes to us from **God who created us and His son who saved us!** So we must tell others that by God sending His Son, we know, and the world will know, that with Him **all things are possible** and His mercy endures forever!

God Bless each and everyone. May you have the joyous holiday season that we are meant to have and will have if we just believe and keep trusting that His righteousness endures forever!

Kathy Keller
Stewardship Chair

FIRST LUTHERAN YOUTH

By Laura Gardner



We are once again collecting donations and Christmas gifts for our friends in Pine Ridge. Any and all donations are welcome. Clothing, household, toys, board games, undergarments, toiletries, and winter gear. Coffee and powder laundry detergent are always welcome too as they serve as a form of currency on the reservation. We are especially looking for craft items as not only is it an outlet but it's also a way that the recipient can help support themselves.

Seed beads
Beads
Jump rings
Earing hooks
Elastic cord

Wire
Paints
Sketch pads

Donations can be put under the choir loft stairs. Please have donations to the church by December 16th. Thank you!

Upcoming Events:

December 2	6:15 Confirmation 7:15 FLY
December 9	6:15 Confirmation 7:15 FLY
December 16	6:15 Confirmation 7:15 FLY
December 23	NO Confirmation NO FLY
December 30	NO Confirmation NO FLY

If we don't teach our youth to follow Christ, the world will teach them not to.

DECEMBER WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

SUNDAY USHERS/GREETERS - 9:30 AM

6 - Chad & Kacy Hardt Family
13 - Carissa Klabunde
20 - Larry & Kathy Keller
27 - Donna Kroll & Sylvia Thompson

ACOLYTES

6 - Kole Albers
13 - Alex Retterath & Ryleigh Schmidt
20 - Maddie Jaeger
27 -

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READERS

6 - Matt Gardner
27 - Jeff Schmidt

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

1 - Melanie Beckman

ALTAR CARE

Brent & Theresa Petersen

COFFEE HOUR SERVERS

Will find people once we resume coffee hour.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

USHERS/GREETERS

4:30 PM - Brent Petersen Family
9:00 PM - Brent Petersen Family

ACOLYTES

4:30 PM - Kole Albers
9:00 PM - Carter Knutson & Justin Scheresky

READER

4:30 PM - Dewey Oster
9:00 PM - Jeff Schmidt

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

4:30 PM - Dewey Oster
9:00 PM - Jeff Schmidt

SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORS

Larry & Kathy Keller



As of November 22, 2020:

Our envelope giving is \$179,487.00 with a yearly budget of \$195,000.00.
\$5,070.33 ahead of budget.

The plate giving is \$4,010.25 with a yearly budget of \$8,500.00.
\$3,592.49 behind budget.

Thank you for your giving.



The following list is the service group scheduled for **January**. The group coordinators are Dean & Sonja Bergstedt. ***If your name is on this list, please check the calendar and see what Sunday(s) in January works best for you and give Dean or Sonja a call at 866-5881. If Dean or Sonja calls you, please prayerfully consider how you can help.*** If you don't see your name on this list, your month is coming. Please say yes, when called. Thank you for doing your part and participating in our worship service.

Mac & Judy Beaudry
Melanie Biesterfeld
Edith Bauer
Rebecca Duvall
Bob & Marlene Frank
Dennis & Gayle Johnson
Cindy Kuntz
Heidi & Clint Marshall
Cody Meadows
Patricia Nelson
Clay & Rani Price
Brad & Cathy Sheldon
Jon & Leslie Sheldon
Aaron & Alexis Solomonson
Dick & Kitty Tweeten
Rick & Laura Tweeten

CAMP OF THE CROSS NEWS

January 29-31	Men's Retreat
February 3-7	Crafting Retreat
March 10-14	Crafting Retreat
March 19-20	Spring Youth Bash – Grades 4-6
March 26-27	Spring Youth Bash – Grades 7-9

MEN'S WEEKEND – Come for a weekend full of worship, adventure, service, discussion and fellowship with some other guys trying to live out their own faith.

CRAFTING RETREATS – are popular, but are limited in numbers due to COVID-19, so register early to get in on all the fun – quilting, scrapbooking, making cards, needlepoint, paint, knit, crochet, whatever your craft, you are welcome to attend! There are short mealtime devotions, games, fun demonstrations, laughter, fellowship and good food!

Due to the pandemic, all the major fundraisers were cancelled this year. There was no Blue Jeans Ball, Prairie Lake Festival, Scandinavian Supper and no selling food on the street at the Dickens Festival. There was the annual Golf Outing in August and fun night at the Bismarck Larks. With the revised plans this year, 229 campers were welcomed on sight, COVID-19 FREE, in July and August!

Planning for the summer 2021 is in the works with a similar program and hopeful because this past summer was successful. Registration opens **December 1st!**

Something new was inviting the Garrison Elementary School out to camp for 3 days for outdoor education and fun. The school was split up by grades and each day a grouping of classes came out. It was refreshing for the staff and the school. The kids had a great time! The school was not able to have any field trips this past spring and fall. It was a success, so CCM will be offering it to other school districts this coming spring.

The year-round retreat ministry to children, youth and adults started up again the beginning of September. All the weekends through October, CCM has hosted and welcomed guests, but due to the rise in COVID in our state, most of our groups have cancelled through the new year.

TWICE BLESSED CAMPAIGN – It's a blessing when you give a gift to others. We're honored to be working with St. Joseph's Community Health Foundation to double your blessing during our TWICE BLESSED campaign. From November 15 through the end of December, the gifts you make to our organization are eligible for a match. Help us earn our 1-1 match by going to twiceblessednd.com to donate. All gifts welcome. The goal set for us this year is \$2,500 in matching funds which will mean \$5,000 for CCM! Credit Card fees will be paid for by the Foundation. If you would like to send a check, please consider sending it directly to the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation on our behalf to 308 2nd Ave SW, Minot, ND 58701. Thank you for your support.

Please continue to keep CCM in your prayers as everyone navigates this "new" normal and as an outdoor ministry. Despite the challenges of COVID, CCM is proud of how many people "Live out their Lives of Faith" by being a part of CCM ministry as donors, ministry participants like yourselves and prayer partners!

Call 701-337-2246, Camp of the Cross office, with questions. Go to www.campofthecross.com to register or for more information.

Thank you



Peggy Moran



Memorial Gifts Given to Special Funds (Sunday, November 1 to Sunday, November 22)



<u>Fund given to & by whom</u>	<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Fund given to & by whom</u>	<u>In Memory of</u>
Building Fund \$110.00 Steve & Peggy Wollmuth.....All FLC 2020 Saints Rick & LeAnn Richard Patricia Hanson		Music \$60.00 Arden & Sande Wagner.....Don Froelich Terry & Norma Petersen..... Pastor Owen Gaasedelen	
Camp of the Cross \$10.00 Mary Ann Beeks Pastor Owen Gaasedelen		Parking Lot Fund \$140.00 A.J. & Doddie Kuntz (3 times)..... Keith Kuntz Peggy Moran Patricia Hanson Larry & Kathy Keller..... Pastor Owen Gaasedelen Wes Sauer Harvey Sellan Sharon Chrest Patricia Hanson Wes Sauer Roland Koenig	
Decorating (Church) \$50.00 Alton & Brenda Krebsbach Don Schreiner Alton & Brenda Krebsbach Paul Hirschhorn Alton & Brenda Krebsbach Keith Moore Alton & Brenda Krebsbach Nick Reisenauer		Relief Missions \$0.00	
General Fund \$170.00 Elaine Carr Clay Carr Orlin & Ivadell Larson Brice Larson Brad & Cathy Sheldon... Pastor Owen Gaasedelen		Sunday School \$20.00 Dick & Barbara Brewster Pastor Owen Gaasedelen	
Global Missions \$0.00		US/Local Missions \$0.00	
Lutheran Social Services \$0.00		World Hunger \$0.00	
LWR \$35.00 John & Helen Samuelson Pastor Owen Gaasedelen Dewey & Wanda Oster.. Pastor Owen Gaasedelen		Worship \$5,000.00 Bergland Living Trust..... LuAnn Bergland	



PLEASE HELP FIRST LUTHERAN DECORATE OUR SANCTUARY AND PURCHASE THE OUTDOOR GREENERY

This year First Lutheran is filling the Poinsettia Tree with Poinsettias purchased from Frontier Floral. We are asking that you fill out this form, bring it to the church office and pay \$14.00 each to purchase a Poinsettia on the tree. There are a total of 30 Poinsettias to purchase. This way we will have enough of the correct size to fill the tree and will save you a trip to the store to buy one. After Christmas, if you purchased a Poinsettia, you are welcome to take one off the tree to take home with you. You are welcome to purchase one from some other place and fill out this form. That Poinsettia will then be setting someplace else throughout the church.

In order to have your gift recognized in the bulletin,
we need to have the form and money or your own
poinsettia or floral gift to the church **by NOON on
Tuesday, December 22nd.**

_____ Plant(s) or Floral Gift
(number of)

_____ Outdoor Greenery Donation - \$ Amount

Donor/Giver(s): _____

In Memory of: _____

In Thanksgiving for: _____

() **To the Glory of God**



The following people were prayed for by request at worship from Sunday, November 1 - Sunday, November 22. If we missed you or your loved ones, or your prayer requests, please accept our apologies.

Please let the church office know before you enter the hospital for planned surgeries, during any hospitalization, or about your illnesses and any special needs that we may pray for you.

- ♦ Patricia Hanson - Sister to Dick Olson
- ♦ Claire Boucher - Friend's of Aaron & Lexie Solomonson newborn
- ♦ Weldon & Eunice Wagner - Brother & Sister-in-law to Arden Wagner
- ♦ Jamie Baumann
- ♦ Abe Nichols - Cousin to Steph Mann
- ♦ James Tolbert
- ♦ Brad Taylor - Friend of Pastor Chuck
- ♦ Beryl Lonski - Brother-in-law to Mike & Sharon Nelson
- ♦ Taylor Gardner
- ♦ Virgil Wisdom
- ♦ Harold Holtz
- ♦ Elaine Renfrow - Mother to Lynette Sondrol

- ♦ Sandi Femling - Cousin to Melanie Beckman
- ♦ Laren Holznagel
- ♦ Harlow Tatum - Daughter of Brea (Gutknecht) Tatum
- ♦ Melisa Chrest
- ♦ Ruth Lund - Mother to Doddie Kuntz
- ♦ Derek Laning
- ♦ Jacklyne Carlson
- ♦ Amber Selken - Sister to Wendy Miller
- ♦ John Krebsbach - Brother to Peggy Wollmuth
- ♦ Arlo Omoth - Brother to Jeneen Loe
- ♦ Shirley Nelson
- ♦ Bob Miller
- ♦ Rodney Jaeger
- ♦ Family of Patricia Hanson on her death
- ♦ Family of Pastor Owen Gaasedelen on his death
- ♦ Maria - Niece to Peggy Wollmuth
- ♦ Ruby from Pine Ridge
- ♦ Glenn Weist
- ♦ Anna Belle
- ♦ Michelle Schweich - Niece to Arden & Sande Wagner
- ♦ Cindy Delmonico - Mother to Melissa Kugler
- ♦ Virgie Emineth
- ♦ Joel Joersz

First Lutheran December Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following First Lutheran members who have birthdays in December. We are sorry if we missed anyone this month. If your name has been missed, kindly report it to the church office so we can get your birth date for our records. Likewise, if we have printed your birthday and you do not wish to have it published in the newsletter, please let Jeannette know in the church office. We will remove it for next year. Thank you!



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Jack Carvell Devin Hanson Anthony Schauer Lynsey Schirado Misty Stockert	2 Alexis Berube Sienna Berube Melanie Malsam Seth Teigen	3 Taiton Carlson	4 Darrell Kinnischtzke	5
6	7 Paisley Lorentzen Zach Schenfisch Colbie Swanson	8 James Nordquist Jaelyn Schauer Sande Wagner	9 Julie Bentz Chuck Mann	10 Kathy Keller	11 Nicolette Borlaug	12 Jordan Swanson
13 Steven Kalliokoski Sage Philbrick Liam Solomonson	14 Sharon Chrest Donna Kroll Kirk Vollmuth Korey Winkler	15 David Nodsle	16 Jeff Leidholm	17 Carter Knutson	18 Cody Maier McKenzie Miller	19
20 Ted Doe	21 Theresa Petersen Hadley Wilson	22 Aubrey Holznagel Grant Wisdom	23 Vickie Lange	24 Stephanie Maier Laura Tweeten	25	26 Carol Doe Carson Richards
27 Kathy Kaiser Doug Thomas Pat Wolf	28 Garver Malsam	29 Sharon Chrest Emily Westrick	30 Howard Johnson	31 Caden Albers Jonathan Melvard		

DECEMBER

2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Mommy's Group	2 6:15 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM Bell Choir 7:15 PM FLY 7:30 PM Choir	3	4	5 1:00 PM Private Baptism
6 Second Sunday of Advent Holy Communion 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School Bible Study - Alexis Solomonson 7:00 PM Coffee Hour Fellowship (Online) AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	7 	8 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Mommy's Group 5:00 PM Budget Meeting 7:00 PM Council Meeting	9 6:15 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM Bell Choir 7:15 PM FLY 7:30 PM Choir	10	11	12 TBA Possible Christmas Program Practice
13 Third Sunday of Advent 9:30 AM Sunday School Christmas Program Practice Bible Study - Alexis Solomonson Watch Bulletin for times of S.S. Christmas Program 7:00 PM Coffee Hour Fellowship (Online) AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	14 10:00 AM Chat & Sew Quilting	15 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Mommy's Group	16 6:15 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM Bell Choir 7:15 PM FLY 7:30 PM Choir	17 9:30 AM Deborah Bible Study at the Church	18 Newsletter Deadline	19
20 Fourth Sunday of Advent 9:30 AM FLC Choir Cantata 7:00 PM Coffee Hour Fellowship (Online) AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	21	22 10:00 AM Mommy's Group Noon Poinsettia Deadline	23	24 Christmas Eve 4:30 PM & 9:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship w/Holy Communion	25 	26
27 First Sunday after Christmas 9:30 AM Worship 7:00 PM AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	28	29 10:00 AM Mommy's Group	30	31 New Year's Eve		

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***“Working hand in hand to
know Christ and make
Christ known through
Worship, Christian
Education, Evangelism,
Caring Ministries, and
Service.”***

Merry Christmas to:

December 2020 Newsletter



Why Advent?

Waiting can be hard, and not just for children.

But I do love Advent: this four-week time when the Christian church prepares for Christmas.

Maybe I like Advent so much because it involves active waiting, not thumb-twiddling. It is a gift the church offers the world, to be active (which isn't the same as busy) in ways that open our hearts — and the hearts we touch — to the true meaning of Christmas.

Mother Teresa said, “At this Christmas when Christ comes, will he find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern.”

When I take time during Advent to remember in prayer and with gifts of money and time those who have less food than I do, those who are lonely, those without a home; when I pause to share love with a child or an elder, or gratitude for a healthcare worker, pastor or teacher; when I wait for justice to replace oppression but, while I wait, find ways to work for that result ... the Spirit's warmth fills my waiting heart. I am ready to welcome Jesus.

—Heidi Mann