



# THE PARISH NEWS



December, 2022

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

*Pastor: Rev. Charles Mann*

**Phone:**

*701-462-3775 Church  
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**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 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM  
Wednesday 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM*

**OFFICE & NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL STAFF:**

*Jeannette Rost, Administrative Secretary*

**CUSTODIAN:**

*Jeff Schmidt*

**COORDINATOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES:**

*Melissa Rothe*

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

*Pastor Chuck Mann  
Matt Gardner, President  
Mac Beaudry, Vice President  
Janet Hanson, Secretary  
Aaron Solomonson, Treasurer  
\_\_\_\_\_, Interim Property Trustee  
Jeff Schmidt, Worship Deacon  
Sarah Kadrmass, Education Chair  
Melanie Beckman, Evangelism Deacon  
Julie Bentz, 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  
Postal permit #39.



*"<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing,  
<sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is  
the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Thanksgiving blessings to you and yours. The gathering around the table full of Turkey and all the fix-ins, time spent with family and friends and time away from our work places and school; at this time we are able to slow down and take the important time to remember what being thankful is all about.

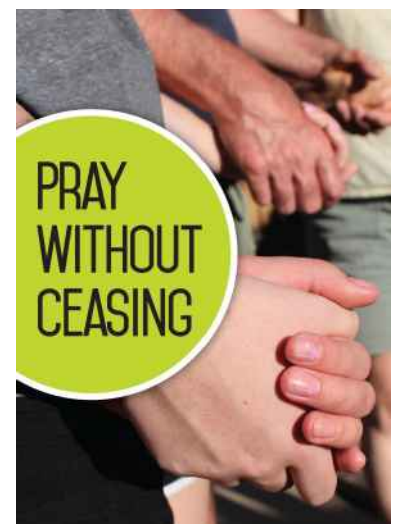
What does it mean to live our lives in this way? Do you see in the verse above what connects all of them? Paul is describing to the church in Thessalonica that they are to rejoice, to pray and to give thanks. These are especially important in times when this rhythm of thankfulness is built into our year. Perhaps, celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas bring this feeling of Joy and Gratitude to the forefront of our minds. But, back to the question...What connects these actions together? We see that we are to rejoice *always*. Pray *without ceasing*. Give thanks in *all circumstances*. What Paul is describing is a state of being for the Christian that is unlike anyone else as we are to rely, lean and trust him above all things.

As we move through the season of Advent, the theme of the season is one of preparation: waiting and watching. Throughout this new church year, remember to slow down not only in preparation for the birth of Jesus, also continue the always rejoicing, praying without ceasing, and being thankful for what God has blessed us with every single day.

Check out the dates of LCMC's 11<sup>th</sup> annual 3 days of prayer and join us in praying for all.

To God be the Glory!

In Christ,  
Pastor Chuck





The focus of this year's prayer will be the following:

January 3

Day One: For Our Congregations and Leaders

January 4

Day Two: For Those Who Don't Yet Know Jesus as Lord and Savior, and For the Prodigals

January 6

Day Three: For Our International Partners

We would like to invite everyone to join us in the LCMC 11th Annual Three Days of Prayer that will take place on January 3, 4, 5. Prayer is a gift that God has given to us as a means to approach the throne of grace with confidence—like that of a child coming to her parents sharing concern, victories, defeats and every part of life.

We will be encouraging all those who participate to pray wherever they are and set aside some time each day (whether 15 minutes or more) or short time each hour throughout the day. The church will also be open from 9 am to 3 pm for private prayer. There will be a short booklet available in the Narthex for anyone who would like to use a prayer resource by December 24.

There will be a prayer service offered on **Thursday, January, 5, 2023 at 7:00 pm** at the church for us to join together as the Church and pray with our LCMC brothers and sisters in Christ.



**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 \$16.00 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 Wednesday, December 21st.**

**In Memory of:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**In Thanksgiving for:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Plant(s) or Floral Gift  
(number of)

\_\_\_\_\_ Outdoor Greenery Donation - \$ Amount

**Donor/Giver(s):**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

( ) **To the Glory of God**





# Christmas DREAMS

**By Joseph M. Martin and Heather Sorenson  
Presented by FLC Choir**

**Sunday, December 11, 2022  
9:30 AM**



**CONFIRMATION TEA - OCTOBER 29, 2022**  
**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY - OCTOBER 30, 2022**







Pictured l to r: Mya Nelson, Ryleigh Schmidt, Maeleigh Baumann, Kole Albers & Pastor Chuck Mann

**CHURCH COUNCIL DID NOT MEET IN NOVEMBER DUE TO THE SNOW STORM. NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 15, 2022 AT 6:30 PM.**

## **YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS**

Melissa Rothe - Coordinator of Student Ministries  
[fly@westriv.com](mailto:fly@westriv.com)



Hello everyone,

**Mission Trip:** We are going to Alamosa, CO on June 17-24<sup>th</sup>. The cost will be \$550 per person. If you haven't signed up for the trip and are interested, please let me know ASAP. **We are looking for at least one male chaperone to join us on the mission trip. If you are interested, please let me know!** More details about the trip can be found at <https://youthworks.com/trips/alamosa-co/>.

**Fundraisers:** We are going to be kicking off several fundraisers as the new year starts. The fundraisers will start with a 100-envelope wall. Anyone can take an envelope, fill the envelope with the dollar amount listed on it, and return it to the donation box. We will also be serving a Lenten meal, Easter morning brunch, and many other opportunities. Thank you in advance to everyone who supports the youth!

Please keep the youth in your prayers!

### **Dates to Note:**

December 7<sup>th</sup> during lunch: **Pizza Day**

December 7<sup>th</sup>: No youth group

Every week:

- Wednesday nights: Youth Group, 8 pm
- Sunday mornings: Youth group, 10:45 am

### **Pray for the Youth:**

God and Father, you are the divine companion. We ask you to continue to be with young people as they experience sorrow and joy, loneliness and friendship. Guide and protect them from the dangers that are present in our world today. Gracious God, give to them and their families the courage to follow you as they journey through life. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, may they experience your loving care and mercy. We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord, Amen.



First Lutheran Church

## **CHILDREN'S LIBRARY**

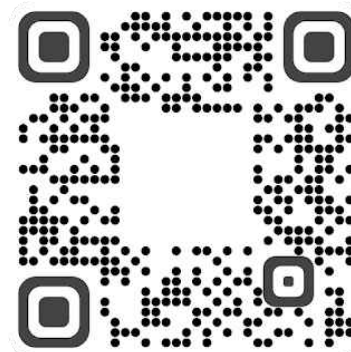
Dear Members of First Lutheran Church,

We all know that books are important for kids. There's no question about that. But the kind of books we give our children access to is important as well!

We are excited to announce that there will be a Children's Library here at First Lutheran Church to be located in the Nursery behind the Sanctuary. We are hoping to be able to share the love of Jesus and give children a safe place to go and explore His love. There is a Wish List tree located in the lobby with books that we are hoping, with your help, to fill the shelves within the upcoming months. If you feel the need or desire to help us with this project, please feel free to grab a leaf off of the tree and you may purchase the book from the Amazon code on the back of the leaf or anywhere else you can find it! There will be a donation basket located in the nursery for incoming books. If you have any gently used books that you would like to donate, please feel free to place them in the basket!

Thank you for helping our children learn and grow in God!

Please scan with your phone to see  
Our Amazon Wish List:



Any questions please contact  
Kacy Hardt at [\(701\)351-0742](tel:(701)351-0742).





## Education Report

Sarah Kadrmas



# Upcoming Sunday School Events

- 11/20: Christmas program practice begins. Program Info sent home with students
- 12/18: Pre-k and Kindergarten Christmas Program during church service
- 12/18: 1st-6th grade Christmas Program 6:30 pm Dessert to follow

@FLCWasburn

## Raising Hope Ministry

Kellie Sheldon

“He was despised and rejected by men,  
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.”  
Isaiah 53:3

The Holidays will be an emotional time for me with the absence of our baby boy Isaac. I have done a lot of wrestling with God over the past year. This process is so intimate and I feel that God is glorified when we turn to him and ask him the hard questions. Find your people who will walk alongside you as you wrestle with your faith. God has placed these people in your life to be there for support and guidance. Pray, read the bible, be honest, seek counsel. The enemy is waiting to strike at the weakest moments and take

advantage of the doubt that weighs us down. Engage with God and grip tightly to his word. Take all the time you need to heal. This is your journey and only you know what is best for you. I will cry with you and grieve with you because I know how strong a Mother's love is.

I pray for peace for all who are wrestling with God this Holiday season. Cling to His word and seek him always. May Jesus be enough this Holiday season.

Raising Hope will be meeting on Saturday, December 10th @ 10:00 am.



# MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023 FLC ANNUAL MEETING

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## First Lutheran Church Women Executive Board Meetings October 11 & 20, 2022

Members Present: Arlene Schwarz, Donna Gunderson, Janet Hanson, Judy Beaudry, LeAnn Richard, Leilani Olafson, Margaret Rasmussen by phone, Marlys Knell, and Pastor Chuck.

Meeting opened with devotions given by Judy.

Treasurer's Report: Balance on hand is \$4,874.03.

Old Business –  
~ N/A

New Business –  
~ Main objective of the meetings was to plan the FLCW activities for 2023, however first discussion was held on –

- The current number of work groups and if the number of work groups should be changed from five to three. Some groups were having difficulty in finding workers and individuals to bring food. It was decided to leave the number of work groups as is. It was mentioned that if problems existed in finding workers and/or food, that there is a miscellaneous work group list to be used in these occasions. There was also discussion on including men in helping to serve funerals. The dollar amount for funerals needs to be increased due to increased cost of food and paper products. A motion was made and seconded to increase the three funeral serving suggestions by \$0.50. Motion carried.
- There are twenty 80-inch round tablecloths that need replacing with new white ones. The long tablecloths do not need replacing currently. Leilani will check into this.

- Fall Harvest Festival Service is on November 13<sup>th</sup> with special music by Taylor Helgeson. Readers and ushers have been found.
- Sunday morning coffee hour cookie donations do not cover expense of buying the cookies. Discussion ensued about bringing this to council to see if it could be included in their budget. A motion was made and seconded that goodies on Sunday be a budgeted item. Motion carried.
- The white stove in kitchen needing replacement. Motion was made and seconded that this also be brought to the council for either repair or replacing. Motion carried. Kitchen Committee will check into the cost of a new stove and the stove issues.
- Several additional activity ideas included making cookies and taking them to the County Jail with a Bible verse attached; Thanksgiving and Christmas card making the afternoon of the Fall Harvest Festival and a Christmas tree tour. On November 6<sup>th</sup> a bluegrass concert will be held.
- ~ On October 20<sup>th</sup> FLCW 2023 activities planning discussion took place.
  - It was additionally mentioned that the council will take under consideration paying for snacks and new stoves or fixing of stoves.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectively submitted,  
Marlys Knell  
FLCW Secretary



# FLCW NEWS

December, 2022

**Executive Board:**

Judy Beaudry  
Leilani Olafson

**Secretary:****Treasurer:**

LeAnn Richard

**Action (Quilts, LWR Kits):**

Gwen DeMontigny  
Marlys Knell

**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

**Lefse, Cards, etc.:**

Donna Kroll  
Marlys Knell

**Library:**

Sharon Chrest  
Sande Wagner  
Norma Petersen  
Arlene Schwarz

**Prayer Chain Chairmen:**

First Lutheran Church  
Pastor Chuck Mann  
Jeannette Rost

**Receptions/Bulletin Board Decorating:**

Donna Gunderson

**Service Secretary:**

Sharon Chrest  
Donna Gunderson

**JOB WELL DONE, LADIES.** The Harvest Festival was a beautiful affair for the Church. So many women stepped forward in many roles to make the day special. The Church was dressed perfectly, the service was heartwarming with Taylor Helgeson giving us her very special music. Thank you to Pastor Chuck for his guidance and care and thank you to all who attended the Potluck following the service. Leilani was right when she said it would be YUMMY.

At 3 pm on Sunday, November 13th, twenty-one ladies gathered for a card making session. What a great time and we all found our creative side along with our ability to chat. Again, Leilani made a snack buffet that was YUMMY. Cheesecake too. Check the pictures in the Newsletter.

Thank you to all who contributed to the FLCW basket. Those funds help the group donate to various church projects and organizations.

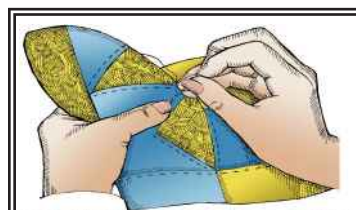
December is a very busy month with activities each Sunday leading up to Christmas Day. Don't miss the Advent Breakfast on Saturday, December 3rd, at 9:30 am. Invite others, all are welcome. The Christmas Cantata, December 11th, promises a meaningful morning and then the Sunday School will host two programs. The "LITTLES", Pre-k & K, are during the service and the "BIGS", grades 1-6, perform at 6:30 pm on December 18th.

**DECEMBER**

- 3 FLCW Advent Breakfast - 9:30 AM - Work Group 2 serves "The Bells of Christmas" is the theme
- 11 FLC Choir Cantata during worship - 9:30 AM - Work Group 3 serves coffee hour
- 18 The "LITTLES" Sunday School Program during regular church service followed by a Cookie Party and the "BIGS" program at 6:30 pm, followed by Kid Friendly Snacks to follow in the fellowship hall



Judy Beaudry & Leilani Olafson, Co-chairs

**MAKE ATTENDING CHURCH INTENTIONAL****QUILTING GROUP**

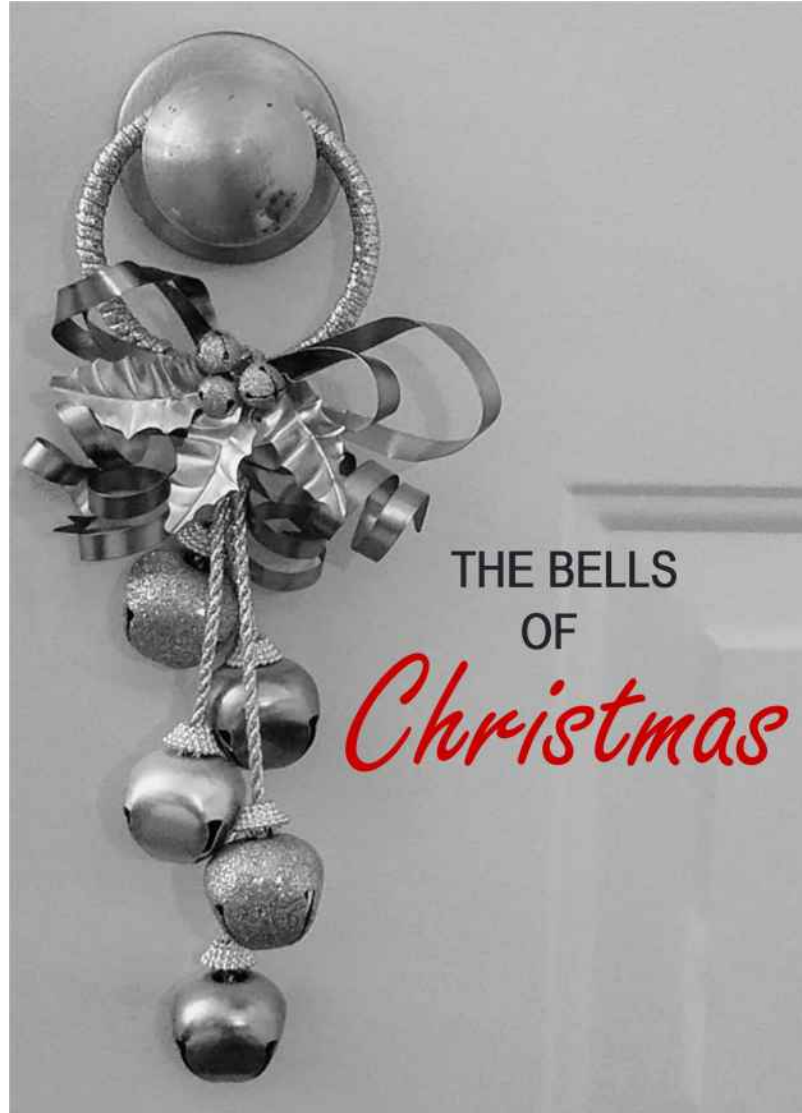
No quilting in November or December

**Women's Bible Study**

**Deborah Bible Study**  
December 15 - 9:30 AM  
at the church  
Christmas Breakfast  
Potluck  
Ivadell Larson &  
Arlene Schwarz Host

**Please let your hostess know whether or not you will be attending each month.**

No lesson in December



**ADVENT BREAKFAST**

**December 3, 2022**

**9:30 AM**



# CARD MAKING - NOVEMBER 13, 2022





# THANK YOU

- ☺ Thank you Linda Zeller and Linda Wohlk for helping tape the November newsletter for mailing.
- ☺ Thank you Nate Fiedler, Stacy Boeshans, Dwight Rasmussen and Melissa Rothe for taking on the responsibility of making sure we had YouTube Live this past month.
- ☺ Thank you to the following who helped out with the November Pizza Day: LeAnn Richard, Maybell Job, Sharon Chrest, Arden Wagner, Theresa Petersen, Brenda Suckow, Janet Hanson, Claudette Ness and Pastor Chuck & Steph. A total of 60 youth were served.
- ☺ Thank you Dennis & Gayle Johnson, Dwight & Margaret Rasmussen, Donna Kroll & Linda Wohlk for serving meals to the confirmation youth and helpers. Thank you Don & Teri Brewster for your effort with making a meal and then not being able to serve it due to class being cancelled because of weather.
- ☺ Thank you Jackie Olson for supply the paper products for the confirmation meals.
- ☺ Thanks to all that have prayed and offered support for me and Marlene during my illness this year. I have finished chemo treatments and am doing immunotherapy now. Mornings are rough and I have not made it to church for some time now. God has blessed me with wonderful doctors, friends, and brothers and sisters in Christ.

Bob Frank

- ☺ Thank you everyone so much for helping fill Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. With your help and the help of the Sunday school, we filled a total of 111 boxes.







## DECEMBER WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

### SUNDAY USHERS/GREETERS - 9:30 AM

4 - Linda Wohlk & Margaret Rasmussen  
11 - Gary & Cindy Thiel  
18 - Brandon & Haley Anderson  
25 - Rick Richard & Eric Olafson

### ACOLYTES

4 - Noah Jaeger & Ava Schmidt  
11 - Noah Holznagel & Haylie Bentz  
18 - Kesia Boeshans & Brady Nelson  
25 -

### SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READERS

4 - Peggy Wollmuth  
11 - Cantata  
18 - Jeff Schmidt  
25 - Dewey Oster

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

4 - Peggy Wollmuth, Randy & Gwen Hall  
18 - Jeff Schmidt, Brent Petersen  
Dwight Rasmussen  
25 - Dewey Oster, Rick Richard

### ALTAR CARE

Theresa Petersen

### VIRTUAL SERVICE TECHS

4 - Dwight Rasmussen  
11 - Matt Gardner  
18 - Stacy Boeshans  
24 - 4:30 PM -  
9:00 PM -  
25 -

### COFFEE HOUR SERVERS

4 - Dwight & Margaret Rasmussen  
11 - FLCW Work Group 3  
18 - Rhonda Johnson & Mike Aull  
25 - No Coffee Hour

### CHRISTMAS EVE - DECEMBER 24

#### 4:30 PM

#### USHERS/GREETERS

Russ Leidholm & Tom Merkel

#### ACOLYTES

#### SCRIPTURE READER

Leilani Olafson

#### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Brad & Cathy Sheldon, Joe Sheldon

#### 9:00 PM

#### USHERS/GREETERS

Brent Petersen Family

#### ACOLYTES

Ava Schmidt

#### SCRIPTURE READER

Jeff Schmidt

#### COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Jeff Schmidt

#### SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORS

Dwight & Margaret Rasmussen



The following list is the service group scheduled for **January**. The group coordinators are **Terry & Donna Gunderson**. ***If your name is on this list, please check the calendar and see what Sunday(s) service in January works best for you and give Terry or Donna a call at 462-8335. If Terry or Donna 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.

David Beckman  
Nadine Berger  
Delwin & Diane Blumhagen  
Dan Chrest  
Sharon Chrest  
Don Ellwein  
Joan Holznagel  
Jeneen Loe  
Hunter Philbrick  
Toby & Bonnie Placek  
AJ & Kara Richards  
Glenda Scholl  
Justin & Tammy Sheldon  
George & Val Swanson  
Mike Thyberg  
Candace Wieger  
Bill & Besi Wilson



## WORSHIP REPORT

Jeff Schmidt - 701-202-1211

When a scheduled swap is made and it is one or more months out, contact Jeff or Jeannette to insure the newsletter and bulletin are accurate. **DO NOT** call about swap until the month prior to service date. I am always willing to fill in when in a difficult position, as are a host of others.

If you alone are positioned on a first or third Sunday, both duties are assigned to you.

R = Reader; C = Communion Assistant

### January

- 1 Joe Sheldon (R & C)  
Randy & Gwen Hall (C)
- 8 Alli Sheldon (R)
- 15 Randy Hanson (R & C)  
Janet Hanson & Jeff Schmidt (C)
- 22 Jeff Schmidt (R)
- 29 Sunday School (R)

### February

- 5 Alexis Solomonson (R & C)  
Melanie Beckman & Jeff Schmidt (C)
- 12 Donna Sommer (R)
- 19 Peggy Wollmuth (R & C)  
Val Swanson & Emily Retterath (C)
- 22 Ash Wednesday  
Jeff Schmidt (R & C)  
Drew Petersen & Rick Richard (C)
- 26 Sunday School (R)

### March

- 1 Jeff Schmidt
- 5 Jeff Schmidt (R & C)  
Janet Hanson & Alli Sheldon (C)
- 8 Peggy Moran (R)
- 12 Tyge Sheldon (R)
- 15 Jeff Schmidt
- 19 Donna Sommer (R)  
Melanie Beckman & Sharon Nelson (C)
- 22 Brad Sheldon (R)
- 26 Sunday School (R)
- 29 Haley Anderson (R)

### CAFÉ TEAMS SERVING WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS TO CONFIRMATION YOUTH AND HELPERS

November 30 - George & Val Swanson  
December 7 - Chris & Nicole Albers  
December 14 - Janet Hanson & Claudette Ness  
December 21 & 28 - No Class  
January 4 - Chris & Nicole Albers  
January 11 - Kim & Brenda Ankenbauer  
January 18 - Peggy Moran & Gwen DeMontigny  
January 25 - Brent & Theresa Petersen



### Coffee Hour Servers

A signup sheet is on the table in the narthex for serving coffee hour on Sunday mornings. Please check it out and sign up for an open Sunday.



If you are interested in being a virtual service tech, please talk to Pastor Chuck or Matt Gardner. We could use another 1-3 people.

# 10 Warning Signs Of Alzheimer's



## Class Description

Alzheimer's and other dementias cause changes in memory, thinking and behavior that interfere with daily life. Join us to learn about 10 common warning signs and what to watch for in yourself and others.

### The one-hour program covers

- Typical age-related changes.
- Common warning signs of Alzheimer's.
- How to approach someone about memory concerns.
- Early detection, the benefits of a diagnosis and the diagnostic process.
- Alzheimer's Association resources

## Upcoming Class

**Tuesday, Dec. 6th 2022**

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

### Where

First Lutheran Church  
709 5th Ave, Washburn, ND 58577

Please pre-register: <https://tinyurl.com/2wh4ybbk> or 1.800.272.3900



This month and the next three months there will be pages on stewardship from “The Indescribable Joy of Giving”.



## CHAPTER THREE

# NURTURING GENEROSITY

THE REV. TAYLOR STEMPNIAK

**M**y husband, Luke, has a gift for gift giving. I can't send the man to the grocery store without him coming home with a bouquet of flowers. He's spent a tremendous amount of time figuring out my taste in just about everything. Whether it be food, candy, art or jewelry, he tends to know exactly what I'll love. My appreciation for his generosity and consideration truly knows no bounds, but throughout our relationship, we've run into a bit of a problem. I'm grateful for gifts, and I know that they are undoubtedly signs of his love, but when I think about love, I don't think of wrapping paper or fresh cut flowers. I think about words. More than anything, I need profession and affirmation. I need proclamations. “Yes! I love you!” and “Of course! I'm proud of you!” and “Absolutely! I enjoyed spending time with you!” and so on. You get the idea.

You can see where the conflict may pop up. For all that I desired words, I was too worried about sounding ungrateful to express what I needed. When I finally just confessed that I needed him to say nice things to me, he was baffled. We had a couple of conversations about it, he explained that he put much more stock in actions than in words, and I made him take the Love Languages Quiz. After we talked, he snuck in “I love you” more often in our day-to-day life, but as we continued to grow closer to one another and mature, things changed more drastically. Along with gifts, suddenly I was getting cards with messages written inside. Some of the messages were sweet, some were silly, but all of them were full of love. He recognized what I needed, and even though it came unnaturally at first, he was bound and determined to use his gifts (“Giving a card counts as a present,” he has remarked) to help

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### 1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-28

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil. Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. Brothers, pray for us. Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

### HEBREWS 10:23-25

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

me feel exactly how important he finds our relationship.

Relationships — romantic, platonic, familial or otherwise — are the building blocks of community, and how we cultivate healthy relationships with the people in our lives teaches us a lot about what it looks like to create healthy communities. For a marriage or friendship or even just society as a whole to function, there has to exist a willingness to give to one another. To be clear, I'm not just talking about picking up the tab for lunch or selecting the perfect box of Valentine's Day chocolates. Just the very act of being in relationship is an act of giving. We give of ourselves. We take time to listen, to encourage, to communicate and to rejoice.

Healthy relationships and communities look like the kind of community Paul describes in his letter to the Thessalonians. God created us with intentionality so that we would dwell alongside each other, not only learning from each other's gifts but also encouraging each other's gifts. We show gratitude for those who care for us, and, just as importantly, we learn how to care for our neighbors the same way. Being in relationship with one another provokes us to think about our gifts in a new light and with new creativity. My husband never would've considered the way his gift for gift-giving could help fulfill my longing for words of affirmation, but the stack of cards he's given me has become one of my most treasured possessions. When we spend time with one another and develop empathy for one another, a desire to care and an outpouring of generosity are the natural results.

But this isn't a hollow generosity; it is a generosity that considers the needs and desires

of those we give to. We don't keep insisting on chocolates and flowers when our loved one needs words of comfort and reassurance. We take time to invest in our relationships and communities, so that we may be still and listen to the needs and desires of those around us. A spirit of generosity grows from spending time with one another, sharing burdens and joys, and from a heart willing to listen to the honest needs and wants of our loved ones, communities, and our church.

The necessity of relationships and the generosity that forms there is modeled for us on the very first pages of scripture, where our Lord dwells with Adam and Eve in the garden. Our God is not distant but present alongside his beloved creation. Moreover, our Lord responds with tremendous mercy and giving, clothing the naked Adam and Eve even after they have fallen into sin, recognizing their desire for dignity, even amid pain and suffering. Our Lord continues to show us the importance of relationships, taking on flesh and dwelling amongst us as the one we call Immanuel, "God with us." How could we ever seek to live separately from one another? God himself became human and dwelled alongside his friends through weddings and fishing trips and grief-stricken funerals. Moreover, the generosity that Christ shows our community extends past turning water into wine and healing the sick — it is a generosity that is willing to give of itself so that we may see that grace is an outpouring of God's own sacrificial love. Filled with this love, and in relation with the Holy Spirit, we are freed to go into our communities, equipped with the spiritual gifts the Lord has freely given us, and think creatively, mercifully and joyfully about how God's generosity may overflow onto all we meet.

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## ENGAGE

1. How can your spiritual gifts be used to care for your neighbor? How can your neighbors' spiritual gifts be used to care for you or your neighbor?
2. Are you willing to think creatively about the gifts and resources the Lord has given you? What is one way to show generosity that you've never shared before?
3. How might prayer equip you and your community to live generously?
4. How does generosity — or lack thereof — affect the sustainability of relationships? Of communities? Of the church?

**God of mercy and grace, you have taken delight in pouring out love and blessings upon your people. Help us to recognize the needs of our communities and the ways that you have uniquely equipped us to give of ourselves for the sake of our neighbor. Reorient our hearts towards a spirit of generosity, grace, and love. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**



# CAMP OF THE CROSS NEWS

December 2-3 Dickens Guest House  
December 9-10 Dickens Guest House

January 18-22 Crafting Weekend  
January 27-29 Men's Weekend

February 22-26 Crafting Weekend

March 10-11 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Spring Bash  
March 15-19 Crafting Weekend  
March 24-25 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Grade Spring Bash

\* CRAFTING WEEKENDS – Options: 2 nights, 3 nights & 4 nights. Crafting Retreats continue to be popular, so register early to get in on all the fun! Join scrapbookers, stampers, quilters, card-makers, knitters, beaders, rosemallers, and many more for this popular weekend to get away and do what you love to do!

\* SCANDINAVIAN SUPPER – What a quaint setting to kick off the holiday season with a delicious meal. Hope those who attended enjoyed themselves!

\* DICKENS GUEST HOUSE – The Dickens Festival in Garrison transports us to a Victorian English town complete with street vendors, high tea, and English Market and so much more. Camp of the Cross gives you the perfect place to stay during the occasion!

\* 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 the 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](http://twiceblessednd.com) to donate. All gifts are welcome. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave SW, Minot, ND 58701, noting it is for CCM on the memo line of the check. Thank you for your support.

\* MEN'S WEEKEND – Hang out with other men who are in the same boat trying to live a life that is reflective of God's character. Worship, discussion, great meals, and overall fun just being a guy.

\* HARVEST FOR THE CAMP – Thank you to those who supported this activity. Everything donated helps to keep expenses down.

We continue to look for a board member to represent an LCMC congregation. For the last while, board meetings have been on ZOOM, with only one in person meeting at the camp a year. Besides the board meetings, board members are assigned to committees and most of the time they have been on ZOOM as well. Let Peggy Moran know if you would be interested in being on the Board of Directors.

Thank you to EVERYONE for continuing to support OUR Camp of the Cross, whether it be through a special appeal or on a regular basis!

Call 701-337-2246, Camp of the Cross office, for questions. Go to [www.campofthecross.com](http://www.campofthecross.com) to register or for more information.

Thank you  
Peggy Moran



Theologian Halford Luccock once saw a shopper “who looked like an animated Christmas tree with packages dangling from every limb.” When he retrieved some dropped bags, she grumbled that Christmas “turns everything upside down.” Luccock replied, “That is just what it was made for!”

He explained: Christmas

is a story about a baby, and that is a baby's chief business, turning things upside down. ... A baby in a family divides time into two eras, just as Christmas does. There is B.C., which means 'before child,' and A.D., which means 'after deluge.'”

When God became flesh, the lowly, last, least and lost were exalted, added Luccock. As a result, “the locked-up treasures of kindness and sympathy come from the inside of the heart, where they are often kept imprisoned, to the outside of actual expression in deed and word.” The Christ-child “enables all [people] to get at the best treasures of their lives and offer them for use.”



## Memorial Gifts Given to Special Funds (Sunday, October 30 to Sunday, November 20)



<u>Fund given to &amp; by whom</u>	<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Fund given to &amp; by whom</u>	<u>In Memory of</u>
<b>Building Fund</b> .....\$20.00 Chris & Melanie Beckman .....	Mark Gradin	<b>Music</b> ..... \$20.00 Arden & Sande Wagner .....	Jack Eichhorst
<b>Camp of the Cross</b> .....\$0.00		<b>Parking Lot Fund</b> ..... \$0.00	
<b>Decorating (Church)</b> .....\$0.00		<b>Pizza Day</b> ..... \$185.00 The following are all in memory of Jack Eichhorst: Randy & Janet Hanson Kris & Melanie Beckman Rick & LeAnn Richard Mary Ann Beeks Terry & Norma Petersen	
<b>General Fund</b> .....\$642.33 Dick & Carla Bickert .....	Jim Peterson Elaine Carr .....	<b>Relief Missions</b> ..... \$0.00	
Elaine Carr .....	Clay Carr Harry & Lorene Larson Jody & Nicole Brown .....	<b>Shoebox Postage</b> Steve & Peggy Wollmuth .....	Carolyn Aaseth
Dennis & Donna Kroll.....	Tate Brown Claudette Ness .....	<b>Sunday School</b> ..... \$15.00 Peggy Moran .....	Jack Eichhorst
Carolyn Aaseth Family .....	Carolyn Aaseth	<b>Super Sunday Supper</b> ..... \$20.00 Steve & Peggy Wollmuth .....	Jack Eichhorst
The following are all in memory of Jack Eichhorst: John & Helen Samuelson Wes Sauer Mac & Judy Beaudry Dick & Carla Bickert Claudette Ness Sharon Chrest		<b>US/Local Missions</b> ..... \$0.00	
<b>Global Missions</b> .....\$0.00		<b>VBS</b> ..... \$0.00	
<b>LWR</b> .....\$65.00 Dewey & Wanda Oster.....	Jim Peterson Dewey & Wanda Oster.....	<b>World Hunger</b> ..... \$0.00	
Sylvia Thompson.....	Mark Gradin Jack Eichhorst	<b>Worship</b> ..... \$0.00	



Our sympathy goes out to:  
 ⇒ Owen & Kim Price and Bob Aaseth and families on the death of Kim & Bob's mother, Carolyn Aaseth.  
 ⇒ Family of Pastor Jack Eichhorst on his death.  
 ⇒ Family of Kay Gaasedelen on her death

May God give them comfort in this time of sorrow.



As of November 20, 2022:

Our envelope giving is \$213,096.70 with a yearly budget of \$200,000.00.  
\$35,318.99 ahead of budget.

The plate giving is \$6,289.35 with a yearly budget of \$8,500.00.  
\$1,266.17 behind budget.

Thank you for your giving.





COMMEMORATION  
of the  
**FAITHFUL  
DEPARTED**

The following First Lutheran members and friends of the congregation who have entered into eternal life this past year were remembered on All Saints' Sunday, November 6:

Gary Millett, Ray Hager, Dougless Hultberg, Curtis Lechner, Mary Loing, Ronald Rasmussen, Amanda Thyberg, Chuck Sheldon, Mardella Aanderud, Tate Brown, William Braun, Frank Fodera, James Peterson, Evener Bettger, Harry & Lorene Larson and Jack Eichhorst

**CAMP OF THE CROSS  
BOARD MEMBER NEEDED**

Camp of the Cross is in need of a board member to represent the LCMC congregations for the next 2 years. The camp is in a time of transition and change. Most meetings are being held via ZOOM. If you have questions regarding Camp of the Cross please talk to Peggy Moran.

**Christmas Crackups**

Enjoy these kid-friendly holiday jokes!

- What did Adam say the day before Christmas? *It's Christmas, Eve!*
- What does the gingerbread man put on his bed? *Cookie Sheets*
- What do you sing at a snowman's birthday party? *"Freeze a jolly good fellow!"*
- What is a Christmas tree's favorite candy? *Ornamints.*
- What goes "Oh, Oh, Oh"? *Santa walking backward.*
- Why did Rudolph get a bad report card? *Because he went down in history.*
- What is an elf's favorite kind of music? *Wrap music!*
- How much did Santa pay for his sleigh? *Nothing, It was on the house!*
- What kind of photos do Santa's helpers take? *Elfies.*

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



The following people were prayed for by request at worship from Sunday, October 30 - Sunday, November 20. 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.***

- ◆ Family of Kay Gaasedelen on her death
- ◆ Jill Senftner
- ◆ Family of Carolyn Aaseth on her death
- ◆ Family of Jack Eichhorst on his death
- ◆ Louis Holznagel
- ◆ Alton Krebsbach
- ◆ Doug Price - Father to Clay Price
- ◆ Our Pastor and Confirmands
- ◆ Jeff Wretling - Brother-in-law to Kristi Jaeger
- ◆ Terri Leidholm
- ◆ Sylvia Enockson - Grandma to Alexis Solomonson
- ◆ Harold & Bonnie Holtz
- ◆ Bob Frank
- ◆ Mac Beaudry
- ◆ William Retterath - Father to Luke Retterath
- ◆ Gay Larsen - Sister to Gayle Johnson
- ◆ Howard Johnson
- ◆ Grandma & Grandpa Holliday
- ◆ Barbara Brewster
- ◆ Ivan Keller – Brother to Larry Keller
- ◆ Petra Berdnick - Co-worker's daughter of Kristi Jaeger
- ◆ Nate & Laura Lutkemeier
- ◆ Jack Adkins
- ◆ Conley Staigle - Son of Dan & Amber Staigle
- ◆ Addilynn Lunstad - Daughter of Toby Carlson Lunstad
- ◆ Dorene Wood - Mother of Chuck Wood
- ◆ Kyle Germundson - Friend of Kristi Jaeger
- ◆ Jeannette Neil
- ◆ Gracie Larson
- ◆ Tanner Brunsell

- ◆ Becky Matthews
- ◆ David White - Brother-in-law to Norma Petersen
- ◆ Brandy Rahr
- ◆ Mary Jo Olson - Cousin of the Olson's
- ◆ Joyce Risan
- ◆ Roger Hall - Brother to Randy Hall
- ◆ Connie Lawson
- ◆ Kathy Key
- ◆ Karen Goehring
- ◆ Keith Hammerbeck - Family friend of the Kugler's
- ◆ Ruby from Pine Ridge
- ◆ Claire Boucher
- ◆ Jamie Baumann
- ◆ Elaine Renfrow - Mother to Lynette Sondrol
- ◆ Harlow Tatum - Daughter of Brea (Gutknecht) Tatum
- ◆ Ruth Lund - Mother to Doddie Kuntz
- ◆ John Krebsbach - Brother to Peggy Wollmuth
- ◆ Arlo Omoth - Brother to Jeneen Loe

#### **Military Prayer and Card List**

We pray for the Men & Women in our Military who protect our country, especially those assigned to serve overseas or away from home.

#### ***Members of First Lutheran on Active Duty in The Military and the National Guard:***

- ◆ SGT Bryce Rost – Army National Guard
- ◆ Olivia Retterath - National Guard
- ◆ SPC Christian Gardner - Army National Guard
- ◆ Cassidy Sommer - National Guard
- ◆ SPC Jonathan Melvard - Army National Guard - Deployed

#### ***Friends and Family on Active Duty in the Military and in the National Guard:***

- ◆ SGT Dustin Enockson – National Guard
- ◆ Emily Johnson - Air Force
- ◆ SPC Josiah Johnson - Army
- ◆ Bryar Anderson - Marines
- ◆ 1SG Jordan Ternes - Army National Guard
- ◆ TECH SGT Andre Austin
- ◆ Hunter Feigum - National Guard
- ◆ Morris Duffy - Medical Air Guard - Deployed
- ◆ Brandon Searcy - Navy - Deployed

### **A Prayer for Christmas**

The internet reveals little about Wilda English — only that she lived from 1916 to 1997 and once resided in California. No details exist about her family, work or interests. Just this prayer, widely shared online. And it is no small thing. Indeed, the prayer tells much about her faith.

God bless Wilda English for sharing these words with the world. May they continue to inspire many!

God grant you the light in Christmas, which is faith;  
the warmth of Christmas, which is love;  
the radiance of Christmas, which is purity;  
the righteousness of Christmas, which is justice;  
the belief in Christmas, which is truth;  
the all of Christmas, which is Christ.



# December

# 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				<b>1</b> AM Pastor Chuck at Text Study	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:30 AM FLCW Advent Breakfast
<b>4</b> <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School FLY Bible Study 7:00 PM AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Mommy's Group 5:30 PM Alzheimer's Informational Class 7:00 PM Lutheran Theology Bible Study	<b>7</b> <b>Pearl Harbor</b> <b>Remembrance</b> <b>Day</b> Noon Pizza Day 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Choir <b>NO</b> FLY	<b>8</b> AM Pastor Chuck at Text Study	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10:00 AM Raising Hope Ministry
<b>11</b> <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b> 9:30 AM Cantata 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School FLY Bible Study 7:00 PM AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	<b>12</b> 10:00 AM Chat & Sew Quilting	<b>13</b> 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Mommy's Group 6:00 PM Lutheran Theology Bible Study	<b>14</b> 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Choir 8:00 PM FLY	<b>15</b> AM Pastor Chuck at Text Study 9:30 AM Deborah Bible Study 6:30 PM Church Council	<b>16</b> 11:00 AM Harry & Lorene Larson Memorial Service	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:30 AM Worship Pre-K & K Christmas Program 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School FLY Bible Study 6:30 PM Grades 1-6 SS Christmas Program 7:00 PM AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Mommy's Group Noon Newsletter Deadline	<b>21</b> Noon Poinsettia Deadline	<b>22</b> AM Pastor Chuck at Text Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>4:30 &amp; 9:00 PM</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Candlelight</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>w/Holy</b> <b>Communion</b>
<b>25</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> 9:30 AM Worship 7:00 PM AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10:00 AM Mommy's Group	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> AM Pastor Chuck at Text Study	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>New Year's Eve</b> 3:30 PM Drew Petersen & Katelyn Duppong Wedding

First Lutheran Church  
709 5th Ave.  
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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 2022 Newsletter



**December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
8:30 AM - Bible Study  
9:30 AM - Worship w/Holy Communion  
and Pre-K & K Christmas Program  
10:30 AM - Fellowship/Coffee Hour  
10:45 AM - Sunday School  
FLY  
Bible Study  
6:30 PM - Grades 1-6  
Sunday School Program  
Followed by Snacks

**December 3 - 9:30 AM - Advent Breakfast**

**December 4 - Second Sunday of Advent**  
8:30 AM - Bible Study  
9:30 AM - Worship w/Holy Communion  
10:30 AM - Fellowship/Coffee Hour  
10:45 AM - Sunday School  
FLY  
Bible Study

**December 24 - Christmas Eve**  
4:30 PM & 9:00 PM  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship  
w/Holy Communion

**December 25 - Christmas Day**  
9:30 AM - Worship w/Holy Communion

**December 11 - Third Sunday of Advent**  
9:30 AM - Choir Cantata  
10:30 AM - Fellowship/Coffee Hour  
10:45 AM - Sunday School  
FLY  
Bible Study

**Merry Christmas**