



FIRST NEWS

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
703 South Sibley Avenue • Litchfield, MN 55355

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FIRST NEWS

A monthly publication for the
members and friends of First
Evangelical Lutheran Church

APRIL 2018

Time with Tom

We see the changes in the weather and rejoice in that change! It has been a long winter and we are ready for some comfortable temperatures so we can get outside and do what? We don't care—we just want to get out of the house and not freeze or have to shovel snow. Sometimes we just want change! We want to see the signs of change, at least when it comes to the weather.

Matthew 16:1-4 The Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test Jesus they asked him to show them a sign from heaven. ² He answered them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' ³ And in the morning, 'It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times. ⁴ An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah." Then he left them and went away.

The sign we have longed for is spring, the sign we see has been long awaited. When we reached the end of Lent and we reached Good Friday only to see Jesus our king hang on a tree, we ask, is that it? Has this journey Jesus showed us all about him dying on a tree? I did not sign up for this! That cannot be what it is all about! The journey to Jerusalem is about more than our King giving up his life for us on a tree. It is about him conquering death and the grave. It is about him showing us the way to life. It is about Jesus showing us the signs of life in relationship with God. Jesus died because someone had to atone for the sins of man and for thousands of years man has shown he cannot do it. So God came to us in the form of a human man out of love for us. For all of us, he came to pay the price for sin when he had no sin. He took on the sins of human kind to show evil that death and evil does not win this battle. Death has lost its sting, and like Jesus, we live today in relationship with God and after the resurrection in relationship with God forever. The sign we see is the Holy Spirit living in us for after our Baptism it is no longer me who lives, but Christ in me who lives. I live in Christ and he lives in me so that the Father can be glorified for all the good works I do. Look for a sign of good in your neighbor, and be the sign of good for your neighbor. Let your light so shine that they see your good works and praise God. Give all the glory to God for all the good things we do. As spring shows its beautiful signs, let us go out showing our signs of love to all of God's creation—loving the Lord our God with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, and love our neighbor as ourselves. Amen.

Agree with one another; live in peace and the God of love and peace will be with you.
2nd Cor. 13:11 Pastor Tom Evenson

Our mission: First Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to **welcome** people to faith in Jesus Christ; **equip** persons with a faith that works in real life; and **send** us in service into the world in Jesus' name.

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For April calendar, birthdays, serving groups, ushers, and altar guild information, see insert

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday:
8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
WEBSITE:
www.firstlitchfield.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour
10:45 a.m. Non-Traditional Worship Service with Communion

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Worship Service with Communion

Program Staff:

Tom Evenson, Pastor
firstsr@hutchtel.net, Cell: 320-266-5366
Gary Cumings, Visitation Pastor
Sarah Jones, Christian Education Director
sarahcejones@hotmail.com, Cell: 320-221-0055
Jackie Kraushaar, Office Manager
firstoffice@hutchtel.net
Amber Lee-Wolford, Bookkeeper
firsttr@hutchtel.net
Jean Hoyer and Carol Heath, Financial Secretaries
firsttr@hutchtel.net
Bea Devereaux, Organist, Senior Choir, & Bell Choir Director
Carol Dragt—Director of Music, Non-Traditional Service
Katie Hulterstrum, Kingdom Company Director
Scott Nelson, Custodian
Joel Ramthun, Custodian

First Lutheran Church Office: 320-693-2487

LIKE us on Facebook!



MST 2018 Easter Breakfast Sunday, April 1

7:00-10:30 a.m.
Free will offering

Serving:

- delicious egg bake
- homemade rolls & muffins
- fresh fruit
- juice, milk, coffee, tea

We look forward to serving you!
Thanks for your support!

MST 2018: Austin, Emma,
Emily, Dominick, and Kendra

Council Highlights

**“GOD’S WORK.
OUR HANDS.”**

**First Evangelical Lutheran
Church Council
2018**

**PRESIDENT:
Carolyn Christensen**

**VICE PRESIDENT:
Dick Farmer**

**SECRETARY:
Dawn Doty**

**TREASURER:
Bob Blomberg**

TEAM REPRESENTATIVES:

**Christian Education/
Youth & Family:**
Will Dolan
Dick Farmer
Tanna Stucky

Stewardship & Finance:
Betty Allen
Bob Blomberg
Tanna Stucky

Social Ministry/Evangelism:
Dawn Doty
Bob Blomberg
Meredith Elj

Endowment/Memorial:
Robert Gilberts
Dennis Gartner

Property:
Dick Farmer
Dennis Gartner
Bob Gilberts

Worship & Music:
Becky Estrada
Vonnice Escen
Meredith Elj

Personnel:
Carolyn Christensen
Will Dolan

First Evangelical Lutheran Church - Council Minutes

Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Our Mission: *FLC exists to welcome people to faith in Jesus Christ; Equip persons with a faith that works in real life; and Send us in service into the world in Jesus' name.*

Council Membership:

2019: Carolyn Christensen, Dick Farmer, Becky Estrada, Will Dolan
2020: Betty Allen, Vonnice Escen, Robert Gilberts, Bob Blomberg
2021: Dawn Doty, Meredith Elj, Dennis Gartner, Tanna Stucky

Gary Smith opened meeting and presented devotions. 2018 Council Officers were elected. Motion was made by Dennis Garner and seconded by Tanna Stucky to approve the following results.

President: Carolyn Christensen

Vice President: Dick Farmer

Secretary: Dawn Doty

Treasurer: Bob Blomberg

Motion was made by Dick, Farmer to approve secretary’s report and seconded by Bob Gilberts. Motion was made by Dick Farmer to approve treasurer’s report and seconded by Tanna Stucky. Pastor Tom reported that the 2018 Council Retreat will be at his home on March 11, 2018, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Property Team reported that the front pew on north side of sanctuary has been removed to allow for more room at communion. Closet in Parlor is near completion.

Personnel Team reported the resignation of Amber Lee-Wolford as church treasurer. Will help until new person is hired.

Executive Team will have debriefing meetings with outgoing council members.

Endowment Team is reconsidering funding for Sunday bus. Betty Allen will talk to bus company about cost.

Sound system is still ongoing project. Looking at alternate pricing. Church inventory is going well, almost finished. Church Constitution reviewing is still in progress. Representatives for Green Lake Bible Camp and Equipping Congregation meetings reported that meetings went well. Church clean up date is Saturday, April 21, 2018. Time to be announced.

Church Council representatives were assigned to the following teams:

Evangelism/Social Ministry: Dawn Doty, Bob Blomberg, Meredith Elj

Christian Education: Dick Farmer, Will Dolan, Tanna Stucky

Church Property: Dick Farmer, Dennis Gartner, Bob Gilberts

Endowment: Bob Gilberts, Dennis Gartner

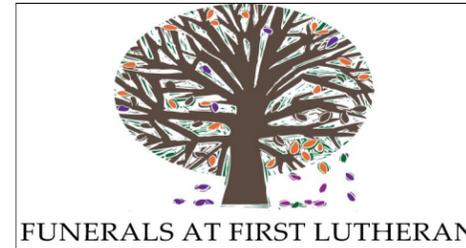
Stewardship and Finance: Betty Allen, Tanna Stucky, Bob Blomberg

Worship and Music: Vonnice Escen, Becky Estrada, Meredith Elj

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Dick Farmer, Pretending to be Secretary

Churchwide



FUNERALS AT FIRST LUTHERAN

**Katherine Zeppelin
Friday, March 9, 2018**

*Please keep her family in your thoughts
and prayers.*



**GLOBAL MISSIONS
OFFERING**

On the **First** Sunday of the month,
April 1, 2018
a second offering will be taken, where a
globe will be passed.
This month, the second
offering will go to:
**Mission Study Trip (MST)
International**



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY: *Our members known to be in the military are:
Cmdr. Joseph Vandelac, Foreign Engagement at the Pentagon, son-in-law of Janice and Cecil Fawcett; **Sgt. 1st Class, Special Forces Ryan Oldenburg**, Fort Bragg, NC, grandson of Edna and Martin Oldenburg; **Staff Sergeant Austin Kleinschmidt**, Great Falls, MT, son of Kipp and Lynette Kleinschmidt; **Cmdr. Debra (Freitag) Baker**, Naval Medical Center, San Diego, CA, daughter of Jerry and Judy Freitag; **Staff Sgt. Matthew Wiechmann**, son of Virgil and Jamie Wiechmann, stationed at Fort Drum, New York; **Major Troy Thomas**, nephew of Mike and Gaylene Thomas, and Valda Thomas, Severance, CO; **Eric Kammermeier**, active duty United States Navy, son-in-law of Mike and Beth Boyle; **Airman 1st Class, Jonathan Negron**, Vacaville, CA, son of Margaret Schlisner; and **Staff Sgt. Seth Erickson**, stationed in Richfield, MN, nephew of Margaret Schlisner.

Welcome Home! to those of you who now have returned to the States. Thank you all for your service.

***Please let the office know if titles, locations, and/or**



PLEASE KEEP OUR SHUT-IN MEMBERS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Meeker Manor: Ellen Beckstrand, JoAnn Costigan,
Doug Hess, Celia Defries, Betty Jorgensen

Emmaus Place: Arlene Poirier, Stan Mortenson, Maggie Fenton

Gloria Dei: Mae Wertz, Willard and Diane Maahs

Bethany Memory Care:

Bethany Assisted Living: Grace Kranz

Litchfield, in own home: Marian Kronbeck, Ardella Voigt,
Luella Anderson

Hutchinson: Lynette Peterson

**FOOD SHELF
DONATIONS**

The shopping cart is located in the Narthex for your non-perishable donations for the Food Shelf. The needs are great within our community and your contributions are greatly appreciated.



Churchwide

APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 1, 2018—Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m. - Sunrise Worship Service w/Communion
 8:30 a.m. - Worship with Communion
 10:15 a.m. - Non-Traditional Worship w/Comm.

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

6:30 p.m. - Worship Service w/Communion (Chapel)

Sunday, April 8, 2018—First Communion

8:30 a.m. - Worship with Communion
 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
 9:30 a.m. - Fellowship and Coffee Hour
 10:45 a.m. - Non-Traditional Worship w/Comm.

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

6:30 p.m. - Worship Service w/Communion (Chapel)

Sunday, April 15, 2018 —NOTE

8:30 a.m. - Fellowship and Coffee Hour
 9:30 a.m. - "The Kingdom Connection" by the Kingdom Company

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

6:30 p.m. - Worship Service w/Communion (Chapel)

Sunday, April 22, 2018

8:30 a.m. - Worship with Communion
 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
 9:30 a.m. - Fellowship and Coffee
 10:45 a.m. - Non-Traditional Worship w/Comm.

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

6:30 p.m. - Worship Service w/Communion (Chapel)

Sunday, April 29, 2018

8:30 a.m. - Worship with Communion
 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
 9:30 a.m. - Fellowship and Coffee
 10:45 a.m. - Non-Traditional Worship w/Comm.

MOVIE NIGHT

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018

NOTE: CHANGE OF DATE
5:00 P.M.

HOLY WORD THEATER

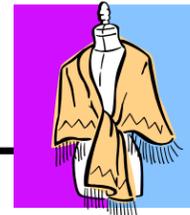
FEATURING:

"Unconditional"

Samantha has a storybook life then loses her faith when her husband is killed in a senseless act of violence. Sam's faith reignites when she meets a childhood friend who cares for children in his under-resourced neighborhood.

PRAYER SHAWLS

Prayer Shawls are available in the church office when needed for yourself or someone in need of comfort and prayers. Please help—if you know of someone who is in need of prayers and a shawl, stop by the office and pick one up!



HOSPITALIZED?

Please remember to call the church Office or Pastor Tom if you or a loved one is hospitalized and you would like a call or a visit. We do not have access to patient lists and without your call we have no way of knowing if you are in the hospital. Due to the law the medical facilities are no longer able to provide that information.

Thank you!

FIRST NEWS

is a monthly publication of First Evangelical Lutheran Church,
 703 S. Sibley Ave. Litchfield, MN 55355

Please send submissions to: The Church Office by April 15th

For the NEXT ISSUE: May 2018

Email: firstoffice@hutchtel.net



Church Council, Cont.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church - Council Minutes

Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Our Mission: FLC exists to welcome people to faith in Jesus Christ; Equip persons with a faith that works in real life; and Send us in service into the world in Jesus' name.

Council Membership:

2019: Carolyn Christensen, Dick Farmer, Becky Estrada, Will Dolan
 2020: Betty Allen, Vonnie Escen, Robert Gilberts, Bob Blomberg
 2021: Dawn Doty, Meredith Elj, Dennis Gartner, Tanna Stucky

Dennis Gartner opened the meeting. Devotions were given by Pastor Tom.

Meeting was conducted by Dennis Gartner due to many of council members not able to be at this meeting. The Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports were not available.

Conducting Business:

1. Pastor Tom's report
2. Team Reports: Most were not given due to lack of members present.
3. Old Business:
 - A. Waiting on information on electronic options, Sound System.
 - B. Constitution update to be reviewed. Needs to be approved by council.
 - C. Remember to get team reports in to Jackie.
 - D. Received praise from Bishop Jon about removal of doors in back of Church. Gives a more welcoming feeling to people when coming to worship.
 - E. Valda Thomas gave a report on the choices regarding baptismal fonts.
4. New Business: None

Dates to Remember

April 3, 2018 — Team Meetings
 April 17, 2018 — Church Council Meeting
 April 21, 2018 — Church Cleaning Day
 May 20, 2018 — New Member Sunday

Prayer Requests

Closing and Prayer

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
 Vonnie Escen, Acting Secretary



Easter Schedule

March 29	Maundy Thursday, Holy Communion	7:00 p.m.
March 30	Good Friday Youth-Led Worship	7:00 p.m.
April 1	Easter Worship Holy Communion, Special music	6:30, 8:30, 10:15 a.m.
April 1	Easter Breakfast (MST-2018 Fundraiser)	Served 7:30-10:30 a.m.

CHURCHWIDE

CROW RIVER CONFERENCE WOMEN OF THE ELCA SPRING GATHERING

DATE: SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

PLACE: FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, LITCHFIELD

TIME: REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN AT 8 A.M. MEAL AT 8:30 A.M.
PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 9:30 A.M.

REGISTRATION: \$10 per person. DUE BY APRIL 16

SEND TO NAN CRARY 1137 Fairway Ave. N
Hutchinson, MN 55350

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WOMEN of the ELCA. Bring to Church Office.

OFFERINGS: 1/2 TO SWMN SYNOD, 1/2 TO HOMES (Housing Options in McLeod for Emergency Shelter).

IN-KIND: PERSONAL CARE KITS.

BOOKKEEPER POSITION OPEN

First Lutheran Church, Litchfield, MN, is seeking applicants for a Part-Time Bookkeeper position. Please contact the office for more information and an application.
Phone: 320-693-2487



Baptisms at First

These baptisms are the start to a wonderful and long lasting faith.

Congratulations on this milestone!!

Gavin Michael Adams

Born: August 8, 2017

Baptized: February 18, 2018

Parents: Abby Fisher and Eli Adams

Sponsors: Armintha Clabo and
Doug Fisher

Change agents

A cartoon depicts a man at a podium firing up a crowd. "Who wants change?" he shouts. You can almost hear the excitement and urgency. "We do!" the listeners cry, all raising their hands.

But the next frame features a follow-up question: "Who wants *to* change?" The audience is silent and somber, with their hands down.

The gospel Jesus announced and lived out promises monumental change: life instead of death, healing from sickness, hope to replace despair, peace and justice instead of war and oppression. Although God could wave his hand and make the world perfect, he chooses to work through humans. That means we must be willing to change too.

Change can be scary, but God's newness will so transform the world – and us – that we'll never miss our old, broken reality.

–Heidi Mann

Churchwide

LENTEN "GIVING CROSS" PROJECT

The 2018 Lenten "Giving Cross" Project began on Ash Wednesday (Feb 14th) and will continue through Easter Sunday. The emphasis is on the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) parish projects which include Baby Care Kits and Personal Care Kits.

The cross will be located in the Narthex and filled with cards, each having an item printed on it. Please take a card or two, purchase the items, tape the card to the item and place the items in the basket placed by the cross. If monetary donations are made, please make the checks payable to "First Lutheran Church / Giving Cross Project". Monetary gifts may be left at the church office also.

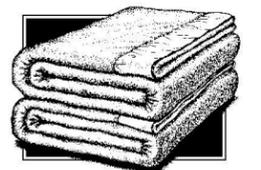
After Easter, the kits will be assembled and packed for Lutheran World Relief. Because shipping costs have escalated each kit costs approximately \$2.65 to ship, so monetary contributions are also appreciated. In the past your response to this project has been overwhelming, so please take the time to make this another successful Lenten Project.

If you have questions regarding the project please contact a committee member.

Thank you,
The Giving Cross Committee
Brenda Johnson, Elaine Lenhard, or Joan Sommerfeld

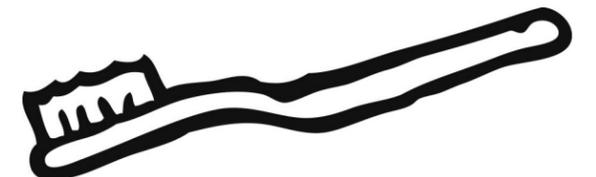
BABY CARE KIT

- 2 lightweight cotton t-shirts – (6 – 24 months)
- 2 gowns or sleepers (without feet) – (6 – 24 months)
- 2 receiving blankets
- 4 cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with hood, or include a baby cap
- 2 pair of socks
- 1 hand towel, dark color recommended
- 2 bath-size (4-5 oz) ivory soap
- 2 diaper pins or large safety pins



PERSONAL CARE KITS

- 1 light-weight bath-size towel (approx 52"x27"), dark color recommended
- 2 bath size (4-5 oz) soap in original wrapping
- 1 adult size toothbrush in its original packaging
- 1 **sturdy** comb
- 1 metal nail clippers



Stewardship & Finance

General Fund:

Total **Income** for the month of February 2018: \$26,919

Less total **Expenses** for the month of Feb. 2018: \$31,131

Year to Date:

Income as of February 28, 2018: \$51,413

Expenses as of February 28, 2018: \$61,997

Women of the ELCA (WELCA)

WELCA Meeting, March 15, 2018

First Lutheran WELCA met on March 15, 2018, at 1:30 pm in Chilstrom Hall. Betty Allen called the meeting to order and welcomed First and Zion members. The Purpose Statement was recited. Devotions were given by Marilyn Swanson. Marge Hellzen accompanied the singing of "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me."

Rose Hartwig-Benson, author of "Petals of Distinction" was the guest speaker. In the 1990's Rose was given days to live, due to an autoimmune disease attacking her body. Her stomach was paralyzed and she was down to 80 pounds and she could not stand or raise her head. Surgery enabled a feeding tube to be inserted directly into her intestines. She found the inner fortitude, will, and perseverance to live. Two hours after she got back home, the rescue squad was called and she experienced dazzling white lights that bathed her in peace. Heaven was put on hold and during the hours, days and years that passed, she has learned patience. Rose has gone 20 years without food or drink. She needs 4 surgical procedures a year to stay alive. Most things in life center around what we're going to eat. She does not have that and lives in constant pain, hunger and thirst. Rose said to focus on God's grace and love, and you will be satisfied. God's love sustains all of us to carry us through our trials. She said to remember when we go through trials and struggles, we are never alone. Seek the positives in life with a promise of a new tomorrow. Allow your faith to be the radar to lead you through each day. The greatest gift is love because tomorrow is not promised. Listen in the quietness—it will fill your soul!

Dates to Remember:

April 19 – WELCA Meeting at Zion

April 28 – Crow River Spring Conference, First Lutheran, Litchfield
Registration is due by April 16 with a \$10 registration fee

The Lord's Prayer was recited and we sang the table prayer, "Be Present at Our Table Lord" accompanied by Shirley Erickson. Desserts were served and our business meeting followed.

We received \$825 with the Fall Harvest envelope offering. Dee made a motion to approve paying donations of \$100 each to Hospice, Flowers of Mercy, Food Shelf, Habitat for Humanity, LAMP, Lutheran Social Service and \$200 to First Lifeline. Second was made by Valda. Motion carried.

We were told that there might be 8 to 12 students going camping this year. (5 went last year.) A motion was made by Iona to pay \$50 toward camp registration for each attendee. Dee seconded. Motion carried.

Our in-kind offering for the Spring Conference will be ten personal care kits. Brenda Johnson will set a time to assemble the kits.

Thank you to Marge Hellzen and Shirley Erickson for the music, Marilyn Swanson for devotions, Lavern Decker, our greeter, and Betty Allen, Marilyn Swanson, Lana Johnson and Shirley Erickson for serving.

Meeting Adjourned.

Sue Lemmer, Secretary



WELCA April Meeting

Thursday, April 19, 1:30 p.m. at First Lutheran

CHURCHWIDE—Kingdom Company "The Kingdom Connection"



King Saul, King David, King Herod and King Solomon would like to invite you to attend ***The Kingdom Connection*** at our worship service on **April 15!** This musical presentation by the Kingdom Company will be performed at this one special service at **9:30 AM.** At *The Kingdom Connection*, you will learn about these powerful kings of the Bible during an exciting visit to a Bible museum. The message is important: even among all the powerful kings of the Bible, the one true King, the King of ALL kings, the One we need most in our lives, is King Jesus!

Please come see what our Kingdom Company choir members have been working on all winter! Everyone is welcome to attend, young and young at heart!

Memorials & Gifts

GIFTS have been given to the General Fund in memory of Susan (Evenson) Tosier, by John and Joan Sommerfeld, and Bob Kadelbach.

A GIFT has been given to the General Fund, in memory of Clarence Erickson, brother-in-law of Iona (DeWayne) Albright, by Bob Kadelbach.

GIFTS have been given to the General Fund and the Library Fund, in memory of Brian Koester, brother of Peggy (Dick) Farmer, by family and friends.

GIFTS have been given to the Boiler/AC/Windows fund in memory of Brian Koester, brother of Peggy (Dick) Farmer, and in memory of Tom Palm, son-in-law of Lola Schlenner, by Paul and Sue Lemmer.

A GIFT has been given to the General Fund in memory of Brian Koester, brother of Peggy (Dick) Farmer, by Jerry and Lana Johnson.



Special Thanks

TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY—A very special thank you to all of you who shared your comforting words, gave a memorial, food brought to the farm, or taking the time from your busy lives to share the day with us when our Mom, Mary Jane Fitterer, went to with her Lord.. We deeply appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness.

May God Bless you all — *Dorothy and Kirk Lundin*

GOD'S BLESSINGS to everyone who prayed for my son-in-law, Tom Palm, during his long suffering with cancer. He is now at peace. Thank you all for the prayers.

Lola Schlenner

ILL ALWAYS remember this kindness. Thank you very much for the prayer shawl!

Luella Anderson

B.R.E.W.

Be Still, Receive God's Love, Embrace God's Word, Welcome the Day
B.R.E.W. meets every **Tuesday morning at 7:00 a.m.** with Pastor Tom for coffee and fellowship.
 Join us!

COUNTY TRANSIT BUS: The transit bus will pick up anywhere within city limits and will deliver to First Lutheran Church on Sunday morning. The bus is paid for through the Endowment Fund and it is FREE to riders on Sunday mornings.

Each individual needs to call 693-7794 to schedule their ride by Friday for pickup on Sunday.

YOUTH, ETC.

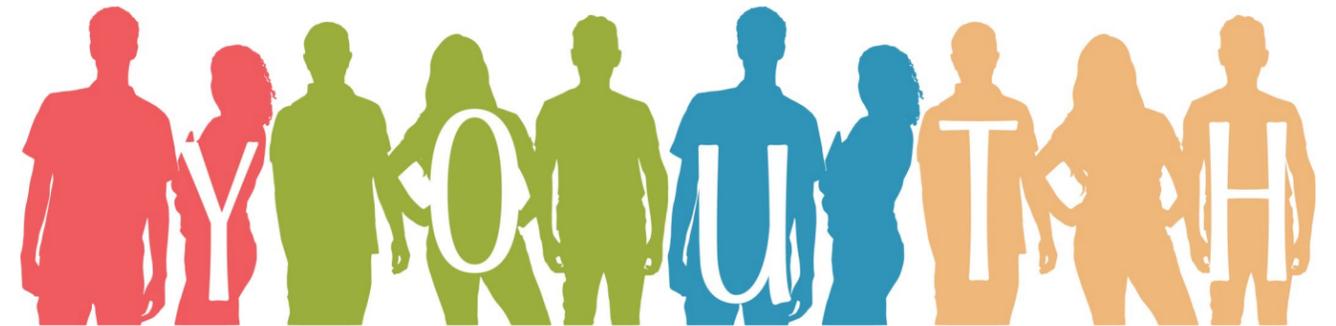
SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 2018 YOUTH LED SERVICE HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

On April 8, 2018, at the 10:45 a.m. service, the non-traditional service, we have an exciting experience happening!!!!!! You won't want to miss this. The youth of our congregation will be participating with readings, poems, music, instruments, we will have a "heavy metal band", a sneak peek at this year's Kingdom Company play--to get you curious about the following week's production, and we are going to have our first ever Holy Humor service. There is a lot going on!!!!!! I guarantee you will not want to miss this.

I know what you are thinking – what exactly is a Holy Humor service and what exactly is a heavy metal band. Without giving too much away, the heavy metal band is not what you normally expect a heavy metal band to be. Let's just say we are going to be using household metal equipment.

Holy Humor service. After much research on the Internet, I have found that the practice of celebrating Holy Humor Sunday is quite old and comes from a movement where congregations are reclaiming the practice of laughing at Satan's defeat and reveling in Christ's victory. The Easter reasoning for celebrating Holy Humor Sunday on the week after Easter is that "humor is not the opposite of seriousness; humor is the opposite of despair".

So, I ask that you join us, join the kids, join the fun, join the band -- as we celebrate the Resurrection. Thanks! *Carol Dragt*



**FIRST COMMUNION — FIFTH GRADER
 SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 2018
 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Services**