

# FIRST NEWS

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

APRIL 2022

## April 2022 Time with Tom

The study of our Gospels is going well. How do we live in the Good News of Jesus Christ each and every day? Jesus gives us instruction and asks us to do for others as he has done for us. Jesus said according to the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of John's gospel <sup>8</sup>So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will realize that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own, but I speak these things as the Father instructed me. <sup>29</sup>And the one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what is pleasing to him." (End quote) If we follow Jesus' example, we would believe him and try to do what God has told us to do, I continue. "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." Jesus goes on to tell them how to know if they are from God the Father or if their father is Satan. "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now I am here. I did not come on my own, but he sent me. <sup>43</sup>Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot accept my word. <sup>44</sup>You are from your father the devil, and you choose to do your father's desires." God did not send the son into the world to condemn the world but to save it according to John 3:17. God loves us and always has loved us and he knows we are human and because we are weak he becomes strong for us. He defeats death the devil and the temptations of the world for us. Do you believe this; Jesus asks the disciples the Jews and Gentiles the same question because he is the God of all creation. Jesus uses the phrase "I am" when he is speaking about who he is because that is what God calls himself. The "I am" sent the words of the law down the mountain with Moses. The "I am" is the creator God whom from the beginning has loved the people and all God's creation even when we, the creation has left God for the things this world and the Devil offers. The temptations that draw us away from God cause a broken relationship with God. Our gospel readings point us back to the God who comes to us, bringing us back to a right relationship with the creator. God, as Jesus has come to bring us back to himself. Jesus would ask; "DO YOU BELIEVE?" Jesus is the "I am" hear his voice and follow him and you will not die in your sin but live. *Amen*

*Live in Peace and the God of Love and Peace will be with you! 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Cor.13:11b 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.

FIND THE  
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**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**  
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320-693-2487  
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**WEBSITE:**  
[www.firstlitchfield.org](http://www.firstlitchfield.org)

# Council Highlights

**“GOD’S WORK.  
OUR HANDS.”**

**First Evangelical Lutheran  
Church Council  
2022**

**PRESIDENT:**  
Corey Cervin

**VICE PRESIDENT:**  
Karla Kadelbach

**SECRETARY:**  
Dennis Gartner

**TREASURER:**  
Andy Miller

**TEAM  
REPRESENTATIVES:**

**Christian Education/  
Youth & Family:**  
Joe Berube  
Abby Hemmingway  
Amy Nelson

**Stewardship & Finance:**  
Betty Allen  
Karla Kadelbach  
Andy Miller  
Mike Langmo

**Social Ministry/  
Evangelism:**  
Betty Allen  
Joe Berube  
Meredith Elj  
Abby Hemmingway  
Amy Nelson

**Endowment/Memorial:**  
Corey Cervin  
Chuck Fenton

**Property:**  
Dennis Gartner  
Chuck Fenton  
Gordon Burdick

**Worship & Music:**  
Gordon Burdick  
Meredith Elj  
Mike Langmo

**Personnel:**  
Corey Cervin

First Evangelical Lutheran Church – Council Minutes  
Tuesday, March 15th, 2022

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:

2023: Betty Allen, Karla Kadelbach, Amy Nelson, Abby Hemmingway

2024: Dennis Gartner, Joe Berube, Gordon Burdick, Chuck Fenton

2025: Meredith Elj, Andy Miller, Mike Langmo, Corey Cervin

\*All members present with the exception of: Abby Hemmingway

\*\*\*A Council Retreat was held on Sunday March 13<sup>th</sup> at Pastor Tom and Kim’s home. Thank you to Pastor Tom and Kim for hosting this event. Election of officers took place at the retreat with the following results: Corey Cervin / President, Karla Kadelbach / Vice President, Dennis Gartner / Secretary, Andy Miller / Council Treasurer. Church Teams were discussed, Council members chose a position on a team that they felt would be appropriate for them.

Devotions: Betty Allen

\*Secretary report was approved

\*Treasurer report was tabled for clarification

\*Pastors report:

Pastor Tom reported:

~There are Thrivent funds available to be used within the church. The funds are donated to the church by Thrivent members who choose to specify FLC as their preferred recipient. Ideas for where to use the funds were discussed. No final decision was made at this meeting.

~Pastor Tom discussed the new FLC local mission of Meeker Area Ministries (MAM).

Rochelle Brummond from United Community Action Partnership (UCAP) has addressed the members of WELCA regarding information on the mission of MAM. Rochelle will attend the April Council meeting to provide information to the council. Pastor Tom would like to discuss goals for FLC for this mission.

~As of this council meeting, five people have stepped up to be part of the Lay Leaders Coop team. There is an opening for one more member of this group. Karla Kadelbach volunteered to join the group.

~The itinerary for the MST International trip is still fluid. Dianne Mitchell of Bursch Travel is keeping them up to date as the travel itinerary changes.

~Visitation Pastor Mark continues to visit the less mobile members of the congregation and reports to Pastor Tom that his visits are going as expected.

~LAMA is planning a Good Friday service at 11:00AM Friday April 15<sup>th</sup> at the Bethany Chapel.

~A virtual meeting of the Synod Assembly will be held at 9:00AM to 6:00PM Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>. Four voting members are needed to attend.

\*Team Reports:

\*Church Property:

~A proposal from Grow Rite for lawn care was discussed and approved for acceptance. Ceiling estimates will be confirmed and work will be scheduled to begin as soon as possible.

~Still awaiting an estimate for parking lot repair or replacement from McGuire Blacktop. They are scheduled to do a site inspection as soon as the frost is out of the ground.

~The new phone system was discussed and will be scheduled for installation.

~Jim Alsleben will continue to add items to our tracking sheet as needed.

\*Endowment:

~The team discussed a request to be the caretaker of excess funds from fundraising by MST. They will make a decision on this item after they receive more information. The funds would be used for unforeseen expenses that sometimes arise before and during travel.

~Confirmation camp was discussed, it was reported there are 11 students that plan to attend. The cost per camper is \$460.00. The Endowment team elected to cover these costs.

~There will be a meeting set up in April with Marc Terris from Merrill Lynch to go over investment performance.

~A Mission Investment Fund CD that is coming due in June was discussed.

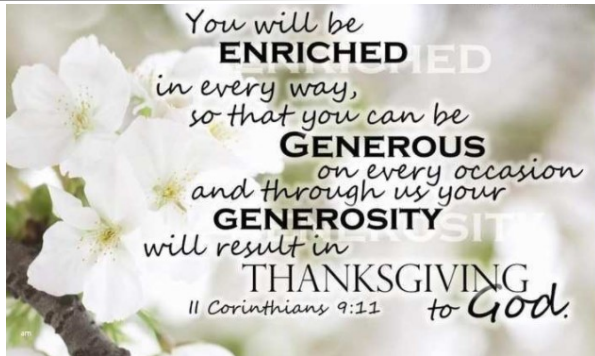
\*Worship and Music:

\*Old Business:

~The team will continue to review Co-op services on a monthly basis.

~The Music groups will serve soup supper on Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup>.

## TRESURER'S REPORT UNAPPROVED AT TIME OF PRINT



*Council Continued...*

**\*New Business:**

- ~A “Stringer Sunday” was discussed. Possible dates would be May 8<sup>th</sup> or June 12<sup>th</sup>. They would possibly perform at both services. TBD
- ~Good Friday services, April 15<sup>th</sup> will be a youth led service.
- ~April 24<sup>th</sup> will be First Communion.
- ~There will be three services on Easter Sunday morning; 6:30, 8:30 and 10:45
- ~There was a discussion regarding bringing back the Wednesday evening services. TBD

**\*Old Business:**

- ~150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee is meeting in April. The 150<sup>th</sup> celebration is scheduled for August of 2023.
- ~Coop leadership Lay-Leaders / Follow up that Karla Kadelbach has joined the group.
- ~FLC had a full voting contingency at the Crow River Conference Assembly virtual meeting.
- ~Outgoing council member debriefings are complete.

**\*New Business:**

- ~(\*From previous minutes) Preferred Easter Memorial designations: General Fund, Meeker Area Ministries (MAM) and the Audio-Video Booth.
- ~The funds managed by Ameriprise were discussed. This fund is designated for property upkeep. A motion was made to have the “Authorized Signers” of this account be clarified. The motion (and amendment) declares the authorized signers to be the following each year: Council President, Council Vice President, Council Treasurer and the Church Treasurer. The motion passed. The current roster is Corey Cervin, Karla Kadelbach, Andy Miller and Sara Rick.
- ~There is a request that an Emmaus Place History Book be stored in a secure location within the Church. There was a motion to honor this request and to enlist the Church Property Team to work with others on the location and to secure the book. The motion passed.
- ~New Member Sunday was discussed for May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**\*Dates to remember:**

- \*Coop services continue virtually on Sunday’s at 8:30 am and on KLFD radio
- \*In person services Sunday’s 8:30 and 10:45 AM
- \*Confirmation classes are Wednesday’s at 6:00 PM
- \*Soup Suppers Wednesday’s through Lent at 6:00 PM
- \*Lenten Services Wednesday’s at 7:00 PM
- \*Pack the Pews Food Shelf Drive all throughout the month of March
- \*Executive Team meeting Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM
- \*Team meetings Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM
- \*MST Breakfast Easter Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00 AM > 11:00 AM
- \*Easter Services Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, 8:30 and 10:45 AM
- \*Council meeting Tuesday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM
- \*Community Luncheon May 18<sup>th</sup>. TBD
- \*Virtual Synod Assembly June 11<sup>th</sup>
- \*Confirmation Camp June 12<sup>th</sup> > 16<sup>th</sup>



Butter Braids will be delivered on **April 11**. If you have any questions, please contact Martha Christensen 320-981-0354. **Thank you for your support of MST-USA!**



# Mission

Dear friends,

*Spare my rights! Love heals, not hurts! No to violence – We want Peace! Enough is enough! Women’s lives matter! This must stop – End Gender-based violence!*

These were some of the powerful messages of resistance and hope displayed on the posters carried by conference participants as they walked together on International Women’s Day (March 8, 2022).



More than 30 Lutheran and Moravian women pastors and church leaders from the Southern Africa region gathered in person for the first time in two years for the LUCSA Gender Justice and Women’s Empowerment Consultation in Johannesburg, South Africa from March 6-10. The theme of the conference was: “A Gender-just church today, for sustainable Mission tomorrow.” [The Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa (LUCSA) is the sub-regional expression of the Lutheran World Federation comprised of 15 member churches in ten countries across Southern Africa [www.lucsa.org](http://www.lucsa.org) ]

Several of the pastors present were recognized and congratulated for their courage and faith being the very first women to be ordained in their respective churches.

The program included devotions, Bible studies, lively singing, guest speakers, group discussions and the sharing of stories of suffering, faith, hope and resistance in the face of gender-based violence, patriarchy, exploitation and inequality.

The annual consultation is part of LUCSA’s strategy to equip member churches with institutional and personal competencies to achieve gender justice, transformation, peace, justice and sustainable development in church and society.

The ELCA is committed to accompanying companion churches as they faithfully engage in proclamation of the Gospel, mission outreach and work to mitigate the impact of poverty, HIV&AIDS, climate change, Gender-based violence, conflict and the COVID-19 pandemic in the communities they serve.

Thank you for your prayers, support and your participation in God’s mission locally and globally.

Yours faithfully, Rev. Dr. Philip Knutson

ELCA Regional Representative - Southern Africa / Johannesburg, March 10, 2022

My blog page address is: <https://southernafricanconnections.wordpress.com/>  
Please visit my [fundraising page](#). (Note: This fundraising page is set up for individuals’ gifts only.)  
If you are donating on behalf of a congregation or organization, please visit [ELCA.org/MissionaryGiving](http://ELCA.org/MissionaryGiving) for online giving.

## Lent – Easter Schedule

This year's Lenten theme will reflect on "Psalm 23".

All evening mid-week services will begin at **7:00 p.m.** at First Lutheran, Litchfield.

We will have the opportunity to hear from other Pastors from our area churches during this Lenten season.

We will be alternating with Holden Evening Prayer and Unfailing Light services.

**Soup Supper** will be served at **6:00 p.m.** in Chilstrom Hall

March 9	Lent Service	Pastor Janine Olson, Gethsemane Lutheran, Dassel
March 16	Lent Service	Pastor Mark Little, Stockholm Lutheran, Cokato
March 23	Lent Service	Pastor Mindy Czycalla, Beckville Lutheran, First Lutheran of Cosmos, and Trinity Lutheran, Hector
March 30	Lent Service	Intern Pastor Sarah Jones, Peace Lutheran, Cosmos
April 6	Lent Service	Interim Pastor Mark Astrup, Zion Lutheran, Litchfield



April 10	Palm / Passion Sunday	8:30 a.m. (One Service Only)
April 14	Maundy Thursday, Holy Communion	7:00 p.m.
April 15	Good Friday	7:00 p.m.
April 17	Easter Worship Holy Communion, Special music	6:30, 8:30, & 10:45 a.m.
Apr 17	Easter Breakfast served by MST Int'l	7:00-11:00 a.m.

### Why Christ calls us to worship

Easter services are usually well attended, but what about other weeks? What draws you to worship on an "average" Sunday, and what might Jesus have in store for people in the pews?

Consider this from Pastor Charles Aaron: "Did we come to church this morning thinking it was a safe thing to do? Did we come with some expectation of receiving a blessing, a bit of comfort, but no real challenge? Did we think about the possibility that encountering Jesus would rearrange our lives, explode our priorities, cause us to give more than we ever expected? Did we think we could get a little something from Jesus, a dose of grace to help us through the week? Did we come for the fellowship, the music, the spiritual boost? No one can argue with those reasons."

He continues: "The risen Christ, however, may have had other plans for this worship service. Christ may want to come under our skins and transform us. Christ may see through us so that something we have well hidden comes to the surface. Christ may kick out from under us the things we use to prop ourselves up but that we don't really need. Are we ready for that? Did we bargain on that when we walked through the door today?"

—from *The Wired Word*

# Memorials & Thanks

**Gifts were given** to the General fund and Meeker Area Ministries in memory of Richard Bohn by Bonnie Bohn and family, Lorraine Bipes, Wayne and Linda Carlson, Bob and Sharon Johnson, Karl and Darlene Lundin, Dianne Thorp, Charlie and Jo Ann Lindstrom, and Richard and Betty Allen.

**A gift was given** to Meeker Area Ministries in honor of Pastor Tom's birthday by Mike and Kris Nelson.

## SPECIAL THANKS

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### **Dear members of First Lutheran Church,**

I want to thank everyone for all their thoughts and prayers during my time in the hospital recovering from a surgery. It was very helpful and meant a lot to me in my time of recovery.

Thank you, Chuck Fenton

**A big THANK YOU** to the February Serving Group for your willingness to help serve coffee during February. What a terrific group to work with. Karen Eberhard.

**March Serving Group,** Thank you for taking the time when called upon to serve Sunday coffee. Also thank you to everyone who said yes to baking a cake or serving for the funeral when asked.

Blessings & Thanks again, Dorothy Euerle and Sue Lemmer

**First Lutheran Family,** I so am thankful for all the prayers that everyone is doing and the cards and meals everyone is providing to our family it is greatly appreciated and I can't thank you enough for bringing it out for us we are beyond blessed!!! Chelsea Snodgrass and family

**Thank you** for all of the cards, gifts and words of endearment on my birthday. Blessed am I to be part of the First Lutheran family, it is my honor to serve as your pastor. Your graciousness on my birthday reminds me how loving and caring you are and I am proud to serve this community of believers.

Again, I say thank you and blessings to you all; Pastor Tom Evenson

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“And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful” (Colossians 3:15).

Friends,

Since last week, the news of the Russian invasion of Ukraine has filled news reports and social media feeds. Heartbreaking images of people saying goodbye to loved ones and lining up at the borders to leave the country are occupying our screens. Prayers and calls for peace are coming from around the world as we watch this crisis unfold.

Civilians fleeing the violence are heading toward Ukraine's western districts and such neighboring countries as Poland, Moldova, Slovakia, Romania and Hungary. Ukrainian men of military age (18-60) are required to stay in the country, so most of those fleeing the violence are women and children. According to one report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, millions of people are seeking refuge in neighboring countries including Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Moldova. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees. Many of these Ukrainians fleeing their homes need shelter and such basic necessities as food, water and toiletries. Care for people also includes pastoral and psychological support to address the trauma they've endured.

Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companion churches in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as the Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has joined other religious leaders from Europe and around the globe in issuing an interfaith call for peace in the region.

Your gifts will support Ukrainians and others. Gifts to “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries.

Our prayers abound for the loss and devastation experienced in Ukraine and Eastern Europe.

Please give now In Christ's service,

The Rev. Daniel Rift, Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Fund  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Checks or money orders can be made to First Lutheran or Lutheran Disaster Response

Write "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" on your check memo line.



**Lutheran Disaster Response**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.



Part 1 of a 4 part series.

*Taken from: CELC*

## Ukrainian Lutheran Church

The Ukrainian Lutheran Church is not entirely an alien phenomenon brought about to Ukraine from foreign countries, or a phenomenon that is indifferent to Ukraine's destiny and its future. It is neither a new sect or a religious trend in our country. The Ukrainian Lutheran Church has a substantial historic background in Ukraine as well as its devotees and martyrs, who gave their lives for Ukrainian Christian work.

Having Christ and His holy Word for its solid underpinning, the ULC has every ground to be called an apostolic church. Its origins go back to the times of the apostles and their faith, which is preached by the Church in the Nicene Creed. This church is alive, following the example of the forefathers of an ancient church, who were preaching after the apostles and acknowledged the Nicene and Athanasian Creeds.

The creation of a separate Lutheran church body took place only in the 16th century. At that time, faithful priests and bishops stood against abuses of the church clergy. Selling indulgences, absolution for money, neglect of the teaching of the Word of God to laymen, and many other things were among those abuses. That action for a church renewal headed by professor Martin Luther in Germany grew into the Reformation, which seized (engulfed) the better part of Europe, including Ukraine. Major slogans of the church renewal became salvation through faith in Christ with God's grace. The main principles of faith should rely only on the Holy Scripture (Sola Fide, Sola Gratia, Sola Scriptura).

Due to the Reformation, the Word of God was translated into European languages, including Ukrainian (Peresop Gospel is based on Lutheran Bible translations; Presidents of Ukraine are attested on it), and the church preached pure Gospel, turning into a truly people's church that cared about the salvation of its faithful people. That church was called the Evangelical Church of Augsburg Confession. Universal Creeds and the Augsburg Confession, which explained the necessity of reformation of certain aspects of church life, served as an underpinning for the confession.

Many Lutheran congregations appeared in Ukraine in the 16th century. According to prominent Ukrainian historian Mykhailo Hrushevsky, Lutheran churches were numerous in Galicia, Pobuzhzhya, Volyn, Podillya, Bratslavschnyna, and the Kyiv area (see M. Hrushevsky "On the History of Religious Thought in Ukraine," Winnipeg, Canada – Munich Germany – Detroit, USA 1962, pp. 63-67). Thanks to their influence, as it was noted by the scholar, the native language was picked up by the orthodox church. At that time, there was vigorous discussion of the possibility (on the basis of the main articles of faith) of unity between orthodox Christians and protestants. One of the initiators of that reunification was Prince Kostyantyn Ostrozky. The church unification failed due to the resistance of high priests. According to numerous leading historians, they later, during growing Catholic reaction, neglected the interests of their people. The Catholic movement, which was supported by the civil authorities, resulted not only in the almost total disappearance of Lutheranism in Ukraine, but also in the considerable decline of spiritual life in this country. One can find testimonies of that in the works of M. Hrushevsky, Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church in Canada Ilarion (secular name Ivan Ohiyenko) in the recently published book *Ukrainian Church* (Kyiv, Ukraine, 1993, pp. 102-145).

See the next part in the May 2022 Newsletter.....

# Churchwide



FUNERALS AT FIRST LUTHERAN

**Richard E. Bohn**  
March 4, 2022

Please keep his family and friends  
in your prayers.



## Holy Baptism

*This baptism is the start to  
a wonderful and long lasting faith.  
Congratulations on this milestone!!*



Baptized: Sunday, February 27, 2022

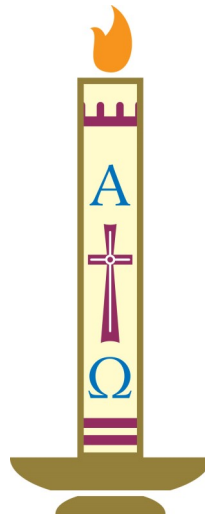
**Hadley Ann DeWolf**

Parents: Kyle and Amanda DeWolf

Sponsors: Chris Hacker & Lauren Tupa

## BABYSHOWER

There will be a “Come and Go” Baby Shower  
for Erika (Gartner) Schilla  
on Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to Noon  
at First Lutheran Church.  
Everyone is Welcome!



**PASCHAL CANDLE**—This large, white candle is an ancient symbol for Christ, the light of the world. The candle contains a cross and/or an Alpha and Omega to symbolize that Jesus is eternal and always present with his people.

Also called the Easter candle, it plays a prominent role during Easter vigils and celebrations. Our tradition would recognize it as the “Christ Candle” used during baptisms and funerals.





# April 2022 Calendar

# APRIL 2022

April 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>First Evangelical Lutheran Church 703 South Sibley Ave. Litchfield, MN 320-693-2487</p>					<b>1</b>	<p><b>2</b> 11:00 a.m. Bridal Shower, Kimberly Farmer &amp; Jake Rosencranz</p>
<p><b>3</b> 8:30 a.m. ELCA Coop on KLFD 8:30 a.m. Trad. Worship w/Comm 9:30 a.m. Fellowship &amp; Coffee 9:30 a.m. 9 &amp; 10<sup>th</sup> grade students w/parents, meeting for MST 2024 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. First Communion Class 10:45 a.m. Non-Trad. Worship w/comm</p>		<p><b>5</b> 7:00 a.m. BREW - Chilstrom 8:00 a.m. BREW - FB Live 8:30 a.m. Quilters 2:00 p.m. Worship at M.M. 5:30 p.m. Worship Team Mtg. 6:30 p.m. NA - Chapel 6:30 p.m. Executive Meeting 7:00 p.m. Team Meetings</p>	<p><b>6</b> 4:30 p.m. Staff Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Bell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship</p>	<p><b>7</b> 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" on KLFD Radio 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery Mtg. Chapel</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Group 10 - 12 p.m. "Come and Go" Baby Shower for Erika (Garmer) Schilla. Everyone is welcome!</p>
<p><b>10</b> Palm Sunday 8:30 a.m. ELCA COOP on KLFD *One Service Only 8:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship Service w/Comm 9:30 a.m. Fellowship &amp; Coffee 9:45 a.m. Sunday School</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b> 7:00 a.m. BREW/Chilstrom 8:00 a.m. BREW - FB Live 6:30 p.m. NA - Chapel</p>	<p><b>13</b> 4:30 p.m. Staff Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Bell Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  *Priscilla Circle moved to next week.</p>	<p><b>14</b> Maundy Thursday 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" on KLFD Radio 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 10 - 2 p.m. Volunteer Fair, Chilstrom Hall 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Worship with Comm.</p>	<p><b>15</b> Good Friday</p>	<p><b>16</b> Vigil of Easter  No activities at church</p>
<p><b>17</b> Easter Sunday 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Serv. w/comm 7 - 11 a.m. MST Breakfast 8:30 a.m. ELCA COOP on KLFD 8:30 a.m. Trad. Worship w/Comm No Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Non-Trad. Worship w/comm</p>	<p><b>18</b> 9:30 a.m. Rachel Circle</p>	<p><b>19</b> 7:00 a.m. BREW - Chilstrom 8:00 a.m. BREW - FB Live 9:00 a.m. Martha Circle 6:30 p.m. NA - Chapel 7:00 p.m. Church Council</p>	<p><b>20</b> 4:30 p.m. Staff Mtg. 5:30 p.m. 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Meeting, Conf. room 5:30 p.m. Bell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal *7:00 p.m. Priscilla Circle, Hosted by Dianne Thorp</p>	<p><b>21</b> 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" on KLFD Radio 1:30 p.m. WELCA Meeting 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery Mtg. Chapel 6:30 p.m. First Communion Class w/ Parents &amp; Photos</p>	<p><b>22</b> 9:30 a.m. Christian Women's Mtg</p>	<p><b>23</b> 7:00 a.m. Men's Group 8:00 a.m. Litchfield Women's Study Club event</p>
<p><b>24</b> First Communion Sunday 8:30 a.m. ELCA COOP on KLFD 8:30 a.m. Trad. Worship w/Comm With First Communion 9:30 a.m. Fellowship &amp; Coffee 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Non-Trad. Worship With First Communion</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b> 7:00 a.m. BREW/Chilstrom 8:00 a.m. BREW - FB Live 8:30 a.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. NA - Chapel</p>	<p><b>27</b> 4:30 p.m. Staff Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Bell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>28</b> 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" on KLFD Radio 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 1 - 7 p.m. American Red Cross Blood Drive 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery Mtg. Chapel</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>


# April Serving Group & Birthdays

<b>Chairs:</b>
<b>Susan Hein</b>
<b>Bob &amp; Norma Hall</b>
Geri Follett
Keith & Juliann Fredrickson
Tom & Beth Fruetel
Nick & Tracy Gabrielson
Sandra Gabrielson
Todd & Jessicah Gabrielson

Paul & Char Garrison
Dennis & Renee Gartner
Joe & Lisa Gaulrapp
Jason & Esmerelda Giang
Algene & Debra Gilberts
Robert & Sally Gilberts
Donna Gilsrud
Harvey Graff
Randy & Pam Groskreutz
Ray & Darlene Groskreutz
Heather Burdick-Grotto
Von & Kris Grotto

<b>April Ushers</b>
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>
Darin Mahlow - C
Ralph Elj
Eric Hulterstrum
Mike Doty
<b>10:45 a.m.</b>
Will Dolan - C
Joe Gaulrapp
Dave Schwartz
John Spanos

**April**



Robin Johnson  
693-7197



**APRIL 1**

Trina Driver  
Scott Nelson  
Julie Spanos

**APRIL 2**

Courtney Anderson-Kuhnau

**APRIL 3**

Isabella Forster  
Michelle Guggemos  
Darlene Lundin

**APRIL 4**

Alex Breault  
Daniel Johnson

**APRIL 5**

Brett Alsleben  
Kaleb Bartlett  
Hayden Guza

**APRIL 6**

Stephen Koehn  
Judy Mahlow  
Sara Jo Pollock

**APRIL 7**

Jason Stucky  
Debra Langmo  
Linda Larson

**APRIL 8**

Ramona Lohse  
Kaden Bartlett  
Donna Forster

**APRIL 9**

Lois Volinkaty

**APRIL 8**

Judith Kramer  
Otto Kraushaar  
Bodhi Kraushaar  
Jailyn Mickelson

**APRIL 9**

Jeanette Erickson  
Priscilla Lee

**APRIL 10**

Renee Mahlow  
Tyson Michels

**APRIL 10**

Justin Benson  
Zach Schmidt

**APRIL 11**

Ali LaVine  
Randy Groskreutz  
Antonio Weitz

**APRIL 11**

Alison Radunz  
Sarah Kuechle

**APRIL 12**

Conner Gabrielson

**APRIL 13**

Nicholas Sandry

**APRIL 14**

Joanna Bailey  
Emma Defries

**APRIL 15**

Charles DeWolf  
Zachary Nelson  
Donovan Slinden III  
Beau Snodgrass  
Wyatt White

**APRIL 16**

Bradley Nelson  
Carol Nelson  
Asjha Quade  
Susan Smart

**APRIL 17**

Grant Dengerud  
Kyle DeWolf

**APRIL 18**

Rebecca Farmer  
Darron Judes

**APRIL 18**

Brandon Findley  
Marge Hellzen

**APRIL 19**

Tyson Anderson  
Teresa Carlson  
Kylie Guggemos  
Darcy Schmitz

**APRIL 20**

Scot Anderson  
Daniel Estrada  
Steven Hickman  
Brandon Nelson

**APRIL 20**

John Spanos  
Brittany Wagner

**APRIL 21**

Trevon Grotto  
Toni Kadelbach  
Nicholas Konietzko

**APRIL 22**

Josh Fluck  
Warren Hickman  
Mariah Lease

**APRIL 23**

Quintin Berube  
Jason Giang  
Miranda Isaacson  
Myrna Manson

**APRIL 24**

Cassandra Walberg  
Phyllis Ableidinger

**APRIL 25**

Rick Sandry  
Dee Bollin

**APRIL 26**

Robert Blomberg  
Drew Dengerud  
LeRoy Finneman

**APRIL 27**

Kenneth Braseth

**APRIL 28**

Cale Alsleben  
Brian Burdick

**APRIL 29**

Dawn Doty  
Jeff Eberling  
Kristy Quast

**APRIL 29**

John G Spanos  
Danny Walker  
Patricia Hagen

**APRIL 30**

Austin Kleinschmidt  
Jared Laidlaw  
Vernon Madson  
Timothy Matheson

# Senior Dining Menu

Lutheran Social Service

Senior Nutrition Services

April 2022



Call LSS Meals to order/change  
 320-693-6203  
 (Litchfield Site-Leave Message)

Monday, April 4th	Tuesday, April 5th	Wednesday, April 6th	Thursday, April 7th	Friday, April 8th
Chef Choice entrée	Ham w/Raisin Sauce	Roast Beef	Sausage Egg Bake	Baked Ziti
vegetables	Au Gratin Potatoes	Mashed Potato w/Gravy	Broccoli	w/Ziti Noodle
vegetable/fruit	Peas	California Normandy	Cinnamon Apple Sauce	Mixed Vegetables
Bread/Margarine	Dinner Roll/Margarine	Bread/Margarine	Homemade muffin/coffee cake	Peaches
Dessert	Dessert	Dessert	Low Fat Milk	Dessert
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
Monday, April 11th	Tuesday, April 12th	Wednesday, April 13th	Thursday, April 14th	Friday, April 15th
Chicken Fried Steak w/Gravy	Baked Chicken	Lasagna	Chicken Salad	Beef Chili w/Beans
Mashed Potato w/Gravy	Baked Potato w/Sour Cream	California Normandy	Crossiant	Romaine Salad w/Dressing
Green Beans	Italian Blend	Peaches	Coleslaw	Corn Bread w/Margarine
Bread/Margarine	Bread/Margarine	Breadstick	Tropical Fruit	Pears
Dessert	Dessert	Dessert	Dessert	Dessert
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
Monday, April 18th	Tuesday, April 19th	Wednesday, April 20th	Thursday, April 21th	Friday, April 22th
Chicken Chow Mein	Swedish Meatballs	Cream Chicken	Pork loin	Cheese Ravioli
Brown Rice	Mashed Potatoes	Mashed Potatoes	Candied Yam	Romaine Salad w/Dressing
Oriental Vegetables	Carrots	Peas and Carrots	Broccoli	Fresh Apple
Mandarin Oranges	Bread/Margarine	Bread/Margarine	Bread/Margarine	Bread/Margarine
Dessert	Dessert	Warm Fruit Crisp	Dessert	Dessert
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
Monday, April 25th	Tuesday, April 26th	Wednesday, April 27th	Thursday, April 28th	Friday, April 29th
Tater Tot Casserole	Chicken Fajita meat	Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce	Roasted Turkey w/gravy	BBQ Pork
Green Beans	Whole wheat shells	Romaine Salad w/Dressing	Mashed Potato w/Gravy	Bun
Warm Peaches	Spanish Rice	Tropical Fruit	Peas	Creamy Cucumber Salad
Dessert	Pineapple	Texas Toast	Dinner Roll/Margarine	Pears
Dinner Roll/Margarine	Black Bean/Corn Salsa	Dessert	Dessert	Dessert
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk

This service is funded in part by a contract from the Area Agency on Aging with funding from the Federal Older Americans Act through the Minnesota Board on Aging. Approved by Donna Dunlap RD, LD  
 Additional funds are provided by the State of Minnesota, United Ways, local communities, and other adult contributions.  
 Posted menu is regular diet. Diabetic, sodium, and fat restricted diets available upon request. Regular menu provides average of 700-800 calories.  
 \*If you are interested in learning about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, please call 1-800-488-4146.  
 SNAP or EBT Payment is accepted

320-693-6203



## WELCA MINUTES March 17, 2022

WELCA met on March 17, 2022, for the purpose of cleaning the kitchen. Before we started, Pastor Tom gave devotions. Rochelle Brummond was asked to speak about MAM (Meeker Area Ministries), which WELCA donated to last month. Rochelle has been in the Meeker office for 4 years under the United Community Action Program. (UCAP) She assists people with helping pay their energy bills, homelessness, late rent, MN Sure and is the voucher writer for the Salvation Army.

They have three apartments they rent and have currently written a grant to purchase the apartment building. They also have two rooms at the Knights Inn for those in need. When a person moves into the apartment, they must sign a contract with goals they must reach. Moving into the apartment is not a “permanent” help, but a “temporary” one. Rochelle also works with them on budgeting and living within that budget.

Donations are greatly appreciated as they serve approximately 54 families per month. There is a great need for income-based housing in Litchfield, where the rent is 30% of the income. Rental houses are very hard to find in Litchfield.

WELCA will be serving soup supper on March 23.

The group then went to the kitchen to begin their cleaning.

Dessert was served by Dee Bollin and Dianne Thorp.

Respectively submitted,

Sue Lemmer, Secretary

## 2022 SW MN SWO Convention



FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022



OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

800-10TH Street South, Benson MN 56215

Theme Verse: Psalm 149:1

Theme Hymn: "We All Are One in Mission"

To celebrate the 35th anniversary of the forming of Women of the ELCA

Opening Worship with Bishop Dee Pederson, officiating

Guest Speaker: Rev. Heather Culuris, Synod Minister

Come, join your sisters in Christ for worship, singing, sharing, learning, business, fellowship

Convention Offerings Objectives: 50% Churchwide; 25% Heartland Girls' Ranch; 25% Swift County Food Shelf

Registration Fee: \$50.00 (registration/noon luncheon/coffee times)

Katie's Cans available—bring your loose change for Katie's Fund

In-Kind Offerings being accepted: LWR Quilts and All LWR Kits

Items for Eagle's Healing Nest (Sauk Centre) & Project Turnabout (Granite Falls)

7:30—10:00 a.m.	In-Kind offering drop off
8:00 a.m.	Registration/Coffee/Displays
9:00 a.m.	Voting Member Orientation
9:15 a.m.	Convention Opens with Worship
3:30 p.m.	Convention Closes



Please let Karen Eberhard or the church office know if you are planning to attend.

## **LENTEN “GIVING CROSS” PROJECT**

The 2022 Lenten “Giving Cross” Project will begin on Ash Wednesday (March 2<sup>nd</sup>) and continue through Easter Sunday. The emphasis is on the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) parish projects which include Baby Care Kits & 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 by the cross. If monetary donations are made, please make the checks payable to First Lutheran Church, in the memo - “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 study comb
- 1 metal nail clippers

# Churchwide



## Worship Schedule

### Sunday, April 3, 2022

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

### Wednesday, April 6, 2022

- 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship

### Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022 - One Service

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship with Comm.
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School

### Maundy Thursday, April 14, 2022

- 7:00 p.m. Worship

### Good Friday, April 15, 2022

- 7:00 p.m. Worship

### Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022

- 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Worship with Comm.
- 7:00 - 11:00 a.m. MST Easter Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship with Comm.
- No Sunday School*
- 10:45 a.m. Non-Traditional Service w/Comm.

### Sunday, April 24, 2022 \*First Communion

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



## Preparation for worship

God, open my heart to your gospel message this day. Thank you for the privilege of hearing your word with my faith family. Amen.

\* \* \*

Jesus, may I follow you throughout Holy Week with its complicated emotions, for you promise to meet me at the empty tomb.

\* \* \*

[Maundy Thursday] Like Peter, I both resist and beg for your cleansing (John 13:8-9). Thank you, Jesus, for loving me through it all.

\* \* \*

[Good Friday] Jesus, I'm humbled by the extremes to which you went in love for me and the whole world. Help me share your love.

\* \* \*

[Easter] Dear Jesus, my teacher and friend, as you greeted Mary, thank you for speaking my name and calling me into abundant life.

\* \* \*

Jesus, you showed Thomas the scars that remained, even in your resurrection body. Thank you for being so real for us all.



### Local Cable Public Access TV Schedule:

- Sun. 11 a.m. Encore Presentation COOP
- Mon. 11 a.m. Encore Presentation COOP
- Tue. 11 a.m. Encore Presentation Sun. FLC
- Wed. 11 a.m. Encore Presentation Sun. COOP
- Thur. 11 a.m. Encore Pres. Sun. Trinity G.C.
- Thur. 3 p.m. Encore Presentation Sun. FLC
- Friday 11 a.m. Encore Presentation Sun. Zion





## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY:



\*Our members known to be in the military are:

**Staff Sgt. US Army, Zachary Olimb**, Vicenza, Italy, grandson of Edna and Martin Oldenburg, Vern and Lil Madson;

**Master Sgt. Austin Kleinschmidt**, 934<sup>th</sup> Airwing, Minneapolis, son of Kipp and Lynette Kleinschmidt;

**Staff Sgt. Matthew Wiechmann**, stationed at Fort Drum, NY; son of Virgil and Jamie Wiechmann;

**Major Troy Thomas**, Severance, CO, nephew of Valda Thomas and Mike and Gaylene Thomas;

**Eric Kammermeier**, active duty United States Navy, son-in-law of Mike and Beth Boyle;

**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class John Rogers**, Misawa Air Force Base, Japan. Grandson of Janet and Jim Lange.

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

## GLOBAL MISSIONS OFFERING: MST - International

90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration for Bob Kadelbach: Sunday May 1, 2022 from 2 - 4 p.m.  
in Chilstrom Hall, coffee and cake will be served. All are welcome.

Samaritan's Purse, the organization we ship our Christmas children's boxes through, just sent 660,000 boxes to 3,200 Lutheran churches in Ukraine. They are setting up resources for people and offering refugees assistance. People can research what is going on with this organization and the Christmas boxes by doing a Google search to Samaritan Purse.



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!!

**Please keep our shut-in members  
in your prayers,**

Meeker Manor: Mary Klosner

Emmaus Place: Mae Brehmer

Gloria Dei: Lois Rusch, Janet Lundin

Litchfield, in own home: Jutta Goodrich, Darlene Miller

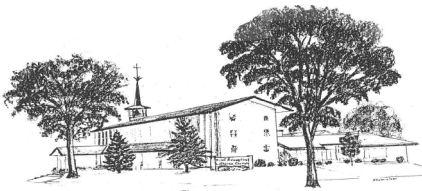
Lakeside, Dassel: Martin and Edna Oldenburg

Savannah Prairie, Kimball: Dorothy Skappel



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 2022



# FIRST NEWS

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

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Carol Heath, Financial Secretary  
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Bea Devereaux, Organist, Senior Choir, and Bell Choir Director

Carol Dragt, Director of Music, Non-Traditional

Kipp Kleinschmidt, Media Director  
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Joel Ramthun, Custodian

First Lutheran Church Office: 320-693-2487

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Or Follow us on Youtube!



Easter is the assurance that no matter how hopeless and dark things appear, God is alive and actively working. Our heavenly Father births life out of death, transforms brokenness into wholeness and shines light into darkness.

April 10 Palm / Passion Sunday 8:30 a.m.  
(One Service Only)

April 14 Maundy Thursday, Holy Communion 7:00 p.m.

April 15 Good Friday 7:00 p.m.

April 17 Easter Sunday Worship Schedule:  
Sunrise service at 6:30 a.m.; & 8:30, & 10:45 a.m.  
Holy Communion, Special music

\*\*See page 14 for the April Worship Schedule